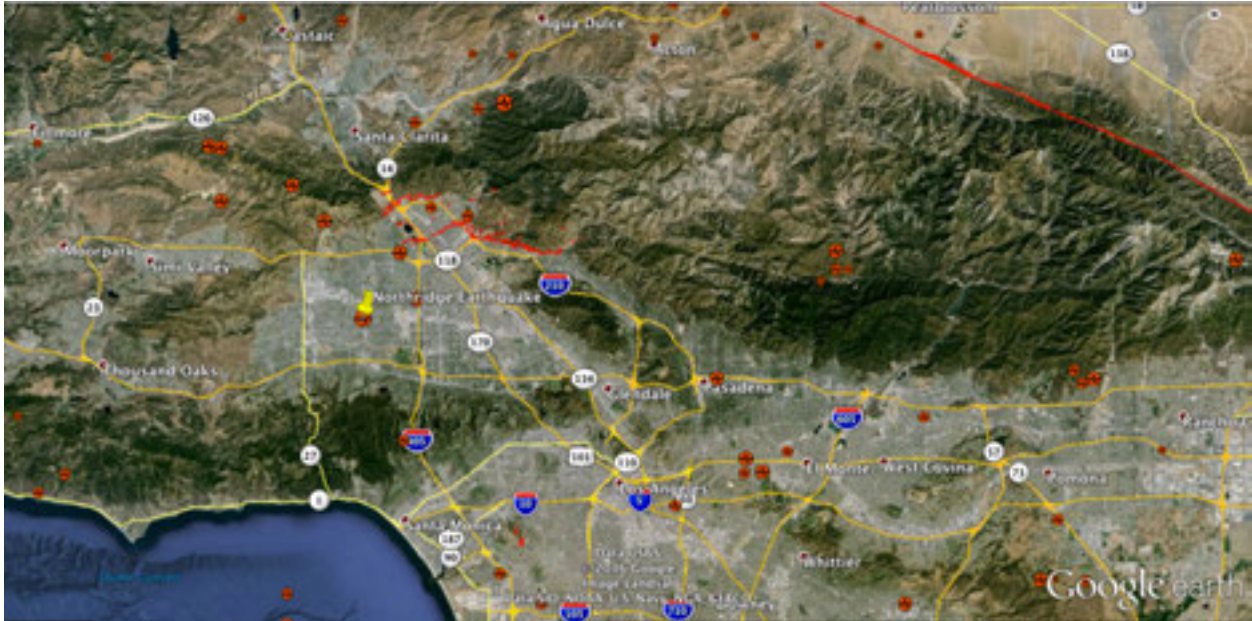


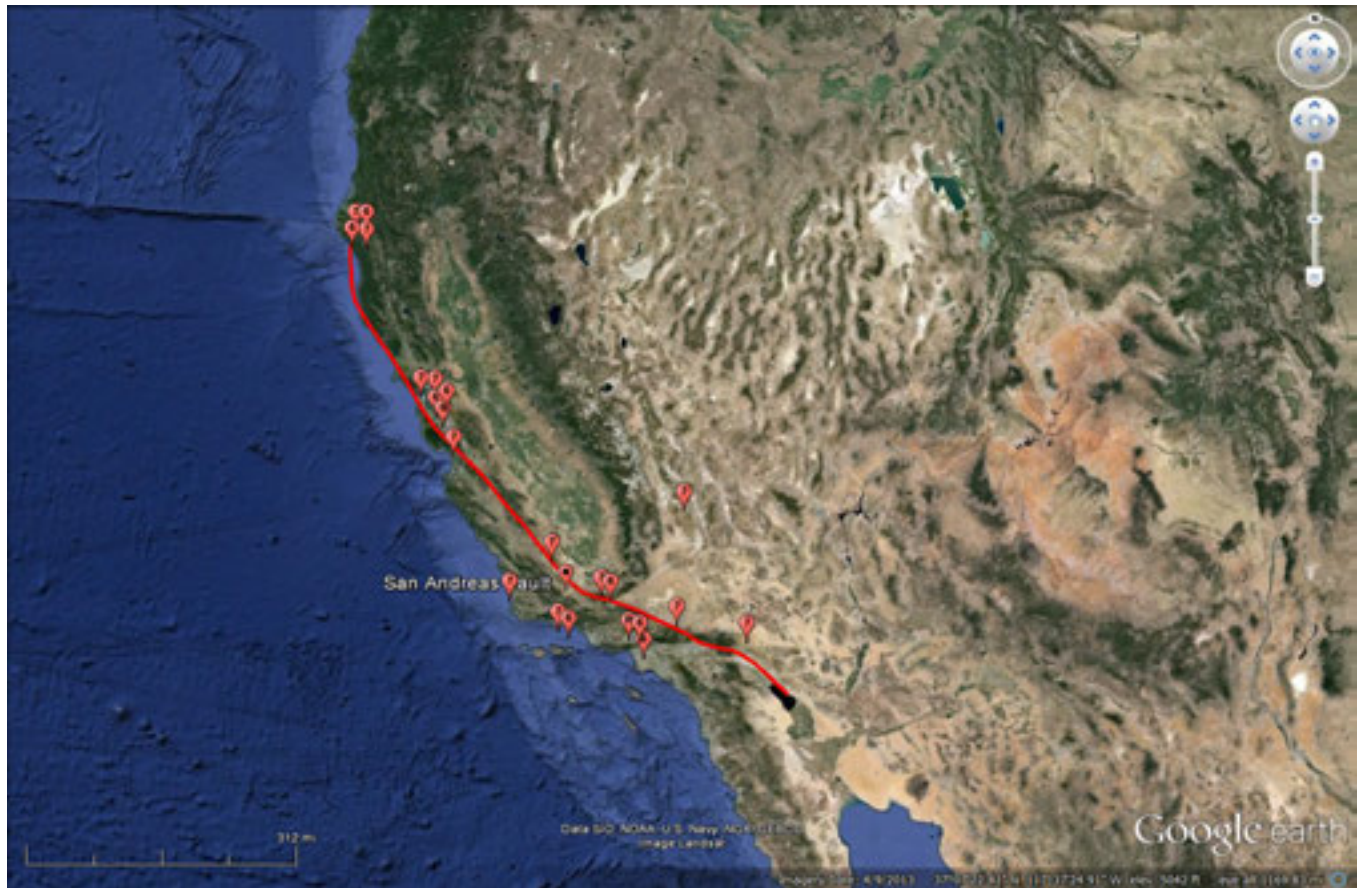
Historically Significant Earthquakes in Northern Los Angeles County



Yellow Pinpoint	Northridge Earthquake
Red Point	Earthquake Epicenters
Red Lines	Faults

On January 17th, 1994, a magnitude 6.7 earthquake hit Reseda, California. This was a great earthquake to make a map of, because most of us either experienced it, or had parents who did. The epicenter hit beneath an urban city area, and as a result caused extensive damage and forced people to spend days or weeks trying to recover. An earthquake is the result where two sides on a fault line have a sudden break and release of built up energy. This break then sends out seismic waves which shake the ground, and are what we feel. These waves originate out 360 degrees from the center, hence why the map above has an area in a circle that would have immediately felt the effects. Areas even further out feel the waves as well, but they are less severe. There are no ways to stop earthquakes like the Northridge one, however, there are many things that can be done to prepare for them, which will be discussed in the other paragraphs.

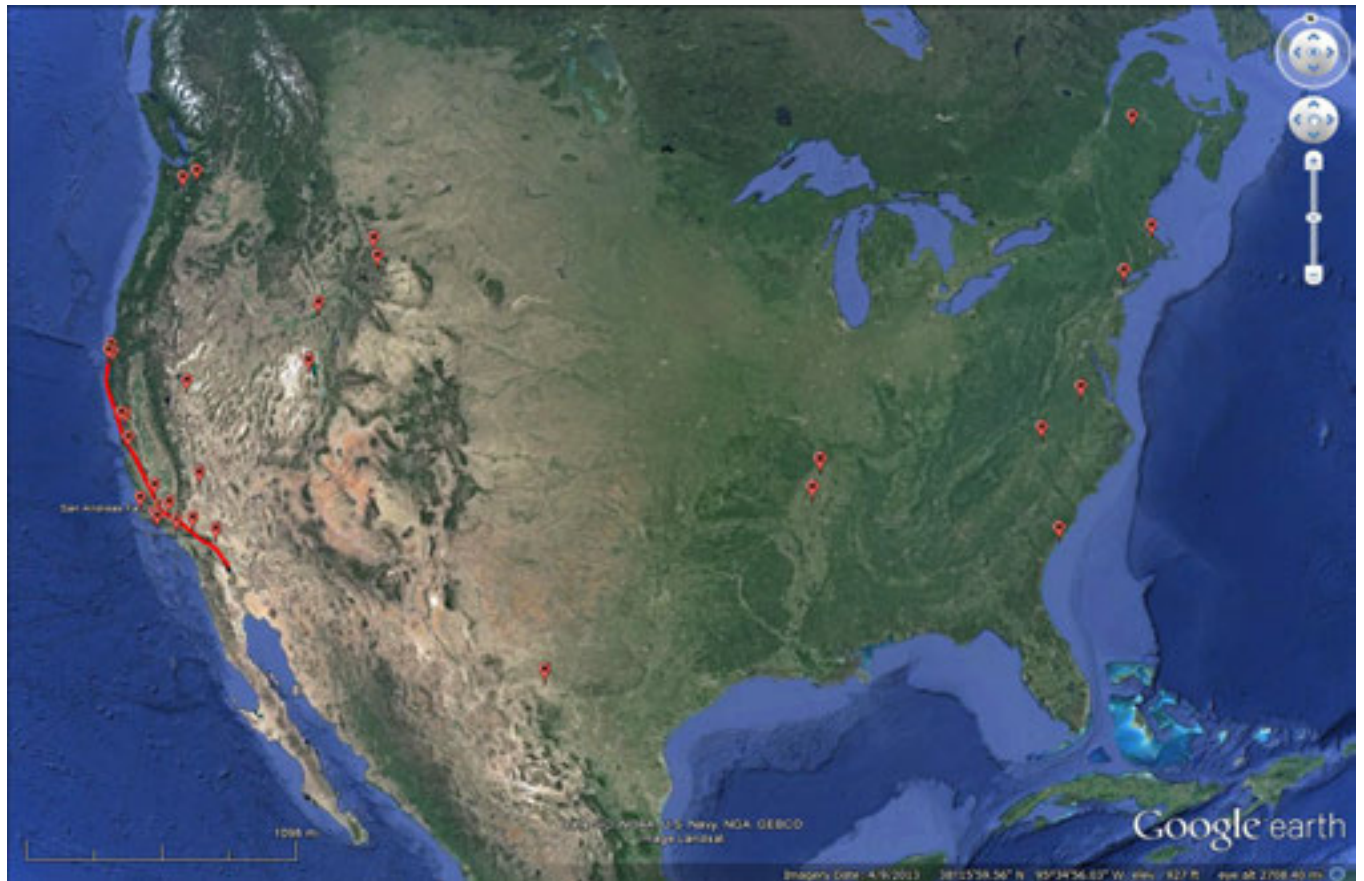
Historically Significant Earthquakes in California



Red Point	Earthquake Epicenters
Red Lines	Faults

California located in a special spot where “part of the state is on the Pacific Plate and on the North American Plate” (conservation.ca.gov). This results in the San Andreas fault splitting the state. From this fault, there are hundreds of other tiny faults splintered from it, and all of them contribute to the high frequency of earthquakes found in our state. How are we able to adapt to living in a hazardous environment? In 1906, San Francisco was hit by a 7.8 earthquake which practically levelled the city. Thankfully, in the past century new architectural designs have helped pave the way for buildings designed to withstand intense earthquakes. These new building codes have had a visible affect on how much relatively less damage there is in California from a quake. In other countries, the catastrophic damages seen in the past are still present today.

Historically Significant Earthquakes in the United States



Red Point	Earthquake Epicenters
Red Lines	Faults

This last map helps represent how earthquakes are a problem in the western United States from California to Alaska. Some patterns observed however, show that major earthquakes occur in mountain regions such as the Appalachians, and on the coast. A potential hazard from earthquakes is a tsunami. So how can one prepare for such an emergency? Here are some recommendations from the Red Cross' website:

- Doorways are NOT a place of protection, they are no safer than the rest of the building and a swinging door can cause injuries.
- Stay away from windows because glass can shatter.
- If you live in an at risk area, bolt down heavy furniture such as bookshelves so they cannot tip over.
- Stay inside until it is safe to exit and be careful of aftershocks.
- Put on long pants and shoes to avoid potential hazards.
- Keep an emergency supply of food and water for three days in case neither are available after the disaster.

Sources

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/index/Earthquakes>

<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/earthquake>