

# Cultural Resources Survey Results for the Woodrow Wilson High School Aquatic Center Project



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## **Subject: Cultural Resources Survey Results for the Woodrow Wilson High School Aquatic Center Project**

Dear Ms. Talitha Crain:

Chambers Group, Inc. (Chambers Group) is a California-based Department of Government Services (DGS) certified Small Business Enterprise (SBE) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) certified Minority & Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) environmental consulting firm. Chambers Group has been retained by the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) to provide a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search and a Cultural Resources Phase I Pedestrian Survey (Cultural Resources Survey) for the proposed Woodrow Wilson High School Aquatic Center Project (Proposed Project) in the Eastside region of the City of Long Beach in Los Angeles County, California. These tasks were conducted to determine the presence of and potential for prehistoric and/or historic cultural resources within the Proposed Project site and to assess potential impacts to those resources from Proposed Project activities in compliance with applicable County, State, and federal codes, regulations, and statutes.

The Cultural Resources Survey, as conducted, was NEGATIVE for previously undiscovered cultural resources.

## Proposed Project Site Location and Description

The Proposed Project Site is found in southern Los Angeles County, California, in the City of Long Beach, in the community of Eastside. The Proposed Project is to be constructed on the Woodrow Wilson High School (Wilson HS) campus, 4400 East 10th Street, in the western portion of campus on a 1.6-acre rectangular section bordered by Bennett Avenue to the west, Ximeno Avenue to the east, the adjacent tennis courts to the north, and adjacent portable classrooms to the south. The Proposed Project site is zoned institutional (I), and the site is surrounded by the same zoning to the north, east, and south, with residential use zoning (R-3-S) located just west (Attachment 1: Figure 1, Project Location & Vicinity map).

The Proposed Project site is found on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Long Beach*, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (USGS Quad 3118-G2-TF-024, 1964, DMA 2351 I SW Series V895), in Township 4 South, Range 12 West (USGS 1964).

Prior to beginning construction activities for the Proposed Project, LBUSD is expected to obtain all required permits, including a Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Construction General Permit and a Los Angeles County Conditional Use Permit and Building Permit, for the Proposed Project. As such, the Proposed Project needs to be in compliance with provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the California Register of Historical Resources, Public Resources Code (PRC) 5024. LBUSD should require any and all contractors to accommodate, to the extent practicable, all conditions of the permits, environmental mitigation plans, and similar documents and should expect them to make all reasonable efforts to minimize and mitigate for impacts to cultural resources. This Cultural Resources Survey is a part of the preparation of said environmental mitigation plans.



### Background Research — Cultural

Chambers Group submitted a records search request with the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) for the Proposed Project Site and a 0.5-mile buffer in all directions. The SCCIC is one of 12 regional Information Centers that comprise the CHRIS, which works under the direction of the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) and the State Historic Resources Commission (SHRC). The SCCIC houses information about prehistoric and historic cultural resources (location and description) and prior cultural studies performed within Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties. Information Centers provide historical resources information to local governments and individuals with responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The SCCIC records search request was submitted electronically to SCCIC Coordinator Stacy St. James on September 9, 2020. Due to the measures being taken by the SCCIC in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the SCCIC was closed to in-person appointments for record searches; and all requests were being processed by SCCIC staff.

Chambers Group received the requested CHRIS records search results from the SCCIC on September 17, 2020.

Results of the CHRIS records search indicated that nine previous cultural resource investigations have been conducted within a 0.5-mile radius of the Proposed Project site. Of these, three include the Proposed Project site. The details pertaining to the investigations are listed below in Table 1 and in Attachment 2: Figure 2, CONFIDENTIAL Record Search Results map.

**Table 1. Prior Cultural Resources Studies Within a 0.5-mile Radius of the Proposed Project Site**

SCCIC Report Number	Author / Company	Year	Study Title	Relationship to Proposed Project Site
LA-00503	Dixon, Keith A.	1974	Archaeological Resources and Policy Recommendations of Long Beach	<i>Intersects with Proposed Project site</i>
LA-02399	Winman, Lois J., and E. Gary Stickel	1978	Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor Areas Cultural Resource Survey	<i>Intersects with Proposed Project site</i>
LA-05869	Duke, Curt / LSA Associates, Inc.	2002	Cultural Resource Assessment AT&T Wireless Services Facility No. 05295 Los Angeles County, California	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site
LA-05885	Duke, Curt / LSA Associates, Inc.	2002	Cultural Resource Assessment Cingular Wireless Facility No. SM 157-01 Los Angeles County, California	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site
LA-10527	Weinman, Lois J.	1978	Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor Areas Regional Cultural History, Los Angeles County, California	<i>Intersects with Proposed Project site</i>
LA-11139	McGuire, Mona / LSA Associates, Inc.	2010	Environmental Assessment Colorado Lagoon Estuary Restoration Project, City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site



**Table 1. Prior Cultural Resources Studies Within a 0.5-mile Radius of the Proposed Project Site**

SCCIC Report Number	Author / Company	Year	Study Title	Relationship to Proposed Project Site
LA-11140	Fulton, Terri / LSA Associates, Inc.	2010	Results of the Cultural Resources Assessment for the Colorado Lagoon, City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California (LSA Project No. CLB0803)	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site
LA-12328	Wallace, James / AECOM	2012	Report of Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Testing for the Termino Avenue Drain Project City of Long Beach, California	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site
LA-12808	Chasteen, Carrie, Clark, Tiffany, Hanes, Richard, and Mirro, Michael / Applied EarthWorks	2014	Cultural Resources Study of the Wilmington Oil and Gas Field, Los Angeles County, California in Support of Analysis of Oil and Gas Well Stimulation Treatments in California Environmental Impact Report	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site

The CHRIS records search also identified five previously recorded cultural resources located within 0.5 mile of the Proposed Project site. None of these resources was mapped within any portions of the Proposed Project site. The results are summarized below in Table 2 and are also illustrated in Attachment 2: Figure 2 (CONFIDENTIAL).

**Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 0.5-mile Radius of the Proposed Project Site**

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Recorded by and Year Recorded	Resource Description	Relationship to Proposed Project Site
19-000698	CA-LAN-000698	Prehistoric	1974 (Dixon)	Site with shell, lithic debitage	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site
19-000699	CA-LAN-000699	Prehistoric	1974 (Dixon)	Site with shell midden, lithic debitage	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site
19-000700	CA-LAN-000700/H	Prehistoric, Historic	1974 (Dixon); 2011 (Sara Dietler and James Wallace, AECOM); 2015 (Ivan Strudwick, LSA)	Site with shell midden, lithic debitage	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site



**Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 0.5-mile Radius of the Proposed Project Site**

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Recorded by and Year Recorded	Resource Description	Relationship to Proposed Project Site
19-004805	CA-LAN-004805/H	Prehistoric, Historic	2015 (Ivan Strudwick, LSA); 2015 (Ivan Strudwick, LSA Associates, Inc)	Site with prehistoric shell, historic ceramic, glass, brick	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site
19-187132	-	Historic	1997 (G. Felgemaker, Long Beach Planning)	Bungalow structure	Does not intersect with Proposed Project site

Based on the background research and SCCIC records search results, none of these previously recorded cultural resources overlaps with the Proposed Project site. However, the Wilson HS campus itself has structures which are determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). LBUSD prepared a Cultural Resources Assessment in June 2015 to assess all the potential cultural resources located within the District boundaries. According to the resource assessment, Wilson HS is eligible for listing on the NRHP (PCR Services 2015).

Wilson HS is a fully built and operational 28-acre high school under the jurisdiction of the LBUSD, displaying a Mediterranean-style architecture. Originally built in 1924, Wilson HS was restored between 1934 and 1953 following damage to the campus related to the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. Portable buildings were added between 1960 and 2016, and a new science building was built in 1990. The auditorium building was renovated, and a new synthetic turf field and rubberized track were installed in 2017. The school currently accommodates approximately 3,500 high school students from grades 9 through 12. It currently includes five multi-story classroom buildings, one multi-story auditorium building, one multi-gymnasium/natatorium building, three single-story multi-purpose buildings, and 39 portable buildings. The campus currently contains a natatorium (indoor pool) located inside the gymnasium in the center of the main portion of campus east of Ximeno. The natatorium was originally built in 1949, and new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant bleachers were installed at the natatorium in 2017. This pool is no longer regulation size for water polo games or swim meets, so pool use is split between nearby Belmont Pool and the pool on campus.

### Background Research – Native American Heritage Commission

Chambers Group submitted a Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on September 9, 2020, and received a Native American Contact List in response on September 24, 2020, which was provided with a draft letter to LBUSD.

### Survey Methodology and Conditions

Chambers Group conducted a formal Cultural Resources Survey on October 8, 2020. The survey was conducted by cultural resources field director Ken Hazlett, CRS.

The Cultural Resources Survey was performed by conducting a detailed visual inspection of the entirety of the Proposed Project site. This was done by starting at the far southeast end (as shown in Figure 1) of the Proposed Project site and moving from the east to the west and back, shifting 15 meters for each transect, working from south



to north and ending at the far northwest end, looking in this case for gaps or fissures in the existing pavement which expose native soil and, potentially, cultural resources.

## Survey Results — Cultural Resources

In the due course of conducting practiced observation while transecting the entirety of the Proposed Project site, NO NEW CULTURAL RESOURCES were observed or recorded.

The region is considered a part of the California South Coast global ecoregion, the Los Angeles Ranges United States Physiographic Divisions, and the Los Angeles Sedimentary Basins. Soils in the area generally consist of Quaternary young alluvium deposits of sand, clay, and silt from the Late Pleistocene to Holocene (0.126 to 0 Mega annum). Very little in the way of verifiably native soils was observed, as the entirety of the Proposed Project site is presently paved.

The Cultural Resources Survey was completed as required, providing a full pedestrian visual inspection of the existing surface of the Proposed Project site under the conditions present at time of the survey. Visibility over the Proposed Project site was almost entirely obscured, as the entire site is paved, but a few 0-1-centimeter cracks were observed, which were inspected for visibility of soil and cultural resources.

In considering the likelihood of present but unobserved cultural resources, it should be considered that soil surface visibility was almost completely obscured due to the Proposed Project site being paved. Wherever the pavement is removed in the course of Proposed Project activities, cultural resource surface deposits may be present. It is also undetermined what cultural resources are within the Proposed Project site at subsurface depths which may be disturbed by the Proposed Project.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

Although the Cultural Resources Survey has been completed with no new discoveries, as noted above, the soil surface visibility was almost entirely impeded by the existing pavement. Based on the limited ground surface visibility, the historic nature of the Wilson HS structures and the existence of previously recorded prehistoric and historic resources within the 0.5-mile buffer around the Proposed Project site, new resources still have potential to be discovered in or near the site. Due to the demonstrated sensitivity of the area we recommend the following mitigation measures be implemented.

**MM CUL-1** LBSD shall retain the services of a qualified cultural resources firm and require that all initial ground disturbing work be monitored by an archaeologist. The archaeological consultant shall provide a supervising cultural resources specialist and a cultural resources monitor present at the Project construction phase kickoff meeting.

**MM CUL-2** Just prior to commencing construction activities and thus prior to any ground disturbance in the Proposed Project Site, the supervising cultural resources specialist and cultural resources monitor shall conduct initial Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training to all construction personnel, including supervisors, present at the outset of the Project construction work phase, for which the lead contractor and all subcontractors shall make their personnel available. This WEAP training will educate construction personnel on how to work with the monitor(s) to identify and minimize impacts to cultural resources and maintain environmental compliance, and be performed periodically for new personnel coming on to the project as needed.

**MM CUL-3** The contractor shall provide the supervising cultural resources specialist and cultural resources monitor with a schedule of initial potential ground disturbing activities. A minimum of 48 hours will be provided to the archaeological consultant of commencement of any initial ground disturbing activities such as vegetation grubbing or clearing, grading, trenching, or mass excavation.

As detailed in the schedule provided, a cultural resources monitor shall be present onsite at the commencement of ground-disturbing activities related to the Project. The cultural resources monitor, in consultation with the supervising cultural resources specialist, shall observe initial ground disturbing activities and, as they proceed, make



adjustments to the number of cultural resources monitors as needed to provide adequate observation and oversight. All monitors will have stop-work authority to allow for recordation and evaluation of finds during construction. The cultural resources monitor will maintain a daily record of observations as an ongoing reference resource and to provide a resource for final reporting upon completion of the Project.

The supervising cultural resources supervisor, cultural monitor, and the lead contractor and subcontractors shall maintain a line of communication regarding schedule and activity such that the cultural monitor is aware of all ground disturbing activities in advance in order to provide appropriate oversight.

**MM CUL-4** In addition to cultural resources monitoring, if formally requested during Native American Consultation under AB 52, a Native American monitor(s) selected by the tribe should be present at the Project kickoff meeting, be provided with a schedule of initial ground disturbing activities, and be onsite at the commencement of ground-disturbing activities related to the Project, and as the Project proceeds be adjusting personnel and schedule as needed to provide sufficient oversight. As with the Cultural Resources Lead and Monitor, the lead contractor and all subcontractors shall routinely update the Native American Monitor and their scheduling representative(s) regarding scheduling for ground disturbing activities, and changes to said schedule, such that there is sufficient advance notice that a Native American Monitor can be scheduled and present to provide oversight.

**MM-CUL-5** If cultural (or paleontological) resources are discovered, construction shall be halted within 50 feet of any cultural artifacts or features or paleontological finds, and within 100 feet of any human remains and shall not resume until a qualified archaeologist can determine the significance of the find and/or the find has been fully investigated, documented, and cleared.

**MM CUL-6** At the completion of all ground disturbing activities, the archaeological consultant shall prepare a Cultural Resources Monitoring Report summarizing all monitoring efforts and observations, as performed, and any and all prehistoric or historic archaeological finds, as well as providing follow-up reports of any finds to the SCCIC, as required.

**HUMAN REMAINS – LEGAL REQUIREMENTS** In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, then the Proposed Project would be subject to California Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA Section 15064.5, and California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 (NPS 1983). If human remains are found during ground-disturbing activities, State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner-Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner-Coroner shall be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Medical Examiner-Coroner shall notify the NAHC, which shall notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials (NPS 1983).

Sincerely,

**CHAMBERS GROUP, INC.**



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## Attachments

**Attachment 1:** Figure 1, Project Location & Vicinity Map

**Attachment 2:** Figure 2, CONFIDENTIAL Record Search Results Map

**Attachment 3:** Cultural Resources Survey Photographs

## References

U. S. Geological Survey (USGS)

1964 Geologic Map of the *Long Beach* 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, California.

PCR Services

2015 *Cultural Resources Assessment for Long Beach Unified School District.*

Prepared by PCR Services for Long Beach Unified School District

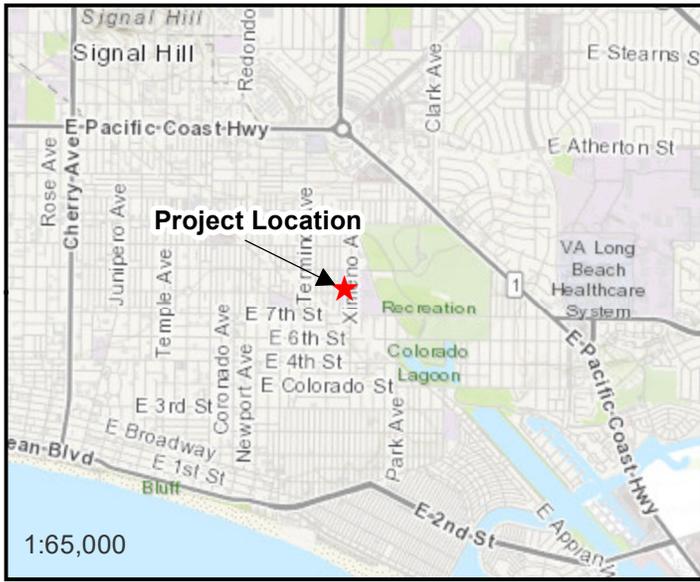
National Park Service (NPS)

1983 *Archeology and Historic Preservation; Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines.* 48  
Federal Register 44716-42.



**ATTACHMENT 1: FIGURE 1, PROJECT LOCATION & VICINITY MAP**





**Legend**

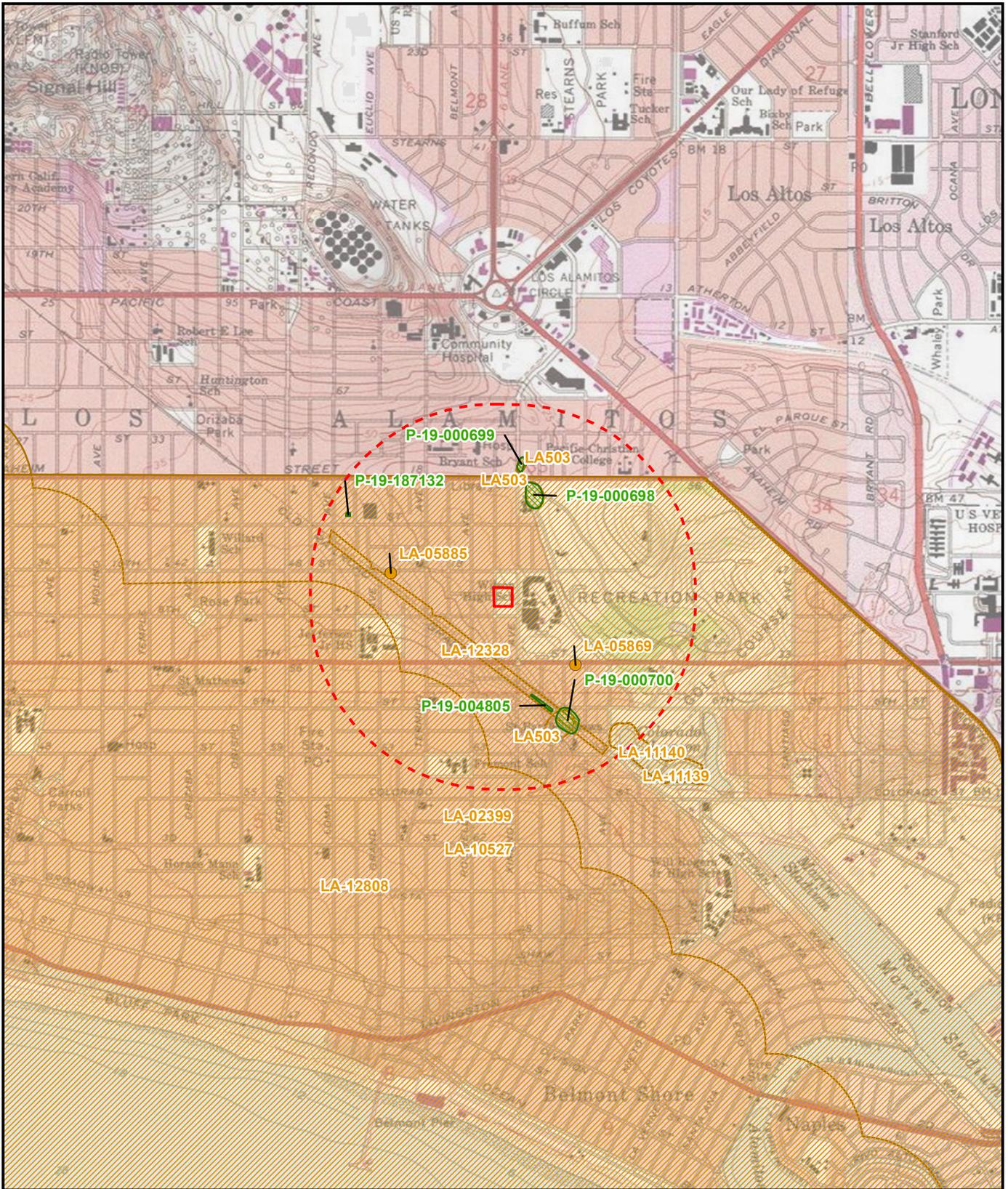
Project Location



**Figure 1**  
Woodrow Wilson HS Aquatic Center  
Project Location & Vicinity

**ATTACHMENT 2: FIGURE 2, CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SEARCH RESULTS MAP**





Project Location

0.5-mile Buffer

Reports

Resources

Point

Polygon

Polygon



0 750 1,500 3,000

Feet

**Figure 2**

Woodrow Wilson HS Aquatic Center

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Record Search Results

## **ATTACHMENT 3: CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS**



**ATTACHMENT 3: CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS**

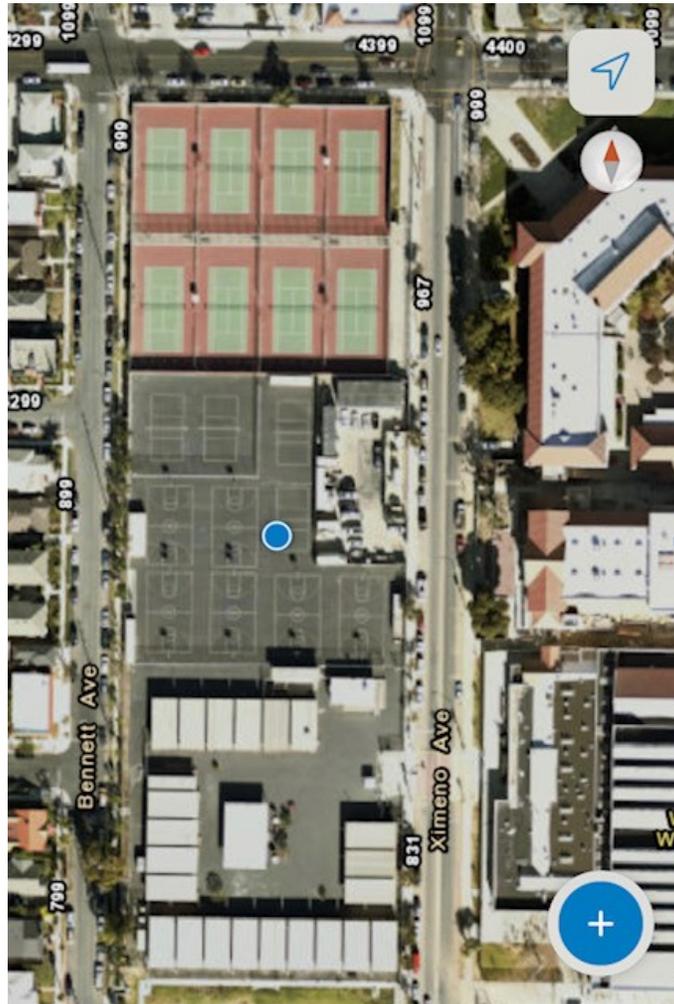


Photo 1 showing location of Photo 2, 3, 4, and 5 (plan view)



**Photo 2 showing Proposed Project site from approximate center (north)**



**Photo 3 showing Proposed Project site from approximate center (east)**



**Photo 4 showing Proposed Project site from approximate center (south)**



Photo 5 showing Proposed Project site from approximate center (west)

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