

August 13, 2025

Philip Spence
Durban Development
4616 Quail Hollow Ct.
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Subject: Cultural Resource Services for the Take 5 Oil Change Facility Project, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California

Dear Mr. Spence:

At the request of Durban Development (CLIENT), Duke Cultural Resources Management, LLC (DUKE CRM), has prepared a cultural resources assessment for the approximately 1 acre of land at 15621 Main Street, Hesperia, California (Project). The City of Hesperia is the lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This letter report documents compliance with CEQA regarding cultural resources and to provide information to allow the City to determine whether the proposed Project would cause substantial impacts to archaeological or historical resources.

The Project is in Section 20 of Township 4 North, Range 4 West, as depicted on the *Hesperia*, California, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle (Figure 1), west of 9th Avenue and south of Main Street. The proposed Project entails construction of an oil change facility on an undeveloped lot on Accessors Parcel Number 0413-111-45-0-000 (Figure 2). The maximum depth of disturbance is estimated to be five (5) feet below ground surface (bgs).

Research

On August 5, 2025, DUKE CRM conducted a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC). The SCCIC is part of the California Historical Resources Information System and is located at California State University, Fullerton. The records search included a review of all recorded cultural resources and reports within a ½-mile radius of the Project. The reports included archaeological and paleontological surveys, assessments, and inventories from various projects conducted previously within the Project and the surrounding ½-mile radius.

The SCCIC did not identify any cultural resources within the Project. However, two (2) cultural resources were identified within ½ mile of the Project (Table 1). The closest of these resources, P-36-004255/CA-SBR-004255H, consisted of a historic telephone transmission line located approximately 1,300 feet southeast of the Project.

Table 1: Cultural Resources within ½ mile

Resource No.	Resource Type	Description	CRHR/NRHP Eligibility	Distance and Direction
P-36-004255/CA-SBR-004255H	Historic Archaeological	Telephone transmission line segment	6Z	1300 feet southeast
P-36-020766	Built Environment Historic resource	Single family residence	6Z	2260 feet northwest

6Z – Found ineligible for NR, CR or Local designation through survey evaluation.

In addition, the SCCIC identified 26 cultural resource studies within ½ mile of the Project, including 11 regional overview studies and one (1) study encompassing the segment of Main Street adjacent to the Project. These reports all consist of archaeological reconnaissance/investigation and inventories of the area, with many relating to proposed projects nearby. None of these reports observed cultural resources within the Project boundary.

A review of the San Bernardino County Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD) indicates that the property located at 15621 has not been previously evaluated for the NRHP. The BERD was accessed on August 8, 2025.

Online Research

A review of historical aerial photographs and historical topographic maps was conducted using images on file with the USGS Historical Topographic Map Collection; and historicaerials.com. The 1901 1:25,000-scale Southern California Sheet No. 1, California, historical topographic map does not show any buildings within or adjacent to the Project area; however, the Southern California Railroad and roads in Hesperia are beginning to develop. The 1942 1:62,500-scale Hesperia, California historical topographic map shows that Hesperia neighborhoods east of the Project area are beginning to develop, and Main Street extends through the City to Route 66 in the west (<https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer>, accessed August 1, 2025). The 1959 aerial shows a structure at 15621 Main Street and the adjacent parcel. However, the surrounding area is undeveloped. The building at 15621 Main Street appears in subsequent aerial photos through 1995, with development throughout the surrounding area occurring between 1985 and 1995. The 2009 aerial shows landscaping within the parcel. However, the building has been demolished. Much of the surrounding area was developed as it appears today by 1984 (historicaerials.com; accessed August 1, 2025).

Field Survey

DUKE CRM archaeologist Lauren Biltonen, Bachelor of Arts, conducted a pedestrian survey of the Project area on August 6, 2025. The entirety of the 1 acre was accessible and surveyed. The Project area is a flat, vacant lot bounded by a construction site to the west and a parking lot and brick wall along the east Project border (Attachment 2, Figure 3). No resources associated with the demolished structure were observed during the survey. However, modern trash is littered across most of the parcel. The ground visibility was excellent, and the exposed sediment observed was grayish brown silty coarse sand. The vegetation within the Project area consists primarily of Russian thistle, sparse grasses, Joshua trees, and small cypress trees. See Attachment 2 for photographs.

Conclusions

DUKE CRM assessed the proposed Project for potential impacts to important cultural resources as defined under CEQA. No cultural resources have been previously recorded within the Project. The cultural resource records search identified two (2) historic era cultural resources recorded within a ½-mile radius of the Project, none of which will be impacted by the current Project. Furthermore, the pedestrian survey did not identify any cultural resources within the Project. Based on aerial photographs, the structures within the Project area were demolished before 2009, and no evidence of a foundation or underground utilities remain at the surface. As a result, the property is not a historical resource as defined by CEQA. Based on these factors, the Project is assessed as having low sensitivity for prehistoric or intact historic era cultural resources, and no further archaeological investigation is recommended.

If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during Project-related construction, work shall be halted in that area until the qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the encountered materials. If human remains are encountered, *California Health and Safety Code* Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has determined the origin and disposition of the remains, pursuant to *Public Resources Code* Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her/their authorized

representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and/or items associated with Native American remains/mortuary features.

DUKE CRM appreciates the opportunity to provide cultural and paleontological services in support of this Project. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me by phone at (949) 356-6660 or by email at melissamacias@dukecrm.com.

Sincerely,

DUKE CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, LLC



Melissa Macias, M.S.
Principal Investigator/Paleontologist

Attachments

1. Project Maps
2. Project Photographs

ATTACHMENT 1

PROJECT MAPS

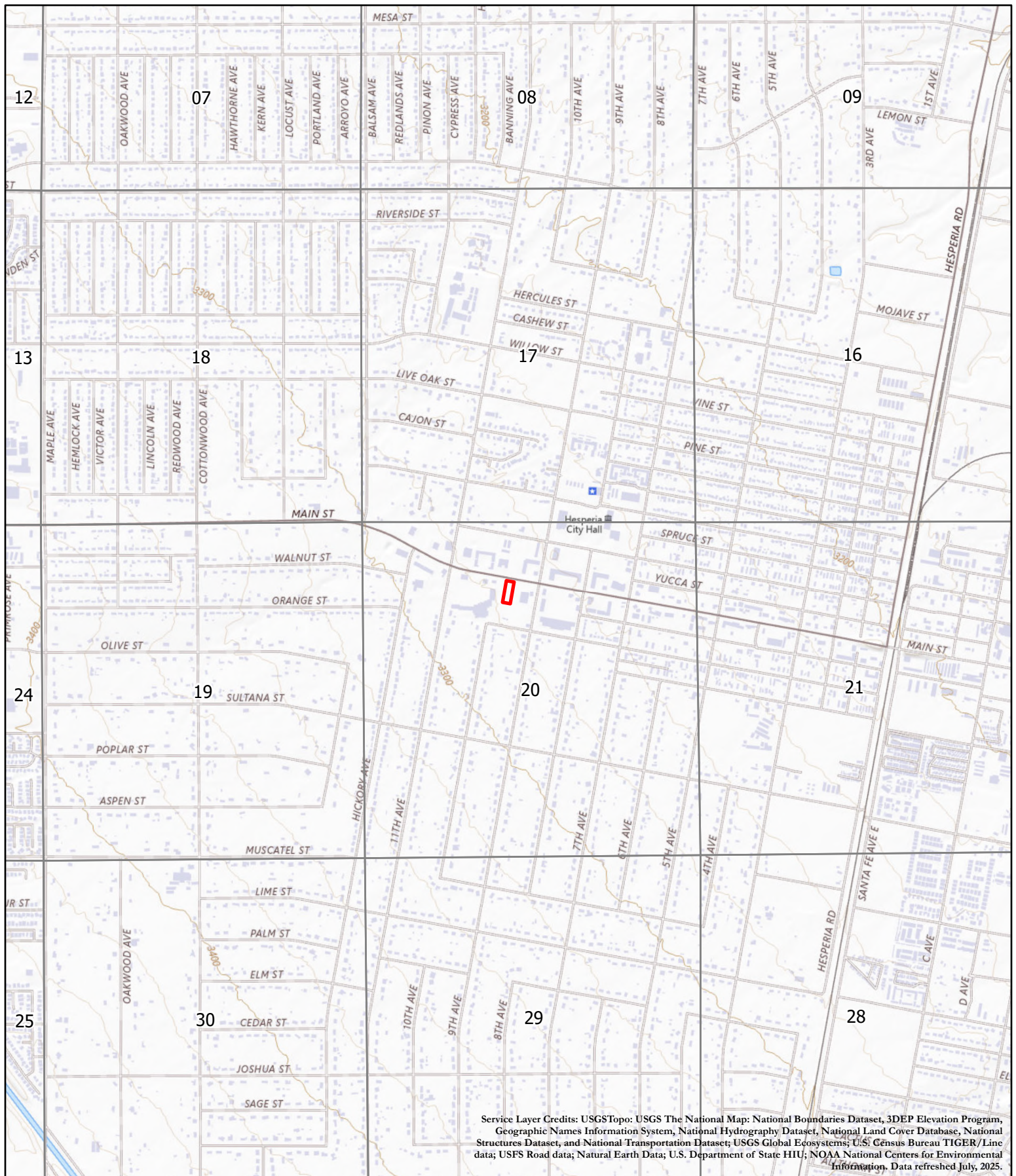


Figure 1. Project Location
Take 5 Oil Change, Hesperia (C-0607)

Hesperia, Calif USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle
T4N, R4W, Section 20



 Project Area

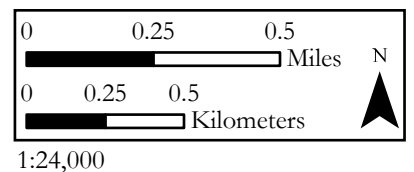
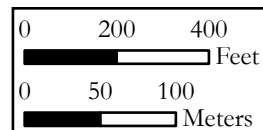




Figure 2. Project Aerial
Take 5 Oil Change, Hesperia (C-0607)



 Project Area



1:5,000



ATTACHMENT 2

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Project overview from Main Street, looking southwest.



Figure 2: Project overview from southeast boundary, looking northwest.



Figure 3: Project overview from southeast boundary, looking northeast.



Figure 4: Project overview from northwest boundary, looking southeast.



Figure 5. Modern debris within Project, looking northeast.



Figure 6. Close-up of sediment within Project, plan view.