

Appendix CUL

Cultural Resources Study



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

449 15th Street, Suite 303
Oakland, California 94612

510 834 4455 OFFICE

info@rinconconsultants.com
www.rinconconsultants.com

November 19, 2021
Project No. 21-11275

Lata Vasudevan, Associate Planner
City of Mountain View
Planning Division
500 Castro Street, PO Box 7540
Mountain View, CA 94039-7540
Via email: Lata.Vasudevan@mountainview.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the 1155 and 1185 Terra Bella Avenue Office Building Project, City of Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California

Dear Ms. Vasudevan:

The City of Mountain View (City) retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to conduct a cultural resources assessment for the proposed 1155 and 1185 Terra Bella Avenue Office Building Project (project) in the city of Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California. The proposed project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and local regulations. The City is the lead agency under CEQA. This letter report documents the results of the cultural resources assessment, which was conducted in support of CEQA review and consisted of a records search, Sacred Lands File search, and a pedestrian field survey.

Project Location

The proposed project consists of two parcels, Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 153-16-011 and 156-16-012, totaling 1.3 acre located at 1155 and 1185 Terra Bella Avenue, Mountain View, in Santa Clara County, California (Figure 1, Attachment A). The proposed project site lies within Section 15 of Township 6 south, Range 2 west of the *Mountain View, Calif.* (USGS 2021) topographic quadrangle (Figure 2, Attachment A). The project site is bounded by commercial development in all directions, and is currently vacant.

Project Description

The project proposes a lot line adjustment to merge the two existing parcels and subsequent construction of a 19,958 square foot, three-story office building, 44 feet in height. The project would consist of an associated surface parking lot with 73 spaces and a full access driveway on Terra Bella Avenue. The office space would primarily occupy the current 1155 Terra Bella Avenue lot, and the parking lot would primarily occupy the adjacent 1185 Terra Bella Avenue lot.



Cultural Resources Records Search

On September 23, 2021, Rincon requested a records search of the project site and a 0.5-mile radius from the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) located at Sonoma State University. On October 22, 2021, Rincon received the results of the records search for the proposed project. The purpose of the records search was to identify previously conducted cultural resources studies and previously recorded cultural resources located within the existing project site and a 0.5-mile radius. In addition to the NWIC records search, a review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), the Office of Historic Preservation Historic Properties Directory, the California Inventory of Historic Resources, the Built Environment Resource Directory, and the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility list was conducted.

Previously Conducted Studies

The NWIC records search identified 27 previously conducted cultural resources studies within the 0.5-mile radius of the project site (Attachment B), none of which include portions of the current project site.

Previously Recorded Resources

The NWIC records search identified 10 previously recorded cultural resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the project site (Table 1 and Attachment B), of which none are identified within the project site. These ten resources consist of historic-period buildings.

Table 1 Previously Recorded Resources within 0.5-mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	NRHP/ CRHR Status	Relationship to Project Site
P-43-001514	–	Historic-Period Building	955 San Rafael Avenue	1999 (G. F. Miller)	Recommended ineligible in 1999	Outside
P-43-001515	–	Historic-Period Building	943 San Rafael Avenue	1999 (G. F. Miller)	Recommended ineligible in 1999	Outside
P-43-001516	–	Historic-Period Building	990 Terra Bella Avenue	1999 (G. F. Miller)	6Y: Determined ineligible for NRHP by consensus through Section 106 process – Not evaluated for CRHR or local listing.	Outside
P-43-001517	–	Historic-Period Building	1020 Terra Bella Avenue	1999 (G. F. Miller)	6Y: Determined ineligible for NRHP by consensus through Section 106 process – Not evaluated for CRHR or local listing.	Outside



Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	NRHP/CRHR Status	Relationship to Project Site
P-43-003123	—	Historic-Period Building	Gabler Residence	1987 (A. A. Gallup)	Recommended ineligible in 1987	Outside
P-43-003124	—	Historic-Period Building	950 San Leandro	1987 (A. A. Gallup)	Recommended ineligible in 1987	Outside
P-43-003148	—	Historic-Period Building	1015 N. Shoreline Boulevard	2014 (B. Brewster)	Recommended ineligible in 2014	Outside
P-43-003148	—	Historic-Period Building	1062 Linda Vista Avenue	2014 (B. Brewster)	Recommended ineligible in 2014	Outside
P-43-003150	—	Historic-Period Building	1150 Terra Bella Avenue	2014 (B. Brewster)	Recommended ineligible in 2014	Outside
P-43-003151	—	Historic-Period Building	1160 Terra Bella Avenue	2014 (B. Brewster)	Recommended ineligible in 2014	Outside

Source: NWIC 2021

Aerial Imagery and Historical Topographic Maps Review

Rincon completed a review of historical topographic maps and aerial imagery to ascertain the development history of the project site. Historical topographic maps from 1897 to 1937 depict the project site as undeveloped surrounded by a channelized creek to the west, south, and north (USGS 2021; NETR Online 2021). Historical topographic maps from 1943 to 1981 depict development within and surrounding the project site, including Terra Bella Avenue to the north and commercial development in all directions (USGA 2021; NETR Online 2021). Aerial imagery from 1948 to 1960 depict the project site as undeveloped with commercial development in the vicinity (NETR Online 2021). Aerial imagery from 1968 depicts commercial development starting within the project site and continuing in the surrounding areas (NETR Online 2021). Aerial imagery from 1980 to 2018 depict the project site as developed and in its current conditions (NETR Online 2021).

Sacred Lands File Search and AB 52 consultation

Rincon contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on September 23, 2021, to request a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search and Assembly Bill (AB) 52 contact list in reference to the project site. The NAHC emailed a response November 1, 2021, stating the SLF search was negative. In their response, the NAHC provided a list of eight (8) Tribes who may have knowledge of cultural resources within the project site and have requested AB 52 consultation. The SLF and AB 52 request can be found in Attachment C of this report. Rincon was not contracted to conduct Native American outreach in



reference to the SLF results as a part of this cultural assessment. The City is preparing a letter package for consultation with the eight (8) Tribes as part of AB 52 requirements. The list of Tribes was shared with the City on November 2, 2021. There are currently no updates to their AB 52 consultation efforts.

Pedestrian Field Survey

On November 1, 2021, Rincon Archaeologist Elaine Foster, MA, Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA), conducted a pedestrian survey of the project site. Ms. Foster walked a series of pedestrian transects oriented generally north-south and east-west, spaced no more than 5 meters apart across the project site. Areas of exposed ground were inspected for prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock), ecofacts (marine shell and bone), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, and features that indicate the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances, such as burrows, and drainages were also visually inspected. Ground visibility within the project site ranged from poor (less than five percent) along in the few areas with heavy gravel or leaf coverage to excellent (greater than 95 percent) in the majority of the site with exposed ground surface.

The project site consisted of a brown clayey loam a brown and yellow sandy loam with patches of sand. Native soils were intermixed with imported fill and gravel was observed mixed with all soils throughout the site. There was evidence of previous disturbance and development, including subsurface sewer and water utility access points. Figure 3 and **Error! Reference source not found.** in Attachment A depict the current conditions of the project site.

No cultural resources were observed within the project site during the field survey.

Findings and Recommendations

The background research and pedestrian field survey did not identify any cultural resources within the project site. No built environment resources are present that may be impacted by the project; therefore, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no impact to historical resources***.

The SLF search was returned with negative results. No prehistoric resources were identified within the project site. Given the negative results of this study, the project site is considered to have low archaeological sensitivity. However, it is possible that unanticipated archaeological deposits and/or human remains could be encountered and damaged during the ground-disturbing activities associated with construction (such as grading and excavation), especially if those activities occur in less-disturbed buried sediments. Consequently, mitigation is necessary to ensure that potential impacts to archaeological resources, including those that may be considered historical resources, are reduced to a less-than-significant level.

Given the results of this assessment, Rincon recommends a finding of ***less than significant impact to archaeological resources with mitigation*** for the purposes of CEQA. The following is recommended in the unlikely case of unanticipated discoveries during ground-disturbing activities. Also included below is a summary of existing regulations regarding the discovery of human remains. With adherence to existing regulations, Rincon recommends a finding of ***less than significant impact to human remains***.



Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

In the unlikely event that archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area should be halted and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for archeology (National Park Service 1983) will be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the find is prehistoric, then a Native American representative will be contacted to participate in the evaluation of the find. If necessary, the evaluation may require preparation of a treatment plan and archaeological testing for California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) eligibility. If the discovery proves to be eligible for listing in the CRHR and cannot be avoided additional work, such as testing and data recovery excavations, may be warranted to mitigate any significant impacts to cultural resources to less than a significant level.

Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains

In the unlikely event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, all ground-disturbing activities in the vicinity of the discovery will be immediately suspended and redirected elsewhere. All steps required to comply with State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 will be implemented including contacting the Santa Clara County Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete an inspection of the site and provide recommendations for treatment to the landowner within 48 hours of being granted access.

Please do not hesitate to contact Rincon with any questions regarding this cultural resources assessment.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Courtney Montgomery'.

Courtney Montgomery, MA
Archaeologist/ Assistant Project Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elaine Foster'.

Elaine Foster, MA, RPA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Harvey'.

Amanda Harvey, Ph.D., RPA
Project Manager/ Senior Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Pulcheon'.

Andrew Pulcheon, MA, RPA, AICP, CEP
Principal



Attachments

Attachment A Figures

Attachment B Northwest Information Center Records Search Results (Confidential)

Attachment C Sacred Lands File Search



References

National Park Service

- 1983 Archeological and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines. Electronic document, online at http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law-Arch_Standards.htm Accessed December 6, 2011.

NETR Online

- 2021 *Historic Aerials*. <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer> Accessed July 2021.

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- 2021 Topo View. [online map database]. <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/> Accessed July 2021.

Attachment A

Figures

Figure 1 Project Boundary Map



Figure 2 Project Location Map



Basemap provided by National Geographic Society, Esri and their licensors
© 2021. Mountain View Quadrangle. T06S R02W S15. The topographic representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

 Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet



GRFig 1 Proj Locn Map

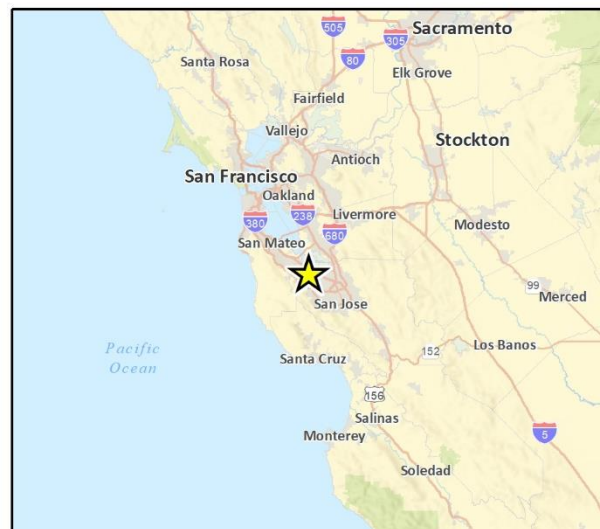


Figure 3 Overview of Ground Visibility, Facing North



Figure 4 Utilities Access Disturbances, Facing East



Attachment C

Sacred Lands File Search



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

November 01, 2021

Amanda Harvey
Rincon ConsultantsCHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño**Submitted via Electronic Mail**
Via Email to: aharvey@rinconconsultants.comVICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash**Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, 1155 and 1185 Terra Avenue Office Building Project, Santa Clara County**PARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
Karuk

Dear Ms. Harvey:

COMMISSIONER
William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
Apache

Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (c), attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Please note that the intent of the AB 52 amendments to CEQA is to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)) ("Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource.")

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoano

Public Resources Code sections 21080.3.1 and 21084.3(c) require CEQA lead agencies to consult with California Native American tribes that have requested notice from such agencies of proposed projects in the geographic area that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribes on projects for which a Notice of Preparation or Notice of Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration has been filed on or after July 1, 2015. Specifically, Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (d) provides:

COMMISSIONER
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

Within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section.

COMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
NomlakiCOMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
LuiseñoCOMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

The AB 52 amendments to CEQA law does not preclude initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated within your jurisdiction prior to receiving requests for notification of projects in the tribe's areas of traditional and cultural affiliation. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) recommends, but does not require, early consultation as a best practice to ensure that lead agencies receive sufficient information about cultural resources in a project area to avoid damaging effects to tribal cultural resources.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Christina Snider
Pomo

The NAHC also recommends, but does not require that agencies should also include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential effect (APE), such as:

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

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 on or 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 APE; 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 section 6254.10.

3. The result of any Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was negative.

4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and

5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the event that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: Katy.Sanchez@nahc.ca.gov

Sincerely,



Katy Sanchez
Associate Environmental Planner

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contacts List
November 1, 2021**

Amah Mutsun Tribal Band Valentin Lopez, Chairperson P.O. Box 5272 Galt, CA 95632 vlopez@amahmutsun.org (916) 743-5833	Ohlone/Costanoan North Valley Yokuts	Tamien Nation Quirina Luna Geary, Chairperson P.O. Box 8053 San Jose, CA 95155 qgeary@tamien.org (707) 295-4011	Ohlone/Costanoan
Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista Irene Zwielerle, Chairperson 3030 Soda Bay Road Lakeport, CA 95453 amahmutsuntribal@gmail.com (650) 851-7489 Cell (650) 332-1526 Fax	Ohlone/Costanoan	The Confederated Villages of Lisjan Corrina Gould, Chairperson 10926 Edes Avenue Oakland, CA 94603 cvltribe@gmail.com (510) 575-8408	Ohlone/Costanoan
Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan Ann Marie Sayers, Chairperson P.O. Box 28 Hollister, CA 95024 ams@indiancanyons.org (831) 637-4238	Ohlone/Costanoan	The Ohlone Indian Tribe Andrew Galvan P.O. Box 3388 Fremont, CA 94539 chochenyo@AOL.com (510) 882-0527 Cell (510) 687-9393 Fax	Ohlone Bay Miwok Plains Miwok Patwin
Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area Charlene Nijmeh, Chairperson 20885 Redwood Road, Suite 232 Castro Valley, CA 94546 cnijmeh@muwekma.org (408) 464-2892 (408) 205-9714	Ohlone / Costanoan		
North Valley Yokuts Tribe Katherine Erolinda Perez, Chairperson P.O. Box 717 Linden, CA 95236 canutes@verizon.net (209) 887-3415	Ohlone/Costanoan Northern Valley Yokuts Bay Miwok		