



Section 5.10

Cultural Resources



Cultural Resources

Section 5.10

5.10.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to identify cultural resources within the City of Artesia and evaluate potential impacts to such resources that could result from implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. Cultural resources relate to archaeological remains, historic buildings, traditional customs, tangible artifacts, historical documents, and public records. Mitigation measures to reduce impacts to resources are provided, as necessary. The information in this section is based on data contained in the Cultural and Historic Resources Element of the proposed General Plan Update.

5.10.2 EXISTING REGULATORY SETTING

Federal, State, and local governments have developed laws and regulations designed to protect significant cultural resources that may be affected by actions that they undertake or regulate. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) are the primary federal and state laws governing preservation of historic and archaeological resources of national, regional, State, and local significance.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Primarily Section 106 of the 1966 NHPA governs federal regulations for cultural resources. Section 106 of NHPA requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and affords the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. The Council's implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" are found in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800. The goal of the Section 106 review process is to offer a measure of protection to sites, which are determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The criteria for determining National Register eligibility are found in 36 CFR Part 60. Amendments to the Act (1986 and 1992) and subsequent revisions to the implementing regulations have, among other things, strengthened the provisions for Native American consultation and participation in the Section 106 review process. While federal agencies must follow federal regulations, most projects by private developers and landowners do not require this level of compliance. Federal regulations only come into play in the private sector if a project requires a federal permit or if it uses federal funding.

The National Register Information System (NRIS) is a database that contains information on places listed in or determined eligible for the NRHP.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The State of California has laws for the protection and preservation of archaeological resources. The State Office of Historic Preservation sponsors the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), a statewide system for managing information on the full range of historical resources identified in California. CHRIS provides an integrated database of site-specific archaeological and historical resources information. The State Office of Historic Preservation also maintains the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), which identifies the State's architectural, historical, archeological and cultural resources. The CRHR includes properties listed in or formally determined eligible for the National Register and lists selected California Registered Historical Landmarks.

Government Code (Section 65352.3, SB 18/Sacred Lands File Search)

Pursuant to Government Code Section 65352.3, prior to the adoption or any amendment of a city or county's general plan (proposed on or after March 1, 2005), the city or county shall conduct consultations with California Native American tribes that are on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose of preserving or mitigating impacts to places, features, and objects described in Sections 5097.9 and 5097.993 of the Public Resources Code that are located within the city or county's jurisdiction.

A Sacred Lands File search was conducted in July 2010 by the NAHC and it was determined that no Native American cultural resources were found within the area of potential effect (APE) (i.e., the City of Artesia).¹ However, there are Native American cultural resources in proximity to the APE; specifically the La Habra USGS Quadrangle where Native American cultural resources were identified. The NAHC provided a California Tribal Consultation List for the City of Artesia and the listed Native American contacts were subsequently consulted by the City.

Public Resources Code (Section 5024.1[A])

The evaluation criteria for inclusion in the CRHR are cited in Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(a). This section states that a resource may be listed as an historical resource in the California Register if it meets any of the following National Register of Historic Places criteria:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
- Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- 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.

¹ Written Correspondence: Dave Singleton, Program Analyst, Native American Heritage Commission, July 12, 2010.



- Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Public Resources Code (Section 5024.1[B])

This Code Section states that any agency proposing a project that could potentially impact a resource listed on the CRHR must first notify the State Historic Preservation Officer, and must work with the officer to ensure that the project incorporates “prudent and feasible measures that will eliminate or mitigate the adverse effects.”

California Health and Safety Code (Section 7050.5)

California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that, in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the human remains are discovered has determined that the remains are not subject to the provisions of Section 27491 of the Government Code or any other related provisions of law concerning investigation of the circumstances, manner and cause of any death. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and if the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American, or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission.

California Public Resources Code (Section 5097.98)

Section 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code stipulates that whenever the commission receives notification of a discovery of Native American human remains from a county coroner pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, it shall immediately notify those persons it believes to be most likely descended from the deceased Native American. The decedents may, with the permission of the owner of the land, or his or her authorized representative, inspect the site of the discovery of the Native American remains and may recommend to the owner or the person responsible for the excavation work means for treating or disposing, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods. The descendents shall complete their inspection and make their recommendation within 24 hours of their notification by the Native American Heritage Commission. The recommendation may include the scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Section 15064.5)

According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5, a “historical resource” is an object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage;



- Is associated with the lives of persons important to our past;
- 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 value; or
- Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

CEQA Statute 21083.2

According to Statute 21083.2, a “unique archaeological resource” is an archaeological artifact, object or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

CITY OF ARTESIA

According to City of Artesia Municipal Code (AMC) Title 5 Chapter 16, *Designation of Local Historical Landmarks*, the City Council may designate a building, landmark or other property within the City as a local historical landmark in special recognition of the property’s role during the formation or existence of the city. Additionally, AMC Section 5-16.02, *Method of Designation*, outlines the process for designation of local historical landmarks.

Additionally, AMC Title 9 Chapter 2 Article 31.5, *Historic District (H-D) Zone*, is established to preserve the historic nature of buildings located within the Historic District Zone. In addition, the Historic District Zone is established to promote the general welfare, education, and recreational pleasure of the public, through the identification, preservation, and enhancement of those buildings, structures, neighborhoods, landscapes, places, and areas that have special historical, cultural, architectural, or archaeological significance.

5.10.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The City of Artesia is approximately 99 percent built-out, typical of a southern California suburban community. The vast majority of the City has been developed with buildings, roadways, and other improvements. Only a limited amount of vacant land (6.6 acres), which is sparsely located throughout the City, remains. This vacant land has been previously disturbed due to past development activities.



HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF ARTESIA

Historical Background

The Los Angeles Basin has a rich cultural history that dates back to the early settlements by American Indians. The Gabrielino Indians, also known as the Tong-va, occupied an extensive region stretching from the San Gabriel Mountains to the coast, including the area now occupied by Artesia. The tribe had a large village known as Puvunga, near the present day site of Cal State Long Beach. Indians that lived in the village often hunted in Artesia. Evidence of this tribe's presence in the area was substantiated when artifacts such as shells, stone utensils, and arrow points were discovered on Pioneer Boulevard during the construction of Bloomfield Park in the City of Lakewood.

The village of Artesia formally became a community when the Artesia School District was established on May 3, 1875. The first school was located on 183rd Street and Albutis Avenue. Artesia was named from the many naturally flowing Artesian wells in the area. The rural countryside, with its rich soil and abundant water supply, was ideal for farming, and many early residents grew grapes, sugar beets, and other fruits and vegetables.

In the 1920s and 1930s, Dutch and Portuguese farmers developed Artesia into one of the most important dairy districts in Southern California. After World War II, as with many other cities in the region, Artesia was pressured by developers to build residential tracts. The city of Dairy Valley was incorporated in 1956, and later became the City of Cerritos. As the demand for housing continued, dairymen moved their operations further east into Chino and north into the Central Valley. Artesia finally incorporated on May 29, 1959.

Prehistoric and Historic Resources

In July 2010, RBF Consulting conducted record searches at the following databases to determine the existence of prehistoric and historic resources in the City:

- California Environmental Resources Evaluation System (CERES);
- California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS); and
- National Register Information System (NRIS).

The results of the record searches conducted by RBF consulting revealed that no prehistoric or historic sites have been identified within the City.

Additionally, as discussed above, a Sacred Lands File search was conducted in July 2010 by the NAHC and it was determined that no Native American cultural resources were found within the APE (i.e., the City of Artesia).



ARTESIA WATER TOWER

The Artesia Water Tower is an inactive 50,000-gallon water storage tank located on Clarkdale Avenue, south of 183rd Street. This tower has been a familiar site for citizens of Artesia for many years. However, little is known of its active past or when it was actually constructed.

Although the Tower site was the actual site of an artesian well in 1911, no records can be found of when the existing tower was actually built. It also may have been the site of a smaller wood structure water tower.

The Tower was once owned by the Southern California Water Company, and was sold to the City of Artesia in 1988. The tower was purchased by the City to be used only as a point of historical interest, and to provide a special identity to the community. When the City of Artesia purchased the tower, the then green tower was quickly painted to its current color with the addition of the name Artesia painted on two sides.

FRAMPTON-DANTEMA HOME

Constructed in 1929, the Spanish Style Frampton/Dantema House was originally located on Pioneer Blvd. In partnership with the City of Artesia, the Artesia Historical Society saved and moved the historic structure in 2003 to its present location at 18644 Alburdis Avenue. The home was restored and has become the Artesia Historical Museum, which is open to the public.

PORTUGUESE IN ARTESIA

Artesia DES was founded in 1927 with the idea to promote the traditions of the Portuguese in Artesia. It came about after the founding of the Holy Family Catholic Church in 1925 by the Portuguese Community and by Father Manuel Vicente, its first Pastor. In 1974, the Artesia DES went through a massive re-organization due to the ideas of a growing number of immigrants that came primarily from the Azores who wanted to become more active in the community. This re-organization helped make Artesia DES one of the most successful Portuguese societies in California.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL DISTRICT

There are a large number of Indian-owned stores and restaurants along Pioneer Boulevard in Artesia. The area represents a major economic source for the City and an important tourist destination.

Archaeological Resources

Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted in the City's vicinity; however, none of the surveys were located within the City boundaries. The surveys, conducted at locations in close proximity to the San Gabriel River and Coyote Creek in the Cities of Long Beach and Lakewood, did not identify the existence of archaeological sites. However, artifacts attributed to San Gabrielino Indians were documented during construction of Bloomfield Park in the City of



Lakewood. The past discovery of artifacts in Bloomfield Park indicates the possibility for additional artifacts and resources connected to the San Gabrielino Indians to be present within the City.

5.10.4 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS AND CRITERIA

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 includes provisions for significance criteria related to archaeological and historical resources. A significant archaeological or historical resource is defined as one that meets the criteria of the California Register of Historical Resources, is included in a local register of historic resources, or is determined by the lead agency to be historically significant. A significant impact is characterized as a “*substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.*”

Public Resource Code Section 5024.1 authorizes the establishment of the California Register. Any identified cultural resources must, therefore, be evaluated against the California Register criteria. In order to be determined eligible for the California Register, a property must be significant at the local, state, or national level under one or more of the following four criteria, modeled after the National Register of Historic Places criteria:

- It is associated with events or patterns of events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the history and cultural heritage of California and the United States;
- It is associated with the lives of persons important to the nation or to California’s past;
- It 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
- It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the state and the nation.

In addition to meeting any one of the above criteria, a significant property must exhibit a measure of integrity. Properties eligible for listing in the California Register must retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be recognizable as historic properties and to convey the reasons for their significance. Integrity is judged in relation to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Public Resource Code Section 21083.2 governs the treatment of unique archaeological resources, defined as “*an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated*” as meeting any of the following criteria:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information;



- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type; or,
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, appropriate mitigation measures shall be required to preserve the resource in-place, in an undisturbed state. Mitigation measures may include, but are not limited to a) planning construction to avoid the site, b) deeding conservation easements, or c) capping the site prior to construction. If a resource is determined to be a “non-unique archaeological resource” no further consideration of the resource by the lead agency is necessary.

Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* contains the Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form used during preparation of the project Initial Study; refer to [Appendix 12.1, *Initial Study/Notice of Preparation*](#). The Checklist includes questions relating to cultural resources, based on the considerations described above. These have been utilized as thresholds of significance in this Section. Accordingly, a significant environmental impact would occur if the Project would:

- 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; and/or
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

Based on these significance thresholds and criteria, the Project’s effects have been categorized as either “effects found not to be significant” or “potentially significant impact.” Feasible mitigation measures, which could avoid or minimize potentially significant impacts, are identified. 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.”

5.10.5 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

☐ GENERAL PLAN UPDATE POLICIES

The following Policies and Policy Actions relevant to cultural resources have been proposed in the General Plan Update:



COMMUNITY CULTURE AND ECONOMY ELEMENT

Cultural and Historic Resources

Community Policy CHR 1.1: Enhance and protect resources that have cultural and historic significance.

Policy Action CHR 1.1.1: Pursue opportunities for the identification, documentation and evaluation of significant cultural and historic resources in the City.

Policy Action CHR 1.1.2: Encourage continued private ownership and utilization of historic structures.

Policy Action CHR 1.1.3: Promote the maintenance, restoration and rehabilitation of cultural and historic resources.

Community Policy CHR 1.2: Strengthen cultural and historic preservation planning.

Policy Action CHR 1.2.1: Integrate the consideration of cultural and historic resource preservation into the land use planning process.

Community Policy CHR 2.1: Foster public appreciation for Artesia's cultural and historic resources.

Policy Action CHR 2.1.1: Promote events and activities highlighting cultural and historic resources, and integrate cultural and historic aspects into City-sponsored events and programs.

Policy Action CHR 2.1.2: Maintain information about important cultural and historic resources on the City's website.

Policy Action CHR 2.1.3: Increase opportunities for cultural heritage tourism by supporting efforts such as signage, marketing and beautification.

SUSTAINABILITY ELEMENT

Urban Design

Policy Action SUS 3.4.4: Promote the maintenance, restoration and rehabilitation of cultural and historic resources.

☐ EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

In accordance with Section 15128, *Effects Not Found To Be Significant*, of the *CEQA Guidelines*, the following briefly discusses the reasons that various possible significant effects of the Project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail.



Threshold: *Would the Project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, as defined in Section 15064.5?*

The records search and the search conducted by RBF Consulting revealed that no historic resources have been identified within the City. Additionally, although not designated historic sites, no changes to the Artesia Water Tower or Frampton-Dantema Home are proposed. Notwithstanding, pursuant to AMC Title 5 Chapter 16, *Designation of Local Historical Landmarks*, the City Council may designate a building, landmark or other property within the City as a local historical landmark. Therefore, the proposed General Plan Update would not cause an adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. No impact would occur in this regard.

Threshold: *Would the Project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?*

The City does not contain unique geologic features and is not known to contain documented paleontological resources. Plant and animal fossils are typically found within sedimentary rock deposits. Given the geology of the City, it is unlikely that unknown paleontological resources would exist within the City. In addition, the future development sites have already been subject to extensive ground disturbance and/or development. As such, any paleontological resources, which may have existed within the City, have likely been disturbed. Therefore, the proposed General Plan Update would not directly or indirectly destroy unique paleontological resource or site or geologic features.

POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COULD CAUSE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE CHANGE IN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF AN ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCE.**

Impact Analysis: The records searches revealed that no archaeological resources have been identified within the City. In addition, the city is approximately 99 percent developed and the development sites have already been subject to extensive disruption and may contain artificial fill materials. As such, any archaeological resources, which may have existed within the development sites, have likely been disturbed. Notwithstanding, the area is known to be historically inhabited and hunted by the San Gabrielino Tribe, and archaeological resources have been documented in the City of Lakewood. Therefore, ground-disturbing activities, such as grading or excavation, could unearth undocumented subsurface archaeological resources.

The past discovery of Indian artifacts and the potential presence in the City of unknown artifacts that may have archaeological importance contribute to the City's recognition of the importance of preserving cultural resources. Potential impacts to archaeological resources attributed to the General Plan Update would be considered less than significant with adherence to the regulatory



requirements and recommended mitigation, which provides instructions in the event a material of potential cultural significance is uncovered. Moreover, it is a Goal of the General Plan Update to preserve cultural and historic resources. Additionally, it is a General Plan Update's Goal to increase public awareness of cultural and historic resources. To this end, all future development within the City would be subject to compliance with the Cultural and Historic Resources Element Policies and Policy Actions outlined above.

Mitigation Measures:

- CR-1 Prior to any excavation and grading activities of any future development project on a previously undeveloped property, a professional archaeologist shall be retained to conduct a Phase I survey (physical walk-over) in areas where ground can be observed.
- CR-2 In the event that archeological resources are unearthed during excavation and grading activities of any future development project, the contractor shall cease all earth-disturbing activities within a 100-meter radius of the area of discovery and shall retain a qualified archaeologist to evaluate the significance of the finding and appropriate course of action. Salvage operation requirements pursuant to Section 15064.5 of the *CEQA Guidelines* shall be followed. After the find has been appropriately mitigated, work in the area may resume.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.

HUMAN REMAINS

■ PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION COULD DISTURB HUMAN REMAINS, INCLUDING THOSE INTERRED OUTSIDE OF FORMAL CEMETERIES.

Impact Analysis: No conditions exist that suggest human remains are likely to be found within the City. Due to the level of past disturbance on the development sites, it is not anticipated that human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries, would be encountered during earth removal or disturbance activities. Notwithstanding, the San Gabrielino Tribe historically inhabited and hunted the area, and archaeological resources have been documented near the City. Therefore, ground-disturbing activities, such as grading or excavation, have the potential to disturb human remains. 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 Section 7050.5-7055 describe the general provisions regarding human remains, including the requirements if any human remains are accidentally discovered during excavation of a site. As required by State law, the requirements and procedures set forth in Section 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code would be implemented, including notification of the County Coroner, notification of the Native American Heritage Commission and consultation with the individual identified by the Native American Heritage Commission to be the "most likely descendant." If human remains are found during excavation, excavation must stop in the vicinity of the find and any area that is reasonably suspected to overly 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, impacts in this regard, would be considered less than significant. Implementation of the recommended mitigation would further minimize potential impacts by ensuring appropriate examination, treatment, and protection of human remains, if any are discovered.

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: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.

5.10.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

■ CUMULATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROJECT AREA AND LOCAL REGION COULD CUMULATIVELY IMPACT THE AREA'S CULTURAL RESOURCES.

Impact Analysis: No recorded cultural resources exist within Artesia, and potential impacts to as yet undiscovered resources would be mitigated through compliance with the existing regulatory framework and recommended mitigation. The City of Artesia is situated in the middle of a highly built-out and urbanized region. The City is bordered by the City of Norwalk to the north, and the City of Cerritos to the south, east, and west. Given the built-out nature of the surrounding cities, and since the future development sites have already been subject to extensive ground disturbance and/or development, Project implementation would not have a cumulatively significant impact on local or regional cultural resources.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant.

5.10.7 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Impacts related to cultural resources associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update are considered less than significant following adherence to the established regulatory framework and recommended mitigation measures.



5.10.8 SOURCES CITED

California Natural Resources Agency, *California Environmental Resources Evaluation System (CERES) Website*. Accessed July 6, 2010.

California State Parks Office of Historic Preservation, *California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS)*. Accessed July 6, 2010.

City of Artesia, *City of Artesia General Plan Update*, July 20, 2010.

National Park Service, *National Register Information System (NRIS) Website*. Accessed July 6, 2010.

RBF Consulting, *City of Artesia General Plan Update*, July 12, 2010.



This page intentionally left blank.