

Appendix D

Phase I Archaeological Survey





**PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
OF 66.7 ACRES
FOR TENTATIVE TRACT 5362 (PARKLANDS)
CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA, VENTURA COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA
(USGS 7.5' Saticoy Quadrangle)**

Prepared for:

Rincon Consultants

790 E. Santa Clara St.

Ventura, California 93001

805/641-1000

Contact: Joe Power

Prepared by:

Conejo Archaeological Consultants

2321 Goldsmith Avenue

Thousand Oaks, California 91360

805/494-4309

Author: Mary Maki



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Management Summary

This report was prepared at the request of Joe Power for Rincon Consultants. It presents the results of a Phase I archaeological investigation conducted by Conejo Archaeological Consultants (Conejo) for Tentative Tract 5362 (Parklands) in the city of San Buenaventura, Ventura County, California (Figure 1). The goal of the investigation was to determine if the proposed project would result in any potentially significant impacts to archaeological resources and, if so, present mitigation recommendations that would reduce any such impacts to a less than significant level.

This investigation consisted of a record search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) and an archaeological survey of the project site. The SCCIC record search identified no archaeological sites within a 0.5-mile radius of the project site. Three historic buildings were identified within a 0.5-mile radius, but none of these are within or adjacent to the project site. Conejo's archaeological survey of the project property identified no prehistoric or historic archaeological resources. The ground surface throughout the project site has been extensively disturbed by

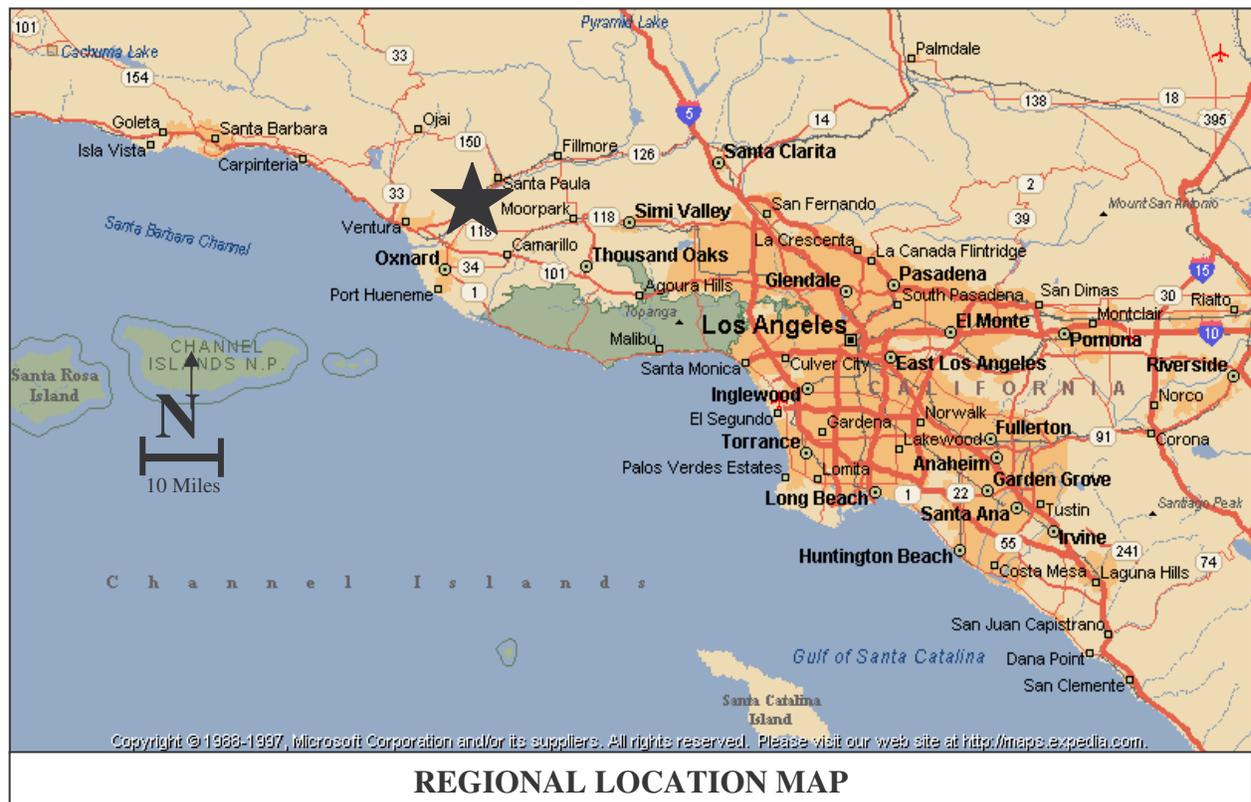


Figure 1

agricultural activity.

Based on the record search, field survey results and the extent of past ground disturbances, the proposed project will result in no impacts to cultural resources. Therefore, no further archaeological investigations are warranted prior to project approval as long as the recommendations detailed in Section 5.0 are incorporated as conditions of project approval. In summary these recommendations consist of temporary halt work orders in the event that archaeological resources and/or human remains are exposed during project construction.

1.2 Project Location and Characteristics

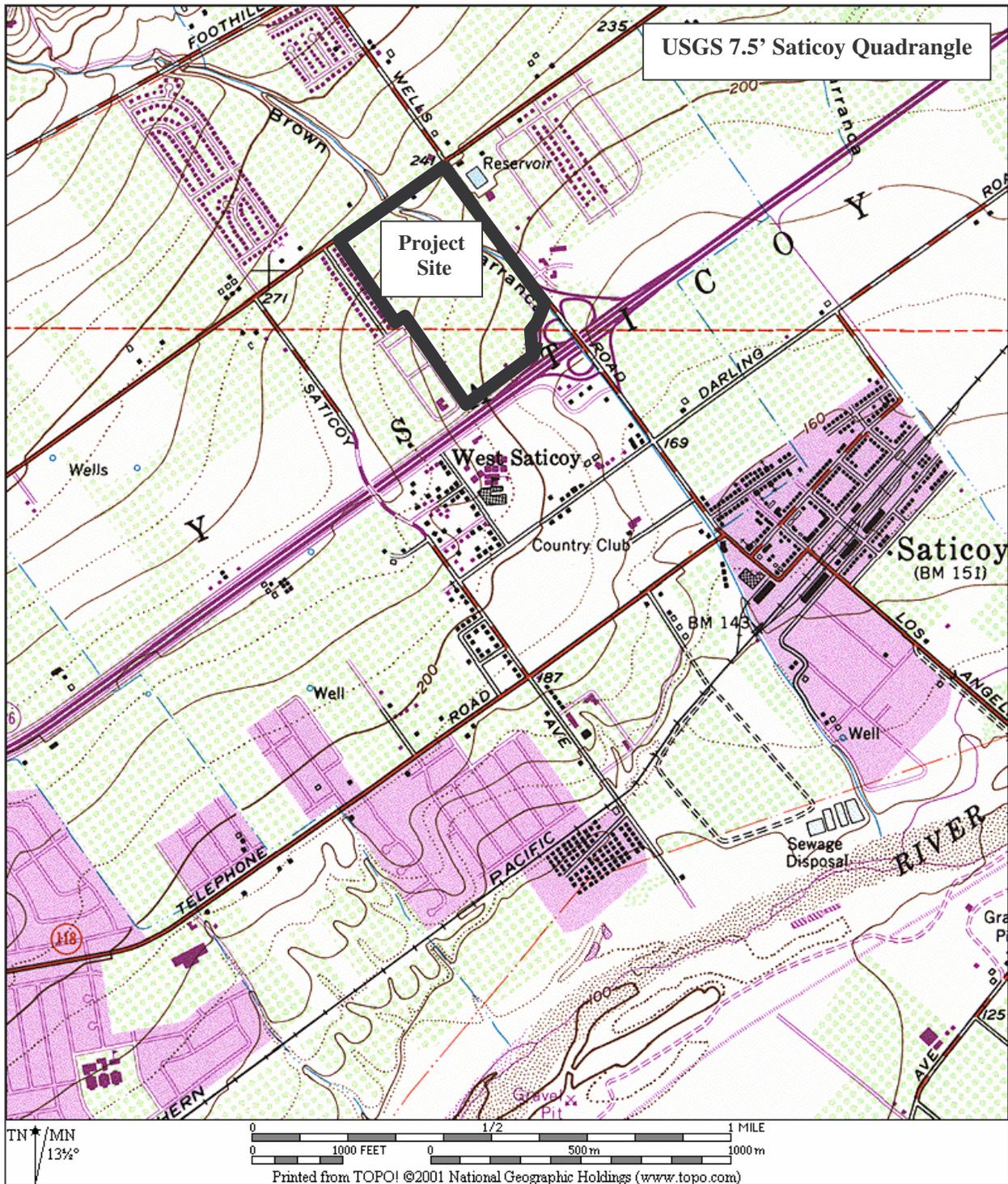
The project site is located north of Highway 126, approximately 0.5-miles north of Saticoy, within Township 2 & 3 North, Range 22 West, in an unsectioned portion on the USGS 7.5' Saticoy Quadrangle (Figure 2). More specifically, the project site is located at the southwest corner of Telegraph Road and Wells Road in Ventura. The 66.7-acre project site is bound by Telegraph Road to the north, Wells Road to the east and Blackburn Road to the south (Figure 3). The project site includes the following Assessor Parcel Numbers:

APN: 89-0-012-04, APN: 89-0-012-20, APN: 89-0-012-08, APN: 89-0-012-21,
APN: 89-0-012-16, APN: 89-0-012-14, APN: 89-0-012-18, APN: 89-0-012-19.

The proposed project consists of the development of a 66.7-acre neighborhood in the Wells-Saticoy Community under the Parklands Specific Plan No. 2. Development would include approximately 208 multi-family residential units, 279 single-family homes, a community center, 11.51 acres of parkland, and 15,000 sq. ft. of commercial space. The project site is currently used for flower cultivation.

1.3 Project Personnel

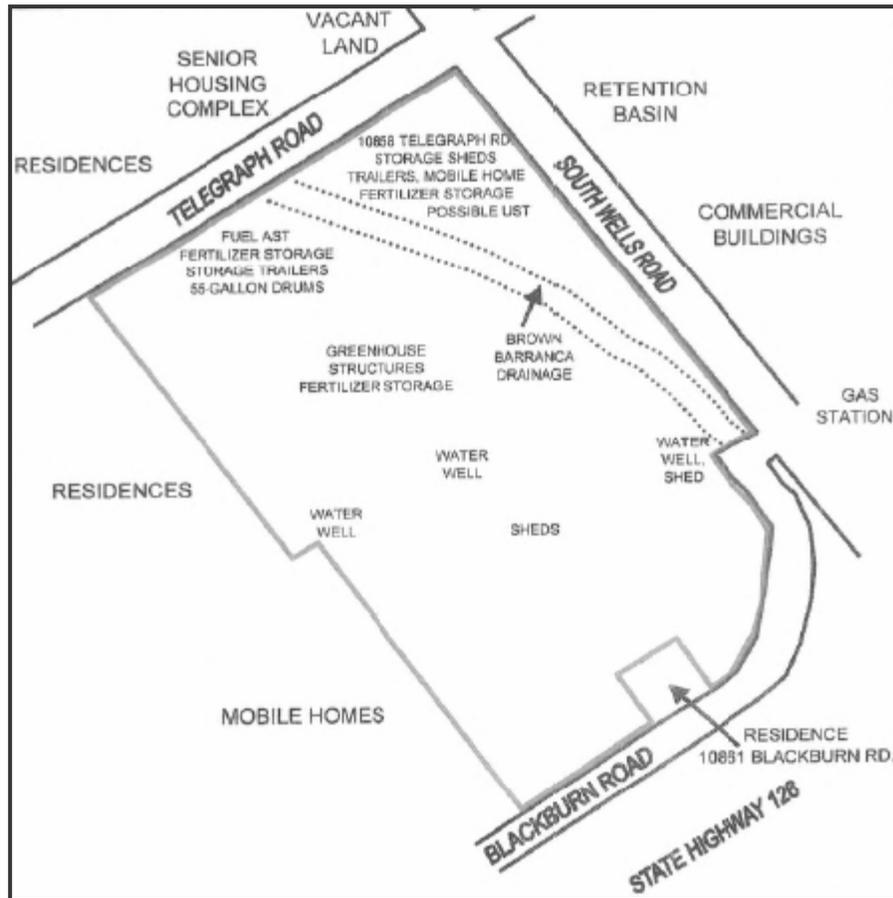
Mary Maki, M.A., served as the Principal Investigator for this report. Ms. Maki is certified by the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA). Archaeologists Gwen Romani, M.A., and Glen Higgins assisted Ms. Maki with the field survey. Joe Power served as the Project Manager for Rincon Consultants.



CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY AREA
Tentative Tract 5362 (Parklands) Project
City of San Buenaventura, Ventura County

Figure 2

**Project
Location
Tract**



**Site
Tentative
5362**

Source: Earth Systems, 2005

PROJECT SITE SKETCH MAP
Tentative Tract 5362 (Parklands) Project
City of San Buenaventura, Ventura County

Figure 3

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project site currently contains a mobile home on Telegraph Rd., a single-family residence on Blackburn Road, storage sheds and trailers, fertilizer storage areas, and temporary greenhouses. The vast majority of the property consists of cultivated flower fields. The property is relatively flat, with an elevation of approximately 220 feet above sea level and covered by alluvial deposits. The eastern portion of the property is traversed from northwest to southeast by Brown Barranca. Vegetation along the barranca consists primarily of arroyo willow riparian forest with some eucalyptus trees, German ivy with patches of castor bean. Several geological formations are found in Long Canyon (which drains into the Brown Barranca) including Pleistocene marine deposits and marine terrace deposits in which marine shell deposits are present.

3.0 CULTURAL SETTING

3.1 Prehistoric Overview

The project area lies within the historic territory of the Native American Indian group known as the Chumash. The Chumash occupied the region from San Luis Obispo County to Malibu Canyon on the coast, and inland as far as the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley, and the four northern Channel Islands (Grant 1978). The Chumash are subdivided into factions based on distinct dialects. Ventura County is within the historic territory of the Ventureño Chumash.

The Ventureño were the southernmost Chumash group, occupying most of the area of present day Ventura County and the southwest corner of Los Angeles County. The name Ventureño is derived from the mission with local jurisdiction, San Buenaventura.

The archaeological record indicates that sedentary populations occupied the coastal regions of California more than 9,000 years ago. Several chronological frameworks have been developed for the Chumash region. One of the most definitive works on Chumash chronology is that of King (1990). King postulates three major periods -- Early, Middle and Late. Based on artifact typologies from a great number of sites, he was able to discern numerous style changes within each of the major periods.

The Early Period (8000 to 3350 Before Present [B.P.]) is characterized by a primarily seed processing subsistence economy. The Middle Period (3350 to 800 B.P.) is marked by a shift in the economic/subsistence focus from plant gathering and the use of hard seeds, to a more generalized hunting-maritime-gathering adaptation, with an increased focus on acorns. The full development of the Chumash culture, one of the most socially and economically complex hunting and gathering

groups in North America, occurred during the Late Period (800 to 150 B.P.).

The Spanish missionaries began a program of converting the Chumash to Christianity, baptizing them, and moving them into missions. The Ventureño Chumash were recruited primarily to Missions San Buenaventura and San Fernando Rey de Espana. The end of the Chumash aboriginal way of life began with Spanish colonization. As neophytes were brought into the mission system they were transformed from hunters and gatherers into agricultural laborers and exposed to diseases to which they had no resistance. By the end of the Mission Period in 1834, the Chumash population had been decimated by disease and declining birthrates. Population loss as a result of disease and economic deprivation continued into the next century. Still today many people proudly claim Chumash ancestry and take an active interest in promoting their culture and protecting archaeological evidence of their ancestors.

3.2 Historic Overview

Earth Systems (2005) completed a historic land use review of the subject property that included an examination of historic aerial photographs and historical topographic quadrangles; their findings are summarized below.

The 1903 15' USGS Santa Paula quadrangle shows a residence located at the southern end of the property. The remainder of the land is vacant and bordered by Telegraph Road to the north. A 1938 aerial photograph shows two residences and sheds along the southern end of the property along with an unpaved Kimball Road, and one residence and sheds along the northern portion of the property. The remainder of the property consists of orchards and agricultural fields. Land use and development of the subject property is consistent in the 1945 and 1959 aerial photographs as what was noted in the 1938 aerial photograph. The 1951 USGS 7.5' Saticoy Quadrangle, shows the residences seen in the 1938 aerial photograph and a residence along the eastern edge, with the rest of the property consisting of orchards. The 1964 aerial photograph shows the northern and eastern residences, but the southern residences and sheds are gone. The remainder of the site consists of orchards and agricultural fields. The 1970 aerial photograph includes Blackburn Road and a new residence along the southern portion of the property; otherwise it is similar to the 1964 photograph. In the 1977 aerial photograph the residences and sheds along the northern and eastern edges of the property are gone. In the 1989 aerial photograph a new residence is located along the northern edge of the property and the orchards are gone, replaced by agricultural fields.

4.0 CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATION

4.1 South Central Coastal Information Center Records Search

Ms. Maki conducted a records search at the SCCIC located on the CSU Fullerton campus on May 25, 2006. The SCCIC record search identified no prehistoric or historic archaeological sites within a 0.5-mile radius of the project site. Three historic structures are located within a 0.5-mile radius, but none of them are located within or adjacent to the project site and they will not be impacted by project development. One historic isolate, consisting of eight fragments of amethyst colored glass, is located approximately 0.25-miles north of the project site; the isolate will not be impacted by project development.

The listings of the National Register of Historic Places (2006), California Historical Landmarks (California Department of Parks and Recreation 2006), California Historic Property Data File (California Department of Parks and Recreation 2005), and the California Points of Historical Interest (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1992), include no properties within or adjacent to the project site. No Ventura County Historical Landmarks are located within or adjacent to the project site.

Nine archaeological surveys have been conducted within a 0.5-mile radius of the project site, but the subject property has not been subject to previous archaeological investigation.

4.2 Field Reconnaissance

An archaeological survey of the 66.7-acre project site was conducted by Ms. Maki, Ms. Romani and Mr. Higgins on June 3, 2006 (Figure 2). Survey methodology consisted of walking linear transects across the entire property spaced approximately 10 meters (33 ft.) apart. Ground surface visibility ranged from excellent in the recently plowed fields to poor in the German ivy areas along the barranca. Overall ground surface visibility was good across the majority of the project site. The survey area was covered with a clayey soil with few rocks.

Conejo's field survey noted no evidence of prehistoric or historic resources within the project site. Some pieces of chipped fused shale from Grimes Canyon were found along the western wall that borders the mobile home development. Although fused shale is often found in prehistoric sites, this fused shale was clearly imported in as ornamental rock along with quartz and other types of rock for decoration in the mobile home development. The ground surface throughout the project site has been extensively disturbed by agricultural activity that dates back at least to the 1930s.

5.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the SCCIC records search findings, Conejo's field survey results and the extent of previous ground disturbance on the subject property, the proposed project will not impact any known prehistoric or historic resources. This investigation found no information that would indicate that buried cultural resources occur on the subject property. Therefore, no further archaeological investigation is warranted prior to project implementation as long as the following two recommendations are incorporated as conditions of project approval:

1. In the event that archaeological resources are unearthed during project construction, all earth disturbing work within the vicinity of the find must be temporarily suspended or redirected until an archaeologist has evaluated the nature and significance of the find. After the find has been appropriately mitigated, work in the area may resume. A Chumash representative should monitor any mitigation work associated with Native American cultural material.
2. If human remains are unearthed, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the remains are determined to be of Native American descent, the coroner has 24 hours to notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

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