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(213) 228-7515 Phone
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JOHN F. SZABO
CITY LIBRARIAN

Los Angeles City Council
Education and Neighborhoods Committee

July 26, 2013

Re: City Council File 11-2057 – Rose Hills Archives, page 14

Dear Committee Members,

The Los Angeles Public Library would like to clarify and restate the letter submitted earlier by librarian Glen Creason with regards to Rose Hills:

The Map Collection of the Los Angeles Public Library's Central Library is one of the largest in American public libraries. In this collection are over 85,000 maps, some 2,000 atlases, over 1,000 gazetteers, some 20 serial titles and over one thousand books supporting the study of maps and mapping. The emphasis of this collection is on Los Angeles, Southern California and California but in many cases the scope extends to national and international coverage. The great majority of the chronological scope is post 1900 but there is a representation of 19th Century maps in California. LAPL holds the largest collection of historical maps of Los Angeles of any public library and rivals the collections of USC and UCLA.

LAPL has been collecting maps for over a hundred years and therefore the provenance of individual items is not always known. We are a repository for government documents, and therefore house current and obsolete USGS topographical maps. Many, many maps and atlases have come to us through donation, as the recently heralded Feathers map collection. We hold tract atlases created by real estate developers or property insurance companies, such as the Baist atlases or the Sanborn atlases. Some maps are so well known to historians they are known simply by their name and have been reproduced in many books, e.g. the Ord Survey. Many items are held by other institutions and libraries such as the Library of Congress or even the Los Angeles City Bureau of Engineering.

The Los Angeles Public Library does not recognize historical areas in any official way, and can only make available resources and information relating to historical areas. Historical maps containing various points of interest, e.g., parks or schools, streets or a housing tract bearing the appellation of "Rose Hill" or "Rose Hills" have been identified in the library's map collection.

Sincerely,

Cynthia McNaughton
Senior Librarian
History & Genealogy Department
Los Angeles Public Library

Daniel Dupill
Principal Librarian
History & Genealogy Department
Los Angeles Public Library