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"SINCE THE BEGINNING"
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Richard Mindigo
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1984 The Alameda
San Jose, CA 95126

October 1, 2003

Dear Mr. Mindigo:

RE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL LITERATURE REVIEW FOR THE SANTA CLARA SQUARE PROJECT, SANTA CLARA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

At your request I have completed an archaeological literature review at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) located at Sonoma State University for the above referenced project area (file no. 03-215). This letter discusses the findings of that review and comments on the archaeological sensitivity of the site.

The files have no evidence of recorded historic and/or prehistoric sites inside the project borders. Only one historic site, Scl-467H, is recorded within 500 feet of the project area, at the northeast corner of El Camino Real and the Lawrence Expressway directly adjacent to the project area. This is the location where Ward Marsten, leader of the California Expeditionary army, negotiated the treaty for the cessation of violence with Francisco Sanchez, leader of the Mexican Ranchero forces in 1847. There is no indication that the project area has been surveyed for cultural resources in the past, nor have there been any other surveys within 500 feet of it other than a linear survey of the Lawrence Expressway. There are no listings on the Office of Historic Preservation Historic Properties Directory (through 2003) for the address, and none on the Santa Clara County Heritage Resource Inventory of 1979.

It should be pointed out that the lack of recorded information for the project area and its immediate surroundings is more an artifact of the age of the construction in this area: the project area and its immediate environment was probably built out before the inception of CEQA guidelines requiring cultural resource surveys, which might have added to the inventory of prehistoric site locations given the proximity of the project area to Calabazas Creek, an environmental setting which could have supported prehistoric settlements.

The proximity to the creek leads me to conclude that the project area has a potential for containing buried archaeological resources, in particular under the pavement of the parking lots where construction related earthmoving may have been minimal. It is the recommendation of this

report that an archaeologist be retained to monitor site clearing activities in order to identify potential cultural resource deposits. In the event that any such deposits are identified in areas where additional impacts will occur, the project sponsor should submit a plan for the evaluation of the resource to the City of Santa Clara for approval. If evaluative testing demonstrates the existence of a cultural deposit eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historic Resources, a plan for mitigation of impacts to the resource should be submitted to the city for approval before additional earthmoving activities are allowed to recommence inside the area delineated by the project archaeologist.

Sincerely,

Miley Paul Holman
Holman & Associates