

4.4 CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section of the EIR analyzes the potential environmental effects on cultural resources from implementation of the proposed Granada Hills–Knollwood Community Plan and implementing ordinances and the proposed Sylmar Community Plan and implementing ordinances (proposed plans). Cultural resources are defined as buildings, sites, districts, structures, or objects having historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural importance. The potential for impacts on historical resources, archaeological resources and human burials, as well as potential project effects on paleontological resources are considered. This section briefly describes the prehistoric and historic setting of the Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar Community Plan Areas (CPAs); discusses known cultural resources within the CPAs and adjacent lands; provides the geologic setting of the CPAs; and identifies the cultural and paleontological resource sensitivity of the CPAs. Applicable federal, state, and local regulations are identified, followed by impact analysis and mitigation measures, where applicable, to reduce impacts on cultural and paleontological resources.

One comment letter was received in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Granada Hills–Knollwood Community Plan from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), who requested that all CEQA regulations be followed to ensure the protection of cultural resources. Full reference-list entries for all cited materials are provided in Section 4.4.5 (References).

4.4.1 Environmental Setting

Cultural resources are frequently defined in terms of tangible materials attributed to a culture. These include districts, sites, structures, artifacts, and other evidence of human use considered important to a culture or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or other reasons. Resources may be historical, archaeological, architectural, or archival in nature. Cultural resources may also consist of less tangible attributes, such as landscapes considered sacred to particular groups.

■ Prehistoric Setting

The Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar CPAs lie within a region with some of the oldest dated finds in California. The earliest known archaeological sites found in the general region are on the Channel Islands, a chain of eight islands located off the coast of Southern California. Arlington Springs Woman from Santa Rosa Island (one of the Channel Islands) is one of the earliest finds of human remains in North America. Her remains date to approximately 11,000 B.C.E. Daisy Cave on San Miguel Island (also a Channel Island) is another early site. The culture associated with these finds dating before 7000 B.C.E. are most often associated with the Paleo Coastal Tradition. The people of this complex are typically characterized as highly mobile hunters and gatherers. Artifacts associated with this complex are well-formed, large leaf-shaped projectile points, crescents, engraving tools, choppers, pebble hammerstones, and various types of scrapers.

■ Ethnographic Setting

The Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar CPAs are located near the ethnographically mapped boundaries of the Tongva (Gabrieliño) and the Chumash. This portion of Los Angeles County includes the southeastern-most portion of documented Chumash territory, and the northern extent of Tongva/Gabrieliño tribal territory.

Tongva/Gabrieliño

At the time of Spanish contact in the late eighteenth century, the Tongva peoples, or Gabrieleño, occupied the areas now known as Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar. The Tongva received the name Gabrieleños from the Spanish, after their association with the San Gabriel Mission. Their territory included most of the San Fernando Valley and the Los Angeles Basin, inland as far as San Bernardino, and outward to the Pacific coast stretching from Topanga Canyon to north of Aliso Creek in modern Orange County. Also included in Gabrieliño territory are the southern Channel Islands of San Clemente, Santa Catalina, and San Nicolas. This extensive territory encompassed several biotic zones, from the open and sheltered coast to the prairie, chaparral, and woodland settings of the Santa Monica and Santa Ana Mountain foothills.

Located in an area of extreme environmental diversity, large villages may have been permanent, with satellite villages utilized seasonally. Their living structures were large, domed, and circular thatched rooms that may have housed multiple families. Influenced by coastal and interior environmental settings, their material culture was quite elaborate and consisted of well-made wood, bone, stone, and shell items. Included among these was a hunting stick made to bring down numerous types of game. Early ethnographers viewed the Gabrieliño as a chief-oriented society of semi-sedentary hunter-gatherers. The society exhibited ranked individuals who possessed a much higher level of economic power than unranked persons.

Chumash

The Chumash comprised a large and diverse population living in settlements along the California coast. Chumash villages could be found from Malibu Creek, in the southeast, to Estero Bay, in the north. By the time the Spanish arrived, the Chumash had evolved into a complex society. Chumash villages were relatively large, with some of them containing as many as one thousand people, although one or two hundred inhabitants were more typical. Chumash villages were composed of patrilineal descent groups, and the position of chief was inherited through the male line. Early Spanish explorers noted that villages had three or four leaders, including the chief.

Acorn was the single most important food source for the Chumash, while a wide variety of seeds, roots, and berries were also eaten. The bow and arrow, throwing sticks, deadfalls and snares were used to hunt and capture California mule deer, coyote, fox, rabbit, game birds, seals, sea otters, and other animals. Mollusks were consumed year-round, and the large shell mounds which developed were composed of California mussel, horse clam, gooseneck barnacle, and jackknife clam. Pismo clam and various types of abalone were also eaten; however, these shells are used in bead manufacture, and are rarely found in shell mounds.

The Chumash used steatite for a variety of both non-utilitarian and well-made implements. Wooden plates and bowls were also created, and Chumash basketry was exceptional in decoration and workmanship. Weavers used both coiling and twining techniques. Coiled-ware included basin-shaped baskets for food preparation, burden baskets, as well as storage baskets and flat trays for winnowing and parching. Twining was used for water bottles, seed beaters, and coarsely woven baskets likely used as strainers, as well as a wide variety of other uses.

■ Historic Setting

The Spanish colonization of California was achieved through a program of military-civilian-religious conquest. Under this system soldiers secured areas for settlement by suppressing Native and foreign resistance and established fortified structures (presidios) from which the colony would be governed. Civilians established towns (pueblos) and stock-grazing operations (ranchos) that supported the settlement and provided products for export. The missionary component of the colonization strategy was led by Spanish priests, who were charged with converting Native Americans to Catholicism, introducing them to Spanish culture, and training them as a productive labor force. Ultimately, four presidios and 21 missions were established in Spanish California between 1769 and 1821. In this area, the San Gabriel Mission was founded in 1771, the Pueblo of Los Angeles in 1781, and the San Fernando Mission in 1797. The surrounding land, which was primarily used for pasturage, was split into large land grants and the population began to spread out from the missions.

Mexico achieved independence from Spain in 1822, and California became a distant outpost of the Mexican Republic. Under a law adopted by the Mexican congress in 1833, the former mission lands were secularized and subdivided into land grants. Then, beginning in the early 1840s, Mexico's hold on California was threatened by the steady overland migration of American settlers into the region. War between the U.S. and Mexico commenced in May 1846, and the American victory over Mexico was formalized in February 1848 with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Under the Treaty, the United States acquired the present states of California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and parts of Wyoming and Colorado from Mexico. In about 1846, the Rancho Ex-Mission San Fernando was granted to Eulogio de Celis by Governor Pio Pico, including the lands that would become modern Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar.

Granada Hills–Knollwood

Geronimo Lopez bought land in the Granada Hills area beginning in 1855, and established the Lopez Station. The station served as a stagecoach stop and general store on the Butterfield Stage Line. In 1860, Lopez started the first English-speaking school in the San Fernando Valley (Valley) at the station, and in 1869 he started the first post office in the Valley, serving as the first postmaster. After the Valley became more populated, the station building was demolished, and was later occupied by the Los Angeles Reservoir. The Los Angeles Reservoir was built in 1913 by the City of Los Angeles, and was originally named the San Fernando Reservoir. Thereafter, the Reservoir was renamed the Van Norman Reservoir, and has been known as the Los Angeles Reservoir since 1971.

In 1881, George K. Porter bought a large parcel of land that eventually became Granada Hills, and used the land for farming beans and wheat. In 1917, Oklahoma oilman J. H. Moshier bought the land between

Balboa and Zelzah Avenues located to the north of San Jose Street. Moshier built the Sunshine Ranch, which included dairy barns, and he planted the land with citrus trees.

Moshier sold the ranch to Suburban Estates, Inc., a holding company of the Edwards and Wiley Company. This company subdivided the lower lots as tract 9317 in 1926, and in 1927 they further subdivided half of the tract into smaller lots and laid out the present-day streets. The tract was named Granada and was promoted as a place to raise rabbits. The Edwards and Wiley Company established a business district, including a two-story store on the corner of Chatsworth Street and White Oak Avenue, known as the Granada Building. During the period of their landownership, Suburban Estates, Inc. laid out over 14 miles of paved streets with curbs and sidewalks, water, gas, and power lines. Thereafter, they fell into receivership. The California Trust Company took over the tract until 1940, when the last lot was sold.

In 1932/33, the area was further developed. The deodar cedar trees on White Oak Avenue were planted in 1932 by John Orcutt, who served as superintendent of the Sunshine Ranch. These trees are listed as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument HCM #41. In 1933, eucalyptus trees were planted on the south side of each east-west trending street to serve as a windbreak for orange trees. Today these trees are one of the most distinctive features of Granada Hills. Also in 1933, A. G. Rowlands built a market on the corner of Devonshire Street and Zelzah Avenue and Mrs. Roy Miller opened a grocery store in the Granada Building.

In May 1942, Granada changed its name to Granada Hills to differentiate itself from Grenada, California. Then, in 1946, the business district was expanded to include the Granada Radio Company building and the Russell Building. These businesses, along with the Granada Building, a real estate office, a Shell service station, and the market at Devonshire Street and Zelzah Avenue, comprised the business district during the 1940s. The Granada Hills School was then opened in February 1948, and the first church building for the Granada Hills Memorial Church was started in 1949 on Zelzah Avenue between San Jose and Devonshire Streets. The bulk of growth in the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA occurred in the mid- to late-1950s and 1960s after funding for the interstate highways was received and the Ventura Freeway (US-101), Golden State Freeway (I-5), and the San Diego Freeway (I-405 opening during that period) and providing greater connectivity to the major job centers for residents in the CPA.

Granada Hills is home of the beautiful Deodar Pine Trees which were planted in 1932 on White Oak Ave. between San Fernando Mission and San Jose St., and have been declared Historic-Cultural Monuments (L.A. Historic-Cultural Monument No. 41). It also has a unique tract of homes called Balboa Highlands, built in the 1960s by noted architect Joseph Eichler. The 108 modernist homes were declared a Historic Preservation Overlay Zone in 2010 after a 10-year effort. Eichler was noted for not discriminating against ethnic minorities, which was unusual at the time, and designing homes that were affordable to the middle class. Waves of development in the CPA between 1960 and the present have maintained the area's small town feel.

Sylmar

The lands that comprise modern Sylmar were utilized during the Spanish Mission period to support activities at the San Fernando Mission. In Sylmar, the local Native American population built the Mission Wells and Settling Basin around 1800, and the area containing these features is listed as Los Angeles

HCM #50. The Spanish Mission period also saw the birth of Sylmar's olive industry, when Father Iballa sent to Spain for young seedlings, which were planted around the mission. These mission lands were then secularized and subdivided into land grants, or ranchos, following a law adopted by the Mexican congress in 1833. The former mission lands in the Sylmar area were included in the Rancho Ex-Mission San Fernando granted to Eulogio de Celis. With a loan from Leland Stanford, Charles Maclay, George K. Porter and Benjamin F. Porter bought the upper half of the Rancho. Nearby San Fernando became a city in 1874, leading to the naming of the unincorporated land surrounding San Fernando as Morningside. In 1876, the Southern Pacific Railroad built a rail line from Los Angeles to San Fernando, and this line brought many residents to the area around Morningside.

In 1886, Judge Robert M. Widney, Charles Maclay's nephew, published a pamphlet about how the area was perfect for growing olives, and this drew the interest of a group of businessmen. Colonel F. D. Butterfield, D. Miltmore, George L. Arnold, Charles Morell, and Sullivan Burgess moved to the area and formed the Los Angeles Olive Growers Association (Association). They bought 2,000 acres, and planted over 1,100 acres with olive trees in 1891. The Association built a packing plant and sold olives under the Tyler Olives (later Sylmar Packing) label, and additional packing and canning warehouses opened along the railroad tracks in Sylmar. Along with olives, Morningside was also known for the San Fernando Cemetery, which was dedicated in 1892 at the corner of Foothill Boulevard and Bledsoe Street (HCM #586/California Historic Landmark (CHL #753).

Through the engineering of William Mulholland and the political influence of Frederick Eaton, water was brought from the High Sierra Mountains to Los Angeles through an aqueduct. Part of the Los Angeles Aqueduct, a series of pipes called the Cascades, is located in Sylmar (HCM #742/CHL #653). Soon after the aqueduct opened in 1913, the City of Los Angeles annexed the San Fernando Valley on May 22, 1915. At this time, the unincorporated land around San Fernando was changed from Morningside to Sylmar. The new name was derived from two Latin words that together meant "Sea of Trees," which referred to the olive trees.

Besides being ideal for growing olives, the climate in Sylmar was seen as beneficial for the treatment of respiratory problems, and numerous medical facilities have been constructed in the area over time. In 1920, a tuberculosis sanitarium opened on the site of the current Olive View-UCLA Medical Center. The original sanitarium was destroyed by a fire in 1962, and several other medical centers occupied this site between 1920 and the present. Another sanatorium facility was located at Polk Street and Borden Avenue, which was converted into the Sylmar Recreation Center in 1964. The San Fernando Valley Veterans Hospital, which was originally built in 1926, is also located in Sylmar. The February 9, 1971 San Fernando earthquake destroyed major parts of the Veterans Hospital, and damaged the buildings that were built in the 1940s. Within the following year, the federal government transferred ownership of the 96.5-acre grounds to the County of Los Angeles. The County then converted it into Veterans Memorial County Park in 1979, and the only surviving hospital building is used for a cultural arts center.

After World War II, many of Sylmar's orchards were converted into suburban housing tracts, and the population grew immensely between 1950 and 1960. The population growth was supported and fueled by easy access to and from Sylmar. The Foothill Freeway (I-210) opened in 1973, and three other major freeways either surround or traverse the Sylmar area: the Golden State (I-5), the Simi Valley (SR-118) and the San Diego (I-405) Freeways. In the 1980s, Sylmar experienced the fastest population growth in the

City of Los Angeles, and a rapid rise in housing stock. The area has continued to grow, and continues its development into a low-density and moderate-density urban community while retaining its agricultural heritage.

■ Known Cultural Resources

SCCIC Records Search

A records search was performed by an Atkins archaeologist at the South Central Coast Information Center (SCCIC) for the Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar CPAs and a 0.25-mile radius.³⁵ The records search included a review of all cultural resource records, technical reports, and historic maps on file for the CPAs and the additional search radius. The search also included a review of California Points of Historical Interest (CPHI), the California Historical Landmarks (CHL), the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR), the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the California Historic Resources Inventory (CHRI) as presented in the California Office of Historic Preservation (COHP) Historical Property Data File. The SCCIC records search indicated that the CPA and adjacent lands have been subject to approximately ninety studies during recent decades, including intensive survey efforts. The records search failed to identify the presence of any NRHP-listed or eligible built-environment historic-age resources within the CPAs. However, one NRHP-listed archaeological district is known within the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA. This resource is also listed in the CRHR because it is listed in the NRHP. Additional historic-age resources were detected that are listed as Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monuments (HCM). Finally, approximately ten historic-age structures within the Sylmar CPA have been evaluated for inclusion in the NRHP, but found ineligible for differing reasons. Many of these resources have not been evaluated for inclusion in the CRHR or as HCM; therefore, these resources may be found eligible for listing in the CRHR or as HCMs in the future if subjected to formal evaluation and found to meet eligibility criteria.

The records search also identified numerous archaeological resources throughout the CPAs and adjacent to the CPA boundaries. The resources consist of prehistoric-age archaeological isolated finds and sites of varying sizes. These resources exhibit prehistoric-age material culture through scatters of flaked stone and groundstone tools, and waste products of the stone tool production process (lithic debitage consisting of flakes). One of the sites additionally contained a bedrock milling feature, which exhibited one milling surface smoothed by grinding activities using groundstone tools, such as manos. An additional site includes human remains of a young adult male and a variety of funerary objects (CA-LAN-629). Radiocarbon dating dated the site to 600 ±50 years before present (mid-1970s). Several of the prehistoric sites exhibit historic period artifacts as well, indicating that certain areas were utilized over the course of time. Additional recorded resources within and adjacent to the CPA boundaries consist of a variety of historic-age landscape and water-conveyance features. Some of these resources have been formally listed as Los Angeles HCM or as CHL. Due to the frequency of known and recorded archaeological sites throughout the CPA, the CPA is considered to have a high sensitivity for significant archaeological resources in previously undisturbed soils.

³⁵ South Central Coastal Information Center, Confidential In-House Records Search for the Granada Hills–Sylmar New Community Plan (Proposed Plan) Project (January 12 and 18, 2011).

Other Sources Consulted

Additional searches were conducted to supplement the SCCIC records search information, including an on line search for the NRHP,³⁶ CHL, PHI, and CRHR,³⁷ and the Los Angeles HCM.³⁸ Several books and documents were also reviewed to supplement and contextualize listings of significant resources in the CPAs: The City of Los Angeles General Plan Conservation Element (2001), Historic Resources Group,³⁹ Pitt and Pitt,⁴⁰ and Roderick.⁴¹ These documents collectively indicate that the CPAs have an extensive history of human occupation, extending from the prehistoric period to the present. This extensive history is reflected in numerous resources listed in federal, state, and local registers.

■ Designated Historical Resources

Designation Process

There are three general types of designations for significant archaeological resources, historical properties districts, traditional cultural properties, and landscapes. The system includes federal designation in the NRHP for resources of importance and relevance to national heritage, state-level designation in the CRHR, and designation as HCM in the City of Los Angeles for resources of importance to local history and culture. Each of these registers employs different criteria to determine whether a resource could be determined eligible for inclusion, and these criteria are further discussed in the Regulatory Framework. In addition, the City of Los Angeles has developed an expansive program for Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs). Recognition as an HPOZ allows for additional reviews prior to demolition and disturbance within these areas to ensure the preservation of neighborhood cohesiveness.

Granada Hills–Knollwood

There are six designated historical resources in the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA, including the street trees on White Oak Avenue and three residences. One of the residences is located in the Balboa Highlands, a tract designed by Joseph Eichler. The tract itself has been formally designated as the Balboa Highlands HPOZ. In addition, there is one NRHP-listed archaeological district known as the Van Norman Reservoir Archeological District or the Los Angeles Reservoir Archeological District. This

³⁶ National Register of Historic Places, NRHP Listings for Los Angeles County (2011), <http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/CA/Los+Angeles/state.html> and <http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/CA/Los+Angeles/districts.html> (accessed January 2011).

³⁷ Office of Historic Preservation, OHP Listed Resources (2011), <http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/ListedResources/?view=county&criteria=19> (accessed December 2011).

³⁸ Los Angeles Department of City Planning, *Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) Report* (2011), HCM Listings for Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar, http://cityplanning.lacity.org/complan/HCM/dsp_hcm_result.cfm?community=Granada%20Hills%20-%20Knollwood and http://cityplanning.lacity.org/complan/HCM/dsp_hcm_result.cfm?community=Sylmar (accessed December 2011).

³⁹ Historic Resources Group, *Historic Context Statement: The Northeast San Fernando Valley* (Historic Resources Group: Los Angeles, CA, 1990).

⁴⁰ L. Pitt and D. Pitt, *Los Angeles A to Z: An Encyclopedia of the City and County* (Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2000).

⁴¹ K. Roderick, *The San Fernando Valley: America's Suburb* (Los Angeles: Los Angeles Times Books, 2001).

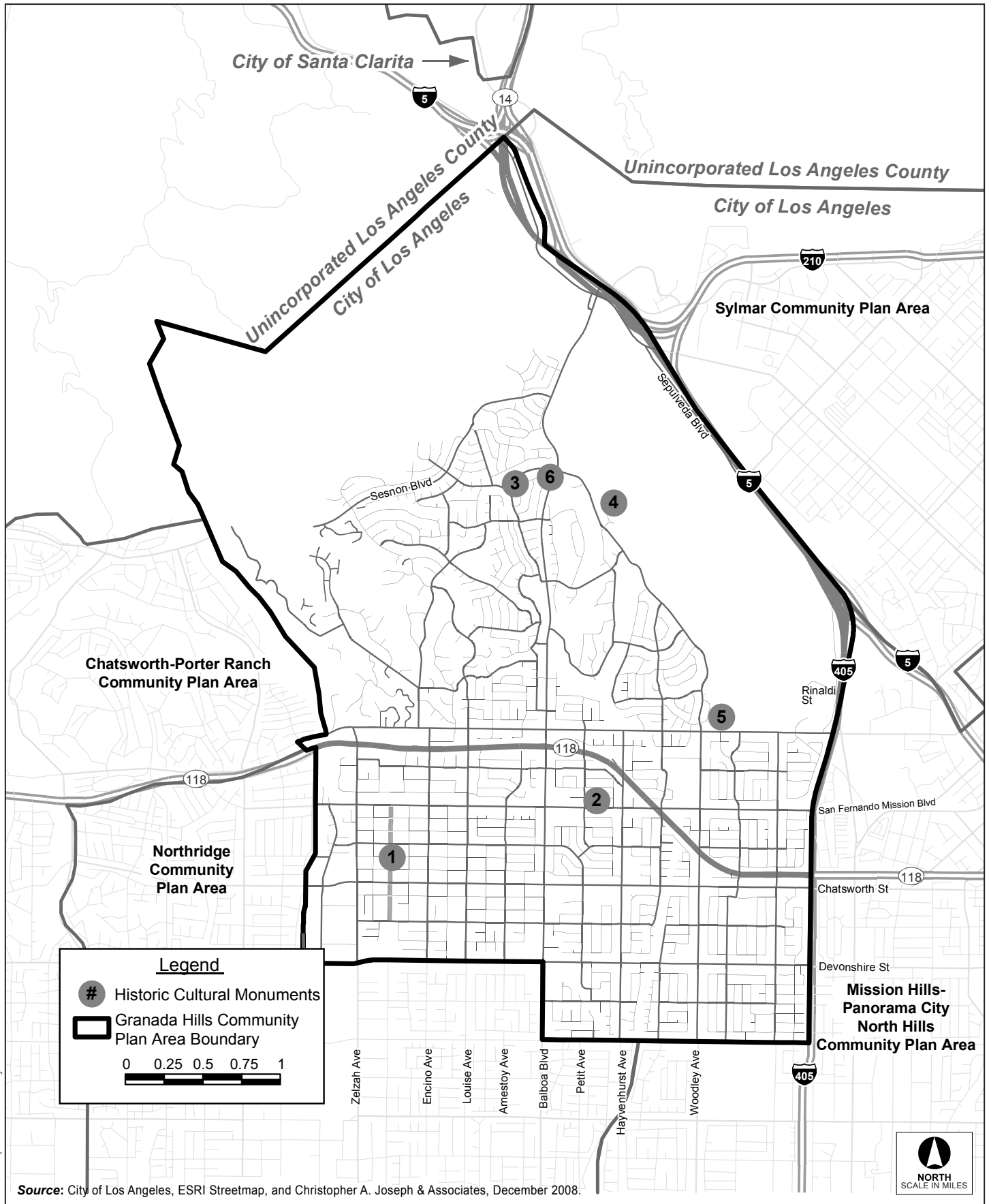
district is also listed in the CRHR. There are no individual resources listed in the NRHP or CRHR, and there are no individual resources listed as California Historical Landmarks (CHL).

These significant resources are shown in relation to the CPA boundaries in Figure 4.4-1 (Designated Historical Resources [Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA]), and are summarized in Table 4.4-1 (Designated Historical Resources [Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA]). This table is followed by additional information for the designated historical resources within the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA. Note that the locations of prehistoric-age sites are legally considered confidential to protect and preserve the resources from vandalism and theft. As a result, prehistoric-age resources are not presented on Figure 4.4-1. For planning purposes, it should be noted that such resources are found throughout within the CPA, and any development should be aware of the need for their consideration and preservation.

<i>Map #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>NRHP</i>	<i>CRHR</i>	<i>CHL</i>	<i>HCM</i>
1	Deodar Cedar Trees	White Oak Avenue				41
2	Taft House and Landscaping	16745 San Fernando Mission Boulevard				622
3	Foster Residence (Eichler Homes)	17145 West Nanette Street				848
4	Kramer House	12556 North Middlecoff Place				933
5	Van Norman Reservoir Archeological District or the Los Angeles Reservoir Archeological District	Restricted	X	X		
6	Balboa Highlands HPOZ	Darla Avenue, Lisette Street, Nanette Street, and Jimeno Avenue off Balboa Boulevard				

Additional Information—Historic Resources in the CPA

1. The **Deodar Cedar Trees** on White Oak Avenue between San Fernando Mission Boulevard and San Jose Street are designated as HCM #41. These trees are collectively and commonly referred to as the Granada Hills Christmas Tree Lane, and were planted by John Orcutt in 1932.
2. The **Taft House** on San Fernando Mission Boulevard is designated as HCM #622. The house is characterized by a gambrel-roof with gabled dormer windows. It also has a wrap-around porch with wooden, spindled supports. The Taft family acquired this house, and lived in it from the early 1900s until 1942. In 1942, it was moved from its original location (Hollywood) to Granada Hills to make way for the Hollywood Freeway.
3. The **Foster Residence** is located within the Balboa Highlands HPOZ, and is designated as HCM #848. This house is designed in the modern style with a front-gabled outside atrium, flat roofs, and exposed beams.
4. The **Kramer House**, constructed in 1966, is an intact mid-century modern ranch house located in the Knollwood Country Club Estates neighborhood. The original owner, Joseph Kramer, owned Plastic Age Manufacturing. This manufacturing company built bomb casings and aircraft canopies, and the planters around the house are comprised of caps for bomb casings. The plans for the house were designed by Art Davis, and features of the house include concrete block screens, an interior “conversation pit,” dual “glacier rock” chimneys, a Japanese garden, and a white rock roof. The Kramer House is designated as Los Angeles HCM #933.



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Figure 4.4-1

Designated Historical Resources (Granada Hills-Knollwood CPA)

5. The **Van Norman Reservoir Archaeological District/Los Angeles Reservoir Archaeological District** was listed in the NRHP in 1976 and contains numerous archaeological sites. The location of this district is considered confidential to ensure their protection.
6. The **Balboa Highlands** has been formally designated as an HPOZ, and is a tract of modern style single-family houses on Darla Avenue, Lisette Street, Nanette Street, and Jimeno Avenue off Balboa Boulevard. The houses were designed by the noted modern architects, A. Quincy Jones and Frederick Emmons. Joseph Eichler, who developed several such tracts in California, had this particular tract built between 1963 and 1964. Not only was the design distinctive, but the Eichler Homes were also unique for selling to Asian and African Americans; Balboa Highlands was one of the first unrestricted tracts in the San Fernando Valley. It was also one of the last tracts Eichler developed.

Sylmar

There are three designated historical resources in the Sylmar CPA, including the Mission Wells and Settling Basin, the First Los Angeles Aqueduct Cascades, and the San Fernando Pioneer Memorial Cemetery. These resources are all designated Los Angeles HCM. The San Fernando Pioneer Memorial Cemetery and the Cascades are also listed as California Historic Landmarks (CHLs). There are no HPOZs within the CPA, and there are no districts or individual resources currently listed in the NRHP or CRHR.

These significant resources are shown in relation to the CPA boundaries in Figure 4.4-2 (Designated Historical Resources [Sylmar CPA]) and are summarized in Table 4.4-2 (Designated Historical Resources [Sylmar CPA]). This table is followed by additional information for the designated historical resources within the Sylmar CPA.

Table 4.4-2 Designated Historical Resources (Sylmar CPA)						
Map #	Name	Address	NRHP	CRHR	CHL	HCM
1	Mission Wells and Settling Basin (Area)	Bleeker Street and Havana Avenue				50
2	San Fernando Pioneer Memorial Cemetery	14400 Foothill Boulevard and 14451-14501 Bledsoe Street			753	586
3	The Cascades (First Los Angeles Aqueduct Cascades)	0.1 mile north of the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and Balboa Boulevard (I-5 Freeway)			653	742

Additional Information—Historic Resources in the CPA

1. The area of the **Mission Wells and Settling Basin** is designated as Los Angeles HCM #50. These features were built by local Native Americans associated with the nearby San Fernando Mission. The wells were constructed of mission tiles and provided water to the mission.

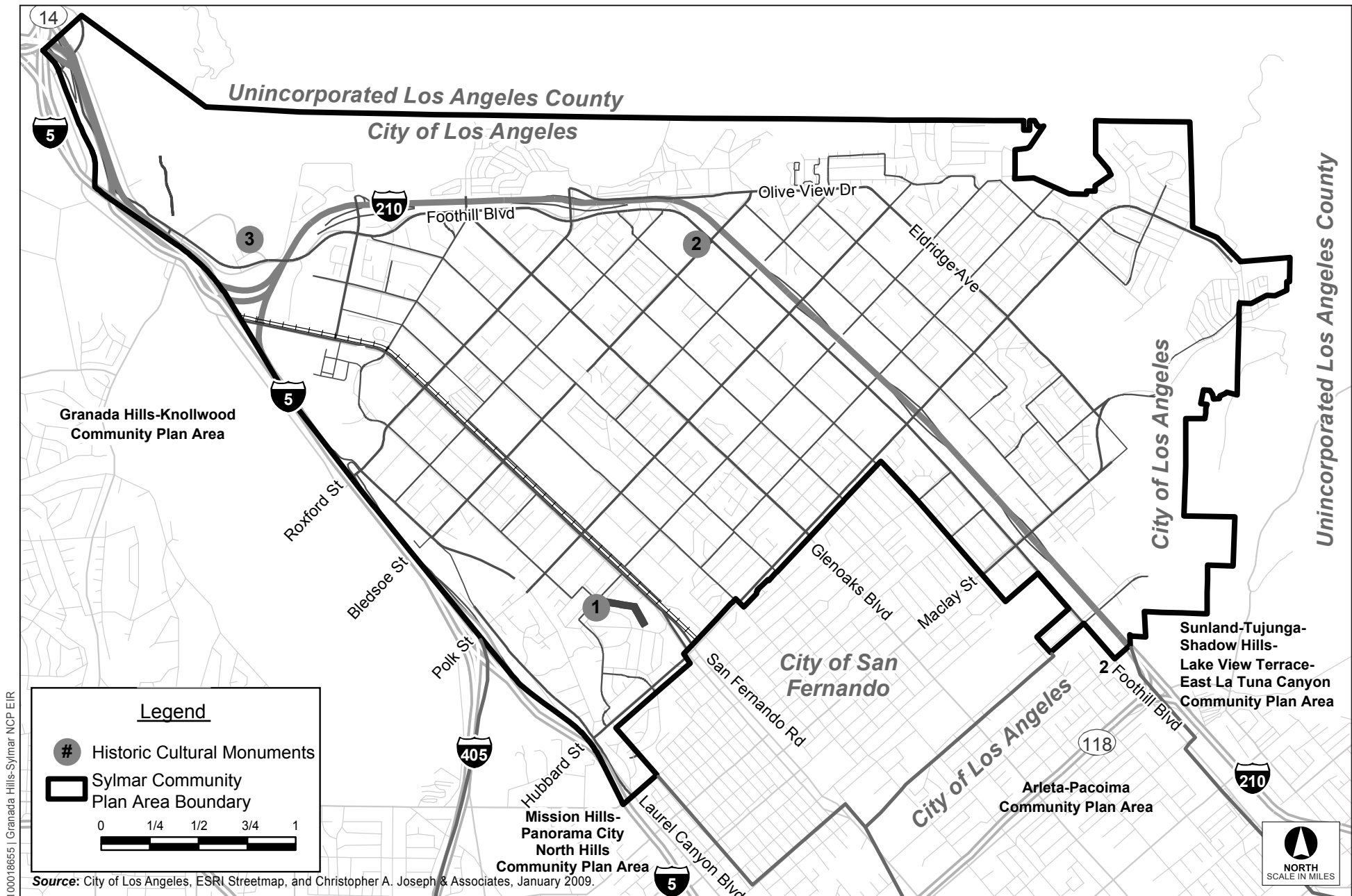


Figure 4.4-2
Designated Historical Resources (Sylmar CPA)

2. The **San Fernando Pioneer Memorial Cemetery** is designated as CHL #753 and Los Angeles HCM #586. This cemetery was originally known as the Morningside Cemetery, and is the oldest nonsectarian cemetery in the San Fernando Valley. Established in the mid-1870s, the cemetery operated continually until the last person was officially buried there in 1939. The cemetery was then legally abandoned in 1959, and Mrs. Nellie S. Noble donated the site to the Native Daughters of the Golden West. There were approximately 750 graves, many belonging to Native Americans, and purportedly veterans of both the Civil War and World War I.
3. The **Cascades** represent the terminus of the Los Angeles-Owens Aqueduct, which brings water from the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada to the City of Los Angeles. Work on the aqueduct commenced in 1905 and was completed on November 5, 1913. This resource is located off of the I-5 Freeway, and is designated as CHL #653 and Los Angeles HCM #742. Three parallel watercourses can be seen on the hill. The pipe emerging half-way down the hillside to the left of the spillway is the original 1913 aqueduct, which is still in use. William Mulholland stood next to this pipe on the aqueduct's opening day and addressed a crowd of observers.

■ Native American Records Search

A search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was conducted to determine the presence of Native American cultural resources within the CPAs. The NAHC response letter indicated that no Native American cultural resources have been recorded within the CPA or within 0.50 mile of the CPA boundaries. However, the NAHC noted that Native American resources are known in close proximity to the CPAs. The NAHC letter also listed local Native American organizations and individuals who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the CPA.⁴² As requested by the NAHC, a letter that included a brief description of the project and a project map were sent to each of the NAHC-provided contacts. A representative from the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians also contacted project staff to clarify how information provided by the Tribe would be incorporated into the project. No further materials were submitted.

■ Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources include fossil remains, as well as fossil localities and rock or soil formations that have produced fossil material. Fossils are the remains or traces of prehistoric animals and plants. Fossils are important scientific and educational resources because of their use in: documenting the presence and evolutionary history of particular groups of now extinct organisms; reconstructing the environments in which these organisms lived; and determining the relative ages of the strata in which they occur and of the geologic events that resulted in the deposition of the sediments that formed these strata and in their subsequent deformation.

Paleontological sensitivity can be understood as the potential for a particular geologic unit to produce scientifically important fossils. There is a direct correlation between fossils and the geologic units in which they are preserved; therefore, paleontological sensitivity is determined by rock type, the history of a particular geologic unit for producing significant fossils, and the recorded or known fossil localities

⁴² Native American Heritage Commission, Re: Request for a Sacred Lands File Search and Native American contacts list for the "Granada Hills-Sylmar New Community Plan (Proposed Plan) Project;" located on approximately 15,880 acres within the Communities of Granada Hills and Sylmar; Los Angeles County; California (February 2, 2011).

derived from that unit. In the context of CEQA, fossils of land-dwelling vertebrates and their environment are considered important (i.e., significant) paleontological resources. Such fossils typically are found in river, lake, and bog deposits, although they may occur in nearly any type of sedimentary sequence.

Three major groups of rocks are represented within the Los Angeles Basin: older igneous and metamorphic bedrock (100 to 75 million years old), older sedimentary rocks (about 65 to 15 million years old) and younger sedimentary rocks (15 to 1 million years old). Igneous rocks are formed when materials such as lava or magma cool and solidify, and metamorphic rocks are formed when the chemical and mineral composition of a rock is changed through the forces of heat or pressure. Sedimentary rocks are formed through the accumulation of mineral and organic materials at the earth's surface and within bodies of water. The sedimentary rock layers within the Los Angeles Basin contain shale, siltstone, sandstone, and conglomerates, as well as some inter-bedded volcanic rocks. Over 22 million years ago, the Los Angeles Basin was a deep marine basin formed by tectonic forces between the North American and Pacific plates. Since that time, over 5 miles of marine and non-marine sedimentary rock, as well as igneous rocks, have filled the basin. During the last 2 million years, defined by the Pleistocene and Holocene epochs, the Los Angeles Basin and surrounding mountain ranges have been uplifted to form the present-day landscape. Erosion of the surrounding mountains has resulted in disposition of unconsolidated sediments in low-lying areas by rivers, such as the Los Angeles River.

The CPAs are located at the northern end of the San Fernando Valley, which is underlain by a thick deposit of alluvium. In turn, the alluvium is underlain by thousands of meters of mostly marine sediments, which were deposited upon granitic and metamorphic basement rocks. The alluvial material was deposited by rivers and streams draining the surrounding mountains: the Verdugo Mountains and the western San Gabriel Mountains to the north, the Simi Hills and the Santa Susana Mountains to the northwest, and the Santa Monica Mountains to the south.

The Los Angeles Basin and the San Fernando Valley are rich in paleontological sites. Fossils have been found mostly in sedimentary rock that has been uplifted, eroded, or otherwise exposed. Undiscovered vertebrate fossils are likely to be found in such rock formations. In addition, quaternary period alluvial fan deposits, and more specifically those deposits from the Pleistocene epoch, are considered to have high paleontological sensitivity within the CPAs because they are known to contain significant fossil resources. Pleistocene older alluvium of similar composition elsewhere in Los Angeles County and southern California has been reported to contain locally abundant and scientifically significant vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant fossils. These localities have yielded fossils of extinct Ice-Age mammals, including mammoths, mastodons, ground sloth, dire wolves, short-faced bears, saber-toothed cats, large and small horses, large and small camels, bison, and other fauna similar to fossil specimens recovered from the Rancho La Brea asphalt deposits.

4.4.2 Regulatory Framework

■ Federal

Federal regulations for cultural resources are primarily governed by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, which applies to actions taken by federal agencies. The goal of the

Section 106 review process is to offer a measure of protection to sites that are listed or determined eligible for listing on the NRHP. The criteria for determining NRHP eligibility are found in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 60. Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on Historic Properties and affords the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. The Council's implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties," are found in 36 CFR Part 800. The NRHP criteria (36 CFR 60.4) are used to evaluate resources when complying with Section 106 of the NHPA. Those criteria state that eligible resources comprise districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and any of the following:

- (a) Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
- (b) Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
- (c) Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction
- (d) Have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important to history or prehistory

Eligible properties must meet at least one of the criteria and exhibit integrity. Historical integrity is measured by the degree to which the resource retains its historical attributes and conveys its historical character, the degree to which the original fabric has been retained, and the reversibility of changes to the property.

Historic Districts derive their importance from being considered a unified entity, even though they are often composed of a variety of resources. The identity of a district results from the interrelationship of its resources, which can be an arrangement of historically or functionally related properties. A district is defined as a geographically definable area of land containing a significant concentration of buildings, sites, structures, or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district's significance and integrity should help determine the boundaries.

Within historic districts, resources are identified as contributing and noncontributing. A contributing building, site, structure, or object adds to the historic associations, historic architectural qualities, or archaeological values for which a district is significant because it was either present during the period of significance, relates to the significance of the district, and retains its physical integrity; or it independently meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP.

Archaeological site evaluation assesses the potential of each site to meet one or more of the criteria for NRHP eligibility based upon visual surface and subsurface evidence (if available) at each site location, information gathered during the literature and records searches, and the researcher's knowledge of and familiarity with the historic or prehistoric context associated with each site.

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Title 42 United States Code, Section 1996, protects Native American religious practices, ethnic heritage sites, and land uses.

Paleontological resources are considered under Section 106 of the NHPA primarily when found in a culturally related context (i.e., fossil shells included as mortuary offerings in a burial or a rock formation containing petrified wood used as a chipped stone quarry). In such instances, the material is considered a cultural resource and is treated in the manner prescribed for the site by Section 106.

The Antiquities Act of 1906 (Title 16, United States Code, Sections 431-433) protects any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity, situated on lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States from appropriation, excavation, injure or destruction without the permission of the Secretary of the Department of the Government having jurisdiction over the lands on which the antiquities are situated. The California Department of Transportation, the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, and other federal agencies have interpreted objects of antiquity to include fossils. The Antiquities Act provides for the issuance of permits to collect fossils on lands administered by federal agencies and requires projects involving federal lands to obtain permits for both paleontological resource evaluation and mitigation efforts.

The federal Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 2002 was enacted to codify the generally accepted practice of limiting the collection of vertebrate fossils and other rare and scientifically significant fossils to qualified researchers; these researchers must obtain a permit from the appropriate state or federal agency and agree to donate any materials recovered to recognized public institutions, where they will remain accessible to the public and to other researchers.

■ State

Under CEQA, public agencies must consider the impacts of their actions on both *historical resources* and *unique archaeological resources*. Pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21084.1, a “project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment.” Section 21083.2 requires agencies to determine whether proposed projects would have effects on unique archaeological resources.

Historical resource is a term with a defined statutory meaning (refer to PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064.5(a) and (b)). The term applies to any resource listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the CRHR. The CRHR includes California resources listed in or formally determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, as well as certain CHLs and PHIs.

Properties of local significance that have been designated under a local preservation ordinance (local landmarks or landmark districts) may be eligible for listing in the CRHR. Such designated local properties are presumed to be historical resources for purposes of CEQA unless a preponderance of evidence indicates otherwise (PRC Section 5024.1 and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 4850). Properties identified in a local historical resources inventory are also presumed to be historical resources for purposes of CEQA unless a preponderance of evidence indicates otherwise. To confirm this presumption, lead agencies have a responsibility to evaluate such properties against the CRHR criteria prior to making a finding on a proposed plan's impacts to historical resources (PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)(3)). In general, an historical resource, under this approach, is defined as any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that:

- (a) Is historically or archeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political or cultural annals of California; and
- (b) Meets any of the following criteria:
 - 1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
 - 2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
 - 3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
 - 4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

(CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)(3))

Archaeological resources can sometimes qualify as "historical resources" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(1)). In addition, PRC Section 5024 requires consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (COHP) when a project may impact historical resources located on state-owned land.

For historic structures, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(3) indicate that a project that follows the Secretary of the Interior (SOI) Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings, or the SOI Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, shall mitigate impacts to a level of less than significant. Potential eligibility also rests upon the integrity of the resource. Integrity is defined as the retention of the resource's physical identity that existed during its period of significance. Integrity is determined through considering the setting, design, workmanship, materials, location, feeling, and association of the resource.

As noted above, CEQA also requires lead agencies to consider whether projects will impact unique archaeological resources. PRC Section 21083.2(g) states that 'unique archaeological resource means an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

(PRC §21083.2(g))

Treatment options under Section 21083.2 include activities that preserve such resources in place and in an undisturbed state. Other acceptable methods of mitigation under Section 21083.2 include excavation and curation, or study in place without excavation and curation (if the study finds that the artifacts would not meet one or more of the criteria for defining a unique archaeological resource).

Advice on procedures to identify cultural resources, evaluate their importance, and estimate potential effects is given in several agency publications such as the series produced by the Governor's Office of

Planning and Research (OPR). The technical advice series produced by OPR strongly recommends that Native American concerns and the concerns of other interested persons and corporate entities, including, but not limited to, museums, historical commissions, associations, and societies, be solicited as part of the process of cultural resources inventory. In addition, California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods regardless of their antiquity and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains.

CEQA affords protection to paleontological resources, as CEQA Guidelines indicate that a project would have a significant environmental impact if it would disturb or destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. Although CEQA does not specifically define a unique paleontological resource or site, the definition of a unique archaeological resource (Section 21083.2) can be applied to a unique paleontological resource or site and a paleontological resource could be considered a historical resource if it has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history under Section 15064.5 (a)(3)(D).

As part of discretionary project CEQA review, the potential for impacts to archaeological and paleontological resources are evaluated. In the event any archaeological and/or paleontological resources are determined to be potentially present, as appropriate, the City requires the developer to retain an on-site qualified archaeologist and/or paleontologist with expertise in the area in order to monitor excavation in previously undisturbed areas and to assess the nature, extent and significance of any cultural materials that are encountered and to recommend appropriate methods to preserve any such resources. Said archaeologist and/or paleontologist will have the authority to put a hold on grading operations and mark, collect and evaluate any archaeological materials discovered during construction. Said archaeologist and/or paleontologist shall be provided a reasonable amount of time to prepare and implement protection measures coordinating with the City of Los Angeles Building and Safety Department.

California Public Resources Code Section 5097.5

PRC Section 5097.5 provides protection for cultural and paleontological resources, where PRC Section 5097.5(a) states, in part, that:

No person shall knowingly and willfully excavate upon, or remove, destroy, injure, or deface, any historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, archaeological or vertebrate paleontological site, including fossilized footprints, inscriptions made by human agency, rock art, or any other archaeological, paleontological or historical feature, situated on public lands, except with the express permission of the public agency having jurisdiction over the lands.

California Health and Safety Code Sections 7050.5, 7051, and 7054

California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(b) specifies protocol when human remains are discovered. The code states:

In the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the human remains are discovered has determined, in accordance with Chapter 10 (commencing with section 27460) of Part 3 of Division 2 of Title 3 of the Government Code, that the remains are not subject to the provisions of section 27492 of the Government Code or any other related

provisions of law concerning investigation of the circumstances, manner and cause of death, and the recommendations concerning treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative, in the manner provided in PRC Section 5097.98.

California Public Resources Code Section 15064.5 (e)

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) requires that excavation activities be stopped whenever human remains are uncovered and that the county coroner be called in to assess the remains. If the county coroner determines that the remains are those of Native Americans, the NAHC must be contacted within 24 hours. At that time, the lead agency must consult with the appropriate Native Americans, if any, as timely identified by the NAHC. Section 15064.5 directs the lead agency (or project proponent), under certain circumstances, to develop an agreement with the Native Americans for the treatment and disposition of the remains.

Senate Bill 18

As of March 1, 2005, Senate Bill 18 (Government Code Sections 65352.3 and 65352.4) requires that, prior to the adoption or amendment of a general plan proposed on or after March 1, 2005, a city or county must consult with Native American tribes with respect to the possible preservation of, or the mitigation of impacts to, specified Native American places, features, and objects located within that jurisdiction.

■ Local

City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Ordinance

The Los Angeles City Council adopted the Cultural Heritage Ordinance in 1962, with several subsequent amendments, most recently in 2007 (Administrative Code Sections 22.171 et seq.). The Ordinance created the procedures for the designation and protection of significant Los Angeles buildings and sites as Historic-Cultural Monuments, as well as the Cultural Heritage Commission. The City's Office of Historic Resources provides staff support to the Commission. The Commission is comprised of five citizens, appointed by the Mayor, who have exhibited knowledge of Los Angeles history, culture, and architecture. Section 22.171.7 of the Ordinance states that:

For purposes of this article, a Historic-Cultural Monument (Monument) is any site (including significant trees or other plant life located on the site), building or structure of particular historical or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, including historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified; or which is identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history; or which embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style or method of construction; or a notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual genius influenced his or her age.

Unlike the NRHP and the CRHR, the Ordinance does not include specifications relating to resource integrity or period of significance. Moreover, properties do not have to reach a minimum age requirement to be designated as HCMs.

Historic Cultural Monuments (HCM)

The Cultural Heritage Ordinance identifies a Historic-Cultural Monument as “any site (including significant trees or other plant life located on the site), building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles.” For designation as a Historic-Cultural Monument, a property must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- The broad cultural, economic or social history of the nation, state, or community is reflected or exemplified
- Identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, state, or local history
- Embodies the distinguished characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style or method of construction
- A notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual genius influenced his or her age

Properties do not need to meet a minimum age requirement for local designation. As of 2012, the City of Los Angeles has designated nearly 1,000 Historic-Cultural Monuments. The Office of Historic Resources in the Department of City Planning manages and coordinates the City of Los Angeles’ historic preservation activities. The staff of the Office of Historic Resources oversees permit review of all properties in the City of Los Angeles registered as Historic-Cultural Monuments as well as properties listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources.

All development projects for properties subject to Historic-Cultural Monument status and designated resources pursuant to the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Ordinance are reviewed by the Office of Historic Resources prior to issuance of building permits to ensure a historic resource would not be adversely affected.

City of Los Angeles Historic Preservation Overlay Zones

Recognizing the need to identify and protect neighborhoods with distinct architectural and cultural resources, the City has developed an expansive program of Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs). HPOZs, commonly known as historic districts, provide for review of proposed demolitions, exterior alterations, and additions to resources within designated districts.

The City Council adopted the ordinance enabling the creation of HPOZs in 1979, and Angelino Heights became Los Angeles’ first HPOZ in 1983. The City of Los Angeles has 29 designated HPOZs, as of July 2011, with many more under consideration. HPOZ areas range in size from neighborhoods of approximately fifty parcels to more than 3,000 properties. While most districts are primarily residential, many have a mix of single-family and multi-family housing, and some include commercial and industrial properties. HPOZs are administered by the Los Angeles City Planning Department, in conjunction with the City Council. Individual buildings in an HPOZ need not be of landmark quality on their own; it is the collection of a cohesive, unique, and intact collection of historical resources that qualifies a neighborhood for HPOZ status.

A preservation plan for the Balboa Highlands HPOZ, generally bounded by Balboa Boulevard, Jolette Avenue, and Westbury Drive, was adopted on December 9, 2010. The plan, through its design guidelines, as well as its goals and objectives, aims to create a clear and predictable set of expectations as to the design and review of proposed projects within the district. This plan has been prepared specifically for this HPOZ to clarify and elaborate upon the review criteria established under the HPOZ Ordinance. The Balboa Highlands Preservation Plan serves as an implementation tool of the Granada Hills–Knollwood Community Plan and outlines design guidelines for the rehabilitation and restoration of structures, natural features, landscape, and the public realm, including streets, parks, street trees, and other types of development within the HPOZ. The Preservation Plan also serves as an educational tool for both existing and potential property owners, residents, and investors and will be used by the general public to learn more about the HPOZ. The Balboa Highlands HPOZ Board makes recommendations and decisions based on this document. Similarly, the Department of City Planning uses this document as the basis for its determinations. The Preservation Plan articulates the community’s vision and goals regarding the HPOZ by setting clear guidelines for the development of properties within the district.

According to City of Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.20.3, the criteria for the designation of an HPOZ are:

- 1) Adds to the Historic architectural qualities or Historic associations for which a property is significant because it was present during the period of significance, and possesses Historic integrity reflecting its character at that time; or
- 2) Owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristics, represents an established feature of the neighborhood, community or city; or
- 3) Retaining the building, structure, Landscaping, or Natural Feature, would contribute to the preservation and protection of a Historic place or area of Historic interest in the City.

As of 2011, the City of Los Angeles has designated twenty-seven HPOZ districts.

Citywide Historic Resources Survey (SurveyLA) In 2005, the City of Los Angeles entered into a multi-year grant agreement with the J. Paul Getty Trust to complete a citywide historic resources survey, a process of systematically identifying and gathering information on properties and neighborhoods that reflect Los Angeles’ architectural, social and cultural history. The survey is being conducted in areas where there has been no prior historic resources survey conducted. The project is managed by staff of the Office of Historic Resources (OHR) within the DCP, which named the project SurveyLA. Surveys were completed during 2009 in Boyle Heights, two portions of the West and East San Fernando Valley, and along portions of Pico Boulevard and Vermont Avenue. SurveyLA will eventually cover all thirty-five Community Plan Areas, including Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar CPAs at a future date.

The survey will identify and evaluate properties according to standardized criteria for listing in the NRHP, CRHR, and for local designation as HCM and HPOZs. Although no actual National Register/California Register/Historic-Cultural Monument/HPOZ designation results directly from survey activity, properties identified as eligible for these listings will be subject to CEQA review if a project is identified that requires discretionary action by the City Planning Department. Properties being listed in the NRHP, CRHR, or designation as HCM all require more in-depth research and an application process. Designation by the City of Los Angeles and nominations to the California or National Registers

are separate processes, which include property owner notification and public hearings. A discussion of criteria for each of this program is summarized in previous sections.”

The Granada Hills CPA has not been previously surveyed for historical resources. It will be surveyed as part of SurveyLA. The Balboa Highlands has been formally designated as an HPOZ within this CPA. Sylmar has been previously surveyed for historical resources on several occasions. The area bounded by Polk Street, San Fernando Road, Hubbard Avenue, and Glenoaks Boulevard was surveyed by the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering in 1982. When the Sylmar Community Plan was updated in 1989, Myra L. Frank and Associates conducted a reconnaissance-level survey. That survey identified approximately 30 potential historical resources. Most of these are workers’ cottages and Craftsman, Spanish Colonial Revival or Colonial Revival residences. The Department of Water and Power (DWP) Power House on San Fernando Road was included. Eventually the CPA will be surveyed as part of SurveyLA.

City of Los Angeles General Plan

The Conservation Element of the Los Angeles General Plan (2001) contains policies to minimize impacts to paleontological, archaeological, and historic resources, which could result in the loss of important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The Safety Element contains one policy to protect designated historic and cultural resources during disaster recovery (1996). Applicable policies from the Conservation and Safety Elements related to paleontological, archaeological, and historic resources are listed below in Table 4.4-3 (General Plan Policies relevant to Cultural Resources).

Table 4.4-3 General Plan Policies Relevant to Cultural Resources	
<i>Policy No.</i>	<i>Policy</i>
CONSERVATION ELEMENT	
Archaeological and Paleontological	
Policy	Continue to identify and protect significant archaeological and paleontological sites and/or resources known to exist or that are identified during land development, demolition or property modification activities.
Historical	
Policy	Continue to protect historic and cultural sites and/or resources potentially affected by proposed land development, demolition, or property modification activities.
SAFETY ELEMENT	
Policy 3.1.3	Historic/cultural. Develop procedures, which will encourage the protection and preservation of City-designated historic and cultural resources to the greatest extent feasible within the resources available during disaster recovery.
SOURCE: Los Angeles Department of City Planning, <i>General Plan of the City of Los Angeles</i> , Conservation Element (adopted September 26, 2001); Los Angeles Department of City Planning, <i>General Plan of the City of Los Angeles</i> , Safety Element (adopted November 26, 1996).	

City of Los Angeles Municipal Code

The City of Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) addresses the listing and the minimization of potential impacts to significant historic and cultural resources within Section 12.20.3. This section defines and

establishes HPOZs, the Historic Preservation Board, the basis for implementing Preservation Plans, and the survey procedures necessary for generating Preservation Plans. Additional protection is afforded to HPOZs and adjacent lands by requiring below grade construction for Above Ground Facilities within Public Rights-of-Way (Section 62.03.2, added by Ordinance No. 175,014).

The LAMC also prohibits the issuance of permits to demolish, alter or remove historically or culturally significant buildings or structures without additional environmental review, as outlined in Section 91.106. The issuance of permits for historical and cultural buildings is specifically addressed by Section 91.106.4.5, and is presented below:

The department shall not issue a permit to demolish, alter or remove a building or structure of historical, archaeological or architectural consequence if such building or structure has been officially designated, or has been determined by state or federal action to be eligible for designation, on the National Register of Historic Places, or has been included on the City of Los Angeles list of historic cultural monuments, without the department having first determined whether the demolition, alteration or removal may result in the loss of or serious damage to a significant historical or cultural asset. If the department determines that such loss or damage may occur, the applicant shall file an application and pay all fees for the California Environmental Quality Act Initial Study and Check List, as specified in Section 19.05 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code. If the Initial Study and Check List identifies the historical or cultural asset as significant, the permit shall not be issued without the department first finding that specific economic, social or other considerations make infeasible the preservation of the building or structure.

Granada Hills Specific Plan

The Granada Hills Specific Plan was adopted on March 3, 1992, with subsequent amendments June 26, 2000, and November 20, 2006. The Specific Plan provides community-specific design guidelines and land use restrictions, with stated objectives to:

- Promote orderly, attractive and harmonious development, minimize the negative environmental effects of development, stabilize land values and investments, and promote the general welfare of the Granada Hills community.
- Adequately buffer and appropriately mass all new developments so as to ensure compatibility with existing surrounding residential neighborhoods.
- Integrate future land uses and new developments with the existing small-scale, local-service character of the commercial core.
- Create a vibrant, pedestrian-oriented environment along Chatsworth Street characterized by ground floor retail uses, restaurants, appropriate structural massing, extensive landscaping, screening of unsightly views, and minimization of uninteresting blank walls. This is to be accomplished while creating a safe and pleasing environment which will hold the interest of pedestrians.
- Reinforce the unique identity and sense of place of the community by emphasizing the gateway to the Chatsworth Street commercial strip and creating uniformity of roof and facade treatments for commercial uses consistent with the area's characteristic Spanish Colonial style of architecture.
- Promote sufficient parking with easy access to those parking facilities.

- Provide for a design review board for review of the design of structures under renovation, rehabilitation, and new construction, thereby ensuring that the purposes of this Specific Plan are achieved.

■ Proposed Plan Policies

The proposed plans include several policies that are directly and indirectly related to the preservation of cultural resources. Policies related to establishing guidelines for development, protecting the existing scale, architectural composition and context of the Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar neighborhoods indirectly apply to historical resources by ensuring continuity in areas which may include such resources. These policies are listed below in Table 4.4-4 (Proposed Granada Hills–Knollwood Community Plan Policies) and Table 4.4-5 (Proposed Sylmar Community Plan Policies).

Table 4.4-4 Proposed Granada Hills–Knollwood Community Plan Policies	
<i>Policy No.</i>	<i>Policy</i>
Policy LU3.2	Historic Resources and Significant Features. Preserve existing historic resources, significant vegetation, trees, and other natural features which contribute to the overall character of the area. Encourage the rehabilitation and rebuilding of deteriorated housing as a means of preserving Granada Hills–Knollwood’s character.
Policy LU6.5	Historic Character. Preserve the historic character of neighborhoods such as Old Granada Hills, Balboa Highlands, and other areas with historic character for education and enjoyment by existing residents and future generations.
Policy LU23.1	Historic Preservation. Preserve the character of single-family areas identified in Granada Hills as having historic or cultural value, such as Old Granada Hills and Balboa Highlands, through Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs), where eligible.
Policy LU23.2	Historic Cultural Monuments. Identify historic structures that merit status as Historic-Cultural Monuments and designate them as City monuments.
Policy LU24.1	Historic Resources. Identify and document potential structures for designation as historic resources which should be preserved and rehabilitated.
Policy LU24.2	Resource Identification. Support the completion of SurveyLA and future comprehensive historical surveys within the Granada Hills–Knollwood Community Plan area. Ensure careful review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of project proposals affecting resources identified in the survey as eligible for historic designation.
Policy LU24.3	Rehabilitation. Encourage preservation and rehabilitation of historic resources. Promote the use of the City’s Mill Act Historical Property Contract Program, the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, and the California Historical Building Code. Any project which involves designated historic resources, including the City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments, shall conform to Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.
Policy LU24.4	Restoration and Re-Use. Promote the restoration and reuse of existing buildings as a key component of the City’s sustainability policies.
Policy LU21.5	Historic Integration. Encourage the design of new buildings that respect and complement the character of adjacent historic resources.
Policy LU21.6	Special Districts. Support the study of implementation tools to retain character, such as Residential Floor Area (RFA) Special Districts and Community Design Overlays (CDOs), for neighborhoods that are not eligible for HPOZs.
Policy LU21.7	Community Partnerships. Forge partnerships with relevant neighborhood organizations to advance preservation efforts in the community through educational and informational programs.
Policy LU21.8	Partner with Los Angeles Housing Department and other agencies to identify new financial resources for rehabilitation grants and loans to low- and moderate-income owners of historic resources.

Table 4.4-5 Proposed Sylmar Community Plan Policies

<i>Policy No.</i>	<i>Policy</i>
Policy LU3.1	Historic Resources and Significant Features. Preserve existing historic resources, significant vegetation, trees, and other natural features which contribute to the overall charm and rural character of the area. Encourage the rehabilitation and rebuilding of deteriorated housing as a means of preserving Sylmar’s character.
Policy LU15.2	Historic Resources and Significant Features. Preserve historic structures and older buildings that add to the character of the existing traditional low-scale commercial corridor development along Foothill Boulevard.
Policy LU24.1	Historic Preservation. Protect, preserve, and enhance identified cultural and historical resources.
Policy LU24.2	Cultural Resources. Support existing cultural and historic resources, such as the Pacoima Wash, Veterans Memorial Park, Stetson Ranch Equestrian Park, and Wilson Canyon Trailhead, as cultural resources for the community.
Policy LU24.3	Resource Identification. Support the completion of SurveyLA or other future comprehensive survey within the Sylmar Community Plan Area. Ensure careful review under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of project proposal affecting resources identified in the survey as eligible for historic designation.
Policy LU24.4	Rehabilitation. Encourage preservation and rehabilitation of historic resources. Promote the use of the City’s Mill Act Historical Property Contract Program, the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, and the California Historical Building Code. Any project which involves designated historic resources, including the City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments shall conform to Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.
Policy LU24.5	Restoration and Re-Use. Promote the restoration and reuse of existing buildings as a key component of the City’s sustainability policies.
Policy LU24.6	Historic Integration. Encourage the design of new buildings that respect and complement the character of adjacent historic resources.
Policy LU24.7	Special Districts. Support the study of Residential Floor Area (RFA) Special Districts or Community Design Overlays (CDOs) for neighborhoods that retain a cohesive character but are not eligible to become Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs).
Policy LU24.8	Community Partnerships. Forge partnerships with relevant neighborhood organizations to advance preservation efforts in the community through educational and informational programs.
Policy LU24.9	Partnerships. Partner with the Los Angeles Housing Department and other agencies to identify new financial resources for rehabilitation grants and loans to low- and moderate-income owners of historic resources.

Consistency Analysis

The proposed plans would allocate land for the range of uses that the CPAs will need through 2030, including land for housing, jobs, and recreation, as well as improve the link between land use and transportation. The proposed plans contain goals, policies, and programs aimed at enhancing neighborhoods by upgrading the quality of development, improving neighborhood transitions, streetscapes, restricting incompatible uses, increasing housing opportunities, and encouraging a pedestrian environment. Several proposed plans policies directly and indirectly relate to the preservation of cultural resources, and, more specifically, historic-age, built-environment resources. Policies related to establishing guidelines for development, protecting the existing scale, architectural composition and context of the Granada Hills–Knollwood and Sylmar CPAs indirectly apply to historical resources by ensuring continuity in areas which may include such resources. The proposed plans also contain policies aimed at supporting the general preservation of the CPAs’ historically significant resources. These policies, which promote, enhance, and attempt to preserve cultural resources, are consistent with existing local guidelines and regulations as outlined in the City of Los Angeles General Plan Framework and the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC).

4.4.3 Project Impacts and Mitigation

■ Analytic Method

The following analysis considers the presence and absence of known cultural resources within the CPAs, as well as the potential for significant cultural resources to occur within the CPA boundaries, against the potential impacts on such resources from implementation and adoption of the proposed plans. To gather information on known resources within the CPAs, a records search was conducted by an Atkins archaeologist at the SCCIC at California State University, Fullerton. The search included a review of all recorded resources within the CPAs and a 0.25-mile radius. Additional searches were conducted to supplement the SCCIC records search information, including an on-line search for the NRHP the CHL, CPHI, and CRHR, and the City of Los Angeles HCMs. Several books and documents were also reviewed to supplement and contextualize listings of significant resources in the CPAs, as identified in the introduction to this section and in Section 4.4.5 (References). A search of the NAHC Sacred Lands File was conducted to determine the presence of Native American cultural resources within the CPAs.

Paleontological resources in the CPAs were evaluated qualitatively based on general information about CPA conditions. The analysis included reviews of geologic maps and paleontological literature to determine the potential for paleontological resources to occur in the CPAs. The analysis identifies the likelihood of ground disturbing activities to encounter rock units with potential for containing significant nonrenewable paleontological resources, which is considered high in quaternary alluvial fan deposits exhibiting a composition conducive to the preservation of fossil resources. Where such sensitive units are present and could be disturbed by future construction, this is assumed to represent a potentially significant impact.

The Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide (2006) sets forth guidance for the determination of significance for impacts on historic, archaeological and paleontological resources. This guidance is generally based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, and provides specific criteria to be considered when making a significance determination. For purposes of this analysis, Thresholds Guide criteria are used, supplemented by the thresholds identified in Appendix G, where appropriate.

■ Thresholds of Significance

For purposes of this EIR, implementation of the proposed plans may have a significant adverse impact on cultural resources if it would do any of the following:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. Substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource means physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration in the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historic resource would be materially impaired. The significance of a historical resource is materially impaired when a project:
 - > Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for inclusion in, the California Register of Historical Resources
 - > Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics [of a historical resource] that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources

(pursuant to PRC Section 5021.1(k)), or its identification in a historical resources survey meeting the criteria in PRC Section 5024.1(g), unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant

- > Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA

Generally, a project that follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings or the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (1995), Weeks and Grimmer, shall be considered as mitigated to a level of less-than-significant impact on the historical resource..

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource
- Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries

■ Effects Not Found to be Significant

There were no effects identified that would not have any impact with respect to cultural resources.

■ Less-Than-Significant Impacts

Impact 4.4-1 **Implementation of the proposed plans would not disturb human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Compliance with applicable regulations would ensure this impact remains *less than significant*.**

Granada Hills–Knollwood

There are two known formal cemeteries within the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA: Eden Memorial Park and the San Fernando Mission Cemetery, both of which are on Rinaldi on the eastern edge of the CPA. The proposed plan does not include any changes near or on these properties. Although the potential to disturb any human remains interred outside of formal cemeteries with the CPA is considered low; given the level of past human activity, it is possible that unknown human remains could be located within the CPA and that future development could encounter these remains (if present within the subsurface). In the event of the inadvertent discovery or recognition of any human remains during future, project-related ground disturbance, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that, if human remains are unearthed during construction, then no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to the origin and disposition of the remains pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. Section 5097.98 outlines the NAHC notification process and the appropriate procedures if the County Coroner determines the human remains to be Native American. Compliance with applicable regulations would protect unknown and previously unidentified human remains, and impacts related to unknown human remains would be *less than significant*.

Sylmar

There is one formal cemetery within the Sylmar CPA: the San Fernando Pioneer Memorial Cemetery. No changes are proposed to this cemetery. One known and previously recorded archaeological site includes human remains (CA-LAn-629), rendering the potential to disturb human remains interred outside of formal cemeteries within the CPA moderate. Although the potential to disturb any human remains interred outside of formal cemeteries with the CPA is considered low; given the level of past human activity, it is possible that unknown human remains could be located within the CPA and that future development could encounter these remains (if present within the subsurface. In the event of the inadvertent discovery or recognition of any human remains during future, project-related ground disturbance, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that, if human remains are unearthed during construction, then no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to the origin and disposition of the remains pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. Section 5097.98 outlines the NAHC notification process and the appropriate procedures if the County Coroner determines the human remains to be Native American. Compliance with applicable regulations would protect unknown and previously unidentified human remains, and impacts related to unknown human remains would be *less than significant*.

Impact 4.4-2 Implementation of the proposed plans would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource. Compliance with applicable regulations would ensure this impact remains *less than significant*.

Granada Hills–Knollwood

The SCCIC records search identified numerous archaeological resources within the CPAs, and the lands adjacent to the CPAs boundaries. These resources are predominantly prehistoric-age archaeological sites of varying sizes, exhibiting pre-historic age material culture through scatters of flaked stone and groundstone tools, and waste products of the stone tool production process (lithic debitage consisting of flakes). One NRHP-listed archaeological district is also known within the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA, and this district is considered a historical resource pursuant to CEQA. The presence of this district indicates that additional potentially significant archaeological resources could be present within the subsurface of the. The NAHC response letter indicated that no Native American cultural resources have been recorded within the CPA; however, Native American cultural resources are known within close proximity to the CPA. In addition, the NAHC noted that its files are not exhaustive and the results of the searches do not preclude the presence Native American resources. Based upon the presence of known and recorded archaeological sites throughout the CPA, including archaeological resources considered historical resources, the CPA is considered to have high sensitivity for significant archaeological resources within previously undisturbed soils.

Under CEQA, public agencies must consider the effects of their actions on “unique archaeological resources.” There is potential that the proposed plans could result in new development or ground-disturbing activities in areas containing known or previously undetected archaeological resources. However, compliance with applicable regulations would ensure that this impact remains *less than significant*.

Sylmar

The SCCIC records search identified numerous archaeological resources within the Sylmar CPA, and the lands adjacent to the CPA boundaries. These resources are predominantly prehistoric-age archaeological sites of varying sizes, exhibiting pre-historic age material culture through scatters of flaked stone and groundstone tools, and waste products of the stone tool production process (lithic debitage consisting of flakes). The presence of the identified archaeological district in the adjacent Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA indicates that additional potentially significant archaeological resources could be present within the subsurface of the Sylmar CPA as well. The NAHC response letter indicated that no Native American cultural resources have been recorded within the CPA; however, Native American cultural resources are known within close proximity to the CPA. In addition, the NAHC noted that its files are not exhaustive and the results of the searches do not preclude the presence Native American resources. Based upon the presence of known and recorded archaeological sites throughout the CPA, including archaeological resources considered historical resources, the CPA is considered to have high sensitivity for significant archaeological resources within previously undisturbed soils.

Under CEQA, public agencies must consider the effects of their actions on “unique archaeological resources.” There is potential that the proposed plans could result in new development or ground-disturbing activities in areas containing known or previously undetected archaeological resources. However, compliance with applicable regulations would ensure that this impact remains *less than significant*.

Impact 4.4-3 **Implementation of the proposed plans would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. Compliance with applicable regulations would ensure this impact remains *less than significant*.**

The CPAs are known to have high paleontological sensitivity in sedimentary rock that has been uplifted, eroded, or otherwise exposed. In addition, quaternary alluvial fan deposits, such as those found in the CPAs, are considered to have high paleontological sensitivity because they are known to contain significant fossil resources. There is potential that implementation of the proposed plans could result in new development or ground-disturbing activities in areas containing known or previously undetected paleontological resources. However, compliance with applicable regulations would ensure this impact remains *less than significant*.

Impact 4.4-4 **Implementation of the proposed plans would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. Compliance with applicable regulations would ensure this impact remains *less than significant*.**

There are six identifiable designated historical resources in the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA and three identifiable historical resources in the Sylmar CPA (see Figure 4.4-1 [Designated Historical Resources (Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA)] and Figure 4.4-2 [Designated Historical Resources (Sylmar CPA)]). These resources include the Van Norman Reservoir Archeological District or the Los Angeles Reservoir Archeological District, which is listed in the NRHP and the Balboa Highlands HPOZ. Both of these resources are found within the Granada Hills–Knollwood CPA. Additional buildings are considered

historical resources, in that they are listed as Los Angeles HCM. The proposed plans contain policies that would indirectly minimize impacts to historical resources (Table 4.4-3). These policies promote generating guidelines for development, which indirectly afford protection and preservation of the existing character of neighborhoods and do not directly propose changes to designated historic resources.

Historical resources individually designated as HCM and collectively designated as HPOZs are protected by City ordinances, the Cultural Heritage Ordinance, and the HPOZ Ordinance, respectively. For projects where the Department of City Planning is the Lead Agency, the Office of Historic Resources is consulted on all discretionary project environmental reviews affecting identified historic resources and/or buildings older than 45 years of age. For identified historic resources, the Office of Historic Resources reviews environmental documents to ensure that proposed project work descriptions meet the Secretary the Interior's Standards and/or allow for affected historic resources to retain eligibility. For all buildings older than 45 year of age, the Office of Historic Resources reviews building information for potential historic resource eligibility.

All development projects for properties that have been officially designated, or have been determined by state or federal action to be eligible for designation, on the National Register of Historic Places, or have been included on the City of Los Angeles list of Historic-Cultural Monuments, are reviewed by staff of the Office of Historic Resources for compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards prior to issuance of building permits to determine whether the demolition, alteration or removal may result in the loss of or serious damage to a significant historical or cultural asset.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) states that "a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment." The proposed plan would allow for new development in areas which could include known historical resources, previously unidentified historical resources, or even resources that are not currently of historic age, but could attain historic age and historic significance in the future. Development activities have the potential to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource through demolition or alteration of a historical resource's physical characteristics that convey its historical significance. This could include the potential for development activities to result in the demolition of a significant resource; the relocation of a significant resource that diminishes its integrity; or the conversion, rehabilitation, alteration, or other construction associated with a significant resource that reduces the integrity of important resources within a particular project site or in the vicinity. However, General Plan and Community Plan policies, as well as guidelines in the Granada Hills Specific Plan, protect significant historical resources. Further, all discretionary projects would be subject to environmental review with the provisions of the LAMC, which further protects historical resources. Therefore, compliance with existing regulations ensures the impact to historical resources from implementation of the proposed plans is *less than significant*.

■ Significant and Unavoidable Impacts

There are no significant and unavoidable adverse impacts to cultural resources.

■ Mitigation Measures

The proposed plans incorporate programs and policies that reduce any significant adverse impact to cultural resources. Adherence to all relevant plans, codes, and regulations with respect to design of projects would reduce project-specific and cumulative cultural resources impacts to less than significant. As such, no mitigation is required with respect to cultural resources.

■ Level of Significance After Mitigation

Compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations and conditions of approval for all discretionary projects in the CPA, would ensure that all impacts related to historic, archaeological, paleontological resources, and human remains are *less than significant*.

4.4.4 Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative analysis for impacts on cultural resources considers a broad regional system of which the resources are a part. The cumulative context for the cultural resources analysis is the San Fernando Valley and the Los Angeles Basin, including Los Angeles and Orange counties, where common patterns of prehistoric and historic development have occurred. The analysis accounts for anticipated cumulative growth within these areas.

Past development has disturbed human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. This has led to the implementation of specific requirements to preserve such remains, as codified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) and PRC Section 5097.98. There is always the possibility that ground-disturbing activities during future construction may uncover previously unknown and buried human remains. Treatment of human remains is covered under these standard regulatory requirements. Therefore, there is no significant cumulative problem with respect to disturbance of human remains. The proposed plans would be subject to the same regulations, and the plan's cumulative impact on human remains is *less than significant*.

Based upon existing studies outlining intense resource use in this region, and the documented, observable material culture (i.e., artifacts) recovered from the prehistoric era to the present, the Los Angeles Basin and San Fernando Valley are known to have high archaeological sensitivity, and past development has resulted in substantial adverse changes in the significance of various archaeological resources prior to the implementation of regulations enacted for the purpose of avoiding disturbance, damage, or degradation of these resources. Future development may uncover or disturb known or previously unknown archaeological resources. Impacts to such resources would be determined on a discretionary case-by-case basis, and follow the City of Los Angeles CEQA Threshold guidelines, and CEQA guidelines. For future discretionary projects occurring under the adoption and implementation of the proposed plans, environmental review would occur at project-level. Therefore, the proposed plan's cumulative impact on archaeological resources is *less than significant*.

Past development has resulted in destruction of unique paleontological resources and unique geologic features. Based upon the geologic history of the Los Angeles Basin, and the high paleontological sensitivity of the rock units within this region, there is always the possibility that ground-disturbing

activities during future construction may uncover previously unknown paleontological resources or sites or unique geologic features. Impacts to such resources would be determined on a discretionary case-by-case basis, and follow the City of Los Angeles CEQA Threshold guidelines, and CEQA Guidelines. For future discretionary projects occurring under the adoption and implementation of the proposed plan, environmental review at project level would ensure that potential significant impacts to paleontological resources are reduced to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, the proposed plan's cumulative impact on paleontological resources is *less than significant*.

Urban development that has occurred over the past several decades in the Los Angeles Basin has resulted in the demolition and alteration of innumerable historical resources, and it is reasonable to assume that present and future development activities will continue to result in impacts on historical resources. Because all historical resources are unique and non-renewable members of finite classes, all adverse effects or negative impacts erode a dwindling resource base. Federal, state, and local laws protect historical resources in most instances. Even so, it is not always feasible to protect historical resources, particularly when preservation in place would prevent implementation of projects. For this reason, the cumulative effects of development in the region on historical resources are considered significant. Proposed plan policies, in combination with provisions in the LAMC, General Plan, and overlay districts, would protect historical resources. For a potential historic resource, an expanded Initial Study that includes a Historic Assessment Report is required. In the unlikely event that such a resource is demolished after the appropriate findings, there would not be a substantial number of these resources in the CPA that would be affected. The proposed plans would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a cumulative impact, and the impact is *less than significant*.

4.4.5 References

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