



CULTURAL SERVICES

VCS qualified cultural resources professionals conduct the full range of cultural resources studies. The team conducts Phase I and Phase II field investigations, designs and implements Phase III mitigation studies, provides construction management services for archaeology and paleontology, and prepares and peer reviews cultural resources technical studies and reports. The lead VCS cultural resources professional is a Registered Professional Archaeologist who meets the Secretary of Interior's standards for historic preservation programs for archaeology, is an Orange and Riverside County certified archaeologist, and is listed as a Principal Investigator, for the Southern California Bureau of Land Management. The VCS Cultural Resources department has expertise in compliance with NEPA, CEQA, the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the Clean Water Act (404 Permit), among others.

CULTURAL RESOURCES SERVICES

- Constraints & Feasibility Analyses
- Phase I Cultural and Paleontological Assessments
- Phase II Resource Evaluation and Testing
- Phase III Data Recovery/Mitigation Studies
- Phase IV Construction Monitoring Mitigation Programs
- Historic Structures Assessments and Evaluations
- Worker Environmental Awareness Training
- Native American Scoping and Consultation
- Fossil Salvage, Identification, Evaluation and Preparation for Curation
- Caltrans Studies and Documentation (HPSR, ASR, HRER, FOE, PIR, PER, PMP, et al.)
- Site Recordation on DPR 523 Resource Record Forms

■ BEACON PHOTOVOLTAIC PROJECT | Kern County, CA

Pre-Construction Surveys and Construction Monitoring

This 2,300-acre solar development is being completed under the direction of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). The project required treatment plans; monitoring perimeter fence construction; protecting and/or treating cultural resources discovered during survey; and monitoring of construction. A Phase III data recovery excavation of three significant sites was also completed.



■ NEWPORT BANNING RANCH | Newport Beach, CA

Cultural Resources Services

Completed Cultural Resources services for the Newport Banning Ranch Project, including archaeological, historical, and paleontological investigations. Initial investigations consisted of (1) a Phase II test-level excavation of eight prehistoric and three historic archaeological sites present on the site; (2) an assessment and evaluation of the built-environment resources associated with the West Newport Oil Company development on site; and (3) a paleontological assessment of the project site's potential for the presence of sensitive rock formations and fossil resources. This work was followed by extensive Native American and California Coastal Commission (CCC) consultations; preparation of an Archaeological Research Plan; excavation of shovel and backhoe test pits to examine the subsurface of the property. Since the CCC denied the residential project, we are now assisting Armstrong Petroleum with the cultural resources investigations necessary to consolidate the oil production facilities on site. This will require additional consultation with tribes and the CCC, records searches, and field surveys.

■ BAKER RANCH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT | Lake Forest, CA

Archaeological and Paleontological Investigations

A Phase I reconnaissance study and Phase II testing of two archaeological sites was required on the project site. Tasks included archaeological, Native American, and paleontological monitoring programs in one of the most prolific fossil-bearing units in Orange County. Hundreds of fossil localities (including various bones associated with whales, a seal, sharks, and fishes, as well as plant remains and invertebrates) were found, as well as several burnt rock features interpreted as cultural hearths. All the material was curated at the Orange County Cooper Center.

■ ATLANTA AVENUE WIDENING PROJECT | Huntington Beach, CA

Historic Property Survey Report/Extended Phase I Study

Conducted a Phase I cultural resources study including consultation with Caltrans cultural resources specialists regarding the Area of Potential Effects (APE); a cultural resources literature review; Native American consultation; a field survey of the project area; and submittal of an Archaeological Survey Report and an Historic Property Survey Report to Caltrans. This was followed by an historic evaluation of the Pacific Mobile Home Park south of the site and completion of an Extended Phase I (XPI) study that consisted of a subsurface archaeological excavation to evaluate the presence of archaeological resources within the APE. Additionally, an updated ASR, an XPI report, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 site forms, and an updated HPSR were prepared.

■ OWENS LAKE PHASE 7A DUST CONTROL PROJECT | Inyo County, CA

Archaeological Monitoring, Archeological Survey, and Archaeological Site Testing

The overall investigation included archaeological field surveys, archaeological testing, and evaluation of prehistoric archaeological sites at the lake bed. This work is part of the environmental mitigation being completed as part of the dust mitigation program being implemented for the lake by LADWP. The work included (1) monitoring of geotechnical borings and augers; (2) pedestrian surveys of the dust mitigation area to delineate the boundaries of known sites and to locate any additional sites exposed by blowing sand; and (3) archaeological test excavations of all sites that may be impacted as a result of the project.