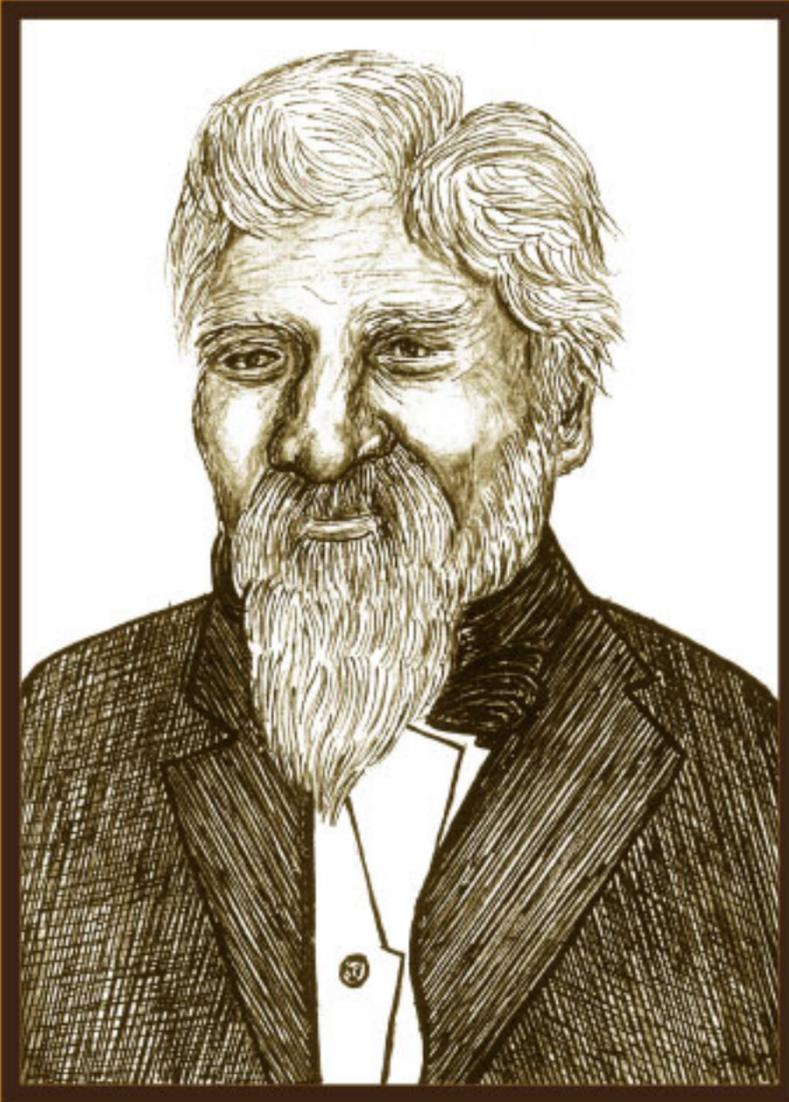


Librado-Harrington Drawings of San Buenaventura Mission Quadrangles



Fernando Librado



Courtesy John Johnson, National Archives

San Buenaventura Mission



Courtesy Learning Resources

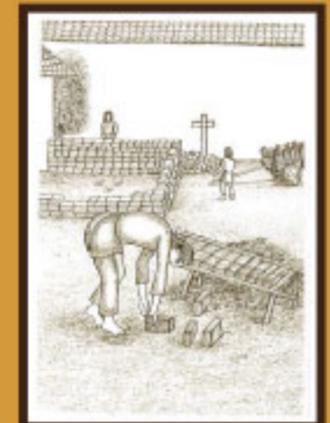
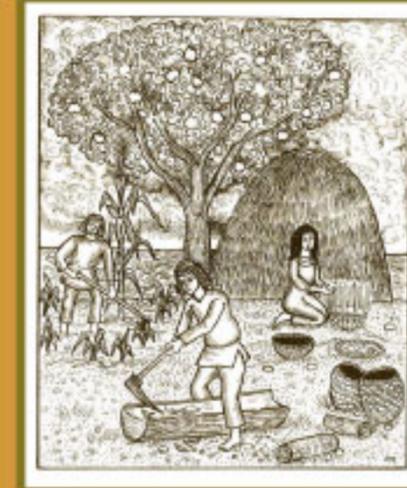
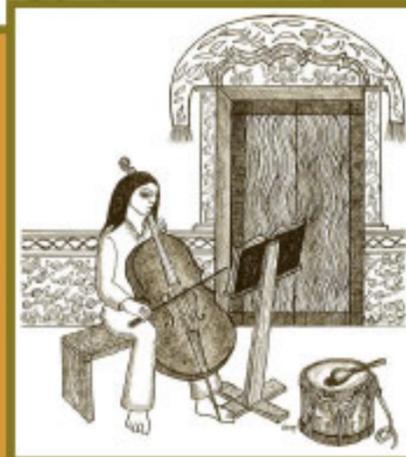
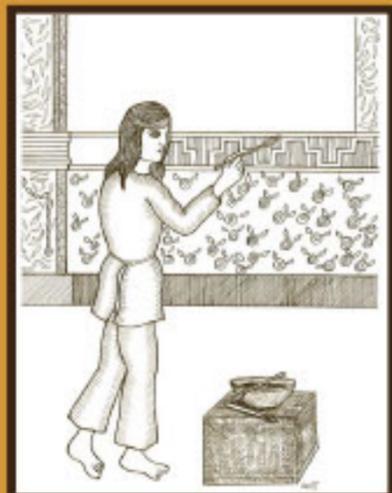
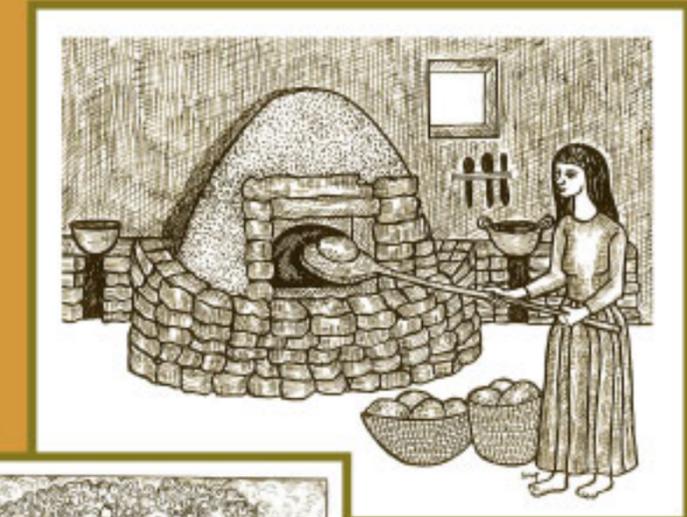
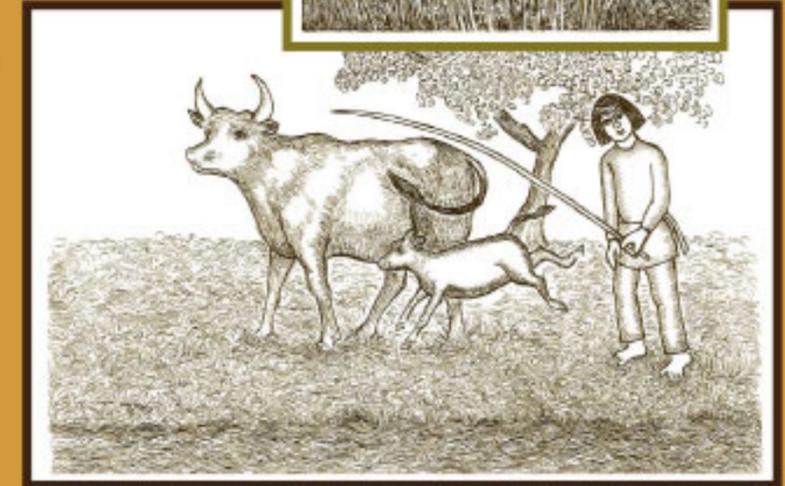
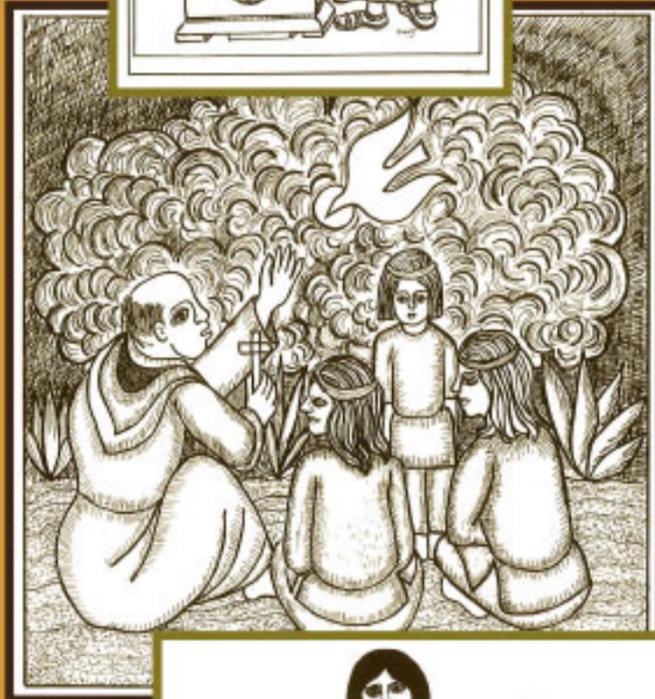
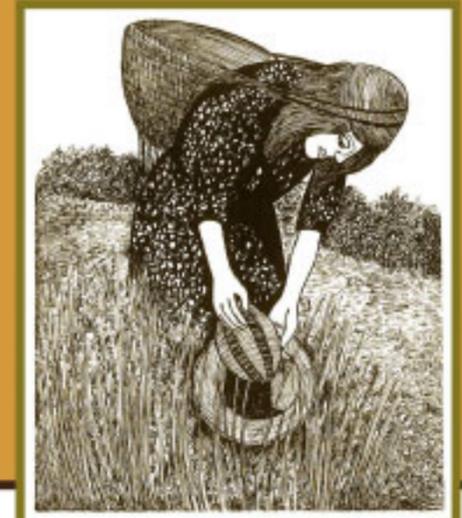
In 1912 and 1913 anthropologist John Harrington interviewed Fernando Librado "Kitsepowit", a native Chumash speaker born at San Buenaventura Mission in 1839. Librado left the mission in 1855. He explained how rooms were used based on his childhood memories. This drawing of the quadrangles is based on the drawings done by John Harrington.

The quadrangles of the mission began to deteriorate after the Mexican government secularized the mission in the 1830s and 1840s, which resulted in the properties being sold to private owners. In addition the Chumash were removed from mission control. The absence of the Chumash resulted in further deterioration of the property.

During the pastorate of Father Cypriano Rubio (1878 – 1895) the last of the mission quadrangle rooms and walls were demolished. Only the church remained of a once thriving mission system.

Chumash Daily Life At The Mission

Bells played a significant role in the daily life at the mission. Bells called people to mass or to prayer throughout the day. Bells also signaled the time for meals and activities: men made adobe bricks, cared for the animals or cultivated crops; women made clothes, wove baskets, or prepared food. Children helped the adults with the various tasks. The bells also signaled time for Spanish lessons, instruction in religion or learning to sing and play instruments for mass and prayer services.





Fray Junipero Serra

Fray Junipero Serra was born on the island of Majorca, one of the Balearic Islands off the coast of Spain. He attended school and seminary in Palma de Majorca, the capital. He joined the Franciscan Order and in 1737, was ordained a priest, eventually becoming a professor of theology.

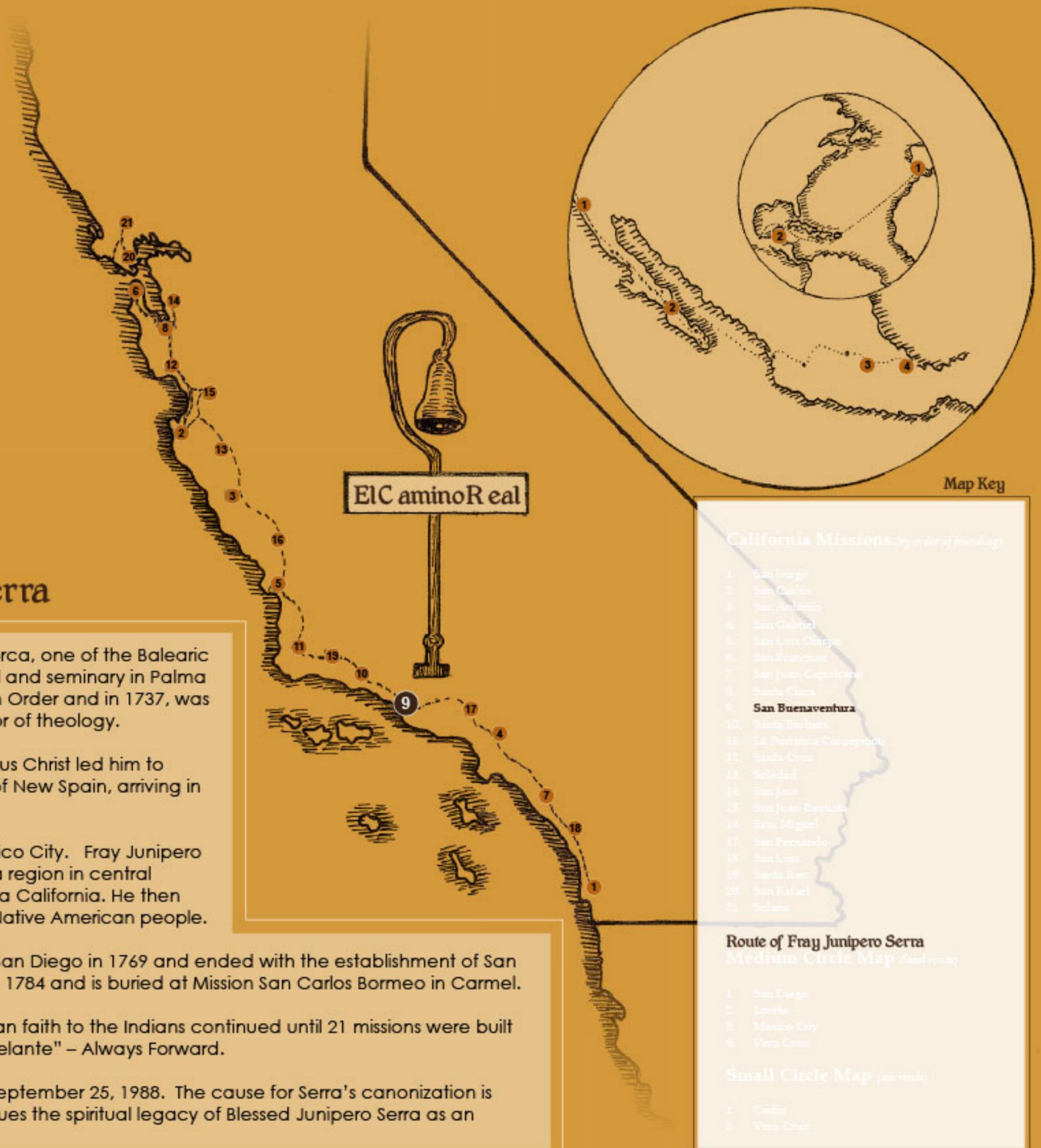
The Franciscan mission to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ led him to dedicate his life to the Native American peoples of New Spain, arriving in Mexico in 1749.

Fray Junipero Serra walked from Vera Cruz to Mexico City. Fray Junipero first worked among the people of the Sierra Gorda region in central Mexico, then among the indigenous people in Baja California. He then went to Alta California establishing missions for the Native American people.

This last effort began with the founding of Mission San Diego in 1769 and ended with the establishment of San Buenaventura Mission in 1782. Father Serra died in 1784 and is buried at Mission San Carlos Borromeo in Carmel.

Fray Junipero Serra's dream of bringing the Christian faith to the Indians continued until 21 missions were built in California. His personal motto was "Siempre Adelante" – Always Forward.

Pope John Paul beatified Fray Junipero Serra on September 25, 1988. The cause for Serra's canonization is pending. Today San Buenaventura Mission continues the spiritual legacy of Blessed Junipero Serra as an active Christian community.



California Missions (by order of founding)

1. San Diego
2. San Carlos
3. San Antonio
4. San Gabriel
5. San Luis Obispo
6. San Francisco
7. San Juan Capistrano
8. Santa Clara
9. **San Buenaventura**
10. Santa Barbara
11. La Purissima Concepcion
12. Santa Cruz
13. Soledad
14. San Jose
15. San Juan Bautista
16. San Miguel
17. San Fernando
18. San Luis
19. Santa Ines
20. San Rafael
21. Solano

Route of Fray Junipero Serra Medium Circle Map (land route)

1. San Diego
2. Loreto
3. Mexico City
4. Vera Cruz

Small Circle Map (sea route)

1. Cadix
2. Vera Cruz

Chumash People, Produce and Livestock at The Mission

By the 1820s San Buenaventura Mission was producing a variety of crops. In addition to wheat and corn, the mission was known for its citrus fruits, olives, and grapes. The American merchant Alfred Robinson, who moved to California, visited the mission in the early 1800s and commented about its rich gardens.

"... In their proper season they have apples, pears, peaches, pomegranates, tunas or prickly pears and grapes."

Alfred Robinson *Life in California*, published 1846

Cattle, sheep, horses and other livestock also made the mission successful. Merchants often came by sea to trade with the mission. The hide and tallow trade with American merchants became important as ships docked off the coast of Ventura.



Chumash Population in 1813

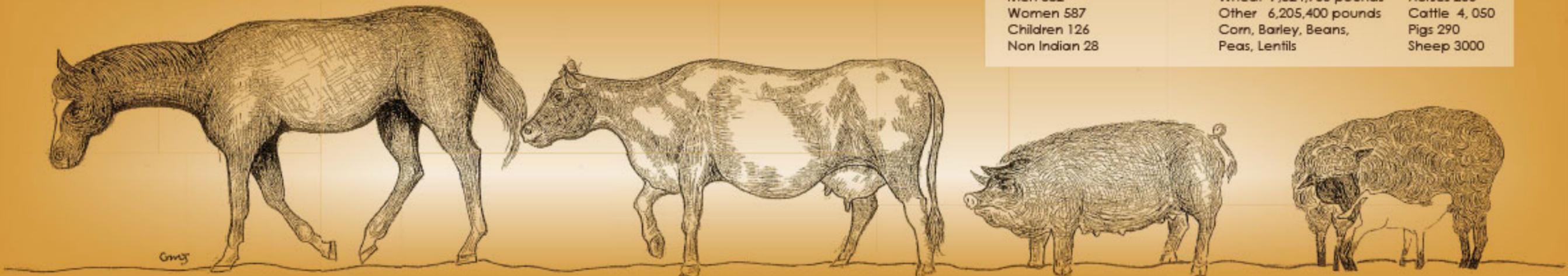
Men 582
 Women 587
 Children 126
 Non Indian 28

Plants in 1832

Wheat 7,324,900 pounds
 Other 6,205,400 pounds
 Corn, Barley, Beans,
 Peas, Lentils

Animals in 1832

Horses 200
 Cattle 4,050
 Pigs 290
 Sheep 3000

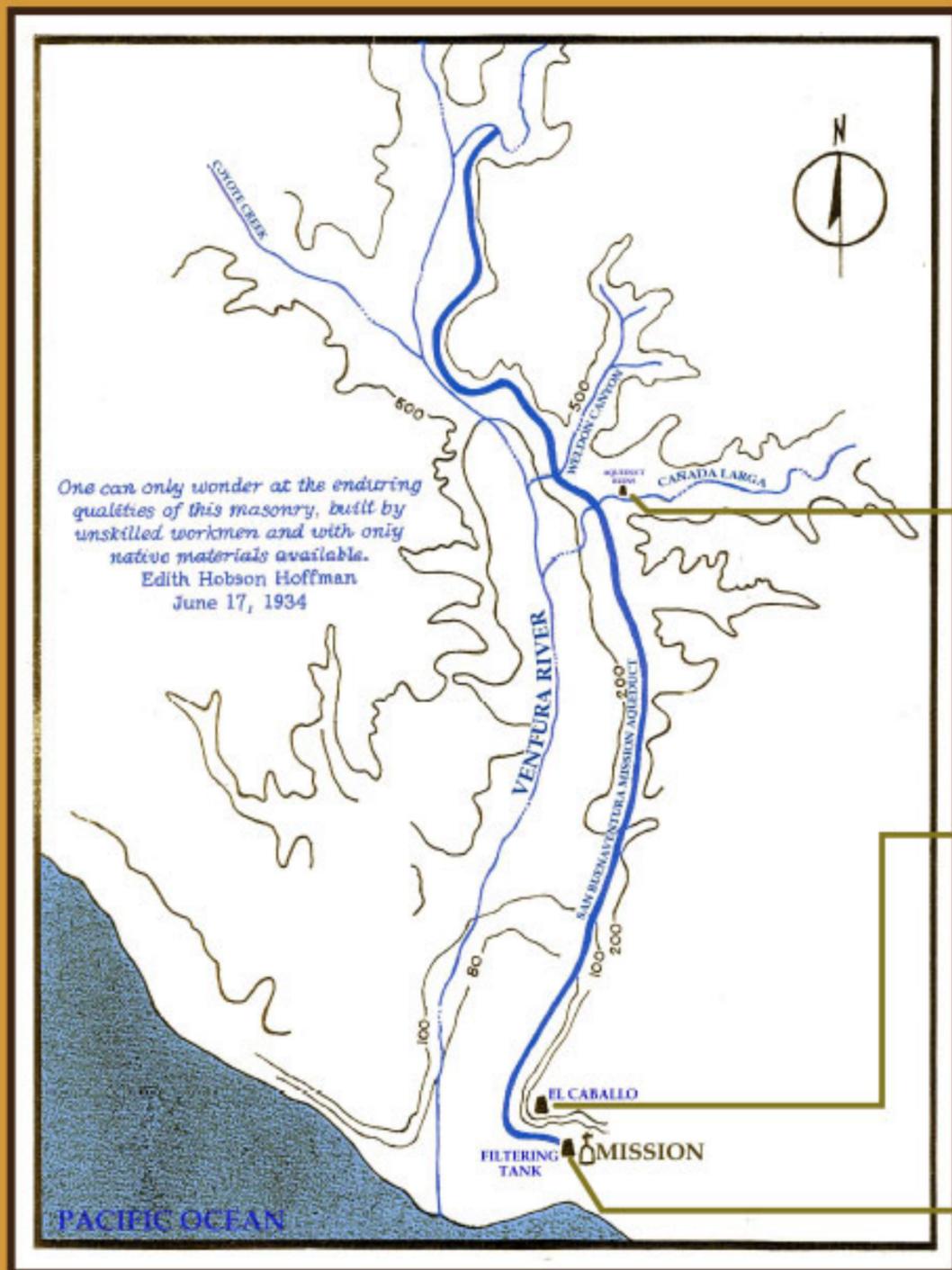


San Buenaventura Mission Aqueduct

San Buenaventura Mission was an oasis of abundance. Visitors, including British Captain George Vancouver (1793) and the American California resident Alfred Robinson (early 1800s), commented on the good yield of the gardens and orchards.

The nearby San Buenaventura River and a well-engineered aqueduct system supported the mission's agricultural production. Water was brought from 7.5 miles away through a covered aqueduct system including two filtering tanks, El Caballo and the settling tank at the rear of the mission. The aqueduct delivered water to the vineyards, orchards, and gardens and provided water for the lavanderia.

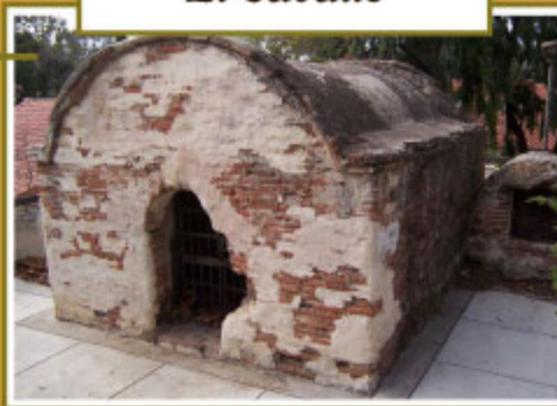
The system was started by Father Cambon in 1782 and was still functional until the 1860s.



Aqueduct Ruins



Filtering Tank



El Caballo