ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

2681 Cleveland Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

HISTORIC RESOURCE EVALUATION

of the

WEST VALLEY COLLEGE TRACK, SARATOGA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

APN 397-130-30

Prepared for:

Terrance DeGray, Associate Vice Chancellor
Facilities Development and Operations
West Valley-Mission Community College District
14000 Fruitvale Ave
Saratoga, CA 95070

Prepared by:

Nicholas Radtkey, MA, RPA
Alta Archaeological Consulting
2681 Cleveland Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Project No. ALTA2026-136

Key Words: USGS 7.5' Cupertino Quadrangle; 5.42-acre survey area; Township 8S, Range 2W, Unsectioned portion of Quito Land Grant, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; One historical resource; Evaluated as *ineligible* for listing in CRHR; No substantial adverse change found.

October 16, 2026
Revised October 29, 2026

WOBE | WBE | SBE | GSA

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Property Name:	West Valley College Track
Lead Agency:	West Valley-Mission Community College District
Project Contact:	Terrance DeGray, Associate Vice Chancellor Facilities Development and Operations West Valley-Mission Community College District 14000 Fruitvale Ave Saratoga, CA 95070
Applicable Regulations:	California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code section 21084.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15064.5
Scope of Work:	Historic resource evaluation
Location Information	The Project Area is located in a highly developed urban area in the southern portion of the city of Saratoga, in Santa Clara County, California. The property lies within an unsectioned portion of the Quito land grant, in Township 8S, Range 2W, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.
Project Description	West Valley College proposes to demolish the existing track and construct a wellness center on the site.
USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangle:	Cupertino
Cultural Resources Overview:	The West Valley College Track was recorded and evaluated as *ineligible* for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).
Report Authors:	Nicholas Radtkey, MA, RPA, Carrie Chasteen, MS
Date of Report:	October 29, 2026 Revised October 29, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY I
I. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS 2
II. INTRODUCTION 2
III. PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION 2
IV. REGULATORY CONTEXT 3
V. BACKGROUND 4
VI. SOURCES CONSULTED 10
Records Search 10
Historical Map and Aerial Photography Review 11
Archival Review 13
VII. FIELD METHODS 13
VIII. HISTORIC RESOURCE EVALUATION 13
Resource Description 13
Historic Resource Evaluation 13
IX. STUDY FINDINGS 15
X. REFERENCES CITED 15

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Early planning session for the West Valley College Campus 5
Figure 1. Signing of the contract to construct the physical education complex 7
Figure 3. Construction of the track and football field, December 1973 8
Figure 4. Notable figures in the history of the West Valley College Track. 9
Figure 5. Detail of the 1980 7.5-minute USGS Cupertino quadrangle. 11
Figure 6. West Valley College athletic complex, 1977 12
Figure 7. Aerial photo of the West Valley College campus, May 7, 1984 12

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Summary of Previous Cultural Resources Studies within Search Radius 10

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Maps
Attachment B – Records Search Results
Attachment C – Photo Sheet
Attachment D – Site Record

I. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The following Historic Resource Evaluation (HRE) documents identification efforts and presents the results of investigations within the limits of the proposed project and surrounding lands (Project Area). The study addresses the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as codified in Public Resources Code section 21084.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15064.5. The study was designed to document and evaluate the West Valley College Track, located within the Project Area, for its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Fieldwork was conducted on October 9, 2026 by Nick Fiske of ALTA Archaeological Consulting (ALTA). The survey entailed a cultural resources inventory of the Project Area, approximately 5.42 acres. The track was in the process of demolition during the site visit, but it was documented and evaluated as *ineligible* for inclusion in the CRHR as a result of research.

II. INTRODUCTION

ALTA was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory as part of the permitting process for the demolition of the West Valley College Track and construction of a wellness center on the site. A field survey was completed by ALTA on 9 October 2026 for the purpose of identifying cultural resources within the Project Area. For the purposes of this investigation, the entire 5.42-acre Project Area was surveyed. The following report documents the adequacy of identification efforts, presents the results of investigations within the Project Area boundaries, and makes recommendations for the management of resources present on the property. This report addresses the responsibilities of CEQA as codified in Public Resources Code section 21084.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15064.5.

Qualifications of Preparer

Nicholas Radtkey has more than nine years of experience conducting and supporting archaeological investigations and cultural resources management projects. He has developed specialized expertise as an architectural historian through extensive field survey, site recording, and evaluation of historic-era resources. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in History with a minor in Archaeology from the University of California, Davis, and a Master's degree in Cultural Resources Management from Sonoma State University. His graduate research focused on community collaboration in evaluating the significance of the historic-era apple industry in Annapolis, California. He specializes in the documentation and evaluation of built-environment resources, particularly within agricultural and industrial contexts. Mr. Radtkey serves as an architectural historian as well as a senior archaeologist, crew lead, and small projects manager. In these capacities, he oversees built environment evaluations, directs fieldwork, manages small projects from initiation through reporting, and ensures compliance with applicable regulatory standards. He maintains active memberships in professional and academic organizations and remains engaged in professional societies, supporting ongoing collaboration and professional development within the cultural resources field. Ms. Radtkey served as project architectural historian and primary author for the preparation of this HRE.

Carrie Chasteen holds a BA in History and an MS in Historic Preservation, and has over 25 years of experience preparing regulatory compliance documents in California. Ms. Chasteen served as quality control/quality assurance reviewer for this HRE.

III. PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Project Area is located on the southern end of the West Valley College Campus, in Saratoga, Santa Clara County, California. The Project Area is depicted on the USGS 7.5' Cupertino Quadrangle, in an unsectioned portion of the Quito land grant, in Township 8 South, Range 2 West, in the Mount Diablo Base and Meridian. The track site comprises 5.42 acres of a 22.89-acre parcel (APN 397-130-30). The physical address of the parcel, as part of the college, is 14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, California. Project vicinity and location maps are

included in Attachment A. The project proponent has filed a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the construction of a wellness center. This NOE has been contested by the nonprofit group Save West Valley Track.

IV. REGULATORY CONTEXT

This section briefly discusses the nature and extent of State regulations that apply to the Project. As part of the compliance process, the Project must comply with CEQA as amended, and its implementing regulations and guidelines, codified in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), which provides agencies with guidance for compliance with environmental regulations.

CEQA applies to projects that require approval by State and/or local agencies. Property owners, planners, developers, as well as State and local agencies are responsible for complying with CEQA's requirements regarding the identification and treatment of historic-era and prehistoric cultural resources. Under CEQA, cultural resources must be evaluated to determine their eligibility for listing in the CRHR. If a cultural resource is determined *ineligible* for listing in the CRHR, the resource is released from management responsibilities, and a project can proceed without further cultural resource considerations.

As set forth in Section 5024.1(c) of the Public Resources Code, for a cultural resource to be deemed "important" under CEQA and thus eligible for listing in the CRHR, it must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California history and cultural heritage; or
2. is associated with the lives of persons important to our past; or
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 value; or
4. has yielded or is likely to yield information important to prehistory or history.

Historic-era buildings and structures older than 50 years are most commonly evaluated in reference to Criterion 1 (important events), Criterion 2 (important persons), or Criterion 3 (architectural value). To be considered eligible under these criteria, the property must retain sufficient integrity to convey its important qualities. Integrity is judged in relation to seven aspects, including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Prehistoric and historic-era archaeological resources are commonly evaluated with regard to Criterion 4 (research potential).

Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA define procedures, types of activities, persons, and public agencies required to comply with CEQA. Section 15064.5(b) prescribes that project effects that would "cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource" are significant effects on the environment. Substantial adverse changes include both physical changes to the historical resource and to its immediate surroundings.

Section 21083.2 of the CEQA guidelines also defines "unique archaeological resources" as "any 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 shows 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.

CEQA Section 15064.5 (a)(3)(D), which indicates "generally, a resource shall be considered historically significant if it has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history," provides additional guidance.

V. BACKGROUND

This section presents a historic context for the West Valley College Track and surrounding lands.

General Historical Overview of Saratoga

The Project Area lies within the ancestral lands of the Partacsi band of Ohlone-speaking peoples. The Partacsi were a subgroup of the Tamien people, whose ancestral territory encompassed the Santa Clara Valley and surroundings. Their territory is estimated to have encompassed lands within the City of Saratoga and southwest into the mountains surrounding Saratoga Gap (Milliken 1995). The De Anza expedition entered the Santa Clara Valley in 1776, and Mission Santa Clara de Asís was established approximately seven miles northeast of the Project Area in 1777 (Munro-Fraser 1881:18). Following the secularization of the California missions, the land became part of the Rancho Quito, granted to José Noriega and José Z. Fernandez by Alta California governor Juan Bautista Alvarado in 1841. This three-square-league grant was sold to Manuel Alviso, who successfully defended its title to the U.S. Land Commission after the United States claimed California from Mexico (Hoffman 1862:38).

The first American to meaningfully settle in the area was William Campbell, who built a sawmill on Saratoga Creek, then called Campbell's Gap. Martin McCarthy leased the mill from Campbell in 1851 and constructed a toll road into the Santa Clara Valley. The toll gate, located near Big Basin Way and Third Street, led to the later settlement in that area being called Toll Gate. McCarthy is known as the person who laid out the streets of Saratoga, first called McCarthysville. In 1851, William Haun and his wife's family constructed a water-powered flour mill in the area, which eventually gave rise to the second name, Bank Mills, in 1863. In 1865, the people of Bank Mills voted to name the town Saratoga, after the city in New York (Munro-Fraser 1881:314; Saratoga Historical Foundation 2006).

Through the late 19th century, the leading industry in Saratoga shifted from mills to orchards. French prunes and apricots were leading products in the area, with cherries, walnuts, almonds, and grapes forming secondary crops. Following the Second World War, suburban development spread over the agricultural lands of the Bay Area in the mid-century. In an attempt to control the shape of its own development, the community of Saratoga voted to incorporate in 1956. Since that time, Saratoga has become a part of Silicon Valley and contributes to the technology economy that contributes to the character of the South Bay to the present (Saratoga Historical Foundation 2006; Supernowicz 2013).

Community Colleges in California

The seed of the junior college concept in California began in the Bay Area in the early 1900s, when Alexis F. Lange of UC Berkeley's School of Education and president David Starr Jordan of Stanford University began lobbying to move lower-division coursework away from large universities. This resulted in the Upward Extension Act of 1907, a bill that allowed public high schools to offer coursework equivalent to lower-division college courses. California soon came to lead the junior college movement, establishing 49 junior colleges after the passage of the act. In the 1930s, the philosophy about the purpose of junior colleges shifted away from preparation for transfer to vocational education, and the term "community college" gained popular usage. The passage of the Master Plan for Higher Education in 1960 more or less completed this shift, as it specified providing for "every student who is willing and able to benefit from attendance." The Master Plan transferred control of community colleges into the hands of designated local boards rather than local K-12 districts. Community colleges throughout the Bay Area and the state continue to provide low-cost access to higher education for a wide variety of populations (Boggs and Galizio 2021:1–22).

West Valley College

In 1963, citizens of the Campbell Union High School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District voted to form the West Valley Joint Community College District. The West Valley Junior College did not have a purpose-built campus at first, and held its first classes in the former Campbell Union Grammar School on September 14, 1964 (West Valley College 2026). Simultaneously, the district sought to purchase land on which it could build a campus. In October 1964, amid public controversy and debate, the "Fruitvale-Allendale" site was selected (Carey 1964:1). Construction on the first buildings of the campus began in 1967, and operations finally fully transferred out of the Campbell Union Grammar School site in 1975. The district added a second campus near Santa Clara the same year, which grew to become Mission College. In 1985, the district was renamed the West Valley Mission Community College District. The district continues to serve over 20,000 students a year across its two campuses, providing a wide range of courses (West Valley Mission Community College District 2026).



PLANNING SESSIONS for the new West Valley Junior College are now under way, with college officials meeting regularly with WVJC's architects and educational consultants, President Wallace W. Hall has announced. Discussing new developments in educational facilities, such as language laboratories and closed-circuit TV instructional centers, are (clockwise): Gerald Erickson of Higgins and Root, architects, Los Gatos; Dr. James D. MacConnell, educational consultant; Tibor Fecskes of Reid and Tarics, architects, San Francisco; John Lyon Reid of Reid and Tarics; R. E. Arnold, WVJC dean of campus facilities; Dr. Gordon D. Aumack, WVJC dean of instruction; Chester Root of Higgins and Root; and Donald Davis, educational consultant. The group met in the School Plant Planning Laboratory at Stanford University. Passage of a $16 million bond issue, tomorrow will be needed to provide permanent campus facilities.

Figure 1. Early planning session for the West Valley College Campus (Times-Observer 1964:1).

Architects

The college awarded the contract for the Saratoga campus to two architectural firms—Higgins and Root of Los Gatos and Reid and Tarics of San Francisco. Both firms were noted at the time for their construction of public buildings (Los Gatos Times 1963:2, 1977; Times-Observer 1963:1). The following narratives summarize the careers of the firms and significant associated individuals.

Higgins and Root

Chester Root was born in Grass Valley in 1905, and grew up in Berkeley. He received a BA from the University of California's School of Architecture in 1926, and completed an MA at Harvard's School of Architecture in 1930. While on the East Coast, he worked for J. D. Leland and Company in Boston, then with New York for famous designers Grovesnor Atterbury and Norman Bel Geddes. Returning to the West Coast, he partnered with William

L. Higgins to form Higgins and Root in San Jose in 1936. In 1963, the firm moved its offices to 400 Blossom Hill Road in Los Gatos; by this time, the firm had designed over $60 million worth of buildings (Los Gatos Times 1963:2) He became a fellow of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1960, and became a Member Emeritus of the AIA College of Fellows in 1977, shortly before his death.

Higgins and Root were founding members of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the AIA, and Root served as president of the chapter in 1950 and 1951. He became the first architect to serve on the Santa Clara County Planning Commission, a position which he held between 1947 and 1957. In his personal life, he served on the board of the Montalvo Arts Center and the YMCA of the Santa Clara Valley, as well as a volunteer for many other organizations (Gane and Koyl 1970:778; Los Gatos Times 1977:1, 4).

The firm of Higgins and Root was known in the Bay Area as early promoters of emerging modernist styles. They have been noted for an emphasis on functionalism, and borrowed elements of design from the International and Moderne styles. As a firm, Higgins and Root were minor players in the Second Bay tradition (Lieberman 2010). Root, formerly a draftsman for the influential Streamline Moderne designer Norman Bel Geddes, expressed his modernist approach in public buildings such as the City of San Jose Fire Department No. 8 (1948), the Santa Clara Central Library (1955), the San Benito County Courthouse (1963). Still, Higgins and Root dabbled in the emergent Ranch style in the 1950s, most notably in conjunction with Cliff May on the Sunset Magazine headquarters in Menlo Park (1952) (Koyl 1956:471; Nuval and Chattel 2024).

Reid and Tarics

Alexander (Sandor) Tarics, a Hungarian athlete, gained fame as a water polo player in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. When he died in 2016 at the age of 102, he was the oldest living Olympian (Associated Press 2016:A16). After Tarics' athletic career came to an end in 1939, he completed a doctorate in civil engineering in 1943. He moved to the United States to teach at UC Berkeley, where he worked with Dr. James Kelly on earthquake-resistant foundation technology. Together, Kelly and Tarics developed the base isolator, a seismic dampening device used to deflect energy from an earthquake (Ostler 2016:C2). Tarics and John L. Reid established their firm in 1946; their firm specialized in the design of campuses, including high schools, colleges, and research facilities (Daily Item 1965:6; Gane and Koyl 1970:752). By 1965, Reid and Tarics had received two awards from the national body of the American Institute of Architects (AIA): one for the chapel at the Robert Louis Stevenson School for Boys in Pebble Beach, and the other for the Greenwich High School in Connecticut (Stamford Advocate 1965:18). Reid and Tarics received a commendation from the American Association of School Architects for their display on the project at the 1972 exhibit of School Architecture. This citation specifically regarded the "complementary blending of the indoors and outdoors," praising the use of wood and concrete in the design of campus buildings. No mention of athletic fields was made (Times-Observer 1972a:16). During the design of the Saratoga campus (but prior to acquisition of the property), Tarics presented the case to the West Valley College governing board that constructing single-story buildings would be more cost-effective than building multi-story buildings. His case was made in terms of both cost per square foot and in seismic retrofitting terms. No mention was made of the athletic field (Times-Observer 1965:1, 10).

Project Area History

The physical education complex of the West Valley College came relatively late in the development of the new Saratoga campus. On April 20, 1972, the governing board of the district authorized the release of bids for only the buildings of the physical education complex, splitting off "site improvements," including tennis courts, bleachers, golf areas, a baseball field, and the running track for a later date (Times-Observer 1972b:5). That second phase officially began the following year. The Nicholson-Brown Company was awarded the first portion of the contract on June 26, 1972, and the second on June 14, 1973 (Times-Observer 1972c:1, 1973a:8). A change order was soon submitted to the original scope of work; to provide additional fill on the Mission College Campus in Santa Clara, the governing board approved the removal of 110,000 cubic feet of soil from the "athletic field" (i.e. the running track). Aadco Construction Company was awarded the contract for this soil removal, at a cost of $270,573 (Times-Observer 1973b:6).



Figure 2. Signing of the contract to construct the physical education complex at the West Valley College, June 1972. From left: Norman Brown of builders Nicholson-Brown, superintendent James P. Hardy, and division chairman of physical education Wayne Clay (Times-Observer 1972c:1).

The West Valley College track was one of many tracks after 1968 to be surfaced with a 3M Tartan synthetic track surface. This material was developed at 3M under the direction of Dr. Thomas Garrett (Athletic Polymer Systems 2007). Tartan was the first synthetic track material to gain popularity, and received a significant promotion after its use in the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico (Benyon Sports 2025). Although the West Valley College Track was among many tracks at this time to be built using the new material, no evidence suggests that it was specifically designed to mimic the 1968 Olympic track in Mexico. Two former athletes of note were involved in developing and promoting Tartan tracks: Bill Nieder, an American competitor in the 1960s Olympics who specialized in shot put, and Don Bowden, a UC Berkeley runner and Saratoga resident who in 1957 became the first American to break the four-minute mile barrier at Baxter Stadium in Stockton (National Museum of American History 2025; Times-Herald 1957:19). Tartan tracks were considered a significant improvement over cinder and dirt tracks, allowing uniformity in the track surface with a significant reduction in maintenance, while also eliminating the need for shoes with steel spikes for traction (Athletic Polymer Systems 2007; Benyon Sports 2025).



Figure 3. Construction of the track and football field, December 1973. Courtesy of the West Valley College Library.

Following the track's completion, West Valley College sought to install bleachers and lighting around the athletic field; the center of the track was intended to function as a football field (Times-Observer 1974:8). However, the City of Saratoga contested this move in December 1974, citing text within the use permit that "the campus shall not include a stadium designed for large intercollegiate events" (Welch 1974:8).

West Valley College's track and cross country program was led by Bill Campbell. As a runner at Campbell High School in the 1950s, Campbell gained awards in track and field. During his years at Monterey Peninsula College and San Jose State University in the 1960s, he continued running and trained under noted coach Bud Winter. In 1970, he left his coaching job at Westmont High School to take an assistant track coaching position at West Valley College (Times-Observer 1970:5). In October 1973, head coach Tom Smith left West Valley College to participate in other local coaching programs, and Campbell took over his position (Times-Observer 1973c:3). Campbell led the West Valley College cross country and track teams for more than two decades, including 27 conference titles, 16 of which were consecutive between 1976 and 1991. He was inducted into the West Valley College Hall of Fame in 2013 (Sanchez 2013; Sparrer 2013).

On February 21, 1979, Bostonian runner Bill Rodgers successfully attempted to break the world record for the 25-kilometer run at the West Valley College Track. Rodgers chose to attempt the record on a whim while looking at records in a copy of *Track and Field News*. After the University of California at Berkeley denied his request to

use their track, organizer Dave Prokop contacted coach Bill Campbell at West Valley College, who agreed to host the event. The choice of the West Valley College Track was serendipitous, as Prokop was associated with *Track and Field News,* whose offices were located near West Valley College (Rodgers and Concannon 1982:155). In this attempt, Rodgers simultaneously attempted three other records. En route to the 25-kilometer record, Rodgers broke the American record for the one-hour run with a distance of 12 miles and 997 yards. Twelve minutes later, Rodgers broke the 15-mile record with a time of 1:12:49. At 1:14:11.8, he passed the 25-kilometer mark, besting the 1975 record of Finnish runner Pekka Paivarinta by exactly five seconds. After passing 25 kilometers, Rodgers began to stop, but was informed that he had to run 30 kilometers for the record to count. He continued on in an attempt to beat the 30-kilometer record, but fell short of Jim Alder's record, 1:31:30, by 19 seconds (Hosler 1979:22, 2024; Nor Cal Running Review 1979:37). Rodgers spent an illustrious career as a marathon runner, winning the Boston Marathon four times and earning the moniker "Boston Billy" (Burfoot and Kislevitz 2021; Jolicoeur 2025; Moriber 2022; Running Past 1999). Rodgers commented in his autobiography that as a marathon runner by specialty, he felt there was a "touch of incongruity" in his attempt on the records (Rodgers and Concannon 1982:157). Rodgers also set American track records for the 15-kilometer run, 20-kilometer run, and hour record in Boston, and by 1982 had opened two locations of the Bill Rodgers Running Center (Rodgers and Concannon 1982:320). Retrospectives on Bill Rodgers' life center on his marathon records, particularly those achieved in the Boston Marathon, and only mention the records broken at West Valley College as a secondary achievement (Burfoot and Kislevitz 2021; Jolicoeur 2025; Moriber 2022; Running Past 1999).

After many years of budget concerns, West Valley College began eliminating athletics programs in the early 2000s in favor of providing coursework. The West Valley College track and cross country program was eliminated alongside the wrestling program in 2010; the football program followed in 2014 (Sarwari 2013).

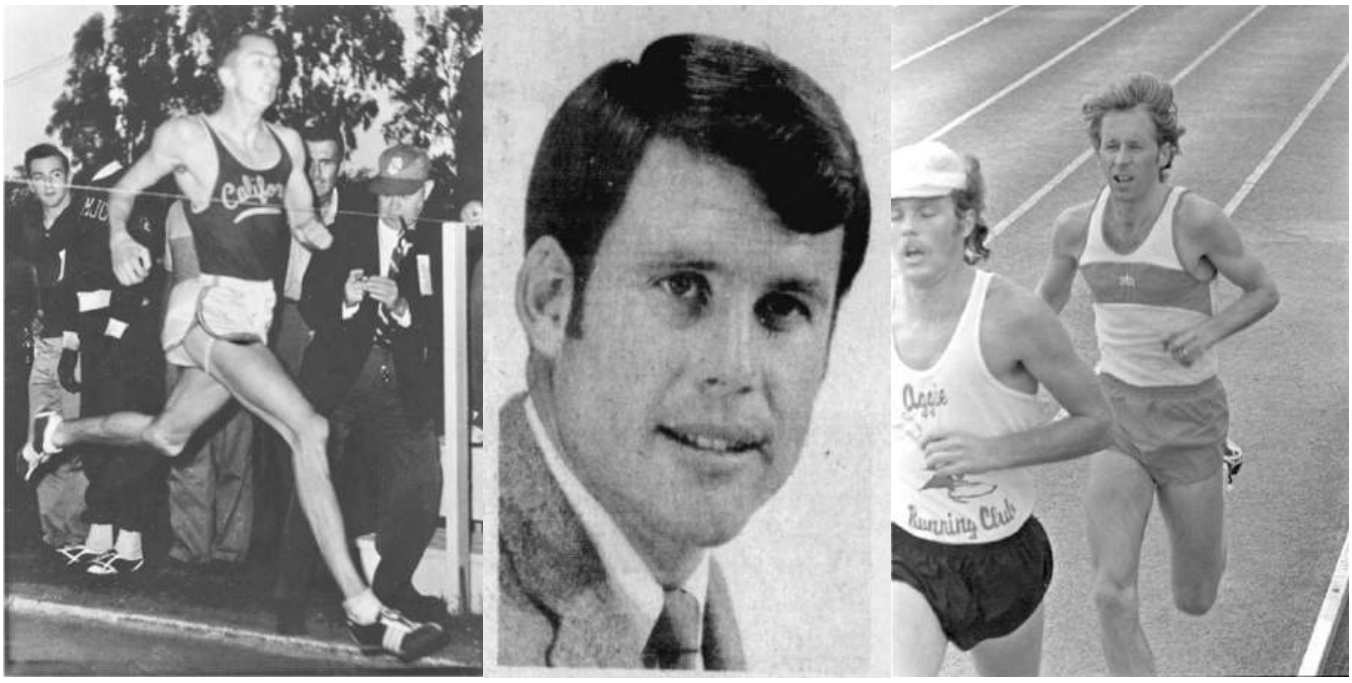


Figure 4. Notable figures in the history of the West Valley College Track. Left: Don Bowden crosses the finish line at Baxter Stadium in Stockton, 1957 (Faraudo 2023). Center: Bill Campbell in 1970 (Times-Observer 1970:5). Right: Bill Rodgers during his 1979 25,000m record run (Hosler 2024).

VI. SOURCES CONSULTED

Records Search

On September 30, 2026, ALTA architectural historian Nicholas Radtkey conducted a records search (File Number 26-0407) at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) located on the campus of Sonoma State University. The NWIC, an affiliate of the State of California Office of Historic Preservation is the official state repository of archaeological and historical records and reports for an 18-county area that includes Santa Clara County. The records search included a review of all study reports and resources on file within a quarter-mile radius of the Project Area. Sources consulted include archaeological site and survey base maps, survey reports, site records, and historic General Land Office (GLO) maps.

Included in the review were:

- California Inventory of Historical Resources (CA Dept. of Parks and Rec. 1976)
- California Historical Landmarks for Santa Clara County (CA-OHP 1990)
- California Points of Historical Interest (CA-OHP 1992)
- Built Environment Resources Directory Listing (BERD) (CA-OHP February 2026)
- Historic Properties Directory (CA-OHP April 2012), including the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest
- Saratoga Heritage Resource Inventory (October 2024)

National, State, and Local Registers

Review of historical registers and inventories indicates that no California Historical Landmarks or Points of Interest are present in the Project Area. No National Register-listed or eligible properties are located within the quarter-mile visual area of the Project Area. No properties in the Project Area or quarter-mile radius are listed in the Saratoga Heritage Resource Inventory.

Previous Cultural Resource Studies

Review of cultural resource site and survey maps revealed that two cultural resource studies have been previously performed within a quarter-mile radius of the Project Area (Table 1). Approximately 5 percent of the quarter-mile records search radius has been previously surveyed. No studies have been conducted within the Project Area.

Table 1. Summary of Previous Cultural Resources Studies within Search Radius

Report No.	Authors	Year	Title
S-004207	Stephen A. Dietz	1975	An archaeological reconnaissance of those portions of the Campbell and Saratoga campuses of the West Valley Joint Community College District which will be part of the proposed relocation of the Campbell Campus' G-wing portable buildings (letter report)
S-004344	David Chavez	1976	Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of the proposed Odd Fellows of Saratoga Retirement Community Construction Site (letter report)

A single historic-era cultural resource is documented within a quarter-mile radius of the Project Area. There are no cultural resources documented within the Project Area.

P-43-003126 is the West Valley College Theater/Fine Arts/Humanities Building. This building was evaluated as ineligible for the National Register through Section 106 consensus (Supernowicz 2013).

Historical Map and Aerial Photography Review

Review of historical maps of the area was completed to better understand the timing of development within the Project Area and recognize historical features. The following narrative summarizes the results of this review.

The area now comprising the West Valley College Track is depicted on the 1955 edition of the 1953 7.5-minute Cupertino quadrangle as cultivated farmland. Scattered buildings appear in the vicinity of the track area. This remains consistent on updates of this map until 1969, when photorevisions show the northernmost buildings of the "West Valley Jr. College." (United States Geological Survey 1955, 1962, 1965, 1969). The next photorevision, dated 1975, shows buildings pushing south from North College Circle, but the running track is not depicted (United States Geological Survey 1975). The first USGS quadrangle to depict the running track dates to 1980 (United States Geological Survey 1980). No further changes to the depiction of the Project Area are visible in historical USGS maps (United States Geological Survey 1980).

Aerial photographs available through the West Valley College Library show that the running track was originally red. By 1984, it had been resurfaced and appears gray. By 2000, it had been resurfaced once more in blue, which appears to be the most recent surface installed.

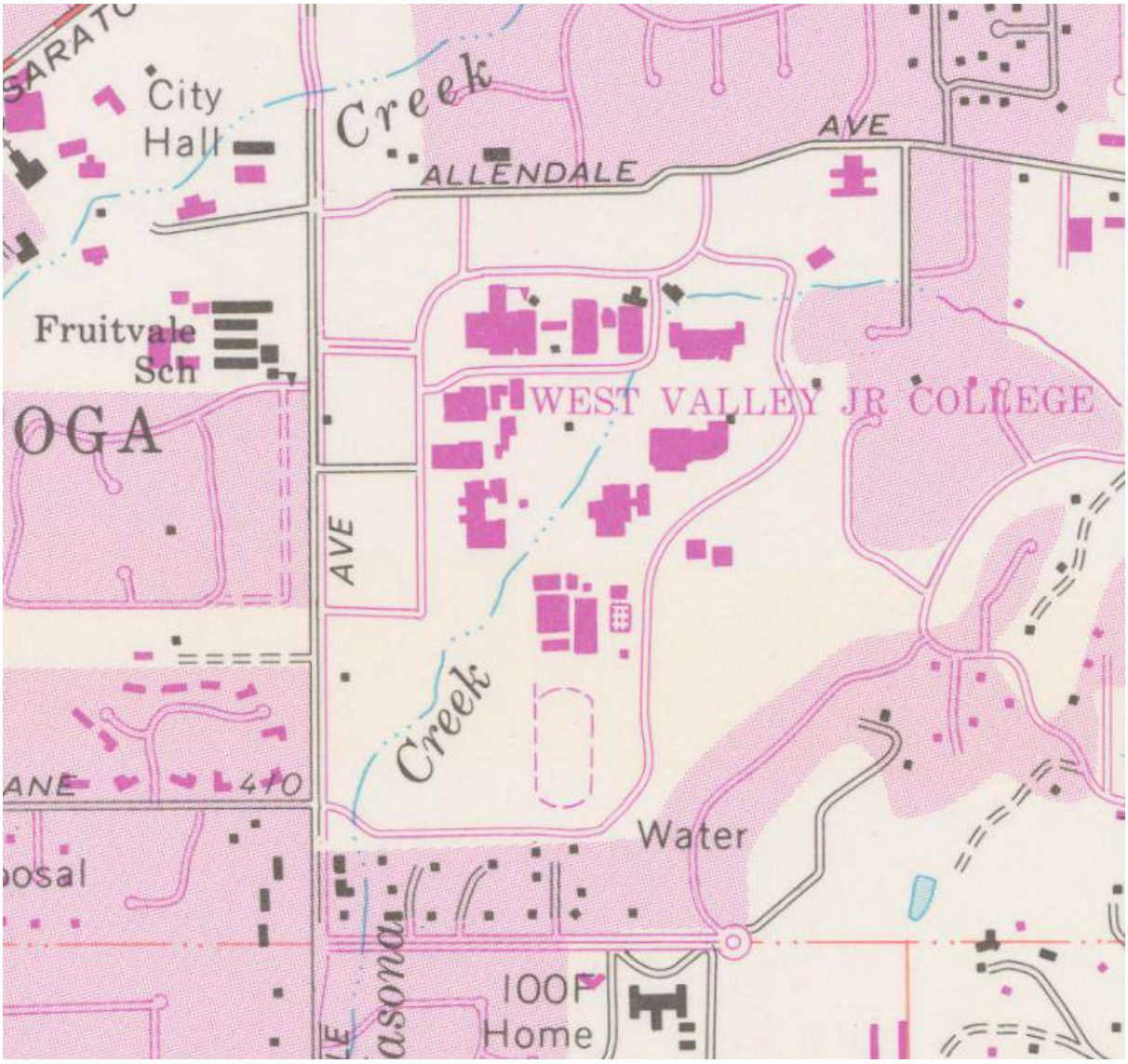


Figure 5. Detail of the 1980 7.5-minute USGS Cupertino quadrangle, depicting the track.

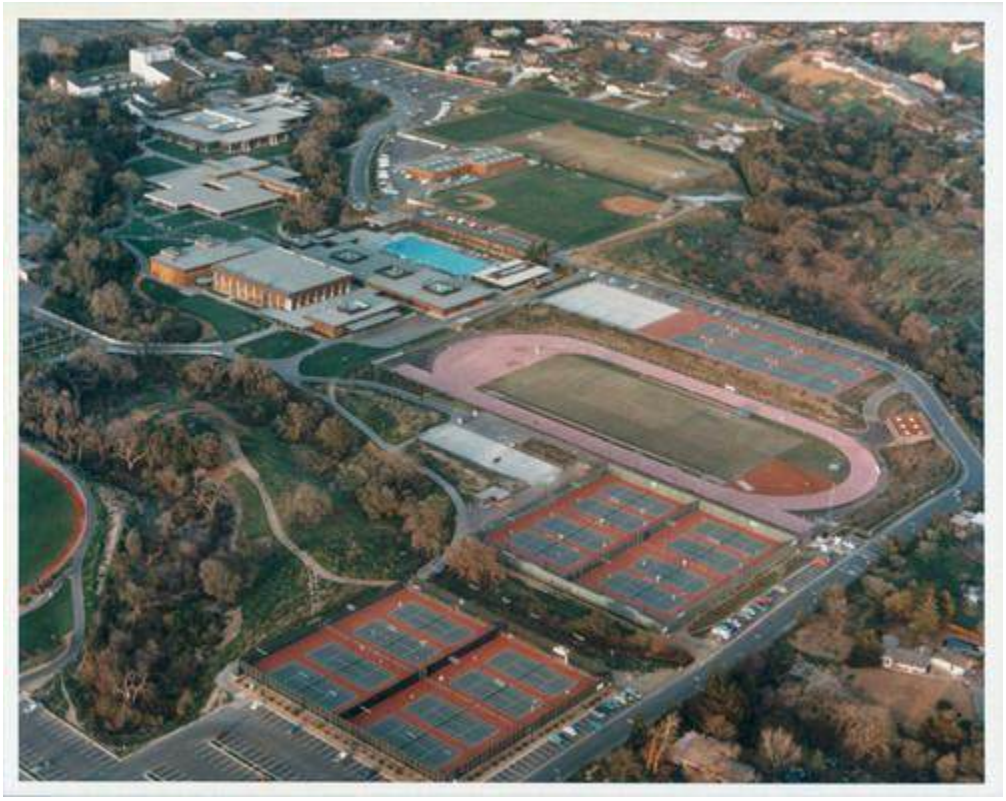


Figure 6. West Valley College athletic complex, 1977. Note the red track surface.



Figure 7. Aerial photo of the West Valley College campus, May 7, 1984. Note the gray track surface. Courtesy of the West Valley College Library.

Archival Review

ALTA architectural historian Nicholas Radtkey conducted a review of archival sources to sequence the history of the construction of the West Valley College Track and to identify significant events and individuals associated with the property. Resources reviewed included the West Valley College Library special collections, issues of the West Valley Track Club newsletters and Nor Cal Running Review, and historical newspapers available through the UC Riverside California Digital Newspaper Collection and Newspapers.com.

VII. FIELD METHODS

ALTA architectural historian Nicholas Radtkey assigned ALTA staff archaeologist Nick Fiske to conduct a field survey of the Project Area on October 9, 2026. Project design drawings, project maps, and aerial imagery were used to correctly identify the Project Area. The full Project Area was surveyed, totaling 5.42 acres of land. Digital photos were taken of the Project Area and surroundings (Attachment C).

VIII. HISTORIC RESOURCE EVALUATION

As previously discussed in Section IV, this cultural resources inventory was conducted to address the responsibilities of CEQA, as codified in Public Resources Code section 21084.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15064.5. No cultural resources were identified within the Project Area as a result of the records search.

The literature review revealed data regarding the history of the West Valley College Track. The track was recorded during the field survey and documented on Department of Parks and Recreation Form 523 (see Attachment D). The remains of the track are described below.

Resource Description

West Valley College Track

The West Valley College Track was a regulation 400-meter synthetic running track constructed in 1973. It was designed as part of the West Valley College Campus by a partnership of firms Higgins and Root of Los Gatos and Reid and Tarics of San Francisco. West Valley College awarded the building contract to contractor Nicholson-Brown, Inc. in 1973. It was primarily intended as a training space for the college's track and field program. As of October 9, 2026, the track itself has been fully demolished.

Historic Resource Evaluation

In order for a property to be considered eligible for listing in the CRHR, it must possess historical significance by fulfilling at least one of four criteria and retain sufficient integrity, defined by seven aspects (PRC Section 5024.1(c)). This section outlines the evidence for significance and integrity of the West Valley College Track based on these criteria and the condition of the track prior to demolition.

Criterion 1

Criterion 1 identifies significant resources as those "that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(1)). The construction of the West Valley College Track belongs to a broader pattern of developing community colleges in the Bay Area and California in the 20th century. However, West Valley College did not appear to be of exceptional note in this context, as it was not pioneering in the development of community college practices. The athletics program at West Valley College, while notable, does not appear to have been significant enough to merit note beyond local periodicals. Even if the college itself were eligible, it is unlikely that the running track would merit inclusion as a contributing element, as its significance to secondary education in the context of community college development in California is modest

compared to the development of the first facilities constructed in the 1960s. As such, under the theme of education, the West Valley College track does not meet the threshold of significance necessary to merit inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 1.

Criterion 2

Criterion 2 identifies significant resources as those "that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(2)). The following discussion applies the criterion to individuals and groups identified in association with the track.

Don Bowden's association with the track is tangential at best. His employment by 3M on the design of the Tartan track material in the late 1960s and the installation of a Tartan surface on the West Valley College Track in 1973 are coincidental rather than associated. Even if Bowden were the salesman who sold the material to the college, this would not be a significant event under Criterion 2. As a runner, Bowden's greatest achievement took place at Baxter Stadium in Stockton in 1957, many years prior to the existence of the college and many miles from Saratoga.

The most notable individual associated with the West Valley College Track is Bill Rodgers, who, on February 21, 1979, broke a standing world record for the 25-kilometer run. However, in the documentary record, Rodgers is most frequently commended for winning the Boston Marathon four times, in 1975, 1978, 1979, and 1980. Discussions of the achievements of "Boston Billy" frequently center on these four wins, while the record set at the West Valley College Track is mentioned as a footnote to Rodgers' distinguished marathon running career. While Rodgers' 1979 achievement is notable, it does not elevate the track itself to the level of significance necessary to merit the track's inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 2.

Coach Bill Campbell has been cited as an individual associated with use of the track. Campbell's coaching record at West Valley College is commendable, particularly in the winning of 27 conference titles. However, Campbell's legacy is confined to West Valley College; no data beyond the locality of Saratoga suggests that his achievements made him a significant figure in the history of running beyond the Bay Area community college circuit. Furthermore, it is not clear from documentation that any particular title or event under Campbell's tenure occurred at West Valley College. Because the track was specifically intended to function as a practice arena and not a stadium, it is unlikely that college meets of any significance would have been hosted here. As such, the track, a practice space for the West Valley College track and cross country team, does not in itself bear enough relationship to Mr. Campbell's achievements to merit inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 2.

In sum, none of the individuals identified with the West Valley College Track bear enough significance to merit the track's inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 2.

Criterion 3

Criterion 3 identifies significant resources as those "that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(3)).

The firm of Higgins and Root was part of the team that designed the West Valley College. However, the running track does not figure large in their portfolio of projects; Chester Root in particular is best known for his Ranch-style work on the Sunset Magazine headquarters and for postwar modernism. The historical AIA directory for 1970 does not mention West Valley College among Higgins and Root's many notable projects and achievements to that time.

The apex of Alexander (Sandor) Tarics' Olympic career was at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Tarics' later career as an architect in San Francisco was defined by civic, public, and industrial buildings, and Tarics' achievement as an

individual engineer is most closely tied to the development of seismic technology. Tarics does not appear to have a clear relationship to the track itself, though his firm was one of two partners responsible for designing the West Valley College campus.

A review of documents did not identify Nicholson-Brown as a construction firm of note beyond its involvement with the West Valley College. Were any component of the college to be considered architecturally significant with respect to Nicholson-Brown's work, the track would not merit inclusion on that basis, being of a standardized layout and materials rather than the custom-built Brutalist designs provided by the above-discussed architectural teams.

The group Save West Valley Track claims in a memorandum that the track was "modeled after the 1968 Olympic track in Mexico." Archival research through historical newspapers and college documents does not substantiate this claim. Rather, the track is designed to meet standard competition dimensions and is therefore not unique in design. Based on a review of photos available through the West Valley College Library, the original synthetic track material had been replaced at least twice since the original red Tartan track was installed in 1973. Were the track still extant, it would not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction any better than running tracks of a similar age. As the work of architectural firms Higgins and Root and Reid and Tarics, the track represents a minor component of a large portfolio of work primarily devoted to midcentury industrial and public buildings. The track therefore would not represent the work of a master or high artistic value. Though it is part of the West Valley College campus, it does not comprise a part of the campus's character-defining midcentury Brutalist design as described by Supernowicz (2013) in his evaluation of the West Valley College Theater. As such, it meets none of the elements of significance necessary to merit inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 3.

Criterion 4

Criterion 4 identifies significant resources as those "that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(4)). The West Valley College Track was constructed using conventional materials and methods for its time. It had since been resurfaced multiple times prior to its recent demolition. It is highly unlikely that any unique or novel information about methods of running track construction or materials employed can be gleaned from study of this track.

IX. STUDY FINDINGS

In conclusion, this evaluation finds that the now-demolished West Valley College Track retains no aspects of integrity and meets none of the four criteria for eligibility for the CRHR. Therefore, it is evaluated herein as *ineligible* for inclusion on the CRHR. As designed, the project is not anticipated to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5.

X. REFERENCES CITED

Associated Press. 2016. Sandor Tarics, Oldest Former Olympian, Dies. *Desert Sun*, May 25, 2016:16, sec. A.

Athletic Polymer Systems. 2007. Tartan History. *Tartan*. Athletic Polymer Systems, Corona, CA. Product website, https://www.tartan-aps.com/history.php.

Benyon Sports. 2025. From Cinder to Polyurethane: The Evolution of Running Track Surface Construction. *Benyon Sports*. Product website, https://beynonsports.com/en/articles/detail/evolution-of-running-track-construction/.

Boggs, George R., and Lawrence A. Galizio (editors). 2021. *A College for All Californians: A History of the California Community Colleges*. Teachers College Press, New York.

Burfoot, Amby, and Gail Kislevitz. 2021. Profile - Bill Rodgers has been running for 57 years, with a few wins and many friends along the way. *Lifetime Running*. Lifetime Running. Running information website, https://www.lifetimerunning.net/2021/03/profile-bill-rodgers-has-been-running.html.

Carey, Mary Bell. 1964. Saratoga Site Selected for College Campus. *Times-Observer*, October 16, 1964. https://www.newspapers.com/image/696790229/.

Daily Item. 1965. Architect for GHS Slated for PTA-Sponsored Panel. *Daily Item*, April 8, 1965:6.

Faraudo, Jeff. 2023. The Cal 100: No. 42 -- Don Bowden. *Sports Illustrated*, 2023. https://www.si.com/college/cal/other-sports/no-42-don-bowden.

Gane, John F., and George S. Koyl (editors). 1970. *American Architects Directory*. 3rd ed. R. R. Bowker Company, New York.

Hoffman, Ogden. 1862. *Reports of Land Cases Determined in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California*. Numa Herbert, San Francisco.

Hosler, Ray. 1979. A Fistful of Records. *On the Run*, April 19, 1979:22.

Hosler, Ray. 2024. West Valley College track witnessed five running records in a single day. *Bay Area Bike Rides*. Personal blog, https://rayhosler.wordpress.com/2024/01/13/west-valley-college-track-witnessed-five-running-records-in-a-single-day/, accessed October 2, 2026.

Jolicoeur, Lynn. 2025. Legendary marathoner Bill Rodgers celebrates 50 years since his first of four Boston Marathon wins. *WBUR*. WBUR, Boston. Public media website, https://www.wbur.org/news/2025/04/17/bill-rodgers-boston-marathon-50-years.

Koyl, George S. (editor). 1956. *American Architects Directory*. 1st ed. R. R. Bowker Company, New York.

Lieberman, Donald. 2010. Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Ernest and Emily Renzel House. California State Parks.

Los Gatos Times. 1963. Architectural Firm Moves to Los Gatos. *Los Gatos Times*, May 13, 1963:2.

Los Gatos Times. 1977. Chester Root Dies, Noted Area Architect. *Los Gatos Times*, March 29, 1977:1, 4.

Milliken, Randall T. 1995. *A Time of Little Choice: The Disintegration of Tribal Culture in the San Francisco Bay Area*. Ballena Press Anthropological Papers 43. Ballena Press, Menlo Park, CA.

Moriber, Paul. 2022. Catching Up with Running Legend, Bill Rodgers. *The Bethel Grapevine*. The Bethel Grapevine, Bethel, CT. News website, https://www.bethelgrapevine.com/articles/catching-up-with-running-legend-bill-rodgers.

Munro-Fraser, J.P. 1881. *History of Santa Clara County, California*. Alley, Bowen and Company, San Francisco.

National Museum of American History. 2025. Tartan Surface Material Track Sample. *Smithsonian Institution*. Museum website, https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/object/nmah_679446.

Nor Cal Running Review. 1979. Long Distance Results. *Nor Cal Running Review*, 1979:35–40.

Nuval, Alvin-Christian, and Robert Jay Chattel. 2024. Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Sunset Headquarters. California State Parks.

Ostler, Scott. 2016. Alexander Tarics - Olympian Invented Quake Shock Pads. *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2016:2, sec. C.

Rodgers, Bill, and Joe Concannon. 1982. *Marathoning*. Simon and Schuster, New York.

Running Past. 1999. Profiles - Bill Rodgers. *Running Past*. Running Past. Running information website, https://www.lifetimerunning.net/2021/03/profile-bill-rodgers-has-been-running.html.

Sanchez, Sheila. 2013. Saratoga's West Valley College Inducts Coaches, Teams Into Hall of Fame. *Patch.com*. News website, https://patch.com/california/saratoga/saratogas-west-valley-college-inducts-coaches-teams-into-hall-of-fame.

Saratoga Historical Foundation. 2006. They Called It Saratoga. *Saratoga Historical Foundation*. Historical society website, https://www.saratogahistory.com/they-called-it-saratoga.html.

Sarwari, Khalida. 2013. Football on the Cut List at West Valley College. *Mercury News*, November 4, 2013. https://www.mercurynews.com/2013/11/04/football-on-the-cut-list-at-west-valley-college/.

Sparrer, Dick. 2013. West Valley inducts two teams, three coaches into Hall of Fame. *Mercury News*, May 23, 2013. https://www.mercurynews.com/2013/05/23/west-valley-inducts-two-teams-three-coaches-into-hall-of-fame/.

Stamford Advocate. 1965. Greenwich School Architects Honored. *Stamford Advocate*, June 15, 1965:18.

Supernowicz, Dana E. 2013. Site Record P-43-003126. Northwest Information Center, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California.

Times-Herald. 1957. Cal's Don Bowden Records 3:58.7 Clocking for Mile! *Times-Herald*, June 2, 1957:19.

Times-Observer. 1963. Jr. College District Appoints Architects. *Times-Observer*, November 22, 1963:1.

Times-Observer. 1965. Architects Urge Single-Story College Buildings. *Times-Observer*, March 19, 1965:1, 10.

Times-Observer. 1970. Advances. *Times-Observer*, June 31, 1970:5.

Times-Observer. 1972a. Architects Get Special Citation. *Times-Observer*, February 25, 1972:16.

Times-Observer. 1972b. Construction to Begin on Physical Ed. Complex. *Times-Observer*, April 25, 1972:5.

Times-Observer. 1972c. Contract Signing. *Times-Observer*, June 27, 1972:1.

Times-Observer. 1973a. College Staff Receives 6.5 percent salary hike. *Times-Observer*, June 19, 1973:1, 8.

Times-Observer. 1973b. Athletic Field to be Lowered. *Times-Observer*, August 28, 1973:6.

Times-Observer. 1973c. Smith Drops Head Track Job at WVC. *Times-Observer*, October 16, 1973:3.

Times-Observer. 1974. College P.E. Fields Slated for Face Lift. *Times-Observer*, October 12, 1974:8.

United States Geological Survey. 1955. Cupertino, CA, 1:24,000. United States Geological Survey, Washington, DC.

United States Geological Survey. 1962. Cupertino, CA, 1:24,000. United States Geological Survey, Washington, DC.

United States Geological Survey. 1965. Cupertino, CA, 1:24,000. United States Geological Survey, Washington, DC.

United States Geological Survey. 1969. Cupertino, CA, 1:24,000. United States Geological Survey, Washington, DC.

United States Geological Survey. 1975. Cupertino, CA, 1:24,000. United States Geological Survey, Washington, DC.

United States Geological Survey. 1980. Cupertino, CA, 1:24,000. United States Geological Survey, Washington, DC.

Welch, Jackie. 1974. College-Council Exchange Probes Mutual Concerns. *Times-Observer*, December 12, 1974:1, 8.

West Valley College. 2026. West Valley Mission Community College District. *West Valley College*. Community college website, https://www.westvalley.edu/catalog/introduction/district.html.

West Valley Mission Community College District. 2026. Our History. *West Valley Mission Community College District*. Community college website, http://wvm.edu/about/history.html.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

2681 Cleveland Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Attachment A
Maps

WEST VALLEY COLLEGE TRACK
SARATOGA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Confidential Information

This report contains confidential information. The distribution of material contained in this report is restricted to a need-to-know basis. To deter vandalism, artifact hunting, and other activities that can damage cultural resources, the location of cultural resources should be kept confidential. The provision protecting the confidentiality of archaeological resources is in California Government Code 6254 and 6254.10, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 304.

WOBE | WBE | SBE | GSA



Q:\PROJECTS\ALTA2026\ALTA2026_136 West Valley College Track HRER\GIS\ALTA2026_136_ArcPro\ALTA2026_136.aprx 10/6/2026



Project Area

Interstate Highway

State Highway and Route

US Highway

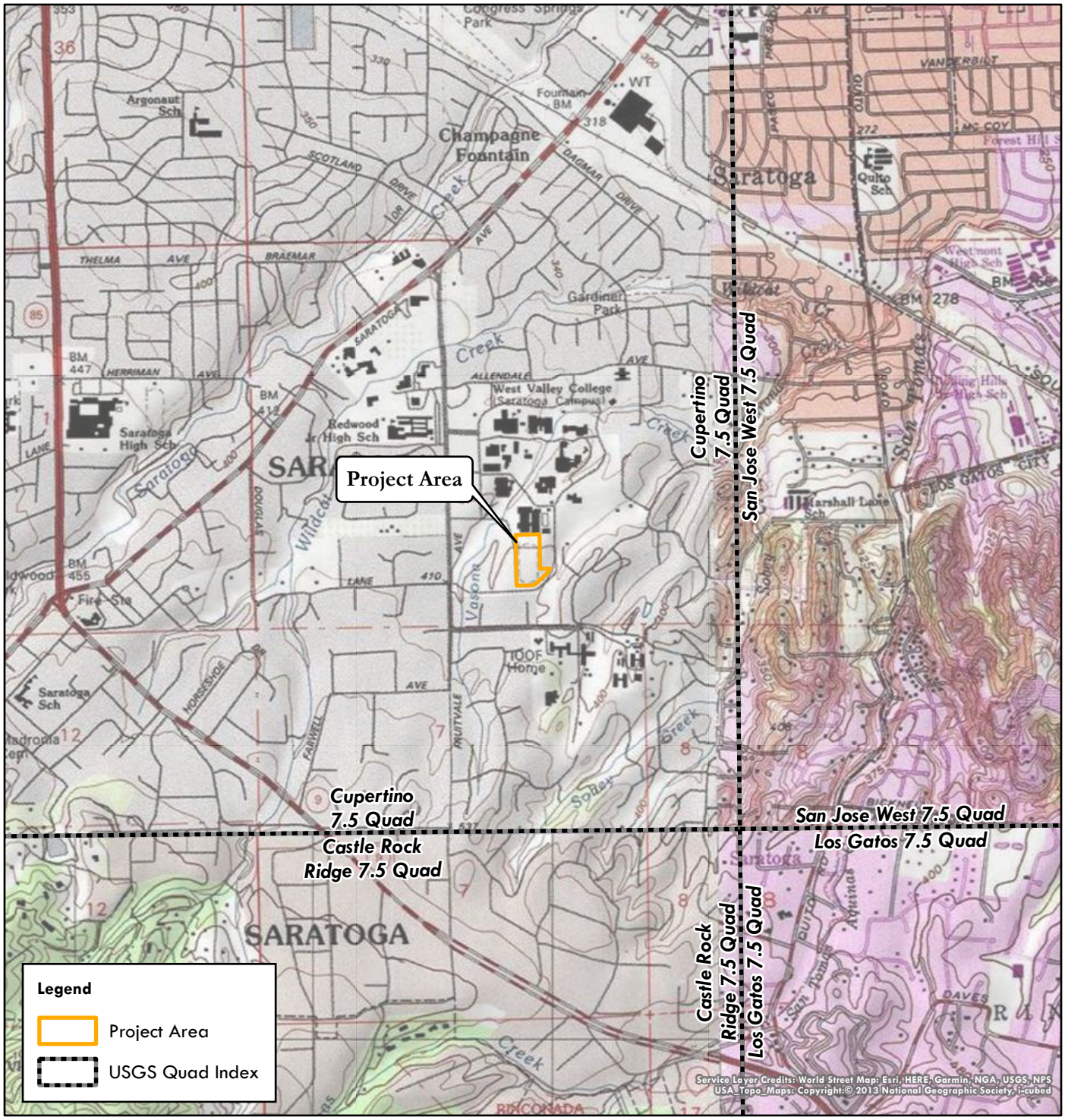
Scale 1:500,000
1 inch = 8 miles

Miles
0 4 8

0 6.5 13
Kilometers

Figure 1: Regional Vicinity
West Valley College Track
Santa Clara County, California

ALTA 2026-136
Map Date: 10/6/2026



Q:\PROJECTS\ALTA2026\ALTA2026_136 West Valley College Track HRER\GIS\ALTA2026_136_ArcPro\ALTA2026_136.aprx 10/6/2026



USGS 7.5 Quad:
Cupertino, CA (1980)

Legal Description:
Unsectiond Portion of
Quito Land Grant

Scale 1:24,000
1 inch = 2,000 feet

Feet
0 1,000 2,000
0 300 600
Meters

Figure 2: Project Location
West Valley College Track
Santa Clara County, California

ALTA 2026-136
Map Date: 10/6/2026

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

2681 Cleveland Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

WOBE | WBE | SBE | GSA

Attachment B
Records Search Results

WEST VALLEY COLLEGE TRACK
SARATOGA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Confidential Information

This report contains confidential information. The distribution of material contained in this report is restricted to a need-to-know basis. To deter vandalism, artifact hunting, and other activities that can damage cultural resources, the location of cultural resources should be kept confidential. The provision protecting the confidentiality of archaeological resources is in California Government Code 6254 and 6254.10, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 304.

RECORDS SEARCH SUMMARY FORM

Alta Number/Name: West Valley College Track

Search Radius: ■ ¼ mile ☐ ½ mile ☐ Other: **Researcher:** NR

Information Center: ■ Northwest ☐ Northeast ☐ North Central ☐ Central California ☐ South San Joaquin Valley

☐ Central Coast ☐ South Central Coast ☐ South Coastal ☐ Other Repository:

IC File Number: 26-0407 **Search Date:** 9/30/2026

RESOURCES (always request excel!)

Purchase: **Project Area:** ■ .pdf ■ .shp **Radius:** ■ .pdf ■ .shp **Built Environment:** ■ .pdf ■ .shp

Primary Number	Trinomial/C Number (leave blank if Primary exists)	Paper Map Symbol	Proximity (circle) Radius (R)	Proximity (circle) Project Area (PA)	.pdf?	.shp?
~~No recorded resources in 0.25 mi radius~~			R	PA		
			R	PA		
P-43-003126			(R)	PA	✓	✓
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		
			R	PA		

REPORTS **(always request excel!)**

Purchase: **Project Area:** ■ .pdf ■ .shp **Radius:** ☐ .pdf ☐ .shp **Built Environment:** ☐ .pdf ☐ .shp

Report Number	Paper Map Symbol	Proximity (circle) Radius (R)/Project Area (PA)		.pdf?	.shp?
4207		(R)	PA	✓	✓
4344		(R)	PA	✓	✓
		R	PA		
		R	PA		
		R	PA	

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #: P-43-003126
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code:
Other Listings
Review Code ____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

***Resource Name or #:** West Valley College Theater/Fine Arts/Humanities Building

P1. **Other Identifier:** Theater
***P2.** **Location:** ☐ Not for Publication ■ Unrestricted ***a.** **County:** Santa Clara
b. **Address:** 14000 Fruitvale Avenue **City:** Saratoga **Zip:** 95070
***c.** **USGS 7.5' Quad:** Cupertino, California 1991 **d. UTM:** N/A
***e.** **Other Locational Data (APN #):** The Theater Building complex is located south of East College Circle and between Parking Lot 1 and Parking Lot 7. It is accessed by the North Walkway, which runs north to south through the campus.

***P3a.** **Description:** The subject building, referred to as the West Valley College Theater/Fine Arts/Humanities Building, was constructed in 1972 as part of the long-range plans of expanding the campus, which dates to 1967. The subject property is a Modernist style building with irregular massing. Constructed of reinforced concrete, the tallest wing of the building stands over three-stories tall. The entrance to the building fronts the promenade concrete courtyard and features a Mansard style roof clad with shingle-like tiles, a flat roof, and large unpainted concrete columns that support a huge overhanging extended roof. Entrance is via a wide group of stairs with steel handrails and then through a series of aluminum and glass entry floor to ceiling entry doors. The westernmost portion of the building, which houses the theater, is constructed of reinforced concrete and has a three-plus story roof. Atop the flat wall surface of the roof are mounted three cellular antennas. Additional telecommunications equipment is mounted to the roof.

***P3b.** **Resource Attributes:** HP15 - Educational Building.
***P4.** **Resources Present:** ■ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District

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



P5b. **Description of Photo:** Looking northwest from the North Walkway at the Theater Building complex.
***P6.** **Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** ■ Historic Circa 1972. West Valley College Online Archives, West Valley College, Saratoga, California.
***P7.** **Owner and Address:** West Valley College, 14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070.
***P8.** **Recorded by:** Dana E. Supernowicz, Historic Resource Associates, 2001 Sheffield Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762.
***P9.** **Date Recorded:** May 2013
***P10.** **Type of Survey:** ■ Architectural
Describe: Architectural Survey of the project site and APE.
***P11.** **Report Citation:** Architectural Evaluation Study of the West Valley College Project, AT&T Mobility Site No. SNFCCA0702, 14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, Santa Clara County, California 95070. Prepared for Diablo Green Consulting, Inc., 231 Market Place, Suite 186, San Ramon, CA 94583. Prepared by Historic Resource Associates, 2001 Sheffield Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762. May 2013.

***Attachments:** Building, Structure, and Object Record; Photograph Record; Project Location Map

B1. Historic Name: West Valley College Fine Arts/Humanities Building
B2. Common Name: West Valley College Theater
B3. Original Use: Educational Building **B4. Present Use:** Same
***B5. Architectural Style:** Modernist/Brutalist
***B6. Construction History:** The first campus building at West Valley College was constructed in 1967, while the Theater/Fine Arts/Humanities Building was completed in 1972. Other expansion occurred in the 1980s through the present.
***B7. Moved?** ■ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown **Date:** N/A **Original Location:**
***B8. Related Features:** Art Lab and Building
B9a. Architect: Undetermined **B9b. Builder:** Unknown
***B10. Significance: Theme:** Modern Architecture/Education **Area:** Saratoga/Santa Clara Valley
Period of Significance: 1967-1974 **Property Type:** College campus **Applicable Criteria:** A, B & C

In 1848, William Campbell constructed a sawmill on the banks of Saratoga Creek about 2.5 miles southeast of the present-day downtown Saratoga. Early maps of the period noted the area as Campbell's Gap. In 1851 Martin McCarthy, who had leased the mill, built a toll road down to the Santa Clara Valley, and founded a town called McCarthysville. The toll gate was located at the present day intersection of Big Basin Way and 3rd Street in Saratoga, giving rise to the widely used town name of Toll Gate. Industry increased and at its peak the town had a furniture factory, grist mill, tannery, and a paper factory. To commemorate the newfound productivity the town was renamed Bank Mills in 1863 (Gudde 1969:299; City of Saratoga Website 2013; Saratoga Historical Foundation Website 2013). In the 1850s Jud Caldwell discovered local springs, which had a chemical content quite similar to that of Congress Spring at Saratoga Springs in New York. He named the local springs the Pacific Congress Springs. In 1865 the town was renamed Saratoga, after the city in New York. During the same year, a resort hotel called Congress Hall was constructed at the springs, which attracted tourists to the area until it burned down in 1903. In 1867 the town received a post office under the name of Saratoga. Industry in Saratoga gradually gave way to fruit orchards and vineyards. From cherries and apricots to French prunes, Saratoga became a bountiful agricultural area. In 1890, renowned winemaker Paul Masson opened his Mountain Winery in Saratoga, planting French Champagne grapes. After World War II, Saratoga shifted from agricultural to urban development, incorporating in 1956 (Gudde 1969:299; City of Saratoga Website 2013; Saratoga Historical Foundation Website 2013). The project site is located in Saratoga, which remained agricultural through the 1950s, when commercial and residential development began to encroach into the orchards, which were ultimately replaced with residences and businesses (refer to BSO, Page 3 of 6).

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

B12. References: Gebhard, David et al. *The Guide to Architecture in San Francisco and Northern California*, Salt Lake City: Gibbs, Smith Publishers, 1976, revised 1985; Rifkind, Carole. *A Field Guide to Contemporary American Architecture*. New York: Dutton Books, 1998; Jordy, William *The Impact of European Modernism in the Mid-twentieth Century*. American Buildings and Their Architects. New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press. 1972; National Park Service Website. "National Register Bulletin - How to Apply the Criteria Considerations." www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_7.htm#crit con g. Accessed May 2013; West Valley College Online Archives Website. "West Valley College Library." www.oac.cdlib.org. Accessed May 2013; West Valley College Website. " Institutional Self Study for Reaffirmation of Accreditation." www.westvalley.edu/documents/accreditation. Accessed May 2013.

B13. Remarks: N/A
B14. Evaluator: Dana E. Supernowicz, Historic Resource Associates, 2001 Sheffield Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
Date of Evaluation: May 2013

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH 2013



(This space reserved for official comments.)

*B10. Significance (Continued):

West Valley College is located in Saratoga, fifty miles south of San Francisco. The College is strategically positioned in the heart of the Santa Clara Valley. Once known for its agriculture, this region is now called Silicon Valley because it is the international hub of the high-technology industry. As one of the most dynamic economic regions in the world, Silicon Valley has an unparalleled need for a work force that possesses higher than average skills. West Valley College's park-like campus provides a unique backdrop for a cutting-edge institution that continually strives to meet the rapidly evolving educational needs of the diverse communities it serves. The West Valley Joint Community College District was formed in January of 1963, when voters approved creation of the district after a countywide master plan for community college education had been designed in 1962. At that time it was comprised of the Campbell Union, Los Gatos-Saratoga high school districts, and the Santa Clara Unified School District. Doors opened for classes in the fall of 1964 at the Campbell campus (West Valley College Website 2013; West Valley College Online Archives Website 2013).

In early 1966, a 143-acre site in Saratoga was purchased for what would become the permanent campus for West Valley College and the District offices. Groundbreaking for the first campus building began in June 1967. In September 1985, the name of the District was changed from the West Valley Joint Community College District to West Valley-Mission Community College District (West Valley College Online Archives Website 2013). West Valley College originally embraced a traditional curriculum with a primary focus on the transfer of students to state-wide and local four-year colleges and universities. In 1985, the headcount in credit courses at West Valley College was approximately 12,960 students per semester. More than twenty years later, the headcount has remained fairly consistent, with 10,185 students enrolled in 2007 (West Valley College Website 2013). The post-World War II expansion of industry and suburban housing led to the creation of educational institutions designed to serve the growing communities along the Santa Clara Valley. Unlike other colleges in the area designed by renowned Bay Area architects, West Valley College appears to have developed with a plan, but with far less continuity, with buildings and structures constructed over a thirty-year span. The setting of the college campus lent itself to a less formal model or landscape approach, taking advantage of rolling terrain and native oaks.

In determining the significance of the West Valley College Theater/Fine Arts/Humanities Building, because of its age (less than 45 years), a property achieving significance within the past fifty years is eligible only if it is of exceptional importance and falls under National Register Criterion G. Fifty years, or, in this case, less that forty-five years, is a general estimate of the time needed to develop historical perspective and to evaluate significance. This consideration guards against the listing of properties of passing contemporary interest and ensures that the National Register is a list of truly historic places. According to the National Register of Historic Places, the phrase "exceptional importance" may be applied to the extraordinary importance of an event or to an entire category of resources so fragile that survivors of any age are unusual. Properties listed that had attained significance in less than fifty years include: the launch pad at Cape Canaveral from which men first traveled to the moon; the home of nationally prominent playwright Eugene O'Neill; and the Chrysler Building (New York), significant as the epitome of the "Style Moderne" architecture. Properties less than fifty years old that qualify as exceptional because the entire category of resources is fragile include a recent example of a traditional sailing canoe in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, where because of rapid deterioration of materials, no working Micronesian canoes exist that are more than twenty years old. Properties that by their nature can last more than fifty years cannot be considered exceptionally important because of the fragility of the class of resources. The phrase "exceptional importance" does not require that the property be of national significance. It is a measure of a property's importance within the appropriate historic context, whether the scale of that context is local, State, or National (National Park Service Website 2013).

Built in 1972, the subject property conveys an eclectic blend of contemporary modern architecture, using unornamented reinforced concrete in what some have termed "Brutalist" design. The building's harsh exterior has design elements that architectural historians have labeled as "Brutalist," a term coined in 1953, from the French *béton brut* or "raw concrete," and a phrase used by Le Corbusier to describe the poured board-marked concrete with which he constructed many of his post-World War II buildings. The West Valley College Theater/Fine Arts/Humanities Building is characterized by its cubist design, with offset walls and wings that to some degree break-up the harshness expressed by the pre-cast concrete. Although the subject property incorporates modern structural principles and materials, it does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion G, in that it does not achieve "exceptional importance" under the Criterion, either individually for its association with the early campus or most importantly for its architectural design. The other buildings within the campus were not evaluated.

*B10. Significance (Continued):



Figure 1: West Valley College groundbreaking, June 15, 1967.



Figure 2: Photograph of the groundbreaking of the future site of the West Valley College Humanities and Fine Arts building, April 1971.

*B10. Significance (Continued):

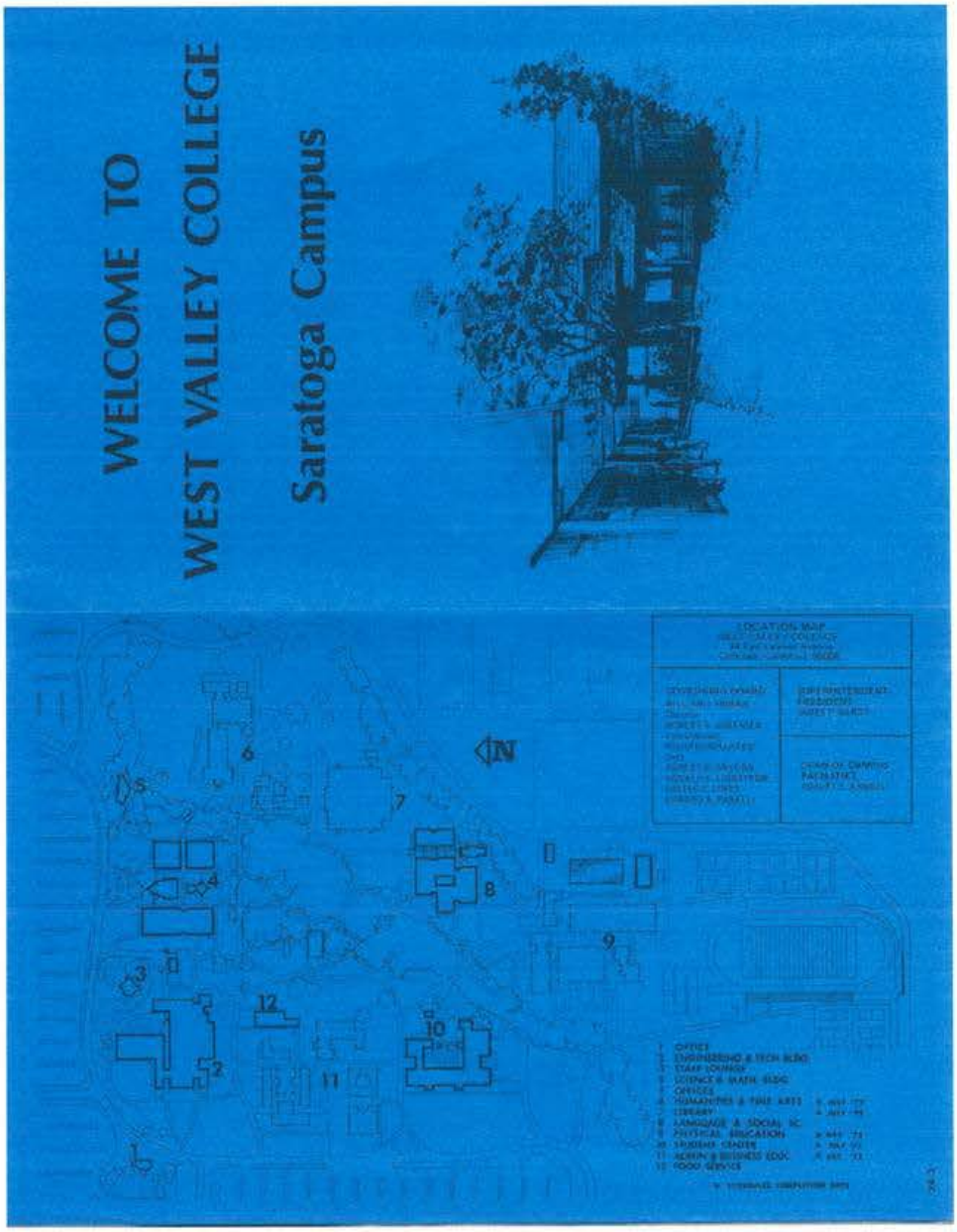


Figure 3: Campus Map of West Valley College, 1970. Note that the Humanities and Fine Arts Building (Number 6) is proposed, but not yet built.

*B10. Significance (Continued):

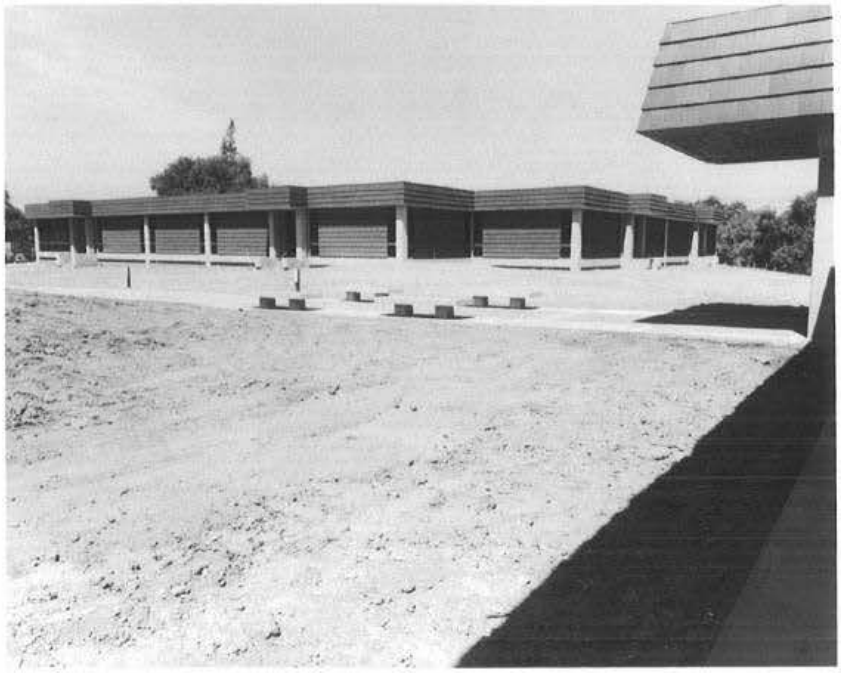


Figure 4: West Valley College Library under construction, 1972. Note the repetitive Mansard style roofs used for the library, classrooms, and nearby theater building (Courtesy of West Valley College Online Archives Website).

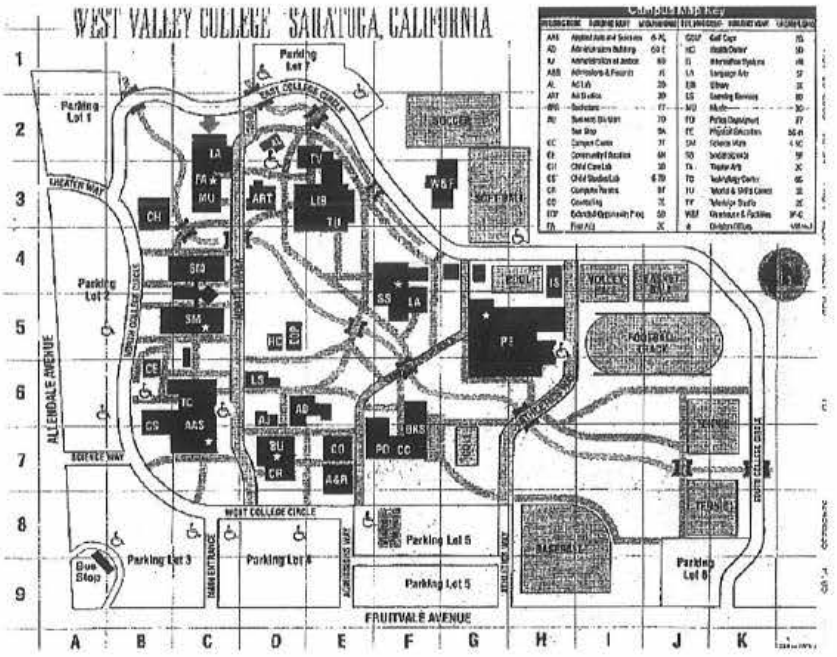


Figure 5: Current Campus Map of West Valley College, 2013.

S-4207

ACRS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING AND RESEARCH SERVICES, INC.

October 9, 1975

Environmental Science Associates
1291 East Hillsdale Boulevard
Foster City, California 94404

Dear Sirs,

Pursuant to your letter authorization of September 25, 1975, our firm has completed archaeological reconnaissances of those portions of the Campbell and Saratoga campuses of the West Valley Joint Community College District which will be involved in the proposed relocation of the Campbell campus' G-Wing portable buildings. I am herein reporting the results of our research to you.

Records in our possession as previously obtained from the Society for California Archaeology Clearinghouse #5 at Cabrillo College in Aptos indicated no known archaeological resources within the limits of the proposed project. Also, conversations with Mr. Kenneth Colson, instructor of anthropology at the Saratoga campus, indicated no known archaeological resources within the project boundaries.

An archaeological reconnaissance of the Campbell campus portable building locations and relocations site numbers I, III, and V on the Saratoga campus was accomplished by visually inspecting those ground surfaces in and around the project locations. This was done by walking a series of north-south transects over each project location which were no more than 10 meters apart. No surface indicators of archaeological resources were observed or discovered within any of the project locations.

It would appear, then, that the proposed project will have no direct impacts upon archaeological resources unless a subsurface archaeological remain is encountered during project activities. Indirect impacts as may occur would be limited to a further alteration of environs from their original state as they existed when the area was inhabited by Native Americans. As additional changes occur, it becomes increasingly difficult for the prehistorian to relate known archaeological resources to their original environments.

LOCATION: 934/272 (SAN JOSE WEST); 876/247 (CUPERTINO)
SITES: NEGATIVE

20 EVERGREEN AVENUE MILL VALLEY, CA 415/388-3175

SAN JOSE WEST
CUPERTINO

SCI

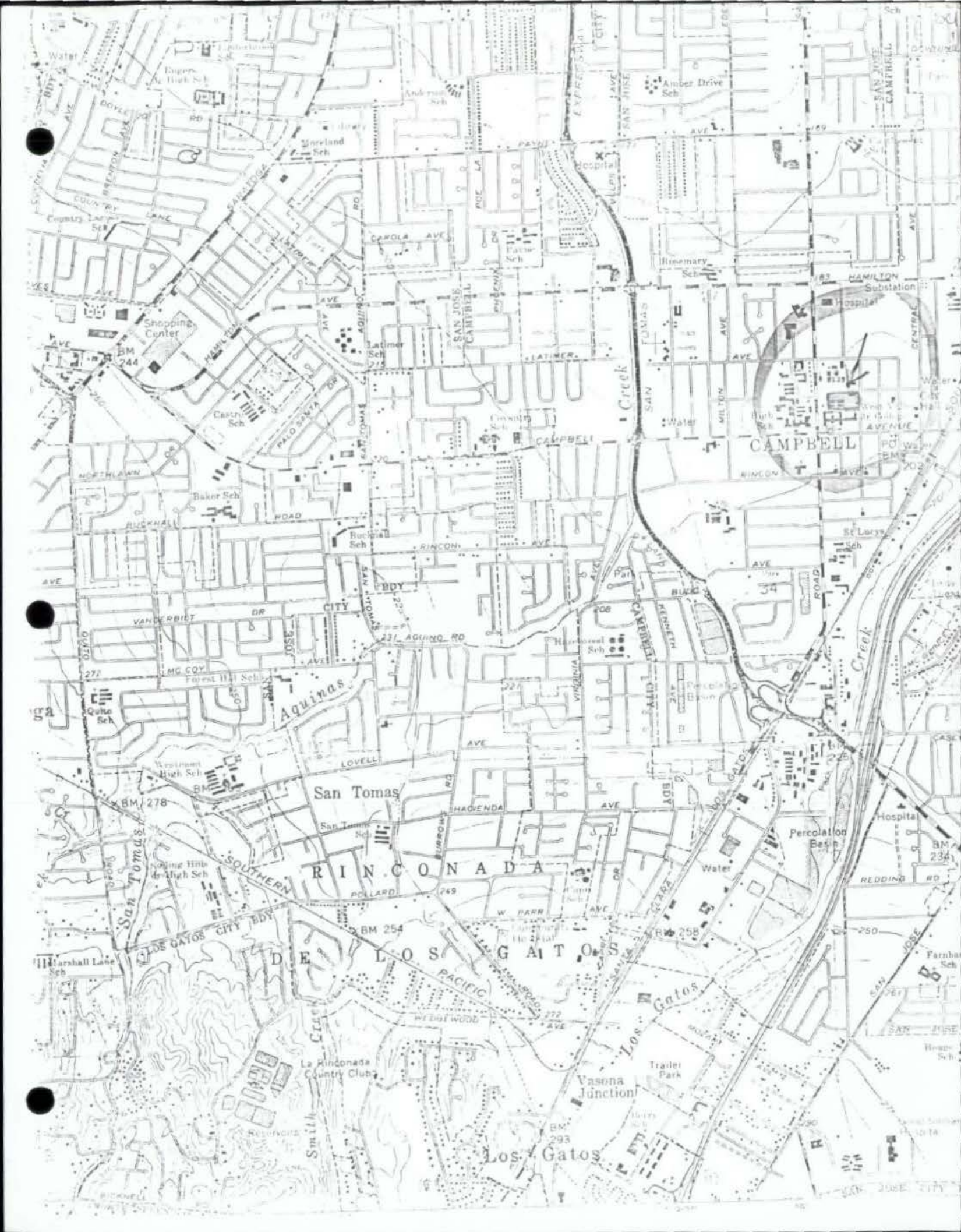
It is recommended that if any archaeological resources are encountered during project activities, all work be halted within a thirty meter radius of the find and a qualified professional archaeologist be consulted to ascertain the nature of the discovery and recommend mitigation as is necessary. It is further recommended that project developments be carried out in a manner which will create the fewest possible alterations of existing original environs. Most important in this case would be the retention of any plant types (a specific example would be the oak trees) which are deemed to have been a part of native plant communities.

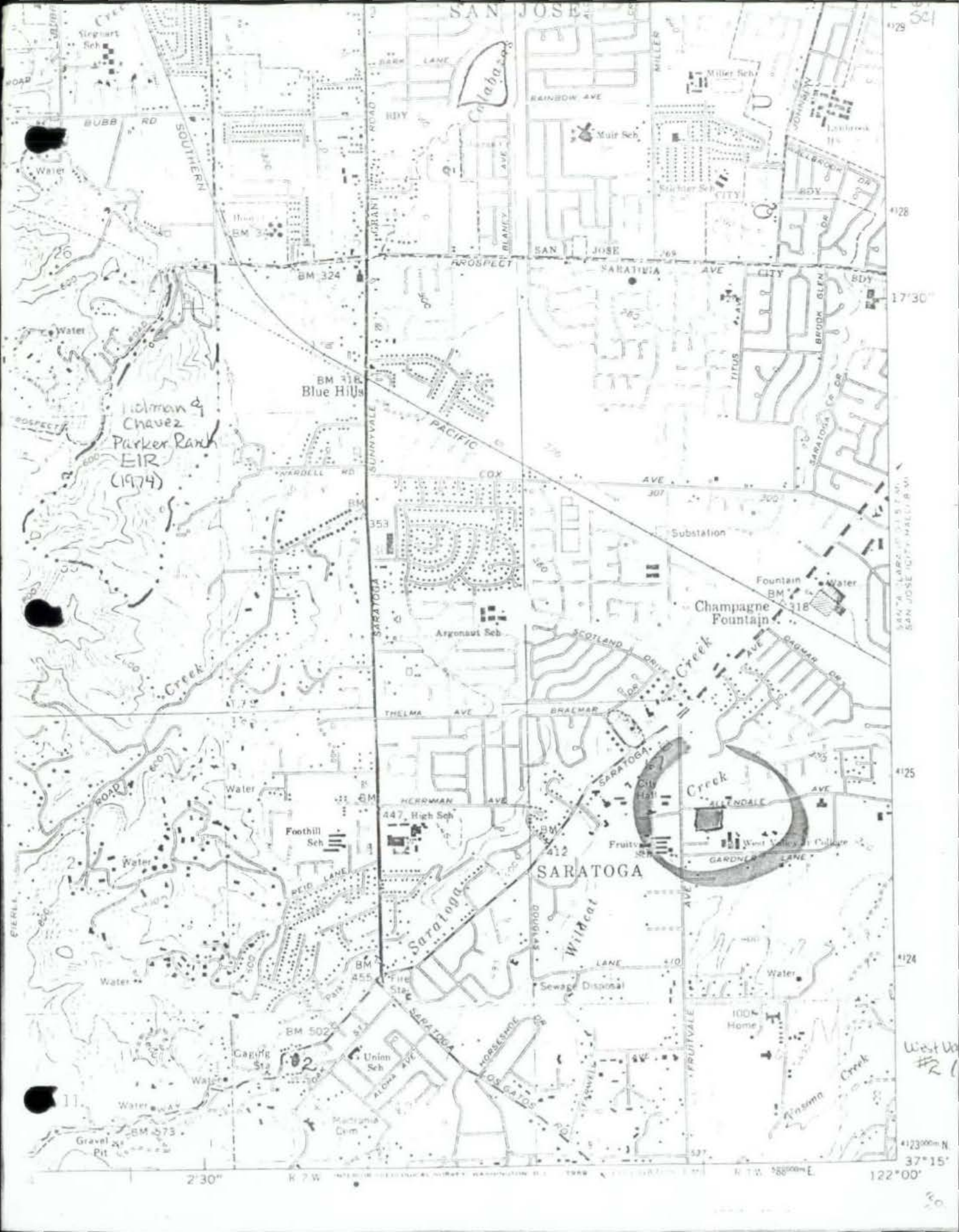
If you should have any questions about our work or recommendations, please do not hesitate to call. Thank you.

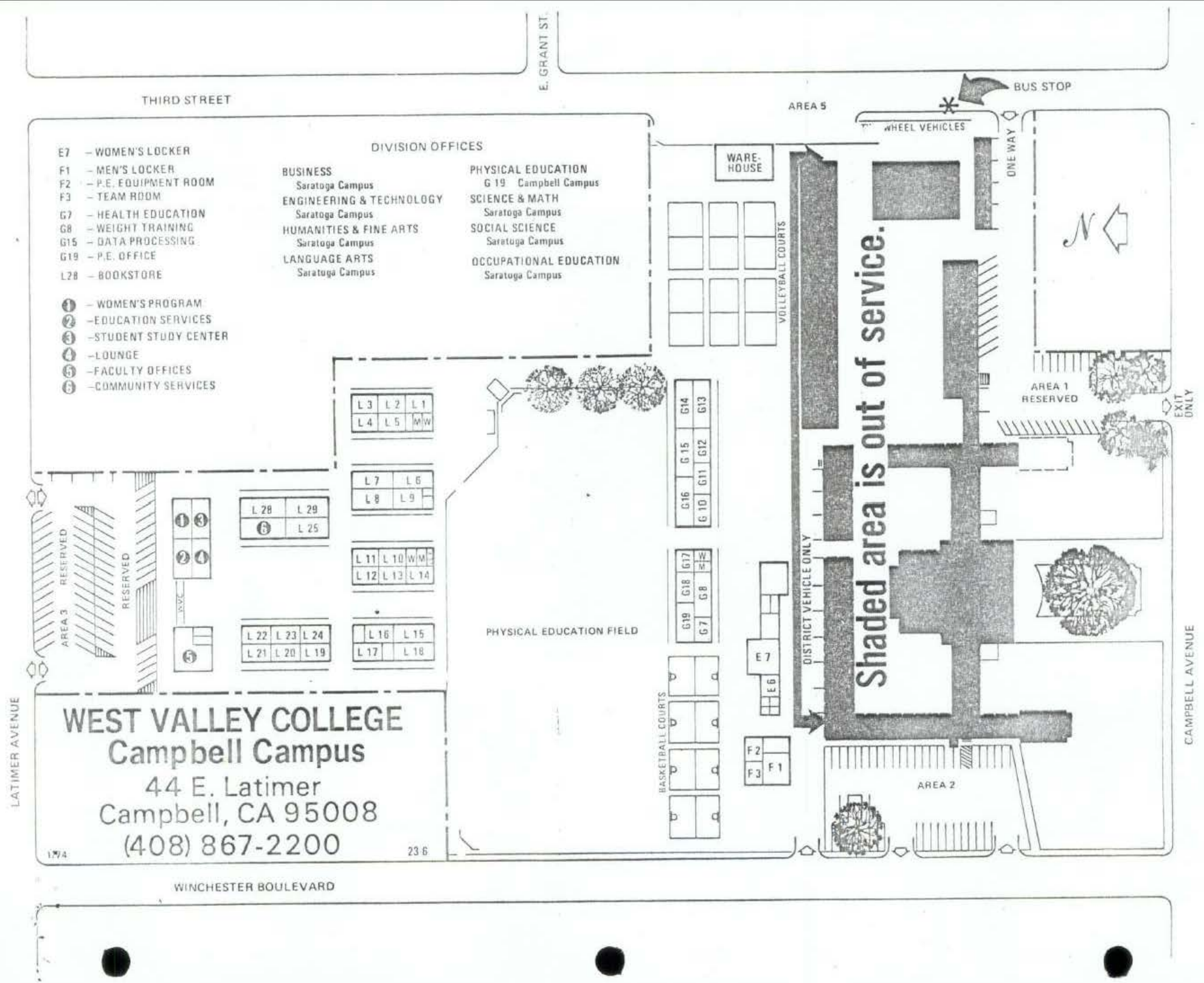
Sincerely,

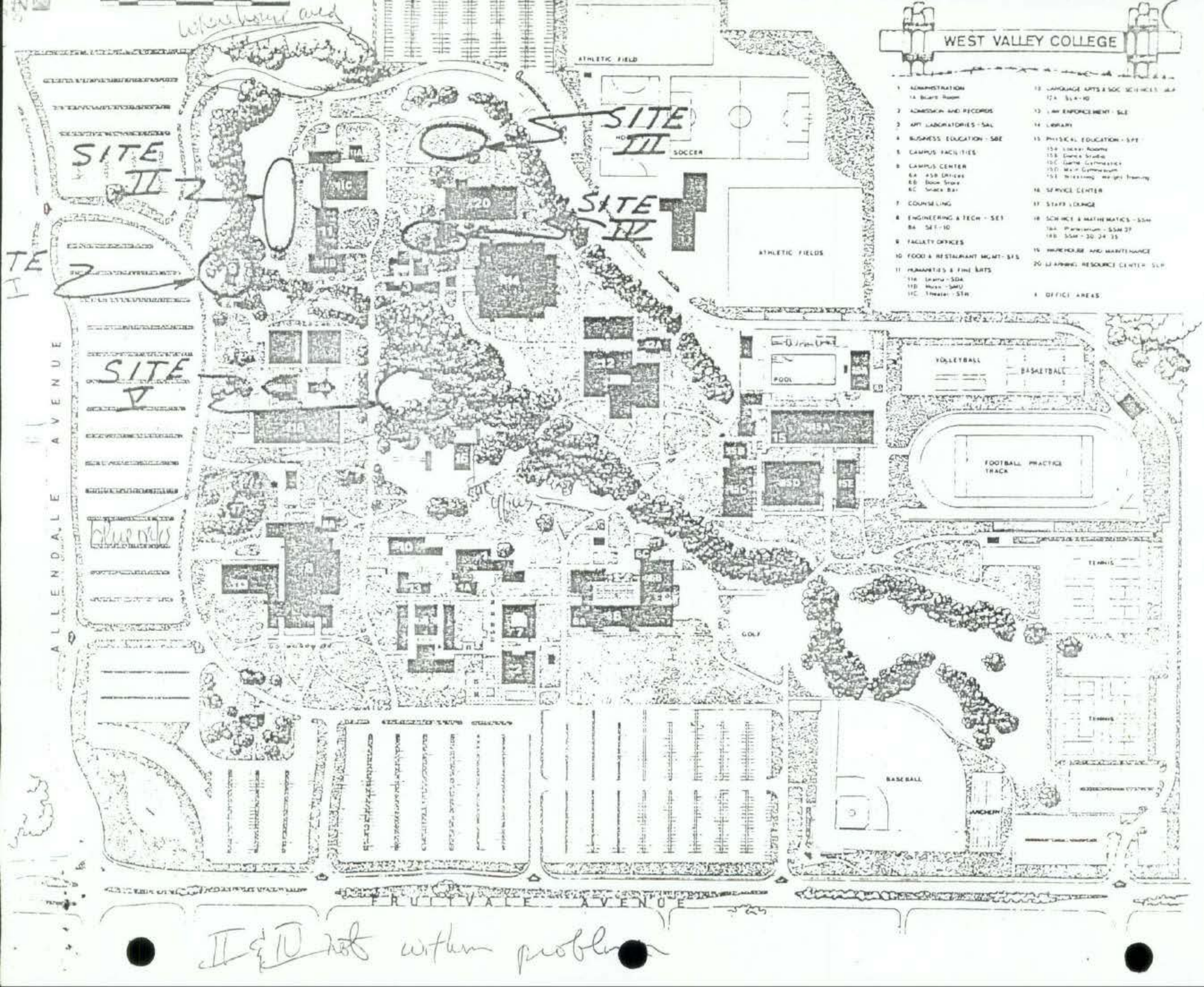
Stephen Dietz
Principal

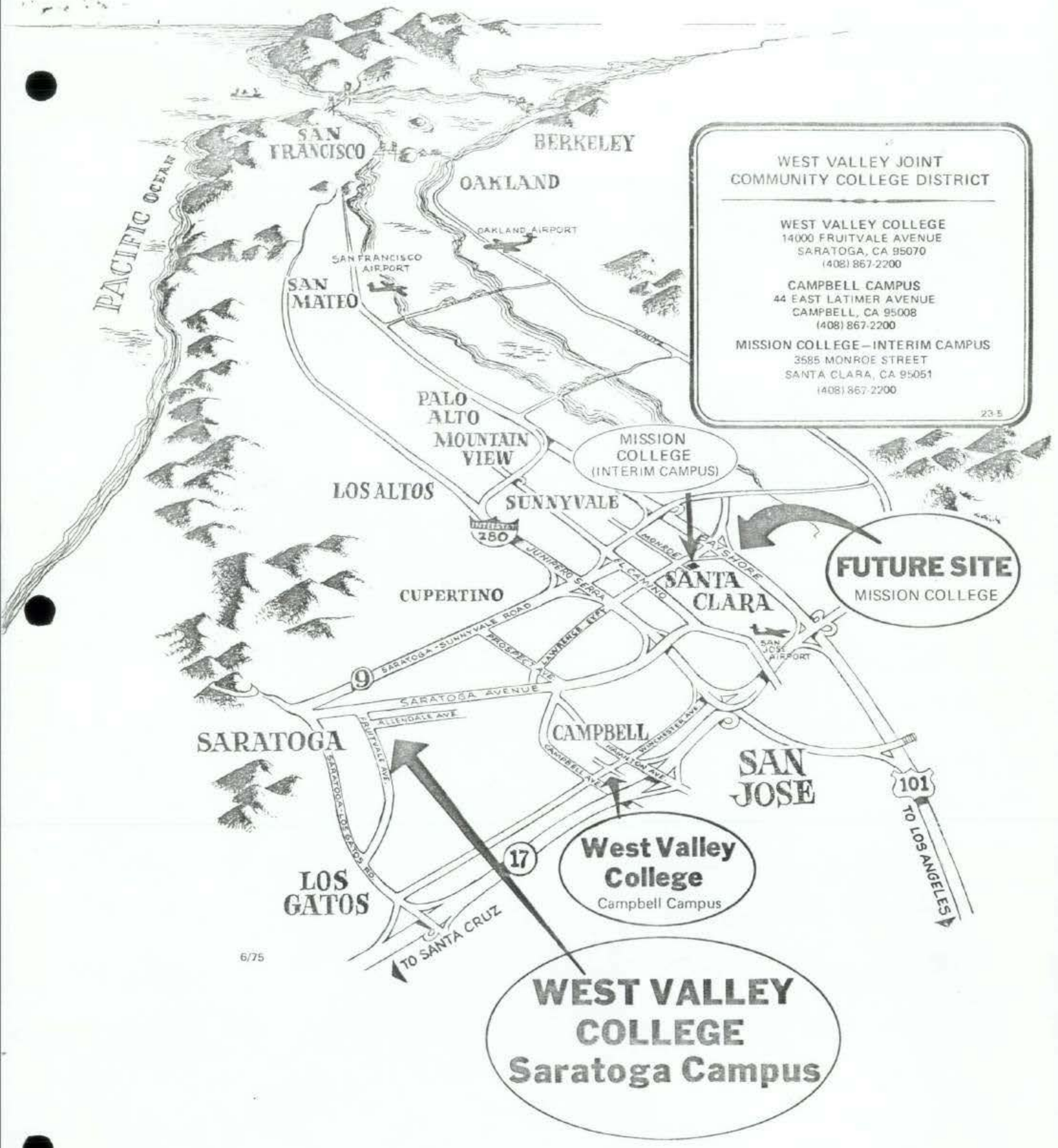
SAD:ms


CAMPBELL
San Tomas
RINCONADA
DE LOS GATOS
Los Gatos
Vasona Junction
Shopping Center
Latimer Sch
Baker Sch
Buckhall Sch
Forest Hill Sch
Quito Sch
Westmont High Sch
San Tomas Sch
Rolling Hills Jr High Sch
Marshall Lane Sch
Rosemary Sch
Amber Drive Sch
Moreland Sch
Hamilton Substation
Hospital
Percolation Basin
Water
La Rinconada Country Club
Trailer Park
Reservoir
San Tomas Aquinas Creek
Los Gatos Creek
SAN JOSE CITY BDY
LOS GATOS CITY BDY
CAMPBELL AVE
RINCON AVE
HAMILTON AVE
LATIMER AVE
AQUINO RD
HACIENDA AVE
LOVELL AVE
POLLARD RD
WINCHESTER BLVD
SARATOGA
SOUTHERN PACIFIC
REDDING RD
BM 244
BM 278
BM 254
BM 258
BM 293
BM 236
BM 202


SAN JOSE
Sierra Sch
BUBB RD
SOUTHERN
Water
BM 346
BM 324
PROSPECT
SAN JOSE
SARATOGA AVE
CITY BDY
Muir Sch
Miller Sch
RAINBOW AVE
Calabazas Creek
GRANT ROAD
BLANEY AVE
MILLER AVE
JOHNSON
Lincoln HS
CALLBROOK DR
Stocklmeir Sch
BM 318
Blue Hills
Hickman & Chavez Parker Ranch EIR (1974)
PACIFIC
SUNNYVALE
HARDELL RD
COX AVE
BM 353
Substation
Fountain
BM 318
Champagne Fountain
Argonaut Sch
SARATOGA
SCOTLAND DRIVE
BRAEMAR
THELMA AVE
Creek
Water
HERRMAN AVE
Foothill Sch
447 High Sch
BM 412
SARATOGA
City Hall
ALLENDALE AVE
Fruitvale Sch
West Valley Jr College
GARDNER LANE
REID LANE
Saratoga
Wildcat
Water
BM 455
Fire Sta
Sewage Disposal
BM 502
Union Sch
ALMA AVE
HORSESHOE DR
LOS GATOS
FRUITVALE AVE
100K Home
Kittredge Creek
Water
Gravel Pit
BM 573
4129
4128
4127
4125
4124
4123000m N.
37°15'
122°00'
2°30"
R 7 W
R 7 W 560000m E.


THIRD STREET
E. GRANT ST.
BUS STOP
AREA 5
WHEEL VEHICLES
ONE WAY
E7 – WOMEN'S LOCKER
F1 – MEN'S LOCKER
F2 – P.E. EQUIPMENT ROOM
F3 – TEAM ROOM
G7 – HEALTH EDUCATION
G8 – WEIGHT TRAINING
G15 – DATA PROCESSING
G19 – P.E. OFFICE
L28 – BOOKSTORE
1 – WOMEN'S PROGRAM
2 –EDUCATION SERVICES
3 –STUDENT STUDY CENTER
4 –LOUNGE
5 –FACULTY OFFICES
6 –COMMUNITY SERVICES
DIVISION OFFICES
BUSINESS
Saratoga Campus
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
Saratoga Campus
HUMANITIES & FINE ARTS
Saratoga Campus
LANGUAGE ARTS
Saratoga Campus
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
G 19 Campbell Campus
SCIENCE & MATH
Saratoga Campus
SOCIAL SCIENCE
Saratoga Campus
OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION
Saratoga Campus
WARE-HOUSE
VOLLEYBALL COURTS
Shaded area is out of service.
N
AREA 1
RESERVED
EXIT ONLY
DISTRICT VEHICLE ONLY
AREA 3
RESERVED
RESERVED
PHYSICAL EDUCATION FIELD
BASKETBALL COURTS
AREA 2
CAMPBELL AVENUE
LATIMER AVENUE
WINCHESTER BOULEVARD
WEST VALLEY COLLEGE
Campbell Campus
44 E. Latimer
Campbell, CA 95008
(408) 867-2200


WEST VALLEY COLLEGE
SITE II
SITE III
SITE IV
SITE V
ATHLETIC FIELD
SOCCER
ATHLETIC FIELDS
POOL
VOLLEYBALL
BASKETBALL
FOOTBALL PRACTICE TRACK
TENNIS
GOLF
BASEBALL
ALLENDALE AVENUE
FRUITVALE AVENUE
II & IV not with them problem


WEST VALLEY JOINT
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
WEST VALLEY COLLEGE
14000 FRUITVALE AVENUE
SARATOGA, CA 95070
(408) 867-2200
CAMPBELL CAMPUS
44 EAST LATIMER AVENUE
CAMPBELL, CA 95008
(408) 867-2200
MISSION COLLEGE – INTERIM CAMPUS
3585 MONROE STREET
SANTA CLARA, CA 95051
(408) 867-2200
23-5
PACIFIC OCEAN
SAN FRANCISCO
BERKELEY
OAKLAND
OAKLAND AIRPORT
SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT
SAN MATEO
PALO ALTO
MOUNTAIN VIEW
LOS ALTOS
MISSION COLLEGE (INTERIM CAMPUS)
SUNNYVALE
INTERSTATE 280
JUNIPERO SERRA
EL CAMINO
MONROE
BAYSHORE
SANTA CLARA
FUTURE SITE
MISSION COLLEGE
CUPERTINO
SARATOGA-SUNNYVALE ROAD
PROSPECT
LAWRENCE EXPY
SAN JOSE AIRPORT
9
SARATOGA AVENUE
ALLENDALE AVE
FRUITVALE AVE
SARATOGA
CAMPBELL
WINCHESTER BLVD
HAMILTON AVE
CAMPBELL AVE
SAN JOSE
101
TO LOS ANGELES
SARATOGA-LOS GATOS RD
17
West Valley College
Campbell Campus
LOS GATOS
TO SANTA CRUZ
6/75
WEST VALLEY COLLEGE
Saratoga Campus

S4344

E-213SCL

Holman & Chavez
Consulting Archæologists
457 Edgewood Avenue
Mill Valley, Ca. 94941
(415)388-3688

November 1, 1976

Mr. Thomas Williams
URS Research Company
155 Bovet Road
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Mr. Williams,

On October 27, 1976, an Archaeological Field Reconnaissance was conducted of the proposed Odd Fellows of Saratoga Retirement Community Construction Site. The results of that field investigation are presented in this report.

Project Setting

The project site, which consists of a lot approximately 800' x 763', is located east of Fruitvale Avenue and the present International Order of Odd Fellows Buildings, in the City of Saratoga, Santa Clara County, California. The property is bordered on the north by a fence and dirt road designated as San Marcos Road, on the east by Sobey Creek, on the west by a paved road immediately east of the International Order of Old Fellows Buildings, and on the south by the slope which is adjacent to Sobey Creek. At the time of the field inspection, the project site consisted of a vacant lot, with indications of fill and dumping present; the area immediately adjacent to Sobey Creek was relatively undisturbed, with evidence of some indigenous vegetation present.

Reconnaissance Procedures

Prior to physically examining the project area, records, maps and documents which indicate the existence and location of known archaeological resources, in the vicinity of the proposed development site, were consulted at the Adan E. Treganza Anthropology Museum, San Francisco State University. The records indicate that no archaeological sites are recorded for the project area, nor has there been any previous reconnaissance of the project property.

LOCATION: 892/236
SITES: NEGATIVE

CUPERTINO

UTMG: 882236

The actual field reconnaissance of the project area was conducted by myself and my associate, Miley Holman, on foot. The maps provided by your office and standard site survey forms were utilized during the survey. The field inspection was of a type described as a General Surface Reconnaissance (King, Moratto, Leonard 1973).

During the inspection of the entire area, close attention was given to the potential presence of those features which indicate the existence of prehistoric cultural activities: soil changes (color composition or texture) which indicate the occurrence of cultural midden; unusual ground contours or changes in vegetation patterns; the presence of fire-cracked rock, obsidian and chert flaking wastes; the presence of charcoal and charred faunal remains; and the occurrence of any artifactual materials. Particular attention in this regard, was given to the area along Sobey Creek.

Conclusions

No visible surface indications of the presence of archaeological remains were encountered during the reconnaissance of the proposed Odd Fellows Retirement Community Construction Site. It is therefore concluded that the proposed project will have no adverse impacts on any known archaeological resources. This does not, however, preclude the possibility that prehistoric cultural remains exist below the ground surface and may be encountered during the process of construction. It is recommended that if archaeological remains are encountered during construction, such activities be halted in the general vicinity of the finds, and that a qualified archaeologist be consulted.

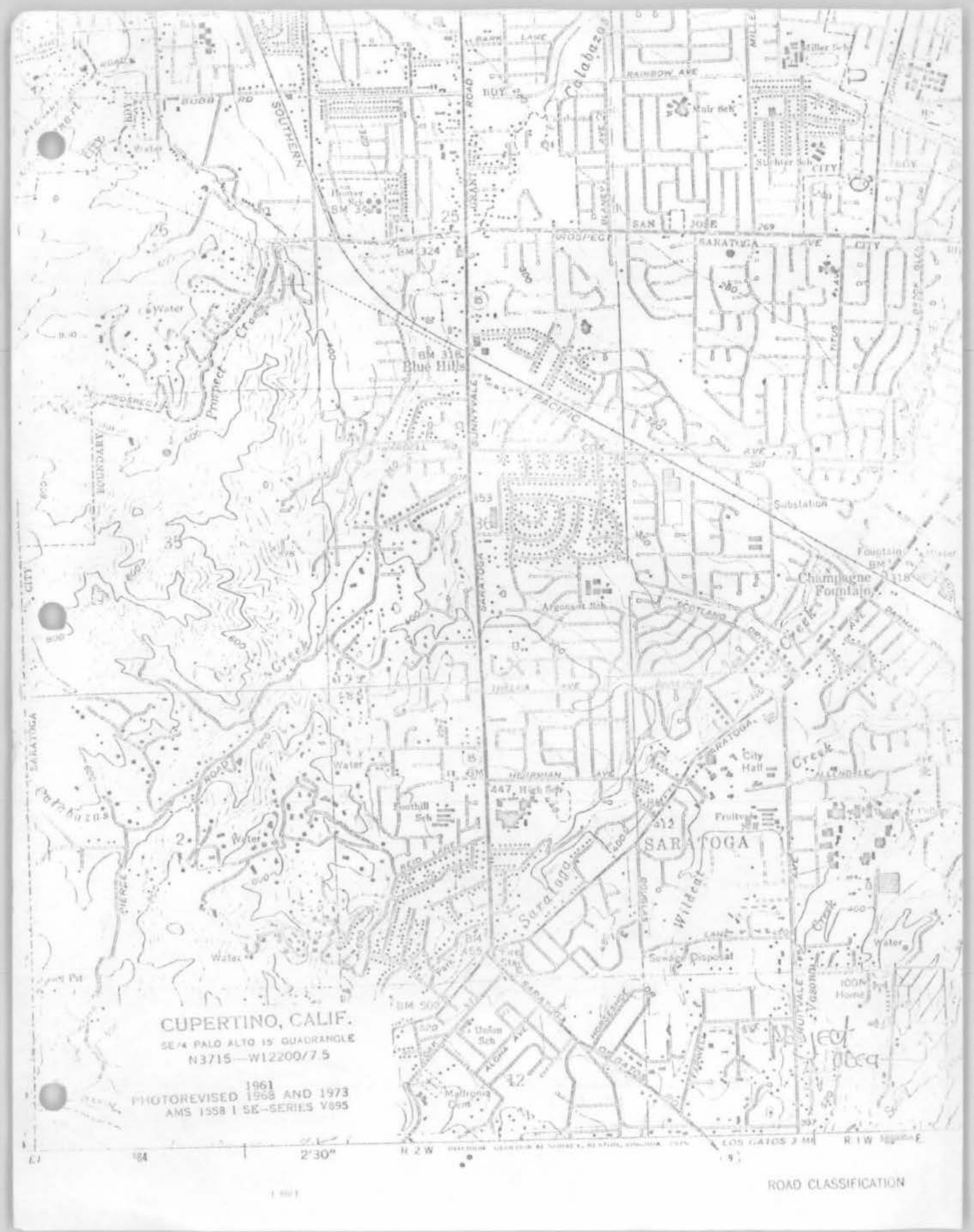
Sincerely,

David Chavez

DC:jmh

Reference

KING, T.F., M.J. MORATTO, and N.N. LEONARD, III
1973 Recommended Procedures for Archaeological Impact Evaluation. Published Jointly by the Society for California Archaeology and the University of California. Los Angeles.


CUPERTINO, CALIF.
SE/4 PALO ALTO 15' QUADRANGLE
N3715—W12200/7.5
1961
PHOTOREVISED 1968 AND 1973
AMS 1958 I SE—SERIES V895
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

2681 Cleveland Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

WOBE | WBE | SBE | GSA

Attachment C
Photo Sheet

WEST VALLEY COLLEGE TRACK
SARATOGA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Confidential Information

This report contains confidential information. The distribution of material contained in this report is restricted to a need-to-know basis. To deter vandalism, artifact hunting, and other activities that can damage cultural resources, the location of cultural resources should be kept confidential. The provision protecting the confidentiality of archaeological resources is in California Government Code 6254 and 6254.10, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 304.



Photograph 1, view southwest, 9 October 2026, southeastern corner of track from southeastern entry to track area.



Photograph 2, view south, 9 October 2026, northeastern corner of brick grounds storage building.



Photograph 3, view east, 9 October 2026, western corner of brick grounds storage building.



Photograph 4, view east, 9 October 2026, remnants at southern edge of track.



Photograph 5, view north, 9 October 2026, western half of track.



Photograph 6, view east, 9 October 2026, northern infield of track area.



Photograph 7, view south, 9 October 2026, view from northern end of track area.



Photograph 8, view west, 9 October 2026, northern half of track from eastern cutbank.



Photograph 9, view southeast, 9 October 2026, eastern half of track.



Photograph 10, view southeast, 9 October 2026, grounds storage building from track.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

2681 Cleveland Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

WOBE | WBE | SBE | GSA

Attachment D
Site Record

WEST VALLEY COLLEGE TRACK
SARATOGA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Confidential Information

This report contains confidential information. The distribution of material contained in this report is restricted to a need-to-know basis. To deter vandalism, artifact hunting, and other activities that can damage cultural resources, the location of cultural resources should be kept confidential. The provision protecting the confidentiality of archaeological resources is in California Government Code 6254 and 6254.10, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 304.

State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #:
HRI #:
Trinomial:
NRHP Status Code: 6Z
Other Listings:
Review Code: Reviewer: Date:

 ***Resource Name or #:** West Valley College Track

P1. Other Identifier: West Valley College Athletic Field.

***P2. Location:** ☐ **Not for Publication** ■ **Unrestricted**

***a. County:** Santa Clara

***b. USGS 7.5' Quad:** Cupertino **Date:** 2018 **T** 8S; **R** 2W; Unsectioned prt. of Quito Land Grant; Mount Diablo **B.M.**

c. Address: 14000 Fruitvale Avenue City: Saratoga ZIP: 95070

d. UTM: Zone 10N, 587792mE/ 4124200mN (NAD1983 CONUS) (centroid)

e. Other Locational Data: This resource was located 0.2 miles east of the intersection of South College Circle and Fruitvale Avenue.

***P3a. Description:** The West Valley College Track was a regulation 400-meter synthetic running track constructed in 1973. It was designed as part of the West Valley College Campus by a partnership of firms Higgins and Root of Los Gatos and Reid and Tarics of San Francisco. West Valley College awarded the building contract to contractor Nicholson-Brown, Inc. in 1973. It was primarily intended as a training space for the college's track and field program, with a soccer field in the center. As of October 9, 2026, the track surface has been demolished, though its outline remains in place. Prior to demolition, it was in fair condition, having retained its original configuration but not its original materials and color. (See Continuation Sheet, page 3)

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP15

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

P5a. Photograph



P5b. Description of Photo: Overview of track from southern end, view north, 9 Oct 2026

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:**
■ Historic (1973) ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both

***P7. Owner and Address:**
West Valley-Mission Community College District
14000 Fruitvale Ave
Saratoga, CA 95070

***P8. Recorded by:**
Nicholas Radtkey and Nicholas Fiske
Alta Archaeological Consulting
2681 Cleveland Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

***P9. Date Recorded:** 9 Oct 2026

***P10. Survey Type:** Intensive for evaluation

***P11. Report Citation:**

Radtkey, Nicholas. 2026. *Historic Resource Evaluation of the West Valley College Track, Saratoga, Santa Clara County, California (APN 397-130-30).* Manuscript on file at the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System, Rohnert Park, CA.

***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):

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

B1. Historic Name: West Valley College Athletic Field
B2. Common Name: West Valley College Track
B3. Original Use: Running Track B4. Present Use: Same.

***B5. Architectural Style:** This resource is a regulation 400-meter running track.

***B6. Construction History:** The track was constructed from the fall of 1973 through the summer of 1974. By 1984, aerial photos show that the track had been resurfaced to gray, and by

***B7. Moved?** ■ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown **Date:** NA **Original Location:** NA
***B8. Related Features:** The track is part of the 1960s West Valley College. Supernowicz (2013) evaluated the Theater/Fine Arts/Humanities Building (P-43-003126) as ineligible for the NRHP, but the core of the campus remains unrecorded and unevaluated.

B9a. Architect: Higgins and Root; Reid and Tarics (partnership) b. Builder: Nicholson-Brown, Inc.
***B10. Significance: Theme:** Education **Area:** Saratoga, CA
Period of Significance: 1973-1990 **Property Type:** Running track **Applicable Criteria:** None.

Historic Context

General Historical Overview of Saratoga

The West Valley College campus lies within the ancestral lands of the Partacsi band of Ohlone-speaking peoples. The Partacsi were a subgroup of the Tamien people, whose ancestral territory encompassed the Santa Clara Valley and surroundings. Their territory is estimated to have encompassed lands within the City of Saratoga and southwest into the mountains surrounding Saratoga Gap (Milliken 1995). The De Anza expedition entered the Santa Clara Valley in 1776, and Mission Santa Clara de Asís was established approximately seven miles northeast of the Project Area in 1777 (Munro-Fraser 1881:18). Following the secularization of the California missions, the land became part of the Rancho Quito, granted to José Noriega and José Z. Fernandez by Alta California governor Juan Bautista Alvarado in 1841. This three-square-league grant was sold to Manuel Alviso, who successfully defended its title to the United States Land Commission after the United States claimed California from Mexico (Hoffman 1862:38). (See Continuation Sheet, page 3).

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: HP15

***B12. References:** See Continuation Sheet, page 3

B13. Remarks: None.

***B14. Evaluator:** Nicholas Radtkey, MA

***Date of Evaluation:** 9 Oct 2026



(This space reserved for official comments.)

P3a. Description (continued from page 2)
This track was laid out in a flat-sided oval configuration that measured approximately 185 meters from north to south and 84 meters east to west. The oval featured nine lanes. The inner radius of the semi-circular ends measured approximately 30 meters. The northern end of the track The western edge of the track featured two chutes for hurdles, extending up to 40 meters beyond the outer edge of the oval. The northern semicircular area of the infield featured marked areas for field events. The center of the field and southern semicircular area were maintained as a sod lawn. The central area was marked for use as a soccer field. Drainage grates appear along the edges of the field. The western edge of the field is lined with a concrete retaining wall against the cutbank. At the southern end of this wall, southeast of the track, a concrete staircase leads upwards to the tennis courts to the west.

Equipment for the track is stored in a brick grounds storage building located 50 feet southwest of the track. This building measures 60 feet wide by 40 feet deep, and stands approximately 16 feet tall, and is partially recessed into the cutbank surrounding the track. It appears to lie on a concrete slab foundation. It features three aluminum roll-up doors on its northwest-facing primary façade. A steel vented pedestrian door allows entry from the northeastern façade. The entire building is clad in textured red brick. It is topped with a flat roof concealed by short parapets. Natural light is provided by domed skylights on the roof. The rear of the roof, facing southeast, stands just above ground level, and its parapets support a chain-link fence.

B10. Significance (continued from page 2)
Historic Context (continued)

The first American to meaningfully settle in the area was William Campbell, who built a sawmill on Saratoga Creek, then called Campbell's Gap. Martin McCarthy leased the mill from Campbell in 1851 and constructed a toll road into the Santa Clara Valley. The toll gate, located near Big Basin Way and Third Street, led to the later settlement in that area being called Toll Gate. McCarthy is known as the person who laid out the streets of Saratoga, first called McCarthysville. In 1851, William Haun and his wife's family constructed a water-powered flour mill in the area, which eventually gave rise to the second name, Bank Mills, in 1863. In 1865, the people of Bank Mills voted to name the town Saratoga, after the city in New York (Munro-Fraser 1881:314; Saratoga Historical Foundation 2006).

Through the late 19th century, the leading industry in Saratoga shifted from mills to orchards. French prunes and apricots were leading products in the area, with cherries, walnuts, almonds, and grapes forming secondary crops. Following the Second World War, suburban development spread over the agricultural lands of the Bay Area in the mid-century. In an attempt to control the shape of its own development, the community of Saratoga voted to incorporate in 1956. Since that time, Saratoga has become a part of Silicon Valley and contributes to the technology economy that contributes to the character of the South Bay to the present (Saratoga Historical Foundation 2006; Supernowicz 2013).

Community Colleges in California
The seed of the junior college concept in California began in the Bay Area in the early 1900s, when Alexis F. Lange of UC Berkeley's School of Education and president David Starr Jordan of Stanford University began lobbying to move lower-division coursework away from large universities. This resulted in the Upward Extension Act of 1907, a bill that allowed public high schools to offer coursework equivalent to lower-division college courses. California soon came to lead the junior college movement, establishing 49 junior colleges after the passage of the act. In the 1930s, the philosophy about the purpose of junior colleges shifted away from preparation for transfer to vocational education, and the term "community college" gained popular usage. The passage of the Master Plan for Higher Education in 1960 more or less completed this shift, as it specified providing for "every student who is willing and able to benefit from attendance." The Master Plan transferred control of community colleges into the hands of designated local boards rather than local K-12 districts. Community colleges throughout the Bay Area and the state continue to provide low-cost access to higher education for a wide variety of populations (Boggs and Galizio 2021:1–22).

West Valley College
In 1963, citizens of the Campbell Union High School District and Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District voted to form the West Valley Joint Community College District. The West Valley Junior College did not have a purpose-built campus at first, and held its first classes in the former Campbell Union Grammar School on September 14, 1964 (West Valley College 2026). Simultaneously, the district sought to purchase land on which it could build a campus. In October 1964, amid public controversy and debate, the "Fruitvale-Allendale" site was selected (Carey 1964:1). Construction on the first buildings of the campus began in 1967, and operations finally fully transferred out of the Campbell Union Grammar School site in 1975. The district added a second campus near Santa Clara the same year, which grew to become Mission College. In 1985, the district was renamed the West Valley Mission Community College District. The district continues to serve over 20,000 students a year across its two campuses, providing a wide range of courses (West Valley Mission Community College District 2026).

Architects

The college awarded the contract for the Saratoga campus to two architectural firms—Higgins and Root of Los Gatos and Reid and Tarics of San Francisco. Both firms were noted at the time for their construction of public buildings (Los Gatos Times 1963:2, 1977; Times-Observer 1963:1). The following narratives summarize the careers of the firms and significant associated individuals.

Higgins and Root

Chester Root was born in Grass Valley in 1905, and grew up in Berkeley. He received a BA from the University of California's School of Architecture in 1926, and completed an MA at Harvard's School of Architecture in 1930. While on the East Coast, he worked for J. D. Leland and Company in Boston, then with New York for famous designers Grovesnor Atterbury and Norman Bel Geddes. Returning to the West Coast, he partnered with William L. Higgins to form Higgins and Root in San Jose in 1936. In 1963, the firm moved its offices to 400 Blossom Hill Road in Los Gatos; by this time, the firm had designed over $60 million worth of structures (Los Gatos Times 1963:2) .He became a fellow of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1960, and became a Member Emeritus of the AIA College of Fellows in 1977, shortly before his death.

Higgins and Root were founding members of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the AIA, and Root served as president of the chapter in 1950 and 1951. He became the first architect to serve on the Santa Clara County Planning Commission, a position which he held between 1947 and 1957. In his personal life, he served on the board of the Montalvo Arts Center and the YMCA of the Santa Clara Valley, as well as a volunteer for many other organizations (Gane and Koyl 1970:778; Los Gatos Times 1977:1, 4). The firm of Higgins and Root were known in the Bay Area as early promoters of emerging modernist styles. They have been noted for an emphasis on functionalism, and borrowed elements of design from the International and Moderne styles. As a firm, Higgins and Root were minor players in the Second Bay tradition (Lieberman 2010). Root, formerly a draftsman for the influential Streamline Moderne designer Norman Bel Geddes, expressed his modernist approach in public buildings such as the City of San Jose Fire Department No. 8 (1948), the Santa Clara Central Library (1955), the San Benito County Courthouse (1963). Still, Higgins and Root dabbled in the emergent Ranch style in the 1950s, most notably in conjunction with Cliff May on the Sunset Magazine headquarters in Menlo Park (1952) (Koyl 1956:471; Nuval and Chattel 2024).

Reid and Tarics

Alexander (Sandor) Tarics, a Hungarian athlete, gained fame as a water polo player in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. When he died in 2016 at the age of 102, he was the oldest living Olympian (Associated Press 2016:A16). After Tarics' athletic career came to an end in 1939, he completed a doctorate in civil engineering in 1943. He moved to the United States to teach at UC Berkeley, where he worked with Dr. James Kelly on earthquake-resistant foundation technology. Together, Kelly and Tarics developed the base isolator, a seismic dampening device used to deflect energy from an earthquake (Ostler 2016:C2). Tarics and John L. Reid established their firm in 1946; their firm specialized in the design of campuses, including high schools, colleges, and research facilities (Daily Item 1965:6; Gane and Koyl 1970:752). By 1965, Reid and Tarics had received two awards from the national body of the American Institute of Architects (AIA): one for the chapel at the Robert Louis Stevenson School for Boys in Pebble Beach, and the other for the Greenwich High School in Connecticut (Stamford Advocate 1965:18). Reid and Tarics received a commendation from the American Association of School Architects for their display on the project at the 1972 exhibit of School Architecture. This citation specifically regarded the "complementary blending of the indoors and outdoors," praising the use of wood and concrete in the design of campus buildings. No mention of athletic fields was made (Times-Observer 1972a:16). During the design of the Saratoga campus (but prior to acquisition of the property), Tarics presented the case to the West Valley College governing board that constructing single-story buildings would be more cost-effective than building multi-story buildings. His case was made in terms of both cost per square foot and in seismic retrofitting terms. No mention was made of the athletic field (Times-Observer 1965:1, 10).

Property History

The physical education complex of the West Valley College came relatively late in the development of the new Saratoga campus. On April 20, 1972, the governing board of the district authorized the release of bids for only the buildings of the physical education complex, splitting off "site improvements," including tennis courts, bleachers, golf areas, a baseball field, and the running track for a later date (Times-Observer 1972b:5). That second phase officially began the following year. The Nicholson-Brown Company was awarded the first portion of the contract on June 26, 1972, and the second on June 14, 1973 (Times-Observer 1972c:1, 1973a:8). A change order was soon submitted to the original scope of work; to provide additional fill on the Mission College Campus in Santa Clara, the governing board approved the removal of 110,000 cubic feet of soil from the "athletic field" (i.e. the running track). Aadco Construction Company was awarded the contract for this soil removal, at a cost of $270,573 (Times-Observer 1973b:6).

The West Valley College track was one of many tracks after 1968 to be surfaced with a 3M Tartan synthetic track surface. This material was developed at 3M under the direction of Dr. Thomas Garrett (Athletic Polymer Systems 2007). Tartan was the first synthetic track material to gain popularity, and received a significant promotion after its use in the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico (Benyon Sports 2025). Although the West Valley College Track was among many tracks at this time to be built using the new material, no evidence suggests that it was specifically designed to mimic the 1968 Olympic track in Mexico. Two former athletes of note were involved in developing and promoting Tartan tracks: Bill Nieder, an American competitor in the 1960s Olympics who specialized in shot put, and Don Bowden, a UC Berkeley runner and Saratoga resident who in 1957 became the first American to break the four-minute mile barrier at Baxter Stadium in Stockton (National Museum of American History 2025; Times-Herald 1957:19). Tartan tracks were considered a significant improvement over cinder and dirt tracks, allowing uniformity in the track

surface with a significant reduction in maintenance, while also eliminating the need for shoes with steel spikes for traction (Athletic Polymer Systems 2007; Benyon Sports 2025).

Following the track's completion, West Valley College sought to install bleachers and lighting around the athletic field; the center of the track was intended to function as a football field (Times-Observer 1974:8). However, the City of Saratoga contested this move in December 1974, citing text within the use permit that "the campus shall not include a stadium designed for large intercollegiate events" (Welch 1974:8).

West Valley College's track and cross country program was led by Bill Campbell. As a runner at Campbell High School in the 1950s, Campbell gained awards in track and field. During his years at Monterey Peninsula College and San Jose State University in the 1960s, he continued running and trained under noted coach Bud Winter. In 1970, he left his coaching job at Westmont High School to take an assistant track coaching position at West Valley College (Times-Observer 1970:5). In October 1973, head coach Tom Smith left West Valley College to participate in other local coaching programs, and Campbell took over his position (Times-Observer 1973c:3). Campbell led the West Valley College cross country and track teams for more than two decades, including 27 conference titles, 16 of which were consecutive between 1976 and 1991. He was inducted into the West Valley College Hall of Fame in 2013 (Sanchez 2013; Sparrer 2013).

On February 21, 1979, Bostonian runner Bill Rodgers successfully attempted to break the world record for the 25-kilometer run at the West Valley College Track. Rodgers chose to attempt the record on a whim while looking at records in a copy of *Track and Field News.* After the University of California at Berkeley denied his request to use their track, organizer Dave Prokop contacted coach Bill Campbell at West Valley College, who agreed to host the event. The choice of the West Valley College Track was serendipitous, as Prokop was associated with *Track and Field News,* whose offices were located near West Valley College (Rodgers and Concannon 1982:155). In this attempt, Rodgers simultaneously attempted three other records. En route to the 25-kilometer record, Rodgers broke the American record for the one-hour run with a distance of 12 miles and 997 yards. Twelve minutes later, Rodgers broke the 15-mile record with a time of 1:12:49. At 1:14:11.8, he passed the 25-kilometer mark, besting the 1975 record of Finnish runner Pekka Paivarinta by exactly five seconds. After passing 25 kilometers, Rodgers began to stop, but was informed that he had to run 30 kilometers for the record to count. He continued on in an attempt to beat the 30-kilometer record, but fell short of Jim Alder's record, 1:31:30, by 19 seconds (Hosler 1979:22, 2024; Nor Cal Running Review 1979:37). Rodgers spent an illustrious career as a marathon runner, winning the Boston Marathon four times and earning the moniker "Boston Billy" (Burfoot and Kislevitz 2021; Jolicoeur 2025; Moriber 2022; Running Past 1999). Rodgers commented in his autobiography that as a marathon runner by specialty, he felt there was a "touch of incongruity" in his attempt on the records (Rodgers and Concannon 1982:157). Rodgers also set American track records for the 15-kilometer run, 20-kilometer run, and hour record in Boston, and by 1982 had opened two locations of the Bill Rodgers Running Center (Rodgers and Concannon 1982:320). Retrospectives on Bill Rodgers' life center on his marathon records, particularly those achieved in the Boston Marathon, and only mention the records broken at West Valley College as a secondary achievement (Burfoot and Kislevitz 2021; Jolicoeur 2025; Moriber 2022; Running Past 1999).

After many years of budget concerns, West Valley College began eliminating athletics programs in the early 2000s in favor of providing coursework. The West Valley College track and cross country program was eliminated alongside the wrestling program in 2010; the football program followed in 2014 (Sarwari 2013).

Historic Resource Evaluation
In order for a property to be considered eligible for listing in the CRHR, it must possess historical significance by fulfilling at least one of four criteria, and retain sufficient integrity, defined by seven aspects (PRC Section 5024.1(c)). This section outlines the evidence for significance and integrity of the West Valley College Track based on these criteria.

Criterion 1
Criterion 1 identifies significant resources as those "that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(1)). The construction of the West Valley College Track belongs to a broader pattern of developing community colleges in the Bay Area and California in the 20th century. However, West Valley College did not appear to be of exceptional note in this context, as it was not pioneering in the development of community college practices. The athletics program at West Valley College, while notable, does not appear to have been significant enough to merit note beyond local periodicals. Even if the college itself were eligible, it is unlikely that the running track would merit inclusion as a contributing element, as its significance to secondary education in the context of community college development in California is modest compared to the development of the first facilities constructed in the 1960s. As such, under the theme of education, the West Valley College track does not meet the threshold of significance necessary to merit inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 1.

Criterion 2
Criterion 2 identifies significant resources as those "that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(2)). The following discussion applies the criterion to individuals and groups identified in association with the track.
Don Bowden's association with the track is tangential at best. His employment by 3M on the design of the Tartan track material in the late 1960s and the installation of a Tartan surface on the West Valley College Track in 1973 are coincidental rather than associated. Even if Bowden were the salesman who sold the material to the college, this would not be a significant event under

Criterion 2. As a runner, Bowden's greatest achievement took place at Baxter Stadium in Stockton in 1957, many years prior to the existence of the college and many miles from Saratoga.

The most notable individual associated with the West Valley College Track is Bill Rodgers, who, on February 21, 1979, broke a standing world record for the 25-kilometer run. However, in the documentary record, Rodgers is most frequently commended for winning the Boston Marathon four times, in 1975, 1978, 1979, and 1980. Discussions of the achievements of "Boston Billy" frequently center on these four wins, while the record set at the West Valley College Track is mentioned as a footnote to Rodgers' distinguished marathon running career. While Rodgers' 1979 achievement is notable, it does not elevate the track itself to the level of significance necessary to merit the track's inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 2.

Coach Bill Campbell has been cited as an individual associated with use of the track. Campbell's coaching record at West Valley College is commendable, particularly in the winning of 27 conference titles. However, Campbell's legacy is confined to West Valley College; no data beyond the locality of Saratoga suggests that his achievements made him a significant figure in the history of running beyond the Bay Area community college circuit. Furthermore, it is not clear from documentation that any particular title or event under Campbell's tenure occurred at West Valley College. Because the track was specifically intended to function as a practice arena and not a stadium, it is unlikely that college meets of any significance would have been hosted here. As such, the track, a practice space for the West Valley College track and cross country team, does not in itself bear enough relationship to Mr. Campbell's achievements to merit inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 2.

In sum, none of the individuals identified with the West Valley College Track bear enough significance to merit its inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 2.

Criterion 3
Criterion 3 identifies significant resources as those "that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(3)).

The firm of Higgins and Root was part of the team that designed the West Valley College. However, the running track does not figure large in their portfolio of projects; Chester Root in particular is best known for his Ranch-style work on the Sunset Magazine headquarters and for postwar modernism. The historical AIA directory for 1970 does not mention West Valley College among Higgins and Root's many notable projects and achievements to that time.

The apex of Alexander (Sandor) Tarics' Olympic career was at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Tarics' later career as an architect in San Francisco was defined by civic, public, and industrial buildings, and Tarics' achievement as an individual engineer is most closely tied to the development of seismic technology. Tarics does not appear to have a clear relationship to the track itself, though his firm was one of two partners responsible for designing the West Valley College campus.

The group Save West Valley Track claims in a memorandum that the track was "modeled after the 1968 Olympic track in Mexico." Archival research through historical newspapers and college documents does not substantiate this claim. Rather, the track is designed to meet standard competition dimensions, and is therefore not unique in design. Based on a review of photos available through the West Valley College Library, the original synthetic track material had been replaced at least twice since the original red Tartan track was installed in 1973. Were the track still extant, it would not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction any better than running tracks of a similar age. As the work of architectural firms Higgins and Root and Reid and Tarics, the track represents a minor component of a large portfolio of work primarily devoted to midcentury industrial and public buildings. The track therefore would not represent the work of a master or high artistic value. Though it is part of the West Valley College campus, it does not comprise a part of the campus's character-defining midcentury Brutalist design as described by Supernowicz (2013) in his evaluation of the West Valley College Theater. As such, it meets none of the elements of significance necessary to merit inclusion in the CRHR under Criterion 3.

Criterion 4
Criterion 4 identifies significant resources as those "that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history" (PRC § 5024.1(c)(4)). The West Valley College Track was constructed using conventional materials and methods for its time. It had since been resurfaced multiple times prior to its recent demolition. It is highly unlikely that any unique or novel information about methods of running track construction or materials employed can be gleaned from study of this track.

Integrity
Because the track has been mostly demolished, it lacks integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. These aspects of integrity can only exist when the character-defining materials are present, but most of these have been destroyed. With regard to the remaining aspects of integrity—location, setting, and association—the general surrounding area remains intact, and the area retains a feeling of an athletic complex. Because the 16-foot excavation and general shape of the track remain, only the loosest association remains.

Findings

In conclusion, this evaluation finds that the now-demolished West Valley College Track retains only the most basic aspects of integrity and meets none of the four criteria for eligibility for the CRHR. Therefore, it is evaluated herein as *ineligible* for inclusion on the CRHR. As designed, the replacement of the track is not anticipated to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5.

B14. References

Associated Press. 2016. Sandor Tarics, Oldest Former Olympian, Dies. *Desert Sun*, May 25, 2016:16, sec. A.

Athletic Polymer Systems. 2007. Tartan History. *Tartan*. Athletic Polymer Systems, Corona, CA. Product website, https://www.tartan-aps.com/history.php.

Benyon Sports. 2025. From Cinder to Polyurethane: The Evolution of Running Track Surface Construction. *Benyon Sports*. Product website, https://beynonsports.com/en/articles/detail/evolution-of-running-track-construction/.

Boggs, George R., and Lawrence A. Galizio (editors). 2021. *A College for All Californians: A History of the California Community Colleges*. Teachers College Press, New York.

Burfoot, Amby, and Gail Kislevitz. 2021. Profile - Bill Rodgers has been running for 57 years, with a few wins and many friends along the way. *Lifetime Running*. Lifetime Running. Running information website, https://www.lifetimerunning.net/2021/03/profile-bill-rodgers-has-been-running.html.

Carey, Mary Bell. 1964. Saratoga Site Selected for College Campus. *Times-Observer*, October 16, 1964. https://www.newspapers.com/image/696790229/.

Daily Item. 1965. Architect for GHS Slated for PTA-Sponsored Panel. *Daily Item*, April 8, 1965:6.

Gane, John F., and George S. Koyl (editors). 1970. *American Architects Directory*. 3rd ed. R. R. Bowker Company, New York.

Hoffman, Ogden. 1862. *Reports of Land Cases Determined in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California*. Numa Herbert, San Francisco.

Hosler, Ray. 1979. A Fistful of Records. *On the Run*, April 19, 1979:22.

Hosler, Ray. 2024. West Valley College track witnessed five running records in a single day. *Bay Area Bike Rides*. Personal blog, https://rayhosler.wordpress.com/2024/01/13/west-valley-college-track-witnessed-five-running-records-in-a-single-day/, accessed October 2, 2026.

Jolicoeur, Lynn. 2025. Legendary marathoner Bill Rodgers celebrates 50 years since his first of four Boston Marathon wins. *WBUR*. WBUR, Boston. Public media website, https://www.wbur.org/news/2025/04/17/bill-rodgers-boston-marathon-50-years.

Koyl, George S. (editor). 1956. *American Architects Directory*. 1st ed. R. R. Bowker Company, New York.

Lieberman, Donald. 2010. Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Ernest and Emily Renzel House. California State Parks.

Los Gatos Times. 1963. Architectural Firm Moves to Los Gatos. *Los Gatos Times*, May 13, 1963:2.

Los Gatos Times. 1977. Chester Root Dies, Noted Area Architect. *Los Gatos Times*, March 29, 1977:1, 4.

Milliken, Randall T. 1995. *A Time of Little Choice: The Disintegration of Tribal Culture in the San Francisco Bay Area*. Ballena Press Anthropological Papers 43. Ballena Press, Menlo Park, CA.

Moriber, Paul. 2022. Catching Up with Running Legend, Bill Rodgers. *The Bethel Grapevine*. The Bethel Grapevine, Bethel, CT. News website, https://www.bethelgrapevine.com/articles/catching-up-with-running-legend-bill-rodgers.

Munro-Fraser, J.P. 1881. *History of Santa Clara County, California*. Alley, Bowen and Company, San Francisco.

National Museum of American History. 2025. Tartan Surface Material Track Sample. *Smithsonian Institution*. Museum website, https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/object/nmah_679446.

Nor Cal Running Review. 1979. Long Distance Results. *Nor Cal Running Review*, 1979:35–40.

Nuval, Alvin-Christian, and Robert Jay Chattel. 2024. Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Sunset Headquarters. California State Parks.

Ostler, Scott. 2016. Alexander Tarics - Olympian Invented Quake Shock Pads. *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2016:2, sec. C.

Rodgers, Bill, and Joe Concannon. 1982. *Marathoning*. Simon and Schuster, New York.

Running Past. 1999. Profiles - Bill Rodgers. *Running Past*. Running Past. Running information website, https://www.lifetimerunning.net/2021/03/profile-bill-rodgers-has-been-running.html.

Sanchez, Sheila. 2013. Saratoga's West Valley College Inducts Coaches, Teams Into Hall of Fame. *Patch.com*. News website, https://patch.com/california/saratoga/saratogas-west-valley-college-inducts-coaches-teams-into-hall-of-fame.

Saratoga Historical Foundation. 2006. They Called It Saratoga. *Saratoga Historical Foundation*. Historical society website, https://www.saratogahistory.com/they-called-it-saratoga.html.

Sarwari, Khalida. 2013. Football on the Cut List at West Valley College. *Mercury News*, November 4, 2013. https://www.mercurynews.com/2013/11/04/football-on-the-cut-list-at-west-valley-college/.

Sparrer, Dick. 2013. West Valley inducts two teams, three coaches into Hall of Fame. *Mercury News*, May 23, 2013. https://www.mercurynews.com/2013/05/23/west-valley-inducts-two-teams-three-coaches-into-hall-of-fame/.

Stamford Advocate. 1965. Greenwich School Architects Honored. *Stamford Advocate*, June 15, 1965:18.

Supernowicz, Dana E. 2013. Site Record P-43-003126. Northwest Information Center, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California.

Times-Herald. 1957. Cal's Don Bowden Records 3:58.7 Clocking for Mile! *Times-Herald*, June 2, 1957:19.

Times-Observer. 1963. Jr. College District Appoints Architects. *Times-Observer*, November 22, 1963:1.

Times-Observer. 1965. Architects Urge Single-Story College Buildings. *Times-Observer*, March 19, 1965:1, 10.

Times-Observer. 1970. Advances. *Times-Observer*, June 31, 1970:5.

Times-Observer. 1972a. Architects Get Special Citation. *Times-Observer*, February 25, 1972:16.

Times-Observer. 1972b. Construction to Begin on Physical Ed. Complex. *Times-Observer*, April 25, 1972:5.

Times-Observer. 1972c. Contract Signing. *Times-Observer*, June 27, 1972:1.

Times-Observer. 1973a. College Staff Receives 6.5 percent salary hike. *Times-Observer*, June 19, 1973:1, 8.

Times-Observer. 1973b. Athletic Field to be Lowered. *Times-Observer*, August 28, 1973:6.

Times-Observer. 1973c. Smith Drops Head Track Job at WVC. *Times-Observer*, October 16, 1973:3.

Times-Observer. 1974. College P.E. Fields Slated for Face Lift. *Times-Observer*, October 12, 1974:8.

Welch, Jackie. 1974. College-Council Exchange Probes Mutual Concerns. *Times-Observer*, December 12, 1974:1, 8.

West Valley College. 2026. West Valley Mission Community College District. *West Valley College*. Community college website, https://www.westvalley.edu/catalog/introduction/district.html.

West Valley Mission Community College District. 2026. Our History. *West Valley Mission Community College District*. Community college website, http://wvm.edu/about/history.html.

Photographs



Photograph 1, view southwest, 9 October 2026, southeastern corner of track from southeastern entry to track area.



Photograph 2, view south, 9 October 2026, northeastern corner of brick grounds storage building.



Photograph 3, view east, 9 October 2026, western corner of brick grounds storage building.



Photograph 4, view east, 9 October 2026, remnants at southern edge of track.



Photograph 5, view north, 9 October 2026, western half of track.



Photograph 6, view east, 9 October 2026, northern infield of track area.



Photograph 7, view south, 9 October 2026, view from northern end of track area.



Photograph 8, view west, 9 October 2026, northern half of track from eastern cutbank.



Photograph 9, view southeast, 9 October 2026, eastern half of track.



Photograph 10, view southeast, 9 October 2026, grounds storage building from track.