

California Missions

Spain claimed the land we now call “California” in 1542 but did not do much to colonize that land until the first landing parties arrived near present-day San Diego in 1769. For the next 54 years, Spanish religious leaders established 21 missions throughout the state—mostly along the coastal areas. The missions’ goals were to establish a religious presence in California and to convert the thousands of Native Californians whose ancestors had lived in California since time immemorial. Conversion was rarely voluntary, and Native communities were forced to work at the missions. Crowded and unsanitary living conditions, the trauma of forced labor and separation from families led to a variety of health issues among the Native communities, including death.

Object images and descriptions are on **next page** with hyperlinks to the objects on Autry Collections.

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<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M26491;type=101>

Object Name: Drawing

Maker: John Woodhouse Audubon

Title: *The Mission Indian*

Date: 1849-1851

Object ID: 22.G.978U

The MISSION INDIANS
 --as They Were, and Are

How the California aborigine, almost annihilated, by civilization, still survives

By EDWIN L. SABIN

The Indian population of California at the coming of the Spaniards at the American is fixed by no record. The guess of the government ethnologists as to the native population at its peak is 100,000 to 150,000, the estimate of Stephen Powers, founded upon his investigations in 1871, 1872 and 1873, for the Geographical and Geological Survey is 700,000. By this it may be seen how insufficient the knowledge concerning the California Indians has been. Here, in numbers, the Indians of Northern and of Southern California compared cannot be stated by agreement of authorities.

...of more diversity. From an estimate of 150,000 for the whole State, 40,000 might reasonably be ascribed to Southern California. Under both the religion and the white race the numbers rapidly fall off.

The story of California presents a confusion of tongues—Indian, Spanish and English. Frequently it is difficult to enter a name, for instance, as for instance, "Yuma," illustrated by Leumann and J. J. Cannon of the Indian Museum, the result of confusion out of confusion and El...

...of Riverside County, Terminal sounds like Spanish, but it is derived from the "Tumacacalli," the Aztec for "wheat-house," and was brought up from Mexico by the early Franciscan friars. While it is not California Indian in origin, it is ancient Indian, nonetheless.

California Indian names are here and there to be recognized. In Northern California, Ukiah from Yuki, a native tribe; Rapa from Rapa, Shasta, Siusuna, Caracoma from the Kaskas or Kaskas, Gollona (Kolona), Napa, Yuba, Yolo, Yonson, Tehama, Tushum, Makahone...

...from the large Indian family Moquelumnan, Yuki from Wulka (perverted to Yaka), a Shasta word for hill; and Tamalpais, from tamal, bay, and pais, mountains, rather than the Spanish pais, country.

In Southern California, out of Los Angeles, Anas derives from the Indian Anasagua or Anasaga, Cucamonga from Cucamonga, over in Kern County, the familiar Tehachapi; up Santa Barbara was Sego, Ojo, Hermosa, Saticoy, Lompoc. Down San Diego way Temecula, Anasaga or Anasaga, in Riverside County; in San Diego County, Poway from Poway, Caracoma derived from Caracoma; along the southern border, Jacumba, Jamul, Jemacha which was earlier spelled Xamacha; and near the southern county line Pala, which, despite its apparent Spanish name, is a Lulelule dialect word, according to

Lucas Chino (Indian name), Lulelule of the Mission Indians, San Diego County, was here blind, traveled all trails, and his name was called on mountains.

Am. Jour. Museum California

Left: The Aztec, Amphiprosopha, (also or blue) was a temple among the Indians of Central Coast, Riverside County, who believed that no one there could understand his language. St. Martin at left. Photo courtesy Mission Collection

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=EISI116528;type=106>

Object Name: Article

Maker: Edwin L. Sabin

Title: "The Mission Indians—as They Were, and Are"

Call Number: MIMSY EPH.970.33.114



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Object ID: 970.33.114

Notes: Article published in *Touring Topics*, July 1931



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M562470;type=103>

Object Name: Map

Maker: Nicolas de Fer

Title: *La Californie ou Nouvelle Caroline/Teatro de los Trabajos, Apostolicos de La Compa e Jesus en la America Sept.*

Date: 1720

Object ID: 90.138.141

Notes: In 1701, Father Francisco Kino discovered that California was not an island. This map was published in 1720. It still depicts California as an island, as geographic knowledge spread slowly in Europe during the 18th century. Includes illustrations of North American Indian life and Spanish missions in Sonora, Arizona, and Baja California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M276247;type=102>

Object Name: Lantern slide

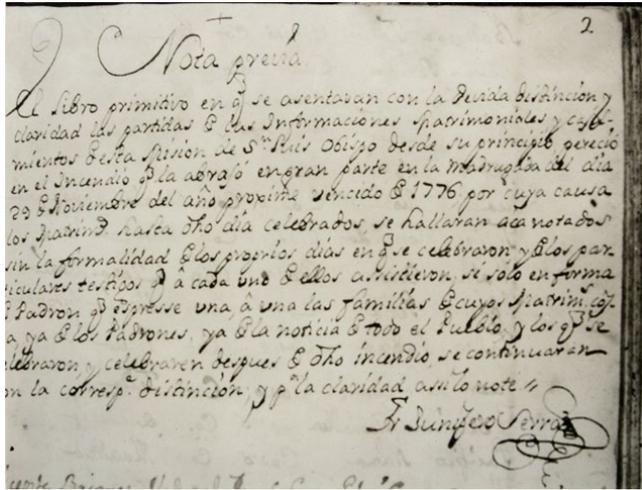
Title: *Map Showing the California Missions, Pueblos and Presidios, and Their Dates of Establishment*

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Date: late 1800s to early 1900s

Object ID: LS.2865

Notes: Lantern slide of a map showing the settlement of Spanish California, late 1800s to early 1900s. Lantern slides are photographs made on glass and viewed with an early version of a projector.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M43924;type=102>

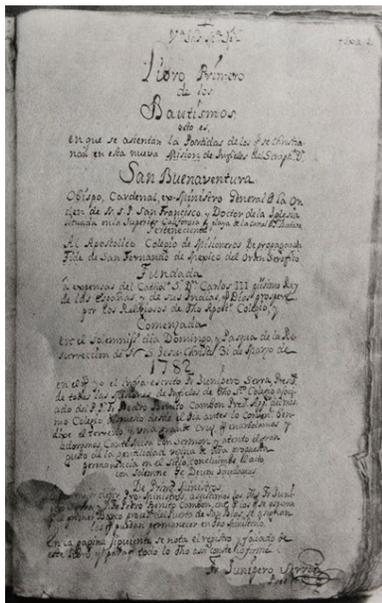
Object Name: Photograph

Date: early 1900s

Credit Line: Gift of Mr. George Wharton James

Object ID: P.18695

Notes: Photograph of a mission document circa late 1700s with the signature of Father Junipero Serra, California, documenting marriage laws at Mission San Luis Obispo and a fire that destroyed books and documents in 1776.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M40657;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Title: Baptismal register



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Date: late 1800s to early 1900s

Object ID: P.17775

Notes: Photograph of the first page of the baptismal register from Mission San Buenaventura, California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M552972;type=101>

Object Name: Painting

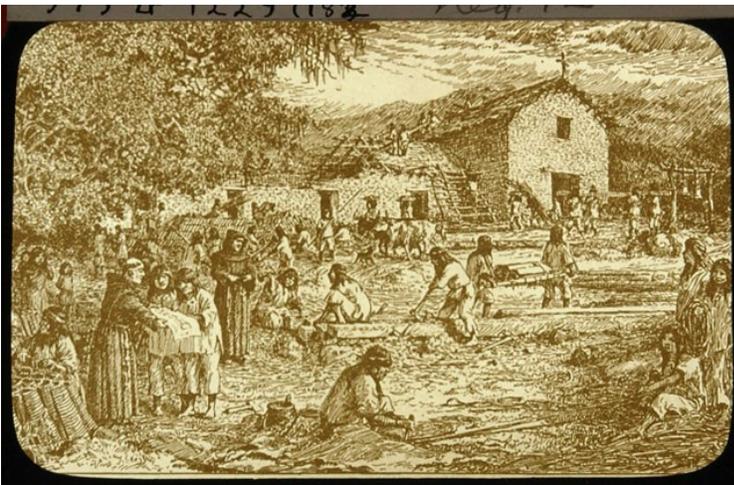
Maker: Richard Brydges Beechey

Title: *The Mission of San Carlos, Monterey*

Date: 1827

Object ID: 92.6.1

Notes: British Navy officer Richard Beechey sketched the Mission of San Carlos (Carmel) while stationed in California. Just left of center, Beechey depicted a group of Native Americans.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M276262;type=102>

Object Name: Lantern slide

Maker: N/A

Title: *Building a Mission*

Date: late 1800s to early 1900s

Object ID: LS.2868

Notes: Lantern slide of a drawing by Alexander Harmer.

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<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M272667;type=101>

Object Name: Soap root brush

Culture: Diegueño

Date: collected circa 1900

Object ID: 873.G.10

Notes: Brushes made from the root of the yucca plant were used to gather ground foods (such as acorn meal) during processing, as well as to scrub cooking baskets. Soaproot brushes were also used for hair grooming.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M554361;type=101>

Object Name: Kettle

Date: 1807

Object ID: 93.21.179

Notes: Kettle was owned by Rita Bermudez, who was born at the San Gabriel Mission.

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<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M549173;type=101>

Object Name: Bell

Maker: N/A

Title: Horse bell

Date: early 19th century

Object ID: 93.235.5

Notes: Horse bell found near the San Fernando Mission, California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M75633;type=101>

Object Name: Net

Maker: N/A

Culture: Luiseño

Date: 1889

Object ID: 54.X.13

Notes: Luiseño carrying net with handles, knotted and plied nettle cordage.

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<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M40525;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Maker: Unidentified artist

Date: late 1800s to early 1900s

Object ID: P.17734

Notes: Photograph of painting of Mission Santa Cruz, California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M49190;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Maker: C.C. Pierce & Co.

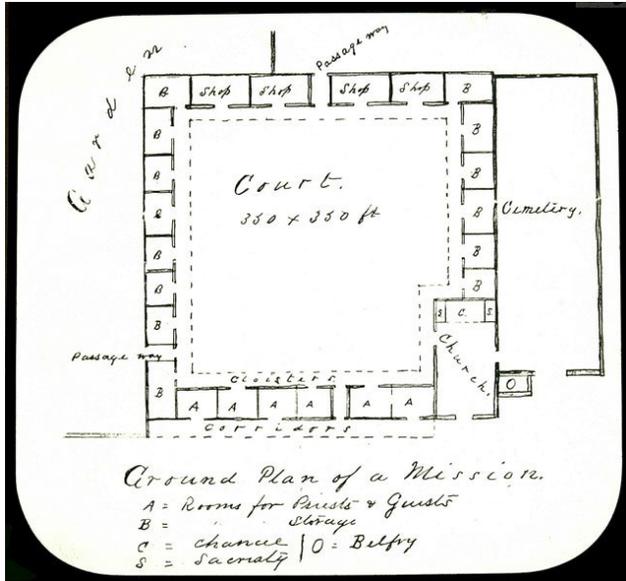
Title: *Interior of Mission Santa Ines, Solvang, California*

Date: 1904

Object ID: P.20057

Notes: Photograph of the interior of Mission Santa Ines, Solvang, California.

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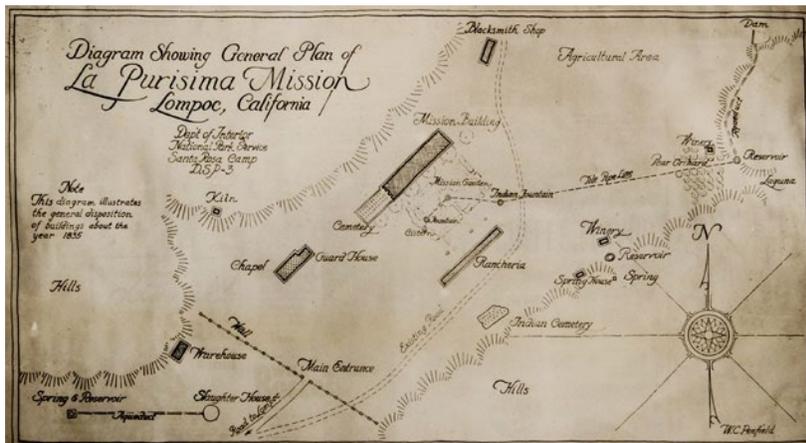
<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M276242;type=102>

Object Name: Lantern slide

Date: late 1800s to early 1900s

Object ID: LS.2864

Notes: Lantern slide of a floor plan of an unidentified California mission, California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M49164;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Title: *Diagram of Mission La Purisima Concepcion, Lompoc, California*

Date: early to mid-1900s

Object ID: P.20048

Notes: Photograph of a diagram by W.C. Penfield, depicting the general plan of Mission La Purisima Concepcion, Lompoc, California. This diagram illustrates the general disposition of the mission buildings circa 1835.

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<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M73963;type=102>

Object Name: Lantern slide

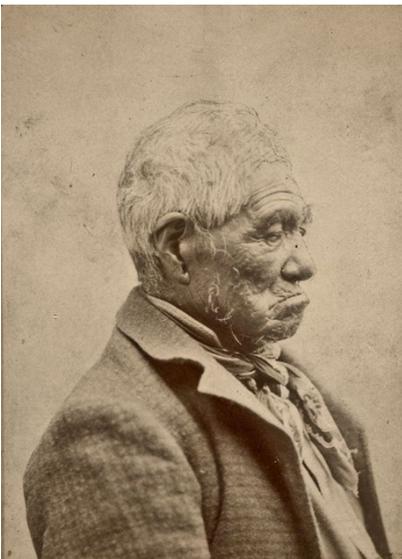
Maker: Unidentified photographer

Title: *Women of San Luis Rey Mission*

Date: late 1800s to early 1900s

Object ID: LS.2654B

Notes: Lantern slide of three elderly Native American women at Mission San Luis Rey de Francia, California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M205230;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Maker: J. Ed Bacon

Date: 1886–1927

Object ID: P.351

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Notes: Photograph of a Native Californian man. The handwritten caption on the back says "The Monterey Indian/Old Gabriel 145 years old. He helped build the Carmel Mission."

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<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M276266;type=102>

Object Name: Lantern slide

Date: late 1800s to early 1900s

Object ID: LS.2869

Notes: Lantern slide of a drawing by Alexander Harmer, *Sunday at a Mission before the Gringos Came*.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M47663;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Title: *Father O'Sullivan Receiving Primicias from Acu*

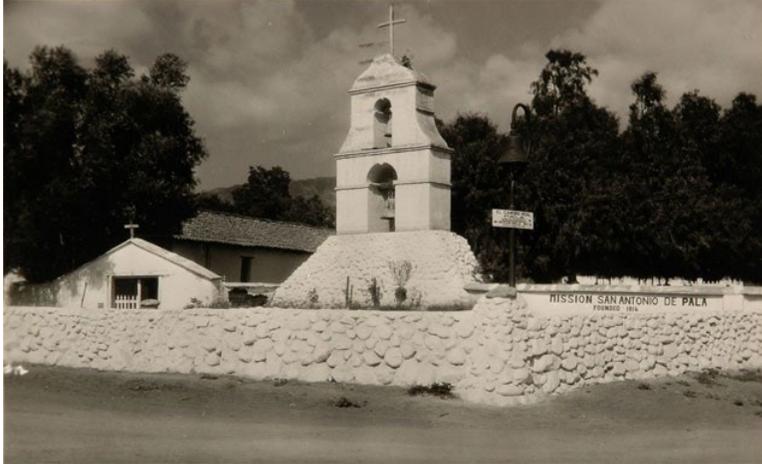
Date: early 1900s

Object ID: P.19516

Notes: Photograph of Father O'Sullivan receiving primicias at Mission San Juan Capistrano. Primicias are offerings of the first fruits of the harvest.

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California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M45778;type=102>

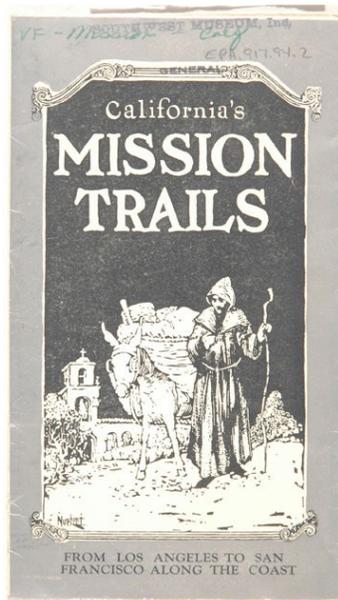
Object Name: Postcard

Title: *The Asistencia of San Antonio de Pala*

Date: circa 1934

Object ID: P.19128

Notes: Photograph postcard of the Mission San Antonion de Pala, Pala, California.



<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=EISI115573;type=106>

Object Name: Brochure

Title: *California's Mission Trails from Los Angeles to San Francisco Along the Coast*

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Object ID: EPH917.94.2

Notes: Travel brochure along coastal California.