



July 28, 2023

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)  
District 7  
100 S Main St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**SUBJECT: Notification of Proposed Downgrade of Ventura County Landmark to Point of Interest**

Location: Along North Ventura Avenue, 0.3 mile north of City of Ventura water purification plant (5895 N Ventura Avenue, Ventura, CA 93001)  
Common Name: Ventura County Landmark #11 - Santa Gertrudis Asistencia (Chapel) Monument  
Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): N/A  
GPS Coordinates: 34.34751293547659, -119.297052533304

Dear Property Owner:

The property referenced above is currently designated as a Ventura County Landmark. Please be advised that Ventura County Planning Division staff identified this Landmark as potentially eligible to be downgraded to a Ventura County Point of Interest. Please review this notice for important information on the County of Ventura's proposed action regarding this designation.

Pursuant to Section 1368 of Ventura County Cultural Heritage Ordinance No. 4604, a Ventura County Landmark may be downgraded where there is evidence that the property has been defaced, demolished, added to, altered, or moved, or damaged by natural disaster, including but not limited to, earthquake, fire, or flood, and the Cultural Heritage Board determines that the site's integrity has been impacted, through no fault or neglect of the property owner, to the extent that it no longer meets the criteria for a Cultural Heritage Site. For your reference, Section 1367 of the Cultural Heritage Ordinance establishes that Points of Interest satisfy one of the following criteria:

- (1) The site of a building, structure or object that no longer exists, but was associated with historic events, important persons, or embodied a distinctive character or architectural style; or
- (2) A site that has historical significance, but has been altered to the extent that the integrity of the original workmanship, materials, or style has been substantially compromised; or

County of Ventura  
October 9, 2023  
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Item 6a  
Exhibit 1 – Property Owner Notification  
Letter

- (3) The site of a historic event which has no distinguishable characteristics other than that a historic event occurred at that site, and the site is not of sufficient historical significance to justify the establishment of a Landmark.

The subject Landmark is described as follows:

- The Asistencia, built to minister to inland Indians, was used until about 1840. Ruins still standing in 1890 gradually crumbled and the site was lost. In 1966 archaeologists determined that the site lay in the path of the Ojai Freeway (Highway 33). The Asistencia's foundations were located in March 1966. The site was documented by measurements and photographs and artifacts were removed. The foundation stones were removed to another location and on January 25, 1968 they were reburied a little less than one mile (0.89) from their original site. Some of the foundation stones were used to build the monument marking their new site. The monument was dedicated with a bronze marker donated by the Native Daughters of the Golden West (El Aliso Parlor #314 and Poinsettia Parlor #318) on May 23, 1970.

The County of Ventura's proposed action regarding this designation is intended to align the property with the criteria for a Point of Interest. While your consent is not required for the Cultural Heritage Board's future anticipated action regarding this designation, it is helpful in fully informing the Cultural Heritage Board. Removal or downgrade actions shall take place following a public hearing preceded by a 15-day notice to the property owner. At this time, a hearing on this item has not yet been scheduled.

Please complete the section on the following page and return this form to the Planning Division by electronic mail or U.S. mail within 15 days. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (805) 654-5042 or by email at [Dillan.Murray@ventura.org](mailto:Dillan.Murray@ventura.org).

Sincerely,



Dillan Murray, Associate Planner  
Planning Programs Section  
Ventura County Planning Division

- c: Carlo Ramirez ([carlo.ramirez@dot.ca.gov](mailto:carlo.ramirez@dot.ca.gov))  
Joben Penuliar ([Joben.Penuliar@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Joben.Penuliar@dot.ca.gov))  
Dawn Kukla ([dawn.kukla@dot.ca.gov](mailto:dawn.kukla@dot.ca.gov))

**Proposed Downgrade of a Ventura County Landmark to a Ventura County Point of Interest Consent/Rejection:**

I am the owner/authorized representative of the owner(s) of the property described below.

I/We:  DO  DO NOT

Consent to the downgrade of the subject property from a Ventura County Landmark to a Ventura County Point of Interest:

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Your contact information is requested so that we may provide you with ongoing information and communication related to this specific item only.