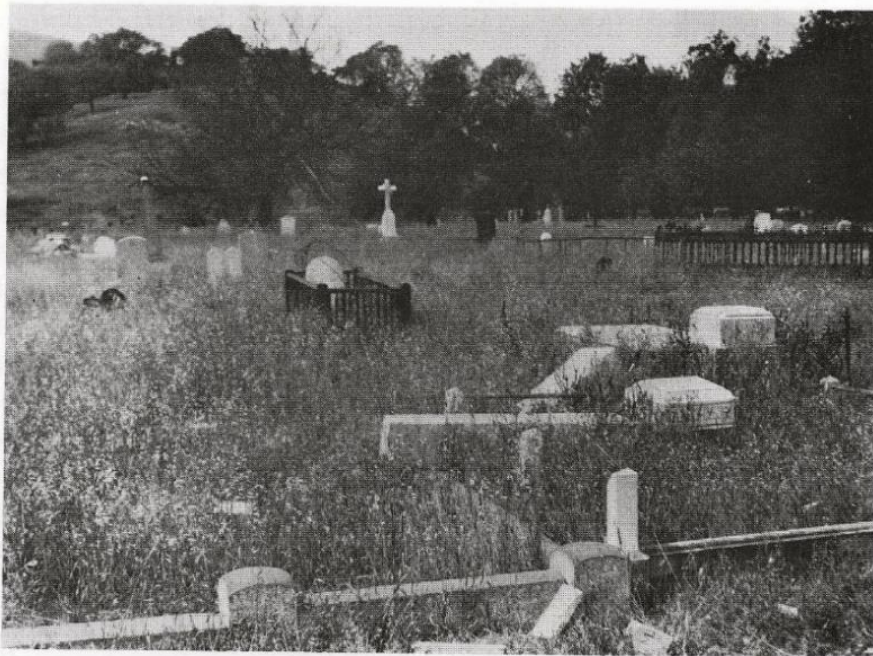


Timeline of events for La Plaza Cemetery

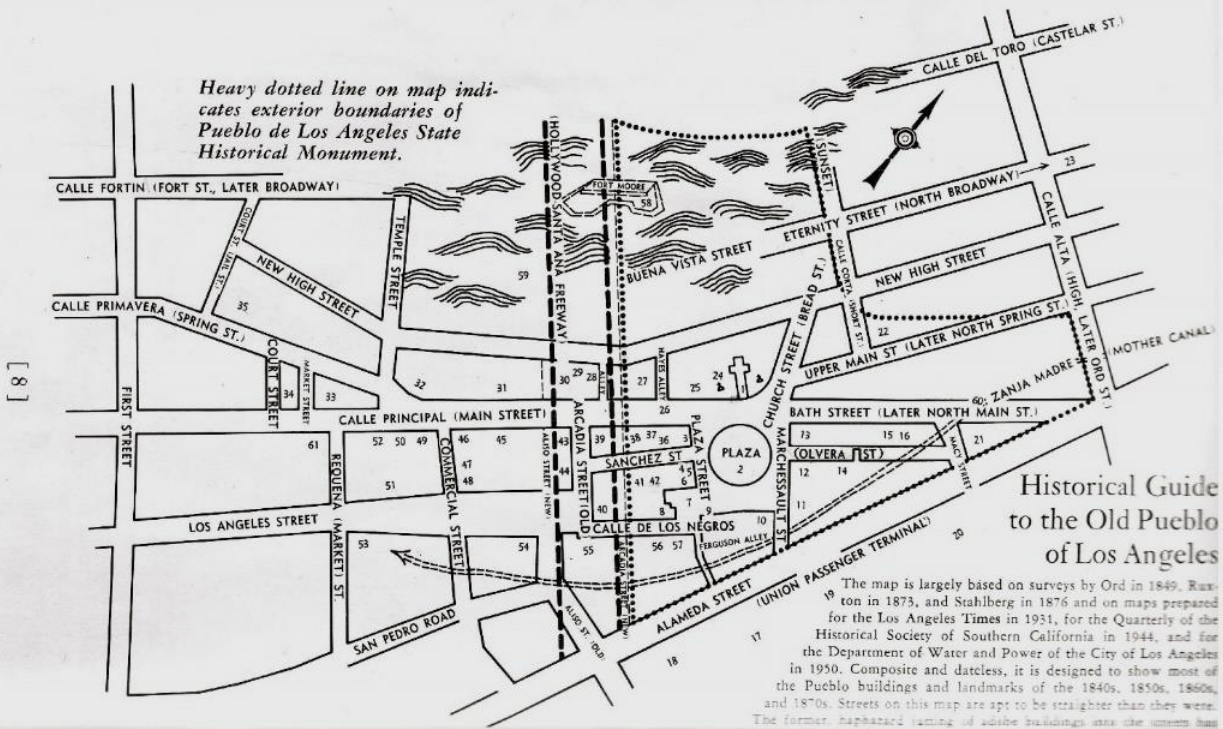
In January 2011, a project headed by then LA County Supervisor Gloria Molina, unearthed some 118 human remains at a cemetery site on the south side of La Placita Church, downtown Los Angeles. This project was a Mexican-American cultural museum called La Plaza de Cultura y Artes. The human remains that were desecrated by the construction included direct ancestors of our tribe, those of Los Pobladores and those of the founding families of Los Angeles. Through countless events, meetings and correspondences, the human remains were reburied in a mass burial style under the supervision and authority of other so-called tribes. We protested the whole way, trying our best to get the ethical treatment of these important individuals. The following serves as a chronological list of events/correspondences/meetings between our tribe and various agencies. This list is not meant to be complete, and summaries were made of various correspondences for the sake of abbreviating hundreds of pages of letters/emails. The fight continues....

The following are key points on EIR for this project:

- Completed by Sapphos Environmental in 2004
- Addendum completed in September 2010
- It states "all human remains previously on site were relocated more than 100 years ago"
- *Campo Santo Memorial Garden* was intended to be an olive grove and references the cemetery that was formerly associated with the Plaza Church (and vacated in the mid 19th century).
- It states the project is "not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related to the disturbance of human remains"
- It references "two well-documented former cemeteries....the Old Cemetery adjacent to the Plaza Church, within the refined project site. The remains from the Old Cemetery were removed and placed at a new location sometime after 1844." This reference was drawn from a book by Robinson 1981.



Campo Santo, at the end of Eternity Street was the final destination of most of the Pueblo's inhabitants from 1844 to 1896. Photo (c. 1900) by Charles Puck. *California Historical Society/Title Insurance and Trust Collection*.



1. Plaza Church, started in 1809, dedicated in 1822.
2. Plaza, dating from 1818. (The earlier, original Plaza, dating from 1781, with its surrounding house-lots, guardhouse, officers' building, and granary, was northeast of the present Plaza Church.)
3. Pico House, dating from 1869, built on site of home of José Antonio Carrillo.
4. Pío Pico's townhouse (originally adjoining Carrillo's home.)
5. Home, at one time, of Andrés Pico, Pío's brother.
6. Fire House (1880s, 1890s).
7. Plazuela or "O'Campo's Plaza," cock-fighting center.
8. Francisco O'Campo's home (formerly that of J. B. Leandre).
9. Ignacio del Valle's townhouse. Today its site is a small park dominated by a statue of Junipero Serra.
10. Vicente Lugo's townhouse; later St. Vincent's College, predecessor of Loyola University. Today its site is a small park.
11. Juan Sepúlveda's townhouse.
12. Judge Agustín Olvera's home (originally that of Tiburcio Tapia); today site of Latin-American Hospitality Center Building.
13. Gambling house of Pedro Seguro in 1840s. (This adobe was later the Jones-Simpson home; its site now is Bank of America.)
14. Ávila House. (Originally it adjoined the Olvera house and had an elbow that extended nearly across present Olvera St.)
15. Sepúlveda House (standing on site of earlier adobe structures); now one of the larger shops of Olvera Street.
16. Refectory Building (standing on site of earlier adobe structures, formerly built and with cellar of former Antonio Pólandino; now La Colondrina Restaurant.)
17. Old Chinatown, site of present Union Passenger Terminal.
18. Mateo Keller's Winery.
19. Juan Ramirez' home.
20. Benjamin D. Wilson's townhouse; later school and orphanage of Sisters of Charity.
21. Dr. Obed Macy's home.
22. José Mascarell's home.
23. The road to Campo Santo.
24. Early day cemetery adjoining Church on south.
25. Home of Doña Benancia Sotelo de Dominguez (originally built and owned by Carlos Baric); later Andrés Pico's townhouse. The adobe to the south was also Dominguez property.
26. Hayes Alley (also known as Bridge Street; as Republic Street; and as Turner Street).
27. Judge Benjamin Hayes' home (Served as courtroom.)
28. Montgomery Saloon.
29. M. Luis Baucher's home.
30. Salazar Adobe. (Part used for postoffice).
31. Enlógio de Celis' townhouse; later site of Lafayette Hotel, afterward known as St. Elmo Hotel.
32. John Temple's store; later site of Downey Block, then U. S. Post Office.
33. Temple Block, built by John Temple as a two-story adobe in 1851-2; torn down to make room for three-story brick building—which, in turn, gave way to present City Hall.
34. City market, built by John Temple in 1859; upper story a dance. (Later used as Courthouse until torn down to make way for Bellard Block.)
35. José Antonio Rocha's townhouse—later used by city and county for council meetings and courtroom. A jail was built in rear.
36. Merced Theater, next to Pico House. (On its site stood originally the El Dorado Saloon, later to become Methodist Church.)
37. Masonic Lodge or Temple, built in 1858.
38. Sanchez Hall, originally—presumably—the Juzgado or Hall of Sessions.
39. Bell's Block, two-story frame building; first floor was Dr. A. W. Hope's pharmacy; second floor the home of Captain Alexander Bell.
40. Ignacio Coronel's home, used also as school and for theatricals.
41. Vicente Sanchez' two-story townhouse. (At a later date the Garnier Building arose near by, for half a century headquarters of the Chinese community.)
42. Francisco Sepúlveda's townhouse.
43. El Palacio, adobe mansion of Abel Stearns. (On its site stood earlier the home of Claudio Lopez, great-great-grandfather of Sheriff Eugene W. Biscailuz.) El Palacio gave way to the Baker Block, which in turn yielded to the Hollywood Freeway.
44. Arcadia Block.
45. Bella Union Hotel. (Built in 1835 by Isaac Williams for a store, it served as headquarters for Governor Pío Pico in 1845-6 and for Archibald Gillespie in 1846. Its site was the probable approximate location of Indian village of Yang-na.)
46. Chinese Government, growing until its west. (Standing on Commercial St. Downtown expanded, taking in the ground store at the corner on Main Street, extending to the Bella Union.)
47. Mateo Keller's store (merchandise & wine).
48. McFarland and Downey's apothecary shop.
49. General store of Benjamin D. Wilson.
50. Maximo Alaniz' townhouse.
51. John Goller's wagon-shop.
52. Juan Lanfranco's home and business, rice. (Site of later Lanfranco Building built by Juan and Mateo Lanfranco.)
53. Manuel Requena's home.
54. Bell Row—later Mellus Row—owned by Captain Alexander Bell, later by He Mellus. Fremont's headquarters in 1844.
55. José del Carmen Lugo's townhouse.
56. José Vicente Guerrero's home.
57. Juan Apablaza's home.
58. Fort Moore. (What is left of Fort Moore is today occupied by administrative offices of Los Angeles City Board of Education, just east of which is the Pico Memorial.)
59. Benjamin S. Eaton's home.
60. Zanja Madre (mother canal), by which early settlers and later townsmen got water from the Los Angeles River for irrigation and drinking.
61. United States Hotel.

Robinson book, 1981

- Robinson stated "Campo Santo, at the end of Eternity Street, was the final destination of most of the townsmen of El Pueblo. Even Campo Santo itself is no more."

There is a picture of an abandoned cemetery in the book.

Map on page 8 shows 1849 map...shows Eternity street that is now North Broadway

This isn't the same cemetery next to La Placita. Campo Santo is NOT the cemetery of the old Plaza Church.

- The EIR states “After 1844, the cemetery was no longer used...there is evidence to suggest that all of the remains from the old church cemetery were removed and reinterred in a new cemetery on North Broadway named Calvary Cemetery.”
- The EIR states “Construction of the proposed project has the potential to result in significant impacts on human remains, requiring the consideration of mitigation measures...the potential to mitigate such impacts to below the threshold of significance can be accomplished through adherence to the procedures established...to the State CEQA guidelines.”
- The EIR’s Mitigation measure Cultura-4
 “...in the event human remains are encountered, construction in the area of finding shall cease and the remains shall stay in situ, pending definition of an appropriate plan. The County of LA Coroner shall be contacted...the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) shall be contacted to determine necessary procedures...”
- The EIR states that “additional information regarding Native American sacred sites were obtained from the Native American Heritage Commission.”

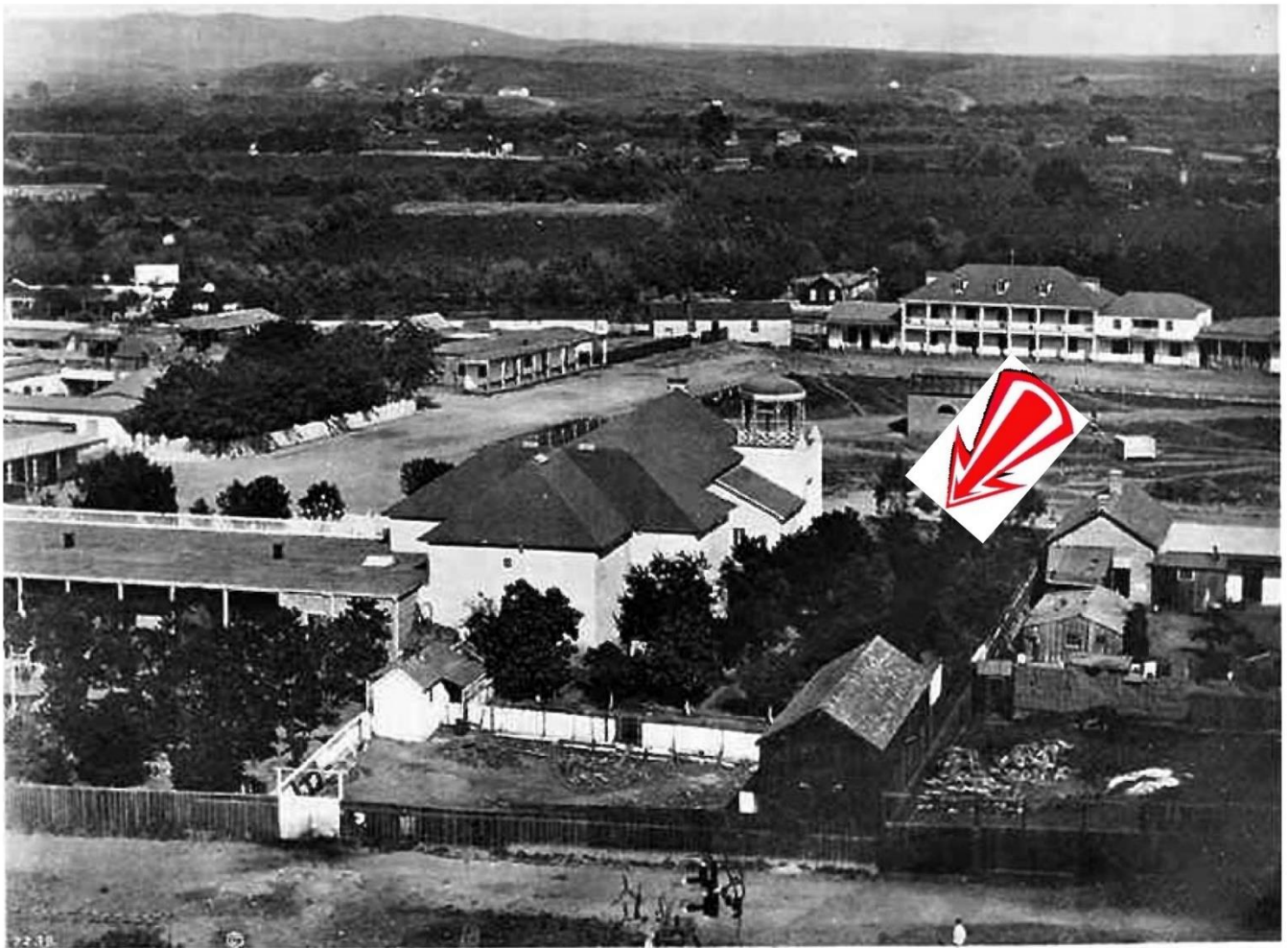
This turned out to not be true

Other important notes

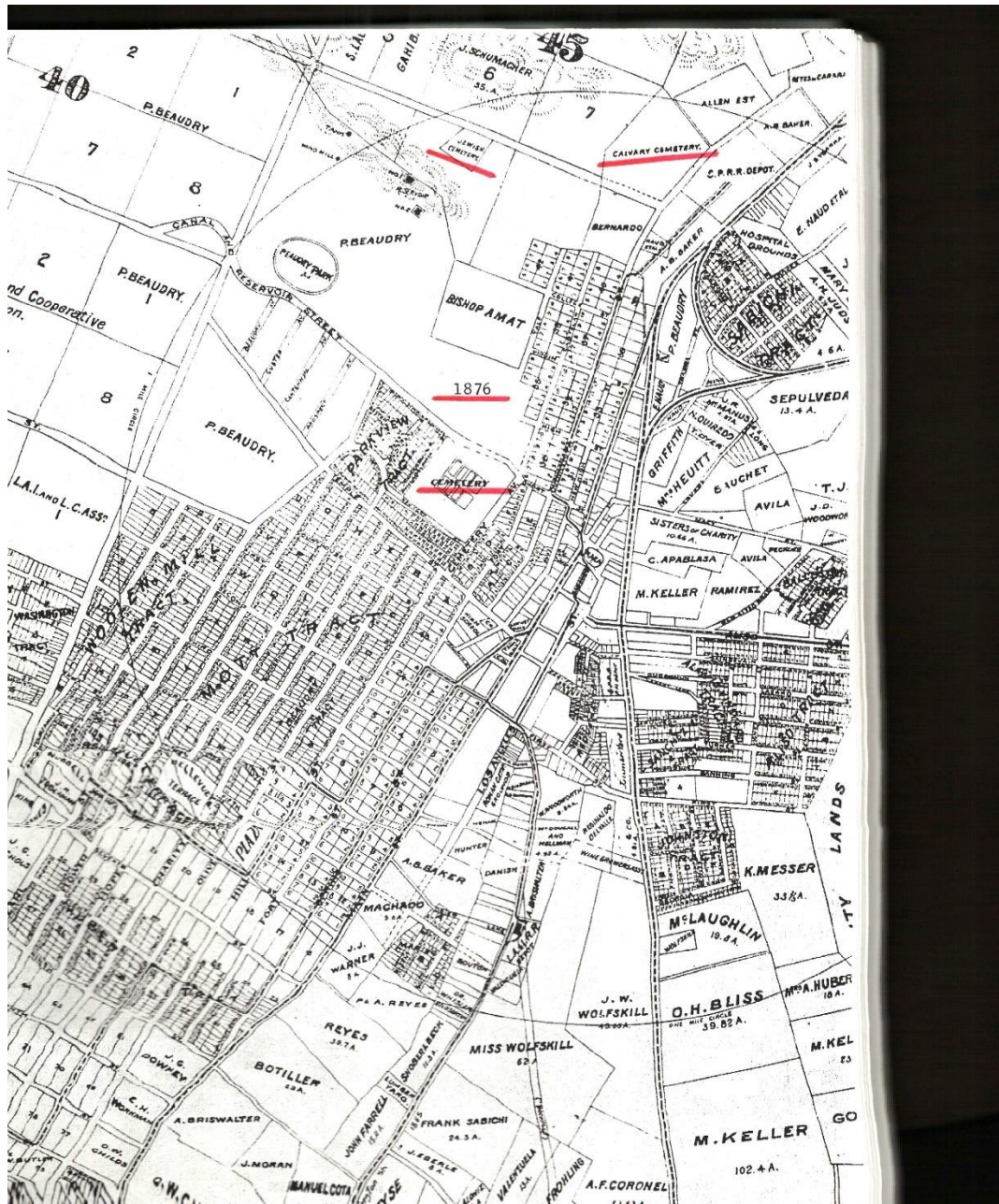
- Sandburg Group (developer) hired Dr. Elizabeth Miller, CSULA Physical anthropologist to analyze bones
- La Plaza de Cultura y Artes (La Plaza) is a Smithsonian affiliate
- Principal Construction Manager was Daniel Mendoza (Gloria Molina’s brother-in-law)
- LA County CEO Manager was Dawn McDivitt
- In 1964, the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Board designated the area south of the Church as the city’s first cemetery



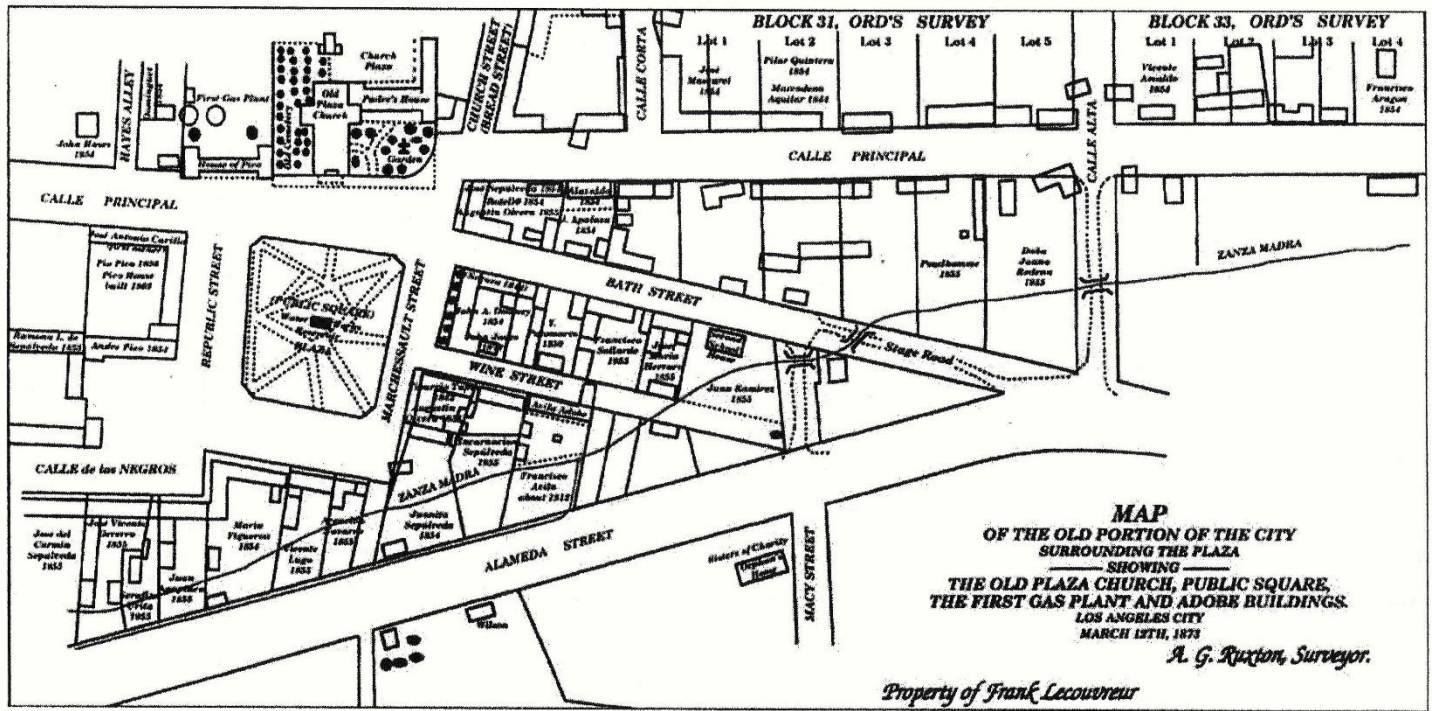
1998 proper reburial at Yangna (sacred Gabrieleno/Kizh village site downtown Los Angeles)



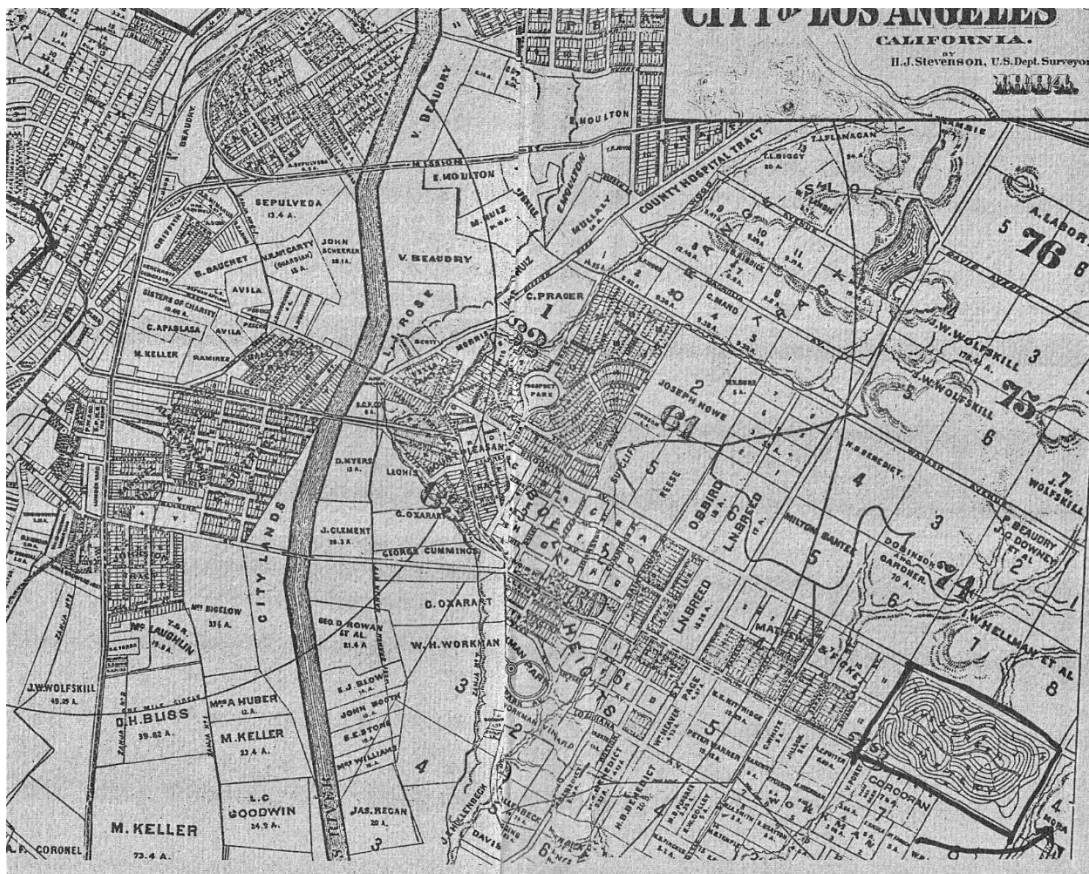
The Los Angeles Plaza in 1875- note the brick resevoir in the middle ground



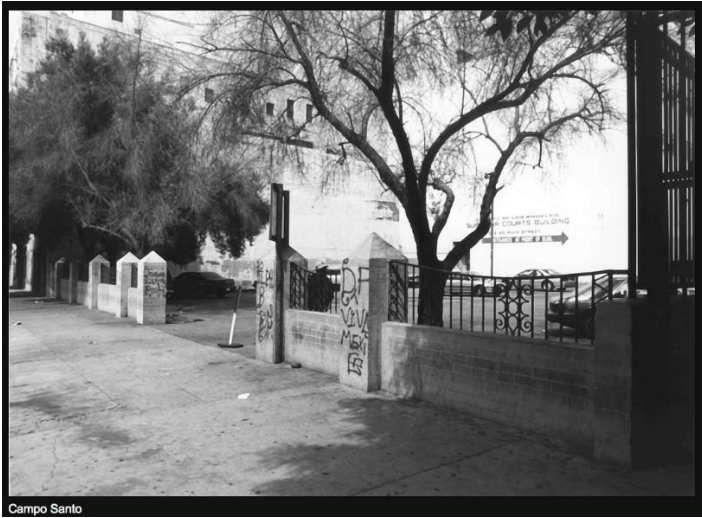
1800 map



1873 map



1884 map



1950's – lot adjacent to church was used for parking



Lot south of La Placita Church just before construction

Timeline of events:

- 11/27/2001: Letter from NAHC to LA County department of Public Works (David Palma)
Recommends to contact NAHC for sacred lands file check and NA contact list for consultation
The letter clearly states that they need to ask for a records search, a sacred lands file check and a list of Native American contacts for consultation.
This was never done before the start of the project.
- 9/28/2004: Final EIR certified by LA County Board of Supervisors
- 9/7/2006: California Cultural and Historic Endowment grants \$2.5 million to project
- 9/14/2010: Addendum to final EIR approved
Did NOT include any contact with NAHC for sacred lands file search or contact list
Should have been done in 2008 when drafting the initial report
Did NOT include NAHC as one of its references
- 9/28/2010: letter from CEO Corzo (CEO of La Plaza) to Board of Supervisors
Recommends that the Board accept the addendum to EIR
- 10/26/2010: first human remains uncovered according to Mr. Corzo



Human remains being unearthed at site - Date/source unknown



Date/source unknown

11/1/2010: via 3/28/2011 testimony of Professor Paul Langenwaller of Biola University before NAHC

He is archaeologist for Biola University and their cultural resources manager

Has been involved with exhumation and relocation of cemeteries for over 25 years

During the week of unearthing of human remains (Nov 1), he was called to provide burial technicians

4 students and 1 grad student were provided

Professor visited site Nov 6 to discuss with Sanberg Group

Remains were being removed "piecemeal, that is that legs would be exposed, removed then the torso area removed, the skull removed. Excavation that was sideways, removing beads from around the neck of a person without photographic documentation...frequent calls from Supervisor's office as well as the Plaza authority, that the archaeologist was under tremendous pressure. Some of the things I shall not repeat suggest intimidation...Also a problem with the use of a bobcat to open the graves."

He brought up Health and Safety Codes 7525 & 7528 that were ignored.

He then instructed his students to leave site and disassociate the University with the project.

He stated that it's common knowledge and described by Bernice Johnston in 1960s of the association of Native Americans with the church.

A map shows the cemetery (by old survey done in 1849) in place but under an orchard. The map was revised in 1873 and shows the cemetery again so the church's statement of the cemetery being exhumed in 1844 is incorrect.

Using bobcat has been recommended against for over 25 years

It is well known to contain large number of Native American remains

Saw two burials on Nov 6 that were buried in Native American positioning – he recommended that coroner be called back out...that didn't happen

11/1/2010 via 3/28/2011 testimony of Monica Straus to NAHC:

Archaeologist that worked on Fort Moore cemetery two blocks away

Was surprised that coroner told project to continue as long as they followed EIR

Stated it is well known in archaeology community that exhumed cemeteries left bodies behind

Recommended follow two tracks by law:

1. For Native American remains, follow PRC and Health/safety codes, work with MLD and NAHC
2. For non-Native American remains, follow Health/safety codes, locate next of kin

11/3/2010: letter from LA Coroner to Molina's office

"human remains unearthed at a registered cemetery are not the responsibility of Coroner"

CA Government Code Section 27491

Went to site on 10/28/2010 at request of Sandberg Group archaeologist Tony Kuhner

11/17/2010: letter from Church to La Plaza/Corzo

They called the cemetery south of the church "Campo Santo Cemetery"

They approve the plan to excavate remains by hand, place remains in separate bags

"all efforts should be made to insure that the remains are treated in a proper and dignified matter"

Once all removed, then they will be blessed and then taken to Calvary Cemetery

12/29/2010: NAHC received report from archaeologist Reilly Murphy (Sandberg Group)

He stated he saw Native American associated grave goods

Then NAHC contacted Coroner office via phone to discuss

Coroner stated remains weren't Native American

They stated Larry Myers has involved Attorney General to ask coroner for explanation

They stated Cindi Alvitre has been on the project since beginning and reported to NAHC

1/29/2010: email from NAHC to Andy says Cindi "has been on this project from the beginning"

12/30/2010: NAHC received call from Beth Miller, archaeologist with Sandberg Group

She stated she was representing coroner's office

She stated remains were not Native American

1/6/2010: Email from Dave Singleton to Larry Myers

States that Desiree Martinez saw Native American items with or at the grave site (like obsidian pieces)

Confirms there is no Native American monitor on site

States remains were housed at Cal State LA

1/4/2011 – we found out 100 remains had been unearthed

Some in redwood caskets, others not accompanied with caskets

Andy Salas, Ernie Salas, Dr. Stickel and Tim Miguel went to site

Spoke with Daniel Mendoza who demanded they leave property

Gary spoke with archaeologist on site

said "removal of human remains was done so poorly that there is very little to work with"

LA Coroner did NOT state that any human remains were of Native American in origin so NAHC was not contacted

Notified LA County Board of Supervisors, Mayor, US Dept of Justice, NAHC,

Board of La Plaza project, Governor, UN and CA attorney general

1/4/2011: letter from NAHC to Coroner

Asking them what analysis of remains makes them think they're not Native American?

1/5/2011: Email from NAHC to La Plaza
\$20 million project certified by Board of Supervisors 9/28/2004

1/5/2011: Email from Cindi Alvitre to other Tongva people
Over 90 burials excavated – one had obsidian blade and beads

1/5/2011: Press Conference at site of La Plaza



1/5/2011: Memorandum of events at cemetery site on 1/5/2011

Andy had received a copy of email from Cindi Alvitre that human remains were being unearthed
Andy, Ernie, Tim Miguel, Art Zuniga and Dr. Stickel arrived on site
Could see from public property on Main Street – could tell job was unprofessional
Gary spoke with supervising archaeologist- she refused to let them see burials
Daniel Mendoza yelled at them to get off property – he denied access too
Tim contacted a few news stations that came out and Gary called NAHC
Gary called Elizabeth Miler (anthropologist on project) who stated that remains were so badly excavated that by the time she received them, they were so fragmented and pulverized

1/6/2011: Email from Dave Singleton (NAHC) to Gloria Molina

NAHC is questioning whether remains are Native American
Asks county to stop project for an investigation to be conducted

1/6/2011: letter from NAHC to LA Coroner

No reports from coroner confirming remains are Native American

1/6/2011: letter from NAHC to LA Coroner

Confirming that Dr. Miller said human remains were not Native America but she had additional concerns
All graves were unmarked and were virtually in every area of the site
NAHC asking Coroner to stop project until full investigation takes place

1/6/2011: Letter from tribe to NAHC, USC, La Plaza, Executive Director of Mexican Cultural Institute, Board President of Mexican Cultural Institute of LA, Latino Professional Network, Homies Unidos Counselor, Executive Director CPHYLA, Plaza United Methodist Church, Amigos de Siqueiros, Mundo Maya Foundation, Vellanoweth & Gehart LLP, and Our Lady Queen of Angels and each County Supervisor

Asking them to stop construction
Demand no further desecration
Quoted UN Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples

1/6/2011: Memorandum of conversation between Dr. Stickel and anonymous archaeologist

They spoke on the phone
He was on the project to handle proveniencing of the burials
He asked for special equipment and was denied by Sandburg – he tried another technique but was concerned it wasn't as accurate
He became aware of lack of proper methodology, methods and inexperience of crew
No proper photographs of burials were being taken
Burials weren't drawn onto maps and proper notes/notations weren't being made
Noted nearly entire crew was made up of students from CSULA and were inexperienced
He resigned because of level of unprofessional work
His conscience drove him to contact NAHC and report atrocities

1/7/2011: Letter from us to NAHC

Disappointed that Cindi knew of remains yet not notification done by her to anyone else
Asking from Andy or Ernie to be Most Likely Descendant

1/7/2011: Email from us to NAHC

Asked if they will order a cease and dismiss

1/7/2011: Letter from La Plaza (Miguel Corzo) to NAHC

First remains discovered 10/26/2010

Coroner came out and determined it was Catholic burial site and said construction could continue
Then contacted Archdiocese – they said to keep remains until end of excavation and then transfer to
Church for Catholic re-burial.

Then contracted Sanberg Group to do archaeological excavation

States there's no evidence of Native American remains

Found one, single, "out of context lithic fragment has been recovered." Contacted NAHC who said
to continue with excavation

"Human remains being treated with the dignity and respect they deserve."

Another Coroner was called to site today who also said it was Catholic burial site and work can continue

"To disrupt a native burial ground would run completely counter to our mission. Again, I want to assure
you that this is not taking place."



El Pueblo Plaza Church Cemetery Excavation January 7, 2011



El Pueblo Plaza Church Cemetery Excavation January 7, 2011



1/7/2011

1/9/2011: Letter from NAHC to Judy McKeehan (of McKeehan Environmental Consultants)

Asking to stop project

Stated when they spoke about excavations, she said Sanberg was utilizing

Coroner stated remains were not Native American

But after consulting with Mr. Miller and receiving some documents from a Native American Archaeologist that there are Native American remains there

“therefore we asked that the County stop the project and assess the conflicting data”



Photo taken by Bob Smith (Pobladores) on 1/9/2011. Metal shed in upper pic where artifacts are. trench on left where human remains found.



Photo taken by Bob Smith on 1/8/2011 – plastic tarp covering bodies

1/10/2011: Letter from us to NAHC

Showed proof of direct lineage of tribal members to cemetery

1/11/2011: Email from Dave Singleton to Cindi

No one is MLD on this project

Spoke with coroner Dr. Hernandez – said he didn't believe any remains were NA

He was relying on forensic anthropologist Dr. Elizabeth Miller of CSULA for her recommendations

1/11/2011: email from Andy to NAHC

Were invited onto property for short time

Foreman eventually was nice and asked them to step outside gates

All on video

1/11/2011: email from NACH says Cindi was on site beginning 12/29/2010

When Cindi asked them to clarify what "...from the beginning" meant

1/11/2011: letter from Archdiocese to LA Plaza/Corzo

Found out through story in LA Times about the number of remains unearthed

At time of November correspondence, impression was few bone fragments were found

Church believed site was no longer a cemetery – had been removed in 1840s

Stated Archdiocese had not ownership of property or involvement in project

Fact that full burials were found was beyond scope of November letter

Church states NA groups should be notified and were appropriate authorities notified?

Didn't comply with CA health code law on cemeteries

NPR radio report suggested remains may be used in academic study...church didn't agree to that

In Associated Press story yesterday, La Plaza's staff indicated that Archdiocese was more involved

Question of how to reburial remains

1/12/2011: email from La Plaza to LAPCA.org

La Plaza will open 4/16/2011 but will include memorial olive grove to honor cemetery

1/13/2011: email from anonymous archaeologist to Christina

He declined being involved in any media/press/interviews/articles

1/14/2011: press release from museum stating all construction stopped today

Decided to halt work indefinitely

1/15/2011: Press conference



1/16/2011: email from Christina to Mrs. Dunman of LAPCA

Requesting private meeting with Mr. Corzo

1/17/2011: email from Christina to Gloria Molina and Mayor Villaraigosa

Asked for official meeting

1/20/2011: Meeting with President (Corzo) of museum

He stated other people called us fraudulent

He stated he would submit plan of action to NAHC and Archdiocese

We asked him to sign a memorandum of agreement – he declined

We asked that all construction stop until site properly assessed

We asked to fire archaeology group

We asked for prayer park/memorial commemorating NA and those buried

Presented verification of our tribal membership



Meeting with Corzo, Los Pobladores and tribal members

- 1/20/2011: Email from tribe secretary Christina Swindall to Cindi Alvitre
Asked for personal meeting as to why she would tell Corzo we were fraudulent
She admits she met with Corzo along with Desiree Martinez and Gloria Arellanes
She stated she did not want any authority, no MLD
- 1/20/2011: letter from us to Brian McMahon direct of Admin of Catholic Cemeteries, Archdiocese
We read the church's statement about being disappointment in scope of damage done
We have direct lineage to cemetery
Concerned that construction continues in adjacent areas
- 1/20/2011: letter form tribe to Kamala Harris -Attorney General
Asking for investigation
- 1/21/2011: email from Christina to Corzo
Thanks for meeting
Look forward to hearing from you in a few days
- 1/21/2011: email note from Andy
Andy drove by construction site at 8:45am. There was construction at the back side of property.
Did see some staff in container where remains and other archaeological items are stored
- 1/21/2011: Letter to Miwok, Fernandeno, Dorothy, Bob Bracamontes, John Johnson and Lowell Bean asking for help



1/24/2011 – Adrian Morales of Tongva group monitoring

1/25/2011: email from Christina to Mr. Corzo
A storage container with artifacts and remains were removed off property.
Where to?

1/25/2011: Interview with Cindi Alvitre and Dr. Wendy Teeter by www.nativeamericancalling.com

1/26/2011: remains sent from CSU LA to Natural History Museum
According to letter from La Plaza to CSU LA

1/27/2011: email from Dr. Stickel to Kizh tribe to use
Details his background an experience
Discusses our tribe's legitimacy

1/28/2011: Letter to all CA Federally recognized tribes for help

1/28/2011: same letter from us to Gloria Molina, Senator Feinstein, Senator Boxer, Governor Brown,
Councilperson Reyes, Congresswoman Roybal-Allard, Mayor Villaraigosa,
Asking for meeting

1/29/2011: letter from Ernie to NAHC
Stated that LA, Corzo & mayor ignoring us, construction continuing
Asked them to ask others (Alvitre, Morales, Dunlap and Dorame) for lineage to village/cemetery

1/31/2011: letter from La Plaza (Mr. Corzo) to CSU LA President Rosser
Thanks them for temporarily storing human remains
Confirms all remains were removed from CSULA on 1/26/2011 and transported to Natural History
Museum
Confirmed museum's role is limited to storage and security only

2/1/2011: email from Christina/Kizh tribe to William Fujioka (CEO) and Dawn McDivitt
Details all our concerns
Recommend firing Sapphos and Sandberg consult with us

2/3/2011: Email from Dave Singleton (NAHC) to Christina
No evidence that NAHC was contacted for sacred lands file search or contact list for the final EIR

2/3/2011: letter from Gloria Molina to tribe
She states appropriate notifications were made to Coroner
States as of 1/14 all excavation and work has stopped
County, as lead agency, County has taken on leadership role to oversee Foundation in development of
plan for re-interment

2/4/2011: Letter from Senator Dianne Feinstein to Christina/Kizh tribe
Her assistant Kevin Change is contacting BIA



El Pueblo Plaza Church Cemetery Excavation February 10, 2011

2/11/2011: Letter from Senator Dianne Feinstein to Christina/tribe
Notified us that office of Governor Jerry Brown has jurisdiction over this case

2/14/2011: letter from us to Gloria Molina & CEO Office
Appropriate notifications weren't made
Sapphos Environmental s incompetent
County shouldn't make plans, stakeholders should

2/14/2011: letter from us to Brian McMahon direct of Admin of Catholic Cemeteries, Archdiocese
We couldn't find correspondence between Sapphos and Church in EIR
Asked them for response on EIR, whether cemetery was relocated or their opinion on 1981 book





Photos taken by Andy Salas on 2/14/2011

2/15/2011: email between Robert Garcia, Andy and NAHC
Robert Garcia does NOT represent tribe

2/25/2011: National Parks Service withholds federal grant funding from project (\$104K)





Photos taken by Andy on 2/15/2011 showing continued construction

2/17/2011: telephone conversation with Laura Miranda of NAHC

She asked us if we were willing to consent to quick reburial of remains so construction can continue
We said no

She stated museum wants to meet their April deadline to finish project and may be willing to consult
Dr. Stickel offered his help and working along with Dr. Tweeter to restore cemetery

We told her our tribe was not invited to Molina's first meeting with other groups



2/17/2011 – Photo from The City website, backhoe on dig site

2/21/2011: email note from Andy

Today is federal holiday, President's day

People in ditches in cemetery area, digging and sifting



1/24/2011 - Photo from LA Times

2/23/2011: letter from tribe to Governor Jerry Brown

Asking for help

Senator Feinstein was waiting for Governor's reply but no response yet

2/25/2011: Letter from LA County CEO Office for 1st stakeholder meeting

Meeting scheduled for 3/9

Purpose is to define plan for re-interment of human remains

3/2/2011: Letter from Dr. Steven Hackel to NAHC

NAHC asked him for information on origins of those buried at La Plaza cemetery

Burials started in 1823 and stopped November 1844

About 695 people buried

388 were native American and 307 non-indian

131 are Gabrieleno and 104 are other/unknown

3/3/2011: email from NAHC to Christina

Planning a Commission meeting and hearing on March 28



3/9/2011 – construction continuing

3/9/2011: First stakeholder's meeting

Some comments: Need thorough inventory, all construction halted, burials remain in situ, don't remove anymore bodies, Gabrieleno should take lead, restore cemetery, put remains back as fast as possible.

Molina was not present, requested government to government meetings, reschedule grand opening



3/9/2011 - Christina & Ernie speaking at 1st stakeholder's meeting





3/13/2011 – tarp covering remains



3/13/2011

3/15/2011: Email from NAHC to Robert Garcia of City Project CA and John Tommy

Sapphos Environmental finally officially asked for Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contact List from NAHC.

Should have been done in 2008

Sacred Lands File search showed sacred sites within ½ mile of site but also multiple burials

In the area found in mid-1900s

Purpose of search and list is for planning purposes, consultation with tribes and NOT for implementing a project.

Would expect County of LA to re-group, re-design, put together new construction drawings for a re-Circulated EIR after consulting with tribes

"I am shocked that the County would consider going 'full-steam ahead' with the same project design"

3/15/2011: Letter from NAHC to Sapphos Environmental

This letter is their response to Sapphos' request for Sacred Lands File Search and NA contact list

Cultural resources were identified within ½ of mile of the project are

Lists all laws and codes regarding significance historical and cultural resources

We were on the contact list along with 8 other groups



3/16/2011 - ground penetrating radar

3/18/2011: letter from us to Gloria Molina

Got verbal request from Francisco Chabran of Molina's office to invite 1 rep from each of "interested parties" to meet privately on March 21

Only Francisco and Molina would be present – no other Supervisors, no CEO representatives

Why is meeting not in writing?

We recommended have 2 people from each group

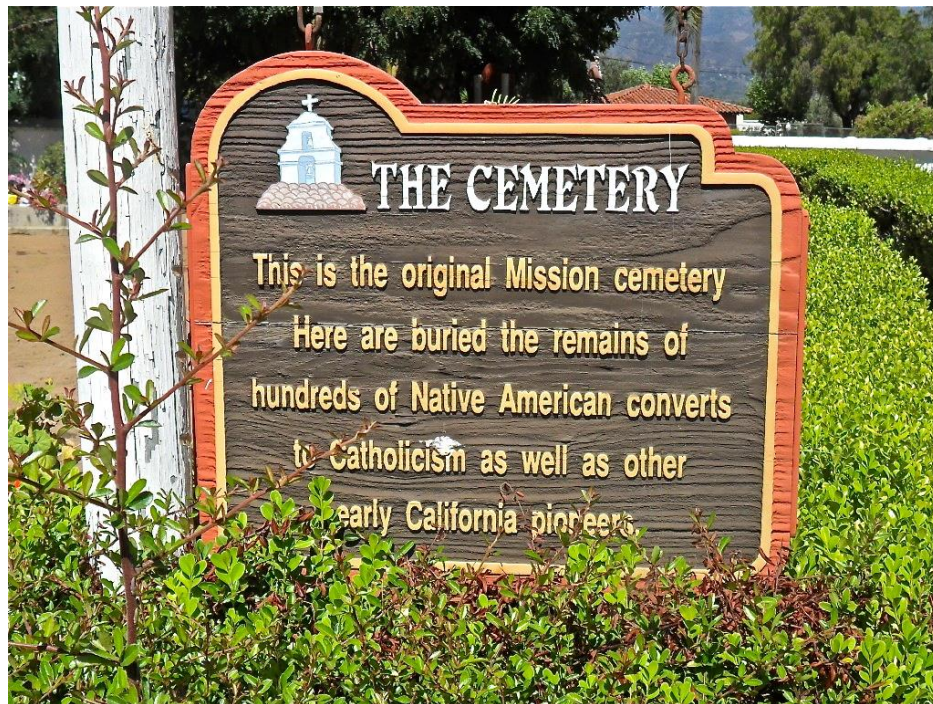
We are declining invitation. This is NOT government to government meeting – we want official meeting with entire Board of Supervisors and CEO office.

We also declined Sapphos' request to have Native American monitor on site – NAHC contact list is for consulting, not for moving ahead with project the next day



El Pueblo Campo Santo Excavation

Date unknown – plaque at cemetery site



3/22/2011: letter from us to Jose Gomez, Office of Archbishop of LA
 No actions taken by Church
 Known that there's 388 Native American burials there
 Construction has continued

3/22/2011: letter from tribe to CEO
 Want him to oversee Molina's actions

3/22/2011: letter from us to Ed Reyes (LA City Councilman district 1), Richard Alarcon (District 7), Tony Cardenas (District 6), Paul Koretz (District 5), LaBonge (District 4), Dennis Zine (District 3), Paul Krekorian (District 2), Bernard Parks (District 8), Jan Perry (District 9), Herb Wesson Jr (District 10), Bill Rosendahl (District 11), Grey Smith (District 12), Eric Garcetti (District 13), Janice Hahn (District 15), Jose Huizar (District 14), Mayor Villaraigosa, John Fowler (executive director of Advisory Council on Historic Preservation), James Rosser (President of CSU LA)

Telling them we have gotten no response from mayor

Asking for help

3/23/2011: Letter from Lowell Bean stating we still exist

3/24/2011: letter from Hampton Tucker (chief of Historic Preservation Grants Division) to McDivitt

Withholding \$104K of their grant to La Plaza

Grant required work to be evaluated under Section 106

So Human remains are considered "post-review discoveries" and are subject to Section 800.13

Which allows two pathways to resolution, but both require participation with tribal leaders



3/25/2011 – worker that wasn't supposed to be working





3/25/2011 – back of dig site



3/25/2011 – close up of bones in dirt behind buckets



3/25/2011 – bones on board

3/26/2011: Letter from us to Walmart, BP, Union bank, Bank of America, Walt Disney Co, Extravision, Accenture, actress Eva Longoria

Asking them to withdraw their sponsorship/support of LA Plaza

3/27/2011: letter from tribe to Harold, Closter (director of Smithsonian Affiliates)

Gave history of project to date

Asked Smithsonian to make a statement/take a position

3/28/2011: NAHC meeting – La Plaza is on Agenda

3/28/2011: testimony of Professor Paul Langenwalter of Biola University before NAHC

He is archaeologist for Biola University and Cultural resources manager

Has been involved with exhumation and relocation of cemeteries for over 25 years

During the week of unearthing of human remains (Nov 1), he was called to provide burial technicians

4 students and 1 grad student were provided

Professor visited site Nov 6 to discuss with Sanberg Group

Remains were being removed “piecemeal, that is that legs would be exposed, removed then the torso area removed, the skull removed. Excavation that was sideways, removing beads from around the neck of a person without photographic documentation...frequent calls from Supervisor’s office as well as the Plaza authority, that the archaeologist was under tremendous pressure. Some of the things I shall not repeat suggest intimidation...Also a problem with the use of a bobcat to open the graves.”

He brought up Health and Safety Codes 7525 & 7528 that were ignored.

He then instructed his students to leave site and disassociate the University with the project.

He stated that it’s common knowledge and described by Bernice Johnston in 1960s of the association of Native Americans with the church.

A map shows the cemetery (by Old survey done in 1849) in place but under an orchard. The map was revised in 1873 and shows the cemetery again so the church’s statement of the cemetery being exhumed in 1844 is incorrect.

3/29/2011: email from us to Dr. Langenwalter

He mentioned photographs – could we get them?

3/29/2011: email from us to NAHC

Asked them to not allow Robert Dorame to be involved due to his past history at Playa Vista
NAHC admits they have no documentation of his links to the cemetery
But still including him on contact list
March/April 2011 information from <http://laplaza.lacounty.gov> website
Protective structure being installed within the fenced off cemetery area
Native American monitors on site
Ground penetrating radar being used, overlapping with maps
Test pits being used to investigate ground penetrating radar results
Construction installing electrical, grading, base material and pavers still moving forward

3/29/2011: Letter from us to Gloria Molina

Still haven't met with us, no official meetings
We are primary interested party, have proof to lineage
Why would you use same Sapphos to plan the restoration that did the desecration?
Native American monitors on site are under restrictions – this is unethical and why we refused to monitor
asked again for official meeting and apology

March/April 2011 information from <http://laplaza.lacounty.gov> website

Protective structure being installed within the fenced off cemetery area
Native American monitors on site
Ground penetrating radar being used, overlapping with maps
Test pits being used to investigate ground penetrating radar results
Construction installing electrical, grading, base material and pavers still moving forward
Protective covering being put up
States that no soil will leave the cemetery site. Any work or human presence shall have Native American monitor and professional archaeologist with them at all times.
Remains being temporarily stored at Museum of Natural History
Consulting with LA County, LA Plaza, NA tribes, Church and other interested parties



4/2011 – back of dig site

4/2/2011: email from Ray Williams to us regarding corrections in newspaper
Molina quoted "It truly pains me that this...has unfolded in this manner and in this way. And I'm truly sorry for it....what else can you do when you make a big mistake but apologize?"

4/4/2011: response from Union Bank to us
They're aware of issues
They have support numerous Native American projects

4/6/2011: phone call with Louis Verdugo (Civil rights enforcement with Attorney Harris office)
Discussed our complaints
He stated the CA Attorney General office is working with NAHC and assisting them as council
Can't offer us any assistance – would be conflict of interest

4/8/2011: email from Dr. Stickel to Hampton Tucker of National Parks Service
NPS is only governmental organization to take action by withholding funds
Gave background on project to date

4/9/2011: Protest at Cemetery Site



4/9/2011 – Protest photos

4/12/2011: "LA Starts Here" invitation-only premier event at La Plaza

4/16/2011: Grand Opening Celebration of museum
Protest

4/18/2011: letter from CEO to us
Construction stopped in cemetery area of project
But will be installing temporary structure to protect the area – invited Native American to monitor

4/22/2011: letter from CEO to NAHC
Providing notes and handouts from community meeting and synopsis of events to date
Museum opened 4/15/2011 but no access to cemetery was allowed
Acknowledges first bones found 10/28/2010
Gives overview of events
Based on Archdiocese OK to proceed, excavation continued
Stated that Archdiocese "had previously stated that the burial information for the historic cemetery was Not available"
States human remains are begin stored at Natural History Museum and burial goods/cultural
Artifacts being stored at offices of Sanberg Group
States Sanberg terminated Biola students on 11/22/2010 due to lack of proper methodology

4/26/2011: Claim forms to LA County
For damages caused by activities at Campo Santo Cemetery

4/26/2011: letter from us to Gloria Molina
No response to previous letters, no official meeting offered
Asked for official meeting

4/26/2011: County Claim filed and about two weeks later denied
Claim resubmitted 5/27/2011

4/27/2011: letter from tribe to CEO
Asking for meeting with Board of Supervisors and CEO Office

4/27/2011: letter from us to Steve Cooley (LA County District Attorney) and Governor Brown and Kamala Harris (Attorney General), President Barack Obama
Gave history on project to date
Requested help/meeting

4/27/2011: letter from tribe to Tom LaBonge, LA Council District 4
Thanking him for meeting two weeks prior
Police were called when he visited cemetery site with tribe members
Hoping to meet with Governor and State Attorney General

4/27/2011: letter from tribe to Hampton Tucker (National Parks Service)
Thank you for withholding funds
Discussed our ancestry to project site
Waiting for consultation

April/May 2011 Information from <http://laplaza.lacounty.gov> website

States that only remaining on-site construction is four light poles along walkway

States that walkway is not located in project area

Next Community Workshop meeting No 2 will be mid May

5/2/2011: letter from tribe to Dawn McDivitt and CEO

Upcoming visit to storage facility at Natural History Museum is being planned

When County asked for us to send in a monitor, we asked to see monitoring contract – still haven't gotten

Why are they allowing even lights to be put up?

5/4/2011: Letter from NAHC to Gloria Molina

Admitted mistake that we were left of List of Possible descendants of La Plaza Project Area Cemetery
Please include them

5/6/2011: Emails to/from Mr. William J. Pink

We stated that we asked County for their censored monitoring agreement, never got it

He remembers a meeting in 1982 when he was Executive Secretary of NAHC

Meeting was with a Council of Bishops in San Francisco to discuss cemeteries at Plaza Church

The church wanted to build a new rectory and recreational facility, but at issue were 2 cemeteries

Bishops explained 2 cemeteries: one Indian, one non-Indian

Project as to be built in area of Native American cemetery but Pink argued against it (pre SB297)

They weren't considered cemeteries under state law because they weren't considered to be

"dedicated cemeteries" and not accorded protections under the law

Church said burials were under rules of Catholic church and thus burials could be de-sanctified

These cemeteries are under the jurisdiction of Church and subject to rules of the Church

"So it is my position with respects to the cemeteries located at the Plaza Church that all and any remains that have been unearthed by treated with the utmost respect and that no burials be subjected to scientific analysis and that the Catholic Church bear any and all costs related to proper and dignified re-interment in an area that will not be subjected to further disturbance and accorded protection of both state and federal laws as applicable."

*addendum 5/7/2011: if there's any record of the meeting, it has probably been destroyed

There should be correspondence directed to Mr. Pink describing the meeting along with invitation to Archdiocese

5/9/2011: email from Wendy Teeter to Desiree Martinez, Joe Ontiveros, Cindi Alvitre, Craig Torres and NAHC

She states that no one asked for La Plaza remains to come to UCLA

They asked for their immediate reinternment

States there are no Playa Vista or Bolsa Chica remains at UCLA

Catalina remains are being stored at UCLA expense until their museum can bring them back

5/9/2011: letter from CEO to us

CEO office taking over

Stating Molina's office has offered meetings, but we have declined

Now that we filed county claim, they are using counsel

County will begin official consulting process

5/18/2011: Letter from LA County CEO Office for 2nd stakeholders meeting on 6/1
Email from dawn McDivitt on 5/26/2011 states her, Mr. Corzo, SWCA representatives and maybe staff from Molina's office

5/24/2011: letter from SWCA to us
Stating SWCA has been retained by La Plaza to assist in outreach and consultation
Consistent with Section 106 post-review discoveries

5/27/2011: filed claim against LA county for desecration of La Plaza cemetery

5/31/2011: letter from us to NAHC
We filed claim against LA County
We provided County counsel our ancestry
Telling them we want them reburied at on site and never disturbed

6/1/2011: 2nd stakeholder's meeting
Discuss having access to remains at Natural History Museum, determine boundaries of cemetery,
Concepts for re-interment
"official" consultation in accordance with Section 106
Individual stations set up to divide and conquer – all present declined
Part of county's plan: "re-inter burial remains in the same spatial arrangement as they were
originally found"

6/2/2011: email from Dawn McDivitt to Christina/tribe
Sent monitoring agreement
Monitoring paid for by Sapphos to not exceed \$2,880 for 6 days of work
Goal is to determine boundaries of cemetery
Purpose of monitoring is to make sure human remains are treated appropriately
No photography allowed

6/6/2011: Christina interviewed by Jon & Ken KFI AM640

6/6/2011: letter from us to SWCA
If upcoming meeting is "official" then Molina and Fujioka will be there along with LA County

6/14/2011: email from Christina to Elissa Fleak (LA Coroner)
Asking her why there hasn't been a redetermination yet that remains are NA in origin

6/14/2011: email from NAHC to Christina

NAHC disagrees with Coroner

"Campo Santo is considered a 'dedicated cemetery.' But there are unconfirmed reports that it was Built on an ancient cemetery. And Dr. Langenwaller, among others, claims that at least one set of Remains was not buried in the Catholic tradition; that is the body is found in a fetal position, not in A casket lying on back with medals, etc". Since it's a "dedicated cemetery" it is out of their jurisdiction.

CA health and safety code 7050.5 says county coroner makes a report to NAHC if "there is reason to believe" that the remains might be of NA origin. All CA county coroners are capable of making that determination.

NAHC suggested to Fleak and Coroner office that they attend the CA Coroner's Association meeting in Lake Tahoe 9/20/2011 where Larry Myers will speak on "Native American burials and CA law"

NACH does NOT accept statement that the coroner's staff doesn't have the expertise to make a "determination" that burials might be of Native American origin. The NACH gets average of four such determinations and notifications each month from CA counties.

6/15/2011: Letter from us to Laura Miranda of NAHC

Yangua is our tribal territory

Large list of "interested parties" is causing divide and conquer effects

Ask them to support us as lead consulting party for this project

6/15/2011: email from Elissa Fleak of Coroner office to Christina

Coroner is capable of determining if remains are Native American

They do this routinely by having a Board Certified Forensic Anthropologist examine bones and make determination

Bodies buried in an established cemetery aren't considered Coroner cases because they don't fall under Coroner law (CA gov code section 27491)

Bodies are protected under CA health and safety codes 7100, 8725, 7003 and Professional codes 9650, 9724, 9675

CA health safety code 7050.5 makes developer legally responsible to report NA bones to NAHC

6/15/2011: letter from SWCA to us

Official consultation meeting coming up 6/21/2011

Who will attend: Corzo, Shiraz Tangri(council for Foundation and County), Dawn McDivitt but no Molina or Fujioka

6/17/2011: letter from CEO to us

Confirms remains are at Natural History Museum – upcoming tour being planned

States that in March 2011, they received list of contacts from NAHC

"Identifying California Native American Tribe to be included in any resolution process..."

Now that we filed county claim, Molina's office will not be scheduling meetings with us

States no further construction has happened

6/20/2011: email from Christina to John Dietler of SWCA

Stated that meeting did not meet criteria of section 106 consultation so we wouldn't be attending

We had been asking for official consultation meeting with Molina and CEO Fujioka, still not granted Requested document from LA County under Historic Preservation Act Section 110(k)

Stated that National Parks withholding funds "spoke volumes" for the integrity of the project

3/24/2011: letter from Hampton Tucker (chief of Historic Preservation Grants Division) to McDivitt
Grant required work to be evaluated under Section 106
So Human remains are considered “post-review discoveries” and are subject to Section 800.13
Which allows 2 pathways to resolution but both require participation with tribal leaders

7/1/2011: email from us to SWCA
Requesting visit to see storage facilities at Natural History Museum

4/16/2012: Human remains in paper bags getting ready for reburial
We did NOT approve of the mass reburial in this manner



Above photos courtesy of Gary Leonard of LAdowntownnews.com



Example of proper Native reburial of human
Remains – this was done by our tribe
at Yangna (downtown LA) in 1998