



Consultants in Natural Resources and the Environment

Technical Memorandum

File and Literature Review

Canyons Far South Project

Douglas County, Colorado

Prepared for:

HT Canyons South Development LP

March 22, 2023

Prepared by Katherine Mayo

Under supervision of Jonathan Hedlund, principal investigator

HT Canyons South Development LP (Client) retained ERO Resources Corporation (ERO) to perform a cultural resource file and literature review for a proposed property acquisition (project) between Founders Parkway and Castle Oaks Drive in the town of Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado (project area; Figure 1 attached). While the project area is still in the process of annexation and rezoning, the Client intends to acquire the project area with future plans of constructing a residential development. The results of the file and literature review will provide the Client's planners with information regarding known and potential cultural resources, as well as a summary of potential regulatory requirements that could stipulate for additional cultural resource identification and documentation.

Project Area

The project area includes 454 acres of undeveloped pine-oak woodlands west of McMurdo Gulch. The project area is east of Founders Parkway/State Highway 86, north of Crimson Sky Drive, and west of Castle Oaks Drive. Modern residential developments are located to the south and west. The project area is in Sections 30 and 31, Township 7 South, Range 66 West, and Sections 25 and 36, Township 7 South, Range 67 West of the 6th Principal Meridian in Douglas County, Colorado (Figure 1).

Methodology

The purpose of the cultural resource file and literature review is to determine if any previously documented cultural resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or State Register of Historic Places (SRHP) could be impacted by future development. A "cultural resource" is defined as an archaeological site, structure, or building constructed 50 or more years ago (Little et al. 2000). A cultural resource listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP/SRHP is a "historic

property.” To assist with project planning and potential consultation obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA; 36 Code of Federal Regulations 800) and the State Register Act, Colorado Revised Statutes 34-80.1-104, ERO reviewed the previous cultural resource surveys and resource documentation completed in the project area by conducting a file search with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP). The OAHP provided the results to ERO on February 22, 2023 (File Search No. 25213).

Results

The file search identified two previous cultural resource surveys that intersect the project area. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) conducted the survey, *An Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory Along Founders Parkway (State Highway 86b) in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado (STA 086A-047)* (DA.CH.NR33) at a Class III level in 2007. The survey covered 1 percent of the project area along the boundary with Founders Parkway. In 2005, URS Corporation (URS) conducted the Class II survey, *Canyons South Development, Douglas County: Results of a Class II (Sample) Cultural Resource Inventory* (DA.LG.R18), overlapping most of the project area in scattered block surveys.

OAHP records indicate 31 previously documented cultural resources and one cultural landscape are in the project area (Figure 2, attached; Table 1). Resources consist of 25 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) erosion-control structures and dams, a CCC camp complex, as well as a few historical agricultural resources, an old county road, a quarry, and one Native American site. 5DA2147 is the erosion-control system historic landscape that is associated with the adjacent CCC Camp SCS-7-C (formerly Camp DPE-203-C) that was active from September 1934 through 1938 (Tucker and Fariello 2005). URS recommended the landscape (5DA2147) not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Only one overlapping resource, a CCC dam (5DA2079), was recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Colorado State Historic Preservation Office may no longer consider these eligibility recommendations from 2005 valid, as they are beyond the 10 year limit for acceptable documentation standards.

Table 1. Previously recorded cultural resources in or intersecting the project area.

Smithsonian Site No.	Associated Report Nos.	Resource Name / Type	NRHP Eligibility Status (Date)
5DA2079	DA.LG.R18	CCC dam / Historic	Field eligible (2005)
5DA2080	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2081	DA.LG.R18	CCC dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2082	DA.LG.R18	CCC dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2083	DA.LG.R18	CCC dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2093	DA.LG.R18	CCC dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2094	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2095	DA.LG.R18	CCC camp complex / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2096	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2097	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2100	DA.LG.R18	CCC dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2101	DA.LG.R18	CCC dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2102	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2103	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2104	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)

Smithsonian Site No.	Associated Report Nos.	Resource Name / Type	NRHP Eligibility Status (Date)
5DA2105	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2106	DA.LG.R18	Windmill / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2107	DA.LG.R18	Open lithic scatter / Precontact	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2108	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2109	DA.LG.R18	CCC erosion-control system / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2110	DA.LG.R18	Quarry / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2120	DA.LG.R18	Dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2121	DA.LG.R18	Check-conversion dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2122	DA.LG.R18	Check-conversion dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2124	DA.LG.R18	Check-conversion dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2125	DA.LG.R18	Check-conversion dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2126	DA.LG.R18	Check-conversion dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2147	DA.LG.R18	Erosion-control system / Historic landscape	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2148	DA.LG.R18	Check-conversion dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2149	DA.LG.R18	Check-conversion dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2153.1	DA.LG.R18	Old County Road (segment) / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)
5DA2084	DA.LG.R18	Dam / Historic	Field not eligible (2005)

In addition to the OAHP file search, ERO conducted a review of existing literature, historical maps, public records, General Land Office records and aerial images to assess the potential for unknown historical resources, such as roads, ditches, and buildings, in the project area. ERO reviewed maps dating from 1865 to 1965 (Colorado State Highway Department 1936; General Land Office 2023; U.S. Geological Survey 1894, 1913, 1940, 1965), aerial images from 1937 to 2021 (Nationwide Environmental Title Research 2023), and the Colorado water rights records database (Colorado's Decision Support Systems 2023).

A wagon road trending roughly north-south through the project area is mapped on an 1894 U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map (U.S. Geological Survey 1894). By 1913, however, a different road (5DA2153) follows the northeast corner of Section 36 (U.S. Geological Survey 1913). 5DA2153 maintains its alignment through 1984 but is replaced by Founders Parkway sometime before 1993. Several of the CCC check-conversion dams documented by URS are readily apparent on 1937 aerial imagery, as are several check dams and erosion-control furrows not documented by URS (Nationwide Environmental Title Research 2023). 1955 aerial imagery shows a dirt road cutting through the southeast corner of the project area connecting the CCC Camp SCS-7-C to the town of Castle Rock. This unmapped dirt road is entirely abandoned by the 1970s. The 1940 USGS map depicts a well at the historical windmill site (5DA2106) (U.S. Geological Survey 1940). A 230kV transmission line, segments of which were previously documented outside the project area as 5DA3218, was built through the project area between 1955 and 1965.

While only one Native American site (5DA2107) was identified during URS's previous survey, the nearby McMurdo Gulch has dozens of previously documented Native Americans sites; including surface open camps, rockshelter sites, and archaeological sites buried in the terraces. Based on ERO's previous work in this region of the Palmer Divide, there is a high probability that additional Native American resources are in the project area. Most of the project area is situated on the uplands of Dawson formation

bedrock but at the eastern end of the drainage valley, terrace sediments are mapped as middle-Pleistocene to late-Holocene in age and have the potential to contain significant buried cultural materials (Thorson 2005).

Summary

According to OAHP records, 31 previously documented cultural resources and one historic landscape are in the project area. The project area, which is encompassed by the CCC erosion-control structure historic landscape (5DA2147), contains 26 CCC-related resources; most of these are erosion-control structures, but also include an abandoned camp complex (5DA2095). Only one check dam (5DA2079) was previously recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP/SRHP.

Despite the low number of previously identified Native American sites, there is a high potential for undocumented Native American sites in the project area.

ERO is currently unaware of any regulatory requirement that would stipulate for additional efforts to identify and document cultural resources. Consideration of cultural resources is often mandated by federal agencies in compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. NHPA compliance typically accompanies federal permits (e.g., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Clean Water Act permits) or funding (e.g., U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency Conservation Reserve Programs). Colorado state agencies occasionally require compliance with the State Register Act. County and local agencies infrequently mandate cultural resource studies. If a federal, state, county, or local agency stipulates additional cultural resource requirements, the resources identified above and undocumented resources may require documentation. The agency would determine the area for review (e.g., area of potential effects) and scope of effort (e.g., Class II or Class III pedestrian survey).

ERO can assist in completing any potential pedestrian survey and reports requested by federal, state, county, or local agencies. Please feel free to contact ERO with any questions you may have in reference to the file and literature review results and additional work potentially needed for NHPA or State Register Act compliance.

Attachments

Figure 1. Project location (USGS 1:24,000 topographic quadrangle)

Figure 2. Project location (Aerial imagery)

References Cited

Colorado State Highway Department

1936 Douglas County, Colorado. Map. In cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Public Roads.

Colorado's Decision Support Systems

2023 Colorado Division of Water Resources, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Colorado Decision Support Systems Structure Report webpage. Electronic document, <http://cdss.state.co.us/onlineTools/Pages/StructuresDiversions.aspx>.

General Land Office

2023 U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. *General Land Office Records*. Online database, <https://glorerecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx#searchTabIndex=0&searchByTypeIndex=0>.

Horn, Jonathon C., and Holly K. Norton

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Little, Barbara, Erika M. Seibert, Jan Townsend, John H. Sprinkle Jr., and John Knoerl

2000 *National Register Bulletin: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archaeological Properties*. Prepared by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Nationwide Environmental Title Research

2023 Historic Aerials. *National Environmental Title Research LLC*. Online database, <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>.

Thorson, Jon P.

2005 Geologic Map of the Castle Rock North Quadrangle, Douglas County, Colorado. Open-File Report Number 05-02. Colorado Geological Survey, Department of Natural Resources, Denver, Colorado.

Tucker, Gordon C., and Justin J. Fariello

2005 5DA2147 Cultural Resource Documentation Form. Prepared by URS Corporation. On file at the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, Colorado.

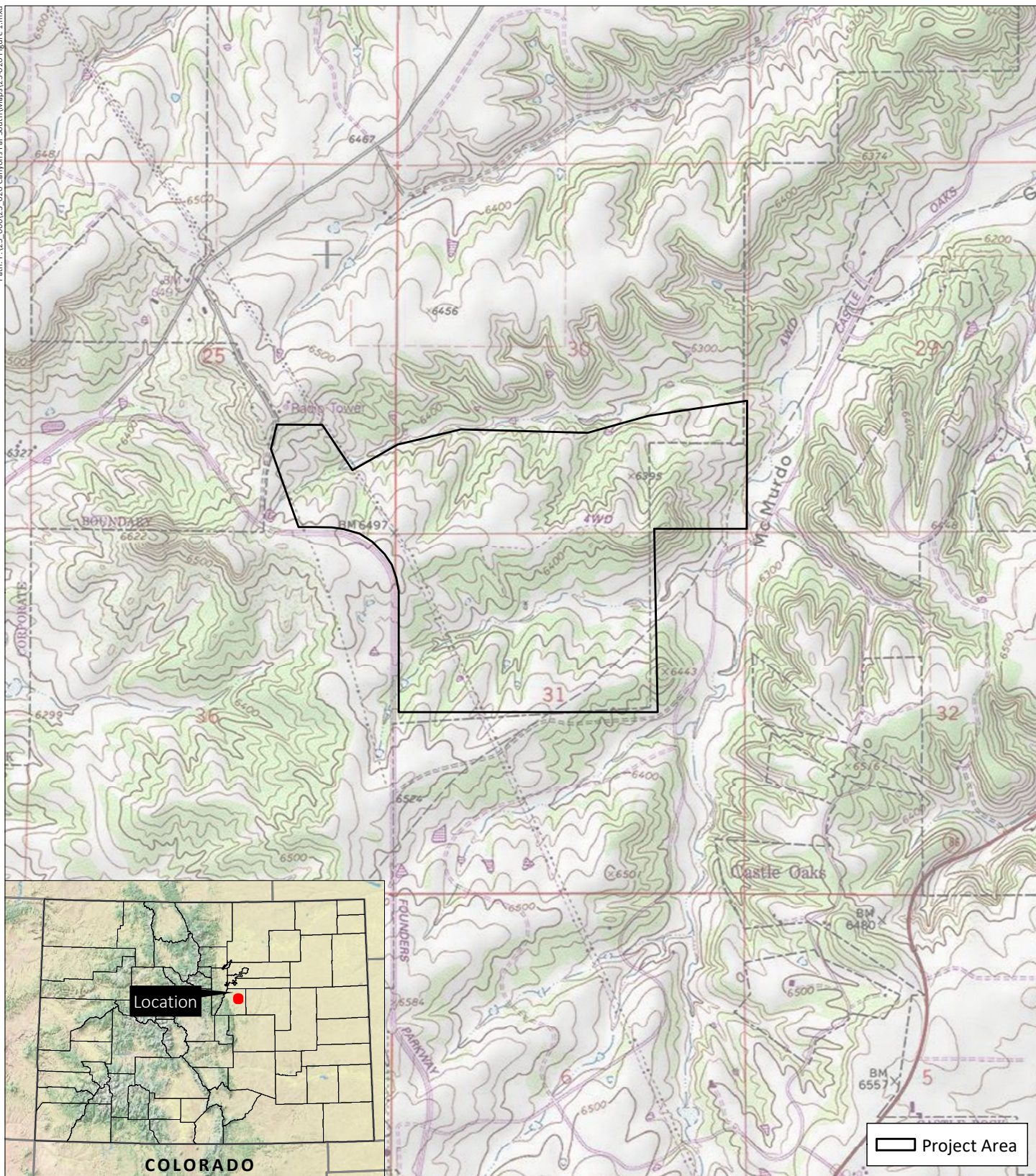
U.S. Geological Survey

1894 Castle Rock, Colorado. Topographic Map. 1:125,000. U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado.

1913 Castle Rock, Colorado. Topographic Map. 1:125,000. U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado.

1940 Castle Rock, Colorado. Topographic Map. 1:62,500. U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado.

1965 Castle Rock South, Colorado. Topographic Map. 1:24,000. U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado.



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 Sections 29, 30, 31, and 32, T7S, R66W; 6th PM
 Sections 25 and 36, T7S, R67W; 6th PM
 USGS Castle Rock North, CO Quadrangle (1:24,000; 1980)
 Douglas County, Colorado

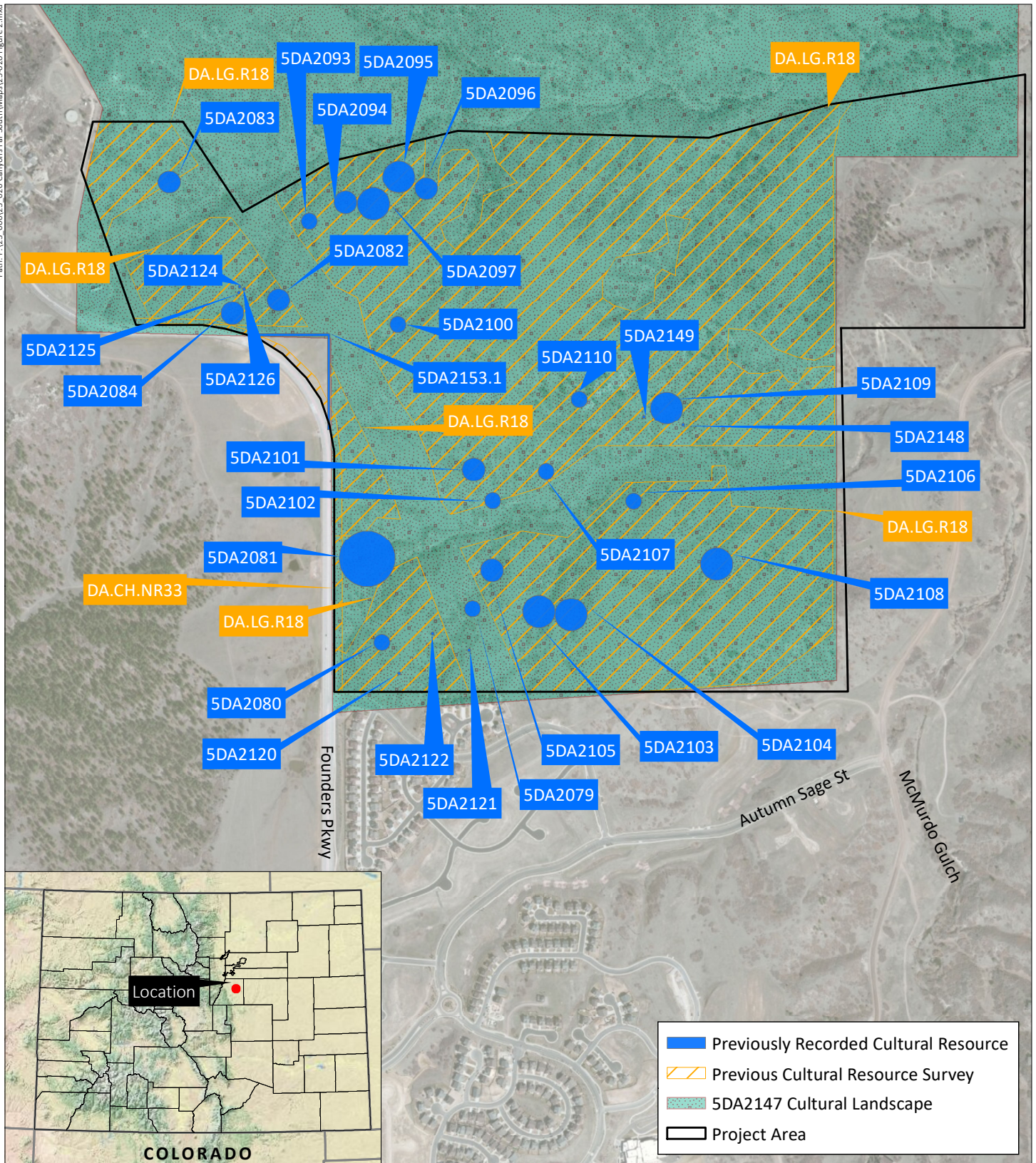


0 1,000 2,000
 Feet
 1:24,000

Figure 1
 Project Location

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Figure 2
Project Location

0 600 1,200
Feet
1:12,000

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