

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** December 22, 2021

**To:** Christopher Koontz, AICP, Deputy Director, Long Beach Development Services Planning Bureau

**FROM:** Kerrie Collison, M.A., RPA 28731436, Associate/Senior Cultural Resources Manager, LSA

**SUBJECT:** Archaeological Resources Study for the City of Long Beach Fire Station No. 9 Project in Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California (LSA Project No. CLB1904.26)

This memorandum presents the results of the archaeological resources study conducted for the City of Long Beach (City) Fire Station No. 9 Project (project) in Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California. The study consisted of a records search and additional background research. The purpose of the study is to (1) identify cultural resources that may meet the definition of historical or unique archaeological resources per the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA) (Public Resources Code [PRC] Sections 21084.1 and 21083.2); (2) identify human remains; and (3) recommend procedures for the mitigation of potential impacts to such resources/remains, if necessary. All work has been completed per the requirements of CEQA. References are provided in Attachment A.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The proposed project would construct a new 12,780-square-foot two-story fire station at 4101 Long Beach Boulevard to replace the original Fire Station No. 9, which was previously located at 3917 Long Beach Boulevard. Project work would include construction of the fire station building, parking areas, trash enclosure, power transformer, landscaping, fencing, gates, and driveways. Associated infrastructure improvements include water, sewer, drainage, and dry utilities (such as natural gas, electrical, and telecommunications services).

The currently developed 0.4-acre project site is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Long Beach, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle in Section 13 of Township 4 South, Range 13 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (USGS 1981) (see Figure 1, Attachment B). It is located at 4101 Long Beach Boulevard, at the northwest corner of Long Beach Boulevard and East Randolph Way in the Bixby Knolls neighborhood of the City (Figure 2, Attachment B). The project site is located 0.8 mile east of the current channelized alignment of the Los Angeles River and is situated at an elevation of approximately 105 feet.

### RECORDS SEARCH

On December 14, 2021, LSA Archaeologist Aaron McCann conducted a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), an affiliate of the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)

located at California State University, Fullerton. The SCCIC is the official repository of cultural resources records and reports for Los Angeles County. The records search included a review of all recorded historic-period and prehistoric cultural resources within a 0.25-mile radius of the project site, as well as a review of known cultural resources surveys and excavation reports. The records search also included a review of the following State and federal inventories:

- Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD) (OHP n.d.)
- California Historical Landmarks (OHP 1996)
- California Points of Historical Interest (OHP 1992)
- California Inventory of Historic Resources (OHP 1976)

The records search results indicate that no previous cultural resource studies have included the project site and one previously study (a literature search) has included a portion of the area within a 0.25-mile radius of the project site (Attachment C). No cultural resources have been previously recorded in the project site or within 0.25 mile of the project site. No resources listed in the BERD are within the project site.

## **ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND RESEARCH**

Background research also included a review of aerial photographs, historic-period maps, and geologic maps to assess the potential for subsurface archaeological deposits at the project site. The earliest available aerial photograph that includes the project site dates to 1953, at which time the project site was already disturbed and developed with a building. Additionally, the current channelized alignment of the Los Angeles River was already constructed in 1953 and the general vicinity of the project was already developed with buildings (NETR n.d.)

The earliest historic map reviewed by LSA dates to 1896. The 1896 map depicts a natural alignment of the Los Angeles River 0.5 mile west of the project site and marshland less than 0.2 mile northwest of the project site (USGS 1896). A 1925 map depicts a channelized Los Angeles River, no marshland near the project site, and the development the streets and buildings in the vicinity of the project site (USGS 1925).

LSA also reviewed geologic maps to assist in determining the age of sediments within the project site. Some subsurface sediments of the project site consist of older alluvium, lake, playa, and terrace deposits that date to the Pleistocene (California Geological Survey 2015). The ages of Pleistocene deposits range from 2.58 million years ago to 11,700 years ago.

## **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This study, consisting of a records search and additional background research, did not identify any previously recorded archaeological deposits or human remains within the project site. A field survey was not conducted because the project site is fully developed and any artifacts identified in planters would not be in their original location. However, the project site and its immediate vicinity (within 0.25 mile) have not been previously studied for subsurface archaeological deposits. Additionally, the project site is in close proximity to the natural alignment of the Los Angeles River and a natural marshland, which both would have been utilized by Native American and historic-period populations

as a water and food source. According to aerial photographs, the project site was developed prior to 1953; as such, there is potential for subsurface historic-period deposits associated with the original development of the project site.

For the above reasons, LSA has determined that the project site is moderately sensitive for subsurface archaeological resources. As such, LSA recommends that an archaeologist be present to monitor construction-related ground disturbance associated with the project. An archaeologist that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology should oversee the monitoring. Monitoring should continue until the archaeologist determines that there is a low potential for encountering subsurface archaeological, cultural, or tribal cultural resources.

In the event that archaeological cultural resources are identified by the archaeological monitor during ground-disturbing project activities, the nature of the find should be assessed, and the project archaeologist should determine if additional cultural resources work is appropriate. Additional cultural resources work could include, but is not limited to, collection and documentation of artifacts, documentation of the cultural resources on State of California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Series 523 forms, or subsurface testing.

Upon completion of any cultural resources work for the project, the archaeologist should prepare a report to document the methods and results of the work. This report should be submitted to any descendant community involved in the investigation(s) and the SCCIC.

If human remains are encountered at any time during project work, the regulatory process outlined in California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 must be followed, which may involve coordination with the Native American Heritage Commission and a Native American Most Likely Descendant per PRC 5097.98.

Please contact me at [kerrie.collison@lsa.net](mailto:kerrie.collison@lsa.net) if you have any questions regarding this study.

Attachments: A—References  
B—Project Figures  
C—Records Search Results

## ATTACHMENT A

### REFERENCES

#### California Geological Survey

- 2015 Geologic Map of California. Website: <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/gmc/> (accessed December 21, 2021).

#### California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)

- 1976 California Inventory of Historic Resources. California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento.
- 1992 California Points of Historical Interest. California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento.
- 1996 California Historical Landmarks. California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento.
- n.d. Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD). Website: [https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=30338](https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30338) (accessed December 14, 2021).

#### National Environmental Title Research

- n.d. Historic Aerials. Website: <http://www.historicaerials.com> (accessed December 21, 2021).

#### United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- 1896 *Downey, California* topographic map. Scale 1:62500.
- 1925 *Clearwater, California* topographic map. Scale 1:24000.
- 1981 *Long Beach, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Prepared in 1964, Photorevised in 1981. USGS, Denver, Colorado.

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## **ATTACHMENT B**

## **PROJECT FIGURES**



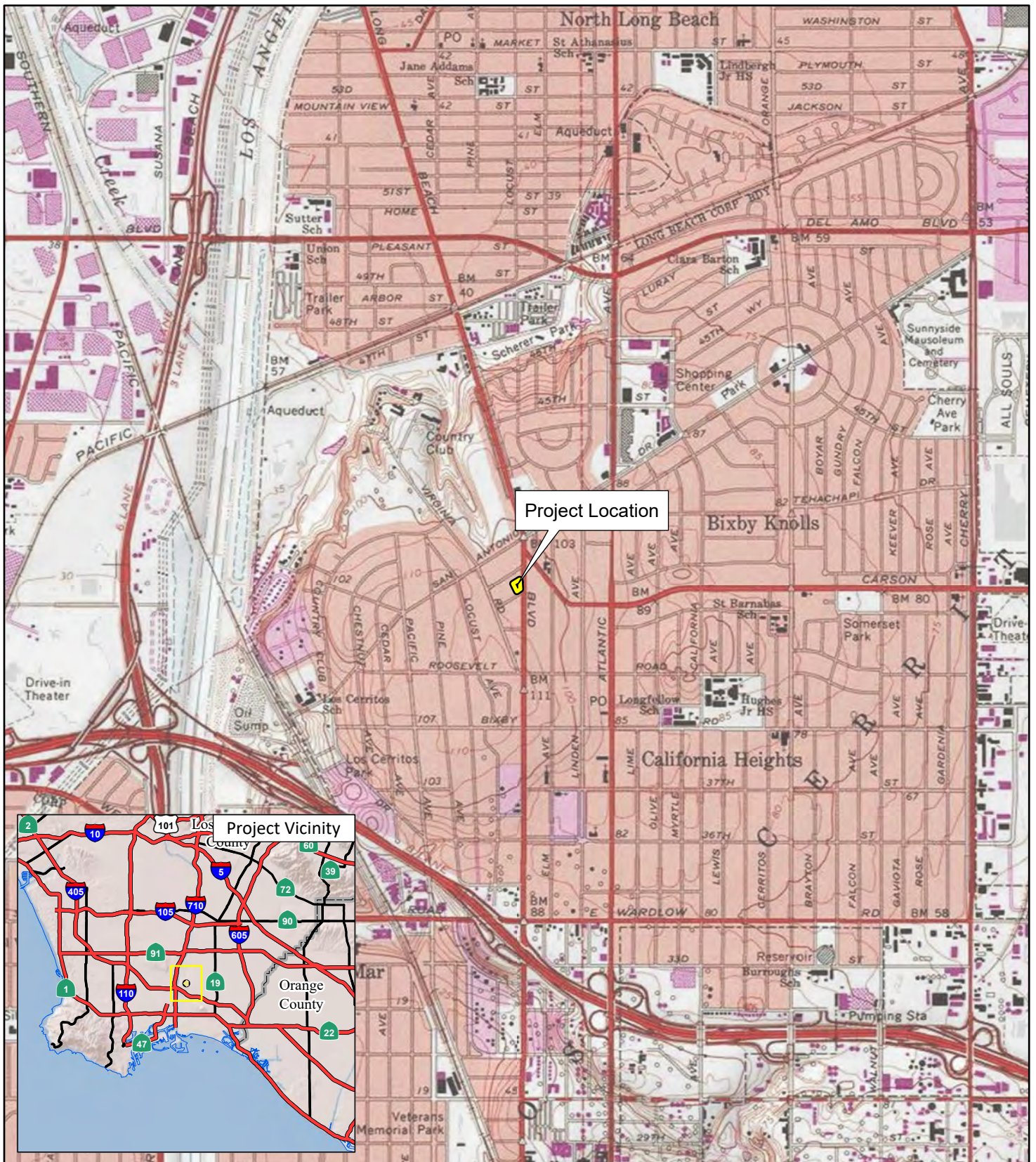
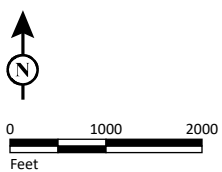


FIGURE 1

LSA



SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quad - Long Beach (1978), CA

I:\CLB1904.26\GIS\Pro\City of Long Beach Fire Station No. 9 Project\City of Long Beach Fire Station No. 9 Project.aprx (12/21/2021)

City of Long Beach Fire Station No. 9 Project  
Project Location





FIGURE 2

LSA

LEGEND

 Project Boundary



0 25 50  
FEET

SOURCE: Google Imagery (2020)

I:\CLB1904.26\GIS\Pro\City of Long Beach Fire Station No. 9 Project\City of Long Beach Fire Station No. 9 Project.aprx (6/28/2022)

City of Long Beach Fire Station No. 9 Project  
Project Site

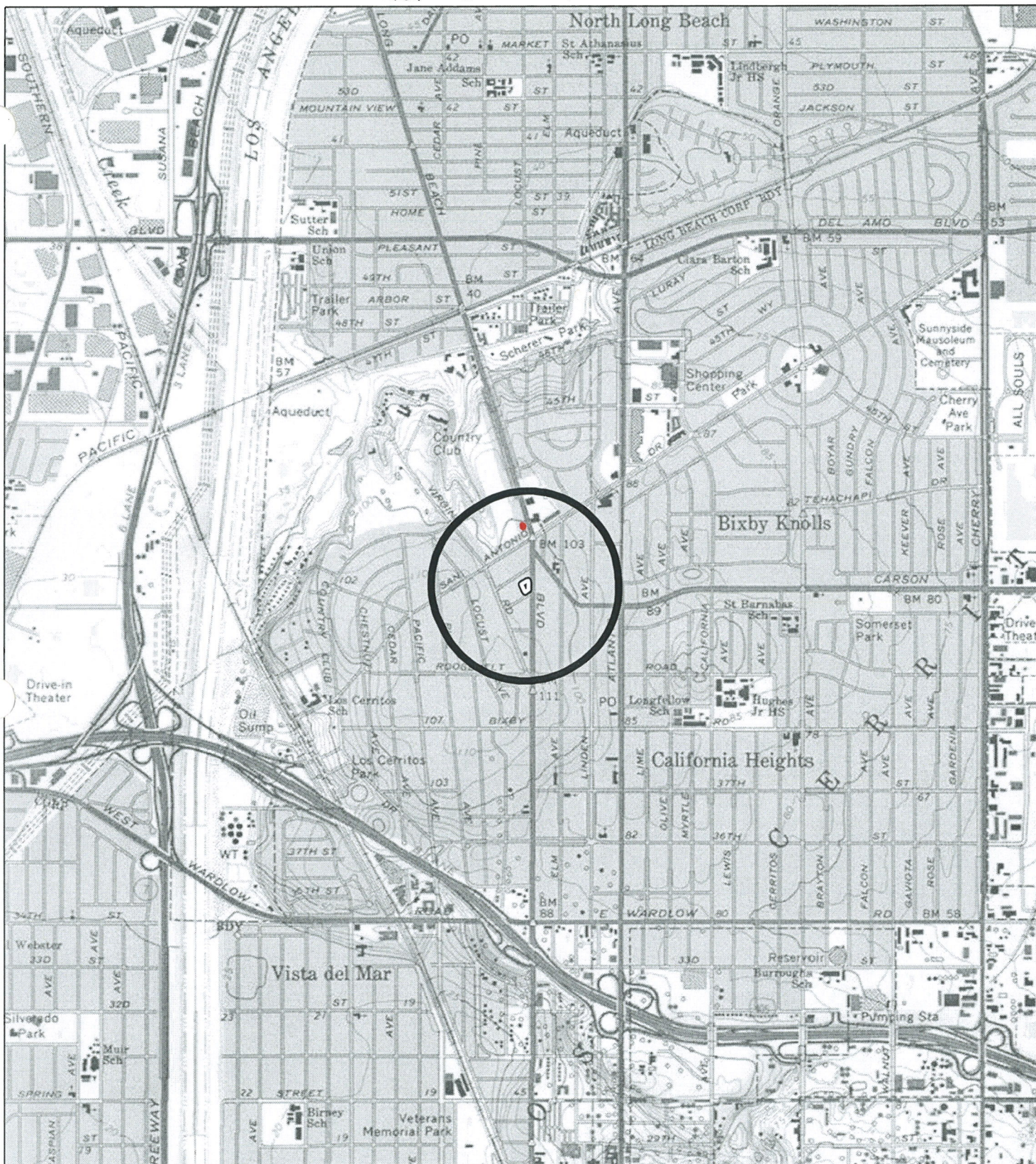
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## ATTACHMENT C

### RECORDS SEARCH RESULTS



# Reports - Map 1



LSA

LEGEND



Project Location



Quarter-mile Radius of Project Location

• -LA6060

FIGURE 1



0 1000 2000  
FEET

SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quad - Long Beach, CA (1978)

I:\CLB1904.26\GIS\MXD\RecordsSearch.mxd (10/24/2021)

Fire Station No. 9 Project  
Records Search



# Report Detail: LA-06060

CLB1904-26

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## Identifiers

*Report No.:* LA-06060

*Other IDs:*

*Cross-refs:*

## Citation information

*Author(s):* Duke, Curt

*Year:* 2002

*Title:* Cultural Resource Assessment at & T Wireless Services Facility No. D185b Los Angeles County, California

*Affiliation:* LSA Associates, Inc.

*No. pages:*

*No. maps:*

*Attributes:* Literature search

*Inventory size:* .25 ac

*Disclosure:*

*Collections:*

## General notes

## Associated resources

*No. resources:* 0

*Has informals:*

## Location information

*County(ies):* Los Angeles

*USGS quad(s):* LONG BEACH

*Address:*

*PLSS:*

## Database record metadata

	<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>	
<i>Entered:</i>	5/5/2008	jay	
<i>Last modified:</i>			
<i>IC actions:</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
	5/6/2008	jay	Appended records from old Surveys database.
<i>Record status:</i>			