CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT:

VALIANO

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PDS2013-ER-13-08-002

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Affinis Job No. 2527; HELIX Project No. IPQ-19
NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA BASE INFORMATION

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Report Date: December 2014
Type of Study: Archaeological survey and testing/assessment; historic study
New Sites: CA-SDI-20,762, CA-SDI-20,763, CA-SDI-20,858, CA-SDI-20,859, P-37-033262
Updated Sites: CA-SDI-17,506, CA-SDI-17,507, CA-SDI-17,508, CA-SDI-17,509, CA-SDI-17,510, CA-SDI-17,838, CA-SDI-17,839, P-37-026709, P-37-026762
USGS Quadrangles: Rancho Santa Fe (7.5' series)
Acreage: approximately 240 acres
Keywords: Positive archaeological survey and assessment; County of San Diego; Eden Hills; significant resource (CA-SDI-17,506); archaeological sites, not significant, bedrock milling features, ground stone, flaked stone; historic farm complexes, not significant; Township 12 South, Range 2 West, Sections 19 and 30; APNs: 232-020-55, 232-492-01, 232-500-18 through 232-500-23, 232-013-01 through 232-013-03, 228-313-13 and 232-500-24.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

BFSA Brian F. Smith and Associates
CEQA California Environmental Quality Act
NAHC Native American Heritage Commission
RPO Resource Protection Ordinance
SCIC South Coastal Information Center
ST Shovel Test (by BFSA)
STP Shovel Test Pit (by Affinis)
TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ................................................................. 1
1.0 INTRODUCTION ........................................................................ 1
  1.1 Project Description ............................................................... 1
  1.2 Existing Conditions ............................................................. 11
    1.2.1 Environmental Setting .................................................... 11
    1.2.2 Records Search Results .................................................. 16
  1.3 Applicable Regulations ....................................................... 22
    1.3.1 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) ................. 22
    1.3.2 San Diego County Local Register of Historical Resources (Local
          Register) ........................................................................ 25
    1.3.3 San Diego County Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO)...... 26
2.0 GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE ........ 27
3.0 ANALYSIS OF PROJECT EFFECTS ........................................... 29
  3.1 Methods ................................................................................ 29
    3.1.1 Survey Methods ............................................................... 29
    3.1.2 Testing Methods .............................................................. 31
    3.1.3 Laboratory and Cataloging Procedures ............................. 31
    3.1.4 Curation ........................................................................... 32
    3.1.5 Native American Participation/Consultation ..................... 32
  3.2 Results .................................................................................. 32
    3.2.1 Archaeological Resources ................................................ 34
    3.2.2 Historic Resources .......................................................... 54
    3.2.3 Native American Participation/Consultation ..................... 59
4.0 INTERPRETATION OF RESOURCE IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT
   IDENTIFICATION ......................................................................... 61
  4.1 Resource Importance ............................................................. 61
    4.1.1 Resource Importance -- Archaeological and Native American
          Resources ........................................................................... 61
    4.1.2 Resource Importance – Historic Resources ....................... 61
    4.1.3 Native American Heritage Resources/Traditional
          Cultural Properties ................................................................. 62
  4.2 Impact identification .............................................................. 62
    4.2.1 Impact Identification -- Archaeological and Native American
          Resources ........................................................................... 62
    4.2.2 Impact Identification -- Historic Resources ....................... 63
5.0 MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS – MITIGATION MEASURES AND DESIGN
   CONSIDERATIONS ...................................................................... 65
6.0 REFERENCES ............................................................................... 73
7.0 LIST OF PREPARERS AND PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED . 81
8.0 LIST OF MITIGATION MEASURES AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS ......... 85
FIGURES

Figure 1. Regional Location in San Diego County .......................................................... 3
Figure 2. Project Location on USGS 7.5’ Rancho Santa Fe, San Marcos, Valley Center
and Escondido Quadrangles.............................................................................. 4
Figure 3. Project Plan ..................................................................................................... 5
Figure 4. Connection to City of Escondido Hale Avenue Resource Recovery Facility ... 7
Figure 5a. On-Site Connection to Vallecitos Water District Facilities ...................... 8
Figure 5b Off-Site Connection to Vallecitos Water District Facilities ..................... 9
Figure 6. Connection to the Harmony Grove Treatment Plant ................................ 10
Figure 7. Survey Coverage ......................................................................................... 30
Figure 8. Locations of Cultural Resources .................................................................. 36
Figure 9. Locations of Cultural Resources in Potential Off-Site Sewer Alignment ...... 37
Figure 10. CA-SDI-17,506 site map .......................................................................... 38
Figure 11. CA-SDI-17,507 site map ............................................................................ 40
Figure 12. CA-SDI-17,508 site map .......................................................................... 42
Figure 13. CA-SDI-17,509 site map .......................................................................... 43
Figure 14. CA-SDI-17,510 site map .......................................................................... 46
Figure 15. CA-SDI-20,762 site map .......................................................................... 48
Figure 16. CA-SDI-20,763 site map .......................................................................... 49
Figure 17. CA-SDI-20,858 Site Map .......................................................................... 52
Figure 18. CA-SDI-20,859 Site Map .......................................................................... 53
Figure 19. P-37-026762 Resource map ...................................................................... 56
Figure 20. P-37-033262 Resource Map ..................................................................... 57
Figure 21. Cultural Resources on Project Plan ............................................................ 64

TABLES

Table 1. Previously Recorded Sites within a One-Mile Radius ..................................... 16
Table 2. Previous Studies within a One-Mile Radius .................................................... 20
Table 3. Archaeological Resources within Valiano Project and Off-site Improvement
Areas .............................................................................................................. 33
Table 4. CA-SDI-17,510, summary of artifact recovery ............................................. 44
Table 5. CA-SDI-20,763, summary of artifact and ecofact recovery ............................ 50
Table 6. Summary of Impacts to cultural resources .................................................... 62
Table 7. Mitigation Measures and Design Considerations ........................................ 85
APPENDICES

A  An Archaeological/Historical Survey and Resource Evaluation of the Eden Hills Project, San Diego County, California by Brian F. Smith
B  Bedrock Milling Documentation
C  Artifact Catalogs (material collected by Affinis)
D  Historical Assessment of Buildings and Features at the Harmony Grove Equestrian Center at 1805 Country Club Drive, Harmony Grove, California, 92029 by Stephen Van Wormer and Susan D. Walter
E  Research Design and Data Recovery Plan for CA-SDI-17,506

CONFIDENTIAL APPENDICES
(Bound Separately -- Not for Public Review)

A  Records Search Maps
B  Native American Correspondence
C  Locations of Cultural Resources
D  Site Records
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Valiano Specific Plan is a single family detached development on approximately 240 acres in northern San Diego County, adjacent to San Marcos and Escondido. The property is located south of State Route (SR) 78, west of Interstate 15 (I-15). It is west of Country Club Drive and generally south of Hill Valley Drive. The project is in Township 12 South, Range 2 West, Sections 18, 19 and 30, on the USGS Rancho Santa Fe quadrangle.

When fully developed, Valiano will provide 326 residential units on varying lot sizes in small groupings of homes within five neighborhoods. Valiano’s amenities include walking and hiking on multi-purpose trails, equestrian uses on trails and turnouts, open space with passive park settings, and a community recreation center.

The cultural resources study consisted of a cultural resources survey of the project area and testing/evaluation of archaeological sites, as well as documentation and evaluation of buildings/structures over 45 years old. Previous work by Brian F. Smith and Associates (BFSA) is incorporated into this report. Affinis archaeologists coordinated with Native American monitors from Saving Sacred Sites (Luiseño) and Red Tail Monitoring and Research (Kumeyaay).

The majority of the project (approximately 130 acres) was surveyed by BFSA in 2005. Affinis conducted surveys of two additional parcels in 2012 and one parcel in 2014. BFSA tested five archaeological sites in 2005; Affinis tested four additional sites in 2013. Three potential off-site sewer alignments were surveyed by HELIX in 2014.

Nine archaeological sites, one isolate, and two historic farm/ranch complexes have been recorded within the Valiano project. Eight of the archaeological sites consist of bedrock milling features; one is a processing site with lithic tools and a small amount of marine shell. The nine sites have been tested to assess significance; five were tested by BFSA in 2005, and four were tested by Affinis in 2013. Two archaeological sites have been identified within one of the potential off-site sewer alignments; both of these sites were tested by BFSA in 2006.

Eight of the archaeological sites within the project (the bedrock milling sites) and the isolate were determined not to be significant resources under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or the County’s Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO); their research potential has been fulfilled through documentation, as well as curation of artifacts. No mitigation measures are required for these sites: CA-SDI-17,507, CA-SDI-17,508, CA-SDI-17,509, CA-SDI-17,510, CA-SDI-20,762, CA-SDI-20,763, CA-SDI-20,858, and CA-SDI-20,859, four of which would be subject to direct impacts.

One site, CA-SDI-17,506, was assessed as a significant resource under CEQA, but it does not meet the requirements for significance under RPO. This site will be subject to
direct impacts from project development. Impacts to this site would represent significant
environmental effects, which will be mitigated through implementation of the research
design and data recovery program included as Appendix E of this report.

One of the sites within the off-site sewer alignment, CA-SDI-17,839, was determined not
to be a significant resource under CEQA or RPO. No mitigation measures are required
for this site; its research potential has been fulfilled through documentation, as well as
curation of artifacts. One site within the off-site sewer alignment, CA-SDI-17,838, was
assessed as a significant resource under CEQA, but it does not meet the requirements
for significance under RPO. If the sewer alignment is implemented as part of this
project, the site will be subject to direct impacts. Impacts to this site would represent
significant environmental effects, which will be mitigated through implementation of the
research design and data recovery program developed by Smith et al. (2006).

It must be noted that all areas of past cultural use are of cultural importance to the
Native American community, even if they do not meet the significance criteria for
archaeological resources.

One of the historic farm/ranch complexes (P-37-026762) was evaluated by BFSA and
determined not to be a significant resource under CEQA or RPO. The Fines historic
complex (P-37-033262), the current Harmony Grove Equestrian Center, was evaluated
by Stephen Van Wormer and Susan Walter. It, too, was determined not to be a
significant resource under CEQA or RPO. Although the standing structures are not
significant resources, the area on which they are located is the same area in which a
family farm was in operation from the 1870s until the mid-1930s. Based on this, there is
a potential for subsurface historic archaeological material in the area of these buildings
and structures.

Avoiding direct impacts to CA-SDI-17,506 is not considered to be feasible; therefore,
the data recovery program included as Appendix E to this report shall be implemented
at the site prior to approval of any grading or improvement plans that would cause the
direct impact. The research design and data recovery plan would be approved by
County staff. All data recovery shall include both Kumeyaay and Luiseño Native
American monitors.

The Valiano project is in an area with a great deal of archaeological and cultural
sensitivity. Therefore, a monitoring program must be implemented for any grading or
other-ground-disturbing activity as detailed in this report.

In addition, both Kumeyaay and Luiseño representatives expressed three principal
concerns:

- The 130-acre portion of the project that was surveyed by BFSA should be
  resurveyed, as they consider that survey inadequate. This is based on the fact
  that additional cultural material was found during the February 2013 field check,
as well as the fact that Native American monitors were not included in the original survey. Due to the extensive amount of leaf duff and other organic material limiting ground visibility and covering bedrock outcrops, it was recommended that leaf duff should be cleared and the area resurveyed prior to any grading/ground-disturbing activities.

- At CA-SDI-17,506, which was determined to be a significant resource under CEQA but not under RPO, the site boundaries should be adequately defined so that if it is possible to avoid the site in project design an appropriate buffer can be provided. If bedrock milling features in the project can be incorporated into open space areas and landscape design that is preferable to their removal.

- Native American consultation should be ongoing so that Native American representatives can have input into changes in project design to avoid impacts, as well as input into the data recovery program if significant impacts cannot be avoided.
1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Valiano Specific Plan is a single family detached development on approximately 240 acres within a community called Eden Valley, which is part of an unincorporated area of northern San Diego County. The community is adjacent to San Marcos and Escondido (Figure 1). The property is semi-rural but with close easy access to highways, employment, services, and amenities.

More specifically, the property is located approximately 1 mile south of State Route (SR) 78 and the Nordahl exit, west of Interstate 15 (I-15). It is south of Nordahl to Country Club Drive, west of Country Club and generally south of Hill Valley Drive (Figures 2 and 3). Located to the northeast of the property a short distance is a light industrial business park and high density mobile home park, to the west are single family homes, to the east are semi-rural single family homes and small equestrian facilities, and to the south is a 742-unit residential project under construction known as Harmony Grove Village. The project is in Township 12 South, Range 2 West, Sections 18, 19 and 30, on the USGS Rancho Santa Fe quadrangle (Figure 2).

When fully developed, Valiano will provide 326 residential units on varying lot sizes in small groupings of homes within five neighborhoods (Figure 3). The land plan was designed with respect to the existing natural resources and topography, where the roadways meander through the natural setting creating a cohesive bond between nature and people. Valiano’s amenities include walking and hiking on multi-purpose trails, equestrian uses on trails and turnouts, open space with passive park settings, and a community recreation center, all within a semi-rural atmosphere and setting.

A Sewer Options Alternative which was included in order to eliminate the need for an on-site WTWRF and, therefore, minimize impacts associated with potential land use conflicts, noise and odor was also analyzed. The sewer alternative includes three potential off-site options for the provision of sewer service, in lieu of the proposed on-site WTWRF and related facilities. These potential options include: (1) connection to the City of Escondido (City) Hale Avenue Resource Recovery Facility (HARRF), (2) connection to Vallecitos Water District (VWD) Facilities, and (3) connection to the Harmony Grove Treatment Plant. These sewer options are illustrated in Figures 4-6.

The cultural resources study consisted of a cultural resources survey of the project area and the off-site sewer alternative alignments and testing/evaluation of archaeological sites, as well as documentation and evaluation of buildings/structures over 45 years old. As described throughout the report, previous work by Brian F. Smith and Associates (BFSA) is incorporated into this report. Affinis Director of Cultural Resources, Mary Robbins-Wade, served as the project manager/principal investigator. Andrew Giletti was the field director. Cami Mojado of Saving Sacred Sites and the San Luis Rey Band
of Luiseño Mission Indians was the Luiseño Native American representative. Clint Linton of Red Tail Monitoring and Research and the Ipay Nation of Santa Ysabel was the Kumeyaay Native American representative.
NOTE: All sewer pipe diameter is 8 inches.
Connection to the Harmony Grove Treatment Plant

Figure 6