APPENDIX E

Cultural Resources Documentation

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September 30, 2019

Mr. Ned Baldwin
Senior Project Manager
Meridian Consultants, LLC
920 Hampshire Road, Suite A5
Westlake Village, CA 91361
Transmitted via email to nbaldwin@meridianconsultantsllc.com

RE: Map Review and Archival Research in Support of Assembly Bill 52 Consultation for the 2268 Pico Boulevard Project in Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

At the request of Meridian Consultants, LLC, PaleoWest Archaeology (PaleoWest) conducted a map review and archival research in support of Assembly Bill (AB) 52 consultation for the 2268 Pico Boulevard Project in Los Angeles County, California. The map review and archival research included a review of General Land Office (GLO) plats, early U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps, soils maps, irrigations maps, disenos, and academic maps (see Table 1) as well as a brief review of ethnographic data. This review was conducted primarily to determine the proximity of the Project area to any known prehistoric villages or sites and to address the comments provided by the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation (Tribe) during AB 52 consultation. This memorandum summarizes the results of the map review and archival research efforts for the Project and discusses the data that was presented by the Tribe.

Environmental Background

The Project area is situated on a slightly elevated ridge of Pleistocene age alluvium (deposited prior to the prehistoric period) emanating from the southern front of the Santa Monica Mountains and separating Ballona Creek and the Los Angeles River drainage basins. The surface was moderately dissected by shallow ravines and gullies channel mountain runoff as described in geologic literature and mapped on GLO plats (GLO depicting them as dry ravines). Several larger drainages north of the Project area have carved deeper canyons into the alluvial formation and form the headwaters of Ballona Creek. A few springs are noted in the ravines and a small pond is mapped southwest of the Project area. Las Cienegas, which consists of swamps in the lowest portion the Ballona Creek watershed, is located 3.6 miles southwest of the Project area and 3 miles east of the Los Angeles River. Prior to 1825, the Los Angeles River used to flow into Ballona Creek flowing through Las Cienegas and entered the Pacific Ocean near the present-day city of Santa Monica. The former channel is mapped on GLO plats and soils maps and was located approximately 3 to 4 miles south and southwest.

Map Review Findings

Several maps depicting Indian villages in the Los Angeles basin have been published, derived from the notes of Reid, Harrington, Swanton, and other 19th and early 20th century ethnographers, tribal memory, and archaeological data. A review of these maps indicates that no known prehistoric villages are near the

Project area (Figure 1). The closest mapped villages include Geveronga, Wenot, and Yanga located near downtown Los Angeles, 1.8 to 2 miles east of the Project area (Johnston 1962; Fortier 2008; Kirkman 1938). Additional mapped villages include Maungna, located 3.4 miles to the northeast (Fortier 2008; Kirkman 1938), Palmso (Kirkman 1938) along with four unnamed settlements located on the margins of La Cienega, and three unnamed villages (Kirkman 1938) at the foot of the Santa Monica Mountains, located 5 miles to the north-northwest. Maungna appears to be associated with Rancho Los Feliz while Palmso appears to be associated with Rancho Las Cienegas and Rancho Cienega y Pasodela Tijera. The three unnamed villages appear to be associated with the La Brea and San Antonio or Rodeo de Las Aguas ranchos. Johnston (1962) shows an archaeological site 1.4 miles to the north; however, no details on the size and extent of this site are provided. Further, a review of named places documented by Reid (Heizer 1968) does not show the presence of a village in the immediate vicinity of the Project area. In most cases, villages noted on these maps are found near major water sources or near the foot of the mountains.

Based on this map review it can be suggested that most villages in the Los Angeles basin are near major hydrological and other natural resources including the Los Angeles River, Santa Monica Mountains, and the swamps in the low lands along the Ballona Creek and the Los Angeles River (Figure 2). These areas later became the locations of the ranchos within the Los Angeles basin in the early 19th century. The Project area is located between ranchos on an old alluvial fan that was a much drier location. It is likely that the area was used prehistorically to gather specific vegetal resources and lithic raw material eroding out of the alluvium. Temporary camps may have been established near springs. However, there is no documented evidence of village sites or major prehistoric settlements in the immediate vicinity.

Early GLO plats and records indicate the general area was public land, with land patents filed in the mid-1870s. This may indicate that the land was marginal to the first historic-period settlers. By the mid to late 19th century, the area was moderately developed and GLO plats show about 6 to 10 houses and a vineyard in the square mile surrounding the Project area. Three roads pass close to the Project area, including La Brea Road, San Vicente Road, and La Ballona Road (with San Vicente possibly crossing the Project area) (Figure 3). A similar pattern of development can be seen on plats in the adjacent townships where fields, barns, other houses, and roads are depicted. Other early features include the Angelus-Rosedale Cemetery established in the western part of the area in 1884. While the mapped roads may predate the historic-period land use, no trails are labeled as being of Native American origin and no Indian settlements are noted.

Irrigation maps show the Zanja No. 8 West Branch (Hall 1888) passing approximately 400 feet south of the Project area. This ditch was constructed between the Project area and Pueblo Los Angeles. It was only in operation from the mid-1850s to 1870 when it was shut down due to lack of water. Additionally, GLO maps show several ditches in the area that appear to take water from small canyons to irrigate farms and provide water to houses.

Urban development in the neighborhood began in the late 19th and early 20th centuries when the area became known as Pico Heights (now known as the Pico-Union neighborhood). The eastern part of the neighborhood is located within the boundaries of Pueblo Los Angeles; however, the Project area is located outside the boundaries of Pueblo Los Angeles in the western part of the neighborhood. USGS quadrangles and Sanborn Maps show progressive development through the 20th century.

Table 1
List of Maps Reviewed

Map Name	Source
Alkali map, California, Los Angeles sheet	Louis Mesmer; Milton Whitney; United States. Bureau of Soils 1903
Detail Irrigation Map: Los Angeles Sheet	Hall, W. 1888
Detail Irrigation Map: Santa Monica Sheet	Hall, W. 1888
Gabrielino Indians at the time of the Portola Expedition	Johnston 1962
Historic Sites, Old Highways, and Battlefields in Old Los Angeles County	Kirkman 1938
Hollywood, CA (1:24,000)	USGS 1953
Indian Villages near Courses of the Los Angeles River	Gumprecht 1999
Los Angeles, CA (1:24,000)	USGS 1928
Los Angeles, CA (1:62,500)	USGS 1884
Map of a Portion of Los Angeles County: Abel Stearns' Ranchos	Los Angeles and San Bernardino Land Office 1873
Map of the City of Los Angeles California	H.J. Stevenson, U.S. Dept. Surveyor 1884
Map of the City of Los Angeles showing the Confirmed Limited	Henry Hancock 1857
Official Map of Los Angeles County	Rowan, V. J. 1888
Plat of Rancho Los Feliz, line from Nopalero to Portezuelo.	Surveyor General, Seebold, Lothar 1871
Plat of the Rancho La Cienega o Paso de la Tijera finally confirmed to Tomas Sanchez et al.	Surveyor General, Hanson
Rancho las Ciénegas : S59 - Plat of the Rancho la Cienega finally confirmed to Anuario sic Abila et al.	Surveyor General, Henry Hancock 1858
Santa Monica, CA (1:62,500)	USGS 1896
Santa Monica, CA (1:62,500)	USGS 1921
Township 1N/14W	GLO 1888
Township 1N/14W	GLO 1876
Township 1S/13W	GLO 1870
Township 1S/13W	GLO 1872
Township 1S/14W	GLO 1881
Township 1S/14W	GLO 1873
Township 2S/13W	GLO 1874
Township 2S/13W	GLO 1868
Township 2S/14W	GLO 1872
Township 2S/14W	GLO 1868

Discussion of Tribal Concerns

The Tribe is concerned the Project has a “higher than normal” probability to encounter tribal cultural resources (TCRs) due to the sensitivity of the general area. The Tribe presents this case by discussing specific features found on historic maps including a railroad alignment, waterways, overland trade routes, the Zanja, and a sacred village. PaleoWest investigated these features and their proximity to the Project

area through the map review and a review of ethnographic data. Each feature is discussed individually below.

Railroad. The Tribe references an 1898 historical map that depicts a hatched black line, usually indicative of a railroad line, that appears to run along Pico Boulevard very close to the Project area. The Tribe has concerns because, as they point out, historic railroads were often constructed along existing trade routes or trails. After further inspection of this hatched black line, PaleoWest has determined this was not a railroad line but an electric cable car line that ran along Pico Boulevard. These electric cable car line alignments were constructed along city streets and not tied to historic trade routes or trails.

Waterways. As mentioned previously, the largest water source near the Project area in prehistory was the Los Angeles River which is approximately 3 miles away from the Project area (Figure 2). Again, most villages in the Los Angeles basin were established near major hydrological and other natural resources including the Los Angeles River, Santa Monica Mountains, and the swamps in the low lands along the Ballona Creek and the Los Angeles River. These areas were naturally divided when the ranchos were established because of the proximity to natural resources. The Project area was located between ranchos in what was likely a much drier area than the surrounding vicinity.

Overland Trade Routes. During the historic map review, PaleoWest identified three roads that pass close to the Project area, including La Brea Road, San Vicente Road, and La Ballona Road (Figure 1). The Project area appears to lie between La Brea and La Ballona Road while San Vicente Road may bisect the Project area. The scale and quality of the map makes accurate plotting on current maps difficult with any certainty. As noted, none of the mapped roads indicate origins as Native American trails or trade routes; however, the 1938 map does indicate the general area was dense with travel routes including the above-mentioned roads as well as the El Camino Real and Portola's first exploring route.

Zanja. The Tribe points out the close proximity of the historic Zanja to the Project area. PaleoWest found that historic irrigation maps show the Zanja No. 8 West Branch passing approximately 400 feet south of the Project area (Hall 1888).

Sacred Village. The Tribe mentions that the Project area is located within and around a sacred village; however, the Tribe does not state which village or where exactly the village is located. The Tribe also does not provide context for the proximity to the village as it does for the other identified features. PaleoWest did not identify a village site in close proximity to the Project area (Figure 1). The closest mapped villages include Geveronga, Wenot, and Yanga located near downtown Los Angeles 1.8 to 2 miles east of the Project area (Johnston 1962; Fortier 2008; Kirkman 1938). In order to properly research this statement PaleoWest would need more information from the Tribe regarding the village site.

Conclusion

Based on a review of the above-mentioned historic maps, ethnographic data, and the Tribe's expressed concerns, PaleoWest agrees that the general area may be sensitive for cultural resources. As illustrated on the historic maps, the general area was widely travelled in prehistory as well as during early contact with Europeans and into the modern-era. These maps demonstrate the general utilization of the area and indicate a higher degree of activity for the immediate vicinity. A cursory review of the Project area does not indicate any known resources that may be directly impacted by the Project; however, as stated previously the general area may be sensitive for cultural resources. Despite the stated sensitivity, it should be noted that at this time no TCRs have been identified within or immediately adjacent to the Project area. In addition, the Project area is currently developed and has been hardscaped for more than 60 years. This disturbance is not indicative that no cultural resource may lie beneath; however, if present and intact, any

cultural resources would likely not be encountered within the first 2-3 feet below ground surface. As such, depending on the proposed depth of disturbance for the Project, the likelihood of encountering cultural resources may be low.

It has been a pleasure working with you on this Project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at rthomas@paleowest.com.

Sincerely,

Roberta Thomas, MA, RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest Archaeology

References

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1926 The Indians of Los Angeles County [by] Hugo Reid. Reid, Hugo, 1811?-1853. Los Angeles, Private Print.

EXHIBIT A

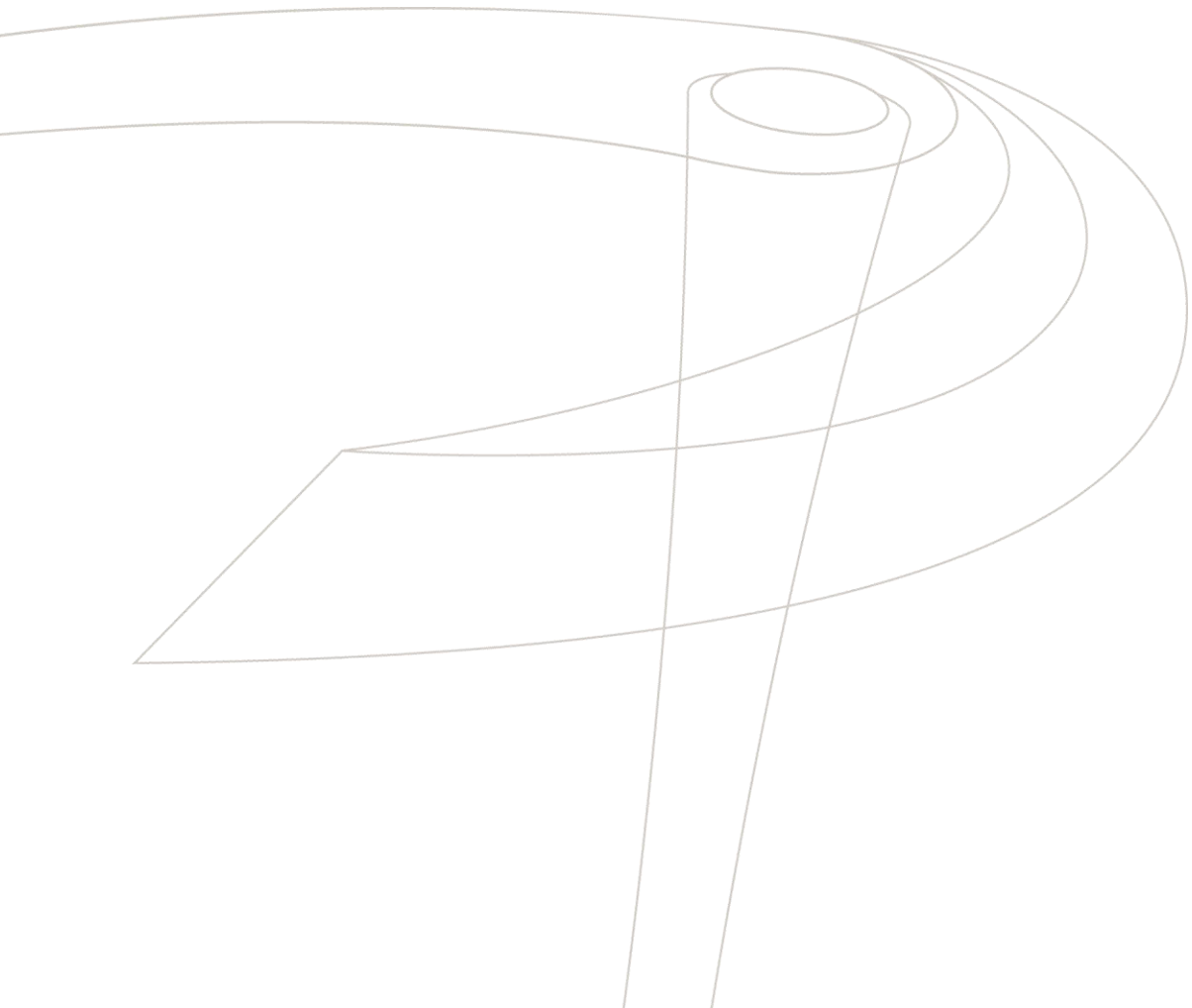

Figure 1. Historic Sites, Old Highways, and Battlefields in Old Los Angeles County

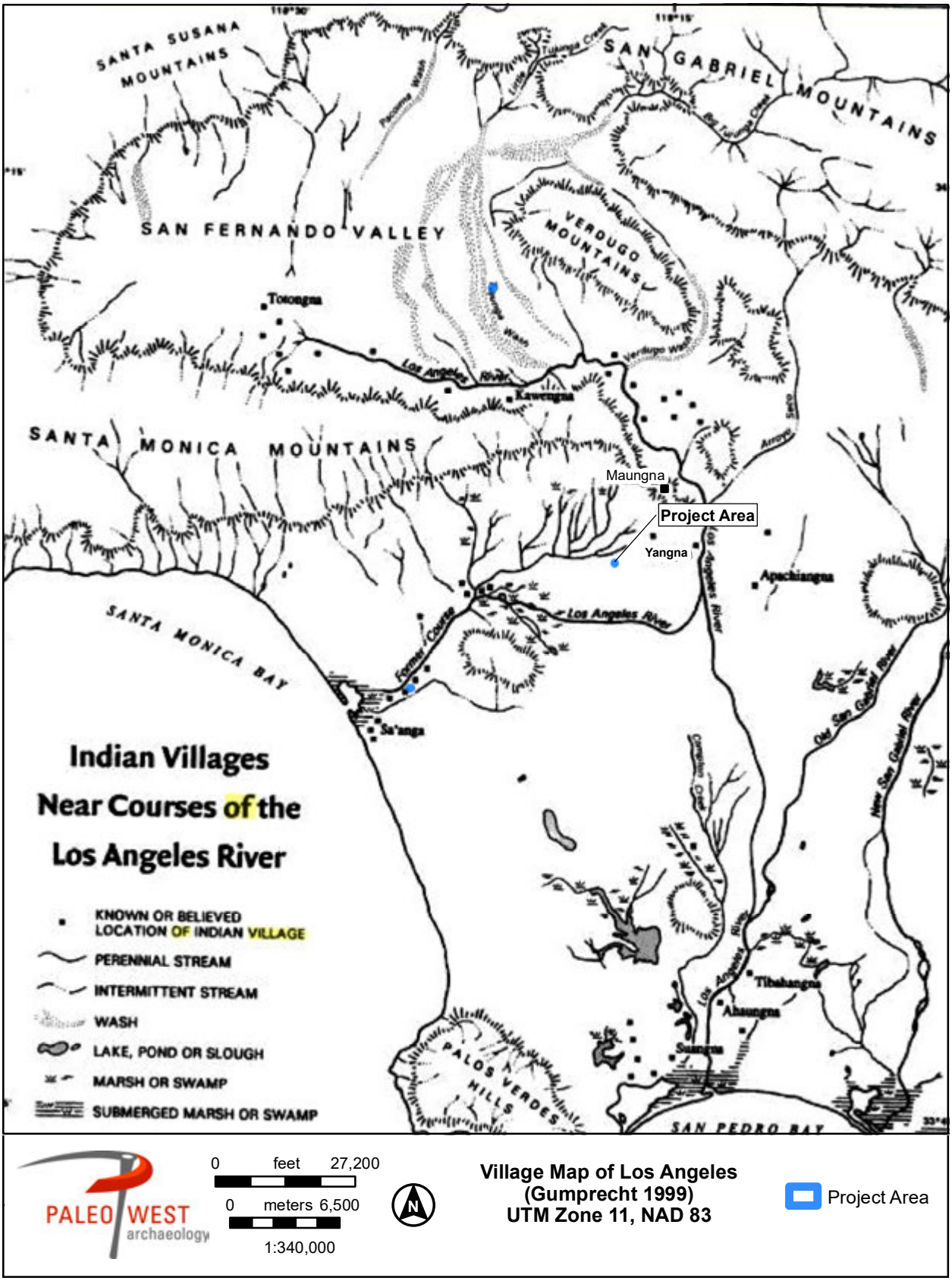

Figure 2. Indian Villages near Courses of the Los Angeles River

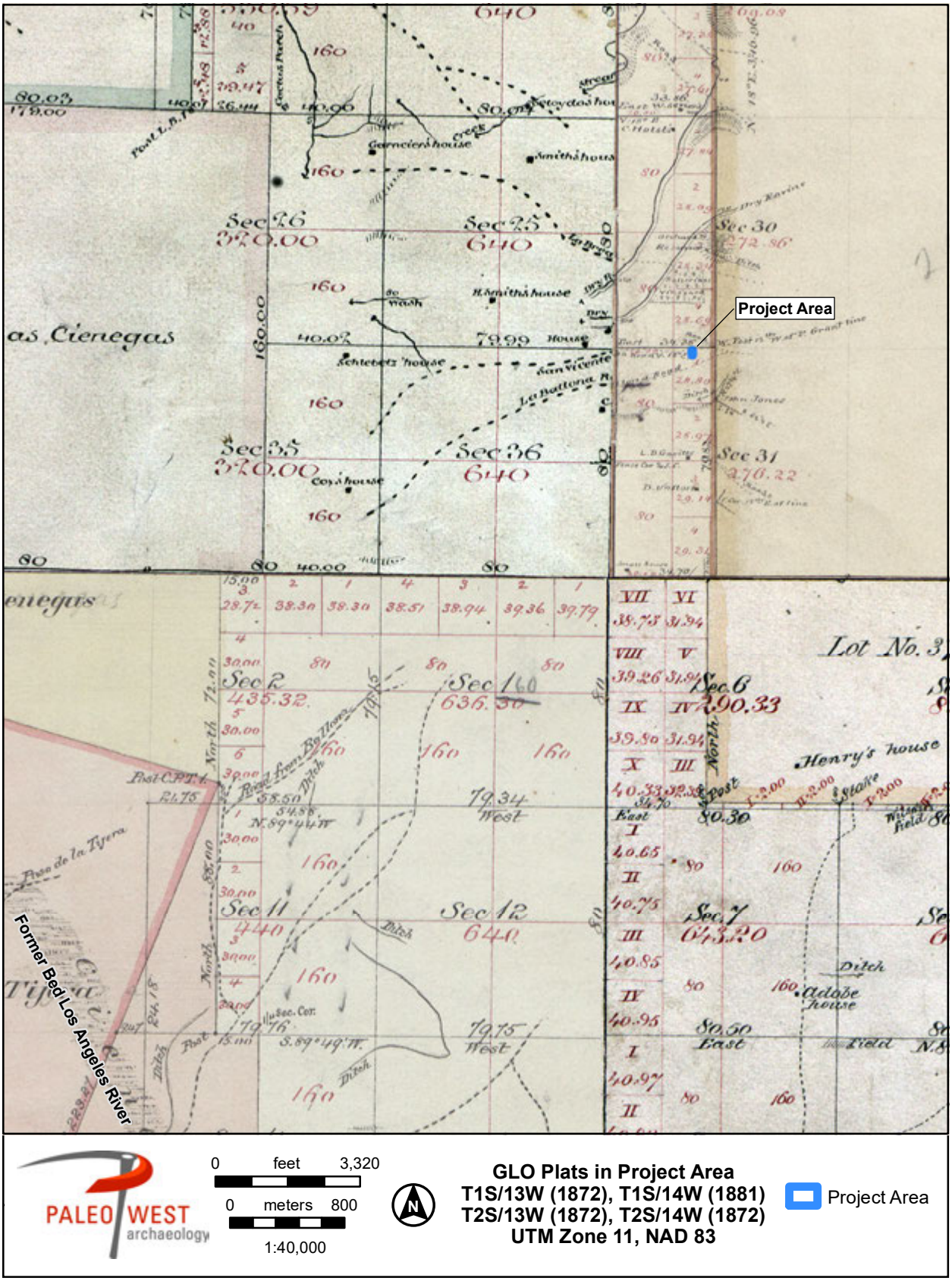

Figure 3. GLO Plats