

**PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
FOR THE PROPOSED WILLIAM S. HART UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
ROMERO CANYON HIGH SCHOOL SITE
APN 3247-068-001 and 3247-068-004 (TENTATIVE TRACT 47807)
LOCATED IN THE CASTAIC AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA**

**Prepared for:
Donna Hebert
Project Manager
Padre Associates, Inc.
1861 Knoll Drive
Ventura, CA 93003**

**Prepared by:
Gwen R. Romani, M.A.
Principal Investigator**

April 28, 2010

Table of Contents

1.0 Project Location and Description	1
2.0 Study Findings	1
3.0 Introduction	2
4.0 Regulatory Requirements	2
4.1 California Register of Historical Resources	2
5.0 Background Information	2
5.1 Environmental Setting	2
5.2 Prehistoric Overview	4
5.3 Ethnographic Overview	5
5.4 Historical Overview	6
6.0 Records Search	8
6.1 Introduction	8
6.2 Native American Coordination	9
6.3 Results of the Records Search	9
7.0 Field Investigation	10
7.1 Results of the Field Survey	11
8.0 Recommendations	12
9.0 Certification	12
10.0 References	13

Appendices

Appendix A: Figures

Figure 1: Project Location and Vicinity Map

**Figure 2: Proposed Grading Plan for the
 Romero Canyon High School Site**

Appendix B: Native American Consultation

Appendix C: Photographs 1-10

**PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
FOR THE PROPOSED WILLIAM S. HART UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
ROMERO CANYON HIGH SCHOOL SITE
APN 3247-068-001 and 3247-068-004 (TENTATIVE TRACT 47807)
LOCATED IN THE CASTAIC AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA.**

1.0 Project Location and Description

At the request of Donna Hebert, Project Manager for Padre Associates, Inc., Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. has completed a Phase I cultural resources investigation for the proposed William S. Hart Union High School District (WSHUHSD) Romero Canyon High School site located in the Castaic area of northern unincorporated Los Angeles County, California. The Romero Canyon site (Tentative Tract 47807; APN 3247-068-001 through 3247-068-004), owned by the Larry Rasmussen Revocable Trust, consists of approximately 197.9 acres; however, the actual school site consists of 53± acres and with the necessary additional land modifications, would entail approximately 75 acres of land on Parcels 1 and 4 (APN 3247-068-001 and -004; 41.89 acres and 71.93 acres, respectively). Although the background records search included the entire tract, only the school site, Parcels 1 and 4, excluding the westernmost drainage in Parcel 4, were field inspected for the presence of cultural resources. The currently vacant Romero Canyon property is located near the northern end of Romero Canyon Road, west of I-5 and north of SR-126, and is depicted on the USGS 7.5' Val Verde Quadrangle, Township 5 North, Range 17 West, in the northwest ¼ of Section 27 and the northeast ¼ of the northeast ¼ of Section 28 (Appendix A: Figure 1).

This investigation was completed to determine if cultural resources exist in the project impact area, and to make preliminary recommendations regarding the potential significance of cultural resources in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines (revised, to date), and the California Register of Historical Resources. The study included a review of site archives, conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), California State University, Fullerton, an intensive on-foot field survey of the property, and a report on the findings.

Project related ground-disturbing activities would include vegetation clearance, extensive grading for the approximately 50-acre high school site, as well as excavation/trenching for utilities, or other surface and sub-surface requirements.

2.0 Study Findings

Based on the records search, no archaeological sites, either prehistoric or historical, have been recorded within Parcels 1 and 4 of the subject property, and no cultural resources sites were identified during the field investigation. However, one prehistoric site, designated with temporary number WS08-1, was encountered during the Phase I survey of the entire 199 acres of the property in Parcel 2 by W & S Consultants in 2007.

3.0 Introduction

This investigation was conducted in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines (revised, to date) and the California Register of Historical Resources. Further, this report complies with the state guidelines for the preparation of Archaeological Resource Management Reports (ARMR), proposed in the state of California Preservation Planning Bulletin No. 4(a) (State of California 1989) entitled *Archaeological Resource Management Reports (ARMR): Recommended contents and format*.

Name(s) of Surveyor(s)	Qualifications	Date(s) of Fieldwork
Gwen R. Romani	M.A., Anthropology California State University, Northridge. Over 30 years of professional archaeological experience.	April 15, 2010
June A. Schmidt	Over 30 years of professional archaeological experience.	

4.0 Regulatory Requirements

4.1 California Register of Historical Resources

Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be “historically significant” if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852) consisting of the following criteria:

- 1) It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the United States; or
- 2) It is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or National History; or
- 3) It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method or construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values; or
- 4) It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Environmental Setting

The project area is located within the western Transverse Ranges geologic/geomorphic province, at the eastern end of the Santa Susana Mountains, in a rural area of Castaic, west of I-5 and north of SR-126, unincorporated Los Angeles County, California. The property consists of hilly terrain with moderate to steep slopes adjacent to the primary

west branch of Romero Canyon and the eastern branch that extends north-south, and merges just south of the proposed school site. Access to the property is by Romero Canyon Road, a dirt road that extends up the west branch of the canyon. A third tributary to Romero Canyon extends southeasterly across Parcels 1, 2, and 4. A steep-sided north-south trending ridge, approximately 210 feet high at its northern end and about 50 feet high at the southern end, separates the west and east canyons. A fourth canyon drains to the south along the westerly border of Parcel 4. The highest point on the property is situated near the northwest corner of Parcel 4, at elevation 2385 above mean sea level (amsl), and the lowest point in the canyon bottom is approximately 1780 amsl.

Although many of the moderately sloping areas within the subject property had already been subject to the partial removal of vegetation by a tract vehicle, the existing native vegetation consists of a mix of Southern Coastal Scrub and Coastal Live Oak Woodland communities that includes the following plants:

Coast live oak	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>
California sagebrush	<i>Artemisia californica</i>
Chamise	<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus</i>
Yucca	<i>Yucca whipplei</i>
Deerweed	<i>Lotus scoparius</i>
Squaw bush	<i>Rhus trilobata</i>
Fiddleneck	<i>Amsinckia intermedia</i>
Nightshade	<i>Solanum</i> sp.
Blue dicks	<i>Dichelostemma pulchellum</i>
Owls clover	<i>Orthocarpus pupurascens</i>
Wild cucumber	<i>Marah macrocarpus</i>
Chia	<i>Salvia columbariae</i>
Black sage	<i>Salvia mellifera</i>
White sage	<i>Salvia apiana</i>
Beavertail cactus	<i>Opuntia basilaris</i>
Popcorn flower	<i>Plagiobothrys nothofulvus</i>
California buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>
Hollyleaf cherry	<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i>
Bush monkey flower	<i>Mimulus longiflorus</i>
Coffeeberry	<i>Rhamnus crocea</i>
California poppy	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>
Currant	<i>Ribes</i> sp.
Yerba santa	<i>Eriodictyon crassifolium</i>
Scarlet bugler	<i>Penstemon centranthifolius</i>
Goldenbush	<i>Hazardia squarrosa</i> (<i>Haplopappus squarrosa</i>)
Lupines	<i>Lupinus</i> sp.
Coast four-o'clock	<i>Mirabilis laevis</i>
Bush mallow	<i>Malacothanmus fasciculatus</i>
Soap plant	<i>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</i>
Unidentified composite	

Jimsonweed	<i>Datura meteloides</i>
Poison oak	<i>Rhus diversiloba</i>
Tarweed	<i>Hemizonia kelloggii</i>

Introduced plants:

Mustard	
Annual grasses	
Star thistle	<i>Centaurea</i> sp.
Tobacco	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>

Faunal resources observed in the project area included brush rabbits (*Sylvilagus bachmani*), coyote (*Canus latrans*), deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*).

Soils observed in the project area consist of dark gray-brown silty sand to clayey sand with pebbles. Geologic units include recent alluvium deposits, topsoil and colluvium, and bedrock of the Saugus Formation (ERI 2010:9). No high quality lithic materials for the making of flaked stone implements were observed during the field survey.

5.2 Prehistoric Overview

Archaeologically, more information is available for the Upper Santa Clara River region than the project area, but generally far less than is known for many other surrounding southern California groups. According to McIntyre (1990), the prehistory of the greater project area generally parallels that of the Santa Barbara/southern California coastal zone as presented in Wallace's (1955) chronological framework.

It is not presently known when prehistoric Native Americans first occupied this area, although human remains have been dated in the general Los Angeles County area at about 11,000 years ago. These earliest inhabitants were big game hunters who exploited Pleistocene megafauna (e.g., mammoth); however, climatic change and human predation resulted in the extinction of these animals. Inevitably, this led to a change in subsistence strategies from a big game hunting oriented economy to a small game hunting (e.g. deer and rabbit) and plant gathering economy. This era is known as the Early Period or the Milling Stone Horizon (6000-1800 B.C.), and is exemplified by plant processing implements (such as milling stones and manos) used in a seed gathering economy that included wild vegetal resources such as sage (*Salvia* sp.) and acorns (*Quercus* sp.). There is some scant evidence for early Milling Stone Horizon occupation that may have been found at two sites in the Vasquez Rocks area.

The Middle Period or Intermediate Horizon (1500 B.C. - A.D. 500) revealed major structural shifts in the range of resource exploitation and spatial organization. Although this period is marked by a continuation of activities from the previous period, there is an increase in hunting and the exploitation of coastal resources, and a decrease in plant processing. During this time period, the inland sites were still adapted to a Milling Stone economy, but showed evidence of a transition toward a more varied resource base. Examples of such dated sites have been found at the Agua Dulce village complex. This

period also appears to represent a time where the exploitation of mid-altitude environments first began with considerable use. Similar Intermediate Horizon patterns of major settlement expansion, establishment of large site complexes, and increase in the range of environments exploited appear to have occurred about 3000 years ago in the Upper Santa Clara River region, the inland Ventura County region, and possibly in the Antelope Valley and western Mojave Desert area (W and S 2003).

The Late Period or Late Horizon (A.D. 500-1769) continued to the Spanish Period. All the integral aspects of the cultural system (population density, social complexity, site diversity, and size of the interaction sphere) from the previous periods are greatly amplified during the Late Horizon. A greater number of more specialized and diversified sites are seen in terms of their location and function. A number of Late Period sites have been recorded in the Upper Santa Clara River Valley/Agua Dulce area, particularly with the Agua Dulce village complex. The Spanish and Missionization periods (A.D. 1769-1830) led to a disruption of the traditional aboriginal systems, a general decline in population, and eventually, the cultural extinction of many southern California native groups.

The distribution of groups in California as they existed at the time of the first European contact also occurred during this last period. The subject property is within the area formerly occupied by the Tataviam. These groups were hunters and gatherers who exploited plant and animal resources with specialized tools and procurement strategies. Many archaeological sites reflect these specific activities such as seasonal dispersion of the population to exploit a variety of resources. Villages usually were situated in canyons or on alluvial fans near adequate sources of food and water. Structures varied in size from brush shelters to dome shaped houses, with size depending on the individual family's needs.

5.3 Ethnographic Overview

Reportedly known by their Chumash neighbors to the west as the Alliklik (Kroeber 1953:556), as well as by the Kitanemuk to the north, and by later researchers as the Tataviam, the Native American people historically described as occupying the Upper Santa Clara River Valley region, including the Castaic area, were linguistically of Uto-Aztec stock (King and Blackburn 1978:535-537). Uto-Aztec speakers are represented by a number of languages grouped into three primary branches: Takic, Tubatulabal, and Numic (Shipley 1978:88). The Tataviam have been described as Takic-speakers of an unknown dialect who were so rapidly assimilated into the Spanish Mission system as to be almost totally lost to investigation and description beyond the limits of their territory. They were likely similar in social organization, and subsistence activities to neighboring groups (King and Blackburn 1978:536; Kroeber 1953:613-614).

The Tataviam are believed to have occupied the upper reaches of the Santa Clara River drainage from about Piru eastward to just beyond the Vasquez Rocks/Agua Dulce area, south to as far as Newhall, and north to the middle reaches of Piru Creek, the south facing slopes of the Liebre and Sawmill Mountains, and the southwesternmost extent of

the Antelope Valley (Earle 1990; Kroeber 1953:613; King and Blackburn 1978:535). Their northern boundary probably extended along the northern foothills of the Liebre Mountains (the edge of the Antelope Valley), the southern slopes of the Sawmill Mountains and Sierra Pelona, as far east as Soledad Pass (Earle 1990:94). Based on ethnographic information, they do not appear to have occupied the Leona Valley or areas to the north. Given the nature of the topography typical of the area occupied by the Tataviam, researchers have theorized that *Yucca whipplei*, baked in earth ovens, provided a major staple in the diet that included acorns, sage, juniper berries, islay (*Prunus illicifolia*), small mammals, deer, and perhaps antelope (King and Blackburn 1978:536).

Settlement patterns for the Tataviam are inadequately described, but are assumed to have followed those of more well known groups and to have included large primary village sites with satellite small and medium sized occupations scattered at locations of increased, localized, resource availability between population centers. The larger centers may have had as many as 200 occupants, with smaller sites perhaps supporting 10-20 people at a time on a seasonal basis. Two or three large village sites were maximally dispersed within the territory of the Tataviam and supported a population suggested as less than 1000 people at the time of European contact (King and Blackburn 1978:535-536). Known Tataviam villages that existed during the Historic Period include: *pi?irukung* and *?akavaya*, both near modern Piru; *tsavayu(?u)ng*, in San Francisquito (“?” - symbol used for the pronunciation of a Native American name); *etseng*, *kuvung*, and *huyung*, on Piru Creek above Piru; *tochonanga*, near Newhall; and *kwarung*, Lake Elizabeth. A mixed population of Chumash and Tataviam people lived at *kamulus*, near modern Rancho Camulos (King and Blackburn 1978:535-536).

Direct contact with Europeans came with the establishment of the Spanish mission system in Alta California, particularly with that of the Mission San Fernando Rey in 1797. The introduction of the mission system brought about dramatic changes in the aboriginal way of life. Between the time the first missions were established (1769) and that of Mexican independence and the secularization of mission lands (1834), ancient life-ways gradually disappeared. Villages were abandoned and hunting and gathering activities were disrupted as newly introduced agricultural and pastoral practices altered the landscape, and much of the native population was decimated by European diseases. By the year 1810, the majority of the Tataviam had been assimilated into the missions, died of introduced diseases, or fled to other areas.

5.4 Historical Overview

The first Euro-American mention of the general Castaic region was in the chronicles of the 1769 Portola’ expedition, which traveled through the San Fernando Valley to Newhall, then to the Castaic Junction area, down the Santa Clara River, to Ventura, and on to Monterey (Cleland 1940). Although a number of subsequent Spanish expeditions traveled through the Upper Santa Clara River Valley region, it remained isolated due to the rugged topography, even though at one time it was suggested as the location for a mission. Late 18th century historical events primarily occurred to the south and west of this region despite the establishment of Missions San Buenaventura in 1782 and San Fernando in 1797.

As the missions increased in size, and the herds of cattle grew, it became necessary to create mission ranchos (*estancias*) for new grazing lands, which then included the Upper Santa Clara River Valley region. Rancho San Francisco, which extended from the Upper Santa Clara River Valley down to Piru, was established a few years after the founding of Mission San Fernando and served as its *estancia*, with its headquarters near modern Magic Mountain (Cleland 1940; Smith 1977). The rancho remained an adjunct to the mission until 1839, when it was granted to Antonio del Valle by Governor Alvarado, then passed on to his son, Ygnacio six years later. Antonio del Valle had served as majordomo and administrator of the mission and its lands from 1834-1837, and in 1835 and 1837, he and his family petitioned the governor for a grant in the Santa Clara River Valley, of which slightly more than 46,000 acres was finally granted.

Ygnacio de Valle later became a prominent southern California politician, and served as the mayor (*Alcalde*) of Los Angeles during the Mexican period, as a member of the Territorial Deputation when California was admitted to the Union in 1850, and in the State Legislature. To maintain his western holdings of the rancho against Pedro Carrillo, Ygnacio had to build a corral at Camulos (the approximate site of the Chumash-Tataviam village of *kamulus*), the Camulos Adobe in 1864, which became the family home, and one of the first commercial wineries in the state in 1867. Helen Hunt Jackson visited the adobe in 1882, and used the setting for her early California novel, *Ramona* (the D.W. Griffith film “*Ramona*,” was filmed at the adobe in 1911, with Mary Pickford as the star). In addition, the lead group of the Manly-Walker party (the “Death Valley ’49ers”) emerged from the “wilderness” of the Mojave Desert, to Rancho San Francisco (W and S 2003:7).

The upper reaches of the Santa Clara River Valley and Rancho San Francisco were prominent in three other important Southern California events. Although the history of gold mining in California is usually linked with James Marshall’s 1848 discovery at Sutter’ Mill, it is also known that Francisco Lopez, Manuel Cota, and Domingo Bermudez found gold in Placerita Canyon in 1842 (W and S 2003:7). However, according to an account published by Outland (1986), there is a local tale about a group of 20 men, led by Santiago Feliciano, that left Mission San Fernando in 1820 to explore the Castaic region. Apparently they traveled up Hasley Canyon for about 10 miles (to the area of the modern Hathaway Ranch), discovered gold, then established the “San Feliciano” mining camp (from which the canyon probably received its name). The region from San Feliciano to Soledad Canyon was later prospected and mined (mainly for placer deposits) for a number of years. However, most likely due to legal problems in the recording of gold claims in Mexican California, whereas Mexican law required that the recordation be completed in Mexico City, that little documentation exists regarding these early gold mining activities (W and S 2003:8). Although there is no clear verification of the early gold discovery, there are other lines of evidence that suggests gold was discovered earlier than 1842. For example, Ewing Young found an old ore smelting oven in San Emigdio Canyon in 1832 (Outland 1986), which suggests earlier gold mining activities.

The discovery of gold in Placerita Canyon resulted in the granting of Rancho Temescal, which included more than 13,000 acres of most of Piru Creek, Placerita and San Feliciano canyons to Francisco Lopez and Jose Arellanes in 1843. The legality of this grant under Mexican law has always a point of contention, since the Governor of California was only able to award agricultural grants, not those of mining nature. However, “Thompson and West record that the area was worked by miners from Sonora, Mexico, between 1842 and 1846, at which time they returned to Mexico, and that they extracted between six and eight thousand dollars of gold per year during that period” (1886:74 in W and S 2003:8). About 12 years later, Ygnacio del Valle acquired Rancho Temescal and added it to his Rancho San Francisco.

The Castaic region was also where the first true oil drilling occurred in California, which led to discoveries throughout the Santa Clara River Valley area. The first oil was found after Ygnacio del Valle sold most of Rancho San Francisco to Thomas Bard, for Senator Thomas A. Scott, for \$1.25 per acre. Seven weeks later, the first oil well came in on Scott’s property, not far from the del Valle adobe, which fostered the ensuing oil boom that included the Hasley Canyon Oil Field and the Castaic Junction Oil Field.

The third event of local historical importance was the collapse of the St. Francis Dam and the resulting flood of the Santa Clara River Valley on March 12 and 13, 1928. More than 336 people died and at least 909 homes were lost as the flood waters careened down San Francisquito Canyon to Castaic Junction, on to Fillmore, Santa Paula, and ultimately to the Pacific Ocean (Outland 1963).

Of interest, the small unincorporated community of Del Valle, located in the upper reaches of Chiquito Canyon, was originally a Depression era resort that was established by and for African-Americans living in the Los Angeles area.

6.0 Records Search

6.1 Introduction

Prior to the field survey, June Schmidt of Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. conducted a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), California State University, Fullerton, on April 6, 2010, for the proposed project. The purpose of the search was to identify all previously recorded archaeological prehistoric and historic resources located within a 0.5 mile radius of the subject property, as well as to obtain copies of pertinent site records, survey reports, and documented archaeological research. In addition, the following sources were consulted to determine whether any historic properties have been listed within the 0.5 mile radius study area:

The National Register of Historic Places (1979-2002 & supplements).
The California Inventory of Historical Resources (1976 & supplements).
California Historical Landmarks (1995 & supplemental information).
California Points of Historical Interest (1992 & supplemental information).

California Register of Historical Resources (1992 & supplemental information).
Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File for Los Angeles County.

6.2 Native American Coordination

Gwen Romani of Compass Rose wrote a letter on April 2, 2010, regarding the current project to Katy Sanchez, Program Analyst for the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). Within the aforementioned letter to Ms. Sanchez, Ms. Romani requested that a search of the Sacred Lands File be conducted to identify any sacred or Native American sites within the project area, and that a list of Native American groups or individuals that may be knowledgeable about the project area, be provided (Appendix B).

A letter of response was received on April 13, 2010, from Dave Singleton, Program Analyst for the NAHC, stating that there are no known sacred lands within the immediate project area. Included was a list of Native American individuals/organizations with potential knowledge of cultural resources in the project area (Appendix B).

All Native American parties identified by the NAHC as contacts for the Castaic area were sent letters by Compass Rose (04/13/10), regarding sacred lands and/or cultural resources within the proposed project area. The listing of the Native Americans contacted is attached to the NAHC response letter (Appendix B). As of April 30, 2010, only John Valenzuela, Chairperson of the San Fernando Band of Mission Indians, responded by telephone to inquire if any cultural resources were found during the survey and if any had been recorded in the study area.

6.3 Results of the Records Search

Based on the records search at the SCCIC, the subject property has never been surveyed for the presence of cultural resources; however, 11 cultural resource investigations have been conducted, and three historical resources have been recorded within the 0.5-mile radius study area for the subject property. The cultural resource investigations include the following: Carrico 1973 (L-88); Mason and Ahmet 2005a and b (LA-10122 and 10123); McKenna 2003 (LA-10111); Robinson 1980 (L-973), 1981 (L1252), and 1993 (L-2891); Romani 2004 (LA-10116); Schmidt 2005 (LA-10115); W and S Consultants 1992 (L-2639); and Wlodarski 1999 (LA-4516).

The three historical cultural resources consist of P19-003580H, a cabin foundation and dirt access road, with an associated artifact scatter of metal, glass, and ceramics (Ahmet and Bouscaren 2005a); P19-003581H, a probable rock cairn (now dispersed) section marker for the northeastern corner of Section 27 (Ahmet and Bouscaren 2005b); and P19-100592, three glass fragments from two bottles (Ahmet and Bouscaren 2005c). These resources are situated to the east of the subject property.

The 1908 and 1941 USGS 15' Santa Susana Quadrangles and the 1940 Castaic Quadrangle were also examined. According to the 1908 map, the area was undeveloped at the turn of the century. By 1941, a dirt road had been graded up Romero Canyon Road and a structure appears within the study area, adjacent to the road. The structure is not

depicted on the 1988 Photorevised USGS 7.5' Val Verde Quadrangle, and was presumably removed sometime between 1941 and 1988.

C. Winkler of Castaic, filed a Homestead Entry for the SW ¼ of Section 22, to the north of the subject property, on August 9, 1920, and for the SE ¼ of Section 22, and the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 10, the SW ¼ of the NE ¼, and the NW ¼ of the SE ¼, and the NW ¼ of Section 15, Lots 1 and 2 in Section 16, in Township 5 North, Range 17 West on September 3, 1920 (Butters 2010).

Further, there are no properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the California Historic Resources Index (HRI), the California State Historical Landmarks (CHL), the California Points of Historical Interest (PHI), the California Inventory of Historical Resources, or the California Register of Historical Resources within or adjacent to the subject property.

In addition, the ftp site provided by Lundgren Management regarding different sets of information for the Romero Canyon project site was examined. Included within the numerous directory listings, was a Phase I cultural resources survey of the entire 199 acres of land, inclusive of Parcels 1-4 of the Romero Canyon property (W & S Consultants 2007). As a result of the survey, a single prehistoric site that consisted of a possible earth oven and fire hearth was encountered in the southern portion of Parcel 2, east of Romero Canyon Road. Apparently, the report and archaeological site record had not been filed at the SCCIC.

Several sources on the ftp site described an abandoned 1946-1947 oil exploration well possibly located in the area where the canyons merge in the southern portion of Parcel 4 (ERI 2010: 10; AEH 2008:1, 7). The Devil's Canyon No. 1 was drilled to a depth of 7657 feet and encountering no oil or gas, was considered a "dry hole" and was "temporarily" abandoned by the Universal Consolidated Oil Company. AEH (2008:2) also mentioned "evidence of one previous structure presumed to be a single family dwelling on the property," along with a "small amount of dumped material (trash)," which included a "small (burned out) automobile and other construction related waste." Evidence of the former well location was recognizable at the western central portion of the property (ibid). AEH concluded that the subject property has been "effectively vacant, undeveloped land since at least 1928," with only the remnants of one former single family dwelling found on the property.

7.0 Field Investigation

Gwen R. Romani and June A. Schmidt of Compass Rose conducted the on-foot field investigation for the proposed Romero Canyon High School site on April 15, 2010. Parcels 1 and 4 of the subject property were inspected by walking systematic transects spaced in approximately 10-meter intervals in the flat and moderately sloping areas, whereas the ridgelines and finger ridges were examined in the areas of steep terrain. Rodent burrows, as well as minor drainage cuts were carefully inspected for the presence of buried cultural materials. Overall ground visibility was very poor to good (10-75%).

The eastern north-south canyon bottom and lower moderate slopes on both sides of the dirt road and the north-south canyon bottom along Romero Canyon road, as well as the adjacent moderate slopes were generally inspected by walking linear transects spaced in approximately 10 meter (33 feet) intervals, as well as by opportunistic inspection due to the varying density of the existing vegetation. Ground surface visibility varied from very limited to approximately 50 percent. Much of the more moderate terrain had been partially cleared of vegetation by mechanical means. The sides of the minor drainages were inspected for buried cultural remains, of which none were observed.

The tops of ridge lines and adjacent finger ridges were inspected by walking zig-zag transects. Most of the denser vegetation existed on the steeper slopes, whereas vegetation had been partially removed on many of the hill tops. Ground surface visibility was variable, between 25 and 75 percent.

The western drainage and adjacent slopes west of the westernmost ridge in Parcel 4 were not a part of the field inspection. Observed vegetation in this area consisted of extremely dense chaparral.

An old road cut that extends west from Romero Canyon Road led to a previously graded area in the southern extent of Parcel 1. Most of this large terrace cut was densely vegetated with grasses, as well as with some native plants.

The current survey also examined the wide drainage area that extends to the northwest of the graded terrace in Parcel 4, and included another old road cut that led up the side of hill, which dead ended at two small, introduced pepper trees. Vegetation in the wide drainage consisted of dense grasses with limited ground surface visibility.

The property boundaries were recorded by a Garmin 76CSx GPS system, and notes and digital photographs were taken of the parcel to document its current status (Appendix C: Photographs 1-10).

7.1 Results of the Field Survey

The graded terrace west of Romero Canyon Road is the area described as the site of the abandoned Devil's Canyon No. 1 exploratory well (ERI 2010: 10; AEH 2008:1, 7). AEH (2008:2) also mentioned "evidence of one previous structure presumed to be a single family dwelling on the property," along with a "small amount of dumped material (trash)," which included a "small (burned out) automobile and other construction related waste." Discarded materials observed during the current survey in this area included mechanical debris, the possible automobile (Appendix C: Photograph 5); the metal well-head, adjacent to a discarded "Nautilus" water heater (Appendix C: Photograph 6); a pile of peeled posts (aka. peeler cores) attached by modern hex-screws (Appendix C: Photograph 7); and an approximately 5 x 5 meter, heavily vegetated depression of unknown depth (Appendix C: Photograph 8). Field conditions during the 2007 W&S survey of the subject property were described as follows: "Due to the ongoing drought, little groundcover covered the study area, and groundsurface visibility was very good"

(W&S 2007:19). Further, according to W&S (2007:19), “The area shown as containing a structure on the 1941 quadrangle had been bulldozed at some point in the past. No evidence for historical cultural resources could be found at this location.”

No prehistoric archaeological sites were identified within Parcels 1 and 4 of the proposed Romero Canyon High School site, and none have been previously recorded within the aforementioned parcels. However, a potential prehistoric earth oven and fire hearth site, WS08-1, was identified by W&S in 2007 within adjacent Parcel 2, which is not part of the proposed high school site.

8.0 Recommendations

Based on the results of this investigation the project as proposed will have no impact on cultural resources, and no additional studies are recommended at this time. However, in the event that cultural resources are encountered during any future earth disturbing activities, all work must halt at that location until the resources can be properly evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. Further, if human remains are unearthed during excavation, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that “...no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and distribution pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.”

9.0 Certification

Prepared and Submitted by: Gwen R. Romani, M.A., Principal Investigator,
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

Signature



Date: April 29, 2010

11.0 References

- Ahmet, Koral, and Kathryn Bouscaren
2005a Archaeological Site Record, P19-003580H. On file South Central Coastal Information Center, California State University, Fullerton.
- 2005b Archaeological Site Record, P19-003581H. On file South Central Coastal Information Center, California State University, Fullerton.
- 2005c Archaeological Site Record, P19-100592. On file South Central Coastal Information Center, California State University, Fullerton.
- Atkins Environmental H.E.L.P (AEH)
2008 Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Update. In Preparation for Real Estate Transaction for the Property Located at Romero Canyon (APN #3247-068-001 through #3247-068-004), Castaic, CA 91384. Prepared for Romero Canyon LLC, The Larry Rasmussen Revocable Trust, Santa Clarita, CA.
- Butters, Marylynn
2010 Winkler Homestead, Romero Canyon, Castaic, California, from the Collection of Marylynn Butters. Santa Clarita Valley History in Pictures. <http://www.scvhistory.com/scvhistory/sg0923f.htm>.
- Carrico, Richard L.
1973 *Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Castaic Development Site (L-88)*. Prepared for WESTEC Services, Inc.
- Cleland, Robert Glass
1940 *The Place Called Sespe: The History of a California Ranch*. Privately printed.
- Earle, David
1990 New Evidence on the Political Geography of the Antelope Valley and the Western Mojave Desert at Spanish Contact. In B. Love and W. H. De Witt, eds., *Archaeology and Ethnohistory of the Antelope Valley and Vicinity, Antelope Valley Archaeological Society, Occasional Papers No. 2*, pp.87-104.
- Earth Resources, Inc. (ERI)
2010 *Reconnaissance Geological Investigation, Proposed Romero Canyon High School Site, Portion of Tentative Tract 47807, Romero Canyon Road, Castaic Area, County of Los Angeles, California*. Prepared for the William S. Hart Union High School District, Santa Clarita, California.
- King, Chester, and Thomas C. Blackburn
1978 Tataviam. In *California*, edited by Robert F. Heizer, pp. 535-537. *Handbook of North American Indians*, vol. 8, William C. Sturtevant, general editor. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Kroeber, A. L.

1953 *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Reprinted. California Book Company, Ltd., Berkeley. Originally published in 1925, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Mason, Roger D., and Koral Ahmet

2005a *Cultural Resources Survey Report for the Hidden Paradise Ranch Property (APN 2865-018-033; 2865-018-034; 2865-023-006; 2865-023-019; and 2865-023-021), Near Castaic, Los Angeles County, California (LA-10122)*. Submitted to Hidden Paradise Ranch, LLC, Castaic, California.

2005b *Cultural Resources Survey Report for the Castaic 120 Project Property (APN 3247-026-032; 3247-026-055; and 3247-026-056), Near Castaic, Los Angeles County, California (LA-10123)*. Submitted to Ion Communities, Pomona, California.

McIntyre, Michael

1990 Cultural Resources of the Upper Santa Clara River Valley, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, California. In B. Love and W. H. DeWitt, eds. *Archaeology and Ethnohistory of the Antelope Valley and Vicinity, Antelope Valley Archaeological Society, Occasional Papers No. 2*, pp.1-20.

McKenna, Jeanette

2003 *A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of the Taft Corporation Property (APN 2865-022-005) in the Castaic Area of Northern Los Angeles County, California (LA-10111)*. Prepared for Taft Corporation, Quartz Hills, California.

Outland, Charles F.

1963 *Man-made Disaster: The Story of the St. Francis Dam*. Arthur H. Clark, Glendale.

1986 *Mines, Murders and Grizzlies: Tales of California's Ventura Back Country*. Ventura County Historical Society, Ventura.

Robinson, R. W.

1980 *Cultural Resources Investigation RE: Tentative Minor Land Division No. 13336 (L-973)*. Submitted to Zimmerman Consulting Engineers, West Covina California.

1981 *Cultural Resources Investigation RE: Parcel Map No. 12291 (L-1252)*. Submitted to Preece & Iacobellis, Inc.

1993 *A Cultural Resources Investigation of Tentative Tract No. 47646: Eighty Acres Located Near Castaic Reservoir, Los Angeles County, California (L-2891)*. Submitted to Larwin Company, Encino, California.

Romani, Gwen

2004 *Negative Archaeological Survey Report: 30801 Sloan Canyon Road, Castaic, California* (LA-10116). Prepared for Darrell Lantzy, Castaic, California.

Schmidt, James J.

2005 *Archaeological Letter Report: Robert Schlattman Residential Service Installation, 31160 Romero Canyon Road, Los Angeles County, California* (LA-10115). Submitted to Southern California Edison, Rosemead, California.

Shipley, William F.

1978 Native Languages of California. In *California*, edited by Robert F. Heizer, pp. 535-537. *Handbook of North American Indians*, vol. 8, William C. Sturtevant, general editor. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Smith, Wallace E.

1977 *This Land was Ours: the Del Valles and Camulos*. Ventura County Historical Society, Ventura, California.

Wallace, William J.

1955 A Suggested Chronology for Southern California Coastal Archaeology. *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology*, 11:214-230.

W and S Consultants

1992 *Phase I Archaeological Survey and Cultural Resources Assessment of a 5.5 Gross Acres Parcel, Castaic, Los Angeles County, California* (L-2639). Prepared for Haywood Hunter, Granada Hills, California.

2003 *Phase I Archaeological Survey of the 325 Acres Del Valle Specific Plan Study Area, Los Angeles County, California* (LA-10119). Prepared for Palmer Investments, Santa Monica, California.

2007a *Intensive Phase I Archaeological Survey/Class III Inventory of APN 3247-068-001, -002, -003 and -004, Los Angeles County, California*. Prepared for Sikand Engineering, Van Nuys, California.

2007b Temporary Archaeological Site Record, WS08-1.

Wlodarski, Robert J.

1999 *A Phase I Cultural Resource Study for the Heights at Hidden Lakes Project, Tract 52535, Los Angeles County, California* (LA-4516). Prepared for Rincon Consultants, Inc., Ventura, California.

**APPENDIX A:
Figures 1 and 2**

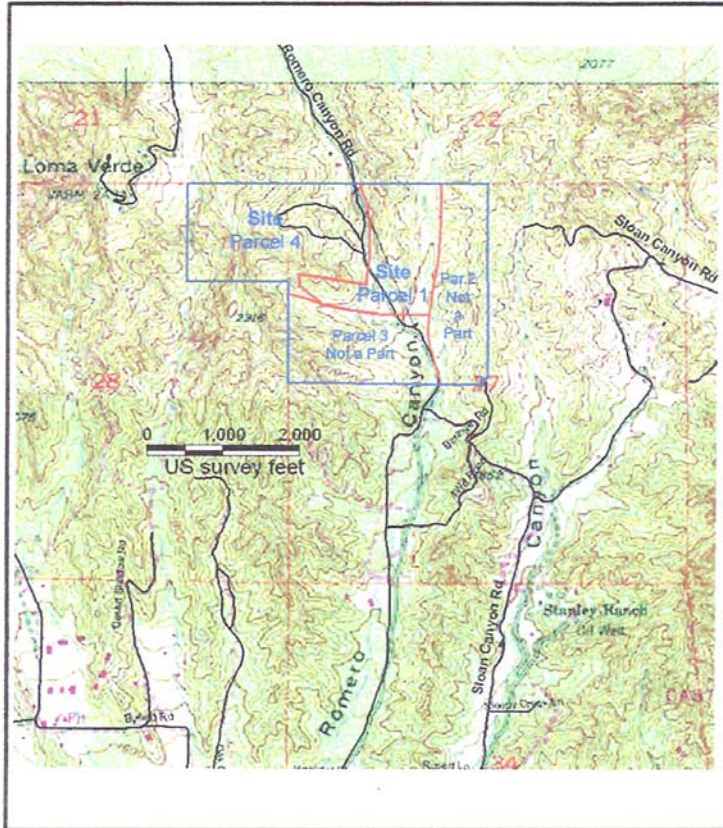
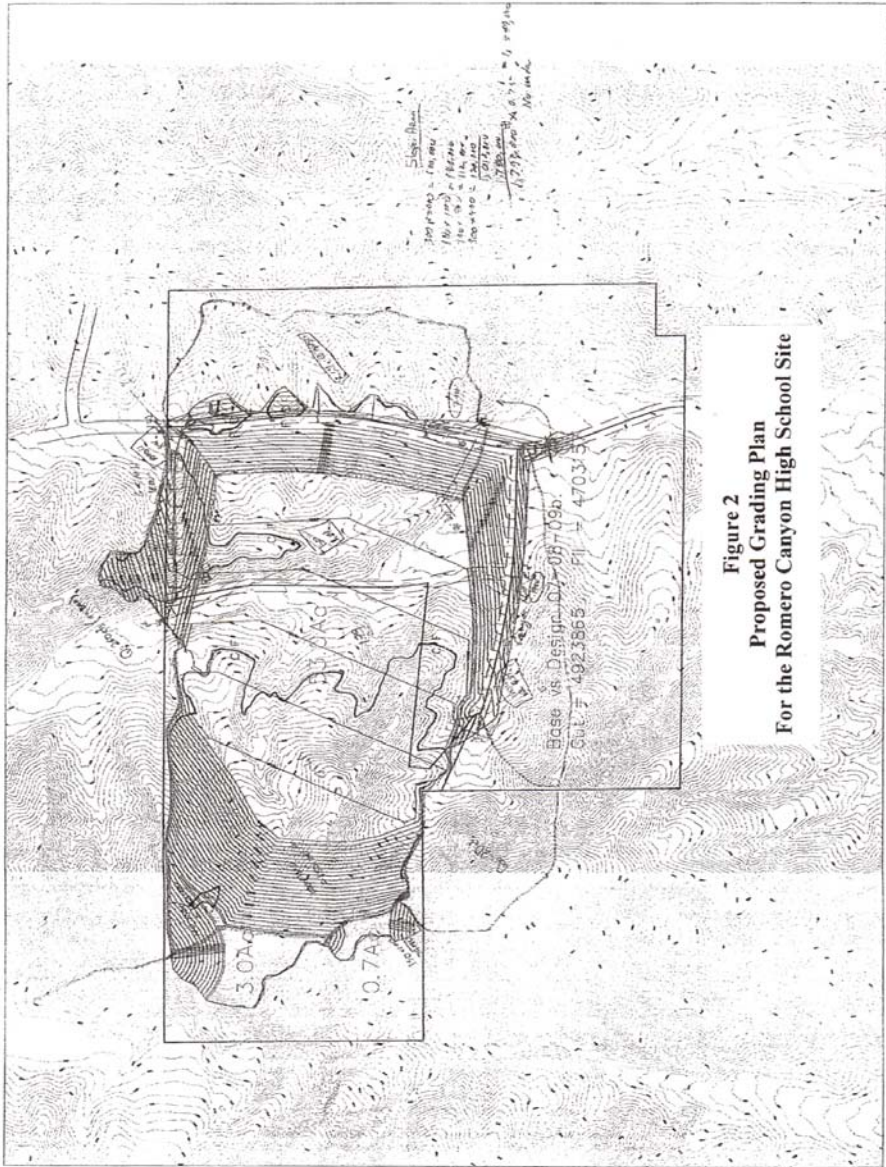
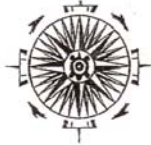


Figure 1
Project Location and Vicinity Map
Proposed Romero Canyon High School Site
Castaic, California
Portion of USGS 7.5' Val Verde Quadrangle
(from Earth Resources, Inc. 2010:3)



**Appendix B:
Native American Consultation**



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 02, 2010

To: Katy Sanchez, Program Analyst
Native American Heritage Commission
915 Capital Mall, Room 364
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Sacred Lands File check for two parcels (approximately 270 total acres) located in Castaic, Los Angeles County, California.

Dear Ms. Sanchez:

Please provide us with a Sacred Lands File records search for two parcels located in the Castaic area, Los Angeles County, California. One of the parcels, approximately 70 acres of land, is located northeasterly of the intersection of Hasley Canyon and Sloan Canyon roads (east $\frac{1}{2}$ of the northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 3), and the second approximately 200 acres parcel is located along Romero Canyon Road (northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 27 and the northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of the northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 28), both in Township 5 North, Range 17 West, as depicted on the USGS 7.5' Val Verde Quadrangle (see attached map). Also, please provide a list of Native American contacts for this area. Thank you.

Sincerely,

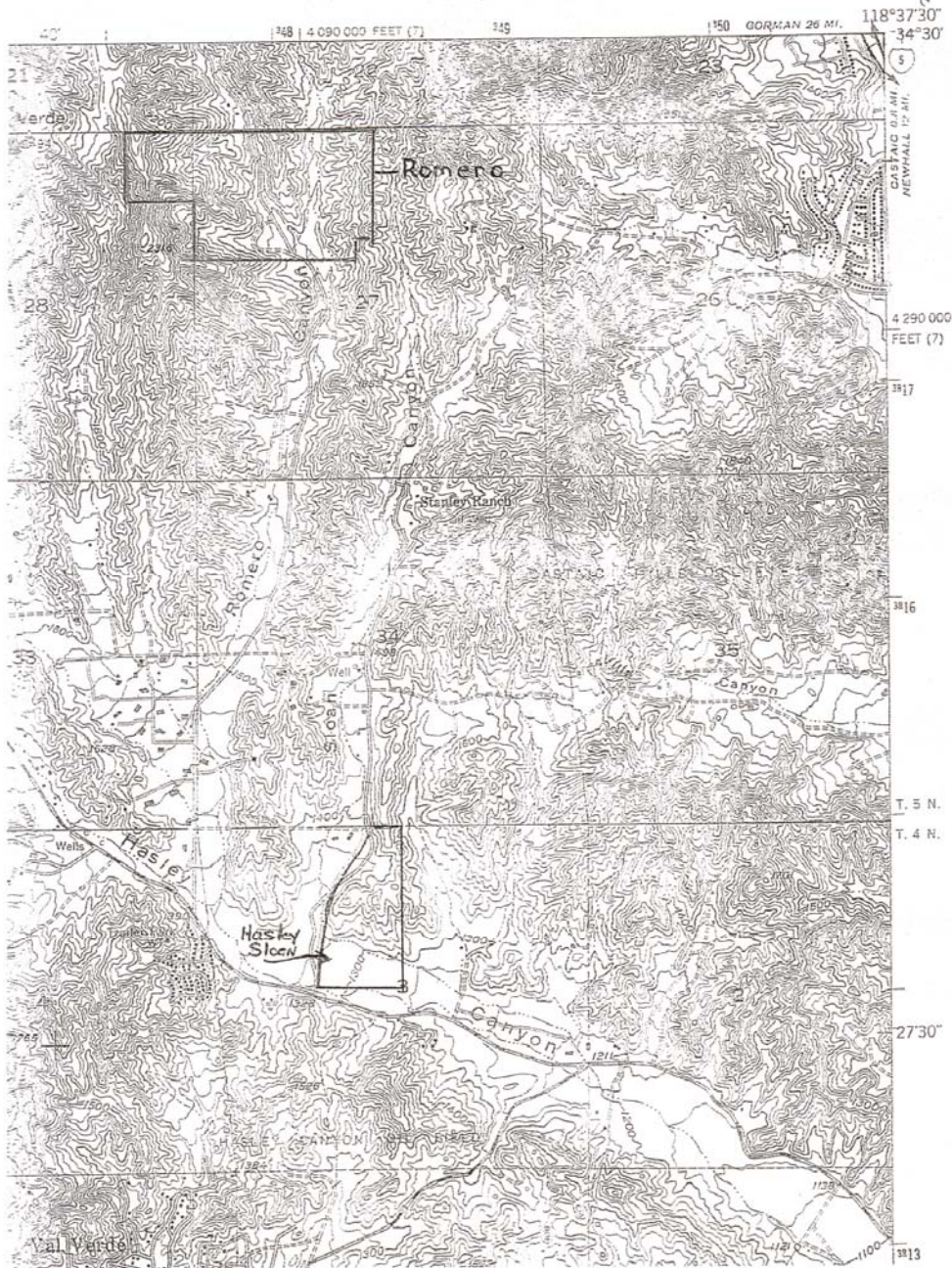
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gwen Romani".

Gwen Romani
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.
818-989-0656
818-989-3556 - Fax
6206 Peach Avenue
Van Nuys, CA 91411

T 54
R 17W

VAL VERDE QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

WARM SPRINGS
MINN



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Arnold Schwarzenegger, GOVERNOR

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
 (916) 653-6251
 Fax (916) 657-5390
 Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov
na_hc@pacbell.net



April 13, 2010

Ms. Gwen Romani, RPA

COMPASS ROSE

6206 Peach Avenue
 Van Nuys, CA 91411

Sent by FAX to (818) 989-3556

No. Pages: 3

Re: Request for a Sacred Lands File Search and Native American Contacts List for the proposed "Two Development Projects on 270-acres"; located near the community of Castaic, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Romani:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), the State of California 'Trustee Agency' for the protection and preservation of Native American cultural resources (c.f. CA Public Resources Code §21070; also c.f. *Environmental Protection Information Center v. Johnson* [1988] 170 Cal App. 3rd 604), was able to perform a record search of its Sacred Lands File (SLF) for the affected project area (APE) requested. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; CA Public Resources Code Section 21000 – 21177) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the California Code of Regulations §15064.5(b)(c)(f) CEQA guidelines). Section 15382 of the 2007 CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ...objects of historic or aesthetic significance." The NAHC SLF search did not indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources within one-half - mile radius of the proposed project site (APE). However, there are Native American cultural resources in close proximity to the APE.

This letter includes state and federal statutes relating to Native American historic properties of religious and cultural significance to American Indian tribes and interested Native American individuals as 'consulting parties' under both state and federal law.

Early consultation with Native American tribes in your area is the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries once a project is underway. Enclosed are the names of the nearest tribes and interested Native American individuals that the NAHC recommends as 'consulting parties,' for this purpose, that may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties in the project area (e.g. APE). We recommend that you contact persons on the attached list of Native American contacts. Furthermore we suggest that you contact the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the Office of Historic Preservation Coordinator's office (at (916) 653-7278, for referral to the nearest Information Center of which there are 10.

Consultation with tribes and interested Native American consulting parties, on the NAHC list, should be conducted in compliance with the requirements of federal NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321-43351) and Section 106 and 4(f) of federal NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470 [f] *et seq.*), 36 CFR Part 800.3 (f) (2), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CSQ; 42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*) and NAGPRA (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013), as appropriate. The 1992 *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* were revised so that they could be applied to all historic resource types included in the National Register of Historic Places and including *cultural landscapes*.

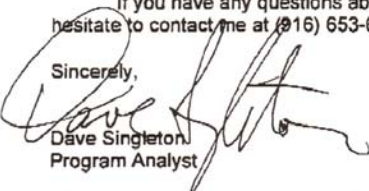
Lead agencies should consider avoidance, as defined in Section 15370 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) when significant cultural resources could be affected by a project. Also, Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 provide for provisions for accidentally discovered archeological resources during construction and mandate the processes to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery'. Discussion of these should be included in your environmental documents, as appropriate.

Although tribal consultation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; CA Public Resources Code Section 21000 – 21177) is 'advisory' rather than mandated, the NAHC does request 'lead agencies' to work with tribes and interested Native American individuals as 'consulting parties,' on the list provided by the NAHC in order that cultural resources will be protected. However, the 2006 SB 1059 the state enabling legislation to the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005, does mandate tribal consultation for the 'electric transmission corridors. This is codified in the California Public Resources Code, Chapter 4.3, and §25330 to Division 15, requires consultation with California Native American tribes, and identifies both federally recognized and non-federally recognized on a list maintained by the NAHC

The response to this search for Native American cultural resources is conducted in the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory, established by the California Legislature (CA Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and is exempt from the CA Public Records Act (c.f. California Government Code §6254.10) although Native Americans on the attached contact list may wish to reveal the nature of identified cultural resources/historic properties. Confidentiality of "historic properties of religious and cultural significance" may also be protected under Section 304 of the NHPA or at the Secretary of the Interior's discretion if not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Secretary may also be advised by the federal Indian Religious Freedom Act (cf. 42 U.S.C. 1996) in issuing a decision on whether or not to disclose items of religious and/or cultural significance identified in or near the APE and possibly threatened by proposed project activity.

If you have any questions about this response to your request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 653-6251.

Sincerely,


Dave Singleton
Program Analyst

Attachment: Native American Contacts

Native American Contacts
April 13, 2010
Los Angeles County

Charles Cooke
32835 Santiago Road
Acton, CA 93510

(661) 733-1812 - cell
suscol@intox.net

Chumash
Fernandeno
Tataviam
Kitanemuk

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians
Delia Dominguez
981 N. Virginia
Covina, CA 91722
(626) 339-6785

Yowlumne
Kitanemuk

Beverly Salazar Folkes
1931 Shadybrook Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
805 492-7255
(805) 558-1154 - cell
folkes9@msn.com

Chumash
Tataviam
Fernandeno

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
John Valenzuela, Chairperson
P.O. Box 221838
Newhall, CA 91322
tsen2u@live.com
(661) 753-9833 Office
(760) 885-0955 Cell
(760) 949-1604 Fax

Fernandeno
Tataviam
Serrano
Vanyume
Kitanemuk

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
William Gonzales, Cultural/Environ Depart
601 South Brand Boulevard, Suite 102
San Fernando CA 91340
rortega@tataviam-nsn.us
(818) 837-0794 Office
(818) 581-9293 Cell
(818) 837-0796 Fax

Fernandeno
Tataviam

Randy Guzman - Folkes
655 Los Angeles Avenue, Unit E
Moorpark, CA 93021
ndnRandy@gmail.com
(805) 905-1675 - cell

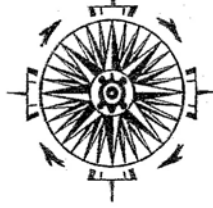
Chumash
Fernandeno
Tataviam
Shoshone Paiute
Yaqui

LA City/County Native American Indian Comm
Ron Andrade, Director
3175 West 6th Street, Rm.
Los Angeles, CA 90020
randrade@css.lacounty.gov
(213) 351-5324
(213) 386-3995 FAX

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code. Also, federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and federal NAGPRA.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Development Projects located on Two Parcels comprising 270-acres; located near the community of Castaic; Los Angeles County, California for which a Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contacts list were requested.



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 13, 2010

To: Randy Guzman-Folkes
655 New Los Angeles Ave., Apt. E
Moorpark, CA 93021-2053

From: Dan Larson
Project Manager
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

Subject: Request for Written Comments Regarding Known Native American Cultural Resources within or adjacent to two parcels located in the area of Castaic, Los Angeles County.

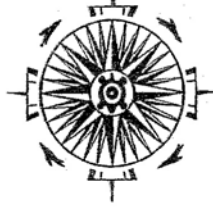
Dear Randy,

Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. is preparing to conduct two Phase I Archaeological Investigations in the Castaic area, west of the I-5 Freeway. One of the parcels is located just northeast of the intersection of Hasley and Sloan canyons, and consists of approximately 70 acres of land, and the second parcel is located in Romero Canyon, and consists of approximately 200 acres of land (please see attached map).

Based on the records search, the Hasley-Sloan property has been previously surveyed and no cultural resources were encountered at that time. The Romero Canyon property has not been previously surveyed and there are no sites recorded within or adjacent to the property. Further, no Native American cultural resources were found to be recorded within the project area or immediate vicinity as a result of the search of the Sacred Lands File conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission. If you have any specific knowledge of additional cultural resources that may be at risk as a result of the proposed project, please provide us with a written statement identifying these resources, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance for evaluation.

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding this proposed project, and contact us by mail, email (gcompass@earthlink.net or jrcompass@earthlink.net), or fax (818-989-3556) by April 30, 2010. Your response will ensure that avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation can be implemented as part of the archaeological report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dan Larson
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 13, 2010

To: Beverly Salazar Folkes
1931 Shadybrook Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

From: Dan Larson
Project Manager
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

Subject: Request for Written Comments Regarding Known Native American Cultural Resources within or adjacent to two parcels located in the area of Castaic, Los Angeles County.

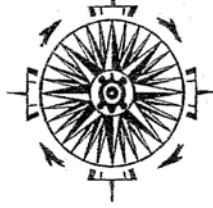
Dear Beverly,

Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. is preparing to conduct two Phase I Archaeological Investigations in the Castaic area, west of the I-5 Freeway. One of the parcels is located just northeast of the intersection of Hasley and Sloan canyons, and consists of approximately 70 acres of land, and the second parcel is located in Romero Canyon, and consists of approximately 200 acres of land (please see attached map).

Based on the records search, the Hasley-Sloan property has been previously surveyed and no cultural resources were encountered at that time. The Romero Canyon property has not been previously surveyed and there are no sites recorded within or adjacent to the property. Further, no Native American cultural resources were found to be recorded within the project area or immediate vicinity as a result of the search of the Sacred Lands File conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission. If you have any specific knowledge of additional cultural resources that may be at risk as a result of the proposed project, please provide us with a written statement identifying these resources, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance for evaluation.

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding this proposed project, and contact us by mail, email (gcompass@earthlink.net or jrcompass@earthlink.net), or fax (818-989-3556) by April 30, 2010. Your response will ensure that avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation can be implemented as part of the archaeological report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dan Larson
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 13, 2010

To: Charles Cooke
32835 Santiago Road
Acton, CA 93510

From: Gwen Romani, M.A.
Principal Investigator
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

Subject: Request for Written Comments Regarding Known Native American Cultural Resources within or adjacent to two parcels located in the area of Castaic, Los Angeles County.

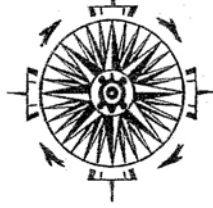
Dear Charlie,

Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. is preparing to conduct two Phase I Archaeological Investigations in the Castaic area, west of the I-5 Freeway. One of the parcels is located just northeast of the intersection of Hasley and Sloan canyons, and consists of approximately 70 acres of land, and the second parcel is located in Romero Canyon, and consists of approximately 200 acres of land (please see attached map).

Based on the records search, the Hasley-Sloan property has been previously surveyed and no cultural resources were encountered at that time. The Romero Canyon property has not been previously surveyed and there are no sites recorded within or adjacent to the property. Further, no Native American cultural resources were found to be recorded within the project area or immediate vicinity as a result of the search of the Sacred Lands File conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission. If you have any specific knowledge of additional cultural resources that may be at risk as a result of the proposed project, please provide us with a written statement identifying these resources, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance for evaluation.

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding this proposed project, and contact us by mail, email (gcompass@earthlink.net or jrcompass@earthlink.net), or fax (818-989-3556) by April 30, 2010. Your response will ensure that avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation can be implemented as part of the archaeological report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Gwen Romani
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 13, 2010

To: John Valenzuela, Chairperson
Seven Feathers Corporation
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
P.O. Box 221838
Newhall, CA 91322

From: Gwen Romani, M.A.
Principal Investigator
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

Subject: Request for Written Comments Regarding Known Native American Cultural Resources within or adjacent to two parcels located in the area of Castaic, Los Angeles County.

Dear John,

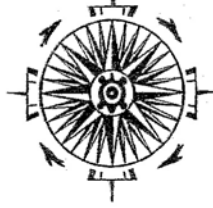
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. is preparing to conduct two Phase I Archaeological Investigations in the Castaic area, west of the I-5 Freeway. One of the parcels is located just northeast of the intersection of Hasley and Sloan canyons, and consists of approximately 70 acres of land, and the second parcel is located in Romero Canyon, and consists of approximately 200 acres of land (please see attached map).

Based on the records search, the Hasley-Sloan property has been previously surveyed and no cultural resources were encountered at that time. The Romero Canyon property has not been previously surveyed and there are no sites recorded within or adjacent to the property. Further, no Native American cultural resources were found to be recorded within the project area or immediate vicinity as a result of the search of the Sacred Lands File conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission. If you have any specific knowledge of additional cultural resources that may be at risk as a result of the proposed project, please provide us with a written statement identifying these resources, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance for evaluation.

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding this proposed project, and contact us by mail, email (gcompass@earthlink.net or jrcompass@earthlink.net), or fax (818-989-3556) by April 30, 2010. Your response will ensure that avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation can be implemented as part of the archaeological report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gwen Romani
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 13, 2010

To: William Gonzales
Cultural/Environmental Department
Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
601 South Brand Blvd., Suite 102
San Fernando, CA 91340

From: Gwen Romani, M.A.
Principal Investigator
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

Subject: Request for Written Comments Regarding Known Native American Cultural Resources within or adjacent to two parcels located in the area of Castaic, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

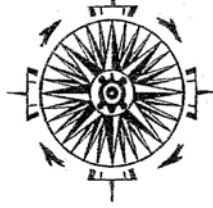
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. is preparing to conduct two Phase I Archaeological Investigations in the Castaic area, west of the I-5 Freeway. One of the parcels is located just northeast of the intersection of Hasley and Sloan canyons, and consists of approximately 70 acres of land, and the second parcel is located in Romero Canyon, and consists of approximately 200 acres of land (please see attached map).

Based on the records search, the Hasley-Sloan property has been previously surveyed and no cultural resources were encountered at that time. The Romero Canyon property has not been previously surveyed and there are no sites recorded within or adjacent to the property. Further, no Native American cultural resources were found to be recorded within the project area or immediate vicinity as a result of the search of the Sacred Lands File conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission. If you have any specific knowledge of additional cultural resources that may be at risk as a result of the proposed project, please provide us with a written statement identifying these resources, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance for evaluation.

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding this proposed project, and contact us by mail, email (gcompass@earthlink.net or jrcompass@earthlink.net), or fax (818-989-3556) by April 30, 2010. Your response will ensure that avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation can be implemented as part of the archaeological report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gwen Romani
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 13, 2010

To: Ron Andrade, Director
LA City/County Native American Indian Commission
3175 West 6th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90020

From: Gwen Romani, M.A.
Principal Investigator
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

Subject: Request for Written Comments Regarding Known Native American Cultural Resources within or adjacent to two parcels located in the area of Castaic, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Andrade:

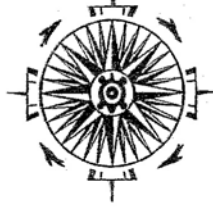
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. is preparing to conduct two Phase I Archaeological Investigations in the Castaic area, west of the I-5 Freeway. One of the parcels is located just northeast of the intersection of Hasley and Sloan canyons, and consists of approximately 70 acres of land, and the second parcel is located in Romero Canyon, and consists of approximately 200 acres of land (please see attached map).

Based on the records search, the Hasley-Sloan property has been previously surveyed and no cultural resources were encountered at that time. The Romero Canyon property has not been previously surveyed and there are no sites recorded within or adjacent to the property. Further, no Native American cultural resources were found to be recorded within the project area or immediate vicinity as a result of the search of the Sacred Lands File conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission. If you have any specific knowledge of additional cultural resources that may be at risk as a result of the proposed project, please provide us with a written statement identifying these resources, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance for evaluation.

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding this proposed project, and contact us by mail, email (gcompass@earthlink.net or jrcompass@earthlink.net), or fax (818-989-3556) by April 30, 2010. Your response will ensure that avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation can be implemented as part of the archaeological report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gwen Romani
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.



COMPASS ROSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, INC.
6206 PEACH AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91411
(818) 989-0656

April 13, 2010

To: Delia Dominguez
Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians
981 N. Virginia
Covina, CA 91722

Subject: Request for Written Comments Regarding Known Native American Cultural Resources within or adjacent to two parcels located in the area of Castaic, Los Angeles County.

Dear Ms. Dominguez:

Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc. is preparing to conduct two Phase I Archaeological Investigations in the Castaic area, west of the I-5 Freeway. One of the parcels is located just northeast of the intersection of Hasley and Sloan canyons, and consists of approximately 70 acres of land, and the second parcel is located in Romero Canyon, and consists of approximately 200 acres of land (please see attached map).

Based on the records search, the Hasley-Sloan property has been previously surveyed and no cultural resources were encountered at that time. The Romero Canyon property has not been previously surveyed and there are no sites recorded within or adjacent to the property. Further, no Native American cultural resources were found to be recorded within the project area or immediate vicinity as a result of the search of the Sacred Lands File conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission. If you have any specific knowledge of additional cultural resources that may be at risk as a result of the proposed project, please provide us with a written statement identifying these resources, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance for evaluation.

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding this proposed project, and contact us by mail, email (gcompass@earthlink.net or jrcompass@earthlink.net), or fax (818-989-3556) by April 30, 2010. Your response will ensure that avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation can be implemented as part of the archaeological report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gwen Romani
Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.

**Appendix C:
Photographs 1-10**



Photograph 1: view to east in northeast extent of Parcel 1; includes northern portion of Parcel 2 in background.



Photograph 2: view to southwest toward Romero Canyon Road in Parcel 4.



Photograph 3: view to southwest in Parcel 1; includes portions of Parcels 2 and 3 in background.



Photograph 4: view of Parcel 4 to west.



Photograph 5: view to south in graded area of Parcel 1, discarded mechanical debris.



Photograph 6: view to west in graded area of Parcel 1, well head and discarded water heater.



Photograph 7: view to northeast in graded area of Parcel 1, discarded fencing attached with modern hex screws.



Photograph 8: view to east in graded area of Parcel 1 overlooking large overgrown depression.



Photograph 9: view to southwest of drainage in western extent of Parcel 4.



Photograph 10: view to southeast of Parcels 4 and 1, and Parcels 2 and 3 in background.