

CASE No.
227

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

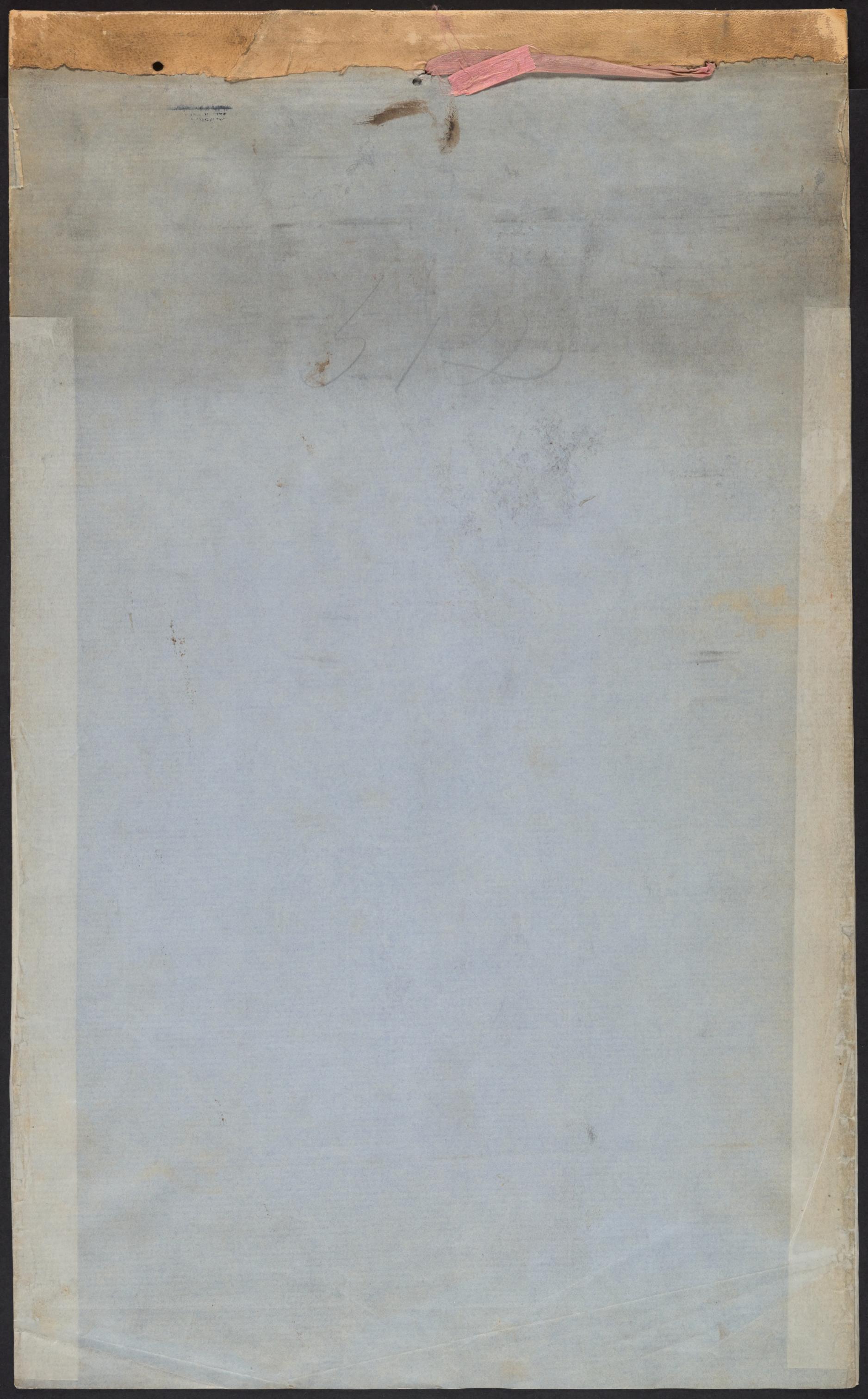
SAN PEDRO GRANT

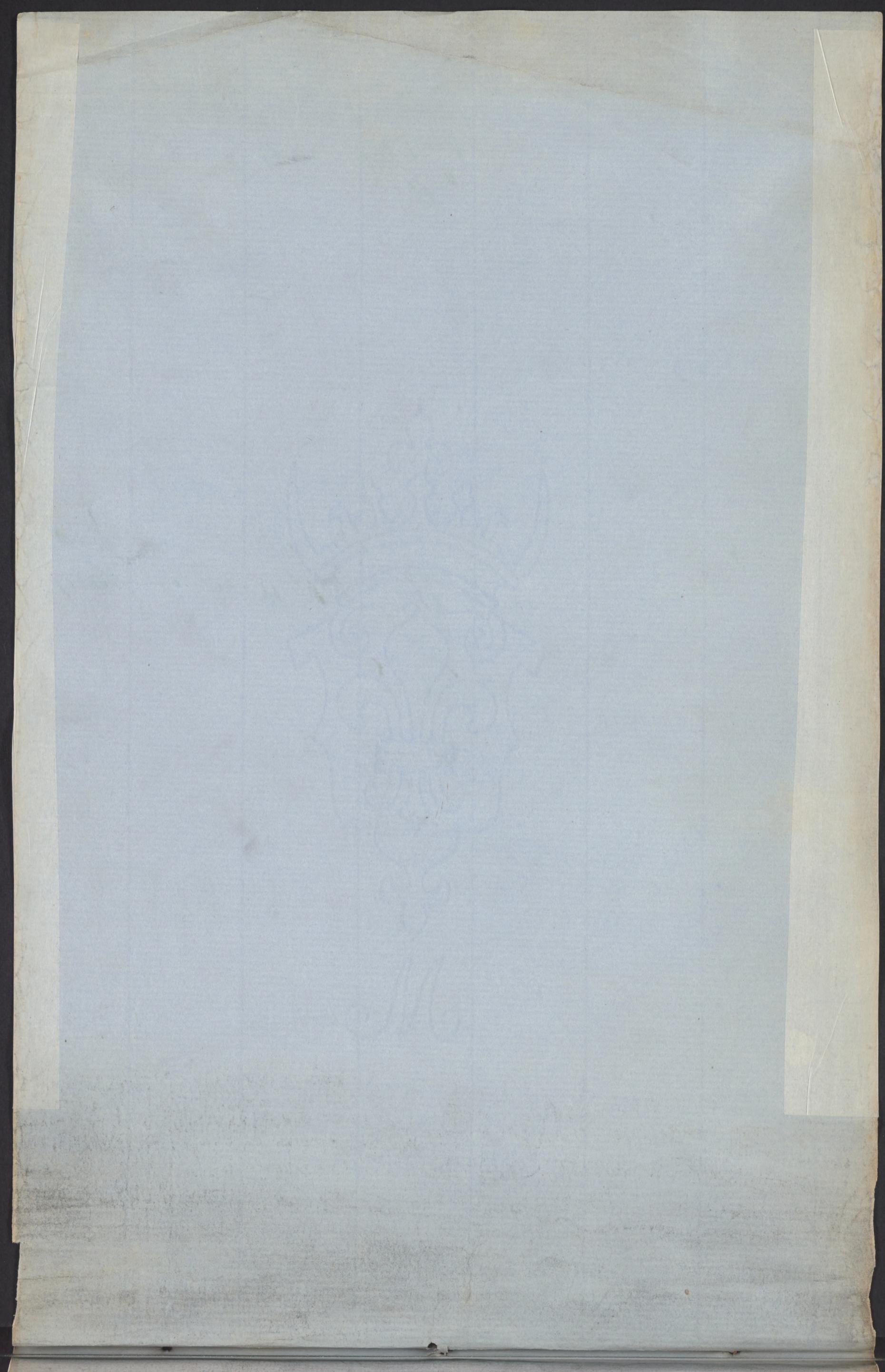
GUADALUPE ORTEGA DE CHAPMAN, ET AL
CLAIMANT

LAND CASE 227 SD pgs. 118

MAR 14 1963

124
SPRING FELLOW EREN
BROWN BOLD
COMMUNITY





TRANSCRIPT

227 SD
PAGE 1

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

IN CASE

NO. 512.

*Guadalupe Ortega de
Chapman, et al,*

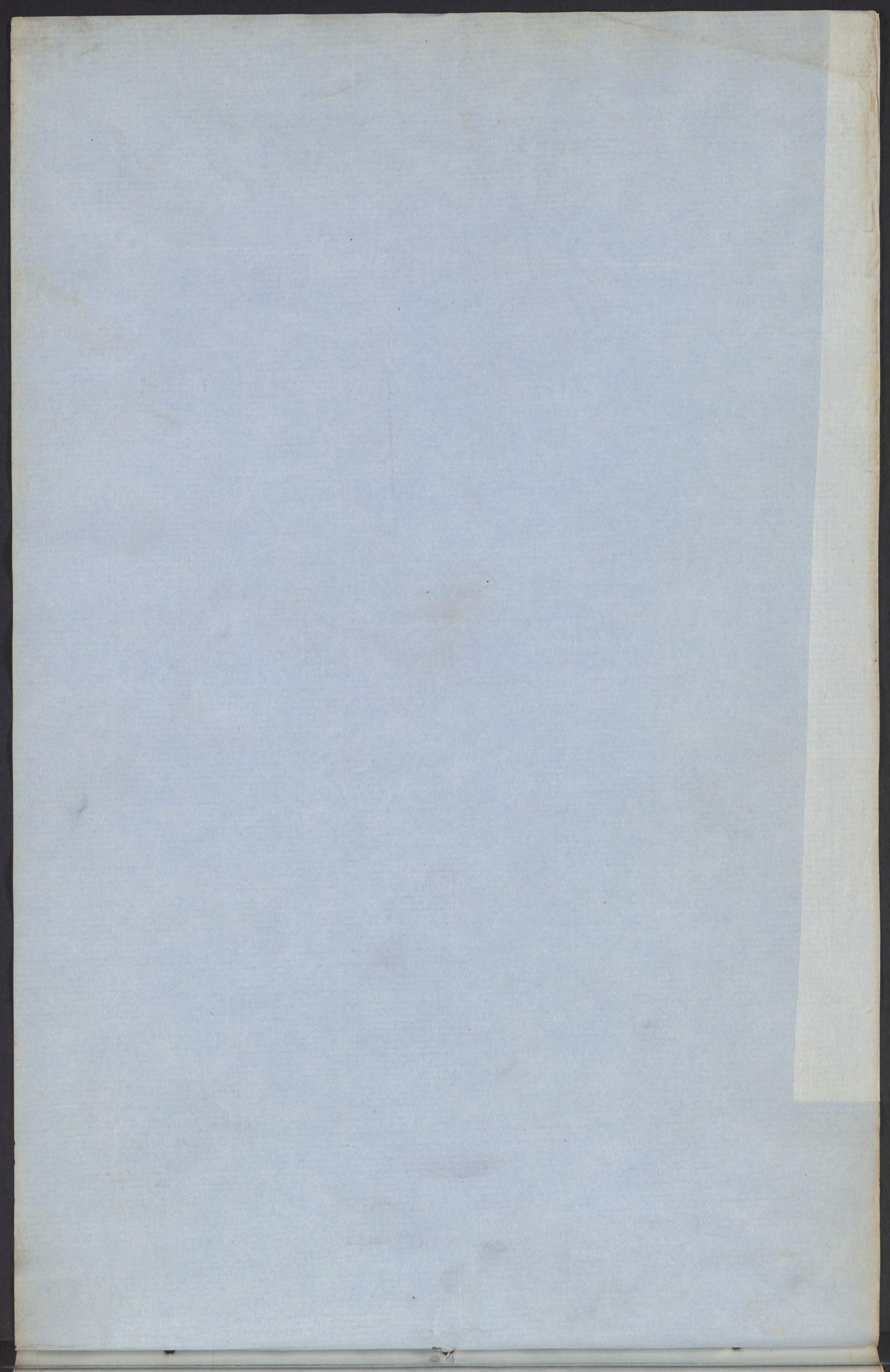
CLAIMANT *S.*

VS.

THE UNITED STATES, DEFENDANT,

FOR THE PLACE NAMED

"San Pedro"



Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims

IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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Be it Remembered, that on this fifteenth day of January, Anno Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-three, 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;

The Petition of Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman et al. for the Place named "San Pedro" was presented, and ordered to be filed and docketed with No. 512 and is as follows, to wit:

(Vide page 5 of this Transcript.)

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

San Francisco January 15th 1853.
In Case no. 512, Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman et al.; for the place named "San Pedro", the deposition of Andres Pico, a witness in behalf of the claimants, taken before Commissioner Meland Hall, with document marked H. H. No. 1 annexed thereto, was filed;

(Vide page 7 of this Transcript.)

San Francisco March 7th 1853.
In the same Case the deposition of Juan B. Alvarado, a witness in behalf of the claimants, taken before Commissioner Meland Hall, was filed;

(Vide page 6 of this Transcript.)

San Francisco October 3rd 1853.
Case no. 512, on motion of the Counsel for the claimants was ordered to the foot of the Docket.

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San Francisco December 23rd 1853.

In the same case the counsel for the claimants filed the following Affidavit, to wit:

(Vide page 17 of this Transcript.)

San Francisco Sept. 16th 1854.

In the same case the counsel for the claimants filed a copy of the deposition of Thomas E. Evered, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Peter Satt, on the 13th instant, in Case no. 498, Maria Rita Balcey, for the place named "San Antonio", as evidence in this case by virtue of the Stipulation with the U.S. Associate Law Agent annexed thereto.

(Vide page 11 of this Transcript.)

San Francisco October 3rd 1854.

Case no. 512 on motion of the counsel for the claimants, with the consent of the U.S. Law Agent, was ordered to be placed at the foot of the 2nd Clap case on the Trial Docket.

San Francisco, October 17th 1854.

In the same case the counsel for the claimant filed the following Motion, to wit:

(Vide page 15 of this Transcript.)

which having been considered was granted, and

Ordered, That the petition be amended in accordance with the said motion.

San Francisco, October 19th 1854.

In the same case the deposition of Rafael Sanchez a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Peter Satt, was filed.

(Vide page 8 of this Transcript.)

San Francisco November 16th 1854.

Case no. 512 was submitted under the Rule of March 21st 1854 and taken under advisement by the Board.

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San Francisco, November 21 1854.

In the Same Case Commissioner Alpheus Felch delivered the Opinion of the Board confirming the claim:

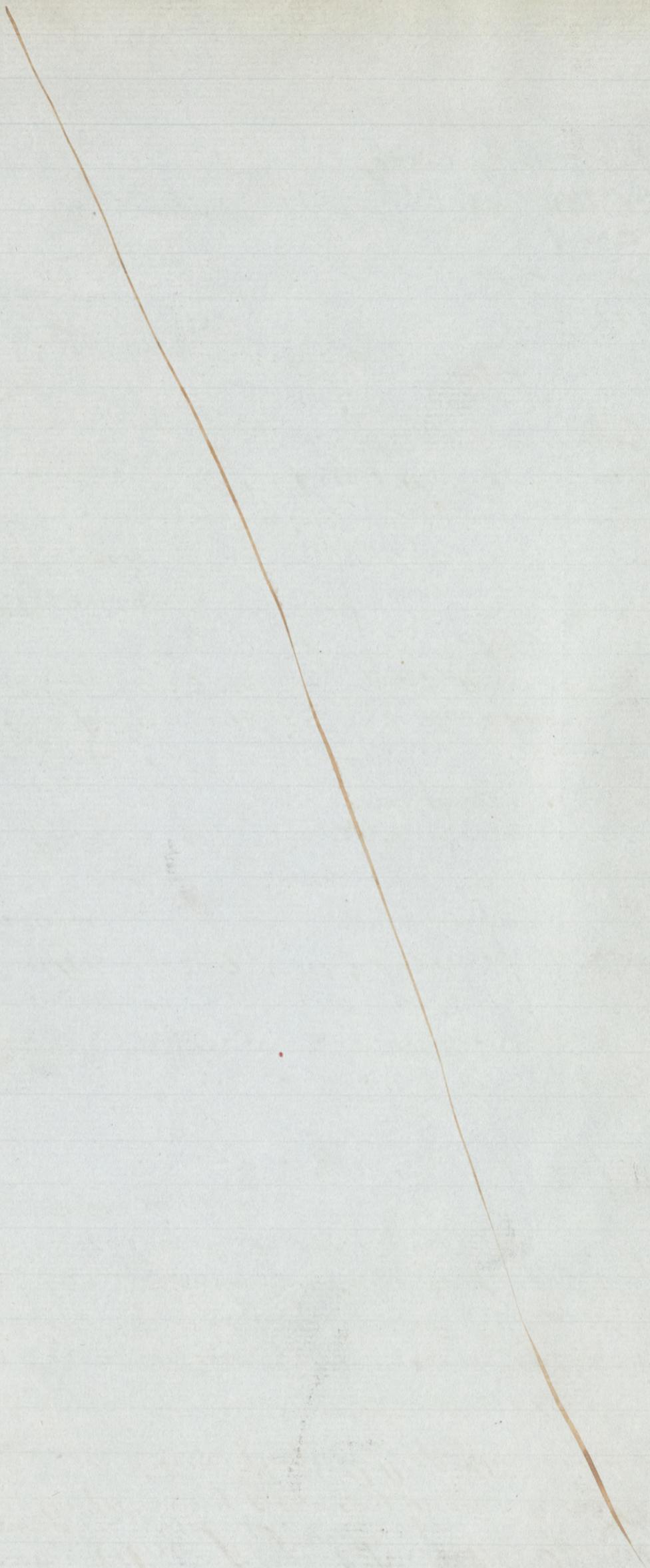
(Vide page 19 of this Transcript.)
and the following order was made, to wit:

(Vide page 20 of this Transcript)

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Petition

To the Honorable Board of Commissioners for ascertaining and settling Private Land Claims in the State of California

Your Petitioners Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman Juan Chapman Jose Chapman Lucia Salaspe Maria Ignacia and Juana Chapman respectfully represent that they are the heirs of Don Jose Chapman deceased that they claim a certain tract of land containing one square league situated on the Rio Santa Maria near the Ex Mission San Buenaventura in the County of Santa Barbara and State of California called Rancho San Pedro that they claim the same in fee full by virtue of an authentic or Ministerial Grant to the said Don Jose Chapman under the Mexican Government by Ex Governor Juan Alvarado in the year 1838

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Secondly by virtue of a Grant in fee to the aforesaid Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman and children under the said Government and in conformity with the Law of the 18th of August A.D. 1843 by Governor Manuel Pineda

Your Petitioners further represent that they have enjoyed the fee and undisturbed occupancy and possession of the same since the year 1838 Your Petitioners also further represent that the title papers are lost but that they will proceed vigilantly to file such proof as they may be able

And your Petitioners pray your Honorable Board to take into consideration their claim to the said Rancho and to declare their title to be valid and to confirm the same and your Petitioners will ever pray

By Henry Hancock

Attorney for the aforesaid claimants

San Francisco January 15th 1853

Filed in Office January 15th 1853

George Fisher  
Secretary

Recorded in Volume 1 of Petitions on Page 481

George Fisher

Secretary

Deposition of  
Juan B  
Alvarado

San Francisco March 7th 1853

On this day before Commissioner Heland, Hall  
came Juan B. Alvarado a witness on behalf of the  
Plaintiffs Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman et al  
Petition Number 512 and was duly sworn his evi-  
dence being interrupted by the Secretary

In Answer to questions by counsel for the Plaintiff  
the witness testified as follows

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My name is Juan B. Alvarado my age is forty three  
years and I reside in the county of Contra  
Costa

I am acquainted with one Dolus Chapman  
who is deceased and with his widow Guadalupe  
Ortega I do not remember of ever hearing from  
said Chapman a title to the land claimed by him  
either by purchase or otherwise

I recollect that when  
I was at Santa Barbara in 1838 that Chapman took  
possession of some land and I think it must have  
been in consequence of some permit which I gave  
him for the same I think he could not have  
done it

The land I am speaking of is in Santa  
Barbara County and is called San Pedro in the year  
1837 and 1838 I was in Campaign during the civil  
commotions and had no regular office and no  
record or registry of titles which were used, was  
kept

Chapman was an citizen blacksmith Gun-  
smith Carpenter Miller and agriculturist and was  
very useful to the Government he was a man of merit  
and all the Government liked him

He had a large  
and numerous family of children I consider Chap-  
man at the time he took possession of San Pedro  
to have been entitled to a grant of it

Juan B. Alvarado  
Subscribed, and sworn before me Heland, Hall  
Notary in Office March 7th 1853 Commissioner  
George Fisher Secretary

Recorded in Evidence B. Volume 2 Page 638

George Fisher Secretary

7 Deposition  
of Audus  
Pico

San Francisco January 15th 1833

On this day before Commissioner Heland Hall  
came Audus Pico a witness in behalf of the claimants  
Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman et al  
Petition Number 512 and was duly sworn his  
evidence being interrupted by the Secretary

The United States Associate Law Agent was  
Present

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

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My name is Audus Pico my age is forty two  
years and I reside at Los Angeles

I know the Rancho  
called San Pedro which is situated in the County  
of Santa Barbara have known it ever since the  
year 1835 it was at first occupied by the Mission  
of San Buenaventura and afterwards by Mr Chap-  
man in the year 1837 and has ever since been owned  
and paid by himself during his life time and by his  
family after his decease

Chapman alone there  
in 1838 and lived in it with his family and it still  
continues to be occupied by his family a map is  
now shown me which I believe to be true representation  
of the land

His lands are now and  
numbered 114701 the family of Chapman  
have occupied the land with horses and cattle  
and cultivated a portion of it the stock of cattle  
at this time is from 200 to 250 head

From 1838  
to 1840 the stock of cattle was from 800 to 1000 head  
In 1838 during a commotion here the troops under  
Alvarado were encamped at San Buenaventura  
and cattle were furnished from the Rancho for  
them 1140

I do not know the number of cattle or  
whether they are paid for or not the Government  
has no means of payment to my knowledge  
Chapman occupied the land from 1838 at  
first under a temporary license to occupy from  
Governor Alvarado In 1843 Guadalupe the wife of  
Chapman applied to Governor Donnellana for

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a full title which was granted them by the Governor in 1844

I was at a camp of Governor Micheltuena and the title papers are delivered to me to be delivered to the grantee which in consequence of my being obliged to go out of the country I sent the title papers by mail

On my return at the end of the year Mrs Chapman applied to me for the title papers thinking that she had never received it from which I believe it to have been lost. The paper was sent by me by the monthly canoe or mail.

The mail was carried from Monterey to some Ranchos or Mission by me in person and then taken by another principally Indians and so from place to place. It is impossible now to tell who the paper's carrier was.

The provisional title of Alouan was attached by Mrs Chapman to her petition to the Governor for a full title. I saw it again, also saw the full title issued by Governor Micheltuena. I received it from his hands.

I do not recollect the quantity of land is called for under the grant or was signed by Micheltuena but I cannot remember the quantity of the land.

Adans Pica

Saw and subscribed before me

Beland's Hall Commissioner  
Filed in Office January 15th 1853

George Fisher

Secretary

Recorded in Evidence B. Volume 2 Page 445

George Fisher

Secretary

Deposition  
of Rafael  
Saudery

United States of America  
State of California ss

San Francisco October 17th 1854

This day came before Peter Lott Commissioner for taking testimony to be used before the Board of the Land Commissioners in said State Rafael Saudery a witness on behalf of the claimant Inadable Litiga de la manana and others Number 312 in the Doct of Land

Board, and said returns being duly sworn deposited in Spanish as follows being interpreted by the interpreter to said Board,

The U S Law Agent is present  
Question by Hancock for claimants  
Question What is your name age and residence

Answer My name is Rafael Sanchez my age 46 years my residence in Monterey in California  
Question Was you a member of Geronimo's military staff in 1843 when he came from Los Angeles to Monterey

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Answer I was in his command at that time and went with him from Los Angeles to Monterey stopping at Santa Barbara

Question State what particular transactions between Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman and Micheltreina at Santa Barbara respecting some title papers

Answer When Micheltreina was in Santa Barbara said Guadalupe Ortega asked him in my presence to make her agent of lands in the jurisdiction of Santa Barbara Micheltreina told her he could not then attend to it because in the road, and would attend to it when he got to Monterey

He presented to Micheltreina a grant which he saw Alvarez had made to her of the same land as found above from the conversation between them

The Geronimo handed the paper back to said Guadalupe at that occasion and promised her that he would at Monterey inform himself about the matter and if it was all right would make her a title

Question What occurred in connection with this subject at Monterey afterwards

Answer Micheltreina as was continuing referred the matter to Geronimo the Secretary for information and after he reported favorably Micheltreina issued a title and allowed it to Alvarez for Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman This is all occurred in my presence in the office of the Secretary when was clerk I think it was about Dec 1843

Cross examined by U S Law Agent

Question How long before the grant was issued, was it that the report was made by J. J. ... and what became of the Petition and report and what kind of paper were they and the grant written upon

Answer I do not remember, the report was made before the title issued, I think it was some time or day

The Petition and report remain in the archives of the Government they are unsealed paper of the stamp of two cents the grant which the Government signed was written on sealed paper of the stamp of eight Dollars

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Rafael Sanchez  
Subscribed and sworn to  
Before me on this 14th day of October A.D. 1854  
Peter Lott

Commissioner &c  
Filed in Office October 14th 1854,  
George Fisher  
Secretary

Recorded in Evidence B, Volume 5 Page 483  
George Fisher  
Secretary

Copy of  
Depositions  
taken in  
478

United States of America 3  
State of California ss 3  
San Francisco Sept 13. 1854

This day came before Peter Lott Commissioner for taking testimony to be used before the Board of United States Land Commissioners in said State Thomas C. Conster, a witness on behalf of the Plaintiff

Maria Rita Valdez in case Number 478 on the docket of said Board and said witness being first on oath deposed, as follows

The United States Law Agent is present  
Questions by Mr Hancock Attorney for Plaintiff

Question What is your name age and residence

Answer My name is Thomas C. Conster, my age thirty years my residence San Francisco California

2nd) Question All you employed in the office of the United States Survey General for the State of California if you in what capacity

Answer I am so employed I am one of the archive Clerks in said office

3rd) Question Have you authority in that capacity and are you familiar with the records through of titles to land under the former government if you state what symptoms of the condition of said records for the years 1838 and 1839

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Answer I have charge of the archives and frequently on applications of parties interested made to me a survey of the archives

I have had occasion to make search for all papers pertaining to the titles and as the records of the years mentioned there are records in the archives for those years

In the shape of books of recent time are there bound books and papers intended to have been bound in another volume one of these is entitled *Libro de los Registros de Titulos fincas y Señales* for the years 1784 to 1831 as recorded in the archives

The second book is entitled *Titulo los* and purports to be a book of records for grants from the years 1833 to 1836 in close another book purports to be a book of *Finca de razer* for the years 1844 and 1845

and from the title papers in said archives is evidently incomplete the unbound book is also a book of *Finca de razer* for the years 1841 1842 and 1843

and from the book itself and title papers in said archives it is evidently very incomplete as there are many papers missing judging from the number of the pages now existing

4th) Question Do you then intend to say that the records of 1838 and 1839 are in complete answer yes I do though incomplete for those years so far as books of records are in question

5<sup>th</sup> Question Is there any regular unbroken series of Expedientes for the years 1838 and 1839

Answer There are Expedientes there for those years I cannot say that they are in an unbroken series were not

6<sup>th</sup> Question Please state whether there are any Expedientes in the archives for those years which are not noted in the Tomas de Nozon

Answer There are

7<sup>th</sup> Question Does the Book which you call Cuadro del registro de titulos fincas y suales contain a full and complete record of all the titles issued between 1784 and 1831

Answer I cannot say that it does but to the best of my knowledge there are many of the old title papers between those years to be found there in

8<sup>th</sup> Question Have you any recollection of having seen in that record any title or commissions made to retired Soldiers in particular

Answer I do not recollect any such nor

Subscribed and sworn to before me September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1834

Thomas C. Cushman  
Peter Lott  
Commissioner

George Foster Secretary of the Board of Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the

Deposition of Thomas C. Cushman taken before Commissioner Peter Lott in Case Number 478 now on file in this office and in my care and custody as such Secretary given and sworn to this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1834  
George Foster Secretary

It is mutually agreed that this case may be filed and incorporated with the Evidence in Case No 214 and 19 and such for claimant Louis Blaudry in the Court of the United States Filed in Office September 16<sup>th</sup> 1834  
George Foster Secretary

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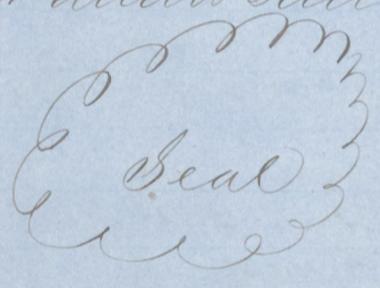
Certificate  
of Clerk of  
Montgomery Co

State of California }  
County of Monterey } ss  
County Records  
Office

I James H. Gleason County Recorder in and for  
the County of Monterey and State of California  
do hereby certify that at the request of the att-  
orney (Mr. Henry Hancock) for the claimant  
before the United States Land Commission  
of the Rancho called San Pedro

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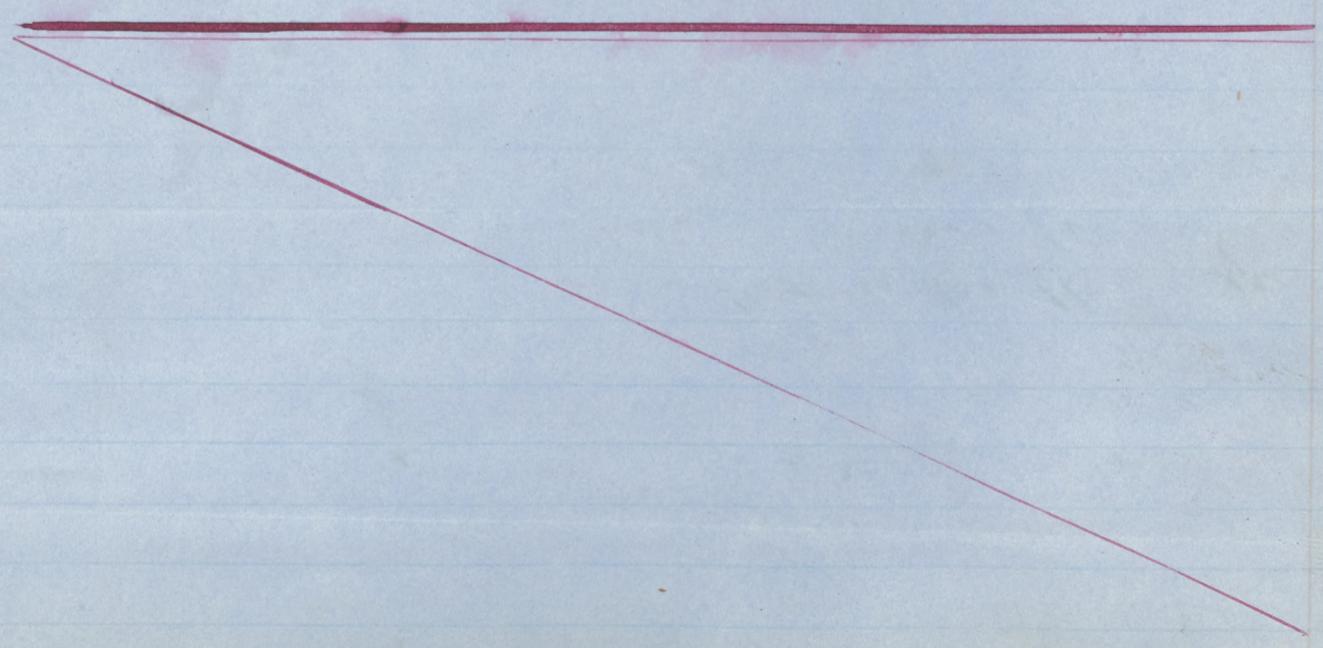
Situated in  
the County of Santa Barbara have made and  
and through search among the papers now  
on file in my office comprising the former  
Mexican Records and that I do not find any  
paper or papers whatever relating to the said  
Rancho San Pedro

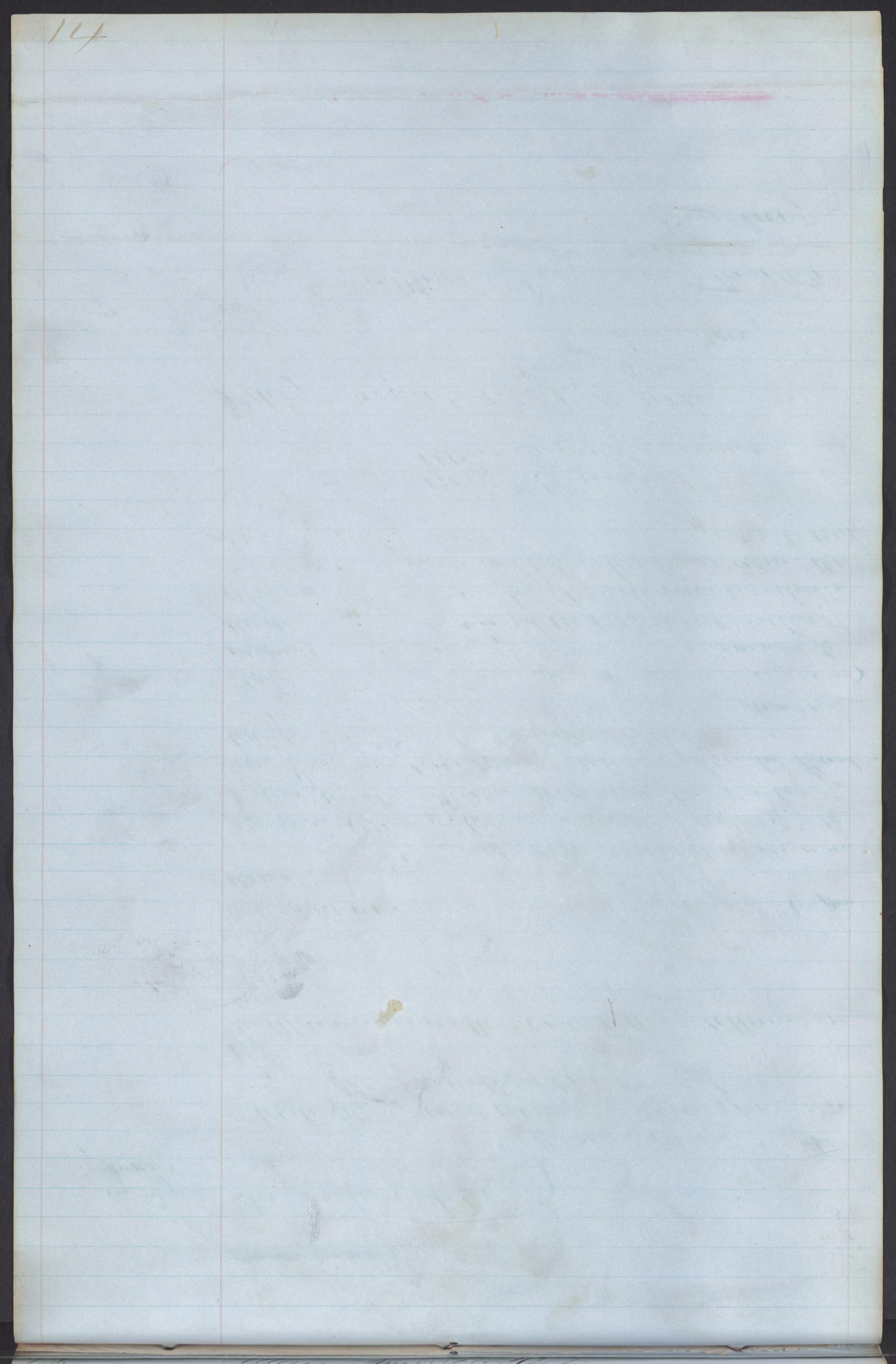
  
E. Seal

In witness whereof I have  
hereunto signed my name  
and affixed my official seal  
this 10th day of August A.D.  
1854 James H. Gleason

County Recorder Monterey County  
Per Edward L. Williams  
Deputy

Filed in Office September 15th 1854  
George Fisher  
Secretary





15

Motion to Amend Original Petition before the Board

Blanca Miranda vs. The United States

In the matter of the Rancho San Pedro

page 5

Respectfully Humble Board of United States Land Commissioners for California  
this 14th day of October 1854

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The claimants in this case by their Attorney now move this Honorable Board that their Petition to this Board of date January 15th 1853 be so amended as to read your Petition Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman widow of Don Jose Chapman deceased

Respectfully represents that she claims a certain tract of land situated on the E side of the Rio Santa Clara in the valley of San Buenaventura and County of Santa Barbara California called Rancho San Pedro

That she claims the same by virtue of the occurrence and indubitate title issued by Governor Alvarado to her deceased husband in 1838 and by virtue of a grant in fee executed by Governor Pichot to her at Monterey, between some time about the last of 1843 or first of 1844 in conformity with Law

Henry Hancock  
Attorney for Claimant

Filed in Office October 17th 1854  
George Fisher  
Secretary

Recorded in Annual Volume 4 Page 73  
George Fisher  
Secretary

16

June

N

Affidavit of Jose Chapman of Santa Barbara County  
Jose Chapman being duly sworn deposes and says that his the oldest son of said Jose Chapman deceased and one of the claimants in the above entitled case

That his now thirty two years of age was born in California and is intimately acquainted with the Rancho San Pedro situated on the Santa Clara River in the county of Santa Barbara and State aforesaid

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That from the year 1838 till about two years since and until he married and went to live in the Rancho Santa Ana in said county belonging to his father in said county, he lived with his father's family on the said Rancho San Pedro and that the said Rancho is the property of his Mother Doña Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman and he claims by whom it is now possessed

That diligent search has been made for the title papers of the said Rancho and that they cannot be found consequently he only believes them to be lost and after the years of 1845 and 1846 on account of all the papers according to the right to the said Rancho being lost he as agent for his father before his death made a journey to Los Angeles to solicit a new Grant from Governor Pio Pico

And that Governor Pico made a petition for him for the Rancho San Pedro which petition he was permitted to get his father to sign and to have a design made of the land and annexed to the said petition

That he is of which he was directed to deliver to the Alcalde for information concerning the same and that the said Chapman died in a quarrel with the said Alcalde of the Governor have a design made by Esteban Adadon who made the one now in file and who did make one representing the original tract of land that is represented by the design in file

That his Father signed the aforesaid Petition which together with the aforesaid claims first made before with Señor Don Joaquin Canillo Aquino within two months from the time the Petition was written by Gammico

And that before the information required was given by the said Alcalde the American firm came to California and that since that time the said Petition and claims cannot be found and that looking them over to be lost

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That ever since 1838 the said Rancho has been solely and exclusively occupied by his Father's family and that there is not in his title been since 1838 any mentioning of Alamant

And your document further states that the said Rancho San Pedro is situated on the north side of the Santa Clara River near its mouth in the County of Santa Barbara

That it is bounded on the side next to the ocean by a range of said hills called the Annual on the South or South East side by a range of saltish lakes that the South Eastern corner of it is in the range of small known large salt lake

From which the line runs across to the River Santa Clara and along the land of Leandro Gonzalez and thence across the said river to the commencement of the said lower hills

That the said Rancho contains one league or two of land Mayor of said

Jose Alapman  
I have read and subscribed to December 23rd 1853 before me

Alphons Felch  
Commissioner  
Filed in office December 23rd 1853  
George Foster

Secretary  
Records in London B. Volume 3 Page 61  
George Foster  
Secretary

Opinion of  
the Board

Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chapman  
vs  
The United States

Partido Maricallado  
Rancho San Pedro  
in Santa Barbara County  
containing one square  
League of Land

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The Petition in this case was originally filed in the name of the widow and children of the Chapman deceased, but when leave granted by the Commission the same was subsequently amended by striking out the names of the children and is now prosecuted in the name and for the benefit of Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman the widow of said deceased.

No grant or approval by the Departmental Assembly in evidence of judicial measurement and no proof of title from the archives are presented.

From the testimony of witnesses however it is made to appear that said Chapman in his life time had some part of a license to occupy the land, that in 1843 his wife the present claimant made application to Governor Pichot for a grant of the same.

That by signing the grant and delivery it to Carlos Rice that the latter sent it to her by the mail in a casket and that the same was probably run around before and cannot be found.

The testimony is sufficient to account for the disappearance of the grant and is secondary evidence of its contents the proof which the claimant has adduced is however unfortunately too vague in some important particulars to enable us to know what its contents really were or what was in fact granted.

The witness expressly states that he cannot remember the quantity of land granted under any description of the promise or any boundary monuments by which it could be ascertained. It was for the same land to which the principal grant was made referred to but we have nothing to show

what are the contents of that paper & the limits of the land to which it relates

A map is filed in the case but it is of recent origin and does not purport to be connected in any way with the title papers and cannot aid in establishing the claim of the Petitioner

We are reluctantly compelled for want of proof in this point to reject this claim which appears to be otherwise maintained. The affidavits of Jose Blasman made while he was a party to the petition is not available as evidence in the case its legal effect being confined to the simple point of the loss of the original documents

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Rejected  
Filed in Office Number 21st 1854  
Judge Fisher  
Secretary

Decree

Guadalupe Ortega  
de Blasman & ab

The United States

In this case when the  
the proofs and allegations  
is adjudged by the Com

missioner that the claim of the Petitioner is not valid and it is therefore decreed that the application for a limitation thus be denied

Alphons Felix  
A. C. Thompson  
J. B. Farrell  
Commissioners

Filed in Office Number 21st 1854  
Judge Fisher Secretary

and it appearing to the satisfaction of this Board that the land hereby adjudged is situated in the Southern District of California it is hereby and that two transcripts of the proceedings and of the decision in this case and of the claims and evidence upon which the same are founded be made out and duly certified by the Secretary one of which transcripts shall be filed with the clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California and the other be transmitted to the attorney general of the U.S.

Office of the Board of Commissioners,

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

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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 *Twenty* pages, numbered from  
1 to *20*, both inclusive, to contain a true, correct and full Tran-  
script 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. *572* on the Docket of the said Board,  
wherein *Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman,*  
*et al, are*  
the Claimant against the United States, for the place known by  
the name of *'San Pedro.'*

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand  
and affix my private Seal (not having a Seal  
of Office) at San Francisco, California, this  
*Twenty fifth* day of *May*  
A. D. *1857*, and of the Independence of the  
United States of America the seventy=*ninth*.



*Geo. Fisher*  
*G. Fisher*

U. S. DISTRICT COURT,  
*Southern* District of California.

No. 227. **227**

THE UNITED STATES,

vs.

*Guadalupe Ortega de  
Chapman et al -  
"San Pedro."*

TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECORD  
FROM THE

BOARD OF U. S. LAND COMMISSIONERS,

In Case No. *572*

Filed, *June 6th* 185*5*

*E. Carr,  
Clerk.*

**227**

*No. 572*

United States District Court  
for the Southern Dist of California  
April Term at Los Angeles  
1853

Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman Appellant  
and

United States Appellee

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Rancho San Pedro } Claim No  
County of Santa Barbara Cal } Transcript No 512

Notice is hereby given of the  
intention of the claimant to present  
the appeal from the decision of  
the United States Land Commission  
for Cal. appointed under act of 3<sup>d</sup> of March 1851  
respecting the said claim in the above  
entitled cause for the Rancho above  
named

Henry Hancock  
Atty for Claimant

No. 227,

In U.S. Dist Court  
Southern Dist. Cal.

---

Guadalupe Ortega  
vs Chapman

Appellant

vs

United States  
Appellee

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Notice of  
intention to present  
Appeal

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Filed April 21<sup>st</sup> 1855

J. E. Farr,  
clerk.

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Before Hon. S. H. Ogier  
U. S. Dist Judge for the  
Southern Dist of Cal.  
Decr Term 1838

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Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman <sup>et al</sup> Grant N<sup>o</sup> 512  
vs  
The United States } Decret N<sup>o</sup> 227

In the Matter of the Rancho "San Pedro"

Your petitioner Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chapman resident of the County  
of Santa Barbara State of California  
respectfully represents that on the  
5<sup>th</sup> day of January presented a petition  
before the Board of United States Land  
Commissioners appointed under an act  
of Congress for the purpose of ascertaining  
and settling private land claims in the  
State of California approved on the 3<sup>d</sup>  
day of March 1831 then in session  
at Los Angeles asking a confirmation  
of a tract of land situated in the  
County of Santa Barbara California and  
known as the Rancho "San Pedro" that  
afterwards to wit on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of  
Nov<sup>r</sup> 1834 the said Commissioners  
~~made a decree~~ delivered an opinion

favoring the said claim but exciting  
to the sufficiency of proofs in the matter  
of description of the land claimed, and  
made a decree rejecting the  
said claim and denying the  
prayer of of your petitioners

That a Transcript of the pro-  
ceedings of the said Commission  
was filed by the clerk of this  
Honorable Court on the 3<sup>d</sup> day of  
Jan 1855 and that on the  
21<sup>st</sup> day of April 1855 your petitioners  
filed in this Honorable Court a  
notice of in. intention to pro-  
-sents the appeal from the said  
decision of the aforesaid Commission  
-is

Your petitioners would  
further represent that  
claim to the said Rancho is a  
good and valid claim, and  
that the said decree of the  
said Commissioners ought to  
be reversed

Wherefore your  
petitioners respectfully pray  
this Honorable Court to review  
the said case, and to reverse

The said decision of the said  
 Commissions, and to decide upon  
 the validity of the said claim  
 and to confirm the same, and  
 for such further and other  
 relief as they may be entitled to  
 under the act of Congress con-  
 cerning private land claims in the  
 state of California approved  
 on the 3<sup>d</sup> of March 1851  
 and your petitioners will  
 ever pray

Henry Hancock  
 Atty for Claimant

227 SD  
 PAGE 24

to the  
 Hon. Secy of the  
 Interior  
 Wash. D.C.

to the  
 Hon. Secy of the  
 Interior  
 Wash. D.C.

to the  
 Hon. Secy of the  
 Interior  
 Wash. D.C.

PAGE

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

No 227  
Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chapman *et al.*

"San Pedro"

Petition  
for Review

Filed Dec. 14th, 1858.  
J. Sims, Clerk  
for W. W. Stetson  
Dpty

United States District Court  
Southern District of California

Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman  
et al

app'ts

San Pedro

vs

No 227

The United States

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PAGE 26

Now comes J. R. Mitchell  
attorney for the United States for the Southern  
District of California, and for and in  
behalf of the United States, and for answer to  
the petition of Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman  
et al for review of decisions of Land Com=  
-missioners says that he denies all and  
singular, each and every allegation in said peti=  
-tion contained, and further this respondent  
denies generally the validity of the alleged  
title of the claimants to the lands claimed by  
them or that a grant ever issued to them for  
said lands

And the said respondent  
prays that this Honble Court will affirm  
the decision of the said United States Land  
Commissioners in said case and decree  
the said alleged title to be invalid  
and general relief

J. R. Mitchell  
Atty for the U. S. for the  
Southern Dist California

No 227

Guillaume Otis de Champe  
et al

The United States

Answer of the U.S.

Filed Dec. 14th Dec. 1858.

L. Sims Clerk.  
for W. W. Weston,  
Dpty.

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W. W. Weston  
s. w. atty

The President of the United States of  
America,

My Dear Madam

22750  
PAGE 28

We command you, that all <sup>and</sup> singular  
business and expenses being laid aside, you  
be and appear before the Judge of the District  
Court of the United States for the Southern  
District of California, at a regular Term  
of said Court now in session at the Court  
Room in the City of Los Angeles, on the  
20th. day of December A.D. 1858, at 11 o'clock  
A. M. of said day, to testify and give  
evidence in a certain cause pending in  
said Court, on the part of the Appellant.

And  
this you in nowise omit, under the penalty  
upon you of Two Hundred and Fifty  
dollars.

Witness - My hand, Isaac S,  
W. Ogier, Judge of the Dist,  
Court of the United States,  
at the City of Los Angeles,  
this 20th. day of December  
A.D. 1858.

I. Sims, Clerk,  
per W. W. Nelson, Deputy.



Marshals Return

I have served this writ personally by copy on Andreas  
Pier this 30<sup>th</sup> day of December 1858

James C. Peunie  
U.S. Marshal for the  
South<sup>th</sup> Dist of California

No. 227.

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

Joseph D. Stearns vs Chapman  
Appellant

vs

The United States  
Appellee.

Subpoena on the part  
of Appellant.

W. Stearns

Andreas Pier

Filed Dec 20<sup>th</sup> 1858

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PAGES 29

James C. Peunie  
U.S. Marshal for the  
Southern Dist. of California

1

Guadalupe Ortega de  
Chapman - app<sup>ts</sup> No 227  
vs  
State app<sup>r</sup>

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PAGE 30

Andres Pico being first duly sworn answers to the following interrogatories as follows

Sub

In the former deposition of yours in that case given before the Board of US Land Commissioners, you have stated that you have received <sup>a</sup> grant for ~~the~~ land to <sup>Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman</sup> ~~Chapman~~ in that case from the Governor Micheltorena, state whether or you read that grant and if so for what land was it, the grant was made?

Ans

I have seen a title I have read it and had it in my possession. The title was for a tract of land granted to <sup>Dr</sup> Guadalupe de Chapman by a place called San Pedro in the County of Santa Barbara

Ques

2  
Did you have further stated  
that the provisional title was  
attached to the petition for a  
full title, please state what  
you recollect of the contents of that  
provisional title;

Ans

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PAGE 31

I do not recollect the terms  
the or contents of the provisional  
title but I recollect it was  
<sup>included</sup> ~~incorporated~~ in the petition ~~of~~  
for the regular title - ~~The provis-~~  
~~ional title~~

Ques

Did you see the provisional  
title itself or simply a copy of it

Ans

I saw <sup>to</sup> ~~the~~ ~~petition~~, a petition  
which was accompanied by  
another paper which other  
paper was described <sup>in</sup> the  
petition as being the provisional  
title to the lands petitioned for &  
do not know ~~what~~ whether it  
was the original or a copy - I  
did not read it - It had  
annexed to the petition

Ques

Who  
Did you see a clerk agent for the

petition at that time, ~~and if so~~

Ans I did -

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PAGE 32  
Quest State as near as you may  
recall what tract of land  
and what the boundaries of the  
tract of land were or as near  
as may be where it is situated,

Ans I do not know the boundaries  
I only know that it was a  
place on the Rio Santa Clara cal-  
led San Pedro

Corrected by R. S. D  
atty

Quest Do you know of the place  
being on the Rio Santa Clara  
said from the title or from  
your personal knowledge of its  
location

Ans I know the place, called San Pedro  
before the issuance of the grant

Ques Was the Run Santa Clara  
referred to in the title paper stuff;

Ans I do not recollect

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PAGE 33

Ques In what year did this title  
issue, and from what place?

Ans The title was made in the year  
1844 by McWhittens at Monterey

Ques Was this after the presentation  
of the petition of which you have  
spoken?

Ans I do not recollect how  
long but the petition was presented  
in 1843 and the title was issued  
in 1844

Ques Was there any map or plan  
accompanying the petition?

Ans I do not recollect -

Ques How much quantity of land did  
the petition ask for?

Ans I do not recollect the  
quantity of land but I am un-  
der the impression that it was  
not for many leagues

Ques After the presentation of the petition

was there any formalities gone through with respect whether the land was vacant, or capability of the persons to take or was there any report made to the Government on this petition?

Ans I do not recollect of any proceedings except the report of the Justice of the Peace of Santa Barbara, there being a provisional concession, any other proceedings were unnecessary

Quest What is the date of the <sup>provisional</sup> ~~provisional~~ grant of which you have spoken & by whom & to whom was it issued

Ans I did not read it

Quest by the Court

Quest Was the report made by the Justice of the Peace of Santa Barbara made after the presentation of the petition or at the same time

Ans It was handed to me at the same time together with the petition

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PAGE 35

Ques. I see that I am a native returned  
You stated that you have known  
the Ranch of San Pedro from a  
time previous to the issuing of the  
grant - Please state what you know  
of its locality ~~and on what side of~~  
the River Santa Clara it is situated

Ans. I know that the place called  
San Pedro was on both banks of the  
River called Santa Clara - I don't  
know whether the place existed then  
or not I know that it was upon  
the bank of the River that is the  
Wallo of the River <sup>when it was high it surrounded</sup>  
~~the~~ <sup>at present</sup> ~~of the~~ <sup>called San Pedro</sup> ~~land~~ <sup>over flowed it washed</sup>  
- The house was upon  
the southern bank of the River - The  
stock belonging to the Ranch used  
<sup>grazed</sup> indiscriminately on both sides, There  
were several places on the Santa  
Clara River that were known by  
particular names - There was this  
place San Pedro and another place  
called "Lato-Coy" and a great many  
other

Ques. Do you know any thing of the  
locality of the place called San Pedro

or any natural boundaries that  
surround San Pedro

Ans I do not

Ques Do you know the extent of the  
land <sup>Indicated in opening as</sup> called ~~by~~ San Pedro?

Ans I do not

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Suff by W. Hancock atty for claimant  
By what name or name  
was this place called or known as  
San Pedro?

Ans I do not know

Adres Pico

Worn and Subd to for me  
this 20<sup>th</sup> day of Decr 1858

John  
As Commissioner  
for the Southern Dist  
of California

No 227

In Dist Court

Guadalupe Ortega  
vs Chapman  
Appell

(vs)  
The United States  
Appelle

Deportation to  
Audun River

Filed Dec 25<sup>th</sup>  
ad 1858  
C. W. R.

N<sup>o</sup> 227

Before the U.S. Dist. Court for the Southern Dist of  
Cal. Before Hon. J. S. K. Ogier Judge  
Over Term 1838

Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman et. al. } "San Pedro"  
vs }  
United States }

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Wm. Hancock of counsel in the above entitled cause  
being sworn, upon oath states, that the land claimed in this  
case does not exceed in area one square league; that it is  
well known as ~~that~~ that portion of the Mission lands  
of the Mission San Buenaventura <sup>which is</sup> ~~at the place~~ called  
San Pedro, that its boundaries are well known and  
recognized, and that by ancient reputation they have not  
only been well known and recognized but notorious,  
since a time anterior to the occupancy, ownership and  
possession of the family who are the appellants in  
the above entitled cause; that he is intimately  
well acquainted with the lands of the valley of San  
Buenaventura and that to the best of his  
knowledge and belief there is not any other  
tract of land in said valley nor in the County of  
Santa Barbara known as San Pedro, and  
that if this cause be remanded to the docket  
for the purpose of admitting further testimony to be taken  
concerning boundaries he will endeavor to introduce  
witnesses from the said County of Santa Barbara  
by whose testimony he will be able to prove all of that  
which he has herein set forth, and that unless the  
cause be restored to the docket in order that such further

Evidence concerning location and boundaries may  
 hereafter be filed in this cause, that substantial  
 justice to which an, indigent and widowed  
 Mother, together with her needy orphan children  
 two of whom are deformed daughters, one  
 of which has been from birth utterly helpless, &  
 an object of pity, and ~~from my own personal~~  
~~observation a witness of the Mother's ten-~~  
~~derest case and for whom support and benefit~~  
~~she has hitherto declared unto me that she~~  
~~wishes to devote the eight hundred dollars~~  
~~which I still owe her as purchaser of the~~ <sup>her interest in</sup>  
~~said Rancho San Pedro, contingent upon~~ <sup>the payment of which</sup>  
~~the issuance of a patent for the same by~~  
 the U. S. are so preeminently entitled, and  
 upon which they are exceedingly dependant will most  
 signally ~~and~~ fail to be meted out to them by  
 the Government in this matter -

No 227

SD

Guadalupe Ortega del Chaparral  
et al.

Appellants

vs

United States

Appellee

Affidavit of Counsel

Filed 22<sup>d</sup> Dec. 1858.

J. Sims. Clk.

per W. W. Stetson  
W. W. Stetson

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No. 227

Before the U.S. Dist Court for  
the Southern Dist of Cal.

Before Hon. S. P. H. Ogden Dist. Judge

Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman et. al.  
vs Appellants

United States appellee

227 SD

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Given June 1858

Now comes Henry Wamerck of counsel  
in the above entitled cause and  
moves that the same be remanded to  
the docket of this Honorable Court for  
the purpose of admitting further evidence  
concerning boundaries, and he writes  
files an affidavit in support of  
this motion

No 227

Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chapman et  
al

Appellants

vs

United States  
Appeller

Motion

Filed, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1858

to Sims & Co.

per W. W. Stetson.

Wphz

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United States District Court  
for the Southern District of  
Col.

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PAGE 43

Before Hon. A. G. H. Ogden  
U. S. Dist Judge

Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman  
Appellant

vs

The United States Appellee  
over Term 1839 - No 227

Now comes Counsel for  
Appellant and moves that  
Hon. Court please that an  
order be entered granting leave  
to take further evidence in  
the above entitled cause

Henry Hancock  
of Counsel  
for Appellant

No 227

Guadalupe Ortega de  
Chapman  
Applicant  
vs  
The United States  
Appellee

Motion to take tes-  
timony

Filed in Office this  
29<sup>th</sup> July 1860

C. Sims  
cl

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In the District Court of the  
United States for the Southern District  
of California  
Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman  
vs appellant } NO 227  
The United States  
appellee }

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To the above named Plaintiff  
or her attorney

You will take  
notice that the above entitled cause  
will be brought on to hearing in the  
said United States District Court on  
the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1860 or  
as soon thereafter as Counsel can be  
heard

Sept 14<sup>th</sup> 1860

J. M. Mitchell  
U.S. Dist. Ct.

I served a copy of the within notice on  
H. Hancock, Esq. Atty for Claimant in the  
City of Los Angeles on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September  
A. D. 1860

Marshals fees \$2.05

James C Pennie  
U. S. Marshal  
S. Dist of Cal

No 227

W A Bull Creek

Guadalupe Ortega

vs Chapman  
appell

U  
The United States  
appellee

Notice of trial

Filed in office  
the 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 1860

C. Pennie  
cl

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In The United States Dist  
Court for the Southern Dist  
of Cal<sup>y</sup>

Josefa Guadalupe  
de Chapman

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Appellant

R 227

vs  
The United States  
Appellee

Now comes Henry Hancock  
of Counsel in the above entitled  
Cause and upon Oath states  
that according to the best of his  
knowledge and belief the only  
thing wanting in the way of proof  
in this Cause is to show ~~what tract~~  
~~of land~~ the bounds of the tract  
of land called "San Pedro" claimed  
in this Cause. That the claim  
is one that which few or none  
remember, and such an one as  
ought to be confirmed. That  
Appellant has recently returned  
from San Francisco where  
for some two weeks he was

2  
Diligently engaged in unremitting  
search (during office hours) amongst  
the old Mexican Archives now in  
the Custody of the United States

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Genl. for documentary ev-  
idence in support of this <sup>& other</sup> Claims  
without avail; <sup>in this</sup> That there is  
of record in this Cause in the way  
of testamentary evidence indubitable  
proof that a grant was issued to the  
Claimant in this instance for the  
Rancho "San Pedro" and that the  
same has been lost That the  
Loma de Razon or record of  
grants for the period during which  
this grant was issued does not  
appear in the said Archives  
That the clerical force of the  
said Custodian of said Archives  
has ever been and is at this time  
entirely too meagre to admit of  
indices being had of the immense  
mass of Mexican Governmental papers  
recently arranged (as far as practicable  
in the short time in which it was done  
by date) in books That

Appiant notwithstanding  
 frequent requests made by him  
 for the books containing the  
 local archives of Santa Barbara  
 The grant being situated in that vicinity  
 was unable to find any such  
 but upon the last day he was  
 engaged as aforesaid in search  
 of proofs relative to this and other  
 grants he discovered two boxes  
 marked from Santa Barbara  
 containing the local archives  
 from that place, and that he  
 had not sufficient time to examine  
 one of them and is of the belief that  
 he is entitled to further time for  
 the purpose of continuing his  
 researches, and also that in case  
 he should finally fail to meet  
 with any documentary evidence  
 concerning the limits of the tract  
 claimed he should be allowed  
 to procure such oral proof  
 from Santa Barbara & the  
 County in which the land  
 lies as may enable the Court  
 to determine the limits of the

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tract granted: that for the reasons heretofore set forth to deny the claimant the continuance asked for to the next regular term of this Hon. Court would be to arbitrarily deprive the claimant and his wife & family of their just rights and unconscionably subversion of the substantial administration of justice.

227 S.E.

PAGE 50

That Appiant has had reason to hope to find documentary evidence in relation to this grant, and has diligently sought for the same, and that his application for continuance in this instance is made to promote the administration of substantial justice, and not for delay alone.

485

Henry Hancock  
 of Counsel for  
 Appellant

Sworn and subscribed before me this 19th

Sept 1860

Q Jones

US Commisnary for Dist of Cal

227387

Dolph Gurdalup  
de Chapman

1860

El Indio State

Please refer this  
to the 79th Sept 1860  
Q Jones  
CR

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In the United States Dist Court for  
the Southern Dist of Cal<sup>a</sup>

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Guadalupe  
Ortega de Chapman }  
Appellant } N<sup>o</sup> 227  
vs }  
The United States }  
Appellee }

Now comes Appellant and  
moves this Hon<sup>ble</sup> Court that  
the above entitled cause  
be continued until the next  
regular term of court and  
in support of same files  
the accompanying affidavit

Henry Hancock  
of counsel

N<sup>o</sup> 2 23

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text in cursive script, covering most of the page.]*

Filed this the 19<sup>th</sup>  
Sept 1860  
C. Sims  
exl

Candelupe Ortega et als

vs

The United States

Case No. 227

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Deposition of

Thomas A. Sanchez

*S. L. Merit, Clerk of the United States Dist Court for the Southern District of California and Ex officio*

taken before ~~James~~ United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on *Wednesday*, the *6<sup>th</sup>* day of *February*

A. D. 18*68*, at *2 1/2* o'clock *P. M.*, on said day, on behalf of the *Claimants*

by the *consent of the parties and agreed stipulations* to be used as testimony in a certain cause now pending in the *United States Dist Court*

*for the Southern Dist of California* being Case No. 227, on the Docket of said Court, wherein *Candelupe Ortega et als* are appellants, and

*The United States*

are appellees.

Present *Henry Hancock* Attorney in behalf of the appellants

and *J R Citcher W. S. Estabth* in behalf of appellees.

1st Quest. What is your name, age & ~~place~~ place of residence?

Ans. Age 35 years Resides in Los Angeles Cal. & name Thomas A. Sanchez.

Question. How long have you resided in the County of Los Angeles?

Ans. I was born and raised in the County.

Ques. Do you know of a valley known as the valley of San Benito Ventura, if yea, state in what County it is, about how far distant it is from the City of Los Angeles, and something ~~under~~ the circumstances under which you may have known it which may serve to explain the extent of your knowledge concerning the same

Ans. I know ~~the~~ valley of no lands called by the name of the valley of San Benito Ventura, but I know of a place called the Mission of San Benito Ventura, and the same is situated in

the County of Santa Barbara, and distant from  
the City of Los Angeles between 27 and 30 leagues.  
I know it by many circumstances which I have had  
with it, it being upon the main road between the  
City of Los Angeles and the City of Santa Barbara  
having called many times at the Mission.

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Ques Do you know of a river in the vicinity of the  
Mission, called Santa Clara?

Answer I know the river of Santa Clara, and it is situated  
in the vicinity of the Mission and on the side to-  
wards Los Angeles

Question Do you know of a Ranch on the river Santa  
Clara, called San Pedro & if so, state ~~on what~~  
where the same is situated and the boundaries  
thereof?

Ans I know the Ranch of San Pedro. San Pedro is the  
last ranch upon the river Santa Clara before it  
enters the sea. It is situated on the South East side  
of the river Santa Clara farther Southeast are some  
salt ponds which I think were called (which Salt  
Ponds are on the lands of Buen-M) formerly  
belonging to the Mission of San Buenaventura, going  
up the river and on the same side of San Pedro  
are to be found the houses of the Gonzalez's (upon  
another rancho belonging to them) about a league  
and something more distant. On the West  
side of the river is the Rancho of Ramunda  
Oliveras, farther North is the road from Los  
Angeles to Santa Barbara

Q Are you well acquainted with the Ranchos of Santa Barbara?

Ans No not all. All those East of the Mission of San Buenaventura I am well acquainted with.

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PAGE 56

Question Do you know of any other Rancho in Santa Barbara County called San Pedro? aside from the one you have spoken of

Answer There may be some other small place called San Pedro, but I know of no other Rancho called San Pedro in that County except the one I have spoken of nor have I ever heard of any one of that name; nor have I ever heard of any small place of that name.

Question What is the name of the Rancho occupied by Ramundo Olivas heretofore spoken of by you?

Ans I do not know the name of the Rancho.

Question On which side then of the Rancho of San Pedro is the Rancho of Buen-m.?

Answer. It is on the Los Angeles side, following the

Sea Coast.

Question.

Cross examination by U. S. Dist Atty

Quest

Do you know any of the lines of the Rancho of San Pedro, if you state your means of knowledge?

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Objected to by Counsel for appellant on the ground of ~~pre-supposing~~ presupposing a reply in the negative and having a tendency to confuse the witness by attempt to refute what he has already stated

Answer

Exactly I do not know any one of the lines.

Question

Do you know any thing of the Grant for said Rancho, and if so, for what quantity was said Grant made; by whom & to whom was it made?

Ans

I do not know any thing of the Grant, nor the quantity, nor to whom made, but in 1842, the Claimant lived there with her husband, and they had a large family (5 females + 4 males.)

J. A. Sanchez

*D. G. Mix*

**L. Sims** of the City and County of Los Angeles, and State of California, Clerk of the United States Dist Court for the Southern Dist of Cal, and Ex officio 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 *Thomas A Sanchez* was taken before me

on the *6th* day of *February*, A. D. *1861*, according to the *consent and agreement of the parties and annexed stipulation of the said parties in this case* at the United States District Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, and State of California, in behalf of the *Claimants*

That the said *Thomas A Sanchez* 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 *6th* day of *February*, A. D. *1861*

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*D. G. Mix* Clerk of the United States Dist Court for Southern Dist of Cal. and Ex officio - United States Commissioner.



No. 224

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

*Guadalupe Ortega et al*

*vs*

*United States*

Deposition of *Thomas A Sanchez*

Filed this *Feb 6 1861*

*at San Jose Cal*

*by John W. Wheeler*

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Guadalupe Ortega et al }  
vs } Appellants } N<sup>o</sup> 227

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The United States  
Appellee

in the United States Dist Court for  
the Southern Dist of Cal

It is hereby stipulated and agreed  
by the undersigned that the deposition  
of J. A. Sanchez taken in the  
above entitled case before G. S.  
Poiré Clerk of the Court aforesaid  
and Ex Officio U.S. Commissioner  
on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July 1861 may  
be read and received in evidence  
in this case, without objection  
to the manner of taking the same,  
and that the same be received and  
submitted to the same force and  
effect as though taken in open  
court or before a regularly con-  
=stituted Commissioner

J. R. Gitchell

U S Dist Ct

Henry Hancock

of counsel for Appellants

No. 227  
Guadalupe Ortega de  
Chapman  
Appellant  
vs  
United States  
Appellee

Appellator  
concerning evidence

Filed February 13th 1861  
G. L. Mix  
Clerk

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

Translation  
of ~~Ex m.~~ Document marked  
G. L. N. N° 1

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PAGE 62



Year 1843



Book in which is kept  
the Marginal Decrees of the Pre-  
fecture of this district, and  
the informations on the same  
from the 18<sup>th</sup> of March of the  
present year —

*[Large decorative flourish consisting of multiple overlapping loops and lines.]*

March 1843

At the instance of Don Jose  
Chapman (Chapman) Citizen  
of Santa Barbara in his undertake  
ing to secure the property which  
belongs to him in the place of San  
Pedro colony of Santa Clara the  
following decree was made

Angels March 18

In conformity to the Superior  
Marginal decree ~~which was~~  
~~written~~ of this Petition the Justice  
of the Peace of the jurisdiction of Santa  
Barbara will give information  
as to the time the Petitioner has  
occupied the place called San  
Pedro, if he has cultivated it,  
if he has cattle and a house built  
on it, and if that officer has any  
order or decree for forming the  
Colony, which petitioner names in the  
bottom land of the river Santa Clara  
and whatever else he may conveniently  
do in illustration of the matter, and  
this being done he will pass this  
Expediente to the Excmo. Sr. Dn. <sup>the Minister of</sup> San Fernando  
Minister of San Fernando

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that whatever else ~~is~~ there  
there may be pertaining to  
that Community, and  
return this Expedient  
for further proceedings

No 227

Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chihuahua

Appellant

v

United States

Appellee

Translation  
of doc. marked  
J. L. M. R. 1

Filed Feb. 15, 1861

Chas. M. Clerk

A. John & Thomas Kepley

1



Año De 1843



Hacemos en que se hacen  
los Decretos marginales Leídos  
en la Prefectura de este N.<sup>o</sup>  
Distrito e informes de las mis-  
mas Desde el 18 de Marzo del  
presente año

~~[Large section of text is heavily scribbled out and illegible]~~

Memo de 1843

Sta intancia de D. Jose Shejeman vec. de Sta. Barbara en pretencion a asegurar la propiedad q. obtiene en el paraje de S. Pedro Coloma alta Glara & p. de el decreto siguiente. Aug. Mo 18 = De

Conformidad con el Sup. Deceto marginal q. obra en esta intancia, informe el Jefe de par al partido de Sta. Barb. a del tiempo q. ocupa el q. Representa el paraje de S. Pedro si lo ha cultivado y si tiene bienes y casa ubicada en el, si en aquel lugar existe alg. orden o decreto p. formar la colonia q. denomina en la veza del Rio de Sta. Glara contoso lo demas q. le parezca combeniente a ilustrar la materia, y seravena an prese el Exped. al. R. J. Ministro. de la Est. Non. de S. Menab. a con el p. q. Reproduca el copy en cuento a aquella comunidad, y bud en el Exped. a esta prefectura p. alg. demas fines. =

State of California  
County of Los Angeles

I, John W. Shaw, County Clerk of Los Angeles County, do hereby certify the two foregoing pages numbered 1 and 2, respectively, to be a true and correct transcript of a certain document now on file in my office.



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the Seal of the County Clerk of said County this 15th day of January A.D. 1861.

John W. Shaw, County Clerk.  
By W. W. Watson, Deputy.

No 227

Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chapman  
Appellant  
vs  
The United States  
Appellee

---

Certified Copy of  
an Extract from  
Purfects Record  
of 1843

---

"Document, G. L. M." No. 1

Filed July 15, 1861

G. L. M. clk

of John B. White Deputy

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Valentín Cata et al. app'ts

vs  
The United States app'les

No 231  
"Rio de Santa Clara"

227 50

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Questions and Answers contained in the Deposition of Antonio  
Marín Olivares, duly sworn and examined on part of appel-  
lants.

Quest. Were there any persons cited by you as alcaide to appear  
there at the time you gave Juridical Possession, & if so, Give  
their names

Ans I only called Jose Ruiz as he was the only person who  
had settled near there

Quest. Did you at the time know Juan Sanchez?

Ans I did

Quest. Was he not the owner of a Ranch situated on the  
North of the lands of which you gave possession in this  
case

Ans As yet Juan Sanchez was not there

Quest. What is the name of the Ranch which is now occupied  
by Juan Sanchez,

Ans I do not know

Quest. What direction is the Ranch now occupied by Juan  
Sanchez from the Ranch claimed in this case

Ans. It is on the north, and adjoins the Ranch in this case

Quest. Do you know the Ranch of San Pedro claimed  
by Jose Chapman

Ans I do. - It joins this Ranch claimed in this case

on the South side

Quest,

State how long Jose Chapman has occupied that Ranch  
I cannot tell, I have known of him being with his

Ans

Father in law, but not of his being in "San Pedro"

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Quest. Do you know if the family of Jose Chapman ever occupied the Rancho of San Pedro

Ans. I do not,

Quest. Do you know Antonio del Valle.

Ans. I do.

Quest. Did you know of Antonio del Valle occupying the Rancho of San Pedro

Ans. I never knew nor saw him occupying it.

United States of America  
Southern Dist of California

I Gustavus Smith Clerk of the  
United States District Court for the Southern District of California

Hereby certify the above and foregoing to be full true and correct  
copies of certain questions and answers contained in a Deposition  
of Antonio Maria Olvera, a witness on behalf of Valentin  
Cota et al. Claimants against the United States for the place  
called "Rio de Santa Clara, which Deposition was taken  
before C. Sims, United States Commissioner, <sup>at the City of Los Angeles</sup> and duly certified  
by him as such Commissioner on the 10th day of January  
A.D. 1854, in the presence of Mallock Percy Spillings atty.  
for Claimants and Ford, U.S. atty on part of the United  
States, and is now on file in my office

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto  
set my hand and affixed the seal  
of said Court this 5th day of  
February A.D. 1861

G. S. Smith  
Clerk of Court

Guadalupe Ortega  
vs Chapman

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Appellant  
vs

The United States  
Appellee

~~N<sup>o</sup> 231~~

N 227

San Pedro

It is hereby stipulated that  
the above and foregoing extracts  
from the deposition of Antonio  
Thames Olivera be filed and  
accounted a portion of the  
evidence in the above  
entitled case - subject to all  
legal exceptions

J Mitchell  
Witness atty

No 227

no 231

Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chapman

The United States

Extract from  
Dep. of Civ. in  
Case No 231  
pertaining to bound-  
aries

Copy of a map showing

Filed in  
Office

Filed Feb. 20, 1861

G. L. Mick

John W. Decker

Handwritten notes in blue ink, including the word "Handwritten" and other illegible text.

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Guadalupe Ortega et al

Case No. 227

United States

227 SD

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**Deposition of**

Pacific Sanchez

taken before <sup>d. L. Mix</sup> ~~ESM~~ United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on *Wednesday*, the 20<sup>th</sup> day of *March* A. D. 18*61*, at 3 o'clock P. M., on said day, on behalf of the *Claimants* by the *Consent of the 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. *227*, on the Docket of said Court, wherein *Guadalupe Ortega et al* are appellants, and *The United States* are appellees.

Present *Merry Hancock* Attorney in behalf of the appellants  
and *J. R. Gilbert U.S. Dist Atty* in behalf of appellees.

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

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

Ans. Pacifico Sanchez, resides in San Buenaventura, 44  
227 SD  
PAGE 74  
years old, and occupation Rancher

Ques. On what Ranch do you live & how long have you

Ans. I reside half of the time on my Ranch of  
Santa Clara & the other half in San Buenaventura  
& have so lived for more than 20 years

Ques. Where did you live before that?

Ans. In San Barbara -

Ques. Were you ever acquainted with Joe Chapman  
& family

Ans. I did, am

Ques. Did they ever live on a Ranch near you -  
if so what was the name of that Ranch, & how  
& where was it situated

Ans. They did reside on a Ranch in my vicinity  
it was the Rancho of San Redo - This is the last  
Ranch upon the river of Santa Clara before it enters  
the sea and upon the South East side of said  
River and the same is distant about 4 miles  
from my Ranch - following down the River of Santa  
Clara

Ques. How far is San Redo from Santa Barbara and  
how far from San Buenaventura

Ans. It is distant from San Barbara about 12  
leagues and from San Buenaventura about 2 1/2 leagues

Ques In What County is the Rancho of San Pedro  
situated

Ans County of Santa Barbara

Ques Are there any other Ranches, by the name of  
San Pedro in the County of Santa Barbara - if so  
227 SD  
PAGE 75 What are they & where situated

Ans I know of no other called San Pedro in  
that County

Ques What are the boundaries of the Rancho of  
San Pedro, occupied by Chapman family  
of which you have been speaking

Ans I know the boundaries that I am about to  
give because I was told by Jose Chapman. Whilst  
he was living there & occupying the same. He told  
me repeatedly that an old Corral of a very ancient  
date - formerly belonging to the Mission - that the  
lands comprising the Rancho of San Pedro were  
from that Corral to the sea shore, & from the Corral  
to the river, & also from the Corral to "Buen M"  
- the distance I am not certain - from the Corral  
the river was one of the boundaries, to the sea  
shore, and also the sea shore was another boundary

Ques What is "Buen M"

Ans It is the name of a Rancho belonging to  
Manuel Poli,

Ques Look at map now shown you accompanying trans-  
cript in this Case, & the places thereon designated  
by the letters in the margin - Rio Santa Clara, House

I am a ... of Arrenal

Sayunas Agua dulce - Mezquitas - of Arenal  
together with the Timber represented thereon, and  
say if in your judgment it be a fair representation  
of the Rancho of San Pedro of which you have  
been speaking - & if it be so - if the objects  
heretofore enumerated as River &c are met  
with there as thereon delineated

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Ans. I know that the Corral - the river - the Timber  
thereon - the lakes & House are all well marked  
& the ~~land contained in these bounds~~ they fall  
within the boundaries of the Rancho of San  
Pedro

Quer. What is the distance of the Corral Viejo from  
the Sea along the River

Ans. I think it is a little more than a league  
following the River

Quer. How far is the Rancho of "Buen M" from  
the River

Ans. Two Leagues.

Quer. Is the width of the Rancho back from the  
River and on the East in the direction of "Buen M"  
the same as on the River or not - if not, what  
is the width on that side

Ans. It is not the same width - The old  
Road from the River running to the <sup>Rodeo</sup> Corral at  
"Buen M" comes <sup>within a mile or half of</sup> the Dead Shore, leaving  
the land of San Pedro much wider at the River  
than at "Buen M". & being on the side of "Buen M" about  
a mile and a half wide.

Objection - All the foregoing Questions objected to  
by the U. States so far as the questions are leading  
& so far as the answers are given from Hear  
day

Marcio Sanchez  
S

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*G. L. Mix,*

I, ~~W. Sims~~

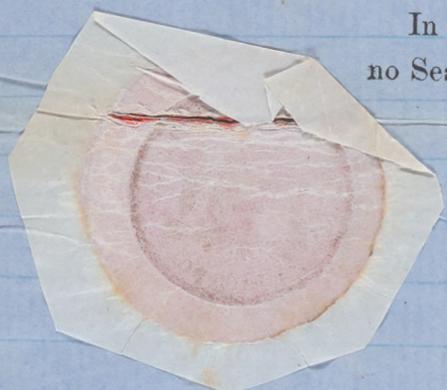
of the City and County of Los Angeles, and State of California, Commissioner to take Affidavits and Bail, in civil case pending in the Courts of the United States, and Depositions under the Acts of Congress, approved September 24th, A. D. 1789, February 20th, A. D. 1812, and March 1st, A. D. 1812, by 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 *Pacifico Sanchez* was taken before me on the *20<sup>th</sup>* day of *March*, A. D. *1861*, according to the *Consent of 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 *Claimants*. That the said *Pacifico Sanchez* 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 *20<sup>th</sup>* day of *March*, A. D. *1861*

*G. L. Mix*

United States Commissioner.



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No. 227

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

*Guadalupe Ortega et al*

*vs*  
*The United States*

Deposition of

*Pacifico Sanchez*

Filed this

*21st of March 1861*

*G. L. Mill*

*Clerk*

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In the United States Dist Court  
for the Southern District of Texas

Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman }  
Appellant } No.  
The United States Appellee } 227

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I, Col. J. R. Gitchell U.S.  
Dist Atty

Sir You will  
please take notice of the  
intention of Appellant to take  
the deposition of Don Raymond  
Oliver in this case on Wednesday  
March 27 1861 at 9 A.M. of that  
day

Henry Hancock  
of counsel for  
Appellant

Review of with by copy  
accepted on this day  
of March 1861

J. W. Mitchell

U. S. Dist. Atty

1861

Handwritten notes and signatures

J. W. Mitchell

Notation

concerning evidence

Reading of the

on this 25th day

of March 1861

J. W. Mitchell

Blank

Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman

Case No. 227.

<sup>vs</sup>  
The United States

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**Deposition of**

Raymundo Olivas

taken before ~~D. SIMS~~, United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on Monday, the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March A. D. 1871, at 2 o'clock P. M., on said day, on behalf of the Claimants by the Consent of the parties

to be used as testimony in a certain cause now pending in the United States District Court for the South<sup>th</sup> Dist of Cal.<sup>a</sup> being Case No. 227, on the Docket of said Court, wherein G. Ortega de Chapman is Claimant are appellants, and The United States is Defendant are appellees.

Present Newmy Hancock Attorney in behalf of the Claimants  
and J. Ritchie U. S. Dist Atty in behalf of appellees. Defendants

It is evidence being interpreted by W. G. Dryden a sworn interpreter

Questioned by Newmy Hancock Atty on behalf of the Claimant

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

Ans. My name is Raymond Ollivis, age 60 years residence in Santa Barbara County & am a Rancher

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Ques. Do you know the Rancho of San Pedro situated in the County of Santa Barbara

Ans. I know it

Ques. Have you ever testified in relation to it in this case - if so - when

Ans. I have - it was Saturday last

Ques. You will now please state what notable objects there are on that Rancho, which you may have always known as being within the limits of the same since your first knowledge of the Rancho

Ans. Upon the land there is one very notable land mark, - this is a Rodeo where there <sup>were</sup> ~~are~~ two trees - those trees do not now exist - there is a square pit that was dug out by a Surveyor whom I do not know - this Rodeo is of many years date - I knew this point in the time of the Pedro Blas Order - it was called Rodeo of the Old Willow - This same place has been occupied as a Rodeo since, by Del Valle and Chapman, - Also a ridge of sand hills

upon the side adjoining the sea - a large Estero  
upon the part towards "Duen M"

Quest. How far are these places - I first the Rodes  
next the Estero - from the Duen Santa Clara

Ans. The Rodes is about 2500 varas and the  
Estero about 4500 varas from the Duen - a little

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more or less

Quest. Is this Estero the same you spoke of the  
other day

Ans. It is the same

Quest. At the time when you were acting as  
Mayor Dmo for Pedro Ordaz, was the  
Corral Mayor de San Pedro - of which you spoke  
the other day, on or inside of the limits of  
the tract of land at that time known by the  
Community in general as the Rancho of San  
Pedro

objection Question objected to by U. S. Dist Atty

Ans. It was situated at that time - that was the  
boundary line and known as the Rancho San  
Pedro

Quest. Where did the Rancho of San Pedro as  
known by the Community in general at that

time lie from this Corral

time lie from the Corral  
Ans. From the Old Corral to the sea shore. From  
the Old Corral towards Los Angeles to a point  
in front of a small salt lake - that was the  
extension towards "Queen M"

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Of what land  
Ques. Did you of your own personal knowledge  
know of that tract of land situated between  
the River and Queen M. the Ocean & the old  
Corral you have mentioned in the direction of  
Queen M. to be by general reputation known as  
the Rancho San Pedro proper

Ans. It was always known & understood that if  
a person was going from here to that portion of  
the Country - it was called Santa Clara - but  
when servants were told to go to the Laguna  
or Queen M. to sleep. they knew where to go  
so when they were told to go to the Rancho  
of San Pedro. they would always go & sleep  
at the old Corral of San Pedro

Ques. When you went with your friend Joe Chapman  
at his request to look <sup>up</sup> & determine the description  
of the land for which he was about procure title  
- was it the tract you thus selected, and heretofore  
described in your former deposition, substantially  
the same as that of which you have last been  
speaking as having been known from time immemorial

and as the Ranch of San Pedro

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Objected to by U. S. Dist. Atty

Ans. This is substantially the same land & from time to time immemorial has been known as San Pedro. The whole community has known it as San Pedro since I have known it in 1825.

Quest. Does the term Santa Clara apply to a large tract of country - or small

Ans. Santa Clara is a term that includes a large tract of country, although owned by different individuals

Prayman & Wiles

*G. L. Mix*  
**I, E. 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 *Raymundo Olivas* was taken before me on the *25* day of *March*, A. D. 18*61*, according to the *Consent of the Parties* of the said *entitled*

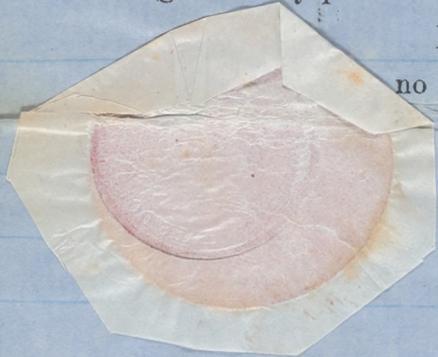
*Cause* at the United States District Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, and State of California, in behalf of the *Claimants*

That the said *Raymundo Olivas* 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 *25<sup>th</sup>* day of *March*, A. D. 18*61*

*G. L. Mix*

*United States Commissioner.*



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No. 227

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

G. Ortega de Chapman

vs

The United States

Deposition of *Raymundo Orens*

Filed this *25th day March 1861*

*G. L. Mix*

227 SD *CLK*

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Gaudalufe Ortega de Chapman  
claimants

The United States

Case No. 227

227 SD

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**Deposition of Raymundo Olivas**

taken before <sup>C. J. Noix</sup> ~~U. S. Noix~~, United States Commissioner for the District of California, at the United States Court House, in the City of Los Angeles, on Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March A. D. 1861, at 1 o'clock A. M., on said day, on behalf of the Appellant by the separating motion on the U.S. Dist Atty & Consent of the parties changed from the 25<sup>th</sup> inst to the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst 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. 227, on the Docket of said Court, wherein Gaudalufe Ortega de Chapman are appellants, and The United States are appellees.

Present Henry Hancock Attorney in behalf of the Claimants appellants  
and J. R. Litchell U.S. Atty in behalf of appellees. United States

His evidence being interpreted by W. G. Dryden a sworn interpreter.

~~When on the said examination was~~

When on the examination was conducted by questions & answers as follows. —

~~Questions by J. R. Litchell U.S. Dist Atty on behalf~~

Questions by Henry Hancock on behalf of Claimant

Ques What is your name age occupation and place of residence

Ans Raymundo Olivas, 60 years of age. Resides  
227 SD in County of Santa Barbara Occupation Rancher.

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Ques On what Rancho do you reside

Ans Rancho of San Miguel de Orochotes

Ques How long have you resided on that Ranch

Ans Since the year 1842

Ques Do you know the Rancho of San Redon or  
called - in County of Santa Barbara

Ans I know it

Ques Where is it situated

Ans It is situated on the <sup>this</sup> south side of the  
Rio de Santa Clara.

Ques How long have you known the Rancho of  
San Redon

Ans Since the year 1825

Ques By whom has it been occupied since you  
first knew it

Ans By the Mission of San Buenaventura and  
afterwards by Blas Ordaz - next by Don Antonio  
del Valle now dead, afterwards by Lore Chapman  
an American

Ques In what way did these people occupy  
it

Ans The Cattle of the Mission having given out the  
Mission abandoned the Rancho, then Padre  
Blas Ordaz bought Cattle upon his own account

and stocked the Rauchs, it being considered independent of the Mission, afterwards Blas Ordaz sold out all his stock, but not the Rauchs - the sale of the stock was to Del Valle. Del Valle obtained the Rauchs of San Francisco & removed the stock there, Jose Chapman was an American, and a very useful mechanic in several branches of workmanship - that the arms of the nation were all out of repair, there was a revolution about that time and the arms were in demand, Chapman repaired all the arms & would charge nothing for it, Alvarado offered him pay but he refused it, Alvarado told him that the Rauchs of San Pedro was about to be vacated by Del Valle & the moment that it was so, he might occupy it, that immediately upon Del Valle's leaving the Rauchs Chapman took possession of it, something was said about removing Chapman from it when Chapman's wife appealed to Micheltorena who was then on his way to Monterey, who promised to attend to it upon his interview with Alvarado, and in fact, Alvarado did give an order and Micheltorena gave her at that time a paper to go on & possess the Rauchs & to procure some person to remain there when

of 1843

He got to Monterey, as he had many occupations  
Audres Pica was in company with Mich-  
eltoreno at the time. I was not present  
after, at the interview. My son went with  
the wife of Chapman to <sup>San Buenaventura</sup> Santa Barbara  
to see Micheltoreno & Audres Pica's

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presented her to the General, Micheltoreno  
Ques When did Padre Ordaz leave the Rancho

Ans And ~~the~~ Valle enter it

Ans about 1838 -

Ques How long from from what time did  
the Chapman family occupy it

Ans I think 1839, but am not positive

Ques Where did Padre Ordaz get his Cattle  
from to put there & from whom

Ans

Ques objected to as irrelevant -

Ans I do not know from whom. I think  
from either Demasio Dominguez or Ygnacio  
Machado. My son Cayado & myself placed  
the animals on San Pedro Rancho - they were  
taken from this County. -

Ques Who appored Chapman in the occu-  
pancy of this Rancho at the time when  
Micheltoreno gave the paper to Guadalupe  
Chapman that she should occupy the  
Rancho until he could arrive at Monterey  
& see alvando about it -

Ans. Leandro Gonzalez who is now dead  
Ques. Did you ever know of any other Rancho  
named San Pedro in the County of Santa  
Barbara - if so where was it situated

Ans. No. - I know of no other  
Ques. Did you assist Don Antonio Del Valle  
when he had Cattle there - if so in what  
Capacity

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Objection - All testimony relative to the  
occupancy by Del Valle objected to, as  
having no relevancy to this case -

Ans. I did not - but I did assist Oedaz  
I was his Mayor Domo.

Ques. How is the Rancho of San Pedro  
bounded on the side towards Santa  
Barbara

Objection to the Witness has not yet stated  
that he knows the boundaries -

Ques. Please state the boundaries Do you know  
the lines of said Rancho of San Pedro - if so  
state by what means you know them.

Ans. I know the boundaries from fore Chapman  
Ques. Please state what they were.

Ans. Ques. objected to on the ground that his

means of information as stated by himself

means of information, as stated by himself  
were obtained from the Claimant. - that it  
is hearsay, and evidence manufactured by  
the Claimant & cannot be introduced

objection

Ans The first The Old Corral of San Pedro is  
the first boundary <sup>from that to</sup> the mouth of the River Santa  
Clara <sup>straight line</sup> to the ~~mouth~~ sea. <sup>is another boundary</sup> from the Corral aforesaid  
a straight line drawn towards "Buen M" & the  
Rodeo of "Buen M" <sup>to a point opposite or in front of</sup> to a small salt pond,  
thence in a straight line to the sea,

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Ques Does

objection } Answer objected to upon the same grounds  
as the question -

~~Ques What do you know of any other boundaries~~

~~Ques What other lines~~

~~objection Same objection as to the previous question~~

Ques The witness is here shown a sheet of  
paper marked "G.L.M." with lines thereon  
drawn in pencil - ~~Please point out~~  
intended to represent the River and Ocean  
Please say whether they would serve for to  
represent the River & Ocean in relation to the  
Rancho San Pedro of which You have been speaking

Objection - District Attorney objects to the presentation of the sketch - or any testimony based thereon - the sketch being made by the Attorney in the office - and not by the witness nor from any survey of said land

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PAGE 95  
Ans. ~~The River Santa Clara is the boundary then by the old Corral in the direction of the Rodeo of "Queen M" to the salt lake~~

Ans. The river ~~is~~ and Ocean marked on said paper, plainly marks out the ~~river~~ land in the vicinity of the Rauchs.

Quest. Is the place which I now mark in a square form near the letter "A" on this sheet, a point on that river which might represent the Corral Viejo of San Pedro

Ans. Same objection as to previous question

Ans. I think it does

Quest. Does the Corral fall inside of the Rauchs.

Ans. One half of the Corral does

Quest. Please mark on this sheet, the position of the little salt lake and the big one

① ②



③ ④

⑤ ⑥

road

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River Santa Clara

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, partially cut off.



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Ans. ~~This~~ at place at a point marked B,  
is the little Salt Lake - further south down  
the sea shore is a larger Salt Lake, marked  
"C" - (both points being marked by witnesses)  
between these two lakes, the Southern boundary  
strikes the sea - all the space between the  
two lakes at certain seasons of the Year is  
covered with water - at other times it  
is dry between them - the small lake  
remaining on the San Pedro side and the  
larger one without,

Quest. Please mark whereabouts on that sheet  
you deem the place you have heretofore  
spoken of as the Rodeo of Buen M<sup>a</sup>  
+ in the direction of which the line from  
the Corral Viejo runs,

Ans. It is at a point marked on the sheet  
by witnesses "D", at which there is a high  
sand hill

Quest. Where does the northern boundary touch  
the view of Santa Clara

Ans. Straight from the old Corral to the  
River -

Quest. On what side of the <sup>Sage River</sup> River does your  
Rancho lie

Ans. It lies in front & immediately upon

the other side of the river, the river being the line between my Rancho & that of San Pedro

~~Ques. Does the Rancho of San Pedro go any farther South East than sufficient to include the little Salt Lake or not~~

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~~Ques objected to as leading~~

Ques. What bounds San Pedro on the South or South East on the side towards Los Angeles

Ans. This is bounded by the ~~Rancho of Laguna~~ "Buenos Aires"

~~Ques. What is "Buenos Aires"~~

Ques. Does the boundary between San Pedro and "Buenos Aires" touch the big Salt Lake

Ans. The line is half way between the two lakes that I have mentioned.

Ques. What is the length of the boundary of the Rancho of San Pedro on the side of "Buenos Aires"

Ans. Perhaps  $\frac{1}{2}$  League more or less

Ques. What is the distance of the boundary of the Rancho on the river

Ans. It is about 2500 Varas I think

Ques. What is the distance between "Buenos Aires" & the

Ques. What is the distance from "Puumi" to the  
river

Ans. It is about a league

Ques. May it not be more

227 SD Ques. objected to  
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Ans. It is a little more or less

Ques. ~~Please state~~ What is the Raucha  
boundary of the Raucha of San Pedro  
on the West, ~~South West~~

Ans. By the Sea

Ques. Look at the Map accompanying  
the Transcript in this Case, & found between  
Pages 14 & 15, of said Transcript & say  
whether you recognize the River, the Corral  
Nicho marked "E", and other objects thereon  
delimited as those which are found in  
the vicinity, & on the Raucha of San  
Pedro

Ans. I think that the objects are very well  
represented thereon

Ques. You have before stated that you knew the  
boundaries of San Pedro from Mr Chapman

Q In what way did you learn them from him  
A W. Love Chapman once told me, my friend  
Came and go with me, I want to mark out  
the lines of the land, <sup>for</sup> which I am going to obtain  
a title, and I went in person with him, and  
he showed me the lines I have already enumera-  
-ted

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Q Was the occupancy of the Chapman family  
according to the lines you have given  
A W

Objected to as leading

Q He did & lived on the Ranch a long  
time with himself & family

Q Did you ever know the family to  
claim any other lines on the lines of this  
Ranch, if so, what were they

A W They have only claimed the actual  
lines of San Pedro as I have described  
them

Deputy of the United States, objects to  
all the foregoing questions and answers, <sup>relative to boundaries</sup> as  
the witness has shown no personal knowledge  
of the same but that his information is hearsay  
and ~~is~~ manufactured by the ~~witness~~

objection

Claimant

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Ques. Did the Claimant Guadalupe de Chapman  
ever have anything to say to you in reference  
to the boundaries of this Rancho — in  
connection with its presentation to the  
Government either before the Board of  
United States Land Comm<sup>r</sup>. or the Com<sup>r</sup>  
the Lt Com<sup>r</sup> of the United States for the  
South Dept of California. — if so  
what was the substance of it — where  
and when was it. —

Objection  
Ques objected to, P<sup>r</sup> as leading  
I<sup>st</sup> as hearsay, & 3<sup>d</sup> the testimony of  
the Claimants themselves

Ans She has never spoke to me on  
the subject. —

Ques. How intimately have you known this  
Rancho since the Year 1825, when you  
say you first knew it, and what have been  
your opportunities

Ans I have known it well, since 1825, —  
No person can know the Rancho better  
than myself. I have lived adjoining the  
same, I knew it when I was a soldier

I have known it in the possession of Padre Ordoz I have known it in possession of Del Valle, also in possession of Chipmunk - As they were all my intimate friends - also being Mayor & some of Padre of Las Ordoz -

Ques. Have you any interest in any manner way or manner whatever in said Ranch

objected objected to as leading

Ans. I have no interest whatever

Ques. Have you had any promise of payment or remuneration in any shape whatever for having come here to testify in relation to the same -

Ques. objected to by Sub. atty

Ans. No, -

Ques. At what time did this matter occur in relation to the objection of Gonzalez to Chapman occupancy

Ans. I remember the question but not the time

Ques. objected to by Sub. atty

Ques About what time did your son take  
Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman to see  
Micheltoreno

Ans I recollect the fact but not the  
particular date

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Ques Please to state in particular how  
the Corral Viejo the San Pedro heretofore  
named might be known or identified  
by a surveyor or stranger who might  
be sent upon the South East bank of  
the Santa Clara River to search for the  
same

Ans Very well, because the ruins are  
there to be found forever - the walls  
are not standing, and easy to be  
found by a person although not ac-  
quainted with the lands - There  
is one particular sign which is a log house  
commenced but not finished - the Corners  
are shouldered in, standing under two  
Cotton wood trees, distant from the  
ruins about 15 or 20 Varas -  
The House was commenced by an  
American

Ques What were the dimensions of the  
Corral Viejo

Ans It was a very large Corral - I cannot

say how large it is - it was a square  
Corral - formed by timbers planted in  
the Earth. those timbers have been cut  
down and the stumps are remaining  
and <sup>growing</sup> the timber surrounds the same

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Ques How would the Rodeo of Buen  
M<sup>o</sup> be known by a stranger, and  
in what direction is it from the watering  
place of "Buen M<sup>o</sup>"

Ans. Because there is one of the highest  
sand hills in the neighborhood upon which  
the cattle were gathered to form the Rodeo  
and it is north of the watering place  
of Buen M<sup>o</sup>,

Ques How would you identify point out to  
a stranger the two lakes, provided  
you were away from there,

Ans. I would say take the road and  
go down to the old House of Chapman  
then follow along the foot of the sand  
hills. You would first encounter a large  
Estero full of water, then next to small  
Lake then the large Salt Lake, & there  
is a wooden house

C. L. Rice for L. S. R. 11/11

Cross Examination by R. P. Ritchell  
U.S. Dist. atty. -

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Ques. You state in your Examination in  
Chief that Guadelupe Ortega de Chapman  
visited Micheltoreno relative to procuring  
a title to this land. In what year  
was this & in what place did she visit  
him; -

Ans. She went to San Buenaventura - the  
Year I do not remember

Ques. Who accompanied her during that  
visit - and was you present during  
the time, -

Ans. Don Andres Bico went with her  
I myself was not present.

Ques. Where was it and were you  
present, at the Conversation you have  
detailed in your direct Examination  
between Micheltoreno & Guadelupe de  
Chapman relative to this Grant &  
the young to said Guadelupe a paper

Ans. Guadelupe Chapman told me what  
Micheltoreno had said to her, I was not  
present; - She told me that she had an

order from Micheltoreen to continue  
on with her work upon the Ranch

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The United States Dist attorney here  
objects to all questions & answers in  
the direct examination relative to  
Conversation of Micheltoreen in relation  
to this Ranch as the witness shows that  
the testimony is hearsay & the statements  
of Plaintiff herself

Proposed by J. L. Cox

G. L. Cox

*G. L. Mix*

**I, W. 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 *Raymunda Olivas* was taken before me on the *23<sup>d</sup>* day of *March*, A. D. *1861*, according to the *seruing of writ* & *Consent of the parties changed from 25<sup>th</sup> inst to of the said the 23<sup>d</sup> inst* at the United States District Court House, in the City

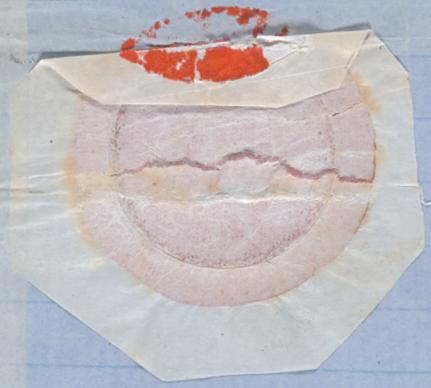
of Los Angeles, and State of California, in behalf of the *Claimants*  
That the said *Raymunda Olivas* was by me duly sworn according to law as a Witness in said cause in the caption of this Deposition mentioned, and after being so sworn, his Testimony was by me reduced to writing in his presence, and 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.

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In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and private Seal, (having no Seal of Office,) this *23<sup>d</sup>* day of *March*, A. D. *1861*

*Gustavus L. Mix*  
United States Commissioner.



No. 227

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

*G. Ortega de Chapman*

*m*

*United States*

Deposition of

*Raymond Olin*

Filed this

*25<sup>th</sup> March, 1861*

*Apd mix clk*

*J. John O'Whalen Dep.*

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In the United States District Court in and for  
the Southern District of California

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Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman } No 227  
Appellant }  
vs } "San Pedro"  
The United States Appellee }

This cause coming on to be heard on appeal from  
the decision of the United States Board of Land  
Commissioners to ascertain and settle private land  
land claims in the state of California, under an act  
of Congress approved on the 3<sup>d</sup> of March 1851, and a  
Transcript of the proceedings and decision of the said  
Board, and of the papers and evidence upon which said  
decision was founded, and it appearing to the court  
that the said Transcript has been duly filed  
according to law, and counsel for the respective  
parties having been heard

It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed  
that the said Decision of the said Board be and  
the same is hereby reversed, and it is further ad-  
judged and decreed that the claim of the  
above named appellant, is a good and valid  
claim; and that the same be confirmed to  
her as follows to wit

The lands hereby confirmed are  
those known under the name of Rancho San  
Pedro situate in the County of Santa Barbara

being the last rancho on the left bank of the  
River Santa Clara towards the sea, and  
being bounded as follows to wit commencing  
at a point <sup>on the left bank</sup> in the centre of said river in the line  
of the rancho called San Miguel  
belonging to Raymundo Olivas and opposite  
the centre of the old corral of San Pedro, situated  
on the left bank <sup>of the river</sup>, and a short distance from the  
same thence in a direct line to the centre  
of the said corral and from thence in a direct line  
towards the rodreo of "Guine mmi" (or Buen Me)  
to a point in front of a small salt lake situated  
near the sea thence in a direct line (to be  
so run as to exclude from the rancho hereby  
confirmed the said small salt lake) to the high  
water mark of the Pacific ocean thence along  
the line of high water mark aforesaid to the  
mouth of the river Santa Clara thence up  
<sup>the left bank</sup> the centre of the same and along the line of the  
<sup>along the left bank of the river</sup> lands of Raymundo Olivas to the place  
of beginning, including within the limits of the  
land hereby confirmed one half of the aforesaid old  
corral (corral viejo) de San Pedro a certain rodreo  
formerly called the rodreo of the Willow and  
a place called the Estero provided that  
the quantity of land hereby confirmed shall  
not exceed the maximum quantity prescribed by  
the Colonization Law of Mexico of 1824

Guadalupe  
R S De la Cruz

or clear square leagues of land

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No 227

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Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman  
Appellant  
vs  
The United States, Appellee

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Verum

Filed in Office  
on this 11<sup>th</sup> day  
of April 1861

Wm's clk  
John Dehule Deputy

Guadalupe Ortega de  
Chapman Appellant

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Case No.

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The United States

## Deposition of

Ignacio del Valle

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 9 day of March, A. D. 1860 at 4 o'clock P. M., on said day, on behalf of the appellants by the Consent of the parties to be used as testimony in a certain cause now pending in the U.S. Dist. Court Southern Dist. California being Case No. 227 on the Docket of said Court, wherein Guadalupe Ortega de Chapman are appellants, and the United States are appellees.

Present

H. Hancock

Attorney in behalf of the appellants

and

J. P. S. Williams

in behalf of appellees.

Ques - What is your name age & place of residence -

Ans - My name is Ignacio del Valle, my age is ~~more~~ than 51 years and I reside in Los Angeles County.

Ques - Do you know the Rancho called San Pedro & Clamid in this case?

Ans - I do know the Rancho of San Pedro Clamid in this case.

Ques - Where is it situated?

Ans - It is situated in the County of Santa Barbara on the edge of the Santa Clara River, that is to say on the side towards Los Angeles.

Ques - What bounds this Rancho on its other sides?

Ans - I do not know the lines - Can not say exactly what they are.

2 Quest - Is the Rancho situated high up or low down the Rio Santa Clara, that is to say near the sea or ~~far~~ far away from it

Ans - It is situated down the ~~low~~ River near the sea but I do not know anything about the lines

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Quest - Is it or not bounded on the sea by one side?

Ans - I cannot say - My opinion is that it is -

Quest - How long has you known this Rancho

Ans - I was there once in the year 1837 and have not been there before or since -

Quest - Did you ever know of Antonio del Yalla having lived there on said Rancho

Ans - He never lived there but he had some stock there with his Major demo in charge of them

Quest - Did he have cattle there for a long period of time?

Ans - He had them there for two years (Cattle & horses) to wit 1837 & 1839. The name of the Major was one Morales who is now dead. Antonio <sup>del Yalla</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>my father</sup> but is now dead.

Quest - Do you know whether this Rancho has always called La Pedra or no?

Ans - I know that it was called La Pedra at that time & since I heard it called

**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 *Ignacio del Valle* was taken before me on the *9* day of *March*, A. D. *1860*, 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 *appellants*. That the said *Ignacio del Valle* 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 *9* day of *March*, A. D. *1860*

*C. Sims*

*United States Commissioner.*

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No. 227

United States District Court for the  
Southern District of California.

Guadalupe Ortega  
de Chapman  
appellante  
vs  
The United States

Deposition of  
Filed this

*M. Garcia del  
Valle*

*9<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> / 1868*

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*C. King  
CR*

San Pedro - I have never heard it  
 called by any other name

Ques - What tract of land do you under-  
 stand to be San Pedro?

Ans - I do not know the Extension  
 of it -

Ques - What number of Cattle & Horses  
 did your father have on the Rancho?

Ans - I cannot say - about one thousand  
 head of Cattle and about three hun-  
 dred head of ~~the~~ horses.

M. Garcia del Valle