

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 72001602

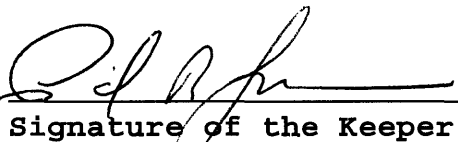
Date Listed: 12/19/2003

Campo de Cauenga  
Property Name

Los Angeles      CA  
County                      State

N/A  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

12/19/03  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

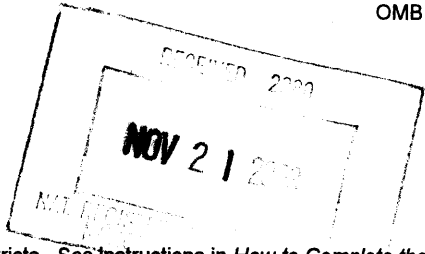
**Significance:**

This is to clarify that the appropriate areas of significance under Criterion D include both: *Archeology: Historic--Aboriginal* and *Archeology: Historic--Non-Aboriginal*.

These clarifications were confirmed with the CA SHPO office.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Campo de Cahuenga

other names/site number Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Park; CA-LAN-1945H

2. Location

street & number 3919 Lankershim Boulevard  not for publication

city or town Los Angeles  vicinity

state California code CA county Los Angeles code 037 zip code 90272

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

K. M. Ellison

11/20/03

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

California Office of Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

12/19/03

**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

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
2 (arch site & park site)		sites
		structures
		objects
3		Total

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

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Social: Meeting Hall \_\_\_\_\_

Landscape: Park \_\_\_\_\_

Recreation/Culture: Museum \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Spanish Colonial \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone \_\_\_\_\_

roof terra cotta tile \_\_\_\_\_

walls adobe \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Historic Archeology (aboriginal/non-aboriginal)

Architecture

Social History

Conservation

**Period of Significance**

Archeological site: 1795-1880s

Historic Property: 1923-1953

**Significant Dates**

1847 Articles of Capitulation signed

1924 City dedicates Memorial Park

1950 City dedicates Memorial Building

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

Gabrielino – Native American Village

**Architect/Builder**

Landon and Spencer, architects of Memorial Building

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Association

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	11	374460	3778325	3	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Roberta S. Greenwood, RPA

organization Greenwood and Associates date June 12, 2003

street & number 725 Jacon Way telephone (310) 454-3091

city or town Pacific Palisades state CA zip code 90272

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Los Angeles

street & number 200 N. Main Street, City Hall East, Room 1350 telephone (213) 473-7070

city or town Los Angeles state CA zip code 90012

**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. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number 7 Page 1

name of property: Campo de Cahuenga  
County and State: Los Angeles, California

**7. Narrative Description**

The Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Park includes a standing memorial building, the archaeological remains of the adobe being commemorated, and a designed historical landscape that incorporates key specimens and a circulation pattern planned when the City of Los Angeles acquired the property in 1923. The building was designed on the basis of archaeological evidence to make visible the form, setting, and materials of the adobe where the Articles of Capitulation were signed in 1847. The archaeological site designated as CA-LAN-1945H includes the stone foundations and tile floors of the original adobe built ca. 1795. These elements comprise a commemorative historical park owned by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (DRP).

The Articles of Capitulation ended hostilities between Mexico and California and led to the acquisition of much of the west by the United States. The landscape design prepared by DRP in 1949 has not only been maintained, but incorporates several specimens already mature when the City acquired the land in 1923 and prepared the first landscape plan. The Park is surrounded by a high perimeter wall of painted concrete blocks also already present in the 1920s, with wrought iron gates added by the City in 1924. Other features of the landscape include the central quatrefoil fountain and axial pathways framing the grassy areas, which predate the City acquisition. One of the first El Camino Real bells was installed in 1910, and the flagpole was erected in 1951. The first commemorative plaque was placed on the Campo site by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1916. The archaeological component is the footprint of the Cahuenga adobe with its massive stone foundation enclosing a minimum of six rooms, several of which retain intact tile floors.

The City of Los Angeles purchased the parcel of 100 x 200 feet on May 23, 1923, and dedicated the Frémont-Pico Memorial Park in 1924. It stands as a very early example of municipal acquisition for the purpose of commemoration and site preservation. It was intended, and has been used, as a memorial public facility ever since that date. A pre-existing animal hospital facility was refurbished and adapted for use as a temporary museum related to signing of the Articles of Capitulation and local history. The old building was razed and plans for the new facility announced in 1949 on the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Articles of Capitulation.

**The Building**

The existing building was designed by Spencer and John J. Landon, Los Angeles architects at 1924 Hillhurst Ave., as a reconstruction of the original adobe based on a student excavation done in 1931 (Miller 1932). It is a single story Spanish Colonial Revival style built of small size concrete blocks covered by rough stucco to suggest adobe. It has a medium sloped red tile gabled roof comparable to the original. The primary facade faces the Park grounds and is visible from Lankershim Boulevard through the ornate iron gates. The shed-roofed porch sheltering the main entry (*portal*) is supported by a row of four massive square stuccoed piers on heavy molded pedestals. This replicates the massive pier supports associated with a comparable porch that Miller had exposed.

The porch is bisected by a wing wall, an extension of the north wall of the main block of the building. The raised porch deck is finished with 12 x 12-inch terra cotta tiles matching those of the adobe, courtyard, and fountain area. The interior ceiling is open with roof beams exposed. The structure's overhanging eaves are open with chamfered purlin ends at the gables, rounded rafter tails, and a tongue and groove board roof deck.

Window and door openings are recessed with heavy wooden lintels. Accessed from the front are three sets of glazed and paneled double doors. The door panels are vertical tongue and groove V-board. Double sash two- and three-light casement windows are at either end of the facade, with two-light awning type casements used on the other elevations. The south window bay on the facade has solid, vertical V-board shutters. There are two doors in the gable end of the north wing; one accessing the kitchen is vertical plank with one light, and the other serves the restroom with a solid door. Two double doors on the west side provide entrance to the main room, with a rectangular louvered vent at the gable peak. Three doors in the south wall give access to a maintenance and equipment room, the men's restroom, and the office.

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name of property: Campo de Cahuenga  
County and State: Los Angeles, California

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All are vertical, tongue and groove V-board (plank) doors with a single glazed panel.

The interior of the building is divided into a large central public room that runs the full length of the building from front to back, with office and service rooms on the north and south sides. The main room has painted plaster walls, a tile floor matching the porch and patio, and a plaster ceiling with massive exposed beams. The tiles are 12 x 12 inches, the same as those excavated in the adobe. A fireplace with rectangular plastered surround, sloped and tapered breastwork, and an interior chimney is central in the south wall. The surround is painted to simulate terra cotta tile. Three-light fixtures are copper, intended to suggest hanging gas lamps. Vertical plank doors on either side of the fireplace provide access to the office, men's room, and utility room. The women's restroom, kitchen, and service rooms are finished with painted plaster walls and ceiling, and asphalt tile floors. Details that are authentic to the historical period include the plastered walls, dark-colored vertical plank doors, heavy lintels and beams, and clay floor tiles. Although there is no archaeological evidence to date of a fireplace or lighting method, these elements are not inappropriate.

#### The Landscape

The first formal design for the grounds was prepared in 1927 by the (then) Los Angeles Department of Parks under the supervision of Frank Shearer. It retained the perimeter walls, central water feature, trees, and axial paths dividing areas of lawn that had all been in place while the land was occupied by the veterinary facility, prior to municipal acquisition. The four palm trees were already mature. The drawing specified the number and location of plants appropriate to the mission the Hispanic heritage, the chronological period being memorialized, and the arid southwest. Included were grape vines, blackberry, Spanish broom, climbing roses, and pomegranate. The original stockade gate was replaced by an elaborate wrought iron entrance with a bronze shield.

The landscape plan drawn by the City Department of Recreation and Parks in 1949 to accompany the architects' design for the new building incorporated these elements and added tile paving around the central pool to suggest a more formal Spanish Renaissance courtyard. Influenced by Islamic conventions after the Moorish conquest in A.D. 711, such traits as a forecourt, the sight and sound of falling water, paved surfaces of unglazed tiles, and hedges of myrtle and box (Newton 1971) were all incorporated into the plan. It maintained the focus on the Spanish-style fountain framed by the four large palms (*Washingtonia robusta*) that were already mature when the Park was dedicated in 1924. Two large pepper trees and giant bird-of-paradise plants (*Strelitzia regina*), as well as the palms and many of the plantings, were retained from the prior concept. Renderings of both plans indicate that the basic design remains in place today as first conceived. Foundation plantings and walkways follow the high perimeter walls, with areas of open lawn and paths extending axially from the tiled central patio. Shrubs or clumps of foliage at the corners of walkways and patio in place today match those of the original park design. Several species are typically associated with the missions. Introduced in the 1927 plan, the row of pomegranates (*Punica* sp.) still lining the northerly courtyard wall typifies a Mediterranean cultivar brought by the Spanish and planted by the padres. The pepper trees (*Schinus molle*) are natives of Peru that naturalized along the mission trail. The grounds are enclosed by the original (pre-1924) painted concrete block wall six feet high penetrated by the wrought iron gates with bronzed signs reading Frémont-Pico Memorial Park.

The quatrefoil fountain at the center of the Park is formed of a cast concrete pool, with an arroyo stone fountainhead capped by a Native American stone bowl. A pedestaled plaque was installed by the California Historical and Landmarks Club, Native Sons and Daughters, and Ebell Club in 1924. Another pedestaled plaque and sundial honors Jesse Benton Frémont, wife of John C. Frémont. There are two bronze bells marking the route of El Camino Real: the one first installed in 1910 in front of the property and another placed in 1969 that was dedicated to Mrs. Armitage S. C. Forbes, designer of the bells and one of the primary forces behind designation of the property as a memorial to Frémont and Pico and the Articles they signed here. The flagpole with a base made of the original Mission-period tiles collected during the 1930 excavation was erected by the American Legion in 1951. Other commemorative plaques mounted on the walls have been placed by the San Fernando Valley Historical Society, Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Association, and the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Board denoting its status as Cultural-Historic Monument No. 29.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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name of property: Campo de Cahuenga  
County and State: Los Angeles, California

**The Archaeological Site**

The archaeological remains of the original adobe were first exposed in 1931 (Miller 1932) but no notes, maps, or artifacts have ever been located. Construction monitoring in 1995 encountered the first glimpse of stone foundations and tile floors under the lawn between the sidewalk and the Park gates, and since then, additional excavations have been undertaken beneath the sidewalk, under Lankershim Boulevard, within the courtyard of the park, and in the adjacent parking lot. Exterior measurements reveal that the adobe's footprint is a minimum of 103.1 ft (31.4 m) long by 37.5 ft (11.4 m) wide although the northeast and southeast corners have not been exposed:

The two exterior north-south footings are of massive construction, 1 meter wide, with smaller stones over the uppermost course used to provide a level base for the adobe brick walls. The central north-south wall is as wide, indicating that it supported a bearing wall for the tiled gable roof. The east-west partition foundations are 0.6 meter wide. A minimum of six rooms is present, 4.5 meters wide. Several rooms retain tile floors in situ; they are composed of square tiles 35 x 35 cm, plus smaller rectangular sizes to meet the walls. They are apparently of Mission manufacture with black cores, coarse inclusions, and an abundance of animal paw prints. The presence of fallen roof tiles confirms the nature of the roof. Associated artifacts include Native American pottery, two stone pestles, Chinese porcelain, and two kaolin pipe bowls (one anthropomorphic) and one pipe stem.

**8. Narrative Statement of Significance**

The remains of the adobe are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, the period of significance being its construction ca. 1795, and Criterion D, the period of significance being from ca. 1795 until the 1880s when it was described as a ruin. The foundations and tile floors are intact and have yielded important information about Mission-era construction practice and materials; its unusual size and the presence of tile floors are evidence of its importance. A pivotal event in the history of California and the West took place here. The research conducted to confirm the signing of the Articles of Capitulation at this location led to the design and placement of the whole chain of "Mission Bells" that commemorate the route of El Camino Real. The standing structure and the grounds are eligible under Criterion A in the area of conservation. Significant dates are the City's acquisition of the park for the purpose of commemoration in 1923, and construction of the present memorial building in 1949 that replicates the adobe according to archaeological evidence. It was built as an historical commemoration, to be used and enjoyed by the public. The standing structure has not been altered since its construction, and the grounds maintain the basic elements (surrounding wall, gate, central fountain, axial paths, and mature plantings) of the City's landscape plan of 1927, which incorporated these features already in place when Los Angeles acquired the property. The more formal planting plan of 1950 adapted the same elements to the presence of the new building. While urban growth has encroached upon a setting that was formerly remote and isolated, once behind the high walls, the visitor still enjoys the sense of a peaceful outpost on a historic route of travel.

Each of the constituents of the Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Park is important within one or more of the defined areas of significance. The site is significant as the setting of a pivotal event in political history at the international level. The Articles of Capitulation signed here in 1847 by General Andrés Pico and Lt. Col. John Frémont were the forerunner to the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in the following year. ~~They ended hostilities of the Mexican War in California and led directly~~ to the acquisition of the territory now occupied by California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and parts of Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico. The treaty was pivotal in the change from Mexican politics and culture to United States control of Los Angeles and the greater West by those of Euroamerican origin and tradition. There is no other known structure, landmark, or commemoration in the region associated with the ending of the Mexican War. The Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Park commemorates more than the political event that transpired here. The place name itself testifies to its setting: *campo* meaning flat, open country or a camp, and Cahuenga referring both to a Native American village and the pass through the mountains which has historically been a route of travel. The adobe was where the Articles of Capitulation were signed.



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name of property: Campo de Cahuenga  
County and State: Los Angeles, California

Even before that, the adobe was a pioneer structure and enterprise in the settlement of southern California, and its association with Mission San Fernando was not recognized prior to this research. Prior to the founding of the Mission, the land was part of one of the earliest grazing permits awarded by the Mexican government. The property fell within the grazing rights awarded in 1795 to a leather jacket soldier Mariano de la Luz Verdugo. One source places Verdugo on the land by 1783, when the site was claimed by the pueblo, occupied by the mission (Harlow 1976:opp. 21). Verdugo was popular with the Native Americans of the nearby village of *Caweenga* (various spellings), and remained in possession until Fathers Urrestí and Muñoz took back the concession in 1810 to serve the growing needs of Mission San Fernando. It is likely that the adobe was built either by Verdugo or by the Mission itself. Mission San Fernando was the source of the roof and floor tiles, and could have provided the expertise and Native American labor for construction.

The adobe was an important building of singular size and costly construction, clearly associated with the Mission period in construction materials, method, and time, if not also in function. It was one of the largest secular buildings known in southern California, at this time second only to Yorba's adobe in Orange County. It is actually larger than the Missions of Santa Barbara or San Rafael Arcangel. The next largest adobe, in Santa Fe Springs, CA, was built by or for Patricio Ontiveros, himself the *mayordomo* of Mission San Juan Capistrano. The unusual use of floor tiles in a secular building is a further sign of association or prosperity. The Ontiveros Adobe had only dirt floors. Mission traits in the adobe remains include exterior foundations 1 meter wide, with partition wall foundations two-thirds that width, the size and black core of the tiles, use of plaster, and square bases for the massive pillars that supported the *corredor*, or porch. In size and construction, it is a rare example of its type. The construction methods and materials are typical of its age, in contrast to wood framing and shingle roofs which were common by the mid-nineteenth century.

On El Camino Real at the north end of Cahuenga Pass, still a major route of travel as Lankershim Boulevard, construction of the adobe was instrumental in opening the broad plains of the San Fernando Valley to a burgeoning population and agricultural industry. Appropriate to its location on a major route, the adobe is mapped as a stop on the Butterfield Stage. The period of significance for the subsurface remains is from the postulated date of its construction, ca. 1795, to the time when it was observed in ruins, in the 1880s.

The 1949-50 Park building is conceived and presented as a commemoration of a Mission-period structure and the important event that transpired there. It has been interpreted on the archaeological evidence of the footprint, floor plan, and construction materials of the original. It was executed according to a restoration master plan that included not only the structure but the historical landscape. The extant building was designed by the Los Angeles firm of Spencer and Landon to replicate the adobe and commemorate the events that transpired there. The architects based their plan on the excavation at the adobe in 1931 incorporating the tile floors and massive square pillars reported by Miller (1932). Details such as the heavy wooden lintels over recessed windows and doors, exposed beams, overhanging eaves, and plank doors were replicated; while light fixtures and interior wall finishes that lacked archaeological evidence were selected to be compatible with the Mission period. It presently serves as a museum and meeting place for many civic and historical associations, and a Reenactment of the signing of the Articles of Capitulation is held every January with cannon fire, music and dancing, and costumed portrayals of the principals, settlers, and Native Americans. It has not been altered since the dedication in 1950.

When the City acquired the property in 1923, the existing veterinary hospital was laid out with the four palm trees, axial gravel paths dividing grassy areas, and the central fountain within a walled compound. After acquisition, the City made no essential changes beyond replacing the front gate. A plan drawn in 1927 illustrated these elements, adding small foundation plantings such as hollyhocks, loquats, and jasmine along the walls and beside the old veterinary buildings. These would have been removed when the animal facility was demolished.

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name of property: Campo de Cahuenga  
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The architects' plan for the new structure in 1949 depicted the same setting, identifying the same 30" palm trees and 36" pepper trees, paths, and pool. The tile pavement surrounding the central fountain was perhaps their suggestion. The landscape plan by the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks in 1949 used the existing elements to suggest the form of a Spanish Colonial courtyard. The formal design retained numerous mature specimen trees and the circulation pattern already established when the property was acquired by the City in 1924. Added were giant birds of paradise at the corners of the building, a row of pomegranates along the west wall, dwarf myrtles, Catalina cherries, and ivy along the fences on the east and north sides of the building. The plan prepared in 1949 specifying the plantings, central fountain surrounded by tiles, lawns, and axial pathways survives intact. The four palm trees, myrtles, pepper trees, giant birds of paradise, pomegranates, and small foundation plantings remain in place, and an existing laurel tree was relocated from the front wall to the northeast corner of the building. The flagpole called for in the plan was erected by the American Legion in 1951, with a base composed of the original floor tiles saved from the 1931 excavation. One El Camino Real bell was already on the property prior to the City's acquisition, and a second one has been added along with numerous plaques of historical recognition.

Archaeological and historical research has already yielded important information about the age and owner of the adobe, its unique size and tile floor, and confirmed its association with the Mission (Foster, Pitt, and Kimbro 2000). Local lore based on the Miller article (1932) and repeated on plaques and in publications had long claimed that Don Tomás Feliz built the adobe in 1845. Archival research established not only that Feliz had died in 1830, before the Articles were signed, but that there is no documentary evidence that suggests he was ever associated with this vicinity. Credible evidence has been found that the adobe is much earlier than previously assumed and that the land was first used under a grazing permit, prior to any land grants. There was already an adobe on the property when Mission San Fernando evicted Mariano de La Luz Verdugo in either 1809 or 1810 (sources differ), and the owner of record in 1847 was Eulogio de Célis, unsung in histories but a prominent and prosperous Spanish landowner in Los Angeles.

The archaeological efforts at CA-LAN-1945H have uncovered the plan, room divisions, construction materials and methods, and almost unprecedented size of the building. There is continuing potential to document the north and side porches, their supports and materials; for particle and palynological analysis of the tiles and traces of adobe; studies of the plaster and mortar; and any outbuildings, deposits, or additional features in pristine areas not examined. The several excavations have demonstrated the site's eligibility under Criterion D.

The actual location of the Indian village of *Caweenga* has never been identified, although Native American artifacts have been found in the excavations, and histories record good relations between the local indigenous people and Verdugo. King has called this a historic Tongva village that contributed recruits to both San Fernando and San Gabriel Missions, and cites an entry for a child of Mariano de la Luz Verdugo at this village. Harrington's notes report a portion of a mound that was 50 feet long, identified as "the remains of a large adobe house adjacent to Universal City" (King 1994:96-97). Any further discoveries at the Campo site, CA-LAN-1945H, will contribute to the little that is presently known about interaction between the Euroamerican settlers and Native Americans.

In the late nineteenth century, preservation efforts were largely undertaken by private citizens and devoted to restoring the California missions. After the Native Sons of the Golden West established the Historic Landmarks Committee in 1902, at the instigation of Joseph R. Knowland, the interest in preservation spread among members of the Society of California Pioneers, Pioneer Women, Native Daughters, California Club, the California Historic Landmarks League, and other like-minded groups. Although mission restoration projects continued to be their main focus, by the second decade of the 1900s, attention was being paid to secular adobes, mansions, roads and trails, and programs to place commemorative markers and plaques. In 1910, the Women's Club of Hollywood, prompted by Mrs. Armitage S. C. Forbes, erected a Mission Bell replica at the site of the Casa to mark the route of El Camino Real. The bell was dedicated by Elizabeth Benton Frémont, the daughter of Gen. John C. and Jessie Benton Frémont (Knight 1991a:16). It was Mrs. Forbes' research that had led to the "rediscovery" of the Casa de Cahuenga site, and she relocated the original Spanish version of the Articles that had been missing for 77 years. She had founded the El Camino Real Association in 1904 (Dabney

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1955:2) for the express purpose of engendering public interest in historic sites such as this. By 1926, there were 450 of the distinctive bell-shaped standards marking El Camino Real (Hata 1992:5-9), including the one at the Campo. The first California State Society tablet at the Campo was placed by the Eschscholtzia Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1916 (Knowland 1941:209). Knowland himself called the Campo de Cahuenga one of southern California's "shrines...intimately connected with the early history of the state" (Knowland 1941:185, 190-191).

Mrs. Forbes attempted to convince the State to create a permanent memorial to be known as the Frémont-Pico Peace and Memorial Park. A bill introduced in 1917 to purchase the site was passed by the legislature but was vetoed by the governor. She then organized several historical, patriotic, and civic organizations to prevail upon the City of Los Angeles to purchase the property, and Lots 16 and 17 of the Universal Subdivision were bought by the City on May 23, 1923, for \$15,000 (Slawson and Greenwood 2000:7). The Campo de Cahuenga was thus one of the earliest historic places in California to be recognized and commemorated by private citizen groups, before the proliferation of local, state, and federal programs in the second quarter of the century.

The acquisition of the Campo de Cahuenga property by the City of Los Angeles in 1923 was one of the early examples of developing a commemorative historic park under municipal auspices, and was itself a landmark in the history of historic preservation by a local government. Although the tourist attraction of Olvera Street in downtown Los Angeles was being created at about the same time, it was the work of a single private citizen. The State Park Commission was enacted in 1927, and the influential report by Frederick Law, Sr., in 1929 emphasized the values of scenery and outdoors recreation, rather than preservation or commemoration (Newton 1971:572-572). The State Landmark program did not become official until 1931. (The Campo was one of the early sites designated under that program. The 1934 application was approved in 1935.).

Continuing efforts to have the site transferred to State or Federal supervision and to reconstruct the Casa failed. Although some community events and fiestas took place, the City was unwilling to maintain the facility and the Memorial Park fell into disrepair. "It was because of the hitherto futile efforts to do something about the Campo that the San Fernando Historical Society was founded July 4, 1943" (Dabney 1955:4). The association held its meetings at the site and organized the first centennial celebration of the signing of the Articles on January 13, 1947. The festivities honored Mrs. Forbes and brought about the revival of the old 1917 Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Park Committee, which became the nucleus of the present Campo de Cahuenga Memorial Association (Slawson and Greenwood 2000:9).

The pending state centennial activities sparked renewed efforts to declare the Campo a State or National memorial park, and to obtain funds from the State Centennial Commission and the State Parks Department for needed improvements. Public sentiment for a restoration of the site was reinvigorated, a petition with more than 32,000 signatures was presented, and a model constructed of a restored Campo de Cahuenga (Allen n.d.; Dabney 1955:4). While these efforts failed, the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Articles was celebrated at the Campo in 1949. The keynote speaker, George Hjelte, General Manager of the Recreation and Parks Department, took the occasion to announce plans for a new "Historical Building" to replicate the original adobe and improved grounds, and the sum of \$40,000 allocated to the project. The building ultimately cost \$34,432 (Dabney 1955:5) and was dedicated on November 2, 1950.

It was the stipulated intent that the new building should be available for cultural, historic, and patriotic meetings and activities, and its calendar filled promptly. An early youth event was the Fly-Up Ceremony of the Jolly Friends Blue Birds (junior group of Campfire Girls) on February 2, 1951. From May through October of that first summer, a series of evening concerts was presented by groups including the Los Angeles Board of Education, Bureau of Music in the Municipal Art Department, Valley Civic Organizations, the Mexican Tipica Orchestra, and Kiwanis Youth Orchestra. Although it has not been possible to trace the first time that various organizations met in the new Campo building, by 1964, about 20 adult groups were established in the facility for their regular meetings either during the day or in the evening (Lykins 1964). These included groups as diverse as the Daughters of the American Revolution, Native Daughters of the Golden West, rockhound and camera clubs, the Armenian-American Citizens' League, Co-operative Arts, Great Books, Volkswagen and

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Porsche clubs, Icarian Flying Club, fraternal societies, and the San Fernando Valley Historical Society, tenants since the organization was founded at the Campo in 1943. Other events included juried art shows jointly sponsored by the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners and the Campo Memorial Association, the annual commemoration of the signing of the Articles, and the formal dedication of a plaque honoring Donna Bernardo Ruiz for the part she played in urging Frémont to end the hostilities with Mexico. It was a lively place, staffed during the day by a full time gardener-caretaker, and during evenings until 10 by the assistant in charge when other special permits were issued.

Campo de Cahuenga is one of California's most important historic locations, the site of the treaty signing that launched the state into its American era. The importance of that event was early recognized by the state's pioneer preservationists who created this park to preserve and commemorate what remained of the historic adobe.

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10. Verbal Boundary Description

T 1N, R 14W on the Burbank USGS 7.5' quadrangle photorevised 1972. No section. Property comprises the boundaries of the Campo de Cahuenga Historical Park. Lots 16 and 17 of the Universal City Tract of 1915 were acquired by the City of Los Angeles in 1923. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority of Los Angeles County subsequently deeded Lot 15 to the City of Los Angeles when a corner of the Campo de Cahuenga foundation was discovered extending into the southeast corner. See sketch map.

Justification: Boundary of Los Angeles City Park, including the existing building, landscape, and intact remains of the adobe foundation and floors. While a few cobbles were observed at the curb of Lankershim Boulevard, the projected extent of the adobe under the roadbed is based upon extrapolation and not proven or included in this nomination.

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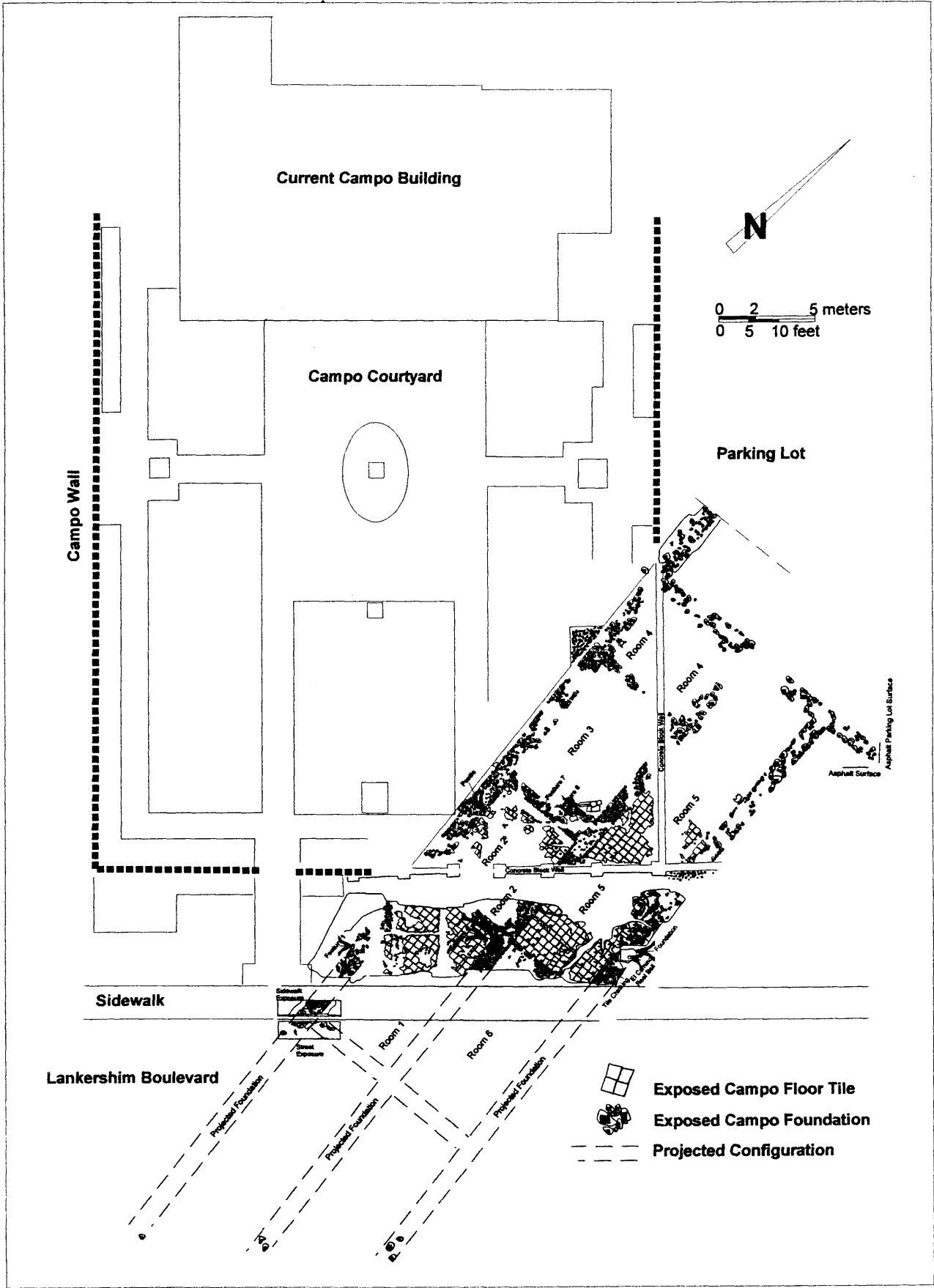
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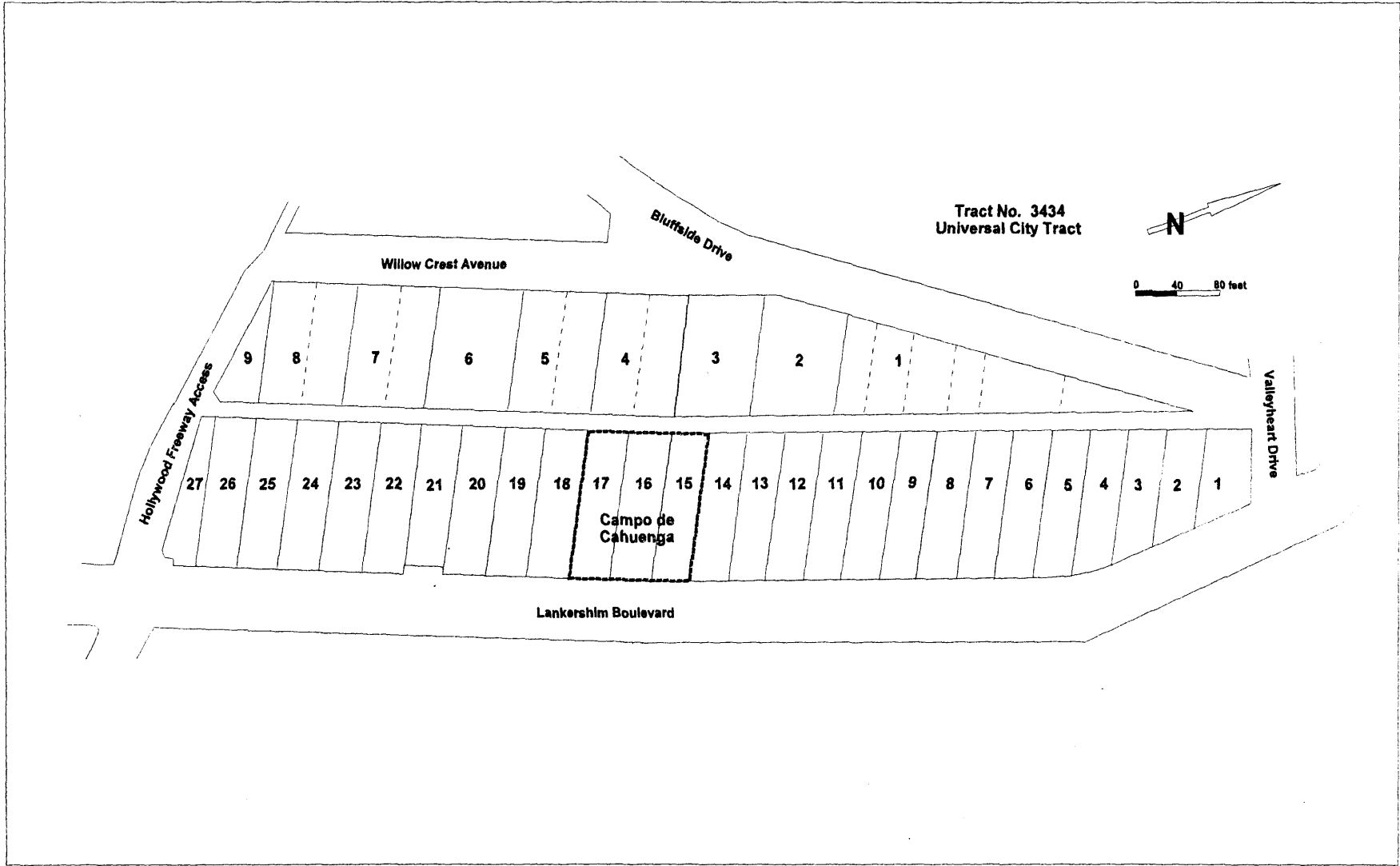
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All photos except historic photo taken by Roberta Greenwood, October 2003. Negatives located at Greenwood and Associates, 725 Jacon Way, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272.

1. Front (east) elevation
2. Rear (west) and north side
3. Rear (west) and south side
4. Foundations of the historic adobe
5. Close-up of historic tile floor in situ
6. Historic photo, ca. 1950, collection of Los Angeles Public Library



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Sketch Map, Campo de Cahuenga