

Appendix C  
Cultural Resources Report

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# Phase I Cultural Resources Technical Report

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1400 Montefino Project,

City of Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, California

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# Executive Summary

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South Environmental was retained by De Novo Planning Group to complete a cultural resources technical report for the 1400 Montefino Project (project) in the City of Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, California. This study includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information Center (CHRIS) records search of the project site and a 0.5-mile radius, a California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search, intensive-level pedestrian survey, and archival research. This study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and all applicable City of Diamond Bar codes, ordinances, and plans. The project requires preparation of a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document, a General Plan Amendment, and a zone change.

The approximately 3.9-acre project site is located at 1400 Montefino Avenue in the City of Diamond Bar. The project site is within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 8293-044-015 and 8293-044-016. The site is approximately 1.3 miles southeast of the interchange of the Pomona Freeway (State Highway 60) and the Orange Freeway (State Highway 57). The project proposes demolishing the existing building and parking lot and developing a for-sale residential community of 49 units in a mix of detached and attached three-story condominiums, together with private drives, parking, landscaping, and utilities.

No archaeological resources were identified within the project site by the CHRIS records search, background research, or the pedestrian survey.

The project site is located within a region historically used for agriculture and lies near to the former course of a stream that has been heavily altered by development. Grading for the existing development included excavation to depths of between 5.5 and 15.5 feet with artificial fill. Considering the depth of previous disturbances, it is unlikely that any intact buried cultural resources are present within the project site.

Implementation of standard unanticipated discovery procedures for archaeological resources and human remains (as detailed in Section 7.2) would ensure that potential impacts to archaeological resources remain less than significant.

# 1 Introduction

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South Environmental was retained by De Novo Planning Group to complete a cultural resources technical report for the 1400 Montefino Project (project) in the City of Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, California. This study includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information Center (CHRIS) records search of the project site and a 0.5-mile radius, a California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search, intensive-level pedestrian survey, and archival research.

This study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and all applicable City of Diamond Bar codes, ordinances, and plans. This archaeological resources technical report was prepared by South Environmental Archaeologist Samantha Jovanovic, MA, MS, Principal Archaeologist, Kevin Hunt, BA, and Archaeological Principal Investigator Samantha Murray, MA, Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA), who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for Prehistoric and Historic Archaeology.

## 1.1 Project Location

The project site is located at 1400 Montefino Avenue in the City of Diamond Bar in Los Angeles County, California. The project site is within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 8293-044-015 and 8293-044-016. The site is approximately 1.3 miles southeast of the interchange of the Pomona Freeway (State Highway 60) and the Orange Freeway (State Highway 57). The project site is depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) *Yorba Linda, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map, and within Section 15 of Township 02 South, Range 09 West, San Bernardino base and meridian (Figure 1). The project site is depicted on an aerial photograph background in Figure 2.

## 1.2 Project Description

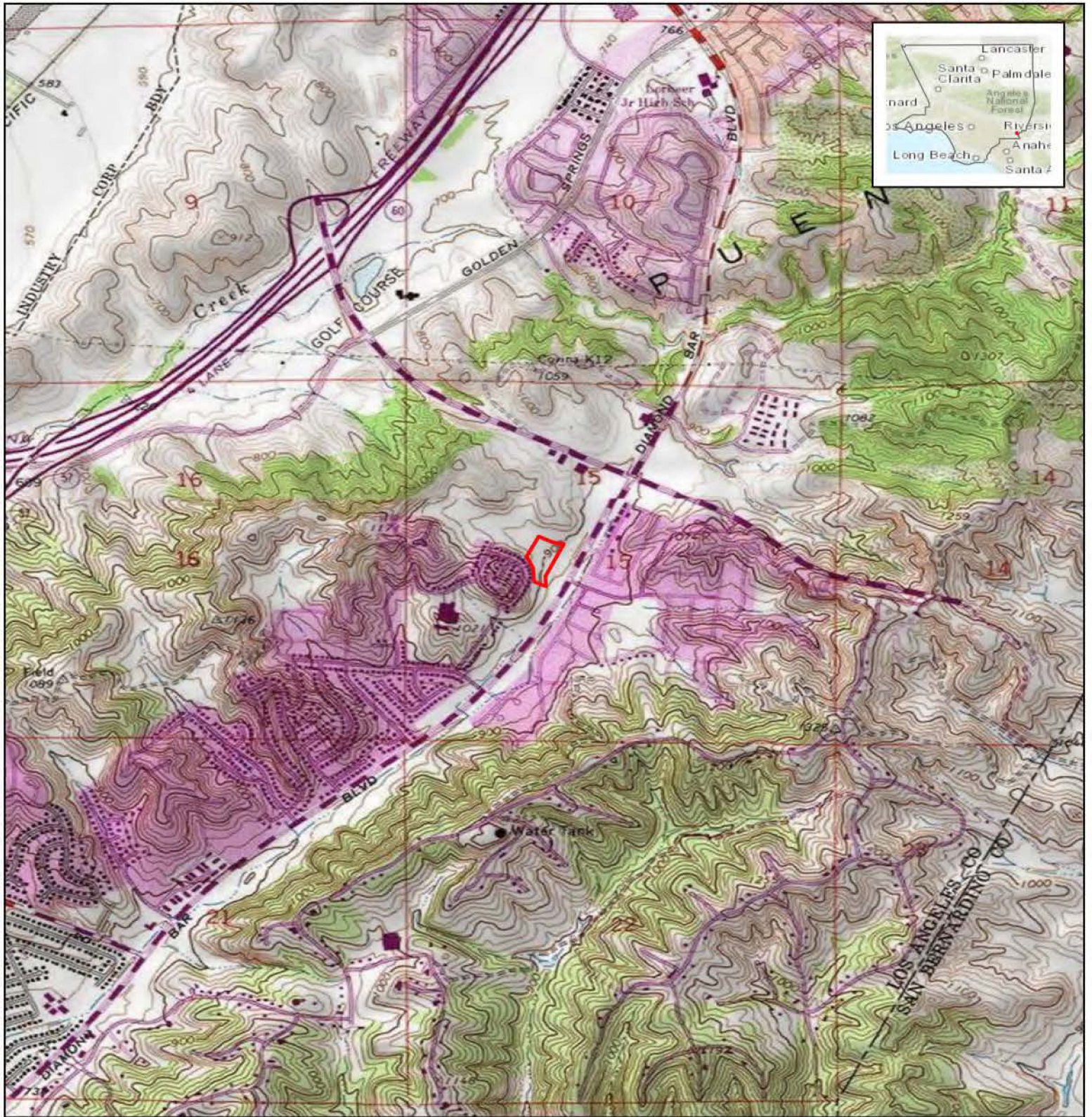
The project site is currently fully developed, with a two-story office building, paved parking lot, and landscaped frontage and perimeter planters. The surrounding area is a mix of residential and retail areas. The project proposes demolishing the existing office building and associated improvements and developing a for-sale residential community of 49 units in a mix of detached and attached three-story condominiums, together with private drives, parking, landscaping, and utilities. The average plan size of the homes would be approximately 1,950 square feet across three home styles, ranging in size from approximately 1,940 to 1,988 square feet, for a total residential floor area of approximately 95,585 square feet. Primary on-site improvements would include new private drives, sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, utilities, and localized retaining walls, with the existing perimeter retaining walls largely remaining in place.

Vehicular access would be provided by a single unsignalized driveway on Montefino Avenue, which would be reconstructed at the location of the existing northern driveway to meet City standards.



Internal vehicular circulation would be provided by three private drives. A total of 120 automobile parking spaces would be provided. Of these, 98 spaces would be accommodated within private two-car garages integrated into the dwellings, with 22 spaces provided as uncovered guest parking distributed along the private drives.

The proposed project requires approval of a General Plan Amendment, Zone Change, Tentative Tract Map, Development Review, and a Conditional Use Permit (Case No. PL2025-29) to allow redevelopment.



Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2025

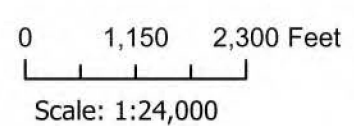
1400 Montefino Avenue Residential Project

## Figure 1. Project Location Map

Project Site

Project Location is within Diamond Bar, California, in Los Angeles County on the USGS Yorba Linda 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Section 15 of Township 02 South and Range 09 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
Latitude: 33.9975124N Longitude: -117.8145828W





## 2 Regulatory Setting

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### 2.1 State

#### 2.1.1 California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term “historical resource” includes but is not limited to “any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California” (California Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) “to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state’s historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change” (California PRC Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), enumerated below. According to California PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains “substantial integrity,” and (ii) meets at least one of the following criteria:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage.
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- (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.
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In order to understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (see 14 CCR 4852(d)(2)).

The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are the state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

## 2.1.2 California Environmental Quality Act

As described further below, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are of relevance to the analysis of archaeological, historic, and tribal cultural resources:

- California PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines “unique archaeological resource.”
- California PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) define “historical resources.” In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.” It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of an historical resource.
- California PRC Section 21074(a) defines “tribal cultural resources.”
- California PRC Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.
- California PRC Sections 21083.2(b)-(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including examples of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; preservation-in-place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites because it maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context and may also help avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the archaeological site(s).

More specifically, under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause “a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b).) If a site is either listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or if it is included in a local register of historic resources or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of California PRC Section 5024.1(q)), it is a “historical resource” and is presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource even if it does not fall within this presumption (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)).

A “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” reflecting a significant effect under CEQA means “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); California PRC Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(b)(2) states the significance of an historical resource is materially impaired when a project:

1. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources; or
2. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to section 5020.1(k) of the PRC or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of section 5024.1(g) of the PRC, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or
3. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA.

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA inquiry begins with evaluating whether a project site contains any "historical resources," then evaluates whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource's historical significance is materially impaired.

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 they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (California PRC Section 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]).

California PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological 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. 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.
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

Impacts to non-unique archaeological resources are generally not considered a significant environmental impact (California PRC section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)). However, if a non-unique archaeological resource qualifies as tribal cultural resource (California PRC Section 21074(c), 21083.2(h)), further consideration of significant impacts is required. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used

when Native American remains are discovered. As described below, these procedures are detailed in California PRC Section 5097.98.

### 2.1.3 California State Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (AB 52)

AB 52 amended PRC Section 5097.94 and added PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3. Section 4 of AB 52 adds Sections 21074(a) and (b) to the PRC, which address tribal cultural resources and cultural landscapes. Section 21074(a) defines tribal cultural resources as one of the following:

(1) Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:

- (A) Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.
- (B) Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of Section 5020.1.

(2) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

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

### 2.1.4 California Senate Bill 18 of 2004 (SB 18)

SB 18 (Chapter 905, Statutes of 2004) requires local (city and county) governments to consult with California Native American tribes to aid in the protection of traditional tribal cultural places (“cultural places”) through local land use planning. SB 18 also requires the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to include in the General Plan Guidelines advice to local governments for how to conduct these consultations. Specifically, SB 18 establishes responsibilities for local government to contact, refer plans to, and consult with tribes for projects that require the adoption or amendment of a general plan or specific plan. SB 18 requires that tribes respond to a local government notice within 90 days, indicating whether or not they want to consult with the local government.

## 2.1.5 California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains can occur until the county coroner has examined the remains (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(b)). PRC Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC within 24 hours (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c)). The NAHC will notify the "most likely descendant." With the permission of the landowner, the most likely descendant may inspect the site of discovery. The inspection must be completed within 48 hours of notification of the most likely descendant by the NAHC. The most likely descendant may recommend means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and items associated with Native Americans.

## 2.2 Local

### 2.2.1 City of Diamond Bar General Plan

#### **Resource Conservation: Cultural and Historic Resources Policies**

##### Historical Resources

RC-P-41 Support property owners in seeking registration of eligible historic structures and sites in registration programs such as California's Historical landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, CRHR, and NRHP.

##### Archaeological Resources

RC-P-42 Establish a procedure for the management of archaeological materials found on-site during a development, including the following provisions:

- a. If significant resources are known or suspected to be present on a site, require that a qualified archaeologist conduct monitoring of building demolition and/ or construction grading activities.
- b. If materials are found on-site during construction activities, require that work be halted until a qualified archaeologist evaluates the find and makes a recommendation for the preservation in place or recovery of the resource.

RC-P-43 Seek to preserve discovered archaeological resources in place to maintain the relationship between the artifacts and their archaeological context, where feasible.



RC-P-44 Preservation can be achieved through measures such as planning construction to avoid archaeological sites, incorporating sites within open space areas, capping the site prior to construction, and permanently protecting the site using a conservation easement.

#### Tribal Cultural Resources

RC-P-45 Establish development processes to avoid the disturbance of tribal cultural resources. Where possible, seek to preserve resources in place, exploring opportunities of permanent protection of the resources where feasible.

RC-P-46 Conduct project-specific Native American consultation early in the development review process to ensure adequate data recovery and mitigation for adverse impacts to significant Native American sites. Ensure that City staff and local developers are aware of their responsibilities to facilitate Native American consultation under Senate Bill 18 and Assembly Bill 52.

## 2.2.2 City of Diamond Bar Municipal Code

### **Chapter 22.16 General Property Development and Use Standards**

#### Sec. 22.16.040. - Environmental resource protection

Development proposals shall be evaluated in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code § 21.000 et seq.), city and general plan environmental policies including, but not limited to, open space habitat, sensitive biological and botanical resources; rare, threatened and/or endangered species; air quality; mineral resources; archaeological resources; and geologic hazards.

(Ordinance Number 02(1998), § 2, 11-3-98)

### 3 Environmental Setting

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The project is in the northern reach of Brea Canyon on the southeastern side of the Puente Hills. The Chino Hills are southeast of the project site across Brea Canyon. The City of Diamond Bar, including the project site, is generally southeast of the junction of the Pomona Freeway (State Highway 60) and the Orange Freeway (State Highway 57).

The topography within the project site is relatively flat due to grading, with an elevation of approximately 900 feet above mean sea level, and there is a steep hill near the western boundary (United States Geological Survey [USGS] 2025). Steep hills and valleys characterize the region. The climate in the region is characterized by a temperate Mediterranean climate, with hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters (California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2023:15). Rainfall is highly seasonal, with the majority of the average annual 16 inches falling between November and March (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2025). Historically, a small, unnamed stream ran along the canyon floor just southeast of the project site, parallel to Diamond Bar Boulevard. However, it is no longer visible on the surface due to development.

The project site is at the northern end of the Peninsular Ranges geomorphic province, characterized by northwest-southeast trending mountain ranges and valleys (Norris and Webb 1990; Morton and Miller 2006; Kennedy and Tan 2008). The region is influenced by complex tectonic activity along multiple faults and is broken into blocks by several northwest-striking faults (Morton and Miller 2006). This province is a westward-leaning plateau bound by the Pacific Ocean and Salton Trough and extends from Los Angeles to Baja California (Sylvester and Gans 2016).

Due to the intersection of the Peninsular Ranges and Transverse Ranges, Diamond Bar's geological setting is significantly influenced by the faults that surround the area, including the Whittier Fault Zone to the south, the San Jose Fault to the north, and the Chino Fault to the east, along with numerous unnamed minor faults throughout the area. These faults are part of the greater San Andreas Fault system, which extends from the Mexican border into the Santa Monica Mountains and then north (Morton and Miller 2006; Sylvester and Gans 2016). The faults dictate the local topography and influence the location of water flow (e.g., groundwater, streams, and rivers) (Sylvester and Gans 2016:194). Diamond Bar is located within the Puente Hills Formation, mainly consisting of marine sedimentary rock actively deformed and uplifted by compression along the adjacent strike-slip faults (e.g., Whittier Fault) (Morton and Miller 2006). This uplift separates the Los Angeles Basin to the southwest from the San Gabriel Valley to the north.

The geology of the hills around the project site predominantly comprises Miocene-age (23–5 million years ago) sandstone and siltstone marine sedimentary rocks (Morton and Miller 2006). Within the valleys is young (Holocene Age) alluvial erosion of the hills (Morton and Miller 2006). The project site is located within one of these alluvial valleys; however, due to the significant amount of development in the area, the surface soils in the project site are predominantly composed of non-native Urban Land

and Counterfeit soil fills (University of California, Davis [UCD] and Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS] 2025). Minor units include Arbolado, Sorrento, and Ballona soil series, which all form on alluvial fans from sedimentary sources. The soils tend to be fine-grained, with high amounts of loam and clay, and some sand (UCD and NRCS 2025).

## 4 Cultural Setting

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### 4.1 Prehistoric Context

While many chronological sequences have been developed to describe cultural changes in Southern California, the following is built on the chronological framework established by Jones and Klar (2007:299-302). The cultural chronology is based on Wallace's (1955, 1978) work, which established a prehistoric chronology for the Southern California coastal region that remains widely used today. Four periods are presented in this sequence: Early Man, Milling Stone, Intermediate, and Late Prehistoric. The summary of prehistoric chronological sequences for Southern California coastal and near-coastal areas presented below combines Wallace (1955) and Warren (1968) and additions from more recent studies.

#### 4.1.1 Early Horizon (ca. 12,000 – 8,000 B.P.)

The transition from the Pleistocene to the Holocene saw a significant increase in global temperatures that radically shifted regional ecologies, such as coniferous forests of the inland deserts turning into the desert scrub brush of the modern period (Jones and Klar 2007:300). Additionally, megafauna such as American mastodons, giant ground sloths, dire wolves, and saber-tooth cats that flourished in colder, more forested environments gradually died out (Stock 1992; Jones and Klar 2007:30). The shift in temperatures precipitated shifts in flora and fauna available to human inhabitants, necessitating the evolution of tools required to hunt, collect, and process food sources.

Numerous pre-8,000 B.P. sites have been identified along the mainland coast and Channel Islands of Southern California (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). The most widely accepted dates for archaeological sites on the Southern California coast are from two of the northern Channel Islands, located off the coast of Santa Barbara. On San Miguel Island, Daisy Cave establishes the presence of people in this area about 10,000 years ago (Erlandson 1991:105).

Early 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, with a significant focus on aquatic resources in coastal areas and inland Pleistocene lakeshores (Moratto 1984).

#### 4.1.2 Milling Stone Horizon (ca. 7,000 – 4,000 B.P.)

Set during the Altithermal, which began around 6,000 B.P., the Milling Stone Horizon is characterized by changing subsistence strategies in response to a drier climate that included greater emphasis on plant foods and small game. Extensive seed processing is evident in the dominance of stone grinding

implements in contemporary archaeological assemblages, namely, milling stones (metates) and handstones (manos). 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). Other food resources include small and large terrestrial mammals, sea mammals, birds, shellfish, other littoral and estuarine species, near-shore fishes, yucca, agave, seeds, and other plant products (Kowta 1969). Depending on the environmental setting (coastal or inland), food procurement strategies are found to be highly variable (Byrd and Raab 2007:220).

#### 4.1.3 Intermediate Horizon (ca. 5,000 B.P. – 1,500 B.P.)

The Intermediate Horizon is characterized by a shift toward a hunting and maritime subsistence strategy, along with a greater reliance on plant-derived food sources. During this period, there is a marked increase in technologies specifically adapted to local resources, including a wide variety of fish, land mammals, and sea mammals along the coast. This diversity was reflected in the toolkits used for hunting, fishing, and processing food and materials, including the manufacture of flake scrapers, drills, various projectile points, and fishhooks made from shells. Mortars and pestles became more common during this period, gradually replacing the mano and metate as the dominant milling tool. This change in milling stone technology marks a shift from processing and consuming hard seed resources to an increasing reliance on acorns (Glassow et al. 1988; True 1993).

#### 4.1.4 Late Prehistoric Horizon (ca. 1,500 B.P. – 250 B.P.)

The Late Prehistoric Horizon is characterized by an increased diversity of plant food resources and land and sea mammal hunting. Material culture became more complex, as evidenced by the emergence of diverse classes of artifacts. During this period, the northern Channel Islands populations continued to develop craft specializations, including shell bead manufacturing, that sustained trade with mainland settlements and trading partners further east, thereby creating a regional economy. Steatite quarried on Santa Catalina Island was used to make stone bowls, pipes, comals, sucking tubes, pendants, beads, and effigies. The lack of pottery in coastal and near-coastal sites within the Los Angeles Basin implies that ceramic technology was not widely used or that ceramics were obtained by trade with neighboring groups to the south and east. The lack of widespread pottery manufacture may also be due to the utility of tightly woven and watertight basketry that functioned in much the same way as ceramic vessels (Bean and Smith 1978; Warren 1968).

By the end of the Intermediate Period, permanent settlements developed in favor of previous generations' seasonal long-distance migration patterns. The period between A.D. 500 and the time of historic contact is divided into three regional patterns: Chumash (Santa Barbara and Ventura counties), Takic/Numic (Los Angeles, Orange, and western Riverside counties), and Yuman (San Diego County). Modern Gabrielino/Tongva, Juaneño, and Luiseño people in this region are considered the descendants of the Uto-Aztecans, Takic-speaking populations that settled along the California coast during this period (Warren 1968).

## 4.2 Ethnographic Context

### 4.2.1 Gabrielino (Gabrieleño)/Tongva

The project area is in Gabrielino/Tongva cultural territory (Bean and Smith 1978:538; Kroeber 1925: Plate 57). Gabrielino/Tongva lands encompass the greater Los Angeles Basin and three Channel Islands: Santa Catalina, San Clemente, and San Nicolas. Their mainland territory is bounded on the west by the Chumash at Topanga Creek, the Tataviam to the north, the Serrano at the San Gabriel Mountains in the east, the Cahuilla to the east, and the Juaneño on the south at Aliso Creek (Bean and Smith 1978:538; Kroeber 1925:636).

The name "Gabrielino" or "Gabrieleño" comes from Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, the dominant mission in the region. Assimilated Native Americans spoke a language that is part of the Takic branch of the Uto-Aztecan language family, closely related to Luiseño, Cahuilla, and Serrano (Golla 2011). Many modern Gabrieleño identify themselves and their language as the Tongva (King 1994; Golla 2011). Though "Tongva" or "Gabrieleño" are the most common names used by Native American groups today, other groups identify themselves differently, such as the Gabrielino Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation.

The Gabrielino/Tongva established large, permanent villages in the fertile lowlands along rivers and streams, and in sheltered areas along the coast, stretching from the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. As the population expanded, the larger permanent villages established satellite communities that stayed connected via economic, religious, and social ties. Structures within the village were typically large, circular, domed structures made of willow poles thatched with tule, fern, or *carrizo*. Other structures found in Gabrielino villages included sweathouses, menstrual huts, and a ceremonial enclosure (Bean and Smith 1978).

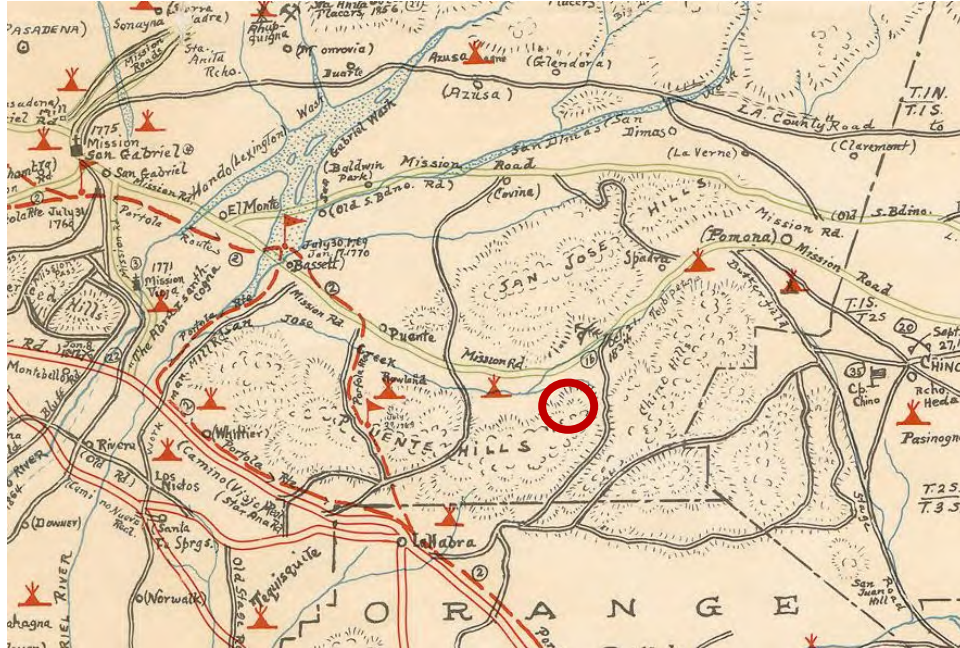
The Gabrielino/Tongva subsistence economy centered on gathering and hunting. The location of known Gabrielino/Tongva villages suggests three principal settlement and subsistence strategies in their mainland territory (McCawley 1996:35–74). In the valleys near the Transverse Ranges, such as the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys, the primary means of subsistence was the exploitation of acorns. Seasonal gathering of resources found in the foothills, like chia and yucca, also contributed to their diet. Additionally, pinyon nuts and juniper berries were important resources for communities close to the Transverse Ranges; these were gathered locally or exchanged from inland areas. A second subsistence strategy involved villages on the high ground along major river courses' middle or lower (coastward) reaches. Upriver communities had access to acorn stands, while the downriver ones had closer access to marine resources (McCawley 1996). The third strategy included both bluff and estuary coastal villages. These appear clustered in the shoreline and estuaries near the Palos Verdes Peninsula and San Pedro region. Offshore fishing was conducted using plank canoes, in addition to nearshore fishing and shellfish gathering. Both shell hooks and nets were used in obtaining fish that were dried for storage (McCawley 1996:62–71, 122–127). Sea mammals were hunted with harpoons, spear throwers, and clubs (Bean and Smith 1978).

The Gabrielino/Tongva employed various tools and implements to gather and collect food resources. Fishing involved line and hook, nets, basketry traps, spears, and bow and arrows. Mammal hunting was accomplished using bow and arrows, deadfalls, snares, traps, and throwing sticks (Bean and Smith 1978). Food was processed using various tools, including portable and bedrock mortars, pestles, basket hopper mortars, manos and metates, hammerstones and anvils, woven strainers and winnowers, leaching baskets and bowls, woven parching trays, knives, bone saws, and wooden drying racks. Food was then stored in large, finely woven baskets, and the unprocessed acorns were stored in large granaries woven of willow branches and raised off the ground on platforms. Food was consumed from various woven and carved wood vessels (McCawley 1996).

Registers from Missions San Gabriel and San Juan Capistrano refer to *Puvunga* (located on the California State University, Long Beach campus) as a native rancheria. Many (but not all) Gabrielino identified *Puvunga* to the Spanish as the "birthplace of the prophet *Chinigchinich* and a religious movement led by him" (Byrd and Raab 2007:45). The basis of Gabrielino religious life was the *Chinigchinich* cult, centered on the last of a series of heroic mythological figures. *Chinigchinich* instructed on laws and institutions and taught the people how to dance, the primary religious act for this society. He later withdrew into heaven, where he rewarded the faithful and punished those who disobeyed his laws (Kroeber 1925:637-638). The *Chinigchinich* religion seems to have been relatively new when the Spanish arrived. It was spreading south into the southern Tatic groups even as Christian missions were being built and may represent a mixture of Native and Christian belief and practices (McCawley 1996:143-144).

Deceased Gabrielino were either buried or cremated, with inhumation more common on the Channel Islands and the neighboring mainland coast, and cremation predominating on the remainder of the coast and in the interior (Harrington 1934; McCawley 1996:157).

South Environmental reviewed ethnographic maps covering the project site. Exhibits 1 through 3 provide a representation of the approximate locations of Native American villages and other features in the Los Angeles Basin with the project site circle in red. It should be noted that these maps represent generalized/approximate locations of Native American villages, placenames, ethnographic boundaries, and other markers, and should not be considered exact. Although these maps do not indicate the presence of any ethnohistoric village sites within the immediate vicinity of the project site, the nearest village sites include *Pemookanga* and *Ahwingna*, northwest of the project site (Exhibit 2 and 3). The village of *Pemookanga* was located within the City of Walnut, west of the project near the southern bank of the San Jose Creek. The village of *Ahwingna* was located in La Puente, west of the project site on the northern side of San Jose Creek (Tongva People 2025; Mount San Antonio College 2025).



**Exhibit 1. Detail view of Kirkman-Harriman pictorial and historical map of Los Angeles County, 1860-1937 with project vicinity circled in red (Kirkman 1937).**



**Exhibit 2. The Gabrielino Indians at the Time of the Portola Expedition with project vicinity circled in red (Southwest Museum 1962, reprinted in Johnston 1962)**



**Exhibit 3. Map of Tongva Village Names with project vicinity circled in red (Gabrieleño San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians 2007).**

### 4.3 Historic Context

Post-colonization 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).

#### 4.3.1 Spanish Period (1769–1822)

In search of the legendary Northwest Passage, Spanish explorer Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo stopped at present-day San Diego Bay in 1542. Cabrillo explored the shorelines of present-day San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays, as well as Catalina Island. Much of the present California and Oregon coastline was mapped and recorded in the next half-century by Spanish naval officer Sebastián Vizcaíno. Spain laid claim to California based on the surveys conducted by Cabrillo and Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885:96–99; Gumprecht 1999:35).

In a race against England and Russia to claim as much of the Americas as possible, Spain implemented a colonization campaign along the coast of Alta California in the late 18th century. Spain's goal was to establish self-sustaining colonies; they did this with a three-pronged approach that focused on religion, commerce, and military (Kimbrow and Costello 2009:13). The Missions presided over religious and agricultural affairs; the Pueblos provided residences and a commercial base for trade; and the presidios housed soldiers and provided military defense against attack (Kimbrow and Costello 2009:13).

The 1769 overland expedition by Captain Gaspar de Portolá marks the start of California's Historic period. With a band of 64 soldiers, missionaries, Baja (lower) California Native Americans, and Mexican civilians, Portolá established the Presidio of San Diego, a fortified military outpost, as the first Spanish

settlement in Alta California (San Diego History Center 2018). In July of 1769, while Portolá was exploring southern California, Franciscan Friar Junípero Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá at Presidio Hill, the first of the 21 missions that would be established in Alta California by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823 (Kimbrow and Costello 2009).

The Portolá expedition first reached the present-day boundaries of Los Angeles in August 1769, thereby becoming the first Europeans to visit the area. Father Juan Crespí, a member of the expedition, named "the campsite by the river Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de la Porciúncula" or "Our Lady the Queen of the Angeles of the Porciúncula." Friar Junípero Serra returned two years later to the valley to establish a Catholic mission, the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, on September 8, 1771 (Kyle 2002:151).

Mission San Gabriel would have controlled the Diamond Bar region at the time. Mission San Gabriel's ultimate location is approximately 18 miles northwest of the project site. The fourth mission established in Alta California, Mission San Gabriel was strategically placed along major trade and travel routes, and close to Gabrielino/Tongva habitation sites. Mission San Gabriel controlled approximately 30,000 acres at the height of its power with a peak population of around 1,700 people (Kimbrow and Costello 2009:182). Due to its location, it was one of the most productive missions, often providing goods to neighboring missions (National Park Service [NPS] 2025).

#### 4.3.2 Mexican Period (1822–1848)

After more than a decade of intermittent rebellion and warfare, New Spain (Mexico and the California territory) won independence from Spain in 1821. In 1822, the Mexican legislative body in California ended isolationist policies designed to protect the Spanish monopoly on trade, and decreed California ports open to foreign merchants (Dallas 1955:14).

Extensive land grants were established in the interior during the Mexican Period to increase the population inland from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had first concentrated their colonization efforts. The secularization of the missions following Mexico's independence from Spain resulted in the subdivision of former mission lands and the establishment of many additional ranchos. During the supremacy of the ranchos (1834–1848), landowners focused mainly on the cattle industry and devoted large tracts to grazing. Cattle hides became a primary southern California export, providing a commodity to trade for goods from the east and other areas in the United States and Mexico (Dallas 1955; Cleland 2005). The number of nonnative inhabitants increased during this period because of the influx of explorers, trappers, and ranchers associated with the land grants. The rising California population contributed to the introduction and rise of diseases foreign to the Native American population, who had no associated immunity.

### 4.3.3 American Period (1848–Present)

The Mexican–American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ushering California into its American Period (U.S. National Archive and Records 2022). California officially became a state with the Compromise of 1850, which also designated Utah and New Mexico (with present-day Arizona) as U.S. Territories (Library of Congress 2019).

The Gold Rush began in 1848, and with the influx of people seeking gold, cattle were no longer desired mainly for their hides but also as a source of meat and other goods. During the 1850s cattle boom, rancho vaqueros drove large herds from southern to northern California to feed that region's burgeoning mining and commercial boom. The cattle boom ended for southern California as neighboring states and territories drove herds to northern California at reduced prices. Operation of the enormous ranchos became increasingly difficult, and droughts severely reduced their productivity (Cleland 2005:102–103).

The County of Los Angeles was established on February 18, 1850, one of 27 counties established in the months before California acquired official statehood in the United States. Many of the ranchos in the area now known as Los Angeles County remained intact after the United States took possession of California; however, a severe drought in the 1860s resulted in many of the ranchos being sold or otherwise acquired by Americans. Most of these ranchos were subdivided into agricultural parcels or towns (Dumke 1944).

### 4.3.4 City of Diamond Bar (1822 to Present)

After Mexican Independence and the secularization of the missions, the Diamond Bar area was divided into several ranchos, with the land changing hands multiple times. Most of the City of Diamond Bar was part of Rancho Los Nogales, named for the black walnut trees brought to California by Spanish missionaries (Spitzzeri 2016; City of Diamond Bar 2025). In March of 1840, approximately 4,340 acres encompassing Brea Canyon and the eastern Walnut Valley, were granted by Governor Juan Alvarado to Jose de la Luz Linares, who establish Rancho Los Nogales (Ranch of the Walnut Trees) (City of Diamond Bar 2025; City of Walnut 2025; Cal Poly Pomona University Library 2025a). Following Linares's death in 1847, his widow sold a portion of the Rancho to Ricardo Vejar from neighboring Rancho San Jose. The entirety of Rancho Los Nogales was eventually acquired by Vejar, bringing his land holdings to over 10,000 acres and becoming one of Los Angeles County's wealthiest landowners (City of Diamond Bar 2025; Cal Poly Pomona University Library 2025a).

Vejar lost most of his land after American surveying of the ranchos, and due to debt incurred during the 1860s drought (City of Diamond Bar 2025; Cal Poly Pomona University Library 2025a). He was eventually forced to turn over his remaining lands in 1864 to merchants Isaac Schlesinger and Hyman Tischler, to whom he was indebted. In 1866, they sold it to Louis Phillips, expanding his holdings to over 12,000 acres. Phillips sold 100 acres to William Rubottom, who established a tavern and stage station named Spadra, and eventually gave the town the same name, marking the first named



settlement in the area near the present-day California Polytechnic Pomona campus (City of Diamond Bar 2025; Cal Poly Pomona University Library 2025a).

In 1873, Rancho Los Nogales was sold to Wilson Beach and George Butler, who sold off numerous small parcels to various buyers. In 1918, Frederick E. Lewis consolidated much of the land, registering the "Diamond Bar" brand with the California Department of Agriculture, naming the operation after the "diamond over a bar" branding iron symbol (Cal Poly Pomona University Library 2025b). The Bartholome family acquired the ranch in 1943, maintaining cattle operations until 1956. That year, the Transamerica Corporation purchased 8,000 acres for \$10 million, initiating the development of a master-planned community. By 1960, model homes were constructed, and a development boom ensued, transforming Diamond Bar into the suburban city it is today (City of Diamond Bar 2025).

The suburban development and expansion of Diamond Bar and the surrounding area was facilitated by the construction of the Pomona Freeway (State Highway 60) and Orange Freeway (State Highway 57). The Pomona Freeway, which currently runs between Downtown Los Angeles and Beaumont in Riverside County, was constructed in the early 1960s and was built upon pre-existing alignments such as Legislative Route 172 (Faigin 2024). The Orange Freeway, currently running from the Foothill Freeway (State Highway 210) southwardly to the Pacific Coast Highway (Route 1), was completed in the late 1960s (Faigin 2025).

## 5 Background Research

### 5.1 CHRIS Records Search

On October 6, 2025, South Environmental Archaeologist Samantha Jovanovic, MA, MS, completed a records search of the project site and a 0.5-mile search radius California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) via the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), which included their collections of mapped prehistoric and historic archaeological resources and historic built-environment resources, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Site Records (DPR forms), technical reports, archival resources, and ethnographic references. Additional consulted sources include historical maps of the project site, the NRHP, the CRHR, the lists of California State Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, and the Archaeological Resources Directory. A summary of the results of the records search is presented in Appendix A.

#### 5.1.1 Previously Conducted Cultural Resource Studies

The SCCIC records search results indicate that no previous studies were identified within the project site, but six previously conducted studies were identified outside the project site within the 0.5-mile records search radius. A list of all previously conducted studies identified within the records search radius is provided in Table 1.

**Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations Within 0.5-Mile of the Project Site**

SCCIC Report Number	Author	Year	Report Title	Proximity to Project Site
LA-00342	Taylor, Thomas T.	1978	Report of the Archaeological Survey of Five Possible Steel Tank Reservoir Sites and Pipe Routes for the Walnut Valley Water District	Outside Approx. 0.15 mi west
LA-01009	Jenkins, Bruce	1981	Archaeological Survey of Tentative Tract No. 39679 Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, California	Outside Approx. 0.4 mi west
LA-04840	Duke, Curt	2000	Cultural Resource Assessment for AT&T Wireless Services Facility Number C948.2, County of Los Angeles	Outside Approx. 0.3 mi NE
LA-08249	Peterson, Patricia A.	2002	Cultural Resources Records Search and Survey Report for the Reclaimed Water Backbone Transmission Project, Los Angeles County, California	Outside Approx. 0.25 mi NE
LA-08930	McKenna, Jeanette A.	2007	A Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Proposed Improvements Within Sycamore Canyon Park in the City of Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, California	Outside Approx. 0.4 mi north

**Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations Within 0.5-Mile of the Project Site**

SCCIC Report Number	Author	Year	Report Title	Proximity to Project Site
LA-11821	Panich, Lee and John Holson	2010	Archaeological Survey Report, Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Segment 8 Telecommunications Route, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California	Outside Approx. 0.25 mi NE

### 5.1.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

No previously recorded cultural resources were identified within the project site or within a 0.5-mile radius.

## 5.2 Sacred Lands File Search

A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was requested by South Environmental on May 13, 2025. The NAHC responded to the request on May 28, 2025, and reported negative results. The NAHC also provided a list of Native American tribes to contact for additional information or knowledge they may have regarding the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. This list is provided in Appendix B. South Environmental did not conduct further outreach.

Separately, the City of Diamond Bar is conducting government-to-government tribal consultation per Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (as amended) and Senate Bill 18 of 2004.

## 5.3 Review of Historical Aerial Photographs and Topographic Maps

To assess changes to the project site and the surrounding neighborhood over time, historical aerial photographs from 1928 through 2022 were reviewed. Historic aerial photographs of the project site were available from Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR 2025) Historic Aerials image database for the years of 1946, 1948, 1953, 1959, 1963-1966, 1972, 1980, 1985, 1988, 1991-2000, 2002-2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022. Aerial photographs were also available from the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) FrameFinder image database (UCSB 2025) for the years of 1928, 1935, 1938, 1947, 1949, 1954, 1956, 1960, 1968, 1976, and 1977.

Additionally, historical maps from 1896 through 2022 were reviewed. Maps available from the United State Geological Survey's (USGS) Historical Topographic Map Collection (HTMC) include 1896, 1898, 1901, and 1942 versions of the *Anaheim, California* map (1:62,500 scale); 1901 and 1904 versions of the *Southern California Sheet No. 2, California* map (1:250,000 scale); 1902 version of the *Corona, California* map (1:250,000 scale); 1947, 1949, 1956, 1959, 1960, and 1965 versions of the *Santa Ana, California* map (1:250,000 scale); 1983 version of the *Santa Ana, California* map (1:100,000 scale); 1928 *La Brea, California* map (1:24,000 scale); and 1949, 1950, 1964, 1981, 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2022 versions of the *Yorba Linda, California* map (1:24,000 scale). The project site is near the northern boundary of many maps. Therefore, the maps just north of the project site were also consulted for a contextual assessment of the region.

The topographic maps from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries display regional information, such as rancho boundaries and large roads. The project site is west of Rancho Santa Ana del Chino and east of Rancho Rincon de la Brea. An unnamed stream runs just east of the project site in multiple maps.

Based on the historic aerial photographs, between 1928 and the 1950s, the entire project site was used for agricultural purposes. The 1928 *La Brea, California* map (1:24,000) and 1942 *Anaheim, California* map (1:62,500) depict an unnamed road that is likely the precursor to Diamond Bar Boulevard. This road is also visible in the aerial photographs as a small road just south of the project site that was widened in the early 1960s. The 1949 *Yorba Linda, California* map (1:24,000) depicts a well and windmill south of the project site adjacent to Diamond Bar Boulevard, but no other structures within the vicinity. The 1964 *Yorba Linda, California* map (1:24,000) shows more road development in the region.

In the aerial photographs, the area adjacent to the project site remained undeveloped until 1972, when the housing tracts southwest of the project site and east of Diamond Bar Boulevard were under construction. By 1980, these communities were developed, but the project site was not. The 1981 *Yorba Linda, California* map (1:24,000) reflects the development of these communities. The 1981 *Yorba Linda, California* map and the 1983 *Santa Ana, California* map are the last to depict the blue line stream parallel to Diamond Bar Boulevard.

In 1985, aerial photographs show that the shopping center immediately east of the project site was developed, and the project site was graded. The office building and parking lot on the project site were completed and in use by 1988, with cars already in the parking lot. The residential communities north of Montefino Avenue and immediately west of the project site were developed in the late 1980s. No discernible changes have occurred on the project site from 1988 to the present.

## 5.4 Geotechnical Investigation

The *Geotechnical Diligence Exploration Report* was prepared by Joe A. Roe and Christian Delgadillo of Leighton and Associates for the proposed project on August 1, 2025 (Roe and Delgadillo 2025). This geotechnical investigation involved a reconnaissance site review, cone penetrometer test soundings, soil boring and percolation testing, hand auger borings, and laboratory soil testing. Boring testing went to depths of as much as 41 feet. The boring tests found that Artificial Fill extends to a depth of between 5.5 and 15.5 feet and was laid in 1982 during preconstruction grading for the current office building. Below the Artificial Fill, there are Quaternary age Young Alluvial Fan Deposits (Qyf) to a depth of up to 35 feet. The bedrock unit is composed of the Puente Formation. Groundwater was encountered 22.0 to 31.7 feet below the surface level. Recommendations included over excavation of current soils up to five feet beyond the building foundations.

No cultural resources were identified during the exploratory drilling.

## 6 Cultural Resources Survey

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### 6.1 Methods

South Environmental Archaeologist Alan Scardera MA, MS, conducted an intensive-level pedestrian survey of the project site on October 8, 2025. Fieldwork included taking field notes, photography, and examination of close-scale field maps. Photographs were taken with a Samsung Galaxy A54 camera and Solocator Photography app.

During the archaeological survey, all exposed ground surface for the presence of prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, ground stone artifacts tools), historical artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics), sediment discolorations that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, depressions, and other features that might indicate the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., post holes, foundations).

### 6.2 Results

No cultural resources were identified within the project site during the intensive-level pedestrian survey. The project site consists of a fully developed lot with a multi-story office building, a parking lot, and landscaped islands with non-native grasses, flowers, and trees (Photograph 1-7). Most of the project site is flat but for a steep hill along the western boundary of the project site (Photograph 5, 6, and 8). Ground surface visibility was very poor, at approximately 10 percent throughout the project site due to the project site being a fully developed lot with existing building and a parking lot. A drainage swale was observed on the hillside, but ground visibility was poor due to ground-covering, plants, and fallen leaves (Photograph 8).



**Photograph 1. Overview of project site and northern elevation of office building.**



**Photograph 2. Overview of southern and eastern elevations office building.**



**Photograph 3. Overview of southernmost end of project site.**



**Photograph 4. Overview along eastern project site boundary from southernmost corner**



**Photograph 5. View along western side of office building and western boundary of the project site.**



**Photograph 6. Hillside along western boundary of project site.**



**Photograph 7. Ornamental plants in front of office building.**



**Photograph 8. View of a drainage swale in western hillside.**

# 7 Findings and Recommendations

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## 7.1 Findings

No cultural resources were identified within the project site through the CHRIS records search, background research, NAHC Sacred Lands File search, or pedestrian survey.

The project site is located within a region historically used for agriculture and lies near the former course of a stream that has been heavily altered by development. Grading for the current development included over excavation to depths of between 5.5 and 15.5 feet with artificial fill. Considering the depth of previous disturbances, it is unlikely that any intact buried cultural resources are present within the project site.

Implementation of standard unanticipated discovery procedures for archaeological resources and human remains (as detailed in Section 7.2) would ensure that potential impacts remain less than significant.

## 7.2 Recommendations

### 7.2.1 Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

Should archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) be exposed during construction activities for the proposed project, all construction work shall immediately stop until a qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, can evaluate the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted. Depending upon the significance of the find, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery may be warranted.

### 7.2.2 Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains

In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the County Coroner shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with California PRC, Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) from the deceased Native American. The MLD shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

In conclusion, no historic built environment or archaeological cultural resources were identified within the project site as a result of this study. With implementation of the unanticipated discovery regulatory requirements above, the proposed project will have a less than significant impact on cultural resources under CEQA. No mitigation is recommended.

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# Appendix A: Records Search Results Summary

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## Report List

1400 Montefino Ave, Diamond Bar

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
LA-00342		1978	Taylor, Thomas T.	Report of the Archaeological Survey of Five Possible Steel Tank Reservoir Sites and Pipe Routes for the Walnut Valley Water District		19-000883
LA-01009		1981	Jenkins, Bruce	Archaeological Survey of Tentative Tract No..39679 Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, California	California State University Fullerton	
LA-04840		2000	Duke, Curt	Cultural Resource Assessment for At&t Wireless Services Facility Number C948.2, County of Los Angeles	LSA Associates, Inc.	19-000852, 19-000853, 19-000854
LA-08249		2002	Peterson, Patricia A.	Cultural Resources Records Search and Survey Report for the Reclaimed Water Backbone Transmission Project, Los Angeles County, California	Chambers Group, Inc.	19-000179, 19-001044, 19-001045, 19-001046, 19-002805, 19-120031, 19-186112
LA-08930		2007	McKenna, Jeanette A.	A Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Proposed Improvements Within Sycamore Canyon Park in the City of Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna et al.	19-000233, 19-000342, 19-000633, 19-000843, 19-000852, 19-000853, 19-000854, 19-001009, 19-001069, 19-002805, 19-003596
LA-11821		2010	Panich, Lee and Holson, John	Archaeological Survey Report, Tehachapi Renewable transmission Project Segment 8 Telecommunicatians route, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California	Pacific Legacy	19-000179, 19-000522, 19-000852, 19-000853, 19-000854, 19-001046, 19-001049, 19-001136, 19-001414, 19-001867, 19-186112

## Appendix B: Sacred Lands File Search

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## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

October 23, 2025

Samantha Jovanovic  
South Environmental

Via Email to: [sjovanovic@southenvironmental.com](mailto:sjovanovic@southenvironmental.com)

**Re: Tribal Consultation Under SB18, 1400 Montefino Avenue Residential Project, Los Angeles County**

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to your request, attached is a consultation list of tribes with traditional lands or cultural places located within the boundaries of the above referenced jurisdiction. Additionally, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed. The results were negative. Be aware that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. As such, an SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with all tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area. Please contact all of the listed tribes as they may have information about sacred sites within the jurisdiction that is not listed with the NAHC.

Additionally, the NAHC recommends that agencies include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed for the jurisdiction such as:

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:
  - A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded or are adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
  - Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
  - Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the jurisdiction; and
  - If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:
  - Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code §6254.10.



CHAIRPERSON  
**Reginald Pagaling**  
Chumash

VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
**Buffy McQuillen**  
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,  
Nomlaki

SECRETARY  
**Isaac Bojorquez**  
Ohlone-Costanoan

PARLIAMENTARIAN  
**Wayne Nelson**  
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER  
**Sara Dutschke**  
Miwok

COMMISSIONER  
**Stanley Rodriguez**  
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER  
**Bennae Calac**  
Pauma-Yuima Band of  
Luiseño Indians

COMMISSIONER  
**Vacant**

COMMISSIONER  
**Vacant**

ACTING EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
**Michelle Carr**

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

3. The result of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission.
4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area within the jurisdiction; and
5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the jurisdiction.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource, which is why consultation is so vital.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. If consultation is requested, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the process.

If you receive notification of a change of address or phone number from a tribe, please inform the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at [Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Andrew Green  
*Cultural Resources Analyst*

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contact List  
Los Angeles County  
10/23/2025**

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		anthonymad2002@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	6/28/2023
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Erica Schenk, Chairperson	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 590-0942	(951) 763-2808	chair@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	2/1/2024
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	6/28/2023
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Andrew Salas, Chairperson	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787		admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	8/18/2023
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787		admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	8/18/2023
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	N	Anthony Morales, Chairperson	P.O. Box 693 San Gabriel, CA, 91778	(626) 483-3564	(626) 286-1262	GTTribalcouncil@aol.com	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	12/4/2023
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	N	Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator	P.O. Box 941078 Simi Valley, CA, 93094	(626) 407-8761		christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	3/16/2023
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	N	Robert Dorame, Chairperson	P.O. Box 490 Bellflower, CA, 90707	(562) 761-6417	(562) 761-6417	gtongva@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	3/16/2023
Gabrielino/Tongva Nation	N	Sandonne Goad, Chairperson	106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St., #231 Los Angeles, CA, 90012	(951) 807-0479		sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	3/28/2023
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Charles Alvarez, Chairperson	23454 Vanowen Street West Hills, CA, 91307	(310) 403-6048		Chavez1956metro@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	5/30/2023
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Sam Duniap, Cultural Resource Director	P.O. Box 3919 Seal Beach, CA, 90740	(909) 262-9351		tongvatcr@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura	5/30/2023
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	4/8/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	4/8/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Mercedes Estrada, Cultural Director	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	mestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	5/21/2025
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-5279	(951) 654-4198	jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	7/14/2023
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-6261	(951) 654-4198	jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	7/14/2023

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

Record: PROJ-2025-005944  
Report Type: SB18  
Counties: Los Angeles  
NAHC Group: All

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Government Code Sections 65352.3 and 65352.4 et seq for the proposed 1400 Montefino Avenue Residential Project, Los Angeles County.