Appendix D

Cultural and Paleontological Resources Research, and Sacred Lands File Search Results

Appendix D-1

Cultural and Paleontological Resources Research

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL

We Make a Difference

March 5, 2021

Randy Nichols, Project Manager
MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL
3760 Kilroy Airport Way, Suite 270
Long Beach, CA 90806

RE: CULTURAL RESOURCES IDENTIFICATION MEMO REPORT FOR THE BRIDGE 1355 AND 1361 SEPULVEDA PROJECT, CITY OF LOS ANGELES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Mr. Nichols:

In support of the Bridge 1355 and 1361 Sepulveda Project (project), Michael Baker International completed a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), a literature and historical map review, and California Register of Historical Resources evaluation of one built environment resource. These efforts were completed to determine whether the project could result in significant impacts to historical resources and/or archaeological resources as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Section 15064.5. Michael Baker International also requested a paleontological resources records search from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles (NHMLA) and conducted supplemental research to identify paleontological sensitivity of the project area. Methods, results, and recommendations are summarized below; figures are provided in **Attachment 1**.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The conceptual grading plan for the site prepared by WestLAND Group, Inc., dated July 2020, includes construction of a single, approximately 174,211-square-foot warehouse building with associated utility, drainage, parking, hardscape, and landscape improvements. The western portion of the proposed building includes dock-high (55 inches) truck loading docks.

Based on an earthwork exhibit dated September 15, 2015, we understand that site earthwork will generally include cuts of up to 4 feet and fills of up to 2 feet. Areas west of the proposed building will have about 3 to 4 feet of cut for the truck loading docks. Geotechnical investigations at the site indicate that the depth of fill varies, but that native soil was documented to be present within 2 feet below the present surface of the jobsite.

CULTURAL RESOURCES IDENTIFICATION METHODS

The results of the SCCIC records search, literature review, field survey, historical society consultation, and historical map review are presented below.

SOUTH CENTRAL COASTAL INFORMATION CENTER

SCCIC staff conducted a records search (File No. 21665.7748) on September 14, 2020. The SCCIC, as part of the California Historical Resources Information System, California State University, Fullerton, an affiliate of the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), is the official state repository of cultural resources records and reports for Los Angeles County. A supplemental records search (File No. 22032.8201) was conducted on January 13, 2021. As part of the records search, the following federal and California inventories were reviewed:

- California Inventory of Historic Resources
- California Points of Historical Interest
- California Historical Landmarks
- Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility including the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), National Historic Landmarks, California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest.
- Built Environment Resources Database

The search of these resources revealed no cultural resources within the project site or within the half-mile search radius. No cultural resources studies have been completed in the project area; three were completed within the half-mile search area, as identified below.

Author	Date	Title	In Project?	Resources in Project
Duke, Curt	2002	*Cultural Resource Assessment AT & T Wireless Services Facility No. 05204a*	No	None
Wlodarski, Robert J.	2001	*A Phase I Archaeological Study for 22536 Halldale Avenue City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California*	No	None
Jeanette M. McKenna	2009	*A Brief Historic Context Statement Prepared for the General Plan Update: The City of Torrance, Los Angeles County, California*	No	None

LITERATURE AND HISTORICAL MAP REVIEW

The division of prehistory into temporal periods provides a framework for understanding culture change in years before present (BP). The earliest inhabitants to the Los Angeles Basin occurred in the Paleocoastal or Paleoindian Period terms, indicating proximity to the coast (Moratto 1984; Erlandson et al. 2007) and is generally dated between about 13,000 and 8,500 BP. These earliest inhabitants were highly mobile hunter gathers. Warren (1968) and others (Sutton and Gardner 2010) redefined the Millingstone Horizon as the Encinitas Tradition, which dates to between about 8,500 and 3,500 BP. Encinitas is a widespread cultural phenomenon distinguished by an abundance of manos and metates and a dearth of vertebrate faunal remains, projectile points, and mortar and pestle groundstone tools. Definitions of the Intermediate Period and Late

Prehistoric Period continue to be employed as temporal periods as Wallace (1955) defined them though understanding of cultural practices, technology, migrations among other aspects has been thoroughly deepened (as summarized by Sutton 2010).

At the beginning of the historic period, the project location is understood to be within the ancestral territory of the Gabrielinos though no Gabrielino villages are known within the vicinity of the project site (McCawley 1996). The Gabrielino Indians are named because of their association with the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, located approximately 22 miles northeast. Generally, their territory included all of the Los Angeles Basin, parts of the Santa Ana and Santa Monica Mountains, along the coast from Aliso Creek in the south to Topanga Canyon in the north, and San Clemente, San Nicolas, and Santa Catalina Islands. The Gabrielino spoke a dialect of the Cupan group of the Takic language family (Bean and Smith 1978: 538-549).

The project area is within Rancho San Pedro, the first Spanish land grant in California as shown on the 1784 *diseño*¸ or sketch map for the rancho (CSUDH 1784; Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum 2020). No potential resources are depicted within the project area at this early date, on a later *diseño* from 1834 (California State Archives 1834), nor on maps until the late nineteenth/early twentieth centuries (USGS 1896, 1901). The initial development on the project site started as early as 1924 as three oil wells were depicted in the project area (USGS 1924; UCSB 1927).

Aerial photos from 1941 illustrated only one oil well, as well as a small rectangular building (UCSB 1941). By 1964, three small, square buildings and an irregularly shaped building are depicted within the project area (USGS 1964). This view was modified by 1971 as one irregularly shaped building, a structure, and a parking lot on the project site (UCSB 1971). The project area and surrounds are completely developed by the mid-1970s (UCSB 1976). The project site remained developed with the irregularly shaped building, the structure, and parking lot until circa 2003 when the building was demolished and replaced with the current recreational facility (Historicalaerials.com 2020). However, the structure remains extant on the southwest section of the project site.

FIELD SURVEY

Michael Baker International did not conduct an archaeological field survey because there are no exposed native soils within the project site. A desktop built environment survey conducted on October 2, 2020, revealed a built environment resource located within the project area at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard. Photographs of the structure were taken on September 7, 2020, for project management purposes, and this information was used to complete the California Register evaluation required for the project.

The structure at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard is a multi-story concrete batch plant constructed in 1963. The structure was constructed with an irregular ground plan, slab concrete foundation, sheet metal wall cladding, and flat roof. The structure also includes a multi-story conveyor on the north elevation and a mixing station on the north and east elevations, as shown in **Attachment 2**.

CALIFORNIA REGISTER OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES EVALUATION

The structure located at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard was evaluated for inclusion in the California Register and recommended ineligible for listing under Criteria 1, 2, 3, or 4 both individually and as contributors to a historic district due to a lack of association with a historic context. Additionally, the resource was evaluated in accordance with Section 15064.5(a)(2)–(3) of the CEQA Guidelines using the criteria outlined in Section 5024.1 of the California Public Resources Code, and it does not appear to be a historic resource for the purposes of CEQA.

Refer to **Attachment 2** for the full resource descriptions and evaluations with historic context.

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES RECORDS SEARCH

The geology of the Torrance area has been mapped by Dibblee et al. (1999) at a scale of 1:24,000. Older surficial sediments (Qos) from either the Palos Verdes Sands or an unnamed formation underlie the project. These sediments consist of stabilized dune and drift sand made of unconsolidated fine-grained sand broadly dating to the Pleistocene epoch.

The NHMLA completed a paleontology collection records search for locality and specimen data on September 7, 2020; see **Attachment 3**. The records search showed no previously identified fossil localities within the project area. Six fossil localities from the same sedimentary deposits as the project site occur nearby, either at the surface or at depth. Michael Baker International conducted a supplemental investigation within 3 miles of the project site using the online University of California Museum of Paleontology collections, Paleobiology Database, FAUNMAP. No fossil localities were located within 3 miles in the supplemental FAUNMAP search.

Locality Number	Location	Formation	Taxa	Depth
LACM VP 3823	SE corner of Figueroa St. & Sepulveda Blvd.	Unidentified (Pleistocene; grey buff arenaceous silt)	Camel family (Camelidae)	12-14 ft bgs
LACM VP 3085	intersection of Lomita Blvd. & Main St.	Palos Verdes Sand	Fish (Condrichthyes); rays (Myliobatoidea); toothed whale (Odontoceti); invertebrates (Mollusca)	Unrecorded (collected during excavations for sewer outfall)
LACM IP 21125	Just N of the intersection of Western Ave. & Torrance Blvd.	Unrecorded (Pleistocene)	Invertebrates	Unrecorded
LACM IP 1186 & 4807	South of the intersection of Vermont Ave. & Sepulveda Blvd.	Palos Verdes Sand	Invertebrates (including *Tarus peralis)*	Unrecorded

Locality Number	Location	Formation	Taxa	Depth
LACM VP 4129	South of 223 St. and west of Alameda St.	Undetermined (Pleistocene sand)	Elephant family (Proboscidea); camel family (Camelidae)	24 feet bgs

VP, Vertebrate Paleontology; IP, Invertebrate Paleontology; bgs, below ground surface

The climate of Southern California during the Pleistocene was cooler and moister than the modern Mediterranean climate (Lamb 1989). In contrast to the harsh, cold conditions in high latitudes near the ice sheets, Southern California experienced a relatively milder climate during this time (Calder 1983). During this time, familiar Pleistocene or "Ice Age" fauna, such as mammoth, mastodons, horses, camelids, and ground sloths, inhabited the area (Stock 2001).

The project area is highly sensitive for fossil bearing deposits within intact deposits. It is underlain with a highly sensitive Pleistocene age formation (either unidentified or Palos Verdes Sands) and known fossil localities are immediately adjacent to the project area.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The SCCIC records search, literature and historical map review, and California Register evaluation identified no historical resources or archaeological resources within the project site. One current building on the project location does meet the age requirement for evaluation to the California Register and therefore is considered a historical resource as defined by CEQA Section 15064.5(a). Due to existing disturbance, the project has a low potential to disturb prehistoric cultural resources. Nonetheless, there is a potential for disturbing previously unknown archaeological resources during excavation into native soil materials. The proposed depth of ground-disturbing activities has a moderate potential to disturb paleontological resources due to the variable depth of intact alluvium underneath the fills documented in the geotechnical borings. If ground disturbing activities occur within native sediments, full-time paleontological monitoring is recommended during ground disturbance of these sediments.

Impacts will be avoided through implementation of the City's standard conditions of approval for inadvertent discovery of archaeological or paleontological resources during earth moving activities, as follows:

> *Archaeological Resources Inadvertent Discovery. In the event that any subsurface cultural resources are encountered at the project site during construction or the course of any ground disturbance activities, all such activities shall halt immediately, pursuant to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. At which time the applicant shall notify the City and consult with a qualified archaeologist who shall evaluate the find in accordance with Federal, State, and local guidelines, including those set forth in the California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2 and shall determine the necessary findings as to the origin and disposition to assess the significance of the find. If any find is determined to be significant, appropriate avoidance measures recommended by the consultant and approved by the City must be followed unless*

avoidance is determined to be unnecessary or infeasible by the City. If avoidance is unnecessary or infeasible, other appropriate measures (e.g., data recovery, excavation) shall be instituted.

Paleontological Resources Inadvertent Discovery. In the event that any prehistoric subsurface cultural resources are encountered at the project site during construction or the course of any ground disturbance activities, all such activities shall halt immediately, at which time the applicant shall notify the City and consult with a qualified paleontologist to assess the significance of the find. In the case of discovery of paleontological resources, the assessment shall be done in accordance with the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology standards. If any find is determined to be significant, appropriate avoidance measures recommended by the consultant and approved by the City must be followed unless avoidance is determined to be unnecessary or infeasible by the City. If avoidance is unnecessary or infeasible, other appropriate measures (e.g., data recovery, excavation) shall be instituted.

PREPARER QUALIFICATIONS

This report was prepared by Michael Baker International Senior Cultural Resources Manager Margo Nayyar, Senior Archaeologist Nick Hearth, and Architectural Historian Chris Wendt.

Ms. Nayyar is a senior architectural historian with eleven years of cultural management experience in California. Her experience includes built environment surveys, evaluation of historic-era resources using guidelines outlined in the National and California Registers, and preparation of cultural resources technical studies pursuant to CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), including identification studies, finding of effect documents, memorandum of agreements, programmatic agreements, and Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscape Survey mitigation documentation. She prepares cultural resources environmental document sections for CEQA environmental documents including infill checklists, initial studies, and environmental impact reports, as well as National Environmental Policy Act environmental documents, including environmental impact statements and environmental assessments. She also specializes in municipal preservation planning, historic preservation ordinance updates, Native American consultation, and provision of Certified Local Government training to interested local governments. She develops Survey 123 and Esri Collector applications for large-scale historic resources surveys, and authors National Register nomination packets. Ms. Nayyar meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for history and architectural history.

Mr. Hearth has worked as an archaeologist in cultural resource management since 2002. He meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for prehistoric archaeology. He received his BA in anthropology in 2003 from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and his MA in anthropology in 2006 from the University of California, Riverside. Mr. Hearth has worked in California, New Mexico, and multiple states both in the Midwest and New England. Mr. Hearth is well versed in applying Section 106 of the NHPA, NEPA, and CEQA on a variety of projects across many market sectors. He has completed projects in all phases of archaeology: Phase I Pedestrian and Shovel Test Surveys, Extended Phase I Survey, Buried Site Testing, Archaeological Sensitivity

Assessments, Phase II Testing and Evaluations, Phase III Data Recovery, and Phase IV Monitoring. His project responsibilities include overseeing archaeological, historical, and paleontological studies, directing all phases of archaeological field and laboratory work, and ensuring that the quality of analysis and reporting meets or exceeds appropriate local, state, and federal standards.

Ms. Nayyar and Mr. Hearth were aided in report preparation by architectural historian Chris Wendt. Mr. Wendt has over 12 years of experience teaching history and English. He assists senior architectural historians with a variety of tasks including field survey and photograph documentation of historic-era resources, property research, writing architectural descriptions, and developing historic statements. He conducts National Register, California Register, and various local register evaluations for projects subject to CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. He has served as the visitor services and volunteer coordinator for the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust and Museum of Sonoma County. He also worked with the Petaluma Historical Museum and Library and Cotati Museum and Historical Society where he conducted archival research and aided in the identification of historical resources. He is a Secretary of the Interior Professionally Qualified historian and architectural historian.

Sincerely,

Margo Nayyar, MA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

Nicholas F. Hearth, MA, RPA
Senior Archaeologist

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Figures

Attachment 2 – Department of Parks and Recreation 523 Forms

Attachment 3 – NHMLA Memo Report

REFERENCES

Bean, Lowell J. and Charles R. Smith. 1978. "Gabrielino." *California*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution.

California State Archives.1834. San Pedro Rancho. Accessed October 2, 2020. http://exhibits.sos.ca.gov/items/show/11226.

Calder, Nigel. 1983. *Timescale*. New York: Viking.

CSUDH (California State University Dominguez Hills). 1784. Diseño of Dominquez Rancho. Accessed October 2, 2020. http://digitalcollections.archives.csudh.edu/digital/collection/p16855coll3/id/1661/.

Dibblee, T.W., H.E. Ehrenspeck, P.L. Ehlig, and W.L. Bartlett. 1999. *Geologic Map of the Palos Verdes Peninsula and Vicinity, Redondo Beach, Torrance, and San Pedro quadrangles, Los Angeles County, California*. Santa Barbara, CA: Dibblee Geological Foundation. https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Prodesc/proddesc_71706.htm.

Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum. 2020. History of Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum. Accessed October 2, 2020. https://dominguezrancho.org/domingo-rancho-history/.

Erlandson, Jon M., Torben C. Rick, Terry L. Jones, and Judith F. Porcasi. 2007. "One If by Land, Two If by Sea: Who Were the First Californians?" *California Prehistory: Colonization, Culture, and Complexity*. Lanham, MD: AltaMira Press.

Historicaerials.com. 2020. 1980, 1994, 2003, 2012, 2016 aerial photographs of 1355 and 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard. Accessed October 2, 2020. https://www.historicaerials.com/.

Lamb, Richard V. 1989. "The Nonmarine Mollusks of Pit 91, Rancho La Brea, Southern California, and Their Paleoecologic and Biogeographic Implications." Master's thesis. California State University, Northridge.

McCawley, William. 1996. *The First Angelinos: The Gabrielino Indians of Los Angeles*. Banning, CA: Malki Museum Press.

Moratto, Michael J. 1984. *California Archaeology*. San Diego: Academic Press.

USGS (US Geological Survey). 1896. *Redondo, Calif*. 1:62,500 scale topographic quadrangle.

———1901. *Southern California Sheet No 1, Calif*. 1:250,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

———1924. *Torrance, Calif*. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

———1964. *Torrance, Calif*. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

UCSB (University of California Santa Barbara). 1927. Aerial photograph C-113. Accessed October 2, 2020. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/.

———1941. Aerial photograph C-6972. Accessed October 2, 2020. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/.

———1971. Aerial photograph TG-2755. Accessed October 2, 2020. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/.

———1976. Aerial photograph TG-7600. Accessed October 2, 2020. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/.

Stock, Chester. 2001. *Rancho La Brea: A Record of Pleistocene Life in California*. Los Angeles: Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Sutton, Mark Q. 2010. "The Del Rey Tradition and Its Place in the Prehistory of Southern California." *Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly* 44 (2): 1-54.

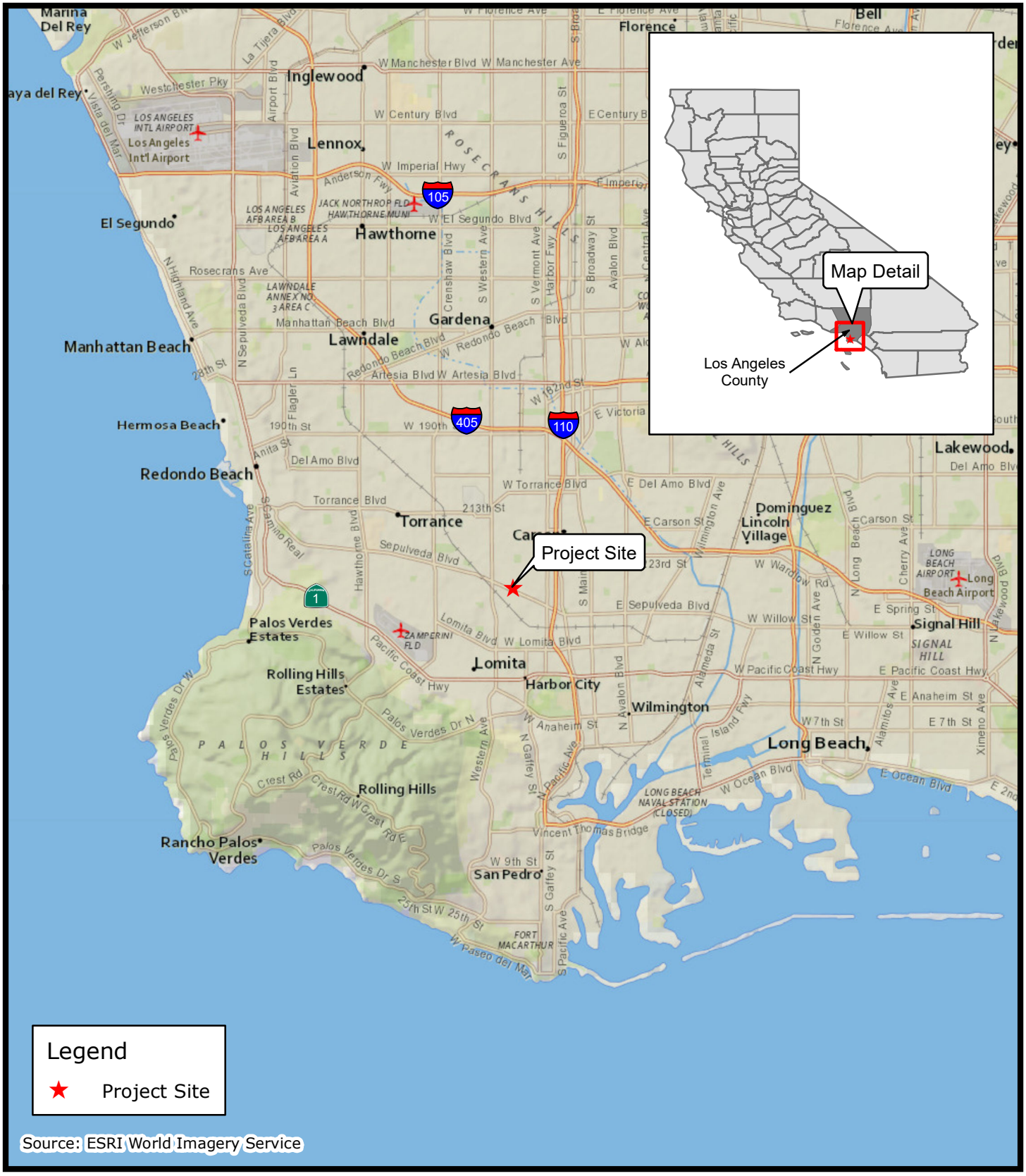
Sutton, Mark Q. and Jill K. Gardner. 2010. "Reconceptualizing the Encinitas Tradition of Southern California." *Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly* 42 (4): 1-64.

Wallace, William J. 1955. "A Suggested Chronology for Southern California Coastal Archaeology." *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology* 11 (3): 214-230.

Warren, Claude N. 1968. "Cultural Tradition and Ecological Adaptation on the Southern California Coast." *Archaic Prehistory in the Western United States*. Portales, NM: Eastern New Mexico University.

Attachment 1

Figures



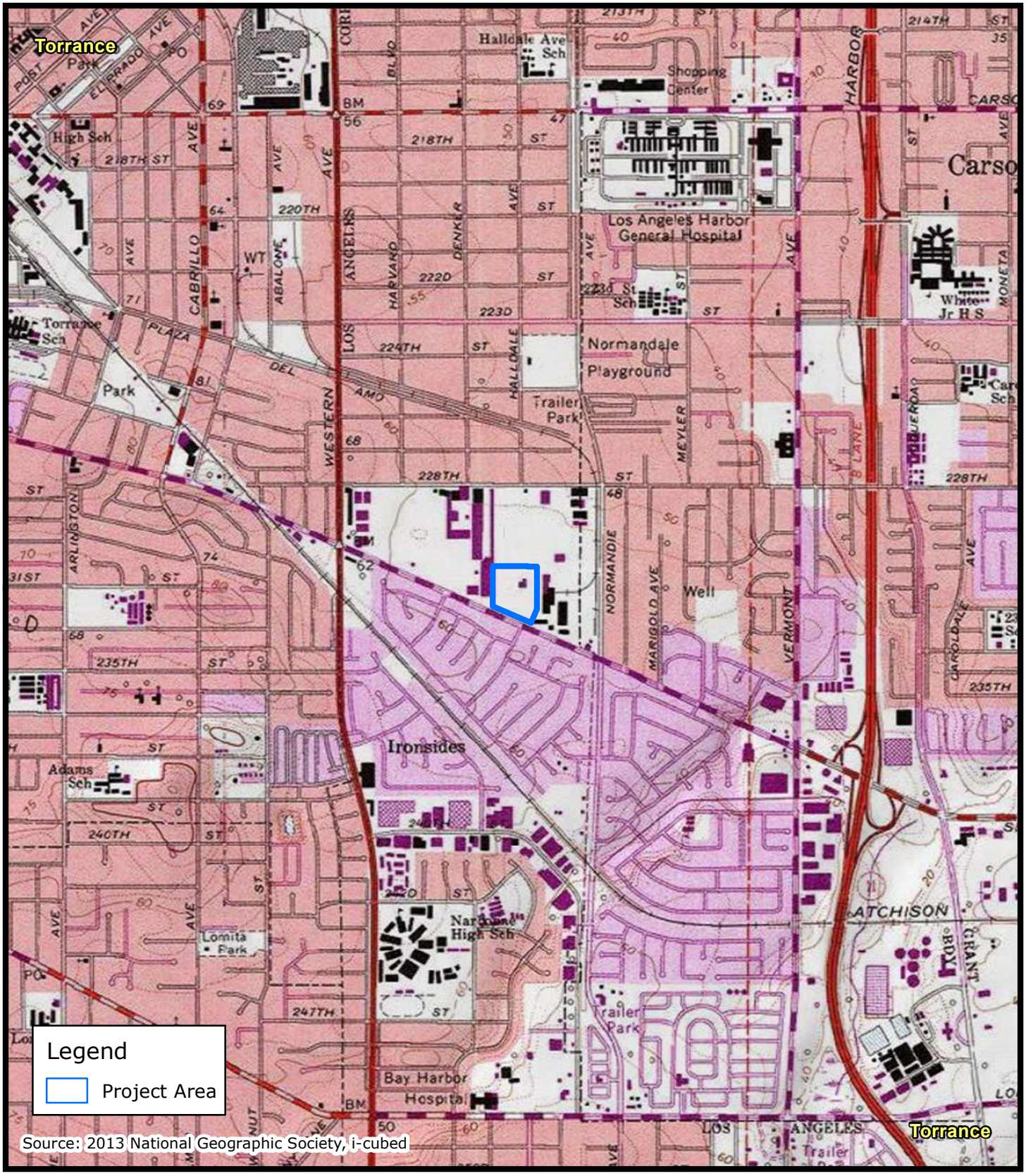
N
W E
S

0 2 4 Miles

FIGURE 1

Regional Location Map

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL



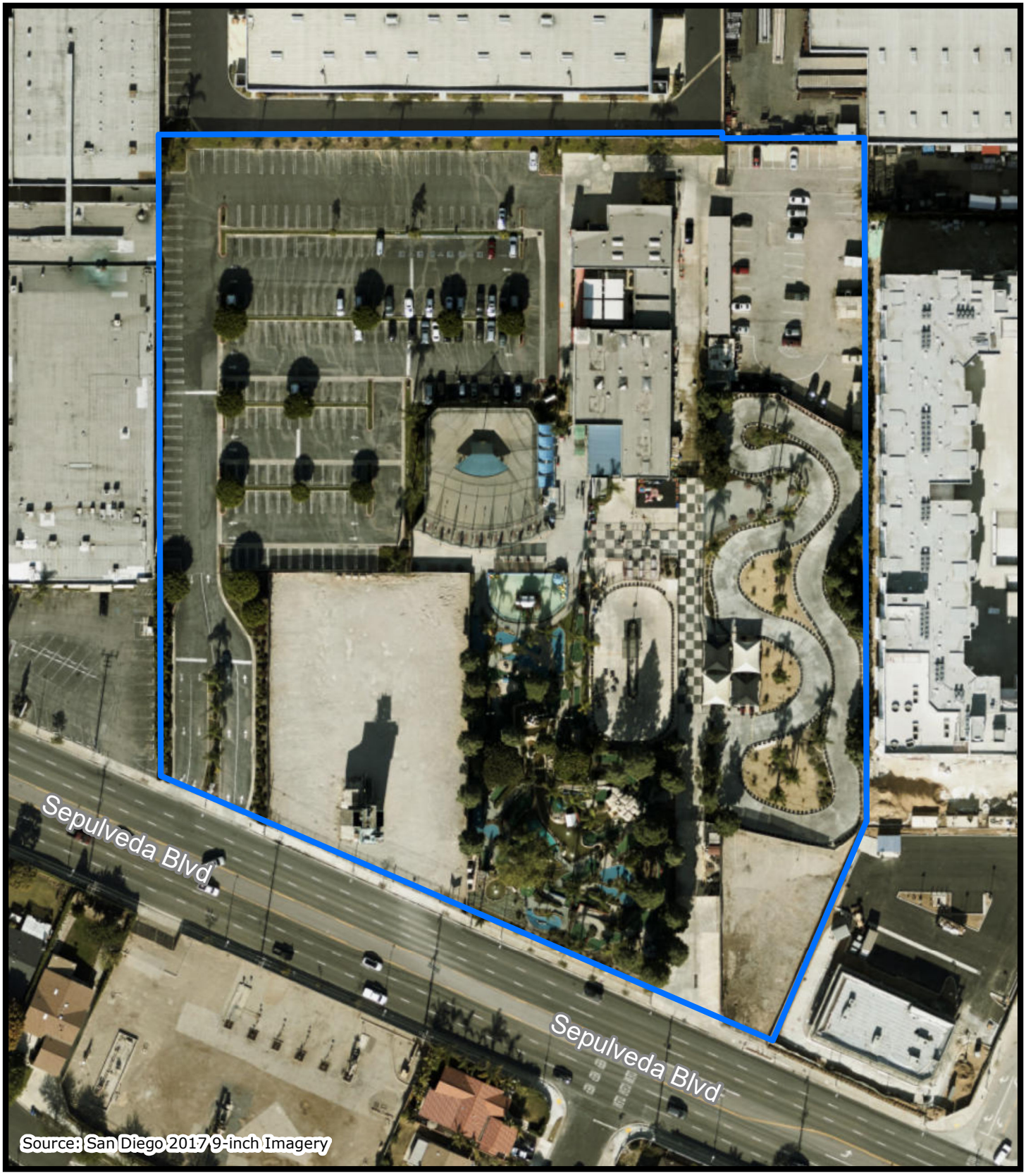
N
W E
S

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

FIGURE 2

Project Location Map

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL



N
W E
S

0 100 200 Feet

FIGURE 3

Area of Potential Effects

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL

Attachment 2

Department of Parks and Recreation 523 Forms

State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code 6Z
Other Listings
Review Code **Reviewer** **Date**

 ***Resource Name or #:** 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard

P1. Other Identifier: N/A

*__P2. Location:__ ☒ __Unrestricted__

__*a. County__ Los Angeles __and__

__*b. USGS 7.5' Quad__ *Torrance, Calif.* __Date__ 1964 __T__ 4S__; R__ 14W; *Rancho San Pedro* S.B.B.M

__c. Address__ 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard __City__ Torrance __Zip__ 90501

__d. UTM: Zone__ 11S__,__ 379493 __mE /__ 3742378 __mN__

__e. Other Locational Data:__ APN - 7347-018-003

The site is within Los Angeles County APN 7347-018-003. From the 110 freeway exit on Sepulveda Boulevard, drive west approximately 1.2 miles. Stop and exit the vehicle. Walk southwest 34 meters on a heading of 336° to site datum listed above, which is the location of the concrete batch structure.

***P3a. Description:**

The structure at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard is a multi-story concrete batch plant constructed in 1963. The structure was constructed with an irregular ground plan, slab concrete foundation, sheet metal wall cladding, and flat roof. The structure also includes a multi-story conveyor on the north elevation and a mixing station on the north and east elevations.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP8. Industrial Building

***P4. Resources Present:** ☒ **Structure**

P5a. Photograph or Drawing

P5b. Description of Photo: Photograph 1: View northwest of concrete batch structure. Taken September 7, 2020

P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: ☒ **Historic**
1963 (Ardent Environmental Group, Inc. 2020)

***P7. Owner and Address:**
Georgia Claessens Trust
9 Portuguese Bend Road
Palos Verde Peninsula, CA 90274

***P8. Recorded by:**
Chris Wendt
Michael Baker International
2729 Prospect Park Drive, #220
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

***P9. Date Recorded:**
October 6, 2020

***P10. Survey Type:** Reconnaissance Survey

***P11. Report Citation:**
Nayyar, Margo, and Nicholas Hearth. "Cultural Resources Identification Memo Report for the Bridge 1355 and 1361 Sepulveda Project, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California." Rancho Cordova, CA: Michael Baker International.

***Attachments:** ☒**Location Map** ☒**Continuation Sheet** ☒**Building, Structure, and Object Record**

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

***NRHP Status Code** 6Z
***Resource Name or #** 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard

B1. Historic Name: Associated Ready Mix and Concrete, Inc.
B2. Common Name: None
B3. Original Use: Commercial
B4. Present Use: N/A
***B5. Architectural Style:** None
***B6. Construction History:**
The concrete batch plant was constructed in 1963. In 1973, a single-story office building was constructed on the southeastern portion of the property; in 1977, a new sign was installed along the roadside. The office building and sign are no longer extant. (Ardent Environmental Group, Inc. 2020; Los Angeles County Assessor's Office 2020)

***B7. Moved?** ☒**No** ☐**Yes** ☐**Unknown** **Date:** N/A **Original Location:** N/A

***B8. Related Features:** N/A

B9a. Architect: Unknown **b. Builder:** Unknown
***B10. Significance: Theme** N/A **Area:** Torrance

Period of Significance 1975 **Property Type** Commercial **Applicable Criteria** N/A
Unless otherwise noted, the following context is adapted from the "2011-2013 Survey of Historic Resources" (Torrance Historical Society 2013).
Torrance's Growth
In 1912, Jared Sidney Torrance, along with several business associates, formed The Dominguez Land Company after purchasing 3,100 acres of land from the Dominguez Family Tract of the Old Dominguez Rancho a year earlier. Torrance and his associates aimed to establish their own industrial town due to escalating property values in Los Angeles and due to increasing labor unrest in the city following the bombing of the Los Angeles Times Building in 1910. The Dominguez Land Company sought to construct a "planned city" based on the principles of the Garden City Movement, which sought to combine the best qualities of rural and urban living into a unique community where "man lives harmoniously with nature" (Torrance Historical Society 2013: 1-4)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

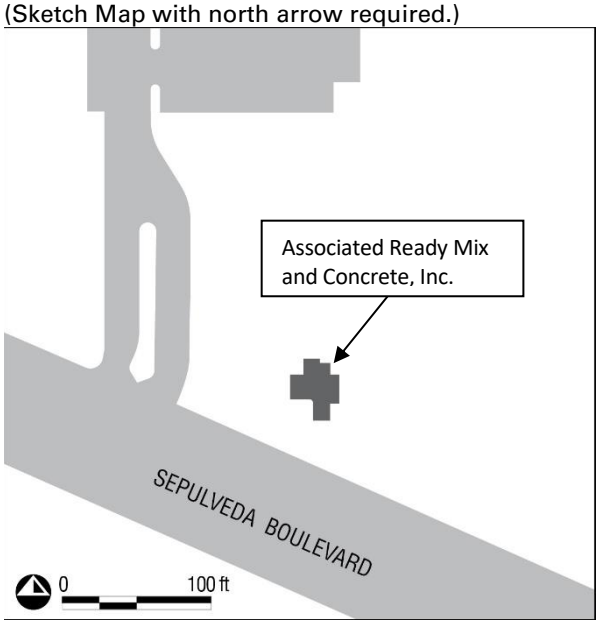
***B12. References:** See continuation sheet
B13. Remarks: N/A

***B14. Evaluator:**
Chris Wendt, Architectural Historian
Michael Baker International
2729 Prospect Park Drive, #220
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

***Date of Evaluation:** October 7, 2020

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



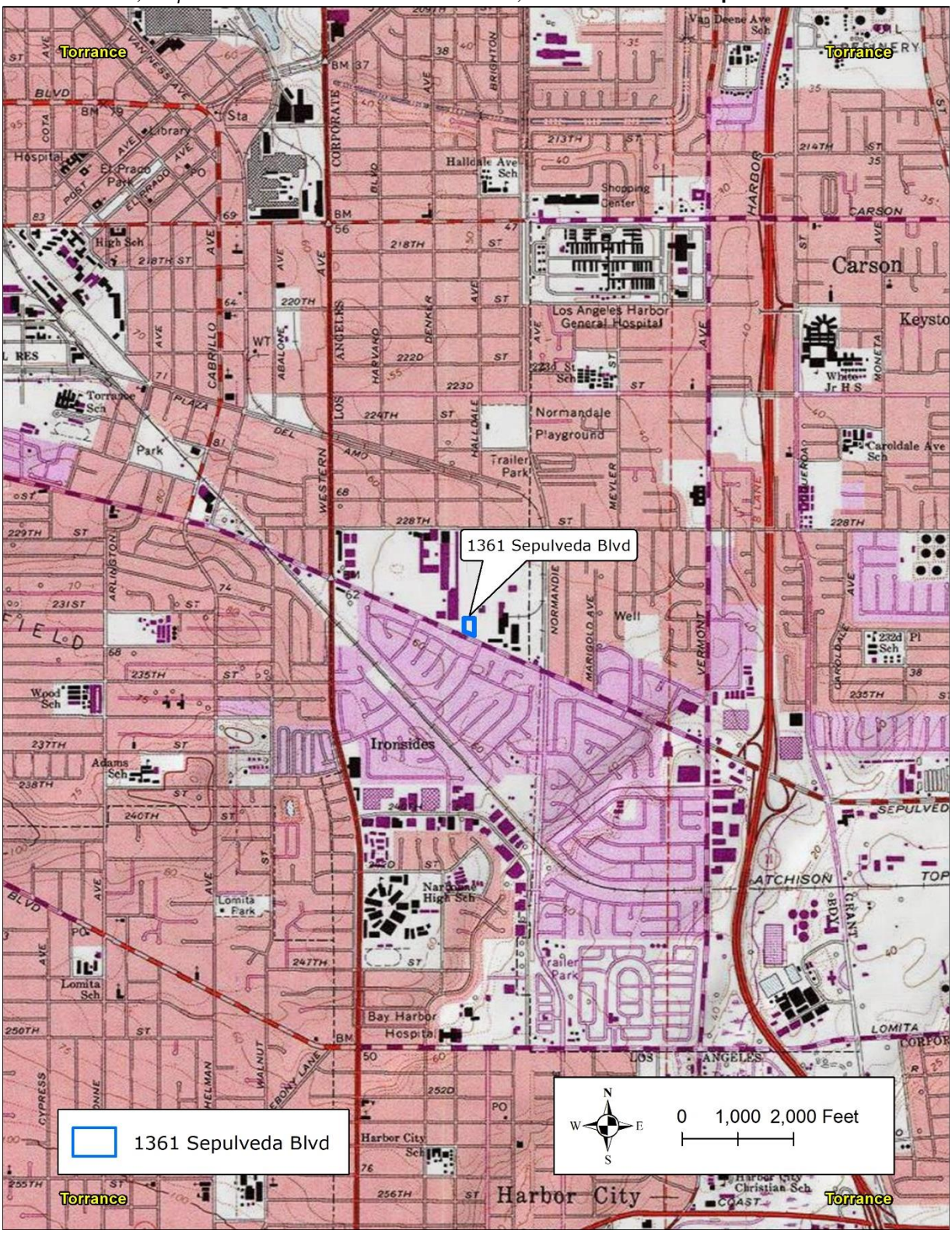
State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

LOCATION MAP

Primary #
HRI#
Trinomial

***Resource Name or #** 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard

***Map Name:** *Torrance, Calif.* ***Scale:** 1:24,000 ***Date of map:** 1964

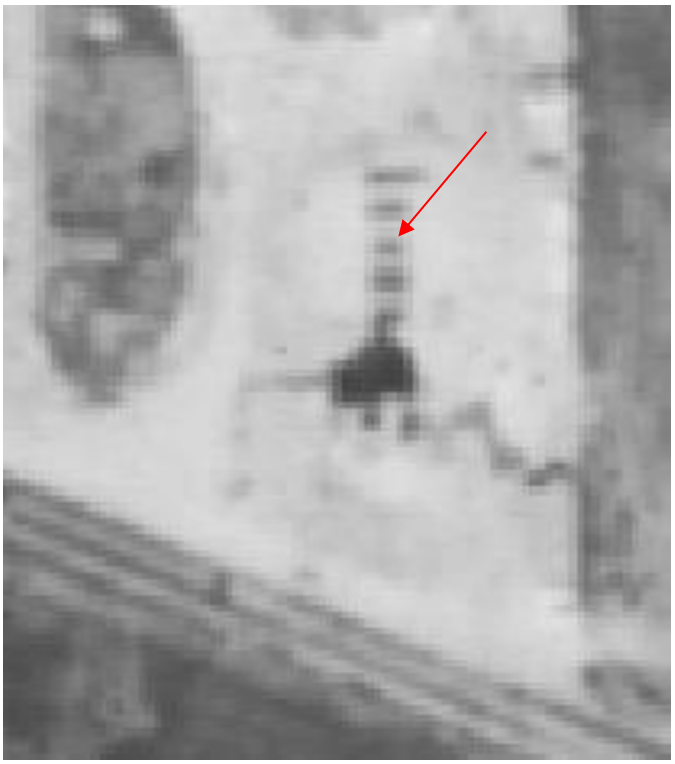


***B10. Significance (continued)**:

Torrance contracted with notable urban planning firm The Olmsted Brothers, of Brookline, Massachusetts, to design this new model industrial town. Shortly thereafter, in 1913, The Olmsted Brothers invited renowned architect Irving Gill to collaborate on the design of the new town, originally called the Olmsted Tract. The Olmsted Brothers and Gill designed the city based on the principles of the Garden City Movement. The city was officially incorporated under the name of the City of Torrance in 1921 (Torrance Historical Society 2013: 1-4).

Commerce and Industry
The Dominguez Land Company secured the industrial foundation of the town by attracting the Union Tool Company, Llewellyn Iron Works, and the Pacific Electric Railway to the area. In the 1920s, development rapidly increased with the discovery of oil in Torrance, which brought considerable oil industry investment to the town. The industrial foundation helped the city weather the hardships of the Great Depression and it continued to grow in the period leading up to World War II. Torrance was well positioned with steel, oil, and rubber industries that benefited from lucrative government contracts during and immediately after the war. By the end of the 1940s, the City of Torrance had become fully developed and had expanded its limits to many times the size of the original Olmsted Tract (Torrance Historical Society 2013: 4).

Property Specific Research
The structure at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard was constructed in 1963. The site was originally part of the Torrance Oil Field. A 1927 aerial photograph depicts the property with two oil wells and several smaller buildings relating to the oil industry. By 1947, the property is mostly vacant displaying only one oil well and a smaller outbuilding. In 1963, the extant concrete batch structure was constructed. In 1973, an accompanying single-story commercial office building was added; the office building is no longer extant. (Ardent Environmental Group Inc. 2020: 1482; Historicaerials.com 2020; UCSB 1927, 1941, 1947, 1956, 1960, 1971, 1976; USGS 1896, 1901, 1924, 1964)



1965 aerial photograph of 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard depicting the extant concrete batch structure. (UCSB 1965)

1980 aerial photograph of the concrete batch structure and accompanying office building which is no longer extant. (Historicaerials.com 2020)

A&A Ready Mixed Concrete, Incorporated

The company Associated Ready Mixed Concrete, also known as A&A Ready Mixed Concrete, operated the concrete batch plant from as early as 1963 until the plant's closure in 2012. A&A Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc. was founded in 1949 by Andre Caillier in Gardena, CA. The company has steadily grown since its inception and continues to serve the South Bay and larger Southern California region (Ardent Environmental Group Inc. 2020: 1; A&A Ready Mixed Concrete 2020).

Architect/Builder/Architecture

The original building permit was not located in the Los Angeles County Assessor Records online database; no information regarding the original architect and/or builder research could be identified (Los Angeles County Assessor's Office 2020). Architecturally, the structure lacks an architectural style. It does not depict any character-defining features of a specific style.

National Register/California Evaluation

Criterion A/1 – The property at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard was developed by A&A Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc. as part of a commercial property in 1963. The property does not appear to have achieved local, state, or national levels of significance within the themes of commercial development. As such, the property does not appear eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A or California Register under Criterion 1.

Criterion B/2 – Research has not identified any person of significance, at a local, state, or national level related to the property. Therefore, the property does not appear associated with persons significant in our past and does not appear eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion B or California Register under Criterion 2.

Criterion C/3 – The structure does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction, is not the work of a master, and does not display high artistic value. Additionally, research did not identify an associated builder or architect. The structure does not appear eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C or California Register under

***B10. Significance (continued):**

Criterion 3 because it lacks architectural distinction, is not associated with a master architect or builder, and does not possess high artistic value.

Criterion D/4 – The property is not likely to yield valuable information which will contribute to our understanding of human history because the property is not and never was the principal source of important information pertaining to subjects such as commercial buildings; therefore, the property does not appear eligible for listing under National Register Criterion D or California Register Criterion 4.

In conclusion, the concrete batch structure, located at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard, does not appear eligible for listing in the National Register under criteria A, B, C, or D or the California Register under criteria 1, 2, 3, or 4 due to lack of association with a historic context. Additionally, the resource was evaluated in accordance with Section 15064.5(a)(2)–(3) of the CEQA Guidelines using the criteria outlined in Section 5024.1 of the California Public Resources Code, and it is not a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

B12. References (continued):

A&A Ready Mixed Concrete. 2020. "About." Electronic resource, https://aareadymix.com/company/ Accessed October 8, 2020.

Ardent Environmental Group, Inc. 2020. "Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment." Prepared for Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP, Irvine, California.

Historicaerials.com. 2020. 1980, 1994, 2003, 2012, 2016 aerial photographs of 1355 and 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard. Electronic database, https://www.historicaerials.com/. Accessed October 2, 2020.

Los Angeles County Assessor's Office. 2020. Building property records for APN 7347-018-003. On file at the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office. Electronic database, https://portal.assessor.lacounty.gov/. Accessed September 25–October 10, 2020.

Torrance Historical Society. 2013. 2011-2013 *Survey of Historic Resources: Historic Context Statement*. Prepared for the City of Torrance, Los Angeles County. Accessed October 5–9, 2020.

USGS (US Geological Survey). 1896. *Redondo, Calif*. 1:62,500 scale topographic quadrangle.

———1901. *Southern California Sheet No 1, Calif*. 1:250,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

———1924. *Torrance, Calif*. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

———1964. *Torrance, Calif*. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

UCSB (University of California Santa Barbara). 1927. Aerial photograph C-113. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/, accessed October 2, 2020.

———1941. Aerial photograph C-6972. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/, accessed October 2, 2020.

———1947. Aerial photograph C-11351. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/, accessed October 2, 2020.

———1956. Aerial photograph C-22555. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder, accessed October 2, 2020.

———1960. Aerial photograph C-23870. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder, accessed October 2, 2020.

———1965. Aerial photograph C-25019. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder, accessed October 2, 2020.

———1971. Aerial photograph TG-2755. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder, accessed October 2, 2020.

———1976. Aerial photograph TG-7600. https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder, accessed October 2, 2020

P5a. Photographs (continued):

Photograph 2. View west of the concrete batch structure located at 1361 Sepulveda Boulevard.

Attachment 3

NHMLA Memo Report

Natural History Museum
of Los Angeles County
900 Exposition Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007

tel 213.763.DINO
www.nhm.org

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Research & Collections

e-mail: paleorecords@nhm.org

September 7, 2020

Michael Baker International
2729 Prospect Park Dr. Suite 220
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Attn: Margo Nayyar

re: Paleontological resources for the Bridge – 1355 Sepulveda Blvd Project (Project #180244)

Dear Margo:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for proposed development at the Bridge – 1355 Sepulveda Blvd Project (Project #180244) project area as outlined on the portion of the map that you sent via e-mail on September 2, 2020. We do not have any fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area, but we do have fossil localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur in the proposed project area, either at the surface or at depth.

The following table shows the closest known localities in the collection of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Locality Number	Location	Formation	Taxa	Depth
LACM VP 3823	SE corner of Figueroa St & Sepulveda Blvd	Unidentified (Pleistocene; grey buff arenaceous silt)	Camel family (Camelidae)	12-14 ft bgs
LACM VP 3085	intersection of Lomita Blvd & Main St	Palos Verdes Sand	Fish (Condrichthyes); Rays (Myliobatoidea); Toothed whale (Odontoceti); Inertebrates (Mollusca)	Unrecorded (collected during excavations for sewer outfall)
LACM IP 21125	Just N of the intersection of Western Ave & Torrance Blvd	Unrecorded (Pleistocene)	Invertebrates	Unrecorded
LACM IP 1186	South of the	Palos Verdes Sand	Invertebrates	Unrecorded

& 4807	intersection of Vermont Ave & Sepulveda Blvd.		(including *Tarus peralis*)	
LACM VP 4129	South of 223rd St. & west of Alameda St	undetermined (Pleistocene sand)	Elephant family (Proboscidea); Camel family (Camelidae)	24 feet bgs

VP, Vertebrate Paleontology; IP, Invertebrate Paleontology; bgs, below ground surface

This records search covers only the records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County ("NHMLA"). It is not intended as a paleontological assessment of the project area for the purposes of CEQA or NEPA. Potentially fossil-bearing units are present in the project area, either at the surface or in the subsurface. As such, NHMLA recommends that a full paleontological assessment of the project area be conducted by a paleontologist meeting Bureau of Land Management or Society of Vertebrate Paleontology standards.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Bell, Ph.D.
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

enclosure: invoice

Appendix D-2

Sacred Lands File Search Results

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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

October 15, 2020

Connie Chauv
City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning

Via Email to: connie.chauv@lacity.org

Re: 1351-1361 West Sepulveda Boulevard Project, Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Chauv:

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: steven.quinn@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Steven Quinn
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment