



Section 5.9:

## Cultural Resources



## 5.9 CULTURAL RESOURCES

The purpose of this section is to identify cultural and historical resources within the City of Murrieta and Sphere of Influence, and evaluate potential impacts to such resources that could result from implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035. Cultural resources relate to archaeological remains, historic buildings, traditional customs, tangible artifacts, historical documents, and public records, which make Murrieta unique or significant. This section is based upon the information contained in the *Cultural Resources Assessment* prepared by LSA Associates, Inc., January 4, 2010, and included in Appendix I.

### 5.9.1 REGULATORY SETTING

#### FEDERAL

##### National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, established a national policy of historic preservation, and encourages such preservation. The NHPA established the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and provided procedures for the agency to follow if a proposed action affects a property that is included, or that may be eligible for inclusion, on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NRHP was developed as a direct result of the NHPA.

Section 106 requires that the head of any Federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or Federally-assisted undertaking in any state, and the head of any Federal department or independent agency having authority to license any undertaking, shall, prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds on the undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license, take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register. The head of any such Federal agency is required to allow the ACHP a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to such undertaking.

##### National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of properties that have been recognized for their significance and worthiness of long-term preservation. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation establishes guidelines utilized by Federal, State, and local governments, private groups, and citizens to assess the significance of cultural resources and to identify those properties that should be considered for protection from demolition, destruction, or



alteration. To be listed in the NRHP, or deemed eligible for listing, properties must meet certain criteria for historic or cultural significance. Qualities of significance may be found in aspects of American history, architectural design or theme (interpreted in the broadest sense to include landscape architecture and planning), archaeology, engineering, or culture. The following criteria are used to determine the eligibility of properties for listing on the NRHP:

- **Criterion A** – It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- **Criterion B** – It is associated with the lives of persons who are significant in our past.
- **Criterion C** – It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or it represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- **Criterion D** – It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory and history.

Each resource eligible for listing on the NRHP must demonstrate qualities of integrity, measured by the degree to which the resource retains its historic location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and/or association. To be considered for listing, the resource must (generally) be a minimum of 50 years of age; however, some exceptions and overriding considerations to this requirement do occur. Listing on the NRHP does not in and of itself provide protection for a historic resource. Listing on the NRHP instead allows owners of such resources eligibility for financial and tax incentives to assist in the rehabilitation or preservation of such resources.

**Criteria Considerations.** The National Register does not typically consider cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures; properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes; structures that have been moved from their original locations; reconstructed historic buildings; properties primarily commemorative in nature; or, properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years as eligible for the National Register; however, such properties may qualify if they are integral parts of districts that are determined to meet the criteria, or if they fall within any of the following categories:

- A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance;
- A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event;
- A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life;



- A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events;
- A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived;
- A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or,
- A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

**Integrity.** Integrity involves the ability of a resource to convey its cultural or historical significance. In order to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register, a property or resource must be shown to be significant consistent with National Register criteria, as well as demonstrating integrity. Evaluation of integrity can be subjective; however, it must always be fundamentally grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how such features relate to its overall significance.

The National Register criteria recognize seven aspects or qualities that define integrity. To retain historic integrity, a property needs to possess several (and usually most) of these aspects. Knowing why, where, and when a property is significant is essential in determining which of these aspects is most important to a particular property. The National Register considers the following aspects in evaluating the level of integrity of a particular resource:

1. Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.
2. Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.
3. Setting is the physical environment of a historic property.
4. Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.
5. Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.
6. Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.
7. Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.



## Historic Rehabilitation and Tax Credits Program

The National Park Service (NPS) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), in partnership with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), are responsible for administering the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits program. This program rewards private financial investment in the rehabilitation of historic buildings that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Properties must be income-producing and must be rehabilitated according to rehabilitation standards set by the Secretary of the Interior for historic properties.

### STATE

#### California Historical Resource (CHR) Status Codes

In order to be considered as significant, a resource must meet at least one of the above-listed criteria and retain enough integrity to support its period of significance and association within a historical context. A resource is assigned a CHR status code following evaluation to identify its significance level. The following general categories represent the status codes assigned to such resources considered for significance:

1. Properties listed in the National Register or the California Register.
2. Properties determined eligible for listing in the National Register or California Register.
3. Appears eligible for National Register or California Register through survey evaluation.
4. Appears eligible for National Register or California Register through other evaluation.
5. Properties recognized as historically significant by local government.
6. Not eligible for listing or designation as specified.
7. Not evaluated for National Register or California Register or needs re-evaluation.

Generally, resources that are assigned a CHR code of 6 are determined ineligible for designation under any criteria and are not considered historical resources for the purposes of CEQA or the Murrieta Cultural Resource Preservation Ordinance; however, several subcategories exist within each of the status codes that allow for various exemptions, such as whether or not a resource contributes to a Historic District.

#### California Register of Historical Resources

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) established the California Register as an authoritative guide to historical resources in the State of California. Criteria used for inclusion of properties on this listing are as follows:

“While the significance criteria for the California Register are similar to those used by the NRHP this new California Register will document the unique history of the Golden State.”



To qualify for listing in the California Register, the resource must retain integrity and meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual or possesses high artistic values; or,
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Integrity is defined in the NRHP program as a property's ability to convey its significance. Evaluation of integrity may be a somewhat subjective judgment; however, it must be founded on "an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance."

### California Historic Building Code

The *California Historic Building Code (CHBC)* provides guidelines for the preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, relocation, and reconstruction of buildings or structures designated as qualified historical buildings or properties by a local, State, or Federal jurisdiction, as defined by *CHBC* Sections 8-218. The *CHBC* provides guidelines for long-term preservation efforts of qualified historical buildings or properties in order to allow owners to make improvements for access for persons with disabilities; to provide a cost-effective approach to preservation; and, to ensure overall safety of affected occupants or users.

As defined by the *CHBC*, a "qualified historical building" is "any building, site, structure, object, district, or collection of structures, and their associated sites, deemed of importance to the history, architecture, or culture of an area by an appropriate local, State, or Federal governmental jurisdiction. This includes designated buildings or properties on, or determined eligible for, official national, State, or local historical registers or official inventories, such as the National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, State Historical Landmark, State Points of Historical Interest, and officially adopted city or county registers, inventories, or surveys of historical or architecturally significant sites, places, or landmarks."<sup>1</sup>

### California Environmental Quality Act

Pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5, the Lead Agency is required to evaluate whether a proposed project would have a significant adverse effect on unique historical or archaeological resources. *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5(b) states that a substantial adverse change means physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration in the resource, such that the resource is

---

<sup>1</sup> California Historic Building Code (Sections 18950 to 18961 of Division 13, Part 2.7 of California Health and Safety Code).



“materially impaired.” An historical resource is considered to be materially impaired when a project demolishes or materially alters the physical characteristics that justify the determination of its significance.

In addition, under *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5(b)(3), a project that seeks to improve an historic resource in accordance with either of the following publications will be considered as mitigated to a level of less-than-significant:

- Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings
- Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

## LOCAL

### City of Murrieta Historic Preservation Advisory Commission

The City of Murrieta Historic Preservation Advisory Commission (HPAC) acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council with regard to the preservation of cultural and archaeological resources within the City’s boundaries. Through the City Planner or Community Development Director, the HPAC makes recommendations to the City Council regarding the designation of cultural resources. Such resources may include individual properties, archaeological districts, or Historic Murrieta Specific Plan within the City. In addition, the HPAC is responsible for maintaining the register of designated cultural resources within the City; reviewing land use, redevelopment, municipal improvement and other planning matters and programs undertaken by the City with regard to cultural resources; providing recommendations to the City Council on the use of available Federal, State, local and private funding sources for protection of the City’s cultural resources; and, reviewing applications for certificates of appropriateness related to demolition permits and development plan approval, in compliance with the City’s *Development Code* for designated cultural resources.

### City of Murrieta Development Code

Chapter 16.26, *Cultural Resource Preservation*, of the City of Murrieta *Development Code* (*Municipal Code, Title 16, Article III, Chapter 16.26*) is intended to “establish a mechanism by which community resources such as buildings, structures and sites within the City of Murrieta, which are of pre-historic or historic interest or value, or which exhibit special elements of the City’s architectural, cultural, or social heritage may be identified, protected, enhanced, perpetuated and used in the interest of the public’s health, safety, welfare, and enrichment.”<sup>2</sup> The provisions of Chapter 16.26 are applicable to any cultural or archaeological resource, or identified historic preservation area located within the City’s boundaries.

---

<sup>2</sup> City of Murrieta Municipal Code. Adopted 1995.



***Murrieta Municipal Code §16.26.050: Designation Criteria for Cultural Resources, Archaeological Districts, and Historic Districts.*** Section 16.26.050 of the Development Code allows for an improvement or natural feature to be designated a cultural resource by the City Council, and any individual resource or area within the City may be designated as an archaeological district or historic preservation district by the City Council, if it meets any of the following criteria:

**A. Individual Resource Designation**

1. It exemplifies or reflects special elements of the City’s cultural, architectural, aesthetic, social, economic, political, artistic and/or engineering heritage;
2. It is identified with persons, a business use or events significant in local, state or national history;
3. It embodies distinctive characteristics of style, type, period or method of construction or is a valuable example of the use of indigenous materials or craftsmanship;
4. It is representative of the notable work of a builder, designer or architect; or,
5. Its unique location or singular physical characteristic represents an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or the City.

**B. Local District Designation**

A geographic area may be designated as a local archaeological district or historic preservation district if the City Council, after hearing(s), finds that all of the requirements set forth below are met. Concurrent with the designation of a historic preservation district, design guidelines shall be developed and shall apply to all properties within the historic preservation district.

**1. Archaeological District**

- a. The area is a geographically definable area.
- b. The area possesses either:
  1. A significant concentration or continuity of archaeological resources; or,
  2. The area is associated with the prehistory of Murrieta.
- c. The designation of the geographic area as an archaeological district is reasonable, appropriate, and necessary to protect, promote, and further the goals and purposes of the ordinance codified in this chapter and is not inconsistent with other goals and policies of the City.

**2. Historic Preservation District**

- a. The area is a geographically definable area:
- b. The area possesses either:



1. A significant concentration or continuity of buildings unified by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development; or,
  2. The area is associated with an event, person, or period significant or important to Murrieta history.
- c. The designation of the geographic area as a historic preservation district is reasonable, appropriate, and necessary to protect, promote, and further the goals and purposes of the ordinance codified in this chapter and is not inconsistent with other goals and policies of the City.
- d. Determining Factors: In determining whether to designate a historic preservation district, the following factors shall be considered:
1. District should have integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association; and,
  2. The collective value of the buildings and structures in a district taken together may be greater than the value of each individual building or structure.

## Historic Murrieta Specific Plan

The Historic Murrieta Specific Plan is intended to provide a vision for future development within the designated area, establish guidelines for land use decisions, improve the area's physical and economic environment, and establish City goals for quality development within Historic Murrieta. The Specific Plan area is essentially the original "Murrieta Town Site" subdivided by the Temecula Land and Water Company in 1884. It is generally bounded by Kalmia Street to the north, Ivy Street to the south, Hayes Avenue to the west, and Jefferson Avenue to the east. The Specific Plan establishes a vision for development within the area and provides design guidelines for future projects to ensure that the overall vision is achieved and maintained. Guidelines for land use patterns, tree preservation, gateways, streetscape, infrastructure, parking, streets, and alleyways, among other elements, are discussed within the Specific Plan. In addition, the Specific Plan identifies 10 Land Use Districts within the Specific Plan Area to allow for implementation of the overall Plan vision and goals, consistent with goals and policies of the City's original General Plan.

## 5.9.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

**Paleo-Indian Period.** Archaeological research and tribal oral traditions in the Murrieta-Temecula area suggests that prehistoric occupation of the valley dates back thousands of years. There are a number of long-term village complexes and habitation sites located in Murrieta, which are valuable resources. The remnants of early villages as well as the local art and ethnographic accounts provide an important record of Murrieta's early occupation by Native Americans.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup> City of Murrieta *General Plan*, June 21, 1994.



**Late Period.** It is generally assumed that the Late Period began approximately AD 500 to 750, and its termination is widely accepted as AD 1769, the date of the beginning of permanent European occupation of California. The Luiseno Peoples occupied the Murrieta-Temecula area and called themselves Payomkawichum before the influx of European settlers and the Mission Period. There are also many Luiseno place names within the Murrieta area. Several village complexes were located within the City’s boundaries; one that has been definitively identified by the Tribe is Qengva, which is in the southwest part of Murrieta. To the north of Qengva is ‘avaa’ax, referring to the cottonwood trees along Murrieta Creek. To the east is the “The Owls’ Nest” or Muula Putee, which is located on what residents know as the Hogbacks in the Los Alamos area. Flowing beside these prominent hills to the south is the Santa Gertrudis River or Totpa, a very important water source.

**Spanish and Mexican Periods.** Both the San Luis Rey and the San Juan Capistrano Missions claimed the territory for cattle raising and used local vaqueros to manage their cattle herds. They likely used Los Alamos Road to travel from the Alamos grasslands to the missions. Soon after Spain lost control of Mexico and the missions closed, the entire Murrieta area was divided among three land grants: Rancho Temecula, San Jacinto Rancho, and Rancho Santa Rosa.<sup>4</sup>

**American Period.** As travel along the Santa Fe Trail and Southern Emigrant trails during the early American Period brought more settlers, settlement occurred along the Santa Ana and San Jacinto waterways. The Southern Pacific Railroad line from Los Angeles through the San Gorgonio Pass was completed in 1876. In 1883, the California Southern Railway allowed for travel through the Cajon Pass and down to San Diego through western Riverside County. The trains were eventually used to transport settlers into the area, creating a period of agricultural and land development, ultimately resulting in the establishment of Riverside County in 1893. Transportation, agriculture, and the control of water have continued to be central themes in the settlement, development, and growth of Riverside County (Robinson 1979).

The Murrieta area was originally included in Mission San Luis Rey’s lands as part of Rancho Temecula. After secularization, other ranchos were carved from Rancho Temecula, including the Pauba, La Laguna, and Little Temecula Ranchos. By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, Murrieta’s land area was bisected by the Southern Emigrant Trail, which ran through western Riverside County in a similar alignment to the current I-15 Freeway. The trail, which also served as the route of the Butterfield Overland Stage, went through a major stop called “Alamos,” the Spanish word for cottonwoods, located near the present-day intersection of Cherry and Jefferson Avenues in Murrieta. Another branch of the Southern Emigrant Trail veered northward from Temecula to Box Springs near present-day Moreno Valley, roughly following the present-day route of I-215 Freeway (Lech 2004).

---

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.



The City of Murrieta was named after Don Juan Murrieta, a Spaniard who originally settled in the Merced region of the San Joaquin Valley. Don Juan Murrieta eventually drove his herds of sheep southward to southern California, and after bringing 100,000 sheep to southwestern Riverside County (along with several business partners), purchased 52,000 acres of the Temecula and Pauba ranchos from Vincent de Laveaga of San Francisco in 1873. Juan and his brother Ezekiel Murrieta deeded a right-of-way to the California Southern Railway in 1882 and soon thereafter announced their plans to subdivide a town called “Murrietaville” along the railroad (Garrison 1963; Lech 2004).

In 1884, before they could make their plans a reality, the Murrieta brothers were bought out by the Temecula Land and Water Company, which immediately subdivided a portion of its new holdings. The subdivided lands included 14,500 lots that were generally 40 acres in size, as well as some larger tracts ranging from 200 to 4,000 acres each for large-scale agriculture (Garrison 1963). At the heart of the subdivision was the Murrieta town site, which consisted of 160 acres divided into 537 lots near the railroad depot. The original grid layout of streets included Kalmia, Juniper, and Ivy Streets which ran northeast to southwest; and Washington, Clay, and Hayes Streets, which ran northwest to southeast. The town increased rapidly during the boom years that affected many railroad-adjacent towns in southern California in the late 1880s (Lech 2004).

By 1886, the town included a post office, depot, large hotel, restaurant, newspaper, two general stores, a hardware and furniture store, school, livery stable, lumber yard, butcher shop, laundry, blacksmith shop, church, newspaper called *The Era*, and two physicians. By 1890, the town had a population of 800 (Garrison 1963). When Riverside County was formed in 1893, Murrieta was designated one of 12 original judicial townships and the 40th election precinct (Gunther 1984).

The Santa Fe Railroad acquired California Southern Railway after a wet winter in 1883–1884 ruined a large stretch of their newly-created railway through the Temecula Valley. The connection was reconstructed; however, their purchase was not financially profitable. After they completed a line through the San Jacinto Valley, the California Southern alignment became somewhat redundant as well. In 1891, after a wet winter flooded and washed out the California Southern tracks in Temecula Valley, Santa Fe drastically curtailed rail service through Murrieta. Instead of repairing the flood-prone line through Fallbrook, Elsinore, and Corona, the route was realigned through the Pechanga Valley and connected to the Santa Fe line up through Perris. Murrieta became the end of a rail spur from Corona and not a stop along any major thoroughfare (Garrison 1963). This, in addition to the broader southern California real-estate bust in the 1890s, dampened Murrieta’s growth as a town. After a short-lived attempt in the 1890s to attract “gentleman planters” to the area with an irrigation district aimed at supporting widespread groves of deciduous fruits, the area settled into a more bucolic existence (Lech 2004). Daily train service continued into Murrieta until 1935, after automobile use had become a well-established alternative to train travel in southern California (Garrison 1963).



After the close of the rail line in 1935, the land boom ended. By 1947, the town had an estimated population of 1,200. In that same year, the Murrieta Fire Protection District was formed. Civic accomplishments in the 1950s included a new town hall (1956) and the formation of the Murrieta Valley Chamber of Commerce (1959). In the 1960s, the area became known for the breeding of fine racehorses.

From the 1890s through the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, Murrieta's land use and local economy was largely based on dry-farming grains (barley, wheat, and oats), and Murrieta's identity was influenced by established farms of vast rolling fields of seasonal grasses. Murrieta was largely a town consisting of grain farmers who drove huge teams of horses pulling combine harvesters over the fields of the Antelope Valley, the Santa Rosa Plateau, and the Alamos district. Murrieta farmers also grew potatoes, alfalfa, vegetables, and grape vineyards, as well as orchards of olive, cherry, pear, apple, fig, and nectarine trees (Alter et al. 2005).

One exception to the community's dominant agricultural identity was the regionally-popular Murrieta Hot Springs. Located along present Murrieta Hot Springs Road just east of I-215, the mineral-rich springs have been used by people for thousands of years. The Luiseño called the springs Churuukunuknu Haki'wuna and their extensive use of the springs is reflected in the numerous habitation sites and artifacts identified nearby. Non-Indian visitors in the late 19th century determined what the Luiseno already know about the springs, that the springs had healing properties, and Murrieta Hot Springs became part of a rapidly growing network of Southern California destinations for health-seekers. In 1887, a Pasadena syndicate bought the hot springs, along with over a thousand acres of land. After several years of new owners, Murrieta Hot Springs was purchased by Fritz Guenther in 1902. It prospered under the family's ownership for nearly 70 years, expanding from 200 acres of ranch land and a few decrepit buildings into over 500 acres of prime resort spa, complete with bathhouses, tiled pools, hotels, great halls, stables, gardens, and hiking trails; however, by 1969, profits declined due to laws prohibiting gambling, and affordable air travel enticed families to take their vacations elsewhere. Murrieta Hot Springs was sold again, continuing its decline over the years until the spa was closed in 1990 and the resort was auctioned off (Boyce 1995).

## HISTORIC/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources are represented by the material remnants of human activity in an area and can be either prehistorical (aboriginal/native American) or historical (European and Euro-American). Although not necessarily of cultural significance per *CEQA*, cultural remains are considered to be of cultural concern if they are at least 50 years old. Such resources may include midden (ashy or greasy dark soil indicating former occupation); ground stone tools and milling features; rock shelters; rock art (petroglyphs); rock features (cairns, stone walls); quarries; trails; and, ecofactual material (faunal remains, fire-affected rocks). Other indicators of former occupancy may include pottery, human skeletal remains, and body adornments (i.e. shell or bone beads, jewelry). Cultural resources can also include oral traditions, ethnographic accounts, traditional songs and stories, and places important for the continuation of traditional beliefs and practices.



A records search at the Eastern Information Center (EIC), located in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Riverside, indicated that 330 cultural resource studies have been conducted within the City and the Sphere of Influence, resulting in the identification of a total of 199 documented cultural resources. Previous studies within the City and the Sphere of Influence consist mainly of cultural resource assessments, survey reports, and archaeological test excavations. The documented resources within the City and the Sphere of Influence include more than 75 separate milling features in bedrock, 36 milling artifacts, 53 sites with lithic artifacts (flakes, points, debitage), five sites with rock art, nine possible prehistoric campsites or habitation sites, three possible prehistoric quarries, seven built resources, and 11 historic archaeological sites (trash scatters, habitation remains). The significance of each of these resources was not identified, and instead requires consideration on a site- or resource-specific basis.

### Potential Historic Resources

A review of the Riverside Historic Properties Directory revealed that an additional 73 properties have been documented and evaluated, shown in *Table 5.9-1, Evaluated Resources in the Historic Properties Directory*. Several of these resources have been demolished. Eleven of them are part of the Murrieta Hot Springs complex, which was incorporated into a Christian conference center in 1995.

The Murrieta Historical Resources Inventory Update (Alter et al. 2004) included 71 potentially historic resources, shown in *Table 5.9-2, Potentially Historic Resources in the City of Murrieta*. Many of these resources were initially documented by the Riverside County Historical Commission in a 1982 survey that was submitted to the EIC, and are in the Riverside Historic Properties Directory; thus, they appear in *Table 5.9-1* as well. However, the City of Murrieta has never adopted a list of historic resources.

As indicated by their CHR status codes, Murrieta’s documented historic properties include properties that appear eligible for the National Register or California Register through survey evaluation, and properties recognized as historically significant by local government. As yet, no individual resources, archaeological districts, or historic preservation districts have been designated for inclusion on the Murrieta Register of Cultural Resources.



**Table 5.9-1  
Evaluated Resources in the Riverside Historic Properties Directory**

Address	Name	Date of Construction	CHR Status Code
24695 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Old Cheney Place, Holiness Parsonage	1900	5S2
24903 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Bradford Place/Houston Place	1890 (demolished)	5S2
24995 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Freeman House	1915	5S2
24628 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue		1920	5S2
24646 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue		1930 (demolished)	5S2
24675 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	Murrieta Elementary School	1920 (ruins)	3S
24790 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue		1922	3S
24770 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	R.W. Bollen Place, Chrisman Place	1910	3S
42011 A Street	Methodist Parsonage/MT Auto Parts	1910	5S2
24260 Adams Avenue	Jake Lambert House Site	1900	7R
24370 Adams Avenue	Deering Home, Sawyer House	1930	7R
24460 Adams Avenue	Judge Thorn House, Curtis Thompson	1900	5S2
25549 Adams Avenue	Brown House	1885	3S
25701 Adams Avenue	Roy Southard Place	1894 (demolished)	3S
41919 C Street	Frank Lloyd House	1920	5S2
42086 C Street	Frank Thorn House	1898	3S
24711 Clay Avenue	Lambert House	1900 (demolished)	7R
24737 Clay Avenue	Fountain House Hotel Site	1936	7R
42036 D Street	Cora Stoller House	1910	5S2
24120 Hayes Avenue	Sykes House	1905 (demolished)	5S2
24916 Hayes Avenue	Williams Ranch/Mefferd	1920	5S2
41833 Ivy Street		1920	5S2
41950 Ivy Street	Hedges House/Rail House	1900	5S2
42835 Ivy Street	Matteson Ranch/Olive Hill Ranch	1930	7R
Jefferson Avenue	Burnham House/Drucker Ranch	1932	5S2
25679 Jefferson Avenue	Merrill House/Provolt House	1900	5S2
25751 Jefferson Avenue	Raleigh Brown Place	1910 (demolished)	5S2
41958 Juniper Street	Doolittle House/Cruz House	1885	5S2
41539 Kalmia Street	Austin Warner House, Hite House	1913 (demolished)	5S2
37100 Los Alamos Road		1947 (demolished)	7R
37201 Los Alamos Road	James Place	1915 (demolished)	5S2
40851 Los Alamos Road	Yoder Ranch	1900 (demolished)	5S2
41301 Los Alamos Road	Ross Rail House	1916 (demolished)	7R



**Table 5.9-1 (continued)  
Evaluated Resources in the Riverside Historic Properties Directory**

Address	Name	Date of Construction	CHR Status Code
41621 Magnolia Street	Cornwell Place, Morrow Place	1920 (demolished)	5S2
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Hotel	1915	3B
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Bungalows	1905	3B
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, California	1908	3B
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Alive Polari	1908	3S
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Steam Plants	1925	3D
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Offices	1928	3D
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Bath House	1929	3B
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Plunge	1929	3B
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, New Hotel	1926	3B
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs	Murrieta Hot Springs, Landscape	1910	3D
39401 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Dining Room	1910	3B
39405 Murrieta Hot Springs	Guenther's Murrieta Hotsprings	1926	7J
40030 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Temecula Hot Springs		5S2
92362 Murrieta Hot Springs Road	Murrieta Hot Springs, Memorial Hall	1913	3B
39755 Murrieta Hot Springs Road			6Y
New Clay Avenue	Grain Elevator	1919	3S
24721 Clay Avenue	Manse House	1931	5S2
24912 Plum Avenue	B.W. Tarwater House	1888	3S
42670 Tenaja Road	McCool House	1920 (demolished)	5S2
10250 Verdugo Road	Wheeler Ranch, Ranch Home	1910 (demolished)	3B
10250 Verdugo Road	Wheeler Ranch, Rancho Viejo de Car	1910 (demolished)	3S
10250 Verdugo Road	Wheeler Ranch, Root Cellar	1910 (demolished)	3B



**Table 5.9-1 (continued)**  
**Evaluated Resources in the Riverside Historic Properties Directory**

Address	Name	Date of Construction	CHR Status Code
10250 Verdugo Road	Wheeler Ranch, Barn	1910 (demolished)	3B
10250 Verdugo Road	Wheeler Ranch, Bunk House #1	1910 (demolished)	3D
10250 Verdugo Road	Wheeler Ranch, Bunk House #2	1910 (demolished)	3D
24190 Washington Avenue	Schupe's Log Cabin, Anderson's Café	1920 (demolished)	3S
24264 Washington Avenue	Paul Thompson Place	1937	5S2
24280 Washington Avenue	U.S. Soil Conservation Office	1934 (demolished)	5S2
24490 Washington Avenue	Thompson House	1914	5S2
24629 Washington Avenue	George Cocking House, Kane House	1920 (demolished)	5S2
24641 Washington Avenue	Sam Barnes House	1920 (demolished)	5S2
24770 Washington Avenue	Lakeman's Restaurant/Ray's Café	1900	5S2
24792 Washington Avenue	Lakeman House/Bezanson House	1885 (demolished)	5S2
24854 Washington Avenue	Hamilton House	1925	5S2
24890 Washington Avenue		1930	5S2
24973 Washington Avenue	Cliff Thompson House	1917 (demolished)	5S2
25190 Washington Avenue	Dodd House, Stoner House	1885	5S2
25229 Washington Avenue	Buchanan House	1885	5S2
25440 Washington Avenue	Hutchison House	1885	3S
92362 Washington Avenue	Thompson House, A.K. Small House	1900	5S2



**Table 5.9-2  
Potentially Historic Resources in the City of Murrieta**

Address	Name	Date of Construction	CHR Status Code
24635 1 <sup>st</sup> Street	H.P. Zimmerman Property	1920	6Z
24643 1 <sup>st</sup> Street	I.O. and Marion O. Rail Property/ Gagnon House	1930	6Z
24695 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Old Cheney Place, Holiness Parsonage	1900	5S2
24757 1 <sup>st</sup> Street	Lotta Matteson Property/Westrem House	1950	6Z
24903 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Bradford Place/Houston Place	1890 (demolished)	5S2
24920 1 <sup>st</sup> Street	Frank G. Thorne Property/Steely House	1925	6Z
24995 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Freeman House	1915	5S2
24620-24646 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street		1910	5S2
24628 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue		1920	5S2
24646 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue		1930 (demolished)	5S2
24675 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	Murrieta Elementary School	1920 (ruins)	3S
24770 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	R.W. Bollen Place, Chrisman Place	1910	3S
24790 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue		1922	3S
24815 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	Fred & Cora Cooper Property/ Boyd/Jones House	1930	6Z
24993 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	Charles Provost Property/ Alvarado-Luz House	1920	6Z
42011 A Street	Methodist Parsonage/MT Auto Parts	1910	5S2
24260 Adams Avenue	Jake Lambert House Site	1900	7R
24370 Adams Avenue	Deering Home, Sawyer House	1930	7R
24460 Adams Avenue	Judge Thorn House, Curtis Thompson	1900	5S2
24960 Adams Avenue			
25549 Adams Avenue	Brown House	1885	3S
41919 C Street	Frank Lloyd House	1920	5S2
41940 C Street	Fire Station No. 1	1948	5S2
42086 C Street	Frank Thorn House	1898	3S
24711 Clay Avenue	Lambert House	1900	7R
24721 Clay Avenue	Manse House	1931	5S2
24737 Clay Avenue	Fountain House Hotel Site	1936	7R
42036 D Street	Cora Stoller House	1910	5S2
24120 Hayes Avenue	Sykes House	1905 (demolished)	5S2
24916 Hayes Avenue	Williams Ranch/Mefferd	1920	5S2
41529 Ivy Street		(demolished)	



**Table 5.9-2 (continued)  
Potentially Historic Resources in the City of Murrieta**

Address	Name	Date of Construction	CHR Status Code
41541 Ivy Street			
41763 Ivy Street	Nancy Lee Gossett Property	1940	6Z
41833 Ivy Street		1920	5S2
41950 Ivy Street	Hedges House/Rail House	1900	5S2
24413 Jefferson Avenue	Bessie Wickerd Property	1930	5S2
24831 Jefferson Avenue		1920	5S2
25580 Jefferson Avenue	Charles Charnock Property (Demolished)	1930	5S2
41810 Juniper Street			
41958 Juniper Street	Doolittle House/Cruz House	1885	5S2
41539 Kalmia Street	Austin Warner House, Hite House	1913 (demolished)	5S2
37100 Los Alamos Road	George Hind/ Gentry Family Property	1945	5S2
37201 Los Alamos Road	James Place	1915 (demolished)	5S2
40798 Los Alamos Road		1930	6Z
40851 Los Alamos Road	Yoder Ranch	1900 (demolished)	5S2
41223 Madison Avenue		1930	5S2
41886 Magnolia Street	H.B. Lashlee Property/ Railroad Workers Dormitory (Demolished)	1942	5S2
41908 Magnolia Street	H.B. Lashlee Property	1906	5S2
New Clay Avenue	Grain Elevator	1919	3S
24901 New Clay Street	Norma Jean Cunnington Property/ Isham House	1978	6Z
21945 Plum Street		1935	5S2
24912 Plum Avenue	B.W. Tarwater House	1888	3S
24980 Plum Street	D.H. and Sarah J. Turnbeaugh Property	1930	6Z
24264 Washington Avenue	Paul Thompson Place	1937	5S2
24280 Washington Avenue	U.S. Soil Conservation Office	1934 (demolished)	5S2
24490 Washington Avenue	Thompson House	1914	5S2
24629 Washington Avenue	George Cocking House, Kane House	1920 (demolished)	5S2
24641 Washington Avenue	Sam Barnes House	1920 (demolished)	5S2
24741 Washington Avenue			



**Table 5.9-2 (continued)  
Potentially Historic Resources in the City of Murrieta**

Address	Name	Date of Construction	CHR Status Code
24770 Washington Avenue	Lakeman's Restaurant/Ray's Café	1900	5S2
24785-24791 Washington Avenue			
24792 Washington Avenue	Lakeman House/Bezanson House	1885 (demolished)	5S2
24854 Washington Avenue	Hamilton House	1925	5S2
24861 Washington Avenue			
24890 Washington Avenue		1930	5S2
24935 Washington Avenue			
24973 Washington Avenue	Cliff Thompson House	1917 (demolished)	5S2
25069 Washington Avenue			
25190 Washington Avenue	Dodd House, Stoner House	1885	5S2
25229 Washington Avenue	Buchanan House	1885	5S2
25440 Washington Avenue	Hutchison House	1885	3S

**POTENTIAL HISTORIC LANDSCAPE FEATURES AND HERITAGE TREES**

A number of historic landscape features and heritage trees have been noted within the City and the Sphere of Influence, including tree species that contribute to visual character such as landmark oak, sycamore, cottonwood, willow, cypress, juniper, and eucalyptus trees, as well as olive groves and pecan trees. Other such resources with aesthetic and historic value include various palms and trees at the Murrieta Hot Springs Resort, conifers dating from pre-World War I along Murrieta Hot Springs Road, and a landmark cottonwood tree associated with a former ceremonial ground and trail route located near Lemon Street. These features have been inventoried and are provided protection under Chapter 16.42, Tree Preservation, of the *City of Murrieta Development Code*, as well as measures given in the *Historic Murrieta Specific Plan* and other regulations aimed at protection of the City's historic resources.



## Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources are the fossil remains or traces of past life forms, including both vertebrate and invertebrate species, as well as plants. The Murrieta area is generally underlain by highly fossiliferous rock units that include the Pauba formation and Unnamed Sandstone formation. The San Bernardino County Museum Earth Sciences Division has classified the majority of the City and the Sphere of Influence as having a high potential for containing significant, nonrenewable paleontological resources.

Three major fossiliferous Pleistocene age sedimentary rock units are exposed along the Elsinore fault zone within the City and the Sphere of Influence. These units are as follows:

*Unnamed Sandstone (middle Pleistocene, may span 200,000 years between 850,000 and 650,000 years before present).* Paleontologic localities in the Unnamed Sandstone portions of the City and the Sphere of Influence contain diverse Ice Age fauna. The Unnamed Sandstone localities within the City and the Sphere of Influence are among the most important late Irvington Land Mammal Age (middle Pleistocene) sites in California and have produced at least 45 vertebrate taxa and additional invertebrate taxa. This formation has a high potential for containing significant, nonrenewable paleontologic resources.

*Pauba Sandstone (early to late Pleistocene, less than 700,000 years before present).* This formation provides an important record of early Rancholabrean taxa which is rarely represented in California and has yielded at least 24 taxa of fossil vertebrates including fossil Pleistocene horse. This formation is considered to have a high potential for containing significant, nonrenewable paleontologic resources.

*Quaternary Old Alluvium (late Pleistocene, 10,000 years before present).* To the northeast of the City and the Sphere of Influence near Lake Skinner, fossil horse has been discovered, and therefore, this formation is considered conducive to fossil preservation; however, no resources have been recorded within the City and the Sphere of Influence within this formation.

According to the *Master Environmental Assessment* prepared for the City of Murrieta (October 1992), formations in the Murrieta area have yielded extensive fossil remains that include mammoth, mastodon, ground sloth, dire wolf, short-faced bear, saber-toothed cat, tapir, camel, llama, and pronghorn. Known deposits have also yielded smaller vertebrate fossils that contribute significant data which assist in deciphering temporal constraints under which sediments were deposited. Smaller vertebrate fossils found in the area include rabbit, rodent, bat, shrew, bide, amphibian, lizard, tortoise, and turtle.



### 5.9.3 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLD CRITERIA

The issues presented in the Initial Study Environmental Checklist (Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*) have been utilized as thresholds of significance in this Section. Accordingly, cultural resources impacts resulting from the implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035 may be considered significant if they would result in the following:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5.
- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5.
- 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.

According to *Public Resources Code* Section 1(j), a “historical resource” includes, but is not limited to, “any object, building, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.” *CEQA Guidelines* state that the term “historical resources” applies to any such resources listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources; included in a local register of historical resources; or determined to be historically significant by the Lead Agency (*Title 14 CCR* Section 15064.5(a)(1)-(3)).

*CEQA Guidelines* require that “a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be ‘historically significant’ if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources” (*Title 14 CCR* Section 15064.5(a)(3)).

Under *CEQA*, a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. Substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is defined as physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of a historical resource would be materially impaired. The significance of a historical resource would be materially impaired when a project demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for inclusion in, the California Register, a local register of historical resources pursuant to Section 5020.1(k) of the *Public Resources Code* or historical resources survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the *Public Resources Code*. In general, a project that follows the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and associated guidelines shall be considered as mitigated to below the level of significance.



Based on these significance thresholds and criteria, the proposed General Plan 2035's effects have been categorized as either "no impact," a "less than significant impact," or a "potentially significant impact." Mitigation measures are recommended for potentially significant impacts. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a significant unavoidable impact.

## 5.9.4 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

### HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

#### ■ IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN 2035 COULD IMPACT HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Potentially Significant Impact.

**Impact Analysis:** Within the City and the Sphere of Influence, 199 cultural resources and more than 73 potentially historic properties have been documented. Murrieta's potentially historic inventory of properties include properties for review and consideration for National Register or California Register eligibility through survey evaluation, and properties recognized as historically significant by local government. In addition, Murrieta has inventoried potential historic landscape features and heritage trees.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035 could result in the development of vacant land and land identified as underutilized. Ground-disturbing activities associated with subsequent development of land within the City could unearth previously unknown archaeological resources. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035 has the potential to disturb or destroy undocumented archaeological or historical resources, or human remains. All future development projects would be required to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local regulations concerning the preservation of historic resources.

Historic resources may be vulnerable to future development activities, which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Future construction activities, new development, and infrastructure improvements anticipated by the proposed General Plan 2035 have the potential to disturb or destroy historic resources. Pursuant to *CEQA*, a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource may have a significant effect on the environment. However, all future development within the City would be subject to compliance with the established Federal and State regulatory framework, which is intended to mitigate potential impacts to historical resources.



The City has recognized the importance of preserving its history and character in the Conservation Element with Goal CSV-11 that seeks to preserve the City’s significant historical, archaeological, and cultural value resources. Additionally, implementation of the goals and policies of the proposed General Plan 2035 Conservation and Land Use Elements, and Mitigation Measures CR-1 and CR-2, would reduce potential impacts to undocumented archaeological resources, cultural resources, and historical structure/resources to less than significant levels.

In addition, the *City of Murrieta Development Code* and *Historic Murrieta Specific Plan* provide protections for cultural and historic resources, including historic landscape features and trees. The proposed General Plan 2035 includes goals and policies regarding Historic Murrieta and to continue the City’s efforts to preserve its historic character while encouraging pedestrian-oriented infill development that restores the area as a community core (Goal LU-24). Other proposed General Plan 2035 goals and policies seek to continue the rural character and heritage of the Los Alamos area (Goal LU-22).

Future development would be subject to compliance with the proposed General Plan 2035 Conservation Element and Land Use Element goals and policies outlined below and Mitigation Measure CR-1, which would ensure that future development in the City would not adversely impact archaeological, cultural, or historical resources, thereby reducing potential impacts to less than significant.

## Goals and Policies in the Proposed General Plan 2035:

### CONSERVATION ELEMENT

**Goal CSV-9** A community that promotes the growth of an urban forest and water-efficient landscaping, recognizing that plants provide natural services such as habitat, storm water management, soil retention, air filtration, and cooling, and also have aesthetic and economic value.

#### Policies

CSV-9.1 Identify and protect native trees, trees of historic or cultural significance, and mature trees, consistent with the Tree Preservation Ordinance.

**Goal CSV-11** Murrieta protects, enhances, and celebrates archaeological, cultural, and historic resources as a way to foster community identity.

#### Policies

CSV-11.1 Promote the protection and preservation of archaeological, cultural, historical, and architecturally significant sites, structures, districts, Native American resources, and natural features throughout the community, consistent with the Cultural Resource Preservation Ordinance. Preferred methods of protection include



avoidance of impacts, placing resources in designated open space and allocation of local resources and/or tax credits as feasible.

- CSV-11.2 Encourage appropriate adaptive reuse of historic structures and sites.
- CSV-11.3 Promote the designation of eligible resources to the City Register of Cultural Resources, the County Landmarks Program, or other regional, state, or federal programs.
- CSV-11.4 Encourage the development of programs to educate the community about Murrieta's historic resources and involve the community in historic preservation.
- CSV-11.5 Comply with state and federal law regarding the identification and protection of archaeological and Native American resources, and consult early with the appropriate tribal governments.
- CSV-11.6 Investigate the feasibility of establishing a museum or other repository to archive and display Murrieta's archaeological resources.
- CSV-11.7 Maintain the position of archivist/historian at the Murrieta Public Library, and promote the Library's Heritage Room as a repository for historical information about the Murrieta area.
- CSV-11.8 Promote the use of historic elements in City parks and public places.
- CSV-11.9 Exercise sensitivity and respect for all human remains, including cremations, and comply with all applicable state and federal laws regulating human remains.

## LAND USE ELEMENT

**Goal LU-11** A community that is comprehensively designed to create a positive and distinctive City image by protecting historic resources, and by strengthening the positive qualities of the City's overall image and neighborhood identity.

### Policies

- LU-11.1 Study and determine areas in the City where rural character can be created, enhanced, or preserved.
- LU-11.7 Prepare and implement design guidelines for special districts or areas with unique character in the City of Murrieta, as appropriate.



**Goal LU-22** Natural and visual resources are valued resources to maintain the rural character of the Los Alamos Hills.

**Policies**

LU-22.3 Encourage development that minimizes impacts to existing water courses, mature trees, and natural features as much as possible. In those cases that these areas/features are impacted, the final design should provide adequate mitigation on-site and/or in nearby areas.

LU-22.4 Encourage healthy and structurally sound, existing groves of eucalyptus and other mature non-native trees located west of Warm Springs Creek to be considered a visual asset to the area, and should be conserved and maintained to the maximum degree practicable.

**Goal LU-24** Historic Murrieta as the City’s cultural, civic and community center.

**Policies**

LU-24.1 Preserve and enhance the historic Murrieta area as the governmental and cultural focal point of the City.

**Mitigation Measures:**

CR-1 Future development projects shall continue to be evaluated for cultural resources by the City of Murrieta through review by the Eastern Information Center (EIC) and notification of and consultation with the local tribes for new entitlement projects. The projects shall be evaluated for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and where feasible, avoidance of cultural resources. If, following review by the EIC and/or tribal consultation, it is determined that there is a potential for impacts to cultural resources, further cultural resources analysis by a qualified professional(s), as defined in Mitigation Measure CR-2, may be required by the City.

CR-2 In the event that cultural resources (archaeological, historical, paleontological) resources are inadvertently unearthed during excavation and grading activities of any future development project, the contractor shall cease all earth-disturbing activities within a 100-foot radius of the area of discovery. If not already retained due to conditions present pursuant to Mitigation Measure CR-1, the project proponent shall retain a qualified professional (i.e., archaeologist, historian, architect, paleontologist, Native American Tribal monitor), subject to approval by the City of Murrieta to evaluate the significance of the find and appropriate course of action (refer to Mitigation Measures CR-1 and CR-3). If avoidance of the resources is not feasible, salvage operation requirements pursuant to Section



15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines shall be followed. After the find has been appropriately avoided or mitigated, work in the area may resume.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Less Than Significant Impact.

## BURIAL SITES

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN 2035 COULD IMPACT UNMARKED BURIAL SITES.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Potentially Significant Impact.

**Impact Analysis:** Given the history of various Indian tribes and their presence throughout Murrieta and the region, there is the potential for human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries, to be encountered during earth removal or disturbance activities with implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035. However, archaeological resources have been documented within and near the City. Therefore, ground-disturbing activities in the City, such as grading or excavation, have the potential to disturb as yet unidentified human remains.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act within the State of California, is enacted by the California Native American Historical, Cultural and Sacred Sites Act, and applies to Federal, State, and private lands. Upon discovery of human remains, the activity ceases and the County Coroner shall be notified. If the remains are of a Native American, the coroner notifies the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which then notifies the mostly likely descendents. The NAHC is directed to prepare an inventory of Native American Sacred Places on public lands. It is illegal for anyone to knowingly or willfully possess or obtain any Native American artifacts or human remains from a Native American grave or cairn. Any person who removes, without authority of law, Native American artifacts or human remains from a Native American grave or cairn with the intent to sell or dissect such remains is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in a Federal or State prison.

If human remains were found, those remains would require proper treatment, in accordance with applicable laws. State of California *Public Resources Health and Safety Code* Sections 7050.5-7055 describe the general provisions for human remains. Specifically, *Health and Safety Code* Section 7050.5 describes the requirements if any human remains are accidentally discovered during excavation of a site. In addition, the requirements and procedures set forth in *California Public Resources Code* Section 5097.98 would be implemented. If human remains are found during excavation, excavation must stop in the vicinity of the find and any area that is reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the County coroner has been called out, and the remains have been investigated and appropriate recommendations have been made for the treatment and disposition of the remains.



Following compliance with State regulations, which detail the appropriate actions necessary in the event human remains are encountered, and compliance with proposed General Plan 2035 Conservation Element Goal CSV-11 and Policy CSV-11.5 and Mitigation Measure CR-2, impacts in this regard would be less than significant.

## Goals and Policies in the Proposed General Plan 2035:

### CONSERVATION ELEMENT

**Goal CSV-11** Murrieta protects, enhances, and celebrates archaeological, cultural, and historic resources as a way to foster community identity.

#### Policies

CSV-11.5 Comply with state law regarding the identification and protection of Native American resources, and consult with the appropriate tribal governments.

### Mitigation Measures:

CR-3 In the event that human remains are unearthed during excavation and grading activities of any future development project, all activity shall cease immediately. Pursuant to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, no further disturbance shall occur until the County coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the remains are determined to be of Native American descent, the coroner shall within 24 hours notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC shall then contact the most likely descendant of the deceased Native American, who shall serve as consultant on how to proceed with the remains.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Less Than Significant Impact.

### PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

■ **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN 2035 COULD DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY IMPACT A UNIQUE PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCE OR SITE.**

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Potentially Significant Impact.

**Impact Analysis:** The San Bernardino County Museum Earth Sciences Division has classified the majority of the City and the Sphere of Influence as having a high potential for containing significant, nonrenewable paleontological resources. Formations in the Murrieta area



have yielded extensive fossil remains. In particular, fossils may be present in three major fossiliferous Pleistocene age sedimentary rock units that are exposed along the Elsinore fault zone, as discussed above.

Future development associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035 could indirectly result in impacts to undiscovered paleontological resources through remediation, demolition, or construction activities. All future improvements and development within the City would be subject to compliance with the proposed General Plan 2035 Conservation Element Goal CSV-7 and the associated policies, and Mitigation Measures CR- and CR-2, which would ensure impacts to paleontological resources or unique geologic features are reduced to a less than significant level.

### **Goals and Policies in the Proposed General Plan 2035:**

#### **CONSERVATION ELEMENT**

**Goal CSV-7** Paleontological resources are conserved as a record of the region's natural history.

#### **Policies**

CSV-7.1 Continue development review procedures that protect paleontological resources.

CSV-7.2 Encourage local display and educational use of paleontological resources.

**Mitigation Measures:** Refer to Mitigation Measures CR-1 and CR-2. No additional mitigation measures are required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Less Than Significant Impact.

## **5.9.5 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

- **DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN 2035 AND CUMULATIVE DEVELOPMENT COULD RESULT IN CUMULATIVELY CONSIDERABLE IMPACTS TO CULTURAL RESOURCES.**

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Potentially Significant Impact.

**Impact Analysis:** Future development projects in the City of Murrieta, County of Riverside, and the region may encounter cultural resources. During the growth anticipated to occur with implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035, it is possible that undiscovered



archaeological, paleontological and/or historic resources could be impacted. It is possible that cumulative development could result in the adverse modification or destruction of archaeological, paleontological, and/or historic resources. Potential cultural resource impacts associated with the development of individual projects under the proposed General Plan 2035 would be specific to each site. All new developments would be required to comply with existing Federal, State, and local regulations concerning the protection of archaeological, paleontological and historic resources on a project-by-project basis. Additionally, implementation of the goals and policies of the proposed General Plan 2035, and recommended mitigation measures, would reduce potential impacts to undocumented archaeological resources, cultural resources, and historical structure/resources to less than significant levels. Thus, implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035 would not result in cumulatively considerable cultural resource impacts.

**Goals and Policies in the Proposed General Plan 2035:** Refer to the goals and policies referenced above in this Section 5.9.

**Mitigation Measures:** Refer to Mitigation Measures CR-1 through CR-3. No additional mitigation measures are required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Less Than Significant Impact.

## 5.9.6 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Impacts related to cultural resources associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan 2035 would be less than significant by adherence to and/or compliance with the existing regulatory framework, proposed General Plan 2035 goals and policies, and mitigation measures. No significant unavoidable cultural resource impacts would occur as a result of buildout of the proposed General Plan 2035.

## 5.9.7 SOURCES CITED

Alter, Ruth C., Kathleen A. Crawford, and Scott A. Moomjian. 2004. *Murrieta Historical Resources Inventory Update*. Prepared for the City of Murrieta by Archaeos, May 2004.

Boyce, Mary Alice Rail. 1995. *Murrieta - Old Town, New Town: A Community History*. Rosemar Publishing: Murrieta, CA.

*California Historic Building Code* (Sections 18950 to 18961 of Division 13, Part 2.7 of California Health and Safety Code), January 1, 2008.

*Cultural Resources Assessment* prepared by LSA Associates, Inc., January 4, 2010.



Garrison, Arlean V. 1963. *My Children's Home—A History of Murrieta, California*. Published by the author.

Gunther, Jane Davies. 1984. *Riverside County, California, Place Names: Their Origins and Their Stories*. Rubidoux Printing Co., Riverside, California.

Lech, Steve. 2004. *Along Old Roads. A History of the Portion of Southern California that Became Riverside County, 1772–1893*. Published by the Author.

Robinson, W.W. 1979. *Land in California*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.



This page intentionally left blank.