5.13 CULTURAL RESOURCES (HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALEONTOLOGICAL)

5.13.1 INTRODUCTION

This section addresses existing conditions and potential impacts to cultural resources (archaeological, historical, and paleontological) resulting from the proposed project. The archaeological and historical analysis is based on information provided by Archaeological Associates (April 2000), including a preliminary cultural reconnaissance of the proposed plan area. Paleontological information is derived from the paleontology reconnaissance prepared by MBA (May 2000). Both reports are included in EIR Appendix F.

The purposes of the cultural resources inventory was to gather information concerning previously recorded prehistoric and historic resources within the boundaries of the plan area as a basis for evaluating potential impacts, and to identify measures necessary for the protection of significant resources.

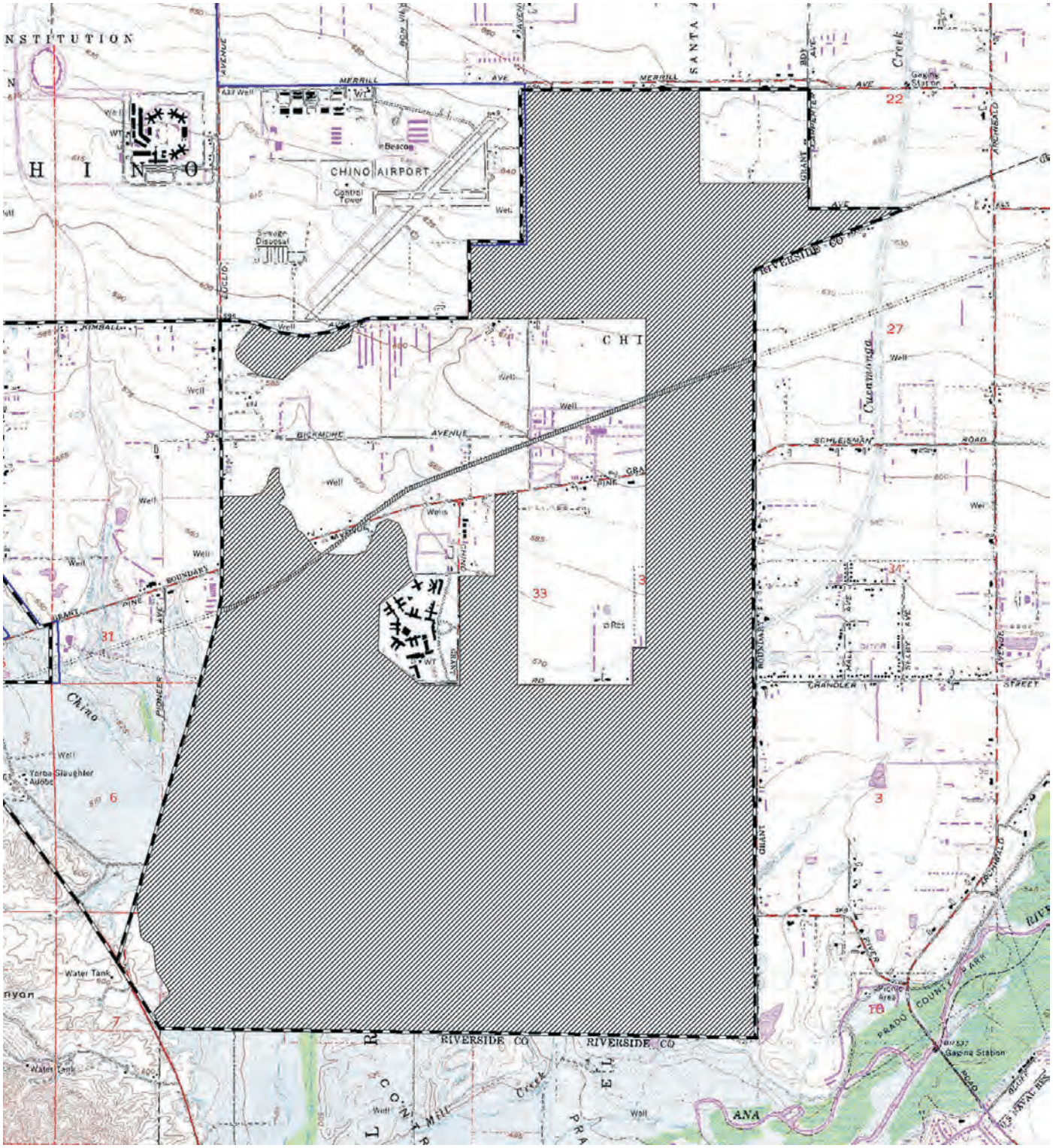
5.13.2 EXISTING CONDITIONS

Cultural Resources Overview

The Prado Basin has been a focal point for human activity during prehistoric times and as well as in the more recent past. The availability of a permanent water source supplied by the Santa Ana River and its tributaries has resulted in the presence of numerous prehistoric and historic archaeological sites in the Basin. Sites range in age from 8,000-5,000 years B.P. (Milling Stone Horizon) to the mid 1900s (American Period).

Creation of the Prado Flood Control Basin during the late 1930's and early 40's eventually led the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to sponsor a number of cultural resource studies focusing on both the prehistory and history of the basin. Over the last three decades, a surprisingly large body of data has been gathered, particularly with regard to pre-WWII small farms and dairies.

The current cultural resources records search indicates that approximately 85% of the proposed project (i.e. the plan area) has been previously surveyed for prehistoric and historic cultural resources (Exhibit 5.13-1). Past surveys date from 1975 to the present. With the exception of a few hundred acres, the entire area south of Pine Avenue (encompassing approximately 2/3 of the plan area) has been previously investigated. Furthermore, much of the northeastern portion of the study area has been studied in conjunction with past expansion plans of the Chino Airport.



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Michael Brandman Associates

Exhibit **5.13-1**

Cultural Resource Previously Surveyed Areas

The types of surveys conducted have included linear surveys (roads, power lines, and pipelines), acreage surveys (e.g. Prado Regional Park and Prado Regional Golf Course), and several large scale flood control projects. The vast majority of prehistoric and historic studies were associated with Prado Flood Control Basin projects sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District. The most comprehensive investigation conducted within the southern portion of the study area was *Phase II Archaeological Studies of Prado Basin and the Lower Santa Ana River* (Langenwalter & Brock 1985). This study included background research, survey, test excavation, and evaluations for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for numerous Prado Basin sites (including several within the plan area).

A total of fifty-three archaeological sites (8 prehistoric, 45 historic) have been recorded within the plan area (Table 5.13-1). With the exception of only a few historic sites, all prehistoric and historic resources are situated below the Prado Dam high water line (below 566' MSL elevation). Fourteen of the sites have identification numbers prefixed with "SBR-" (for San Bernardino County). However, the vast majority of sites are regarded as "Pending Sites". Pending sites are those sites whose existence and location have yet to be confirmed. Generally, their presence is based upon early maps, historic references and hearsay. These sites begin with the letter "P".

TABLE 5.13-1
CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE PLAN AREA

Site Number	Site Description
SBR-1543	Habitation site (The Pate Mesa Site)
SBR-1571/H	Historic trash dump. Prehistoric groundstone feature comprising a foundation remnant of the Pate Ranch
SBR-2259	Mano & bowl fragment (location now covered by park headquarters)
SBR-2260	Bedrock milling station
SBR-2845	Light lithic and groundstone scatter ('Bandini Mountain' site)
SBR-5241	projectile points and lithics reported by informant (site believed to be destroyed)
SBR-5243	Large light artifact scatter (Corral Site)
SBR-5244	Groundstone scatter reported by informant (site destroyed during construction of Vander Laan Dairy)
SBR-5274	Mortars, pestles, and projectile points reported by informant. Site destroyed by pumping station (Altadena Dairy site)
SBR-5573H	Britski Ranch site (1933)
SBR-7136H	Hartshorn Farm site (1890's)
SBR-7676H	Ross Ranch site (1899)

TABLE 5.13-1 (Cont.)
CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE PLAN AREA

Site Number	Site Description
SBR-7679H	Olive grove at Le Gaye Ranch (1883)
P871-1H	McCarty Ranch (1878)
P871-2H	Payne Hog Farm (1878)
P871-3H	Farm site (1899)
P871-4H	Kirby Farm site (1899)
P871-5H	The Songer Place (1899)
P871-6H	Ben Fugua Ranch site (1880's)
P871-8H	Remington Ranch (1900's)
P871-9H	Ranch House site (1926)
P871-10H	House site (1926)
P871-11H	Barn site (1926)
P871-12H	Chino Valley Grist Mill (1875)
P871-13H	The Brown Place (1899)
P871-14H	Arborn Ranch and Raab Farm (1857)
P871-15H	Willow Springs Ranch (1860's)
P871-16H	Mayhew House (1866)
P871-17H	Valley School (1887)
P871-18H	Eva J. Hall farm (1890's)
P871-19H	Spring Valley/Mayhew/Fugua Ditch (1875)
P871-20H	Cline Homestead (1870's)
P871-21H	Aguada Guapas House (1850's)
P871-22H	Mary Race Farm/Dairy (1900's)
P872-9H	unknown
P872-10H	Pioneer School/Cemetery (1887)
P872-11H	Cavanagh House site (1890's)
P872-12H	Richenberger Ranch (1898)
P872-22H	Cavanagh Ranch (1890's)
P872-24H	Moreno Ranch (1890's)
P872-25H	Aramousby Farm site (1900)
P872-27H	Stockwell Service Station and Store (1920's)
P872-41H	Indian/Grange Cemetery (1902)
P872-43H	House site (1920)

TABLE 5.13-1 (Cont.)
CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE PLAN AREA

Site Number	Site Description
P872-44H	Maguire Ranch (1892)
P872-45H	Cavanagh Residence (1899)
P872-46H	Cavanagh House (1933)
P872-49H	Blinn Property
P872-52H	Farm site
P872-58H	Taylor Ditch (pre-1888)
P872-76H	Wilkinson Dairy (1900's)
P872-81H	Reichmuth Dairy (mid 1930's)

Archaeological Resources

Eight prehistoric archaeological sites have been recorded within the plan area. Most are located adjacent to reliable sources of water. The majority are "Pending Sites" based upon early maps, historic references and hearsay; their existence and location have yet to be confirmed. The prehistoric sites consist of a bedrock milling station, an artifact scatter, a lithic scatter, two groundstone scatters, and two lithic and groundstone scatters. All but one of these prehistoric sites are located adjacent to permanent watercourses within the southern half of the project site. Seven other locations yielded eight isolates (less than 3 artifacts in association).

A study for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Infotech 1988) recommended that 22 prehistoric sites in the Prado Basin area be considered as part of a proposed Prado Basin Archaeological District. Eight of these sites are located within the proposed plan area. No action on the eligibility recommendation has been taken.

Historic Resources

Among the 45 historic resources within the plan area are 12 ranches, 10 residences, and 7 farms dating from the mid to late 19th century. Most of these features are located adjacent to watercourses. Other resources on the site include trash dumps, homesteads, barns, a grist mill, former school site, irrigation ditches, dairies, cemeteries, and service stations.

The Preserve contains no properties listed as California Historical Landmarks (CHL), California Points of Historical Interest, or in the Historic Property Directory. No standing structures or buildings within The Preserve have been evaluated for historical significance.

According to the records search, no National Register listed properties exist within the plan area. However, in 1988, Infotec Research Incorporated (IRI), under contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), Los Angeles District, evaluated the significance of numerous prehistoric sites in the Prado Basin area for the purpose of determining National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility (Goldberg and Arnold 1988:98f.). Twenty-two (22) prehistoric sites located in the Prado Basin were recommended for consideration as part of a proposed archaeological district (the Prado Basin Archaeological District). Eight of the twenty-two sites are located within the proposed plan area. They comprise SBR-1543, 1571/H, 2259, 2260, 2845, 5241, 5243, and 5244. With the exception of SBR-2259, 2260, and 5244, all of these sites were tested by Langenwalter and Brock in 1985.

Paleontological Resources

The plan area is underlain by 300-800 feet of alluvial sands, but soil and vegetation currently obscure nearly all of its surface expression. The only geologic unit of paleontologic concern is the older (Pleistocene) alluvium, which comprises about one-quarter of the site's surface and is mostly confined to the southern half. Elsewhere, it is buried beneath younger alluvium. The older alluvium is best exposed along the banks of Mill Creek and on the northeast side of State Route 71. The records search at San Bernardino County Museum indicated no fossil localities have been recorded within the plan area. However, Late Pleistocene alluvium elsewhere in San Bernardino County, including deposits in Chino and Chino Hills, has yielded a diversity of significant vertebrate fossils. A site close to the plan area near Route 71 in Chino has yielded fossil remains of mammoth, ground sloth, camel, bison, horse, and deer.

5.13.3 THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following criteria for establishing the significance of potential impacts on cultural resources are derived from the 1999-revised CEQA Guidelines (Section 15064.5). A significant impact would typically occur if the proposed project would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource:
- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource:
- Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature;
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

Before impacts or mitigation of impacts on archaeologic resources can be addressed, site importance must be determined. Appendix J of CEQA Section III recommends a testing program to determine if

a site may qualify as an important resource. The goals of a testing program are to determine if a subsurface component is present, if the extent of surface and/or subsurface materials may be affected by the proposed action, and if the resources in question have the potential to answer local an regional research questions.

If any cultural resource is determined to be important, a program to mitigate anticipated impacts must be implemented through avoidance or data recovery. Sites found not to be important cultural resources need not be addressed under CEQA.

5.13.4 PROJECT IMPACTS

Exhibit 5.13-2 identifies areas considered sensitive for the occurrence of both prehistoric and historic resources with the plan area. These are areas either with previously recorded cultural sites or areas with significant potential for discovery of additional cultural materials based on topography and/or proximity to water features. For the most part, these areas are concentrated within the planned open space system of the proposed project. However, the potential exists for discovery of significant cultural or paleontologic material within both the planned development areas and planned open space areas of the proposed project.

Archaeological Resources

Proposed development of the plan area could have an adverse impact on as yet undiscovered significant archaeological resources. There is a significant potential that additional prehistoric materials will be encountered during earth-disturbing activities within planned development areas.

Future recreational or agricultural uses within the planned open space system could have the potential to disturb or destroy recorded or as yet undiscovered archaeological resources within these areas. Much of the planned open space system below the 566’ elevation is owned or controlled by other public agencies (i.e. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Orange County Flood Control District, and County of San Bernardino). Use plans and permits for these areas will be coordinated with the appropriate agencies to assure that no significant impacts occur to archaeological resources in these areas.

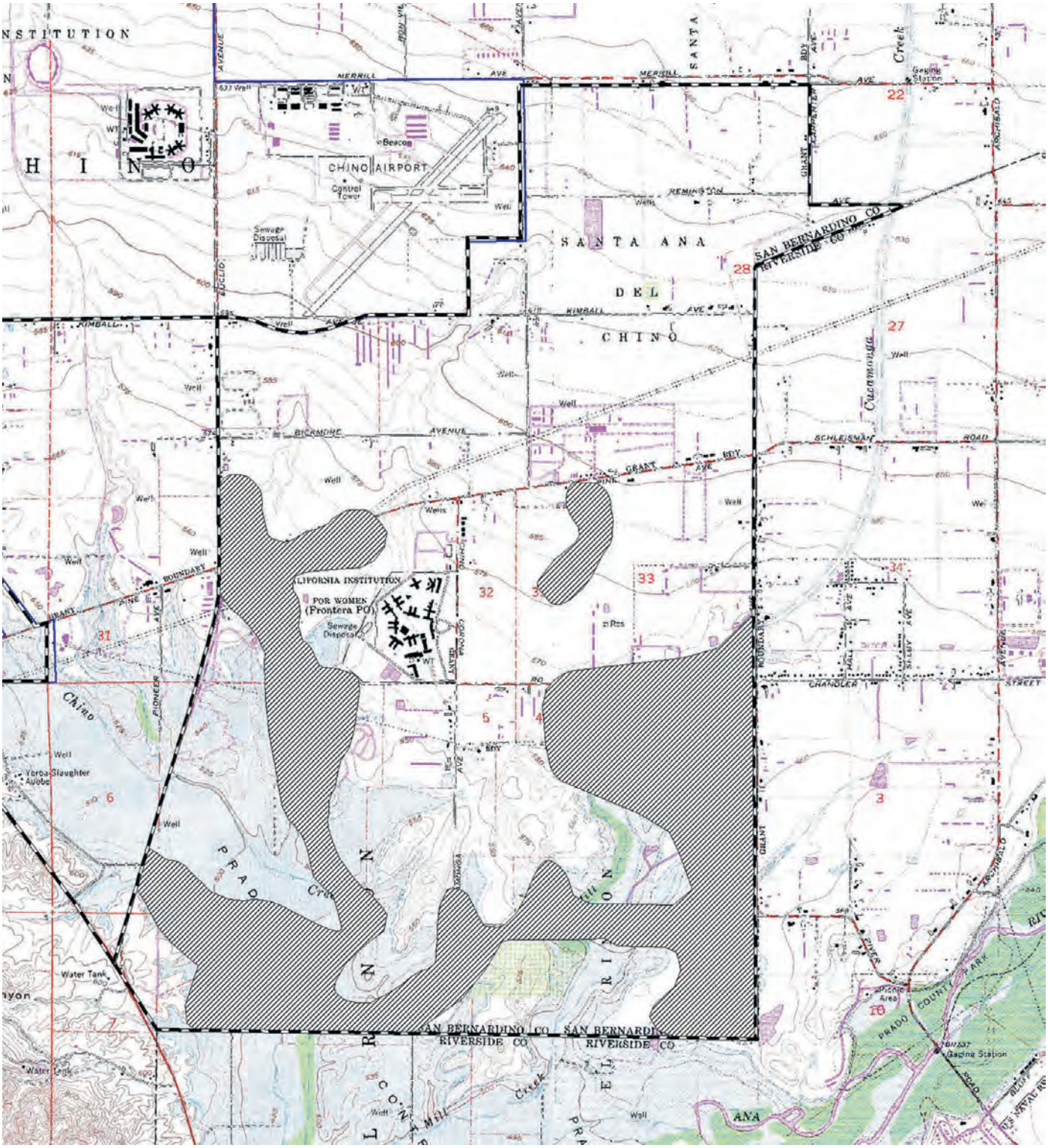

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Exhibit 5.13-2

Cultural Resource Sensitivity

Historical Resources

There are forty-five (45) recorded historic sites within the plan area, with most of these located in the planned open space system. Proposed development of the plan area could have an adverse impact on significant historic resources. Additional as yet unrecorded historic resources could be encountered during earth-disturbing activities.

Paleontological Resources

The size of the plan area and its proximity to a recorded paleontological site (near SR 71) suggest that significant paleontological resources could be encountered during earth-moving activities. Older alluvium in the region and within the plan area has a high paleontologic sensitivity because it is a primary source of significant vertebrate fossils. Therefore, proposed development of the plan area could have an adverse impact on significant paleontological resources.

5.13.5 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The incremental effects of the proposed project on cultural resources will be mitigated with implementation of the mitigation measures identified below. The planned development of the project is not anticipated to contribute to a potential cumulative impact on cultural resources.

5.13.6 MITIGATION MEASURES

The following mitigation measures are identified to reduce potential impacts to cultural resources.

CR-1. Survey and Mitigation Report

Phase 1 field surveys (surface survey and collection) by a certified archaeologist shall be conducted prior to all earth disturbing activities within the plan area. Existing natural open space, agricultural open space and dairy sites are included in this survey requirement. Excluded would be heavily disturbed areas, lagoons and detention ponds, and paved areas. The archaeologist will identify all prehistoric and historic resources observed during the field survey, complete a preliminary evaluation of the resources, and recommend appropriate measures for the disposition and treatment of significant resources. A technical report shall be prepared including discussion of cultural site significance (depth, nature, condition, and extent of the resources), final mitigation recommendations, and cost estimates. Excavated finds shall be offered to the City of Chino, or its designee on a first refusal basis. Final mitigation shall be carried out based upon the report recommendations and a determination as to site disposition by the City. Possible determinations include, but are not limited to, preservation, salvage, partial salvage, or no mitigation necessary.

CR-2. Archaeological Monitoring

Where recommended in culturally-sensitive areas pursuant to Survey and Mitigation Reports (CR-1 above), archeological monitoring of earth-disturbing activities shall be conducted. The monitoring certified archaeologist will identify any prehistoric or historic resources exposed, complete a preliminary evaluation of the resource, and recommend appropriate resource management for the treatment of the resource. If additional or unexpected archaeological features are discovered, the archaeologist shall report such findings to the City. If the resources are found to be significant, the archaeologist shall determine, in consultation with the City, appropriate actions for further exploration and/or salvage recovery.

CR-3. Paleontological Monitoring

Monitoring for fossil material by a qualified paleontologist is required during construction grading activities within older alluvium (Pleistocene), in order to avoid any disturbances to possible unknown or unidentified paleontological resources.

5.13.7 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

With implementation of the mitigation measures listed above, impacts on paleontology, archaeology, and historic resources associated with the plan area would be reduced to a level considered less than significant.