



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

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CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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January 22, 2018

Lauren Jelinek, Archaeologist
Bureau of Reclamation
6150 W. Thunderbird Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85306-4001

Re: Class I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) 5 Site Environmental Enhancements , District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona

CRMP Project No. 94.14 Task 0

P-MIP Technical Report No. 2018-04

Dear Dr. Jelinek:

At the request of the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project (P-MIP), the Gila River Indian Community Cultural Resource Management Program (GRIC-CRMP) completed a Class I cultural resources assessment (i.e., records search) for the proposed Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) 5 Site Environmental Enhancements in District 3 of the GRIC (Figure 1). The project area is located in Section 13 of Township 4 South, Range 6 East. P-MIP is requesting a cultural resources assessment of a proposal to construct the Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) 5 Site Environmental Enhancements in District 3, directly west of Olberg Road.

The objective of this overview was to identify the nature and extent of previous cultural resource investigations and documented cultural properties within the proposed undertaking's Area of Potential Effects (APE). For this project, the APE refers to a 15.5 hectare (38.3 acre) parcel directly west of Olberg Road in District 3 of the GRIC, with the majority of the APE within the modern riverbed of the Gila River (see Figure 1). The APE occurs entirely within Tribal lands on the Community. This letter report summarizes the methods and results of that records search. It also provides management recommendations for documented cultural resources within the APE based on their eligibility status for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

ASSESSMENT METHODS

The Class I overview involved a review of archaeological project and site files from the offices of the Arizona State Museum (ASM), the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Arizona State University (ASU), and GRIC-CRMP offices. Additionally, historically produced maps and records from these offices were inspected for any other cultural resources in the project area that may not yet be adequately documented. Historically-documented cultural resources (HDCRs) generally include linear features, such as canals and transportation corridors, as well as domestic, public, or religious structures. The presence of any Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) was also evaluated. TCPs are resources that are significant for their association with the cultural practices, identity, beliefs, or traditions of a living community. The findings of the records search were assessed according to SHPO Guidance Point No. 5, which considers the reliability of information gathered by archaeological projects more than ten years ago (Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) 2004).

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

The results of the current records search indicate that five previous archaeological projects have been completed within one-eighth mile of the APE for this undertaking (Table 1; see Figure 1). This includes one systematic survey project (PMIP Block Survey; 94.14s0; Brodbeck and Neily 1998) that was conducted across the entirety of the APE, and was completed using the current SHPO standards outlined in Guidance Point No. 5. Two small excavation projects were previously conducted approximately 150 to the north and 200 meters to the south of the APE (99.14x4, 94.14x11; Woodson and Randolph 2000, Garraty and Woodson 2009). A Class III survey was previously undertaken for a small area immediately across Olberg Road from the APE (CRMP project No. 99.40s0; Foster et al. 2000). Don Woods conducted an archaeological reconnaissance of the GRIC for the State Museum in 1971, including the northern portion of the buffer area for this project. However, this final project does not meet the criteria established by SHPO Guidance Point No. 5.

RECORDED SITES

Previous investigations of the APE resulted in the identification of multiple cultural properties within the vicinity of the project area (Table 2). A total of four archaeological sites (GR-414, GR-415, GR-443, and GR-1579) have been recorded within one-eighth mile of the APE; however, none are located directly within the boundaries of the APE.

GR-414 is an historic Akimel O'odham habitation site with structures and a sparse artifact scatter present. It has previously been recommended to be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (Woodson and James 1999). The neighboring site, GR-415, is a large, dense, historic and prehistoric artifact scatter with a historic structure and two probable mound features. Much of the site has been disturbed by a nearby dirt road and natural erosion resulting from being situated in the floodplain of the Gila River. The site has also been recommended to be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (Woodson and Randolph 2000).

The Sacaton Dam Bridge (GR-443) spans the Gila River channel and part of the floodplain along Olberg Road in a north-south orientation. Known locally as the Olberg Bridge, it is one of the state's longest bridges. As described by a plaque at the north end of the bridge, the structure was completed in 1925 by the United States Indian Service Irrigation Division. It has been listed on the NRHP under Criteria A and C (ADOT n.d.).

A section of the two lane highway known as Olberg Road crosses north-south directly east of the APE and was formerly a component of State Route 87 (SR-87). The highway was previously recorded by CRMP as GR-1579. The ROW for SR-87 is generally 20 meters wide and the roadway is 10 meters wide with much of the roadbed being elevated. The roadway was initially developed in 1927, with the current alignment adopted in the late 1950s or early 60s. This realignment shifted SR-87 to the west, cutting off Olberg Road from SR-87 (making this a stretch of "Old Highway 87"). GR-1579, including the portions adjacent to the current project area, have previously been recommended to be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Plumlee and Rodrigues 2012).

HISTORICALLY DOCUMENTED CULTURAL RESOURCES

The review of historically produced maps and documents showed that 13 HDCRs have been recorded within the vicinity of the APE (Table 3). Portions of two irrigation canals (SCS 1936; USGS 1966) potentially cross the southwestern portion of the APE and the mapped location of another canal (North Sacaton Flats canal; Southworth 1914) parallels the southern APE boundary approximately 50 meters to the south. As many as nine houses were documented roughly 0.4 km (0.25 mile) south of the APE. Three structures are shown on a USGS (1907) map, and three structures were mapped in slightly different locations by Southworth (1914). However, the two sources may have both recorded the same structures, suggesting that only three houses may have been present. Additionally, a well was recorded directly east of the southeast corner of the APE (USGS 1966).

SUMMARY AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

GRIC-CRMP completed a Class I cultural resource assessment for the proposed MAR 5 Site Environmental Enhancements in District 3 of the GRIC and the results of the records search revealed that the APE has been previously surveyed, and these investigations conformed with SHPO Guidance Point No. 5. Small portions of two historically documented canal systems are shown on Historic maps in the southwest portion of the APE. A review of modern satellite imagery; however, does not suggest that the canals are still present and they were not recorded during survey of the area. The nature of these features and their location in the geologically active streambed of the Gila River suggests that the canals have been eroded and destroyed. Based on these observations, GRIC-CRMP recommends a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* for the proposed project. Therefore, no further archaeological investigations are recommended prior to implementation of the undertaking. However, in the unlikely event that previously unidentified cultural remains are encountered during construction, work should cease in that immediate location and the person in charge should contact GRIC-CRMP.

All information and recommendations are provided for feasibility assessment only and exclusively to P-MIP for the proposed project. Any future activities on this property may require additional consultation. Additional cultural resource documentation may also be necessary for the preparation of environmental documents for the purposes of federal, state, or tribal compliance.

If you have any questions please contact me at (520) 562-7169, or Chris Loendorf at (520) 562-7170.

Sincerely,



M. Kyle Woodson, Ph.D
Director

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Figure 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations and Documented Cultural Properties Within One-eighth mile the APE of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the proposed MAR 5 Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona
- 2) Table 1. Previous Archaeological Projects Within One-eighth mile the APE of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the proposed MAR 5 Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona
- 3) Table 2. Documented Cultural Resources Within One-eighth mile the APE of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the proposed MAR 5 Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona
- 4) Table 3. Historically Documented Cultural Resources Within One-eighth mile the APE of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the proposed MAR 5 Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona

REFERENCES CITED

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Class I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) 5 Site Education Center, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona

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1907 *Sacaton, Arizona Quadrangle*. Geological Survey, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

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Table 1. Previous Archaeological Projects Within One-eighth Mile the APE of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed MAR 5 Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona

Project No.	Project Name	Agency	Reference
1971.01	Class II Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Gila River Indian Community	ASM	Ayres 1975 ; Wood 1971a, 1971b, 1972
94.14s0	Class I and Class III Survey for the Bureau of Reclamation's Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project, Gila River Indian Community	CRMP	Brodbeck and Neily 1998
94.14x4	Class III Archaeological Excavations for Determining Eligibility in the Blackwater Management Area for the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project, Gila River Indian Community	CRMP	Woodson and Randolph 2000
94.14x11	Class III Archaeological Excavations for the Testing of the Main Stem Canal as part of the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project, Gila River Indian Community	CRMP	Garraty and Woodson 2009
99.40s0	Class III Survey for a San Carlos Irrigation Project Powerline Land Exchange, Gila River Indian Community	CRMP	Foster et al. 2000

¹ ASM = Arizona State Museum (Tucson, AZ); CRMP = Gila River Indian Community Cultural Resource Management Program (Sacaton, AZ)

Table 2. Documented Cultural Resources Within One-eighth Mile the APE of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed MAR 5 Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona

GR No.	Other Site No./Name	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	Temporal Period	NRHP Eligibility	Reference
414	-	Habitation/ Artifact Scatter	Akimel O'odham	Historic	Eligible (D)	Woodson and James 1999
415	-	Artifact Scatter	Hohokam & Akimel O'odham	Sedentary/ Historic	Eligible (D)	Woodson and Randolph 2000
443	Sacaton (Olberg) Bridge	Transportation	Euroamerican	Late Historic	Listed (D)	Dejong 2002 ; ADOT n.d.
1579	AZ AA:6:63 (ASM); State Route 87; Old Olberg Road	Transportation	Euroamerican	Late Historic	Eligible (A)	Tiedens and Woodson 2017

Table 3. Historically Documented Cultural Resources (HDCRs) Within One-eighth Mile the APE of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed MAR 5 Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona

HDCR Name	Cultural Affiliation	Temporal Period	Reference
Canal (SCIP)	Akimel O'odham/ Euroamerican	Historic	USGS Sacaton 1966 7.5'; Pfaff 1994, 1996
Canal (SCS)	Akimel O'odham/ Euroamerican	Historic	Soil Conservation Service 1936
North Sacaton Flats Canal (Southworth)	Akimel O'odham	Historic	Southworth 1914
Well (n=1)	Akimel O'odham	Late Historic	USGS Sacaton 1966 7.5'
Houses (n=6)	Akimel O'odham	Late Historic	USGS Sacaton 1907 15'
Houses (n=3)	Akimel O'odham	Late Historic	Southworth 1914



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

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CRMP PROJECT REPORT THPO CONSULTATION SHEET

Report Title: Class I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) 5 Site Environmental Enhancements, District 3, Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona

Report No: PTR 2018-04 Project No. 94.14x0 Date Submitted: 01/22/2018

Author: Brian Medchill (through Woodson) Director: M. Kyle Woodson

I concur with the recommendations regarding the impact to cultural resources provided in the attached report. Project clearance for archaeological concerns is granted on provision that management recommendations are followed.

Comments:

Concur Do Not Concur

Date _____

Barnaby V. Lewis
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Gila River Indian Community
Sacaton, Arizona