



A Cultural Resources Report for the

Wasatch County School District Proposed High School Site
Heber, Wasatch County, Utah
USHPO Project #: U19RY0523

Submitted to
Wasatch County School District
101 East 200 North
Heber City, Utah 84032

Submitted by
Chuck Easton and Heather Boekweg
CRS Engineers
160 South Main, Suite 200
Farmington, Utah 84025



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Abstract

The Wasatch County School District is evaluating potential high school sites in Wasatch County. In July 2019, the School District contracted with CRS Engineers (CRS) to provide environmental analyses of a potential site located in Heber City. On July 24, 2019, CRS performed a cultural resources investigation of the area.

During an intensive-level pedestrian (Class III) site inventory conducted on July 11, 2019, CRS identified one (1) previously recorded site, Site 42WA238, Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal. CRS recommends that the site remain **eligible** for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Given the short length of the site within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) that may be impacted by the project, CRS recommends that any proposed impacts would result in a **No Adverse Effect** determination.

Contents

Abstract	ii
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Area of Potential Effect	1
3.0 Historical Context	1
4.0 Literature Review	5
4.1 Cultural Resources	5
4.2 Paleontological Resources	7
5.0 Survey Methodology	8
6.0 Survey Results	8
6.1 Site 42WA238, Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal	8
7.0 Recommendations and Summary	8
Appendix A: Paleontological Clearance Letter	
Appendix B: Site Photographs	

List of Figures

Figure 1: Area of Potential Effect (APE) overview. View to the northwest	1
Figure 2. Proposed Project on Aerial Photography	2
Figure 3. Proposed Project on Topographic Map.	3
Figure 4. Cultural Literature Search Results within a 1/2-mile Buffer of the APE	6
Figure 5. APE Cultural Survey Results	9

List of Tables

Table 1. Previously performed cultural resource surveys.	7
Table 2. Previously recorded historical sites within one-half mile of the project APE.	7

1.0 Introduction

The Wasatch County School District is evaluating potential high school sites in Wasatch County. In July 2019, the School District contracted with CRS Engineers (CRS) to provide environmental analyses of a potential site located in Heber City. On July 24, 2019, CRS performed an intensive-level pedestrian inventory of the APE.

2.0 Area of Potential Effect

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) measures approximately 63 acres and is located in Heber City, Utah on privately owned land located in Section 31, Township 3 South, Range 5 East (see Figures 1–3). Land within the APE is flat, sloping slightly from north to south with elevations ranging from 5,558–5,545 feet (1,690–1,694 meters) above sea level. Soils have been disturbed by residential development, transportation, grazing, and agricultural use. Photographs of site characteristics within the APE were also taken on site visits performed on June 28, July 11, and July 24, 2019 during the site visit (see Appendix A: Site Photographs).

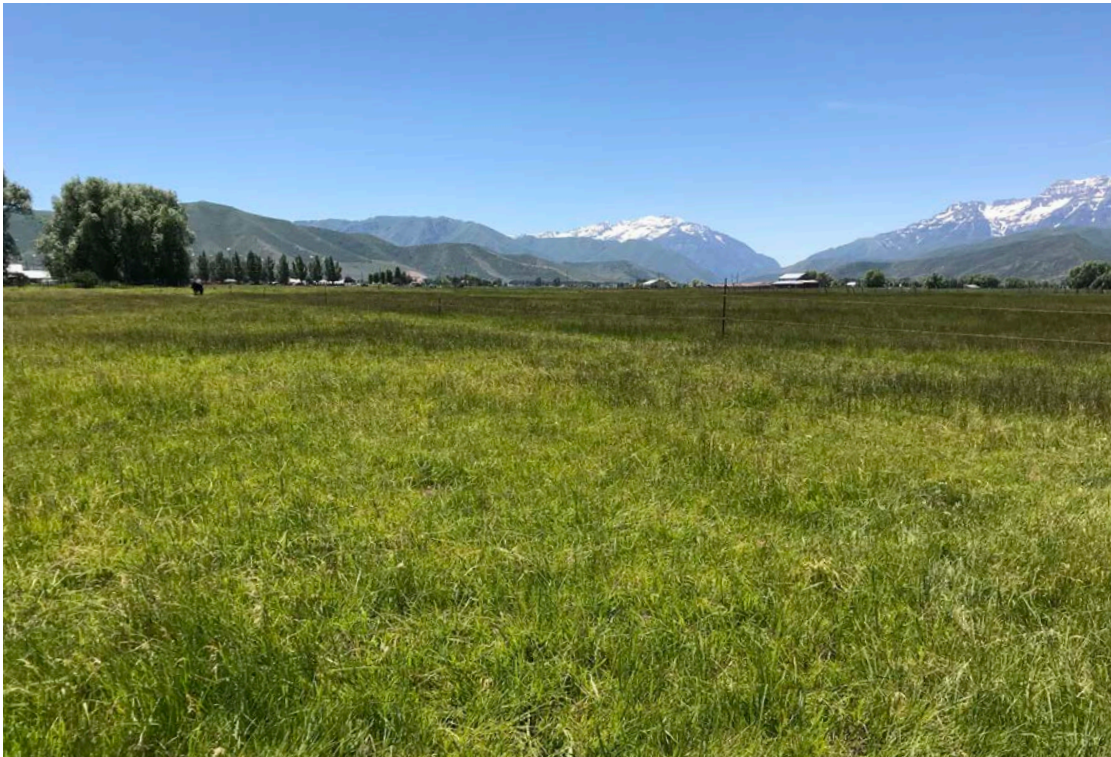


Figure 1: Area of Potential Effect (APE) overview. View to the southwest.

3.0 Historical Context

A historical and prehistoric context is frequently compiled to provide a context under which cultural resources identified during cultural resource field inventories can be evaluated for their significance using the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria. Because the only documented archaeological resource within the APE is a historic irrigation feature, a brief historic context focusing on irrigation in the Heber Valley area is considered here for evaluating archaeological resource significance using the NRHP criteria.

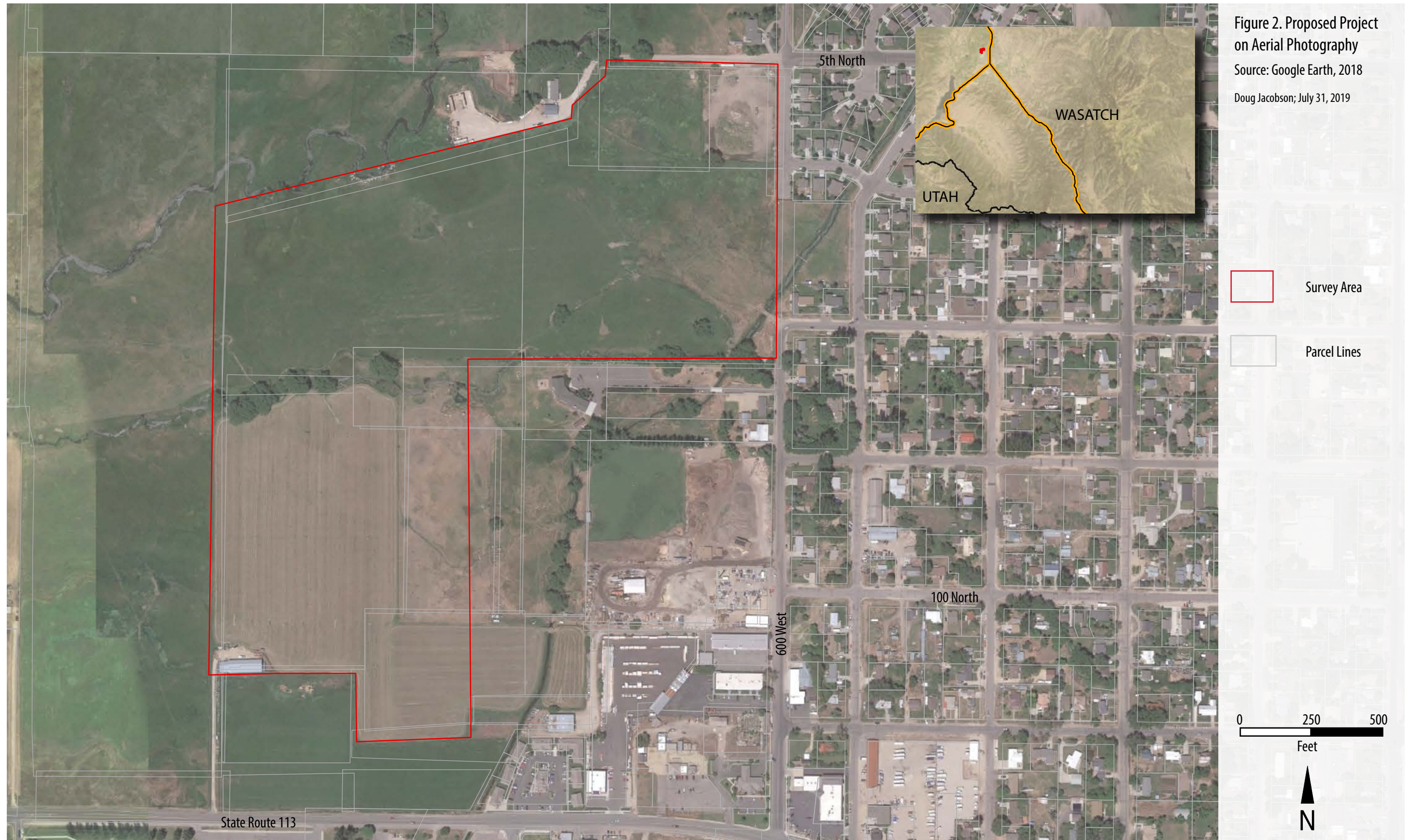


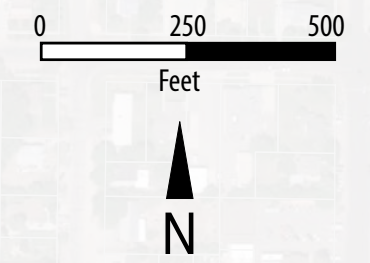
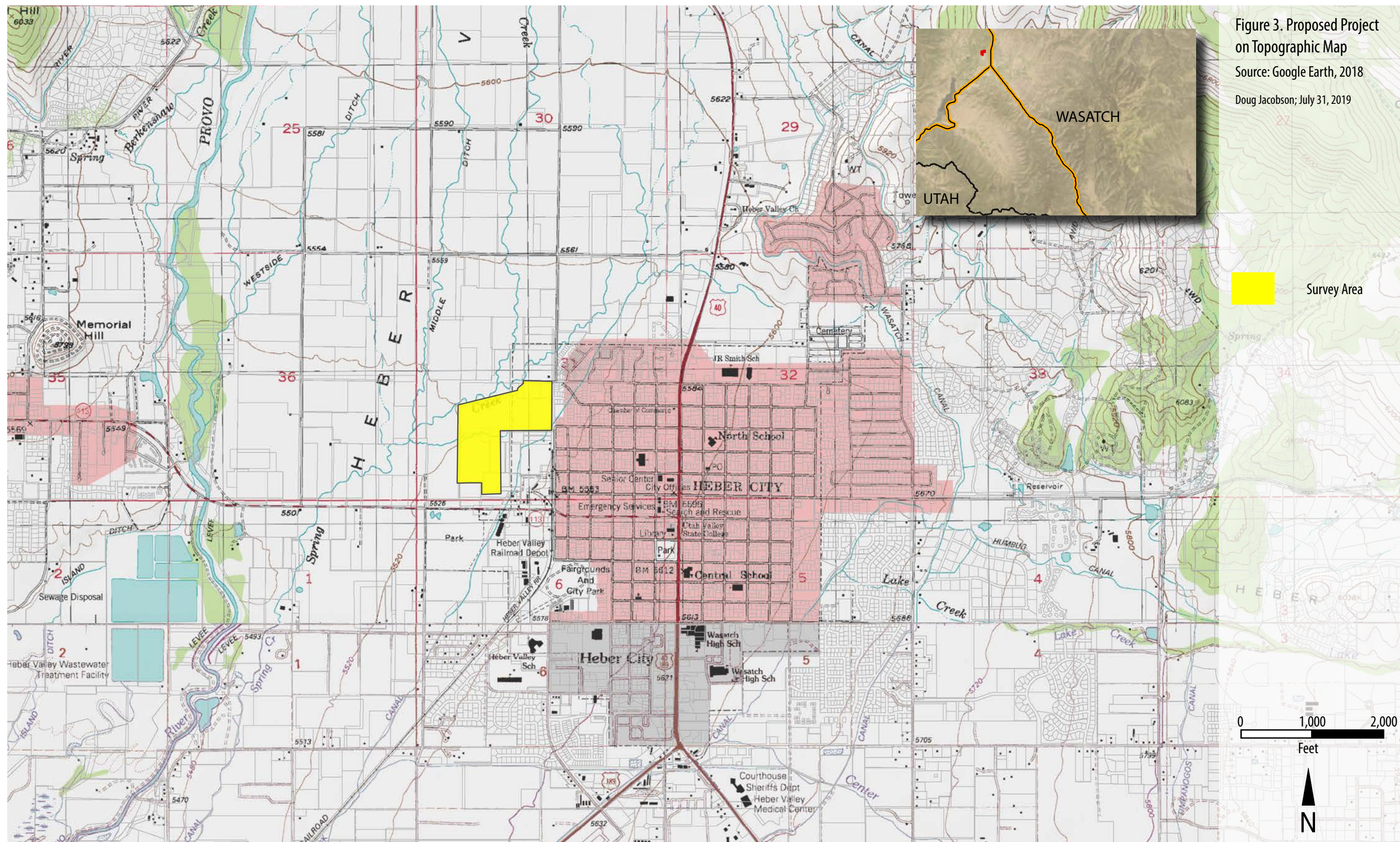


Figure 2. Proposed Project on Aerial Photography
Source: Google Earth, 2018
Doug Jacobson; July 31, 2019

-  Survey Area
-  Parcel Lines





The history the Heber Valley and of irrigation has been documented in historical monographs and previous cultural resource inventories of the area (Embry, 1996; Mead, 1903). The following paragraphs are a summary of irrigation developments.

Mormon pioneers began entering the Heber Valley in the 1850s, initially for grazing stock animals. By 1858, the pioneers began settling in several different areas in the Heber Valley. These early settlers relied primarily on water from the Provo River and its tributaries for irrigation on subsistence farms. However, as the population began to grow and settlements expanded in size, the appropriation of water became more difficult and complex. Initially water appropriation for the farming and ranching communities throughout Utah was handled by Mormon Church officials under the principle of cooperative use, but territorial legislation later gave water distribution authority to the County Probate Judge. Individuals were required to petition their use of water to the judge who would base his decision on the merit of the petition. Specific legal guidelines for the decision, however, did not exist. By the 1860s, as a result of the increasing disorganization of water appropriation, local water users began forming associations to help manage water distribution. In 1862, Wasatch County Probate Judge, John Witt, authorized the formation of two water districts, one on the east side of the Provo River and the other on the west side of the Provo River. Now, instead of water appropriations approval made solely by the Probate Judge, the judge and the local water district authorities would consult on water appropriation issues. The purpose of the water districts system was to ensure that cooperative efforts of the local farmers would continue after the construction of ditches and canals to the equitable distribution of water.

Several cooperative efforts in the 1860s were initiated to construct irrigation ditches to divert water from the Provo River and its tributaries. Settlers from Upper Settlement (near present-day Midway) constructed the Epperson Ditch which eventually became part of the Midway Irrigation Company supplying water to areas west of Heber City. By 1865, the Spring Creek Canal, located west and southwest of Heber City, was constructed and five years later the Spring Creek Irrigation Company formed to manage the canal and water distribution to 720 acres. Headed by Henry Clegg and formed in 1869, the Wasatch County Canal Committee also intended to construct a canal to divert water from the Provo River. After a complete survey of the Canal Committee's proposed canal—named the Wasatch Canal—construction began in 1872 and was completed in 1877. In 1879, the Wasatch County Canal Committee changed its name to the Wasatch Canal Company and began focusing on the maintenance and refinement of the new five-mile-long Wasatch Canal. Eight years later, in cooperation with the East Ditch Company, the Wasatch Canal Company constructed the Humbug Canal and the Lower Wasatch Canal, two large extensions off of the main Wasatch Canal.

Given the strain on water resources with the ever increasing population around Utah, an act giving boards of elected county officials jurisdiction over water distribution was enacted in 1880. It also disconnected water rights from property and allowed irrigation companies to manage water distribution through mutually owned irrigation systems. With increasing

population around Heber City and with growing commercial agriculture operations, settlers began to spread out and utilize other water sources, such as Daniels Creek, Lake Creek, and Center Creek. New irrigation companies formed in the mid-1880s and throughout the 1890s, some of them still utilizing water from the Provo River but others formed around other creeks. Companies including the Buysville Irrigation Company, Timpanogos Irrigation Company, North Fields Irrigation Company, and Lake Creek Irrigation Company formed to obtain more irrigation water to meet the demands of the growing area.

Eventually, the stream flow of the Provo River and other creeks in the Heber Valley was not enough for the demand. Heber Valley residents had to consider reservoir construction and impounding the waters of mountain lakes to obtain even more water for the agricultural communities. The Newlands Act of 1902 provided a fund that subsidized dam and reservoir construction and provided for the Reclamation Service to oversee the reclamation projects. After the Newlands Act was passed several reservoirs were constructed around Utah, including Strawberry Reservoir, Jordanelle Reservoir, and Deer Creek Reservoir, all of which would directly benefit agriculture and ranching efforts in the Heber Valley.

Irrigation continues to be vital in the farming and ranching efforts within the Heber Valley. Construction of ditches and canals to take advantage of water from the Provo River and its tributaries—and eventually from reservoirs—allowed for the survival, growth, and expansion of Heber Valley settlements.

4.0 Literature Review

CRS performed a literature search to help determine the potential for identifying cultural resources within the APE. CRS examined existing data sources containing information on known cultural resources and potential cultural resources located within one-half-mile of the APE prior to conducting field reviews. The examined data sources include the following:

- Utah Division of State History (UDSH) online Preservation Pro GIS database for cultural resources (accessed on August 13, 2019)
- NRHP database (NPS, 2019)
- Historic General Land Office (GLO) survey plat maps from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM, 2018)
- Topographic maps from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Historic Topographic Map Collection (USGS 2018) and the Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center (AGRC) (Utah AGRC, 2018)
- Aerial photographs from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Earth Explorer (USGS, 2018) and Google Earth Pro (2018)

4.1 Cultural Resources

The literature search identified six previously performed cultural resource surveys and three previously identified historic sites within one-half-mile of the APE (see Tables 1 and 2, and Figure 4).

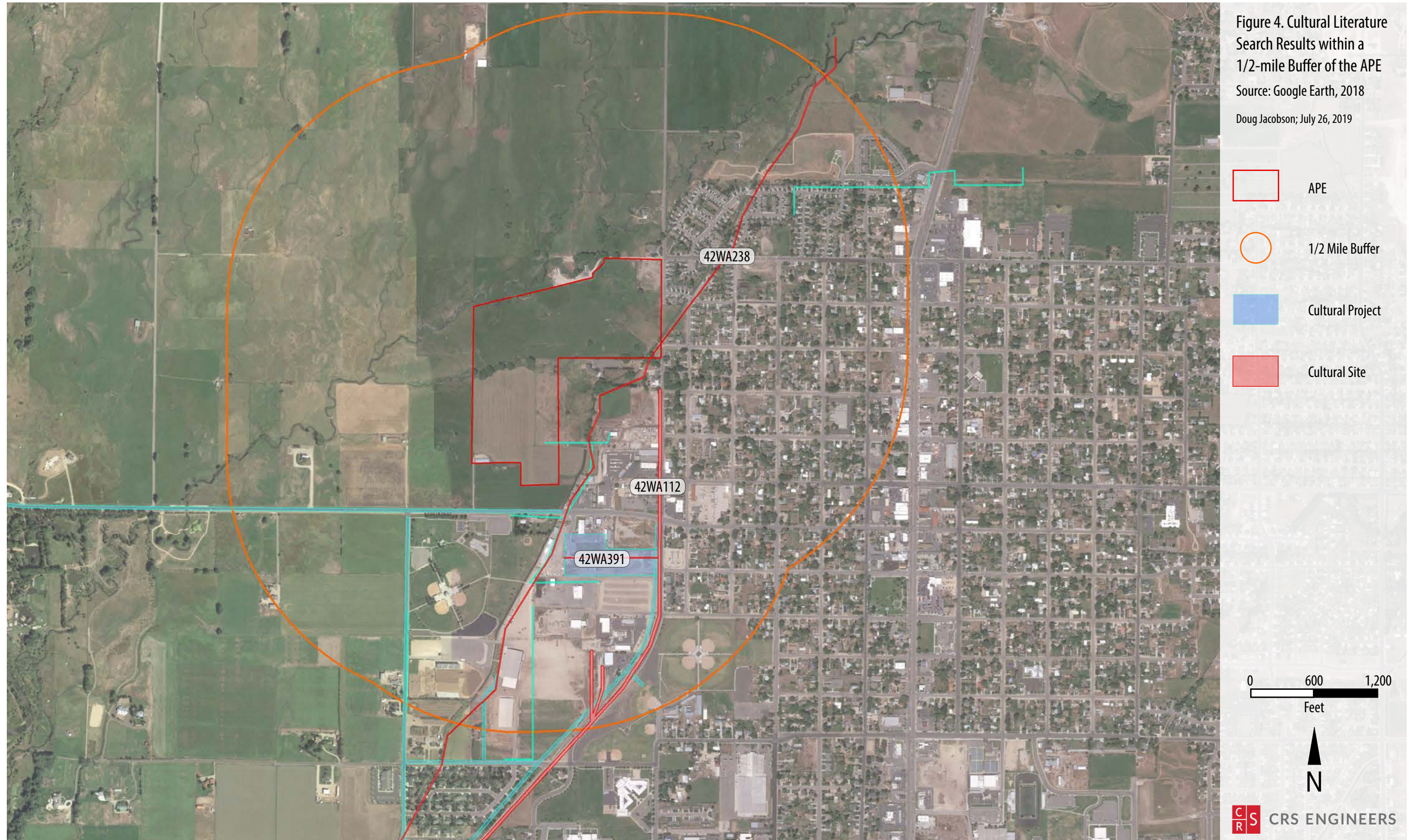


Table 1. Previously performed cultural resource surveys.

State Project ID#	Project Title	Organization
U99SJ0245	<i>A CRS of Pressurized Pipelines on Public Rights-of-Way for Wasatch County Water Efficiency Project</i>	Sagebrush Archaeological
U99SJ0246	<i>Forty-four Miles of Pressurized Pipeline for WCWEP</i>	Sagebrush Archaeological
U99SJ0766	<i>Wasatch & Timpanogos Canals, 42WA201, 217, 218, & 219</i>	Sagebrush Archaeological
U00JB0495	<i>Heber to Midvale Non-Motorized Trail</i>	JBR
U07UT0528	<i>Heber City Shed</i>	UDOT
U14ZP0477	<i>An Archaeological Resource Investigation of the Wasatch County Railroad Trail Project</i>	Project Engineering Consultants

Table 2. Previously recorded historical sites within one-half mile of the project APE.

Site ID# State Project ID#	Project Title Organization	Site Type	Location
Site ID: 42WA112 Project ID: U14ZP0477	<i>An Archaeological Resource Investigation of the Wasatch County Railroad Trail Project</i> Project Engineering Consultants	Historic Railroad	The northeast terminus of the line is located at the intersection of 300 South and 600 West in Heber City. The depot is located immediately south of the terminus on 600 West.
Site ID: 42WA238 Project ID: U99SJ0246	<i>Forty-four Miles of Pressurized Pipeline for WCWEP</i> Sagebrush Archaeological	Historic Canal	From the junction of U.S. Route 189 and 3000 South Street east of Charleston, Utah proceed southwesterly on U.S. Route 189 approximately 0.23 miles to its intersection with the lower end of the Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal
Site ID: 42WA391 Project ID: U07UT0528	<i>Heber City Shed</i> UDOT	Historic Tertiary Canal/ Field Ditch	The site is located within Heber City. Travel to the intersection of 600 West and 200 South. The ditch is immediately west of this point.

4.2 Paleontological Resources

A file search was conducted by the Utah Geological Survey (UGS) to establish the potential for sites of paleontological importance within the proposed APE. The same boundaries used for the archaeological literature search were utilized for this search. Results of the UGS file search indicate no previously recorded or identified paleontological sites within the search area. Quaternary and Recent alluvial, lacustrine deposits, and artificial fill that are exposed here have a low potential for yielding significant fossil localities (see Appendix A: Paleontological Clearance Letter).

5.0 Survey Methodology

CRS conducted a Class III intensive-level, pedestrian inventory of the APE on July 24, 2019. The APE was surveyed using 15-meter transects. The intent of the survey was to identify all historic properties visible from the ground surface. No survey methods, such as augering or test pits, were utilized to locate subsurface archaeological remains. Chuck Easton is permitted by the Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) under permit #43 to conduct archaeological surveys as a Principle Investigator in the State of Utah and possesses 20 years of experience performing archaeological surveys throughout Utah. He meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Professional Qualifications (48 FR 44738-44739) for survey and analysis of prehistoric and historic archaeological resources. Chuck Easton was the principle investigator on the project and Doug Jacobson assisted as crew chief.

6.0 Survey Results

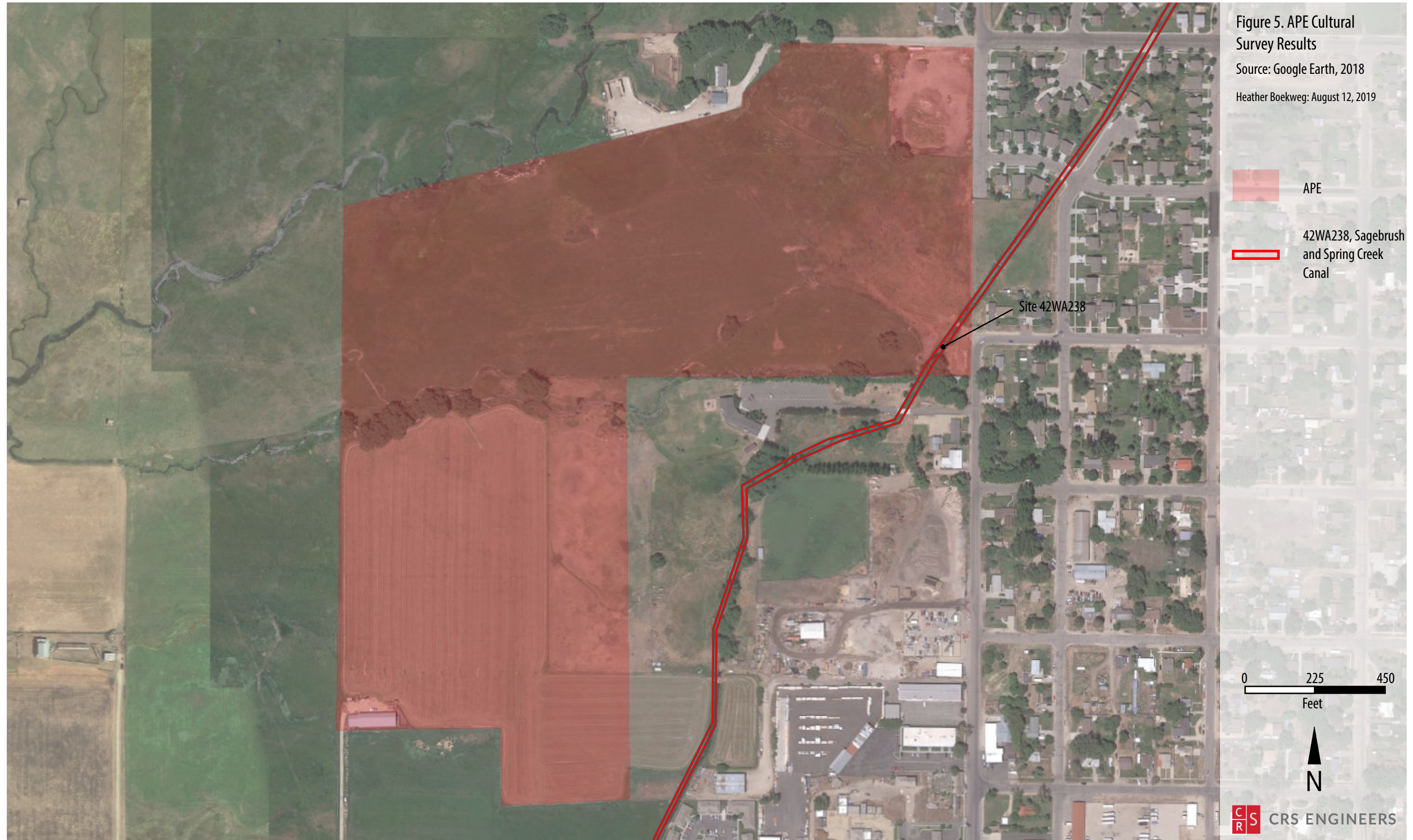
One site, 42WA238, the Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal, was observed within the APE (see Figure 5). No isolated occurrences (IO) were located within the APE.

6.1 Site 42WA238, Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal

Site 42WA238 is the Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal, which was last recorded with updated site forms in 2014. The canal is comprised of two related ditches that draw water from Spring Creek, the North Field Ditch, and the Wasatch Canal. The canal continues south to Charleston. The companies originally managing the two ditches were incorporated in 1890 and 1892. In 1903 the canal irrigated an area of between 400 and 500 acres (Mead, 1903, 105). In the APE, the canal is earthen and measures 16 feet (5 meters) across at the top and its sloped banks measure 5 feet (1.5 meters) deep. Approximately 250 feet (76 meters) of the canal occur within the APE (see Figure 5). A modern concrete diversion structure that facilitates water to Lake Creek was located on the south side of the APE was observed. No other artifacts or features were observed in association with the site.

7.0 Recommendations and Summary

The cultural resources survey resulted in the documentation of one site, 42WA238, Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal. No historic properties were identified as a result of the survey. Because the site was previously recorded in 2014 and site forms were completed, new documentation is unnecessary. CRS concurs with the most recent documentation of the site, that the project should remain **eligible** for the NRHP due to its importance in the agricultural development of the Heber Valley. CRS recommends that the site remain **eligible** for the NRHP under Criteria A and C. The entire length of the canal spans nearly six (6) miles. If the proposed High School requires enclosing the entire length of the canal within the APE (representing approximately 0.8% of the entire length of the site), CRS recommends that this impact be considered a **No Adverse Effect** to historic properties.



8.0 Sources Cited

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Cultural Report: Appendix A

Paleontological Clearance Letter



CRS ENGINEERS



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Utah Geological Survey

R. William Keach II
State Geologist/Division Director

August 5, 2019

Chuck Easton
CRS Engineers
PO Box 280
160 S Main, Suite 200
Farmington UT 84025

RE: Paleontological File Search and Recommendations for the Meikle Property Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Salt Lake County, Utah
U.C.A. 79-3-508 (Paleontological) Compliance; Request for Confirmation of Literature Search.

Dear Chuck:

I have conducted a paleontological file search for the Meikle Property Permit Project in response to your email of July 22, 2019.

There are no paleontological localities recorded in our files for these project areas. Quaternary and Recent alluvial and lacustrine deposits that are exposed here have a low potential for yielding significant fossil localities (PFYC 2). Unless fossils are discovered as a result of construction activities, this project should have no impact on paleontological resources.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 537-3311.

Sincerely,

Martha Hayden
Paleontological Assistant





Cultural Report: Appendix B

Site Photographs



Photo 1. View of the APE; view to the southwest.



Photo 2. View of the APE; view to the southeast.



Photo 3. Site 42WA238, Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal, view to the northeast.



Photo 4. Site 42WA238, Sagebrush and Spring Creek Canal, modern diversion structure; view to the northwest.