

EXHIBIT D

Arts & Leisure > Travel
from the March 27, 2002 edition



WATER MARK: River-canoeing draws both solitary types and groups. Here, conservationist Dennis Schure paddles a navigable section of the Los Angeles River, which runs through Balboa Park in the San Fernando Valley
ROBERT HARBISON - STAFF

Want a slower way to travel? Learn to canoe

A canoeing adventure is peaceful and picturesque. It's also easy – even for novices. Here's how to plan a canoe trip.

By Bob King | *Special to The Christian Science Monitor*

They say the best things in life are free. But are they? How about skiing Vail? Not free. Vacationing in Hawaii? Not free. But river canoeing? Confounding the cynics, river canoeing is free. Well, maybe not completely free – unless you own a canoe. But it is very inexpensive.

How inexpensive? Canoe rental and shuttle service prices range from \$15 a day to a high of \$70 per day in certain areas such as the redwood forests near San Francisco. In many places you can find prices of \$30 a day or less. With two people sharing a canoe, the typical cost per person is just \$15. That's a vacation bargain.

CONSERVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

When you stand on the shore of a North American canoeing river today and look out over the riverscape, the view may be just as it was 30 years ago, 80 years ago, perhaps even 300 years ago. These are the rivers that were once traveled by Indians, explorers, fur traders, and missionaries. They are windows into history.

In the US, many of these rivers are designated Wild and Scenic Rivers, thanks to legislation passed by Congress in 1968. This designation preserves the rivers' free-flowing, natural character (meaning they can't be dammed or diverted).

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, administered by the National Park Service, now includes more than 150 segments in 39 states, totaling more than 11,000 river miles.

Hundreds of additional canoeing rivers throughout the country are protected because they flow through state or national parks, forests, or wildlife refuges. Still other rivers are protected by conservation groups.

But there's more good news for beginning canoers. While environmentalists have been busy conserving rivers, engineers have been busy building better canoes. Hulls are more stable and streamlined. Contoured seats are more comfortable. Multilayered, high-tech plastic – the construction material of choice for recreational river canoes – is extremely strong, yet soft enough to flex when colliding with rocks and river bottoms. It also provides better control and a quieter ride.

If you haven't been canoeing in a long time, you're going to be pleasantly

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Kern Leonard and Christopher Greenslate blogged and helped raise money for charity The San Diego Union Tribune/ZUMA

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surprised.

Today, from the pine forests of Maine to the cypress bayous of Louisiana, from the north woods of Wisconsin to the redwoods of California, perfect canoe trips await adventurers.

PLANNING THE PERFECT DAY TRIP

Begin by contacting the National Park Service (www.nps.gov/rivers/wildriverslist.html) or your state Department of Natural Resources. These agencies provide informational brochures and maps showing canoe launches, campsites, white-water rapids, visitors' centers, and other points of interest.

Canoe-route maps give distances in "river miles." Often, average "river speed" is also given, allowing you to calculate travel time between locations.

When choosing a river, be sure to consider the difficulty ratings of any white-water rapids. Rapids rated Class I are easiest to negotiate. These are OK for beginners. Rapids rated Class II are best attempted when at least one person in the canoe has some experience. Rapids rated Class III should probably be left to those with advanced skills.

Here are a few more things to keep in mind: Are motorboats prohibited on the river? Do outfitters rent inner tubes? (Noisy troops of teens can spoil the serenity that attracted you to canoeing.) What are the river's width and direction of flow? Knowing these can help you avoid paddling into the wind.

Select your canoe outfitter carefully. A good outfitter will know about river and weather conditions, canoeing techniques, and river safety. Look for an outfitter who offers multilayered plastic canoes. Don't settle for aluminum canoes; they're noisy, clumsy, and tip over easily. What's more, in hot weather they can be hot to the touch, and in cold weather they conduct the river's chill.

Because river speed and level (and white-water ratings) can be affected by recent rainfall, check with an outfitter for up-to-the-minute conditions. The US Geological Survey maintains a regularly updated website with stream flow and river-level data at <http://water.usgs.gov/waterwatch>.

Once you're out on the water, you'll find that river canoeing is the quickest, most direct way into the heart of wilderness.

TIPPY CANOE? NOT YOU

What does a beginner need to know before he or she goes canoeing? First, choose the correct size canoe and then follow some basic rules.

At the canoe outfitter's, you may have a choice of canoe lengths. A longer canoe is usually a heavier, more stable canoe. Big and tall people will appreciate a 17-footer since it is less likely to roll over, even when two paddlers lean the same way at once. Small people may prefer a 15-foot canoe, because the lighter weight means it requires less paddling power, and keeping pace with other canoes in the group will be easier.

PADDLING BASICS

- The person in the stern (back) steers by using the paddle as a rudder – use your rudder on the left to turn left, or on the right to turn right.

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- The person in the bow (front) watches for submerged rocks and helps with the paddling.
- There are many paddling strokes, but the most useful are the forward stroke and the backstroke. As you might guess from the name, the forward stroke propels the canoe ahead. The backstroke is like a brake, slowing or stopping the forward motion of the canoe. Use the backstroke when landing a canoe on the shore. A third stroke – called the "draw" – pushes water under the canoe from the side, as if sweeping dirt under a rug. It moves the canoe sideways.
- Keep an upright posture: "nose over tailbone."
- Both elbows should be slightly bent.
- Use light forward strokes. As when driving on an icy road, too much power is inefficient.
- The principle of river-canoeing is "go with the flow." Keep your canoe parallel to the current and try not to let it get broadside to the current. Watch for trees that have fallen into the river, and use rudder steering (and backstrokes, if needed) to avoid them.

SAFETY RULES

- Don't stand up in the canoe. To get into or out of a canoe, bend your knees and steady yourself on the canoe's gunwales (sides) or thwarts (crossbars).
- Plan your trip so you will easily reach your destination before sunset.
- Take an extra paddle.
- Use your canoe-route map and stay oriented.
- In fast or deep water, wear a life vest.
- If you capsize in fast water, stay on the upstream side of your canoe.

HANDY TO KNOW

Five-day ice chests, which have thick insulation and refrigerator-style lid gaskets, are a great convenience when canoeing. To increase their usefulness, fill a half-gallon plastic milk jug nearly full of water, freeze it overnight, and place it in your cooler. That will take care of your refrigeration needs for a day of canoeing and even overnight camping.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

- [American Canoe Association](#)
- [Paddling About.com](#)
- [Paddling.com](#)

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Title Canoeing down the Los Angeles River

Date [s.d]

Physical Details 1 photograph : col

Collection SPNB

Description Three canoes glide down the Los Angeles River.

Subjects Los Angeles River (Calif.)

Rivers California Los Angeles.

Canoes and canoeing.

Location United States California Los Angeles Los Angeles.

L.A. River.

Order Number 00008078

File Number A-004-908 4x5

File Heading L.A.-Rivers-L.A. River.

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Click for <http://jpg1.lapl.org/pics17/00008084.jpg>
Image

Title Man canoeing on the Los Angeles River

Date [1996?]

Physical 1 photograph : b&w

Details

Collection SPNB

Description A man canoes down the Los Angeles River. Graffiti on the ground reads June 12, 1996.

Subjects Los Angeles River (Calif.)

Rivers California Los Angeles.

Canoes and canoeing.

Location United States California Los Angeles Los Angeles.
L.A. River.

Order 00008084

Number

File Number A-004-907 4x5

File Heading L.A.-Rivers-L.A. River.

Format Photograph

▶ Next

Enter terms: canoeing

Choose search type: Keyword

Tatiana Gaur

From: George Wolfe [editor@latimes.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 9:18 AM
To: Tatiana Gaur
Subject: river put-in locations > Dr. Tipton's boating testimony

Tatiana,

Beyond the first YouTube link below, I couldn't get the other map links to reveal much. In short, this is what Dr. Tipton was trying to show:

1. we boated/shot footage at Balboa Lake, in a river tributary
2. we boated/shot footage where the river crosses with Balboa Blvd. (Van Nuys? neighborhood)
3. we boated/shot footage at the confluence of the Arroyo Seco river and the LA River
4. we boated/shot footage at the mouth of the river in Long Beach

Hope that clarifies this email below.

George

P.S. I presume you got my scanned letter, yes?

Begin forwarded message:

From: jeffreytipton@aol.com
Date: May 12, 2008 3:42:00 PM PDT
To: editor@latimes.com
Subject: Re: send your river testimony today please

To whom it may concern:

I am very interested in preserving the L.A. River as a natural water recreation resource for Los Angeles and support its development as a much needed greenbelt. I have spent much time around and in the river and made a short funny film (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ro_HhM_3l) that highlights the potential of the river.

In the film we got in the river in the following locations:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=wl>

<http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=wl>

<http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=wl>

<http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=wl>

The L.A. River is loaded with flora and fauna and there are many spots (Atwater, Sepulveda) that are naturals for kayaking. There is always some water flowing in the river and certainly there are times when there is a significant amount of water flowing.

Best,

Dr. Jeffrey Tipton

May 12, 2008

To Santa Monica Baykeeper,

I am writing this note to express my excitement last Feb (2007) when myself and a few friends, canoed down the Los Angeles River. We 'put in' at Balboa Park and went to the Los Feliz area. It was a beautiful and interesting trip. It took us about 6 hours. We saw many bird species and an occasional fish. The first 2 miles had a natural wonder that truly surprised us all. This trip was a particular grand event for me as I went to Birmingham High School, only blocks from our 'put in'.

I am a physician and have been an environmental activist and speaker for over 25 years. I am the Founder and Artistic Director of the Electric Lodge, in Venice, California, one of the first solar powered Visual and Performing Arts Centers in the country. We have both a strong arts and environmental mission to the Lodge. On the environmental side is our annual Green Screen Environmental Film Salon and our Green Piece performance, as well as our new certifying process for other venues, Arts:Earth Partnership. In fact, we are now working with our City of Los Angeles to help all 28 of the arts facilities to "go green".

The LA River is an important natural element to the urban experience. To see us, as a civilization, cultivate its value, to encourage the refilling of our watertables, via the River water and to help blossom the beauty for all of us to enjoy for generations to come... this is a dream many of us living in the City hope for.

Thank-you for your attention.

Joel Shapiro, M.D.
joel@electriclodge.org

George R. Wolfe



700 Angelus Place, C, Venice, CA 90291

(310) 804-0354

editor@latimes.com

May 12, 2008

Santa Monica Baykeeper
Attn: Tatiana Gaur, Staff Attorney
3100 Washington Blvd.
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Dear Ms. Gaur,

With regard to the US Army Corps of Engineers' determination, and on behalf of LA River boaters of all kinds, I'd like to weigh in on their "findings."

I've come to enjoy boating on the LA River. No, it's not a "traditional" river, but that's only because of how it has been altered and neglected over the years — most notably by the Corps itself.

The main portion of my boating on the LA River has been over the last two years, during which time I figure I've boated on it an average of once per month. I live on the Westside, so it's not always easy to zip across town; if I lived closer, I'm sure I'd use it much more frequently. Primarily but not exclusively, I've enjoyed the soft-bottom stretches for the rapids, the exotic birdlife, the abundance of fish and other unexpected creatures, and the tranquil settings: the 2-3 miles of the Sepulveda Basin as well as the 8 or so miles of the Glendale Narrows. I only go on the river when the weather permits.

A year ago, I tried to mount a trip down the full length of the river. I was advised by FoLAR and others familiar with the river that I needed a permit to be on the river or it might be considered illegal and I could be subject to a fine. LA County and the LA Film Commission seemed open to the trip, but the project came to a halt due to the Army Corps., which demanded at least \$1,000 (I don't recall the exact amount) for a permit and to pay for their personnel who would have to manage us down the river (which I never requested nor wanted). The bureaucracies and the costs proved too formidable. Four of us decided to go anyway, and got down nearly halfway down the river before being swarmed by a helicopter and forced by the police to hoist our canoe vertically out of the river, over a barbed wire fence, and then to find our own way back to our cars. Coming from knee-deep water, the act of pulling the canoe out of the water in this drastic manner was easily the most dangerous obstacle we encountered that day.

With this and other river experiences in mind, I strongly feel that the Army Corps makes it impossible for the LA River to ever be a navigable river because they preemptively

don't allow legal and unfettered access to it, leaving boaters in a gray area, and as a result the river remains largely unused. In and of itself, even after all that the Corps has done to the river, as a boater with some 30+ years of boating I can honestly say that it's a perfectly navigable river. The only reason why it's not traditionally navigable is because the Corps has created the unnatural tradition of prohibiting city residents to use their own river.

I know of few other bodies of water where a permitting process must occur prior to use (camping, sure, but not the river itself). To boaters, this is a curious notion, and strikes us as counter to what we assume are inalienable rights to nature. Boaters should always use caution, but we take our own risks on a river just as joggers take their own risks while jogging on a city street, or drivers take their own risks while driving down a county freeway, or hikers take their own risks while trekking through a state park. The concept of anyone "owning" a river like the Army Corps claims seems highly odd vis-à-vis our fundamental rights to rivers throughout this country (and the world).

It's my sincere hope that the Corps will maintain its duty to protect the city from extreme flooding but will also work with the rest of us to improve this great asset of our fair city instead of getting in its way.

Regards,



George Wolfe
Venice, CA



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Venice, CA 90291
310-396-1548
jjprice@ucla.edu

May 13, 2008

Tatiana Gaur
Santa Monica Baykeeper
3100 Washington Blvd.
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Dear Ms. Gaur:

In response to your questions about tours to the L.A. River, I have been leading tours regularly since 2001—in which we talk about the centrality of the river to L.A.'s past, present, and future. Until two years ago, I led public sign-up tours independently about twice a year, and served as guide for an increasing number of tours for organized groups who requested them—including the Huntington Library, Autry Museum, Skirball Cultural Center, college classes, and college alumni groups.

Since 2006, I have led public tours for Friends of the Los Angeles River 6-8 times a year, and have continued to lead tours for other groups who request them as well. I currently lead about two tours per month. The average group size has been about 30 people. Since 2001, I have led perhaps 2500 people to the river's banks.

Most of the participants have come from the greater Los Angeles area. I have also had people from northern California come on the public tours; from a range of other states, from Washington, Utah, and Texas to Wisconsin, Illinois, and New York; and from other countries including Canada, Germany, England, Austria, and China. I have led tours as well for out-of-towners who have requested them—who have been visiting L.A. from St. Louis and London, among other places.

I have received regular queries from tour participants about how to kayak on the river—generally from regular kayakers who would like to navigate the river in their own city. I have also heard from numerous participants that they would like to, or were already planning to, raft on the river.

I do not know how many people have followed up. Several people, however, have reported back to me that they in fact went kayaking on the river—always with enthusiasm!—and that they were planning further trips.

They invariably have also reported back on the wildlife they were surprised and gratified to see—birds in the rushes (generally the soft-bottom stretches), fish circling the kayaks, black-necked-stilt nests even on the detritus in the concrete channel.

Please just let me know if you have any other questions. As an environmental writer and historian, I have talked to a great number of Angelenos who have always done what we expect people to do with a river—walk, fish, wade, watch wildlife, boat. As a guide, I have seen countless people become enthusiastic about doing all these things in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Jenny Price

Writer, Environmental Historian

Tatiana Gaur

From: Jessica Hall [jishica@mac.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2008 11:51 PM
To: Tatiana Gaur
Subject: last bit
Attachments: Excerpts from Reagan 1914.doc

Don't know how helpful this will actually be, but it is interesting!

Excerpts from:

Early Floods in Los Angeles County
Notes by
James P. Reagan
County Flood Control Engineer
(1914)

Photocopy from Reference, Azusa Public Library

Italics are my comments, the rest is directly re-typed from the document. These are oral histories taken by Reagan or his colleagues, in which he recounts what he was told by specific people. I am not relating all the histories which describe how devastating – and non-navigable- the waters are further upstream in rainy season. They are numerous but not what you are looking for. But I would caution that the argument for historical navigability should be limited to this lower LA River area where the water spread wide and flowed very slowly. Upstream navigability seems to have more to do with contemporary recreationists in kayaks, canoes, and rafts. I don't have any info on historical thrill-seekers.

Descriptions of lower LA River

I don't necessarily agree with all the analyses presented, but it describes what the lower river area looked like, and establishes the connectivity between the "river" or stormflows and the adjacent terrain – or broad floodplain, to support the need/likelihood of boating when those quotes come up later:

Col. J.J. Warner says:

In 1825 the rivers of the country were so swollen that their beds, their banks and the adjoining lands were greatly changed. At the date of the settlement of Los Angeles a large portion of the country from the central part of the pueblo to the tide water of the sea through and over which the Los Angeles River now finds its way to the ocean was largely covered with a forest interspersed with tracts of marsh. From that time until 1825 it was seldom, if in any year, that the river discharged even during the rainy season its waters into the sea. Instead of having a river way to the sea, the waters spread over the country filling the depressions in the surface and forming lakes, ponds and marshes. The river water, if any, drained off from the land in so many places, in such small volumes, that no channel existed until the flood of 1825, which by cutting a river way to tide water, drained the marsh land and caused the forests to disappear."

Again he says: -- "The flood of 1832 so changed the drainage in the neighborhood of Compton and the northwestern portion of the San Pedro Ranch, that a number of lakes and ponds, covering a large area of the latter ranch lying north and northwesterly from Wilmington, which to that date had been permanent, became dry in a few years thereafter. The drainage of those lakes completed the destruction of the forests." Col. Warner says: Covered a large portion of the country wouth and west o the city. The forests were in all probability thickets or copse of willow, larch, and cottonwood similar to those found in the low ground near the mouth of the Santa Ana River and in the swampy lands of the San Gabriel River thirty years ago..."

Mr. Wm. H. Workman
224 Dougal Bldg., L. A.

The country from El Monte southward was immense sheets of water, and around Downey, Clearwater, Compton and Watts the country was covered with water for many weeks after the rain had stopped. The country down around Watts, Compton and southward was all willows, and especially near the so-called bed of the river, where the willows were very dense.

Mr. S. B. Reeve, Civil Engineer & Surveyor, 844 Title Ins. Bldg.

Mr. Reeve was seen at his office this afternoon, Setp. (*sic*) 1, 1914 by F. Z. Lee. He has been in Los Angeles County since 1878 and has been a close observer of floods.

.....

The floods poured westward along the then Washington Road and Jefferson Street, towards the southwest into Ballona Creek and to the Ballona Bay. All through the southwest, clear to the sea, was a solid sheet of water. All of the country called Cienega was a great lake. N. Slough¹ was swelled to great proportions, and all of the country back of Venice was a sea of water. Last winter a great deal of water came from Los Angeles and flowed into Venice as everyone knows.

(rest of account omitted)

E. H. Dalton, 1436 E. Washington St., Los Angeles

Mr. Dalton was seen at his home, 1436 E. Washington St., Los Angeles, October 17th, 1914 by R. A. Borthick.....

There were no banks to the Los Angeles River to speak of at that time. He thinks the bed of the stream was 20 feet higher at that time than at the present, and the water spread all over the lower section of the city, and on down thru Vernon, Huntington Park, Watts and Compton. He says in that flood there was no damage done unless a few head of stock got drowned – there was nothing to damage. The southwest section of Los Angeles City and on down in the Cienega country used to be full of water, and overflowed in all the large rains. Watts, Compton and Green meadows were full of sloughs, tullies and swamps. There was a large shallow lake formed in the section of country near the Halfway House or Amstoy Place, called Amstoy Lake, Sometimes it would cover several hundred acres and was very shallow, about knee deep. Says he has shot duck on that lake and all through Compton and Watts, and picked blackberries by following the cow trails, and the whole section was very wet and swampy good summer pasture for stock...

Mr. Jotham Bixby, 1800 E. Ocean Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

Mr. Bixby was seen at his home by F. Z. Lee this afternoon, October 13, 1914. He says:

^{1 1} *I am abbreviating this. The actual name written in the account is offensive and derogatory.*

I came to Los Angeles in 1866 and soon acquired some of the land I now hold around Long Beach. The flats between Long Beach and San Pedro, or between Los Cerritos and Dominguez, as it was in those days, was a mass of jungle. The valley was practically impassable except for two or three trails, and was covered by a dense growth of willows, weeds, briars, some blackberry vines, and marshes grown up with tullies. In those days there were bear in the valley, as well as other wild animals...

The flood of 1868 was the greatest I have known. There was no way into Wilmington, except by water for a month.

Boat references

The Carson Brothers at Dominguez have lived there all their lives. Ed. Carson states that the river at one time ran along the foot of the hills at the Dominguez home place, 1824. They sat that from Dominguez hill to Los Cerritos is considered the river. In 1858, perhaps it was the '60-'61 flood, a boat came up from San Pedro and took the Carson family, who lived over in the valley east of the Dominguez home, off of their marooned and dangerous position and carried them over to the Dominguez place.

The floods in those days were not so damaging and did not wash as they do in these later days, for there were no railroad embankments to hold the water or to concentrate it, but the water was free to spread out over the valley and did little damage. And too, the valley was covered with a growth of willow, larch, and sycamore trees, together with grasses and other undergrowth which prevented a rapid movement of waters. The railroad fill from what is now Elftman and Watson, was washed out and the floods poured into N. Slough.² This was 1889. About 1894 the Slough began drying up rapidly, and fish began to die by the tons. The stench became so bad it became necessary to burn and burn the dead fish. This greatly fertilized the land....

Mr. J. H. Orr, Compton, R. F. D. 1, 101 Home at Compton.

Mr. Orr has lived in this neighborhood for twenty-six years. In 1889 he says the whole country was flooded and to give an idea of how much water there was, he with some others rowed in a boat from Downey almost to Compton, that is to the S. P. R. R. track, tied their boat and walked to across to Compton, bought their provisions and returned in the same way. The water was all over the country for six weeks and nothing could be done...

Mr. Geo. N. Place, 953 W. 7th St., L.A.

Mr. Place was seen this morning, August 31, 1914 at the Pioneers' Club rooms, 953 W. 7th St., by F. Z. Lee.

Mr. Place came to Los Angeles in 1876 and has been interested in the newspaper business. In 1884 he published a weekly called "The Phoenix" In his estimation the flood of 1884 has been the largest in his experience. It took away every bridge except the old covered bridge at Aliso St. The river channel was always shallow and when the floods came the water overflowed and lowlands of the river and went wherever the

ground was lowest. The water used to go down Central Ave., sometimes going east and many times west of Central Ave. He has seen the water three feet deep on Manchester and Central Aves.

In 1884 the floods covered all the lower country and at Compton he has seen rowboats going about from place to place to buy supplies.

(rest of account omitted)

Mr. Lafayette Saunders, 2303 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach

Mr. Saunders was seen at his house on the morning of August 26, 1914, by F. Z. Lee. He came to Long Beach in 1876 and settled on a piece of land which he bought between there and Wilmington....

The valley was then a mass of willows, tullies, batamotes, and other swampy growth. It was only used for grazing purposes. *(most of account omitted)*

...I have seen this valley solid across here between these mesas (Los Cerritos and Dominguez Hill) and nearly four feet deep. I rode in a row boat with two other from Long Beach to Wilmington and returned for provisions, and the water was from a foot of(sic) so to three and one-half feet deep."

Mrs. J. B. Proctor, 801 Gladis Ave.

Mrs. Proctor was seen at her home on Thursday afternoon, August 27th, by F. Z. Lee. She came to Compton in 1869, when a little girl, with her parents from El Monte. In those days all the country around Compton was covered with willows, tullies and other small vegetation. There was many lakes and lagoons all over the valley, and at the time they came down there, it was necessary to go away around to the west to avoid a large lake and marsh. She has seen water all over Compton and her brothers have rowed in boats all around the streets of Compton. There was a large lagoon north of Compton along where the P. E. R. R. now has its tracks.

Mr. George Pillsbury, 667 P. E. Bldg., Los Angeles

Mr. Pillsbury was seen this morning, October 2, 1914, by F. Z. Lee at his office. *(most of account omitted)*

This flood (1889) covered considerable territory, but the water did not get deep as some of the older floods did. Down around Comptonn there was considerable water and men were paddling about in boats but not everywhere they cared to go.

In 1884 I was told that boats came up from Wilmington and picked people up around Compton, Watts, and near Dominguez.

Mr. Thomas Gregory, 1273 E. 2nd Street., Long Beach

Mr. Gregory was seen at his home by F. Z. Lee this morning, October 9th, 1914. His experience has been principally with the floods of 1889-90 and down to the present time. Although he has lived in Long Beach for the past four hears he has watches closely everything that has gone in the way of floods.

The flood of 1889 was a great deal larger than that of last winter, and yet the damage was not so widespread as the last flood. The water spread over the country more evenly and did not cut up the land as it now as is. There was water from Clearwater to

Compton. In Compton the people were paddling around in boats, while in Belleflower and summerset there was avast amount of water.....*(rest of account omitted)*

Mr. George Haylock, Compton

Was seen at his store in Compton, October 8, 1914 by R. A. Borthick.

Says he came to Compton in 1872 and has lived there ever since and has run a store all the time. The 1889 flood was the largest he has seen since he was in this section. There was no ground in Compton with the exception of a small strip close to the S. P. R. R. Tracks which is a kind of ridge that was not under water. The country was flooded over west of Compton as far as you could see, and to the San Gabriel river east of Compton. The water was from one to three feet deep all through Compton. Says Brinkerhoff came from Willows down Compton raod in a boat....

....Compton Creek used to run a good stream the year around and the wells would flow the year around, and he remembers one well that was so strong it would throw water about forty feet high. Water does not flow now only in the winter time or when they stop pumping in the beg(sic) wells...

(rest of account omitted)

Dr. A. L. Holcombe, Compton

Came to Compton in 1888. He has lived there ever since. He says the water has overflowed Compton three times since he has been there and the 1889 flood was no larger htan the 1914 flood but ther was not the same amount of obstruction and the water spread worse. Says that in the 1889 flood Brinkerhoff came down the Compton raod in a boat from his place on Compton road near Willows, bt he thinks the water came from the slough west of Compton...

Miscellanea, other uses

Mr. Randall H. Hewitt, 529 Merchants Trust Bldg.

Mr. Hewitt was seen at his office this morning, August 31, by F. Z. Lee. He came to Los Angeles in 1876, and being connected with newspaper work for a great many years, attained intimate knowledge of the conditions of the country and the actions of the Los Angeles river since that time.

The year 1876 was a dry year and no water flowed below what was called the "Toma" in those days, above the Downey St. Bridge, which is now North Broadway, where the boys used to go swimming....

The old winery of down about 9th st. was completely washed away. The first recovered some of their goods but a great deal was lost and much taken up by people who found the bottles and casks of liquors scattered about the country. Six or eight years after the flood a man was ploughing his field when his plow struck something solid. It had a peculiar "feel" to it and he investigated and found a ten gallon keg of brandy buried there.
(rest of account omitted)

Joe Bernal, Room 53, Temple Block:

Mr. Bernal was seen at his office today at noon. He was born and raised in Los Angeles, He has seen some big floods of the Los Angeles river, and considers that of 1914 about as large as any of them...

(most of account omitted)

In his boyhood days he used to go swimming in the Los Angeles river when it flowed down Alameda Street.

John L. Slaughter, 1022 West 20th Street

Mr. Slaughter was seen at his home this morning and was willing to give what knowledge he had of the great floods...*(most of account omitted)*

The valley of the Los Angeles river was filled, at one time, with willows. Back in the early '70's there was a willow grove just south of the Sainesavine winery,, where they people used to gather for picnics and outings, where people used to go to spend a pleasant afternoon. This place with the Sainesavine winery was completed washed away in 1884.

This winery was located where the Zobelin Brewery is now located...

native intelligence

LA Observed's contributors at large in LA

Denise Hamilton • Bio • Email

It was small, plastic and yellow, gamely navigating through the rocks and bushes along a stretch of the LA River called the "Glendale Narrows" on the coldest day of the year.

My family and I were on a tour sponsored by Friends of the L.A. River that started at the Sepulveda Basin in the Valley where 12 streams and tributaries converge and wildfowl such as turkey buzzards, kites, egrets and blue herons abound. The tour concluded five hours later along a concrete, glass-strewn stretch in Industrial Maywood. (The L.A. River runs 52 miles to the Long Beach Harbor, but tour organizers left the lower half for another trip).

Lunch was on the concrete banks in scenic Atwater, and that's where kayaker George Wolfe hauled his craft up the embankment to say hello. He'd like to kayak the river's entire length later this year and was on a reconnaissance trip. More rain would raise water levels and make his pilgrimage easier, but some overland hauling might be unavoidable.



As a novelist whose books are set in L.A., I'm always searching for new ways to imagine this place, and Wolfe's quixotic quest enchanted me. It's a reminder of the magic that can be conjured here, often where one least expects it. There is grace in small, unbidden moments, beauty hidden amidst chain link, trash and concrete. One wants to genuflect amidst the sycamores and native grasses along the banks (planted by Northeast Trees) and give whispered thanks.

Blues singer Robert Johnson talked about meeting the devil at a crossroads, but the crossroads where our tour stopped yesterday sent a different kind of shiver up my spine. It was a concrete ditch in Cypress Park, where the fabled Arroyo Seco of Pasadena (which wasn't so seco Saturday) empties into the LA River.

In 1769, Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portola stopped on these earthen banks, and marveled at the cottonwoods and alders, the wild roses, the natural paradise he'd found. Nearby, in 1781, the Spanish would establish the pueblo that became Los Angeles.

Two-hundred and thirty-eight years after Portola, I pick my way past broken glass, rusted metal pipes, rotting lumber, fast-food containers. What his expedition saw is long gone and I stand in sludge at the crossroads of an industrial nightmare. Overhead, half a dozen bridges,

Now on LAObserved

LAO Blog Kevin Roderick

8:58 AM Thu | Return of recycled water

12:42 AM Thu | LA Weekly's People of '08

12:14 AM Thu | Jamiel Shaw Sr. 'on a mission...I can't stop'

11:59 PM Wed | Warren Cowan, publicist supreme was 87

11:53 PM Wed | Marcus Allen walks away *

LA Biz Observed Mark Lacter

Warren Cowan's Hollywood

8:44 AM Thu | Unlike many of today's publicists, he never made it seem as if he were doing you a favor by just doing his job.

Thursday morning headlines

8:05 AM Thu | Icahn goes after Yahoo board, CBS to buy CNET, Countrywide suit goes to trial, and Samueli steps down.

Featured posts Contributors

USC, practical politics and King hospital

Bill Boyarsky | City Hall and politics

Digging for Dollars

David Rensin | Stop me if you've read this one: While rooting around in the spam mailbox looking for authentic emails that somehow...

Re: new mural

Jenny Burman | Chicken Corner [RSS](#)

A little green around the edges

Veronique de Turenne | Here in Malibu [RSS](#)

Sports Beat, 5-14-08

Phil Wallace | The Lakers win Game 5 against the Jazz, USC deals with the OJ Mayo allegations, and the Dodgers continue their streaky ways.

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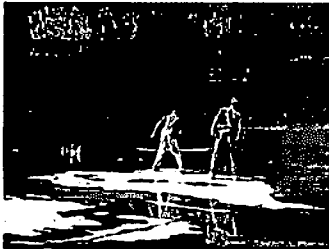
• Return of recycled water

overpasses, railway trestles and freeways weave and cross. Metal clangs, cars roar. Colorful graffiti covers most surfaces. Filthy bedding is wadded under one embankment.

But the chill I feel has nothing to do with this or the weather. It comes from the Indians I hear, creeping through the hills to meet Portola. The calls of his men as they set up camp, the bray and whinny of his pack animals. The exclamations of Father Juan Crespi, marveling at what they've found. Their voices whisper in the icy wind. They screech and groan each time a car shoots across overhead. They are the spirits of this place.

We hike along the trickle to where the Arroyo Seco ends. The water level is so low we can pick our way to into the middle of the LA River. My tennis squeak. My socks get damp.

My children run heedless, splashing and crowing with delight. They're 8 and 10 and they don't see the smog-choked weeds, trash and squalor. Like Portola, they see a new world to explore. They skip rocks. They send boats of dried leaves floating down to Long Beach. Inexplicably, they find a fresh orange and lob it as far as they can. Then they hop and leap and shimmy over to the concrete islands in the middle of the L.A. River, where they plant the flag of childhood.



I think about how each generation has the capacity to create the world anew. Maybe by the time they're grown, there will be trees and a riverwalk here. That's what FOLAR envisions and is working toward. Not Portola's paradise, but not this abomination either.

"This is uncharted territory, and I claim it," my 10-year-old shouts out jubilantly. "I'm the first human ever to set foot on it."

I smile and tell him, "Indeed you are."

January 14, 2007 05:59 PM • Native Intelligence • Email the editor

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- LAT opposes initiative that Zell promotes

ALL POSTS IN POLITICS

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LARRY HARNISCH REFLECTS ON L.A.'S CRIME & COPS FROM 50 YEARS AGO
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March 2, 1958

IT TOOK HIM FORTY BULLETS TO GET TO FORT DOBBS...
IT TOOK A THOUSAND MIRACLES
TO GET HIM OUT!

FORT DOBBS

CLINT CHEYENNE
WALKER

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HOW DO YOU TELL A MAN HIS WOMAN'S NO GOOD

ESCAPE FROM SAN QUENTIN

JOHNNY DESMOND MERRY ANDERS

Above, "Fort Dobbs," with Clint Walker, Virginia Mayo and Brian Keith. Below, our own Chuck Hillinger and photographer Bruce Cox try to go rafting in the L.A. River after the Army Corps of Engineers finished its project to cover the sides and bottom of the channel with concrete. More on the jump.

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Our Blogger



Larry Harnisch. The leading Black Dahlia expert and a collaborator in the 1947 project, Harnisch has been a copy editor at The Times since 1988. He has appeared on many TV shows discussing the Dahlia case, notably "James Ellroy's Feast of Death."

Join him for a spin through old Los Angeles in the Mirror's radio car. Keep your eyes open for Mickey Cohen and Tempest Storm. It's quite a ride.

The reporter's badge belonged to Sid Hughes (1908-1958), legendary reporter who worked at nearly every newspaper in Los Angeles.

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Grand jury today called a lawyer to tell of deals with Mack... The lawyer, [Name], is expected to appear in court today to answer questions...

CITYSIDE with GENE SIZEMAN

Red Korea Ready to Free 2 U.S. Pilots

Red Korea is ready to free two American pilots held in North Korea... The pilots, [Names], were captured in 1950 and have been held incommunicado ever since...

It is believed that the two pilots are being held in a remote area of North Korea... The Red Chinese have also been reported to be in negotiations with the North Koreans...

From Pasadena, the [Name] says that the pilots are being held in a remote area of North Korea... The Red Chinese have also been reported to be in negotiations with the North Koreans...

The Red Chinese have also been reported to be in negotiations with the North Koreans... The pilots are being held in a remote area of North Korea...

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Church Peace Plan Rejected by Batista

Church peace plan rejected by Batista... The plan, proposed by the [Name], was rejected by Batista because it did not meet his conditions...

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Timesmen Explore Los Angeles River

Timesmen explore Los Angeles River... The [Name] and [Name] explored the river to report on its condition... They found that the river was in poor shape...

The [Name] and [Name] explored the river to report on its condition... They found that the river was in poor shape... The water was polluted and the banks were eroding...

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Record Crowd Opens Big Camellia Show

Record crowd opens big camellia show... The [Name] Camellia Show opened today with a record crowd... The show will run through the end of the month...

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Two Teenagers Paddle Brewery on L.A. River

Two teenagers, a boy and a girl, were arrested yesterday for paddling a small boat on the Los Angeles River. The boy, 17, and the girl, 15, were charged with boating without proper license. They were taken to the Los Angeles County Jail.

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