

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: Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969

Other names/site number: Five Points Memorial; Obregon Park

Name of related multiple property listing: Latinos in Twentieth Century California MPS
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: Five Points Memorial, N. Indiana Street, Michigan Avenue, Obregon Park

City or town: Los Angeles; East Los Angeles 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Not For Publication: Vicinity: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 X 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 X 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 X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B ___ C ___ D

	
State Historic Preservation Officer	October 7, 2020
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>California State Office of Historic Preservation</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date

Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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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:) _____

Paul R. Lusignan
Signature of the Keeper

10/30/2020
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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>	structures
<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	objects
<u>8</u>	<u>24</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE/park

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE/park

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Earth, stone, metal, concrete, asphalt, granite, and wood

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 first Chicano Moratorium march occurred on December 20, 1969. It began at Five Points Memorial in the City of Los Angeles and ended at Obregon Park in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County known as East Los Angeles. From Five Points Memorial at the intersections of East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue (Chavez Avenue), North Indiana Street, and North Lorena Street, the route progresses south on North Indiana Street and continues east along Michigan Avenue, terminating at Eugene A. Obregon Park (Obregon Park). The route follows flat residential streets in a neighborhood of low-rise, predominantly single-family homes and passes the athletic fields of Belvedere Middle School before a steep downward slope southward leading to Obregon Park where the final rally of the march took place. Within the district's 17.5 acres are eight contributing resources—four sites and four objects—and twenty-four noncontributing resources—three buildings, twelve structures, and nine objects. The character of the route and the parks at the beginning and terminus of the route retain sufficient integrity to the date of the march to convey their significance.

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Narrative Description

Five Points Memorial

CONTRIBUTING: two sites, four objects
NONCONTRIBUTING: one object

Five Points Memorial contains two irregularly shaped, flat plots, Morin Memorial Square and the War Memorial, formed by five diagonally intersecting streets. Situated north and south of Chavez Avenue, the plots function as small parks with monuments to Mexican American members of the United States Armed Forces.

Morin Memorial Square is the northern, triangular-shaped plot, bounded by Lorena Street to the west, Indiana Street to the east, and Chavez Avenue to the south. A concrete sidewalk surrounds the plot. The oval-shaped interior section of the plot is bisected by a stone block paved walkway. Benches with ashlar patterned stone piers and wood seats are located one at each of the northern and southern ends of the oval. At the southern end of the plot, forming the base of the triangle and facing outwards towards Chavez Avenue is a cast stone block enclosed by a low decorative iron fence. The block features metal lettering reading "MORIN MEMORIAL SQUARE" and a bronze plaque with dedication information. A flagpole is located between the memorial block and southernmost bench. Minimal plantings include a bird of paradise bush at the northern tip of the triangle and sparse grass across the plot.

The War Memorial is an irregularly shaped plot bounded by Chavez Avenue to the north, Indiana Street to the east, and Brooklyn Place to the south. Stone paving frames the edges of the concrete sidewalk at the northeastern tip of the plot. A stone paved hexagon is located at the northeastern point of the plot and contains a low, circular ornamental iron railing and stone post fence enclosing a smooth plaster column set on a geometric base. The column has bronze plaques and applied ornament at its base. Polished granite memorial plaques set on raised concrete and stone bases surround the hexagon. A round, metal time capsule set in a granite base is located on the western half of the plot. The plot is covered with grass. Plaques at the War Memorial are dedicated to service men and women from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Contributing resources are those that were present at the time of the march. Five Points Memorial is associated with the activities of the march as a gathering space. Contributing resources were present at the time of the march and were not otherwise directly involved in the events of the march. Morin Memorial Square encompasses a contributing site and three contributing objects: the stone monument and two benches. The War Memorial is a contributing site with one contributing object, the monument. The noncontributing object is a time capsule added in May 1994, after the period of significance.¹

¹ George Ramos, "Traffic Debate Goes Round and Round," *Los Angeles Times*, April 21, 2001.

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March Route (approximately 1.1 miles long)

CONTRIBUTING: one site

The march route consists only of the street and does not include any of the surrounding buildings, structures, objects, or other resources alongside. The route progresses down the center of the right-of-way south on Indiana Street from Morin Memorial Square and continues east along Michigan Avenue. The route begins in a busy commercial and industrial setting, and almost immediately transitions to a residential setting. The route follows flat residential streets in a neighborhood of low-rise, predominantly single-family homes constructed in the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. There is no uniform street tree pattern. The streets are lined with concrete sidewalks. Along the route, outside of the boundary, are two large institutional buildings: a church at the northeast corner of Hicks Avenue and Belvedere Middle School at North Record Avenue. At the intersection of Michigan and Record Avenues, the route passes the southern boundary of Belvedere Middle School. Athletic fields and courts of Belvedere Middle School continue along the north side of Michigan Avenue. East of Belvedere Middle School the road slopes downward in a steep pitch to North Sunol Drive, the western boundary of Obregon Park.

Eugene A. Obregon Park

CONTRIBUTING: one site

NONCONTRIBUTING: three buildings, twelve structures, eight objects

Obregon Park is a seven-acre park on an irregularly shaped lot that is bounded to the north by Michigan Avenue, to the east by Marianna Avenue, and to the south by East First Street. It follows the curvature of Sunol Drive along its western boundary. Mature trees are scattered throughout the park and grass lawns separate recreational and athletic facilities, creating a shaded and green landscape.

The park contains numerous recreational facilities, including a basketball court at the northwest corner. A baseball diamond, surface parking lot, and batting cage are located along Michigan Avenue, the northern border. Across shared grass lawn, opposite the first baseball diamond, a second baseball diamond is located at the center of the park. The baseball diamonds are dirt and grass with chain link fence enclosing metal bleachers to either side of the home plate. At the northeast corner of the park are a swimming pool and changing facility as well as handball courts. The L-shaped concrete pool is surrounded by a high fence of vertical metal bars. The changing facility is a one-story concrete building with a rectangular plan and flat roof. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. The handball courts are immediately south of the swimming pool. There are four courts constructed of concrete. Sloping picnic areas along Marianna Avenue continue to the southeast corner.

The southwest corner of the park consists of a children's playground with fixed metal and plastic equipment, a gymnasium, and a concrete, low scale maintenance facility. The gymnasium is a one-story building sheathed in painted concrete bricks and covered by a flat roof. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. A second surface parking lot is located on the western side of the park, off Sunol Drive. All of the surface parking lots are finished with asphalt.

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Contributing resources are those that were present at the time of the march. Obregon Park is associated with the activities of the march as a gathering space. The only contributing resource present at the time of the march is the park (site).

Alterations and Noncontributing Resources

Alterations to Five Points Memorial since 1969 include additional plaques surrounding the memorial column and the noncontributing time capsule (object) at the southern end of the War Memorial plot. Some of the original plaques have been stolen, and most have been replaced in kind. The landscaped grass area at the southern end of the War Memorial plot was expanded between 1972 and 1980.²

Since the march on December 20, 1969, there have been no major changes to the street pattern followed by the marchers. The character of the streets along the route remains the same. Obregon Park was developed in the late 1960s. The park buildings were designed in 1967 by William Hirsch, an architect who worked primarily on City Water and Power buildings.³ The two surface parking lots (structures), swimming pool (structure) and changing facility (building), children's playground (structure), and maintenance facility (building) were all constructed by 1972.⁴

Obregon Park included three baseball diamonds in 1972. Two are extant (structures): a larger one to the northwest, laid out first, and a smaller one to the southeast. A third baseball diamond, at the southeast corner of the park, was removed by 1980 when the maintenance building was constructed at the same location.⁵ The gymnasium (building) was constructed in 1974.⁶ The four handball courts (structures) and picnic area with eight tables (objects) were constructed by 1980. The basketball court (structure) was constructed by 2003 and the batting cage (structure) was constructed by 2009.⁷ Obregon Park has been enlarged since the period of significance. In 1969, the southeastern section of the park that became the picnic area contained single-family residences. The southwestern section where the maintenance building is located contained a baseball diamond, since removed.

Integrity

The route of the first march of the Chicano Moratorium retains sufficient integrity as the site of a historic event to meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in the *Latinos in Twentieth Century California* Multiple Property Submission (MPS). The route retains integrity of *location*, as the beginning point, street pattern, and terminus of the march have not been moved from where they were located in 1969. The integrity of *setting* is intact, as the surrounding neighborhood is much

² "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed June 3, 2015, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

³ "Hirsch to Design East L.A. Project," *Los Angeles Times*, February 12, 1967.

⁴ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed November 14, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

⁵ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed November 14, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

⁶ "Obregon Park Gym," *Los Angeles Times*, March 31, 1974, B5.

⁷ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed July 31, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

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the same as it was during the period of significance: a low-rise residential neighborhood. Changes to the Five Points Memorial have not substantially altered its appearances or setting since 1969. The monuments retain integrity of *design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association*, as monuments dedicated to Mexican American members of the Armed Forces. While there have been alterations and additions to Obregon Park since 1969, the overall plan of the park has not been substantially revised since the march, and the minor changes do not compromise the integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. The route from Five Points Memorial, along Indiana Street and Michigan Avenue, ending at Obregon Park, retains the essential physical features that enable it to convey its historic significance as the location of the march on December 20, 1969.

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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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ETHNIC HERITAGE: Hispanic

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1969

Significant Dates

1969

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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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 Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969 is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Social History, Ethnic Heritage: Hispanic, and Politics/Government. The property meets the registration requirements for sites of historic events associated with the Chicano Moratorium of Los Angeles County context of the *Latinos in Twentieth Century California* MPS. The march from Five Points Memorial in the City of Los Angeles to Obregon Park in unincorporated East Los Angeles drew attention to the historic contributions of the Latino community to the United States military in past wars and to the disproportionate sacrifices of the community in the Vietnam War. The success of this march garnered public support and attention for the Chicano movement and subsequent Chicano Moratorium marches. The August 29, 1970 march drew Chicano activists from across the United States, unified in opposition to the Vietnam War and committed to the struggle for Chicano equality. The period of significance for the first Chicano Moratorium March is 1969, the year the march took place.

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

The December 20, 1969 march was the first large-scale Chicano antiwar protest in Los Angeles County. The march helped to mobilize support for the cause while energizing the base of the movement. Ultimately, this led to thousands of protestors participating in the August 29, 1970 march and rally, the largest protest in Mexican American history to date. Despite its tragic conclusion, the 1970 march was a pivotal moment in Chicano activism that catalyzed a much larger Mexican American political awakening.⁸

On November 15, 1969, anti-Vietnam War demonstrations were held in major cities across the country including, New York, Washington D.C., San Francisco, and Los Angeles. These demonstrations were organized by the nationally active Student Mobilizing Committee (also known as Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Southeast Asia or “the MOBE”).⁹ Chicanos participated in these events. However, the attitudes of these mostly Anglo groups convinced Chicano activists that they needed a Chicano group to oppose the war. Chicano activists felt condescension, if not outright discrimination, from the mainstream antiwar groups.

Several groups converged to form the Chicano Moratorium Committee. One of these groups was the Crusade for Justice, based in Denver and led by author Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales. Gonzales’ group was founded in 1966. Another group, Chale con el Draft (“to hell with the

⁸ National Register of Historic Places, *Latinos in Twentieth Century California*, Multiple Counties, California, National Register #64501239, Amended 2020, Section E, 147-149; Section F, 179-182.

⁹ Ernesto Chávez, “¡Mi Raza Primero!”: *Nationalism, Identity, and Insurgency in the Chicano Movement in Los Angeles, 1966-1978* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002), 64.

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draft”) was founded by Rosalío Muñoz¹⁰ and Ramsés Noriega in Los Angeles. Its first public antiwar act took place on September 16, 1969, Mexican Independence Day, when cofounder Muñoz burned his draft card at the Army induction center in downtown Los Angeles.¹¹ Muñoz and Gonzales, the leaders of these two groups, met at a symposium on Chicano Liberation held at California State College Hayward in November 1969. Muñoz proposed creating a Chicano antiwar committee with a national focus modeled on the Student Mobilizing Committee.¹² Gonzales embraced the idea. In early December 1969, the Crusade for Justice and Chale con el Draft gathered several other Chicano activists in Denver to discuss the formation of a national group. The Chicano Moratorium Committee grew out of their meeting in Denver. David Sánchez, prime minister of the Brown Berets, and Rosalío Muñoz served as co-chairs. At the Denver conference, the Moratorium Committee decided to hold a small demonstration in Los Angeles on December 20, 1969 to build momentum for a larger demonstration in the summer of 1970.¹³

The December 20, 1969 demonstration was much larger than anticipated with over 2,000 participants attending the demonstration in East Los Angeles.¹⁴ In its publicity prior to the march, the Moratorium Committee created materials citing statistics from Ralph Guzman’s report demonstrating the disproportionate death rate of Mexican American soldiers in Vietnam.¹⁵ Fliers used dramatic language, encouraging people to turn out to “honor our Chicano brothers, relatives, and loved ones who have been channeled into the death pits of Vietnam.”¹⁶ All fliers were in Spanish and English.¹⁷

The march followed a route between Five Points, a memorial dedicated to Mexican Americans who died in World War II, and Eugene A. Obregon Park, named after a Mexican American Marine and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, who died in the Korean War. Obregon was born in Los Angeles and enlisted in the Marine Corps at the age of 17. Following his training in San Diego, he was assigned to the Marine Corps Supply Depot in Barstow, where he served as a fireman until the outbreak of the war. He was transferred to the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade and served as a machine gun ammunition carrier. During an assault on the city of Seoul, he shielded a fallen friend with his body until fatally wounded by enemy machine gun fire.¹⁸ The

¹⁰ Muñoz was the first Chicano student body president at the University of California-Los Angeles, elected on November 4, 1968.

¹¹ Lorena Oropeza, “The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam,” Paper presented at the Latin American Studies Association (Washington D.C., September 1995), 10.

¹² Chávez, “¡Mi Raza Primero!,” 64.

¹³ Chávez, “¡Mi Raza Primero!,” 65.

¹⁴ Chávez, “¡Mi Raza Primero!,” 65.

¹⁵ Stanley Williford, “Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms,” *Los Angeles Times*, December 21, 1969, D8.

¹⁶ Lorena Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!: Chicano Protest and Patriotism During the Vietnam War Era* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005), 140.

¹⁷ Jaime Pelayo, “The Chicano Movement and the Vietnam War,” (unpublished senior thesis, Yale University, 1997), 25, located at Gloria Arellanes Papers California State University, Los Angeles.

¹⁸ “Private First Class Eugene Arnold Obregon, USMC (Deceased),” *United States Marine Corps History Division*, accessed January 13, 2014, https://www.mcu.usmc.mil/historydivision/Pages/Who's%20Who/M-O/obergon_ea.aspx.

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march sites were chosen to initiate a dialogue about the significant contributions and role of the Mexican American community in times of war.¹⁹

The military tradition was idealized in the Mexican American community and the Moratorium Committee had to reconcile historic perspectives with its antiwar stance. The locations of the first march embraced the legacy of World War II and Korean War heroism.²⁰ Mass Mexican migration in 1910s and 1920s led to a large conscriptable population of young men from the community during World War II. Mexican American servicemen emerged from World War II with a feeling that legitimacy in the United States could be gained through military service.²¹ The Moratorium Committee, according to Muñoz, had to rebrand antiwar protest as honorable and resisting the draft as an act of bravery.²² A theme of the Moratorium Committee effort was to ask Mexican American men to question the traditional value they had placed on military service for the United States and dying for a country where they were subject to discrimination.²³ Committee members tried to foster identification with a cross-class, border-spanning phenomenon of Chicano cultural nationalism. This concept was articulated as Aztlán: a place encompassing the people and territories ceded to the United States in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo following the Mexican American War.²⁴ Aztlán focused on a militant Mexican revolutionary tradition instead of the heritage associated with service in the United States armed forces.

The march began at noon at the Five Points Memorial with a reading of the names of Mexican Americans who died in combat in the Vietnam War. Following the reading, marchers proceeded south on Indiana Street, following six Chicano men carrying a symbolic coffin. Behind them, people "...held a large blood-splattered portrait of Private J. J. Montes, a representative of the many Chicanos who had died in Vietnam."²⁵ Seventy Brown Berets led the rest of the march down Indiana Street and east on Michigan Avenue to Obregon Park.²⁶ About 2,000 people gathered at the park, and Brown Beret Prime Minister David Sánchez noted this was "the first mass rally in East L.A. in history."²⁷

Dramatic moments, including the roll call of names at the beginning of the march, were inspired by similar events at the national protests the previous November. The Chicano Moratorium organizers broadened the scope of their antiwar protest to emphasize Chicano cultural

¹⁹ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 25.

²⁰ Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!*, 12.

²¹ Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 8.

²² Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 16.

²³ Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 17.

²⁴ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 14.

²⁵ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 26.

²⁶ Williford, *Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms*.

²⁷ The numbers vary in different sources: Oropeza claimed it was "some 2,000" (Oropeza, *¡Raza Si! ¡Guerra No!* 148); David Sánchez claimed 5,000 (Sánchez, *Expedition through Aztlán*, 4); the *Belvedere Citizen* claimed it was 2,500 (Acuña, *A Community Under Siege*, 199).

David Sánchez Oral History Interview, UCLA Oral History Collection, accessed June 1, 2015, <http://oralhistory.library.ucla.edu/viewItem.do?ark=21198/zz002hkcv5&title=%20Sanchez,%20David>.

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nationalism by featuring a variety of speakers at the Obregon Park rally after the march, including representatives from the United Farm Workers, a group led by activist César Chávez. The organizers emphasized the differences between the Chicano community and the other groups protesting the Vietnam War.²⁸ They used the war as a rallying point to begin a dialogue about the inequality of Chicano people in American society at large. This set the Chicano Moratorium and its mission apart from general anti-Vietnam War sentiments.

The success of the rally on December 20, 1969 encouraged the Moratorium Committee, leading to the organization of future events and marches in East Los Angeles.²⁹ Membership increased and the activists attracted individuals and organizations who previously dismissed them in the wave of general antiwar activities sweeping the United States. The rally on December 20, 1969 was a significant turning point for the Chicano Moratorium, building enthusiasm and attracting national attention, which they channeled into organizing the National Chicano Moratorium march on August 29, 1970.³⁰

²⁸ Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!*, 143.

²⁹ Marguerite V. Marin, *Social Protest in an Urban Barrio: A Student of the Chicano Movement, 1966-1974* (New York: University Press of America, 1991), 206.

³⁰ Chávez, “*¡Mi Raza Primero!*,” 65.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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Oropeza, Lorena. *¡Raza Si, Guerra No!: Chicano Protest and Patriotism during the Viet Name War Era*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005.

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“Private First Class Eugene Arnold Obregon, USMC (Deceased),” *United States Marine Corps History Division*, accessed January 13, 2014,
https://www.mcu.usmc.mil/historydivision/Pages/Who's%20Who/M-O/obergon_ea.aspx.

UCLA Oral History Collection, Oral History Interviews with David Sánchez, 2015.

Williford, Stanley. “Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms.” *Los Angeles Times*, December 21, 1969, D8.

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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: California State University, Los Angeles;
University of California, Los Angeles

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 17.5 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Morin Memorial Square | Latitude: 34.040615 | Longitude: -118.192667 |
| 2. War Memorial | Latitude: 34.040214 | Longitude: -118.192712 |
| 3. Indiana and Chavez | Latitude: 34.040455 | Longitude: -118.192460 |
| 4. Indiana and Michigan | Latitude: 34.038081 | Longitude: -118.192434 |
| 5. Belvedere Middle School | Latitude: 34.038099 | Longitude: -118.180629 |
| 6. Obregon Park | Latitude: 34.037699 | Longitude: -118.177071 |

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

The nominated parcel is restricted to the wide public-right-of-way of the included streets along which the 1969 march proceeded and does not include private property or sidewalk areas. The boundary also fully encompasses the bounds of the three historic parks (Morin Memorial Square, War Memorial at Five Points, and Obregon Park [See attached maps]). From Five Points Memorial at the intersection of East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue, North Indiana Street, and North Lorena Street in the City of Los Angeles, the march route continued on North Indiana Street and Michigan Avenue, and terminated at Obregon Park in unincorporated East Los Angeles.

In the City of Los Angeles, sidewalk areas are owned by the adjacent property and are not part of the public right-of-way. Thus, the portion of the nominated parcel located in the City of Los Angeles is restricted to the wide public right-of-way of the included streets along which the 1969 march proceeded and does not incorporate private property or sidewalk areas. The specific portions excluded (located within the City of Los Angeles) are the east and west block-faces of North Lorena Street, the north and south block-faces of East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue west of its intersection with North Indiana Street, and the west block-face of North Indiana Street.

In the County of Los Angeles, sidewalks are owned and maintained by Public Works. The portion of the nominated parcel located in the County of Los Angeles, outside of the City of Los Angeles, is restricted to the wide public right-of-way of the included streets and sidewalks along which the 1969 march proceeded and does not include private property.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The district boundary follows the route of the first Chicano Moratorium march, December 20, 1969. For nomination logistics, the boundary is restricted to the public-right-of-way, rather than incorporating the full streetscapes.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Allison M. Lyons, Associate Architectural Historian, Amanda Yoder Duane, Associate Architectural Historian, Audrey von Ahrens, Architectural Historian I

organization: GPA Consulting, Inc.

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

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

e-mail: allison@gpaconsulting-us.com

telephone: (310) 792-2690

date: August 2016; Revised April 2017, November 2017; September 2019, November 2019

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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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.)

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: Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
City or Vicinity: Los Angeles
County: Los Angeles County
State: California
Photographer: Allison M. Lyons
Date Photographed: June 2, 2015

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

- 1 of 17 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing south
- 2 of 17 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing northeast
- 3 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing south
- 4 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest
- 5 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest
- 6 of 17 Michigan Avenue at N. Alma Avenue, camera facing east
- 7 of 17 Michigan Avenue at N. Rowan Avenue, camera facing east

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969

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- 8 of 17 Michigan Avenue between N. Herbert and N. Record avenues, camera facing east
- 9 of 17 Michigan Avenue, Belvedere Middle School, camera facing west
- 10 of 17 Michigan Avenue, downward slope towards Obregon Park, camera facing southeast
- 11 of 17 Obregon Park, baseball diamonds, camera facing east
- 12 of 17 Obregon Park, children's playground (foreground) and gymnasium (background), camera facing southeast
- 13 of 17 Obregon Park, maintenance building south elevation, camera facing north
- 14 of 17 Obregon Park, gymnasium south elevation, camera facing northwest
- 15 of 17 Obregon Park, handball courts, camera facing west
- 16 of 17 Obregon Park, swimming pool north and west perimeter fence, camera facing southwest
- 17 of 17 Obregon Park, batting cage (left) and baseball diamonds, camera facing 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

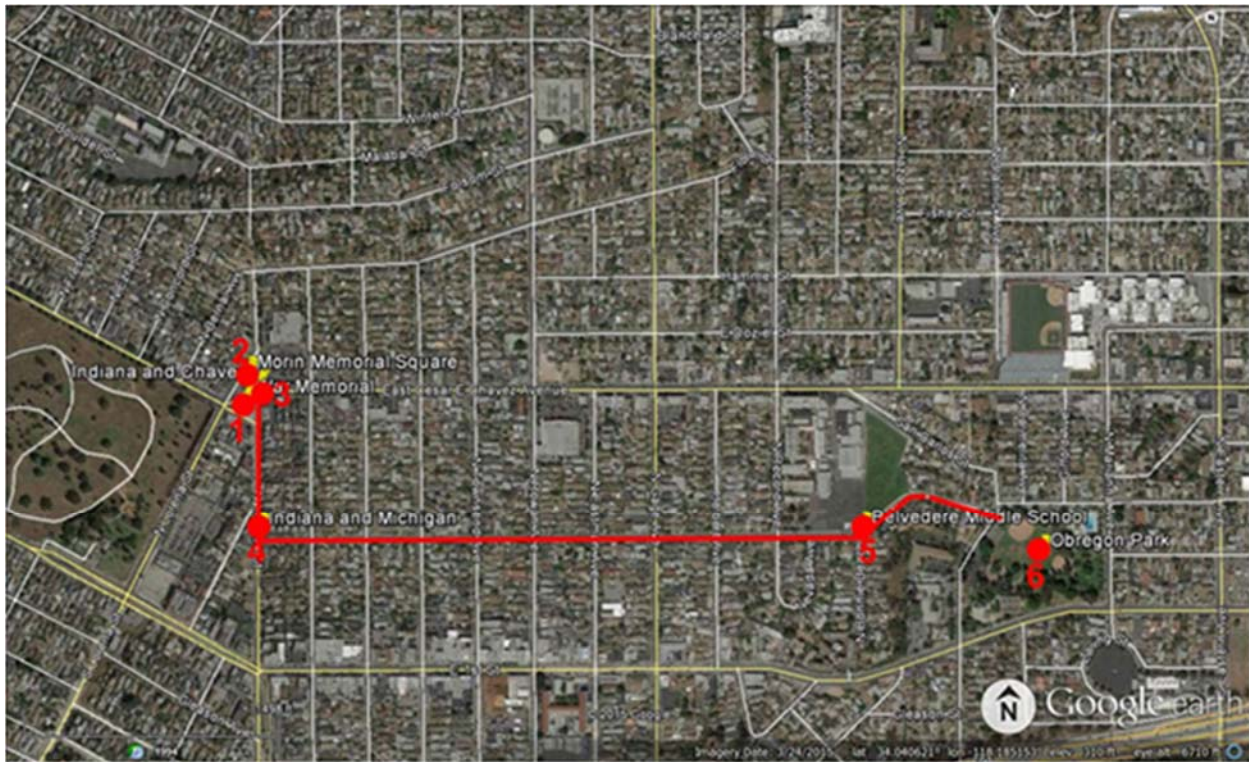
The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201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

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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Location Map

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Morin Memorial Square | Latitude: 34.040615 | Longitude: -118.192667 |
| 2. War Memorial | Latitude: 34.040214 | Longitude: -118.192712 |
| 3. Indiana and Chavez | Latitude: 34.040455 | Longitude: -118.192460 |
| 4. Indiana and Michigan | Latitude: 34.038081 | Longitude: -118.192434 |
| 5. Belvedere Middle School | Latitude: 34.038099 | Longitude: -118.180629 |
| 6. Obregon Park | Latitude: 34.037699 | Longitude: -118.177071 |



Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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Sketch Map/Photo Key



Base maps courtesy of Los Angeles County Assessor

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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Photo 1 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing south



Photo 2 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing northeast



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Photo 3 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing south



Photo 4 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest



Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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Photo 5 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest



Photo 6 Michigan Avenue at N. Alma Avenue, camera facing east



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Photo 7 Michigan Avenue at N. Rowan Avenue, camera facing east



Photo 8 Michigan Avenue between N. Herbert and N. Record Avenues, camera facing east



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Photo 9 Michigan Avenue, Belvedere Middle School, camera facing west



Photo 10 Michigan Avenue, downward slope towards Obregon Park, camera facing southeast



Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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Photo 11 Obregon Park, baseball diamonds, camera facing east



Photo 12 Obregon Park, children's playground (foreground) and gymnasium (background), camera facing southeast



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Photo 13 Obregon Park, maintenance building south elevation, camera facing north



Photo 14 Obregon Park, gymnasium south elevation, camera facing northwest



Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
Name of Property

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Photo 15 Obregon Park, handball courts, camera facing west



Photo 16 Obregon Park, swimming pool north and west perimeter fence, camera facing southwest



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Photo 17 Obregon Park, batting cage (left) and baseball diamonds, camera facing south





LA VISTA

COIN LA VISTA

MACCA

MADEIRA

DIARIAMENTE

LOS 5 PUNTOS

11120



El Super

NORTH BERNARDINE AVENUE



DIARIAMENTE LOS 5 PUNTOS

LOS 5 PUNTOS
SERVICIOS DE CONSTRUCCION
RENOVO DE CIMENTACIONES
RENOVO DE TUBERIAS
RENOVO DE CERRAJES
RENOVO DE PUERTAS
RENOVO DE VENTANAS
RENOVO DE TEJADOS
RENOVO DE PISOS
RENOVO DE PAREDES
RENOVO DE CIELOS
RENOVO DE BARRANDEROS
RENOVO DE ESCALERAS
RENOVO DE PASADIZOS
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE GARAJE
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE ALMACEN
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE OFICINA
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE BARRIO
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE CALLE
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE INTERIORES
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE EXTERIORES
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE VENTANA
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE TUBERIA
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE CIMENTACION
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE CERRAJE
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE CERRAJE
RENOVO DE PUERTAS DE CERRAJE

Indiana St

Lorena St



STOP

PED XING





LOS 5 PUNTOS
COMIDA MEXICANA
TAMALES DIARIAMENTE
CARNITAS - BURRITOS - TORTAS
MENDUDO - CHILES - MASA PARA TAMALES
TORTILLAS RECHAS A MANO

5 PUNTOS





DIP

D











OBREGON PARK



BURNS & OREGON COUNTY PARK
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

OBREGON PARK









National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, Director

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95816-7100
Telephone: (916) 445-7000 FAX: (916) 445-7053
calshpo.ohp@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



May 24, 2018

J. Paul Loether
Chief, National Register of Historic Places/National Historic Landmarks Program
Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20240

Subject: **Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County MPS
Los Angeles County, California
National Register of Historic Places MPDF and Four (4) Nominations**

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the CHICANO MORATORIUM IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY Multiple Property Documentation Form and nominations for the CHICANO MORATORIUM MARCH DECEMBER 20, 1969, NATIONAL CHICANO MORATORIUM MARCH AUGUST 29, 1970, BROWN BERET HEADQUARTERS, and EL BARRIO FREE CLINIC to the National Register of Historic Places. On May 17, 2018 in Palo Alto, California, the California State Historical Resources Commission unanimously approved the cover documentation and found the properties eligible for the National Register at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Social History, Ethnic Heritage: Hispanic, and Politics/Government. The properties satisfy Criteria Consideration G on the basis of sufficient scholarship to document their exceptional importance.

Properties are nominated on behalf of the Los Angeles Conservancy. Three letters of support have been received to date. If you have any questions regarding these nominations, for the MPDF and march districts, please contact Amy Crain of my staff at (916) 445-7009; for the buildings, please contact William Burg at (916) 445-7004.

Sincerely,

Jenan Saunders
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MP 2655

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: Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969

Other names/site number: Five Points Memorial; Obregon Park

Name of related multiple property listing:

Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles [primary]; Latinos in Twentieth Century California [secondary]

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

2. Location

Street & number: Five Points Memorial, N. Indiana Street, Michigan Avenue, Obregon Park

City or town: East Los Angeles 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

Returned

	<u>5/24/18</u>
Jenan Saunders/Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	Date
<u>California State Office of Historic Preservation</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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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

Returned

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>	structures
<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	objects
<u>8</u>	<u>24</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE/park

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE/park

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Earth, stone, metal, concrete, asphalt, granite, and wood

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 first Chicano Moratorium march occurred on December 20, 1969. It began at Five Points Memorial in the City of Los Angeles and ended at Obregon Park in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County known as East Los Angeles. From Five Points Memorial at the intersections of East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue (Chavez Avenue), North Indiana Street, and North Lorena Street, the route progresses south on North Indiana Street and continues east along Michigan Avenue, terminating at Eugene A. Obregon Park (Obregon Park). The route follows flat residential streets in a neighborhood of low-rise, predominantly single-family homes and passes the athletic fields of Belvedere Middle School before a steep downward slope southward leading to Obregon Park where the final rally of the march took place. Within the district's 17.5 acres are eight contributing resources—four sites and four objects—and twenty-four noncontributing resources—three buildings, twelve structures, and nine objects. The character of the route and the parks at the beginning and terminus of the route retain sufficient integrity to the date of the march to convey their significance.

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Narrative Description

Five Points Memorial

CONTRIBUTING: two sites, four objects
NONCONTRIBUTING: one object

Five Points Memorial contains two irregularly shaped, flat plots, Morin Memorial Square and the War Memorial, formed by five diagonally intersecting streets. Situated north and south of Chavez Avenue, the plots function as small parks with monuments to Mexican American members of the United States Armed Forces.

Morin Memorial Square is the northern, triangular-shaped plot, bounded by Lorena Street to the west, Indiana Street to the east, and Chavez Avenue to the south. A concrete sidewalk surrounds the plot. The oval-shaped interior section of the plot is bisected by a stone block paved walkway. Benches with ashlar patterned stone piers and wood seats are located one at each of the northern and southern ends of the oval. At the southern end of the plot, forming the base of the triangle and facing outwards towards Chavez Avenue is a cast stone block enclosed by a low decorative iron fence. The block features metal lettering reading "MORIN MEMORIAL SQUARE" and a bronze plaque with dedication information. A flagpole is located between the memorial block and southernmost bench. Minimal plantings include a bird of paradise bush at the northern tip of the triangle and sparse grass across the plot.

The War Memorial is an irregularly shaped plot bounded by Chavez Avenue to the north, Indiana Street to the east, and Brooklyn Place to the south. Stone paving frames the edges of the concrete sidewalk at the northeastern tip of the plot. A stone paved hexagon is located at the northeastern point of the plot and contains a low, circular ornamental iron railing and stone post fence enclosing a smooth plaster column set on a geometric base. The column has bronze plaques and applied ornament at its base. Polished granite memorial plaques set on raised concrete and stone bases surround the hexagon. A round, metal time capsule set in a granite base is located on the western half of the plot. The plot is covered with grass. Plaques at the War Memorial are dedicated to service men and women from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Contributing resources are those that were present at the time of the march. Five Points Memorial is associated with the activities of the march as a gathering space. Contributing resources were present at the time of the march, and were not otherwise directly involved in the events of the march. Morin Memorial Square encompasses a contributing site and three contributing objects: the stone monument and two benches. The War Memorial is a contributing site with one contributing object, the monument. The noncontributing object is a time capsule added in May 1994, after the period of significance.¹

¹ George Ramos, "Traffic Debate Goes Round and Round," *Los Angeles Times*, April 21, 2001.

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969

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March Route (approximately 1.1 miles long)

CONTRIBUTING: one site

The march route consists only of the street and does not include any of the surrounding buildings, structures, objects, or other resources alongside. The route progresses down the center of the right-of-way south on Indiana Street from Morin Memorial Square and continues east along Michigan Avenue. The route begins in a busy commercial and industrial setting, and almost immediately transitions to a residential setting. The route follows flat residential streets in a neighborhood of low-rise, predominantly single-family homes constructed in the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. There is no uniform street tree pattern. The streets are lined with concrete sidewalks. Along the route, outside of the boundary, are two large institutional buildings: a church at the northeast corner of Hicks Avenue and Belvedere Middle School at North Record Avenue. At the intersection of Michigan and Record Avenues, the route passes the southern boundary of Belvedere Middle School. Athletic fields and courts of Belvedere Middle School continue along the north side of Michigan Avenue. East of Belvedere Middle School the road slopes downward in a steep pitch to North Sunol Drive, the western boundary of Obregon Park.

Eugene A. Obregon Park

CONTRIBUTING: one site

NONCONTRIBUTING: three buildings, twelve structures, eight objects

Obregon Park is a seven-acre park on an irregularly shaped lot that is bounded to the north by Michigan Avenue, to the east by Marianna Avenue, and to the south by East First Street. It follows the curvature of Sunol Drive along its western boundary. Mature trees are scattered throughout the park and grass lawns separate recreational and athletic facilities, creating a shaded and green landscape.

The park contains numerous recreational facilities, including a basketball court at the northwest corner. A baseball diamond, surface parking lot, and batting cage are located along Michigan Avenue, the northern border. Across shared grass lawn, opposite the first baseball diamond, a second baseball diamond is located at the center of the park. The baseball diamonds are dirt and grass with chain link fence enclosing metal bleachers to either side of the home plate. At the northeast corner of the park are a swimming pool and changing facility as well as handball courts. The L-shaped concrete pool is surrounded by a high fence of vertical metal bars. The changing facility is a one-story concrete building with a rectangular plan and flat roof. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. The handball courts are immediately south of the swimming pool. There are four courts constructed of concrete. Sloping picnic areas along Marianna Avenue continue to the southeast corner.

The southwest corner of the park consists of a children's playground with fixed metal and plastic equipment, a gymnasium, and a concrete, low scale maintenance facility. The gymnasium is a one-story building sheathed in painted concrete bricks and covered by a flat roof. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. A second surface parking lot is located on the western side of the park, off Sunol Drive. All of the surface parking lots are finished with asphalt.

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969

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Contributing resources are those that were present at the time of the march. Obregon Park is associated with the activities of the march as a gathering space. The only contributing resource present at the time of the march is the park (site).

Alterations and Noncontributing Resources

Alterations to Five Points Memorial since 1969 include additional plaques surrounding the memorial column and the noncontributing time capsule (object) at the southern end of the War Memorial plot. Some of the original plaques have been stolen, but most have been replaced in kind. The landscaped grass area at the southern end of the War Memorial plot was expanded between 1972 and 1980.²

Since the march on December 20, 1969, there have been no major changes to the street pattern followed by the marchers. The character of the streets along the route remains the same. Obregon Park was developed in the late 1960s. The park buildings were designed in 1967 by William Hirsch, an architect who worked primarily on City Water and Power buildings.³ The two surface parking lots (structures), swimming pool (structure) and changing facility (building), children's playground (structure), and maintenance facility (building) were all constructed by 1972.⁴

Obregon Park included three baseball diamonds in 1972. Two are extant (structures): a larger one to the northwest, laid out first, and a smaller one to the southeast. A third baseball diamond, at the southeast corner of the park, was removed by 1980 when the maintenance building was constructed at the same location.⁵ The gymnasium (building) was constructed in 1974.⁶ The four handball courts (structures) and picnic area with eight tables (objects) were constructed by 1980. The basketball court (structure) was constructed by 2009 and the batting cage (structure) was constructed by 2009.⁷ Obregon Park has been enlarged since the period of significance. In 1969, the southeastern section of the park that became the picnic area contained single-family residences. The southwestern section where the maintenance building is located contained a baseball diamond, since removed.

Integrity

The route of the first march of the Chicano Moratorium retains sufficient integrity as the site of a historic event to meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in the primary *Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County Multiple Property Submission (MPS)* as well as the secondary *Latinos in Twentieth Century California MPS*. The route retains integrity of location, as the beginning point, street pattern, and terminus of the march have not been moved from

² "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed June 3, 2015, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

³ "Hirsch to Design East L.A. Project," *Los Angeles Times*, February 12, 1967.

⁴ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed November 14, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

⁵ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed November 14, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

⁶ "Obregon Park Gym," *Los Angeles Times*, March 31, 1974, B5.

⁷ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed July 31, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

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where they were located in 1969. The integrity of setting is intact, as the surrounding neighborhood is much the same as it was during the period of significance: a low-rise residential neighborhood. Changes to the Five Points Memorial have not substantially altered its appearances or setting since 1969. The monuments retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, as monuments dedicated to Mexican American members of the Armed Forces. While there have been alterations and additions to Obregon Park since 1969, the overall plan of the park has not been substantially revised since the march, and the minor changes do not compromise the integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. The route from Five Points Memorial, along Indiana Street and Michigan Avenue, ending at Obregon Park, retains the essential physical features that enable it to convey its historic significance as the location of the march on December 20, 1969.

Returned

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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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

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ETHNIC HERITAGE: Hispanic

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1969

Significant Dates

1969

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Returned

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969

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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 Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969 is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Social History, Ethnic Heritage: Hispanic, and Politics/Government. The property meets the registration requirements for sites of historic events in the context of "Making A Democracy: Latino Struggles for Inclusion" in both the primary *Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County* Multiple Property Submission (MPS) as well as the secondary *Latinos in Twentieth Century California* MPS. The march from Five Points Memorial in the City of Los Angeles to Obregon Park in unincorporated East Los Angeles drew attention to the historic contributions of the Latino community to the United States military in past wars and to the disproportionate sacrifices of the community in the Vietnam War. The success of this march garnered public support and attention for the Chicano movement and subsequent Chicano Moratorium marches. The August 29, 1970 march drew Chicano activists from across the United States, unified in opposition to the Vietnam War and committed to the struggle for Chicano equality. The period of significance for the first Chicano Moratorium March is 1969, the year the march took place. As an event sufficiently studied by scholars to determine its exceptional importance to the County of Los Angeles, the property meets Criteria Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years.

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

The December 20, 1969 march was the first large-scale Chicano antiwar protest in Los Angeles County. The march helped to mobilize support for the cause while energizing the base of the movement. Ultimately, this led to thousands of protestors participating in the August 29, 1970 march and rally, the largest protest in Mexican American history to date. Despite its tragic conclusion, the 1970 march was a pivotal moment in Chicano activism that catalyzed a much larger Mexican American political awakening.⁸

On November 15, 1969, anti-Vietnam War demonstrations were held in major cities across the country including, New York, Washington D.C., San Francisco, and Los Angeles. These demonstrations were organized by the nationally active Student Mobilizing Committee (also known as Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Southeast Asia or "the MOBE").⁹ Chicanos participated in these events. However, the attitudes of these mostly Anglo groups convinced Chicano activists that they needed a Chicano group to oppose the war. Chicano activists felt condescension, if not outright discrimination, from the mainstream antiwar groups.

Several groups converged to form the Chicano Moratorium Committee. One of these groups was the Crusade for Justice, based in Denver and led by author Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales.

⁸ Chicano Moratorium MPDF, E 3-5, F 15-17.

⁹ Ernesto Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*": Nationalism, Identity, and Insurgency in the Chicano Movement in Los Angeles, 1966-1978 (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002), 64.

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Gonzales' group was founded in 1966. Another group, Chale con el Draft ("to hell with the draft") was founded by Rosalío Muñoz¹⁰ and Ramsés Noriega in Los Angeles. Its first public antiwar act took place on September 16, 1969, Mexican Independence Day, when cofounder Muñoz burned his draft card at the Army induction center in downtown Los Angeles.¹¹ Muñoz and Gonzales, the leaders of these two groups, met at a symposium on Chicano Liberation held at California State College Hayward in November 1969. Muñoz proposed creating a Chicano antiwar committee with a national focus modeled on the Student Mobilizing Committee.¹² Gonzales embraced the idea. In early December 1969, the Crusade for Justice and Chale con el Draft gathered several other Chicano activists in Denver to discuss the formation of a national group. The Chicano Moratorium Committee grew out of their meeting in Denver. David Sánchez, prime minister of the Brown Berets, and Rosalío Muñoz served as co-chairs. At the Denver conference, the Moratorium Committee decided to hold a small demonstration in Los Angeles on December 20, 1969 to build momentum for a larger demonstration in the summer of 1970.¹³

The December 20, 1969 demonstration was much larger than anticipated with over 2,000 participants attending the demonstration in East Los Angeles.¹⁴ In its publicity prior to the march, the Moratorium Committee created materials citing statistics from Ralph Guzman's report demonstrating the disproportionate death rate of Mexican American soldiers in Vietnam.¹⁵ Fliers used dramatic language, encouraging people to turn out to "honor our Chicano brothers, relatives, and loved ones who have been channeled into the death pits of Vietnam."¹⁶ All fliers were in Spanish and English.¹⁷

The march followed a route between Five Points, a memorial dedicated to Mexican Americans who died in World War II, and Eugene A. Obregon Park, named after a Mexican American Marine and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, who died in the Korean War. Obregon was born in Los Angeles and enlisted in the Marine Corps at the age of 17. Following his training in San Diego, he was assigned to the Marine Corps Supply Depot in Barstow, where he served as a fireman until the outbreak of the war. He was transferred to the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade and served as a machine gun ammunition carrier. During an assault on the city of Seoul, he shielded a fallen friend with his body until fatally wounded by enemy machine gun fire.¹⁸ The

¹⁰ Muñoz was the first Chicano student body president at the University of California-Los Angeles, elected on November 4, 1968.

¹¹ Lorena Oropeza, "The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam," Paper presented at the Latin American Studies Association (Washington D.C., September 1995), 10.

¹² Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*," 64.

¹³ Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*," 65.

¹⁴ Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*," 65.

¹⁵ Stanley Williford, "Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Farms," *Los Angeles Times*, December 21, 1969, D8.

¹⁶ Lorena Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!: Chicano Protest and Patriotism During the Vietnam War Era* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005), 140.

¹⁷ Jaime Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement and the Vietnam War," (unpublished senior thesis, Yale University, 1997), 25, located at Gloria Arellanes Papers California State University, Los Angeles.

¹⁸ "Private First Class Eugene Arnold Obregon, USMC (Deceased)," *United States Marine Corps History Division*, accessed January 13, 2014, https://www.mcu.usmc.mil/historydivision/Pages/Who's%20Who/M-O/obergon_ea.aspx.

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march sites were chosen to initiate a dialogue about the significant contributions and role of the Mexican American community in times of war.¹⁹

The military tradition was idealized in the Mexican American community and the Moratorium Committee had to reconcile historic perspectives with its antiwar stance. The locations of the first march embraced the legacy of World War II and Korean War heroism.²⁰ Mass Mexican migration in 1910s and 1920s led to a large conscriptable population of young men from the community during World War II. Mexican American servicemen emerged from World War II with a feeling that legitimacy in the United States could be gained through military service.²¹ The Moratorium Committee, according to Muñoz, had to rebrand antiwar protest as honorable and resisting the draft as an act of bravery.²² A theme of the Moratorium Committee effort was to ask Mexican American men to question the traditional value they had placed on military service for the United States and dying for a country where they were subject to discrimination.²³ Committee members tried to foster identification with a cross-class, border-spanning phenomenon of Chicano cultural nationalism. This concept was articulated as Aztlán: a place encompassing the people and territories ceded to the United States in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo following the Mexican American War.²⁴ Aztlán focused on a militant Mexican revolutionary tradition instead of the heritage associated with service in the United States armed forces.

The march began at noon at the Five Points Memorial with a reading of the names of Mexican Americans who died in combat in the Vietnam War. Following the reading, marchers proceeded south on Indiana Street, following six Chicano men carrying a symbolic coffin. Behind them, people "...held a large blood-splattered portrait of Private J. J. Montes, a representative of the many Chicanos who had died in Vietnam."²⁵ Seventy Brown Berets led the rest of the march down Indiana Street and east on Michigan Avenue to Obregon Park.²⁶ About 2,000 people gathered at the park, and Brown Beret Prime Minister David Sánchez noted this was "the first mass rally in East L.A. in history."²⁷

Dramatic moments, including the roll call of names at the beginning of the march, were inspired by similar events at the national protests the previous November. The Chicano Moratorium organizers broadened the scope of their antiwar protest to emphasize Chicano cultural

¹⁹ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 25.

²⁰ Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!*, 12.

²¹ Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 8.

²² Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 16.

²³ Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 17.

²⁴ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 14.

²⁵ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 26.

²⁶ Williford, *Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms*.

²⁷ The numbers vary in different sources: Oropeza claimed it was "some 2,000" (Oropeza, *¡Raza Si! ¡Guerra No!* 148); David Sánchez claimed 5,000 (Sánchez, *Expedition through Aztlán*, 4); the *Belvedere Citizen* claimed it was 2,500 (Acuña, *A Community Under Siege*, 199).

David Sánchez Oral History Interview, UCLA Oral History Collection, accessed June 1, 2015,

<http://oralhistory.library.ucla.edu/viewItem.do?ark=21198/zz002hkc5&title=%20Sanchez,%20David>.

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nationalism by featuring a variety of speakers at the Obregon Park rally after the march, including representatives from the United Farm Workers, a group led by activist César Chávez. The organizers emphasized the differences between the Chicano community and the other groups protesting the Vietnam War.²⁸ They used the war as a rallying point to begin a dialogue about the inequality of Chicano people in American society at large. This set the Chicano Moratorium and its mission apart from general anti-Vietnam War sentiments.

The success of the rally on December 20, 1969 encouraged the Moratorium Committee, leading to the organization of future events and marches in East Los Angeles.²⁹ Membership increased and the activists attracted individuals and organizations who previously dismissed them in the wave of general antiwar activities sweeping the United States. The rally on December 20, 1969 was a significant turning point for the Chicano Moratorium, building enthusiasm and attracting national attention, which they channeled into organizing the National Chicano Moratorium march on August 29, 1970.³⁰

Returned

²⁸ Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!*, 143.

²⁹ Marguerite V. Marin, *Social Protest in an Urban Barrio: A Student of the Chicano Movement, 1966-1974* (New York: University Press of America, 1991), 206.

³⁰ Chávez, “*¡Mi Raza Primero!*,” 65.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Chávez, Ernesto. “*¡Mi Raza Primero!*”: *Nationalism, Identity, and Insurgency in the Chicano Movement in Los Angeles, 1966-1978*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002.

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“Hirsch to Design East L.A. Project,” *Los Angeles Times*, February 12, 1967.

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<http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

Marin, Marguerite V. *Social Protest in an Urban Barrio: A Student of the Chicano Movement, 1966-1974*. New York: University Press of America, 1991.

“Obregon Park Gym,” *Los Angeles Times*, March 31, 1974, B5.

Oropeza, Lorena. *¡Raza Si, Guerra No!: Chicano Protest and Patriotism during the Viet Name War Era*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005.

Pelayo, Jaime. “The Chicano Movement and the Vietnam War” (unpublished senior thesis, Yale University, 1997), Located in: Folder 2, Series V, Box 3, Gloria Arellanes Papers 1967-1979. Special Collections and Archives, John F. Kennedy Memorial Library, California State University, Los Angeles.

“Private First Class Eugene Arnold Obregon, USMC (Deceased),” *United States Marine Corps History Division*, accessed January 13, 2014,
https://www.mcu.usmc.mil/historydivision/Pages/Who's%20Who/M-O/obergon_ea.aspx.

UCLA Oral History Collection, Oral History Interviews with David Sánchez, 2015.

Williford, Stanley. “Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms.” *Los Angeles Times*, December 21, 1969, D8.

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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: California State University, Los Angeles;
University of California, Los Angeles

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 17.5 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Morin Memorial Square | Latitude: 34.040615 | Longitude: -118.192667 |
| 2. War Memorial | Latitude: 34.040214 | Longitude: -118.192712 |
| 3. Indiana and Chavez | Latitude: 34.040455 | Longitude: -118.192460 |
| 4. Indiana and Michigan | Latitude: 34.038081 | Longitude: -118.192434 |
| 5. Belvedere Middle School | Latitude: 34.038099 | Longitude: -118.180629 |
| 6. Obregon Park | Latitude: 34.037699 | Longitude: -118.177071 |

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

From Five Points Memorial at the intersection of East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue, North Indiana Street, and North Lorena Street in the City of Los Angeles, continuing on North Indiana Street and Michigan Avenue, and terminating at Obregon Park in unincorporated East Los Angeles.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary follows the route of the first Chicano Moratorium march, December 20, 1969.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Allison M. Lyons, Associate Architectural Historian, Amanda Yoder Duane, Associate Architectural Historian, Audrey von Ahrens, Architectural Historian I
organization: GPA Consulting, Inc.
street & number: 617 S. Olive Street, Suite 910
city or town: Los Angeles state: CA zip code: 90014
e-mail: allison@gpaconsulting-us.com
telephone: (310) 792-2690
date: August 2016; Revised April 2017, November 2017

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.)

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: Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
City or Vicinity: Los Angeles
County: Los Angeles County

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969

Los Angeles, CA

Name of Property

County and State

State: California
Photographer: Allison M. Lyons
Date Photographed: June 2, 2015

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

- 1 of 17 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing south
- 2 of 17 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing northeast
- 3 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing south
- 4 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest
- 5 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest
- 6 of 17 Michigan Avenue at N. Alma Avenue, camera facing east
- 7 of 17 Michigan Avenue at N. Rowan Avenue, camera facing east
- 8 of 17 Michigan Avenue between N. Herbert and N. Record avenues, camera facing east
- 9 of 17 Michigan Avenue, Belvedere Middle School, camera facing west
- 10 of 17 Michigan Avenue, downward slope towards Obregon Park, camera facing southeast
- 11 of 17 Obregon Park, baseball diamonds, camera facing east
- 12 of 17 Obregon Park, children's playground (foreground) and gymnasium (background), camera facing southeast
- 13 of 17 Obregon Park, maintenance building south elevation, camera facing north
- 14 of 17 Obregon Park, gymnasium south elevation, camera facing northwest
- 15 of 17 Obregon Park, handball courts, camera facing west
- 16 of 17 Obregon Park, swimming pool north and west perimeter fence, camera facing southwest
- 17 of 17 Obregon Park, batting cage (left) and baseball diamonds, camera facing south

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Location Map

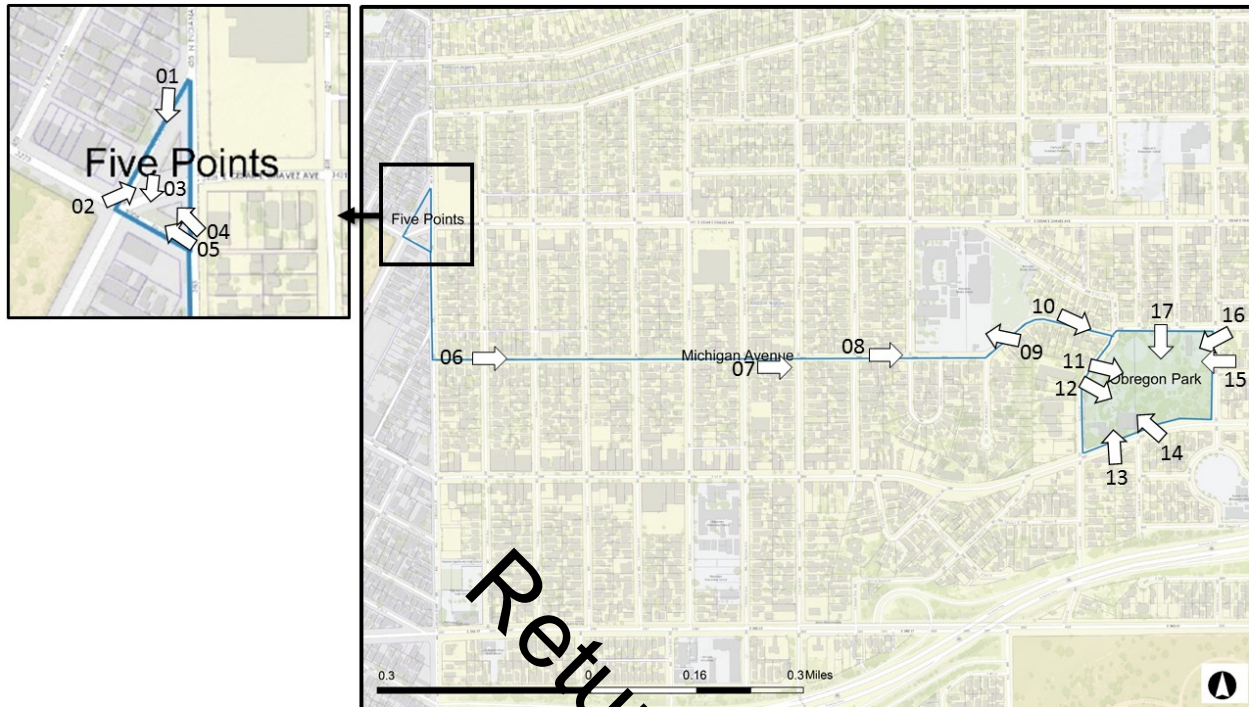
- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Morin Memorial Square | Latitude: 34.040615 | Longitude: -118.192667 |
| 2. War Memorial | Latitude: 34.040214 | Longitude: -118.192712 |
| 3. Indiana and Chavez | Latitude: 34.040455 | Longitude: -118.192460 |
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| 5. Belvedere Middle School | Latitude: 34.038099 | Longitude: -118.180629 |
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Sketch Map/Photo Key



Base maps courtesy of Los Angeles County Assessor

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications 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.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: COVER DOCUMENTATION

Multiple Name: Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County MPS

State & County: CA, Los Angeles

Date Received: 5/30/2018 Date of 45th Day: 7/16/2018

Reference number: MC100002653

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 7/11/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County MPS and the accompanying individual nominations are being returned for technical and substantive issues. While the current nominations are being returned, it should be noted that the documentation makes an extremely convincing case for the exceptional importance of the Chicano Moratorium as a manifestation of American Hispanic culture.

Continued

Recommendation/ Criteria: RETURN

Reviewer: Paul Lusignan  Discipline: Historian
Telephone: (202)354-2229 Date: 7/11/2018

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments: YES see attached SLR: No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service

CHICANO MORATORIUM IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY MPS

Los Angeles County, CALIFORNIA

National Register of Historic Places - Return Comments:

The Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County MPS and the accompanying individual nominations are being returned for technical and substantive issues. While the current nominations are being returned, it should be noted that the documentation makes an extremely convincing case for the exceptional importance of the Chicano Moratorium as a manifestation of American Hispanic culture.

Chicano Moratorium MPS Cover Document

The initial question presented by this MPS is why the nominations and context were not provided as a direct component of the *Latinos in Twentieth Century California* MPS (Latino MPS) approved in 2015. It is understandable that there may have been a desire to allow the Moratorium to be recognized as a stand-alone pivotal event, but in fact it was very much part of the larger and longer term story of California Hispanic heritage; one well recognized and documented by the Latino MPS. The *Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County*, largely as written with minor revisions, could easily be inserted as a separate Associated Historic Context under the Latino MPS. As you will note in the comments below there are gaps in the Chicano Moratorium MPS context that are actually covered to various degrees by documentation presented in the earlier Latino MPS.

The decision to keep the Chicano Moratorium MPS as a stand-alone MPS separate from the Latino MPS is ultimately up to the preparer and the State, but the goal of the original Latino MPS was to serve as just such an umbrella document for those studying the full scope of Latino/Hispanic/Chicano heritage in California. As a separate document the Chicano Moratorium MPS may need to incorporate more substantial revisions, or at a minimum incorporate narrative materials from the original Latino MPS.

The Chicano Moratorium MPS cover is lacking in well-developed contexts for the anti-Vietnam war movement, the early establishment of the Brown Beret organization and the post-1970 impacts of the Moratorium. To some degree some of this contextual material can be found in the individual nominations for the 1969 March and the Brown Beret HQ, but it really belongs in the cover narrative to fully complete the story associated with the places and events of the 1969-1970 period. There at times appears to be an assumption that these contexts are obvious and well understood by every reader, yet that may not be the case and a more explicit discussion seems warranted.

There is very little in the current MPS cover regarding the larger, national anti-war context that played such a key role in the lead-up to the Moratorium events. The narrative found at page E-91 of the Latino MPS for instance contains valuable contextual information regarding the Vietnam War casualties and anti-war issues that, if incorporated, could significantly augment the current narrative. In addition, the Mexican American anti-war perspective needs to be better placed within the larger context of national (Anglo) anti-war rhetoric, actions, and activism during the 1960s. The current narrative does an excellent job of describing how the Chicano perspective differed in important ways from the mainstream anti-war movement, but not what that larger mainstream movement was. As we develop more and more nominations associated with this relatively recent period the need to establish this context will diminish over time, but as these are among some of the first nominations to deal

directly with the anti-war movement, the need to directly address the broader context is still necessary. In light of the fact that the events and places also need to deal with Criteria Consideration G and exceptional significance the need for fully developed contexts is emphasized. [As just one example, the nomination notes the pivotal discriminatory actions of the *New Mobe*, a national antiwar group, during the San Francisco rally (page E-7). We have no context, however, for understanding who or what exactly the New Mobe was, their role, or even their previous existence or efforts, which are pivotal to fully understanding the larger anti-war movement. (For potential references please see National Register Nomination: *May 4, 1970. Kent State Shootings Site*, Ohio, 2010- file://inp2280crfs01/NRegisterFS01/OHIO/OH_SP/Portage/10000046.pdf]

In the MPS cover document we are also given very little information to understand who the Brown Berets were, how they were formed and how this came to affect their role in the events of the Moratorium and afterward. What if any precedents were there? Black Panthers? What was their lasting legacy after the events of 1969-70, that rendered their Moratorium activities so significant? Transferring certain elements from the Brown Beret HQ nomination to the MPS cover may address this concern, but additional scholarly context could also be useful.

Finally, the nomination attempts to make the case that the short lived events of the Moratorium were exceptionally impactful, yet little context is provided regarding the actual aftermath or legacy of the events of the period. A lot is made about the events “leaving an important legacy” of activism, but the narrative provides very little specific scholarly discussion of that impact and its long-term significance. To some degree this is covered in the Section F introduction, but given the need to justify Criteria Consideration G, the discussion could be better developed and outlined in the body of the main narrative, perhaps in a separate later chapter under Legacy of the Moratorium, fleshing out in more concrete terms how the Moratorium “worked to politicize and empower the Mexican-American community.”

INDIVIDUAL NOMINATIONS

Brown Beret Headquarters

This documentation represents one of the strongest individual nominations submitted with the MPS cover. The property is likely eligible for listing at the local level of significance.

Historic Function

Add: Commerce—Organizational; Social—Meeting Hall

Description

The current narrative provides no description of the building interior. When dealing with a historic property significant for the events and activities that took place inside (as opposed to purely exterior architectural significance) it is imperative that at least some note be made of the interior spaces and their relative integrity. Why was access to the commercial space not available? What could be observed from the street? Through the windows? Would the owner(s) or local community be able to comment on the condition of the building? Particularly for the space in the building historically associated with the Brown Berets, is anything known about this space? While it is understandable that private upper floor areas may not be open for viewing, it would seem feasible to at least enter the commercial establishment or view some element of the space from the sidewalk. At a minimum, information regarding the historic character of the space (or lack thereof) could be noted; it might also be useful to acknowledge that interior materials or finishes were not regarded as particularly important to the

significance of the property.]

Otherwise, the *Integrity* discussion was well developed for this property, fully acknowledging the extent of the changes and supporting the retention of sufficient integrity.

Significance

The individual nomination provides the type of (solid) historic context for the origins and development of the Brown Beret organization that is noticeably lacking in the MPS cover document and should have been included in the MPS cover in order to fully establish the broad history of all aspects of the local Chicano movement.

El Barrio Free Clinic

Location

Why is “Vicinity” checked under the location block?

Description

The current narrative provides no description of the building interior. When dealing with a historic property individually significant for the events and activities that took place inside (as opposed to purely exterior architectural significance) it is imperative that at least some note be made of the interior spaces and their relative integrity. Why was access to the commercial space not available? What could be observed from the street? Through the windows? Would the owner(s) or local community members be able to comment on the condition of the building?

Integrity

The current nomination details a significant number of physical changes to the building from the time of its association with the Chicano Moratorium movement and its use as a local free clinic. The discussion raises serious issues with the integrity of the property and its ability to adequately convey a sense of time and place associated with the identified themes. Without additional photographic coverage of the historic building it is difficult to determine whether or not enough integrity exists. In detailing what has been altered the question remains what has not been altered? What about the building in its current condition represents historic fabric or design? How is the building able to convey any of the physical character it had during the historic period? Integrity of location and setting has almost nothing to do with historic fabric, which is acknowledged in the nomination as severely compromised. Here again lack of any interior discussion further clouds the issue. How does the local Chicano community view this building? In their eyes is it still the location of the clinic property that played a significant role in their lives, or is the association one only of memory for a former building? Does the current building hold any continuing value within the local community, or was its identification more an academic research exercise by the survey team? What physical attributes or character defining elements are retained from the historic period that can support the claim for physical integrity? The nomination needs to directly confront the issue of physical integrity and make a stronger case for eligibility. Additional historic photographs, if available, should be presented to assist in assessing integrity.

If such a case cannot be made, thought should be given to inclusion of the property as a contributing resource within the *National Chicano Moratorium March, August 29, 1970* nomination in much the same way as the Silver Dollar Café is included. [Please verify, but it appears as though the building is located along the historic march corridor.] Both the Clinic and Café buildings have severely compromised physical integrity. Given their

pivotal roles in the events and activities of 1969-70, however, we concur that all possible consideration should be given to their recognition. Such a district approach would lessen the integrity threshold to a degree, although a direct case should still be made as to how the extant building still conveys sufficient physical integrity to contribute to the district.

Significance

There is no dispute regarding the significance of the Clinic operation as a component of the Brown Berets' community service activities in Los Angeles during the historic period.

Chicano Moratorium March, 12/20/1969

Significance

The narrative here provides a stronger, yet still limited, contextual discussion of the anti-war movement that preceded the 1969 march. Thought should be given to moving this material into the MPS cover document for its value in understanding the precedents and reasoning behind the Moratorium activities.

Verbal Boundary Description

The verbal boundary description should be revised to clearly restate the extent and limits of the nominated areas. (e.g. *The nominated parcel is restricted to the wide public right-of-way of the included streets along which the 1969 march proceeded and does not include private property or sidewalk areas. The boundary also fully encompasses the current bounds of the three historic parks (Morin Memorial Square, War Memorial at Five Points, and Obregon Park) [See attached maps].*)

It would be beneficial in the boundary justification to explain the decision to restrict the nominated bounds to the public right-of-way alone rather than incorporating the full streetscapes. What was the rationale for this relatively unorthodox approach and what if any precedents can be cited? [e.g. maintaining a keen focus on march, secondary importance of adjacent land uses, integrity concerns, privacy concerns, ownership concerns, nomination logistics, Stonewall as precedent, etc.]

National Chicano Moratorium March August 29, 1970.

Description

The El Barrio Clinic is located on East Whittier Boulevard and was in use at the time of the 1970 March (May 1969-December 1970). Please see the discussion in the Clinic nomination (above) related to the justification for the individual eligibility of the Clinic building and its physical integrity. Careful consideration should be given to inclusion of the El Barrio Clinic building in this 1970 March historic district as a contributing building in the same manner as the Silver Dollar Café.

Silver Dollar Café

If the Café is considered the easternmost component of a larger single-story commercial building, the description section needs to note the other storefront façade.

Interiors

There are no interior discussions provided for the contributing buildings noted above. Given that they were the site of significant events, there needs to be some mention, even if they are simply contributing buildings. At a minimum the narrative should note that the buildings no longer function as they did historically and likely contain limited historic materials, fabric or features. The extent to which they may retain integrity as commercial operations or open space could be noted. In addition any traditional community perceptions or knowledge regarding these resources should be noted (affixing a plaque). Given the direct association of these building to pivotal events of the Chicano Moratorium additional effort should be undertaken to gain a better understanding of their physical condition, whether by site visit, discussions with the owners/tenants, or information supplied by local community residents, activists, or secondary sources.

Belvedere Park

The park description skirts around the fact that the block also houses the substantial Morris K. Hamasaki Elementary School (south) and the KIPP Academy (northwest). Were these extant at the time of the 1970 March? Are they new intrusions into the historic park? How are they dealt with in terms of the boundaries? How do they impact integrity?

March Route

The introductory statement should clarify that the site consists only of the street *and sidewalk* and does not include any of the surrounding buildings, structures, objects, or other resources alongside *except for the Silver Dollar Café (and El Barrio Clinic) building(s) discussed separately later*. Viewing the associated photographs and images of the 1970 March one can readily see that the sidewalks were used by marchers in certain areas, by on-lookers for whom the march was intended to awaken and rally support for the Moratorium causes, and certainly by others monitoring the event (police, media, etc.) [..the LAPD arranged to position officer with riot guns at street corners throughout the march route...]

In tracing the route the narrative notes that the path ran “under” the Pomona Freeway, while Mednik Avenue currently runs above the freeway. [Section 7 page 6] Is this an error, or have the street configurations changed since the historic period. See also the notes regarding the verbal boundary outlined below.

While not including the adjacent buildings and resources, the narrative should at least note that the general patterns of development along the various streetscapes have not significantly changed in form or scale, even if individual buildings have. Mention should also be made that these areas reflected the heart of the East Los Angeles Hispanic community—familiar home ground to the marchers.

Salazar Park

In discussing the contributing and non-contributing resources in Salazar Park it may not be appropriate to state “Though these contributing resources were present at the time of the march, they were not directly involved in the events.” [Section 7 page 9] What about during the ensuing “riot” and the dispersal of the crowd, when people “fled for safety, hiding in restroom building” and other readily accessible locations? Might others of these buildings also been used or exploited during the day’s events? Images of the riot show the buildings in place and obviously a factor in movement, shelter, and logistics. It might be worth noting the distinction between the buildings not being actively used as part of the planned march events and their being used as elements of the overall park landscape around which events occurred throughout the day and during the riot.

Verbal Boundary Description

Are there any pre-1970 aerial images of the parks available? The boundaries raise a number of issues, see below.

The current verbal boundary description does not account for the Silver Dollar Café (and/or the potential El Barrio Clinic) property. The narrative also needs to clarify the full extent of the nominated areas. (e.g. *The boundary for the district includes the entire street width of the march route, including the public sidewalks along which the marchers walked, on-lookers viewed the event, and public law enforcement monitored the event. [See historic images for evidence of such use.] At the Silver Dollar Café (and Clinic) the bounds extend out to include the historic lot(s) which these properties occupied [provide lot numbers for clarity.]*)

The map for Belvedere Park needs to more precisely define the boundaries retaining integrity and being nominated as large chunks of land at the northwestern and southern edges of the park contain sizable educational buildings. The park is outlined now as bounded by E Chavez, East First, North Mednik and Vancouver. There is no mention of the Kipp Academy or Hamasake elements in or adjacent to the park. Are they historic? Are they intended to be included or excluded?

Was the southern portion of Belvedere Park (site of the current Los Angeles Civic Center and Belvedere Park Lake) considered a part of the original park at the time of the events?

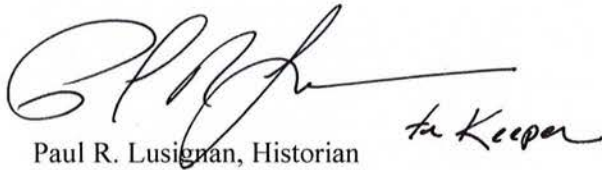
Figure 2. Where is the overpass pictured in Figure 2? Is it along the march route? Extant? Gone? It appears that the overpass may in fact be the Pomona Freeway Overpass to the east of Mednik Avenue and south of Belvedere Park. Was this actually on the march route or is the figure merely a view of people joining the start of the march? Clarification should be provided to assure that the march path is fully and accurately documented. [Page 7.6. has the march proceeding “under” the Pomona Freeway.] The ability to provide copies of historic maps or aerial views of the march route in the nomination may clarify some of these issues, or require revisions to the narratives.

The nomination clearly downplays the aftermath of the march (looting/arson), which while certainly negative in scope was undeniably a significant aspect of the historic events and the public perception of the Moratorium. There is clearly a focus on the Salazar killing, as is appropriate, but not the accompanying looting or arson. I can understand the intent of the nomination to highlight the positive work of the Moratorium, its planning and the relative success in bringing together such a diverse and sizable number of participants, but the historic appreciation of the events of the summer of 1970 should not ignore the full scope of the experiences witnessed by the participants and the surrounding city. There should be a way for the nomination to highlight the positive significance of the event while still opening the discussion of the aftermath. Even if the narrative only points to the decision by the nomination to restrict itself to the march activity and march-related historic resources rather than attempt to document or identify the entirety of resources that may be extant and able to convey the post-march events.

Again, it would be beneficial in the boundary justification to explain the decision to restrict the nominated bounds to the public right-of-way alone rather than incorporating the full streetscapes. What was the rationale for this unorthodox approach and what if any precedents can be cited? [e.g. maintaining keen focus on march, secondary importance of adjacent land uses except in exceptional circumstances (Café, Clinic), integrity concerns, privacy concerns, nomination logistics, Stonewall as precedent, etc.)

In conclusion, we feel the MPS cover and the associated nominations make a remarkable case for the significance and National Register eligibility of these exceptional resources. The themes of Latino heritage and Chicano rights and social activism are vital elements of California's twentieth century history. Our comments, concerns and suggestions are provided with the goal of seeking the best documentation possible for these important resources. We believe the revised MPS can serve as a model for similar investigations into late twentieth century civil rights, anti-war and social movement themes.

If you have questions regarding these comments, or want to discuss certain aspects of the documentation further, please contact our office directly at the number or e-mail listed below.



Paul R. Lusignan, Historian *to Keeper*

(202) 354-2229 Paul_lusignan@nps.gov

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**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Armando Quintero, *Director*

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October 7, 2020

VIA E-SUBMISSION

Joy Beasley, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Mail Stop 7228, 1849 C Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20240

Subject: **Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
(Latinos in Twentieth Century California MPS–Amended)
Los Angeles, California
National Register of Historic Places Nomination**

Dear Ms. Beasley:

The enclosed file contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the CHICANO MORATORIUM MARCH DECEMBER 20, 1969 to the National Register of Historic Places. On August 14, 2020 via virtual meeting conducted on Zoom and broadcast live on the CAL-SPAN network, the California State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the property eligible for the National Register at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Social History, Ethnic Heritage: Hispanic, and Politics/Government, with a 1969 period of significance.

Photos are embedded at the end of the nomination and are not submitted as a separate file at this time. If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact Amy Crain at (916) 445-7009 or via email at amy.crain@parks.ca.gov.

A combined staff report and twelve letters of support were submitted with the amended *Latinos in Twentieth Century California* MPDF on Friday, September 25, 2020.

Sincerely,

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 5/30/2018 Date of Pending List: 6/28/2018 Date of 16th Day: 7/13/2018 Date of 45th Day: 7/16/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 7/16/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

The Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County MPS and the accompanying individual nomination for the Chicano Moratorium March, December 20, 1969 are being returned for technical and substantive issues.

While the current nominations are being returned, it should be noted that the documentation makes a convincing case for the exceptional importance of the Chicano Moratorium as a manifestation of American Hispanic culture.

Significance

The narrative here provides a stronger, yet still limited, contextual discussion of the anti-war movement that preceded the 1969 march. Thought should be given to moving this material into the MPS cover document for its value in understanding the precedents and reasoning behind the Moratorium activities.

Verbal Boundary Description

The verbal boundary description should be revised to clearly restate the extent and limits of the nominated areas. (e.g. The nominated parcel is restricted to the wide public right-of-way of the included streets along which the 1969 march proceeded and does not include private property or sidewalk areas. The boundary also fully encompasses the current bounds of the three historic parks (Morin Memorial Square, War Memorial at Five Points, and Obregon Park) [See attached maps]).

It would be beneficial in the boundary justification to explain the decision to restrict the nominated bounds to the public right-of-way alone rather than incorporating the full streetscapes. What was the rationale for this relatively unorthodox approach and what if any precedents can be cited? [e.g. maintaining a keen focus on march, secondary importance of adjacent land uses, integrity concerns, privacy concerns, ownership concerns, nomination logistics, Stonewall as precedent, etc.)

Recommendation/
Criteria

RETURN

Reviewer Paul Lusignan

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229

Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : **Yes** see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.