

# Urban Soil Survey: Exploring Dynamic Soil Properties In Los Angeles, California



TreePeople Research Department and USDA-NRCS

## Introduction

This project targeted the Hueneme soil and in the lower Los Angeles river watershed to compare Dynamic soil properties under three landcovers including classic lawn, non-organic ground cover, and densely vegetated or mulched ground cover. Fieldwork has been completed, and data is currently being analyzed and summarized. The dynamic soil property data will help support the development of an ecological site description and the dynamic soil survey program.

**Ecological:** mulch, landscaped with native and nonnative plants, flower beds



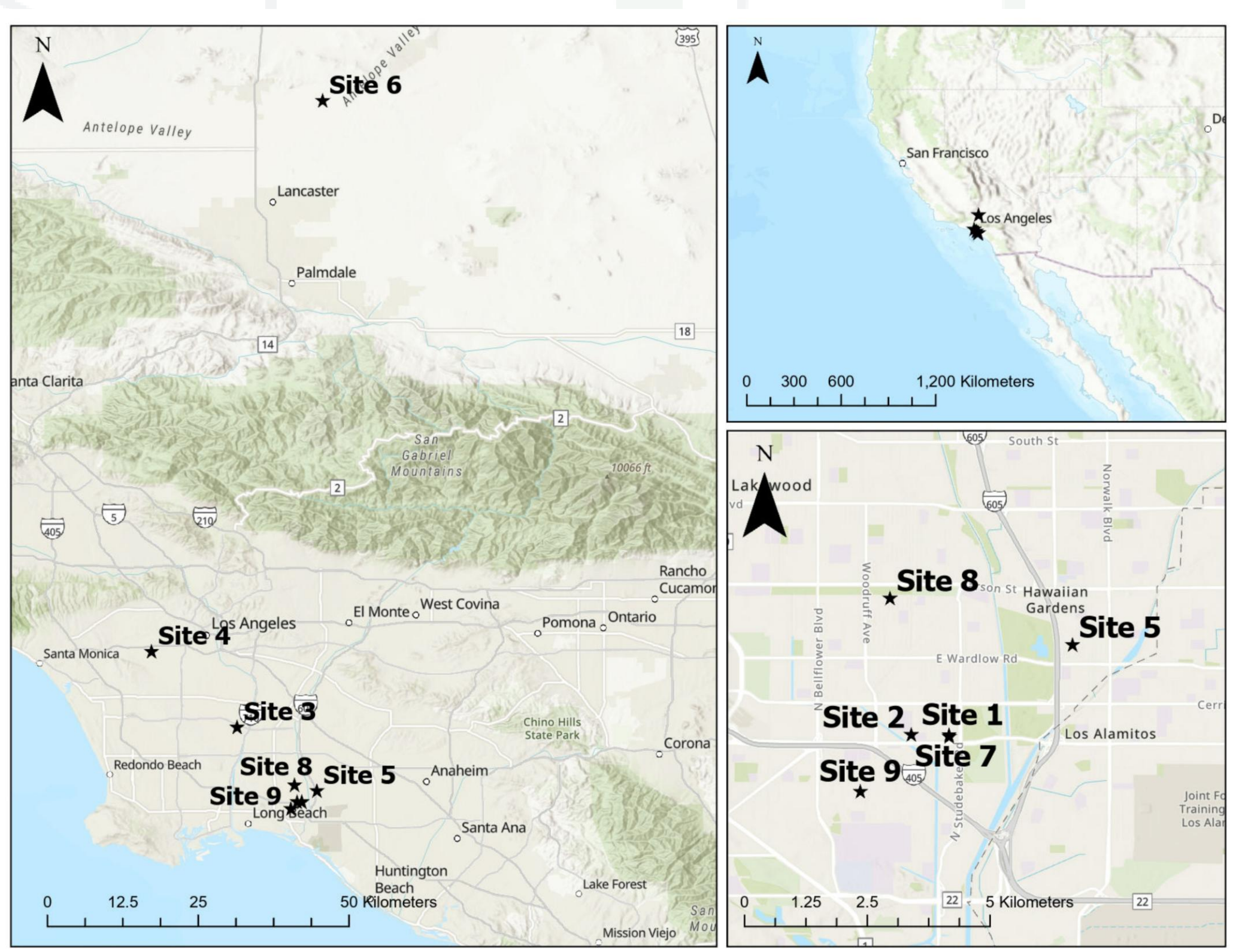
**Modern:** xeriscape or rockscape



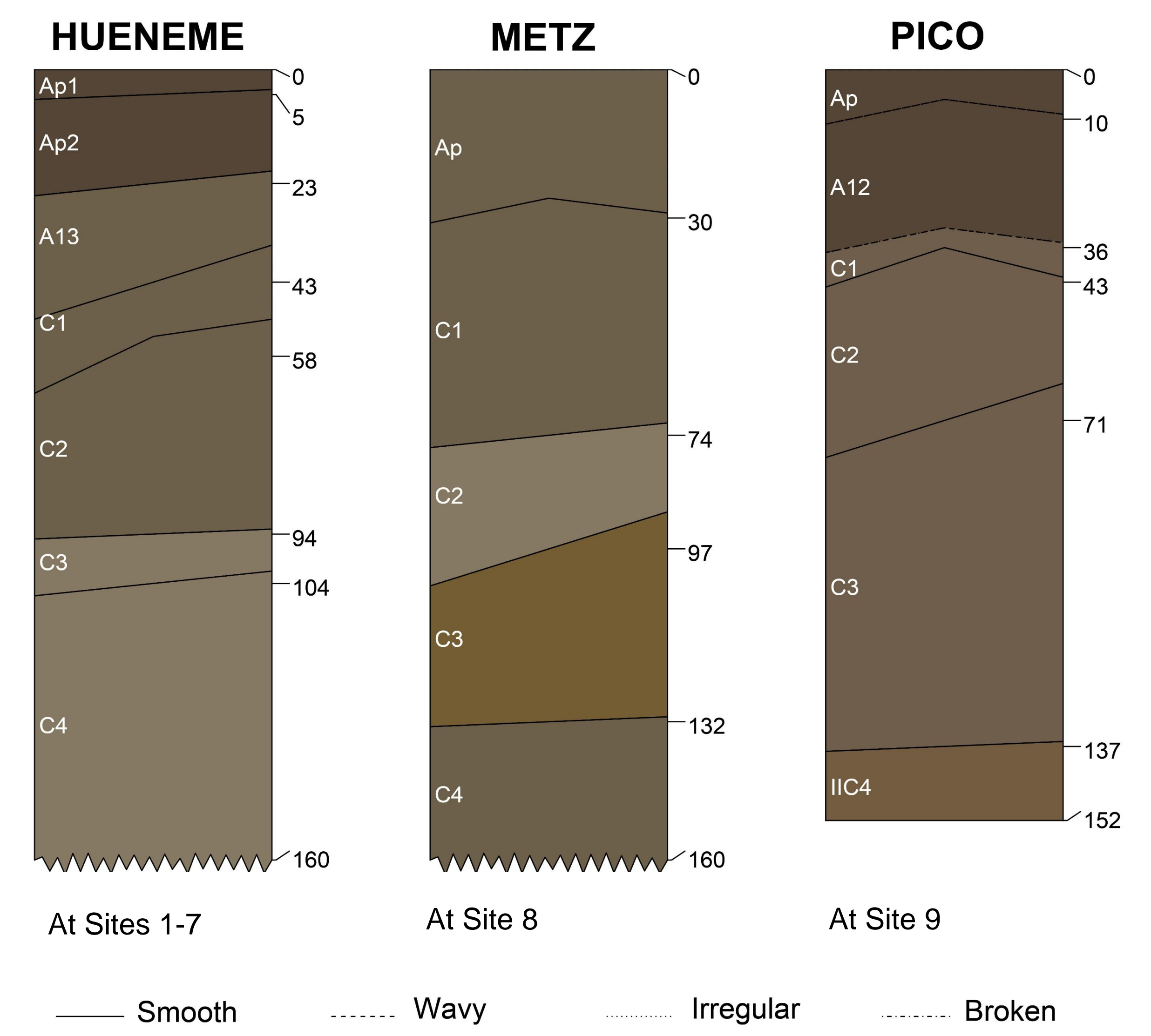
**Traditional:** grass lawn



## Site Locations

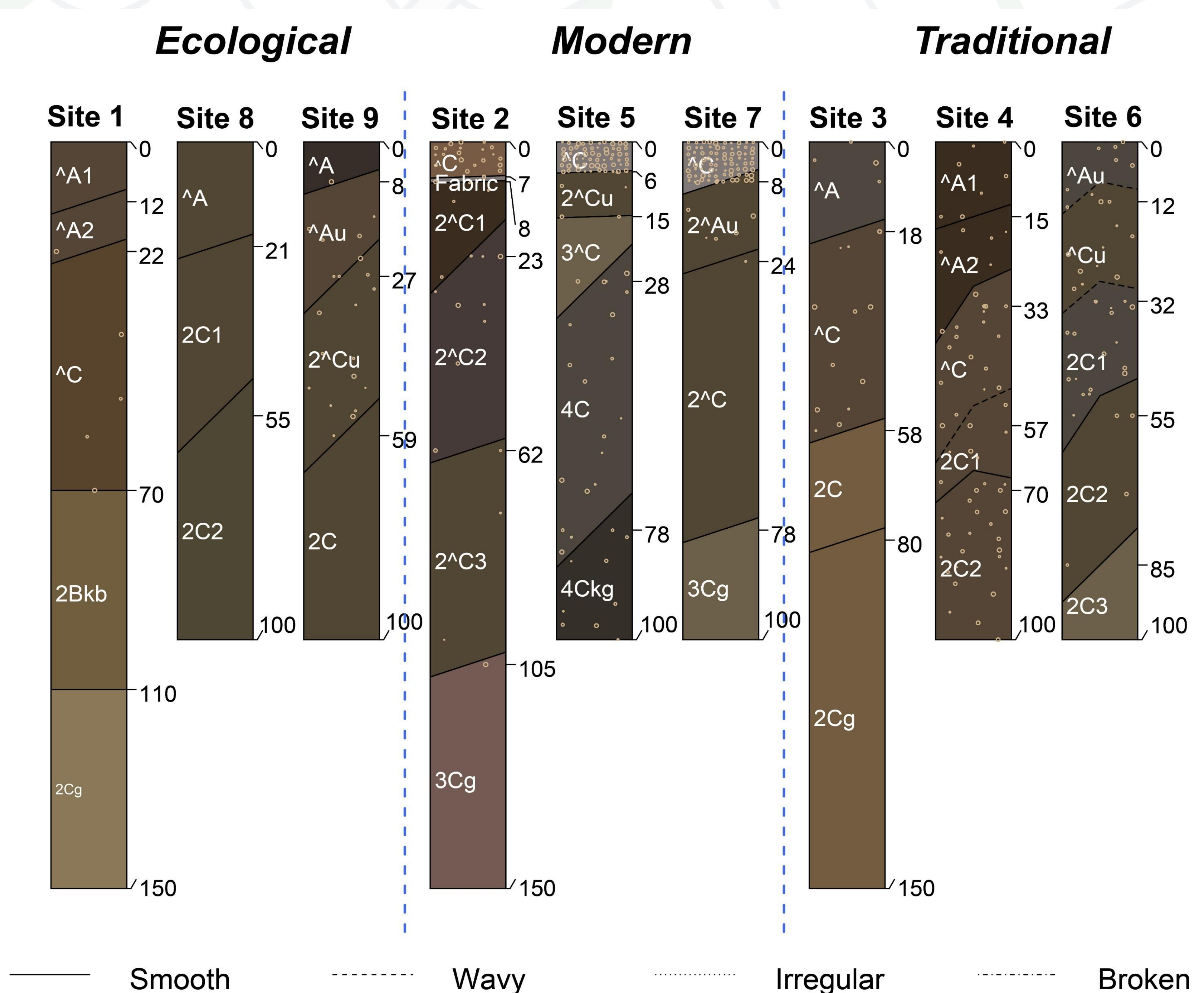


## Mapped Soil Profiles



The mapped soil profiles demonstrate the expected soil profile at each site and in comparison, the described profiles are the true soil profiles. There are some similarities, but in many cases the described profiles are different from the mapped soil profiles demonstrating the heterogeneity of urban soils.

## Described Soil Profiles



There is also a lot of heterogeneity among the sites, and almost all the heterogeneity near the surface is the result of human modifications. For example, the prefix ^ denotes human transported material added to the soil profile and the lowercase u denotes human artifacts present in the soil.

