

CASE No.

93

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

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LOS PALOS VERDES GRANT

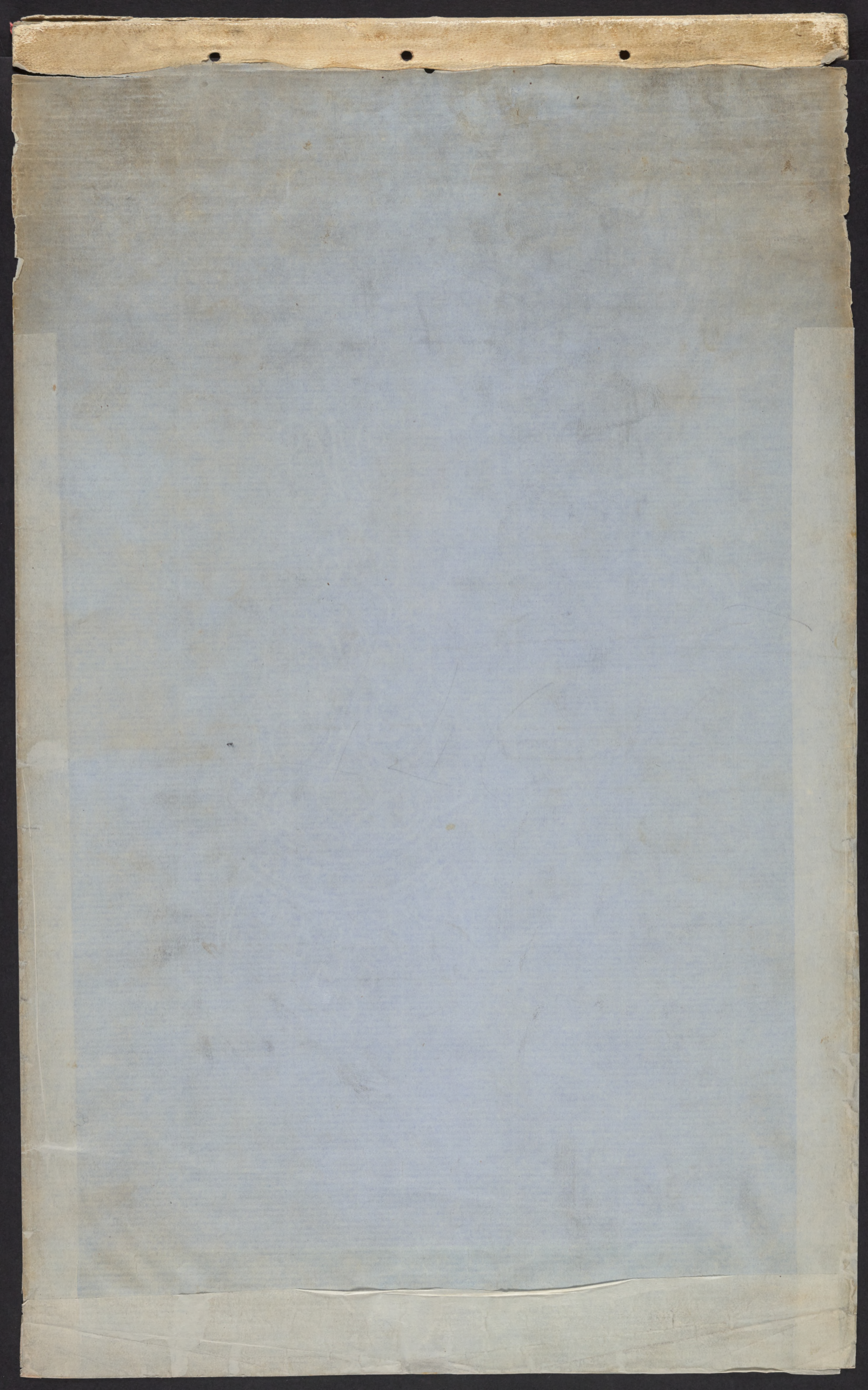
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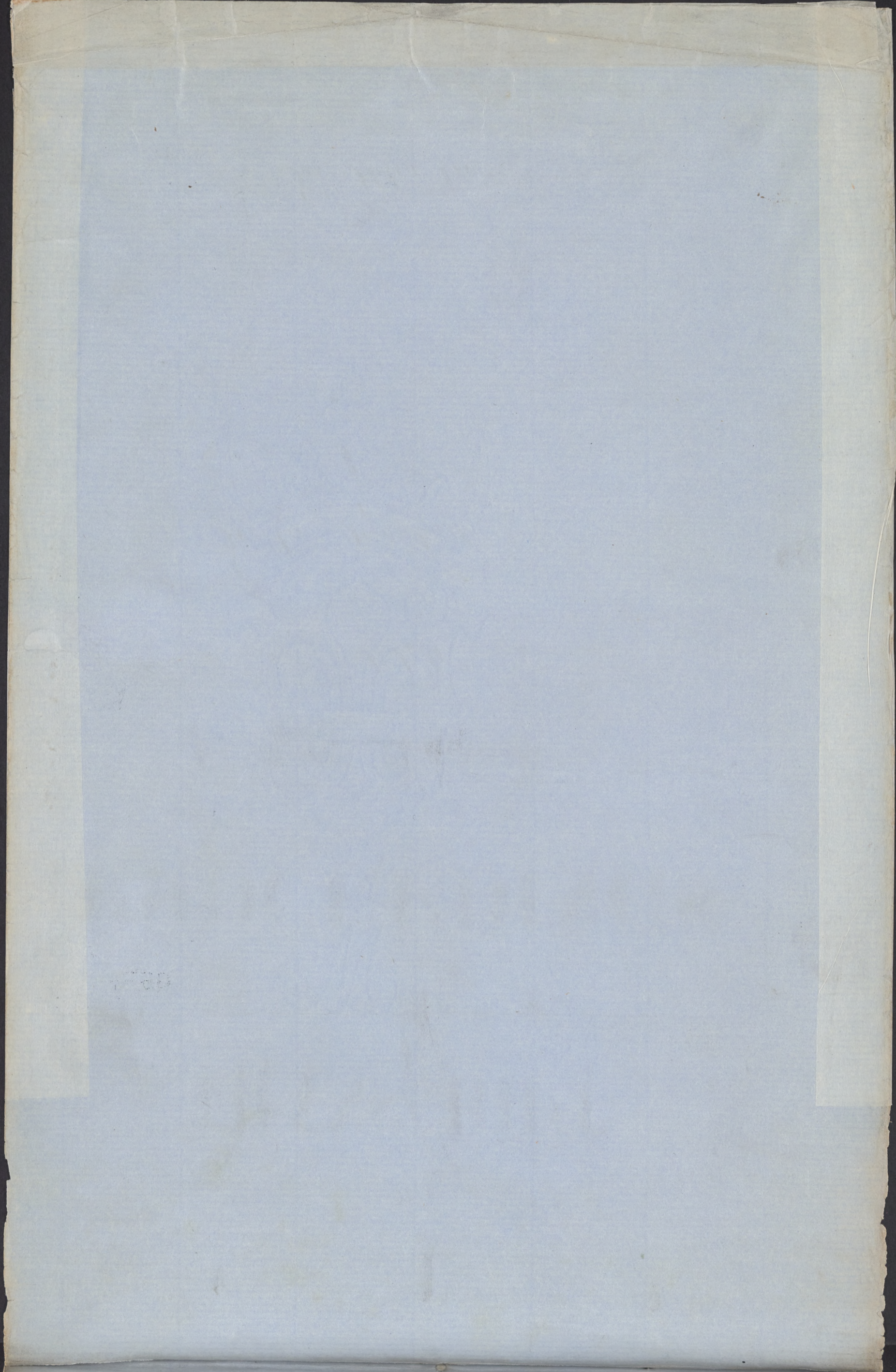
JOSE LORETA SEPULVEDA

CLAIMANT

Land Case 93 SD

ALSO AVAILABLE ON MICROFILM





# TRANSCRIPT

OF THE

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PAGE 1

# PROCEEDINGS

IN CASE

NO. 446

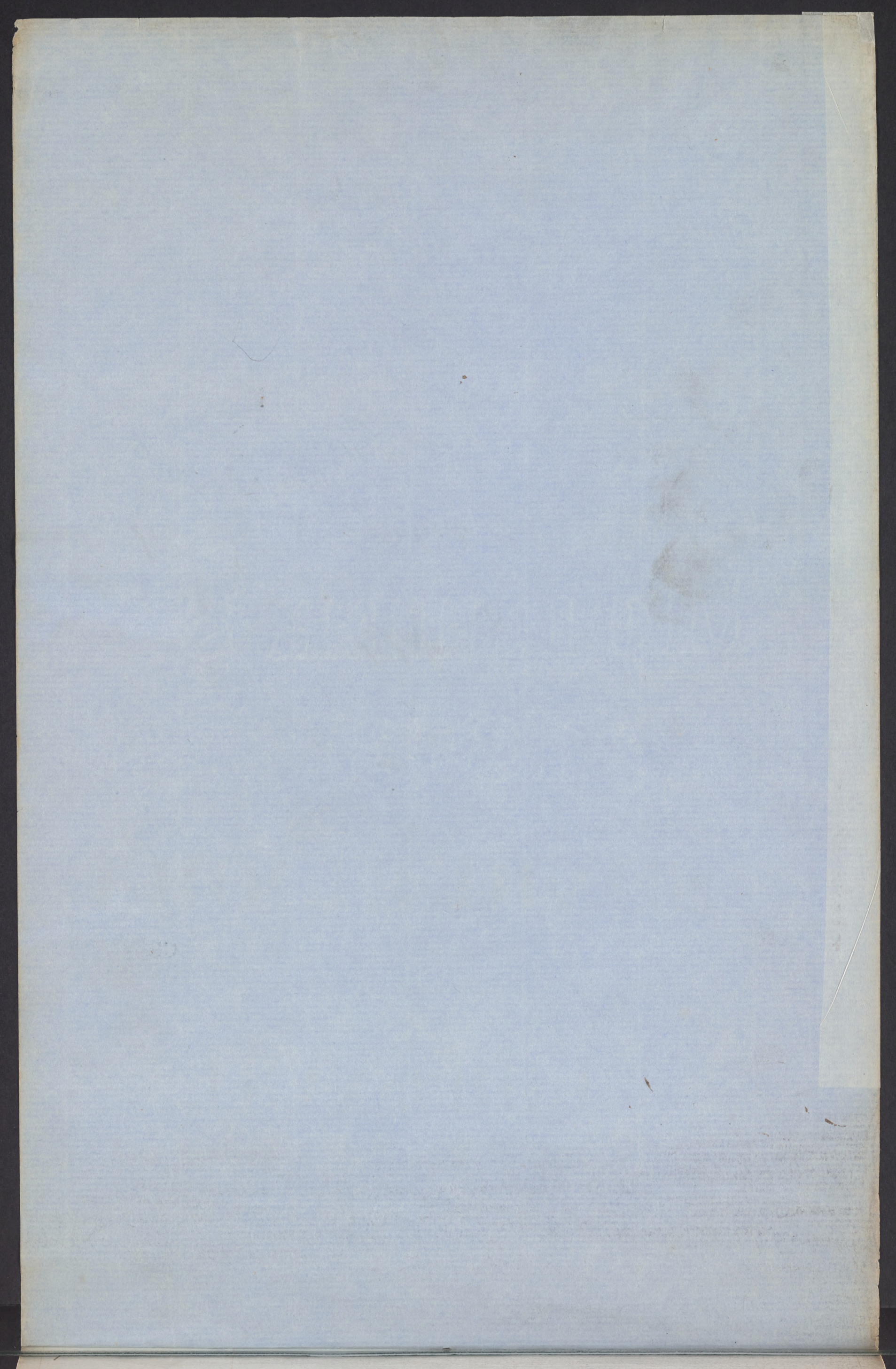
*Pose Soreta Sepulveda et al* CLAIMANT

VS.

THE UNITED STATES, DEFENDANT,

FOR THE PLACE NAMED

*Sos. Palos Verdes*



Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims

IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Be it Remembered, that on this first day of November, Anno Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-Five, before the Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, sitting as a Board in the City of San Francisco, in the State aforesaid, in the United States of America, the following Proceedings were had, to wit;

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The Petition of José Loreto Sepulveda et al; for the Place named "Los Palos Verdes" was presented, and ordered to be filed and docketed with No. 446 and is as follows, to wit;

(Vide page 8 of this Transcript.)

Upon which Petition the following subsequent Proceedings were had in their chronological order, to wit;

Los Angeles November 9<sup>th</sup> 1852.

In Case No. 446 José Loreto Sepulveda for the place named "Los Palos Verdes" the deposition of Abel Stearns a witness in behalf of the claimants, taken before Commissioner Nicand Hall with documents marked H. B. No. 1 and translation thereof marked D, annexed thereto was filed;

(Vide page 4 of this Transcript)

San Francisco December 13<sup>th</sup> 1852

In the same case the deposition of Leonarda Corta, a witness in behalf of the claimants, taken before Commissioner Nicand Hall was filed;

(Vide page 6 of this Transcript)

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San Francisco Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1853.  
Case no. 466 Caceres. The Council for the  
Claimants read the Evidence; Argued, sub-  
mitted and taken under advisement by  
the Board.

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San Francisco Decem<sup>r</sup> 20 1853.  
In the same case Commissioner Thompson  
has upheld the opinion of the Board  
confirming the claim.

(See page 29 of this Transcript)





To the Hon. Board of U.S. Land Commissioners  
appointed to settle private land claims in California.

The petition of Jose Lote Sepulveda & Juan  
Sepulveda respectfully represents:

Petition

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That on or about the third day of June A. D.  
1846, Pio Pico, then Governor of California in the name  
of the Mexican Nation by virtue of the powers & authority  
in him vested, the laws then in force the customs & usage  
of the country affecting grants of land in California, -  
granted in full propriety unto your petitioners the tract of  
land & rancho situate in the present county of Los Ange-  
les known by the name of Los Palos Verdes, containing  
about square leagues more particularly described  
in the papers & maps relating to said grant of land in  
the archives in custody of the U. S. Surveyor General  
for California & in the possession of your petitioners ready  
to be produced & proved before your Hon Board. That  
copies of some portions of the papers found in the archives  
as well as original papers in possession of your petitioners  
are herewith filed as part of this petition.

And your petitioners further show that they ac-  
-quired juridical possession of said tract of land & rancho  
from the proper officer having jurisdiction of such matters  
as appears by original papers, documents & maps in  
possession of your petitioners & ready to be produced and  
proved before your Hon Board. That copies of the said  
papers & documents are herewith filed as part of this  
petition.

And your petitioners further show that a tract  
of land at the landing of San Pedro five hundred varas  
in extent each way, has been as is shown from this claim  
according to the true intent & meaning of the provisions  
of said grant.

And your petitioners further show that they have  
been in peaceable & quiet possession of said tract of land  
& rancho for more than nineteen years prior to the

date of said grant, under authority of the Mexican Government of your petitioners are at the present time in the peaceable & quiet possession of said lands, occupying the same with their houses & corrals & their horses & cattle.

There is no conflicting claim to said ranches of any just validity known to your petitioners. That said lands have not been surveyed by the U. S. Surveyor General for California.

The evidence upon which your petitioners rely consists of the records of this grant, papers & maps in the Archives now in the office & custody of the U. S. Surveyor General for California; original documents, papers and maps in the possession of your petitioners & the testimony of witnesses to be produced before your Hon. Board.

Respectfully submitted for such action as the justice & nature of the claim may require.

E. O. Crosby  
of Counsel for Claimants

Filed in Office Nov<sup>r</sup> 1852.

Geo. Fisher Secy.

Los Angeles Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 1852

Deposition of  
Abel Stearns.

On this day before Corcoran H. Hall, came Abel Stearns, a witness on behalf of the claimants Jose L. Sepulveda & al, petition No 446, & was duly sworn, his evidence being given in English. The U. S. Associate Law Agent was present.

In answer to questions by counsel for the claimants the witness testified as follows

My name is Abel Stearnes, my age is fifty four years, & I reside in the city of Los Angeles. I have resided in California over twenty three years.

I am acquainted with the hand writing of Pico, Pico, Jose Maria Moreno, Leonardo Costa, Ignacio Coronel & Pauldo Valdez.

A paper is now shown me purporting to be a grant to Jose Loretto & Juan Sepulveda, dated the 3<sup>d</sup> day of June 1846. to which is attached a testimonial of judicial possession given in June 1846. The signatures of the said several persons appearing on said paper I believe to be genuine. Said Costa was acting Alcalde at the time of the giving of said possession & authorized to give it. Said paper is well wrapped & marked H. H. No. 1.

I am acquainted with the place called Paja Verde. It is situated on the sea coast near San Pedro. The land has been occupied by the family of the Sepulvedas for more than twenty years. In 1846 when the grant was made Juan Sepulveda & Jose L. Sepulveda had houses on the land in which they resided separately with their families & they have continued to reside there until the present time. They used the land for the pasturage of cattle & other stock & have stock there now.

Abel Stearnes,  
Sworn & subscribed  
Before me

Richard Hall,  
Clerk.

Filed in Office Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Geo. Fisher,  
Sey.

Los Angeles Nov 20<sup>th</sup> 1852.

On this day before Court Hilland Hall, came Leonardo Cota, a witness in behalf of the claimant, Jose Lora Sepulveda, petition No 446. & was duly sworn, his evidence being interpreted by the Secretary.

The U.S. Associate Sam Agent was present.

Deposition of  
Leonardo Cota.

In answer to questions by counsel for the claimant the witness testified as follows.

My name is Leonardo Cota, my age is thirty four years & I reside in the County of Los Angeles. In June & July 1846, I was Regidor and acting Alcalde in this place. I know the Rancho Palo Verde. It is situated in this county adjoining the port of San Pedro. As Alcalde I gave judicial possession to Jose Lora Sepulveda & Juan Sepulveda in June or July of that year, & I believe in July, to said Rancho. The boundaries were marked out & the land markers set up at that time. I gave them a certified copy of the proceedings. They had been occupying the land for many years previous to that time & they have been occupying it ever since & now occupy it.

Leonardo Cota

Sworn & subscribed

Before me

Hiland Hall.

Court.

Filed in Office Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Geo. Fisher.

Secy

1846

Expediente promovido por los Señores  
Jose' Corto y Juan Sepulveda en per-  
tencencia del Paraje conocido con el nombre  
de los Palos-Verdes en la jurisdiccion  
de esta Ciudad

No. 565-

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0 8

Exmo Sr.

0 9

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Jose Loreto y Juan Sepulveda Meji-  
canos por nacimiento y vecinos de esta ante  
V.E. en la mas bastante forma y como  
mas haya lugar en derecho Comparsamos  
y decimos: que hace como diez y nueve  
años que se nos Concedio provisionalmente  
el paraje de los Palos Verdes hacia el en-  
barcadero cuya Concesion la manifiestan  
los adjuntos documentos que en Catorce fijas  
con el dicho presentamos y desde esa epo-  
ca hemos tenido cubierto el sitio con ga-  
nado y Caballada suficiente igualmente  
hemos construido fincas valiosas y le hemos  
dado ser a un terreno absolutamente val-  
dido reconocidas por tal motivo y el  
acto ratificado del Sr. Gral. D. Jose Ti-  
guerra como unos propietarios y descan-  
sabamos de buena fe en esa creencia pero  
el aspirantismo de muchos en el logro  
del terreno y los preparativos de otros para  
dañarnos han disipado nuestra con-  
fianza y nos han impulsado a pedir a  
V.E. la revalidacion del titulo provisio-  
nal en titulo de propiedad y que los de-  
marquen el tamaño y estension con  
arreglo a lo que posemos con eso cesar-  
ean las pretensiones injustas nuestra  
propiedad se asegurara y logramos  
la atencion del derecho de preferencia  
que tenemos. Por tanto S. S. P.  
suplicamos que en virtud de lo espuesto  
y por el merito de las razones alegadas  
decute de Concedidomb que recibiremos  
gracia jurando no ser de malicia y  
lo necesario de. Admitiendo las presente  
en papel comun por falta del sellado.

670E J. S. D. K. 20

Angel y Maya. 29 de 1846

9

Jose L. Sepulveda

Juan Sepulveda

L. S. D. K.

Angelos junio 3 de 1846

Vista la solicitud con que da principio este expediente cerciorado que todo cuanto los suplicantes alegan este fundado en la justicia y en vista de los documentos que han hecho valer con todo lo demas que se tuvo presente y sus contrarios mandado de las facultades con que me hallo autorizado a nombre de la Nacion Mexicana y de conformidad con la ley de 18 de Agosto de 1824 y reglamento de 20 de Noviembre de 1828 declaro por las presentes letras a los señores Jose Lauto y Juan Sepulveda hermanos dueños en propiedad del rancho conocido con el nombre de los Palos Verdes librase a los interesados el titulo respectivo y remite el expediente para someterlo a la Exma. Asamblea Departamental. Pio Pico Gobernador Constitucional del Departamento de California asi lo mande decretado y firmo doy fe

Pio Pico

Jose Matias Moreno

Srio. Escriba.

Pio Pico Gobernador Constitucional del Departamento de California

Por cuanto los Ciudadanos Jose Lauto y Juan Sepulveda hermanos han pretendido para su beneficio personal y el de sus familias el terreno conocido con el nombre de los Palos Verdes que provisionalmente

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han sido por concesion hecha del go-  
 bierno de este pais hace diez y nueve  
 años practicadas firmemente las condi-  
 ciones en ciertos usando de las  
 facultades en que me hallo autorizado  
 a nombre de la Nacion Mexicana he  
 venido por decreto de este dia en con-  
 ceder el mencionado terreno, declar-  
 andole la propiedad de el por las  
 presentes letras de conformidad con  
 la ley de 18 de Agosto de 1824 y  
 Reglamento de 20 de Noviembre de  
 1828 a espera de la aprobacion de  
 la Exma Asamblea Departamental  
 y bajo las condiciones siguientes =

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1<sup>a</sup> - Podran cercarlo sin perjudi-  
 car las haciendas Caninos y servidum-  
 bus lo disfrutaran libre y exclusi-  
 vamente destinandolo al uso y apro-  
 vechamiento que mas les convenga

2<sup>a</sup> - Solicitaran del juez respectivo  
 las de la posesion juridica en vir-  
 tud de este despacho por el cual  
 se demarcaran los linderos con las  
 respectivas posesiones

3<sup>a</sup> - El terreno de que se le hace  
 donacion es el que demuestra el  
 diseño que obra en el expediente  
 el juez que diere la posesion lo hara  
 medir conforme a ordenanza y dara  
 cuenta a este gobierno del numero de  
 sitios de ganado mayor que conti-  
 ne.

6. S. D. K.

4<sup>a</sup> - Dejaran libre en la selva  
 de San Pedro quinientas varas a  
 cada viento de los Cuatro Cardinales  
 para que puedan fabricar Casa  
 las personas a quienes se les con-  
 ceda permiso, asi como no podran im-  
 pedir el uso de las aguas y pasturas



11  
a las personas que trafican con buques  
Carretas Caballada y demas con el  
puerto de San Pedro.

En consecuencia mando que  
teniendo el presente título su fuer-  
za y validez se tome carrea de el  
en el libro a que corresponde y se  
entregue a los interesados para su  
resguardo y demas fines. Dado en  
Yafuel Comun por no haber sellado  
en la ciudad de los Angeles  
a los tres dias del mes de junio  
de 1846. — Pio Pico.

J. M. M.  
S. Y.

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Pio Pico Gobernador Consti-  
tucional del Departamento  
de California

Por cuanto los  
Ciudadanos Jose Lugo y Juan Sepul-  
veda hermanos han pretendido para  
su beneficio personal y el de sus fami-  
lias el terreno conocido con el nombre  
de los Malos Verdos que provisional-  
mente han poseido por concesion hecha  
del Gobierno de este Pais hace diez y  
nueve años practicadas puramente  
las averiguaciones convenientes usando  
de las facultades con que me hallo auto-  
rizado a nombre de la Nacion Mexi-  
cana he venido por decreto de este dia  
en concederles el mencionado terreno  
declarandoles la propiedad de el por  
las puras letras de conformidad  
con la ley de 18 de Agosto de 1824 y  
reglamento de 24 de Noviembre de  
1828 a espera de la Aprobacion de  
la Exma Asamblea Departamental y  
bajo las condiciones siguientes

1<sup>a</sup> Podran cercarlo sin perjudicar las travesías Caminos y servidumbres lo disputaran libre y esclusivamente destinandolo al uso y aprovechamiento que mas les convenga

8 S.D.H.

2<sup>a</sup> = Solicitaran del juez respectivo las de la posesion juridica en virtud de este despacho por el cual se demarcaran los linderos con las ensenadas monoponeras

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3<sup>a</sup> = El terreno de que se les hace donacion es el que demuestra el diseño que obra en el expediente. El juez que tiene la posesion lo hara' medir conforme a ordenanza y dara' cuenta a este Gobierno del numero de sitios de ganado mayor que contiene.

4<sup>a</sup> = Dejarian libre en la playa de San Pedro quinientas varas a cada uno de los cuatro Cardinales asi como no podran impedir el uso de las aguas y pasturas a las personas que trafican al puerto de San Pedro.

En consecuencia mando que teniendo el presente titulo por firme y valido se tome razon de el en el libro a que corresponde y se entregue a los interesados para su esguardo y demas fines. Dado en papel Coman por no haber sellado en la Ciudad de los Angeles a los tres dias del mes de junio de mil ochocientos Cuarenta y seis.

9 S.D.H.

Queda tomada razon de este superior despacho en el libro respectivo  
Dio Dios

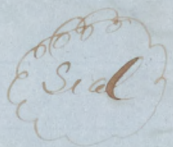
Office of the Surveyor General of the  
United States for California

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I Samuel D. King Surveyor General of the United States for the State of California and as such was having in my office and under my charge and control a portion of the Archives of the former Spanish and Mexican Territory a Department of Upper California do hereby certify that the nine preceding and hereunto annexed pages of tracing paper numbered from one to nine inclusive and each of which is verified by my initials (S. D. K.) exhibit a true and accurate copy of certain documents on file and forming part of the said archives in this office.

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In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name officially and affixed my private seal (not having seal of office) at the City of San Francisco Cal. this 16th day of October 1852  
 Samuel D. King  
 Survey Genl Cal



Filed in office  
 Nov. 1st. 1852  
 Geo Fisher.  
 Secy.

14

BYDE

20

15

Your Excellency,

Don José Loreto & Juan Sepúlveda  
 Mexicans by birth & residents of this place, before  
 Your Excellency in the most sufficient form & to the  
 utmost extent of the law, do appear & say, that it is  
 about nineteen years since the tract of Palos Verdes  
 towards the Embareadero was granted to us provision-  
 ally. This grant is proven by the subjoined documents  
 which we present in fourteen sheets together with the  
 plan; & since that period we have the premises stocked  
 with cattle & horses in sufficient number. We have  
 likewise constructed valuable improvements & have  
 given life to a tract absolutely deserted. Wherefore  
 & under the deed, ratified by General Don José  
 Figueroa, we considered ourselves as proprietors and  
 repose in good faith in that belief, but the preten-  
 sions of many persons towards the enjoyment of  
 the premises & the preparations made by others to  
 prejudice them have awakened us from our confi-  
 dence & induced us to pray your Excellency to re-  
 sanction the provisional title into a title of owner-  
 ship & that the size & extension be assigned accor-  
 ding to what we possess, & therewith, unjust,  
 pretensions will cease, our property will be secured  
 & we shall obtain attention to the right of preference  
 which is ours.

Wherefore we beseech your Excellency by  
 virtue of the aforesaid & the merit of the cause alleged  
 to give us a decree of concession wherein we shall  
 receive favor. We make oath that we do not proceed  
 through malice, & add the necessary verifications  
 & praying that these presents be admitted on com-  
 mon paper there being none stamped.

Angles May 29<sup>th</sup> 1846.

José L. Sepúlveda.  
 Juan Sepúlveda.

Exhibit - D.  
 Translation

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Angles June 3 1846.

In view of the petition whereunto these Proceedings originate, proof having been taken that all the matters alleged by the petitioners are founded in justice, & in view of the documents whereof they have availed themselves to gather with all other things which were brought forward & it was behooving to keep in view. In the exercise of the powers whereunto I am invested, in the name of the Mexican Nation & in conformity with the law of 18<sup>th</sup> of August 1824 & the Regulation of 21<sup>st</sup> of November 1828, I declare by these present letters the Seniors Don Lope & Juan Sepulveda, brothers, owners in absolute property of the tract known by the name of Los Palos Verdes let the appropriate title be issued to the parties in interest & let the minutes of these Proceedings be kept to be submitted to the approval of the Most Excellent the Departmental Assembly.

Pio Pico, Constitutional, Governor of the Department of California, has recorded decreed & subscribed. Witness my hand.

Pio Pico.

José Matías Moreno.

Secretary ad interim

Filed in Office Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 1852.

Geo. Fisher,  
Secy.

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690E

3D

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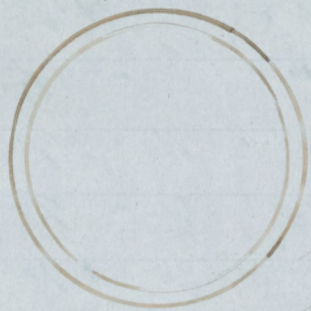
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*Percecion de los  
Palos Verdes*

*Año de  
1846*

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Pio Pio Gobernador Constitucional del Departamento de las Californias.



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Por cuanto los Ciudadanos José Loreto y Juan Sepúlveda, hermanos, han pretendido para su beneficio personal y el de sus familias el terreno conocido con el nombre de los Palos Secos, que porcionalmente han poseído por concesión hecha del Gobierno de este país hace diez y nueve años; practicadas porciónmente las averiguaciones correspondientes usando de las facultades que me son conferidas a nombre de la Nación Mexicana, he venido por decreto de este día en consideración el mencionado terreno declarándolo la propiedad de él por las presentadas letras de Concesión de conformidad con la ley de 18 de Agosto de 1824 y Reglamento de 21 de Noviembre de 1828 la reserva de la aprobación de la Exma Asamblea Departamental y bajo las condiciones siguientes:

1<sup>a</sup> = Podrán cercarlo sin perjudicar las trayectorias Caminos y servidumbres la disputaran libre y exclusivamente destinándolo al uso y aprovechamiento que mas les convenga.

2<sup>a</sup> Solicitara del juez respectivo las de la posesión jurídica en virtud de este despacho, por el cual se demarcaran los lindes con las respectivas preferencias.

3<sup>a</sup> = El terreno de que se hace donación es el que demuestra el dominio que obra en el expediente. El juez que dire la posesión lo hará medir



Conforme a ordenanza y dara cuenta a este Gobierno del numero de sitios de ganado mayor que contiene.

La Dejaran libres en la playa de San Pedro quinientas varas a cada Viento de los Cuatro Cardinales asi como no podran impedir a las personas que trafican al Puerto de San Pedro.

En consecuencia mando que teniendo el presente titulo por firme y valido se tome razon de el en el libro a que corresponde y se entregue a los interesados para su resguardo y demas fines. Dado en Mexico Canon por no haber sellado, en la Ciudad de los Angeles a los tres dias del mes de junio de mil ochocientos cuarenta y seis.

Pio Pico

José Maria Moreno  
Su Ya<sup>to</sup>

Linda tomada razon de este Superior Despacho en el libro respectivo.

Mexico.

En la Ciudad de los Angeles del Departamento de California a los once dias del mes de junio de mil ochocientos cuarenta y seis. Yo Leonardo Cota Alcalde primero interino y Regidor decano del Ilustre Ayuntamiento de esta Ciudad, dije: que por cuanto han solicitado los Señores Don Jose Lortio y Don Juan Sepulveda que se les de posesion juridica del terreno conocido con el nombre de los Palos Verdes, del cual presentaron el titulo de propiedad

respectivo para ser por mi y testigos de  
 asistencia y darme la posesión jurídica  
 que solicita con arreglo al precitado  
 despacho que expedí el Exmo. Sr. Gober-  
 nador con fecha tres del presente. Asi  
 lo dieste mandé y firmé con los de asis-  
 tencia segun derecho en este papel  
 común por falta del sellado = Leo-  
 nardo Cota = asistencia = Ygnacio Coro-  
 nel = asistencia = Basilio Valdez = En  
 seguida yo el juez que suscribe poseí  
 oficio al coludante manifestándole  
 que iba a remediar el parage de los  
 Palos Verdes y que iba a poner en  
 posesion de el a los Señores Don José  
 Loreto y D. Juan Sepulveda. Y no  
 habiendo manifestado excepción alguna  
 se pone por diligencia que autorizé  
 y firmé con los de asistencia segun  
 derecho. Leonardo Cota = asistencia  
 Ygnacio Coronel = asistencia = Basilio  
 Valdez. Acto continuo para la prac-  
 tica de estas diligencias nombro dos  
 oficiales cordeleros los que por no  
 saber escribir se omiten sus nombres  
 y a los mismos que los haze saber  
 el acto de su nombramiento respon-  
 diendo que entendidos lo oran y acep-  
 taban bajo de juramento, prome-  
 tiendo desempeñar fiel y legalmente  
 su encargo esto contestaron y no  
 firmaron por no saber y lo haze yo  
 con los de asistencia segun derecho =  
 Leonardo Cota = asistencia = Ygnacio  
 Coronel = asistencia = Basilio Valdez  
 Yncontinenti y hallandome en  
 el sitio de los Palos Verdes por  
 ante mi los testigos de asistencia  
 y los oficiales cordeleros mandé me-  
 dir un cordel constante de cien

varas al que se citaron a sus extremos  
 unos bancos de madera, y previa ob-  
 servación y cálculo por mis disposiciones  
 se tiro el Cordel con direccion al po-  
 niente y se midieron y contaron dos  
 mil varas, que remataron en unos  
 maderos a villa de la Playa donde  
 se mando poner una mojenera; de  
 este punto continuo la segunda me-  
 dida con direccion al Sur y se mi-  
 dieron y contaron cinco mil tres-  
 cientas varas que remataron en la  
 Playa en un paraje nombrado el  
 Codo; de este lugar y con direccion  
 al oriente se tiro la tercer medida  
 respetando quinientas varas que se  
 dejaron por cada uno de los cuatro  
 vientos Cardinales para los usos del  
 Superior Gobierno; y continuando la  
 medida hasta el paraje nombrado  
 la Golita salieron por resultado quin-  
 ce mil varas que remataron en el  
 mismo paraje donde se ordeno que  
 pongan una mojenera; de este lu-  
 gar y con direccion al Norte se tiro  
 la cuarta medida y se contaron  
 ocho mil varas que remataron don-  
 de se comenzo. En tal estado y en-  
 cluida la medida del terreno les  
 di a los interesados provision juris-  
 dica a nombre de la Nación Me-  
 jicana y dandose por satisfechos  
 de todo lo actuado lo mando poner  
 por diligencia que autorizo y firmo  
 con los de asistencia segun derecho  
 Leonardo Cota = asistencia = Ygnacio  
 Bermejo = asistencia = Pascual Paddey  
 Habiendose concluido las presen-  
 tes diligencias deshe testimonio a  
 las partes para los usos que le

convengamos. Asi yo el juez que subscribe decreto mande y firme con los de asistencia segun dicho - Leonardo Cota = Asistencia - Basilio Valdez

En la fecha se dio el testimonio respectivo y se anota para constancia publica = rubrica = entre renglones = con las = una = v. = tachado = continuo = no = v. =

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Conviene con la original que se halla en el protocolo respectivo del que se saca 'Corrigio' y Confronto fiel y legalmente en estas tres fojas de papel comun por falta de sellado, admitiendo que con el titulo original que va a la cabeza forman cinco fojas = fecha ut supra  
Leonardo Cota

assa una  
Ygnacio Cornel Basilio Valdez

Filed in office Nov. 9th 1852  
Geo. Fisher  
Sey.

Pro. Pro. Constitutional Governor of the Department  
of the Californias.  
L.S.

Exhibit D  
Translation -  
judicial - poss -

Translation of  
H. H. No 1 -  
annexed to the  
depts of Abel  
Steamer Nov  
9' 1852.

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PAGE 23

Whereas the Citizens Jose Loret &  
Juan Sepulveda, brothers, have claimed for their  
personal benefit & that of their families the tract  
known by the name of Palos Verdes which they have  
possessed provisionally under grant made by the  
Government of this country nineteen years ago, the  
investigations in that behalf having first been taken  
In the exercise of the powers wherewith I am invested  
in the name of the Mexican Nation, I do now, by  
decree of this day grant unto them the aforesaid  
tract declaring unto them the aforesaid tract de-  
claring unto them the ownership thereof by the  
present letters in conformity with the law of 18<sup>th</sup>  
of August 1824 & the regulations of 21<sup>st</sup> of November  
1828 under reservation of the approval of the  
Departmental Assembly & under the following  
conditions

- 1<sup>st</sup> They may enclose it without prejudicing the  
cross roads, highways & rights of way, they shall  
enjoy it freely & exclusively devoting it to the  
use & improvement which best may behove them
- 2<sup>d</sup> They shall request the competent Magistrate  
to give them judicial possession by virtue of this  
patent; such Magistrate shall assign the  
proper land marks.
- 3<sup>d</sup> The tract hereby granted is that known by  
the plan filed with the minutes of the proceedings  
The Judge who gives the possession will cause it  
to be measured conformably to ordinance and  
shall report to this government the number of  
varas (sections) for neat cattle which it contains.
- 4<sup>th</sup> They shall leave free on the beach of San Pedro  
five hundred varas in each direction of the four

X

cardinal points. Neither shall they have power to prevent the passage of traffic at the Port of San Pedro from using water & anchorage.

In consequence I order that the present title being held as firm & valid, be entered of record in the appropriate books & delivered to the parties in interest for their protection & further use. Given on common paper there being none stamped on the third day of the month of June one thousand eight hundred & forty six.

P. P.

Jose Matias Moreno

Scry ad interim

This Superior Patent is entered of record in the appropriate book.

Moreno.

At the City of Los Angeles in the Department of California, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the month of June, one thousand eight hundred & forty six, I, Leonardo Cota, first Alcalde ad interim & senior Member of the Illustrious Municipal Council of this city made the following order: whereas the Señors Don Jose Loulo & Don Juan Sepulveda have requested that judicial possession be given them of the tract known by the name of Los Palos Verdes, wherein they presented the due title of ownership, ordered that I, & the attesting witnesses repair & deliver the judicial possession which they solicit, agreeably to the aforementioned patent which His Excellency the Governor issued dated the third instant. So done ordered & signed by me with the attesting witnesses

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BYCF  
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according to law on this common paper, there being  
none stamped.

Leonardo Cota.  
Attest. Ignacio Coronel. Attest. Basilio Valdez.

Next afterwards I the undersigned Judge sent  
notice to the owners of neighbouring lands inform-  
ing them that I was going to remeasure the tract  
of Los Palos Verdes & was going to place in possession  
of the same the names Don José Loubé & Don Juan  
Sepulveda, & he not having shown any objection  
the same is noted in the minutes which I certified  
& subscribed with the attesting witnesses according  
to law.

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PAGE 25

Leonardo Cota.  
Attest. Ignacio Coronel. Attest. Basilio Valdez.

Immediately afterwards & for the practical part  
of these proceedings, I appointed two official line  
bearers whose names are omitted, they not knowing  
how to write. I informed them of the act of  
their appointment, they answered that they heard  
& understood it & accepted under oath promising  
to discharge their office faithfully & legally.  
This was their answer which they did not sign  
not knowing how to write & I subscribed the  
same with the attesting witnesses according  
to law.

Leonardo Cota.  
Attest. Ignacio Coronel. Attest. Basilio Valdez.

Immediately afterwards I being at the premises  
of Los Palos Verdes & having in my presence  
the attesting witnesses & official line bearers,  
I caused to be measured a line one hundred  
varas in length there were fastened wooden

poles at its extremities & after observation and  
 calculations, the line was drawn under my di-  
 rections on a westerly course, & there were measured  
 & counted twelve thousand varas which ended at  
 some sand hills on the edge of the beach where a  
 land mark was ordered to be placed. From this  
 point, the second measurement proceeded towards  
 the south & there were measured & counted five  
 thousand three hundred varas which terminated  
 on the beach at a place called El Codo. From this  
 place & on an Easterly course, the third meas-  
 urement was run leaving a reserve of five  
 hundred varas on each one of the four cardinal  
 points for the uses of the Superior Government  
 & the measurement continuing to the place called  
 La Goleta, the result was fifteen thousand varas  
 which ended at said spot where a land mark was  
 ordered to be placed. From this spot & in a North-  
 westerly direction, the fourth measurement was  
 run, & there were counted eight thousand varas  
 which ended at the place of beginning. In this  
 state of things & the measurement of the tract  
 being ended, I gave judicial possession to the  
 parties interested in the name of the Mexican  
 Nation & they expressing themselves satisfied  
 with all the proceeding, I order the same to be  
 entered in the Minutes which I certify and  
 subscribe with the attesting witnesses according  
 to law.

Leonardo Cota.

Attest Ignacio Coronel. Attest. Basilio Valdez.

The present proceeding being concluded, let certifi-  
 -cate be given to the parties for their behoofing  
 uses, & the undersigned Judge here so



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decreed, ordered & subscribed with the attending witnesses  
according to law.

Leonardo Cota.  
Attest. Basilio Valdez.

On the date the due certificate was given, a note  
of the same is taken for evidence.

A scroll.

Interlined the words tres con las arca - In -  
Effaced - continua - out.

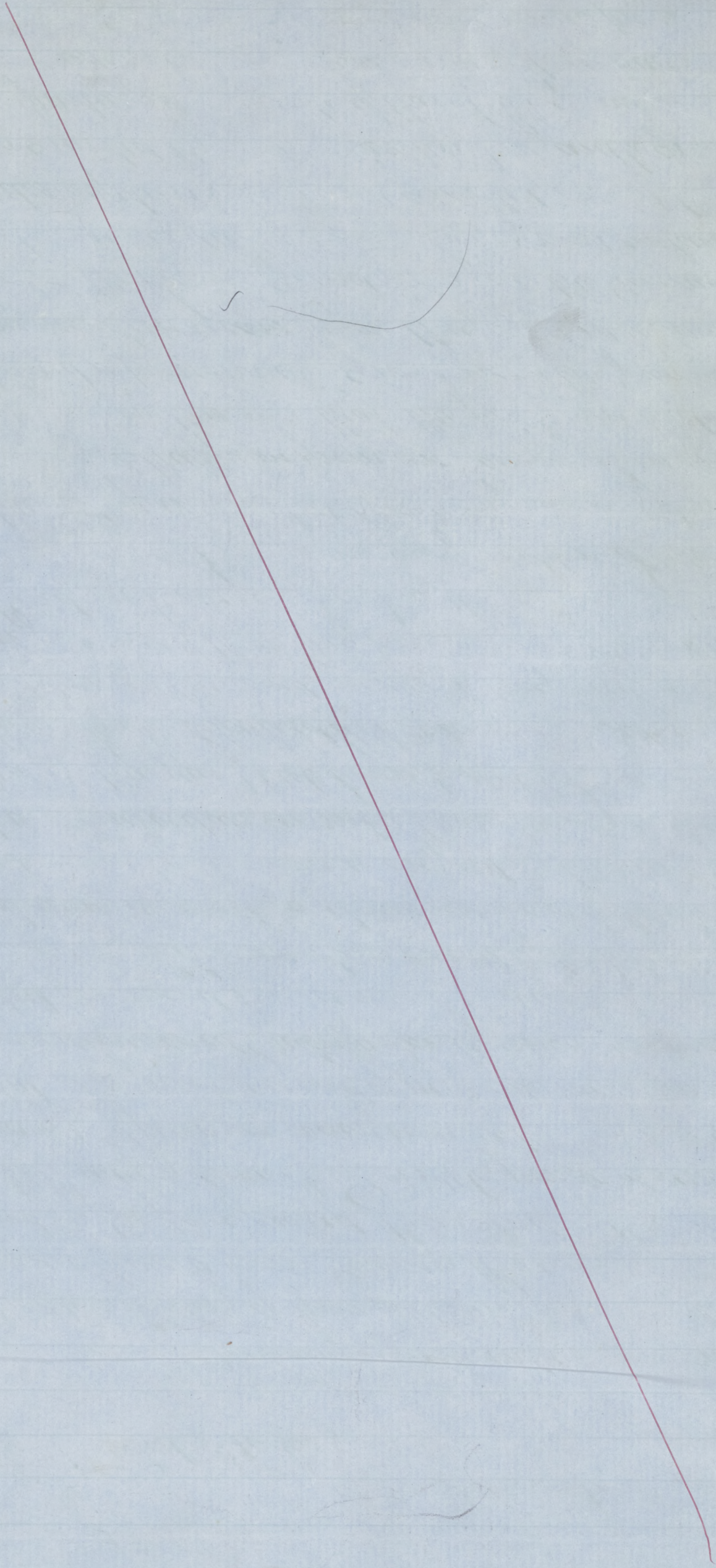
93 SD  
PAGE 27

A true copy of the original which is on file in  
the paper record & from which it was taken with  
faithful & lawful corrections & collations in these  
three sheets of common paper for want of the stamp-  
ed. Notice that with the original title at the  
head, there are five sheets - Same date.

Leonardo Cota.  
Attest. Ago Coronel. Attest. Basilio Valdez.

Filed in Office Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 1852  
Geo. Fisher.  
Secy.

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DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NO. 20

*(Handwritten mark)*

29

Jose Loris Sepulveda  
& Juan Sepulveda.vs  
The United States.

Palos Verdes.

Opinion of the  
Board by Comr  
Campbell.93 SD  
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The papers on file in this case show that, on the 3<sup>d</sup> day of June, A. D. 1846, the petitioners obtained from Governor Pio Pico, a grant of land for the place called Palos Verdes; that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June A. D. 1846, judicial possession of said premises was given to the parties interested. The grant & record of judicial measurement & possession are all satisfactorily proved & authenticated.

The petitioners have proved by the testimony of witnesses whose depositions are on file that the land claimed has been occupied by the family of the Sepulvedas for more than twenty years, & that in the year 1846 when they obtained their grant, Juan Sepulveda & Jose L. Sepulveda, had houses on the land, in which they lived, with their families, & that they have continued to reside there ever since.

There is no proof that any appeal of the Departmental Assembly was ever given.

It appears from an examination of the papers in this case that, the petitioners had obtained a provisional grant from the Government some nineteen years before they applied to Governor Pico for the present grant, this fact the Governor relates in his deed of grant. The grant contains no description of the land granted, except that it is granted by name, without regard to quantity. The parties at the date of their last grant were in possession of the premises, which they had been holding for near twenty years under a provisional

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grant; this may account for the absence of all description of the premises; & although it is expressly stated that, it is made in conformity with the law of the 18<sup>th</sup> of August 1824 & the Regulations of the 21<sup>st</sup> of November 1828, the actual occupation of the parties at the time grant was made, & the fact having been made to appear to the granting power that, they had possessed & occupied the land long previous to that time, by authority of the government, the usual formality in regard to description as well as the condition that a house should be built within a prescribed period of time, seem to have been omitted, & as I think very properly.

The third condition of the grant designates the land as follows: "The tract hereby granted is that, shown by the plan filed with the minutes of proceedings," & then proceeds to enjoin the Judge who may give the possession to report the number of leagues the tract contains to the government. The plan here referred to is not to be found with the other papers in the cause. The judicial measurement was made as required, not however with that distinctness & certainty that would perhaps be sufficient to identify an unoccupied tract of land. The map referred to is most likely in the Archives in the United States Surveyor General's office & if it could be found I have no doubt, would greatly aid the officer in making his survey.

Taking the long possession, together with the assistance afforded by the judicial measurement, I think there will be but little difficulty in ascertaining the precise locality of the place called Los Polos Nortes.

The 4<sup>th</sup> condition of the grant, reserves,

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on the beach of San Pedro, five hundred varas in each direction of the four cardinal points. This reservation is made by the officer who made the judicial measurement of the land, & is doubtless intended to embrace the port of San Pedro.

The equities proved in this case we think clearly entitle the petitioners to a confirmation of their claim.

A decree in conformity with this opinion will be entered.

93 SD  
PAGE 30

Filed in Office Dec 20 '1853.

Geo. Fisher  
Secy

José Luis Sepulveda  
& Juan Sepulveda

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3  
3

Decree of  
Confirmation.

vs  
The United States.

In this case on hearing the proofs & allegations it is adjudged by the Commission that the said claim of the petitioners is valid, & it is therefore decreed that the same be confirmed. The lands of which confirmation are hereby made, are known by the name of Los Palos Verdes, & are the same now occupied by said petitioners, & are bounded & described as follows, to wit: Beginning at the South East point of the place Los Palos Verdes, at a place called La Galita, whera there is a land mark, & running in a Northwesterly direction eight thousand varas; thence running in a westerly course twelve thousand varas

to some sand hills on the edge of the beach, where there is a land mark; thence running South five thousand three hundred varas to a point on the beach, called El Codo; thence running on an Easterly course, leaving a reserve of five hundred varas, on each one of the four cardinal points, fifteen thousand varas to the place of beginning. Reference for further description to be had to the record of judicial measurement, marked "Translation of H. H. No 1" & filed in this case.

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Alphens Felch.  
Thompson Campbell.  
R. Aug. Thompson.      Commissioner

Filed in Office Dec 20<sup>th</sup> 1853.

Geo. Fisher  
Secy

49 folios

Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California.

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PAGE 32

I, *George Fisher* Secretary to the Board of Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing *thirty two* pages, numbered from 1 to *32*, both inclusive, to contain a true, correct and full Transcript of the Record of the Proceedings and of the Decision of the said Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony of the Witnesses, upon which the same is founded, on file in this Office, in Case No. *446* on the Docket of the said Board, wherein *José Loreto Sepulveda et al.* are the Claimant, against the United States, for the place known by the name of "*Los Palos Verdes*"



In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix my private Seal (not having a Seal of Office) at San Francisco, California, this *twelfth* day of September A. D. *1854*, and of the Independence of the United States of America the seventy=*ninth*

*Geo. Fisher*  
*sig.*

1893

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S. D.

BOARD OF U. S. I.  
In Case

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93.

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Office of the Attorney General of the United States,  
Washington, 30th November 1854.

José Loreto Sepulveda }  
vs. } 446.  
The United States.

You will please take notice that in the above case, decided by the Commissioners to ascertain and settle private land claims in the State of California in favor of the claimant, and a transcript of the proceedings in which was received in this office on the 30th day of August 1854 the appeal in the district court of the United States for the Southern district of California will be prosecuted by the United States.

*Anthony*

Attorney General.

No 93. 1-

U. S. District Court  
Southern District -

The United States  
vs -  
Jose Loreto Sepulveda

Appeal notice -

Filed July 10<sup>th</sup> 1885.

J. S. Farr.  
clerk.

No. 1.

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In the District Court of the United States  
for the Southern District of California,  
Los Angeles County, State of California.

Jose Loreto Sepulveda,

et al.

vs.

The United States.

} N<sup>o</sup> 93 (Transcript N<sup>o</sup> 446)

}

}

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To the Honorable Isaac S. H. Ogier, Judge  
of the District Court of the United States for  
the Southern District of California.

The petitioner of Pacificus Ord, (of Los Angeles  
County) Attorney of the United States for  
the Southern District of California, who  
petitions in this behalf for the United States;  
and being present here in Court in his  
proper person, in the name and behalf of  
the United States, represents as follows.

That heretofore, to wit, on or about the 1<sup>st</sup>  
day of November A. D. 1852, Jose Loreto  
Sepulveda, and Juan Sepulveda, presented  
a petition to the Commissioners to ascertain  
and settle the private land claims in the  
State of California, claiming the tract of  
land called "Los Palos Verdes", in the  
County of Los Angeles, in the words and

figures following, viz,

" The petition of Jose Loreto Sepulveda and  
 " Juan Sepulveda respectfully represents:  
 " That on or about the third day of  
 " June A.D. 1846, Pio Pico, then Governor  
 " of California in the name of the Mexi-  
 " can nation by virtue of the powers &  
 " authority in him vested, the laws then  
 " in force, the Customs and usages of the  
 " Country affecting grants of land in Cali-  
 " fornia, - granted in full prosperity unto  
 " your petitioners the tract of land & rancho  
 " situated in the present County of Los  
 " Angeles known by the name of Los  
 " Palos Verdes, containing about square  
 " leagues more particularly described in  
 " the papers and maps relating to said  
 " grant of land in the archives in custody  
 " of the U.S. Surveyor General for Califor-  
 " nia & in the possession of your petition-  
 " ers ready to be produced & proved before  
 " your Hon Board. That Copies of some  
 " portions of the papers found in the  
 " Archives as well as original papers in  
 " possession of your petitioners are herewith  
 " filed as part of this petition.  
 " And your petitioners further show that

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PAGE 37

" they received juridical possession of said  
 " tract of land Rancho from the proper  
 " Officer having jurisdiction of such matters  
 " as appears by original papers, documents  
 " & maps in possession of your petitioners  
 " ready to be produced and proved before  
 " your Hon Board. That Copies of the  
 " said papers & documents are herewith filed  
 " as part of this petition.

" And your petitioners further show  
 " that a tract of land at the landing of  
 " San Pedro five hundred Varas in extent  
 " each way, has been <sup>as</sup> ~~and~~ reserved from  
 " this Claim according to the true intent  
 " and meaning of the provisions of said  
 " Grant. And your petitioners further  
 " show that they have been in peaceable  
 " & quiet possession of said tract of land  
 " Rancho for more than Nineteen Years  
 " prior to the date of said Grant, under  
 " Authority of the Mexican Government  
 " & your petitioners are at the present time  
 " in the peaceable and quiet possession  
 " of said lands, occupying the same with  
 " their houses & Corral & their horses & cattle.  
 " There is no conflicting Claim to  
 " said Rancho of any just Validity known

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" to your petitioners. That said lands have  
" not been surveyed by the U.S. Surveyor  
" General for California.

" The evidence upon which your peti-  
" tioners rely consists of the records of  
" this grant, papers & maps in the  
" Archives now in the Office & Custody  
" of the U.S. Surveyor General for Califor-  
" nia, original documents, papers and  
" maps in the possession of your petition-  
" ers & the testimony of witnesses to be  
" produced before your Hon Board.

" Respectfully submitted for such  
" action as the justice & nature of the claim  
" may require."

Your petitioner further represents that there-  
" after, to wit, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December  
" A.D. 1853. the said Commissioners confirmed,  
" by final decree, the said claim of the  
" said Jose Loret, and Juan Sepulveda,  
" in the words and figures following to wit,

" In this case on hearing the proofs & allegations  
" it is adjudged by the Commission~~ers~~ that the  
" said claim of the petitioners is valid, & it is  
" therefore decreed that the same be confirmed.  
" The lands of which confirmation are hereby

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PAGE 37A

made, are known by the name of Los Palos  
 Verdes, & are the same now occupied by said  
 petitioners, & are bounded & described as follows;  
 to wit: Beginning at the South East point  
 of the place Los Palos Verdes, at a place called  
 La Galeta, where there is a land mark,  
 & running in a Northerly direction eight  
 thousand Varas: thence running in a Westerly  
 Course twelve thousand Varas to some sand  
 hills on the edge of the beach where there  
 is a land mark; thence running South five  
 thousand three hundred Varas to a point  
 on the beach, called El Codi; thence running  
 on an Easterly Course, leaving a reserve of  
 five hundred Varas, on each one of the four  
 Cardinal points, fifteen thousand Varas to  
 the place of beginning Reference for  
 further description to be had to the  
 record of judicial measurement, marked  
 Translation of H. H. N<sup>o</sup>s filed in this  
 Case.

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" Alphens Felch }  
 " Thompson Campbell } Commissioners  
 " R Aug Thompson"

That thereafter, to wit, on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of  
 September A.D. 1854, a duly certified trans-  
 cript of the said decree, and proceedings,  
 and the papers and evidence on which it

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it was founded in said Cause, was filed in the office of the Clerk of the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of California and marked N<sup>o</sup> 93 (Transcript N<sup>o</sup> 446,) reference to which it is prayed may be had and made a part of this petition.

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That on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of August A. D. 1854, the Honorable Caleb Cushing Attorney General of the United States received a duly certified duplicate of said transcript of said final decree and proceedings of said Commissioners in said Cause (N<sup>o</sup> 446) and the papers and evidence on which said decree was founded.

That on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, A. D. 1855 the said Attorney General of the United States filed or caused to be filed, on behalf of the United States a notice with the said Clerk of said District Court for the Southern District of California, that the appeal in said Cause of José Loreto Sepulveda and Juan Sepulveda, vs, the United States, from the decision of said Commissioners to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California, in the District Court of the



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United States, for the Southern District of California, would be prosecuted by the United States. Your petitioner further represents that the said Land Claimed as aforesaid is within the jurisdiction of this Honorable Court.

And your petitioner further represents, and insists that the said decree of said Commissioners is erroneous, and ought to be reviewed, reversed, and set aside, for many errors and imperfections of law and evidence; apparent in said Artificed transcript of said Cause, now on appeal from said Commissioners to this Honorable Court.

And your petitioner further represents that the said Claim is invalid and the said decree erroneous, on the following grounds.

I, And the said Attorney denies all and singular each and every allegation in the said petition of said Claimants to said Commissioners of said date. And he further denies that any grant for said Land was ever made as alleged in said petition, And he denies further that the said Claimants have shown any or sufficient evidence of the validity of the said Claim.

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II. That the said alleged grant of Pico Pico, was made in violation of the 4<sup>th</sup> article of the Colonization law of Mexico, of the 18<sup>th</sup> of August A.D. 1824, in this; that the land granted, as alleged by Claimants, was and is within ten leagues of the sea Coast; and there is no evidence shown by Claimants that the Supreme General Executive power of Mexico, previously approved of the Colonization of the public lands in upper California, lying within ten leagues of the sea Coast.

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And it is denied that such previous Consent of said Supreme General executive power of Mexico in such Case was ever had.

III. That at the date of the said alleged grant the said land claimed as aforesaid, was occupied by, and in the possession of the Missions of the Territory of Upper California; and it was held and occupied particularly, by the Mission of San Gabriel, and could not therefore be colonized.

IV. That the said alleged grant has not the Conditions required by, and is not made in entire Conformity with the laws of Mexico, of the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1824, and the regulations for the

Colonization of the Territory of Mexico

9  
Colonization of the Territories of Mexico, of  
the 21<sup>st</sup> of November A.D. 1828.

V. That the said land was not, at the  
time of the alleged provisional Concepcion,  
nor at the time of the alleged grant to  
said Claimants, by Pio Pico, unowned,  
unclaimed, or unoccupied, by persons, other  
than the said Claimants.

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VI. That at the time of the said alleged  
grant of land to said Claimants, by  
Pio Pico, it belonged to the Pueblo of  
Los Angeles, and could not therefore be  
colonized. And ~~the said alleged grant  
of said land by said Pio Pico is void  
for uncertainty.~~

VII. That the genuineness of said <sup>alleged</sup> grant  
of land to said Claimants by Pio Pico  
dated June 3<sup>o</sup> 1846, is not sufficiently  
proved. And its genuineness is denied.  
That the said alleged grant, does not  
contain any description of the locality,  
extent, and boundaries of the land claimed  
by which it can be identified, and  
surveyed. ~~And~~ <sup>That</sup> the <sup>said</sup> alleged grant of said  
land by said Pio Pico is void for  
uncertainty. <sup>And</sup> that the said alleged grant  
is not executed upon the lawful stamped  
paper.

VIII. That the map referred to in the said alleged grant, and also in the petition of said Claimants to said Commissioners, is not shown by them. That <sup>the</sup> said alleged Map is an essential part of said alleged grant.

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IX. That the pretended documents of provisional Occupation of the land known as "Los Palos Verdes" alleged to have been given by the Government of California to said Claimants, about nineteen years prior to the date of the said alleged grant of said Pio Pico, and which said pretended Provisional Occupation of the said Land known as "Los Palos Verdes" is referred to in said alleged grant of Pio Pico, is not shown by the said Claimants. And it is denied that the said Claimants ever had a Provisional Occupation, for said named tract of land as alleged in their said petition.

X. That there is no evidence that the said alleged grant of said land by Pio Pico, was ever approved by the Departmental Assembly of California; or the Supreme Government of Mexico. And it is denied that the said alleged grant of said land, to said Claimants, by Pio Pico, was ever approved by the said

Departmental assembly, or the said Supreme Government.

XI. That the said Claimants have shown no definitively valid grant or title to the said land. And it is denied that they ever had or have a definitively valid grant, or title, for said land.

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XII. That the documents shown by Claimants purporting to be a Certified Copy of the act of juridical possession of said land, dated, 11<sup>th</sup> June 1846, is not executed upon the lawful stamped paper. That there is <sup>sufficient</sup> no evidence that the said document is genuine. And its genuineness is denied. That there is no sufficient evidence that Leonardo Cota was acting first Alcalde of Los Angeles, at the date of the said alleged juridical possession; and that he had, as such, lawful Authority, at that time, to perform said alleged juridical act or acts. And it is denied that the said Leonardo Cota, was acting first Alcalde of Los Angeles on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 1846, and that he <sup>then</sup> had lawful authority to perform said alleged juridical act or acts.

XIII. That the said Leonardo Cota had no lawful authority to measure and give

give juridical possession of the said land to said Claimants, as alleged, for the reason, that the said alleged grant of said Pio Pio, was, in the description of the land, so vague and indefinite, that it could not be identified and measured; and for the further reason, that the said alleged grant, had not then, (the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 1846) been approved by the Departmental Assembly of California, or the Supreme Government of Mexico. And the said alleged juridical act or acts of measurement and juridical possession of said land, are therefore void.

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XIV. That the said pretended juridical act or acts of measurement and possession of said land by said Leonardo Cata, were not done according to the said alleged grant, and the map referred to therein; nor according to the ordinance, or law; And the said pretended juridical act or acts of measurement and possession of the said land are vague, indefinite, and void.

XV. That there is no evidence that the said Claimants were in possession of the land Claimed, for more than Nineteen Years

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prior to the date of the said alleged grant of said Pio Pico, under the authority of the Mexican Government, as alleged in their said petition ~~now~~ to said Commissioners. And it is denied that they were in the possession of the said land, for more than Nineteen years prior to the date of the said alleged grant of said Pio Pico, under the authority of the Mexican Government.

XVI. That there is no evidence that the said Claimant performed the Conditions of the said alleged grant; and the requirements of the law. And it is denied that they performed the Conditions of the said alleged grant, and the requirements of the law.

XVII. That there is no Sufficient evidence that the said Claimants built a house upon the said land, and that it was inhabited within one year from the date of the said alleged grant of said Pio Pico; and that they Cultivated the said land. And it is denied that they built a house upon the said land, and that it was inhabited within one year from the date of the said alleged grant of said Pio Pico, and that they Cultivated the said land.

XVIII. And the genuineness of the said alleged original grant of said Pio Pico, for said lands is not sufficiently established by said Claimants. And it is denied that the said alleged grant of Pio Pico is genuine; and that it was made at the time of its pretended date and delivered to the said Claimants, as alleged in their said petition. And the said alleged grant of said Pio Pico, is antedated and fraudulent. And the said alleged testimonial of juridical measurement and possession by Leonardo Costa, is antedated and fraudulent.

And no sufficient proof having been made by said Claimants of the allegations of their said petition, or in support of their said Claim filed as aforesaid, no decree ought to have been made, or grounded thereon; but the said petition ought to have been dismissed, and said Claim rejected by said Commissioners, upon the grounds aforesaid.

And the said Claimants having no valid right or title, derived from the Spanish, or Mexican Government, to the said land claimed by them, as aforesaid, the lawful right, or title in and to the

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PAGE 47

5008



said land, was acquired by, and it now belongs to the said United States, by virtue of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Limits, and Settlement with the Republic of Mexico, dated at the City of Guadalupe Hidalgo, February 2<sup>nd</sup> A. D. 1848.

Wherefore the said Pacificus Ord, Attorney of the United States for the Southern District of California, for and in behalf of the United States, by reason of the premises, and in pursuance of the act of Congress entitled "An act to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California" Approved March 3<sup>rd</sup> A. D. 1851 and the laws and statutes in such case made and provided, prays that the said Jose Loreto Sepulveda, and Juan Sepulveda, may be served with a copy of this petition; and that this Honourable Court will review the said decision, or final decree of Confirmation of said Commissioners to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California, and decide on the validity of the said claims of said Jose Loreto Sepulveda and Juan Sepulveda, for said land claimed and Confirmed as aforesaid; and that the same may be decreed invalid. And

all such other orders, judgments, or decrees,  
as may be just, with costs, and general  
relief.

*J. P. D.*

Attorney of the United States  
for the Southern District of Cal.

93 SD  
PAGE 49

45 No 98

380  
190  
570

U. S. District Court  
S. Dist of Cal.

José Loreto Sepulveda  
et al.

vs.

The United States

Petition of U. States  
for Review.

Filed Aug 13<sup>th</sup> 1858

C. E. Farr  
clerk.

93 SD  
PAGE 50

J. Ord Dist atty.  
No. 2.

U.S. District Court for the  
Southern District of California

M. Lonto Sepulveda et al.

vs  
The United States.

No 93.

Transcript No. 446.

93 SD

PAGE 51

The respondents for answer to the  
petition filed in this cause answer and say. It is true  
that the land mentioned in said petition and in  
said transcript of the proceedings before the said Board  
of Commissioners, lies within said Southern District  
of California and within the jurisdiction of this court.

But their respondents deny that their title  
to the said land is invalid - and aver that the same is  
valid, and pray that the decision of the said Board of  
Commissioners be affirmed, and their title be decreed  
to be valid -

E. O. Crosby,

Attorney for Respondents

No. 93.

U.S. District Court for the  
Southern District of California

Jose Lonto Sepulveda et. al.

vs

The United States.

Answer of Respondent.

Filed Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> 1855

C. E. Carrero  
Cly. H. W. King & Co.

93 SD

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E O Crosby of Counsel  
for respondent

No. 3

Mrs. Sepulveda et al  
Appellees.

vs.  
The United States, Appellants.

N. 93.

For

'Palos Verdes'

Manuscript N. 446.

93 SD  
PAGE 53

On Motion of T. D. Attorney of the United States, and on suggesting to the Court, that <sup>in</sup> the alleged original title of the appellees <sup>within the exterior limits of the land claimed herein,</sup> in this cause, it appears that there was a reservation by the Government of five hundred Varas square, at the Port of San Pedro; and that the said reservation has never been surveyed; and that a survey is necessary to establish with certainty the locality of the same, <sup>and to fix</sup> ~~and to fix~~ <sup>its limits</sup> ~~its limits~~ <sup>boundaries</sup> with greater certainty. It is ordered by the Court that

he and he is hereby appointed by the Court to make a survey of the said reservation of five hundred Varas, at the Port of San Pedro, in the County of Los Angeles, according to the original title <sup>appearing in the papers in this Court,</sup> ~~appearing in the papers in this Court,~~ and to return the <sup>and to return the</sup> ~~and to return the~~ <sup>make report</sup> ~~make report~~ <sup>a full report thereof in open Court on</sup> ~~a full report thereof in open Court on~~ the first day of the next December term of this Court.

No 93. 3

U.S. Dist Court.  
South Dist of Cal.

Jose L. Sepulveda  
et al. appellees,  
vs.

The United States.  
Appellants.

Prothon & Order (by writ)  
for survey.

93 SD  
PAGE 54

Filed July 25th 1856.  
J. L. ...  
U.S. ...

No. 8. 58

Decr Term, 1856.

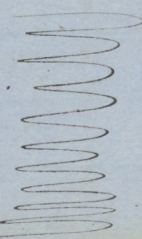
93 SD

PAGE 55

United States District Court  
for the Southern District of  
California

~~December Term 1855~~

José Toritto Sepulveda  
and Juan Sepulveda.  
vs  
The United States



No 93

This cause coming on to be heard on appeal from the decision of the board of land Commissioners to ascertain and settle private land claims in the State of California under the act of Congress approved March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1851, upon the transcript of proceedings and decision of said board, and the papers and evidence upon which said decision was founded all of which have been duly filed in this court; and ~~upon~~ Counsel for the respective parties having been heard, it is ordered adjudged and decreed that the decision of said board and the same is hereby affirmed, and that the title of the said José Toritto Sepulveda and Juan Sepulveda the above named appellus, is a good and valid one.

The land of which confirmation is hereby made is that known by the name of "Los Palos Verdes" situated in the County of Los Angeles and is bounded and described as follows; Beginning at the South East point of the place Los Palos Verdes at a place called La Gulita where there is a land mark and running in a northerly direction eight thousand varas; thence running in a westerly course twelve thousand varas to some sandhills on the edge of the beach where there is a land



mark; thence running South five thousand  
 three hundred varas to a point on the beach  
 called El. Bodo; thence running on an easterly  
 course, leaving a reserve of five hundred varas  
 on each one of the four cardinal points, fifteen  
 thousand varas to the place of beginning, reference  
 being had for further description to the grant  
 of said lands made by Pio Pico dated June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 1846. to the said Jose Toritto Sepulveda and  
 Juan Sepulveda, and to the act of judicial  
 possession of said lands made by Leonardo Cota  
 First Alcalde and dated June 11<sup>th</sup> 1846. which  
 said grant and act of judicial possession are  
 filed in this case - Provided the quantity of land  
~~contained in the above boundaries shall~~  
~~exceed Eleven Square leagues~~ <sup># is hereby confirmed</sup> but if there  
 be more than Eleven square leagues within said  
 boundaries then confirmation is only made  
 to that extent - but if the quantity of land  
 contained in said boundaries be less  
 than Eleven Square leagues, then confir-  
 mation is hereby made for such less  
 quantity -

Charles K. Ogden  
 U S District Judge  
 for the S Dist of Cal.

No 93

Juan & Sepulveda  
 et al.

add

The Western States

Decece

Received April 30. 1857  
 page 95

Filed Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 1857

James  
 Clerk

93 SD  
 PAGE 56

9671

93 SD  
PAGE 57

California Land Claims  
Attorney General's Office  
9 Feby 1857.

Sir:  
In the case of the claim of  
Jose L. Sepulveda et al;  
confirmed to the claimant by  
the Commissioner, Case no. four  
hundred and forty-six, (446),  
appeal will not be prosecuted by  
the United States.

I am,

Respectfully,  
Cousins

Placian Ad Eig  
U. S. Attorney,  
Los Angeles.

No. 93.

Filed 4 March 1858,  
to Sims & Co.,  
for W. W. Stetson  
copy

93 SD  
PAGE 58

No. 13

62

In the District Court of the United States  
Southern District of California.

93 SD  
PAGE 59

The United States  
Appellants

vs  
Jose Santa Sepulveda  
vs  
Luis Sepulveda

Appellees

No 93.

Now comes the said

Appellant and suggests to the Court that the  
sum of the premises claimed by the Appellees  
in this case heretofore made and approved  
by the Surveyor General of the United States  
for the State of California is not made in  
conformity with the final decree in this case,  
and that the Appellant will be injured thereby  
and the Appellant now moves for an order  
of this Court upon the said Surveyor General  
directing him to return into Court for the  
the approved part of the survey agreement for  
the further action of this Court.

J. H. Mitchell  
U. S. Dist. Ct.

No 93

The United States  
vs  
Don Loren Sepulveda  
Juan Sepulveda

Motion for return of  
Summons

Filed in Office this  
11<sup>th</sup> Sept 1860

C. Sims  
clerk

93 SD  
PAGE 60

2616

In the District Court of the United States  
Southern District of California.

93 SD

PAGE 61

Don Santa Feuchler

vs  
Don Santa Feuchler

at

The United States

No 93.

Don Santa Feuchler

being duly sworn upon his oath deposes and says that he has examined a plat of the survey from the office of the Surveyor General of the United States for the State of California, purporting to be the approved official survey of the Rancho of Balboa located in the County of Los Angeles, and that he has carefully compared the boundary lines in said survey with the boundary lines as given in the final decree of this Court in this case, and a certified copy of which decree has also been seen and examined. Deponent says that he has calculated the distance upon said map as run by the said Surveyor General as his deputy as run from the point on said map marked "San hills" to the point marked on said map marked "La Solita", and finds the whole distance to be 39.493  $\frac{2}{10}$  miles, that the direction of said line is first southerly, then

eastward and thence northward. That  
 the distance from said point marked  
 "Sugar Hills" to the point marked "El  
 Cacho" on said map is 21,541.72 acres,  
 that by running a line from the said  
 point marked "Sugar Hills" 5300 acres  
 along the beach, <sup>to a point</sup> on the 21<sup>st</sup> course on  
 said map distance 4,7327 chains from  
 the beginning of said 21<sup>st</sup> course, and  
 thence running eastwardly in a direct  
 course to the place marked "La Golita"  
 the distance is between 15000 and 16000  
 acres. This affiant further says that  
 the quantity of land included in the  
 survey aforementioned is about  
 double the quantity that would be  
 included by following the boundaries  
 as given in the aforesaid lines shown  
 in this case.

And further this deponent  
 swears to the above.

D. McLary

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
 this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1860

Attest My hand the day and  
 year last above written

C Jones  
 W Commissioner for  
 Calas

93 SD  
 PAGE 62

17093 4

Jose Santa Sepulveda  
a Juan Sepulveda  
Mi

The United States

-----  
Affidavit of  
Daniel de Saram  
-----

Filed in office  
this 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 1860

C. Jones  
cl

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-----  
PAGE 63  
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26.19

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*[Faint, illegible handwriting on the right page]*



In the District Court of the United States  
Southern District of California.

93 SD

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64

José Cortés Sepúlveda  
vs Juan Sepúlveda

vs

The United States

No 93.

Therence Madley being  
duly sworn upon his oath says that his  
profession is that of practical Surveyor  
and Engineer, that he is at the present  
time the duly elected and qualified County  
Surveyor of the County of Los Angeles.

Deponent further says that he knows  
the Rancho of Pablo Madley in said County,  
and that this deponent <sup>is a portion of</sup> the same  
for the United States under the direction  
of Henry Hancock one of the deputies of  
the Surveyor General of the United States  
for the State of California. Deponent  
has also examined the map of said Sur-  
vey, purporting to have been approved by  
said Surveyor General, that he has carefully  
compared the boundary lines in said survey  
with the boundary lines as given in the final  
deed of the Grant in this case and finds  
a great discrepancy in the same. Deponent  
further says that the distances from the point

marked "Serra Hills" on said map to the point marked "El Soltero" following the meanderings of the coast is 39.493  $\frac{70}{100}$  varas. That the direction of said line is first southerly, thence easterly and thence northerly; that the distance from said point marked "Serra Hills" to the point marked "El Soltero" on said map is 21.541.72 varas; that by running a line from the said point marked "Serra Hills" 5300 varas along the beach to a point on the 21<sup>st</sup> course on said map distant 4.7327 chains from the beginning of said 21<sup>st</sup> course, and thence running easterly in a direct course to the place marked "El Soltero" the distance is between 15000 and 16000 varas. Deponent further says that the quantity of land included in the survey aforementioned is about double the quantity that would be included by following the boundaries as given in the final decree in this case. Deponent further says that the portion of said rancho aqueñico which was surveyed as aqueñico is that beginning at the aqueñico point marked "Serra Hills" and running thence following the meanderings of the coast to the point marked "Cape Oros wells". That in making such survey he had neither the decree of

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PAGE 65

6588  
6589  
2D



4 No 93.

José Cortá Sepúlveda  
& Juan Sepúlveda

Ats

The United States

-----

Affidavit of  
J. Buckley

-----

Filed in office this  
11<sup>th</sup> Sept 1862

Shons

93 SD

PAGE 67

No 18

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA. }

*The United States*  
93 SD  
PAGE 68  
*appellants*  
*vs*  
*José Louté Sepulveda &*  
*Juan Sepulveda - appellees*

No. 93  
*Las Palmas Verde,*

It being suggested to the Court that the survey of the land claimed in this case, made under final decree, and approved by the U. S. Surveyor General for California, does not conform to said decree and is erroneous and that said survey will be to the injury of the United States

on application of *Ed Hutchell U.S. Dist. Atty*  
it is ordered that the said Surveyor General return to this Court the plat of said survey, and that the *United States*

be allowed \_\_\_\_\_ days, from and after the return thereof, to file exceptions thereto; and it is further ordered that a certified copy of this order be served upon the said Surveyor General for his information.  
I. S. K. OGIER, U. S. District Judge.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA. }  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. }

I, C. Sims, Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a full true and correct copy of the original order, made and entered on the *11<sup>th</sup>* day of *September* 186*0*, in said case, No. *93* on the docket of said Court, wherein *José Louté Sepulveda & Juan Sepulveda* are claimants against the United States, as appears of record in my office.

In witness whereof I herewith set my hand and affix the seal of said Court this the *11<sup>th</sup>* day of *Sept* 186*0*.

*C. Sims*, Clerk.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, }  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA. }

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
To: J. W. MANDAVILLE, U. S. Surveyor General, for California—Greeting:  
You are hereby notified that the United States District Court, for the Southern District of California, at the *stated* Term of said Court, 186*0*, in case No. *93* on the docket of said Court, wherein *José L Sepulveda et al* are claimants against the United States, made and caused to be entered an order, of which the above and foregoing is a certified copy herewith transmitted to you for your information, and you are hereby required to take notice of the same.

Witness the Hon. ISAAC S. K. OGIER, Judge of the United States District Court, for the Southern District of California, this the *11<sup>th</sup>* day of *Sept* 186*0*.

Attest my hand and the seal of said Court the day and year last above written  
*C. Sims*, Clerk.

No 93

San Francisco Sept 17 1860

I hereby certify that I have this day  
made personal service of this order  
on J. W. Mansfield U.S. Marshal  
General for California by delivering  
to him a certified copy of the same

James C. Penne  
U.S. Marshall  
By A. W. Buchanan Deft.  
U.S. Marshall

Manual fees \$32.00

Order for return  
of  
Cunning

Filed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day  
1860

James  
C. Penne

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PAGE 69

No. 19.

In the District Court of the United States  
For the Southern District of Cal<sup>a</sup>.

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The United States  
Appellants

vs  
Jose Lorta Sepulveda &  
Juan Sepulveda

Appellees

No 93.

Now comes the  
said Appellants by J. R. Gitcher U.S. District  
Attorney and excepts to the final survey of  
the lands claimed in this case made and  
approved by the Surveyor General of the Uni-  
ted States for the State of California. And  
the Appellants specify the following line  
upon the map of said survey as the line to  
which exception is taken to wit.

The line be-  
-ginning at station 21 on the map of said sur-  
-vey marked "San Hill" "Beginning" southerly  
5300 yards from the place on the map after  
-said marked "San Hill" "Beginning", and run-  
-ning thence following the meanderings of  
the coast to the place marked "San Boletu"

U.S. District Court  
Southern District Cal<sup>a</sup>

J. R. Kitcher U.S. Dis.

trick Attorney Southern District of California  
has being duly sworn upon his oath says  
that the foregoing exceptions to the summary  
of the premises claimed in the above entitled  
cause is true as he verily believes.

J. R. Kitcher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this  
1<sup>st</sup> day of October A.D. 1860.

C. J. Sims Clerk

To the Appellee's or their Attorney  
in the above entitled cause

You are hereby  
notified that the hearing of the above  
and foregoing exceptions in the  
above entitled cause will be brought  
on to a hearing before said Court  
in thirty days after the service upon  
you of a copy of the same or as  
soon thereafter as Counsel can be  
heard

Los Angeles Oct 4<sup>th</sup> 1860

J. R. Kitcher  
U.S. Dist. Atty



I Sewed a Certified Copy of the within, on  
Jose Loreta Sepulveda, and Juan Sepulveda  
in the City of Los Angeles on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of  
October 1860

Marshals Fee \$4.18

James C. Pennie  
U.S. Marshal  
South<sup>th</sup> Dist of Cal

10-93

The United States

vs

José Loreta Sepulveda

Juan Sepulveda

Warrant to arrest

Filed in office  
this 10<sup>th</sup> of Oct

1860

C. J. Pennie

93 SD

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J. B. bitler

2021 U.S. vs. AG

In the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of California.

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United States  
Appellants  
Jose Loreta Sepulveda  
Appellees  
No 93.

Now comes the said appellees by Scott Drown their attys and deny such and every exception filed herein, and allege that the survey of the lands claimed in this case made and approved by the Surveyor General of the United States for California and the map of which is now on file in this case is correct and in conformity with the decree of Confirmation made herein.

Scott Drown  
Atty for appellees

Received Service of a notice of which the above is a true copy  
J H Gitchell  
Los Angeles  
W S Dist Atty  
Nov 1st 1860

No. 93

In the U. S. D. Court

United States  
appellants  
Jose L. Sepulveda  
appellees

Denial of exceptions

Filed this 1<sup>st</sup> Nov  
1860

*C. Sims* or

93 SD

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Jose Lorto Sepulveda et al  
vs  
The United States

Case No. 93

**Deposition of**

William H. Leighton

Et. L. M. Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California & Ex Officio  
taken before C. S. M. S., United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United  
States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on Thursday, the 14 day of February  
A. D. 1864, at 4 o'clock P. M., on said day, on behalf of the Appellants  
by the Stipulation of the parties

to be used as testimony in a certain cause now pending in the United States District Court  
for the Southern District of California being Case No. 93, on the Docket of  
said Court, wherein Jose Lorto Sepulveda et al are appellants, and  
The United States are appellees.

Present

J. R. Gitchell U. S. Dist

Attorney in behalf of the appellants

and

Scott & Brown Attys

in behalf of appellees.

William H. Leighton being duly sworn as a witness in the  
above entitled cause deposes and says.

Examined on the part of the United States

Quest

What is your age, name occupation and place  
of residence?

Ans.

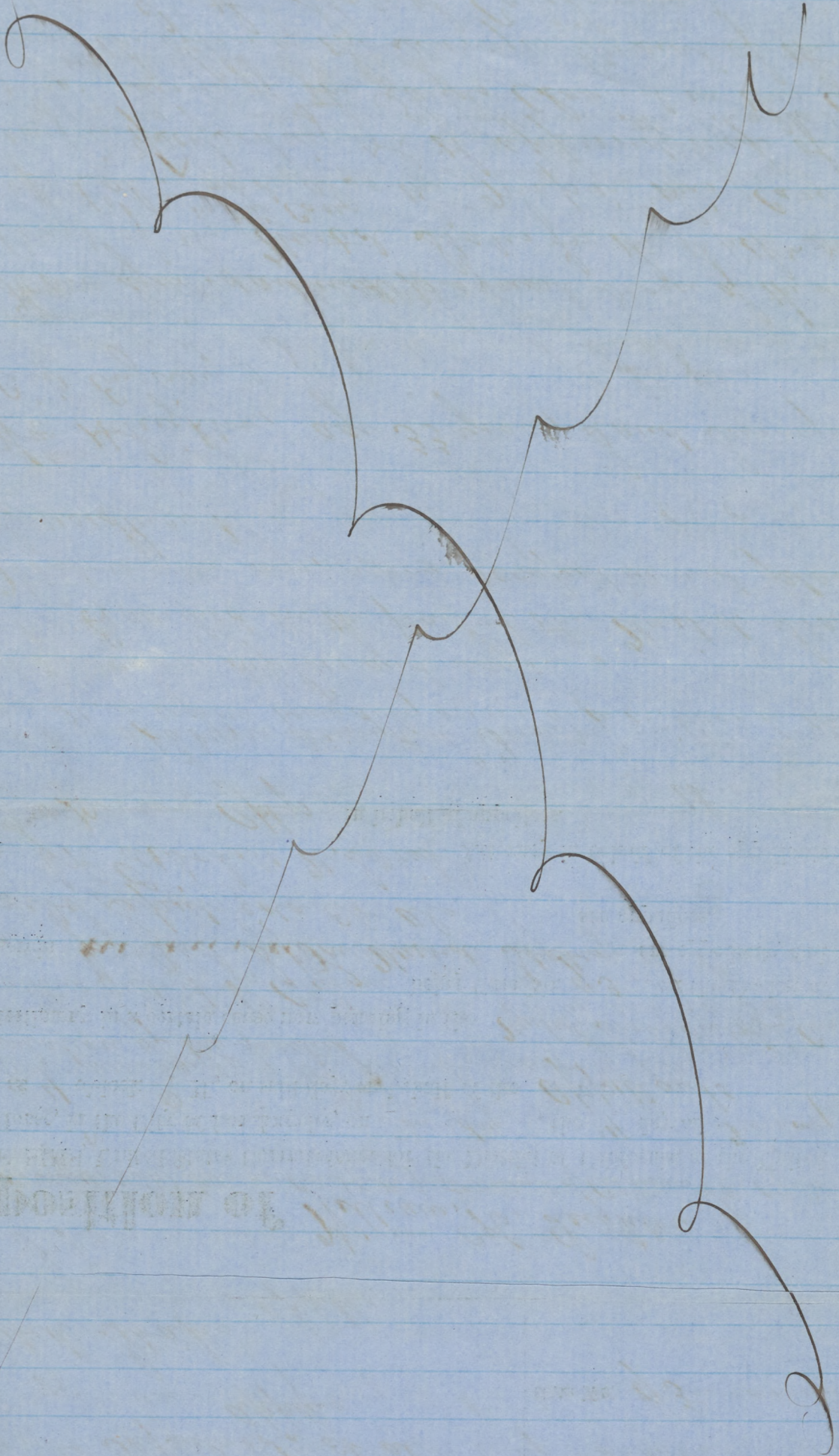
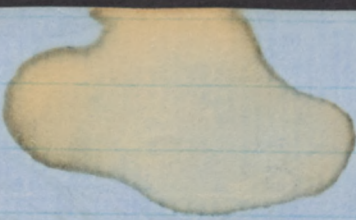
Wm H Leighton, age 33 years, Land Surveyor &  
Civil Engineer

Quest

Have you examined the final decree of the District  
Court of the United States for the Southern Dist  
of Cal<sup>a</sup> in this case and also the map in this case now  
on file & supposing to be the approved map of the  
final survey of the lands claimed in this cause  
from the office of the Surveyor General of the United  
States for the State of California?

Ans

Yes I have



Ques. Have you made any calculations or measurements of any of the lines delineated on said map?

Ans. I have made some calculations from the map.

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PAGE 76

Ques. Commencing at the point marked "Beginning" on said map to what point on the same would (3300) varas reach, following the meanderings of the Coast in a southerly direction?

Ans. To a point four chains and seventy three links South of the Station marked "Twenty" on the map.

Question. What is the distance from this last named point, following the meanderings of the Coast, in a southerly direction, to the point marked "El Codo" on said map?

Ans. It would be Six hundred and <sup>Eighty four</sup> ~~seventy seven~~ chains ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~seventy~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~four~~ <sup>and</sup> links, or 16,241 <sup>2</sup>/<sub>10</sub> varas

Ques. What is the whole distance from the point marked "Beginning" on said map following the lines above described to "El Codo"?

Ans. Nine hundred & seven chains and sixty nine

Links or  $21541\frac{3}{10}$  varas

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PAGE 77

Quest What is the distance from El Codo to the point marked Larq Goleta on said map following the meanderings of the Coast in a South Easterly, and then in a Northerly direction?

Ans Seven hundred fifty six chains of forty one links or  $17951\frac{6}{10}$  varas

Quest What is the whole distance along these lines following the meanderings of the Coast from the point marked "Beginning" to the point marked Lar Goleta on said Map?

Ans One thousand Six hundred & Sixty four chains & ten links or  $39493\frac{5}{10}$  varas

Quest What is the distance from the point on the Coast 5300 varas Southly from the point marked Beginning on said Map in a direct line in a South Easterly direction to the point marked Lar Goleta

Ans By the scale of the Map the distance is Six hundred & Sixty six chains or  $15805\frac{2}{10}$  varas

William H. Lighton

*G. L. Sims*

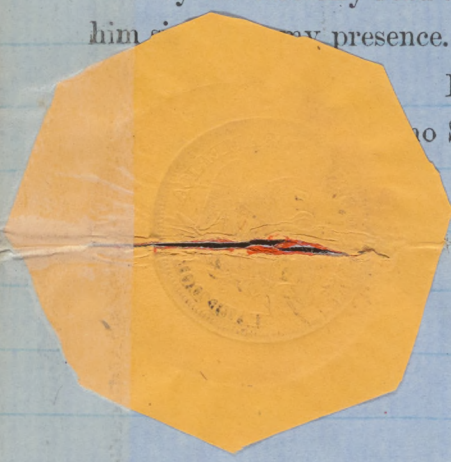
**L. C. Sims,**

of the City and County of Los Angeles and State of California, Clerk of the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of California, by Office Commissioner to take Affidavits and Bail, in civil case pending in the Courts of the United States, and Depositions under the Acts of Congress, approved September 24th, A. D. 1789, February 20th, A. D. 1812, and March 1st, A. D. 1812, by virtue of my office of Clerk of the United States Court of the Southern District of California, and by special appointment by the United States Circuit Court for the State and circuit of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Depositions of *William A. Leighton* was taken before me on the *14<sup>th</sup>* day of *February*, A. D. *1861*, according to the *Stipulation of the parties* of the said

at the United States District Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, and State of California, in behalf of the *Appellants*  
That the said *William A. Leighton* was by me duly sworn according to law as a Witness in said cause in the caption of this Deposition mentioned, and after being so sworn, his Testimony was by me reduced to writing in his presence, and after having been by me carefully read to him, and by him corrected in every particular as he desired, was by him signed in my presence.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and private Seal, (having also Seal of Office,) this *14* day of *Febry*, A. D. *1861*

*G. L. Sims* Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California by Office United States Commissioner.



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No. 93

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

*Jose Loreto Sepulveda et al*

*vs*  
*The United States.*

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Deposition of *W. H. Lighton*  
Filed this *14th of Feby 1861*

*G. L. Mix*  
Clerk

*No 25*

The United States  
vs  
Jose Loretto Sepulveda

U. S. Dist Court, Southern  
Dist of California  
No. 93

United State of America  
State of California, County of San Diego

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PAGE 80

The President of the United States  
To E. Hadley, Wm H. Slaughter  
and S. McLaren.

You are hereby required  
that all and singular business and excuses being set aside  
You appear and attend before G. J. Minis, Clerk of the United States  
District Court for the South Dist of Cal., and 4 Officers of the United  
States at his office in the City of Los Angeles, on Friday,  
the 15th day of February 1861 at 10 o'clock A.M. of said  
day, then and there to testify in the above stated Cause  
now pending in said U. S. Dist Court, on the part of the  
above named United States, and for a failure to attend  
You will be deemed guilty of a Contempt of Court and liable  
to pay all damages and losses sustained thereby to the  
Party aggrieved

Witness my hand and the seal of the  
U. S. Dist Court aforesaid, this the 13th  
day of February A.D. 1861

G. J. Minis, Clerk  
4 Officers Com  
J. John, Attorney

Personally served the within upon the within named  
persons wit. Wm H Lighton & Hadly and D Mc  
Lana by reading this original to him in the  
City and County of Los Angeles Cal<sup>a</sup> February 14<sup>th</sup>  
A.D. 1861

James C Pennick Marshal  
per J. P. Burns Deputy

No 93

U. S. Dist Court South  
Dist of Cal<sup>a</sup>

California

M<sup>rs</sup>  
Mrs Letitia Spaulding

Subscribed

Filed Feb. 14, 1861

J. P. Burns ckh  
J. P. Burns Deputy

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No. 24

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In the District Court of the United States Judicial District,  
for the Southern District  
**OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,**

93 SD  
PAGE 82 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

*Joe Loretto Sepulveda* No 93

VS.

SUBPOENA.

*The United State*

*President of the United States of America*  
The People of the State of California, send Greeting to

*Amiel H. Crew and*

*Nadley*

WE COMMAND YOU, That all and singular business and excuses being laid aside, you appear and attend  
at the office of the *United State District Clerk for the Southern District of California, in the City of San Francisco, Cal.*  
before *Gustavus L. Min.* Clerk of said Court & of office *United State Commissioner*

our District Court of the \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial District of the State of California, at a term of said Court to be held at the Court House in the County of \_\_\_\_\_

on the *22<sup>nd</sup>* day of *February* A. D. 1861, at *1, 0,* o'clock,

*P.* M., then and there to testify in the above stated cause, now pending in said ~~District~~ Court, on the part of *The United State* and for a failure to attend you will be deemed guilty of a contempt of Court, and liable to pay all loss and damages sustained thereby to the party aggrieved, and forfeit one hundred dollars in addition thereto.

WITNESS, Hon. *Roger M. Sawyer* <sup>Chief</sup> Judge of the ~~Supreme Court of the United States~~ <sup>Judicial District</sup>, at the Court House in the

County of \_\_\_\_\_ and the seal of said Court, this *22<sup>nd</sup>* day of *February* A. D. 1861

ATTEST, my hand and the Seal of said Court, the day and year last above written.

*G. L. Min.* CLERK.  
*G. H. Crew* U.S. Commissioner DEPUTY CLERK.  
*J. M. Whelan*



Served the within upon the within named persons personally by reading the within to them in the city and county of Los Angeles California this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February A.D. 1861

Fees

\$ 1.12

James C. Penning U.S.  
Marshal for J. H. Brown Deputy

No. 92

IN THE DISTRICT COURT,  
OF THE  
Judicial District.

United States  
vs  
The S. & D. of Cal  
vs  
Robertto Sepulveda  
vs  
Miltona Price

SUBPOENA.

Filed Feb. 22, 1861

J. H. Brown  
vs  
John & Robert Sepulveda

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In the District Court of the United States  
Southern District of California.

The United States

Appellants

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Jose L. Serrano Sepulveda & c. et al.

Appellees

No 93.

"Palos Verdes"

So the said Appel-

lees or their Attorneys.

You are hereby notified  
that on the twenty second day of this month  
between the hours of 11 o'clock A.M. and 4 o'clock  
P.M. of said day the said United States will  
proceed to take the testimony of J. de Serrano  
Eugenio R. Macley and other witnesses, to be  
used on the hearing of the cause aforesaid.  
The taking of said testimony will be contin-  
ued from day to day between the hours aforesaid  
said matter finishes, and will be taken  
before competent authority at the office of  
the Clerk of the Court aforesaid in the City  
of Los Angeles, when and where you may at-  
tend if you see proper. Los Angeles, Feb'y 15<sup>th</sup>  
1861.

J. R. Gutchell  
U. S. District Judge

Personally served this within by delivering to Ezra  
Brown a true copy of the within at Los Angeles  
City and County State of Cal<sup>a</sup> this 16th day of  
February A.D. 1861

James C. Pennington U.S. Marshal  
By J. P. Burns Deputy

Fee \$2.36

The United States

vs  
Ezra Brown Defendant

Notice to take  
depositions

Filed Feb 9, 1861

J. P. Burns clk

J. C. Pennington

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Witcher  
San U.S.

Jose Loretto Sepulveda et al  
vs  
The United States

Case No.

93

93 SD

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**Deposition of**

David McLaren

Sp. L. M. Clerk of the United States District Court for the South Dist of Cal & office taken before C. SIMS, United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on Friday, the 22 day of February A. D. 1861, at 2 o'clock P. M., on said day, on behalf of the United States by the Notice to Parties herewith annexed to be used as testimony in a certain cause now pending in the United States District Court for the South Dist of California being Case No. 93, on the Docket of said Court, wherein The United States are appellants, and Jose Loretto Sepulveda et al are appellees.

Present

J. K. Gitchell U. S. Dist atty

Attorney in behalf of the appellants

and

in behalf of appellees.

The said appellees

failing to appear either in person or by attorney

The Witness David McLaren being duly sworn answers to the interrogatories of the U. S. Dist attorney as follows.

Quest. What is your name age, occupation & place of residence

Ans. David McLaren, age 41 years, occupation Miscellaneous at present. Residence in the City of Los Angeles

Quest. Have you read the final decree in this case, and have you examined the map & final survey of the land claimed in this case and now on file in this Court



Ans. I have read & Examined them,

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Quest. State if you have made any measurements or Calculations of any Distances upon said Map, and according to the terms of the Decree aforesaid

Ans. I have.

Quest. State to what place on the said Map would 5300 Varas reach, Commencing at the point "Beginning" or "Sandhills" on said Map - thence following the meanderings of the Coast in a southerly Direction

Ans. The line would run to Station twenty, plus four Chaus & seventy three links

Quest. State if you have estimated the distance following the meanderings of the Coast, in a southerly Direction from the aforesaid point marked "Beginning" or "Sandhills" to the point marked "El Codo" on said Map

83 20  
Ans. I have made a Calculation of the distance upon the Map, & I find the same to be twenty one thousand, five hundred & forty one ~~varas~~, and seventy two one hundredths of a vara.

Quest. State if you have estimated the distance from the aforesaid point "Beginning" "Sandhills" on said Map following around the meanderings of the Coast to the point marked "La Jolita" and

What you find said distance to be  
Aw. I have and find the distance to be thirty nine  
thousand, four hundred and ninety three + two tenths  
Varas.

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Quest. What is the distance from the point on the  
Coast five thousand three hundred varas south-  
-erly from the point marked "Beginning" "Sandhills"  
on said map in a direct line in a south Easterly  
direction to the point marked "La Goleta".

Aw. I make it about fifteen thousand nine hundred  
varas. - by measurement of the scale on said  
map - I do not pretend that this distance is  
exact, but it is an approximation.

Quest. State what knowledge you have of surveying  
and measurements, and what means you have  
had of acquiring a knowledge of the same.

Aw. I was employed in the office of the Surveyor-  
General of California for two years, as an assis-  
-tant and clerk - indeed I had charge of the  
office for the whole time I was there - besides  
this my previous education was such as  
to make me an expert in figures and Cal-  
-culations,

D. M. Larem

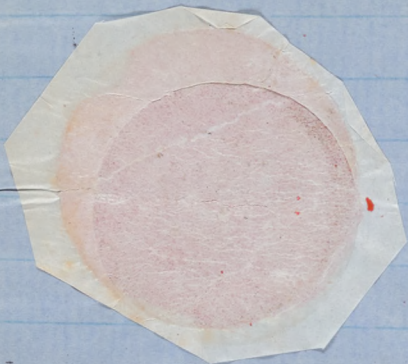
*G. L. Merri* Clerk of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of California

**I, C. Sims,** <sup>Ex Officio</sup> of the City and County of Los Angeles, and State of California, Commissioner to take Affidavits and Bail, in civil case pending in the Courts of the United States, and Depositions under the Acts of Congress, approved September 24th, A. D. 1789, February 20th, A. D. 1812, and March 1st, A. D. 1812, by virtue of my office of Clerk of the United States Court of the Southern District of California, and by special appointment by the United States Circuit Court for the State and circuit of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Depositions of *David McLaren* was taken before me on the *22<sup>d</sup>* day of *February*, A. D. *1861*, according to the *Notice hereunto annexed* of the said

at the United States District Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, and State of California, in behalf of the *United States*. That the said *David McLaren* was by me duly sworn according to law as a Witness in said cause in the caption of this Deposition mentioned, and after being so sworn, his Testimony was by me reduced to writing in his presence, and after having been by me carefully read to him, and by him corrected in every particular as he desired, was by him signed in my presence.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and private Seal, (having no Seal of Office,) this *22<sup>d</sup>* day of *February*, A. D. *1861*

*G. L. Merri* Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California  
Ex Officio United States Commissioner.



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No. \_\_\_\_\_

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

Deposition of \_\_\_\_\_

Filed this *23<sup>rd</sup> Feb'y 1861-*

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*Jose Loretto Sepulveda et al*  
*vs*  
*The United States*

Case No. *93*

*93* SD

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**Deposition of *E. Hadley***

*U.S. Clerk for the South Dist of Cal & office*  
taken before *C. SIMS*, United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on *Friday*, the *22<sup>nd</sup>* day of *February* A. D. 18*61*, at *2* o'clock P. M., on said day, on behalf of the *United States* by the *Notice to Parties herewith annexed* to be used as testimony in a certain cause now pending in the *United State District Court for the South Dist of Cal* being Case No. *93*, on the Docket of said Court, wherein *The United States* are appellants, and *Jose Loretto Sepulveda et al* are appellees.

Present *W. H. Mitchell U.S. Atty* — Attorney in behalf of the appellants  
and in behalf of appellees. *The said appellees failing to appear either in person or by attorney*

*The Witness E. Hadley being duly sworn is examined by the U.S. Dist atty, on behalf of the United States:*

Ques: *What is your name age, occupation & place of residence*

Ans: *My name is E. Hadley, age 34 years, Occupation County Surveyor, of Los Angeles County, and I reside in the City of Los Angeles*

Ques: *Have you examined the final decree of the District Court of the United States for the South Dist of Cal in this case, and also the map in this case now on file purporting to be the approved map of the final survey of the lands claimed in this cause, from the office of the Surveyor General of the United States for the State of California*

Ans. I have —

Quer. State if you have made any calculations or measurements of any of the lines delineated on said map

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Ans. I have made calculations of those lines bordering on the Coast, also another line running from between Station 20 and 21, to the point marked "La Galeta"

Quer. Commencing at the point marked "Beginning" on said map, to what point on the same would (5300) varas reach, following the meanderings of the Coast in a southerly direction

Ans. It would reach a point on the 21<sup>st</sup> Course four chains and seventy three links from the beginning of said 21<sup>st</sup> Course

Quer. What is the distance from the point marked "Beginning" on said map, following the lines above described — to "El Codo"

Ans. The whole distance is five hundred & ~~forty~~ <sup>(904)</sup> seven chains and sixty nine links or twenty one thousand five hundred & forty one varas, and a fraction.

Quer. What is the distance from El Codo to the point marked La Galeta on said map following the meanderings of the Coast in a south easterly, and then in a southerly direction

Ans. Seven hundred and fifty six Chains & forty one links or 14,952 Varas.

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Quest. What is the whole distance along the lines following the meanderings of the Coast from the Point marked "beginning" to the point marked La Goleta on said map

Ans. The distance in Varas is 39,493. and a fraction over

Quest. What is the distance from the point on the Coast 5300 Varas southerly from the point marked "beginning" on said map in a direct line in a south easterly direction to the point marked La Goleta

Ans. It is a very small less than 16,000 Varas I cannot state exactly. Having made no very exact calculation - this distance is an approximation merely

The hour of Four, having arrived the further taking of this Report is adjourned until tomorrow, at 2. O. Clock P.M.

Now at this date Saturday February 23<sup>d</sup> 1861 at 2. O. Clock P.M. appeared the attorneys for the United States and the aforesaid Parties E. Hadley, & the Examination was proceeded with, as follows

Ques. State what knowledge you have of the running of the line beginning at the point marked "Lambell's" beginning & thence following the meanderings of the Coast to the point marked "La Goleta". for the purpose of the official survey in this case.

Ans. When I ran the lines of that Ranch, I did not know that it was for that purpose - As I understood I was to run the lines to correct a mistake of 10 Chains made by, I was sent to run this line by Henry Hancock United State Deputy Surveyor to correct or ascertain where the error was - as far as the map on file in this case it corresponds with my notes of survey that I took or made on the ground: I had no guide for running this line except the verbal directions of Henry Hancock - I saw no papers nor any thing else giving a description of the boundaries of this Ranch previous to running ~~this~~ this line. I have no knowledge of running the other lines as described in the map of judicial survey - the other lines were not run by me -

E. Hadley



*G. L. Meix*

*Clerk of the U. S. Dist Court for Southern Dist of Cal*

**L. C. Sims,**

*U.S. Officer U.S.*  
of the City and County of Los Angeles, and State of California, Commissioner to take Affidavits and Bail, in civil case pending in the Courts of the United States, and Depositions under the Acts of Congress, approved September 24th, A. D. 1789, February 20th, A. D. 1812, and March 1st, A. D. 1812, by virtue of my office of Clerk of the United States Court of the Southern District of California, and by special appointment by the United States Circuit Court for the State and circuit of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing

Depositions of *E Hadley* was taken before me on the *22* day of *February*, A. D. *1851*, according to the *Notice hereunto* *issued* of the said

at the United States District Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, and State of California, in behalf of the *United States*

That the said *E Hadley* was by me duly sworn according to law as a Witness in said cause in the caption of this Deposition mentioned, and after being so sworn, his Testimony was by me reduced to writing in his presence, and after having been by me carefully read to him, and by him corrected in every particular as he desired, was by him signed in my presence.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and private Seal, (having no Seal of Office,) this *23<sup>rd</sup>* day of *February*, A. D. *1851*

*G. L. Meix, Clerk of the United States Dist Court for the Southern Dist of Cal. & Ex officio United States Commissioner.*



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No. 93

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

*The United States*

*vs*

*Francisco Pulveda  
et al*

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Deposition of

Filed this

*E. Hadley &  
& D. McLaren*  
*Feb. 23, 1861 101*

*G. L. Mitchell  
John Wheeler Deputy*

In the District Court of the United States  
Southern District of California

93 SD  
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The United States

Appellants

vs

No 93

Jose Santa Feveludes

Appellee

On return of summons

To the said Appellee or their Attorneys.

For information you will  
take notice that the above cause will be  
brought on to a hearing before said Court  
by said Appellants on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March A.D.  
1861 at 11 o'clock A.M. of said day, or as soon  
thereafter as the same can be heard

Los Angeles, Feb 25, 1861.

J. R. Mitchell  
U.S. Dist. Ct.

Personally served the within upon Jonathan R Scott  
one of the attorneys in the within entitled by delivering  
to him a true copy at Los Angeles County  
State of California this 26th day of February A.D. 1861  
James C Pennie U.S. Marshal  
for James Y Burns Deputy

The United States

"

vs  
Lore Lurita Sepulveda et al

Notice of hearing

Filed July 27/61

G. H. Moxall

J. J. M. M. M. M. M.

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*Jos Lonto Sepulveda et al*  
*vs* *Claimants & Appellees*  
*The United States* *appellants*

Case No. *93*

*93* SD

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# Deposition of *Juan Cota*

taken before <sup>*J. M. Hill*</sup> ~~SIMS~~, United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on *Thursday*, the *21<sup>st</sup>* day of *March* A. D. 18*61*, at *2* o'clock *P.* M., on said day, on behalf of the *Claimants & Appellees* by the *Consent of Parties* to be used as testimony in a certain cause now pending in the *United States District Court for the Southern Dist of Cal<sup>a</sup>* being Case No. *93*, on the Docket of said Court, wherein *Jos Lonto Sepulveda et al du appellees* are appellees, and *The United States* are appellees. *appellants*

Present *J. R. Scott* Attorney in behalf of the *appellees*  
and *J. R. Mitchell* *W. D. D. atty* in behalf of appellees. *appellants*

*Evidence interpreted by W. G. Dryden a sworn interpreter.*

*Testimony by J. R. Scott atty of Claimants & Appellees*

Ques. What is your name age occupation and place of residence -

Ans. My name is Juan Cota, aged 49 years, Raucher  
93 SD  
shepherd of stock & reside in San Pedro, Los Angeles  
PAGE 100 County, -

Ques. Do you know the Rancho of Palos Verdes - if so, how long have you known the same -

Ans. I do know it - I have known it since the years 1835 or 1836

Ques. Do you know any natural objects or landmarks <sup>on</sup> upon the boundaries of said Rancho - if so name them -

Objection - Question objected to on the ground that it is incompetent for the Claimant, and appellas to prove any other boundary lines than those given and set forth in the decree of Confirmation

Ans. I do. First In the first place, a lake of water upon the side towards the City of Los Angeles - upon the Western boundary there is a stake planted in the ground. Also near some sand hills - there is a pile of rock - a little beyond a place called the Salt Lake near the sea. On the opposite side of the small mountain there is a place called the Codo - this Codo is formed by the sea running into the land making an elbow - Down the Coast farther & near the same, is a place called the Potrero de Semasis

Quest. Look upon the ~~map~~ official map on file in this case, and state whether or not you distinguish any of the natural land marks as laid down upon said map.

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Ans. I discern on the plat a place called El Codo on the elbow. I find a great difference in looking upon the land and on the map, but El Codo is a place marked on the map TOW. 1 and at the point marked TOW. 2, is the point called Portrero de Damasco the point marked TOW. 3, I recognize as point San Redo & point marked "Gov Reserve" are situated the houses at old San Redo - at the mouth of the <sup>estero</sup> lake is the place called "La Goleta" this place Estero is marked on the map "the inner bay of San Redo" at the point marked TOW. 4, is the place called La Goleta, at TOW. 5, is the place called Sand hills & field of stones.

Quest. Do you know of any sand hills - marked on the map Sand hills field of rocks beginning

Witness  
Wm. Wheeler

his  
J. Man & Co. m  
marks

*Gustavus L. Noice*

**I, ~~C. Sims,~~**

of the City and County of Los Angeles, and State of California, Commissioner to take Affidavits and Bail, in civil case pending in the Courts of the United States, and Depositions under the Acts of Congress, approved September 24th, A. D. 1789, February 20th, A. D. 1812, and March 1st, A. D. 1812, by virtue of my office of Clerk of the United States Court of the Southern District of California, and by special appointment by the United States Circuit Court for the State and circuit of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing

Depositions of *Juan Cota* was taken before me on the *21* day of *March*, A. D. 18*61*, according to the *Consent*

of the said *parties*

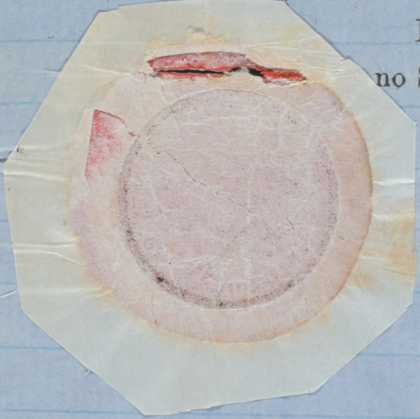
at the United States District Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, and State of California, in behalf of the *Claimants & Appellants*

That the said *Juan Cota* was by me duly sworn according to law as a Witness in said cause in the caption of this Deposition mentioned, and after being so sworn, his Testimony was by me reduced to writing in his presence, and after having been by me carefully read to him, and by him corrected in every particular as he desired, was by him signed in my presence.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and private Seal, (having no Seal of Office,) this *21<sup>st</sup>* day of *March*, A. D. 18*61*

*G. L. Noice*

*United States Commissioner.*



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No. 93

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

*Juan Loreto Sepulveda et al*

*The United States*

Deposition of *Juan Cota*  
Filed this *21st March 1861*

93 SD *G. L. Mix*  
PAGE 103 *Clerk*

*No 33* 108

The United States

vs } No 93.  
Juan L. Sepulveda }  
Juan Sepulveda } Exponents to survey.

This is a motion to set aside the survey made by the Surveyor General of U.S. for Cal. It is submitted by the claimants that the survey is correct. The grant and confirmation is to the place called Palos Verdes. The survey gives as the place called Palos Verdes a tract of land in a compact and approximating to a square form with natural boundaries, to wit on two sides by the Rancho of San Pedro and on the other two sides by the Pacific ocean and the bay of San Pedro. To give any less than this would be to divide this tract and give to claimants a fraction ~~less~~ than one half the tract as set forth in the survey - thus dividing the entire tract without any natural landmarks for such division. It is submitted therefore that the presumption is that the entire place was called Palos Verdes, as there is no proof nor any attempt made to prove that any part of the tract was ever known or called by any other name. And it is submitted that all experience has shown that all grants in California are bounded by natural boundaries. The claim in this case it is submitted is somewhat capricious and unscientifically drawn, but enough can

be gathered from the deed and surrounding circumstances to gather what was meant as *Palos Verdes*. The point called the Sand Hills is a well established and undisputed point. The judicial possession declares that from *Ther* to *El Codo* is 5,300 varas, this unquestionably is a clerical error as the distance is actually much greater to wit

It is submitted that the point called *El Codo* has been well established by the testimony of *Juan Cota* as a well known point, and it therefore becomes entirely immaterial, whether the judicial possession reads 5, or 5,000 varas as the place itself must govern (6 Wheaton 540, 7 Wheaton 7.) The *Mitrep Cota* also recognizes another point, not named on the map between *El Codo* and the ~~point~~ of Government reserve, to wit as one of the land marks of the place called *Palos Verdes*.

The Government reserve of 500 ~~varas~~ <sup>is</sup> square, ~~is reserved~~ and not included in the lands granted but is specially reserved therefrom. The distance from *El Codo* as located in the map, from *r* to the place called *La Gruta* by the meanderings of the coast, varies but a fraction from the distance as laid down in the <sup>act of</sup> judicial possession between these two points.

It is therefore submitted, that the gov-

Government reserve would never have been mentioned in the grant were the proposition claimed on the part of the Government correct, as to run a line from No 21 when it is claimed by the Dist Atty that El Cords should be located to the place called La Golata, would at the nearest point be a distance of more than one & one half miles from the said reserve as measurement upon the Map will show -

The Gov Reserve is clearly proved - and thus claimants establish four distinct points upon the sea shore and about which there is no conflicting testimony - 1<sup>st</sup> The Sand Hills 2<sup>nd</sup> El Cords; 3<sup>rd</sup> Portuondo and 4<sup>th</sup> The Government Reserve, three of which are mentioned in the act of judicial possession and the decree of confirmation in this case - It is submitted that it would be a strange proposition to reserve a reserve, out of a tract of land, 500 varas square at a location which is proved and established, when in fact the tract of land granted did not, <sup>at the nearest point</sup> come within a mile & a half of the place reserved -

It is submitted that in fixing a survey the court is to be governed by the land granted and to disregard any technical imperfections in the descriptions of boundaries -

In this case the proof is clear and uncontradicted that this entire tract of land

as indicated in the map has always been known as the place called Palos Verdes and that the survey is correct and should be affirmed -

It is submitted that the call of the grant can be met in no other way than that approved by the Surveyor General -

Geo W. Drum  
Atty for Claimants

No. 93,

U. S. Dist. Court for the  
County of San Diego, Cal.

In re Estate of Sepulveda

et al

vs

United States

Plaintiff

Defendant  
of appellee  
of U. S. Dist. Ct.

Filed April 8, 1861

Ed. M. Clark

John M. Clark, Deputy

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The United States

No 93

Jose L Sepulveda et al } Los Palos Verdes

On the tenth day of december AD 1856 this cause was originally submitted to his Honor the United States District Judge for the Southern district of California, whereupon a decree was rendered confirming to the Claimants the place known as the Palos Verdes, by metes and bounds a portion of said decree is in the words following to wit "The land of which confirmation is hereby made is that known by the name of Los Palos Verdes situated in the County of Los Angeles and is bounded and described as follows. Beginning at the South east point of the place called Los Palos Verdes at a place called La Golita where there is a land mark and running thence in a northerly direction eight thousand varas, thence in a westerly course twelve thousand varas to some sand hills on the edge of the beach where there is a land mark thence running south five thousand three hundred varas to a point on the beach called El Codo thence in an easterly course leaving a reserve of five hundred varas on each one of the four cardinal points fifteen thousand varas to the place of beginning" for further description reference is made to the grant and act of judicial possession

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Upon said decree the Surveyor General of the United States for the State of California caused to be made and afterwards approved the plat of said premises now returned into Court. and said survey is now returned into Court for final adjudication. Upon applications made by the Government that the same is not in conformity with the decree of this Court under the law of the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 1860. and the rules of this Court adapted under said law. Upon the return of said survey the following lines were excepted to - to wit all those line from station 21 on said plat following the coast to the La Gotita or place of beginning.

Under this state of case it is submitted that the only question now before the Court is whether the approved survey returned into Court is in conformity with the decree heretofore rendered in this cause. U S Statutes Vol 9 Page 633 Sec 13 U S Statutes Vol 12 page 33 Sec 1 also the 2<sup>nd</sup> rule of this Court relative to the return of land surveys.

The law of the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1857 requires that the Surveyor General shall cause <sup>to be made</sup> an accurate survey of all private land claims in the State of California after the final confirmation of the same by the courts. That survey can alone be based upon the final decree

~~and the papers~~

and the papers therein referred to: upon these and only <sup>these</sup> can he act. To permit him to take the original grant and construe the same according to his own judgment in running the boundary lines of any Rancho, would virtually render the whole proceedings had before the United States Board of Land Commissioners, before this Court, and before the Supreme Court of the United States an useless ceremony - needlessly presented to the Surveyor General to be acted upon by him only so far as it meets with his approbation.

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The law of 1860 June 14<sup>th</sup> Page 33 Sec 1<sup>st</sup> requires of the Surveyor General when he shall have caused a survey to be made in compliance with the 13<sup>th</sup> Sec of the law of 1851. (the section above referred to) to give notice thereof by publication, &c and the 4<sup>th</sup> Sect of the same law gives the Court power to set aside said survey or correct and modify the same -

Under the rules of this Court adapted in conformity with the Law of the 14<sup>th</sup> June 1860 we find that to procure a return of a survey the first requisite is a statement in writing suggesting that said survey is not in conformity with the decree of the Court. (Rule No 2) - Not that it does not conform to the grant, discrio



judicial possession or any other paper - but  
solidly to the decree of the Court.

If through carelessness, ignorance or any  
other cause the parties have mistaken their lines  
and caused to be entered an erroneous decree  
(which we claim is not so in this case) they have their  
remedy by another and different action  
but they cannot change said decree upon  
order for return of survey.

The admissions of Claimants in their brief  
that "the decree is somewhat carelessly and  
unartificially drawn" is to some extent an  
admission that the decree will not include  
all the lands surveyed, and virtually asking  
of the Court to set aside in this collateral  
manner its former decree, and enter a  
new one for their benefit.

The decree in this case is specific  
it calls for the place known as the Palas  
Verdes, with fixed metes and bounds, and  
for further description it refers to the grant  
and act of judicial possession. From  
the grant itself nothing can be learned  
farther than it is for the place called Palas  
Verdes, the lines of which are to be fixed by the  
officer giving possession. The act of judicial  
possession which by the words of the decree  
is made a part of the same, gives specific

boundaries and these are precisely the same as those set out in the decree with the exception that the commencing point named in the act of juridical possession is the second point named in the decree. They however both call for the same specific lines of boundary - And from all <sup>that appears</sup> in the records of this Court and in the testimony taken in this cause, the lines called for in the juridical possession and the decree embrace the entire track of land known as the Palas Berdes - no attempt is made to prove that it extended over a single acre of land outside of these boundaries

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Upon a careful comparison of the approved survey now on file in this Court with the final decree and the act of juridical possession referred to therein, said survey will be found in perfect conformity with the decree from the point of beginning to station no 21 on said plat - The decree and survey both call for the La Gotita as a commencing point from thence north eight thousand varas thence westerly twelve thousand varas to some round hills, thence south five thousand three hundred varas to a point called the El Codo. Thus far the decree and survey are in perfect conformity for the

Survey shows a point or El Codo the same distance south of the land hills, that is called for in the decree; From this point is found the error in the survey complained of by the Government - both the decree of this Court and the act of judicial possession calls for a line from this point in an easterly direction fifteen thousand varas to the place of beginning - whilst the survey shows a detour first south then east and ultimately north of thirty nine thousand four hundred and ninety three varas to reach said point of beginning, embracing a large tract of valuable land excluded by the decree of this Court.

That plan of survey shows that there are numerous points or elbows along this coast and no testimony was introduced by Claimants to designate any particular one as the El Codo referred to in the decree, except that of Juan Cota and he does not appear to have been present at the time judicial possession was given or to have any knowledge thereof - He describes an El Codo as an arm of the sea extending into the land, and afterwards designates a point of land extending into the sea as the El Codo

It is then submitted to the Court that there is found in conformity with its decree a point or elbow five thousand three hundred varas southerly from the Sand hills (which said hills are admitted to be a corner) and that this point or elbow is clearly marked by the surveyor on his plat. That this is the point or elbow called for in the decree of this Court and the act of juridical possession is evident from the following reasons, 1<sup>st</sup> That in measurement it is the distance called for from the sand hills 2<sup>na</sup> That in a direct line from this point to the place of beginning it approximates closely to the number of varas called for both in the decree and act of juridical possession thus closing the entire tract in perfect conformity with the decree of this Court 3<sup>da</sup> That was any other point upon the coast taken as the particular elbow referred to both in the decree and juridical possession it devolved upon the claimants to show the same particularly as Leonardo Cota the officer ~~giving~~ <sup>who gave</sup> juridical possession was in this Court as a juror nearly every day for two weeks previous to the submission of this cause.

4<sup>th</sup> That the decree and juridical possession

Calls for the La Golita as the south east point of the place called Las Palas Berdes, and adapting any other than a direct line from this point, would place the south east point of said ranch distant near two miles from the La Golita

The assertion in *Almante's* <sup>brief</sup> that the distance called for between the sand hills and the El Cedo is a clerical <sup>error</sup> <sub>x</sub> is to say the least inconsistent with reason and the plain dictates of common sense - it is fixed by actual measurement, first in the act of judicial possession and second by the Surveyor General of the United States for the State of California as shown by his plat returned into this Court. It is then from this point of land or elbow five thousand three hundred varas south of the sand hills that error has evidently been made by the Surveyor general. The decree calls for an easterly line from this place or point to the place of beginning fifteen thousand varas in length excluding five hundred varas square as a government reserve

The testimony of E Hadley and J M Laven both Surveyors and experts shows that the distance from this point to the place of beginning in a direct line is less than sixteen thousand varas, whilst

the line in the approved survey is thirty nine thousand four hundred and ninety three varas. Take then the direct line and exclude therefrom the five hundred varas square as a government reserve, and we have the quantity (differing but a few varas) called for in the decree of this Court and in the act of juridical possession clearly establishing that this was the line of which juridical possession was originally given, and marked the exterior limits of the place called Palas verdes, - and the same line called for in the final decree of this Court. Again Hadley says in his testimony that the line excepted to was run by him, but not in conformity with the decree or any other order or paper issuing from this Court but that he ran the entire entire coast line upon the mere order of Hancock a deputy United States Surveyor.

It is contended by Claimants that the Government reserve is located upon the sea coast some mile and a half distant from the direct line claimed by the government and certainly would not have been mentioned had it not been the intention of the decree, to follow the

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sea coast - admitting that the reserve  
is upon the coast and distant from the  
direct line claimed by the Government, yet  
there is no proof in this case that the  
officer giving judicial possession knew  
of its location - or that he did not reserve  
the five hundred varas square at the ter-  
mination of the direct line, upon the bay  
near the La Golita. This latter view we  
hold to be correct, as we find the direct  
line, exceeding the quantity called for  
by about the amount reserved. In  
this view we are sustained by the Claimants  
in their Brief on the third page of the same  
they tacitly admit that their decree is  
insufficient to embrace the lands included  
within this survey, but ask of the Court  
to "disregard description and be governed by  
the grant" - overlook the decree with fixed  
boundaries, and take grant which is  
without boundaries named - in other words  
set aside the final decree of the Court and  
permit them to file a new one in these  
collateral proceedings. It is then  
submitted that the survey returned into  
Court is erroneous so far as respects the  
by the Government and that the same

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Should be so far corrected or modified  
as to direct a straight line to be surveyed  
from Station No 21 on said survey in  
an easterly direction to the place of be-  
-giving the La Golita, in conformity  
with the final decree of this Court

J. Mitchell  
W S Dist atty

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no 93

U. S. Dist Court for the  
South Dist of Cal

Jose Loretto Sepulveda  
et al

vs

United States

Chief  
of U. S. Dist Atty

Filed April 8, 1861

Chas. M. Clark

of John Whelan Deputy

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No 37

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In the District Court of the ~~United States~~  
for the Southern District of California

The United States

Appellants

<sup>vs</sup>  
Jose Suelto Sepulveda

et al

Appellees

No 99

"Palms Verde"

On return of Survey -

And now comes on this cause  
to be heard upon the exceptions heretofore filed  
on the part of the United States to the survey of  
The Surveyor General of the United States for  
the State of California, and the same having been  
argued by counsel and heard and understood  
by the Court - The Court finds that there is  
error in a portion of the lines excepted to on  
the part of the United States, to wit; from the  
point marked "Sand Hills" on the beach,  
to the point marked "El Codo" also situated on  
the beach, and from the point last aforesaid  
to the point on the beach marked "The Gov-  
ernment reserve"

It is therefore ordered adjudged and  
decided that the said survey be and hereby is  
vacated, as follows: from the point marked "Sand  
Hills" on the beach to the point on the beach  
marked "El Codo", and from the point last  
aforesaid to the point on the beach marked  
"The Government reserve". And it is ordered  
adjudged and decided that a new survey thereof  
be made by the Surveyor General of the United  
States for the State of California, as follows: com-

Meneing at the said "Sand Hills" on the beach, and  
 from thence running a direct line to the place  
 called "El Codo", said last mentioned point to be  
 ascertained and fixed by the said Surveyor Gen-  
 eral; and from thence running in a direct  
 line to the South West corner of "The Gov-  
 ernment Reserve" as marked on said map  
 in this cause - And it is further ordered  
 adjudged and decreed that all of the lines  
 of the lines of the said Survey as appears by  
 the said map in this cause become the  
 same as hereby expressed  
 Thus done signed in open Court this 11<sup>th</sup> April 1861  
 James M. Ogden  
 U.S. Surveyor

No 73

In the District Court  
 of the United States  
 for the Southern District  
 of New York  
 Filed April 11, 1861  
 J. M. Ogden  
 U.S. Surveyor

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See & Order  
for appearance

Long Island  
 -brief  
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In the District Court of the  
United States in and for the  
District of California,

United States.

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José Loreto Sepulveda and  
Juan Sepulveda.

And now to wit, the 5<sup>th</sup> day of  
September A. D., 1870, on reading  
the mandate of the Supreme Court  
of the United States by which it  
appears that the decree of the  
District Court of the United  
States for the Southern District of  
California, in this cause reversing  
and correcting the Survey of the  
Surveyor General of California,  
bearing date the eleventh day of  
April A. D., 1861 has been by  
said Supreme Court reversed and  
annulled with directions to dismiss  
the proceedings in this cause upon  
said survey for want of jurisdiction.

dictum

On motion to J. M. Seawell,  
of counsel for appellant, it is ordered  
that said mandate be filed  
and that all proceedings in this  
cause, upon said survey, be  
and the same are hereby dis-  
missed for want of jurisdiction.

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of Septem-  
ber A. D. 1870

*Cyler Hoffman*  
Deft Judge

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U. S. Dist. Court

Dist. of California

The United States

-95-

Jose Loreto Sepulveda  
Juan Sepulveda.

Order that Mandate  
be filed & that proceeding  
in survey be dismissed  
for want of jurisdiction

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Filed Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> 1870  
Camd. P. Coother  
Clerk

By *W. G. Woodward* R. C.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ss.

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PAGE 124 THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To the Honorable the Judges of the District Court  
of the United States, for the Southern District  
of California

Greeting:

Whereas, lately, in the District Court of the United States, for the Southern District  
of California before you, \_\_\_\_\_ in a cause  
between The United States, appellants and Jose Loreto  
Sepulveda and Juan Sepulveda, appellees, the decree  
of the said District Court was in the following words,  
viz: -

"And now comes on this cause to be heard upon the  
exceptions heretofore filed on the part of the United States  
to the Survey of the Surveyor general of the United  
States for the State of California, and the same having  
been argued by counsel, and having been understood  
by the Court, the Court finds that there is error in a  
portion of the lines excepted to on the part of the United  
States, to wit: From the point marked "Sand hills,"  
on the beach, to the point marked "El Codo," also situated  
on the beach, and from the point last aforesaid to the  
point on the beach marked "the government reserve!"

It is therefore ordered adjudged, and decreed that the  
said Survey be, and hereby is vacated as follows: From  
the point marked "Sand hills," on the beach, to the point  
on the beach marked "El Codo," and from the point last  
aforesaid to the point on the beach marked "the government  
reserve." And it is ordered, adjudged, and decreed  
that a new Survey thereof be made by the Surveyor  
general of the United States for the State of California

as follows: Commencing at the said "Sands hills," on the beach, and from thence running a direct line to the place called "El Codo;" said last mentioned point to be ascertained and fixed by the said Surveyor general; and from thence running in a direct line to the southwest corner of "the government reserve," as marked on said map in this cause. And it is further ordered, adjudged, and decreed that all of the use of the lines of the said Survey, as appear by the said map in this cause, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed.

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as by the inspection of the transcript of the record \_\_\_\_\_

of the said District

Court, which was brought into the Supreme Court of the United States, by virtue of an appeal

agreeably to the act of Congress, \_\_\_\_\_

in such case made and provided, fully and at large appears.

And whereas, in the present term of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Sixty three the said cause came on to be heard before the said Supreme Court, on the said transcript of the record, and was argued by counsel: On consideration whereof, it is now here ordered, adjudged, and decreed by this Court, that the decree of the said District Court in this cause, revising and correcting the Survey of the Surveyor General of California, bearing date on the Eleventh day of April A. D. 1851, be and the same is hereby reversed and annulled. And it is further ordered that this cause be and the same is hereby remanded to the said District Court with directions to dismiss the proceedings in this cause, upon said Survey, for the want of jurisdiction.

8<sup>th</sup> Feb:

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You, therefore, are hereby commanded that such further proceedings proceedings be had in  
said cause, in conformity to the opinion and decree of this Court  
as according to right and justice, and the laws of the United States ought to be had, the said appeal  
notwithstanding:

Witness the Honorable Roger B. Taney Chief Justice of said Supreme Court, the  
first Monday of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred  
and Sixty three

COSTS OF

Clerk..... \$

Attorney... \$

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

64.57

Taxed by

L. W. Middleton

Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States.

No. 114. December Term, 1863.

MANDATE

SUPREME COURT UNITED STATES.

In State vs Separeda et al

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Went Sept. 5th 1890

Ernest B. Barber

Clerk

R. B. Finck

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