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THE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF
SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA
1883

MESSAGE FROM THE HSSC PRESIDENT



Three subjects the board is currently thinking about are conference themes, fundraising for the Quarterly, and tours. A major event we plan each year is a conference. Building on the success of our last conference on "World War II and the Home Front in Southern California," which took place in January 2017 at the University of La Verne, the board has decided on three themes for the next three years. Events and tours are being planned for each theme. We welcome you to join us!

The conference theme for 2018 will be on "The Cold War to the Space Race: Science, Technology, and Society in Southern California," a topic in which southern California institutions played a very important national role. The Events and Membership Committees are coming up with ideas for tours related to the theme, so if there are special sites you would be interested in visiting, please contact our Executive Director, Amy Essington, to pass on your ideas.

The conference theme for 2019 is envisioned to be on "The Environment in Southern California," and to consider such topics as the physical vs. the built environment, pollution, parks and public space, and

climate change. As with the 2018 conference, there will be at least two tours associated with the theme.

Finally, the conference theme for 2020 will be "Gender, Race and Place," and we will commemorate the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment, or women's suffrage. This was a huge event in Los Angeles as elsewhere in the country, and there are plenty of sites to visit, and so we will organize tours and events related to this theme as well.

In terms of fundraising, we are very excited in launching our capital campaign for the *Southern California Quarterly*, and a big "thank you" to all those members who have given generously thus far. (See page 3.) I think we all agree that this marvelous journal is worth not only saving but should continue to flourish in the future. After all, it's one of the only journals still around that is specifically devoted to the history of California.

The capital campaign is three-fold: first, that all board members contribute (which they have); second, that membership will be asked to contribute (and many of you al-

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Treasures of the HSSC Artifact Collection: City of Los Angeles Annexation Map, 1928

It's often heard these days. Will the San Fernando Valley secede from the City of Los Angeles? Is Los Angeles too big and unwieldy? What will the future of the sprawling metropolis be? A century or so ago, the questions were entirely different. It was more like: how much bigger can Los Angeles get? Will it catch Chicago soon in population? Isn't it the preeminent sign of progress for cities to grow in size and population.

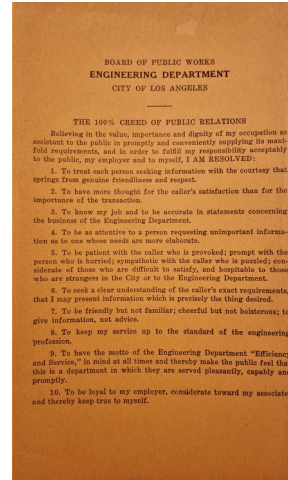
In fact, it was a matter of pride for many residents and city leaders that the aggressive annexation of land to expand Los Angeles yielded such fantastic results at the end of the 19th century and in the first few decades of the 20th. That's why this installment of

"Treasures of the HSSC

Artifact Collection" is so interesting.

In 1928, the Engineering Department of the city's Board of Public Works issued an "Annexation Map of the City of Los Angeles" to trumpet the dramatic growth of the city in preceding years. The inside front cover provided some notable factual information, such as that the city's area was a whopping 441 square miles and that the length and breadth of its limits was up to 44 miles north to south and 20 miles east to west. Moreover, the estimated population, according to the Registrar of Voters, was just under 1.4 million.

Naturally, the booklet pointed out that "the Engineering Department is one of the City's largest and most important departments" and added that the department's motto was "Efficiency and Service." In 1927, the cost of public works construction topped \$24 million, an increase of 16% from the prior year. This was testament "to the rapid and permanent growth of the City in terms of public improvements."



On the back cover was the department's "100% Creed of Public Relations," which included ten core components, based on a belief "in the value, importance and dignity of my occupation as assistant to the public." Among these elements was:

- treating the public "with the courtesy that springs from genuine friendliness and respect"
- to be more concerned with customer satisfaction than the transaction
- "to be as attentive to a person requesting unimportant information as to one whose needs are more elaborate"
- to keep service to professional standards
- to have the motto foremost in mind
- to be loyal to the employer, consider-

ate of associated, and "true to myself"

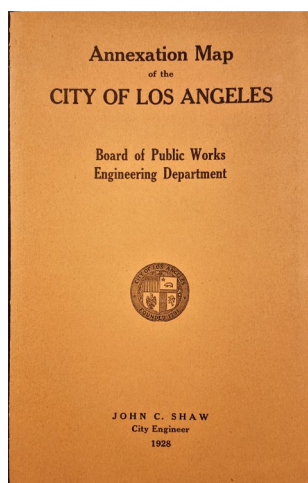
- "to be patient with the caller who is provoked; prompt with person who is hurried; sympathetic with the caller who is puzzled considerate of those who are difficult to satisfy; and hospitable to those are strangers in the City or to the Engineering Department"; and

- "to be friendly, but not familiar; cheerful but not boisterous; to give information, not advice."

As to the map, which folds out in three large sections and twelve panels, it is a striking visual reminder of the growth of Los Angeles. From the upper reaches of the San Fernando Valley to the Los Angeles Harbor area at Wilmington and San Pedro and from the coast at Venice and nearby areas to Eagle Rock and a huge area in between, the city's transformation in the preceding thirty years was truly remarkable.

Over 70 annexations and consolidations took place from 1895 to 1928 and fully 60% of those in the preceding

(Continued on page 4)



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Fall 2016 *Southern Californian* included a letter from President Ken Marcus asking HSSC members to donate to an endowment for the *Southern California Quarterly* to ensure the future of the flagship journal of the organization. I am pleased to report that in the months since that initial request, you, the members, joined with the HSSC Board and staff to donate to the *SCQ* Endowment. We all recognize the importance of this journal. A special thank you to the donors listed below.

If you have not yet made your donation, you may still do so by going to at <http://thehssc.org/donate/> or by sending a check. We welcome donations of any size.

Thank you.

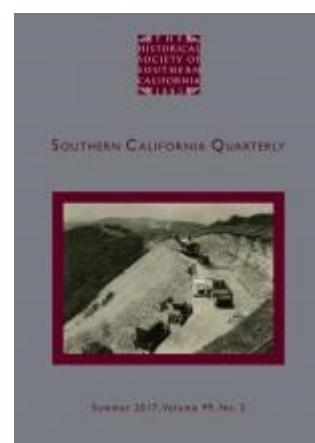
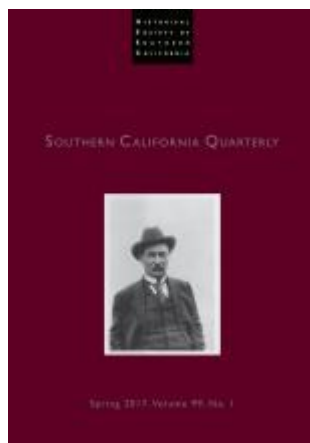
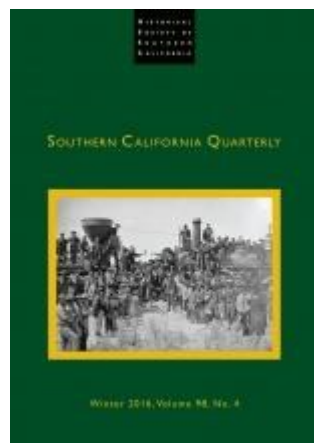
Amy Essington

Executive Director

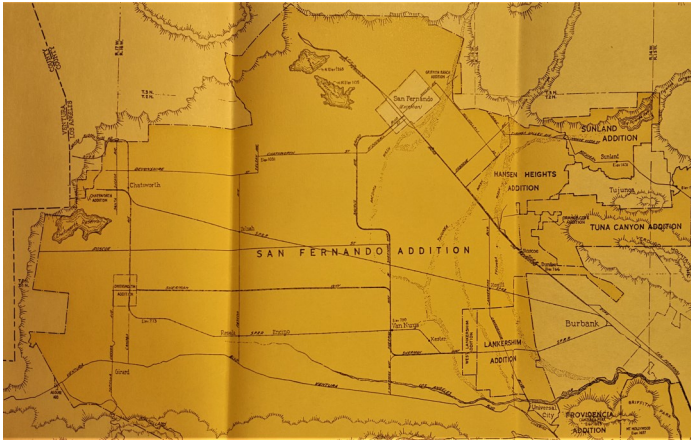
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Treasures of the HSSC Artifact Collection: City of Los Angeles Annexation Map, 1928 Continued



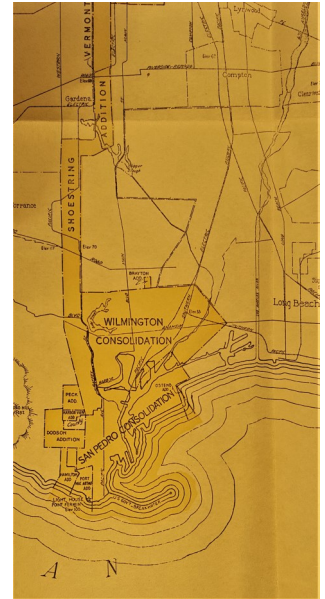
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eight years. Some were very small, including the Ostend Addition from 11 July 1918, which involved just under an acre in the harbor area. The second smallest annexation was the Holabird, totaling 8 acres south of Olympic Boulevard, just off the southeast portion of the original pueblo limits of about 18,000 acres. In all, there were thirteen parcels of under 100 acres on the list.

On the other end of the scale were massive additions, including the giant San Fernando Addition of 22 May 1915, which encompassed nearly the entirety of the San Fernando Valley, totaling nearly 110,000 acres. In fact, when looking at that portion of the map, it is striking to see that the City of San Fernando was, and remains, an island surrounded by Los Angeles. Another large addition was Westgate, which in-

cluded much of the Santa Monica Mountains from the coast near Santa Monica Canyon and inland, including Westwood, and which embraced well over 30,000 acres. The third largest and most unusual was the notorious Shoestring Addition, which was concocted to take in the San Pedro and Wilmington areas at Los Angeles Harbor and join them to the original city limits through the Southern Addition of 1859 and the Southern Addition of 1896. Totalling just under 12,000 acres, the Shoestring was added to the city at the end of 1906.

Other large parcels added to the city included the combined 9,300 acres of Wilmington and San Pedro, consolidated in August 1909; Laurel Canyon in the



Santa Monica Mountains, totaling 8,700 acres and annexed in May 1923; West Coast, which became the area where Los Angeles International Airport is located, totaling just under 8,000 acres and added in June 1917; East Hollywood, spanning over 7,000 acres and annexed in February 1910; the Southern and Western addition off the original pueblo limits, comprising 6,500 acres added in April 1896; and Collegegrove, west from the Hoover Street boundary of the pueblo lands encompassing about 5,600 acres and annexed in October 1909.



(Continued on page 8)

An Archive, a Lawsuit, and the Tragic Tale of the Loss of Rancho Sausal Redondo

Sometimes you come to the story, and sometimes the story comes to you. So it is with archival research, and so it was as I opened the first box of tri-folded case files from the Los Angeles County Probate Court. I had anticipated this day for nearly a decade, ever since learning that the Huntington Library would be acquiring most of the county's court files from the beginning of statehood into the 1920s.

In 2001, the Huntington awarded me a one-month research fellowship to examine the records of the Probate Court, which existed from 1850 until the new state constitution in 1879 reorganized the judicial branch. I anticipated that these records would reveal how California's newly established Anglo-American legal system handled issues of family wealth, even though Section 13 of the 1849 constitution tied the state to a marital property system grounded in the Spanish civil law tradition (known today as the "community property" system).

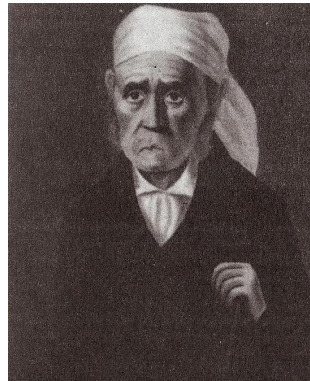
The project was a bust. Perhaps it was because

decedents left so little property that distinguishing the rights of the husband and of the wife was not worth the effort, or because American-born and – educated judges had no stomach for following what they perceived to be "foreign" law. But in any event, the records simply had nothing to say about the operation of a marital property system, seen on the one hand as providing necessary continuity and predictability from the Mexican period, or on the other hand as a progressive "reform" of the harsh common law that could be used to attract American women to this new frontier.

However, as anyone who has been fortunate enough to conduct research at the Huntington knows, you'd be crazy not to stick around and play the hand you're dealt. And this hand, it turned out, would take me both far afield from my original inquiry and more than a decade to complete.

As I made my way sequentially through the first Hollinger box (a sturdy but small container), each thin case acclimated me to the court but little else. Yet

this rote examination drew me closer to a file that was at least four inches thick, its girth alone suggesting promise. And what a jackpot I hit – the story of the probate of the estate of Antonio Ygnacio Avila had come to me. Avila belonged to one of the founding families



Antonio Ygnacio Avila

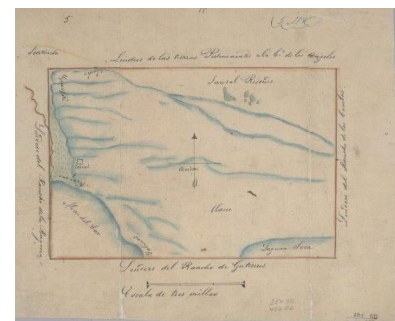
of the pueblo of Los Angeles. He proved his loyalty to the Spanish Crown and was rewarded with grazing rights on a vast area of land known as Rancho Sausal Redondo, which stretched south from today's Playa del Rey, through LAX, down to

Redondo Beach, and east into Inglewood and Lawndale. Those rights were expanded into a land grant during the Mexican period, which was confirmed by the U.S. Land Commission post-statehood.

History does record that the rancho changed hands in the late 1860s, notwithstanding the Land Commission prove-up. The accounts note, rather cryptically, that the land was purchased by a Scotsman named Robert Burnett. A few reveal that he bought the land at auction, while some link successor Daniel Freeman to the modern development of the tract. None, however, even hint at a story that would explain the four-inch thick case file.

Just a few documents in I came to the heart of the matter: upon Avila's death, his youngest daughter Marta

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Rancho Sausal Redondo

PREVIOUS HSSC EVENTS

“Hiding Under Eastern Petticoats?
The Emerging Women’s Suffrage
Movement in California”
Los Angeles Public Library Women’s
Heritage Month Lecture
March, 12, 2017

Donna Schuele (UCLA, Cal State LA) explored California’s suffrage movement in the 1870s and the ways in which the California movement was driven—and riv-
en—by circumstances both local and national.



Tour of Historical Society of Long Beach
Exhibit, “Long Beach Remembers Pearl
Harbor.” April 1, 2017

On Saturday, April 1, 2017, attendees visted the Historical Society of Long Beach to view their exhibit “Long Beach Remembers Pearl Harbor.” HSLB Executive Director Julie Bartolotto and historians Craig Hendricks and Timothy Friden gave a tour of the exhibit and spoke about the history related to the exhibit.



UPCOMING HSSC EVENTS

Centinela Adobe Tour and Talk

Saturday, June 3, 2017, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

The HSSC is co-sponsoring a tour of the Centinela Adobe with a talk by Donna Schuele about the Avila Family. The event is co-sponsored by the Historical Society of Centinela Valley.

HSSC Tour of the San Gabriel Mission and La Casa de Lopez de Lowther Adobe

Saturday, June 10, 2017, 10:00 am-12: 00 pm

Come tour two sites in San Gabriel’s historic mission district. The HSSC will tour both the San Gabriel Mission and the La Casa de Lopez de Lowther Adobe.

Member and student discounts available. Registration information available at thehssc.org



CALL FOR PAPERS
THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
“FROM THE COLD WAR TO THE SPACE RACE:
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA”
CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA
FEBRUARY 10, 2018



Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ The Cold War
- ◆ The development of aerospace in southern California
- ◆ Post-WW2 politics and society
- ◆ Science and technology's influence on the institutions, industries, traditions, and people
- ◆ Medicine in southern California
- ◆ Hollywood and how film has shaped American ideas about space

- * Proposals for full panels encouraged.
- * Those submitting panel or roundtable proposals should include a brief (100-word) description of the panel, a 250-word abstract for each presentation, and a one-page c.v. for each participant.
- * Those submitting individual papers should include a 250-word abstract and a one-page c.v.
- * AV requests should be included for each presenter in the proposal.
- * All program participants will be expected to pre-register for the conference.
- * Proposals are due Friday, September 1, 2017, by 11:59PM PT.
- * Please email your proposal information to hsscconference@thehssc.org.
- * Panelists will be notified by Friday, November 3, 2017.
- * Contact HSSC Executive Director Amy Essington at executivedirector@thehssc.org with any questions.

Treasures of the HSSC Artifact Collection: City of Los Angeles Annexation Map, 1928 Continued

(Continued from page 4)

Aside from San Fernando, there are other “islands” surrounded completely or nearly so by the expanding city. Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers near Westwood, Universal City, Tujunga, and a few small county pieces here and there, are examples of such locales. Tujunga, which was incorporated in 1888, was consolidated into Los Angeles four years after the production of this map.

As to the distinction between “annexation” and “consolidation,” this has to do with the prior status of the area absorbed into Los Angeles. Annexed parcels were previously unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, while consolidated areas had been incorporated cities. To achieve consolidation, a majority of voters had to approve a petition to that effect. The first of these were that of San Pedro and Wilmington. However, other examples include Hollywood (1910), Sawtelle (1922), Hyde Park (only a city for about a year until it was

added in 1923), Eagle Rock (1923), Venice (1925), Watts (1926) and the little-known Barnes City (1927).

Barnes City, in fact, was a strange anomaly. Circus owner Al Barnes moved his enterprise in 1919 from Venice to unincorporated land between Venice and Culver City. Some of this he subdivided and sold for residential purposes and the permanent facility for his circus and zoo opened at the end of 1923 off Washington Boulevard. Shortly afterward, Culver City annexed a narrow strip of land along his circus location and, to fend off further aggression from the studio town, the “La Ballona Improvement Association” moved to create Barnes City.

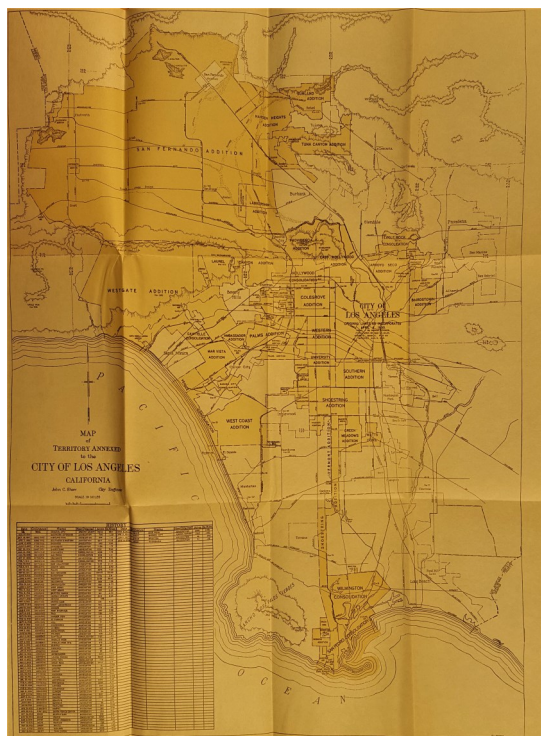
Al Barnes enthusiastically endorsed the idea and it was no accident that over a third of the registered voters were his employees! When he tried to assume more control over the new burg, though, a ruckus erupted with residents not affiliated with the circus, leading to the vote for consolidation, after just seven months of cityhood. Barnes,

seeking to avoid Los Angeles city regulatory authority, transferred his circus to the eastern San Gabriel Valley near El Monte and Baldwin Park.

Annexation by the City of Los Angeles was hardly complete when this map was issued, however. There have been a great many since, most, some 150, in the very busy post-World War II period of the late 1940s through 1960s. Some 60 more were conducted in the 1970s and 1980s, but there have only been about a dozen in the last quarter-

century, most recently the Jordan Downs annexation in March 2015, consisting of a little over 40 acres in South Central Los Angeles slated for redevelopment.

It will certainly be interesting to see what shape and form, Los Angeles, which now encompasses just over 500 square miles will take in the future, will take and what its map will look like! By Paul R. Spitzzeri, Director, Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum



An Archive, a Lawsuit, and the Tragic Tale of the Loss of Rancho Sausal Redondo Continued

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launched a will contest against his eldest son Juan. She claimed that her brother had, by dint of undue influence or fraud, induced his father to execute a will with terms overly favorable to him. The allegations were breathtaking: in no other case in the archives, before or after, had Californio siblings, steeped as these families were in patriarchal norms, engaged in such a legal battle. And the circumstances that set the stage for the suit appeared unique as well: unlike other rancheros who routinely executed death bed wills, Avila executed his nearly a decade before his demise. Why? Because what was expiring at that point was not Avila's body but his mind. He probably had suffered a stroke and the mental capacity to make a valid will was quickly diminishing or already gone. Once the will was executed, it didn't matter how much longer Antonio Ygnacio survived; the terms were unchangeable. And any wrongdoing on Juan's part could remain hidden for years, making it harder to prove when Avila did pass away.



Juan Avila

Few Californios of this era were literate. In Alta California's frontier environment, this group seemed indifferent to formal education. Thus, legal and governmental records provide some of the only written accounts of daily life. While the Probate Court documents comprising the Avila case were undeniably a gold mine, they nonetheless left many questions unanswered. Most important, what had led Marta to take such a drastic, and potentially destructive, step against a brother, especially one who had become the de facto head of the household upon the death of his father? And, given the undeniably favorable testamentary terms, had Juan in fact coaxed his father to deviate from the ordinary impulse of Californio patriarchs to bequeath their property equally to daughters

and sons alike? What made him think he could get away with it? And, ultimately, was invoking the processes of an unfamiliar legal system a fruitful move? For Marta? For Antonio Ygnacio's family? Who won, and who lost?

More largely, what could this case teach us about the Californio experience during the early years of American rule, as Los Angeles transformed from a sleepy, feudal, barter economy outpost ruled by a small group of elite landowners into a commercial region where everything - especially land - became commodified, access to cash accelerated newcomers' wealth accumulation, and status was fluid rather than fixed at birth?

Sometimes, the serendipity of research means not just stumbling upon a rich archive but also discovering the kind of story where the sun, moon, and stars line up, allowing you to augment and exploit the sources you do have. In this regard, Antonio Ygnacio Avila's tale did not disappoint. While the Californio population may have been mostly pre-

literate, the padres that grounded this society in the mission system were not. They were prodigious and diligent record-keepers, and their sacramental accounts of births (baptisms), marriages, and deaths provide the best exposition of colonial demographics in all of North America.

My study would not have been possible without two monumental efforts to translate and organize this data: a three-volume reference produced by Marie Northrop (two volumes published prior to the start of my research and the third a few years in), and later the Huntington Library's NEH-funded Early California Population Project, conceived and edited by Dr. Steven Hackel. Northrop both translated and organized mission and other records, creating trees of Alta California's elite families that began with the founding of the pueblo and stretched a couple of decades beyond statehood. Later, the Huntington's project took advantage of technological advances, building a relational database that broke down individual mission entries into field-

(Continued on page 10)

An Archive, a Lawsuit, and the Tragic Tale of the Loss of Rancho Sausal Redondo Continued

(Continued from page 9)

searchable records. Beginning in 2006, the database was freely accessible to anyone with an internet connection. Added to this was the *Southern California Quarterly's* earlier reproduction of patrons (censuses) that were commissioned by the Mexican government in the 1830s and 1840s.

As I pondered how the relationship between Marta and Juan could have so deteriorated as to lead her, nay allow her, to go to law to wrest family wealth away from him, I suspected that the key lie in diminished patriarchal power. Did family bonds actually start to fray some time before Antonio Ygnacio executed his will? There would be no trove of letters, no hidden diary that could reveal family secrets. But in a society where arranged marriages were the norm, and marriage was seen as a crucial tool to increase and cement family status, the mission records and the patrons might yield some answers. Indeed they did. The marriages of the first few of Antonio Ygnacio's children were all befitting of an

elite family: through them, the Avila family joined forces with the Yorbas, the Sepulvedas, and the Sanchezes. The combined landholding of these families was staggering, and many of the men held positions of power in the local government. But fortunes diminished for the later children: as Juan's younger brothers were pressed into managing Rancho Sausal Redondo, they married late or not at all, sometimes to women of questionable repute. And poor Marta: as the only unmarried daughter left at home, especially when her father became ill, caretaking duties fell to her. By the time she married, she was an "old maid" of twenty-five and her father had lost his ability to trade on his status to find her a spouse.

Alas, the Huntington's project was limited to processing only pre-statehood records, thus the database mostly ends at 1850, but at that point American census records proved helpful. Having never worked with census records before, I procrastinated over that part of the research, until once again I was rescued by technology. By 2006, the

records through 1930 became available on Ancestry.com, so I headed over to the Family History Center at the Church of Latter Day Saints in West Los Angeles to take advantage of free access. Tracing the Avila family post-statehood, I witnessed its further fragmentation.

But it wasn't just the availability of micro demographic records that hinted at the how and why of the will contest; macro environmental evidence recorded by literate Anglos revealed that the litigation was just one aspect of the increasing economic vulnerability of the Avila family. In fact, what occurred was a perfect storm. Unknowable at the time that Antonio Ygnacio Avila executed his will, the cattle market took off in the mid-1850s, due to the influx of Americans and their appetite for beef. No longer were the animals raised just for hide and tallow. The Avilas, like other ranchero families, increased their stock and enjoyed the proceeds of meat sales. Then came the Great Flood of 1862, drowning thousands of head of cattle. Hard to fath-

om, the Great Flood was followed by three years of crushing drought, killing off even more cattle. And it was during this time that the bills for attorney's fees and other costs of estate administration bore down on the Avilas, payable in cash. The only way the estate could raise the necessary funds was to sell cattle, which were becoming increasingly scarce in quantity and quality.

My research serendipity did not end with the now-easy access to digitized records and the discovered confluence of economy and environment. After struggling for a few years over how to frame the story of Rancho Sausal Redondo (was it a legal history of property devolution? was it about the status of women in Californio society?), an opportunity to participate in a seminar co-sponsored by the Clements Center for Southwest Studies at Southern Methodist University and the Autry National Center convinced me that this story would be best situated in the newly-resurgent field of family history. The seminar aimed to produce an anthology

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An Archive, a Lawsuit, and the Tragic Tale of the Loss of Rancho Sausal Redondo Continued

(Continued from page 10)

showcasing the research of a dozen scholars studying family and kinship in the American West. Conveners of these sorts of groups hope for a synergy among participants. As luck would again have it, just as I was completing the final draft of my study, a fellow author, using another set of court records in the Huntington's collection,

alerted me to a criminal case involving Marta. It was the smoking gun!

How Marta fared in the will contest will remain a story for another day, as will the details of how Antonio Ygnacio's family ultimately forfeited its legacy. No surprise, however, the Avila name became erased from local history, while others, like Machado, Sepulveda, Feliz, and Dominguez,

lived on. But over 150 years after Avila's death in 1858, thanks to that four-inch case file at the Huntington Library, we now know that the story of this family's loss was far more tragic and revealing of the times than a simple entry in the history books marking the passage of a ranch from Californio to Anglo hands. And such is the serendipity of venturing into the archives.

By Donna Schuele, HSSC Second Vice-President

To learn more about the history of Rancho Sausal Redondo, the Avila family, and the development of Inglewood, join Donna Schuele for a talk and tour of the Centinela Adobe on Saturday, June 3rd, at 10 a.m. See page 6 for more details.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

ready have); and third, to approach corporations and foundations who have given to HSSC in the past or may in the future. The goal is \$1 million, and the good news is that we're about a third of the way there, with a total of \$333,000 raised thus far. If you have not already done so, please consider a generous gift for this very worthy cause, and consider also including the journal's endowment in your will. That will truly be a "gift that keeps on giving."

It's worth remembering that the journal of the Society first began in 1884 and has enjoyed continuous publication until the present. It started as an annual publication and became a Quarterly journal in 1935. It is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes articles on the history of California and the West, and its authors range from well-established scholars, to graduate students, to independent scholars. That kind of inclusivity is rare among scholarly journals today. Its readership reaches far beyond the HSSC membership; since 2011 the journal has been published by University of California Press and has been accessible first on JSTOR and then Highwire databases. During Jan.-Dec. 2016, SCQ articles had 54,250 views and a total of 99,262 pdf downloads.

Finally, please keep your eye out for upcoming events this summer and register as soon as possible, and bring your friends! Among these events are a tour of the Centinela Adobe on Saturday, June 3rd, and a tour of the San Gabriel Mission and La Casa de Lopez de Lowther Adobe a week later, which will be in conjunction with the San Gabriel Historical Society. More information on these tours is available on our website, thehssc.org.

Looking ahead, we are also planning a lecture and discussion at the Pasadena Museum of History in September and a Holiday Xmas party at the Homestead Museum. Members have expressed an interest in re-launching this Christmas tradition after we had to move out of Lummis House, and the Homestead Museum currently looks like the best location to have it. We will probably have the party in the first week of December, and of course we'll keep you posted on this and other events.

We look forward to seeing you at future conferences and tours. We thank you for your continued support of the Society. Please reach out to us for any suggestions or comments you may have; we are always happy to hear from our members, and it is because of you that the Society continues to survive and thrive.

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Upcoming HSSC Events

Centinela Adobe Tour and Talk

Saturday, June 3, 2017, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm
The event is co-sponsored by the Historical Society of Centinela Valley



HSSC Tour of the San Gabriel Mission and La Casa de Lopez de Lowther Adobe

Saturday, June 10, 2017, 10am-12pm

HSSC Annual Conference

Saturday, February 10, 2018
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Call for Papers on page 7



Check thehssc.org for event details.
Member and student discounts available.

Note our new mailing address:

HSSC
PO Box 50019
Long Beach, CA 90815

HSSC Awards

The HSSC gives eight awards in three categories. The HSSC Board-approved guidelines for each of the awards are posted on our website. Check thehssc.org for award bylaws and application/nomination information. For awards with applications, the deadline for the 2017 awards is August 1, 2017.

Books

- The Norman Neuerburg Award honors the best book on California history that emphasizes the nineteenth century or earlier.
- The Martin Ridge Award honors the best book on California history that emphasizes the twentieth century onward.
- The Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award honors an outstanding scholarly book or project (print or electronic) on Southern California local history.

Articles

- The Doyce B. Nunis, Jr. Award honors the best demonstration of significant scholarship in the *Southern California Quarterly* by a rising historian.
- The Carl I. Wheat and Frank Wheat Award honors the best demonstration of significant scholarship in the *Southern California Quarterly* by an established historian.

Service

- The Denise and Jack Smith Community Enrichment Award honors an individual who has enriched the community of Los Angeles by their dedicated service and accomplishments.
- The Joseph O'Flaherty Teaching Award honors creative excellence in the teaching of history in grades K-12 in the schools of Southern California.
- The Fellows Award honors exceptional lifetime achievements that have brought distinction to history.

THE
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