

DEPARTMENT OF
CITY PLANNING
OFFICE OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
200 N. SPRING STREET, ROOM 620
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-4801
(213) 978-1200

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

RICHARD BARRON
PRESIDENT
ROELLA H. LOUIE
VICE-PRESIDENT

TARA J. HAMACHER
CAIL KENNARD
OZ SCOTT

FELY C. PINGOL
COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
(213) 978-1294

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
MAYOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

MICHAEL LOGRANDE
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(213) 978-1271

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
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(213) 978-1272

EVA YUAN-MCDANIEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
(213) 978-1273

FAX: (213) 978-1275

INFORMATION
(213) 978-1270

www.planning.lacity.org

Date **JAN 31 2011**

Los Angeles City Council
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ATTENTION: Patricia Lattimore, Legislative Assistant
Planning and Land Use Management Committee

CASE NUMBER: **CHC-2010-3056-HCM**
CROSS OF SAN YSIDRO
7570 McGROARTY TERRANCE

At the Cultural Heritage Commission meeting of January 13, 2011, the Commission moved to include the above property in the list of Historic-Cultural Monument, subject to adoption by the City Council.

As required under the provisions of Section 22.171.10 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, the Commission has solicited opinions and information from the office of the Council District in which the site is located and from any Department or Bureau of the city whose operations may be affected by the designation of such site as a Historic-Cultural Monument. Such designation in and of itself has no fiscal impact. Future applications for permits may cause minimal administrative costs.

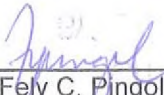
The City Council, according to the guidelines set forth in Section 22.171 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, shall act on the proposed inclusion to the list within 90 days of the Council or Commission action, whichever first occurs. By resolution, the Council may extend the period for good cause for an additional 15 days.

The Cultural Heritage Commission would appreciate your inclusion of the subject modification to the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments upon adoption by the City Council.

The above Cultural Heritage Commission action was taken by the following vote:

Moved: Commissioner Scott
Seconded: Commissioner Hamacher
Ayes: Commissioners Kennard and Barron
Nays: Commissioner Louie

Vote: 4-1



Fely C. Pingol, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission

Attachment: Staff Report with Findings

c: Councilmember Paul Krekorian, Second Council District
Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles

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(213) 978-1270

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Date JAN 31 2011

Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Main Street, #1290 CHE
Los Angeles, CA 90012

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

CASE NUMBER: **CHC-2010-3056-HCM**
CROSS OF SAN YSIDRO
7570 McGROARTY TERRANCE

As you will note from the attached copy of our communication to the Los Angeles City Council, the Cultural Heritage Commission has moved to include the above-referenced property in the list of Historic-Cultural monuments, subject to adoption by the City Council.

In due course, our transmittal will be given a council file number and will be referred to the Council's Planning and Land Use Management Committee for review and recommendation. If you are interested in attending the Council Committee meeting, you should call Patricia Lattimore at (213) 978-1074 for information as to the time and place of the Committee and City Council meetings regarding this matter. Please give Ms. Lattimore at least one week from the date of this letter to schedule this item on the Committee Agenda before you call her.



Feely C. Pingol, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission

/fcp

Attachment: CHC Declaration Letter to Council and Staff Report with Findings

C: Notification List
GIS

Los Angeles Department of City Planning
RECOMMENDATION REPORT

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

CASE NO.: CHC-2010-3056-HCM
ENV-2010-3057-CE

HEARING DATE: January 13, 2011
TIME: 10:00 AM
PLACE: City Hall, Room 1010
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA
90012

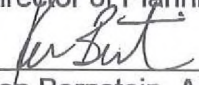
Location: 7570 McGroarty Terrace
Council District: 2
Community Plan Area: Sunland-Tujunga-Lake View
Terrace- Shadow Hills- East La Tuna Canyon
Area Planning Commission: North Valley
Neighborhood Council: Sunland-Tujunga
Legal Description: Lot PT 229 of Western Empire
Tract

PROJECT: Historic-Cultural Monument Application for the
CROSS OF SAN YSIDRO
REQUEST: Declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument
APPLICANT: City of Los Angeles
OWNER: Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles
200 North Main St., #1290 CHE
Los Angeles, CA 90012

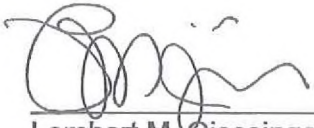
RECOMMENDATION That the Cultural Heritage Commission:

- 1. **Declare** the property a Historic-Cultural Monument per Los Angeles Administrative Code Chapter 9, Division 22, Article 1, Section 22.171.7
- 2. **Adopt** the report findings.

MICHAEL J. LOGRANDE
Director of Planning



Ken Bernstein, AICP, Manager
Office of Historic Resources



Lambert M. Giessinger, Preservation Architect
Office of Historic Resources

Prepared by:


Edgar Garcia, Preservation Planner
Office of Historic Resources

Attachments: August, 2009 Historic-Cultural Monument Application

FINDINGS

1. The building is associated with a master builder, designer, or architect, as a work by architect Arthur Burnett Benton.
2. The property reflects "the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community" for its association with the development of Sunland-Tujunga.
3. The property is identified with a historic personage, California poet laureate and Los Angeles Times columnist John Steven McGroarty.

CRITERIA

The criterion is the Cultural Heritage Ordinance which defines a historical or cultural monument as any site (including significant trees or other plant life located thereon) building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, such as historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified, or which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history or which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction, or a notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age. At issue is whether the Commissioners determine the building is significant enough to warrant designation.

SUMMARY

Constructed in 1923, the subject object is located on Mount McGroarty in the Verdugo Mountains of Pasko Park, in the Sunland-Tujunga community. The Cross of San Ysidro is a thirty foot poured reinforced concrete cross positioned atop a base made of native rock. Etched lettering on the base reads "Mount McGroarty."

Erected by a local builder, George Washington Harris, the cross was designed by architect Arthur Burnett Benton. A noted architect of residential buildings, several of his works have been designated as Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCMs): J.E. Maxwell Residence (HCM #539; 1907), Mary Andrews Clark Residence (HCM #158; 1913), McGroarty House (HCM #63; 1923), and Church of the Advent (HCM #512; 1925).

The Cross of San Ysidro was constructed as a visual landmark for the Little Landers community, which established Sunland-Tujunga in 1913. The religious community named it San Ysidro in honor of their first established Little Landers Colony. The setting of the subject object, Mount McGroarty, was named for writer, playwright, California poet laureate and Los Angeles Times columnist John Steven McGroarty. Using the image of the cross, McGroarty made the subject object famous in his Los Angeles Times columns, "As Seen from the Green Verdugo Mountains." Architect Benton also designed the 1923 home of McGroarty.

Since its completion in 1923, the Cross of San Ysidro has been the site of an Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the local Kiwanis club and the Sunland-Tujunga Ministerial Association, and has become a prominent visual landmark for the Sunland-Tujunga area.

The only alteration to the proposed monument appears to be the painting of the subject in white at an unknown date.

DISCUSSION

The Cross of San Ysidro successfully meets three of the specified Historic-Cultural Monument criteria: 1) reflects "the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community," 2) is associated with a master builder, designer, or architect, and 3) is associated with a historic personage. As an object designed by a noteworthy architect and associated with a significant historical figure as well as reflective of the development of Sunland-Tujunga, the object qualifies for designation as a Historic-Cultural Monument based on these criteria.

The staff of the Office of Historic Resources recognizes some condition issues with the Cross of San Ysidro, such as the painting of the cross and base and some concrete spalling. However, the subject object appears to retain sufficient integrity to qualify for designation.

BACKGROUND

An application to designate the Cross of San Ysidro was previously reviewed by the Commission on November 5, 2009. On November 19, 2009, the Commission voted to declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument. The nomination was forwarded to City Council. The City Council failed to act on the nomination and it was deemed to be denied. On July 28, 2010, a Council Motion was introduced to initiate the designation again.

The Cultural Heritage Commission has previously recommended designation of a similar cross structure. In 1995, the Hollywood Pilgrimage Memorial Monument was designated HCM #617. Located in Hollywood, it consists of a 32-foot-high steel cross erected in 1923 and dedicated to the memory of Christine Witherall Stevenson, one of the founders of the Hollywood Bowl.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT ("CEQA") REVIEW

State of California CEQA Guidelines, Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 "*consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment.*"

State of California CEQA Guidelines Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 "*consists of projects limited to maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic buildings.*"

The designation of the Cross of San Ysidro as a Historic-Cultural Monument in accordance with Chapter 9, Article 1, of The City of Los Angeles Administrative Code ("LAAC") will ensure that future construction activities involving the subject property are regulated in accordance with Section 22.171.14 of the LAAC. The purpose of the designation is to prevent significant impacts to a Historic-Cultural Monument through the application of the standards set forth in the LAAC. Without the regulation imposed by way of the pending designation, the historic significance and integrity of the subject property could be lost through incompatible alterations and new construction and the demolition of irreplaceable historic structures. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards of Rehabilitation are expressly incorporated into the LAAC and provide standards concerning the historically appropriate construction activities which will ensure the continued preservation of the subject property.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 8 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals of maintaining, restoring, enhancing, and protecting the environment through the imposition of regulations designed to prevent the degradation of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 31 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals relating to the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of Historic buildings in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

09-2924
CD2

MOTION

JUL 28 2010

The Cross of San Ysidro is located on Mount McGroarty in the Verdugo Mountains of Pasko Park, in the Sunland-Tujunga community of Council District Two. The Cross of San Ysidro is a thirty-foot tall concrete cross positioned atop a base made of native rock, with etched lettering on its base reading "Mount McGroarty." The Cross was designed by renowned architect Arthur Burnett Benton, and was constructed by local Tujunga builder George Washington Harris in 1923 as a visual landmark and symbol of tolerance for the Little Landers community that established Sunland-Tujunga in 1913.

On September 17th, 2009, the Cultural Heritage Commission recommended that the Cross of San Ysidro be designated a City Historic-Cultural Monument. The time for the City Council to act on this recommendation has since expired. However, due to its historic nature and its status as a symbol of tolerance for the entire Sunland-Tujunga community, the Cross of San Ysidro is of great importance to the City of Los Angeles and is deserving of a designation that will provide it with due preservation and protection.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Cultural Heritage Commission to initiate consideration of the Cross of San Ysidro, located at 7570 McGroarty Terrace in Council District Two, as a City Historic-Cultural Monument and prepare a report which delineates the historic-cultural significance of this site.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Planning Department present its findings within 90 days to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee for its review and consideration.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Krekorian
PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember 2nd District

SECONDED BY: Paul Kretz

ORIGINAL

JUL 28 2010

Staff Recommendation from
November 19th 2009
and original application as
submitted by Mary Lou Pozzo
and Kathleen Travers.

Los Angeles Department of City Planning

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

CASE NO.: CHC-2009-3078-HCM
ENV-2009-3079-CE

HEARING DATE: November 19, 2009
TIME: 10:00 AM
PLACE: City Hall, Room 1010
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA
90012

Location: 7570 McGroarty Terrace
Council District: 2
Community Plan Area: Sunland-Tujunga-Lake View
Terrace- Shadow Hills- East La Tuna Canyon
Area Planning Commission: North Valley
Neighborhood Council: Sunland-Tujunga
Legal Description: Lot PT 229 of Western Empire
Tract

PROJECT: Historic-Cultural Monument Application for the
CROSS OF SAN YSIDRO

REQUEST: Declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument


APPLICANT: Mary Lou Pozzo and Kathleen Travers
10966 Hillhaven Avenue
Tujunga, CA 91042

OWNER: Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles
200 North Main St., #1290 CHE
Los Angeles, CA 90012


RECOMMENDATION **That the Cultural Heritage Commission:**

1. **Declare** the property a Historic-Cultural Monument per Los Angeles Administrative Code Chapter 9, Division 22, Article 1, Section 22.171.7
2. **Adopt** the report findings.

S. GAIL GOLDBERG, AICP
Director of Planning



Ken Bernstein, AICP, Manager
Office of Historic Resources

Prepared by:


Edgar Garcia, Preservation Planner
Office of Historic Resources

Attachments: August, 2009 Historic-Cultural Monument Application

FINDINGS

1. The building is associated with a master builder, designer, or architect, as a work by architect Arthur Burnett Benton.
2. The property reflects "the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community" for its association with the development of Sunland-Tujunga.
3. The property is identified with a historic personage, California poet laureate and Los Angeles Times columnist John Steven McGroarty.

CRITERIA

The criterion is the Cultural Heritage Ordinance which defines a historical or cultural monument as any site (including significant trees or other plant life located thereon) building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, such as historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified, or which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history or which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction, or a notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age. At issue is whether the Commissioners determine the building is significant enough to warrant designation.

SUMMARY

Constructed in 1923, the subject object is located on Mount McGroarty in the Verdugo Mountains of Pasko Park, in the Sunland-Tujunga community. The Cross of San Ysidro is a thirty foot poured reinforced concrete cross positioned atop a base made of native rock. Etched lettering on the base reads "Mount McGroarty."

Erected by a local builder, George Washington Harris, the cross was designed by architect Arthur Burnett Benton. A noted architect of residential buildings, several of his works have been designated as Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCMs): J.E. Maxwell Residence (HCM #539; 1907), Mary Andrews Clark Residence (HCM #158; 1913), McGroarty House (HCM #63; 1923), and Church of the Advent (HCM #512; 1925).

The Cross of San Ysidro was constructed as a visual landmark for the Little Landers community, which established Sunland-Tujunga in 1913. The religious community named it San Ysidro in honor of their first established Little Landers Colony. The setting of the subject object, Mount McGroarty, was named for writer, playwright, California poet laureate and Los Angeles Times columnist John Steven McGroarty. Using the image of the cross, McGroarty made the subject object famous in his Los Angeles Times columns, "As Seen from the Green Verdugo Mountains." Architect Benton also designed the 1923 home of McGroarty.

Since its completion in 1923, the Cross of San Ysidro has been the site of an Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the local Kiwanis club and the Sunland-Tujunga Ministerial Association, and has become a prominent visual landmark for the Sunland-Tujunga area.

The only alteration to the proposed monument appears to be the painting of the subject in white at an unknown date.

DISCUSSION

The Cross of San Ysidro successfully meets three of the specified Historic-Cultural Monument criteria: 1) reflects "the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community," 2) is associated with a master builder, designer, or architect, and 3) is associated with a historic personage. As an object designed by a noteworthy architect and associated with a significant historical figure as well as reflective of the development of Sunland-Tujunga, the object qualifies for designation as a Historic-Cultural Monument based on these criteria.

The staff of the Office of Historic Resources recognizes some condition issues with the Cross of San Ysidro, such as the painting of the cross and base and some concrete spalling. However, the subject object appears to retain sufficient integrity to qualify for designation.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of September 17, 2009, the Cultural Heritage Commission voted to take the application under consideration. On November 5, 2009, the Cultural Heritage Commission toured the subject property.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT ("CEQA") REVIEW

State of California CEQA Guidelines, Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 "*consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment.*"

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The designation of the Cross of San Ysidro as a Historic-Cultural Monument in accordance with Chapter 9, Article 1, of The City of Los Angeles Administrative Code ("LAAC") will ensure that future construction activities involving the subject property are regulated in accordance with Section 22.171.14 of the LAAC. The purpose of the designation is to prevent significant impacts to a Historic-Cultural Monument through the application of the standards set forth in the LAAC. Without the regulation imposed by way of the pending designation, the historic significance and integrity of the subject property could be lost through incompatible alterations and new construction and the demolition of irreplaceable historic structures. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards of Rehabilitation are expressly incorporated into the LAAC and provide standards concerning the historically appropriate construction activities which will ensure the continued preservation of the subject property.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 8 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals of maintaining, restoring, enhancing, and protecting the environment through the imposition of regulations designed to prevent the degradation of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 31 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals relating to the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and

reconstruction of Historic buildings in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

Los Angeles Department of City Planning RECOMMENDATION REPORT

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

**CASE NO.: CHC-2009-3078-HCM
ENV-2009-3079-CE**

HEARING DATE: September 17, 2009
TIME: 10:00 AM
PLACE: City Hall, Room 1010
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA
90012

Location: 7570 McGroarty Terrace
Council District: 2
Community Plan Area: Sunland-Tujunga-Lake View
Terrace- Shadow Hills- East La Tuna Canyon
Area Planning Commission: North Valley
Neighborhood Council: Sunland-Tujunga
Legal Description: Lot PT 229 of Western Empire
Tract

PROJECT: Historic-Cultural Monument Application for the
CROSS OF SAN YSIDRO

REQUEST: Declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument

APPLICANT: Little Landers Historical Society
Mary Lou Pozzo
10966 Hillhaven Avenue
Tujunga, CA 91042

OWNER: Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles
200 North Main St., #1290 CHE
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RECOMMENDATION **That the Cultural Heritage Commission:**

1. **Take the property under consideration** as a Historic-Cultural Monument per Los Angeles Administrative Code Chapter 9, Division 22, Article 1, Section 22.171.10(c)4 because the application and accompanying photo documentation suggest the submittal may warrant further investigation.
2. **Adopt** the report findings.

S. GAIL GOLDBERG, AICP
Director of Planning
[SIGNED ORIGINAL IN FILE]

[SIGNED ORIGINAL IN FILE]

Ken Bernstein, AICP, Manager
Office of Historic Resources

Lambert M. Giessinger, Preservation Architect
Office of Historic Resources

Prepared by:
[SIGNED ORIGINAL IN FILE]

Edgar Garcia, Preservation Planner
Office of Historic Resources

Attachments: August, 2009 Historic-Cultural Monument Application

SUMMARY

Constructed in 1923, the subject object is located on Mount McGroarty in the Verdugo Mountains of Pasko Park, in the Sunland-Tujunga community. The Cross of San Ysidro is a thirty foot poured reinforced concrete cross positioned atop a base made of native rock. Etched lettering on the base reads "Mount McGroarty."

Built by a local builder, George Washington Harris, the cross was designed by architect Arthur Burnett Benton. A noted architect of residential buildings, several of his works have been designated as Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCMs): J.E. Maxwell Residence (HCM #539; 1907), Mary Andrews Clark Residence (HCM #158; 1913), McGroarty House (HCM #63; 1923), and Church of the Advent (HCM #512; 1925).

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Since its completion in 1923, the Cross of San Ysidro has been the site of an Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the local Kiwanis club and the Sunland-Tujunga Ministerial Association, and has become a prominent visual landmark for the Sunland-Tujunga area.

The only alteration to the proposed monument appears to be the painting of the subject in white at an unknown date.

CRITERIA

The criterion is the Cultural Heritage Ordinance which defines a historical or cultural monument as any site (including significant trees or other plant life located thereon) building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, such as historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified, or which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history or which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction, or a notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age. At issue is whether the Commissioners determine the building is significant enough to warrant designation.

FINDINGS

Based on the facts set forth in the summary and application, the Commission determines that the application is complete and that the property is significant enough to warrant further investigation as a potential Historic-Cultural Monument.

SIGNIFICANCE WORK SHEET

TYPE OR HAND PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS

Complete One or Both of the Upper and Lower Portions of This Page

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

THE Cross of San Ysidro IS AN IMPORTANT EXAMPLE OF
NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT
Mission Revival ARCHITECTURE
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE (SEE LINE 8)

AND MEETS THE CULTURAL HERITAGE ORDINANCE BECAUSE OF THE HIGH QUALITY OF ITS DESIGN AND THE RETENTION OF ITS ORIGINAL FORM, DETAILING AND INTEGRITY.

A N D / O R

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

THE Cross of San Ysidro WAS BUILT IN 1923
NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT YEAR BUILT
and designed by architect Arthur B. Benton WAS IMPORTANT TO THE
NAME OF FIRST OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER

DEVELOPMENT OF LOS ANGELES BECAUSE (see attached)
[Multiple blank lines for text entry]

WAS IMPORTANT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOS ANGELES BECAUSE a group of elderly pioneers, known as the Millionaires of Happiness and Contentment, wanted a landmark for the Sunland-Tujunga Valley. In the 1920's, when tourists and health seekers (*lungers*) flooded the area, it was to serve as their beacon. The area, not known for racial diversity, did pride itself on religious tolerance. Since Tujunga was the second of the Little Landers Colonies, the Cross was given the name of the first Colony – San Ysidro.

History would tell of San Ysidro as the patron saint of farmers and ranchers, but the Millionaires Club would change the meaning to the "Patron Saint of Little Homes". Since the plan was approved by the community and the Realty Board, the misnomer stood. For eighty-seven (87) years, the Cross has been the site of an Easter Sunrise Service.

For many years the Cross was lit for the two (2) weeks prior to Easter and Christmas. It still serves as a landmark to residents and motorists alike.

The dedication of the mountaintop to John Steven McGroarty (poet laureate, Los Angeles Times columnist and United States Congressman), the Cross of San Ysidro (Patron Saint of Farmers and Ranchers) and the naming of the Park for Edgar Pasko (Methodist Minister) would insure the history of the Sunland-Tujunga Valley would not be forgotten.

The Cross, designed by one of the southland's most important and prolific architects, Arthur B. Benton, and built by local nature-lover, George W. Harris, signifies this monument as an important landmark of Southern California history.

**HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT
APPLICATION**

TYPE OR HAND PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS

IDENTIFICATION

1. NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT The Cross of San Ysidro
2. STREET ADDRESS Pasko Park - Mt. McGroarty
CITY Verdugo Hills - Tujunga ZIP CODE 91042 COUNCIL DISTRICT 2
3. ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 2563 - 026 - 900
4. COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTION: TRACT Western Empire 3955
Region/Cluster 03/03176 LOT(S) 2000/229 ARB. NO. _____
~~BLOCK~~
5. RANGE OF ADDRESSES ON PROPERTY 1.01 acres com s 24 28 W 316.69 ft from se cor of
lot 2000 tr # 3955 th s 89 08' w 212.22 ft th s 53 19' w 181.3 ft th s 36 41' e 140 ft
6. PRESENT OWNER Los Angeles City
STREET ADDRESS Parks & Recreation
CITY Los Angeles STATE CA ZIP CODE _____ PHONE (____) _____
OWNER IS: PRIVATE _____ PUBLIC Municipality
7. PRESENT USE _____ ORIGINAL USE _____

DESCRIPTION

8. ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Mission Revival
(SEE STYLE GUIDE)
9. STATE PRESENT PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE OR STRUCTURE (SEE OPTIONAL DECIPTION WORK SHEET)
(see attached)
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

9

The thirty (30) foot Cross of native rock and poured concrete is located on Mount McGroarty in the northern range of the Verdugo Mountains. It is located inside a one (1) acre Pasko Park, named after the Reverend Edgar W. Pasko (Methodist Minister) who came to the Little Lands Colony in 1913. A dirt road at the end of Hillhaven Avenue in Tujunga, winds up the sage, cactus and chaparral dotted mountainside. Coastal live oak trees and Mediterranean shrub dot the area.

**HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT
APPLICATION**

NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT The Cross of San Ysidro

10. CONSTRUCTION DATE: FACTUAL 1923 ESTIMATED _____

11. ARCHITECT, DESIGNER, OR ENGINEER Arthur Burnett Benton

12. CONTRACTOR OR OTHER BUILDER Richard L. Smith & George W. Harris

13. DATES OF ENCLOSED PHOTOGRAPHS 1923 to present
(8X10 BLACK AND WHITE GLOSSY)

14. CONDITION: EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR DETERIORATED NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE

15. ALTERATIONS very few. Every few years the Kiwanis Club repaints the
cross and its base white.

16. THREATS TO SITE: NONE KNOWN PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT VANDALISM PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT
 ZONING OTHER erosion, earthquakes

17. IS THE STRUCTURE: ON ITS ORIGINAL SITE MOVED UNKNOWN

SIGNIFICANCE

18. BRIEF STATE HISTORICAL AND/OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: INCLUDE DATES, EVENTS, AND PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH THE SITE (SEE OPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE WORK SHEET)

(see attached)

19. SOURCES (LIST BOOKS, DOCUMENTS, SURVEYS, PERSONAL INTERVIEWS WITH DATES) (see attached)

20. DATE FORM PREPARED August 1, 2009 PREPARER'S NAME Mary Lou Pozzo

ORGANIZATION Little Landers Historical Society STREET ADDRESS 10966 Hillhaven Avenue

CITY Tujunga STATE CA ZIP CODE 91042 PHONE (818) 353-1718

#18

Situated atop the highest point of the Verdugo Mountains, made famous by John Steven McGroarty in his column for the Los Angeles Times Newspaper entitled "As Seen From the Green Verdugo Mountains", stands a thirty (30) foot concrete cross overlooking the Sunland-Tujunga Valley. Designed by world renowned architect, Arthur Burnett Benton and built by George Washington Harris, the builder of Bolton Hall Museum, once the clubhouse of the Little Landers Colony (1913-1920), the Cross of San Ysidro has been a landmark and a beacon to residents and motorists alike. No other landmark so typifies the spirit of the early, hardy pioneers who braved the harsh climate and rocky soil of the valley below.

The Cross of San Ysidro has a rich history of celebration, community and diversification. For eighty-seven (87) years an Easter Sunrise Service was observed by pioneers, residents and the southland community at the base of the Cross. On only three (3) occasions was the service cancelled due to rain, however, in 1924 the service was cancelled due to the quarantine in Los Angeles County for "foot and mouth" disease. From cookbooks, yearbooks, Verdugo Hills Cemetery brochures, etc., this Cross became the most important icon of the entire Sunland-Tujunga Valley. Still situated on its original site, with no alterations, it's the community's most significant asset.

When Tujunga became an incorporated city of the 6th class in 1926, land-developer Marshall Valentine Hartranft had yet to designate a portion of his land to the new city. On August 5, 1931, the Tujunga City Council passed Resolution No. 254, that changed ownership of the land from M. Hartranft to Tujunga. When Tujunga was consolidated with the City of Los Angeles, on March 4, 1932, Pasko Park became part of the City's Parks & Recreation system.

From 1923 to present, the Easter Sunrise Service has been sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club and the Sunland-Tujunga Ministerial Association. Upkeep of the Cross, Park and trail has been provided by local volunteers. It is not known when the native rock base of the Cross was painted white.

Thousands of hikers, tourists and Easter Sunrise Service patrons have enjoyed the bucolic splendor and panoramic views of the San Gabriel Mountains and the valley below.

#19

Bibliography

Cross of San Ysidro

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San Ysidro (St. Isadore, the farmer, 1070 – 1130)

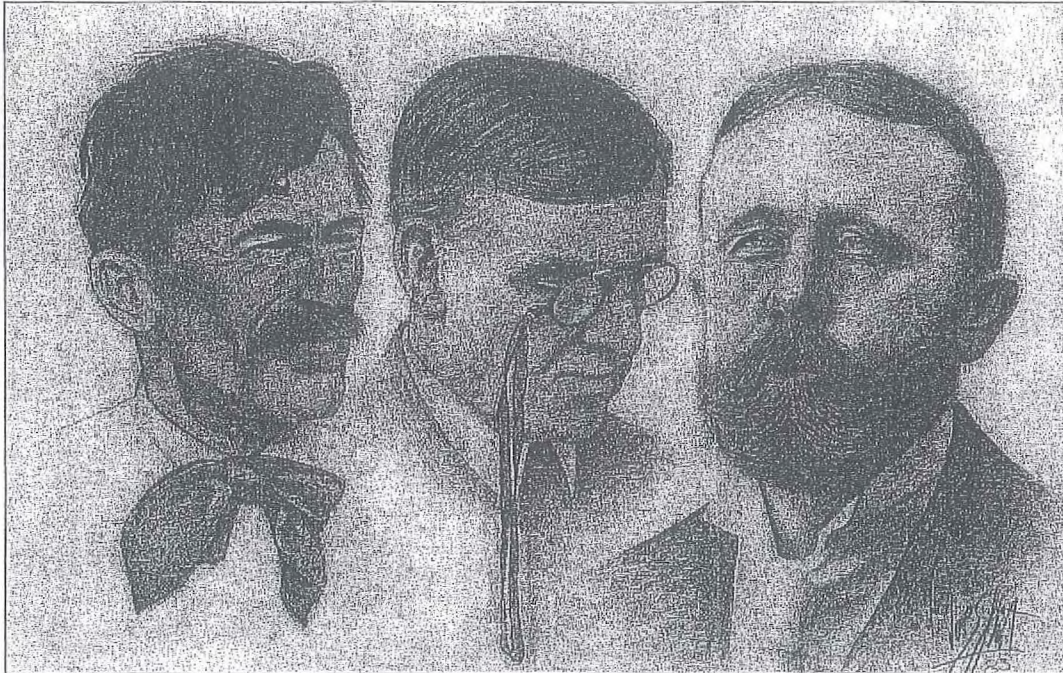
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The Cross has been a sacred symbol from the earliest Antiquity. It is found upon all the enduring monuments of the world, in Egypt, in Assyria, in Hindostan, in Persia, and on the Buddhist towers of Ireland. Buddha was said to have died upon it. The Druids cut an oak into its shape and held it sacred, and built their temples in that form. Pointing to the four quarters of the world, it was the symbol of universal nature. It was on a cruciform tree, that Chrishna was said to have expired, pierced with arrows. It was revered in Mexico.

But its peculiar meaning in this Degree, is that given to it by the Ancient Egyptians. Tltoth or Phika is represented on the oldest monuments carrying in his hand the Crux Ansata, or Ankh, [a Tau cross, with a ring or circle over it]. He is so seen on the double tablet of Shufu and Nob Shufu, builders of the greatest of the Pyramids, at Wady Meghara, in the peninsula of Sinai. It was the hieroglyphic for life, and with a triangle prefixed meant lifegiving. To us therefore it is the symbol of Life – of that life that emanated from the Deity, and of that Eternal Life for which we all hope; through our faith in God's infinite goodness.



GEORGE WASHINGTON HARRIS
1872-~~1944~~ 1940
The Builder

MARSHALL VALENTINE HARTRANFT
1872-~~1955~~ 1945
Land Developer

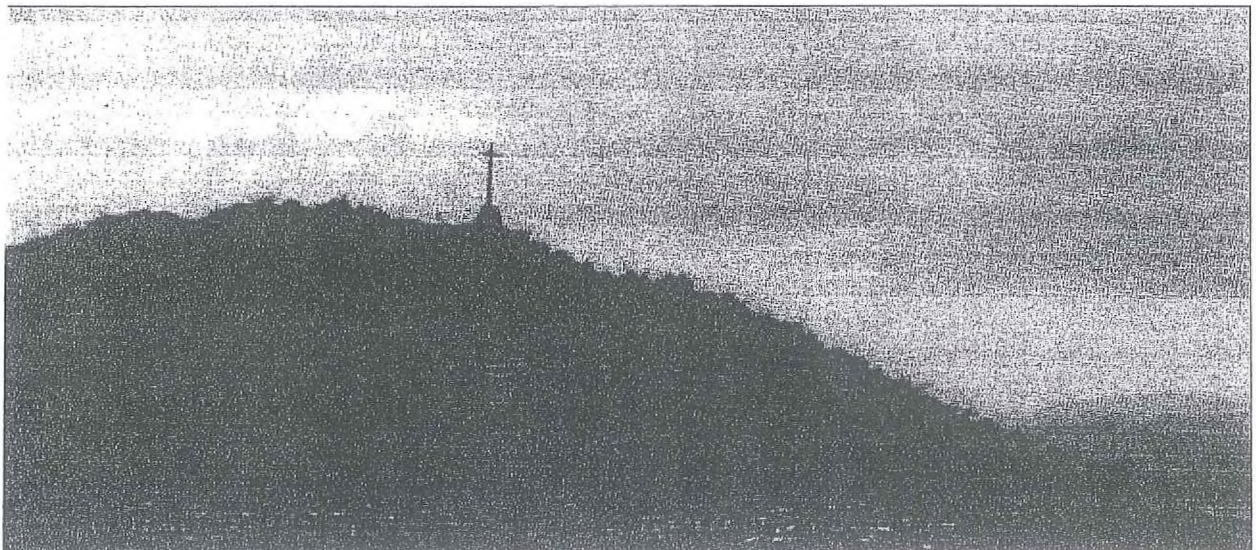
WILLIAM ELSWORTH SMYTHE
1861-1922
Founder of the Little Lands Colonies

"The Trinity"

George Harris — Nature Builder



The Reverend Edger W. Pasko



Pasko Park surrounding the Cross of San Ysidro in the Verdugo Mountains.

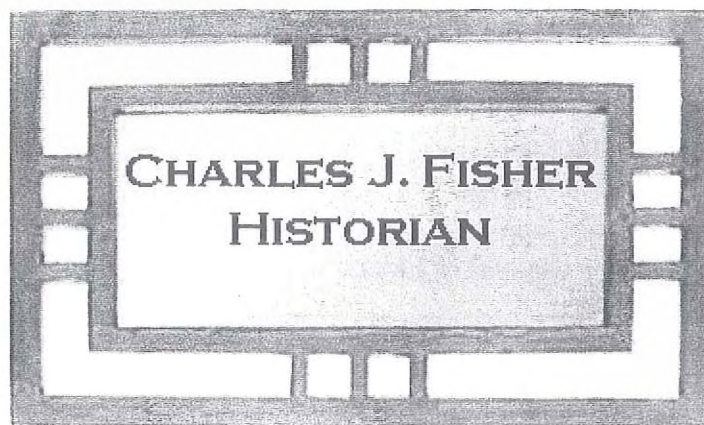
Arthur Burnett Benton, a noted Los Angeles architect, designed our Cross of San Ysidro, high atop Mt. McGroarty. It is of reinforced concrete, poured in one continuous process. It is as sturdy and artistic as any structure of its kind in the state. Its base of native rock gives it an added effect of stability. It was built by Tujunga and Sunland craftsmen. The first Sunrise Easter service was held in 1923, at this beautiful structure.

Mr. Benton also designed the McGroarty House. The home of John Steven McGroarty was built in 1923, but a fire on Christmas Eve destroyed this building. The present house was built in 1924 on the same foundation as the original structure. Mr. and Mrs. McGroarty lived there for twenty years until his death in 1944. It is now a Cultural Arts Center.

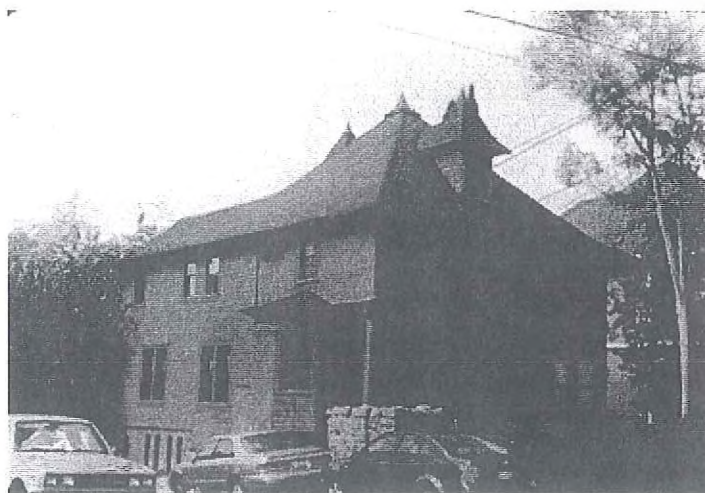
In La Canada, Mr. Benton was commissioned to design a castle for and by Albert J. Wallace in 1911. It is also still standing and is one of the most beautiful homes in La Canada.

BENTON, Arthur B., architect; b. Peoria, Ill., Aug. 1856; s. Ira Kelly and Caroline Augusta (Chandler) B.; grad. Peoria High Sch., 1877; student Sch. of Art and Design, Topeka, Kan., 1894-90; m. Phil-
 ipina Harriet Von Behring, May 1889; 1 dau., Edith May; practiced, Los Angeles, Calif., 1891—; archi-
 tect; Glendon Mission Inn, Riverside; Hotel Arlington, Santa Barbara; Mary Anderson Clark Memorial, Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. bldgs., Los Angeles; etc. Fellow A.I.A. Republican, Episcopalian. Mem. bd. conv. Los Angeles County Museum; mem. Municipal Art Council, City of Los Angeles; Clubs: Landmarks, Old Citizens. Home: Los Angeles, Calif. Died: Sept. 17, 1927.





Charles J. Fisher / Highland Park Heritage Trust



Arthur B. Benton Residence, Angeleno Heights, Oct 25, 2004 (photo by Charles J. Fisher)

**Arthur B. Benton Residence, Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument
#827**

Declared October 25, 2004

Arthur Burnett Benton was one of the foremost architects of turn-of-the-century Southern California. Born in Illinois, he studied architecture in Omaha, Nebraska, and worked several years designing structures for the railroads. He arrived in Los Angeles in 1893, and established a partnership with William Aiken. In 1896 he designed this house for Mary Stilson, who had commissioned a number of spec houses from Aiken & Benton in the Angeleno Heights section of Echo Park. Benton purchased this home from Mrs. Stilson later that year. He enlarged the dining room in 1903 and in 1912 redesigned the interior of the house to express his love of history and European design. In 1913, he built a concrete garage behind the house and in 1926 constructed a Japanese Tea House on top of that garage, which was the same level as his rear yard, opening onto a lotus pond. Benton's best known work is the original portion of the Mission Inn in Riverside, California. He also designed the William Andrews Clark YWCA home at Third and Loma in Los

The Cross

Idea for: Millionaires of Happiness and
Contentment – Council of Elders
To Honor: J.S. McGroarty
Architect: Arthur G. Benton
Approved: Realty Board and the community
Location: Exact spot by “delegation”
Construction: R.J. Smith and George W. Harris
Land: Donated 1 acre of land 2,000’ high
from Marshall Valentine Hartranft

R/L March 8, 1923 (Vol. 3 #27)

Plan Sunrise Easter Service On Summit Of McGroarty Hill

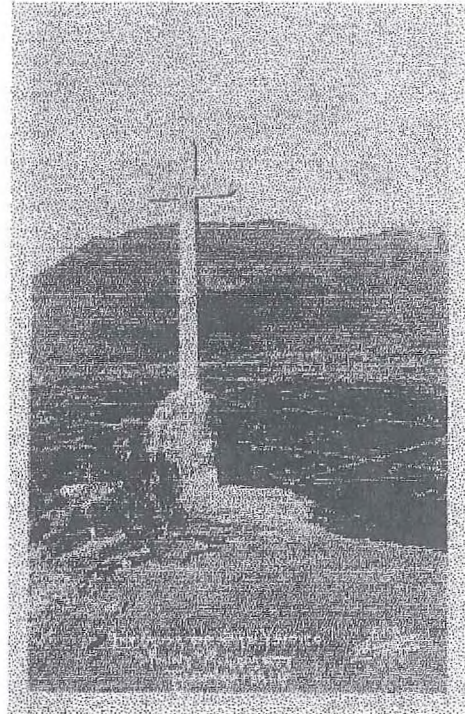
Millionaires of Happiness and Contentment Initiate Plans
to Place Great Cross on Green Verdugo Hills and Christen
Peak for Poet and Philosopher

Easter Sunday, April 1, 1923 will be marked in local history
as the date of the first great Easter morning service on the
summit of the Green Verdugo Hills.

On that day a white cross, 30’ in height, built of reinforced concrete on the hilltop back of John McGroarty’s home, will be dedicated and the hill itself will be formally christened in the name of the poet and philosopher who has chosen its beautiful and peaceful northern slope as his abiding place.

The idea first flashed into life at a council of elders of the Millionaires of Happiness and Contentment, and immediately spread in favor though out the community. At a meeting of the realty board Monday noon it assumed the form of action.

Arthur Benton, architect of the Mission Play House, who was in Tujunga in connection with the building of Mr. McGroarty’s new home, first suggested that the cross be raised in time for the coming Easter service. Forwith a delegation was sent to locate the exact spot where it should stand. The work of constructing the cross, which will be anchored in a base of concrete ten feet square, was placed in charge of R.J. Smith and George Harris.



Rancho Tujunga by Sarah Lombard

1923 The Cross of San Ysidro was erected in Pasco Park atop Mt. McGroarty in April. Pasco Park is a one-acre park dedicated by Hartranft to honor an early minister at Little Lands. For the first Easter Sunrise Service trumpeters were stationed at different points along the road to sound their trumpets at the first rays of the rising sun. A group was formed to guarantee the lighting of the cross at night.

1924 Plans for the second Easter Sunrise Service were finalized. The cost of lighting th Cross of San Ysidro was estimated to be \$200. For years the cross was lit each night; however, this custom was discontinued.

1928 A pageant was presented at the Methodist Church on Easter Sunday. The Easter Sunrise Service at the cross started with a bugle call. The cross of San Ysidro was lighted two weeks before the annual Easter Sunrise Service.

1929 The sons of the first pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church presented a communion table to the church in memory of their father. The fifth annual Easter Sunrise Service was held at the Cross of San Ysidro.

1930 Hundreds of people attended the Easter Sunrise Service at the Cross of San Ysidro.

1931 The total value of property in Tujunga was listed at \$2,0545,640. An acre of land surrounding the Cross of San Ysidro was donated by Hartranft as a memory to Rev. Edgar W. Pasco and its property known as Pasco Park. The Pasco family were early settlers of Little Lands.

1933 The Kiwanis Club sponsored the Eater Sunrise Service at the Cross of San Ysidro in Pasco Park.

1934 Easter Sunrise Services were again held at the Cross of San Ysidro for the ninth year.

1935 The annual Easter Sunrise Service was held at the Cross of San Ysidro, with the cross being lighted a week before Easter. In those days the cross could be seen by all the Tujunga Valley and most of the San Fernando Valley.

1937 The Easter Sunrise Service was held, as usual, at the Cross of San Ysidro in Pasco Park.

Founding Sisters,
Mary Lou Pozzo p.55

1923

And everyone who came had

V. Hartranft Christens Peak Mount McGroarty

reason to be glad that he did so, not only because of the beautiful and impressive ceremonies, but because the view on every hand was full of beauty and delight. A little way up the Hillhaven road the pilgrims literally entered the clouds, and the long foot trail leading around the hillside from the end of the auto road was even more charming than when the sun is warm and bright. On the right hand rose the green-clad wall of the mountain with all the flowers and foliage sparkling with raindrops, while on the left the slope fell abruptly into a sea of misty clouds that filled all the valleys and canyons of the Talamantes and hid the hills and mountains beyond.

Just before Professor Adams sounded the trumpet notes that began the Easter service the mists parted over the valley and showed the little homes of Tujunga and Sunland far below. The cross was blessed by Father Tonello, who added a few words expressive of its significance as the symbol of the Son of God watching over and guarding His people. A double quartet of singers from the Mission Play sang "Unfold Ye Portals Everlasting," and Dr. J. U. Stotts read from the scriptures the story of the resurrection. An Easter anthem sung by the choir of the Community church of Tujunga was followed by a speech by M. V. Hartranft christening the mountain in honor of John Steven McGroarty. The singing of "The Rock of Ages" by the congregation and a benediction by Dr. Stotts closed the service.

The ease with which everyone made the journey up the mountain side was a subject of general comment. Mrs. Alma F. Wieman, who has reduced her stair-climbing to a minimum for some months past because of a bad knee, came up the trail quite spryly

(Continued on Page 2)

prints of animal and vegetable life to tell us.

But, good neighbors, here is a beautiful cross, designed by the noted architect Arthur Benton; constructed of imperishable reinforced concrete by George Harris and Richard Smith, two of our master workmen, and down through the corridor of thousands of years this monument to the gentle Nazarene will tell the world who and what kind of people lived in this vale in the year of our Lord 1923.

Upon this bronze casting, against which the rusts of time are almost futile, is our tribute to the saintly Ysidro, guardian and defender of the people of lesser wealth and richer spirit.

And in ineffaceable words upon the solid concrete we hand to future generations the name of our neighbor and leader, the pastor-padre of the Congregation of the Faithful, the simplicity and depth of whose theology rests solely upon continuous and regular prayer to God, and forms a blessed tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

And this monument upon this mountain peak tells to our neighbor what we would all like to have him know, now while he is among us, of our appreciation of the blessings of his life amongst us.

Therefore, here now, in the shadow of this beautiful cross, we christen this peak Mount McGroarty. Forever, while Time shall last! Amen!

speech of M. V. Hartranft, held at the sunrise Easter service, tending the mountain on which the of San Ysidro stands in honor of Steven McGroarty, was as fol-

the lives of communities as well men there are peak points. Our ved community has now formed very high spiritual peaks. The that hallowed hill with its flag-on the yon side of the valley, e sleep several honored members he Congregation of the Faithful, now on this glorious Easter ning, A. D. 1923, we meet to dedi-another high spot in the spiritual of the valley.

is cross, always gleaming in the ning sunrise, the noonday sun and purple sunset, will reflect to us spirit of the gentle Christ, and we pass up and down the valley e two peaks will always be before under the influence of which our y strifes and envies must tend to obliteration.

his cross we today dedicate to ist and in honor of San Ysidro, con saint and guardian of little es throughout the world; and this ountain peak upon which the cross rected is to be named in honor of ifornia's beloved poet-historian and losopher, who, in addition to and ve all the great work he has done

California, became himself a deider and inspirer of little homes and anized the imperishable Club of lionaires of Contentment and Happiness. As pastor-padre of the Congregation of the Faithful he has put ore the world the cherished ideals this community in its broad religis tolerance that spans all denomationalism and brings us all to our es in daily prayer to just one ther God.

We hail Saint Ysidro! Today we me this mountain in perpetual com-moration of our much loved citizen ile he is yet with us.

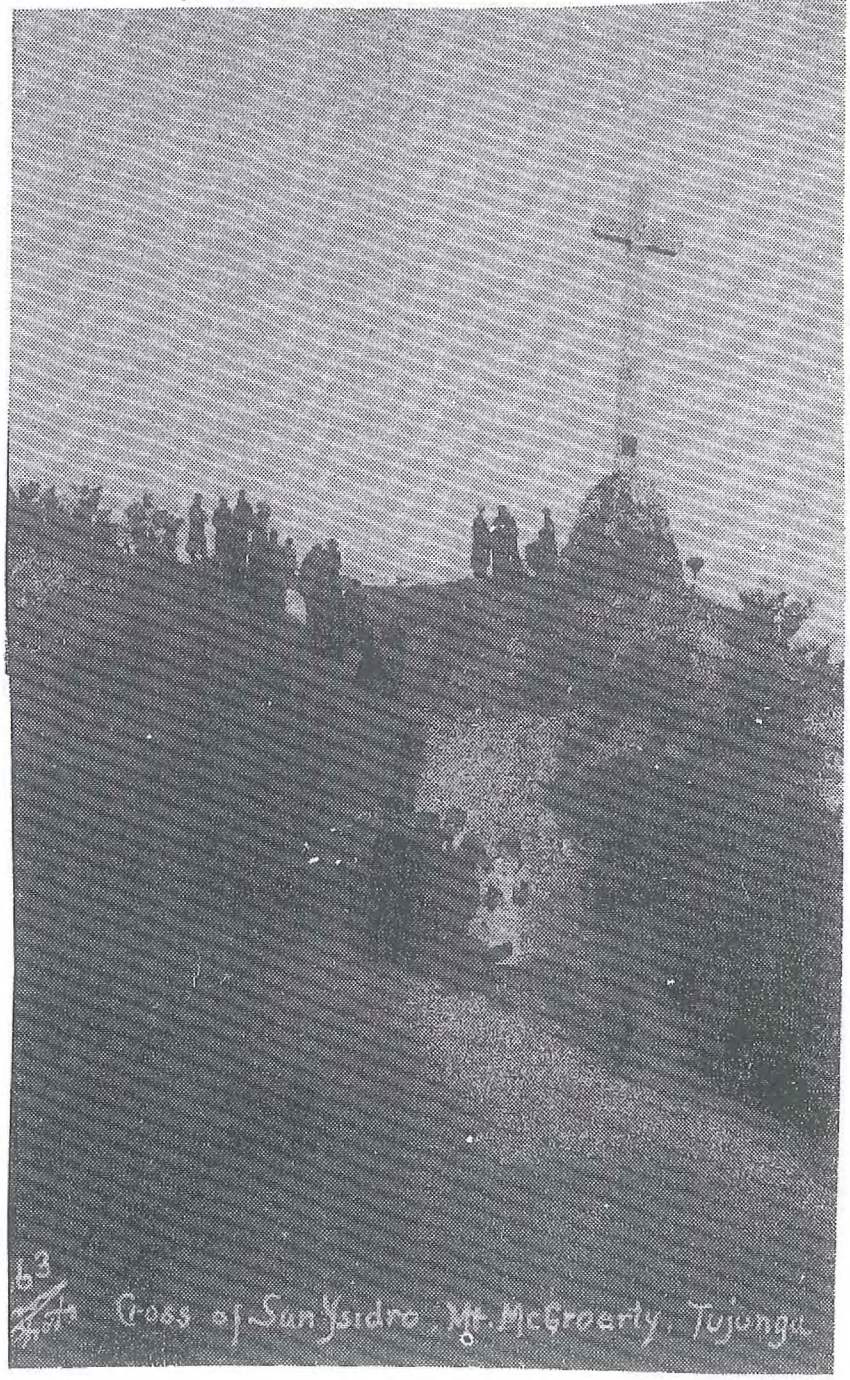
We dread that fateful day pictured Goldsmith's Deserted Village when ese little homes may be swallowed by larger ones and great estates. those who impetuously yearn for e coming of great wealth to re-ace these precious little homes we k in the paraphrased words of oldsmith:

here then? Ah where? shall cul-tured thrift reside,
scape the pangs that folly pays to pride.

is yours to judge how wide the lim-its stand
etween mere splendor or a happy land.

When we look over the history of erished civilizations buried under the ists of centuries, we sometimes won-er who and what kind of people oc-occupied this lovely vale, say thousands f years even before the Indians me?

We have nothing but geologic im-

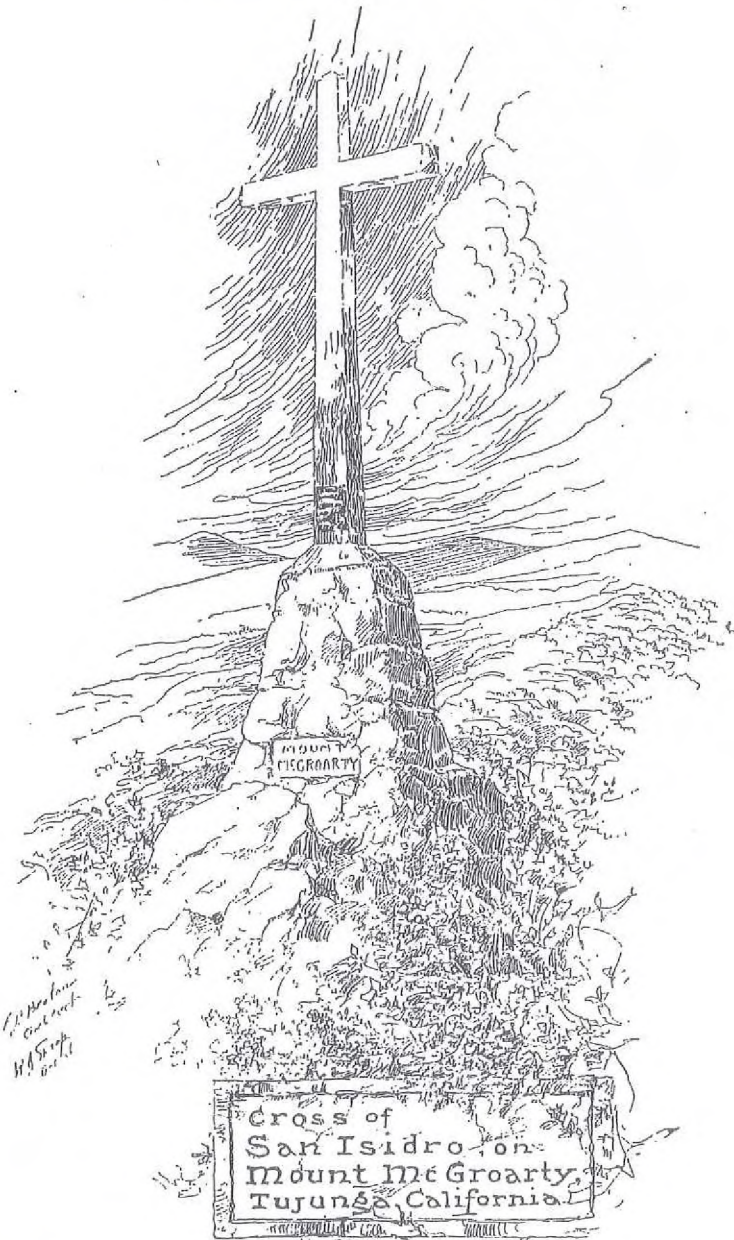


63
4/5/23
Cross of San Ysidro, Mt. McGroarty, Tujunga

The Record-Ledger
April 5, 1923

1924

Second Sunrise Easter Service On Mount McGroarty Sunday



Simplicity and Dignity Mark Second Annual Gathering of Neighbors of the Green Verdugo Hills at Foot of Cross Raised in Honor of San Ysidro, Guardian Saint of Little Homes

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE CANCELLED BY QUARANTINE

Just after the Record-Ledger was in the mail last Thursday morning the sunrise Easter service on Mount McGroarty was cancelled by order of the county authorities on account of the foot and mouth disease quarantine.

This action was in accordance with very drastic measures which are being taken to prevent possible spread of the epidemic to the wild game in hill and mountain districts. For this reason the Hillhaven road has been closed to everyone except residents of that place, and all traffic into Big Tujunga and other canyons is being turned back.

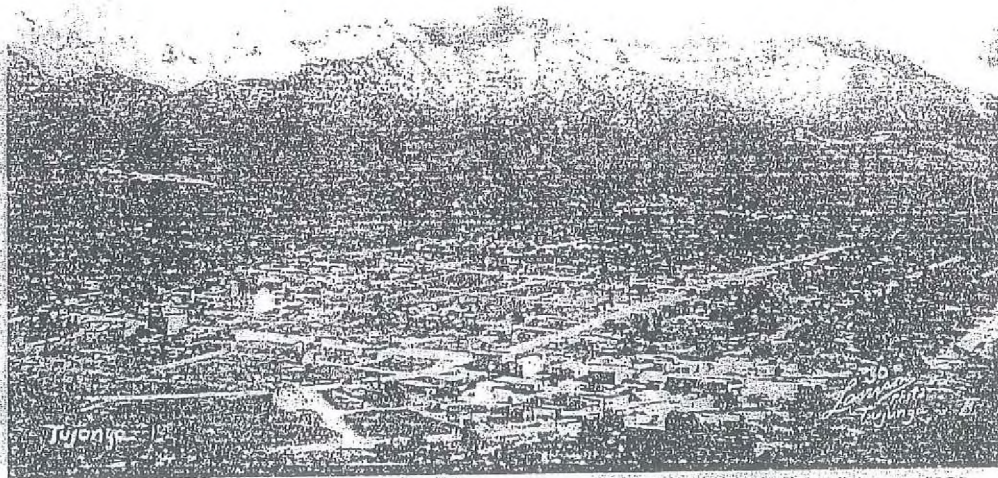
The Ashrama at the north end of Pennsylvania avenue is under a similar quarantine, and Sunday services at that place were discontinued for the present.

1924

1932.
Kiwanis



the green verdugo hills



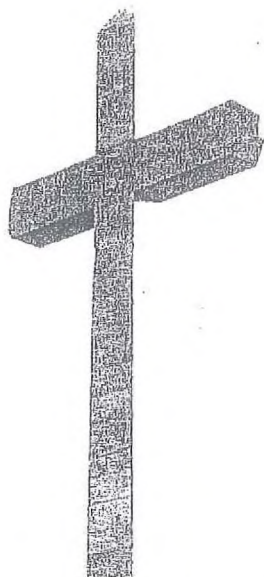
Tujunga, California, about 1920,
with snow-covered Sierra Madre
mountains in background. Photo
by Joseph H. Lamson.

A Chronicle

OF SUNLAND-TUJUNGA, CALIF.

and how it grew

PRICE \$1



HILLTOP SYMBOL — Photographer Al Elliot made this recent picture of the Cross of San Ysidro, 30-year-old landmark located on Mt. McGroarty, above Sunland and Tujunga. Except for two years, the site of the cross has been the scene of Easter Sunrise Services since 1923.

By WALLACE MORGAN

The most significant evidence of the spirit of tolerance developed by the valley's pioneers was furnished by their first Sunrise Easter Service. The service was held at the dedication of the Cross of San Ysidro, which stands on the summit of Mount McGroarty, one of the dominant peaks in the northern range of the Verdugo Hills.

The cross which was designed by a Los Angeles architect—and built by Tujunga and Sunland craftsmen, is of reinforced concrete, poured in one continuous process. It is as sturdy and artistic as any structure of its kind in the state. Its base of native rock gives it an added effect of stability. But the circumstances of the dedication of the cross are of more interest than its composition.

THE 1923 SUNRISE SERVICE was sponsored by the Tujunga Kiwanis Club. By a special dispensation, Father Tonello, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic church of Tujunga, conducted the service of dedication. Members and clergymen from all Protestant denominations in the valley participated in the service.

The unusual feature of this religious cooperation was that San

Ysidro, Patron Saint of Little Homes, in whose honor the cross was built and raised, was not a saint of the Catholic church, according to John McGroarty, nor, so far as known, was he affiliated with any Protestant denomination. He was a Spanish peasant, and his name, McGroarty said, indicates he probably was a Jew.

His only claim to sainthood, it appears, was the love, gratitude and reverence in which he was held by his neighbors and fellow peasants in the little Spanish community where he lived many years ago. For his continuing kindness and solicitude his saintliness was acclaimed throughout the whole section where he lived and he was given the title of Patron Saint of Little Homes by common consent.

Speaking to a group of hard-boiled real estate brokers from outside the valley—who were attending a meeting of realtors in Tujunga some time after the Cross of San Ysidro was built and dedicated, John McGroarty told one of the legends of San Ysidro, substantially as follows:

ONE DAY, as Ysidro was plowing in the field of his employer, some children came running to tell him that a poor widow woman in the neighborhood was in dis-

tress because some dogs had chased her goat away and she was unable to find it.

With no hesitation, Ysidro left his oxen standing in the furrow and set out to find the goat. But when the farmer heard what Ysidro was doing, he vowed it was time to stop this sort of nonsense and teach Ysidro to mind the business he was paid for.

So the farmer started to the field, stopping on the way to cut a stout rod from the hedge row, swearing to himself that a good beating was the best way to teach his servant where his duty lay.

But as the farmer came to a gap in the hedge through which he could see his field, he stopped—his eyes bulged, his mouth fell open, his jaw stuck, and the rod fell to the ground.

For there, before him were the oxen, walking steadily along the furrow, and beside the plow stood a tall figure all clothed in white.

For, said Mr. McGroarty, God had sent one of His angels to do Ysidro's work while Ysidro was on his errand of mercy.

"UP HERE in the Green Verdugo hills," McGroarty told the Glendale realtors, "We believe these things. And that is why we have raised this cross in honor of San Ysidro, patron saint of little homes. And we pray to God to let San Ysidro watch over our little homes and protect them and those who dwell in them."

Thus the first Sunrise Easter Service in the Green Verdugo hills was sponsored by an organization of laymen, held around a cross that was raised in honor of a "saint" who probably was a Jew, blessed by a Catholic priest during ceremonies involving all Protestant organizations in the valley.

This is not the only example of the religious tolerance which has marked the people of the Sunland and Tujunga community.

Speaking at the funeral of Mrs. Leo Smith, whose home had been next door to the home of Mr. and Mrs. McGroarty, the author of the Mission Play and poet laureate of California quoted the text: "In My Father's house are many mansions."

"I am a Catholic," said Mr. McGroarty, "so of course I will live in the Catholic mansion. Nellie Smith was a Baptist, so she will live in the Baptist mansion. But there will be nothing to prevent me from going over, to the Baptist mansion to talk to Nellie Smith, nor to prevent Nellie Smith from coming over to the Catholic mansion to talk to me—just as we have visited each other's homes here in Tujunga."



San Ysidro Cross above McGroarty. 1928.

Photo Courtesy of Bolton Hall Museum.

1925

Up to The Cross==Top Of Mt. Mc Groarty In a Stock Star Car

NO other car has ever achieved this spectacular feat, climbing up a 100 per cent grade where no real road has ever been made to the very top of Mt. Mc Groarty.

This achievement was made possible by the Star's wonderful million dollar motor and has been repeated a number of times, making the climb two days during the Moon Festival, at which time a large crowd of local people witnessed the feat! and appreciated the super power of this wonderful Star motor car.

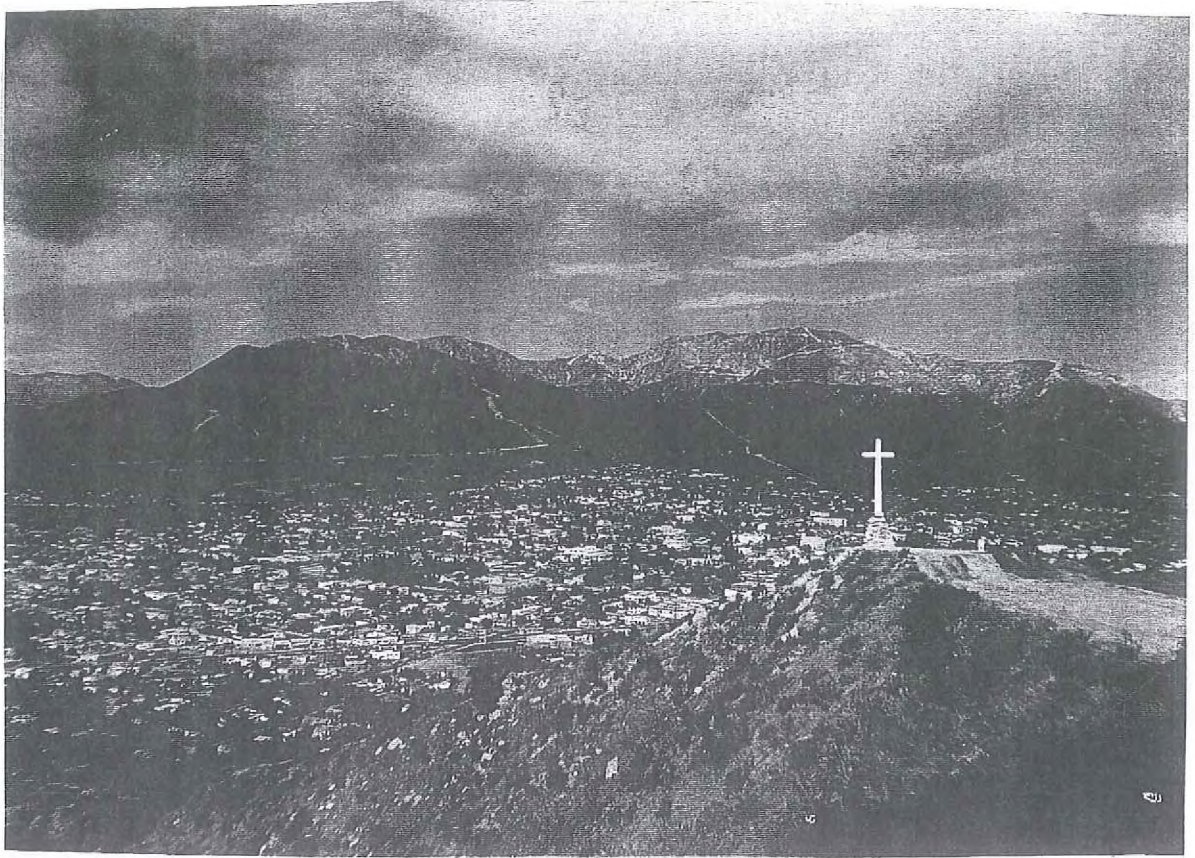
The four-wheel brakes of "Locomotive type," greatly add to the safety of the car during the de-

cent, as it has been proven that two wheel brakes will not hold a car on a grade so steep, with with safety.

Mr. Mc Lean, president of the Mc Lean Motor Sales, Inc., says that through all of his years of experience in the automobile business he has never been able to make such wonderful demonstrations of power and durability as can be made with the stock Star car.

Mr. H. L. Harvey, Tujung representative of the above mentioned firm, is always glad to demonstrate or give any information and assistance possible in acquainting you with the Star car and its performances.





Christmas Greetings

1939

EL PORTAL Yc 2600K
Verdugo Hills High School



THE FINEST AMERICAN heritage is that of fortitude—the courage to win over unbelievable hardships. The spirit necessary to win, the spirit of the hardy pioneers is seen today in all that we do. We no longer search for hidden treasure with rusted gold-pan and dulled pickaxe. We search for wisdom with modern tools of learning, sharpened by experience and understanding. We no longer strive along hidden paths. Our paths are lighted by a liberal education. We no longer walk in darkness. With eyes wide, unafraid, with fortitude, with the courage of our forefathers we face the future.

4 Sunland — Tujunga — La Crescenta — Sun Valley, Calif.
THE RECORD-LEDGER, SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1973



ODDS AND ENDS FROM

FIFTY YEARS AGO — JULY 1923

Flora M. Morgan wishes to announce to her friends and neighbors that her home place known as The Oak Glen Ranch on the Hillhaven road is now being subdivided into most desirable lots.

This subdivision is most ideally located, being in the Green Verdugos Hills, one block from the business center, overlooking our beautiful Tujunga Valley.

LOTS \$197 AND UP — — — \$10 CASH — — — \$10 MONTHLY

FOR RENT— About July 25; furnished bungalow, four rooms and bath; two bedrooms; under two large oaks; \$28.50.

FOR SALE — Peaches, 5¢ a lb. Plums, 5¢ a lb.

Property owners in the Sunland flat have signed a 60-day option with agents who are believed to represent a reliable oil concern. Nearly half the life of the option has expired and interested persons whose faith in the ultimate discovery of oil at Sunland is strong, are anxiously waiting developments.

SAN YSIDRO CLUB FORMED

Believing that the sentiment which prompted the raising of the cross of Mt. McGroarty in honor of San Ysidro, patron saint of little homes, is too fine and worthy not to be carried through to its completed purpose, residents of Tujunga have proposed the organization of a San Ysidro Club, the first and possibly the only definite duty of which will be to see that the cross which watches over this mountain village is lighted at night.

Miss Zoe M. Gilbert, who was secretary of the committee that had charge of the sunrise Easter service when the cross was dedicated, has been asked to act as a nucleus around which the club may be formed, for it is planned to avoid any formality of organization and election of officers and to make the club and its work as spontaneous as possible.

Figures on the cost of lighting the cross will be obtained and the expense for the first year, it seems likely, will have to be met by voluntary subscription. It will be so small, however, that nobody will feel his share when it is divided among all those who will wish to see the cross stand forth in its beauty and sacred symbolism, by night as well as by day, before the eyes of the dwellers in the little homes of Tujunga and of the wayfarer who journeys through the Green Verdugo Hills.

San Ysidro Cross Named for Peasant

The Cross of San Ysidro was erected in 1923 for Sunland-Tujunga's first Easter Sunrise service.

The ceremony, including dedication of the Cross, was arranged by Protestant organizations, — spearheaded by the Kiwanis Club. A Catholic priest blessed the cross, named for a Spanish peasant believed to have been a Jew.

Provided Help

According to legend, as Ysidro was plowing in the field of his employer, some children came running to tell him that a poor widow was in distress because some dogs had chased her goat away and she was unable to find it.

Ysidro left his oxen standing in the furrow and set out to find the goat. When the farmer heard what Ysidro was doing he vowed he would teach Ysidro to mind the business he was paid for.

As the farmer, armed with a rod with which to beat Ysidro came to a gap in the hedge through which he could see his field, his eyes bulged — his mouth fell open, his jaw stuck as he dropped the rod.

For there before him were the oxen, walking steadily along the furrow and beside the plow stood a tall figure all clothed in white.

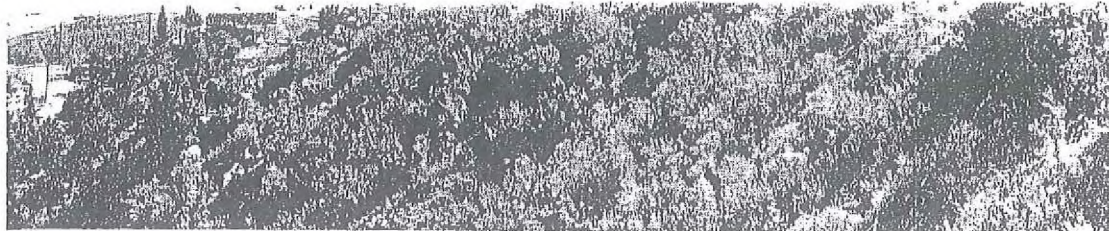
For, said John Steven McGroarty at that first Easter Sunrise service, "God had sent one of his angels to do Ysidro's work while Ysidro was on his errand of mercy. Up here in the Green Verdugos we believe these things and that is why we have raised this cross in honor of San Ysidro, patron saint of little homes."

Okay Given To Relight McGroarty Cross

11/22/65
The City Park Commission last Thursday voted permission to the Sunland-Tujunga Kiwanis Club to re-light the cross atop Mt. McGroarty in Pasko Park, Tujunga.

The cross has been in darkness for three years after a fire swept the area and destroyed poles and wire carrying electricity for the lights.

The Kiwanis Club was granted permission to install new poles and wire at no expense to the city. Pasko Park covers 1.01 acres and was donated to the city of Tujunga on July 30, 1931 by Marshall V. Harranct. When Tujunga was consolidated with the City of Los Angeles on March 7, 1932, Pasko Park became part of the city's park system.



REGIONAL LANDMARK—The 30-foot high San Ysidro Cross, erected in northern range of Verdugos, overlooks Sunland-Tujunga area.

HIGH POINT IN VERDUGOS

LATIMES 5/5/74

Cross of San Ysidro Turning Into Romantic Site for Teens

BY JAMES QUINN
Times Staff Writer

TUJUNGA—In the 1920s, when refugees from the Midwest and East were moving in droves to the high, dry climate of Sunland and Tujunga, John McGroarty, one of the community's founders, decided the area needed a landmark.

Through the efforts of the local Kiwanis Club, the community erected a cross on Mt. McGroarty in the northern range of the Verdugos.

Called the Cross of San Ysidro, it was a landmark that McGroarty, a staunch Roman Catholic and local booster, enthusiastically approved.

Whenever the smog and fog lift, the 30-foot high, white cross is visible from the Tujunga business section.

But today it is less the landmark and religious shrine than it is a rallying point for teen-agers looking for a romantic place to park at night.

When erected, landowners were happily drawing settlers, many of them asthmatics, to the foothill region with newspaper ads that said, "One acre, one lung and one dollar is all you need to live in Sunland-Tujunga," according to a publication of the local Historical Society.

But the Sunland-Tujunga population, pegged at 50,000 by the Regional Planning Commission, long ago stopped growing at the boomtown 1920s pace, and interest in attracting settlers waned as the population grew.

Thus, the cross is no longer mentioned as one of the community's proud assets. In fact, several prominent residents said recently, they had never heard of the cross—although it is easy to spot from Foothill Boulevard on a clear day.

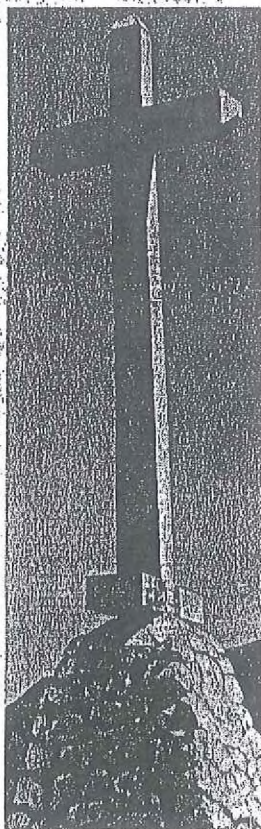
But the cross retains one official function. Each Easter Sunday, since 1923, at sunrise, services are conducted there under sponsorship of the Sunland-Tujunga Ministerial Assn. and the Kiwanis Club.

Since the cross is accessible to cars only by a heavily rutted dirt road, the Kiwanis ferry those attending the services the last half mile in rough-terrain vehicles.

Automobiles are able to negotiate the sharp corners and steep hills leading up to the cross, but parking is limited on top of the mountain.

What parking space exists often is filled by teen-agers at night, says a spokesman at LAPD's Foothill Division.

The highest point in the northern Verdugos, Mount McGroarty affords those on top an opportunity to spot anyone approaching.



Further, the lights of Tujunga and Sunland sparkle below.

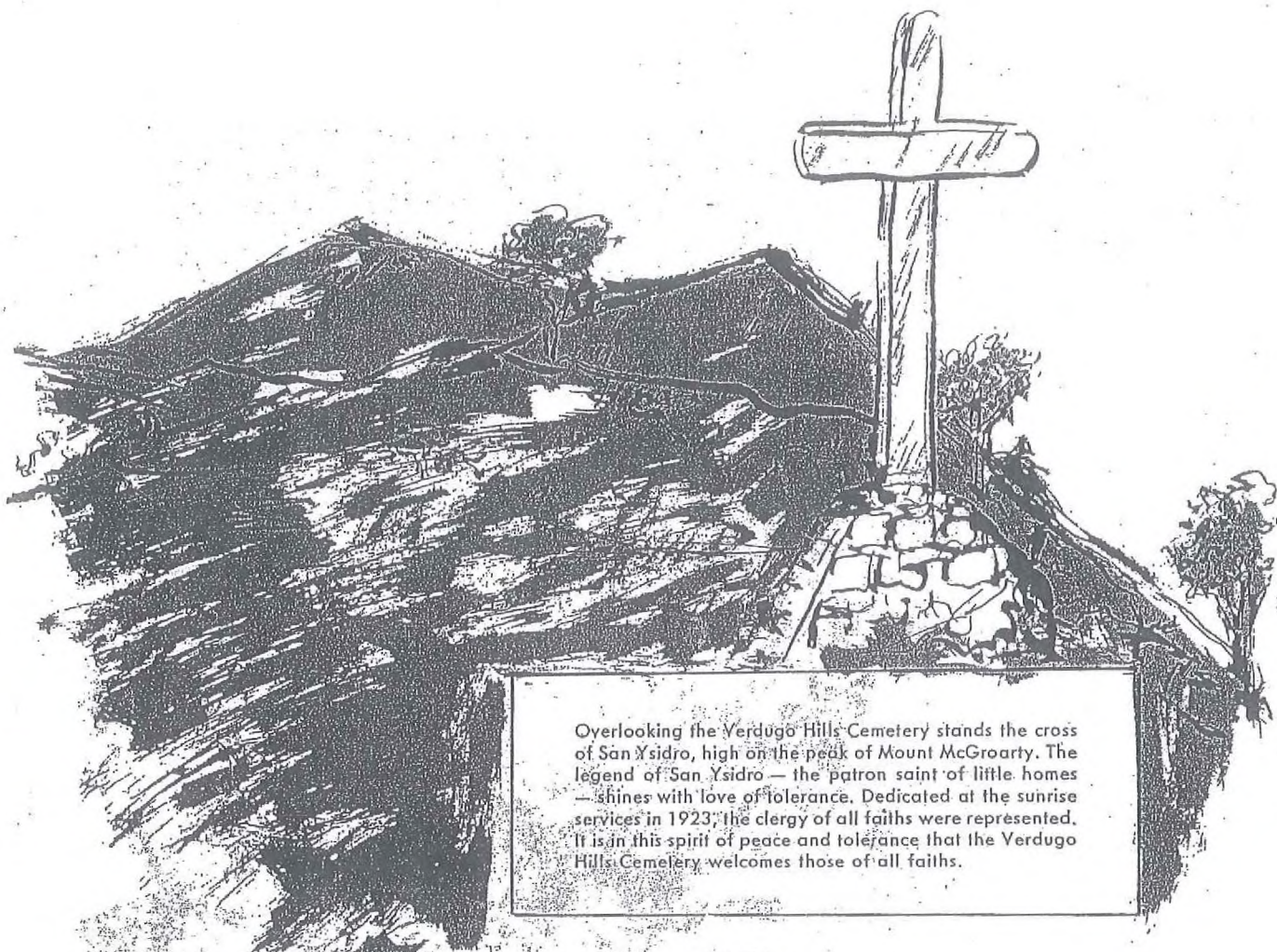
"It's popular with the kids no doubt about that," said the LAPD spokesman. "We patrol the area regularly, but it is not considered a major trouble spot."

An undated and unsigned pamphlet in the Sunland-Tujunga Library suggests this is not the use McGroarty had in mind in the 20s when he declared:

"We pray to God to let San Ysidro watch over our little homes and protect them and those who dwell in them."

Said a municipal official: "I see car lights up there sometimes at night. I've never been up at the cross, but I'm sure they don't go up to pray at night."

Times photos



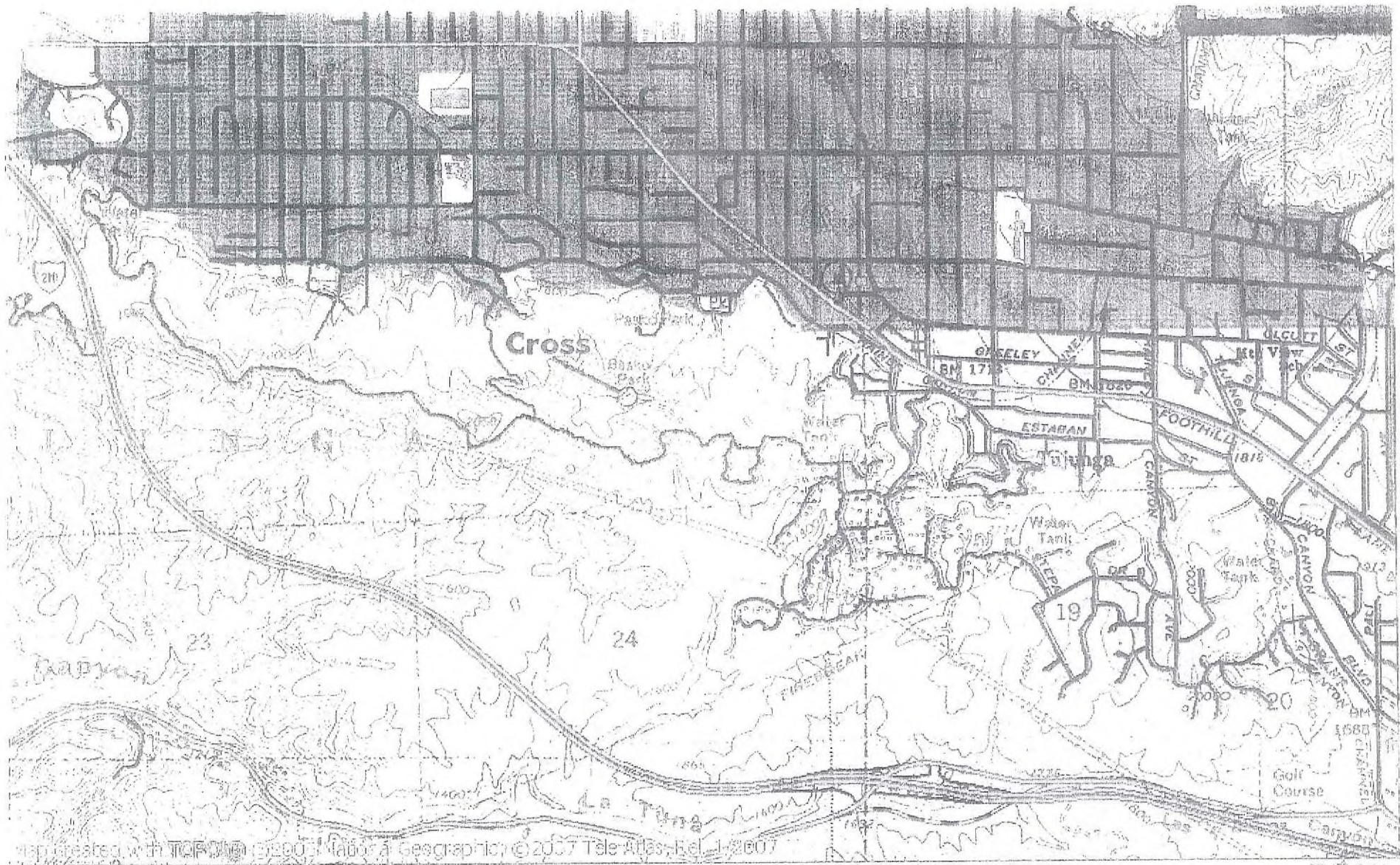
Overlooking the Verdugo Hills Cemetery stands the cross of San Ysidro, high on the peak of Mount McGroarty. The legend of San Ysidro — the patron saint of little homes — shines with love of tolerance. Dedicated at the sunrise services in 1923, the clergy of all faiths were represented. It is in this spirit of peace and tolerance that the Verdugo Hills Cemetery welcomes those of all faiths.

presented by

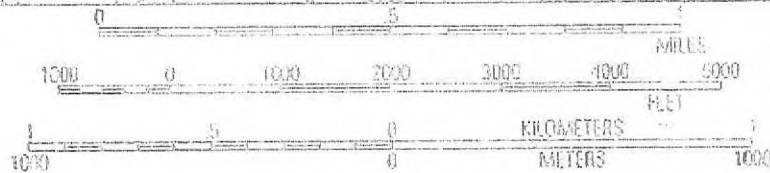
LOS ANGELES MORTUARY

and

THE VERDUGO HILLS CEMETERY



**NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC**



34.247775N = 34°14'51.99"
118.300830W = 118°18'2.99"
 Elev. 1964 ft.

TN 14N
18°
03/10/09

4

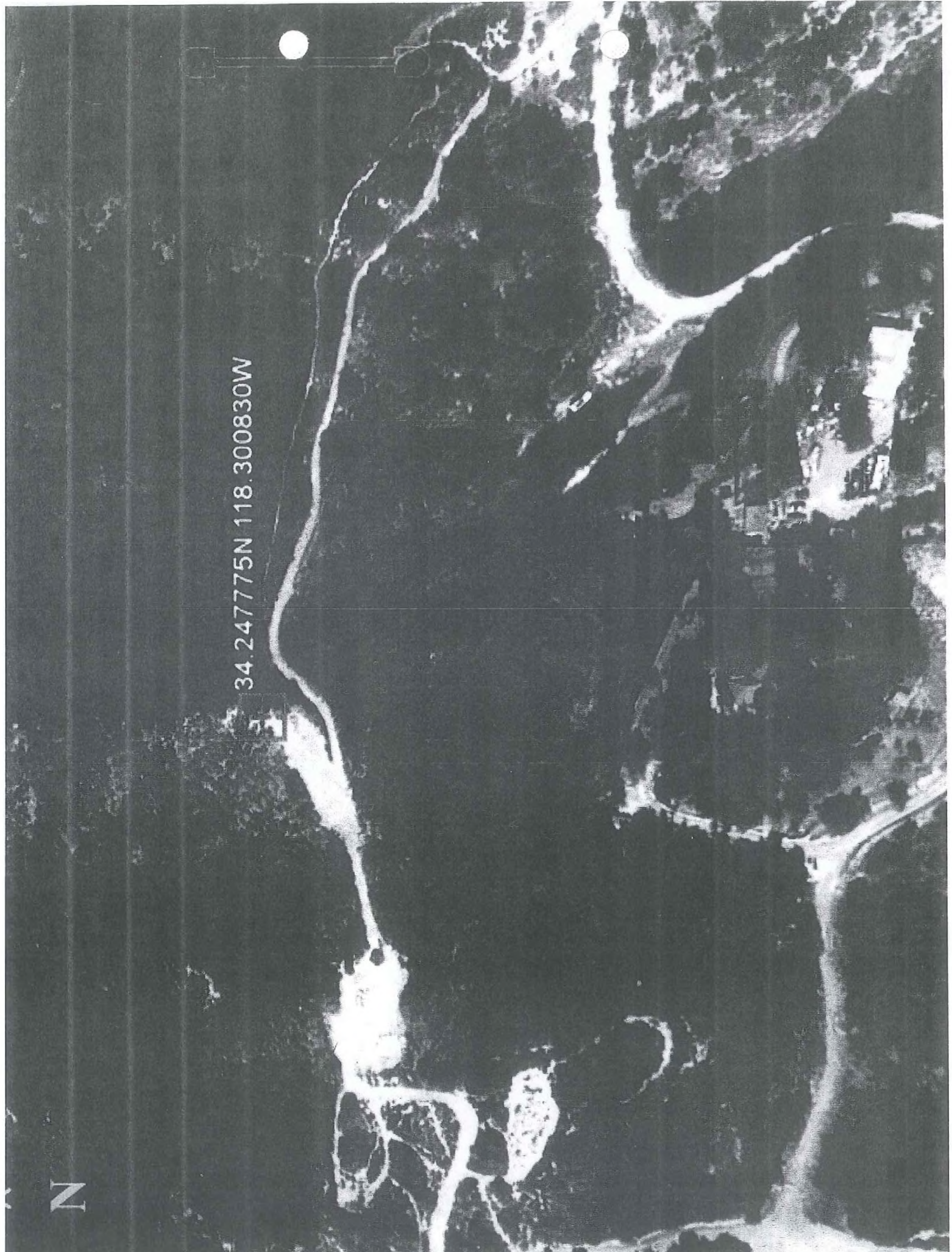
N34 14.866 W118 18.052

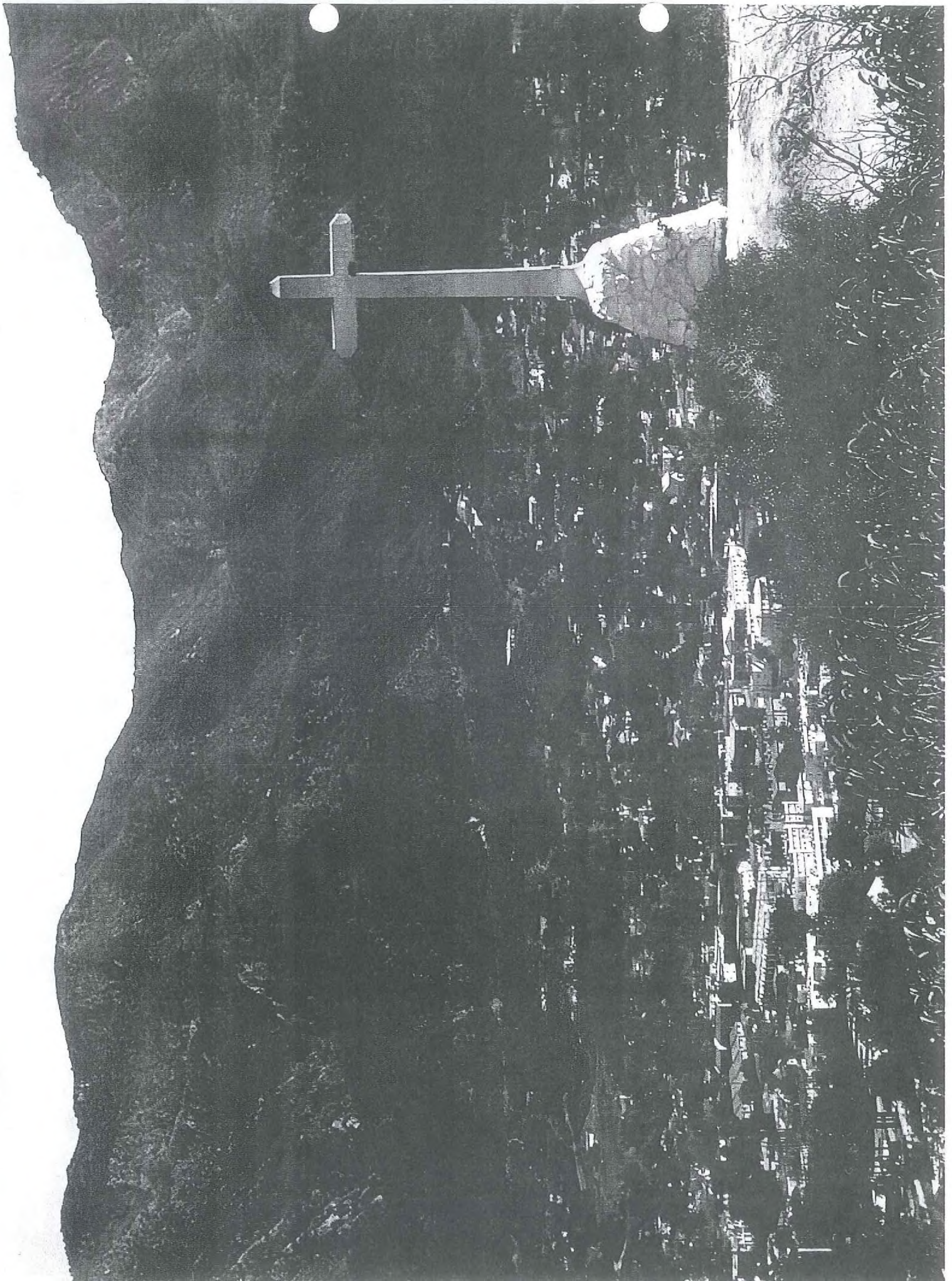


Cross

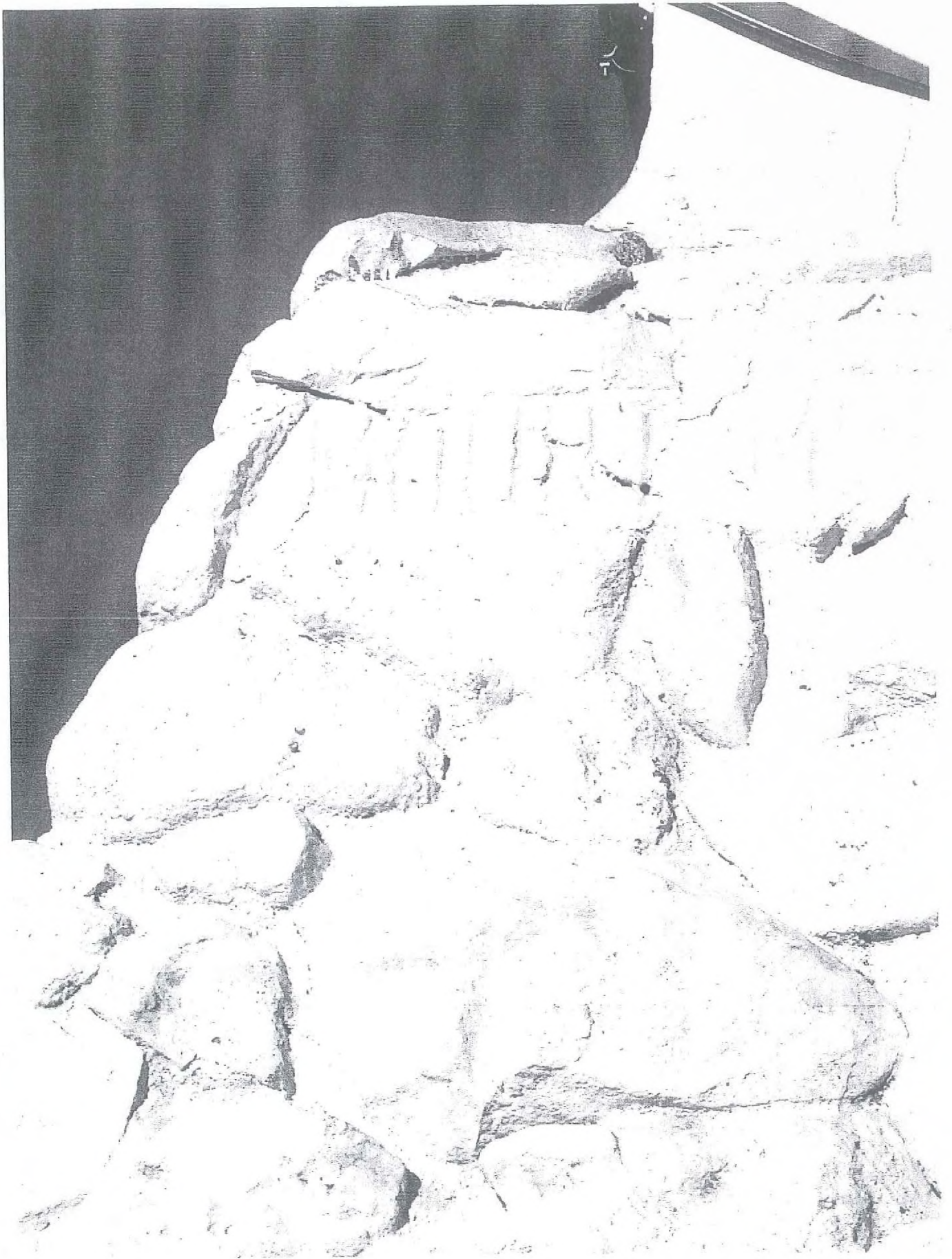
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34.247775N 118.300830W

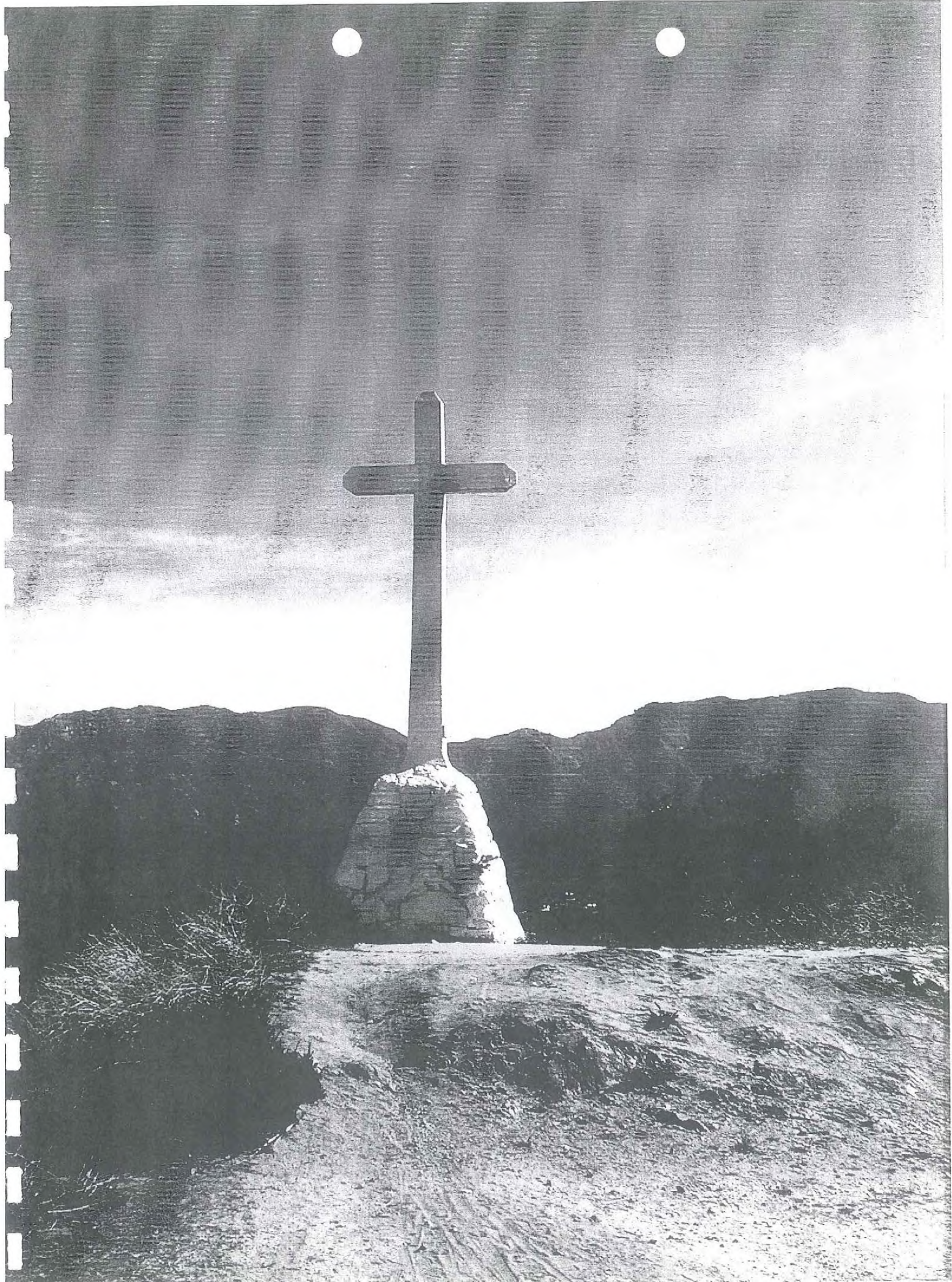


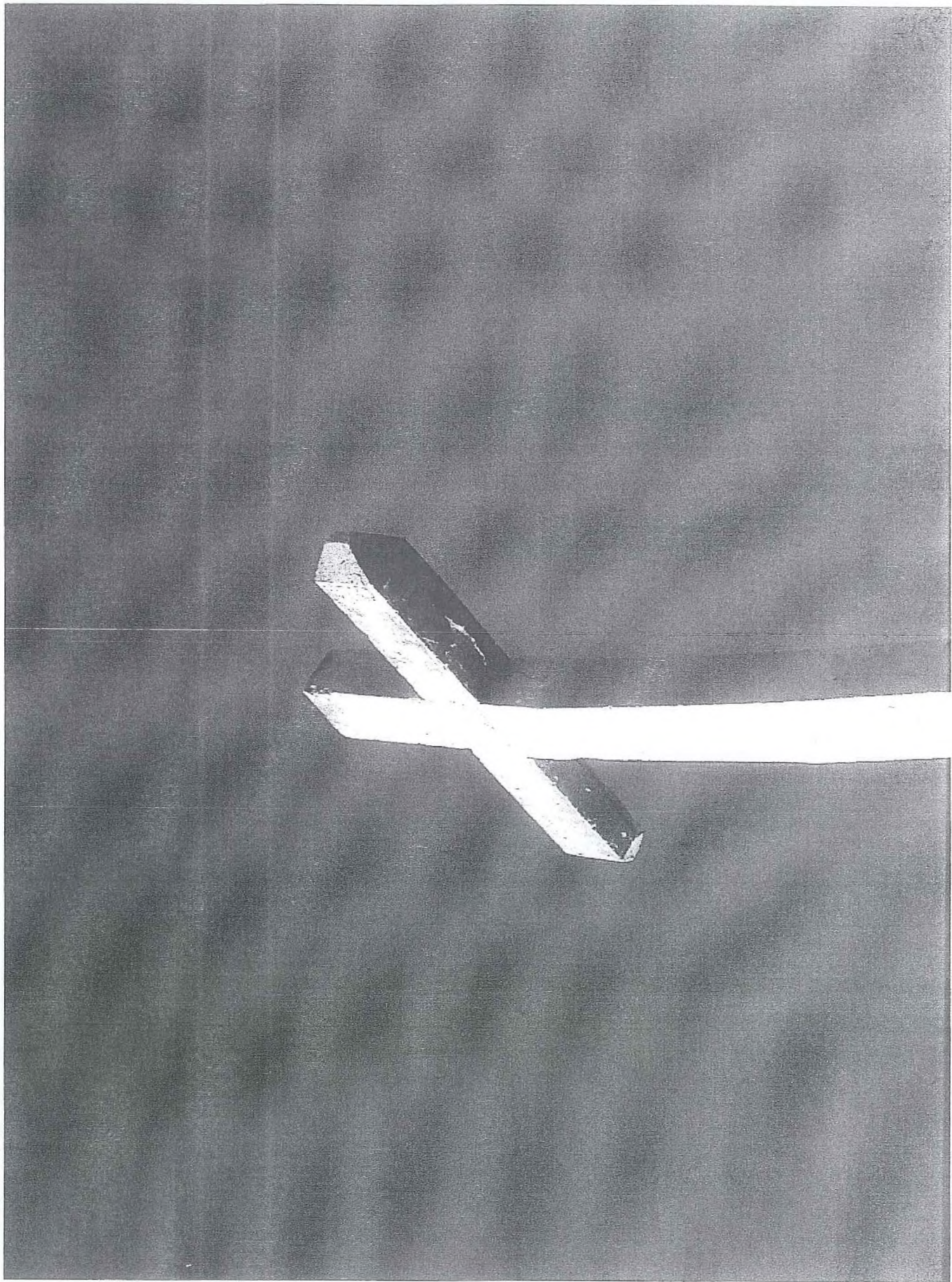




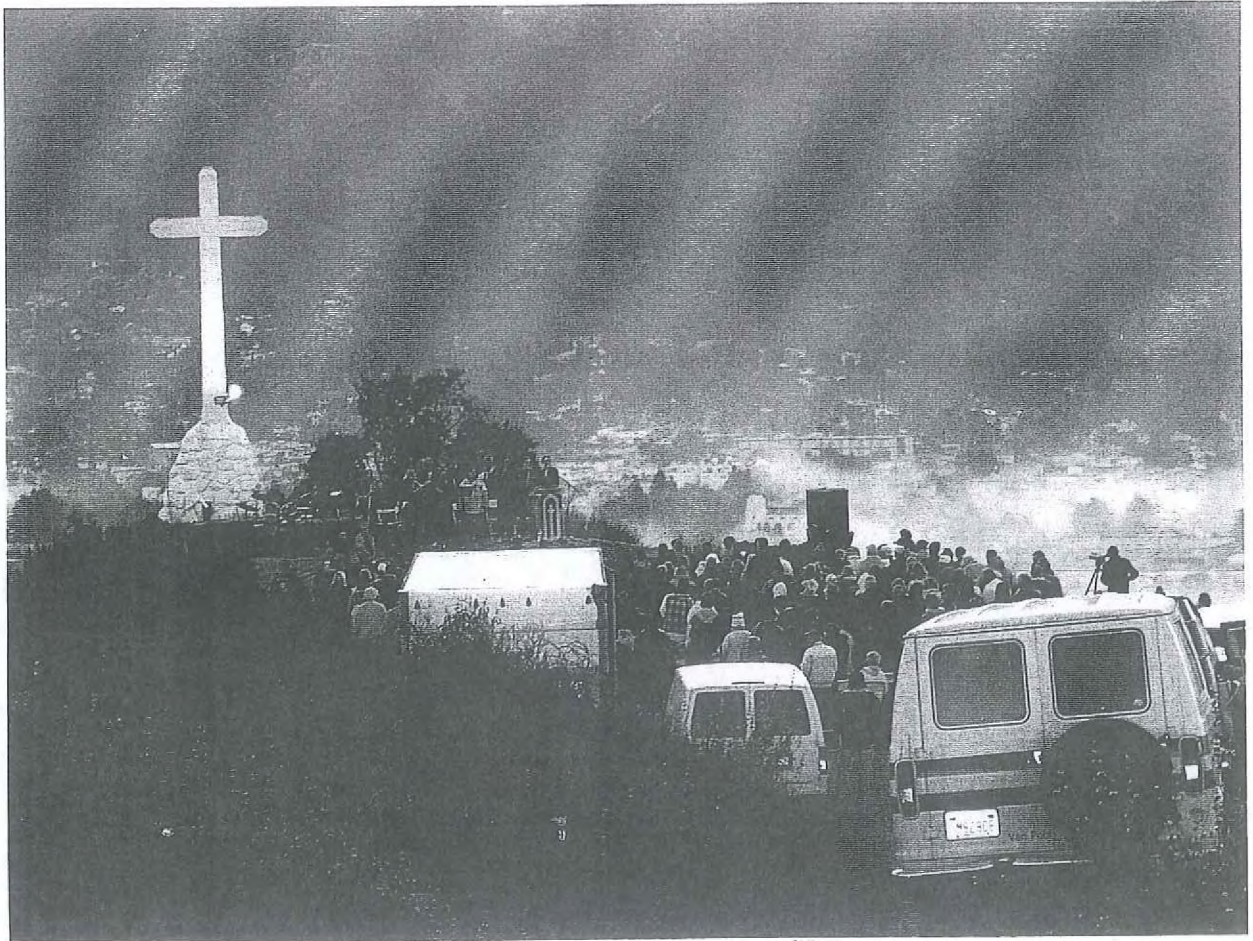
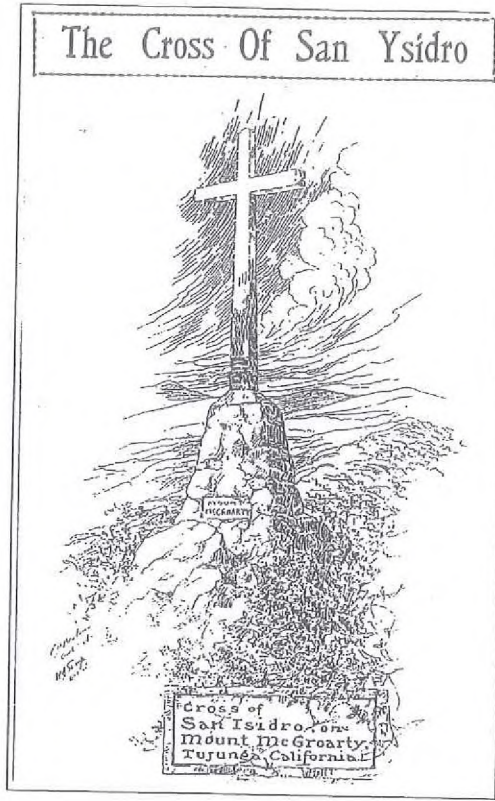




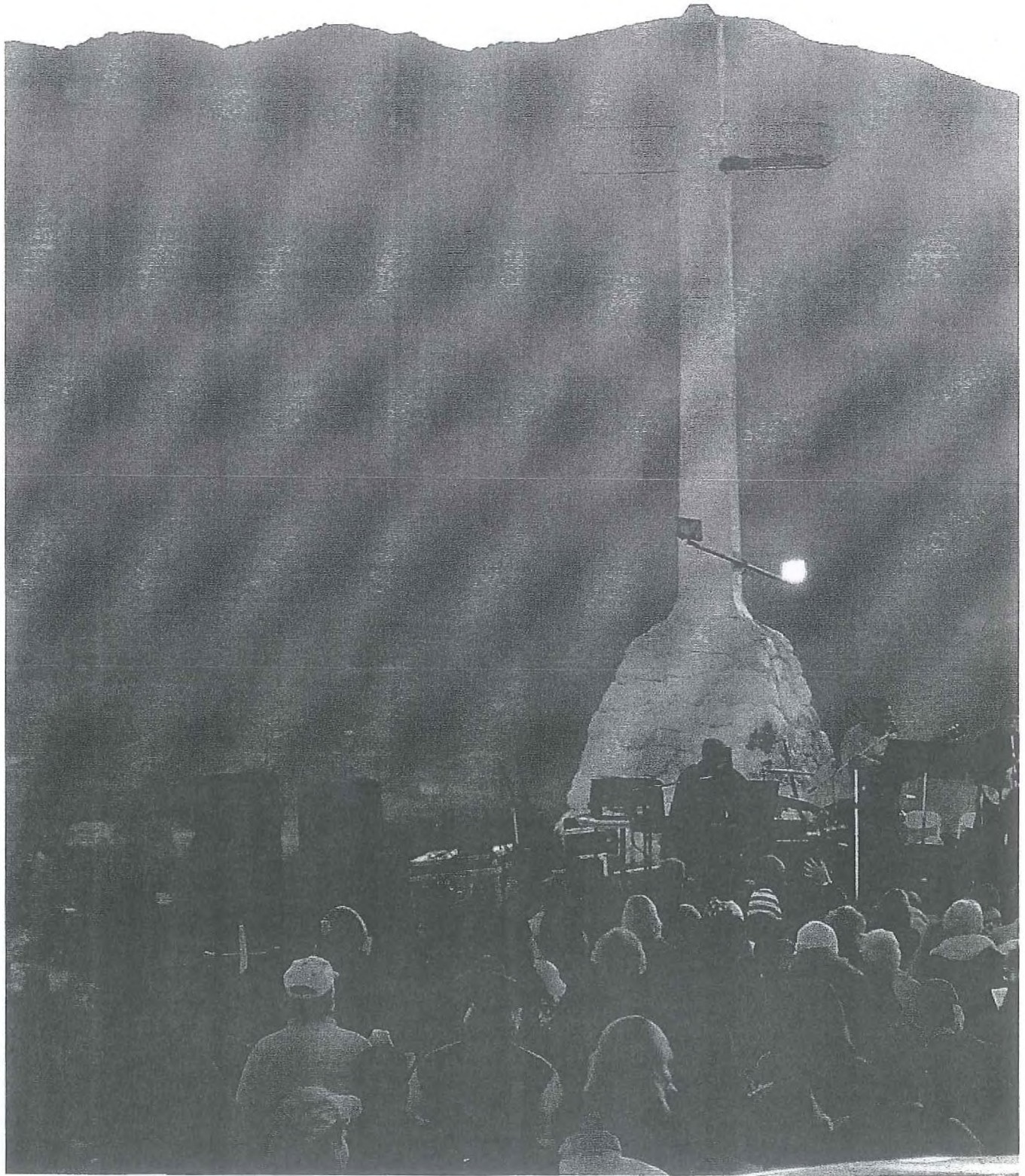


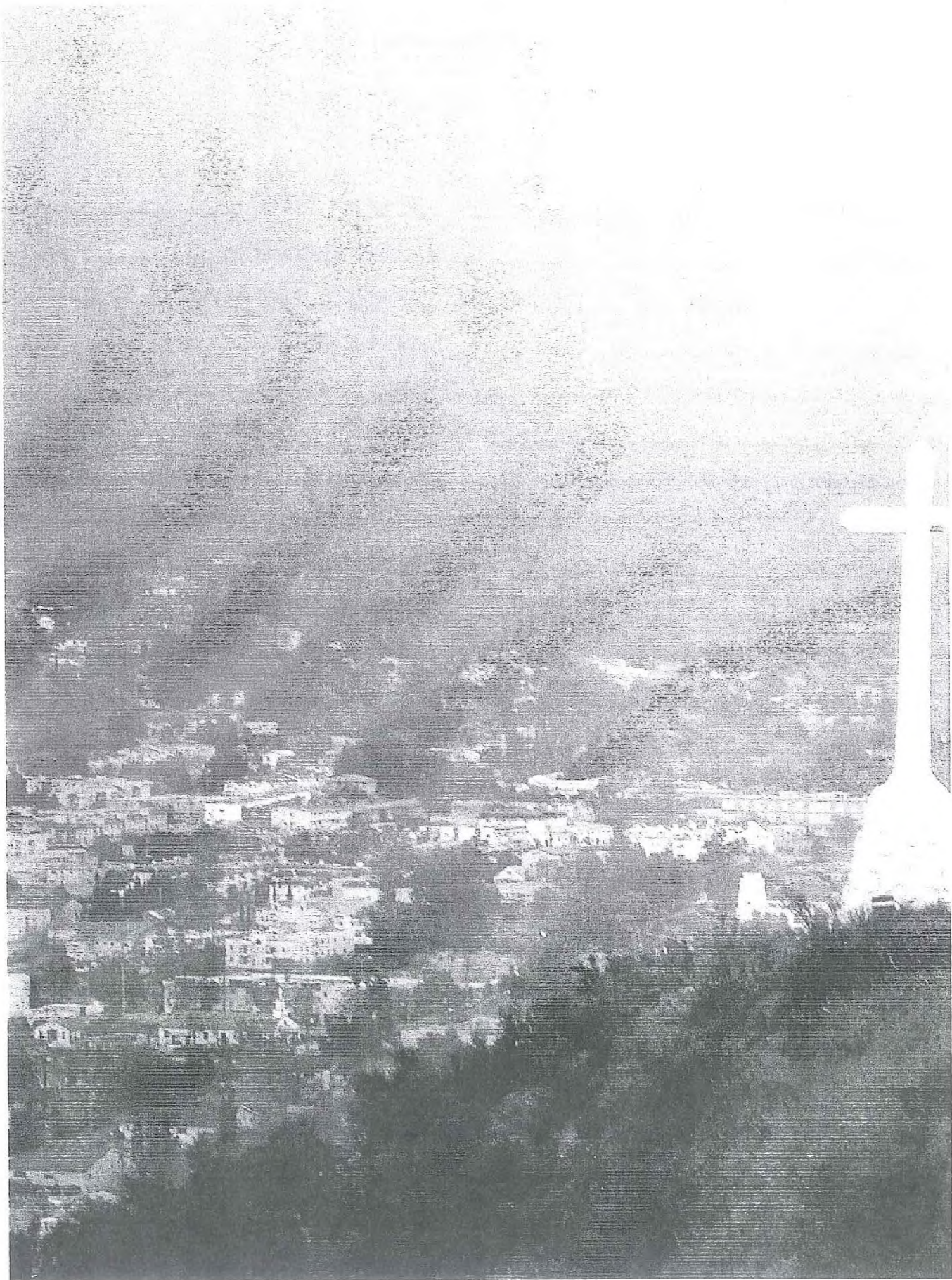


The Cross of San Ysidro



2004 EASTER





**HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT
APPLICATION**

TYPE OR HAND PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS

IDENTIFICATION

1. NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT Cross of San Ysidro
2. STREET ADDRESS 7570 Verdugo Crestline Drive
CITY Tujunga ZIP CODE 91042 COUNCIL DISTRICT 2
3. ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 2563026900
4. COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTION: TRACT Western Empire Tract
BLOCK none LOT(S) PT 229 ARB. NO. 2
5. RANGE OF ADDRESSES ON PROPERTY _____

6. PRESENT OWNER City of Los Angeles
STREET ADDRESS 200 N. Spring St. E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____
CITY Los Angeles STATE CA ZIP CODE 90012 PHONE (____) _____
OWNERSHIP: PRIVATE _____ PUBLIC
7. PRESENT USE monument/park ORIGINAL USE monument/park

DESCRIPTION

8. ARCHITECTURAL STYLE n/a
(SEE STYLE GUIDE)
9. STATE PRESENT PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE OR STRUCTURE (SEE OPTIONAL DESCRIPTION WORK SHEET. 1 PAGE MAXIMUM)
A 30-foot-tall cross of reinforced concrete, poured in one continuous process, thrusts skyward from a pyramidal base of native boulders atop a ten-foot-square platform, also of concrete. Decorating the monument is a bronze plaque engraved with a dedication to San Ysidro, while the platform bears an inscription naming the peak the monument surmounts as Mt. McGroarty. The site includes electrical and lighting equipment for the nighttime illumination of the monument (working condition unknown, as it hasn't been used in decades, no individual or organization having volunteered to shoulder the electrical bill). The one-acre landscape bears only native trees and shrubs.

**HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT
APPLICATION**

NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT _____

Cross of San Ysidro

10. CONSTRUCTION DATE: dedicated April 5 1923 FACTUAL: ESTIMATED:

11. ARCHITECT, DESIGNER, OR ENGINEER Arthur Burnett Benton

12. CONTRACTOR OR OTHER BUILDER George W. Harris and Richard Smith

13. DATES OF ENCLOSED PHOTOGRAPHS various, 1923 - present

(1 8X10 BLACK AND WHITE GLOSSY AND 1 DIGITAL E-MAILED TO CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION@LACITY.ORG)

14. CONDITION: EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR DETERIORATED NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE

15. ALTERATIONS Electrical and lighting equipment, installed in 1924.

16. THREATS TO SITE: NONE KNOWN PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT VANDALISM PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT
 ZONING OTHER vandalism, select civil libertarians (as it is a cross on public land)

17. IS THE STRUCTURE: ON ITS ORIGINAL SITE MOVED UNKNOWN

SIGNIFICANCE

18. BRIEFLY STATE HISTORICAL AND/OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: INCLUDE DATES, EVENTS, AND PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH THE SITE (SEE ALSO SIGNIFICANCE WORK SHEET: 750 WORDS MAXIMUM IF USING ADDITIONAL SHEETS)

Designed by Mission Revival pioneering Arthur Burnett Benton (HCM #s 63, 158, 512, 823, 824, 827);

built by nature builder George Harris (HCM #s 2, 946); planned and coordinated by Poet Laureate, playwright,

congressman and L.A. Times columnist, John Steven McGroarty; on land donated by Tujunga founder

Marshall V. Hartranft; it is the site of Southern California's 2nd oldest continuous Easter sunrise service (although

Hollywood Bowl services began two years earlier, Bowl rehab has relocated the service in many years).

19. SOURCES (LIST BOOKS, DOCUMENTS, SURVEYS, PERSONAL INTERVIEWS WITH DATES) see attached Bibliography

20. DATE FORM PREPARED 07/01/2009 PREPARER'S NAME Kathleen Travers w/Mary Lou Pozzo

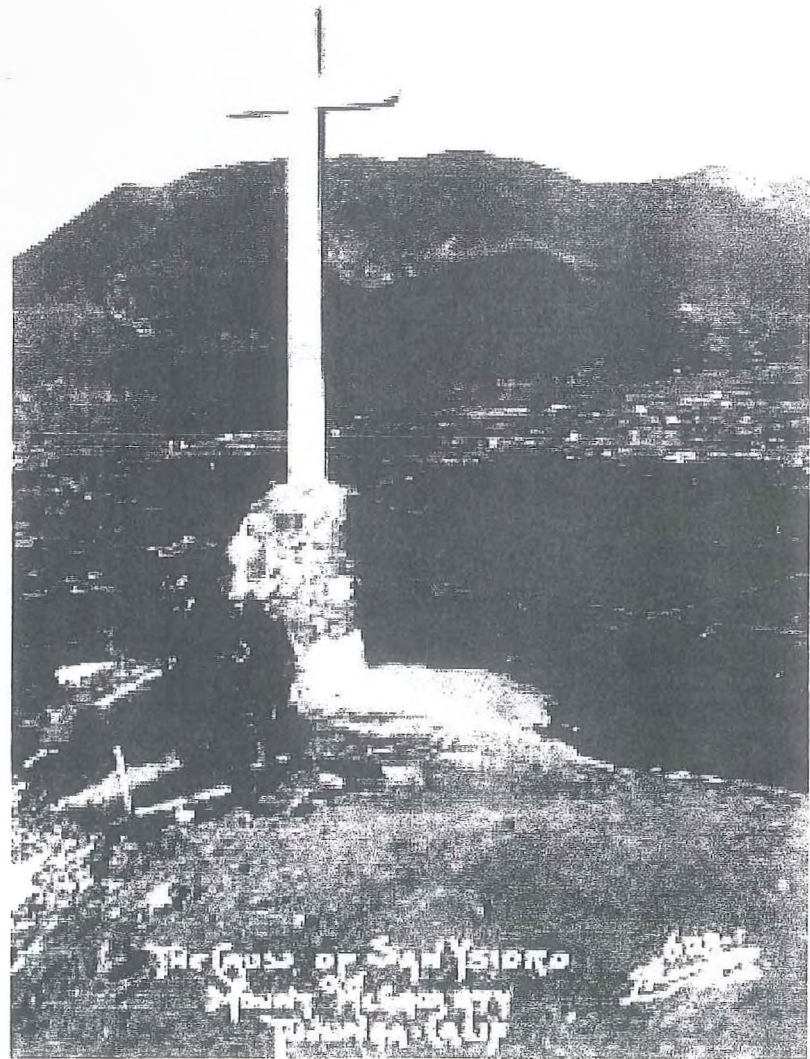
ORGANIZATION Verdugo Hills Preservation Society STREET ADDRESS 8219 Wentworth Street

CITY Sunland STATE CA ZIP CODE 91040 PHONE (818) 353-3099

E-MAIL ADDRESS: arspoetica@earthlink.net

For nearly nine decades, the massive cross, thirty feet of solid concrete, has faced the rugged San Gabriels north and east, gazing from its 2,000 foot vantage atop the Verdugo Hills onto an unobstructed view of the small valley below, at once beacon and guardian. It is a complex cultural icon for the Tujunga Valley, and far from the simple religious symbol a stranger might think.

As with so much in the history of this community - founded on William E. Smythe's belief in cooperative co-existence in which the spirit of self-interest was removed from all undertakings and replaced by principles of brotherly love - the existence of the monument required the contributions of many: proposed and spearheaded by John Steven McGroarty with the Millionaires' Club of Happiness and Contentment, on land donated by Marshall Hartranft, designed by Arthur Burnett Benton, built by George Harris and lit by a committee in the charge of Zoe Gilbert and Rev. Edgar Pasko.





McGroarty as he appeared on arrival in Los Angeles

John Stephen McGroarty (1862 - 1944), Poet Laureate, playwright, congressman and L.A. Times columnist ("From the Green Verdugo Hills"), suffering from debilitating asthma, moved to Tujunga for its healing air. The experience of health for the first time in his life (he had been a sickly child) fostered in him a devotion to the area that shaped the rest of his life and the Tujunga Valley as well. Familiar with the Father Serra Cross on Mt. Rubidoux from his stay at the Mission Inn, where he wrote his famed Mission Play, McGroarty felt that his valley

should have one, with its incumbent Easter sunrise service, only better – bigger, more visible and permanent, unlike the wooden Riverside cross. But he saw a Tujunga cross as much more than emblematic of faith; he saw this cross as an opportunity to celebrate the multi-cultural and religiously plural aspects¹ of Smythe's cooperative life that had survived the demise of the Little Landers' social experiment. In urging the creation of the cross to the Millionaires' Club, and later in speeches at



McGroarty at the height of his fame

¹ Multiculturalism and religious plurality were issues explored by the Landmarks Club in establishing the place of Native Americans beyond the paternalistic view predominant at the time. McGroarty had been ushered into the club by his friend Charles Lummis and had certainly heard such discussed.

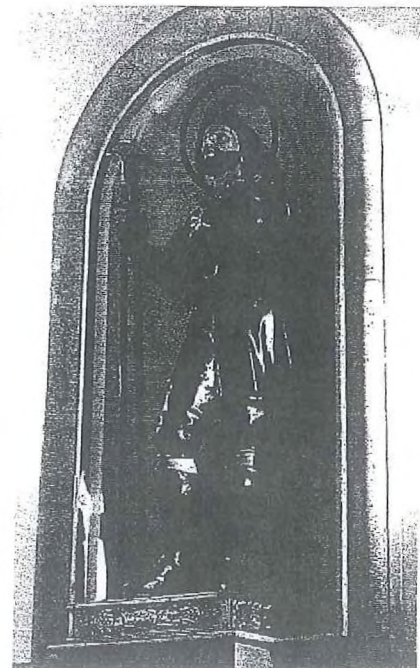
community functions, he wove a fictional interpretation of the life of San Ysidro -- in which the saint ceased his farm labors to help an old woman find her goat, whereupon those labors were taken up by an angel in his absence, etc. -- extolling the virtues of helping ones neighbors (an echo of Smythe's principles):

His only claim to sainthood was the love, gratitude and reverence in which he was held by his neighbors and fellow peasants in the little Spanish community where he lived many years ago. For his continuing kindness and solicitude, his saintliness was acclaimed throughout the whole [region] where he lived and he was given the title of Patron Saint of Little Homes by common consent.

Wallace Morgan, editor of the Record-Ledger for most of its existence, wrote about religious tolerance in Sunland-Tujunga and the Cross' inception:

The unusual feature of this religious cooperation was that San Ysidro, Patron Saint of Little Homes, in whose honor the cross was built and raised, was not a saint of the Catholic Church, according to John McGroarty . . . He was a Spanish peasant, , and his name, McGroarty said, indicates he was probably a Jew. . . Thus the first Sunrise Easter Service in the Green Verdugo Hills was sponsored by an organization of laymen, held around a cross that was raised in honor of a "saint" who probably was a Jew, and blessed by a Catholic priest during ceremonies involving all Protestant organizations in the Valley.

In fact, San Ysidro, Isidore the Laborer, also known as Isidore the Farmer, a Spanish day-laborer (b. near Madrid, about the year 1070; d. May 15, 1130, at the same place), was canonized by Pope Gregory XV in 1622. Patron saint of farmers, rural communities and day-laborers, he is credited with miraculous food multiplications whereby he fed his hungry neighbors and fellow workers, as well as miracles of angels performing his duties in the service of Juan de Vargas (wealthy landowner of a farm in the vicinity of Madrid) while he performed services for



others. Reportedly, his relics cured King Philip III of Spain of a deadly disease. As to McGroarty's claim of San Ysidro's Jewishness: Isidore's name, originally Greek, and mildly popular among aristocratic families of late Roman Europe (such as Isidore of Seville, the great 7th century writer and theologian who authored the first medieval encyclopedia, the standard for centuries), was subsequently little known outside of European Jewry. Madrid and its surroundings, located in the state of Toledo, were a part of Al-Andalus (Islamic



Spain) at the time of Isidore's birth. While Andalusian cities contained Christians as well as Muslims and Jews, a massive conversion of Christians in the 10th century left Christians a very small minority. But the conquering of Madrid in 1085 by Christian king Alfonso VI of Castile, and his re-consecration of the mosque as a church devoted to the Virgin of Almudena (*almudin*, the garrison's granary) began a period of prodigious Christian conversion. Perhaps born a Jew, Isidore would have converted with his employer. Religion was a fluid and

highly political matter in Spain in this period, with cultural institutions sometimes evoking the greater devotion. Islamic rule had impressed upon the region the notion of "people of the book," in which Jews, Christians and Muslims are all united by a common origin and a common scripture (the Old Testament). The multi-cultural, multi-religious world of San Ysidro mirrored the model Tujunga Valley residents sought to advance of themselves.

Marshall Valentine Hartranft (1872 - 1954), the developer/land baron who co-founded Tujunga with socialist-utopian William Smythe, had donated land for Tujunga's public meeting space, Bolton Hall (HCM #2), for its cemetery (HCM #946), and finally for its landmark on the highest point in the Verdugos. He named the peak Mt. McGroarty, declaring it in his dedication address on Easter morning, 1923:



in honor of California's beloved poet-historian and philosopher who became himself a defender and inspirer of little homes and organized the imperishable Club of Millionaires of Contentment and Happiness [sic].

As pastor-padre he has put before the world the cherished ideals of this community in its broad religious tolerance that spans all denominationalism . . .

Arthur Burnett Benton (1858 - 1927), with Charles Lummis and Myron Hunt, had in 1894 founded the Landmarks Club, dedicated to the preservation of the missions. He and Hunt zealously undertook the stabilization of the San Juan, San Fernando, San Diego and San Luis Rey missions. From this work grew the uniquely Californian architectural style of most of Benton's work of which the noted Mission #1971000173, State Register in Tujunga in February 1923 finished new home and the permanent (the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse



Arthur Burnett Benton

zation of the San Juan, San Fernando, San Diego and San Luis Rey missions. From this work grew the uniquely Californian architectural style, Mission Revival, projects from then on, chief among them the Mission Inn (National Register #761). While Benton was finalizing plans for McGroarty's venue for The Mission Play (1927)), he attended the Million-

aire's Club meeting where he volunteered his design services, and urged completion in time for Easter services.



Builder, craftsman and eccentric George Washington Harris (1866-1940) called himself the "highest paid pick and shovel artist in the world;" charter member of McGroarty's celebrated Millionaire's Club of Contentment and Happiness, he walked Tujunga's streets in sandals, sunglasses and shorts cut-off from old work trousers, his gnarled poison oak cane and a copy of the Iliad under his arm, famously ready of wit and temper. He worked as writer-editor for Hartranft's "The Western Empire" magazine, settling in Tujunga by 1909 when he first began his work as nature builder

assembling brush and branches from his land into furniture. He and a crew of six immigrant day laborers (Serbo-Croatian and Mexican) built Bolton Hall (HCM #2) completely by hand in six months in 1913. He specialized in faux bois decorative structures, particularly concrete, and supervised R. J. Smith's one continuous pour, on site, that created the cross, then enveloped its base in one of his inimitable rock piles, designed to appear as if it were nature's work with no apparent mortar.

Zoe Gilbert (1895 - 1995) bought one of the first six lots offered in the Little Lands Colony. Active in the birth and development of the Tujunga, she was known as librarian, shop owner, postal employee, member of the Board of Trade, school trustee and founder of



A rare photo of Zoe Gilbert

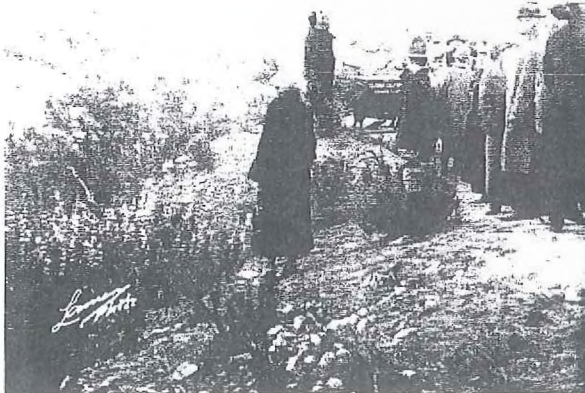
the San Ysidro Club, which raised funds and coordinated the installation of lighting for the Cross (1924) by Southern California Edison at a cost of \$200. Zoe also wrote the town's first history on the settlement's 10th anniversary in 1923, "The Landing of the Pilgrims."

The monument was lit nightly for a year, but the cost proved beyond Ms. Gilbert's fundraising abilities and lighting was cut to the week before and after Christmas and Easter. The expense of this was taken over by the local

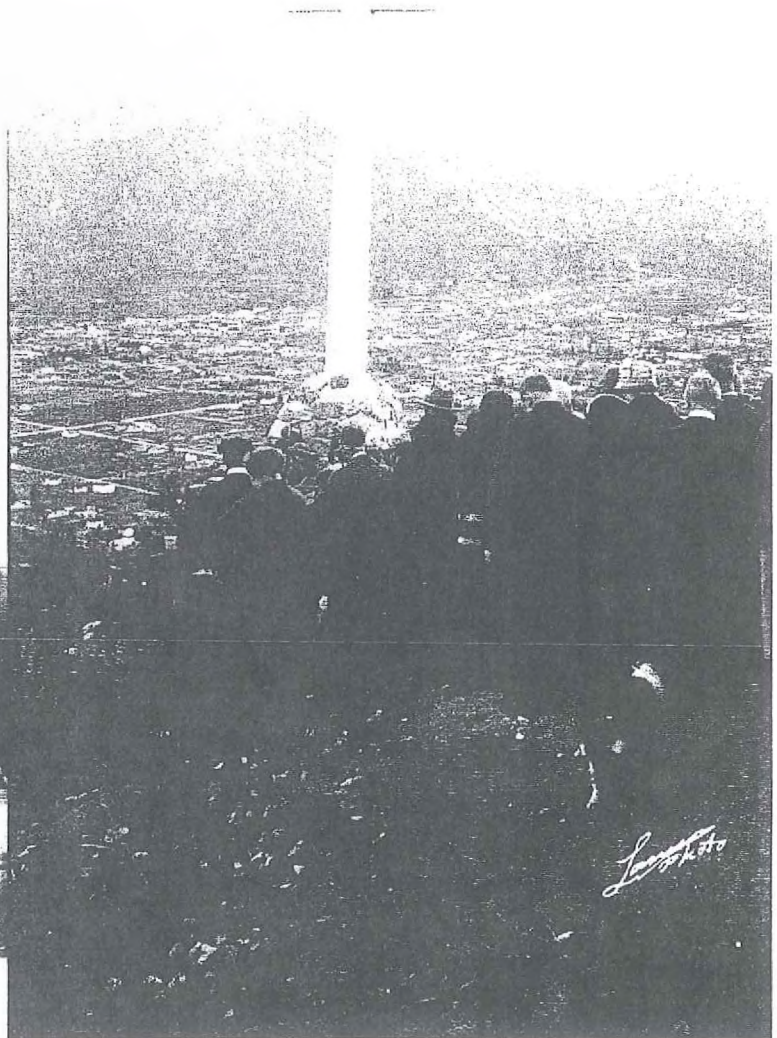
Kiwanis Club until the 1970s, when the Cross went dark, a coat of white paint over base and Cross a poor stand-in for the illumination that had once provided a beacon for the entire valley, and which had made it visible to most of the San Fernando Valley as well.

In 1931, following the death of Edgar Pasko, founder/minister of the Tujunga Community Methodist Church, the land on which the Cross stands was formally ceded to the City by Hartranft and named Pasko Park. Previously a medical doctor, ill health forced Pasko to move his family to Tujunga in 1897, where he was called to the ministry in thanksgiving for the life-saving air of the valley. His daughter Beth became the Tujunga children's librarian.

During the '20s and '30s, the Times and the Examiner regularly reported attendance at the Mt. McGroarty Easter services ranging from 1,000 to 3,000, with the Hollywood Bowl services generally attracting 2-4,000. When the catastrophic Verdugo Hills fire of December 1927 resulted in fire marshals maintaining closure of roads providing access to the Cross



The April 3, 1926 Easter service



through April 4, 1928's Easter Sunday, John McGroarty invited the community to celebrate the sunrise service on his land, just below the Cross. Beginning in 1937, and continuing through the present, Easter services were sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. Headlines in a March, 1953 edition of the Record-Ledger announced that 10,000 were expected at that year's sunrise service.

Certainly, the profoundly religious McGroarty intended the cross as a religious beacon, but its naming suggests so much more. Firstly, the choice of San Ysidro tied the

monument immediately to the community's utopian socialist origins, in that the first Little Lands colony was at San Ysidro; founder Smythe



The cross and the valley, Spring 2009

capitalized on the highly popular romantic history of California – it was the name of the original rancho grant of the site along the Tia Juana River – and appropriately honored the “Plowman Saint” (common appellation of St. Isidore of Madrid). Secondly, Isidore’s life as a farm worker on land not his own invoked the day laborers who built Bolton Hall and who worked the larger orchard farms of Sunland. Thirdly, McGroarty’s declaration of San Ysidro’s origins as a Jew proclaimed religious and multicultural tolerance, and finally, the saint’s proclivity for helping those in need recalled the founding principles of brotherly love in Smythe’s socialist utopia.

For those who persist in seeing the cross as a Christian religious symbol, I offer that it is far more a human symbol:

The cross has been a sacred symbol from the earliest antiquity. It is found upon all the enduring monuments of the world, in Egypt, in Assyria, in Hindostan, in Persia. Buddha was said to have died upon it. The Druids cut an oak into its shape and held it sacred, and built their temples in that form. Pointing to the four quarters of the world, it was the symbol of universal nature. It was on a cruciform tree that Krishna was said to have expired, pierced with arrows. It was revered in Mexico . . . To the ancient Egyptians, the Ankh (a Tau cross with a circle over it) was the hieroglyphic for life, and with a triangle prefixed meant lifegiving.²

The cultural fabric of a society, the monuments it erects, tells us a complex story of that society's desires, expectations and character, if only we preserve and read it. In dedicating



the Cross of San Ysidro, John McGroarty declared "We pray to God to let San Ysidro watch over our little homes and protect them and those who dwell in them." Sunland-Tujunga has remained a community of small houses, of 'little homes,' exhibiting many of the same cultural

characteristics as when the Cross was erected, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, religiously diverse and intensely political. This monument links us in a continuum and ties us to a history, which is indeed lifegiving.

¹ Pike, Albert, Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, 1960, pg. 291.

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City of Los Angeles
Department of City Planning

08/26/2009

PARCEL PROFILE REPORT

PROPERTY ADDRESSES

ZIP CODES

RECENT ACTIVITY

None

CASE NUMBERS

CPC-1990-596-GPC
ORD-169743-SA590

Address/Legal Information

PIN Number: 201B193 202
Lot Area (Calculated): 43,788.0 (sq ft)
Thomas Brothers Grid: PAGE 503 - GRID H5
PAGE 503 - GRID J5
Assessor Parcel No. (APN): 2563026900
Tract: WESTERN EMPIRE TRACT
Map Reference: M B 18-162/163 (SHT 4)
Block: None
Lot: PT 229
Arb (Lot Cut Reference): 2
Map Sheet: 201B193

Jurisdictional Information

Community Plan Area: Sunland - Tujunga - Lake View
Terrace - Shadow Hills - East La
Tuna Canyon
Area Planning Commission: North Valley
Neighborhood Council: Sunland - Tujunga
Council District: CD 2 - Vacant
Census Tract #: 1014.00
LADBS District Office: Van Nuys

Planning and Zoning Information

Special Notes: None
Zoning: OS-1XL
Zoning Information (ZI): None
General Plan Land Use: Open Space
Plan Footnote - Site Req.: See Plan Footnotes
Additional Plan Footnotes: Sunland
Specific Plan Area: San Gabriel/Verdugo Mountains
Design Review Board: No
Historic Preservation Review: No
Historic Preservation Overlay Zone: None
Other Historic Designations: None
Other Historic Survey Information: None
Mills Act Contract: None
POD - Pedestrian Oriented Districts: None
CDO - Community Design Overlay: None
NSO - Neighborhood Stabilization Overlay: No
Streetscape: No
Sign District: No
Adaptive Reuse Incentive Area: None
CRA - Community Redevelopment Agency: None
Central City Parking: No
Downtown Parking: No
Building Line: None
500 Ft School Zone: No
500 Ft Park Zone: Active: McGroarty Cultural Center
Park

Assessor Information

Assessor Parcel No. (APN): 2563026900
Ownership (Assessor) : L A CITY PARK
0
0
Ownership (City Clerk): CITY OF L.A., DEPT OF REC &
PARKS
200 N MAIN ST #1290CHE
LOS ANGELES CA 90012
APN Area (Co. Public Works)*: 1.010 (ac)

Use Code:	8800 - Government Owned
Assessed Land Val.:	\$4,605
Assessed Improvement Val.:	\$0
Last Owner Change:	02/45/67
Last Sale Amount:	\$0
Tax Rate Area:	13
Deed Ref No. (City Clerk):	None
Building 1:	
1. Year Built:	Not Available
1. Building Class:	Not Available
1. Number of Units:	0
1. Number of Bedrooms:	0
1. Number of Bathrooms:	0
1. Building Square Footage:	0.0 (sq ft)
Building 2:	
2. Year Built:	Not Available
2. Building Class:	Not Available
2. Number of Units:	0
2. Number of Bedrooms:	0
2. Number of Bathrooms:	0
2. Building Square Footage:	0.0 (sq ft)
Building 3:	
3. Year Built:	Not Available
3. Building Class:	Not Available
3. Number of Units:	0
3. Number of Bedrooms:	0
3. Number of Bathrooms:	0
3. Building Square Footage:	0.0 (sq ft)
Building 4:	
4. Year Built:	Not Available
4. Building Class:	Not Available
4. Number of Units:	0
4. Number of Bedrooms:	0
4. Number of Bathrooms:	0
4. Building Square Footage:	None
Building 5:	
5. Year Built:	Not Available
5. Building Class:	Not Available
5. Number of Units:	0
5. Number of Bedrooms:	0
5. Number of Bathrooms:	0
5. Building Square Footage:	0.0 (sq ft)

Additional Information

Airport Hazard:	None
Coastal Zone:	None
Farmland:	Area not Mapped
Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone:	Yes
Fire District No. 1:	No
Fire District No. 2:	No
Flood Zone:	None
Hazardous Waste / Border Zone Properties:	No
Methane Hazard Site:	None
High Wind Velocity Areas:	YES
Hillside Grading:	Yes
Oil Wells:	None
Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone:	No
Distance to Nearest Fault:	Within Fault Zone
Landslide:	Yes
Liquefaction:	No

Economic Development Areas

Business Improvement District:	None
Federal Empowerment Zone:	None
Renewal Community:	No
Revitalization Zone:	None
State Enterprise Zone:	None
Targeted Neighborhood Initiative:	None

Public Safety

Police Information:

Bureau:	Valley
Division / Station:	Foothill
Report District:	1694

Fire Information:

District / Fire Station:	74
Battalion:	12
Division:	3
Red Flag Restricted Parking:	No

CASE SUMMARIES

Note: Information for Case Summaries is Retrieved from the Planning Department's Plan Case Tracking System (PCTS) Database.

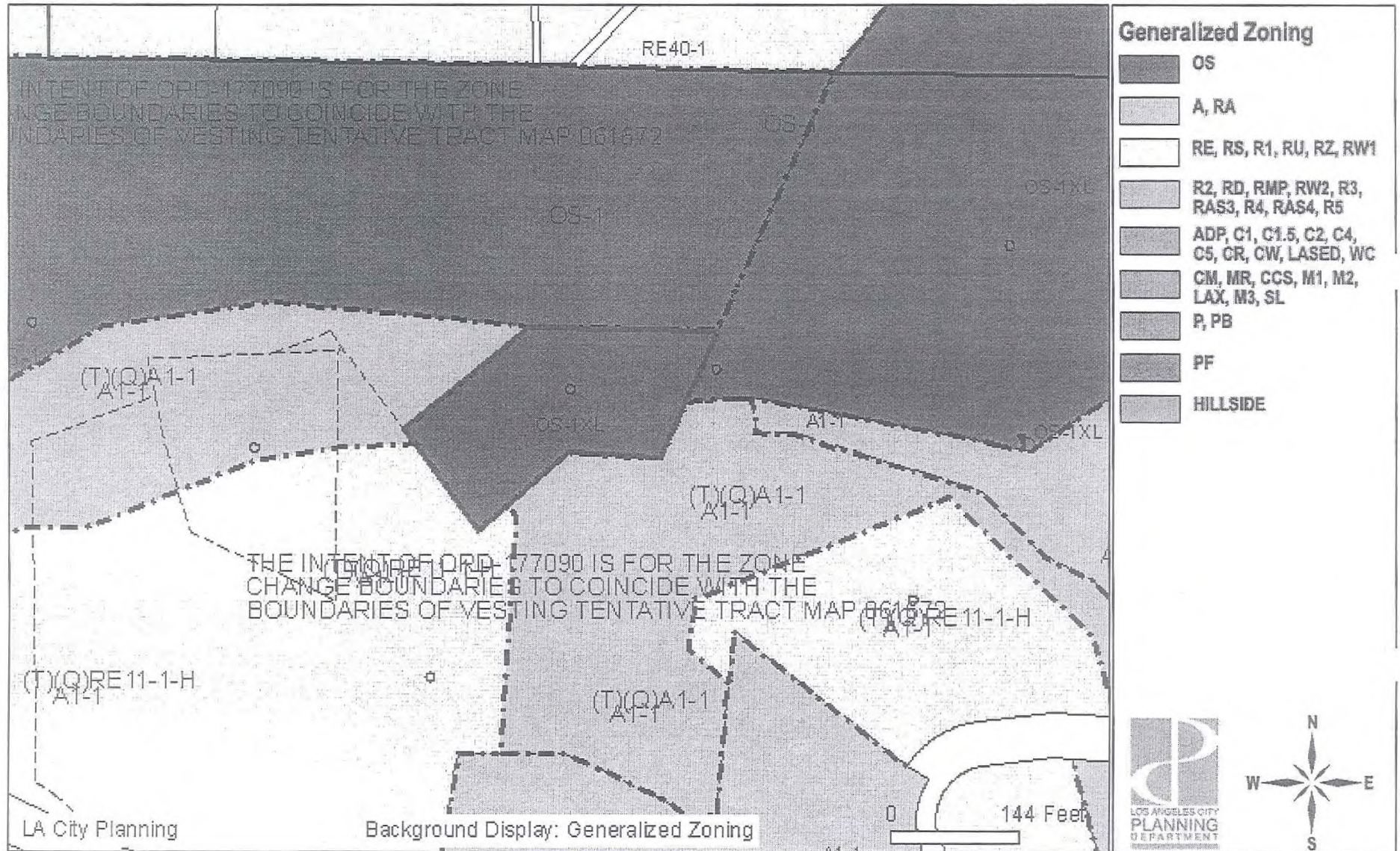
Case Number: CPC-1990-596-GPC

Required Action(s): GPC-GENERAL PLAN/ZONING CONSISTENCY (AB283)

Project Description(s): AB283 PROG PROP PLAN AMEND, ZC & HD CHANGES THROUGHOUT THE CITY IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE NEWLY CREATED OPEN SPACE (OS)

DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ORD-169743-SA590



Address: No Address
 APN: 2563026900
 PIN #: 201B193 202

Tract: WESTERN EMPIRE TRACT
 Block: None
 Lot: PT 229
 Arb: 2

Zoning: OS-1XL
 General Plan: Open Space