Appendix H  Additional Cultural Resources Survey for the Bear Valley Parkway Development (September 2016)
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September 16, 2016

Diane Sandman, Director
Environmental Services
Harris & Associates
750 B Street, Suite 1800
San Diego, CA

Re: Additional Cultural Resources Survey for the Bear Valley Parkway Development, Escondido, California

Dear Ms. Sandman,

This report presents the results of an archaeological investigation conducted by ASM Affiliates, Inc. (ASM) for the recently proposed Bear Valley Parkway Residential Development Project (Project). The purpose of the archaeological investigation was to determine the presence or absence of cultural resources within the proposed road improvements along Bear Valley Parkway, connected to the Project’s area of potential effects (APE), as described below.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

ASM was contracted by Harris and Associates to conduct an additional Phase I/Class III archaeological survey associated with proposed road improvements along Bear Valley Parkway that are connected to the proposed residential development project located within the property addressed as 661 Bear Valley Parkway in Escondido, California. This work was conducted to assist in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and local regulations in the city of Escondido.

The project area is located in the city of Escondido, San Diego County, California (Figure 1). The proposed project consists of the subdivision of 40.9 acres into 55 residential lots, two private street lots, seven open-space lots, and one recreation lot. Each of the residential lots will contain a minimum area of 10,000 ft.². Private open space will occupy 19.47 acres of the 40.9 acre project area, and will include any environmental mitigation and buffer areas related to upland or wetland habitat, as well as two drainage basins to improve the quality of storm water crossing and exiting the site. Access to the project area from Bear Valley Parkway is proposed at the intersection of Zlatibor Ranch Road and Bear Valley Parkway. A secondary, gated emergency access road will be provided between the main access point and the intersection of Encino Drive and Bear Valley Parkway. The project includes a proposed Specific Alignment Plan for an alternative standard for Bear Valley Parkway (classified as a Major Road), as well as frontage improvements to include curb, gutter, sidewalk, parkway, and bike lane. The pedestrian walkway system inside the project area will tie into the public Bear Valley Parkway sidewalk system. While the subdivision of 40.9 acres was previously surveyed by ASM (Daniels 2016, Drake 2016), the City would like to include the road improvements in this study. The road
improvements will be along Bear Valley Parkway, and required a linear survey of up to 0.7 miles.

For the archaeological and historical investigations presented in this report, Dr. Mark Becker served as Project Manager. Doug Drake, M.A. served as the Field Director and Report Author, and David Streamer of Saving Sacred Sites served as the Native American monitor.

METHODS

The Project APE was surveyed by on September 15, 2015. All accessible portions of the potential Project APE were inspected for the presence of cultural material. Portions of the APE were within fenced and/or private property, were not accessible, and were not surveyed. Due to developed nature of the Project area, including Bear Valley Parkway, sidewalks, landscaping, fencing, and private property restrictions, the surveyable portions of the APE were limited to being adjacent to the existing roadway in addition to relatively smaller, discontiguous patches of open soils along the slope adjacent to the east of this area, all of which were examined for cultural resources as access permitted.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS

The intensive visual inspection of the accessible portions of the roadway improvements APE provided no evidence for the presence of cultural resources in those areas, although a previously unrecorded trash dump was observed immediately east of the proposed road improvements APE (Figures 5-8). The majority of the Project APE is located within the public right-of-way and is paved (Bear Valley Parkway), fenced and/or private land, covered with vegetation, or is a slope into a deep drainage that parallels the east side of Bear Valley Parkway. All accessible areas of exposed soil were visually examined, but the surveyable portions of the APE were limited to being immediately adjacent to the existing roadway in addition to discontiguous patches of open soils along the slope to the east of this area, all of which were examined for cultural resources as access permitted. In addition, the majority of the accessible portions of exposed soil appeared to consist primarily of graded and/or filled soil, and contained varying amounts of modern refuse and other intrusive materials.

A previously unrecorded small historic trash dump was observed immediately east of the proposed roadway improvements along Bear Valley Parkway and approximately 20 meters south of the proposed Green Street Rain Garden Area described in engineering plans (Figure 5). The small trash dump consisted of seven clear glass bottle fragments, six brown glass bottle fragments (Figure 6), a historic Ball mason jar (Figure 7), two cans (Figure 8), and two unidentifiable metal fragments. It also contained intrusive modern components as well, including a fragmented toilet and a fragmented plastic plant pot. The historic component appeared to be eroding from the banks of a seasonal drainage running west-east from the roadway above. As this site was located outside of the APE, it was not formally recorded. Due to the diffuse and scattered nature of the site, it was determined to be a non-significant resource.

While the majority of the APE of the potential alternative alignment for the roadway improvements have been previously disturbed by the construction of Bear Valley Parkway and
the development of private land along the road, it is possible that intact subsurface cultural deposits have been preserved underneath the roadway or ground surface within the APE.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Although no cultural resources were identified within the Project area during the archaeological survey of the potential roadway improvements associated with the Bear Valley Parkway Development Project APE, construction monitoring by a qualified archaeologist and Native American monitor is recommended for this portion of the Project, as it is for the original Project APE. Due to the varying ground surface visibility, restricted access, and highly disturbed nature of the road improvements APE and the identified presence of cultural resources within the vicinity, there is a potential for unidentified, buried cultural material within this portion of the proposed road improvement APE, as there is for the original Project APE. If you have any questions or comments regarding the information provided in this report, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. Mark Becker.

Sincerely,

Doug Drake, M.A.
Associate Archaeologist

References Cited:


Attachments:

Figure 1. Regional project location map.
Figure 2. A satellite map showing the location and boundary of the proposed road widening along Bear Valley Parkway.
Figure 3. Map showing the proposed road improvements plan associated with the Bear Valley Parkway Residential Development Project, map created by Hunsaker & Associates San Diego, Inc..
Figure 4. View of a paved and vegetated portion of the Bear Valley Parkway road improvements alignment APE, facing south.
Figure 5. A satellite map showing the location of the previously unrecorded small historic trash dump adjacent to the Project area.
Figure 6. View of a selection of brown glass and clear glass bottle fragments observed in small historic trash dump, scale in centimeters.
Figure 7. View of a Ball mason jar observed in small historic trash dump, scale in centimeters.
Figure 8. View of a can observed in small historic trash dump, scale in centimeters.
Figure 2. A satellite map showing the location and boundary of the proposed road widening along Bear Valley Parkway.
Figure 3. Map showing the proposed road improvements plan associated with the Bear Valley Parkway Residential Development Project, created by Hunsaker & Associates San Diego, Inc.
Figure 4. View of a paved and vegetated portion of the Bear Valley Parkway Residential Development road improvements project APE, facing south.

Figure 5. A satellite map showing the location of the previously unrecorded small historic trash dump adjacent to the Project area.
Figure 6. View of a selection of brown glass and clear glass bottle fragments observed in small historic trash dump, scale in centimeters.
Figure 7. View of a Ball mason jar observed in small historic trash dump, scale in centimeters.

Figure 8. View of a can observed in small historic trash dump, scale in centimeters.