

Appendix M

Tribal Cultural Resources Report

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To: Eyestone Environmental, LLC
2121 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 3355
El Segundo, California 90245
Attn: Laura Rodriguez

From: Erica Nicolay, Project Manager
Chris Millington, Senior Archaeologist

Date: July 12, 2023

Re: **Tribal Cultural Resources Assessment for the Sunset and Vine Project, Los Angeles, California**

INTRODUCTION

Eyestone Environmental, LLC, retained SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) to prepare a tribal cultural resource assessment for a proposed residential and commercial development in the Hollywood neighborhood of Los Angeles, California (Project). The Project would include one new eight-story, mixed use building within a Project Site that measures 1.74 acres. The Project is subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the City of Los Angeles (City) Department of City Planning (City Planning) is the lead CEQA agency.

This technical memorandum provides a review of available evidence for known tribal cultural resources within the Project Site and analyzes the likelihood (i.e., sensitivity) for as-yet-unknown tribal cultural resources that could be present in the Project Site as buried deposits. The results of this study are intended to provide a basis on which the potential for impacts to tribal cultural resources can be determined in accordance with the significance thresholds in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. Tribal consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21080.3.1 is ongoing; therefore, the results and recommendations presented in this memorandum are based on the substantial evidence presented herein, which has not accounted for any information submitted by tribal parties. Although not all tribal cultural resources are archaeological in nature, those preserved below the surface within the Project Site would likely fit the definition of both an archaeological and a tribal cultural resource. Accordingly, this analysis focuses exclusively on archaeological and anthropological sources of evidence viewed from a scientific and scholarly perspective that adheres to standard industry practices and applicable regulations. SWCA's scientific perspective does not necessarily represent tribal values, and our findings are not intended as a substitute for tribal expertise.

The study includes a summary of resources identified in the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) by the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), the results of a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and background research conducted by SWCA as a means of characterizing the existing conditions and assessing the potential for a buried resource that has not been previously identified. The CHRIS and SLF results are included in Appendices A and B, respectively.

This report was prepared by Erica Nicolay and Chris Millington, Registered Professional Archaeologist. Mr. Millington meets the Secretary of the Interior Professional Qualification Standards in archaeology and the Society for California Archaeology's standards for a principal investigator. Copies of this report are on file with Eyestone Environmental, LLC, City Planning, and the SCCIC at California State University, Fullerton. All background materials are on file with SWCA's office in Pasadena, California, and referenced as project number 80550 and report no. 23-413.

Project Description and Location

The Project proposes to develop a new, eight-story, mixed-use building in the Hollywood Community Plan area (Figure 1). The Project Site includes an existing 19-story tower that would remain and four commercial buildings fronting on West Sunset Boulevard, a one-story commercial building fronting on North Vine Street, a one-story commercial building fronting on West Leland Way, and a one-story duplex on West Leland Way, all of which would be demolished. Additionally, the Project would include a parking structure with two above-grade parking levels and two subterranean parking levels. Ground disturbance is expected to extend to a maximum depth of 11 meters (m) (36 feet) below the existing grade. The Project consists of nine adjoining parcels located at 6260–6290 West Sunset Boulevard, 1460–1480 North Vine Street, and 6251–6165 West Leland Way and is bounded by West Sunset Boulevard to the north, West Leland Way to the south, North Vine Street to the west, and a multi-family residential apartment building that is currently under construction to the east of the Project Site. The Project Site encompasses Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 5546-025-017, 5546-025-020, 5546-025-029, 5546-025-030, and 5546-025-031 (Figure 2). The Project Site is in Section 11, Township 1 South, Range 14 West, as depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Hollywood, California, 7.5-minute quadrangle (Figure 3).



Figure 1. Project vicinity.

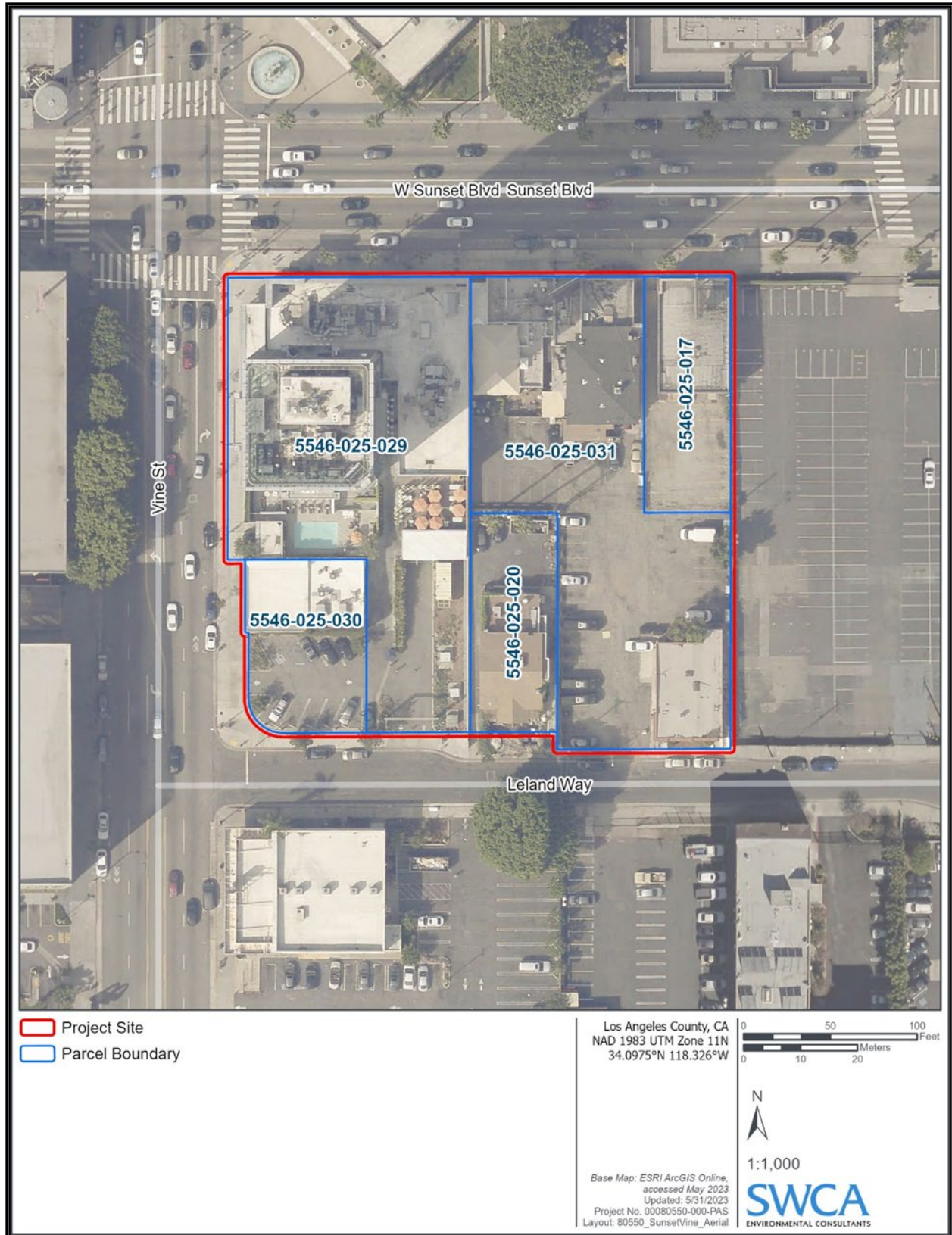


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the Project Site and parcels labeled with APNs.

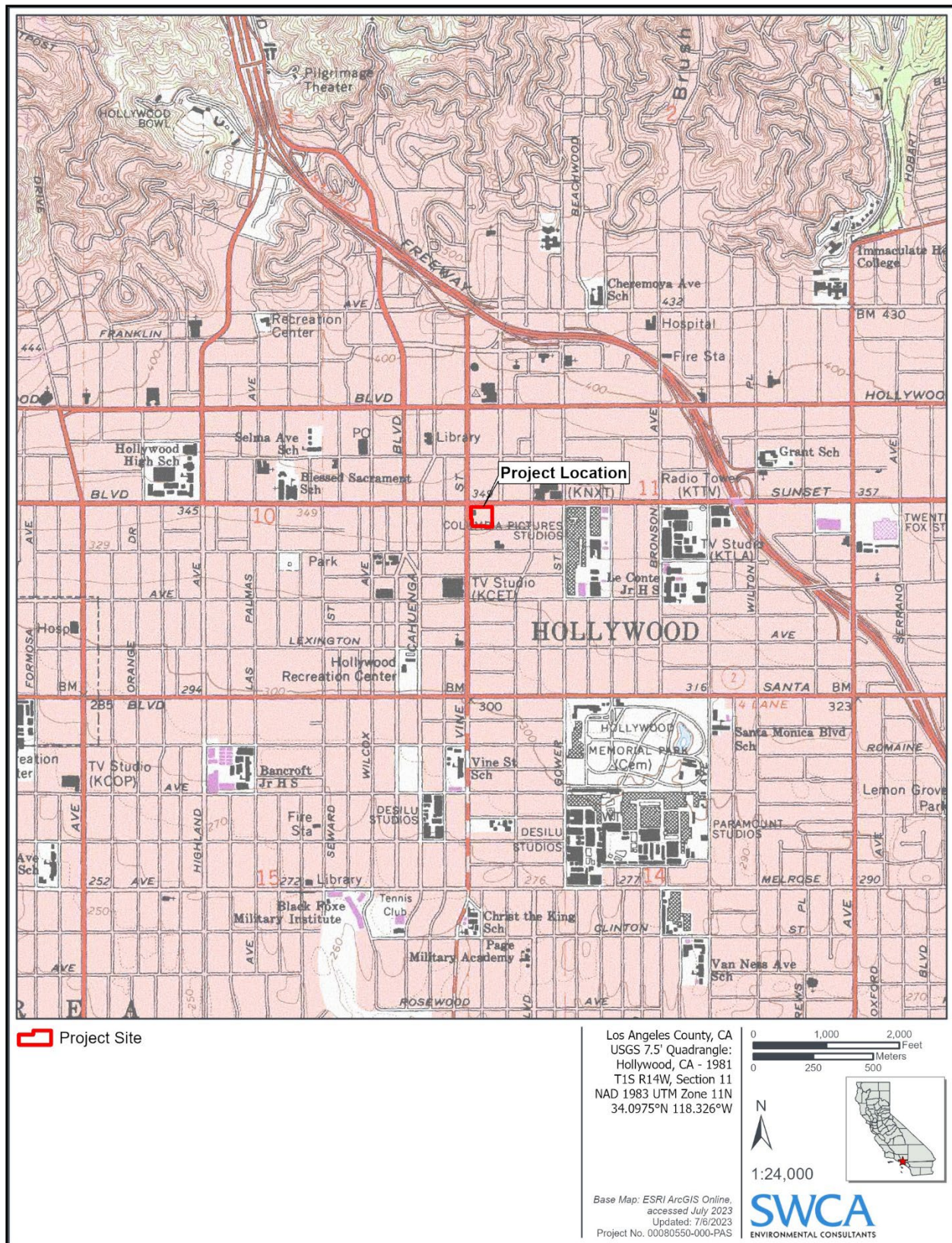


Figure 3. Project Site plotted on the USGS Hollywood, California, 7.5-minute quadrangle.

REGULATORY SETTING

State Regulations

Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 (Gatto 2014) went into effect on January 1, 2015. The bill amended PRC Section 5097.94 and added PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3. PRC Section 21074(a) provides an initial set of criteria that define a tribal cultural resource as including but not limited to any of the following:

- (1) Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:
 - (A) Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).
 - (B) Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of Section 5020.1.
- (2) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Subdivision (b) of PRC Section 21074 adds that a tribal cultural resource may also be a cultural landscape provided it meets the criteria of subdivision (a), so long as the landscape is geographically defined in size and scope. Subdivision (c) of PRC Section 21074 clarifies that so long as the criteria in subdivision (a) are satisfied, the status as a unique or non-unique archaeological resource is not factored into the determination of whether a resource is a tribal cultural resource.

Section 1(a)(9) of AB 52 establishes that “a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource has a significant effect on the environment,” such that effects on tribal cultural resources need to be considered under CEQA. Section 6 of AB 52 adds Section 21080.3.2 to the PRC, which states that parties may propose mitigation measures “capable of avoiding or substantially lessening potential significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource or alternatives that would avoid significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource.”

Assembly Bill 52 Tribal Consultation

California Native American tribes are defined in AB 52 as any Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC, whether or not it is federally recognized. AB 52 specifies that California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area may have expertise concerning their tribal cultural resources. Once an application for a project is completed or a public agency decides to undertake a project, the lead agency has 14 days to formally notify California Native American tribes designated by the NAHC as having traditional and cultural affiliation with a given Project Site and that previously requested in writing to be notified by the lead agency (PRC Section 21080.3.1[b][d]). The notification shall include a brief description of the proposed project, the location, contact information for the agency contact, and notice that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation in writing (PRC Section 21080.3.1[d]). Consultation must be initiated by the lead agency within 30 days of receiving any California Native American tribe’s request for consultation. Furthermore, consultation must be initiated prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report for a project (PRC Section 21080.3.1[b][e]).

Consistent with the stipulations stated in Senate Bill 18 (Government Code Section 65352.4), consultation may include a discussion concerning the type of environmental review necessary, the significance of the project's impacts to the tribal cultural resources, and, if necessary, project alternatives or the appropriate measures for preservation and mitigation that the California Native American tribe may recommend to the lead agency (PRC Section 21080.3.2[a]).

The consultation shall be considered concluded under either of the two following conditions: (1) the parties agree to measures mitigating or avoiding a significant effect, if one exists, on a tribal cultural resource; or (2) a party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that agreement cannot be reached (PRC Section 21080.3.2[b]).

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 6254 and 6254.10, and PRC Section 21082.3(c), information submitted by a California Native American tribe during consultation under AB 52 shall not be included in the environmental document or otherwise disclosed to the public by the lead agency, project applicant, or the project applicant's agent, unless written permission is given. Exemptions to the confidentiality provisions include any information already publicly available, in lawful possession of the project applicant before being provided by the tribe, independently developed by the project applicant or the applicant's public agent, or lawfully obtained by a third party (PRC Section 21082.3[c]).

California Register of Historical Resources

Created in 1992 and implemented in 1998, the CRHR is "an authoritative guide in California to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state's historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change" (PRC Sections 5024.1 and 21084.1). Certain properties, including those listed in or formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Historical Landmarks (CHL) numbered 770 and higher, are automatically included in the CRHR. Other properties recognized under the California Points of Historical Interest program, identified as significant in historical resources surveys, or designated by local landmarks programs may be nominated for inclusion in the CRHR. According to PRC Section 5024.1(c), a resource, either an individual property or a contributor to a historic district, may be listed in the CRHR if the State Historical Resources Commission determines that it meets one or more of the following criteria, which are modeled on NRHP criteria:

- **Criterion 1:** It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
- **Criterion 2:** It is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- **Criterion 3:** 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.
- **Criterion 4:** It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

Resources nominated to the CRHR must retain enough of their historic character or appearance to convey the reasons for their significance. Resources whose historic integrity does not meet NRHP criteria may still be eligible for listing in the CRHR.

Most Native American archaeological sites that may be a tribal cultural resource lack identifiable or important association with specific persons or events of regional or national history (Criteria 1 and 2), and/or lack the formal and structural attributes necessary to qualify as eligible under Criterion 3.

A Native American archaeological site may be considered significant (and by extension be considered a tribal cultural resource) if it displays one or more of the following attributes (California Office of Historic Preservation 1991): chronologically diagnostic, functionally diagnostic, or exotic artifacts; datable materials; definable activity areas; multiple components; faunal or floral remains; archaeological features; notable complexity, size, integrity, time span, or depth; or stratified deposits. Determining the period(s) of occupation at a site provides a context for the types of activities undertaken and may supply a link with other sites and cultural processes in the region. Further, well-defined temporal parameters can help illuminate processes of culture change and continuity in relation to natural environmental factors and interactions with other cultural groups. Finally, chronological controls might provide a link to regionally important research questions and topics of more general theoretical relevance. As a result, the ability to determine the temporal parameters of a site's occupation is critical for a finding of eligibility under Criterion 4 (information potential). A site that cannot be dated is unlikely to possess the quality of significance required for CRHR eligibility. The content of an archaeological site provides information regarding its cultural affiliations, temporal periods of use, functionality, and other aspects of its occupation history. The range and variability of artifacts present in the site can allow for reconstruction of changes in diet, social structure, technology, and other aspects of culture.

Treatment of Human Remains

The disposition of burials falls first under the general prohibition on disturbing or removing human remains under California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. More specifically, remains suspected to be Native American are treated under CEQA at California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5. PRC Section 5097.98 illustrates the process to be followed if remains are discovered. If human remains are discovered during excavation activities, the following procedures shall be observed.

- Stop immediately and contact the County Coroner:
1104 North Mission Road
Los Angeles, California 90033
(323) 343-0512 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday) or
(323) 343-0714 (after hours, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays)
- If the remains are determined to be of Native American descent, the coroner has 24 hours to notify the NAHC.
- The NAHC will immediately notify the person it believes to be the most likely descendant (MLD) of the deceased Native American.
- The MLD has 48 hours to make recommendations to the owner, or representative, for the treatment or disposition, with proper dignity, of the human remains and grave goods.
- If the owner does not accept the MLD's recommendations, the owner or the MLD may request mediation by the NAHC.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project Site is in the northwest portion of the Los Angeles Basin, a broad, level plain defined by the Pacific Ocean to the west, the Santa Monica Mountains and Puente Hills to the north, and the Santa Ana Mountains and San Joaquin Hills to the south. This extensive alluvial wash basin is filled with Quaternary alluvial sediments deposited as unconsolidated material eroded from the surrounding hills. Several major watercourses drain the Los Angeles Basin, including the Los Angeles, Rio Hondo, San Gabriel, and Santa Ana Rivers. The Project Site and vicinity are within a fully urbanized setting on an open aspect plain at an elevation of approximately 104 m (341 feet) to 106 m (349 feet) above mean sea level.

The Project Site is located approximately 8.7 kilometers (km) (5.4 miles) northwest from downtown Los Angeles and approximately 18.8 km (11.7 miles) northeast of the Pacific Ocean.

The Project Site is situated on a broad alluvial plain gently sloping south and is located southeast of the Santa Monica Mountains. During most of the nineteenth century, the Project Site and surrounding parts of the alluvial plain had been used for ranching and agriculture and reflected a rural character. Beginning in the 1880s, urban and suburban growth occurred steadily throughout the Los Angeles Basin but was notably punctuated by extensive real-estate booms that continued through the 1920s and after World War II. Though the presence of large oil fields delayed real estate development in some parts of the city, including areas to the south and southwest of the Project Site, by the mid-1920s the Project Site and much of the surrounding vicinity had been developed into the built environment that characterizes the present-day setting.

Hydrology

Prior to these major historical transformations of the landscape, the alluvial plain in this part of the Los Angeles Basin was drained by several seasonal streams, some of which included water from several springs. These stream courses generally flowed south and southwest where they converged with the westernmost portion of what is now Ballona Creek, which has been the primary channel of the Los Angeles River at various times over at least the last several hundred years (Gumprecht 2001). These stream courses, springs, vegetation, and elements of the natural topography are reflected in historic maps produced in the latter parts of the nineteenth century, especially the 1888 irrigation map by W. H. Hall (Figure 4).

Historical maps like those from Hall's irrigation study were incorporated into the Dark et al. (2011) study reconstructing the historical ecology of the Ballona Creek watershed in the northwestern part of the Los Angeles Basin. Dark et al. (2011) used multiple archival sources from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to produce digital geographic data for former stream courses, springs, and various types of wetland features, which they correlated with different plant and animal communities. The digitized features within the watershed provide a reasonable approximation of the hydrological conditions over at least the past several centuries; however, smaller stream courses and the main channel of larger stream courses are highly dynamic and vary over longer periods of time. Springs, for example, may become active or dormant depending upon changes in groundwater levels, which would have varied over a period of thousands of years. Vegetation and animal communities have also shifted, especially in the late Pleistocene to Holocene climatic transition, but also across the Holocene period when Native American communities became more established. Therefore, the interpretations based upon the reconstructed historical ecological conditions should not assume that these features have been in the same location for the entire period in which humans have been in North America.

The Project Site is situated in the northeastern part of the Ballona watershed and is situated approximately 1.0 km (0.6 mile) north of two types of wetland habitat—wet meadow and valley freshwater marsh—mapped by Dark et al. (2011) (Figure 5). These features are part of a larger pattern that Dark et al. (2011:20) observed in which there is “a band of wetland habitat that transitions into the La Cienega system to the south.” They continue, “Valley freshwater marsh transitions into wet meadow, which in turn becomes a huge swatch of alkali meadow. This area is depicted in detail on historical topographic maps, the Hall irrigation maps, and a *diseño* of this area” (Dark et al. 2011:20). The *diseño* (map) drawn for Rancho La Brea is included here in Figure 6. The *diseño* defines the northern rancho boundary by a line of mountains—the southern margin of the Santa Monica Mountains—with three canyons or drainages marked by stands of laurels (“laureles” in the map), alder, and sycamores (“*alisos*” in the map). Part of the “band” of wetland features described by Dark et al. (2011) is circled in red on Figure 6. The map is drawn to a relative scale and is not geographically precise. The Project Site would be situated somewhere in the upper center of the circled area.



Figure 4. Project Site plotted on Hall's (1888) irrigation map showing natural and artificial water sources (Source: David Rumsey Map Collection, Image No. 583003).

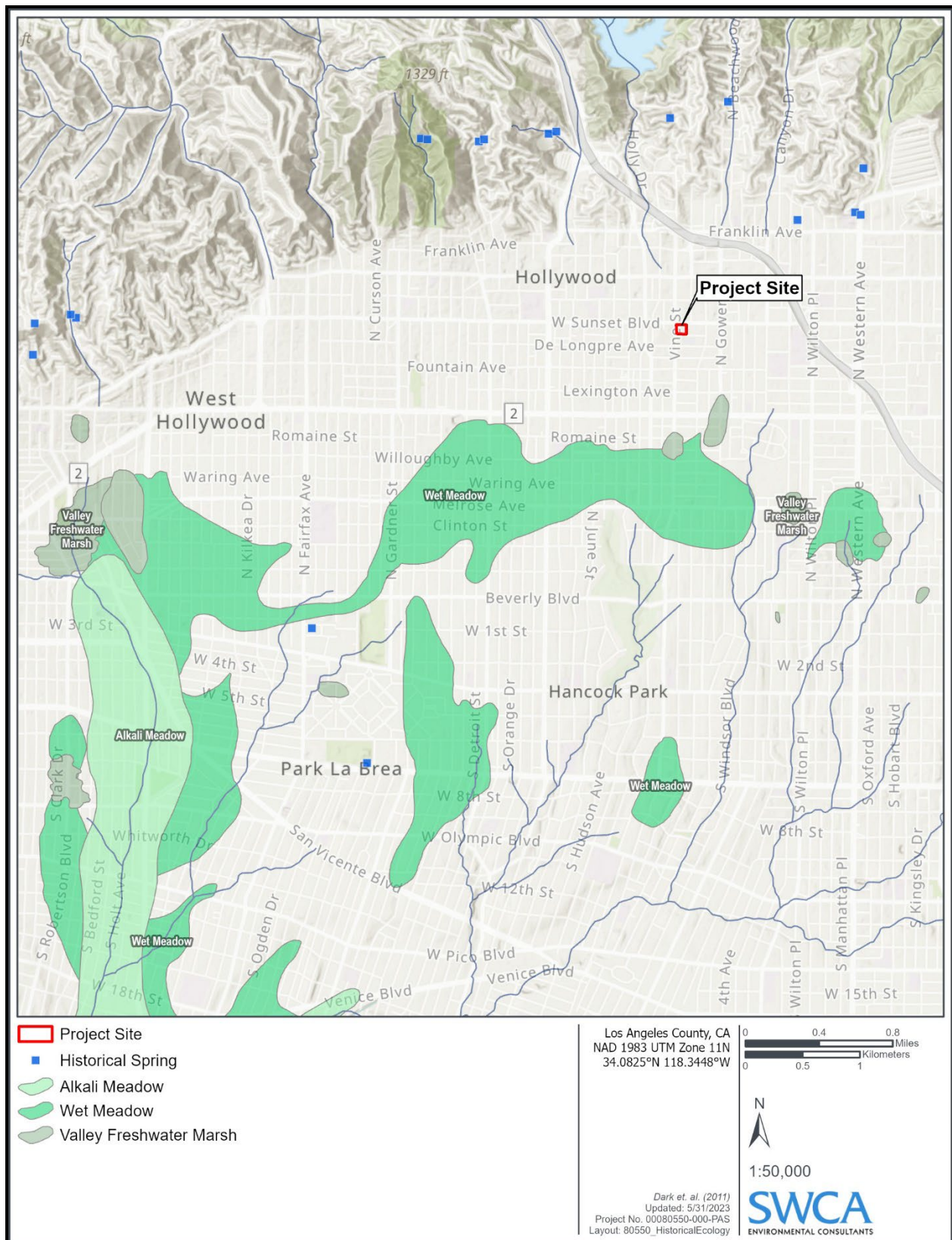


Figure 5. Project Site plotted on the Dark et al. (2011) reconstruction of historical ecology of the Ballona Creek watershed.

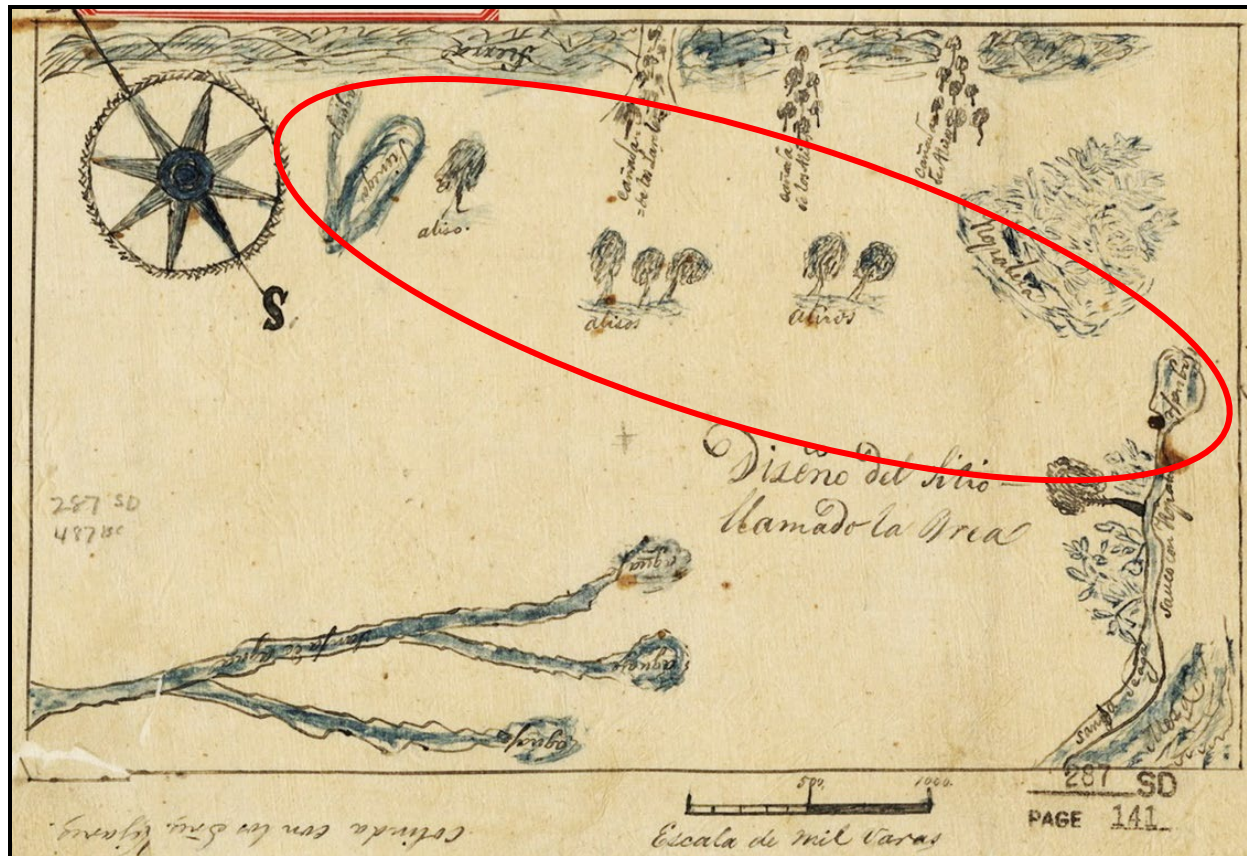


Figure 6. Map associated with the Spanish-period land grant, “Diseño del Sitio Llamado La Brea,” (“Map of the Site Named La Brea”), hand-copied from the original that was made in the 1840s (Source: University of California–Berkeley, Bancroft Library).

In addition to the wetland habitats, the Project Site is situated south of multiple streams that once originated in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains and ran downslope until reaching the area around present-day Hollywood Boulevard. These streams are shown on both Figure 4 and Figure 5. Additionally, multiple streams are mapped by Dark et al. (2011) to the south and southeast of the Project Site as originating from within the alluvial plain, flowing south and in some places converging with other streams, and discharging into Ballona Creek, or what at various times would previously have been the Los Angeles River.

Flora and Fauna

Even before the urbanization of the twentieth century, the ecology of the Los Angeles prairie had already undergone a transformation during the preceding century as a result of ranching and agricultural practices that accompanied European settlement (Schiffman 2005). While there are fewer surviving examples of the pre-settlement ecology in the lower elevations, compared with the surrounding hillsides, various attempts have been made to reconstruct the historical ecology of the Los Angeles Basin.

Schiffman (2005:40) provides a succinct summary of the vegetation structure and species composition for the Los Angeles Basin:

Most steep hillsides were covered by impenetrably dense evergreen chaparral shrubs such as California lilac (*Ceanothus* spp.), chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), and manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* spp.) or sparsely shrubby and drought deciduous

coastal sage scrub vegetation that included buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), sages (*Salvia* spp.), and sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*). In contrast to the shrubby hills and mountain slopes the dense, clayey soils of the flat valleys and plains supported a diverse prairie vegetation of colorful ephemeral wildflowers mixed with grasses and other plants of low stature. In addition, woodlands of walnut (*Juglans californica*) and oak (*Quercus agrifolia* and *Q. lobata*) were found in canyons and on some hillsides, and broad corridors of willow (*Salix* spp.), alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) and mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*) lined the river floodplains and feeder creeks that dissected the landscape.

In the late nineteenth century, the vegetation across the inland portions of the northwestern Los Angeles Basin consisted of species associated with the coastal sagebrush community (Kuchler 1977). In addition to the species Schiffman references, those found in the coastal sagebrush unit also include California sandaster (*Corethrogyne filaginifolia*), Menzies' golden bush (*Isocoma menziesii*), coyotebrush (*Baccharis pilularis*), California brittlebush (*Encelia californica*), fuchsiaflower gooseberry (*Ribes speciosum*), and orange bush monkeyflower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*). Ethington et al. (2020) prepared a comprehensive study analyzing the historical ecology of the Los Angeles River. Their work collated several of the prior efforts with a regional characterization of "potential natural vegetation" across the Los Angeles River watershed. The resulting spatial data helps to reflect the varied nature of the plant communities within the Los Angeles Basin. The Project Site is mapped within a unit confirming the presence of mainly species associated with coastal sagebrush community—coastal sage scrub in the Ethington et al. (2020) schema.

Dark et al. (2011:21–22) listed some of the types of plants associated with the localized wetland features they mapped in the Ballona watershed and includes the following among the notable species: marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle verticillata*), water parsley (*Oenanthe samentosa*), seaside heliotrope (*Heliotropium curassavicum*), chairmaker's bulrush (*Schoenoplectus americanus*), prairie bulrush (*Scirpus maritimus*), marsh milkvetch (*Astragalus pycnostachyus*), swollen duckweed (*Lemna gibba*), common duckweed (*Lemna minor*), floating primrose-willow (*Ludwigia peploides*), curlytop knotweed (*Polygonum lapathifolium*), silverweed cinquefoil (*Potentilla anserine*), yerba mansa (*Anemopsis californica*), and seep monkeyflower (*Mimulus guttatus*).

With this mosaic of ecological communities, the area would have provided a very productive environment for past Native American communities, one well suited to a foraging economy with a variety of water birds, small and large mammals, fish, reptiles and amphibians, and edible plant species. In terms of the resources potentially available in closer proximity to the Project Site, Native Americans would have made use of plant species both within the coastal sagebrush community and within the more discrete wetland habitats. The plants found in these zones were used to make a variety of objects or were consumed directly, but also provided habitat for animals that were similarly incorporated into the Native American diet and used to make a variety of objects used in daily life. An exhaustive account of Native American plant use and dietary choices is beyond the scope of this study (see Anderson [2005] for a description of practices by Native Americans groups across California). In brief, those specific to the coastal sagebrush unit included multiple plant species with edible seeds, as well as the prickly-pear cactus (McCawley 1996:115). Nearby oak and walnut woodlands were important areas for acorn gathering, and plant species used in basketry were commonly found in freshwater marshes (Ethington et al. 2020:42).

In addition to the natural resources found within the inland environments, Native American communities in the Los Angeles Basin would have had access to plant, animal, and lithic resources along the coast and surrounding hills and mountains. Descriptions of these ecological conditions and the associated Native American uses of resources found therein is described elsewhere. For example, Lightfoot and Parrish (2009:253–277) provide a summary for coastal and inland settings for Southern California, an overview of the Santa Monica Mountains is included in King's (2011) report, the Ballona region is described in Homburg et al. (2014), and coastal environments are addressed in numerous studies such as those

by Byrd and Raab (2007), Erlandson (1994), and Gamble (2008). A sample of some of the plant and animal species that were important to the Gabrielino is included below (see Gabrielino Ethnography).

Regional Geology and Local Soils

The Los Angeles Basin is situated between the northernmost portion of the Peninsular Ranges and the south end of the Transverse Ranges. The Project Site is within the northernmost Central Block of the Los Angeles Basin, which includes the low portions of the Los Angeles coastal plain from Beverly Hills to the Downey Plain within central Orange County (Norris and Webb 1990; Yerkes et al. 1965). Surficial geology in the vicinity of the Project is characterized by alluvial fan deposits that formed during the middle and late Pleistocene—between approximately 130,000 and 11,500 years ago. These geological units are mapped by Bedrossian et al. (2012) as old alluvial fan deposits (Qof)¹ (Figure 7). Campbell et al. (2014) subdivided the Qof into four units that are separated by age and subtle differences in composition. The Project Site is within Qof, Unit 4 (Qof₄)—the youngest of the four Qof units. Qof₄ is late Pleistocene in age and could be underlain by older Pleistocene fan deposits like Qof, Unit 2 (Qof₂), which at its closest to the Project Site, is mapped at the surface approximately 0.4 mile south (Nolasco et al. 2023).

In SWCA's paleontological assessment of the Project Site, Nolasco et al. (2023) note that Pleistocene fossils have been identified in Qof units at depths as shallow as 5 feet that were also recovered from an urbanized setting. Thus, as a general pattern, prior construction events that involved ground disturbance would be altering a surface formed in the last Ice Age, and to the extent these activities involved the removal of sediments, the underlying stratum would be exposing sediments that may pre-date the arrival of humans in North America. Nolasco et al. (2023) provide additional contextual information on the process by which fossil preservation is influenced by local geologic processes within Pleistocene alluvial fan deposits of the Santa Monica Mountains, whereby in a higher energy depositional setting, like on a backslope, the creation and preservation of fossils is less likely to occur compared to low-energy areas in the basins. Because the oldest Native American period of occupation in the Los Angeles Basin dates to the latest part of the late Pleistocene, archaeological preservation is also subject to these same processes.

A preliminary geotechnical study was conducted for the Project by Geotechnical Professionals, Inc. (GPI) (Kempton and Schade 2020). As a preliminary study, the subsurface testing was limited to the use of three cone penetration tests (CPT) that extended between 51.5 and 75 feet deep. The results indicated that the soils are composed of 11 to 15 feet of loose to medium dense silty sand and firm sandy silt, which are underlain predominantly by interbedded layers of very stiff to hard clays and silts (Kempton and Schade 2020). Subsurface investigations based strictly on the use of CPTs to estimate sediment composition lack the detail needed to identify fill sediments, i.e., sediments that have been mechanically altered during prior developments. Thus, GPI's study does not provide the depth of fill, but the unconsolidated sediments identified in the upper 15 feet are considered to be a reliable indicator of the maximum depth at which fill may be present.

¹ Quaternary deposits in Southern California are otherwise distinguished as Very Old or Young.

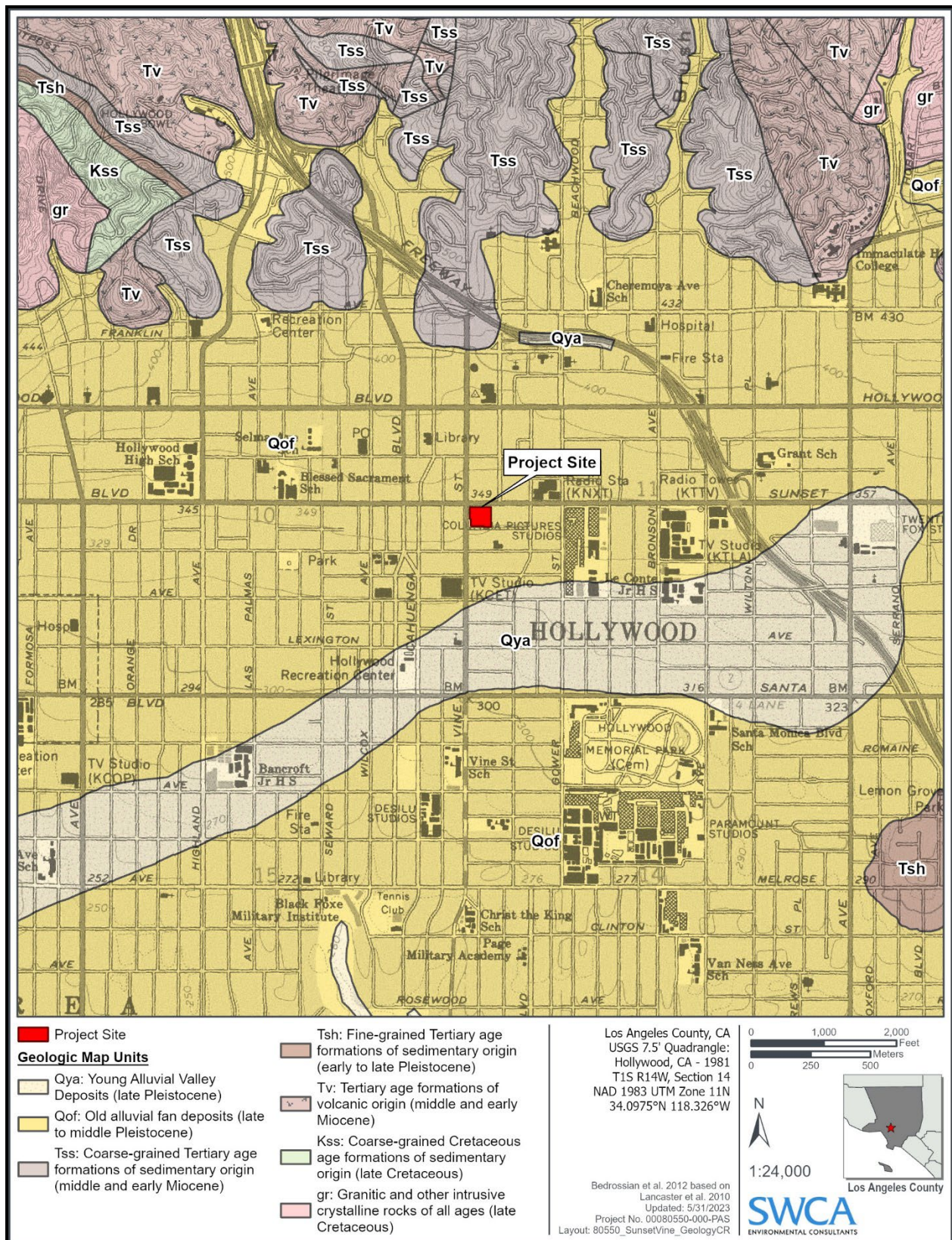


Figure 7. Project Site plotted on the Bedrossian et al. (2012) geological map for the area.

CULTURAL SETTING

The Project Site is in an area historically occupied by the Gabrielino (Bean and Smith 1978:538; Kroeber 1925:Plate 57). Surrounding native groups included the Chumash and Tataviam/Alliklik to the north, the Serrano to the east, and the Luiseño/Juaneño to the south (Figure 8). The interaction between the Gabrielino and many of their neighbors in the form of intermarriage and trade was regularly documented in ethnographic accounts. The name “Gabrielino” (also spelled Gabrieleno and Gabrieleño) denotes those people who were associated with Mission San Gabriel, whereas those who were associated with the nearby Mission San Fernando were referred to as Fernandeño. In the Mission and Rancho periods, Mission San Gabriel included Natives of the greater Los Angeles area, as well as members of surrounding groups such as Kitanemuk, Serrano, and Cahuilla.

There is little evidence that the people we call Gabrielino had a broad term for their group (Dakin 1978:222). Instead, it appears that people identified themselves as inhabitants of a specific community with locational suffixes. For example, a resident of Yaanga was called a Yabit, which Johnston likened to the way that a resident of New York is called a New Yorker (Johnston 1962:10). Native words suggested as labels for the broader group of Native Americans in the Los Angeles region include Tongva (or Tong-v) (Merriam 1955:7–86) and Kizh (Kij or Kichereno) (Heizer 1968:105), and many present-day descendants have taken on their preferred group name. The term Gabrielino is used in the remainder of this report to designate native people of the Los Angeles Basin and their descendants.

The Gabrielino subsistence economy was centered on gathering and hunting. The surrounding environment was rich and varied, and the people used resources in mountains, foothills, valleys, deserts, riparian, estuarine, and open and rocky coastal eco-niches (Bean and Smith 1978:546; Kroeber 1925:631–632; McCawley 1996:119–123, 128–131). The Gabrielino used hundreds of plants but around the Early Intermediate period, like most Native Americans in the region, acorn-bearing oaks became an important species for food resources. The trees commonly found in the local hills and valleys included coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*), scrub oak, and Engelmann oak (*Quercus engelmannii*). Other important food resources included pine trees with piñon nuts (*Pinus quadrifolia* and other *Pinus* spp.), prickly-pear cacti with fruit and fleshy leaves (*Opuntia littoralis* and *Opuntia basilaris*), chia (*Salvia columbariae*), and yucca with blossoms and flower stalks (*Yucca whipplei*, *Yucca schidigera*, and *Agave deserti*).

The Gabrielino supplemented acorns with several berries, tubers, greens, and several species of hard-seed plants such as manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glauca* and *Arctostaphylos pringlei*), sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*), chia and other sages (*Salvia* spp.), lemonade berry (*Rhus trilobata*), wild rose (*Rosa californica*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), and coyote gourd or calabazilla (*Cucurbita foetidissima*). Among the most important tubers are the blue dicks (*Dichelostemma capitatum*) and harvest brodiaea (*Brodiaea jolonensis*) for food and amole (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*) for tools and soap. Common greens included several *Chenopodium* spp., clovers (*Trifolium* spp.), miner’s lettuce (*Claytonia perfoliata*), wild-rhubarb (*Rumex hymenosepalus*), and white sage (*Salvia apiana*), all to be found in the immediate region. Several native California berry-producing plants exist, such as toyon, the desert wild grape (*Vitis girdiana*), and California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*), while the blue elderberry was gathered for medicines and tools as well as food. Numerous other plants were used as medicines, making twine, basket weaving, creating ornamentation and tools, and in religious ceremonies.



Figure 8. Native American tribal territories.

Freshwater and saltwater fish, shellfish, birds, reptiles, and insects, as well as large and small mammals were also regularly consumed. Animals available to the Gabrielino would have included mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), pocket mice (*Perognathus* spp.), wood rats (*Dipodomys* spp.), California quail (*Callipepla californica*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and birds associated with the marshes; and various types of reptiles, amphibians, and insects. While antelope (*Antilocapra americana*) were barely noted by Spanish colonists, they were quite common in 1769 throughout the plains and valleys when the Portolá Expedition came through the region, whereas mule deer appear to have been less common. Predators included mountain lion (*Felis concolor*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), and gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*).

The Gabrielino used a variety of tools and implements to gather and collect food resources. These included the bow and arrow, traps, nets, blinds, throwing sticks and slings, spears, harpoons, and hooks. Groups residing near the ocean used oceangoing plank canoes and tule balsa canoes for fishing, travel, and trade between the mainland and the Channel Islands (McCawley 1996:7). Gabrielino people processed food with a variety of tools, including hammer stones and anvils, mortars and pestles, manos and metates, strainers, leaching baskets and bowls, knives, bone saws, and wooden drying racks. Food was consumed from a variety of vessels including soapstone bowls and Catalina Island steatite was used to carve ollas and cooking vessels (Blackburn 1963; Kroeber 1925:629; McCawley 1996:129–138).

At the time of Spanish colonization, the basis of Gabrielino religious life was the ceremonies and rituals connected with the figure of Chinigchinich, who was the last in a series of heroic mythological figures. Chinigchinich gave instruction on laws and institutions and taught the people how to dance as a form of religious practice. He later withdrew into heaven, where he rewarded the faithful and punished those who disobeyed his laws (Kroeber 1925:637–638). The origins of the practices connected to Chinigchinich are somewhat unclear as it seems to have been relatively new when the Spanish arrived. It was spreading south into the southern Takic groups even as Christian missions were being built and may represent a mixture of native and Christian belief and practices (McCawley 1996:143–144).

Deceased Gabrielino were either buried or cremated, with inhumation more common on the Channel Islands and the neighboring mainland coast, and cremation predominating on the remainder of the coast and in the interior (Harrington 1942; McCawley 1996:157). Remains were buried in distinct burial areas, either directly associated with villages or without apparent village association (Altschul et al. 2007). Cremation ashes have been found in archaeological contexts buried within stone bowls and in shell dishes (Ashby and Winterbourne 1966:27), as well as scattered among broken ground stone implements (Cleland et al. 2007). Archaeological data such as these correspond with ethnographic descriptions of an elaborate mourning ceremony that included a variety of offerings, including seeds, stone grinding tools, otter skins, baskets, wooden tools, shell beads, bone and shell ornaments, and projectile points and knives. Offerings varied with the sex and status of the deceased (Dakin 1978:234–365; Johnston 1962:52–54; McCawley 1996:155–165).

For more than 2,500 years, the Gabrielino and their predecessors practiced the kotuumot kehaay, or mourning ceremony, an important community ritual by which the living assisted the soul of the deceased on its journey to the land of the dead (Hull 2011, 2012; Hull et al. 2013). It was not only an act of loving remembrance—the Gabrielino believed that the spirits of the deceased were dangerous and must be treated properly lest they molest the living (Boscana 1978). Observed every 1 to 4 years to commemorate those who had died since the previous iteration, the 8-day mourning ceremony was either conducted in late summer or in the same month as the person to be honored had died. The ceremony included four primary rites: ritual clothes washing, clothes burning, image burning, and a distribution of the property of the dead. It took place within an approximately 5-m-diameter circular brush enclosure called a yovaar, which was decorated with poles at cardinal directions topped with figures, or around an approximately 12- to 15-m-tall (40- to 50-foot-tall) central kotuumut pole that was painted in various

colors representing body parts and erected in a pit in the ground surrounded by offerings of food, clothing, baskets, beads, and money. It included a hosted feast, paid dancers, and the ritual destruction and burial of valuable goods (McCawley 1996:161–165; Merriam 1955).

Hugo Reid, a Scottish immigrant married to a Gabrielino woman and owner of San Gabriel Mission in the 1840s, described the post-burial treatment of grave goods by the Gabrielino in his 1852 letters:

When a person died, all the kin collected to lament and mourn his or her loss. After lamenting a while a mourning dirge was sung. If the deceased were the head of the family, or a favorite son, the hut in which he died was burned up, as likewise all of his personal effects, reserving only some article or another, or a lock of hair. This reservation was not as a memento of the deceased, but to make a feast with on some future occasion, generally after the first harvest of seeds and berries. (Dakin 1978:235)

Discussing the culmination of the ceremony itself, Reid continued:

On the eighth day the . . . old women were employed to make more food than usual, and when the sun was in its zenith, it was distributed, not only among the actors, but to the spectators likewise. After eating, a deep hole was dug, and a fire kindled in it, when the articles reserved at the death of relatives were committed to the flames; at the same time, baskets, money, and seeds were thrown to the spectators, as in the marriage ceremony. During the burning process, one of the seers, reciting mystical words, kept stirring up the fire to ensure the total destruction of the things. The hole was then filled up with earth and well trodden down. The feast was over. (Dakin 1978:242–243)

This mourning ceremony has deep roots in Southern California, predating the period of Spanish colonization (1769–1834) by at least 2,000 years (Hull et al. 2013). It was also reportedly practiced in mid-nineteenth century Gabrielino communities in San Fernando, Piru, and Saticoy (Blackburn 1976:232), in neighboring Luiseño- and Cahuilla-speaking regions, including the greater Los Angeles area (Dietler et al. 2018; Morris et al. 2016).

Continuity After Colonization

The traditional way of life for Indigenous people was dramatically altered by the Spanish mission system and later Mexican and American settlement in this part of Southern California. The dissolution of cultural practices alienated Native Americans from their traditional subsistence patterns, social customs, and marriage networks. European diseases, against which they had no immunity, reached epidemic proportions, and Gabrielino populations were rapidly decimated (Johnson 1987). The increase in agriculture and the spread of grazing livestock into their collecting and hunting areas made maintaining traditional lifeways increasingly difficult. Although many Gabrielino were eventually subsumed by the mission system, some refused to give up their traditional existence and escaped into the interior regions of the state, where they survived as refugees living with other tribes.

Many researchers have brought attention to the role of labor in developing and sustaining colonial settlements by Native Americans providing crucial services and highly skilled roles across multiple types of industry (Akins and Bauer 2021; Anderson 2005:81–82; Hackel 1998, 2005:272–320; Phillips 2010; Silliman 2001).

The involvement of Native American groups in any of the standard colonial institutions in the Americas—missions, ranchos, trade outposts, presidios, forts, and secular towns—revolved around labor, even in contexts of frequent interethnic marriage. Sometimes colonial groups forced labor on native societies; other times, indigenous peoples found colonial labor opportunistic and capitalized on it. In either case, labor constituted one of the primary and most influential

interpersonal and intercultural relations in pluralistic colonial communities. (Silliman 2001:379–384)

Gabrielino acquired equestrian skills used in herding, corralling, and branding cattle, and they routinely conducted the work of killing and skinning livestock. They demonstrated an aptitude for the engineering needed to create irrigation systems—finding grades, laying out ditches, and managing watering regimes. Irrigation was crucial for supplying domestic supplies and agriculture, especially wine making, which also relied on Gabrielino to plant the grapevines. Native women and children provided crucial household chores within the pueblo and ranchos across the Los Angeles Basin. This gave an incentive for Gabrielino and other native groups to remain in reasonable proximity to Spanish settlements. “Most of those who left the missions,” writes Akins and Bauer, “remained close by, often in their traditional tribal homeland, and worked on ranchos” (Akins and Bauer 2021:112).

During the early American Period, Native Americans found work in citrus groves and other large-scale agricultural operations. During the twentieth century, Native Americans affiliated with tribes from outside the region increasingly came to Los Angeles, some out of necessity or in pursuit of new opportunities, and others because of the federal government’s termination and relocation policies (Akins and Bauer 2021:266). Native American workers made important contributions to several of the industries important such as aviation and film during the early and middle parts of the twentieth century.

In emphasizing the role of Native American labor in California history, Phillips offers an important consideration in terms of the motivation for taking this perspective.

By examining how Indians adjusted to the new work regime and by describing how many became efficient workers, the focus remains on Indians themselves. Recognizing adaptation and efficiency, however, is far different from approving the system in which they were achieved The missions radically altered Indian culture, but they did not destroy Indian people. Even secularization—the systematic breakup of the mission system in the 1830s—was not designed to destroy Indians. In fact, Indians played an important role in this crucial event in California history, a role downplayed by some historians. (Phillips 2010:17–19)

More than merely correcting an omission in historical accounts of local history, by highlighting the crucial role that Native Americans during and after Spanish colonization, a period that traumatically and irrevocably altered Native American lifeways, it conveys the adaptability and persistence of the Gabrielino and other groups, which has allowed for continuity in their tribal identity and community.

It is estimated that several thousand Gabrielino descendants currently live in the Los Angeles area, although no reservation or rancherias were ever set aside and tribal organizations have not been federally recognized (Bean 1995). Gabrielino descendants are represented by the following tribal organizations who actively strive to maintain their cultural legacy: Gabrielino-Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, the Gabrielino-Tongva Indian Tribe, the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, the Gabrielino/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, and the Gabrielino Band of Mission Indians–Kizh Nation.

Locating Former Native American Settlements

In general, it has proven difficult to establish the precise location of Native American settlements occupied immediately preceding and following Spanish arrival in California approximately 250 years ago (McCawley 1996:31–32). Many of the settlements and so-called villages had long since been abandoned by the time ethnographers, anthropologists, and historians attempted to document any of their locations, at which point Native American lifeways had been irrevocably changed. McCawley quotes Kroeber (1925:616) in his remarks on the subject, writing that “the opportunity to prepare a true map of village locations ‘passed away 50 years ago’” (McCawley 1996:32).

Several factors have confounded efforts at locating former Native American settlements. Firstly, many settlements were recorded with alternative names and spellings. Second, there have been conflicting reports on the meaning and locational reference of the placenames. In addition to differences in the interpretation of a given word, some of the placenames refer to a site using relatively vague terms that could fit several possible locations, or the word may reference a natural feature that no longer exists such as a type of plant that once grew in an area now fully urbanized. Third and perhaps most importantly, Native American placenames recorded in historic records and reported in oral histories did not necessarily represent a continually occupied settlement within a discrete location, which is how the term “village” is commonly understood today. Instead, in at least some cases, the settlements were represented by several smaller camps scattered throughout an approximate geography, shaped by natural features that were subject to change over generations (Ciolek-Torello and Garraty 2016; Johnston 1962:122). Furthermore, the criteria for what constitutes a village site has been especially lacking in consistency and specificity, even within a strictly academic context (see summary by Ciolek-Torello and Garraty [2016:69]). Much of the debate in this regard concerns whether sites were occupied on a permanent or temporary basis, and archaeological data do not always provide unequivocal evidence to make a reliable classification for a given site.

Still, within the range of terms put forth to characterize different types of Native American settlements, there are conventions and core insights shared among scholars. Prehistoric sites in coastal California, for example, are commonly referenced in archaeological sources as residential sites, habitation sites, and seasonal camps, whereas the term village is more often used to reference Mission period settlements such as the Chumash sites of Humaliwo, Helo’, and Muwu, or Luiseño sites such as Topomai (Ciolek-Torello and Garraty 2016:69). These Spanish and Mexican period sites are also sometimes referred to as *rancherías*—a term with connotations for a more permanent settlement and often used synonymously with village. The convention was established by Hugo Reid in 1852 who published the first list of Native American placenames in the Los Angeles area, which was by no means comprehensive (Stoll et al. 2016:387–389). The more generic terms of settlement and site will be used in this report and refer to places where Native American communities were once gathered. Native American sites may also refer to locations where archaeological materials, including human remains, have been discovered. Such locations may consist of one or more known tribal cultural resources or a general area in which a tribal cultural resource could exist.

Native American Communities in Los Angeles

The villages or placenames described in ethnographic literature that are nearest to the Project Site include Geveronga, Maawnga, and Yaanga to the east-southeast in the downtown Los Angeles area, Kuruvungna to the west-southwest near Santa Monica, and Guaspet (also named Waachnga) in the Ballona area near Marina del Rey to the southwest (Figure 9). Additionally, the settlement of Kaweenga is hypothesized to have been on the north-facing side of the Santa Monica Mountains at the terminus of what is known as the Cahuenga Pass, so-named for the Native American settlement. Other notable sites that have archaeological components from the region have been recorded at the Fern Dell recreation area (LAN- 96) to the northwest, the La Brea Tar Pits (LAN-159/H) to the southwest, as well as several sites along Ballona Creek and around the Baldwin Hills to the southwest. As depicted in Figure 9, the Project Site is situated somewhat equidistant from the three nearest named Native American settlements, Kaweenga, Maawnga (which has two proposed locations), and Geveronga. These settlements are estimated to have been between 5.71 and 8.10 km (3.55 and 5.03 miles) away from the Project Site.



Figure 9. Native American village sites, placenames, and sites described in ethnographic literature.

FERN DELL (LAN-1096, HCM NO. 112)

The site recorded in the Fern Dell (also spelled Ferndell) recreation area is listed in the CHRIS as LAN-1096 and was designated as HCM No. 112 by the OHR in 1973. The Fern Dell recreation area consists of a narrow trail situated at the south end of Griffith Park, at the base of the Santa Monica Mountains, approximately 2.24 km (1.39 miles) northeast of the Project Site. The trail is landscaped with imported plants—most notably multiple species of fern—and an artificially constructed landscape with water and rock features. Construction of Fern Dell began in 1914 under the direction of City Park Superintendent Frank Shearer. In the 1920s, Fern Dell became a popular destination for tourists, especially wellness seekers among whom rumors circulated about the spring water having special healing properties, giving the impression of the place as a kind of natural spa (*Los Angeles Times* 1935). Additional construction occurred in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps and intermittent efforts were made to restore portions of the setting beginning in the 1980s, which have continued to the present day.

A commemorative plaque was placed at the recreation area and identifies the location as a Gabrielino Indian site associated with a natural spring and refers to the area as “Mocohuenga Canyon.” Very similar wording was included on a sign placed in Fern Dell in the 1930s and was also repeated in newspaper articles as early as 1935. Each of these descriptions refer to the place by this name, claiming that “Moco” referred to the “council-ground mound” or “post and council grounds,” and Coheunga or Cahuenga as the name of the tribal leader for the area (*Los Angeles Times* 1935). The original sign is no longer present and the City has since placed a commemorative bronze plaque at the southern entrance to the recreational trail.

The site record on file with the SCCIC only contains a generic account of the site that was included in the HCM designation, which describes a “Gabrielino Indian Site.” The list of the HCMs prepared by the Cultural Heritage Board includes the following description: “archaeological surveys discovered sites of villages at the mouth of Fern Dell Canyon leaving no doubt that fairly large settlement existed at this point and at others which received water from canyons leading from the Hollywood Hills.” This text is taken verbatim from Bernice Johnston in a 1957 article for *The Masterkey* (Johnston 1957:17), which was also republished in her 1962 book, *California’s Gabrielino Indians* (Johnston 1962). Beyond mentioning the lack of any known traditional Native American names used to describe the Hollywood area, Johnston does not provide any additional context or details on the site.

Aside from the minimal information repeated on the former sign, HCM list, and newspaper articles, there are no other sources describing what artifacts were identified, when and where they were found, or where they may be currently located. When the recreation area was being developed in the early part of the twentieth century, the field of archaeology was not well established and regulations related to the archaeological resources on state and city owned lands were not in place; therefore, it is conceivable that artifacts were identified during the landscaping and groundwork but were never subjected to scientific study or curation. In addition to the lack of information concerning the archaeological contents of the site, there is also no means of assessing whether “Mocohuenga” is a legitimate Gabrielino placename. The early newspaper articles describing Fern Dell commonly reference “Indian legends” and other indications that the name may be the product of American folklore and romanticizing more than Gabrielino ethnography, although it is also possible that there are elements of both reflected in the description and that the source of the oral history was never documented.

Despite the potentially apocryphal association with the Gabrielino, there is no doubt about the existence of a perennial spring, one of several in the south-facing foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains (see Figure 5). And given that several Native American archaeological sites have been identified in similar settings in the foothills near springs, it is plausible that the claim about artifacts having been discovered is a truthful account. Singer (1982:2) essentially reached the same conclusion in his assessment of archaeological site sensitivity as part of an archaeological survey conducted of Fern Dell

and the surrounding foothills. Although there is no way to determine whether the objects were misidentified as human artifacts (i.e., the result of past Native American activity), there is no reason to believe the existence of something believed to be Native American in origin was identified before the 1930s, and that this is the reason why Fern Dell came to be known as a Gabrielino placename. At a minimum, the boundary for LAN-1096 that is recorded in the CHRIS represents an area of sensitivity for buried Native American archaeological components and is a site that may be considered a sacred place by contemporary Gabrielino communities.

LA BREA, KURUVUNGNA, BALLONA, AND LAS CIENEGAS

Among the other notable sites identified in the region are the natural asphaltum seeps now referred to as the La Brea Tar Pits, approximately 4.7 km (2.92 miles) southwest of the Project Site. The tar seeps here are known to have been an important terrestrial asphaltum source used by Native Americans, who also acquired tar from marine sources. Human remains found at the La Brea Tar Pits site suggest it was known to Native Americans more than 10,000 years ago. The asphaltum (tar, also known as bitumen) from the La Brea Tar Pits locality was used by Native Americans for toolmaking and waterproofing baskets and watercraft, among many other uses (Heizer and Treganza 1972:332–333; Hodgson 2003).

Kuruvungna is a site within the campus of present-day University High School, 13.53 km (8.41 miles) west of the Project Site. There is a natural spring here, which is why the site is also known as Kuruvungna Springs, among many other historical names given. Kuruvungna is recognized as a sacred site for local Native American tribes, a historical point of interest, CHL No. 522, and includes an archaeological component designated in the CHRIS as LAN-382/H that contains a variety of artifact types, as well as human remains that were identified in 1975 and described simply as a post-cranial skeleton, presumed to be from the Late Period (Messick and Greenwood 2006:13). The springs were an important natural resource to generations of Native Americans before Spanish colonization. In their account of tribal history for the Los Angeles area, Akins and Bauer (2021:264) point out that the location of Kuruvungna—on the periphery of encroaching Spanish and Mexican period ranchos—made it an increasingly important location as a community center for indigenous communities during the nineteenth century. A few of these pools are still present and are an important part of the cultural center constructed here in the 1990s by the Gabrielino community, which remains actively used for education, ceremonial events, and various types of gatherings.

Both the La Brea Tar Pits and Kuruvungna Springs are distinguished for the natural resources they provided to ancestral Native Americans. These two localities, along with the village of Yaanga, also share the distinction of having been described in the diaries of members from the Portolá party when they passed through the area in 1769. Captain Gaspar de Portolá's expedition across the Los Angeles Basin followed a route from nearby Gabrielino settlements to the asphaltum source and then to Kuruvungna Springs (Seaman 1914). The path leading them west from Yaanga—a major Native American settlement in what is now downtown Los Angeles—followed what most researchers assume were trails and footpaths that had been actively used by generations of Native American communities. The alignment for portions of what is now Wilshire Boulevard is believed to have originated from these same paths. Portions of this same route would later become part of the major travel corridor established between the missions, pueblos, and other settlements created during Spanish colonization, which was memorialized in the early twentieth century as “El Camino Real.”

The northwestern part of the Los Angeles Basin is also notable for the water features once present here. These included perennial springs and several types of wetland features along Ballona Creek (formerly the Los Angeles River) and tributaries to the south and southwest of the Project Site. The area near the north end of the Baldwin Hills, where the tributaries converged into the primary drainage channel, sustained highly saturated soils described by the Spanish as “las cienegas,” which is the origin of the contemporary placename of Las Cienegas. Numerous Native American archaeological sites have been identified in the

periphery of the former wetlands here, approximately 9.6 km (6.0 miles) south-southwest of the Project Site. As mentioned above, the Haverty Site (LAN-171) and Los Angeles Man (LAN-172) were both identified in this area north of the Baldwin Hills.

Downstream and southwest from the Las Cienegas area is the Ballona wetlands and a settlement named Guaspet (alternately referred to in Spanish Mission registers as Guaspet, Guasna, Guashna, Guachpet, Guashpet). Guaspet is described in historical and ethnographic sources, and along with the complex of sites in the Ballona region, was the subject of rigorous study by SRI beginning in 1989. The results of SRI's decades-long study are summarized in a volume by Douglass et al. (2016). Their work carefully distinguishes the extensive Native American archaeological sites, which consist of various types of settlements occupied over thousands of years, and the Native American community in the Ballona area known as Guaspet, which was referenced in Spanish-period mission records. Although some debate may still exist, all accounts of Guaspet point to an area either on the bluffs to the south of Ballona Creek or in the lowlands near the creek (Douglass et al. 2016:416; McCawley 1996:61–63), approximately 16.7 km (10.4 miles) southwest of the Project Site. Based upon the archaeological and ethnographic data compiled by SRI, it is clear the Ballona area—composed of the wetland, creek, bluffs, and beach—was important to Native American lifeways in the past. The area remains important to contemporary Gabrielino descendants.

YAANGA AND RANCHERIAS IN DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

Yaanga is among the major Native American communities encountered by the Portolá party when they passed through the Los Angeles Basin in 1769, and was perhaps the largest Gabrielino settlement within the Los Angeles Basin. Compared with Yaanga, much less is known about the two other nearby settlements known as Geveronga and Maawnga. Geveronga was recorded as a place of origin in Mission San Gabriel records, which identify 31 people as having come from there between 1788 and 1809 (McCawley 1996:57). Ethnographic accounts describe the location of the settlement as immediately adjoining the Pueblo of Los Angeles to the east, but no physical evidence of its location has ever been identified. The approximate location for Geveronga is 8.1 km (5.0 miles) southeast of the Project Site.

Maawnga was apparently a small settlement somewhere within Rancho Los Feliz. Alternative spellings for Maawnga include Mugna, Moonga, Moomga, Momonga, Mugna, Mau, and Mauga (McCawley 1996:55). Baptismal records from San Fernando Mission record four people from Maawnga. Reid's (1852:8) historical account describes the village site of Maawnga within the 16-km² (10-square-mile) area of Rancho Los Feliz (McCawley 1996:55), in what is now portions of Hollywood, Los Feliz, Griffith Park, and Elysian Park. Other references to the settlement's location cite J.P. Harrington's historical informant, who recalled that it was where the first Jewish cemetery was established (Johnston 1962:57). Citing research of Marco Hellman, Johnston (1962:57) places Maawnga within Elysian Park on Chavez Road at a police department pistol range (see also Dillon 1994:23). The two proposed locations for Maawnga are 6.21 and 7.82 km (3.86 and 4.86 miles) north and east, respectively, from the Project Site.

Yaanga is referenced in mission registers and ethnographic accounts that incorporate the alternative spellings of Yang-na, Yangna, and Yabit. The location of Yaanga has long been considered synonymous with that of Los Angeles, first as the Spanish pueblo, then the town and city. Historians and archaeologists have presented multiple possible locations for Yaanga, such as the general area of the plaza and church, around which Los Angeles developed, which is approximately 9.25 km (5.75 miles) southeast of the Project Site. However, like the pueblo itself, it is likely that the village was relocated from time to time due to major shifts of the Los Angeles River during years of intense flooding. Dillon (1994) presented an exhaustive review of the potential locations, most within several blocks of the pueblo plaza. Johnston concluded that “in all probability *Yangna* lay scattered in a fairly wide zone along the whole arc [from the base of Fort Moore Hill to Union Station], and its bailiwick included as well seed-gathering grounds and oak groves where seasonal camps were set up” (Johnston 1962:122).

Aside from the ethnographic evidence suggesting the location of these villages, little direct, indisputable archaeological evidence for the location of either village has been produced to date. Archaeological materials reportedly were unearthed during the construction of Union Station in 1939, and “considerably more” in 1970 during the rebuilding of the Bella Union Hotel on the 300 block of North Main Street, 9.11 km (5.66 miles) northeast of the Project Site (Johnston 1962:121; Robinson 1979:12). The preponderance of available evidence indicates that there were one or more early historic period Native American communities west of the Los Angeles River near the original plaza site. This assumption is supported through several lines of ethnographic evidence, including the expedition journal of Fr. Juan Crespi and engineer Miguel Costansó, both of whom were associated with the 1769 Portolá expedition. The notes from these sources indicate the village was between 2 and 2.4 km (1.3 and 1.5 miles) west-southwest from the Los Angeles River on high-level ground. The Pueblo of Los Angeles was documented to have been founded directly adjacent to this village. The location of Yaanga was also referenced by long-time Los Angeles resident Narciso Botello and Gabrielino consultant José María Zalvidea, who indicated that Yaanga was originally adjacent to the original site of the Los Angeles Plaza (Morris et al. 2016:112).

During construction of the Metropolitan Water District headquarters building in the mid-1990s, an archaeological site (LAN-1575/H) was identified which included a substantial Native American component composed of artifacts and primary interments and cremation reburials. The archaeological investigation by Applied Earthworks found evidence of occupation that both predated and overlapped the Spanish historic period, but ultimately the researchers could not reach a definitive conclusion as to whether portions of the site represented the material remains of Yaanga (Goldberg et al. 1999:151–159). In 2019, during construction of Metro’s Patsaouras Bus Plaza Station, which was partly within the boundary of LAN-1575/H, new site components were identified that included Native American human remains and artifacts, as well as historic period deposits (i.e., not affiliated with Native Americans). The new site components are consistent with the types and ages identified in LAN-1575/H. Some of these new discoveries were identified within the boundary designated for LAN-1575/H, but the majority extend east along Highway 101 and Interstate 10.

After the Pueblo of Los Angeles was established in 1781, Yaanga faced many new challenges because of its proximity to the new Spanish settlement. The last recorded birth at Yaanga is believed to have been in 1813, after which the settlement was forced to relocate south of the original site (Morris et al. 2016:97). This new settlement, known by the Angelenos as *Ranchería de los Poblanos*, is believed to have been at the intersection of Los Angeles Street and 1st Street (Morris et al. 2016:96–97). *Ranchería de los Poblanos* was the first of at least five forced relocations of Native Americans between 1836 and 1847 (Phillips 2010:185). City records from the time typically referred to these sites as *rancherías*.

Although most of the natural landscape features that would have characterized Yaanga and its surroundings are no longer present and the precise location of the settlement remains an open question, the general location still retains its association with Yaanga and is considered an important place by contemporary Gabrielino groups. The proximity of Yaanga to a massive sycamore tree known as *El Aliso* is also commonly cited and often referred to synonymously with that of Yaanga. The tree is visible in early photographs and plotted on plat maps showing the vineyard and winery established by Louis Vignes. A memorial plaque was recently placed to commemorate Yaanga and its location—on the north side of Commercial Street near the intersection with Vignes Street. The location was chosen based on proximity to the place where *El Aliso* had once grown, which was in what is now in the channel excavated for the Hollywood Freeway.

KAWEENGA

Among the many Native American settlements in the San Fernando, the site of Kaweenga was prominent (Ciolek-Torello et al. 2010:23–25; Heizer 1968:8; Johnston 1962:10; Northwest Economic Associates

and King 2004:95, 106–108). Alternative spellings for the site from mission registers and ethnographic accounts include Kawenga, Kawengna, Kawengnavit, Kawepet, Cabuenga, and Cabuepet.

The Hispanicized version of Kaweenga is the modern placename of Cahuenga. Kaweenga means “Place of the Mountain,” most likely a reference to what is now known as Cahuenga Peak (Johnston 1962:10). The site is recorded as having a historical association with Rancho Cahuenga, which helps to approximate the settlement’s location. McCawley (1996:40) cited the village site as having been in what is now Universal City, but others have noted that he “has probably confused the tract of land called Cahuenga, which is located in the center of Rancho Providencia in the modern city of Burbank, with the Campo de Cahuenga (Cahuenga House), which is located at the foot of Cahuenga Pass” (Ciolek-Torello et al. 2010:23). These estimates place Kaweenga approximately 5.71 km (3.55 miles) northwest of the Project Site.

Ciolek-Torello et al. (2010) surmise that Kaweenga, like other Native American settlements, was likely a composite of many smaller settlements (or rancherías) in a general area rather than being one settlement (Ciolek-Torello et al. 2010:23). They note the strategic location of the area along the south bank of the Los Angeles River and between the foothills to the south and basin to the north. The San Gabriel and San Fernando missions recorded hundreds of Native Americans who identified as having come from Kaweenga. Little else is known about Kaweenga, including where it was located, although work at the Campo de Cahuenga has at least confirmed that there is no evidence for an eighteenth century or earlier Native American settlement in that locality. The adobe at Campo de Cahuenga was built between 1797 and 1833 and is depicted on several land grant maps produced in the mid-nineteenth century.

Historic Overview

Discussion of the historical context for the Project Site is provided in a separate technical report prepared for the Project by SWCA (Millington and Nicolay 2023). Specifically, the report provides a generalized summary of the Mission and Rancho periods (1769–1848) and the American period (1848–present), including the development of Los Angeles, Rancho La Brea, and the history of Hollywood.

RESULTS

CHRIS Records Search

Previously Conducted Studies

SWCA received the results of the CHRIS records search from the SCCIC on June 2, 2023. Results of the records search indicate that 33 cultural resources studies have been conducted within 0.8 km (0.5 mile) of the Project Site (Table 1). A confidential results map depicting the results is included in Appendix A. Of the 33 previously conducted studies, five overlap or border the Project Site. These five studies include three technical reports which were conducted for proposed Metro Subway expansions in Los Angeles (LA-7565, LA-7566, LA-8020), one addendum which provides additional information for a Draft Supplemental Impact Statement for the Metro Subway expansions (LA-7562), and one historic resources survey of the Hollywood neighborhood (LA-11797).

Table 1. Prior Cultural Resources Studies within a 0.8-km (0.5-mile) Radius of the Project Site

Report Number	Title	Author: Affiliation	Year	Proximity to Project Site
LA-01578	Technical Report Archaeological Resources Los Angeles Rapid Rail Transit Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report	Anonymous: Westec Services, Inc.	1983	Outside
LA-02451	Cultural Resources Survey Report 5800 Sunset Boulevard Hollywood, California	Tartaglia, Louis J.: Tartaglia Archaeological Consulting	1991	Outside
LA-03496	Draft Environmental Impact Report Transit Corridor Specific Plan Park Mile Specific Plan Amendments	Anonymous: Unknown	No date	Outside
LA-04345	Cultural Resource Assessment for Pacific Bell Mobile Services Telecommunications Facility La 650-01, 6344 Fountain Avenue, Community of Hollywood, City and County of Los Angeles, California	McLean, Deborah K.: LSA Associates, Inc.	1999	Outside
LA-04580	Cultural Resource Assessment for the AT&T Wireless Services Facility Number 633.2, County of Los Angeles, California	Duke, Curt: LSA Associates, Inc.	1999	Outside
LA-04909	Cultural Resources Investigation for the Nextlink Fiber Optic Project, Los Angeles and Orange Counties, California	Atchley, Sara M.: Jones & Stokes	2000	Outside
LA-05081	Cultural Resource Assessment for Pacific Bell Wireless Facility La 650-02, County of Los Angeles, Ca	Lapin, Philippe: LSA Associates, Inc.	2000	Outside
LA-05095	Descriptive and Historical Date Photographic Record, and Floor Plans Pertaining to the "tav Celebrity Theater" Complex, Hollywood, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna, Jeanette A.: McKenna et al.	1999	Outside
LA-05348	Cultural Resource Assessment for AT&T Fixed Wireless Services Facility Number La_056_a, County of Los Angeles, California	Duke, Curt: LSA Associates, Inc.	2000	Outside
LA-06467	Nextel Communications Site CA-7846a, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna, Jeanette A.: McKenna et al.	2002	Outside
LA-06811	Cultural Resource Assessment Cingular Wireless Facility No. SM 234-01 Hollywood, Los Angeles County, California	Harper, Caprice D.: LSA Associates, Inc.	2003	Outside
LA-07562	Additional Information for DSEIS, Core Study Alignments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5	Greenwood, Roberta S.: Greenwood and Associates	1987	Bordering
LA-07565	Technical Report Archaeology Los Angeles Rail Rapid Transit Project "Metro Rail" Core Study, Candidate Alignments 1 to 5	Hatheway, Roger G., and Peter, Kevin J.: Greenwood and Associates	1987	Bordering
LA-07566	Technical Report DSEIS, Core Study Alignments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5	Hatheway, Roger G., and Peter, Kevin J.: Greenwood and Associates	1987	Bordering
LA-07981	Direct Ape Historic Architectural Assessment for Sprint Telecommunications Facility Candidate La70xc424a (ca Surplus Mart), 6263 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	Bonner, Wayne H.: Michael Brandman Associates	2005	Outside
LA-07992	Results of an Archaeological and Paleontological Monitoring Program at the Site of the "tav Celebrity Theatre" Complex, Hollywood, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna, Jeanette A.: McKenna et al.	2002	Outside

Report Number	Title	Author: Affiliation	Year	Proximity to Project Site
LA-08020	Technical Report: Cultural Resources Los Angeles Rail Rapid Transit Project "metro Rail" Core Study	Southern California Rapid Transit District	1987	Bordering
LA-08251	Los Angeles Metro Red Line Project, Segments 2 and 3 Archaeological Resources Impact Mitigation Program Final Report of Findings	Gust, Sherri, and Heather Puckett: Cogstone Resource Management, Inc.	2004	Outside
LA-09227	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for AT&T Candidate EL0078-03 (Rooftop Beachwood Drive), Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	Bonner, Wayne H.: Michael Brandman Associates	2007	Outside
LA-09233	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile Candidate SV11570E (Surplus RT), 1106 North Vine Street, Hollywood, Los Angeles County, California	Bonner, Wayne H.: Michael Brandman Associates	2007	Outside
LA-09405	Proposed Bechtel Wireless Telecommunications Site (ESS Storage), Located At 1860 Vine St., Los Angeles, California 90028	Wlodarski, Robert J.: Cellular Archaeological Resource Evaluations	2008	Outside
LA-09546	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile Candidate SV11691A (Music Box), 6122 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California.	Bonner, Wayne H., and K. A. Crawford: Michael Brandman Associates	2008	Outside
LA-09612	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile Candidate SV11570A (Santa Monica RT), 6161 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California.	Bonner, Wayne H., Sarah H. Williams, and Kathleen Crawford: Michael Brandman Associates	2008	Outside
LA-09802	Cultural Resources Study of the 6161 Santa Monica Blvd. Project, Royal Street Communications Site No. LA3927, Los Angeles County, CA	Dana Supernowicz: Historic Resource Associates	2009	Outside
LA-10149	Finding of no adverse effect: US 101 from Alameda Street Underpass to Barham Boulevard Overcrossing	Stewart, Noah M.: Caltrans District 7	2009	Outside
LA-10507	Technical Report - Historical/Architectural Resources - Los Angeles Rail Rapid Transit Project "Metro Rail" Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report	Anonymous: Westec Services, Inc.	1983	Outside
LA-10915	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile USA Candidate SV11691-C (ATT Gower Switch), 1429 North Gower Street, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	Bonner, Wayne: Michael Brandman Associates	2010	Outside
LA-10916	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for AT&T Mobility, LLC, Telecommunications Facility LAC633-01, USID 11760 (Cahuenga/Sunset), 6515 West Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	Bonner, Wayne: Environmental Assessment Specialists, Inc.	2011	Outside
LA-11569	Cultural Resources Study of the Beachwood Building Project, Metro PCS Site No. LA3927, 6001 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California 90038	Supernowicz, Dana: Earth Touch	2011	Outside
LA-11797	Historic Resources Survey Hollywood Redevelopment Project Area	Chattel, Robert: Chattel Architecture, Planning & Preservation	2010	Overlapping
LA-12155	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile West, LLC Candidate LA03615E (Wilcox) 1557 Wilcox Avenue, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	Bonner, Wayne, and Crawford, Kathleen: MBA	2012	Outside

Report Number	Title	Author: Affiliation	Year	Proximity to Project Site
LA-12157	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile West, LLC Candidate SV11570A (Santa Monica RT) 6161 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	Bonner, Wayne, and Crawford, Kathleen: MBA	2012	Outside
LA-13136	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Survey, AT&T Site EI0511 Santa Monica Blvd/Vine St. 1106 North Vine Street, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California 90038, CASPR# 3551502170	Loftus, Shannon L.: Ace Environmental, LLC	2013	Outside

Report LA-7562 was prepared in 1987 by Greenwood and Associates and borders the Project Site along the northern edge. This report includes a historic map review and analysis of the proposed Metro Rail project alignments. The report identified the potential for encountering significant cultural resources within one of the proposed alignments and stated that monitoring would be conducted, in line with the project's treatment plan. No resources were identified near or within the current Project Site. Reports LA- 565 and LA-7566 were also prepared in 1987 by Greenwood and Associates and border the Project Site along the northern edge. These reports include a historic map review and analysis of the proposed Metro Rail project alignments. Both reports determined that the proposed alignments have a low potential to yield significant archaeological information.

Report LA-8020 was prepared in 1987 by the Southern California Rapid Transit District and borders the Project Site along the northern edge. This report includes a map review, a CHRIS search, and a literature review. The report did not include any conclusions or recommendations for further archaeological work.

Report LA-11797 was prepared in February 2010 by Chattel Architecture, Planning, and Preservation for the Hollywood Redevelopment Project area, which addressed historical resources in the area and not archaeological resources. An update to this historic survey report was prepared in January 2020 by Architectural Resources Group, Consulting GPA, and Historic Resources Group; however, this report was not included in the results from the SCCIC. The 2020 report also addressed historical resources in the area and not archaeological resources.

Previously Recorded Archaeological Resources

There are no Native American archaeological resources recorded in the CHRIS within 0.8-km (0.5-mile) of the Project Site. The nearest Native American archaeological site is LAN-196 (Fern Dell), which is described above (see Native American Communities in Los Angeles). The archaeological site at the La Brea Tar Pits (LAN-159/H) is the next closest site with Native American archaeological components, and is more than 4.7 km (2.92 miles) to the southwest. Aside from these two sites, there are no other Native American archaeological sites recorded in the Hollywood area or adjacent neighborhoods in this part of the Los Angeles Basin.

The CHRIS records search identified one previously documented archaeological resource within a 0.8-km (0.5-mile) radius of the Project Site (Table 2). The resource (LAN-3545H) is a historic-period archaeological site with materials dating between the 1910s and 1980s. The site was identified during construction approximately 140 feet to the northwest of the Project Site. The archaeological components were found beneath what had been developed with paved lots or buildings. Some materials were recorded directly beneath paved surfaces and others extended to depths of approximately 1 to 2 m (3 to 7 feet) below grade. The historical materials identified appeared to have been associated with residential developments that had existed in the early twentieth century and were demolished in multiple phases between the 1930s and 1970s. A confidential records search results map depicting the resource boundaries and locations is included in Appendix A.

Table 2. Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites within a 0.8-km (0.5-mile) Radius of the Project Site

Primary No.	Trinomial	Resource Age	Resource Type	Description	Year Recorded (Recorder)	Proximity to Project Site
P-19-003545	LAN-3545H	Historic	Site	Historic site made up of structural features and refuse scatters.	2002 (Jeanette A. McKenna, McKenna et al.)	Outside

Sacred Lands File Search

On May 24, 2023, the NAHC submitted the results of an SLF search in response to SWCA's request. The results of the SLF were negative. In the response letter, the NAHC noted that the lack of recorded sites does not indicate the absence of tribal cultural resources within the Project Site, and that the CHRIS and SLF are not exhaustive. The NAHC's response included a list of nine Native American contacts representing seven tribal organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in or near the Project Site study area and recommended they be contacted to confirm if they have information about potential resources. These contacts and their affiliated tribal organizations are listed in Table 3. All tribal outreach and consultation conducted for the Project will be implemented by the City pursuant to the provisions of PRC 21082.3.1 and 21082.3.2. The SLF results letter is included in Appendix B.

Table 3. NAHC's Native American Contact List Included with the SLF Results

Name, Title	Affiliation
Andrew Salas, Chairperson	Gabrieleeño Band of Mission Indians–Kizh Nation
Anthony Morales, Chairperson	Gabrieleeño/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Sandonne Goad, Chairperson	Gabrieleeño/Tongva Nation
Robert F. Dorame, Chairperson	Gabrieleeño Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Christina Conley, Tribal Consultant and Administrator	Gabrieleeño Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Charles Alvarez	Gabrieleeño–Tongva Tribe
Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair	Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resources Director	Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson	Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

Tribal Consultation

Pursuant to PRC Section 21080.3.1, as lead CEQA agency, the City is required to send written notification to California Native American tribes who have requested to be notified. The City maintains a list of tribes who have requested notification and is referred to as the AB 52 Notification List. The written notifications include basic information about the proposed Project and provides the tribal organization the opportunity to conduct government-to-government consultation if the Native American tribe replies and requests consultation. The notification process for the Project is currently ongoing and as a result, no information pertaining to or derived from the tribal consultation process was available for consideration in this analysis.

Archival Research

The Project Site consists of nine separate lots which were originally subdivided as part of the Leland Tract in 1906. The land-use history for the Project Site is described below and was ascertained through a review of historic maps and aerial photographs. Archival materials were obtained by SWCA through the

following publicly accessible data sources: David Rumsey Historical Map Collection; Huntington Library Digital Archives; Library of Congress; Los Angeles Public Library Map Collection; USGS historical topographic maps; and University of California, Santa Barbara, Digital Library (aerial photographs). Historical maps drawn to scale are georeferenced using the Esri ArcGIS software suite to show precise relationships to the Project Site.

Map Review (1870s to 1950)

Late nineteenth century and early twentieth century topographic maps show several small, south-flowing streams originating within the foothills of the Santa Monica mountains and running toward Hollywood Boulevard. The nearest stream is mapped as terminating approximately 0.42 km (0.26 mile) north of the Project Site. These streams appear to have been intermittent and ephemeral, i.e., they only contained water for short periods of time during the wet season, and they correspond to what is seen on irrigation maps discussed previously in this report (see Environmental Setting section). These maps also show many south-flowing streams south of the Project Site running generally towards what is now Ballona Creek.

During the nineteenth century, the Project Site remained undeveloped open space within the northern portion of Rancho La Brea. Maps from 1871 and 1877 depict the Project Site as undeveloped, or at least not subdivided in anticipation of development (Figure 10). On the 1871 map, the Project Site is within but just on the border of Rancho La Brea, southwest of a cactus patch and a house, and east of the “Road to the Cahuenga Pass,” which would become the route of the US-101. The 1877 map shows the Project Site on unsurveyed land along a hill or slope (Figure 11). In the early twentieth century, the Project Site and general vicinity were characterized by small, sparsely situated, residential developments. The first Sanborn map depicting the Project Site dates to 1919 and shows several residences within the area. In total there are 12 structures labeled domestic residences and four garages within the Project Site at this time (Figure 12). The 1950 Sanborn map shows that most of the properties along Sunset Boulevard had been converted to storefronts and the building at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Vine Street had been demolished and replaced with a restaurant. One of the residences along Vine Street had also been converted to a storefront, while the five residences with frontages on Leland Way remained unchanged and two additional multifamily residences had been added (Figure 13). There were multiple garages in the rears of the Leland Way residences by this time. The final Sanborn map from 1955 largely depicts the Project Site in the same way as the 1950 Sanborn map (Figure 14).

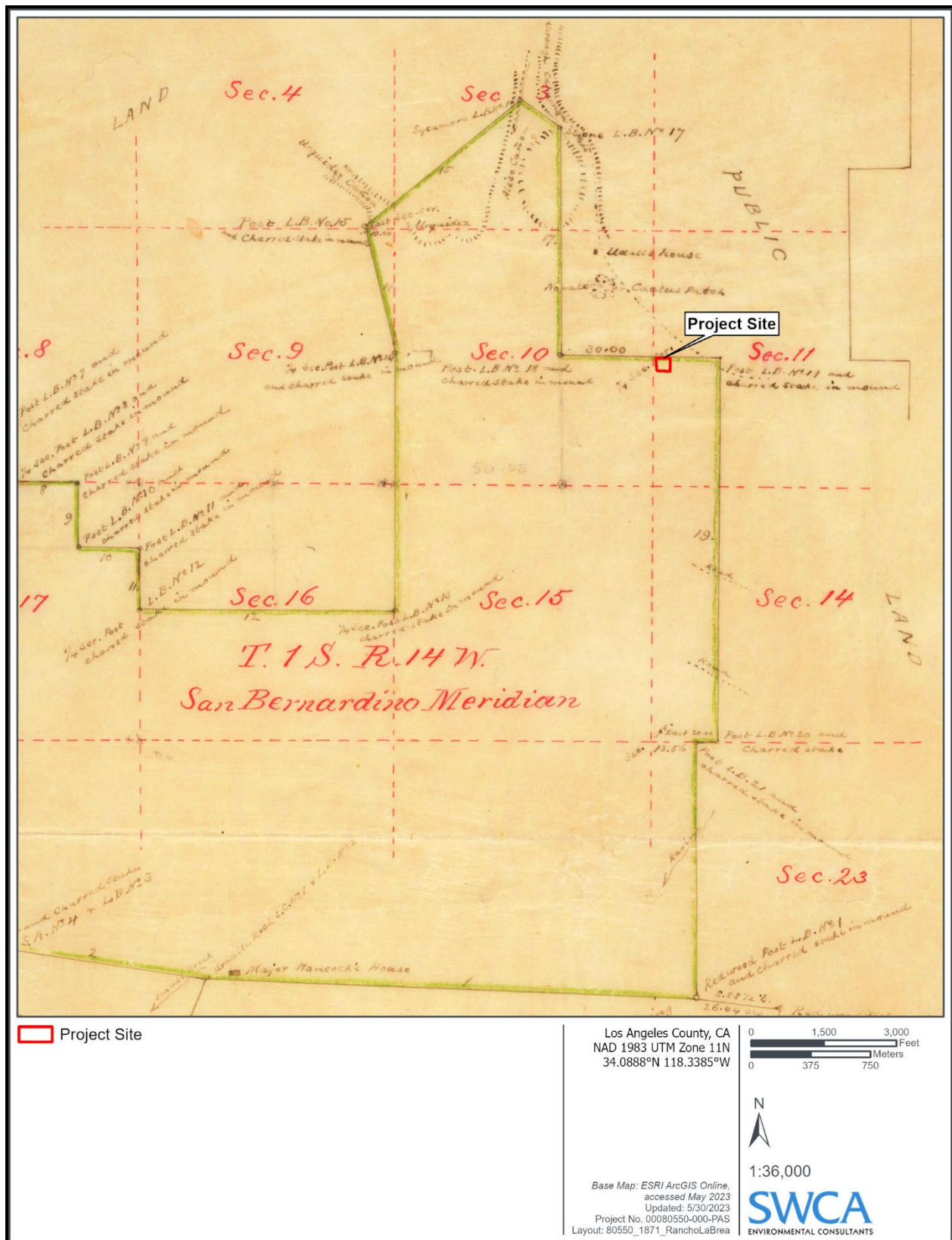


Figure 10. Project Site plotted on an 1871 plat map for Rancho La Brea (Source: Huntington Map Library, Unique identifier 313830).

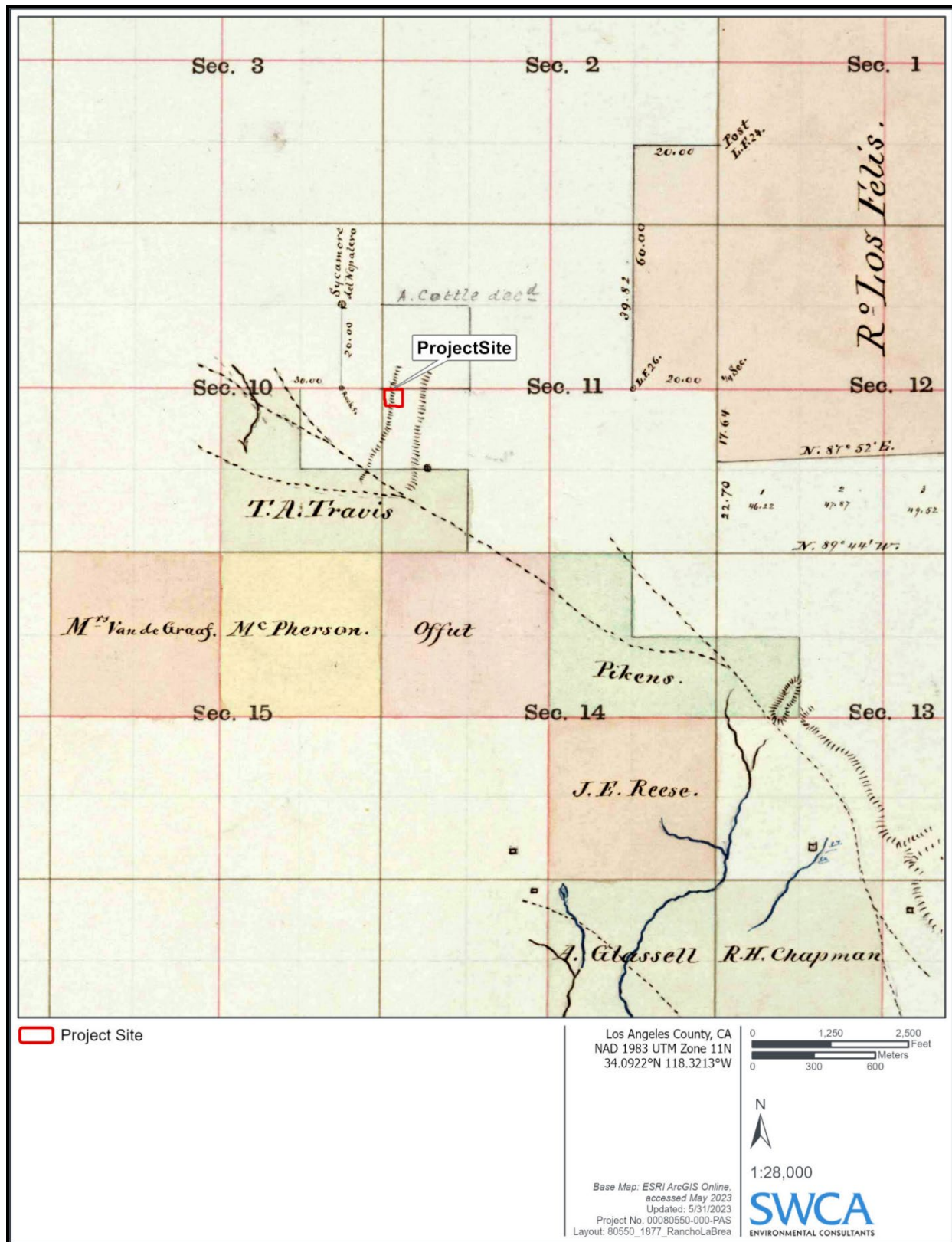


Figure 11. Project Site plotted on an 1877 plat map indicating landowners for various properties and showing some unimproved roads (dashed lines), streams (solid blue lines), and landforms (hatched contours) (Source: Huntington Library, Unique Identifier 312832).

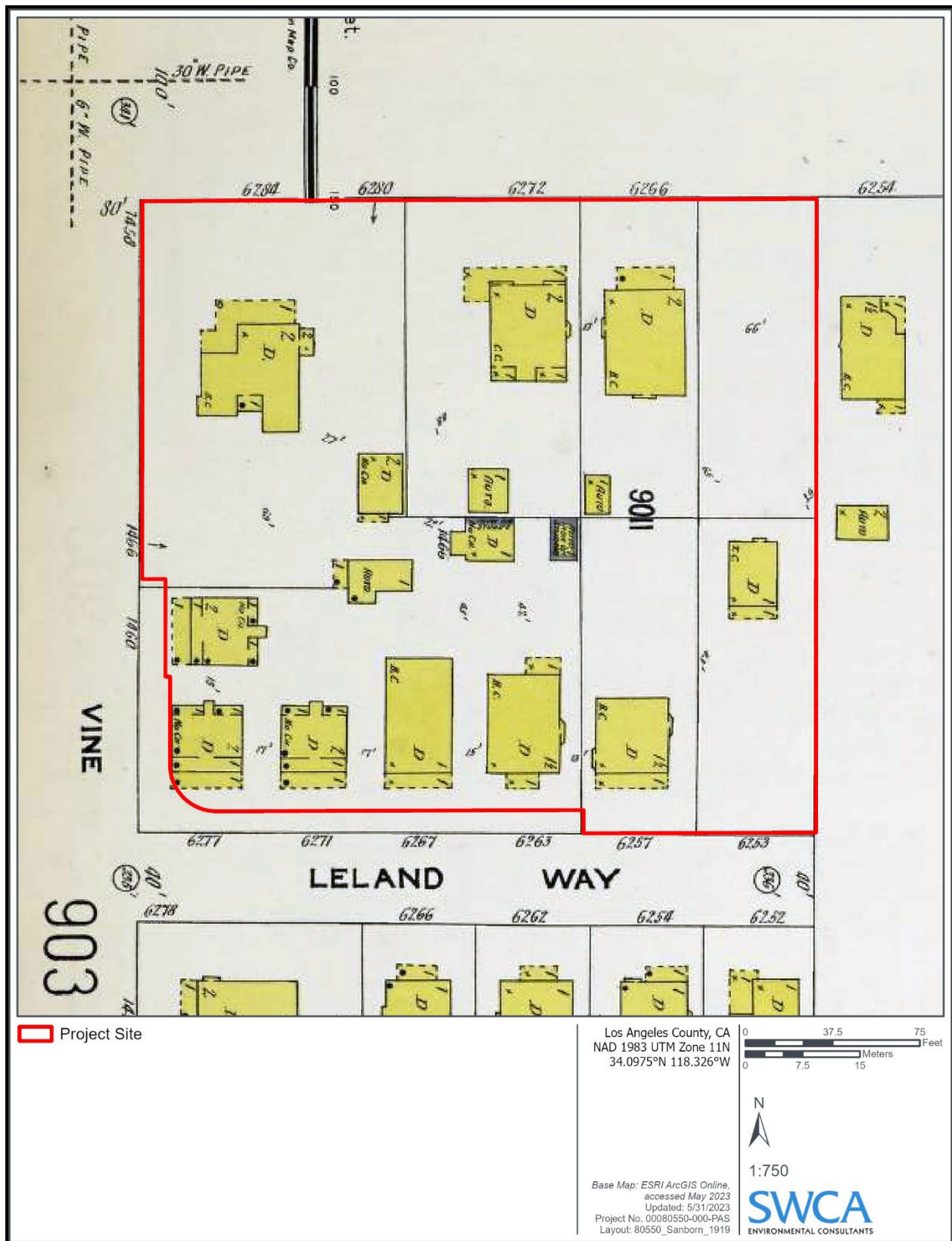


Figure 12. Project Site depicted on the 1919 Sanborn map.

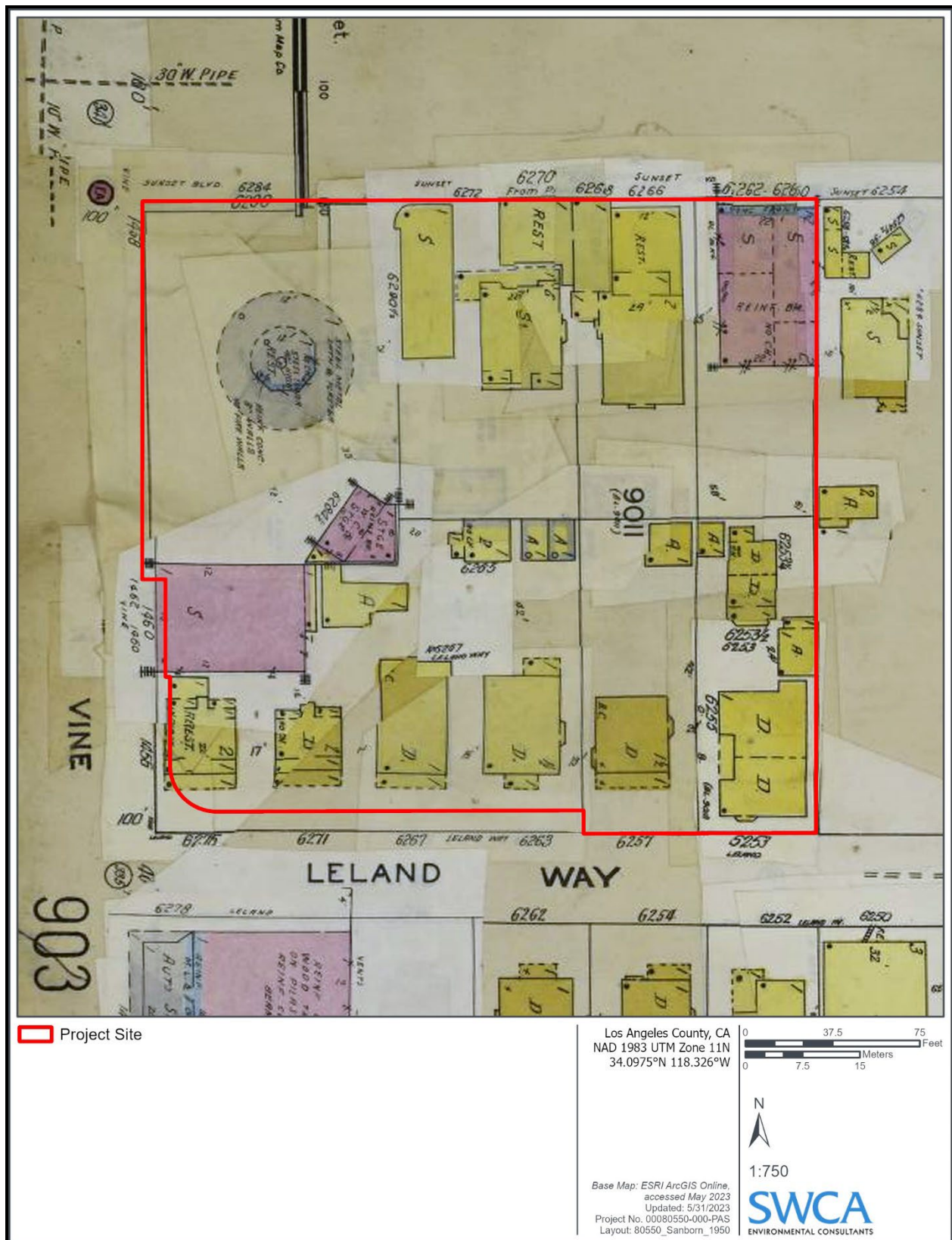


Figure 13. Project Site depicted on the 1950 Sanborn map. Updates to the older basemap are visible as cut-and-paste segments.

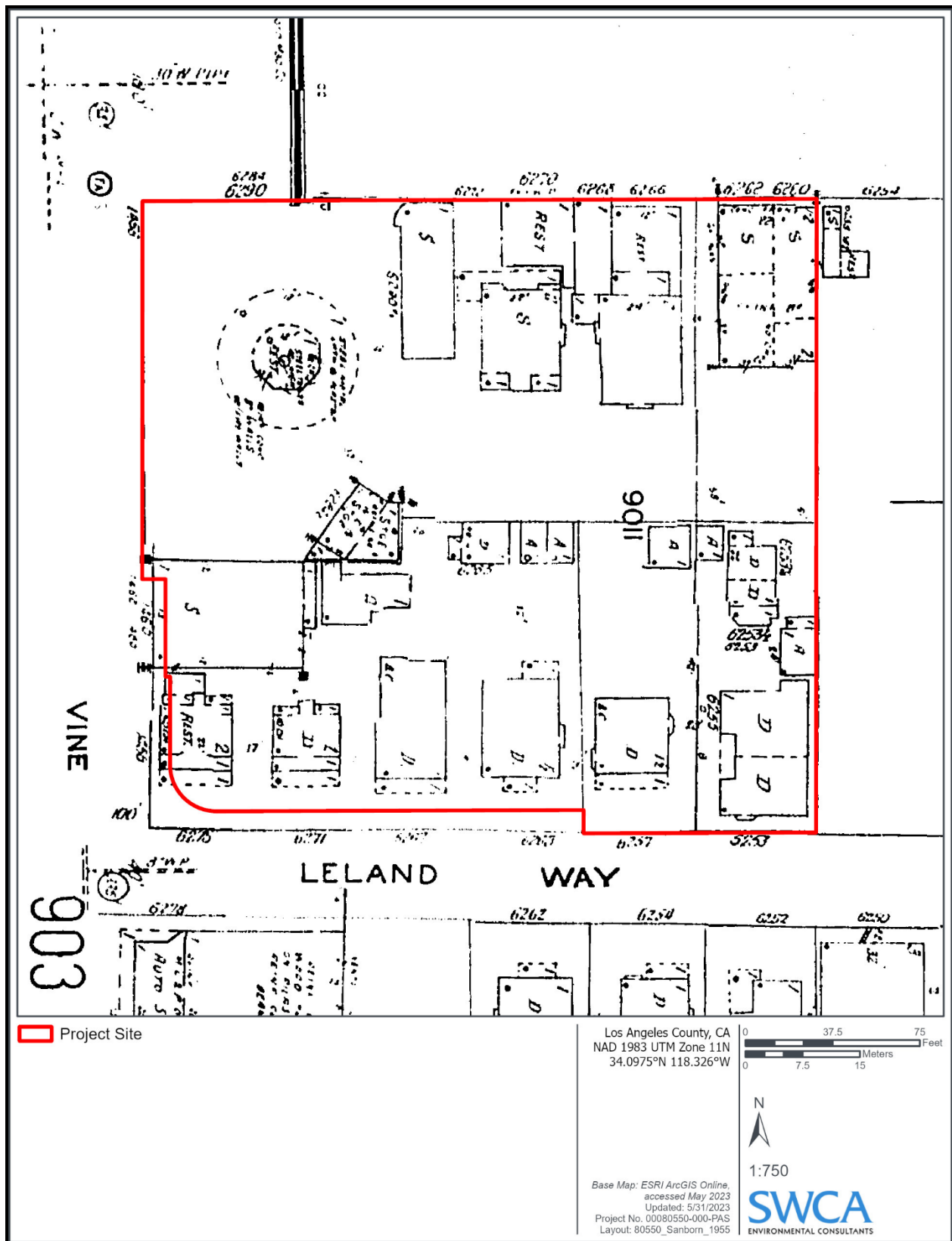


Figure 14. Project Site depicted on the 1955 Sanborn map.

Aerial Photograph Review (1928 to Present)

Aerial photographs from the early and mid-twentieth century provide more clarity regarding the development of the Project Site. The 1928 aerial photograph shows that the Project Site was developed primarily with residences at this time, all of which appear to be smaller, single-family structures (Figure 15). By 1938, the residence that had once existed in the northwest corner of the Project Site had been replaced by a circular restaurant, the same building which is seen on the Sanborn Map from 1950. This restaurant was originally known as the Pig Stand Drive-In and was developed in 1931; however, the restaurant underwent a change of ownership in 1937, becoming the Carpenter's Sandwich Drive-In (Snow and McGee 2021:8). The 1938 aerial photograph indicates that the remainder of the Project Site was largely unchanged between 1928 and 1938 and was still dominated by small residences (Figure 15). The next aerial photograph dates to 1941 and shows the Project Site largely unchanged save for the addition of the building in the northeast corner of the Project Site, and the addition of several smaller ancillary structures, likely garages, behind the residences with frontages on Leland Way (Figure 16). The aerial photograph from 1962 depicts many of the previously noted residences, although it is apparent that the space between the residences that front Vine Street and those that front Leland Way had been converted to parking. The most significant change to the Project Site during this time was the development of the extant, 19-story tower in the northwest corner of the Project Site, replacing Carpenter's Sandwich Drive-In (Figure 16). The Sunset Vine Tower, as it is known, officially opened in 1963 and had the distinction of being the first tower to be constructed after the City of Los Angeles repealed the 14-story building height limit restriction (Snow and McGee 2021:8-9). The aerial photograph from 1989 indicates that all but two of the residences that fronted Leland Way had been demolished. In the aerial photographs from 1989 and 2000, the extant structures along Sunset Boulevard, Vine Street, and Leland Way are all present. The aerial photographs do not show any significant or distinguishable changes to the Project Site after this time (Figure 17).

As previously mentioned, the Project Site contains eight existing structures, one of which, the Sunset Vine Tower, will not be impacted by the proposed development. The remaining seven structures will be demolished as part of the proposed Project. Along Sunset Boulevard, there are four structures, including one built in 1913 (6266 Sunset Boulevard), one built in 1945 (6268 Sunset Boulevard), one built in 1913 and altered in 1944 (6272 Sunset Boulevard), and one built sometime between 1938 and 1941 (6260 Sunset Boulevard) (Snow and McGee 2021). Importantly, although two of the properties along Sunset Boulevard (6266 Sunset Boulevard and 6272 Sunset Boulevard) have seen a change of use over time from residential to commercial, the aeriels indicate that the structures themselves have not been demolished but were instead altered or renovated to accommodate these changes. Both structures along Leland Way were originally built around 1911 (6236 Leland Way and 6253 Leland Way). Finally, the structure along Vine Street (1460 Vine Street) was built in 1971 according to records from the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety. This building appears to have been built directly within the footprint of the structure that existed previously, which had been built sometime between 1928 and 1938.

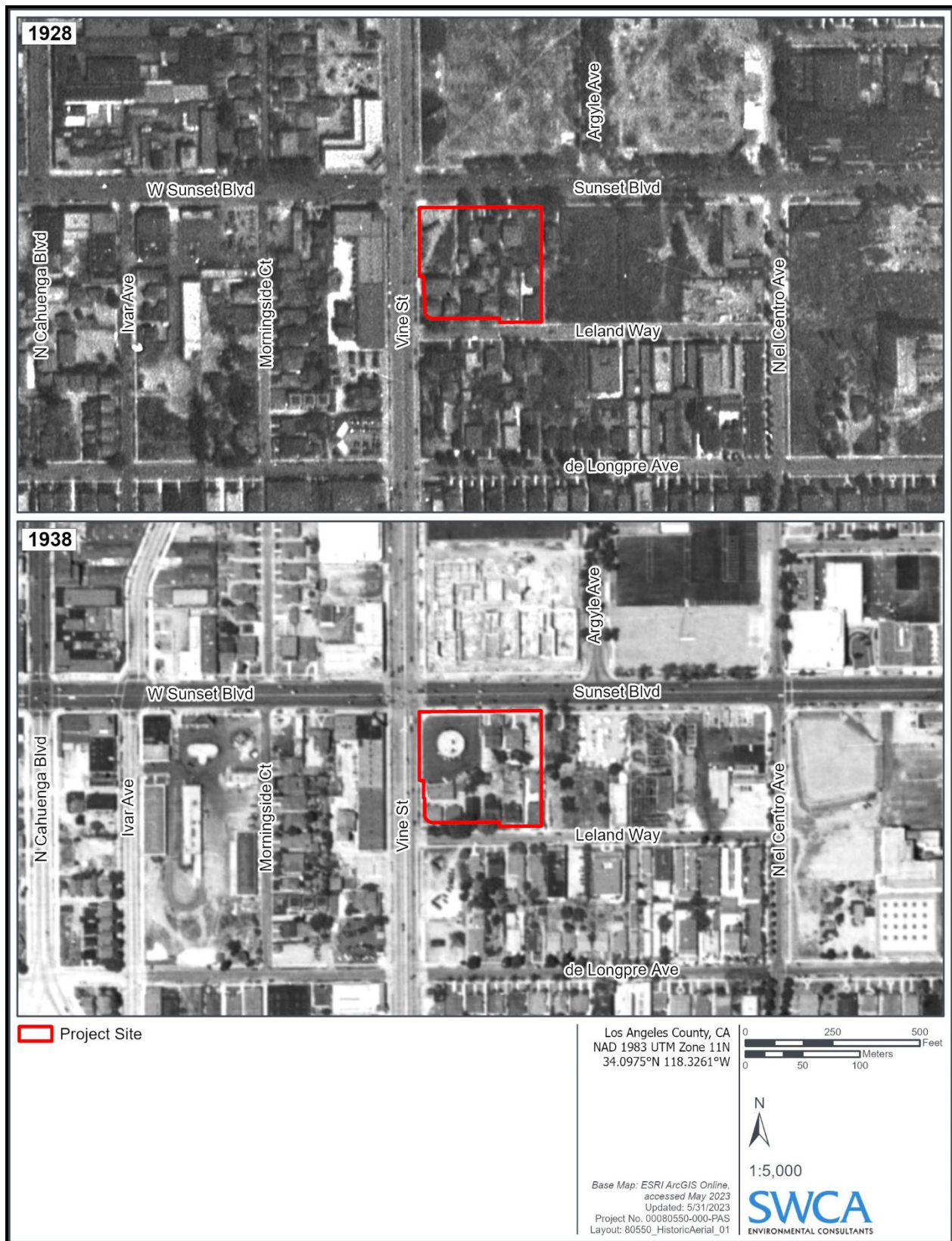


Figure 15. Project Site depicted on aerial photographs from 1928 and 1938.

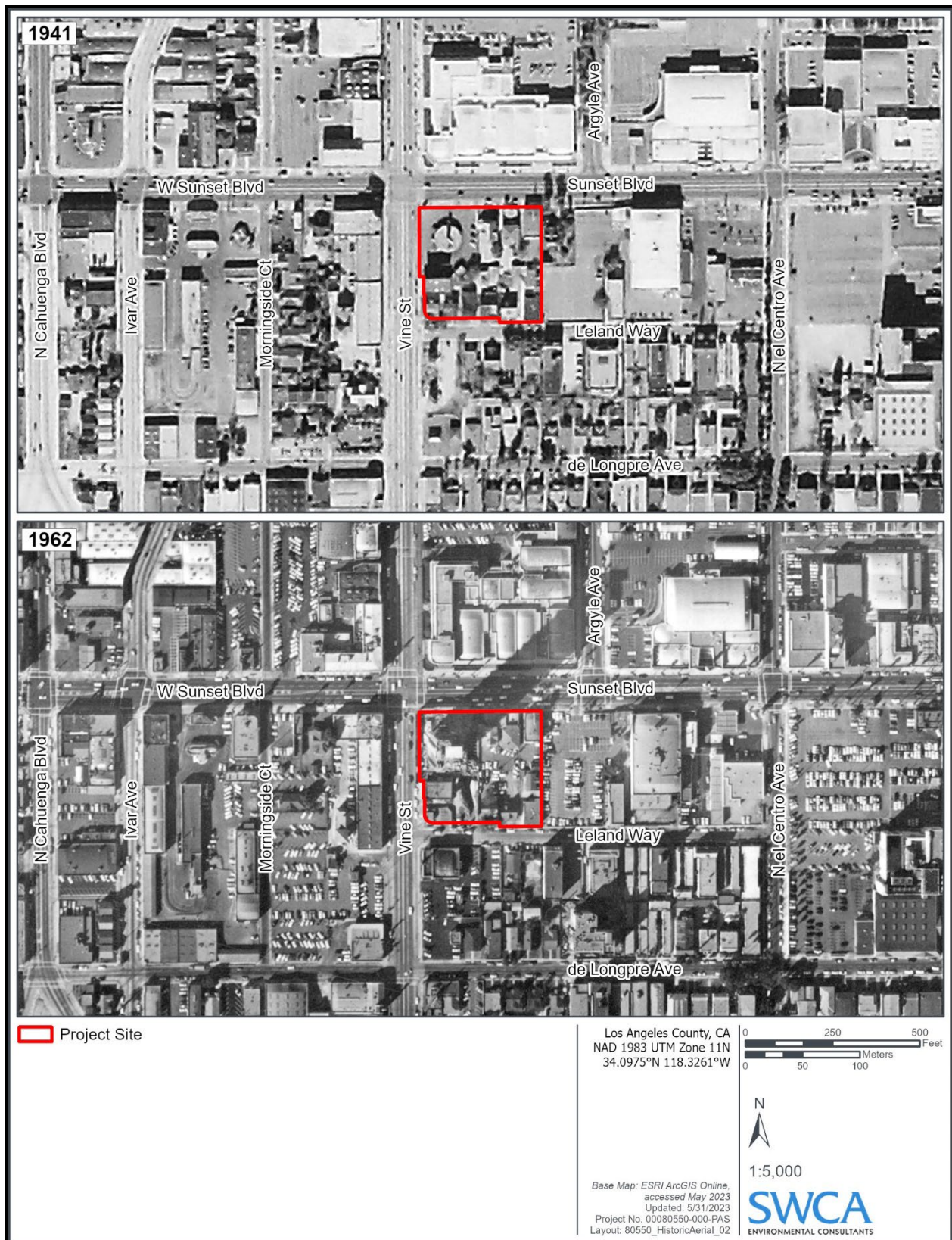


Figure 16. Project Site depicted on aerial photographs from 1941 and 1962.

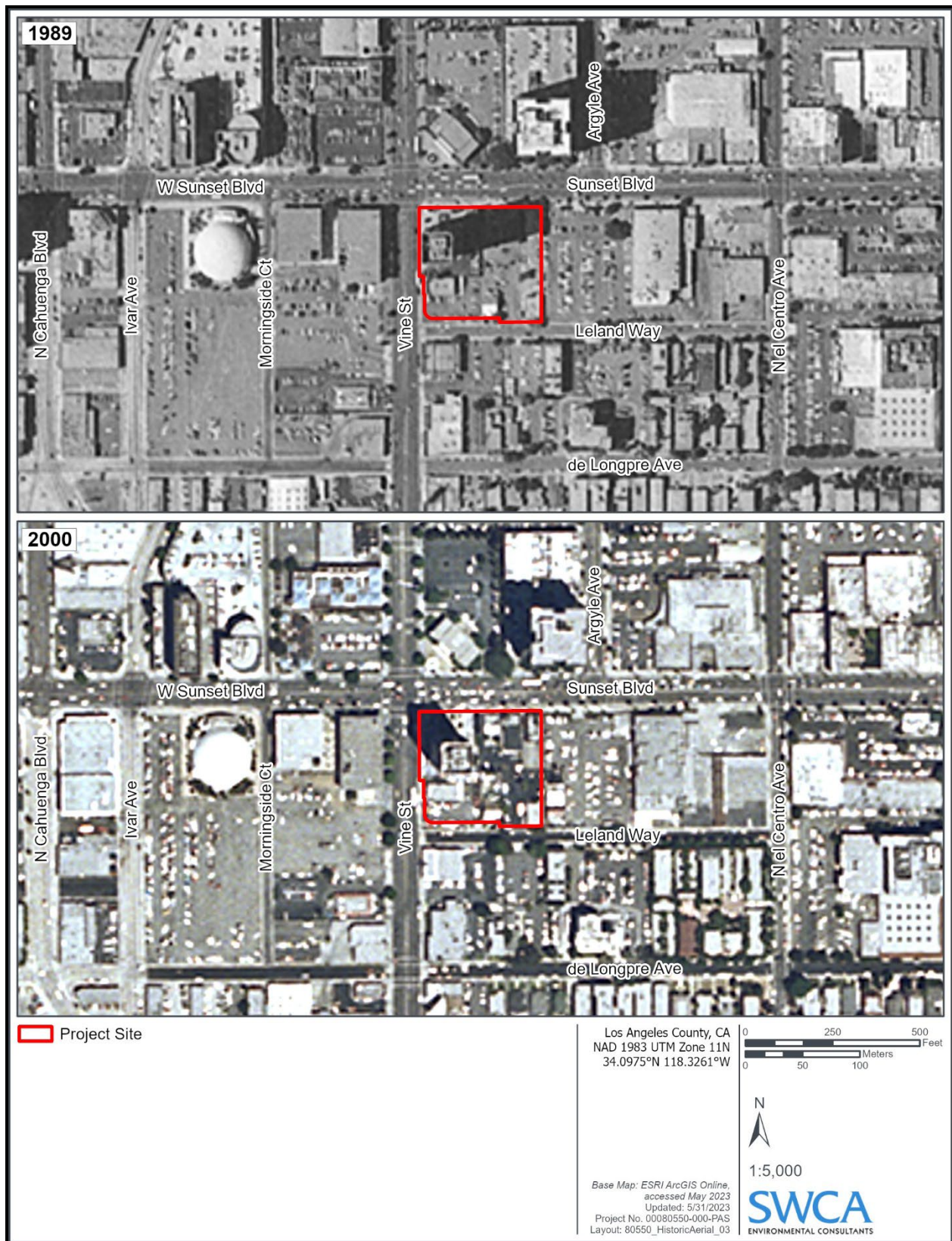


Figure 17. Project Site depicted on aerial photographs from 1989 and 2000.

SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

Methods

This section assesses the potential (i.e., sensitivity) for tribal cultural resources that are archaeological in nature to be preserved below the surface of the Project Site. Although not all tribal cultural resources are archaeological in nature, those likely to be preserved below the surface are likely to fit the definition of an archaeological and tribal cultural resource. The location of buried archaeological deposits, including those that are potential tribal cultural resources, is unpredictable in nature; however, combining information from different sources can allow for a qualitative assessment of the likelihood for a buried tribal cultural resource to be present within a given area or project site. Accordingly, sensitivity assessments are qualitative or probabilistic in nature—ranging along a spectrum of increasing probability—which is designated here as low, moderate, and high sensitivity. The sensitivity assessment essentially combines two variables: indications of intensive use and preservation conditions. Areas with a favorable setting for habitation or use, soil conditions capable of preserving buried material, and little to no disturbance are considered to have a high sensitivity. Areas lacking these traits are considered to have low sensitivity. Areas with a combination of these traits are generally considered to have moderate sensitivity.

The first variable considered in SWCA's sensitivity assessment concerns the link between human behavior and material remains, i.e., whether there are any indications that a given area was the focus of past use by Native Americans such that any material remains, or physical evidence associated with those activities, would have resulted. Questions asked include: What was the environmental setting within the time period of human occupation in southern California (approximately the last 13,000 years)? Was the location favorable for habitation or other types of activities in this time span based on what we know about past Native American lifeways?

The next consideration given is whether the setting of a given project is conducive to the preservation of any such material remains that may have once been present. Assessing the preservation conditions considers the following types of questions: Is there a potential for shallow or deeply buried deposits? What kinds of land uses have occurred within the region and have there been any alterations to the physical setting within the Project Site? What is the age of the sediments, and is there evidence of high or low energy deposition or erosion during the period of human occupation? Did the physical alterations result from natural causes, such as flooding or erosion, or from more recent historical developments, such as mechanical grading, and how have these processes influenced the potential for preserving buried materials? In other words, is there evidence that natural or historical developments may have eroded, displaced, or otherwise destroyed any potential materials that may have once been present?

To assess these variables, SWCA considers archaeological, ethnographic, historical, environmental, and other archival data sources (described above). These sources are reviewed to determine whether the general location is described in ethnographic studies and oral histories and whether the area of interest is similar to the physical setting in which other Native American archaeological sites have been identified. Where the sensitivity assessment considers proximity to a given feature—a known archaeological site; a former village, settlement, or placename; or an environmental feature—there is no universal measure between sensitivity and distance, nor is there a consistent depth above or below which buried resources can occur in all circumstances. These variables are assessed on a case-by-case basis, and the conclusions incorporate a degree of professional judgment based on industry standards and best practices for archaeology.

Archaeological site data include those identified in the CHRIS records search and supplemental background research. The CHRIS data are also analyzed in greater detail to identify any sample bias in the identification of sites, which is to say, to what degree the absence of site information is the result of no resources having been identified or that no archaeological investigation took place.

Results

SWCA's review of ethnographic literature and regional archaeological information identified several Native American placenames, settlements, and archaeological sites in the vicinity of the Project Site, ranging from 2.24 to 16.7 km (1.39 to 10.38 miles) from the Project Site. These include named settlements such as Geveronga, Maawnga, and Yaanga to the east-southeast in the downtown Los Angeles area, Kuruvungna and Guaspét in the Ballona area to the southwest, and Kaweenga to the northwest. The nearest of these settlements is Kaweenga, which is located 5.71 km (3.55 miles) northwest of the Project Site. Other notable sites that have archaeological components in the region have been recorded at the Fern Dell recreation area (LAN-196) to the northeast and the La Brea Tar Pits (LAN- 159/H) to the southwest, as well as several sites in and along Ballona Creek and around the Baldwin Hills to the southwest.

LAN-196, the site recorded at Fern Dell 2.24 km (1.39 miles) to the northeast, is the nearest archaeological site to the Project Site that was at least reported to contain a Native American component, although the materials were never described in detail and their whereabouts are unknown. The Native American archaeological site with confirmed components that is closest to the Project Site comes from the La Brea Tar Pits (LAN-159/H), which is approximately 4.7 km (2.92 miles) southwest. The La Brea Tar Pits was an important terrestrial source of asphaltum for Native Americans in the region and is considered a tribal cultural resource. The Native American sites identified in SWCA's regional background research help to convey basic regional patterns of settlement and use that show concentrations near permanent water sources and near but peripheral to areas that were subject to substantial inundation or topography that is too steep.

LAN-196 has not been assessed as a tribal cultural resource. While the material components of the site at Fern Dell (LAN-196) cannot be confirmed and there is no record of the source for the Gabrielino placename that was ascribed to it in the 1930s, the presence of a spring and its topographic setting are both typical of places likely to have been used by Native Americans for at least temporary habitation and seasonal visitation. Several springs have been documented at a similar elevation contour within the southern flank of the Santa Monica Mountains and would have provided important resources used by Native Americans, indicating the foothills and especially the toeslopes are areas of more focused activity.

The Native American sites identified in SWCA's regional background research helps to convey basic regional patterns of settlement and use that show concentrations near permanent water sources and near but outside areas subject to substantial inundation or topography that is too steep. At distances ranging from 2.24 to 16.7 km (1.39 to 10.38 miles) away, these sites are too far away to suggest any material components are likely to occur as buried deposits within the Project Site, which is situated in open space approximately equidistant to several of the mentioned Native American settlements and sites.

The Project Site is not located within or directly adjacent to any known natural resources that would have focused Native American activities in this location and increased the likelihood of a tribal cultural resource being present. However, several wetland features, including a valley freshwater marsh and a wet meadow that were part of the northern extent of the Ballona watershed were once located to the south of the Project Site, and multiple streams and springs are noted as having been present to the north. The former streams in this area provided drainage for water discharged from the Santa Monica Mountains and form tributaries of Ballona Creek or the Los Angeles River when it followed its western course. There is a concentration of Native American archaeological sites recorded near wetland features formed along the northeast side of the Baldwin Hills, as well as sites along Ballona Creek and in the areas surrounding the Ballona wetlands, near the Gabrielino settlement known as Guaspét. In contrast to these sites identified in these downstream areas, the sites at the La Brea Tar Pits and Fern Dell recreation area are the only two Native American archaeological sites that have been recorded upstream and within the alluvial plain at the base of the Santa Monica Mountains, which includes the Hollywood area and the

Project Site. Thus, in general, the alluvial plain is lower in sensitivity for tribal cultural resources when compared to the areas immediately surrounding current and former springs, which are found at regular intervals in the foothills to the north of the Project Site or in more isolated locations within the basin, such as the La Brea Tar Pits.

Based on regional geologic mapping, the subsurface environment of the Project Site appears to be characterized by alluvial and fan deposits formed in the late Pleistocene age, meaning mostly before Native Americans are documented to have been present in North America. The surface sediments are likely underlain by older Pleistocene-age deposits that were formed well before Native Americans were present. This suggests that any Native American activities that occurred on these surfaces and produced physical remains are, in general, more likely to occur as shallowly buried deposits, and are more vulnerable to mechanical alterations. A preliminary geotechnical investigation was conducted for the Project in December 2020; however, this study did not determine the depth of any fill or native sediments within the Project Site. The study notes that the Project Site soils generally consist of 11 to 15 feet of loose to medium dense silty sand and firm sandy silt, underlain predominantly by interbedded layers of very stiff to hard clays and silts. Although it could not be directly verified whether the uppermost sedimentary stratum is composed of fill, the loose sediments are consistent with the zone in which fill sediments are most likely to be contained.

SWCA considered the regional and site-specific historical land uses for the Project Site in terms of how the physical setting may have been altered and the corresponding influence on the preservation of any tribal cultural resources that may have once been present. The Project Site was part of Rancho La Brea, which was used in the Mission, Rancho, and American periods as open range for grazing cattle and sheep, as well as small-scale agriculture. No evidence was identified indicating that there were ranch houses or settlements associated with the operation of a specific ranch in the Project Site from these periods. Maps from the late nineteenth century indicate that there was at least one house near the Project Site. The tracts that established the current parcels and street grid were surveyed by 1906 and slowly developed within the first two decades of the twentieth century. Initial residential developments within the Project Site shifted toward commercial uses as the twentieth century progressed, particularly along the Sunset Boulevard and Vine Street. However, several of the commercial developments during this time were within structures that had been converted from the original residential use. Along Leland Way, the residential developments that were originally built were slowly demolished, leaving only the two extant properties on Leland Way within the Project Site. As properties along Leland Way were demolished the areas were paved. Although several buildings on the Project Site had been demolished and paved over for parking or to accommodate the development of the Sunset Vine Tower, many of the existing structures date to the earliest development of the Project Site.

As a result of the development within the Project Site in the early to mid-twentieth century, which included development and demolition events, the alluvial sediments which once formed the surficial and immediate subsurface setting of the Project Site have very likely been mechanically altered through excavation and grading. These events could have resulted in the alluvial soils being removed, intermixed with imported sediments, or simply displaced within the parcel being developed. As a result of these activities, soils that had the ability to contain deposits associated with Native American peoples have likely been destroyed or heavily impacted. Sediments that have become altered in this way are typically designated as fill in geotechnical investigations. Fill sediments are very likely to characterize the setting immediately beneath the pavement or extant building foundations within the Project Site. Any fill sediments present within the Project Site can be assumed to be capping the naturally deposited sediments beneath and have likely replaced, either partially or fully, the Pleistocene-aged deposits that once formed the surface.

It has been demonstrated at some sites in the greater Los Angeles area that Native American artifacts can be preserved and recovered from within sediments designated as fill, but in each of these examples, this

occurs when there is an underlying deposit preserved within the naturally deposited sediments. Given that the surface of the Project Site has been completely developed, a tribal cultural resource that may have once been on the surface or shallowly buried is less likely to have been preserved. If any such object were preserved within the Project Site, it was likely moved from its original location. Based strictly on the age of sedimentary deposits in the underlying sediments that are described by regional geologic mapping, a deeply buried tribal cultural resource is very unlikely to be present in the older Pleistocene sedimentary units. This assessment is based primarily on regional geological mapping, which may not reflect smaller scale variations within the Project Site. The geotechnical report reviewed for this project does not contain sufficient information to confirm the presence of fill within the Project Site, but the looser sediments noted as being present in the geotechnical testing are indicative of fill.

To summarize, historical maps and ecological reconstructions indicate that natural resources important to Native American communities were once located in the general vicinity of the Project Site, but the Project Site is not close enough to these resources to result in an increased sensitivity for a tribal cultural resource that is archaeological in nature. No evidence was identified to suggest the Project Site once contained a specific natural resource or had a topographic position that would have focused Native American activities and increased the likelihood of material remains from those activities being deposited. Naturally deposited alluvial sediments that are Holocene in age have the best potential to contain a buried tribal cultural resource, whereas the older Pleistocene sediments mapped in this part of the Los Angeles Basin are likely too old to contain Native American objects or sites. Land development within the Project Site during the early to mid-twentieth century has altered the physical setting and likely destroyed or displaced any tribal cultural resource that may have once been present on the surface or been shallowly buried. Where buildings exist, the sediments with the best potential to contain a tribal cultural resource would have been excavated and the tribal cultural resource sensitivity is clearly low or absent altogether. The geotechnical testing was limited in its assessment of sediments within the Project Site, so it is possible that pockets of Holocene-aged alluvium may still exist, i.e., outside of extant or former building footprints where the land-development activities were relatively shallow. Also, buried Native American objects may even be recovered from within those modified surficial sediments. Thus, the potential for a tribal cultural resource cannot be completely ruled out. However, the lack of substantial evidence suggesting the Project Site was intensively used by Native Americans, coupled with the known poor preservation conditions caused by the historical development of the Project Site throughout the twentieth century, indicates that **the overall sensitivity for tribal cultural resources within the Project Site is low.**

RESOURCE SIGNIFICANCE CONSIDERATIONS

To the degree that a buried tribal cultural resource is defined based on its eligibility for the CRHR, this eligibility is typically established based upon satisfying Criterion 4, which requires that the resource yield or be likely to yield information important in Native American history (PRC Section 5024.1[c][4]). For a Native American object, feature, or site to satisfy Criteria 4 of the CRHR, it must possess sufficient integrity such that the important information can be conveyed. The National Register criteria distinguish seven qualities of integrity and the National Park Service (NPS) has issued guidelines for evaluating the NRHP eligibility of an archaeological property with considerations given to the aspects of integrity (Little et al. 2000). These federal guidelines are an appropriate substitute for evaluating CRHR eligibility in the absence of state-specific guidance from the California Office of Historic Preservation. Criterion 4 in the CRHR is essentially equivalent to Criterion D in the NRHP, which collectively are contingent upon the *information* potential of a resource. For resources evaluated under Criterion 1 of the CRHR (or Criterion D of the NRHP), the integrity of the location, design, materials, and association are especially critical (Little et al. 2000:35–38). This is because the ability to yield the important information requires knowing the geographic origin of the resource on a landscape (location) and the spatial relationship of the resource's components to one another (design and association), and it requires that the physical condition

of the material components themselves be intact enough to allow for a meaningful analysis to be conducted (materials).

Resources that are deposited within naturally deposited sediments have a greater potential of retaining their integrity; hence, there is a greater likelihood of a tribal cultural resource being designated as such if the resource is identified within naturally deposited sediment. This is not to say that all naturally deposited sediments have a high likelihood of containing a tribal cultural resource, only that a potential tribal cultural resource is more likely to be found eligible for the CRHR under Criterion 4 if it is identified within naturally deposited sediments. This also does not preclude resources identified within sediments that have been mechanically altered—so-called fill soils—from being able to satisfy Criterion 4 of the CRHR, only that they are typically less likely to do so.

FEASIBILITY OF PRESERVATION IN PLACE

Section 15126.4 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14) sets forth specific rules applicable to mitigation measures for historical resources, which are applicable to tribal cultural resources. Subdivision (b)(3) of these Guidelines states that “Public agencies should, whenever feasible, seek to avoid damaging effects on any historical resource of an archaeological nature.” This would include a tribal cultural resource that is archaeological in nature. Subdivision (b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines establishes the requirement for an environmental impact report (EIR) to consider and discuss the following four factors when identifying appropriate mitigation measures for a project involving an archaeological site:

(A) Preservation in place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to archaeological sites. Preservation in place maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context. Preservation may also avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the site.

(B) Preservation in place may be accomplished by, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Planning construction to avoid archaeological sites;
2. Incorporation of sites within parks, greenspace, or other open space;
3. Covering the archaeological sites with a layer of chemically stable soil before building tennis courts, parking lots, or similar facilities on the site.
4. Deeding the site into a permanent conservation easement.

(C) When data recovery through excavation is the only feasible mitigation, a data recovery plan, which makes provision for adequately recovering the scientifically consequential information from and about the historical resource, shall be prepared and adopted prior to any excavation being undertaken. Such studies shall be deposited with the California Historical Resources Regional Information Center. Archaeological sites known to contain human remains shall be treated in accordance with the provisions of Section 7050.5 Health and Safety Code. If an artifact must be removed during project excavation or testing, curation may be an appropriate mitigation.

(D) Data recovery shall not be required for an historical resource if the lead agency determines that testing or studies already completed have adequately recovered the scientifically consequential information from and about the archaeological or historical resource, provided that the determination is documented in the EIR and that the studies are deposited with the California Historical Resources Regional Information Center.

There are no known tribal cultural resources identified in the Project Site; therefore, planning for avoidance is not possible. Tribal cultural resource sensitivity was assessed as low for the Project Site.

The Project design currently includes constructing a subterranean parking lot and developing multiple new buildings which will include substantial excavation and very likely precludes the potential for incorporating a tribal cultural resource that may be discovered during construction into a park, greenspace, or open space; protecting the site under a soil stratum; or deeding the property into a conservation easement. Thus, if a buried tribal cultural resource that is archaeological in nature is identified within the Project Site, it is very unlikely that preservation in place will be a feasible form of mitigation under any of the examples listed in CEQA Guidelines, and that data recovery is likely to be the only feasible means of mitigation for a buried tribal cultural resource that is archaeological in nature in so far as it is defined by its CRHR eligibility under Criterion 4.

PRELIMINARY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Project Site is fully paved or otherwise developed with buildings and structures. Confirming the presence or absence of a buried tribal cultural resource in the Project Site would require obtaining a reasonable test sample of the subsurface conditions from across the sediments capable of containing a buried tribal cultural resource. Under the current conditions, such a testing effort poses unreasonable logistical and economic constraints that make it infeasible to conduct for purposes of analyzing the potential for impacts to a tribal cultural under CEQA. Given these constraints, the potential for a buried tribal cultural resource was assessed by SWCA for the Project Site based upon available evidence obtained through a review of ethnographic and academic literature, historical land uses, and regional geology.

SWCA's review included a search of the CHRIS and SLF that returned negative results for any previously recorded sites or resources that may be a tribal cultural resource. Supplemental analysis indicated that the nearest previously recorded archaeological sites with confirmed Native American components is located 2.24 km (1.39 miles) northeast of the Project Site, which is too far away to suggest that any directly associated material components may be preserved within the Project Site. SWCA's assessment found that the Project Site has a low likelihood for a tribal cultural resource that is archaeological in nature to be preserved beneath the Project Site.

CRHR eligibility for a buried Native American object, feature, or site is typically established under Criterion 4. For a resource that is eligible for listing on the CRHR to be considered a tribal cultural resource, Section 21074(a)(1) stipulates that it must first have cultural value to a California Native American tribe. In other words, CRHR eligibility is a necessary but not sufficient criterion for a resource to be defined as a tribal cultural resource. For the purposes of designating a tribal cultural resource, PRC Section 21074(a)(2) gives lead agencies discretion in determining if a resource is significant based on the CRHR criteria, when the determination is supported by substantial evidence. SWCA did not identify any substantial evidence indicating a tribal cultural resource is present or likely to be encountered within the Project Site.

The proposed Project would require excavation to an anticipated maximum depth of 36 feet below ground surface. While unlikely, the possibility for a buried tribal cultural resource within the excavation area cannot be fully ruled out. Any deeply buried Native American artifacts or sites are likely to be a tribal cultural resource and would require evaluation and treatment if identified during ground-disturbing activities for the Project. If Native American artifacts were identified within a shallow stratum of fill soils, these would also have to be assessed by a Native American tribal party to determine whether they meet the criteria to be considered a tribal cultural resource, although they may be less likely to meet the definition of a tribal cultural resource. To ensure that any as-yet unidentified tribal cultural resources are evaluated and treated accordingly during ground-disturbing activities for the Project, SWCA recommends City Planning impose their standard condition of approval for the inadvertent discovery of tribal cultural resources.

Tribal consultation pursuant to PRC Section 21082.3.1 remains ongoing for the Project. If consultation is initiated with any of the tribal parties from the City's AB 52 Consultation List who received notification letters, then they may contribute new information, reach a different conclusion regarding the potential for impacts, or request mitigation measures. If this information is submitted as part of the government-to-government consultation, then the results of this study may need to be revised, or the findings presented in the Project's overall CEQA analysis may vary from the analysis and conclusions presented here. If any measures are requested by consulting tribes, then SWCA recommends they be assessed in terms of their adequacy and need after considering the information submitted by any consulting tribal parties.

Otherwise, SWCA finds that the potential for impacts to a tribal cultural resource under CEQA is less than significant.

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APPENDIX A

California Historical Resources Information System Records Search Results

CONFIDENTIAL—NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

This appendix contains sensitive information regarding the nature and explicit location of archaeological and tribal cultural sites, which should not be disclosed to the general public or unauthorized persons pursuant to California Government Code 6254(r) and 6254.10.

Information regarding the location, character, or ownership of a cultural resource is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, California Code of Regulations Section 15120 (d).

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California Historical Resources Information System
Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties

6/2/2023

Records Search File No.: 24714.10983

Erica Nicolay
SWCA Environmental Consultants
320 N Halstead St.
Pasadena, CA 91107

Re: Record Search Results for the Sunset and Vine Project (80550)

The South Central Coastal Information Center received your records search request for the project area(s) referenced above, located on the Hollywood, CA USGS 7.5' quadrangle(s). The following reflects the results of the records search for the project area and a ½-mile radius:

As indicated on the data request form, the locations of archaeological resources and reports are provided in the following format: ☐ custom GIS maps ☒ shape files ☐ hand-drawn maps

Archaeological resources within project area: 0	None
Archaeological resources within ½-mile radius: 1	SEE ATTACHED MAP or LIST
Reports within project area: 5	LA-07562, LA-07565, LA-07566, LA-08020, LA-11797
Reports within ½-mile radius: 28	SEE ATTACHED MAP or LIST

<u>Resource Database Printout (list):</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Resource Database Printout (details):</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Resource Digital Database (spreadsheet):</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Report Database Printout (list):</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Report Database Printout (details):</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Report Digital Database (spreadsheet):</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Resource Record Copies:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Report Copies:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>OHP Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD) 2022:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> available online; please go to
https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30338	
<u>Archaeo Determinations of Eligibility 2022:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> not requested <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Historical Maps:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not requested <input type="checkbox"/> nothing listed
<u>Ethnographic Information:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not available at SCCIC
<u>Historical Literature:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not available at SCCIC

GLO and/or Rancho Plat Maps:

☒ not available at SCCIC

Caltrans Bridge Survey:

☒ not available at SCCIC; please go to

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/structur/strmaint/historic.htm>

Shipwreck Inventory:

☒ not available at SCCIC; please go to

http://shipwrecks.slc.ca.gov/ShipwrecksDatabase/Shipwrecks_Database.asp

Soil Survey Maps: (see below)

☒ not available at SCCIC; please go to

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

Please forward a copy of any resulting reports from this project to the office as soon as possible. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological site location data, we ask that you do not include resource location maps and resource location descriptions in your report if the report is for public distribution. If you have any questions regarding the results presented herein, please contact the office at the phone number listed above.

The provision of CHRIS Data via this records search response does not in any way constitute public disclosure of records otherwise exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act or any other law, including, but not limited to, records related to archeological site information maintained by or on behalf of, or in the possession of, the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Historic Preservation, or the State Historical Resources Commission.

Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the CHRIS Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

Should you require any additional information for the above referenced project, reference the record search number listed above when making inquiries. Requests made after initial invoicing will result in the preparation of a separate invoice.

Thank you for using the California Historical Resources Information System,

Isabela Kott

Assistant Coordinator, GIS Program Specialist

Enclosures:

- (X) GIS Shapefiles – 34 shapes
- (X) Resource Digital Database (spreadsheet) – 1 line
- (X) Report Digital Database (spreadsheet) – 33 lines
- (X) Resource Record Copies – (archaeological only) 6 pages
- (X) Report Copies – (project area only) 260 pages

APPENDIX B

Native American Heritage Commission Sacred Lands File Search Results



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

May 22, 2023

Erica Nicolay
SWCA Environmental Consultants

Via Email to: erica.nicolay@swca.com

CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
**Raymond C.
Hitchcock**
Miwok/Nisenan

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

Re: Sunset and Vine Project, Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Nicolay:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Los Angeles County
5/22/2023**

***Gabrieleno Band of Mission
Indians - Kizh Nation***

Andrew Salas, Chairperson
P.O. Box 393
Covina, CA, 91723
Phone: (844) 390 - 0787
admin@gabrielenoindians.org

Gabrieleno

***Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla
Indians***

Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair
P.O. Box 391820
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 659 - 2700
Fax: (951) 659-2228
Isaul@santarosa-nsn.gov

Cahuilla

***Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel
Band of Mission Indians***

Anthony Morales, Chairperson
P.O. Box 693
San Gabriel, CA, 91778
Phone: (626) 483 - 3564
Fax: (626) 286-1262
GTTribalcouncil@aol.com

Gabrieleno

***Soboba Band of Luiseno
Indians***

Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson
P. O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA, 92581
Phone: (951) 654 - 5544
Fax: (951) 654-4198
ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov

Cahuilla
Luiseno

Gabrielino /Tongva Nation

Sandonne Goad, Chairperson
106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St.,
#231
Los Angeles, CA, 90012
Phone: (951) 807 - 0479
sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com

Gabrielino

***Soboba Band of Luiseno
Indians***

Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural
Resource Department
P.O. BOX 487
San Jacinto, CA, 92581
Phone: (951) 663 - 5279
Fax: (951) 654-4198
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

Cahuilla
Luiseno

***Gabrielino Tongva Indians of
California Tribal Council***

Christina Conley, Cultural
Resource Administrator
P.O. Box 941078
Simi Valley, CA, 93094
Phone: (626) 407 - 8761
christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu

Gabrielino

***Gabrielino Tongva Indians of
California Tribal Council***

Robert Dorame, Chairperson
P.O. Box 490
Bellflower, CA, 90707
Phone: (562) 761 - 6417
Fax: (562) 761-6417
gtongva@gmail.com

Gabrielino

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe

Charles Alvarez,
23454 Vanowen Street
West Hills, CA, 91307
Phone: (310) 403 - 6048
roadkingcharles@aol.com

Gabrielino

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Sunset and Vine Project, Los Angeles County.