United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Batchelder, Ernest & Alice (Coleman)/Dean, Francis Garden

other names/site number Batchelder/Dean Garden

DRAFT

2. Location

street & number 626 S. Arroyo Boulevard ☐ not for publication

city or town Pasadena ☐ vicinity

state California code CA county Los Angeles code 37 zip code 91105

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** ___ **statewide** __**local**

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Batchelder/Dean Garden
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [X] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [ ] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [X] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
	3	buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
1	3	**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Historic Designed Gardens in Pasadena

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE/Garden

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE/Garden

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: N/A
walls: N/A
roof: N/A
other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Batchelder/Dean Garden is a private residential designed garden built in 1910. It is located on South Arroyo Boulevard in the southwestern portion of the City of Pasadena, immediately east of the Arroyo Seco. The garden extends onto two separate properties that total 0.62 acres in size; however, this nomination is only for the property on which the buildings associated with Batchelder's life and work are located. The property is within a single-family residential neighborhood on the edge of the Arroyo Seco, a natural canyon and stream that runs through the City of Pasadena and other adjacent cities. The primary garden area is at the rear of the property, with additional garden space near the entry to the house. A pool with surrounding deck and planters was built in 1968 at the north-central portion of the property, designed by Francis Dean (of the landscape architecture firm EDAW), who owned the property at the time. The main rear garden area is asymmetrical in plan and is characterized by rectilinear brick pathways, steps and pads lined with Arroyo stones; brick perimeter walls; tiled fountains and mature trees with newer drought-tolerant landscaping. The garden near the entry to the house has pathways and pads of glazed tiles lined with brick, a tiled fountain and newer drought-tolerant landscaping. The pool area is enclosed by a wood fence and has a series of interconnected rectilinear forms created by the pool itself, integrated planters and the surrounding deck.

The Batchelder House, studio and garage/guest house are non-contributing to this nomination of the garden and were previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Narrative Description

The Batchelder/Dean Garden is located is in the southwest portion of the City, on the east side of South Arroyo Boulevard between West California Boulevard and La Loma Road. The garden on the main property, with address of 626 S. Arroyo Boulevard, extends onto the rear of an adjacent property with address of 737 La Loma Road, the rear portion of which was originally part of Batchelder's property. The total size of the properties on which the garden is located is 0.62 acres; however, this nomination is only for the property on which the buildings associated with Batchelder's life and work are located. The property includes three buildings: a single-family residence at the southwest corner of the property, a detached studio, also referred to as the "kiln house," east of the main house and a detached garage/guest house at the northeast corner of the property. The main house was previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978; it is assumed that the two outbuildings were contributing to the listing and; therefore, the three buildings are non-contributing to this nomination of the garden.

The property has three distinct garden spaces: the front yard garden, the rear yard garden and the pool area. The front yard garden extends from the street to the front façade of the house. It consists of a tiled path with a brick border extending from the street (including a portion of the public parkway) to the front porch, a tiled pad bordered in Arroyo stones south of the porch with a tall, rectangular freestanding fountain at the southwest corner, a large specimen oak tree southwest of the pad and landscaped areas with drought-tolerant plantings. The fountain, which is approximately five feet tall, two feet wide and one foot deep, is clad in an extensive array of patterned tiles and has a cast stone cherub head at the top from which water flows to a basin at the ground formed by placement of Arroyo stones.

The rear yard garden occupies the southeast corner of the property and extends onto the northern portion of the adjacent property at 737 La Loma Road. Based on subdivision and ownership research, the portion of the garden at 737 La Loma Road was never actually on Batchelder's property (i.e., the current configuration of property lines matches the original 1904 subdivision of the neighborhood). Rather, the adjacent property was owned by Theo and Jennie Coleman, Alice Coleman Batchelder's parents, in the mid-to-late 1920's, followed by their son-in-law and daughter John and Sarah (Coleman) Bragdon. The kiln house forms the rear garden's northerly border and the easterly wall of the building is at the easterly boundary of the property. A wood fence is on the southern property line. The westerly portion of the rear garden, adjacent to the main house and kiln house is largely made up of interconnected basket-weave-patterned brick pads and paths, with borders of Arroyo stones and planting areas with mature trees and drought-tolerant landscaping. A second freestanding wall fountain marks a transition point from this largely hardscaped, flat portion of the rear garden to the largely landscaped, stepped portion to the east, which is on the adjacent property at 737 La Loma Road. This fountain is

also rectangular, almost square, flanked by two low sidewalls. The west-facing side of the fountain and the north-, west- and south-facing sides of the sidewalls are clad in tile with brick caps, while the entire rear face of the fountain is made of stacked Arroyo stones. Centered immediately below the brick cap of the west face of the fountain is a large tile with two peacocks drinking from a fountain, through which water projects into a scalloped basin below.

The pool area is a rectangular area north of the main house and is enclosed by a wood fence and a solid plastered wall. The area includes a pebble concrete deck that directly engages a large rectangular swimming pool. A rectangular planter in which a tree is planted sits near the pool entry steps on the south side and extends into the pool itself. A second planter, raised above the pool, extends along the north side of the pool for its entire length. The face of the planter wall, facing the pool, has small, square, white ceramic tiles. A pathway of square glazed tiles similar to those seen in the rear and front yard gardens and, therefore, likely a remnant of a previous garden design at this location, engages the pebble concrete deck adjacent to the house and extends beyond the fenced area.

Ernest Batchelder owned the property and built the house and gardens beginning in 1910 and continuing with additions and construction of outbuildings into 1913. A garage and guest house was built in 1920. Batchelder owned the property until his death in 1957, at which time Francis Dean, a landscape architect that had recently become partner in the new firm Eckbo, Austin, Dean & Williams (EDAW), purchased the property. Robert Winter, the current owner and an architectural historian and retired professor at Occidental College in Los Angeles, purchased the property from Dean in 1972.

Ernest Batchelder (1875 – 1957)

Batchelder was an important figure in the history of the City of Pasadena, primarily due to the tile-making business he established on this property and moved elsewhere when the business became more successful, eventually providing handcrafted tiles for installation in buildings throughout the country and into Canada. In addition, before starting his tile business, Batchelder was an instructor and director of the art department at Throop Polytechnic Institute (which would later become the California Institute of Technology). He later became heavily involved in efforts to promote arts and culture in Pasadena, including serving as President of the Pasadena Community Playhouse Association and on the advisory board of the Pasadena Public Library as well as advocating for establishment of the Pasadena Art Institute. He also became interested in city planning efforts and served on the Pasadena Planning Commission and on the jury to select the architects that would design city hall, the central library and civic auditorium in the newly established civic center.

Francis Dean (1922 – 2003)

Francis Dean became a partner in the influential landscape architecture firm Eckbo, Dean, Austin & Williams (EDAW) in 1953. As outlined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form “Historic Designed Gardens in Pasadena,” the firm has been called “arguably became the most successful and widely known modern-day landscape architecture firm.” Dean lived in the house at 626 S. Arroyo Boulevard from 1958 until 1972, a period which included his productive period with EDAW, which ended in 1980. During this period, the firm grew from largely residential commissions to larger master planning projects, including the Ambassador West campus in Pasadena, as well as international projects. In 1968, Dean designed and built a swimming pool and deck on the property, which exemplifies the California Modern Residential property type and Dean’s aesthetic, while also integrating with the earlier garden features installed by Batchelder. The construction of this area of the garden creates a strong association of the property with Dean’s significant work with EDAW.

Batchelder/Dean Garden
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [ ] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [x] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [x] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape architecture

Period of Significance

1910-1968

Significant Dates

1910 (construction of house & garden)

1968 (construction of pool area)

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Ernest Batchelder; Francis Dean

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Ernest Batchelder, Francis Dean (of EDAW)

Period of Significance (justification)

The house was constructed in 1910; the garden appears to have been established at that time. The pool area was constructed in 1968 and no substantial changes to the garden features have been made since that time other than replacement of smaller plantings.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The pool area was constructed in 1968 and, therefore, is less than 50 years old. It is exceptionally significant for its representation of the work of Francis Dean, a partner in the influential landscape design firm of (Garrett) Eckbo, (Francis) Dean, (Don) Austin & (Edward) Williams (EDAW) as well as its association with Dean as owner and resident of the property during an active period in his landscape design career. Dean was a partner in the firm from 1953 to 1980, a period that saw the firm expand from small local residential and public commissions to large-scale master planning projects around the world. Important projects in Pasadena during this time include the Friend Paper Company Building and the Ambassador West Campus. The pool area of the Batchelder/Dean garden clearly represents the character-defining features of the California Modern Residential property type as described in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Designed Gardens in Pasadena" and the craft of Dean as designer of a landscape feature on his own property. In addition, Dean's integration of a new, modernist landscape feature with the previously existing Arts & Crafts period landscape features installed by Ernest Batchelder provide a unique opportunity to experience a continuum of compatible design by important practitioners of their respective time periods.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Built between 1910 and 1968, the Batchelder/Dean Garden is a locally significant example of the "Arts & Crafts/Craftsman" and "California Modern Residential" property types under the context "Residential Garden Design in Pasadena: 1905-1968" documented in the Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic Designed Gardens in Pasadena." It is also an example of the work of designer Ernest Batchelder and landscape architect Francis Dean. It meets National Register criterion C by embodying the distinctive characteristics of the property types and meets registration requirements listed in the Multiple Property Documentation Form.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Batchelder/Dean Garden is locally significant under criteria B & C. Under criterion B, the garden is significant for its association with two prominent designers who lived in the house and whose work is showcased on the property: Ernest Batchelder and Francis Dean. The bulk of the garden design is by Batchelder, who owned the property from 1910 - 1957

Under criterion C, the garden is a notable example of a designed residential garden of both the Arts & Crafts/Craftsman and California Modern Residential property types and the work of designer Ernest Batchelder and landscape architect Francis Dean. The front and rear yard gardens exhibit the defining characteristics of the Arts & Crafts/Craftsman property type including asymmetrical plan with inward focus; rectilinear paths to a series of garden rooms, brick and tile pathways; fountains with Arroyo stones, clinker bricks and decorative tiles; pergolas, naturalistic plantings, and association with an Arts & Crafts style building. The pool area exhibits the defining characteristics of the California Modern Residential property type including horizontal focus, interlocking rectangular planes, minimal ornamentation and pebble pavement. The garden retains integrity through its location, design, materials, workmanship and feeling and continues to retain essential character-defining features and distinctive characteristics of its periods and methods of construction. The smaller plantings have changed since the original designs were installed; however, the current drought-tolerant native plants are compatible with the design. The garden exhibits evidence of techniques employed in residential garden design in the 1910's and 1960's in Pasadena and the separate features from these two periods continue to express the historic sense of each time period, while also being compatible with each other.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

N/A – Historic context documented in Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic Designed Gardens in Pasadena."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Permit research materials and assessor's records in files, Planning Department, City of Pasadena (referenced in August 2012).

"Rare Art Objects Designed at Shop of E.A. Batchelder, Pasadena." *Pasadena Daily News* [Pasadena] 19 Feb 1910, 15. Print.

Winter, Robert. *Batchelder: Tilemaker*. Los Angeles: Balcony Press, 1999. Print.

Winter, Robert. *Coleman: Musicmaker*. Los Angeles: Balcony Press, 2000. Print.

Unknown, . "A History of EDAW." *Docstoc*. AECOM, unknown. Web. 27 Sep 2012. <http://www.docstoc.com/docs/2198061/A-History-of-EDAW>.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
____previously listed in the National Register
____previously determined eligible by the National Register
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
_x_Local government
____University
____Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.35
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1				3			
2				4			

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property is bound by South Arroyo Boulevard on the west and the boundaries of the property at 626 South Arroyo Boulevard on the north, east and south. The Los Angeles County Assessor's Parcel number for the property is 5717-001-023.

Batchelder/Dean Garden
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries were selected because they are the current legal property lines of the private property on which the Ernest Batchelder Garden is located. Although the adjacent property at 737 La Loma Road also has significant features of the garden in its rear yard, it was not included in this nomination due to owner objection.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kevin Johnson/Planner

organization City of Pasadena date August 28, 2012

street & number 175 N. Garfield Avenue telephone (626) 744-7806

city or town Pasadena state CA zip code 91101

e-mail kevinjohnson@cityofpasadena.net

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

The following is the same for all photographs:

Name of Property: Ernest Batchelder Garden
City: Pasadena
County: Los Angeles
State: California
Name of Photographer: Kevin Johnson
Date Photographed: March 23, 2012
Location of Original Digital Files: 175 N. Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1. Front yard garden terrace – Looking southeast from eastern terminus of access path
2. Access path to house and front yard garden - Looking east from sidewalk
3. Eastern terminus of access path - Looking east from access path
4. Tile panel in public parkway - Looking west from sidewalk
5. Tiled planter in front yard garden – Looking southwest from eastern terminus of access path
6. Freestanding fountain in front yard garden – Looking southwest from eastern terminus of access path
7. Oak tree in front yard garden – Looking southwest from southwest corner of front yard garden terrace

8. Rear yard garden – Looking east from eastern edge of front yard garden
9. Rear yard garden – Looking southeast from rear of house
10. Brick pad in rear yard garden – Looking south from approximate center of garden
11. Path to kiln house – Looking north from central rear yard pathway
12. Freestanding fountain in rear yard – Looking east from path to kiln house
13. Pool area fence – Looking east from pool deck
14. Pool & planters – Looking west from pool deck
15. Pool & planters – Looking northeast from pool deck
16. Eastern end of pool & deck – Looking north from pool area fence

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

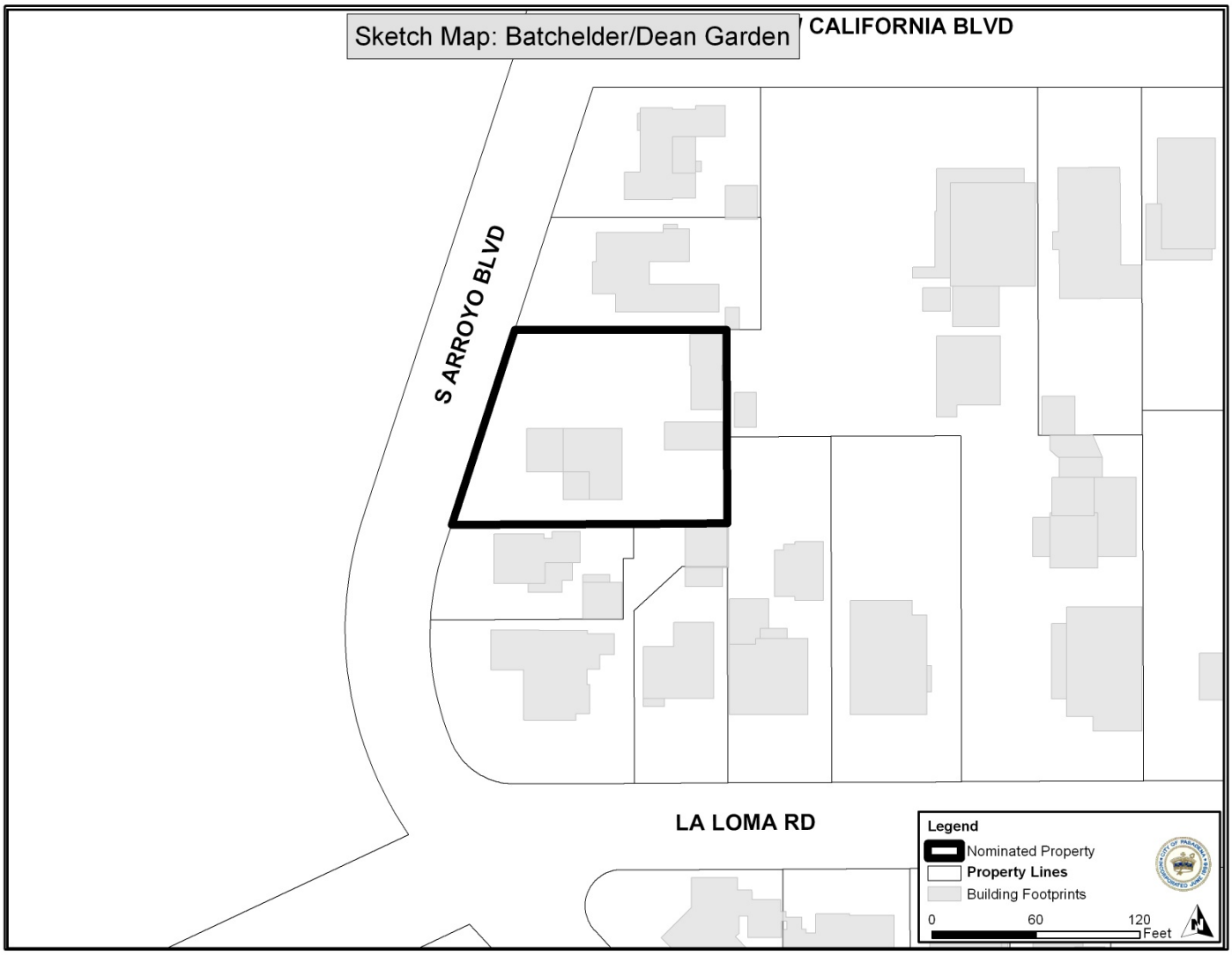
name Robert Winter

street & number 626 South Arroyo Boulevard telephone

city or town Pasadena state CA zip code 91105

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

SKETCH MAP


Sketch Map: Batchelder/Dean Garden
CALIFORNIA BLVD
S ARROYO BLVD
LA LOMA RD
Legend
Nominated Property
Property Lines
Building Footprints
0
60
120
Feet

Batchelder/Dean Garden
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

AERIAL MAP