

Appendix H Cultural Resources



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March 27, 2013

Wendy Lockwood
Principal
Sirius Environmental
1478 North Altadena Drive
Pasadena, CA 91107

Subject: Historical/Paleontological Records Search Results for the Harvard Westlake Parking Structure Project, Los Angeles County, CA

Dear Ms. Lockwood:

At the request of Sirius Environmental, W. H. Bonner Associates has conducted cultural/historical and paleontological records searches for the 5.5 acre Harvard Westlake Parking Structure Project located at 3701 N. Coldwater Canyon Avenue (also includes 3703, 3705, 3707, 3717, 3719 & 3801) Studio City, California (Figure 1), as depicted on an unsectioned portion of Township 1 North Range 15 West on the USGS *Van Nuys, CA*, 7.5 minute quadrangle map (Figure 2) .

The project consists of construction of a new 3-story, 750-space Parking Structure including an athletic field with lights on top in the RE40 and RE15 Zones at 3701 N. Coldwater Canyon Avenue as an accessory use to the existing 18 acre Harvard-Westlake School Campus located across the street in the RE15 and R1 Zones at 3700 Coldwater Canyon Avenue in Studio City. A pedestrian bridge is also proposed to cross over Coldwater Canyon Avenue from the Development Site to the Harvard-Westlake Campus. As part of the Project roadway improvements would be made from the Harvard-Westlake School to Ventura Boulevard that would improve the flow of traffic in the Project area as well as pedestrian and vehicle safety. The parcel consists of primarily undeveloped hillside. Two residents (now demolished) were located on the parcel.

The purpose of the records check is to identify all previously recorded cultural resources (prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, historic buildings, structures, objects, or districts), as required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800. It entails a review of all previously recorded prehistoric and historic archaeological sites situated within a half-mile radius of the project area, as well as a review of all cultural resource survey and excavation reports. The records search was conducted on March 19, 2013, at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), California State University, Fullerton. In addition, Los Angeles County Museum (LACM) recorded paleontological (fossil) sites were reviewed to determine if any significant fossil finds have been reported in the search radius.

To identify any historic properties, the rolls of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Historical Landmarks (CHL), and California Points of Historical Interest (CPHI) are

examined. The California State Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) is also reviewed to determine local resources previously evaluated for their historic significance.

RESEARCH RESULTS

Cultural

- No prehistoric archaeological sites have been recorded at or within a half-mile radius of the project site.
- No historic structure/archaeological sites have been recorded at or within a half-mile radius of the project site.
- Four area-specific survey/excavation reports are on file with the SCCIC for the vicinity (Table 1). None of these addressed the project location.

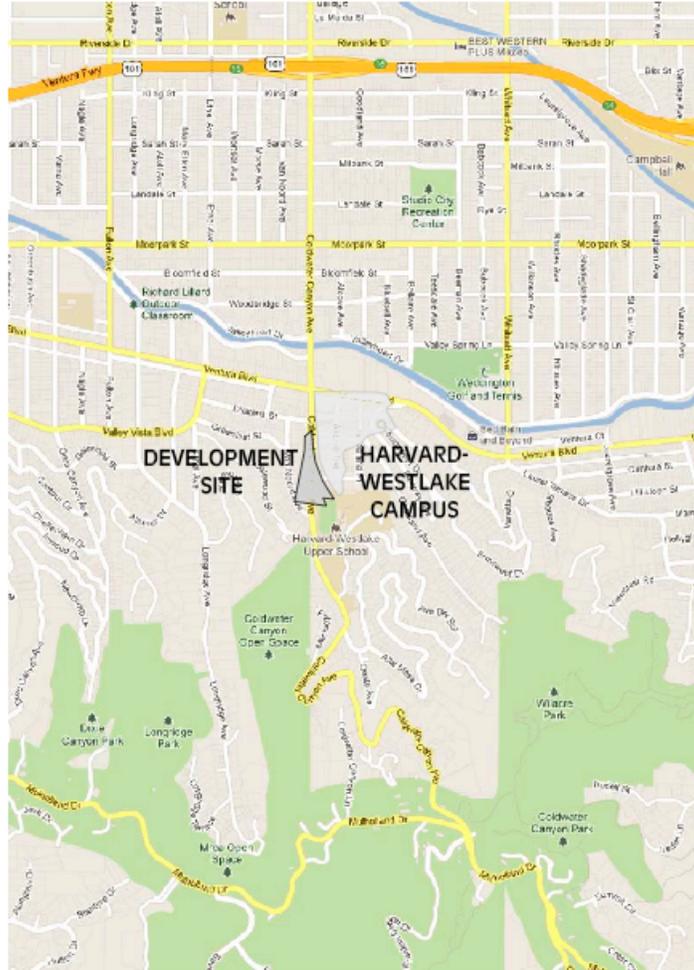
Table 1. Reports on file at the SCCIC for the Half-mile Search Area

| Report # | Author and Date | Coverage |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| LA1165 | Dillon, Brian D. 1982 | Did not assess the project location |
| LA4587 | Duke, Curt 1989 | Did not assess the project location |
| LA5752 | Christy, Juliet L. 2002 | Did not assess the project location |
| LA7777 | Mason, Roger and Patricia Peterson 2002 | Did not assess the project location |

- No NRHP, HRI, CHL or CPHI properties are listed at or within a half-mile of the project address.
- Review of the 1926 *Van Nuys, CA 6'* USGS topographic quadrangle indicates the indirect Area of Potential Effect (APE) was minimally developed at that time with two roads and five scattered structures. The project location does not appear to have been developed.

Paleontological

The results of the paleontological records search indicate that no paleontological sites/specimens have been recorded at or within one-half mile of the project area. However, the project parcel is underlain by Upper Miocene marine sedimentary sediments (MU), which are described as siltstones, siliceous shales, diatomaceous shales, sandstones, and conglomerates. (Jennings and Strand 1969). Invertebrate marine fossils can occur in these deposits, but rarely are vertebrate fossil remains recovered.



SOURCE: Innovative Design Group

Harvard-Westlake Parking Structure ■

Figure 1
Project Location

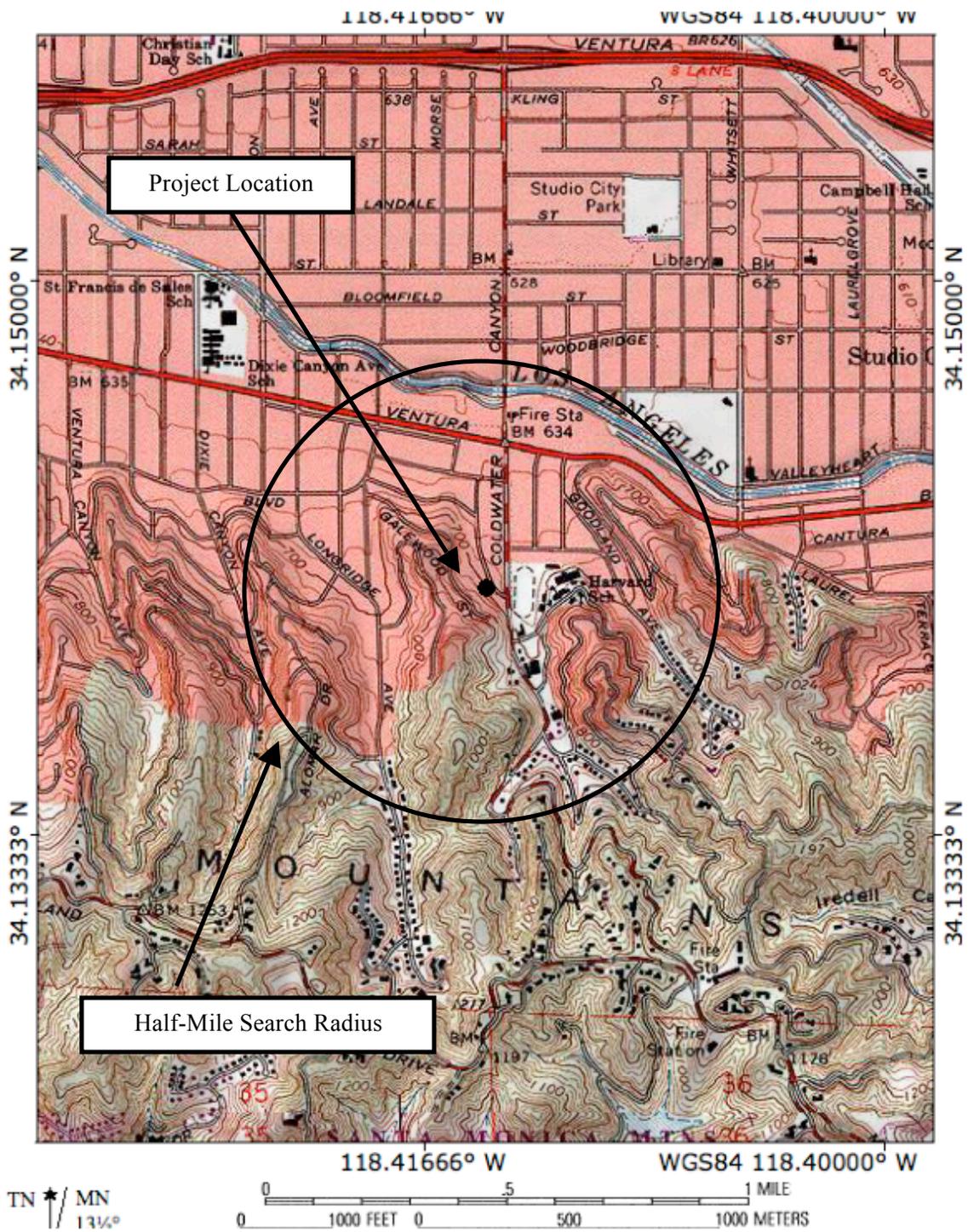


Figure 2. Site Vicinity Map Harvard Westlake Campus Project
USGS *Van Nuys* 7.5' Quadrangle

Summary and Recommendations

Archaeological Resources

The absence of archaeological resources at the project address rates a **Low** sensitivity rating. Based upon the sensitivity rating we recommend the following:

- 1) No cultural resources monitoring is required during ground disturbance or other construction activities.
- 2) If buried cultural materials are exposed during construction, work must be halted in the immediate vicinity of the find until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance (CEQA Section 15064.5-f and PRC Section 21082).
- 3) If the finds are termed significant, the archaeologist must be permitted to remove the items in a professional manner for further laboratory evaluation (CEQA Section 15064.5-f and PRC Section 21082).
- 4) If human remains are unearthed during construction, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition (CEQA Section 15064.5-e).

Historic Resources

The absence of historic properties at the project address rates a **Low** sensitivity. Based upon the sensitivity rating, we recommend the following:

- 1) No historical assessment is required prior to construction. No National Register and National Register eligible properties will be adversely affected by the construction project.

Paleontological Resources

The absence of recorded vertebrate paleontological resources at the project address rates a **Low** sensitivity rating. Based upon the sensitivity rating we recommend the following:

- 1) No paleontological monitoring is required during ground disturbance or other construction activities.
- 2) If fossil resources are exposed during construction, work must halt in the immediate vicinity of the find until a qualified archaeologist/paleontologist can assess the significance (CEQA 15064.5-f and PRC Section 21082).
- 3) If the finds are termed significant, the archaeologist/paleontologist must be permitted to remove the items in a professional manner for further laboratory evaluation (CEQA Section 15064.5-f and PRC Section 21082).

We appreciate this opportunity to assist you on your project. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions concerning this letter, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (310) 675-2745 or via e-mail, whbonner@aol.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wayne H. Bonner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'W' and a long, sweeping underline.

Wayne H. Bonner, M.A.
RPA Certified Archaeologist #10085