



# *Las Angelitas del Pueblo*

## *Newsletter – Fall 2019*

*El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument*  
*[www.lasangelitas.org](http://www.lasangelitas.org)*

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Las Angelitas Events**

##### **Holiday Party**

Saturday, December 7, 5 pm, El Paseo Inn  
If you have not already done so, please RSVP  
(Yes or No) to [news@lasangelitas.org](mailto:news@lasangelitas.org)

##### **Winter General Meeting**

Monday, January 20, 2020, 10 am  
(Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

##### **Winter Docent Training Class (Tentative Dates)**

Wednesdays, February 5 – March 4, 2020  
If you know anyone who would be interested  
in becoming a docent, have them email  
[training@lasangelitas.org](mailto:training@lasangelitas.org) for information

#### **Tour Office Closures**

Thursday, November 28: Thanksgiving

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas

Wednesday, January 1: New Year's Day

#### **Pueblo Events**

##### **Virgen de Guadalupe**

Wednesday, December 11, 2019 6:00 p.m. to  
Thursday, December 12, 2019 6:00 a.m.  
Experience the overnight vigil commemorating that  
day in 1531 when a native Mexican peasant named  
Juan Diego first saw a vision of the Virgin Mary on  
Tepeyac Hill in Mexico City. Enjoy live banda  
performances, food and craft booths and other cultural  
activities throughout the night.

##### **Las Posadas**

Monday, December 16 through Tuesday, December  
24, 2019 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., nightly  
The nine-night presentation of the journey of Mary and  
Joseph to Bethlehem portrayed with singing, a  
candlelight procession on Olvera Street and a  
children's piñata breaking. Enjoy a free theatrical  
performance of the classic Mexican comedy La  
Pastorela following each evening procession.

### **Fall General Meeting**

**By Dave McMenamin, President**



I hope everyone had a good and informative time at the Fall General Meeting.

The speaker Marc Beherec was wonderful, presenting three different projects in the Pueblo area involving archeological study, including two that he has participated in (the conversion of Parking Lot 5 to the Homeless Shelter and the remodeling of the restrooms in the Old Winery Building). Marc also spends one day a month photographing and cataloguing artifacts in the city's warehouse. It is amazing how many artifacts are recovered in relatively small areas and how much is involved in the archeology of the area.

### **2019 Holiday Party**

**When:** Saturday, December 7, 2019, starting at 5 pm

**Where:** Private dining room in El Paseo Inn

**What:** Salad, buffet dinner, dessert and non-alcoholic drinks, together with chips, guacamole, etc. (alcoholic drinks sold separately)

**Subsidized Cost:** \$15 per person (guests welcome)

Please respond (Yes or No) to the invitation that was emailed earlier this month. If you did not receive this invitation, please let us know as soon as possible by emailing [news@lasangelitas.org](mailto:news@lasangelitas.org).

The party will conclude with a drawing for gifts provided by the Board. Feel free to bring a wrapped gift for the drawing.

## President's Message

The following summarizes the major items I presented at the Fall General Meeting in October.

We have worked with El Pueblo Management to keep the Tour Office open as much as possible. The Office will be closed only on days when the Plaza is fenced off for a special event (such as the Taste of Italy) and on holidays. We will put a note in SignUp.com on days that might require a modified tour because of a large event in the Pueblo (such as Mexican Independence Day or Dia de los Muertos).

If someone tells you they had no response or weren't able to schedule a tour, please get their contact information (phone and/or email address) so we can figure out why this is happening.

We are planning on restarting field trips on a quarterly basis. Some of the suggestions for field trips have been

- LA Conservancy Tour (Historic Downtown LA, Art Deco, Modern Skyline or Union Station
- Central Library
- Los Angeles State Historic Park
- City Hall
- Pio Pico State Historic Park
- Autry Museum
- San Juan Capistrano Mission
- Heritage Square

Please email [news@lasangelitas.org](mailto:news@lasangelitas.org) if you would be interested in any of these field trips.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Party on December 7 and the Winter General Meeting on January 20.

Dave McMenamin, President

## Winter 2020 Docent Training Class

The Winter Docent Training Class on the following dates:

Dates: Wednesday, February 5, 12, 19, 26  
and March 4, 2020

Time: 10 am – 12:30 pm

Location: Tour Office

If you know anyone who would be interested in the Winter Class, have them contact us at [training@lasangelitas.org](mailto:training@lasangelitas.org).

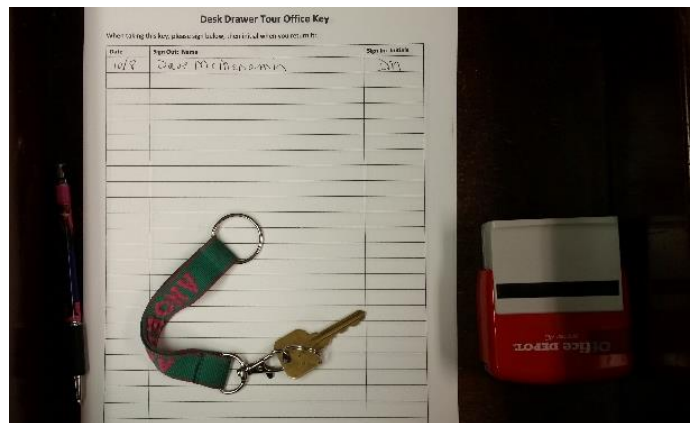
## Tour Office Keys

Just a reminder that there are three keys to the Tour Office:

**Parking Lot 2:** You can check this key out from the attendant at the parking lot. If there is no one in the parking booth, press the assistance button and tell them you need the key.

**Fire House:** Only use this key to open or lock the doors, returning it immediately to the Fire House.

**Desk Drawer:** The last docent leaving the office can use this key to lock the doors and take the key with them. This key disappeared for several months, but we found it recently and placed it back in the desk drawer. We also added a sign-out sheet for this key (see below). Please sign your name when you take the key, and initial the sheet when you return it.



## Non-Tour Volunteers Needed

We still have a number of non-tour volunteer opportunities. So far, we have received no response for any of the opportunities, which are listed below. Please email [news@lasangelitas.org](mailto:news@lasangelitas.org) or call Dave at 818-434-9463 if you are interested in one or more of these:

**Assistant Secretary:** Assist the Secretary as needed, especially during times the Secretary is on vacation. The specific duties would be determined by the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary.

**Webmaster:** Update and maintain the Las Angelitas website. At a minimum, this involves changing information about docent training classes and periodically checking that links to other websites still work (which is easy).

**Tour Scheduling and Statistics:** Entering the data from the tour sign-in sheets into a spreadsheet, which automatically calculates the tour statistics. This requires coming to the office the last day of the month or early in the next month to complete the tour statistics and to create the tour sign-in sheets for the new month.

**Social Media Coordinator:** Maintain and update Facebook and Instagram for Las Angelitas.

## Exhibits in the Pueblo

### Through Nature's Lens

Through December 29, 2019, Gateway to Nature  
Wednesday – Sunday, 10 am – 3 pm

This exhibit includes artworks by three artists.

"Valises for Camp Ground:Arts, Corrections and Fire Management in the Santa Monica Mountains" is by Kim Abeles in collaboration with the Firefighting Women Inmates of Camp 13. From the exhibit: "The sculptural and instructional valises are used by the National Park Service and County Fire Department to teach about fire prevention, national forests, and our relationship to nature. Each valise has a theme with specific talking points, and all of them circle back to teach issues about fire abatement and our connection to the wilderness.

The female inmates at Camp 12 who have been trained as firefighters supplied the content for the valises through their experiences with firefighting and fire abatement methods. The process was organic in the sense that there was a two-way conversation between artist Kim Abeles and the inmates regarding the development of the valises."



The exhibit also includes art by Ken Marchionno, and by Andrea Bersaglieri (including "Tall Fescue" shown below).



### Fantasy World

#### Italian Americans in Animation

Through January 26, 2020, Italian American Museum  
Tuesday – Sunday, 10 am – 3 pm

"Italian Americans figure prominently in the world of animation, having given birth to iconic series including *The Flintstones*, *Tom and Jerry* and *Woody Woodpecker*, and having serviced as the creative forces behind major studios and comic classics. Spanning a century of history, *Fantasy World* explores the Italian American luminaries who have shaped this exciting medium and those who continue to entertain audiences today."

### Linda Vallejo: Brown Belongings

Through January 13, 2020, LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 12 noon – 5 pm  
Friday – Sunday 12 noon – 6 pm

From [www.lapca.org](http://www.lapca.org): "A collection of new and recent work from the Los Angeles-based, Chicana artist whose career spans more than forty years. For nearly a decade, Vallejo has explored the vast and varied meanings of the color brown in her art. LA Plaza will exhibit new works by Vallejo alongside selections from several recent series and subseries of artworks that examine brownness and Latinx identity, including *Make 'Em All Mexican*, *The Brown Oscars*, *The Brown Dot Project*, *Datos Sagrados*, and *Cultural Enigma*."





## Exhibits in the Pueblo

### Stories of Migration: A Community Response (Transportapueblos: Los Resilientes)

Presented by the Museum of Social Justice and El Pueblo  
Historical Monument  
Through January 26, 2020  
North Plaza (shown below under construction)



From the sign accompanying the sculpture: “In recognition of the many difficulties faced by people who journey from their homes hoping to find a better life in the United States, Mexican artist Alfredo “LIBRE” Gutierrez has created **Transportapueblos, Companion of Migrants**, a series of coyote sculptures positioned along the train route through Mexico from its southern to its northern border.

“Having crossed the border, migrants still need support, so LIBRE is creating his first coyote sculpture in Los Angeles at El Pueblo, where it is located to address those coming to and from Union Station.

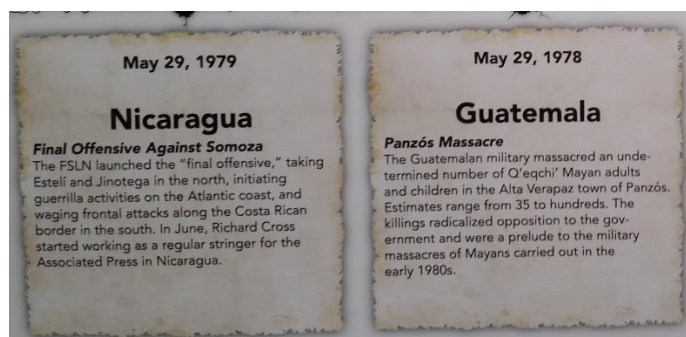
“LIBRE’s sculptures display vital information such as maps, messages from migrants to family members, and telephone numbers of legal organizations and services. This Los Angeles coyote rises out of the earth as a powerful reminder that some among us have made a brutal journey from intolerable circumstances to seek a better life for themselves and their families.

“LIBRE works with volunteers from the community, as his artwork is deeply connected to the needs of a place and is created to inspire hope and bring support to those in need. Visit @LibreHem on Instagram to learn more about the artist.”

### Visualizing the People’s History: Richard Cross’s Images of the Central American Liberation Wars

Through January 12, 2020  
Museum of Social Justice

From [www.museumofsocialjustice.org](http://www.museumofsocialjustice.org): “American photo-journalist Richard Cross documented the turbulent period of liberation wars in Central America from 1979 to 1983, until he was killed while on assignment in Honduras. The photographs depict communities and landscapes enduring war and genocide. Cross’s work illuminates the legacies of these wars, which propelled the largest contemporary migration of people from Central America to the United States, and which continue to shape their American experience.”



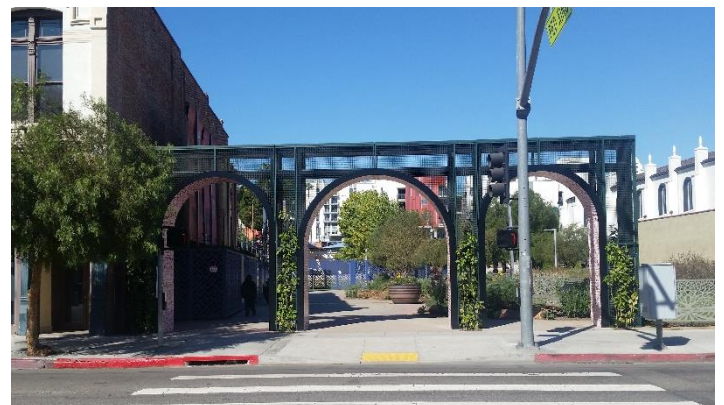


## Happenings in and Around the Pueblo

### Los Angeles 238<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrated Saturday, August 30



### LA Plaza Paseo Walkway Opens



LA Plaza Paseo Walkway has opened. Located between LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes and La Placita, it meanders along a landscaped path from the three new landscaped arches on Main Street to Spring Street. Along the path there are historical signs and monuments with various topics about the area's history:



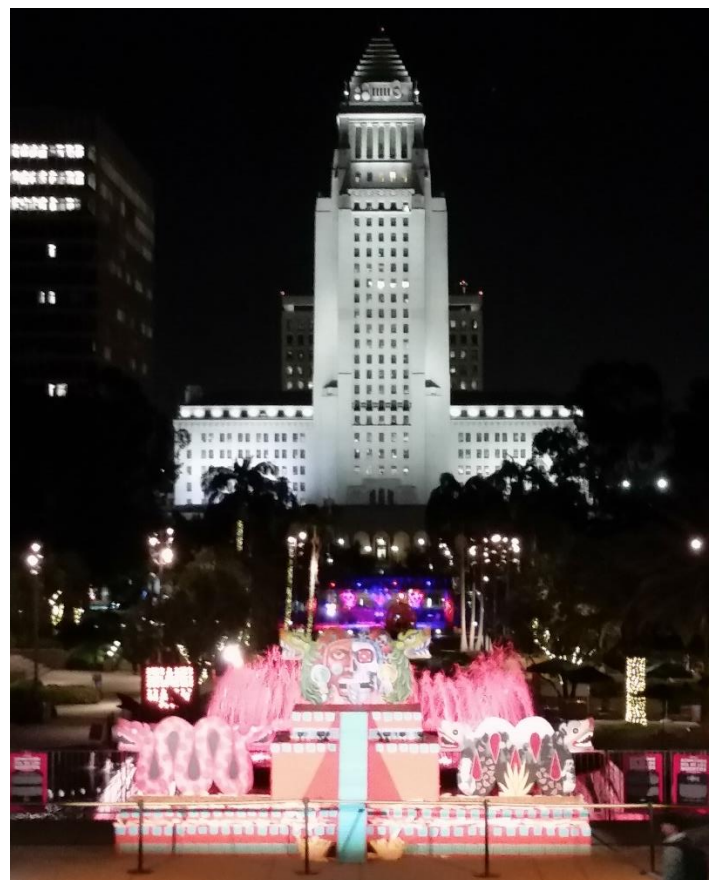


## Happenings in and Around the Pueblo

### Dia de los Muertos in the Plaza



### Dia de los Muertos in Grand Park





## An Art Treasure Returns to Los Angeles

As we discussed at the Fall General Meeting, part of the Well of the Scribes, an art treasure that has been missing for 50 years, was recently discovered and returned to Los Angeles.

The original landscaping in front of the Flower St. entrance to the LA Central Library, called the West Lawn, included three rectangular pools, each with a small semicircular pool in front of it (called a Well).



The Well in front of the pool closest to Flower St. was a bronze sculpture called the Well of the Scribes, created by architectural sculptor Lee Laurie:



In 1969, the entire West Lawn was replaced by a parking lot (shown here on the right during the 1986 library fire):



With the demolition of the West Lawn, the Well of the Scribes disappeared. Over the years some thought that the bronze Well was melted down. Others thought that it was in someone's back yard as a decorative pool, or hiding in Griffith Park (where one of the original signs from the West Lawn was discovered).

In June this year *The Journal of Alta California* published a "Cold Case" article about the missing Well of the Scribes. The article came about because of a sentence about the missing Well in *The Library Book* by Susan Orelan.

Floyd Lillard, an antiques dealer in Bisbee Arizona, saw the article and realized that he had part of the Well. Ten years earlier, Lillard had bought this piece from a woman whose father worked for the City of Los Angeles. Over the subsequent 10 years, Lillard has researched periodically to determine exactly what the piece was. When he saw the photo of the Well in the article, he knew what he had and contacted the LA Library.

In the first week of September, City Librarian John Szabo visited Bisbee and validated that Lillard in fact had the right-hand section of the Well of the Scribes:



The Well was returned to the LA Library last month. The Library has not yet determined how or where it will be displayed, and is hoping the other two sections will also be discovered.

Original article that led to the discovery:

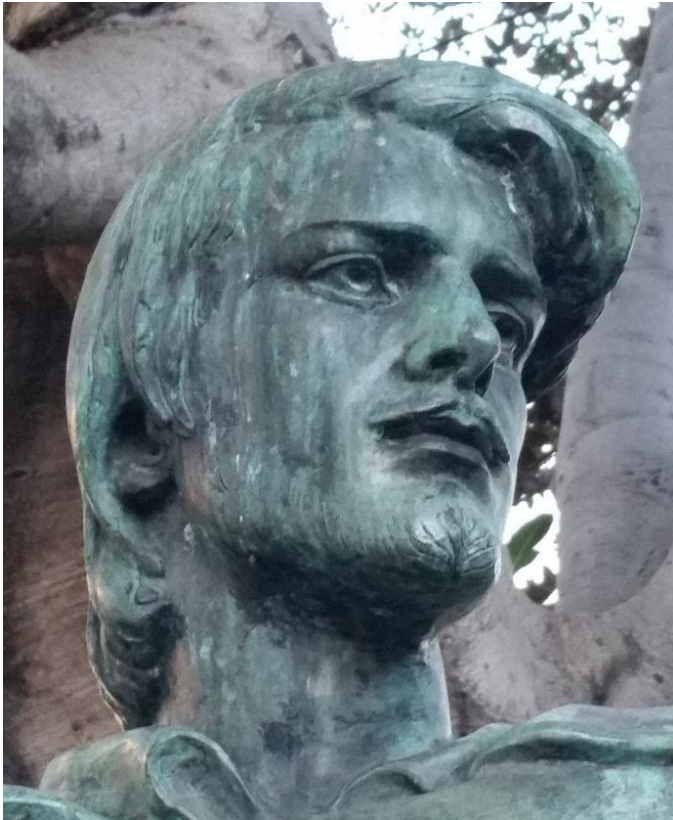
<https://altaonline.com/whatever-happened-to-the-well-of-the-scribes-los-angeles-public-library-cold-case/>

Article about the discovery (including photo above):

<https://altaonline.com/well-of-scribes-los-angeles-library-found/>



## Spotlight on the Pueblo: Felipe de Neve Statue



The bronze statue of Felipe de Neve in the Plaza was commissioned by the Native Daughters of the Golden West, California Parlor #247 in 1931 with the approval of the City's Recreation and Parks Commission and the Municipal Arts Commission. The plaque on the base of the statue was incorrect and was changed in 1987 to the following (also in Spanish at the bottom):

### FELIPE DE NEVE 1728-84

SPANISH GOVERNOR OF THE CALIFORNIAS 1775-82

IN 1781, ON THE ORDERS OF KING CARLOS III OF SPAIN,  
FELIPE DE NEVE SELECTED A SITE NEAR THE RIVER  
PORCIUNCULA AND LAID OUT THE TOWN OF EL PUEBLO  
DE LA REINA DE LOS ANGELES, ONE OF TWO SPANISH  
PUEBLOS HE FOUNDED IN ALTA CALIFORNIA

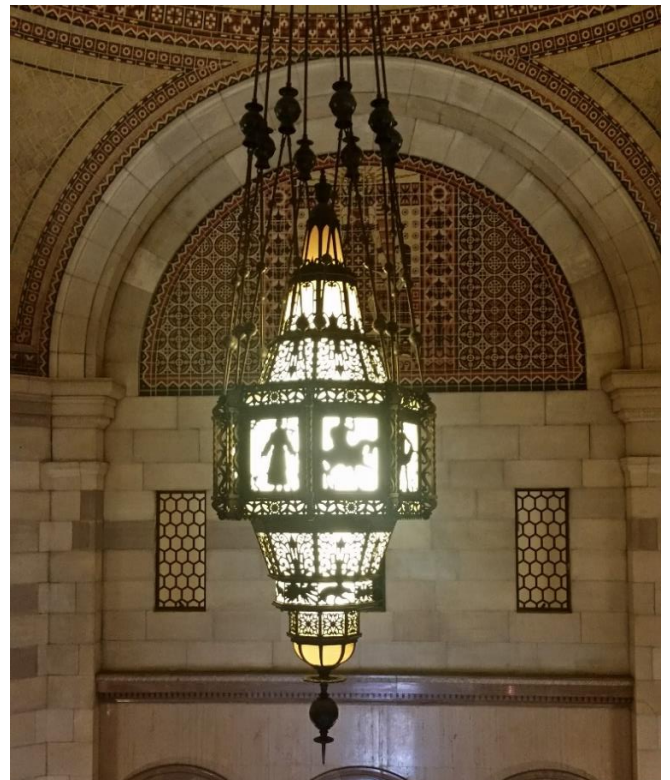
A smaller plaque on the side of the statue says that it was "Erected in commemoration of the 150th anniversary" (of the city, meaning 1931), although the statue itself was not unveiled in the Plaza until March 12, 1932. Originally the 7'3" statue by sculptor Henry Lion was located in the center of a fountain in the middle of the Plaza and was valued at \$10,000. The final casting of the statue was done by the California Art Bronze Foundry. Lion's statue is his interpretation of what Felipe de Neve might have looked like as there is no known likeness of him.

Lion also created the bronze doors on the Spring Street entrance to the City Hall. These doors have six panels with scenes from Los Angeles History. The Naming of Los Angeles panel shows Governor Gaspar de Portola and his expedition holding a religious service while camped near the Los Angeles River in August 1769, and the Founding of Los Angeles panel shows Felipe de Neve reading instructions to the Pobladores:



The remaining panels depict the American Occupation, the Founding of Public Schools, the Opening of the Los Angeles Aqueduct and Completing the Harbor.

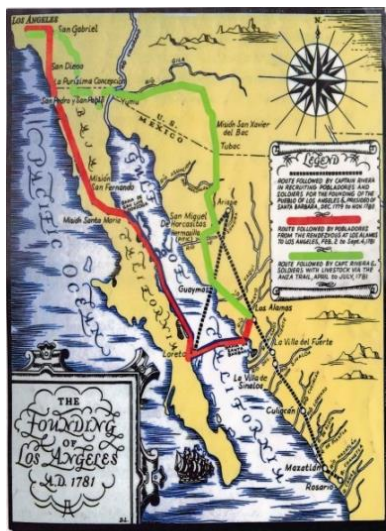
In addition, Lion also was responsible for the chandelier in the City Hall rotunda. This chandelier contains a number of figures from California history, including Juan Bautista de Anza, Father Junipero Serra, Felipe de Neve, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, Vasco Nunez de Balboa and the Tongva.





## Spotlight on the Pueblo: The Old Spanish Trail

One of the visual aids many docents use is the map showing the Pobladores route to Los Angeles (red route below), which also contains the route taken by Captain Rivera with the soldiers and livestock (green route below):



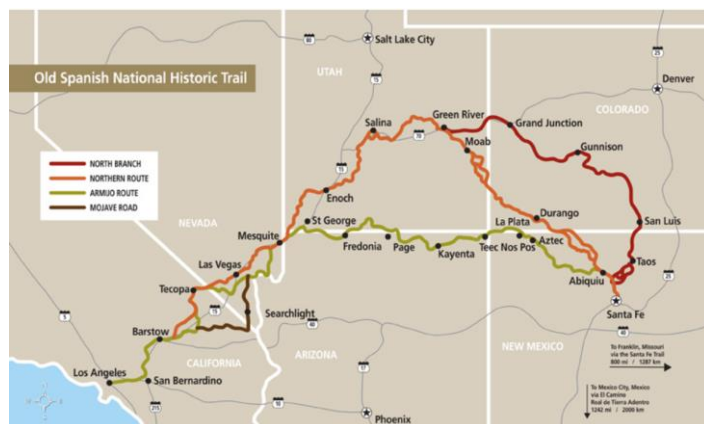
Route of Los Pobladores - 1781

We recently had a fourth grade class taking our tour and also doing the scavenger hunt (which asks about the Old Spanish Trail). One of the students asked if Captain Rivera's route followed the Old Spanish Trail. The answer to this is no. This route follows the Juan Bautista de Anza trail, which is the route taken by Anza in 1775-1776 bringing colonists from what is now Mexico to San Francisco bay, to eventually found the Presidio and Mission in San Francisco:



This trail travels through southern Arizona, crossing the Colorado River at the Yuma Crossing.

The Old Spanish Trail was from Santa Fe, New Mexico, to Los Angeles, passing through Colorado, Utah, northern Arizona and Nevada, coming into California through what is now the route from Las Vegas (and there were several different routes for this trail):



In addition to the Old Spanish Trail sign between the Plaza and the Biscailuz building, there is a plaque on the inside of the northeast Plaza wall (often blocked by a bench). It states:

### THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL 1829 – 1848

This plaque marks the end of the Old Spanish Trail, an historic pack trail from Santa Fe to the Pueblo of Los Angeles. This trail was used by Mexican traders who brought woolen goods from New Mexico to trade for highly prized California mules and horses, and by emigrants to California. The trail originated as a trade route between New Mexico and Utah during the Spanish colonial era and then extended west to California during the Mexican period.

Map sources:

Anza Trail Map:

<https://southernarizonaguide.com/second-anza-expedition-journey-lifetime/#toc-3>

Old Spanish Trail Map: Kitty Nicholson graphic design  
(<https://oldspanishtrail.org/maps>)

### Editor: Lindsay McMenamin

Contact me with history tidbits, news or notes, and interesting articles written by you:

[news@lasangelitas.org](mailto:news@lasangelitas.org)

Deadline for next newsletter: January 20, 2020

### Tour Statistics

Number of People Toured, January - October

2019: 5,781

2018: 6,030

2017: 6,692