# Appendix B1
# Cultural Resources Assessment

# CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

## Melia Townhomes 114 Project

## City of Gardena, Los Angeles County, California

Prepared for:

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Project No. KIM1901

**Data Base Information:**
*Type of Study:* Intensive Survey
*Resources Recorded:* Historic-period building at 1515 178th Street, Gardena, California
*USGS Quadrangle:* 7.5-minute *Torrance, California* (1981)

BCRCONSULTING LLC

April 21, 2019

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Kimley-Horn to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the proposed Melia Townhomes 114 Project (project) in the City of Gardena (City), Los Angeles County, California. The project occupies approximately 5.63 acres and is bounded by West 178th Street on the south, a mobile home park to the west, a vacant property to the north, and industrial properties to the east. A cultural resources records search, additional research, and intensive-level pedestrian field survey were completed in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The records search revealed that 39 previous cultural resources studies have taken place, and seven cultural resources have been recorded within one-mile of the project site. None of the previous studies has assessed the project site, and no cultural resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries. During the field survey, BCR Consulting personnel identified one historic-period industrial building within the project site boundaries. This historic-period building is not recommended eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register). As such this building is not recommended a "historical resource" under CEQA. It does not warrant further consideration. Furthermore, previous construction-related excavation on the project site have disturbed sediments beyond depths at which buried prehistoric cultural resources are likely. Based on these results, BCR Consulting recommends that no additional cultural resources work or monitoring is necessary for any proposed project activities. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist shall be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



## FIGURES



## TABLES



## APPENDICES

## INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Kimley-Horn to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the proposed Normandie Courtyard Project (project) in the City of Gardena (City), Los Angeles County, California. A cultural resources records search, additional research, and intensive-level pedestrian field survey were completed in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project occupies approximately 5.63 acres and is bounded by West 178th Street on the south, a mobile home park to the west, a vacant property to the north, and industrial properties to the south and east. The project site is located in a non-sectioned portion of Township 3 South, Range 14 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Torrance, California* (1996) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

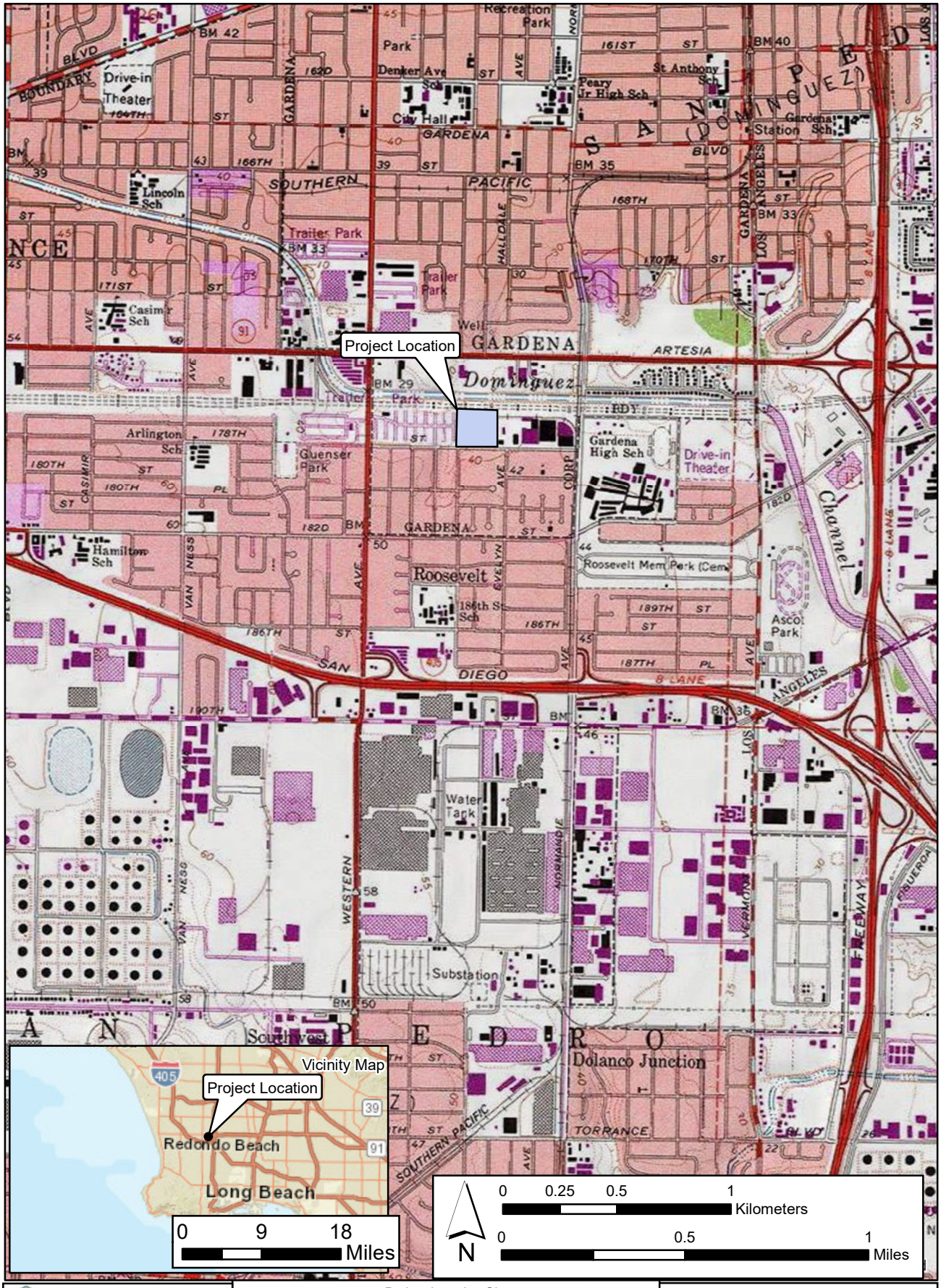
## NATURAL SETTING

The local geologic region coincides with the physiographic area known as the Los Angeles Basin. It is characterized as a transverse-oriented lowland basin and coastal plain approximately 50 miles long and 20 miles wide. The basin originated as a deep marine trough during the Pliocene (7-2 million years ago) that eventually filled with shallow water fossil bearing sediments. By the beginning of the Pleistocene (after 2 million years ago) uplifting created the series of plains and mesas along the coast that now characterize the area (Lambert 1994, Mendenhall 1905, Woodford et al. 1954). Local rainfall ranges from 5 to 15 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37). Local vegetation communities are naturally dominated by coastal sage scrub and riparian vegetation, although urbanization prevents its proliferation in much of the project region (Williams et al. 2008:117, 122). See Bean and Saubel (1972) for use of these biotic communities by prehistoric and historic inhabitants. Excavation for building construction on the project site have disturbed sediments beyond depths at which buried cultural resources are likely.

## CULTURAL SETTING

### Prehistoric Context

The local prehistoric cultural setting has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for southern California are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the area and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, local chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' Concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or re-sharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study recommends review of Warren and Crabree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a relatively comprehensive chronology.

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Project Location Site
CO20571-A Tower Project

Figure 1

Reference: ESRI; USGS Quad: Beverly Hills (1995), California

Ace Environmental, LLC.

## Ethnography

The Gabrielino probably first encountered Europeans when Spanish explorers reached California's southern coast during the 15th and 16th centuries (Bean and Smith 1978; Kroeber 1925). The first documented encounter, however, occurred in 1769 when Gaspar de Portola's expedition crossed Gabrielino territory (Bean and Smith 1978). Other brief encounters took place over the years, and are documented in McCawley 1996 (citing numerous sources). The Gabrielino name has been attributed by association with the Spanish mission of San Gabriel, and refers to a subset of people sharing speech and customs with other Cupan speakers (such as the Juaneño/Luiseño/Ajachemem) from the greater Takic branch of the Uto-Aztecan language family (Bean and Smith 1978). Gabrielino villages occupied the watersheds of various rivers (locally including the Santa Ana) and intermittent streams. Chiefs were usually descended through the male line and often administered several villages. Gabrielino society was somewhat stratified and is thought to have contained three hierarchically ordered social classes which dictated ownership rights and social status and obligations (Bean and Smith 1978:540-546). Plants utilized for food were heavily relied upon and included acorn-producing oaks, as well as seed-producing grasses and sage. Animal protein was commonly derived from rabbits and deer in inland regions, while coastal populations supplemented their diets with fish, shellfish, and marine mammals (Boscana 1933, Heizer 1968, Johnston 1962, McCawley 1996). Dog, coyote, bear, tree squirrel, pigeon, dove, mud hen, eagle, buzzard, raven, lizards, frogs, and turtles were specifically not utilized as a food source (Kroeber 1925).

## History

Historic-era California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

**Spanish Period.** The first European to pass through the area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

**Mexican Period.** In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

**American Period.** The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from

New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought further diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate developments of the late 19th century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that continue to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

**Local Sequence (see Appendix A for references).** Europeans arrived in 1781 to found one of the first civilian towns the Spanish established in California. A handful of settlers from Mexico formed the pueblo of Los Angeles. The settlement remained a tiny village throughout the Spanish and brief Mexican eras. In the 1780s, the Spanish government granted the roughly 43,000-acre Rancho San Pedro to Juan Jose Dominguez. Even after California statehood in 1850, Southern California remained sparsely populated, and the primary local activity was agriculture. Major General William Starke Rosecrans purchased 16,000 acres of Rancho San Pedro after his service for the Union Army in the Civil War. He subdivided the land and sold it at a profit. One of the buyers was Civil War veteran Spencer Roane Thorpe, who began farming in the area in 1887. The Thorpe family is credited with naming the town Gardena because it was a garden spot.

Los Angeles finally began to grow as a population center in the 1880s, after completion of the transcontinental railroads facilitated the relocation of large numbers of Midwesterners to California. In the 1890s, improved water infrastructure further stimulated regional development. In 1890, a local railway line from Los Angeles to Redondo Beach came through Gardena, prompting its downtown to be moved from Figueroa to Vermont Street. Truck farms for vegetables and berries dominated Gardena Valley in the late nineteenth century, and Japanese immigrants who farmed in the area were an important element of the community. Stores, schools, churches, and agricultural businesses like canneries followed the farmers to Gardena. In 1912, local fundraising funded the first library branch. Berries began to decline after 1914, when World War I prompted farmers to switch to other crops. Later, residential development began to displace farming, and Gardena incorporated as a city in 1930.

Los Angeles County continued to experience population growth during the Great Depression. Existing trends were accelerated by completion of the Hoover Dam in 1935, which enabled Southern California's growth with massive new supplies of water and electricity. By 1939, Los Angeles County led the US in agriculture in addition to film business and aircraft manufacture. Los Angeles County's population continued its steady increase and the City of Los Angeles became increasingly urban, but agriculture was still the county's major industry into the 1950s.

During World War II, members of Gardena's well-established Japanese community were interned like Japanese-Americans across California. Many returned after the end of the war, however, initially as gardeners and truck farmers. As suburbanization replaced farming across the region in the 1950s, Gardena's new subdivisions drew Japanese-American home buyers. Easy rail and eventually Interstate access also prompted post-war industrial development. The landscape was most visibly transformed during the 1950s when the neighborhood surrounding the project site went from about 50 percent rural in 1952 to almost completely built in 1963 (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 1952,

1963). Local developments were mostly residential, although the half-mile stretch along 178th Street between Denker Avenue and Normandie Avenue (including the subject property) was mostly industrial. This intensive development was accommodated by the concurrent construction of three freeways that surround the subject property: State Route 91 to the North, Interstate 110 to the east, and Interstate 405 to the south. By the 1970s, Gardena was a racially-diverse suburb where Japanese-Americans owned a third of all businesses and strongly influenced local politics. Its ties to Japan are credited with keeping the local economy afloat during difficult economic periods in the 1970s and 1980s. Known as the "Freeway City" for the three freeways on its borders, in the twenty-first century Gardena is a remarkably diverse Los Angeles suburb which continues to exhibit its Japanese heritage in local businesses and cultural institutions.

## PERSONNEL

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study. Mr. Brunzell also conducted the records search, authored the technical report, completed additional research, and compiled the Department of Park and Recreation forms. BCR Consulting Staff Historian Dylan Williams (B.A.) performed the field assessment.

## RESEARCH DESIGN

This work was completed pursuant to CEQA, the Public Resources Code (PRC) Chapter 2.6, Section 21083.2, and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15064.5. The pedestrian cultural resources survey was intended to locate and document previously recorded or new cultural resources, including archaeological sites, features, isolates, and historic-period buildings, that exceed 45 years in age within defined project boundaries. The project site was examined using 15-meter transect intervals, where accessible. This study is intended to determine whether cultural resources are located within the project boundaries, whether any cultural resources are significant pursuant to the above-referenced regulations and standards, and to develop specific mitigation measures that will address potential impacts to existing or potential resources. Tasks pursued to achieve that end include:

- Cultural resources records search to review the results of any studies conducted within a one-mile radius of the project boundaries
- Additional research through various local and regional resources
- Systematic pedestrian survey of the entire accessible project site
- California Register eligibility evaluation for resources identified
- Development of recommendations and mitigation measures for cultural resources documented within the project boundaries, following CEQA
- Completion of DPR 523 forms for any discovered cultural resources

## METHODS

### Research

**Records Search.** On March 27, 2019 a records search was conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton. This archival research reviewed the status of all recorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, and survey and excavation reports completed within one mile of the current project. Additional resources reviewed included the National Register, the California Register, and documents

and inventories published by the California Office of Historic Preservation. These include the lists of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

**Additional Research.** BCR Consulting performed additional research through records of the General Land Office Maintained by the Bureau of Land Management, the Los Angeles County Assessor, the Los Angeles County Archives, and through various Internet resources.

### Field Survey

An intensive-level cultural resources field survey of the project site was conducted on March 19, 2019. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across the accessible project site. Cultural Resources were recorded on DPR 523 forms. Digital photographs were taken at various points within the project site. These included overviews as well as detail photographs of all cultural resources. Cultural resources were recorded per the California OHP *Instructions for Recording Historical Resources* in the field using:

- Detailed note taking for entry on DPR Forms (see Appendix A)
- Digital photography of all cultural resources (see Appendix A).

## RESULTS

### Research

**Records Search.** Data from the SCCIC revealed that 39 previous cultural resources studies have taken place, and seven cultural resources have been recorded within one-mile of the project site. None of the previous studies has assessed the project site, and no cultural resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries. The records search is summarized as follows:

**Table A. Cultural Resources and Reports Within One Mile of the Project Site**

| USGS 7.5 Min Quad | Cultural Resources Within 1 Mile of Project Site | Studies w/in 1 Mile |
|---|---|---|
| *Inglewood* (1981) and *Torrance* (1996)*, Calif.* | P-19-88: prehistoric shell midden (1 mile SE)<br>P-19-101: prehistoric artifacts/human burials (3/4 mile E)<br>P-19-177369: historic-period slough (1/2 mile NE)<br>P-19-177464: historic-period building (1 mile NE)<br>P-19-189955: historic-period building (1 mile NE)<br>P-19-190006: historic-period high school (1/4 mile E)<br>P-19-190646: historic-period utility towers (1/4 mile E) | LA-114, 1373, 1445, 1467, 3572, 3583, 4759, 5331, 5499, 5966, 6028, 6193, 6201, 6229, 6875, 7688, 7689, 7898, 7989, 8780, 8813, 8865, 9184, 10196, 10197, 10333, 10438, 10567, 10970, 11150, 11482, 11581, 11648, 11659, 11716, 11482, 12442, 12461, 12653 |

**Additional Research.** Additional research was performed for the project site to provide the background for the two buildings developed during the historic era (i.e. greater than 45 years ago) within its boundaries (see also Field Survey Results, below).

**1515 West 178th Street (see Appendix A for references).** The subject property initially contained two buildings (no longer present) that were part of an agricultural complex to the south, before 178th Street occupied its current alignment. The northern part of the property

was subject to periodic flooding from a local slough until it was routed into the Dominguez Channel as part of the Army Corps of Engineers' flood control efforts of the 1950s.

In 1961, Globe Illumination Inc. (also known as Globe Illumination Company) purchased the property to use as its new headquarters. Globe Illumination, Inc. was formed by Max and Leonard Rosenblatt in 1944 in Los Angeles. Max and his older brother Isidor Rosenblatt had immigrated from Austria in the early 20th century. Isidore, who learned candle making in Austria with his grandfather, became a master mechanic at age 14 and immigrated to New York at age 15 in 1911. He established a successful lighting company in 1914, but the factory was destroyed by a fire in 1920. Max became a partner in his brother's business in 1923 and together they founded Globe Lighting, a manufacturer of gas/electric lights. They developed industrial-scale methods for glass-bending among other innovations, and eventually began to manufacture fluorescent lighting and fixtures. The company was awarded several military contracts during World War II and the Korean War, and Isidor acted as the company's president through at least the 1960s.

In 1944 Max moved to Los Angeles and formed Globe Illumination, Inc. on Main Street with his son Leonard. Research has not shown Isidor's involvement on the west coast. The new west coast company was a success and secured a number of patents under Max and Leonard's direction. Globe Illumination, Inc. soon outgrew the Main Street facility. In 1961 they acquired the subject property and engaged builder R.A. Watt to construct a new headquarters at this location. It included 100,000 square feet of space comprising research and testing laboratories, employee recreational facilities, a rail siding, and parking for 200 cars. Globe Illumination, Inc. occupied the property until at least the early 1990s. The interior of the building was subsequently reconfigured and the rail siding removed to accommodate a modern trucking company. It is currently occupied by RoadEx America a warehousing and trucking company formed in 2001.

## Field Survey

During the field survey Dylan Williams carefully inspected the accessible project site. This property is located on an industrial block in Gardena. The front of the parcel, which faces south onto West 178th Street, is fronted by a small landscaped strip.

The subject property is occupied by one industrial building that is historic in age (i.e. over 45 years old). The historic-period building fronts 178th Street in the east-central portion the property. It is a flat-roofed single-story brick and concrete building with rectangular plan and a protruding rectangular office along its front (south) elevation. Roof materials are composite. The shaded entry covers the office portion on the south elevation. The office façade is dominated by large glass aluminum-framed fixed windows, although two of the fixed windows contain inset aluminum sliders. The office portion is accessed through double glass doors which are surrounded by ceramic tile. The east and west elevations of the office portion each contain three sliding aluminum-framed windows and a metal access door. The larger (rear) portion of the building is used for industrial purposes. The south portion of the west elevation contains an awning and single metal door accessed atop concrete steps. The west elevation also contains eight steel bay doors for loading and unloading trucks, and five casement windows. A second metal door accessed atop concrete steps is located in the northern portion of the west elevation. A large metal awning spans the entire northern elevation. Twelve casement windows are evenly spaced along the east elevation and a single metal access door are located at its north end. The building is surrounded by parking,

and an extended lot to the west is used for trailer storage and other industrial purposes. The property is currently occupied by a truckload shipping, transport, and warehouse company. With the exception of a strip of grass and trees along West 178th street, the entire property is paved. Los Angeles County Assessor records indicate that the building has a build date of 1961, and an effective build date of 1965. The square footage is 95,090 and it is zoned for commercial and industrial uses.

## SIGNIFICANCE EVALUATIONS

During the field survey, two historic period buildings were identified. CEQA calls for the evaluation and recordation of historic and archaeological resources. The criteria for determining the significance of impacts to cultural resources are based on Section 15064.5 of the *CEQA Guidelines* and Guidelines for the Nomination of Properties to the California Register. Properties eligible for listing in the California Register and subject to review under CEQA are those meeting the criteria for listing in the California Register, or designation under a local ordinance.

### Significance Criteria

**California Register of Historical Resources.** The California Register criteria are based on National Register criteria. City Landmark Designation criteria are similar to California Register criteria; the differences are bracketed [ ] below. For a property to be eligible for inclusion on the California Register or as a City Landmark, one or more of the following criteria must be met:

1. It is associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local [including City] or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the U.S.;
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important to local [the City's], California, or U.S. history;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values; and/or
4. It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the California Register requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources." (CCR 4852 [d][2]). The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### California Register Evaluation

The building at 1515 West 178th Street fits within a context of mid-century modern industrial development. While the founders of Globe Illumination, Inc. were influential, the building does not exhibit a close association with important events related to the founding and/or development of the industry. It is therefore not eligible for the California Register under Criterion 1. Criterion 2: While the company's founders were instrumental in developing several patents, the building does not exhibit a particular connection to illustrate any

important achievements. Therefore the subject property is not associated with the lives of persons important in California's past. Criterion 3: The building does exhibit limited elements of mid-century industrial design (flat roof and awning, large windows, use of industrial materials such as concrete and steel), but is not particularly distinctive from other buildings of that era. It does not represent the work of an important creative individual or possess high artistic values. Therefore, the subject property and its constituent buildings are not eligible under Criterion 3. Criterion 4: The subject property has not and is not likely to yield information important in prehistory or history and is therefore not eligible for listing under Criterion 4. The subject property and its historic-age building are therefore recommended not eligible under any of the four criteria for listing on the California Register, and as such are not recommended historical resources under CEQA.

The property does not qualify for historic listing and is therefore not recommended as a historical resource under CEQA.

**Integrity.** As the building remains in its original position it retains integrity of location. The exterior retains a measure of integrity of setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. However, the interior has been reconfigured as a warehouse and the elements related to design and development of lighting products has certainly diminished. This has reduced those same aspects of integrity considerably.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The historic-period building located on the project site is not recommended eligible for the California Register. As such this resource is not recommended a "historical resource" under CEQA. It does not warrant further consideration. Furthermore, previous construction-related excavation on the project site has disturbed sediments beyond depths at which buried prehistoric cultural resources are likely. Therefore, no significant impacts related to archaeological or historical resources is anticipated and no further investigations are recommended for the proposed project unless:

- the proposed project is changed to include areas not subject to this study;
- cultural materials are encountered during project activities.

Although the current study has not indicated sensitivity for cultural resources within the project boundaries, ground disturbing activities always have the potential to reveal buried deposits not observed on the surface during previous surveys. Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, field personnel should be alerted to the possibility of buried prehistoric or historic cultural deposits. In the event that field personnel encounter buried cultural materials, work in the immediate vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be retained to assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist would have the authority to stop or divert construction excavation as necessary. If the qualified archaeologist finds that any cultural resources present meet eligibility requirements for listing on the California Register or the National Register, plans for the treatment, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts to the find will need to be developed. Prehistoric or historic cultural materials that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities include:

- historic artifacts such as glass bottles and fragments, cans, nails, ceramic and pottery fragments, and other metal objects;
- historic structural or building foundations, walkways, cisterns, pipes, privies, and other structural elements;
- prehistoric flaked-stone artifacts and debitage (waste material), consisting of obsidian, basalt, and or cryptocrystalline silicates;
- groundstone artifacts, including mortars, pestles, and grinding slabs;
- dark, greasy soil that may be associated with charcoal, ash, bone, shell, flaked stone, groundstone, and fire affected rocks;

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

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# APPENDIX A

# DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND RECREATION 523 FORMS

**State of California — The Resources Agency** **Primary #**
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION** **HRI #**

# PRIMARY RECORD

**Trinomial**
**NRHP Status Code** 6Z

**Other Listings**
**Review Code** **Reviewer** **Date**

 *__Resource Name or #:__ 1515 West 178th Street

**P1. Other Identifier:** Globe Illumination Building

***P2. Location:** ☐ **Not for Publication** ☑ **Unrestricted** ***a. County:** Los Angeles

**and** (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

***b. USGS 7.5' Quad:** Torrance, CA **Date:** 1981 **T**3S; **R**14W; Non-sectioned**;** SBBM

c. Address: 1515 West 178th Street City: Gardena Zip: 90248

d. UTM: Zone: N/A mE/ Elevation: 40' AMSL

e. Other Locational Data: The subject property is located on the north side of 178th Street, east of Western Avenue and west of Normandie Avenue in Gardena. A channelized portion of the Dominguez Channel is located immediately to the north.

***P3a. Description:** The subject property is occupied by one industrial building that is historic in age (i.e. over 45 years old). The historic-period building fronts 178th Street in the east-central portion the property. It is a flat-roofed single-story brick and concrete building with rectangular plan and a protruding rectangular office along its front (south) elevation. Roof materials are composite. The shaded entry covers the office portion on the south elevation. The office façade is dominated by large glass aluminum-framed fixed windows, although two of the fixed windows contain inset aluminum sliders. The office portion is accessed through double glass doors which are surrounded by ceramic tile. The east and west elevations of the office portion each contain three sliding aluminum-framed windows and a metal access door. The larger (rear) portion of the building is used for industrial purposes. The south portion of the west elevation contains an awning and single metal door accessed atop concrete steps. The west elevation also contains eight steel bay doors for loading and unloading trucks, and five casement windows. A second metal door accessed atop concrete steps is located in the northern portion of the west elevation. A large metal awning spans the entire northern elevation. Twelve casement windows are evenly spaced along the east elevation and a single metal access door are located at its north end. The building is surrounded by parking, and an extended lot to the west is used for trailer storage and other industrial purposes. The property is currently occupied by a truckload shipping, transport, and warehouse company. With the exception of a strip of grass and trees along West 178th street, the entire property is paved. Los Angeles County Assessor records indicate that the building has a build date of 1961, and an effective build date of 1965. The square footage is 95,090 and it is zoned for commercial and industrial uses.

P5a. Photo or Drawing **(**Photo required for buildings, structures, and objects.)

***P4. Resources Present:**
☑ Building ☐Structure ☐Object ☐Site ☐District ☐Element of District ☐Other

**P5b. Description of Photo:** (View, date, accession #) Photo 1: Office Portion Overview (NW; from googlemaps.com)

***P6. Date Constructed/ Age and Sources:** ☑Historic 1961/1965 (L.A. County Assessor) ☐Prehistoric ☐Both

***P7. Occupant:**
RoadEx America, Inc.
1515 West 178th Street
Gardena, California 90248

***P8. Recorded by:**
D. Brunzell, D. Williams
BCR Consulting LLC
Claremont, California 91711

***P9. Date Recorded:** 3/19/2019

***P10. Survey Type:** Intensive.

***P11. Report Citation:** *Cultural Resources Assessment of the Melia Townhomes 114 Project, Gardena, California*

***Attachments:** ☐NONE ☐ Location Map ☐ Sketch Map ☑ Continuation Sheet ☑Building, Structure, and Object Record ☐Archaeological Record ☐District Record ☐Linear Feature Record ☐Milling Station Record ☐Rock Art Record ☐Artifact Record ☐Photograph Record ☐Other (List):

**State of California — The Resources Agency** **Primary #**
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION** **HRI#**

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

**Page** 2 **of** 4 ***NRHP Status Code**: 6Z ***Resource Name or #** (Assigned by recorder) 1515 West 178th Street
B1. Historic Name: Globe Illumination Building B2. Common Name:
B3. Original Use: Lighting Manufacture, Development, Shipping, and Administrative B4. Present Use: Trucking and Warehousing

***B5. Architectural Style:** Midcentury Modern

***B6. Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations): Globe Illumination Company contracted R.A. Watt Co. to design and build a new one million dollar plant at 1515 178th street which was completed in 1961 and opened in January of 1962. It included 100,000 square feet of space comprising research and testing laboratories, employee recreational facilities, a rail siding, and parking for 200 cars. Global Illumination occupied the property until at least the early 1990s. The building retains original windows and the entryway is unaltered. The railroad siding has been removed and some of the brick facing has been replaced. The awning over about half of the northern elevation was added between 1972 and 1980, and it covered the entire elevation by 1994. The interior was reconfigured from a design and manufacturing plant to a warehouse and logistics facility after Globe Illumination Company left the premises in the 1990s.

***B7. Moved?** ☑**No** ☐**Yes** ☐**Unknown** **Date:** N/A **Original Location:** N/A ***B8. Related Features:** None
**B9a.** Architect: Unknown b. Builder: R.A. Watt Co.
***B10. Significance: Theme:** Mid-Century Industrial Development **Area:** Gardena **Property Type:** Industrial Bldg.
**Applicable Criteria:** N/A
(Discuss importance in terms of historical/architectural context as defined by theme/period/geographic scope. Address integrity.)
**(See Continuation Sheet, Page 3 for Historical Context)**
California Register of Historical Resources requires that a significance criterion (1-4) be met for a resource to be eligible. A resource is eligible if (1) it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage; (2) it is associated with the lives of persons important in California's past; (3) it 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 value; or (4) it has yielded or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. The California Register also requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance (normally 45 years) to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources" (CCR 4852 [d][2]). The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The building at 1515 West 178th Street fits within a context of mid-century modern industrial development. While the founders of Globe Illumination, Inc. were influential, the building does not exhibit a close association with important events related to the founding and/or development of the industry. It is therefore not eligible for the California Register under Criterion 1. Criterion 2: While the company's founders were instrumental in developing several patents, the building does not exhibit a particular connection to illustrate any important achievements. Therefore the subject property is not associated with the lives of persons important in California's past. Criterion 3: The building does exhibit limited elements of mid-century industrial design (flat roof and awning, large windows, use of industrial materials such as concrete and steel), but is not particularly distinctive from other buildings of that era. It does not represent the work of an important creative individual or possess high artistic values. Therefore, the subject property and its constituent buildings are not eligible under Criterion 3. Criterion 4: The subject property has not and is not likely to yield information important in prehistory or history and is therefore not eligible for listing under Criterion 4. The subject property and its historic-age building are therefore recommended not eligible under any of the four criteria for listing on the California Register, and as such are not recommended historical resources under CEQA.

**Integrity.** As the building remains in its original position it retains integrity of location. The exterior retains a measure of integrity of setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. However, the interior has been reconfigured as a warehouse and the elements related to design and development of lighting products has certainly diminished. This has reduced those same aspects of integrity considerably.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes N/A

***B12. References:**
United States Geological Survey. 1916. *Redondo* 1:62,500 Topographic Quadrangle
USDA. 1952 and 1963. Aerial Photos of L.A. County. Elec. Document: historicaerials.com. Accessed 4/20/19.
Brunzell, David and Kara Brunzell. 2018. *Cultural Resources Assessment Normandie Courtyard Project City of Gardena, Los Angeles County, California.* On file at the SCCIC.

***B14. Evaluators:** David Brunzell, BCR Consulting, Claremont, California
***Date of Evaluation** 04/20/2019

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

**B10. Significance (Continued from page 2.)**

Gardena

The first people in the Gardena area were the Tongva (Gabrieleno) people. Europeans arrived in 1781 to found one of the first civilian towns the Spanish established in California. A handful of settlers from Mexico formed the pueblo of Los Angeles. The settlement remained a tiny village throughout the Spanish and brief Mexican eras. In the 1780s, the Spanish government granted the roughly 43,000-acre Rancho San Pedro to Juan Jose Dominguez. Even after California statehood in 1850, Southern California remained sparsely populated, and the primary local activity was agriculture. Major General William Starke Rosecrans purchased 16,000 acres of Rancho San Pedro after his service for the Union Army in the Civil War. He subdivided the land and sold it at a profit. One of the buyers was Civil War veteran Spencer Roane Thorpe, who began farming in the area in 1887. The Thorpe family is credited with naming the town Gardena because it was a garden spot. Los Angeles finally began to grow as a population center in the 1880s, after completion of the transcontinental railroads facilitated the relocation of large numbers of Midwesterners to California. In the 1890s, improved water infrastructure further stimulated regional development. In 1890, a local railway line from Los Angeles to Redondo Beach came through Gardena, prompting its downtown to be moved from Figueroa to Vermont Street. Truck farms for vegetables and berries dominated Gardena Valley in the late nineteenth centuries, and Japanese immigrants who farmed in the area were an important element of the community. Stores, schools, churches, and agricultural businesses like canneries followed the farmers to Gardena. In 1912, local fundraising funded the first library branch. Berries began to decline after 1914, when World War I prompted farmers to switch to other crops. Later, residential development began to displace farming, and Gardena incorporated as a city in 1930. Los Angeles County continued to experience population growth during the Great Depression. Existing trends were accelerated by completion of the Hoover Dam in 1935, which enabled Southern California's growth with massive new supplies of water and electricity. By 1939, Los Angeles County led the US in agriculture in addition to the film business and aircraft manufacture. Los Angeles County's population continued its steady increase and the City of Los Angeles became increasingly urban, but agriculture was still the county's major industry into the 1950s. During World War II, members of Gardena's well-established Japanese community were interned like Japanese-Americans across California. Many returned after the end of the war, however, initially as gardeners and truck farmers. As suburbanization replaced farming across the region in the 1950s, Gardena's new subdivisions drew Japanese-American home buyers (see Brunzell and Brunzell 2018:4). Easy rail and eventually Interstate access also prompted post-war industrial development. The landscape was most visibly transformed during the 1950s when the neighborhood surrounding the subject property went from about 50 percent rural in 1952 to almost completely built in 1963 (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 1952, 1963). Local developments were mostly residential, although the half-mile stretch along 178th Street between Denker Avenue and Normandie Avenue (including the subject property) was mostly industrial. This intensive development was accommodated by the concurrent construction of three freeways that surround the subject property: State Route 91 to the North, Interstate 110 to the east, and Interstate 405 to the south.

1515 West 178th Street

The subject property initially contained two buildings (no longer present) that were part of an agricultural complex to the south, before 178th Street occupied its current alignment. The northern part of the property was subject to periodic flooding from a local slough until it was routed into the Dominguez Channel as part of the Army Corps of Engineers' flood control efforts of the 1950s (see USGS 1916, United States Department of Agriculture 1952, 1963). In 1961, Globe Illumination Inc. (also known as Globe Illumination Company) purchased the property to use as its new headquarters. Globe Illumination, Inc. was formed by Max and Leonard Rosenblatt in 1944 in Los Angeles (Los Angeles Times [LAT], 21 January 1961: *Lighting Firm's Plant Rising*). Max and his older brother Isidor Rosenblatt had immigrated from Austria in the early 20th century. Isidore, who learned candle making in Austria with his grandfather, became a master mechanic at age 14 and immigrated to New York at age 15 in 1911. He established a successful lighting company in 1914, but the factory was destroyed by a fire in 1920. Max became a partner in his brother's business in 1923 and together they founded Globe Lighting, a manufacturer of gas/electric lights. They developed industrial-scale methods for glass-bending among other innovations, and eventually began to manufacture fluorescent lighting and fixtures. The company was awarded several military contracts during World War II and the Korean War, and Isidor acted as the company's president through at least the 1960s (Hazelton Standard-Speaker, 26 January 1962). In 1944 Max moved to Los Angeles and formed Globe Illumination, Inc. on Main Street with his son Leonard. Research has not shown Isidor's involvement on the west coast. The new west coast company was a success and secured a number of patents under Max and Leonard's direction. Globe Illumination, Inc. soon outgrew the Main Street facility. In 1961 they acquired the subject property and engaged builder R.A. Watt to construct a new headquarters at this location. It included 100,000 square feet of space comprising research and testing laboratories, employee recreational facilities, a rail siding, and parking for 200 cars (LAT, 21 January 1961: *Lighting Firm's Plant Rising*). Globe Illumination, Inc. occupied the property until at least the early 1990s. The interior of the building was subsequently reconfigured and the rail siding removed to accommodate a modern trucking company. It is currently occupied by RoadEx America a warehousing and trucking company formed in 2001.

Photo 1: 1515 West 178th Office Portion (NW)

Photo 2: 1515 West 178th Office Portion (NE)


Photo 3: 1515 West 178th Office Portion Tile Detail (N)


Photo 4: 1515 West 178th West Elevation (NNW)

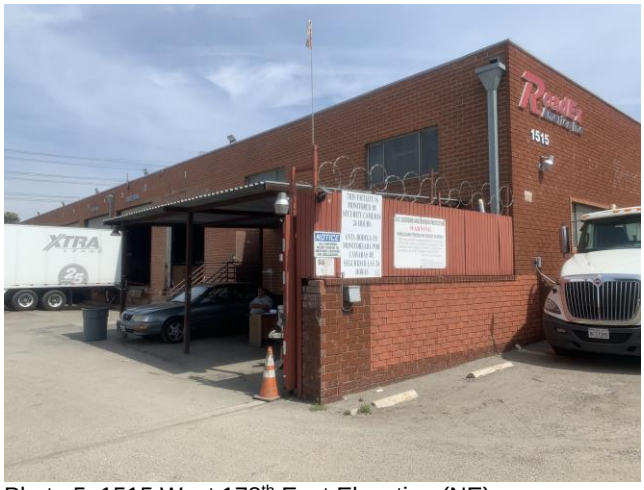

Photo 5: 1515 West 178th East Elevation (NE)


Photo 6: 1515 West 178th East Elevation (NE)