

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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Pasadena Field Archery Range **DRAFT**

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 415 S. Arroyo Boulevard

City or town: Pasadena State: California County: Los Angeles

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D

_____ <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>
_____ <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____ <b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>
_____ <b>Title :</b>	
_____ <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

---

#### 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

---

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object



Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

The Pasadena Field Archery Range is located in Pasadena, California within Lower Arroyo Seco Park. A narrow concrete flood control channel runs through the entire length of the park, which is set in a natural canyon created by the Arroyo Seco. The archery range is situated on the west side of the channel, accessed by a maintenance bridge that allows humans and animals to cross the channel. The western boundary corresponds with the western boundary of the Lower Arroyo Seco Park. A neighborhood of single-family residences is situated west of the park on the rim of the canyon. The eastern boundary corresponds with a hiking trail that hugs the channel. The archery range is approximately seven acres consisting of twenty-eight targets and six practice butts. The site retains all aspects of integrity.

---

### Narrative Description

Lower Arroyo Seco Park covers 150 acres and extends from the Colorado Street Bridge on the north to the city limits on the south. A narrow concrete flood control channel runs through the entire length of the park, which is set in a natural canyon created by the Arroyo Seco, a major tributary of the Los Angeles River. The canyon walls support native and naturalized plant

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

species, which serve as habitat for a variety of bird, insect, and small mammal species. In addition to the archery range, the park includes a fly-casting pond and clubhouse, La Casita De Arroyo community center, Aids Memorial Grove, a system of arroyo stone walls that retain slopes and help define paths, multi-use trails for hiking and horseback riding, and several promontories.

The meandering hiking trail that corresponds with the eastern boundary consists of a packed dirt path and is defined by small boulders intentionally placed along its edges. The range is approximately seven acres with an irregular shape and begins near the maintenance bridge on the north and extends south towards La Loma Bridge. The ground is generally flat, and gradually increases in elevation to the west.

The range is comprised of a series of interconnected packed dirt paths and target lanes that follow the curves and elevation changes of the natural topography. This circulation system makes up the course that consists of twenty-eight targets. The layout of the course is organized from north to south, with target #1 situated slightly north of the maintenance bridge. The six practice butts are located between targets #1 and #2. Along the length of the course, there are two clusters of targets: #3 to #6 and #20 to #28. Each of the targets and practice butts are oriented so that the archer is facing the natural increase in elevation and heavier vegetation to the west, which forms a natural backdrop for the activity.

The targets in the course range from twenty to seventy yards long. Each target consists of a packed dirt lane about ten feet across with varying distances to the butts, made from bales of hay and metal frames. Concrete yardage markers on the ground indicate the distance to the butt. Targets also include wooden bow racks, and in some cases wooden benches. These small features, continually exposed to the elements and are frequently replaced in-kind, are not counted as resources. However, their presence and location are important and necessary to the historic use of the range and contribute to the integrity of the site as a whole.

### ***Alterations***

Archers were shooting at twenty-eight targets in the range even before the twenty-eight target course was standardized by National Field Archery Association (NFAA) in 1942. The range has always had twenty-eight targets except for one decade from 1963 to 1974 when Pasadena Roving Archers could only maintain fourteen targets due to declining membership and resources, though the butts and shooting lanes of the southern fourteen were never removed. The exact details of the earliest twenty-eight target courses are not well documented. Since Pasadena Roving Archers resumed use of the full twenty-eight target course in 1974, the range has remained in the same configuration. The clubhouse constructed by Pasadena Roving Archers in 1945 was destroyed by fire in 2002 and has not been rebuilt. The clubhouse was located between targets #17 and #18. Only minor rearrangements have been made to the range to accommodate adjustments to the western boundary of the Lower Arroyo Seco Park as a result of a land survey and evolution of NFAA rules. Changes to the vegetation are expected in cultural landscapes and the general character of the range from the period of significance remains.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

### ***Integrity***

The Pasadena Field Archery Range retains the essential physical and associative features that enable it to convey its historic significance. As a geographic area comprising largely natural features that were modified for a specific recreational use, the integrity of the range was weighed using guidance in National Register Bulletin #30: *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*.<sup>1</sup>

*Location*—Factors such as the temperate climate, natural topography of the canyon, proximity to water and scenic views made the Arroyo Seco a desirable place for outdoor recreational activities, including archery, and required little manmade intervention for these activities to take place. The range has not been moved since it was established, and the western boundary was only adjusted as a result of a land survey the Lower Arroyo Seco Park; therefore, the characteristics that prompted its development remain, and the range retains its integrity of location.

*Setting*—The setting of the range is intact from the period of significance. Small-scale features including the boulders along pathways, butts, targets, and yardage markers contribute to the integrity of the immediate setting. The larger setting, the Lower Arroyo Seco Park in which the range is located, remains a natural park. Native and naturalized plant species continue to grow in the area and are more densely clustered to the west of the range. On the west, the residential neighborhood overlooking the range is still single-family and on the east the trail and flood control channel remain unchanged.

*Design*—The range is a combination of natural and manmade elements. Natural elements, in particular the topography and pattern of vegetation, influenced decisions about the arrangement of the range. Within the period of significance, there have only been minor modifications to the design necessitated by changes in NFAA rules and the natural landscape. As such, the spatial relationship between these natural and manmade elements is intact, particularly the meandering circulation system and orientation of the twenty-eight targets toward the west, which is generally more densely vegetated and at a higher elevation. Therefore, the range retains integrity of design.

*Materials*—The range is composed mostly of natural and some manmade materials including the natural landscape, butts made from bales of hay and metal frames, concrete markers, and wood bow racks and benches. These materials are exposed to the elements and are replaced in-kind periodically. There has been little manmade intervention in the archery range, leaving the natural materials that characterize the range, including sandy soil, naturally occurring rocks, trees, and chaparral intact. Therefore, the range retains its integrity of materials.

---

<sup>1</sup> Linda Flint McClelland, J. Timothy Keller, Genevieve P. Keller, and Robert Z. Melnick, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes* (Washington DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources, 1989, revised 1999), accessed January 24, 2020, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB30-Complete.pdf>.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

*Workmanship*—For a property type like the archery range, workmanship is exhibited in the way a natural environment has been modified for functional purposes. It is expressed through characteristics including the circulation system of packed dirt pathways, the orientation of the target lanes, the use of rocks as demarcating features, and the vernacular methods of construction used to fashion butts, bow racks, and benches. Therefore, the integrity of workmanship is intact.

*Feeling*—The integrity of feeling is intact as the physical components of the range convey the sense of a field archery range from the middle of the twentieth century fashioned to adapt to the naturally occurring landscape.

*Association*—The range retains its integrity of association because it has been used for the same purpose since the beginning of the period of significance and retains integrity as a whole to convey its historical significance under Criterion A.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
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.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.)

- 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
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1936-1963

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1936

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Pasadena Field Archery Range is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation. It is significant at the local level of significance in the context of sports. The archery range was created in 1936 by the Pasadena Roving Archers, a field archery club. Although the membership of the club expanded and contracted over time, the archery range has been in continuous use since it was created. Members of the club have made important contributions to the sport of field archery. Through its continued use, the archery range represents the enduring popularity of the sport, especially in Southern California where it was developed during the early to middle part of the twentieth century. Throughout its history the archery range has played host to numerous events in the sport including the Annual National Archery Association tournament in 1949. The period of significance is from 1936 when the range was created to 1963 when membership in the field archery club declined. By the mid-1970s the club rebounded by absorbing members from other clubs who had lost the use of their ranges and by offering free lessons as a part of the city's recreation program. Thus, 1936 to 1963 represents the first phase in the history of the archery range when Pasadena became a center for the sport in the region.

---

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

Archery was an important military and hunting skill from ancient history through the medieval period, before the widespread and efficient use of firearms. The advent of firearms rendered the bow and arrow somewhat obsolete in warfare. The British initiated a major revival of archery as an upper class pastime from about 1780 to 1840. Archery societies were founded across the country, each with their own rules. Archery tournaments soon became social and ceremonial events for the nobility complete with twenty-one-gun salutes and laurel wreathes for the competitors. One of the unique aspects of archery was that both men and women could participate, thus it became a forum for introductions and romances. After the Napoleonic Wars, archery became increasingly popular among all classes, and the rules and ceremonies became more standardized. Particularly influential in the resurgence of archery was Sir Walter Scott's 1819 novel, *Ivanhoe*, which depicted the main character winning an archery tournament.<sup>2</sup>

The first attempts to turn archery into a modern sport began in the 1840s. The first Grand National Archery Society meeting was held in York, England in 1844 and over the next decade the extravagant practices of the past were gradually whittled away and the rules were standardized. The style of archery during this period is referred to target archery, which involves shooting at stationary circular targets at varying distances. The York Round—consisting of seventy-two arrows at one hundred yards, forty-eight arrows at eighty yards, and twenty-four arrows at sixty yards—was adopted as the event upon which prizes were awarded by the

---

<sup>2</sup> Martin Jones, *Archery, Romance and Elite Culture in England and Wales, c.1780-1840*, (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2004), 193-208.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

National Archery Society. Horace A. Ford helped to improve archery standards and pioneered new archery techniques. He held the champion medal of England from 1849 to 1859 and authored the book *The Theory and Practice of Archery*, still referred to by archers.<sup>3</sup> Toward the end of the nineteenth century, the sport declined in popularity with the middle class, who also began to play croquet and tennis in their free time. The sport was still popular enough to be included in the 1900 Olympic Games in Paris. About 150 archers competed in six official events.

J. Maurice Thompson and his brother William are credited with popularizing archery in the United States after the Civil War. When firearms were prohibited in much of the South, the two brothers took-up bow hunting and became accomplished archers. They were founding members of the National Archery Association of the United States in 1879.<sup>4</sup> In addition to being an accomplished archer, Maurice was a novelist, poet, and essayist. His published essays on archery were collected in the book *The Witchery of Archery* (1878), which helped spread the enthusiasm for the sport in the U.S. The book included humorous stories as well as practical advice about equipment and hunting with a bow. Bow hunters and target archers continued to cross paths during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.<sup>5</sup>

The National Archery Association held its first meeting in August of 1879, and both men and women participated. The York Round was adopted as the event for men. The National Round, shot by the women of Great Britain at all public meetings, consisted of forty-eight arrows at sixty yards, and twenty-four arrows at fifty yards. These distances were found to be too long, and after much discussion the Columbia Round was adopted by the National Archery Association, consisting of twenty-four arrows each at thirty, forty, and fifty yards. These were the primary target archery events for decades until other rounds were introduced.

California played a prominent role in the development of modern bow hunting and field archery as well as the development of modern archery equipment. Modern bow hunting was popularized by four men who met in San Francisco at the beginning of the twentieth century: William Compton, Art Young, Saxton Pope, and Ishi. Compton was born in Nebraska in 1863, and his boyhood was influenced by the local Sioux who taught him the art of bow making and hunting.<sup>6</sup> He moved to California in 1913 and met Ishi, commonly known as the “last wild Indian” in America.<sup>7</sup> In 1911, at the age of fifty, Ishi emerged near the foothills of Lassen Peak after spending most of his life outside of modern culture. He lived the remaining years of his life in San Francisco. Around the same time, Compton befriended Art Young who was working for the *San Francisco Call* newspaper, and was also a consummate sportsman. Compton taught Young the art of archery and introduced him to Saxton Pope and Ishi. Pope was a Professor of Medicine

---

<sup>3</sup> Cliff Huntington, “Great Britain's Greatest Archer,” *Stick and Bow*, accessed June 29, 2015, <http://www.stickbow.com/FEATURES/HISTORY/horace-ford.CFM>.

<sup>4</sup> “History of Archery and the NAA,” *Washington Post*, accessed June 29, 2015, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/sports/olympics/longterm/archery/archhist.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> “J. Maurice Thompson,” *Archery Hall of Fame & Museum*, accessed June 29, 2015, <http://www.archeryhalloffame.com/Thamposn,%20Maurice.html>.

<sup>6</sup> Cliff Huntington, “Will 'Chief' Compton,” *Stick and Bow*, accessed June 30, 2015, <http://www.stickbow.com/stickbow/history/WillCompton.html>.

<sup>7</sup> “Ishi,” *Ishi Archery*, accessed January 2, 2020, <http://ishiarchery.com/ishi.html>.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

at the University of California at San Francisco. Having no immunity to modern viruses, Ishi was often sick and Pope became his doctor.<sup>8</sup> The four became close friends and polished their craft on hunting trips. After Ishi's death in 1916, Compton, Young, and Pope continued to go camping and bow hunting. Pope recorded many of their trips in his book *Hunting with the Bow and Arrow* (1923). Pope also wrote *Yahi Archery* (1918), *A Study of Bows and Arrows* (1923), and *The Adventurous Bowmen* (1926), which helped spread the word about bow hunting.

Field archery combines target archery and bow hunting. During the late 1920s, after a serious round of target shooting, archers would set up courses in rough terrain to improve their abilities. Target archery was not considered adequate for the development of skills required for bow hunting. Field archery ranges were developed so bow hunters could practice shooting at targets of varying distances in realistic outdoor settings. In 1934, a group of archers in Redlands, California began to develop field archery as a sport in its own right by building a permanent range. In many ways, a field archery range is analogous to golf course in that each target or hole is different and players rove from one target to another. According to John Yount, one of the original members of the archery club in Redlands, the course,

...contained something over 20 targets, and was laid out in extremely rugged hills. Actually, I know of but few archers today who would shoot such a course. Many a target had a 50- or 60-yard climb up a 45° trail, and one shot was 160 yards across a very deep ravine that is still full of arrows. There were no straw butts on this or any of the other early courses. The target was simply pinned to a pile of dirt.<sup>9</sup>

During the middle of the twentieth century, the various forms of archery grew in popularity, particularly in Southern California where the temperate weather allowed enthusiasts to enjoy the sport year round. In 1959, the Southern California Field Archery Association had twenty-two affiliated clubs with more than 1,500 members.<sup>10</sup> Pasadena boasted three archery clubs: one for target archers, one for field archers, and one for bow hunters. All three clubs had developed ranges in the Lower Arroyo Seco Park. The Pasadena Target Archers were organized in 1928 and established a target archery range on the east side of the flood control channel.<sup>11</sup> Next came the Pasadena Roving Archers organized in 1935. They established a field archery range on the west side of the channel in 1936.

---

<sup>8</sup> W.J. "Chief" Compton, "The Story of Ishi, the Yana Indian," *Ye Slyvan Archer*, originally published 1936, accessed June 30 2015, <http://tmuss.tripod.com/shotfrompast/chief.htm>.

<sup>9</sup> John Yount, "History of the National Field Archery Association," *National Field Archery Association*, accessed June 29, 2015, <http://www.fieldarchery.org/depot/history/214-2005919-History%20of%20the%20National%20Field%20Archery%20Association.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> Evelyn De Wolfe, "Archery Top Family Recreation, Old Sport Enjoys Revival," *Los Angeles Times*, July 10, 1959, A1.

<sup>11</sup> In 1928, the Lower Arroyo was owned by the City of Pasadena, not yet a municipal park, and the Arroyo Seco was not yet channelized.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

The Sagittarius Club was formed around 1950 and established a 3D archery range north of the field archery range.<sup>12</sup> Many archers were members of more than one club, and members lived in cities along the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, not just Pasadena.

The Pasadena Roving Archers is one of the oldest continuously operating archery clubs in California and responsible for maintaining the oldest surviving field archery range in the state. Many of its members have made important contributions to the history of the sport. Charter members included husband and wife Henry and Matilda “Babe” Bitzenburger, Stew Foster, brothers Poky and Jess Quail, John Daulley, Leonard Thompson, Sid Doyle, Ralph Olson, among others. Henry Bitzenburger served as the first president. He was an archery equipment dealer in Los Angeles. In the early 1940s, he invented and manufactured Fletchmaster Jigs, still used by every major manufacturer of quality arrows around the world. In addition to developing archery equipment, Henry was also one of the top archers in the country. He was the first individual to be awarded the American Archery Council's Medal of Honor.<sup>13</sup> Babe Bitzenburger was perhaps even more famous than her husband. She was the National Field Archery Association National Champion in 1946, 1947, 1948, and 1949. Babe used her skills to develop a career in the film industry. She was the archery coach for Universal Studios and taught movie stars such as Vivien Leigh and Tony Curtis. She became known as the Annie Oakley of the bow and arrow and appeared in newsreels and television shows dressed as a cowgirl.<sup>14</sup> Stew Foster was the designer of the Pasadena Roving Archers and California Bowmen Hunters logos and president of the State Archers of California in 1945.

One of the most famous members of the Pasadena Roving Archers was Howard Hill. He was renowned for his exceptional archery skills and became involved in the film industry as a consultant and performer. He performed in shooting scenes in *The Adventures of Robin Hood* starring Errol Flynn. Many of the outdoor scenes were filmed at the Pasadena Field Archery Range. During his lifetime, Hill earned many awards including the Maurice Thompson Medal of Honor, the National Archery Association's most prestigious award.<sup>15</sup>

The Pasadena Roving Archers obtained a permit from the City of Pasadena to build an archery range in the Lower Arroyo Seco Park in 1936. Club members carried bales of hay and tools into the canyon and set about creating a range. They cleared a trail, created shooting positions, and built targets. The first range faced north (later faced west) and was physically different from the range as nominated. The original range featured targets (or butts) in the surrounding hills, on narrow paths, between trees, and uphill and downhill positions. While the location and boundaries of the range has remained the same, the targets have changed in response to the

---

<sup>12</sup> 3D archery features three-dimensional animal targets, while field archery targets are typically round faces measuring twenty, forty, sixty, and eighty centimeters.

<sup>13</sup> Edward L. Ryman, *First Fifty Pasadena Roving Archers, Inc. 1935 to 1985* (Pasadena: Pasadena Roving Archers, 1987), 3.

<sup>14</sup> “Matilda ‘Babe’ Bitzenburger, 86, A National Champion,” *Baltimore Sun*, June 5, 2000, accessed June 30, 2015, [http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2000-06-05/news/0006050251\\_1\\_national-field-archery-association-greta-garbo-manchattan-and-brooklyn](http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2000-06-05/news/0006050251_1_national-field-archery-association-greta-garbo-manchattan-and-brooklyn).

<sup>15</sup> “Howard Hill,” *Archery Hall of Fame & Museum*, accessed June 29, 2015, <http://www.archeryhalloffame.com/Hill.html>.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

natural changes of the setting, weather events such as floods and windstorms, the standardization of ranges by the National Field Archery Association in 1942 and subsequent changes in the rules of the sport.<sup>16</sup>

During and after World War II, field archery was gaining in popularity and Pasadena became a hub for the sport. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, there were 50,000 people participating in archery in Southern California with clubs in Pasadena, Malibu, Santa Barbara, San Diego and a number of other communities.<sup>17</sup> The membership in the Roving Archers reached 300, and in 1945, they joined together in building a clubhouse. Invitational shoots were held frequently at the range and Pasadena hosted several major tournaments. In 1949, the fourth National Archery Association tournament drew over 1,500 spectators.<sup>18</sup> The following year, the Roving Archers hosted the Southern California Field Archery Open, the first archery tournament in the United States with cash prizes. "Twenty-six of the country's top archers were invited to take part in the tournament, which was observed by some 500 spectators."<sup>19</sup> Turkey shoots were also a traditional activity for the club with turkeys awarded to the winners.

During the 1950s, the continued popularity of archery has been attributed to the expansion of sports and recreational opportunities for the baby boom generation.<sup>20</sup> Many private clubs as well as city and county recreation departments began to offer archery programs for youth.<sup>21</sup> The City of Pasadena created such a program at the Jefferson Recreation Center in 1956.<sup>22</sup> The Pasadena Field Archery Range and members of the Roving Archers were featured in an article in the *Los Angeles Times* in 1959, "A typical gathering place for archers is the Pasadena Archery Range... There we find mom, dad, and the youngsters shoulder to shoulder trying their skill with the bow and arrow."<sup>23</sup> During this period, some of the country's top archers were members of the Roving Archers including: Don Cavallero (two-time National Champ plus many State titles), Tim Mayer (National Field Open Champ), Lucille "Lu" Shine (NFAA Field Open Champ and numerous State titles), Eva Troncoso (National Pro Champ), Joe Fries, Dick Young, Roy Hoff, John Williamson, and Tom Jennings.<sup>24</sup>

By July 1963, in just the Southern California area, there were forty field archery clubs.<sup>25</sup> In addition, there were eighteen other clubs and archery shops that had indoor and night shoots every day of the week. Despite the fact that the popularity of archery in the area was at an all-

<sup>16</sup> Ryman, 5.

<sup>17</sup> "Depression Set Champ on Archery Title Trail," *Los Angeles Times*, February 2, 1943, A9.

<sup>18</sup> Ryman, 20.

<sup>19</sup> Ryman, 27.

<sup>20</sup> "Pasadena Boys Letting Six Guns Rust as the Switch to Bows and Arrows," *Los Angeles Times*, November 30, 1952, H16.

<sup>21</sup> "Clubs for Youthful Archers Organizing," *Los Angeles Times*, February 10, 1957, H15.

<sup>22</sup> "Archery Course Ready to Open," *Los Angeles Times*, May 13, 1956, I5.

<sup>23</sup> Evelyn de Wolfe, "Archery Top Family Recreation, Old Sport Enjoys Revival," *Los Angeles Times*, July 10, 1959, A1.

<sup>24</sup> Ryman, 28.

<sup>25</sup> Clubs were located in the following communities: Baldwin Hills, Barstow, Bellflower, Burbank, Canoga Park, Carson, Duarte, El Monte, Encinitas, Fullerton, Inglewood, Lancaster, La Verne, Long Beach, Ontario, Pacoima, Pasadena, Pomona, Redondo Beach, San Diego, San Bernardino, South Gate, Torrance, Ventura, and Verdugo.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

time high, the membership of the Pasadena Roving Archers had dropped to an all-time low of sixteen. Thus, the club only had the resources to maintain fourteen targets. By the end of the decade, the club had rebounded by improving the smaller range, expanding the clubhouse, hosting more family-oriented activities, marketing at archery shops, and offering weekend classes for beginners.<sup>26</sup> The weekend classes, or clinics, became the primary mechanism for growing membership in the club as word spread about the program. A 1972 article in *Archery* magazine featured a story on the program entitled “Pasadena Roving Archers Provide a School for Would-Be Archers.” Attendance averaged twenty-four to forty people per session.<sup>27</sup>

The Pasadena Field Archery Range became even more significant when the other two archery ranges in Lower Arroyo Seco Park closed. In 1970, the Pasadena Target Archers folded and most of its members joined the Pasadena Roving Archers. This increased activity, along with the success of the archery clinic, allowed the club to begin using the other fourteen targets, thus reinstating the full twenty-eight-target range. The target archery range was abandoned and in 1991, it was replaced with the AIDS Memorial Grove. Around 1980, the Sagittarius Club also folded, and the Pasadena Roving Archers absorbed many of their members and activities. Their 3D archery range did not close entirely. It became known as the northern range of the Pasadena Archery Range; use was limited by an agreement with the City of Pasadena.<sup>28</sup> The Pasadena Roving Archers already had experience sharing their range with other clubs. The Griffith Municipal Archers held events on a field archery range in Griffith Park. In 1958, they lost the use of the range when their agreement with the City of Los Angeles was terminated. For the next three years, the two clubs shared the Pasadena Archery Range.

There are no known field archery ranges in California older than the one in Pasadena. In the Southern California area, there are several archery clubs, none as old as the Pasadena Roving Archers. The Malibu Mountain Archery Club was founded in 1938, and lost the use of their range in 2006.<sup>29</sup> The Riverside Archers was established in 1952. Their range is nestled in the valleys and canyons of northwest Riverside County near Lake Mathews.<sup>30</sup> The Verdugo Hills Archers was founded in 1953. Their range moved twice before settling into its location in the Sunland-Tujunga area in 1966.<sup>31</sup>

The Pasadena Roving Archers has made a lasting impact on the sport of field archery. Founded in 1935, the club established the Pasadena Field Archery Range in 1936. Many of its members have made important contributions to the history of the sport, and the range has been the location of numerous tournaments for professionals and amateurs alike. Through its archery clinic, the club has exposed hundreds of individuals to the Lower Arroyo Seco Park as well as the sport.

---

<sup>26</sup> Ryman, 41-42.

<sup>27</sup> Ryman, 58-59.

<sup>28</sup> “A Brief History of Archery Sports in the Lower Arroyo,” *Pasadena Roving Archers*, last modified January 1, 2015, accessed July 6, 2015, <http://pasadenaarchery.com/brief-history-of-archery-sports-in-the-lower-arroyo/>.

<sup>29</sup> “Last Shot for Malibu Mountain Archery Club,” *The Malibu Times*, November 22, 2006, accessed July 6, 2015, [http://www.malibutimes.com/life\\_and\\_arts/article\\_5397cbb3-cdf7-5eca-ala0-ab5bc45397a4.html](http://www.malibutimes.com/life_and_arts/article_5397cbb3-cdf7-5eca-ala0-ab5bc45397a4.html).

<sup>30</sup> “History,” *Riverside Archers*, accessed July 6, 2015, [http://www.riversidearchers.com/club\\_info.html](http://www.riversidearchers.com/club_info.html).

<sup>31</sup> “About Our Club,” *Wildwoods Archery Range*, accessed July 6, 2015, <http://www.verdugohillsarchers.org/about.html>.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

“About Our Club.” *Wildwoods Archery Range*. Accessed July 6, 2015.  
<http://www.verdugohillsarchers.org/about.html>.

“A Brief History of Archery Sports in the Lower Arroyo.” *Pasadena Roving Archers*, last modified January 1, 2015. Accessed July 6, 2015. <http://pasadenaarchery.com/brief-history-of-archery-sports-in-the-lower-arroyo/>.

“Archery Course Ready to Open.” *Los Angeles Times*, May 13, 1956, I5.

“Clubs for Youthful Archers Organizing,” *Los Angeles Times*, February 10, 1957, H15.

Compton, W.J. “Chief.” “The Story of Ishi, the Yana Indian,” *Ye Sylvan Archer*, originally published 1936. Accessed June 30 2015. <http://tmuss.tripod.com/shotfrompast/chief.htm>.

“Depression Set Champ on Archery Title Trail.” *Los Angeles Times*, February 2, 1943, A9.

de Wolfe, Evelyn. “Archery Top Family Recreation, Old Sport Enjoys Revival.” *Los Angeles Times*, July 10, 1959, A1.

“History.” *Riverside Archers*. Accessed July 6, 2015.  
[http://www.riversidearchers.com/club\\_info.html](http://www.riversidearchers.com/club_info.html).

“History of Archery and the NAA.” *Washington Post*. Accessed June 29, 2015.  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/sports/olympics/longterm/archery/archhist.htm>.

“Howard Hill.” *Archery Hall of Fame & Museum*. Accessed June 29, 2015.  
<http://www.archeryhalloffame.com/Hill.html>.

Huntington, Cliff. “Great Britain's Greatest Archer.” *Stick and Bow*. Accessed June 29, 2015.  
<http://www.stickbow.com/FEATURES/HISTORY/horace-ford.CFM>.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Will ‘Chief’ Compton.” *Stick and Bow*. Accessed June 30, 2015.  
<http://www.stickbow.com/stickbow/history/WillCompton.html>.

Jones, Martin. *Archery, Romance and Elite Culture in England and Wales, c.1780-1840*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2004.

“J. Maurice Thompson.” *Archery Hall of Fame & Museum*. Accessed June 29, 2015.  
<http://www.archeryhalloffame.com/Thamposn,%20Maurice.html>.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

“Matilda ‘Babe’ Bitzenburger, 86, A National Champion.” *Baltimore Sun*, June 5, 2000. Accessed June 30, 2015. [http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2000-06-05/news/0006050251\\_1\\_national-field-archery-association-greta-garbo-manhattan-and-brooklyn](http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2000-06-05/news/0006050251_1_national-field-archery-association-greta-garbo-manhattan-and-brooklyn).

McClelland, Linda Flint, J. Timothy Keller, Genevieve P. Keller, and Robert Z. Melnick. *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*. Washington DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources, 1989. Revised 1999. Accessed January 24, 2020, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB30-Complete.pdf>.

“Pasadena Boys Letting Six Guns Rust as the Switch to Bows and Arrows.” *Los Angeles Times*, November 30, 1952, H16.

Ryman, Edward L. *First Fifty Pasadena Roving Archers, Inc. 1935 to 1985*. Pasadena: Pasadena Roving Archers, 1987.

Yount, John. “History of the National Field Archery Association.” *National Field Archery Association*. Accessed June 29, 2015. <http://www.fieldarchery.org/depot/history/214-2005919-History%20of%20the%20National%20Field%20Archery%20Association.pdf>.

---

**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
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Los Angeles Public Library

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

---

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** seven acres

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 34.138229                      Longitude: -118.168642

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

See attached sketch map.

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the land area historically associated with the southern archery range, i.e., the field range. The boundaries generally coincide with legal parcel boundaries on the west and the dirt path to the east. Note the parcel data does not properly align with the aerial photography in this area of Pasadena, and the boundary includes all targets on the range although the aerial appears incorrect. It does not include the northern range, used for 3D archery by the Sagittarius Club from 1950 to 1980. Since 2003, the use of the northern range has been limited to thirteen days per year. The area is entirely situated within Lower Arroyo Seco Park, designated park space on the City of Pasadena's zoning map.

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Teresa Grimes/Principal Architectural Historian and Amanda Duane, Associate Architectural Historian

organization: GPA Consulting

street & number: 617 S. Olive Street, Suite 910

city or town: Los Angeles state: CA zip code: 90014

e-mail [teresa@gpaconsulting-us.com](mailto:teresa@gpaconsulting-us.com)

telephone: (310) 792-2690

date: December 2019; Revised January 2020

---

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Pasadena Field Archery Range  
City or Vicinity: Pasadena  
County: Los Angeles  
State: California  
Photographer: Audrey von Ahrens  
Date Photographed: December 3, 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 18 Archery range, looking southwest from maintenance bridge
- 2 of 18 Channel and archery range, looking south from maintenance bridge
- 3 of 18 Target 1, looking northwest
- 4 of 18 Maintenance bridge (northern boundary of property), looking east from archery range
- 5 of 18 Archery range and trail, looking south
- 6 of 18 Archery range signage, detail, looking south
- 7 of 18 Archery range and trail, looking southwest
- 8 of 18 Maintenance bridge and channel, looking northeast
- 9 of 18 Target #2, looking northwest
- 10 of 18 Target #7, looking west
- 11 of 18 Target #10, looking west
- 12 of 18 Target #10 distance markers, detail, looking west

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

- 13 of 18 Target #18, looking southwest
- 14 of 18 Target #19, looking southwest
- 15 of 18 Channel, looking north from near Target #22
- 16 of 18 Target #27, looking southwest
- 17 of 18 Archery range, looking north
- 18 of 18 Channel and La Loma Bridge, looking south

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

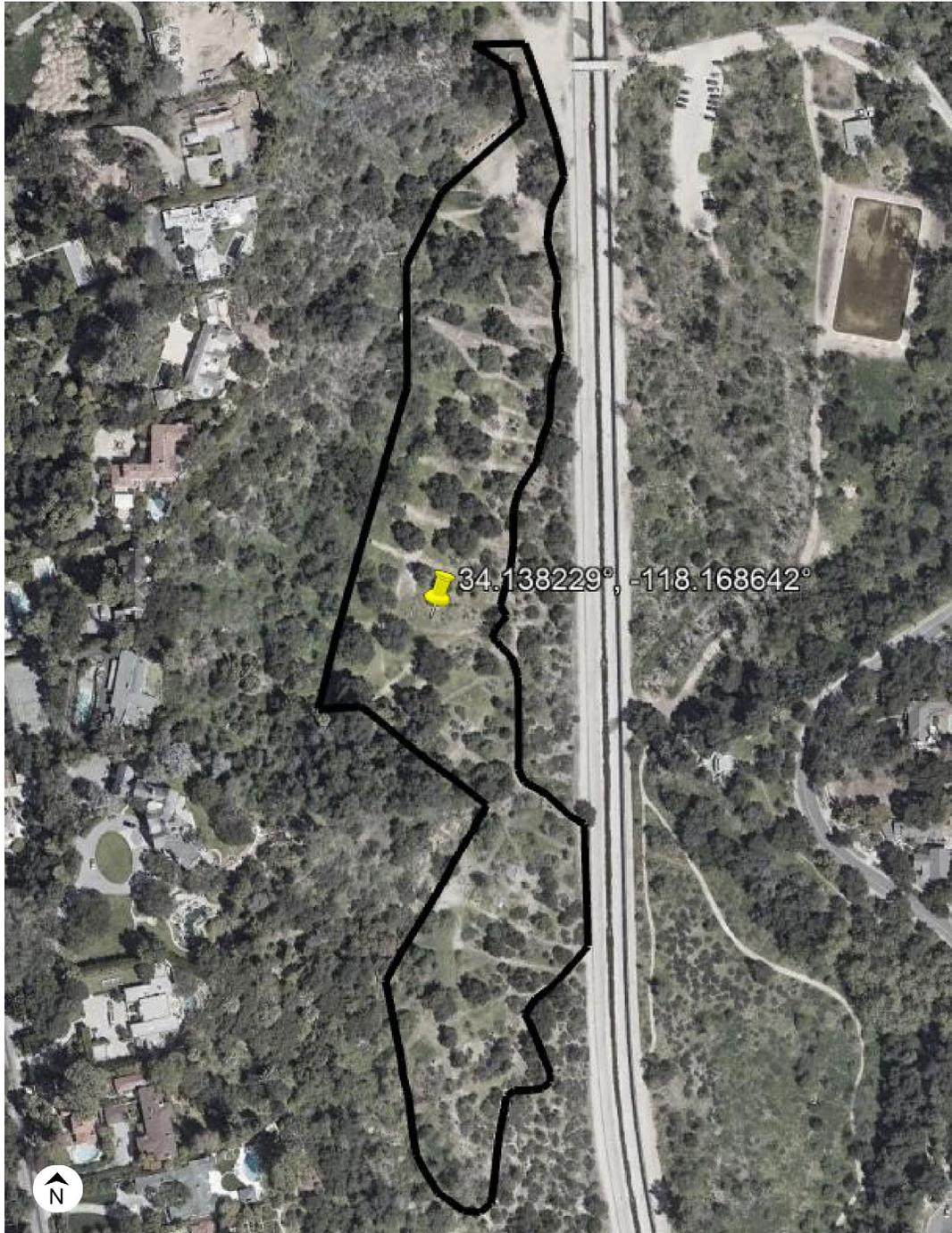
Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

### Location Map

Latitude: 34.138229

Longitude: -118.168642



Base image courtesy of Google Earth, property boundary outlined in black.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

**Sketch Map/Photo Key 1 of 2**



Base image courtesy of Google Earth.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

**Sketch Map/Photo Key 2 of 2**



Base image courtesy of Google Earth.

Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

**Figure 1.** Pasadena Field Archery Range, circa 1950, Source: Pasadena Public Library



Pasadena Field Archery Range  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, California  
County and State

**Figure 2.** Pasadena Field Archery Range, no date, Source: Pasadena Public Library

