

Attachment E

About the Tongva People

Excerpt from Wikipedia

Tongva People

Tongva people, also referred to as the Gabrieleño (also Gabrielino, or San Gabriel Band) or the Fernandeno (also Fernandino), are a historic Native American people who have inhabited an area in present-day Los Angeles in Southern California, centered on the San Gabriel Mountains area. Their Tongva language was a member of the Takic group within the Uto-Aztecan linguistic phylum. It was extinct during the early 20th century.

The name Gabrieleño is in reference to the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel set up by the Spanish colonists in 1771. Similarly, the Spanish referred to both the Tongva in the San Fernando Valley and the nearby Tataviam people, who spoke a different language, as Fernandeno, after the Mission San Fernando Rey de España. The name Tongva was first recorded as a self-designation of the inhabitants of the vicinity of Mission San Gabriel at the beginning of the 20th century. There is no known self-designation from times predating the 20th century.

While Gabrieleño (also Gabrielino) remains in use, the name Tongva has become increasingly preferred as a self-designation since the 1990s. Since 2006, there have been three organizations claiming to represent the Tongva: The Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe (gabrielinotribe.org), also known as the "hyphen" group, the Gabrieliño/Tongva Nation Tribal Council (tongvatribenet.net), also known as the "slash" group, and the Gabrieleño/Tongva Tribal Council of San Gabriel (tongva.com). The three groups are the result of a hostile split over the question of building a casino. The Gabrieleno/Tongva Tribal Council of San Gabriel on their website give a translation of Tongva as "people of the earth".

History of Santa Monica

Pre-history - Santa Monica was long inhabited by the Tongva people. Santa Monica was called Kecheek in the Tongva language.

1760s - The first Caucasian group to set foot in the area was the party of explorer Gaspar de Portolà, who camped near present day Wilshire Boulevard on August 3, 1769. There are two different versions of the naming of the city. One says that it was named in honor of the feast day of Saint Monica (mother of Saint Augustine), while the other says that it was named by Father Juan Crespí on account of a dripping spring, the Serra Springs, that was reminiscent of the tears that Saint Monica shed over her son's early impiety.

Regarding the latter, one of the padres noted in his diary that the group found a Tongva spring (where University High School is today). They re-named it "Spring of Saint Monica" to recall the tears that St. Monica shed for her reckless son, Augustine. This spring remains holy to the Natives Americans in the area.

As recorded in his diary, Crespí actually named the place *San Gregorio*. What is known for certain is that by the 1820s, the name *Santa Monica* was in use and its first official mention occurred in 1827 in the form of a grazing permit.

Map from the Gabrielino/Tongva Tribe of the Los Angeles Basin

