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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Richard Shepard, RPA completed a Phase I/Class II archaeological survey for a redevelopment project involving improvements to a portion of Daniels Field in San Pedro (City of Los Angeles), Los Angeles County. Owned by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, Daniels Field is currently developed as an outdoor athletic facility that, in its entirety, is largely covered with turf (soccer/football field) but also contains tennis courts, viewing stands, and a team building. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) defined for this assessment includes only the easternmost portion of Daniels Field between the eastern end zone and Cabrillo Avenue (excluding the team building). Nearly all of this area (0.3 acre) consists of several feet of fill. For the project, an asphalt pad and some fill soils will be removed for placement of a retaining wall and construction of new features designed to enhance the usability of Daniels Field.

The project will be funded in part by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Because federal funds will be used, the project must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. This assessment also meets requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

A cultural resources records search by the South Central Coastal Information Center indicated that no archaeological resources have been formally recorded in the vicinity of the project. One historic building is located approximately 300 feet outside the APE—the James Dodson Residence, listed as City of Los Angeles Cultural-Historical Monument No. 147. This structure will not be affected either physically or in terms of setting or viewshed by the project.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) indicated that Native American resources of special concern are present within 1/2 mile of the project. Accordingly, all local representatives identified by the NAHC were contacted twice and asked to provide information and concerns. Only one party responded, but did not identify specific resources or resource locations.

Area historical societies were also contacted, but none reported any concerns. The author visited San Pedro Bay Historical Society Archives to conduct research on the subject property.

A paleontological assessment was not undertaken because of the nature of the project. Project excavations will occur at a shallow depth in imported fill of unknown origin. Although the fill could possibly contain fossils, any such material would not be of scientific value because 1) accurate dating of the deposit is compromised, and 2) the original context has been destroyed. However, paleontological monitoring is recommended if excavations reveal native San Pedro Sand or Palos Verdes Sand formations, which are known to contain Pleistocene marine fossils.

Spot checks by a qualified archaeologist are recommended for excavations in fill because the fill's origin is unknown, and it was likely brought to the property before 1928. Full monitoring is recommended if excavations should penetrate in-place native soils underlying the fill.

Certification

I certify that the statements and information furnished above and in this archaeological report are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DATE: 4 29 2011 SIGNED: ________

Richard S. Shepard, RPA, Principal Investigator
1.0 INTRODUCTION

Richard Shepard Archaeological Services was contracted by Encon Technologies to conduct a Phase I archaeological/cultural resources assessment for a portion of Daniels Field, an outdoor athletic facility located in San Pedro (City of Los Angeles), southern Los Angeles County (Exhibits 1 and 2). Daniels Field is owned by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (LADRP) and currently developed as an outdoor athletic facility that, in its entirety, is largely covered with turf (soccer/football field) but also contains tennis courts, metallic viewing stands, raised night lights, and a small team building with restrooms, showers, and storage.

The portion of Daniels Field defined as the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project is the easternmost area between the eastern end of the playing field and Cabrillo Avenue, but does not include the team building at the southwest corner of 12th and Cabrillo. The APE measures roughly 75 feet by 175 feet and covers a rectangular area of about 0.3 acre (Exhibit 3).

Because the natural contour of the neighborhood declines eastward toward the harbor, it is visually apparent that fill was used to elevate the eastern end of Daniels Field in order to level the playing surface (see Photos 2, 5, and 6 in Appendix E). According to Urban Design Center (project designers), the depth of fill is approximately seven (7) feet (Sherri Franklin, personal communication). In this area, a weathered asphalt slab and some underlying fill soils will be removed to a depth of approximately four (4) feet to allow placement of a retaining wall and the construction of new features such as a batting cage, golf driving cages, skate park, picnic tables, bicycle rack, drinking fountains, vending container, and electronic signage.

The project is a redevelopment effort by the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor in cooperation with LADRP, and funded in part by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Because federal funds will be used, the project must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. Federal agencies must consider the effects of their actions on historic properties. This study also meets requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which seeks to avoid or at least reduce the adverse effects of a project on historic resources to a level of insignificance. In compliance with NEPA, NHPA, and CEQA, therefore, this study was conducted to identify whether any archaeological or other cultural resources might be adversely affected by the project.

2.0 LOCATION AND SETTING

The project is located in the central urban area of San Pedro (part of the City of Los Angeles). Daniels Field proper is a rectangular 3.6-acre area bordered by West 12th Street on the north, South Cabrillo Avenue on the east, West 13th Street on the south, and South Meyler Street on the west. This location appears on the U.S. Geological Survey San Pedro 7.5' Quadrangle (1964, photorevised 1981) within Township 5 South, Range 14 West (San Bernardino Base and Meridian), but in an area that was not sectioned under the Township/Range system (Exhibit 2) (the project would have occurred in the southern area of Section 18).

San Pedro is set in a coastal zone on the west bank of San Pedro Bay/Los Angeles Harbor. The project is situated in the urban area just one mile to the west of the harbor's main channel at an elevation of about 120 feet above mean sea level. The vicinity of the project occurs on a gentle slope, with the Palos Verdes Hills rising one mile further to the west (San Pedro Hill marks the highest point at 1,460 feet). Point Fermin is two miles directly south of Daniels Field. The APE does not contain any native vegetation, but prior to grading and urbanization, plant species consistent with the margins around bays and estuaries would have been present.
EXHIBIT 1. REGIONAL LOCATION, SAN PEDRO, SOUTHERN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Source: USGS Long Beach 1:250,000 Sheet, 1957/Revised 1978
EXHIBIT 2. LOCAL VICINITY, DANIELS FIELD, SAN PEDRO, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Source: USGS San Pedro 7.5' Quadrangle, 1964/Photorevised 1981
Geologically, San Pedro occurs on Pleistocene marine sedimentary deposits characterized chiefly by Palos Verdes Sand (Qpu) and/or San Pedro Sand (Qpl) (Schoellhamer et al. 1954; Hardin 2004:433). While these layers contain marine fossils, they are frequently overlain at the surface by non-marine alluvium and “debris” known as “terrace cover,” referring to material that has been imported by wind and water down slope from terrace formations in the Palos Verdes Hills (Woodford et al. 1954:74; Troxel 1954:41). Brown and “earthy” in color, terrace cover soils are easily distinguishable from the clean, gray appearance of fossil-bearing Palos Verdes and San Pedro marine sands (Bandy and Embry 1954:12; Troxel 1954:40).

3.0 CULTURAL BACKGROUND

3.1 PREHISTORIC BACKGROUND

The major periods of prehistory for southern California were originally defined by Wallace (1955) and updated by Warren (1968). While the basic framework continues to provide a functional model, it was later refined by others using more recent radiocarbon dates from archaeological sites along the southern coast (Koerper and Drover 1983; Mason and Peterson 1994). This chronology presents three well-defined archaeological periods that are diagnostic of broad prehistoric cultural patterns in the greater Los Angeles area:

- **Millingstone Period** (6,000 – 1,000 BC, or about 8,000 to 3,000 years ago)
- **Intermediate Period** (1,000 BC – AD 650, or 3,000 to 1,350 years ago)
- **Late Period** (AD 650 – 1769, or 1,350 to 242 years ago)

While a period that preceded the Millingstone – the Early Man or Paleo-Indian Period – is known from other parts of the state (marked by artifacts such as Clovis-like fluted projectile points), this period has not yet been clearly identified in the Los Angeles basin area.

The Millingstone Period represents a long period of time characterized by smaller, more mobile groups compared with later periods. These groups appear to have relied on a seasonal round of settlement that included both interior and coastal residential bases (Mason, Koerper, and Langenwalter 1997). Seeds from sage, buckwheat, and various grasses (rather than acorns) constituted staple foods. Millingstone sites are marked by heavy seed-grinding tools such as manos, metates, and hammerstones, usually in large numbers. In coastal locations, these often occur in association with shell midden. Projectile points represent only a small percentage of the tools. Coarse-grained lithic materials, such as quartzite and rhyolite, are more common in flaked stone tools from this period than fine-grained materials such as chert and jasper.

During the Intermediate Period, mortars and pestles appear, indicating the beginning of acorn utilization. As a high-calorie, storable food, acorns eventually became a factor in increasing sedentism and more complex social organization (see Johnson and Earle 1987). The absence of small projectile points indicates that the bow and arrow had not yet been introduced. Along the coast, more diverse marine resources were used, as evident in bone and shell fishhooks, harpoon points, and net weights. Some forms of personal ornaments were made. Regional exchange began to intensify, with materials from other areas such as steatite, serpentine, and obsidian obtained through trade.

The Late Period brought larger populations and a wider variety of material culture and social institutions. Distinct new artifacts such as small triangular points and steatite shaft straighteners (indicating bow and arrow technology) emerged, and shell bead forms became common and standardized. Obsidian from ancient Lake Cahuilla became widely used. Storable foods such as acorns allowed populations to increase and social mechanisms to diversify.
3.2 ETHNOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

The Late Period of prehistory is marked by the archaeological signatures of groups who are better understood because their descendents in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries provided additional information about their lifeways to anthropologists and ethnographers. These groups included the Gabrielino, who inhabited most of the greater Los Angeles basin as well as the San Pedro Channel Islands (Kroeber 1925:620-635; Harrington 1942; Johnston 1962; Heizer 1968; Bean and Smith 1978; Pegelow 1985; McCawley 1996). The Gabrielino were so-named by the Spanish as a result of their forced association with Mission San Gabriel, but they referred to themselves as the Tong-va (Heizer 1968:105). Gabrielinos living in present-day San Fernando Valley were called Fernandeños because of their association with Mission San Fernando.

The Gabrielino were semi-sedentary hunter-gatherer-fishers. Coastal groups collected shellfish, hunted sea mammals and birds, and caught marine fish. Plank canoes similar to those used by the Chumash to the north facilitated travel and trade between the mainland and islands in the San Pedro and Santa Barbara Channels (Moratto 1984:118). Island goods such as dried fish, shellfish, and steatite (soapstone) were exchanged with mainland parties for acorns and other products not readily available in the channels. Seeds from sage, buckwheat, and grasses were ground into flour with manos and metates; acorns were pulverized with mortars and pestles. Acorn flour was leached extensively with water to remove bitter tannic acid, and then cooked as soup. Although labor-intensive to prepare, acorns were critical in meeting the subsistence needs of growing numbers of hunter-gatherers throughout much of California during late prehistory. The nuts could be stored for as long as two years, providing a ready food supply during winter months, or when the following year's yield was insufficient, and allowed a more sedentary settlement pattern.

The Gabrielino lived in villages located near reliable sources of fresh water and a variety of food resources. The village served as the center of a territory from which resources were gathered. Small groups left the village for short periods to hunt, fish, and gather plant foods, and to collect raw materials for utilitarian and other purposes (see Blackburn 1963). Lithic material often included steatite (soapstone) quarried on Santa Catalina Island that the Gabrielino skillfully fashioned into cooking vessels and ornaments.

Away from the village, collecting groups established temporary camps and resource processing locations. Archaeologically, these locations are marked by bedrock mortars for acorn processing, manos and metates for seed grinding, and flakes that indicate the manufacture and maintenance of sharp-edged tools (usually of chert) for hunting, butchering, and other cutting tasks. Overnight stays in field camps are indicated by fire-affected rock from hearths. More substantial habitation areas are evidenced by an accumulation of midden – dark organic soil enriched with charcoal and food remains (especially marine shell in coastal areas) that resulted from intensive human activity. Village sites generally contain extensive midden deposits, as well as one or more cemeteries.

Arguably, the most important Gabrielino village was Puvunga (or Puvú, Pubú, Pubuna, or Pubungana), located in the Los Alamitos area of present-day Long Beach. While padre of Mission San Juan Capistrano from 1812 to 1826, Gerónimo Boscana recorded first-hand observations of native Juaneco, Luiseño, and Gabriellino people and learned that Chinigchinich, a powerful god-like deity first appeared in human form at Puvunga (Boscana in Robinson 1933:33; see also Kroeber 1925:637; Harrington 1933:148-149, 152; Johnston 1962:39; Moriarty 1969:14; Bean and Vane 1978:669; Bright 1978:v; McCawley 1996:10, 69-71, 143-144, 173). After meeting the pre-human First People, Chinigchinich is believed to have created the first Indian people. Because of its religious and cultural significance, Puvunga was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (National Trust for Historic Preservation 1994:68). The Puvunga village site is located in the general vicinity of California State University, Long Beach, roughly 12 miles from Daniels Field.
3.3 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

Three major historic periods are defined for greater southern California:

- **Spanish Period** (1769 – 1822, or 242 – 189 years ago)
- **Mexican Period** (1822 – 1848, or 189 – 163 years ago)
- **American Period** (1848 – Present, or since 163 years ago)

Early Spanish maritime explorers Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo and Sebastián Vizcaíno made brief landfalls on Santa Catalina Island (1542 and 1602, respectively) (Bean and Smith 1978:540). Cabrillo called San Pedro Bay *Bahía de los Fumos* ("Bay of the Smokes"), referring to the haze from Gabrielino fires, but the present name originated after Vizcaíno mistakenly named it for Saint Andrew (mapmaker Gabrera Bueno eventually corrected this upon realizing the date of the anchorage was actually on the Day of Saint Peter, or San Pedro) (Gillingham 1961:98, 103).

The **Spanish Period** in *Alta California*, however, began with the founding of the first Spanish settlement at San Diego in 1769, shortly after the Portola overland expedition arrived from New Spain (Mexico). Mission San Gabriel was founded in 1771 near present-day Montebello, and re-established in its present location in 1776. A pueblo called *Reina de los Ángeles* ("Queen of the Angels") was settled in 1781 near the Gabrielino village of *Yang-na* (W. Robinson 1959:11-13; Gudde 1998:216). Mission San Fernando, also in Gabrielino territory, was founded in 1797.

Spanish governors of *Alta California* began to grant large tracts of ranch land to prominent soldiers, civil servants, and other settlers. Rancho San Pedro, the first of all such grants, was conveyed in 1784 by Governor Pedro Fages to Juan José Dominguez, who had a distinguished history of military service to Spain (Gillingham 1961:78). Originally, the grant covered more than 75,000 acres and included a large area that later became Rancho Los Palos Verdes (Gillingham 1961:98). Juan José built the area’s first adobe house on high ground that still bears his name, Dominguez Hills (Gillingham 1961:79), roughly 10 miles north of Daniels Field.

In 1822, José Delores Sepúlveda won a claim to pasturing rights on lands that became Rancho Los Palos Verdes, which included the area of present-day San Pedro. Sepúlveda built an early home on the north side of the San Pedro Hills (Gillingham 1961:112); later, three of his sons – Juan, José, and Diego – built adobe homes of their own just north of the modern town’s urban center (W. Robinson 1939:24-25; W. Robinson in Nunis 1993:190). The nearest of these, Diego Sepúlveda’s 1853 two-story adobe, was located 1.5 miles north of Daniels Field.

Mexico’s independence from Spain in 1822 ushered in the **Mexican Period** in *Alta California*. Delores Sepúlveda’s claim to Rancho Los Palos Verdes infuriated the Dominguez heirs, who held Rancho San Pedro, and ignited years of disputes. Although both Spanish and Mexican governors had confirmed the original expanse of Rancho San Pedro to the Dominguez family (in 1817 and 1822, respectively), Governor José Figueroa passed a decree of arbitration in 1834 under which Rancho Los Palos Verdes belonged to the Sepúlvedas by right of occupation (Gillingham 1961:119, 165). Governor Juan Bautista Alvarado issued a similar decree in 1841.

An increasing influx of Anglo-Americans during the 1840s spurred a new challenge for the California territory. The **American Period** began with Mexico’s defeat at the end of the ensuing Mexican-American War, resulting in the concession of California to the United States under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 (Rolle 1998:91, 104). Only a few days before, the discovery of gold near Sacramento had stimulated the Gold Rush of 1848-1849. American dominance became more apparent in 1850 when California became a state and was divided into 27 original counties, including Los Angeles County (Coy 1973; Marschner 2000).
By 1851, Diego Sepúlveda was operating a stagecoach line that ferried ocean-bound travelers the 20-mile distance between Los Angeles and San Pedro Bay (Krythe 1957:18-19). By 1853, he had built a small storehouse on a bluff above the shore known as Sepúlveda’s Landing, where he kept trade goods such as tallow and hides, the region’s principal exports. Whenever the stage roared past Diego Sepúlveda’s adobe house in a cloud of dust, boys on horseback raced it down to his Landing (W. Robinson 1939:24-25). About the same time, Augustus Timms built a wharf nearby from salvaged ship’s timbers, and after passengers made their way down from Sepúlveda’s storehouse, they embarked from Timms Landing (J. Robinson 1978:15).

Sepúlveda sold the stage line to John J. Tomlinson, who continued to use Sepúlveda Landing while competing with the stages of pioneer entrepreneur Phineas Banning, among others. In part through Banning’s vision and business skills, Congress designated San Pedro a port of entry in 1854, opening the region to increasing freight and passengers (J. Robinson 1978:17). By 1858, Banning’s stages were channeling much of this activity through a new settlement he founded on the northern side of the bay, “New San Pedro,” or Wilmington as it was eventually renamed (W. Robinson 1939:26-27). The effectiveness of stage lines faded, however, when Banning realized that transporting the burgeoning commercial tonnage between San Pedro Bay and Los Angeles required a railroad. As a result, the Los Angeles and San Pedro Railroad’s maiden run in 1869 made it the first railroad in southern California (J. Robinson 1978:49).

During this era, another individual with uncommon business acumen, Abel Stearns, embraced an even wider range of development interests, from traditional ranching and livestock to renting urban commercial building space (Cleland 1951:197-198). During the 1840s, Stearns had built a storehouse in San Pedro similar to the one at Sepúlveda Landing, located on the site that became Fort MacArthur (Cleland 1951:187). Like Sepúlveda, Stearns used his storehouse for hides and tallow that were exported to ships in the bay. This and many other businesses, however, were irrevocably impacted by the Great Drought of 1863-1864 (Cleland 1951:199). The drought’s effects lingered for six years, causing catastrophic losses of livestock, pressuring ranchers into selling parcel after parcel, and bringing the era of the great ranchos to an end.

The Southern Pacific Railroad arrived in Los Angeles in 1876 and the Santa Fe in 1885, and competition between the two giants fueled a rate war that allowed thousands of settlers and speculators to come to southern California. Along with greatly deflated prices for land, this spurred a widespread boom in development, both realized and not. A town called Seabright, for example, was planned between San Pedro and Wilmington in 1887, but never materialized (Dumke 1944:177). San Pedro itself went largely unaffected in terms of growth, but benefited from increased freight business associated with frantic building elsewhere (Dumke 1944:69-70). The City of San Pedro was incorporated in 1888, but elected to consolidate with the City of Los Angeles in 1909 (Houston 1982:209). Phineas Banning’s vision in 1851 of a mighty commercial port took many years to achieve, but may have been the greatest success story of all.

History of Daniels Field

Daniels Field is named in honor of an early principal of the old San Pedro High School, but it existed as an athletic field some years before the name was applied. The school was founded in 1903, but without a campus of its own, the 23 original students met at another local school (Wesson 1989:51). In 1905, construction of a proper campus began on the block directly east of today’s Daniels Field. Totaling seven acres in all, this campus was developed on land purchased from James Dodson and his wife Rudecinda Sepúlveda de Dodson, a descendent of Spanish-era settlers (see above). Their former home now stands across the street from Daniels Field to the south. The high school embraced a competitive sports program, and it is likely that an athletic field was established when the campus was built or soon afterward.
In 1933, an earthquake damaged the high school's buildings, and they were condemned. While searching for another location, the school continued to use the playing field. Construction of a new high school began in 1936 on an 18-acre tract also acquired from the Sepulveda family, just southwest of Daniels Field, where it comprises the San Pedro High School of today.

According to coverage in the San Pedro Daily News, the high school abandoned their use of the field early in 1937, as a new one was constructed on the same tract containing the new campus. The LADRP began to consider leasing the old field, and in 1938, the City of Los Angeles Board of Education agreed to lease it on a year-by-year basis. The LADRP eventually purchased the field in 1945 and proceeded to make many improvements over the years since then.

San Pedro High's Black and Gold student annuals (on file at the San Pedro Bay Historical Society Archives) indicate that Ralph Chandler Daniels replaced Albert B. Clayton as principal in 1913, eight years after the old high school (and presumably the playing field) was established. According to his obituary on the front page of the San Pedro Daily News (1919:1), Daniels was born in San Francisco in 1875. His father served in the navy during the Civil War; his mother was a teacher, as was his wife, Myra. As a young man, Daniels excelled in his own academic work, specializing in the study of chemistry. He was awarded a scholarship of $300 while a university student in the San Francisco area, and when he surprised university officials by replacing the funds a few years later, they honored him by establishing the Ralph C. Daniels scholarship. He began teaching at Los Angeles High School in 1906 and became an inspiration and mentor to many teens. Upon his sudden death from pneumonia in 1919, the San Pedro Daily News carried three separate articles about Daniels in the same issue, two of these on the front page. After the high school dedicated the 1920 Black and Gold Annual to him (Exhibit 4), alumni requested that the original field be named in memorial of Daniels.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL/CULTURAL RESOURCES

4.1.1 Records Search

In 2010, Encon Technologies requested an archaeological/cultural resources records search for Daniels Field proper and surrounding vicinity, and this research was completed by staff of the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton on February 4, 2010 (SCCIC #10177.7039, Appendix B). The SCCIC is the designated branch of the California Historical Resources Information System that houses records concerning archaeological and historic resources in Los Angeles County.

The records search provided data on formally recorded archaeological and structural resources, and on previous studies documented within ½ mile of the project. Data sources consulted by the SCCIC included archaeological site records, reports from previous studies, historic maps, California Points of Historical Interest (PHI), California Historical Landmarks (CHL), California Register of Historic Resources (CR), National Register of Historic Places (NR), California State Historic Resources Inventory (HRI), and the City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments listings (LAHCM). A search radius of ½ mile is appropriate for a project area of this size.

Richard Shepard independently examined data on file at the San Pedro Bay Historical Society Archives (SPBHSA) on April 18 and 25, 2011. Mr. Shepard also reviewed additional historic maps and publications relevant to the San Pedro area, such as Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor Areas Regional Cultural History (Weinman 1978), which presents an inventory of cultural resources and reproductions of historic maps depicting the San Pedro area.