



La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project (Phase III)

Class 1 Categorical Exemption Report

prepared by

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Appendix A Cultural Resources Technical Report

1 Introduction

This report serves as the technical documentation of an environmental analysis completed by Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project (Phase III) (project) in Oxnard, California. The intent of this analysis is to document the project's eligibility for Categorical Exemption (CE) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The report includes an introduction, project description, and evaluation of the project's consistency with the exemption requirements. The report concludes the project is eligible for a Class 1 CE.

Section 15301 of the *CEQA Guidelines* states a Class 1 CE applies to the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. In addition, *CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15300.2(a) through (f) list specific exceptions for which a CE shall not be used. These exceptions are as follows:

- a. **Location.** Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply in all instances, except where the project may impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.
- b. **Cumulative Impact.** All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.
- c. **Significant Effect.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
- d. **Scenic Highways.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.
- e. **Hazardous Waste Sites.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.
- f. **Historical Resources.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Rincon evaluated the project in the context of a Class 1 CE and in relation to these exceptions to confirm the project's eligibility for exemption under CEQA.

2 Project Location and Description

2.1 Project Location

The project site encompasses select streets and sidewalks in the La Colonia neighborhood located in the northeast community of the city of Oxnard, Ventura County. The La Colonia neighborhood is surrounded by other city neighborhoods including West Village to the north, Rose Park to the east, Five Points Northeast to the south, and Wilson to the west. Figure 1 and Figure 2 on the following pages show La Colonia in a regional context and on a local scale, respectively.

2.2 Project Description

The proposed project involves resurfacing of the existing streets and improved pedestrian accessibility within targeted rights-of-way in La Colonia. To address present wear and tear on select streets and sidewalks, the project would include concrete work, asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal), and the addition of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible curb ramps. The project would also repair existing storm drains adjacent to the street resurfacing and pedestrian improvement work. Proposed work would not disturb the existing railroad tracks that are parallel to Oxnard Boulevard at the western boundary of La Colonia. The project would disturb 159,223 square feet of street and sidewalk areas and extend to a maximum depth of 12 inches below the ground surface. The project is considered Phase III of previous and similar work targeting other areas in La Colonia. Figure 3 shows the locations of proposed street resurfacing and pedestrian improvements within La Colonia that are targeted as part of Phase III. Figure 3 also shows completed street resurfacing and pedestrian improvements that were part of previous phases, and therefore, are not analyzed as part of the proposed project.

Construction

Construction would occur between November 2024 to April 2025 over the course of approximately five months. Construction work would occur Monday through Friday, from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Construction is not expected to occur during weekday nighttime hours or weekends. The maximum depth of excavation for street resurfacing would be approximately 12 inches below the ground surface. Project grading would result in approximately 450 cubic yards of soil imported to the project area and 450 cubic yards of soil exported from the project area. No grading or other ground disturbance of the adjacent private properties would occur.

Construction equipment would include excavators, asphalt pavers, rollers, graders, and loaders. Construction staging would be located within the project area, specifically within the underdeveloped area north of East 1st Street between East Nadar Street to the west and North Rose Avenue to the east. Construction workers would either park within this staging area or adjacent to active street resurfacing and pedestrian improvements work.

Construction would comply with the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Rule 55 for fugitive dust and would include the watering of unearthed soils to prevent dust. Other best management practices would include the implementation of straw wattles at catch basin/storm drain entrances for erosion control.

Operation

Following construction completion, operation and maintenance activities for the resurfaced streets and improved sidewalks (e.g., ADA-accessible curb ramps) would be comparable to existing conditions, including regularly scheduled street cleaning, and would not require the hiring of new maintenance workers. The project is not intended to accommodate additional demand, rather it is intended to resurface existing streets and improve pedestrian accessibility.

2.3 Project Design Features

The following Project Design Features (PDFs) are included as part of the project to comply with existing regulatory and legal requirements and conform with best practices and professional protocol. The following PDFs facilitate compliance with applicable legal and regulatory environmental requirements under policies ER-11.4 (Historic Preservation) and ER-11.6 (Identification of Archaeological Resources) of the City of Oxnard 2030 General Plan (Oxnard 2022), California Code of Regulations Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C), and Section 106 (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800.13).

PDF CR-1 Construction Equipment

Paving activities that take place within 37 feet of offsite buildings or structures over 45 years of age shall use a static or pneumatic roller instead of a vibratory roller and grading/earthmoving activities located within 21 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age shall use off-road equipment limited to 100 HP or less.

PDF CR-2 Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

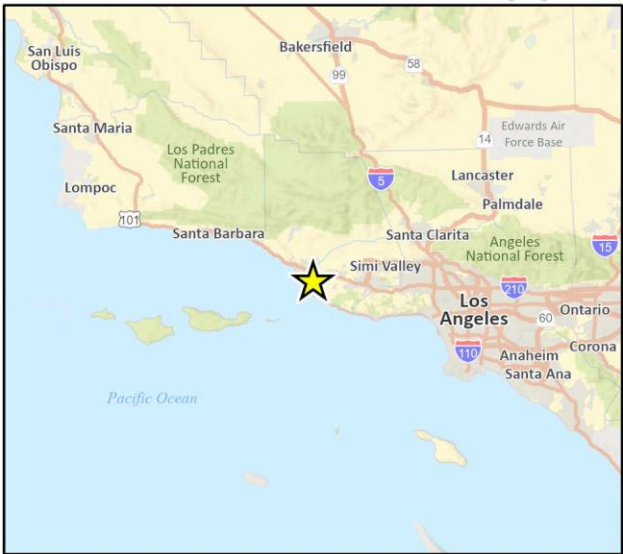
In the event that archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work within 50 feet of the find shall halt and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (National Park Service 1983) shall be contacted immediately to evaluate the resource. If the resource is determined by the qualified archaeologist to be prehistoric, then a Native American representative shall also be contacted to participate in the evaluation of the resource. If the qualified archaeologist and/or Native American representative determines it to be appropriate, archaeological testing for CRHR eligibility shall be completed. If the resource proves to be eligible for the CRHR and significant impacts to the resource cannot be avoided via project redesign, a qualified archaeologist shall prepare a data recovery plan tailored to the physical nature and characteristics of the resource, per the requirements of the California Code of Regulations Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C). The data recovery plan shall identify data recovery excavation methods, measurable objectives, and data thresholds to reduce any significant impacts to cultural resources related to the resource. Pursuant to the data recovery plan, the qualified archaeologist and Native American representative, as appropriate, shall recover and document the scientifically consequential information that justifies the resource's significance. The City shall review and approve the treatment plan and archaeological testing as appropriate, and the resulting documentation shall be submitted to the regional repository of the California Historical Resources Information System, per California Code of Regulations Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C).

Figure 1 Regional Location



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 Project Location



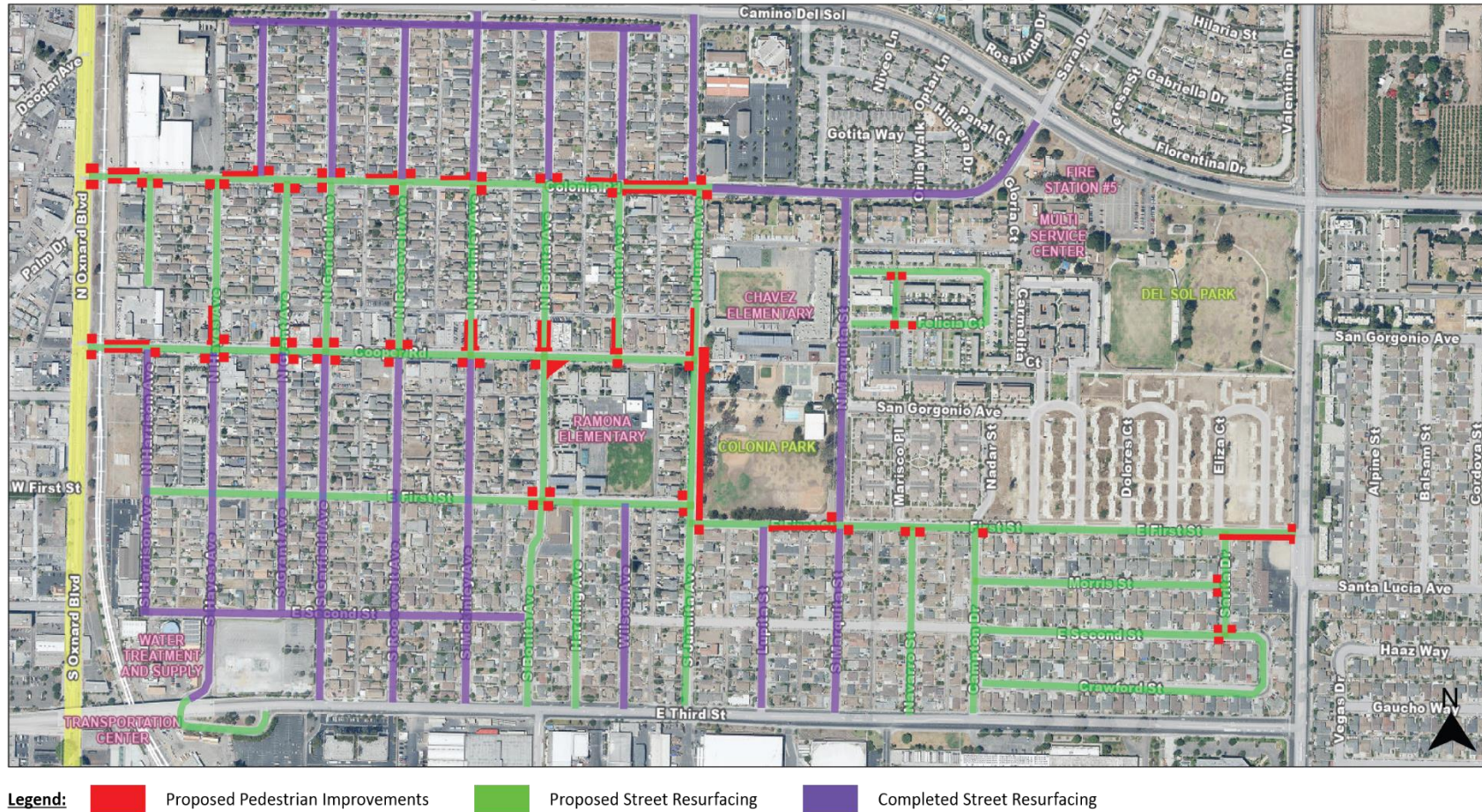
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Fig 1 Regional Location

Figure 2 Project Location



Figure 3 Proposed Street Resurfacing and Pedestrian Improvements



Source: City of Oxnard, 2024.

3 Consistency Analysis

3.1 Class 1 CE Applicability

Section 15301 of the *CEQA Guidelines* states a Class 1 CE applies to the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

The project involves the resurfacing of existing streets and sidewalk improvements for pedestrian accessibility, including concrete work, asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal), and the addition of ADA-accessible curb ramps. The project would also repair existing storm drains adjacent to the street resurfacing and pedestrian improvements. The project does not entail an expansion of existing street and sidewalk facilities or change the fundamental use of these facilities. The resurfaced streets and improved sidewalks would continue to serve the same purpose and capacity as the existing streets and sidewalks. Because the project would not involve an expansion of the streets and sidewalks and, because none of the exception for the use of a CE apply per the following discussion in Section 3.2, *Exception to CE Applicability*, the project meets the applicability requirements for a Class 1 CE pursuant to Section 15301 of the *CEQA Guidelines*.

3.2 Exceptions to CE Applicability

The applicability of CEs is qualified by the exceptions listed in Sections 15300.2(a) through (f) of the *CEQA Guidelines*. In the discussion below, each exception (in italics) is followed by an explanation of why the exception does not apply to the proposed project.

15300.2(a) ***Location.** Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply in all instances, except where the project may impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.*

The use of a Class 3, 4, 5, 6, or 11 exemption is not proposed for the project. Therefore, this exception does not apply to the project.

15300.2(b) ***Cumulative Impact.** All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.*

The project would involve the resurfacing of existing streets and sidewalk improvements for pedestrian accessibility (e.g., addition of ADA-accessible curb ramps). There are no other successive projects of the same type or scale planned for the project site or adjacent sites that, with the project, would result in a significant cumulative impact in combination with the project. In addition, due to the temporary and short-term nature of project construction, construction of the proposed project would not contribute to a significant cumulative impact. Moreover, operation and maintenance activities for the resurfaced streets and improved sidewalks would be comparable to

existing conditions, including regularly scheduled street cleaning. As such, the project would not result in a significant cumulative impact during construction. Therefore, this exception to a CE does not apply to the project.

15300.2(c) Significant Effect. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.*

The project site is located within the paved rights-of-way that are generally level and surrounded by existing residential, commercial, and institutional development. Ground disturbance at the project site would be concentrated within the targeted streets and sidewalks. The circumstances of the project are not considered unusual because: (1) the project is located in the same footprint as existing streets and sidewalks and would occur within these paved rights-of-way; (2) resurfacing of existing streets and sidewalk improvements for pedestrian accessibility are typical activities associated with public infrastructure maintenance as infrastructure ages; (3) construction activities would be typical of those associated street and sidewalk improvements; and (4) the project would not result in any operational changes. In addition, as mentioned in Section 2.2, *Project Description*, project construction would occur on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., which falls during the city's established hours for exempt construction noise (i.e., weekdays between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. per the City's Municipal Code Section 7-188). The project would not have a reasonable possibility of resulting in significant effects on the environment due to unusual circumstances. Therefore, this exception to a CE does not apply to the project.

15300.2(d) Scenic Highways. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.*

The project site is not near an officially designated State scenic highway. The nearest officially designated State scenic highway is State Route 33, located approximately 22 miles northwest of the project site in Ojala, an unincorporated community in Ventura County. At this distance, this portion of the highway is not visible from the project site. In addition, the nearest highway eligible for State scenic designation is a portion of State Route 1 located immediately west of the project site, on Oxnard Boulevard (California Department of Transportation 2024). However, because the project consists of the resurfacing of existing streets and sidewalk improvements for pedestrian accessibility, with no changes to the operation of the existing streets and sidewalks, no impacts to scenic resources would occur. Therefore, this exception to a CE does not apply to the project.

15300.2(e) Hazardous Waste Sites. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.*

La Colonia includes multiple inactive hazardous waste sites and one active "voluntary cleanup" hazardous waste site (Department of Toxic Substances Control 2024; State Water Resources Control Board 2024). The active voluntary cleanup site located at 301 East 3rd Street, in the southwestern portion of La Colonia. However, the active hazardous waste site is not located within the public rights-of-way where the proposed street resurfacing and pedestrian improvements work would occur. The nearest street/sidewalk associated with the proposed project is located on South Hayes Avenue at least 100 feet from the active voluntary cleanup site. As such, no activities under the

proposed project would occur immediately adjacent to the identified cleanup site. The project is not located on and would not be affected by any site included on a list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. Therefore, this exception to a CE does not apply to the project.

15300.2(f) Historical Resources. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.*

The following analysis is based on the Cultural Resources Technical Report prepared by Rincon dated November 2024 and included in Appendix A to this CE.

No built environment resources that may be considered historic resources were identified in the project site as part of the Cultural Resources Technical Report. While the project site is surrounded by many historic period properties, the nature of the existing setting and proposed project are such that the project's implementation would not alter the character or setting of any properties in the vicinity of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) (i.e., comprised of the rights-of-way within which project work would occur and the parcel that would be used as a lay down yard for the project). In addition, the project would also include PDF CR-1, which would to limit the use of vibratory rollers and grading/earthmoving equipment in the immediate vicinity of offsite structures over 45 years of age such that no vibration-related adverse changes to properties in the vicinity of the APE would occur. PDF CR-1 would facilitate compliance with Policy ER-11.4 (Historic Preservation) of the City of Oxnard 2030 General Plan (Oxnard 2022), which requires that public and private efforts preserve the use of historic structures and sites. Furthermore, the Cultural Resources Technical Report did not identify any archaeological resources or archaeological deposits in the APE and has identified the APE as having low archaeological sensitivity. Although no impacts to archaeological resources are anticipated due to low sensitivity for such resources, the project would include PDF CR-2 for unanticipated discoveries during construction. PDF CR-2 would facilitate compliance with Policy ER-ER-11.6 (Identification of Archaeological Resources) of the City of Oxnard 2030 General Plan (Oxnard 2022), which requires that grading and construction work on the project site is suspended until the significance of the features can be determined by a qualified archaeologist, as well as California Code of Regulations Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C), and Section 106 (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800.13).

Therefore, the project would not result in an adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant CEQA and this exception to a CE does not apply to the project.

4 Summary

Based on the above analysis, the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project (Phase III) meets the criteria for use of a Class 1 CE pursuant to Section 15301 of the *CEQA Guidelines* and is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Article 19.

5 References

- California Department of Transportation. 2024. California State Scenic Highway System Map. <https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aaca>. (Accessed September 2024).
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control. 2024. EnviroStor. <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>. (Accessed September 2024).
- California State Water Resources Control Board. 2024. GeoTracker. <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>. (Accessed September 2024).
- Oxnard, City of. 2022. 2030 General Plan. <https://www.oxnard.gov/wp-content/uploads/Oxnard-2030-General-Plan-Amend-12.2022-SMc.pdf>. (Accessed November 2024).
- Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon). 2024. Cultural Resources Technical Report. Document.

Appendix A

Cultural Resources Technical Report



La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project (Phase III)

Cultural Resources Technical Report

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Appendix B Sacred Lands File Search Results

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Executive Summary

The City of Oxnard Public Works Division (City) retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to conduct a cultural resources technical study in support of a Categorical Exclusion Subject to 58.5 (CEST), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and a Class 1 Categorical Exemption (CE) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the La Colonia Neighborhood Resurfacing Project (project). The City is seeking federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to complete the proposed project, which therefore qualifies as a federal undertaking subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). HUD is the lead federal agency, and the City of Oxnard (City) is acting as the Responsible Entity (RE) for the project. The City is also the CEQA lead agency for the project. The proposed project involves street resurfacing work, including concrete work and asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal) and the addition of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps, throughout the La Colonia neighborhood of Oxnard.

This study was prepared to support compliance with Section 106 and CEQA. It summarizes the methods and results of the tasks completed by Rincon, specifically: delineation of an Area of Potential Effects (APE), searches of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) and the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF), background research, a cultural resources survey of the APE and its surroundings, and outreach to Native American tribes and local interested parties.

This study confirmed that the APE is entirely developed with paved roadways and did not identify any built environment resources or historic properties in the APE. However, it indicated that the vicinity of the APE is comprised of a variety of development, much of which dates to the historic period. Therefore, to avoid potential impacts/effects resulting from construction-related vibration, paving activities that take place within 37 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use a static or pneumatic roller instead of a vibratory roller. Additionally, grading/earthmoving activities located within 21 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use off-road equipment limited to 100 horsepower (HP) or less.

This study identified no archaeological resources in the APE or its immediate vicinity and indicates that the APE has been heavily disturbed by development and maintenance of existing roadways and associated development. Based on this study, there is no indication that a sacred site or resource of Native American origin exists within the APE; thus, it is not considered sensitive for archaeological resources.

Based on the information summarized above, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no historic properties affected*** for the undertaking under Section 106. In the event of a post review discovery during ground disturbance associated with the undertaking, the procedures under 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.13 should be followed by the lead federal agency.

Under CEQA, Rincon recommends a finding of ***less than significant to historical resources and no impact to archaeological resources***. Standard best management practices are recommended in the unlikely event of an unanticipated discovery during construction.

1 Introduction

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by the City of Oxnard Public Works Division (City) to conduct a cultural resources technical study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project (Phase III), in the La Colonia neighborhood of Oxnard, Ventura County, California. The project is seeking funding for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is therefore subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The project is additionally subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). HUD is serving as the lead federal agency, with the City of Oxnard acting as the project's Responsible Entity (RE) and the CEQA lead agency.

1.1 Project Description

The proposed undertaking is situated in Township 1N, Range 22W, Section 2, 3, and 4 of the United States Geological Survey 2019 *Oxnard* 7.5-minute quadrangle (Figure 1). The proposed project site encompasses portions of the following paved and developed right-of-way (ROW)s: Colonia Road, Cooper Road, East 1st Street East 3rd Street, Morris Street, East 2nd Street, Crawford Street, Felicia Court, Harrison Avenue, Hayes Avenue, Grant Avenue, Garfield Avenue, Roosevelt Avenue, McKinley Avenue, Bonita Avenue, Anita Avenue, Juanita Avenue, Harding Avenue, Navarro Street, Sarita Drive and Compton Drive. A laydown yard for the project will be located in the area north of North Rose Avenue and west of East 1st Street on a property within which a housing development has recently been demolished. The proposed project would not disturb the existing Union Pacific Railroad tracks parallel to Oxnard Boulevard at the western boundary of La Colonia.

The proposed project involves street resurfacing work, including concrete work and asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal) and the addition of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps, throughout the La Colonia neighborhood. The maximum anticipated depth of excavation associated with the street resurfacing work is 12 inches. To avoid potential impacts/effects resulting from construction-related vibration, paving activities that take place within 37 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use a static or pneumatic roller instead of a vibratory roller. Additionally, grading/earthmoving activities located within 21 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use off-road equipment limited to 100 horsepower (HP) or less.

1.2 Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties. Determination of the APE is influenced by the project's setting, the scale and nature of the undertaking, and the different kinds of effects that may result from the undertaking (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 800.16[d]). The APE was developed by Rincon to identify resources in the area that have potential for historic significance, that should be evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and that may be directly or indirectly affected by the undertaking, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.16(d).

The APE is composed of the ROWs within which project work would occur and the parcel that would be used as a lay down yard for the project (Ventura County Assessor's Parcel Number: 201010004).

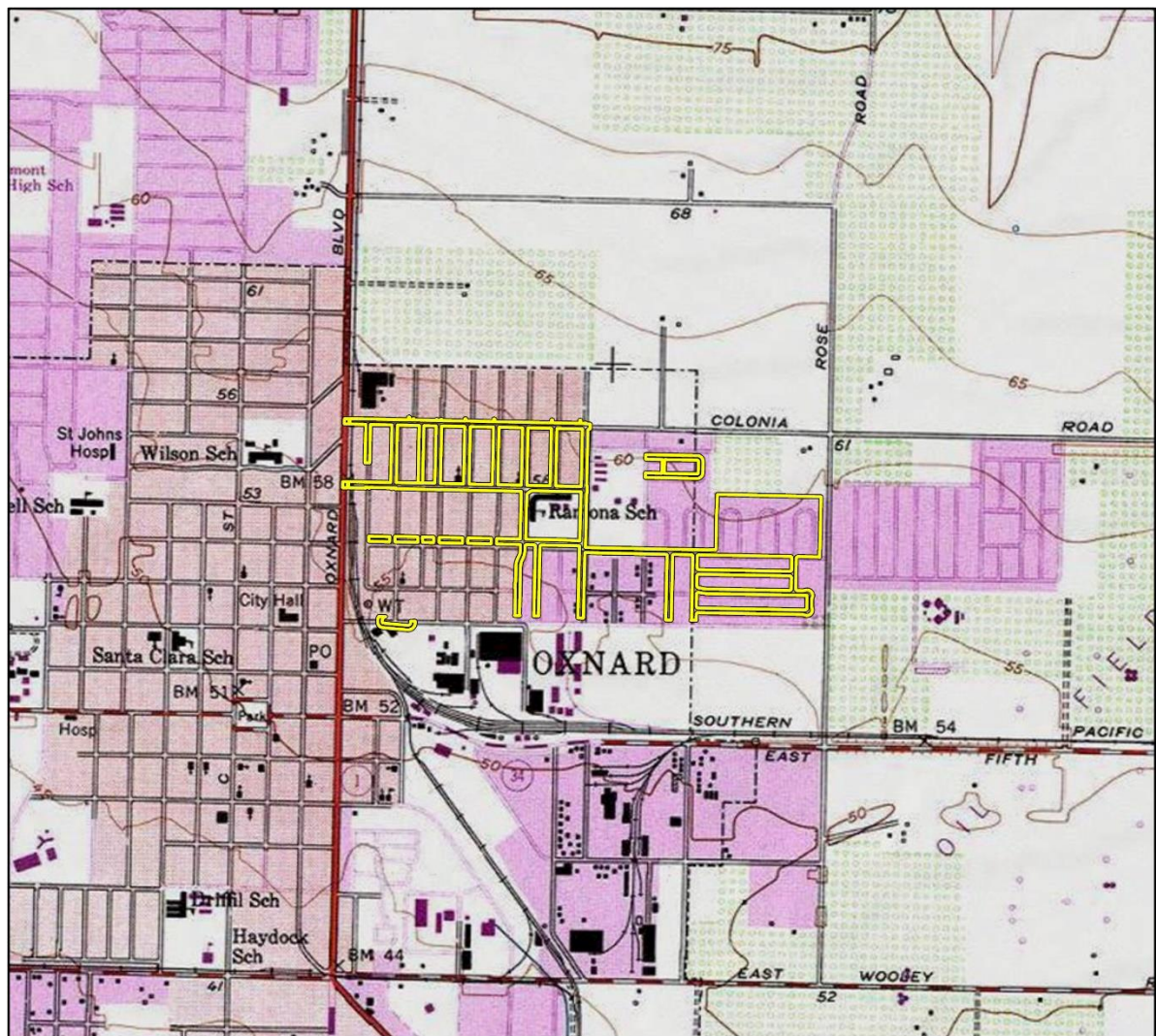
Proposed project activities consist of regular maintenance, primarily street resurfacing, and small-scale construction (curb ramps) within existing paved ROWs. The project would therefore not alter the character or setting, which consists of roadways and a variety of developed property types, of any of the properties in the vicinity of the project site. Additionally, the project would limit the use of vibratory rollers and grading/earthmoving in the immediate vicinity of all properties over 45 years of age such that no vibration related effects to properties in the vicinity of the APE would occur. Due to the character of the area surrounding the project site and the nature of the proposed project, no properties located adjacent to the project site are included in the APE.

The APE must be considered as a three-dimensional space that includes any ground disturbance associated with construction. The maximum depth of disturbance associated with the project is 12 inches and the maximum height of the project is five inches. Therefore, the vertical APE extends from 12 inches below to five inches above grade (Figure 2)

1.3 Personnel

This cultural resources study was managed by Rincon Senior Archaeologist Christopher Purtell, MA, Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA). Mr. Purtell meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology (National Park Service [NPS] 1997). Senior Architectural Historian Rachel Perzel provided management oversight with regard to built environment resources; she conducted the field survey and is a contributing author of this report. Ms. Perzel meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for history and architectural history (NPS 1997). Archaeologist Andrea Ogaz, MA, RPA, performed the cultural resources records search. Archaeologist Catalina Nissan completed the Native American outreach for this project. Geographic Information Systems Analyst Gina Gerlich prepared the figures found in this report. This report was reviewed for quality control by Rincon Cultural Resources Principal Christopher Duran.

Figure 1 Regional Location



Basemap provided by National Geographic Society, Esri and their licensors © 2024. Oxnard Quadrangle. T01N R22W S2-3. The topographic representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

Area of Potential Effects

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

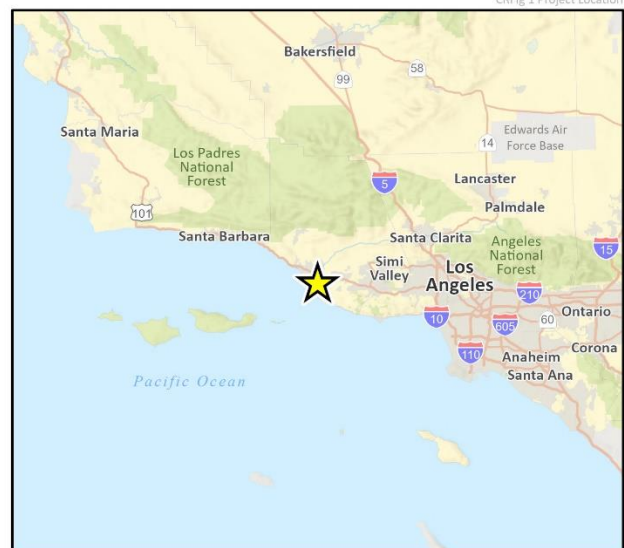
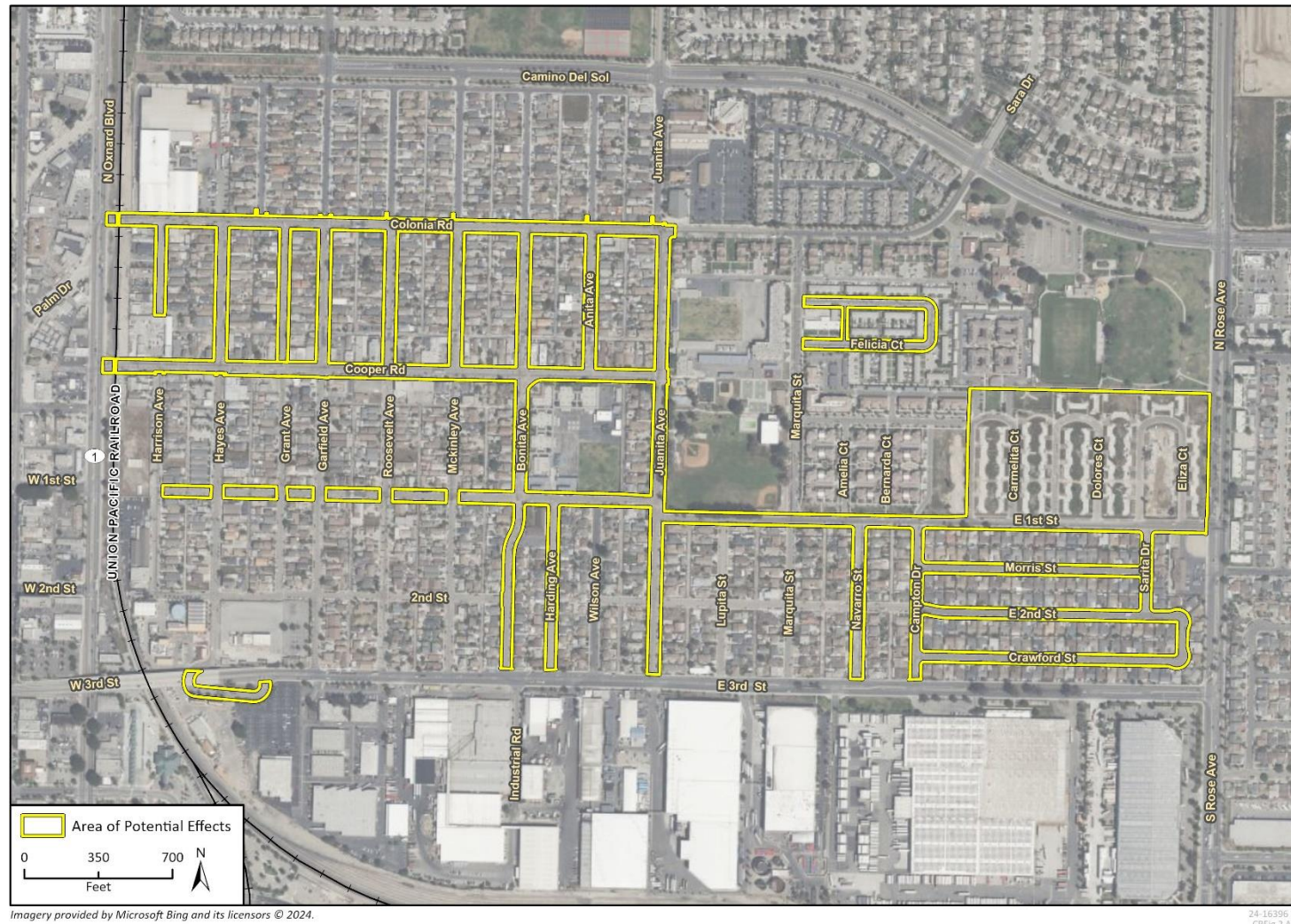


Figure 2 Area of Potential Effects Map



2 Regulatory Setting

This section includes a discussion of the applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources, which must be adhered to before and during implementation of the Undertaking.

2.1 Federal Regulations

2.1.1 National Historic Preservation Act

Projects that involve federal funding or permitting (i.e., have a federal nexus) must comply with the provisions of the NHPA of 1966, as amended (16 United States Code [USC] 470f). The NHPA of 1966 established a federal program for the preservation of historic properties, including built environment, archaeological, and traditional cultural resources. Towards this end, the NHPA establishes both institutions and defined processes to direct federal agencies and support state and local governments in their historic preservation programs and activities. These institutions and processes include the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), State Historic Preservation Officers, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the Section 106 review process.

2.1.2 National Register of Historic Places

Authorized by Section 101 of the NHPA, the NRHP is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. The NRHP recognizes the quality of significance in American, state, and local history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. Per 36 CFR Part 60.4, a property is eligible for listing in the NRHP if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Criterion A:** Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
- Criterion B:** Is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
- Criterion C:** Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of installation, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction
- Criterion D:** Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

In addition to meeting at least one of the above designation criteria, resources must also retain integrity. The NPS recognizes seven aspects or qualities that, considered together, define historic integrity. To retain integrity, a property must possess several of these seven qualities—if not all—defined in the following manner:

- Location:** The place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred
- Design:** The combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property
- Setting:** The physical environment of a historic property

- Materials:** The physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property
- Workmanship:** The physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory
- Feeling:** A property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time
- Association:** The direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property

Certain properties are generally considered ineligible for listing in the NRHP, including cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions, relocated structures, or commemorative properties. Additionally, a property must be at least 50 years of age to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The NPS states that 50 years is the general estimate of the time needed to develop the necessary historical perspective to evaluated significance (NPS 1997: 41). Properties which are less than 50 years must be determined to have "exceptional importance" to be considered eligible for NRHP listing.

2.2 State

2.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21804.1 requires that lead agencies determine if a project could have a significant impact on historical or unique archaeological resources. As defined in PRC Section 21084.1, a historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), a resource included in a local register of historical resources or identified in a historical resources survey pursuant to PRC Section 5024.1(g), or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant. PRC Section 21084.1 also states resources meeting the above criteria are presumed to be historically or culturally significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates otherwise. Resources listed in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR and are, therefore, historical resources under CEQA. Historical resources may include eligible built environment resources and archaeological resources of the precontact or historic periods.

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c) provides further guidance on the consideration of archaeological resources. If an archaeological resource does not qualify as a historical resource, it may meet the definition of a "unique archaeological resource" as identified in PRC Section 21083.2. PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria: 1) it contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information, 2) has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type, or 3) is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

If an archaeological resource does not qualify as a historical or unique archaeological resource, the impacts of a project on those resources will be less than significant and need not be considered further (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5[c][4]). *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 also

provides guidance for addressing the potential presence of human remains, including those discovered during the implementation of a project.

According to CEQA, an impact that results in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is considered a significant impact on the environment. A substantial adverse change could result from physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of the historical resource would be materially impaired (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 [b][1]). *Material impairment* is defined as demolition or alteration in an adverse manner [of] those characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for inclusion in, the CRHR or a local register (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5[b][2][A]).

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that resources cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (PRC Section 21083.2[a][b]).

Section 15126.4 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* stipulates an environmental impact report shall describe feasible measures to minimize significant adverse impacts. In addition to being fully enforceable, mitigation measures must be completed within a defined time period and be roughly proportional to the impacts of a project. Generally, a project which is found to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (Standards) is considered to be mitigated below a level of significance (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.4 [b][1]). For historical resources of an archaeological nature, lead agencies should also seek to avoid damaging effects where feasible. Preservation in place is the preferred manner to mitigate impacts to archaeological sites; however, data recovery through excavation may be the only option in certain instances (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.4[b][3]).

2.2.2 California Register of Historical Resources

The CRHR was established in 1992 and codified by PRC Sections 5024.1 and 4852. The CRHR is an authoritative listing and guide to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens in identifying the existing historical resources of the state and to indicate which resources deserve to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change (PRC 5024.1(a)). The criteria for eligibility for the CRHR are consistent with the NRHP criteria but have been modified for state use in order to include a range of historical resources that better reflect the history of California (PRC 5024.1(b)). Unlike the NRHP, the CRHR does not have a defined age threshold for eligibility; rather, a resource may be eligible for the CRHR if it can be demonstrated sufficient time has passed to understand its historical or architectural significance (California Office of Historic Preservation [OHP] 2006). Furthermore, resources may still be eligible for listing in the CRHR even if they do not retain sufficient integrity for NRHP eligibility (OHP 2006). Generally, the OHP recommends resources over 45 years of age be recorded and evaluated for historical resources eligibility (OHP 1995: 2).

A property is eligible for listing in the CRHR if it meets one of more of the following criteria:

- Criterion 1:** Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage
- Criterion 2:** Is associated with the lives of persons important to our past

- Criterion 3:** 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:** Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

2.2.3 California Health and Safety Code

Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site, or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the County Coroner has determined if the remains are subject to the Coroner's authority. If the human remains are of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the NAHC within 24 hours of this identification.

2.2.4 California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98

Section 5097.98 of the PRC states that the NAHC, upon notification of the discovery of Native American human remains pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, shall immediately notify those persons (i.e., the Most Likely Descendant [MLD]) that it believes to be descended from the deceased. With permission of the landowner or a designated representative, the MLD may inspect the remains and any associated cultural materials and make recommendations for treatment or disposition of the remains and associated grave goods. The MLD shall provide recommendations or preferences for treatment of the remains and associated cultural materials within 48 hours of being granted access to the site.

2.3 Local

2.3.1 Ventura County Heritage Ordinance

In 1991, the Oxnard City Council adopted Resolution No. 10,135 requesting the Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board to serve as the City of Oxnard Cultural Heritage Board with the same power and duties provided in the County of Ventura Cultural Heritage Ordinance 4604. The ordinance authorizes the Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board to designate local sites of Cultural Heritage significance, as approved by the Board of Supervisors, by the procedures outlined in the ordinance (County of Ventura 2022). An eligible Cultural Heritage Site may become designated as a landmark, site of merit, point of interest, or district if it satisfies the requirements set forth below (Ordinance No. 4225 [2000], Section 1365-5 Definition and Designation Criteria for Cultural Heritage Sites and No. 4604).

Landmark: Satisfy one or more of the below criteria of significance, in addition to retaining sufficient integrity. In evaluating integrity, the authenticity of the resource's physical identity shall be established by evidence of lack of deterioration and significant survival of the characteristics that existed during its period of significance. This shall be evaluated with regard to the retention of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, consistent with applicable NRHP Bulletins for evaluating historic properties.:

1. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Ventura County history;
2. It is associated with the lives of significant persons in Ventura County's past;

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3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
4. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory;

Site of Merit: Satisfy all of the following criteria:

1. Sites of historical, architectural, community, or aesthetic merit which have not been designated as landmarks or points of interest, but which are deserving of special recognition; and
2. County approved surveyed sites with a National Register status code of 5 or above.
3. Retain sufficient integrity as described in Sec. 1367(a).

Points of Interest: Satisfy one of the following criteria:

1. That is the site of a building, structure, or object that no longer exists, but was associated with historic events, important persons, or embodied a distinctive character or architectural style; or
2. That it has historical significance, but has been altered to the extent that the integrity of the original workmanship, materials, or style has been substantially compromised; or
3. That the site of a historic event which has no distinguishable characteristics other than that of a historic event occurred at that site, and the site is not of sufficient historical significance to justify the establishment of a landmark.

District: Meets the criteria below:

1. Possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.
2. Has precisely mapped and defined exterior boundaries, which requires a description of what lies immediately on the edge of the district to allow rational exclusion of adjoining areas.
3. Has at least one of the criteria for significance of Section 1365-5.a.1-5. (Landmarks)
4. Complies with the criteria for integrity contained in Section 1365-5.a.6. (Landmark Integrity)

Additional Designation Standards: Section 1365-6 of the Ventura County Cultural Heritage Ordinance outlines additional designation standards, which, in addition to meeting the criteria for Section 1365-5 et seq, must be met before a site becomes a designated Cultural Heritage Site:

1. It shall have historic, aesthetic, or special character or interest for the general public, and not be limited in interest to a special group of persons;
2. Its designation shall not require the expenditure by the County of Ventura of any amount of money not commensurate with the value of the object to be preserved; and
3. Its designation shall not infringe upon the rights of a private owner thereof to make any and all reasonable uses thereof which are not in conflict with the purposes of this Article.

3 Natural and Cultural Setting

This section provides background information pertaining to the natural and cultural context of the APE. It places the APE in the broader natural environment that has sustained populations throughout history. This section also provides an overview of regional history. This background information describes the distribution and type of cultural resources documented in the vicinity of the APE to inform the cultural resources sensitivity assessment.

3.1 Natural Setting

The APE lies within the city of Oxnard, Ventura County, California. Located approximately 50 to 60 feet above mean sea level. The nearest water source is the Santa Clara River, located approximately three miles north of the APE. Soils in the vicinity of the APE are largely Hueneme loamy fine sand, and the underlying geologic unit is Quaternary alluvial deposits (California Soil Resource Lab 2024). None of the surrounding area retains its natural setting, with the APE located in a fully developed area consisting of a variety of property types including residential, commercial and industrial. Vegetation in the vicinity of the APE consists of ornamental street trees, consistent with urban environmental settings and has manicured landscapes.

3.2 Cultural Setting

The cultural setting for the proposed undertaking is presented broadly in three overviews: Prehistoric, Ethnographic, and Historic. The prehistoric and historic overviews describe human occupation before and after European contact, while the ethnographic overview provides a synchronic “snapshot” of traditional Native American culture.

Prehistoric Overview

During the latter half of the twentieth century, many archaeologists developed chronological sequences to explain prehistoric cultural changes within all or portions of southern California (c.f., Moratto 1984; Jones and Klar 2007). Wallace (1955, 1978) devised a prehistoric chronology for the southern California coastal region based on early studies and focused on data synthesis that included four horizons: Early Man, Milling Stone, Intermediate, and Late Prehistoric. Though initially lacking the chronological precision of absolute dates (Moratto 1984), Wallace’s (1955) synthesis has been modified and improved using thousands of radiocarbon dates obtained by southern California researchers over recent decades (Koerper and Drover 1983; Koerper et al. 2002; Byrd and Raab 2007). The prehistoric chronological sequence for southern California presented below is a composite based on Wallace (1955, 1978) as well as later studies, including Koerper and Drover (1983).

Early Man Horizon (10,000 – 6000 BCE)

Numerous pre-8000 Before Common Era (BCE) sites have been identified along the mainland coast and Channel Islands of southern California (c.f., Moratto 1984; Erlandson 1991; Rick et al. 2001; Johnson et al. 2002; Jones and Klar 2007). The Arlington Springs site on Santa Rosa Island produced human femurs dated to approximately 13,000 years ago (Johnson et al. 2002; Arnold et al. 2004). On San Miguel Island, human occupation at Daisy Cave (CA-SMI-261) has been dated to nearly

13,000 years ago and included basketry greater than 12,000 years old, the earliest recorded on the Pacific Coast (Arnold et al. 2004).

Although few Clovis or Folsom style fluted points have been found in southern California (e.g., Erlandson et al. 1987; Dillon 2002), Early Man Horizon sites are generally associated with a greater emphasis on hunting than later horizons. Recent data indicate that the Early Man economy was a diverse mixture of hunting and gathering, including a significant focus on aquatic resources in coastal areas (e.g., Jones et al. 2002) and on inland Pleistocene lakeshores (Moratto 1984). A warm and dry 3,000-year period called the Altithermal began around 6000 BCE. The conditions of the Altithermal are likely responsible for the change in human subsistence patterns at this time, including a greater emphasis on plant foods and small game.

Milling Stone Horizon (6000 – 3000 BCE)

Wallace (1955:219) defined the Milling Stone Horizon as “marked by extensive use of milling stones and mullers, a general lack of well-made projectile points, and burials with rock cairns.” The dominance of such artifact types indicates a subsistence strategy oriented around collecting plant foods and small animals. A broad spectrum of food resources was consumed including small and large terrestrial mammals, sea mammals, birds, shellfish and other littoral and estuarine species, near-shore fishes, and seeds and other plant products (Kowta 1969; Reinman 1964). Variability in artifact collections over time and from the coast to inland sites indicates that Milling Stone Horizon subsistence strategies adapted to environmental conditions (Jones 1996; Byrd and Raab 2007). Lithic artifacts associated with Milling Stone Horizon sites are dominated by locally available tool stone. Chopping, scraping, and cutting tools are very common along with ground stone tools such as manos and metates. The mortar and pestle, associated with acorns or other foods processed through pounding, were first used during the Milling Stone Horizon and increased dramatically in later periods (Wallace 1955, 1978; Warren 1968).

Two types of artifacts that are considered diagnostic of the Milling Stone Horizon are the cogged stone and discoidal, most of which have been found within sites dating between 4000 and 1000 BCE (Moratto 1984), though possibly as far back as 5500 BCE (Couch et al. 2009). The cogged stone is a ground stone object that has gear-like teeth on the perimeter and is produced from a variety of materials. The function of cogged stones is unknown, though ritualistic or ceremonial uses have been postulated (Eberhart 1961). Similar to cogged stones, discoidal are found in the archaeological record subsequent to the introduction of the cogged stone. Cogged stones and discoidal were often purposefully buried, or “cached.” Cogged stones have been collected in Los Angeles County though their distribution appears to center on the Santa Ana River basin (Eberhart 1961).

Intermediate Horizon (3000 BCE – CE 500)

Wallace’s Intermediate Horizon dates from approximately 3000 BCE – Common Era (CE) 500 and is characterized by a shift toward a hunting and maritime subsistence strategy, as well as greater use of plant foods. A noticeable trend towards a greater adaptation to local resources including a broad variety of fish, land mammals, and sea mammals along the coast occurred during the Intermediate Horizon. Tool kits for hunting, fishing, and processing food and materials reflect this increased diversity, with flake scrapers, drills, various projectile points, and shell fishhooks being manufactured.

Mortars and pestles became more common during this transitional period, gradually replacing manos and metates as the dominant milling equipment. This change in milling stone technology is believed to signal a transition from the processing and consumption of hard seed resources to the

increased reliance on acorns (Glassow et al. 1988; True 1993). Mortuary practices during the Intermediate Horizon typically included fully flexed burials oriented toward the west (Warren 1968:2-3).

Late Prehistoric Horizon (CE 500 – Historic Contact)

During Wallace's (1955, 1978) Late Prehistoric Horizon, the diversity of plant food resources and land and sea mammal hunting increased even further than during the Intermediate Horizon. A greater variety of artifact types was observed during this period and high quality exotic lithic materials were used for small, finely worked projectile points associated with the bow and arrow. Steatite containers were made for cooking and storage and an increased use of asphaltum for waterproofing is noted. More artistic artifacts were recovered from Late Prehistoric Horizon sites and cremation became a common mortuary custom. Larger, more permanent villages supported an increased population size and social structure (Wallace 1955). This change in material culture, burial practices, and subsistence focus coincides with the westward migration of Uto-Aztecan language speakers from the Great Basin region to Los Angeles, Orange, and western Riverside counties (Sutton 2008; Potter and White 2009).

3.2.1 Ethnographic Setting

Ventureño Chumash

The APE lies within the traditional territory of the Native American group known as the Ventureño Chumash, so called after their historic period association with Mission San Buenaventura (Grant 1978a). The Chumash spoke six closely related languages, which have been divided into three branches—Northern Chumash (consisting only of Obispeño), Central Chumash (consisting of Purisimeño, Ineseño, Barbareño, and Ventureño), and Island Chumash (Jones and Klar 2007:80). The Chumashan language currently is considered an isolate stock with a long history in the Santa Barbara region (Mithun 2004:304). Groups neighboring Chumash territory included the Salinan to the north, the Southern Valley Yokuts and Tataviam to the east, and the Gabrielino (Tongva) to the south. Chumash place names in the proposed undertaking's vicinity include *Awhay* (Ojai), *Stuk* (La Jolla Basin), and *Kayiwis* (Calleguas Creek) (Applegate 1974).

Early Spanish accounts describe the Santa Barbara Channel as heavily populated at the time of contact. Estimates of the total Chumash population range from 8,000-10,000 (Kroeber 1925:551) to 18,000-22,000 (Cook and Heizer 1965: 21). *Wene'mu* or *Quelqueme* (Hueneme), has been described as a place where people from the Channel Islands spent the night when they traveled to the mainland to trade (San Buenaventura Research Associates [SBRA] 2005). Coastal Chumash lived in hemispherical dwellings made of tule reed mats, or animal skins in rainy weather. These houses could usually lodge as many as 60 people (Brown 2001). The village of *šukuw*, (or *shuku*), at Rincon Point, was encountered by Gaspar de Portola in 1769. This village had 60 houses and seven canoes, with an estimated population of 300 (Grant 1978b).

The *tomol*, or wooden plank canoe, was an especially important tool for the procurement of marine resources and for maintaining trade networks between Coastal and Island Chumash. Sea mammals were hunted with harpoons, while deep-sea fish were caught using nets and hooks and lines. Shellfish were gathered from beach sands using digging sticks, and mussels and abalone were pried from rocks using wood or bone wedges.

The acorn was an especially important resource. Acorn procurement and processing involved the manufacture of baskets for gathering, winnowing, and cooking and the production of mortars and milling stones for grinding. Bow and arrow, spears, traps and other various methods were used for hunting (Hudson and Blackburn 1979). The Chumash also manufactured various other utilitarian and non-utilitarian items. Eating utensils, ornaments, fishhooks, harpoons, and other items were made using bone and shell. *Olivella* shell beads were especially important for trade.

3.2.2 Post-Contact Setting

The post-contact history of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish period (1769 – 1821), the Mexican period (1821 – 1848), and the American period (1848 – present). Each of these periods is briefly described below, along with an overview of the history of Oxnard.

Post-contact history for the state of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), Mexican Period (1822–1848), and American Period (1848–present). Although Spanish, Russian, and British explorers visited the area for brief periods between 1529 and 1769, the Spanish Period in California begins with the establishment in 1769 of a settlement at San Diego and the founding of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the first of 21 missions constructed between 1769 and 1823. Independence from Spain in 1821 marks the beginning of the Mexican Period, and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ending the Mexican-American War, signals the beginning of the American Period when California became a territory of the United States.

Spanish Period (1769 – 1821)

Spanish exploration of California began when Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo led the first European expedition into the region in 1542. For more than 200 years after his initial expedition, Spanish, Portuguese, British, and Russian explorers sailed the California coast and made limited inland expeditions, but they did not establish permanent settlements (Bean 1968; Rolle 1987). In 1769, Gaspar de Portolá and Franciscan Father Junipero Serra established the first Spanish settlement in what was then known as Alta (upper) California at Mission San Diego de Alcalá. Between 1769 and 1823, 21 missions were erected in Alta California by the Spanish. Mission San Buenaventura, in what is now downtown Ventura, approximately 8.5 miles northwest of the APE, was established in 1782 by Father Junipero Serra. The missions were responsible for administering the local Native Americans as well as converting the population to Christianity (Engelhardt 1927). The influx of European settlers brought the local Native American population in contact with European diseases which they had no immunity against, resulting in a catastrophic reduction in native populations throughout the state (McCawley 1996).

Mexican Period (1821–1848)

The Mexican Period commenced when news of the success of the Mexican War of Independence (1810 – 1821) against the Spanish crown reached California in 1822. This period saw the privatization of mission lands in California with the passage of the secularization law of 1833. This act federalized mission lands and enabled Mexican governors in California to distribute them to individuals in the form of land grants. Successive Mexican governors made approximately 700 land grants between 1833 and 1846 (Shumway 2007), putting most of the state's lands into private ownership for the first time. Land once owned by the Spanish crown and clergy was distributed to mostly Mexican settlers born in California, also known as "Californios." This class of wealthy landowners worked large ranches focused on cattle hide and tallow production during this era. By 1846, the area that would become Ventura County had been divided into 19 land grants or ranchos

(SBRA 2005). The proposed undertaking is located within the former Rancho el Rio de Santa Clara o la Colonia (Rancho la Colonia).

The Mexican Period for Ventura County and adjacent areas ended in early January 1847. Mexican forces fought combined U.S. Army and Navy forces in the Battle of the San Gabriel River on January 8 and in the Battle of La Mesa on January 9 (Nevin 1978). American victory in both of these battles confirmed the capture of Los Angeles by American forces (Rolle 2003). On January 10, leaders of the Pueblo of Los Angeles surrendered peacefully after Mexican General Jose Maria Flores withdrew his forces. Shortly thereafter, newly appointed Mexican Military Commander of California Andrés Pico surrendered all of Alta California to U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont in the Treaty of Cahuenga (Nevin 1978).

American Period (1848–Present)

The Mexican Period officially ended in early January 1848 with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, formally concluding the Mexican-American War. Per the treaty, the United States agreed to pay Mexico \$15 million for conquered territory, including California, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Wyoming. California gained statehood in 1850, and this political shift set in motion a variety of factors that began to erode the rancho system. Given the size of their holdings, the initiation of property taxes proved onerous for many southern California ranchers. In addition, the creation of the U.S. Land Commission in 1851 required that property owners prove the validity of their property titles, many of which had been granted relatively informally and without the benefit of formal survey. Ranchers often paid for legal debts with portions—or all—of their ranchos. The large-scale rancho system also suffered greatly from severe drought in the 1860s which decimated the cattle industry upon which southern Californian ranchers depended.

The discovery of gold in northern California in 1848 led to the California Gold Rush, despite the first California gold being previously discovered in Placerita Canyon in 1842 (Guinn 1977; Workman 1935:26). By 1853, the population of California exceeded 300,000. Thousands of settlers and immigrants continued to move into the state, particularly after the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. During the same year, Port Hueneme was established at the westernmost edge of the Oxnard Plain and became the largest California port after San Francisco (Scheid 1995). Establishment of the port played a critical role in the development of agriculture on the Oxnard Plain. Ventura County was officially divided from Santa Barbara County two years later on January 1, 1873.

City of Oxnard's History

The City of Oxnard obtained its name from its founder, Henry T. Oxnard, the owner of a sugar beet factory in Chino, California. Mr. Oxnard was invited to Ventura County to teach local farmers how to successfully grow sugar beets prior to the turn of the 20th century. He and his three brothers constructed a beet processing factory, the American Sugar Beet Co. factory, which became operational in 1899, near Oxnard. In 1903, the City of Oxnard was officially incorporated.

The factory attracted many workers to Oxnard, bringing cultural and agricultural diversity to the city. Over time, the factory diversified its crops to include lima beans and grain, ensuring diversity and productivity until its closure in 1959 (*Los Angeles Times* 1991). Growth continued in Oxnard in the first few decades of the 20th century, with the development of general stores, restaurants, and banks (Oxnard Visitors Bureau 2017). The establishment of Port Hueneme adjacent to Oxnard prior to World War II sparked a population increase in the area and led to expansive suburban

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development in the war and postwar years. Substantial growth continued into the mid-20th century, with the development of major high-rise commercial buildings, commercial retail and industrial space and the construction of Channel Islands Harbor. Further expansion of residential suburbs has continued. The city's population has more than doubled since the early 1970s. Oxnard is currently the largest city in Ventura County (Oxnard Public Library 2010).

4 Methods

This section presents the methods for each task completed during the preparation of this cultural resources technical report.

4.1 Background and Archival Research

4.1.1 Desktop Research

Archival research for this study was completed in August and September 2024. Research methodology focused on the review of primary and secondary source materials relating to the history and development of the area surrounding the APE. Sources included, but were not limited to historic-era maps, aerial photographs, and written histories of the area. A list of repositories consulted to identify pertinent materials is included below.

- Historic aerial photographs accessed via the University of California Santa Barbara digital aerial photography collections
- Historic topographic maps accessed via U.S. Geological Survey
- Historic topographic maps accessed via U.S. Geological Survey
- Ventura County Assessor's Office
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps are accessed via the Los Angeles Public Library
- Oxnard City Directories accessed at Ancestry.com
- *Oxnard Downtown Historic Resources Survey* (described further below)
- Other sources as noted in the references list

4.1.2 California Historical Resources Information System Records Search

Rincon received California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search results from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) On August 27, 2024. The SCCIC is the official state repository for cultural resources records and reports for Ventura County. CHRIS Search results can be found in Appendix A. The records search helps to identify previously recorded cultural resources, as well as previously conducted cultural resources studies in the APE and a 0.5-mile radius surrounding it. Rincon also reviewed the following inventories of known cultural resources: NRHP, the CRHR, the California Historical Landmarks list, the California OHP Built Environment Resources Directory, as well as its predecessor the California State Historic Property Data File, in addition to the California OHP Archaeological Determination of Eligibility list.

4.1.3 Sacred Lands File Search

Rincon contacted the NAHC on August 30, 2024, to request a search of the SLF and contact list of Native Americans culturally affiliated with the vicinity of the APE.

4.1.4 Local Interested Party Outreach

In support of the consultation required by Section 106 and as part of the process of identifying cultural resources in or near the APE, Rincon conducted outreach with the following local interested parties: City of Oxnard Planning Department, Ventura County Planning Division, Museum of Ventura County, San Buenaventura Conservancy (SBC). Rincon sent outreach letters via email on September 20, 2024, to the parties noted above. The outreach included letters with a description and maps of the undertaking, and requested any information that parties may have regarding historic properties in the APE. Follow ups with the parties was conducted throughout October. This effort is documented in Appendix C.

The HUD Tribal Directory Assessment Tool does not list any federally recognized tribes culturally affiliated with the area in which the APE is located. Additionally, according to HUD Guidance (*When to Consult with Tribes under Section 106* [HUD n.d.]), tribal consultation must only be undertaken if there is significant ground disturbance; examples of such disturbance noted in guidance include “new sewer lines, utility lines, foundations, footings, grading, access roads (HUD n.d.).” As the project does not entail significant ground disturbance, as defined in guidance, tribal outreach was not undertaken as part of this study.

4.1.5 Field Survey

Rincon Architectural Historian and Cultural Resources Specialist, Rachel Perzel, MA conducted survey of the APE and its vicinity on October 3, 2024. The survey integrated mixed methods, including windshield and pedestrian. Ms. Perzel conducted a windshield built environment survey to confirm absence of potential built environment resources in the APE. However, Ms. Perzel conducted intensive-level survey in areas surrounding the APE in which historic period buildings are present. The character of the APE and that of properties in its vicinity were noted. Field notes describing the area’s character and photographs of the APE and its surroundings were taken.

Due to the developed nature of the APE, an archaeological survey of the entirety of the APE was not conducted. However, the project’s laydown yard, which occupies the site of a recently demolished housing development, was subject to a pedestrian survey. Exposed ground surfaces were examined for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock), ecofacts (marine shell and bone), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, and features indicative of the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historical debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances such as burrows and drainages were also visually inspected. Associated field notes and photographs are maintained on Rincon’s server

5 Findings

5.1 Known Cultural Resources Studies

The CHRIS records search and background research identified 24 cultural resources studies that have been previously prepared within 0.25 mile of the APE (Table 1). Of these, the study area associated with two studies (VN-02458 and VN-03102) overlaps with the current APE. The study area associated with two additional studies (VN-02781 and VN-03094) is located adjacent to the APE. A narrative describing these four studies is provided following Table 1. Full records search results are included in Appendix A.

Table 1 Previous Cultural Resource Studies within a 0.25-mile of the Treatment

Report Number	Author	Year	Title	Relationship to the APE
VN-02458	Maki, Mary K.	2003	<i>Phase I Archaeological Survey of Approximately 1.5 Linear Miles for the Oxnard Boulevard Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Project Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Within
VN-03102	Stewart, Noah	2009	<i>Relinquish State-owned right of way to the City of Oxnard - State Route 1 (VEN1) from Pleasant Valley Road (PM 15.1) to the intersection of VEN 1 and US 101</i>	Within
VN-02781	Maki, Mary	2008	<i>Archaeological Survey Report of Approximately 0.5 Acres for the Hayes Affordable Housing Project, Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Adjacent
VN-03094	Foster, John A.	2002	<i>Historic Resource Evaluation Report- Mason Avenue At-Grade Crossing and Safety Improvements Project, Los Angeles City, California</i>	Adjacent
VN-00110	Kuhn, Michael W.	1978	<i>Review of Subsequent Use of Final Eir on the Annexation and Development of the North Central Portion of Simi Valley for Pd S-294, Tt 2851, Z-s-189, Annexation to the City and All Other Entitlement Therefor.</i>	Outside*
VN-00572	Dames and Moore	1988	<i>Phase 1 Cultural Resources Survey Fiber Optic Cable Project, Burbank to Santa Barbara, California for Us Sprint Communications Company</i>	Outside
VN-00949	Whitley, David S.	1990	<i>Phase 1 Archaeological Survey and Cultural Resources Assessment for the Frank McGrath Ranch Northeast Plan Area, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Outside
VN-01153	Peak and Associates, Inc.	1991	<i>Class 3 Cultural Resource Assessment of the Proposed Carpinteria and Southern Reroutes, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties, California</i>	Outside
VN-01265	Reed, L.W.	1992	<i>Consolidated Report: Cultural Resources Studies for the Proposed Pacific Pipeline Project</i>	Outside
VN-02504	Arrington, Cindy and Nancy Sikes	2006	<i>Cultural Resources Final Report of Monitoring and Findings for the Qwest Network Construction Project State of California: Volumes I and II</i>	Outside
VN-02968	Johnson, Brent	2010	<i>Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit for T-Mobile USA Inc. SV11876A / Del Sol Park 1600 Camino Del Sol Road, Oxnard, Ventura County, California 93030</i>	Outside

La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project (Phase III)

Report Number	Author	Year	Title	Relationship to the APE
VN-02978	Sharpe, Jim and Durio, Lori	2004	<i>Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) Program, Cultural Resources Inventory Report.</i>	Outside
VN-00451	Wlodarski, Robert J. and Gwen R. Romani	1985	<i>Class 3 Cultural Resource Assessment of the Proposed Carpinteria and Southern Reroutes, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties, California</i>	Outside
VN-00852	Lopez, Robert	1976	<i>An Archaeological Survey of the Area of the Proposed Expansion of the Fillmore Wastewater Treatment Plant, La Colonina, California, County of Ventura</i>	Outside
VN-00951	Simon, Joseph M.	1990	<i>Phase 1 Archaeological Survey and Cultural Resources Assessment for the Standard Pacific-Ventura Project Area, Northeast Plan Area, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Outside
VN-02219	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2001	<i>A Phase I Archaeological Study for Lots 13-16 (between Eastman, Rose, W. 5th and Driskill) Within the North Field Business Park City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California</i>	Outside
VN-02223	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2003	<i>A Phase I Archaeological Study for a 12.9 Acre Site Located on the Southwest Corner of Third Street and Rose Avenue City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California</i>	Outside
VN-02428	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2003	<i>A Phase I Archaeological Study for Proposed Improvements to the Civic Center Site Bounded by Third Street on the South, Second Street on the North, "a" Street on the East, and "c" Street on the West, City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California</i>	Outside
VN-02462	Bonner, Wayne H	2006	<i>Cultural Resources Records Search Results and Site Visit for Cingular Wireless Candidate Vn-0032-01 (Sunkist Packaging), 600 North Harrison Avenue, Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Outside
VN-02466	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2004	<i>A Phase 1 Archaeological Study for the Proposed City of Oxnard Downtown Parking Structure Project (fourth Street, Third Street, and an Alleyway Between a and B Streets), City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California</i>	Outside
VN-02471	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2005	<i>A Phase 1 Archaeological Study for 1800 and 1820 Eastman Avenue (lot 1 and Lots 2a and 2b) Located on the Southeast Corner of Rose Avenue and Eastman Avenue, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Outside
VN-02864	King, Chester	1993	<i>Report on the Backhoe Trenching of Potential Cultural Resource Sites for the Pacific Pipeline Project, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, California</i>	Outside
VN-02957	Romani, Gwen	2011	<i>Phase I Archaeological Investigation for the City of Oxnard Recycled Water Project New Alignment, Wooley Road and Rose Avenue.</i>	Outside
VN-03142	Peak, Melinda	2010	<i>Determination of Eligibility and Effect for the Colonial House Apartments Project, Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Outside
VN-03142	Peak, Melinda	2010	<i>Determination of Eligibility and Effect for the Colonial House Apartments Project, Oxnard, Ventura County, California</i>	Outside

*Study mipmapped in records search results; project site discussed is study is located in Simi Valley

Source: SCCIC 2024

VN-02458

In 2003, Mary K. Maki of Conejo Archaeological Consultants conducted Study VN-02458 entitled: *Phase I Archaeological Survey of Approximately 1.5 Linear Miles for the Oxnard Boulevard Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Project Oxnard, Ventura County, California*. The study investigated the potential cultural resources impacts of the installation of a bike and pedestrian path along Oxnard Boulevard, portions of which are adjacent to the current APE. The study included a SCCIC search, a NAHC SLF search, and a field survey. The study identified no previously recorded cultural studies or cultural resources within its project site (Maki 2003).

VN-03102

In 2009, Noah Stewart of the California Department of Transportation conducted Study VN-03102, which is a Historical Resources Compliance Report prepared in support of the relinquishment of State Route 1 (Oxnard Boulevard) from Pleasant Valley Road (Post miles 5.1) to the intersection of State Route 1 and US Highway 101 to the City of Oxnard. The report summarized the results of cultural resources identification efforts including background research and local interested party outreach. The study did not result in the identification of any cultural resources (Stewart 2009).

VN-02781

In 2008, Mary Maki of Conejo Archaeological Consultants conducted Study VN-02781 entitled *Archeological Survey Report of Approximately 0.5-Acres for the Hayes Affordable Housing Project Oxnard, Ventura County California*. This study documents the results of a Phase I archaeological investigation conducted for the Hayes Affordable Housing Project, located at the intersection of East 1st and North Hayes Avenue in Oxnard, adjacent to the current APE. It included background research, a SCCIC search, Native American outreach and a field survey and identified no cultural resources within its project site (Maki 2008).

VN-03094

Study VN-0394, *Historic Resource Evaluation Report – Mason Avenue At-Grade Crossing and Safety Improvements Project - Los Angeles City, California*, was prepared for the City of Los Angeles by John M. Foster of Greenwood and Associates in March 2002. Although it was prepared in support of a project in Los Angeles, it evaluated the Union Pacific Railroad ROW from Montalvo, in Ventura, to Burbank. This ROW, which was recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR as a result of Study VN-03094 (Foster 2002), is located adjacent to the current APE. It will not be physically impacted by the current project.

5.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The CRHIS record search results and background research identified one previously recorded cultural resource within a 0.25-mile radius of the APE (P-19-000789; Table 2). No previously recorded cultural resources were located within or adjacent to the APE. Resource P-56-000789 is described further following Table 2. Full records search results are included in Appendix A.

Table 2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the Southeastern Treatment Area

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	NRHP/ CRHR Status	Relationship to the APE
P-56-000789	CA-VEN-000789	Prehistoric	Lithic scatter	1984 (R. Wlodarski, G. Romani, HEART);1997 (C. Klink, UCSB)	Unknown	Outside

Source: SCCIC 2024

P-56-000789

Resouce P-56-000789 is prehistoric lithic scatter which is noted in several of the studies identified by the CHRIS search completed for this project. It appears to have been first recorded by Robert J. Wlodarski and Gwen Romani in 1984. On the associated site record, it was described as: “a large flake and shell scatter in an agricultural field lying just south of a housing tract (Wlodarski and Romani 1984)”. The site is mentioned in several successively completed studies including the *Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) Program, Cultural Resources Inventory Report*, prepared in 2004. This report also includes a description of the resouce and states that in 1985 “Wlodarski and Romani conducted extensive subsurface testing that yielded no evidence of a subsurface deposit” and that they had “determined that past agricultural activities has severely compromised its integrity, and it has very little potential to yield any significant data that would contribute toward a better understanding of the cultural dynamics of the area (CH2MHILL 2004).” The study goes on to state that P-56-00078 “has lost most of its integrity and has little potential to yield significant data; it is NRHP/CRHR eligible (CH2MHILL 2004).” The site is located approximately 0.25 mile southeast of the current APE and will not be physically impacted by the current project.

5.3 Sacred Lands File Search

The NAHC responded to Rincon’s SLF request on October 8, 2024, stating that the results of the SLF search were negative (Appendix B).

5.4 Local Interested Party Outreach

The following bullets summarize responses received from the local interested parties contacted by Rincon. These results are additionally documented in Appendix C.

- On September 30, 2024, Stephen Schafer, on behalf of the SBC, responded to Rincon via email and stated that the SBC was unaware of any cultural resouces in the area of the APE.
- On September 30, 2024, Deya Terrafranca, on behalf of the Museum of Ventura County, responded to Rincon via email and stated that the “while library staff have no personal knowledge of the site, you are very welcome to consult our resources in your project research.
- On October 16, 2024, Dillan Murray, on behalf of the County of Ventura Planning Division, responded to Rincon and stated that the Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board has no comment on the project.

5.5 Field Survey

The field survey confirmed that the APE is developed with paved ROW including paved roadways, curbs and sidewalks, in addition to elements such as streetlights and crosswalks (Figure 3). The survey additionally noted that the area surrounding the APE is developed with a wide variety of property types, including residential, commercial, and industrial, many of which date to the historic period (Figure 4). The project's laydown yard was noted as being located on a highly disturbed property on which buildings have recently been demolished (Figure 5). No built environment or archaeological resources were identified by the survey.

Figure 3 Representative Photograph of the APE and Surrounding Environment



Figure 4 Representative Photograph of the APE and Surrounding Environment



Figure 5 Representative Photograph of the Lay Down Yard within the APE



5.6 Aerial Imagery and Historical Topographic Maps Review

Rincon reviewed historic-period aerials (NETR Online 2022a) and topographic maps (NETR Online 2022b) to identify potential cultural resource concerns within the APE. Aerial images indicate that the western portion of the APE and its surroundings were largely developed with paved roads surrounded with developed properties. At this time, the present-day locations of Colonia Park and Chavez Elementary School are visible as agricultural lands. The eastern portion of the APE and its surroundings remained occupied with agricultural lands at this time. By 1967, the remainder of the APE had been developed with roadways and surrounded with development consistent with current conditions. Since 1967, areas surrounding the APE continued to develop and densify. The residential development that formerly occupied the project's lay down yard were demolished circa 2022.

6 Conclusions and Recommendations

The following sections present our recommended findings under Section 106 and CEQA.

This study confirmed that the APE is entirely developed with paved roadways and did not identify any built environment historical resources or historic properties in the APE. While the vicinity of the APE is comprised of a variety of development, much of which dates to the historic period, impacts/effects resulting from construction-related vibration will not occur because paving activities that take place within 37 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use a static or pneumatic roller instead of a vibratory roller and grading/earthmoving activities located within 21 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use off-road equipment limited to 100 HP or less.

This study identified no archaeological resources in the APE and indicates that the APE has been heavily disturbed by development and maintenance of existing roadways and associated features and elements. Based on this study, there is no indication that a sacred site or resource of Native American origin exists within the APE; thus, it is not considered sensitive for archaeological resources.

6.1 Section 106

Based on the results of this study, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no historic properties affected*** under Section 106 for the current undertaking. Furthermore, Rincon recommends no further archaeological resources work for the undertaking based on the previous disturbance within the APE and lack of archaeological sensitivity. Best management practices are recommended in case of unanticipated discoveries. In the event of a post review discovery during ground disturbance associated with the undertaking, the procedures under 36 CFR Part 800.13 should be followed by the lead federal agency.

6.2 CEQA

The impact analysis included here is organized based on the cultural resources thresholds included in *CEQA Guidelines* Appendix G: Environmental Checklist Form:

- A. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?
- B. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?
- C. Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

Threshold A broadly refers to historical resources. To more clearly differentiate between archaeological and built environment resources, we have chosen to limit analysis under Threshold A to built environment resources. Archaeological resources, including those that may be considered historical resources pursuant to Section 15064.5 and those that may be considered unique archaeological resources pursuant to Section 21083.2, are considered under Threshold B.

Historical Built Environment Resources

This study identified no built environment resources in the project site. While the project site is surrounded by many historic period properties, the nature of the existing setting and proposed project are such that the project's implementation will not alter the character or setting of any properties in the vicinity of the APE. Additionally, as noted above, to avoid potential impacts resulting from construction-related vibration, paving activities that take place within 37 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use a static or pneumatic roller instead of a vibratory roller and grading/earthmoving activities located within 21 feet of off-site buildings or structures over 45 years of age will use off-road equipment limited to 100 HP or less.

Based on the results of this study, Rincon recommends a finding of ***less than significant impact historical resources***.

Historical and Unique Archaeological Resources

This study did not identify any archaeological resources or archaeological deposits in the APE and has identified the APE as having low archaeological sensitivity. However, unanticipated discoveries during construction remain a possibility. While Rincon presents the following recommended best management practice for unanticipated discoveries during construction, we recommend a finding of ***no impact to archaeological resources*** under CEQA.

Recommended Best Management Practice

UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

In the event that archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work within 50 feet of the find shall halt and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (National Park Service 1983) shall be contacted immediately to evaluate the resource. If the resource is determined by the qualified archaeologist to be prehistoric, then a Native American representative shall also be contacted to participate in the evaluation of the resource. If the qualified archaeologist and/or Native American representative determines it to be appropriate, archaeological testing for CRHR eligibility shall be completed. If the resource proves to be eligible for the CRHR and significant impacts to the resource cannot be avoided via project redesign, a qualified archaeologist shall prepare a data recovery plan tailored to the physical nature and characteristics of the resource, per the requirements of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C). The data recovery plan shall identify data recovery excavation methods, measurable objectives, and data thresholds to reduce any significant impacts to cultural resources related to the resource. Pursuant to the data recovery plan, the qualified archaeologist and Native American representative, as appropriate, shall recover and document the scientifically consequential information that justifies the resource's significance. The City shall review and approve the treatment plan and archaeological testing as appropriate, and the resulting documentation shall be submitted to the regional repository of the California Historical Resources Information System, per CCR Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C).

Human Remains

No human remains are known to be present in the APE. However, the discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbing activities. If human remains are found, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the

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County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner must be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which will determine and notify a MLD. The MLD has 48 hours from being granted site access to make recommendations for the disposition of the remains. If the MLD does not make recommendations within 48 hours, the landowner shall reinter the remains in an area of the property secure from subsequent disturbance. With adherence to existing regulations, Rincon recommends a finding of ***less-than-significant impact to human remains*** under CEQA.

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Appendix A

California Historical Resources Information System Results



1/2

Record Search Report Proximity Sheet

Project Name: 24-16396 La Colonia Neighborhood

Report Number	Within Project Site	Adjacent to Project Site	Outside of Project Site
949	X		
951			X
2462		X	
110	X		
3094	X		
1153	X		
572	X		
1265	X		
2968	X		
2223		X	
451			X
2428			X
2466			
2458	X		
2219			X
2471			X

Due to confidentiality issues, maps associated with the records search are not included here but can be made available upon request. Please note that the records search request was submitted using the entirety of the La Colonia neighborhood as the project site/APE. Results, as presented in the report, were therefor reviewed and applied to the APE as delineated manually.



Project Name: 24-16396 La colonia Neighborhood

[illegible]



Record Search Resources Proximity Sheet

Project Name:

Record Search Resources Proximity Sheet

24-16396 La Colonia Neighborhood

[illegible]

Appendix B

Sacred Lands File Search Results



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

October 8, 2024

Christopher Purtell
Rincon Consultants

Via Email to: cpurtell@rinconconsultants.com

Re: Phase III of the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project, Ventura County

To Whom It May Concern:

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: Mathew.Lin@nahc.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Mathew Lin

Mathew Lin
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
Laurena Bolden
Serrano

COMMISSIONER
Reid Milanovich
Cahuilla

COMMISSIONER
Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of
Luiseño Indians

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

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710

Appendix C

Local Interested Party Outreach

Table 1 Local Interested Party Outreach Documentation

Interested Party Contact	Rincon Coordination Efforts	Response to Coordination Efforts
<p>San Buenaventura Conservancy P.O. Box 23263 Ventura, CA 93002</p> <p>Attn: Steven Schafer schaf@west.net (805) 444-5233</p>	<p>CN emailed on 09/30/24 at 10:00 am</p>	<p>Mr. Schafer responded 09/30/24 at 6:37 PM. Conservancy doesn't know of any resources in the area of the APE.</p>
<p>City of Oxnard Planning Department Scott Kolwitz, Planning and Environmental Services Manager Oxnard Service Center 214 S. C Street Oxnard, CA 93030</p> <p>Attn: Scott Kolwitz Scott.Kolwitz@oxnard.org (805) 385-7858</p>	<p>CN emailed on 09/30/24 at 10:02 am</p> <p>CN followed up on 10/15/24 at 9:10 am. By phone. Scott Kolwitz no longer works for the city. Was told to email planning@oxnard.org and that they would forward it to the appropriate party. Email sent at 9:22 am.</p>	<p>No response</p>
<p>Museum of Ventura County 100 E. Main Street Ventura, CA 93001</p> <p>Deya Terrafranca, Research Library and Archives Director dterrafranca@venturamuseum.org (805) 653-0323 ext. 320</p>	<p>CN emailed on 09/30/24 at 10:05 am</p>	<p>Ms. Terrafranca responded 09/30/24 at 10:20 AM: "Thank you for your email. While staff have no personal knowledge of the site, you are very welcome to consult our resources in your project research."</p>
<p>County of Ventura Planning Division Government Center Administration Building, 3rd Floor 800 S. Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009</p> <p>Attn: Denice Thomas Denice.Thomas@ventura.org (805) 654-5042</p> <p>Alt. contact: Dillan Murray Dillan.murray@ventura.org</p>	<p>CN emailed on 09/30/24 at 10:05 am. Received error message saying email could not be delivered.</p> <p>CN followed up on 10/15/24 at 9:13 am by phone and left a voicemail.</p> <p>CN received call on 10/16/2024 saying that they never received email and to send email to new email address provided. Sent at 1:40 pm.</p>	<p>10/16/24 2:17 pm Dillan stated verbally on phone call that the Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board has no comment on the project.</p>



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003
805-644-4455

September 30, 2024
Project No: 24-16396

City of Oxnard Planning Department
Planning and Environmental Services Manager

Oxnard Services Center
214 S. C Street
Oxnard, CA 93030
Via email: planning@oxnard.org

Subject: Cultural Resources Study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Project, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California

Dear Interested Party,

The City of Oxnard is proposing for preparation of a Categorical Exclusion Subject to 58.5 (CEST) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act for the Phase III of the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project, City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California. The project involves street resurfacing work, including concrete work and asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal) and the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps, in the La Colonia neighborhood. The project would also involve the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps. The maximum anticipated depth of excavation associated with the street resurfacing work is 12 inches.

The project is seeking federal funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is considered an "undertaking" as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §800.16(y). As such, it must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. HUD is the federal lead agency and the County is acting as the Responsible Entity (RE) on behalf of HUD.

This letter serves to inquire about your knowledge of potential cultural resources within the vicinity that may be impacted by the project. As part of this effort, Rincon Consultants Inc. (Rincon) has been retained to prepare a cultural resources technical study, which includes a records search of the California Historical Resources Information System and an intensive-level survey of the project site. A record search map depicting the project area is forwarded for your reference. Please note that the Project's Area of Potential Effects Map has not yet been finalized. If you have information or questions regarding cultural resources within the APE, please reach out to our cultural resources consultant, Christopher Purtell, at 213-788-4842.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

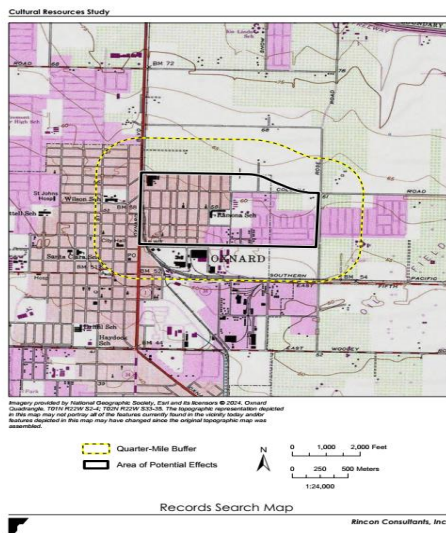
Christopher W. Purtell M.A., RPA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager-Archaeologist
for the City of Oxnard

Attachments

Attachment 1 Project Location Map

Attachment 1

Project Location Map





Rincon Consultants, Inc.

180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003
805-644-4455

October 16, 2024
Project No: 24-16396

Dillan Murray
County of Ventura Planning Division
Government Center Administration Building, 3rd Floor
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009
Via email: Denice.Thomas@ventura.org

Subject: Cultural Resources Study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Project, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California

Dear Mr. Murray,

The City of Oxnard is proposing for preparation of a Categorical Exclusion Subject to 58.5 (CEST) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act for the Phase III of the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project, City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California. The project involves street resurfacing work, including concrete work and asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal) and the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps, in the La Colonia neighborhood. The project would also involve the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps. The maximum anticipated depth of excavation associated with the street resurfacing work is 12 inches.

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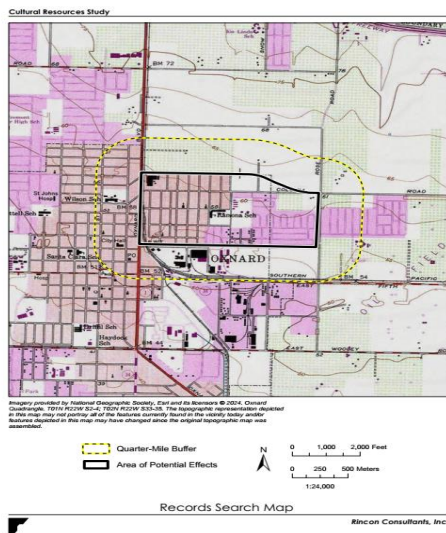
Christopher W. Purtell M.A., RPA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager-Archaeologist
for the City of Oxnard

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.

180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003
805-644-4455

September 30, 2024

Project No: 24-16396

Deya Terrafranca
Research Library and Archives Director
Museum of Ventura County

100 E. main Street

Ventura, CA 93001

Via email: dterrafranca@venturamuseum.org

Subject: Cultural Resources Study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Project, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California

Dear Ms. Terrafranca,

The City of Oxnard is proposing for preparation of a Categorical Exclusion Subject to 58.5 (CEST) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act for the Phase III of the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project, City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California. The project involves street resurfacing work, including concrete work and asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal) and the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps, in the La Colonia neighborhood. The project would also involve the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps. The maximum anticipated depth of excavation associated with the street resurfacing work is 12 inches.

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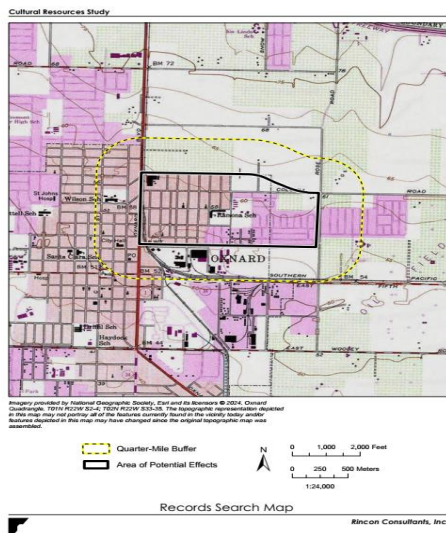
Christopher W. Purtell M.A., RPA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager-Archaeologist
for the City of Oxnard

Attachments

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Project Location Map



Catalina Niessen

From: Deya Terrafranca <dterrafranca@venturamuseum.org>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2024 10:18 AM
To: Catalina Niessen
Subject: [EXT] Re: Cultural Resources Study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Project, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Rincon Consultants. Be cautious before clicking on any links, or opening any attachments, until you are confident that the content is safe .

Thank you for your email. While staff have no personal knowledge of the site, you are very welcome to consult our resources in your project research.
Best-



Deya Terrafranca, MLIS
Acting Deputy Director

Phone 805-653-0323 ext. 305 | **Website** venturamuseum.org

Email dterrafranca@venturamuseum.org

Address [100 E. Main St., Ventura, CA 93001](#)

From: Catalina Niessen <cniessen@rinconconsultants.com>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Deya Terrafranca <dterrafranca@venturamuseum.org>
Subject: Cultural Resources Study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Project, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California

You don't often get email from cniessen@rinconconsultants.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Catalina Niessen, Archaeologist
(She/Her/Hers)

(805)-890-2757 Mobile
cniessen@rinconconsultants.com



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Rincon Consultants, Inc.

180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003
805-644-4455

September 30, 2024

Project No: 24-16396

Steven Schafer
San Buenaventura Conservancy
P.O. Box 23263
Ventura, CA 93002
Via email: schaf@west.net

Subject: Cultural Resources Study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Project, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California

Dear Mr. Schafer,

The City of Oxnard is proposing for preparation of a Categorical Exclusion Subject to 58.5 (CEST) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act for the Phase III of the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project, City of Oxnard, County of Ventura, California. The project involves street resurfacing work, including concrete work and asphalt maintenance and repair work (micro-surfacing and crack seal) and the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps, in the La Colonia neighborhood. The project would also involve the addition of ADA accessible curb ramps. The maximum anticipated depth of excavation associated with the street resurfacing work is 12 inches.

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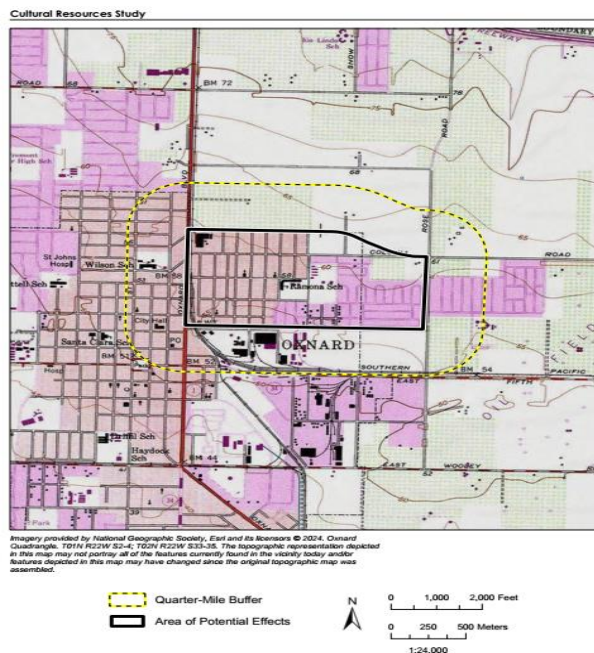
Christopher W. Purtell M.A., RPA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager-Archaeologist
for the City of Oxnard

Attachments

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Attachment 1

Project Location Map



Records Search Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Catalina Niessen

From: San Buenaventura Conservancy for Preservation <sbconservancy@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2024 6:37 PM
To: Catalina Niessen
Subject: Re: Cultural Resources Study for the La Colonia Neighborhood Street Project, City of Oxnard, Ventura County, California
Attachments: Interested Parties San Buenaventura Conservancy .docx; Untitled attachment 00058.htm; CR Records Search Map.pdf; Untitled attachment 00061.htm

Hi Catalina, The Conservancy does not know of any resources in the area of the APE.

-Stephen Schafer
President

San Buenaventura Conservancy for Preservation <http://www.sbconservancy.org>

The Conservancy works to increase public awareness of irreplaceable historic places and cultural sites, to disseminate information useful in the preservation of structures and neighborhoods, to prevent needless demolition, to champion adaptive reuse, and promote the preservation and enhancement of historic and cultural resources in Ventura and surrounding areas.

San Buenaventura Conservancy for Preservation
PO Box 23263
Ventura Ca 93002

sbconservancy@mac.com