

A People's Guide to Orange County is an alternative tour guide that documents sites of oppression, resistance, struggle, and transformation in Orange County, California. The California Global Education Project at CSU Fullerton and the History Project at UC Irvine are pleased to sponsor this guide to nine of these sites. The People's Guide series was born from the conviction that we need guidebooks that share stories of struggle and resistance to inspire and educate activists, students, and critical thinkers. We acknowledge that this tour takes place on the documented and unceded territory of the Acjachemen and Tongva people.



## ANAHEIM PACKING DISTRICT

This Spanish fantasy past building from 1919 once held Latina women workers whose hands moved faster than human eyes could follow. (1948 photo of Santiago packing house in Orange; the women are "Licha," Ruth Ortega, Carol Garcia, Georgia Garcia, Helen Poblano Castro, Jenny Ramirez, and Esther Poblano.)





# ANAHEIM'S LOST CHINATOWN South Anaheim Boulevard at Lincoln Ave

In the 1860s, Anaheim's German-American founders imported Chinese-American workers and paid them with town lots on this street. By the 1910s, immigration exclusion and violence had decimated Anaheim's Chinese community. (Photo of last remaining residence in Anaheim's Chinatown, circa 1930s)





#### **PEARSON PARK**

enter on West Cypress Street

The site of one of the largest KKK rallies in 1924, this park was segregated until the 1950s, and is still a site of contested public space. (Photo of KKK flier, circa 1930.)





### **MILLARD SHEETS MURAL**

Beginning in the 1950s, Millard Sheets created popular, vibrant, mosaic murals at Home Savings Banks across southern California. This one depicts his ideas of Anaheim history.





### **ANAHEIM CENTRAL LIBRARY**

Among other treasures, this library contains an eerie Pinocchio doll rescued from the flood of 1938.





#### **POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

This was the site of week-long community protests in July 2012, after Anaheim police had fatally shot 7 young Latino men in the last 9 months.





## PRESSEL ORCHARD Corner of Helena Street and Santa Ana Street

June 11, 1936, the Great Citrus War began here when 2,400 Mexican citrus workers went on strike and growers responded





### LITTLE PEOPLE'S PARK

In 1978, police assaulted Chicano youth here, leading to neighborhood movements for police reform and the Emigdio Vasquez mural across the street.





Left: Aerial view of Anaheim, circa

Right: Zine drawn by Sonia Corong, CSU Fullerton student in Dr. Lewinnek's class, Spring 2023

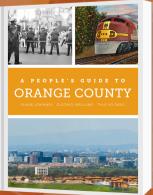












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### **ALTA BAJA MARKET**

We start and end this walking tour at Alta Baja Market, a grocery store, café and educational space dedicated to celebrating the foods and crafts of California and Mexico together. This neighborhood market has been central to resisting poorly-planned schemes for downtown development.





## YOST THEATER 307 N. Spurgeon St, Santa Ana

Orange County's oldest theater was a site of segregation, with people of color allowed only in the balconies, before becoming central to Mexican cinema from 1950-1983, under the ownership of the Olivos family. Pressured to perform expensive earthquake retrofitting, the Olivos family sold it. It became a church and is now an events venue.





## SANTA ANA'S LOST CHINATOWN

210 N Bush St. Parking

This was once one of Southern California's largest Chinatowns, with over 200 residents, but in 1906, the Santa Ana City Council declared that one Chinese man living here had leprosy and deliberately burned this neighborhood down. In 2022, Santa Ana officials formally apologized.





### LYNCHING OF FRANCISCO TORRES

Francisco Torres, a Mexican laborer working at the Modjeska Ranch, was accused of murdering his foreman over a pay dispute. On the morning of August 20th, 1892, a mob of men dragged Torres from his jail cell while calling him racial epithets and hanged him from a telephone pole here.





## FORMER MASONIC TEMPLE

Constructed in 1931 as the Santa Ana Masonic Lodge, the elaborate Art Deco architecture here contrasts with the plain single-story stucco building of the Prince Hall Masonic Temple, 1403 West Fifth Street, for African-American masons. The Prince Hall Masonic temple is still active, though, while this now building now belongs to the Church of Scientology.





### **OLD ORANGE COUNTY COURT HOUSE**

Santa Ana's city founders, including judge James W. Towner, were part of the radical Oneida colony who opposed the provate ownership of property and the private ownership of sexual partners. That radicalism is difficult to discern in this stolid building, but it is part of our shared past.





## EMIGDIO VASQUEZ MURAL Near Ross Street & Santa Ana Blvd

Chicano muralist Emigdio Vasquez painted this in 1987 at the Bowers Museum, then in 1991 at the Santa Ana Transit station, depicting 400 years of Orange County history, from Indigenous peoples through Spanish settlement, agricultural industry, aeronautics, and more.





## **ALEX ODEH STATUE**

Palestinian-American activist, poet, and professor Alex Odeh was assassinated by a pipe bomb in 1985 when he opened his office door at 1905 East 17th Street, Santa Ana. The case is labeled a hate crime and remains one of the oldest unsolved terrorism cases in California. Arab-Americans erected this statue in Odeh's memory.





## BLACK PANTHER/SASSCER PARK

Officially named after a Santa Ana police officer killed in 1969 during an altercation with a member of the Black Panther Party, this park is an example of passive recreation, though in the 2010s it also became a site of progressive activism.

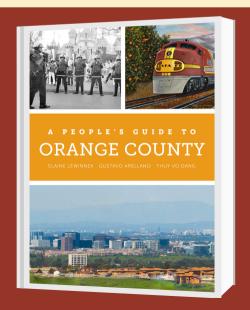


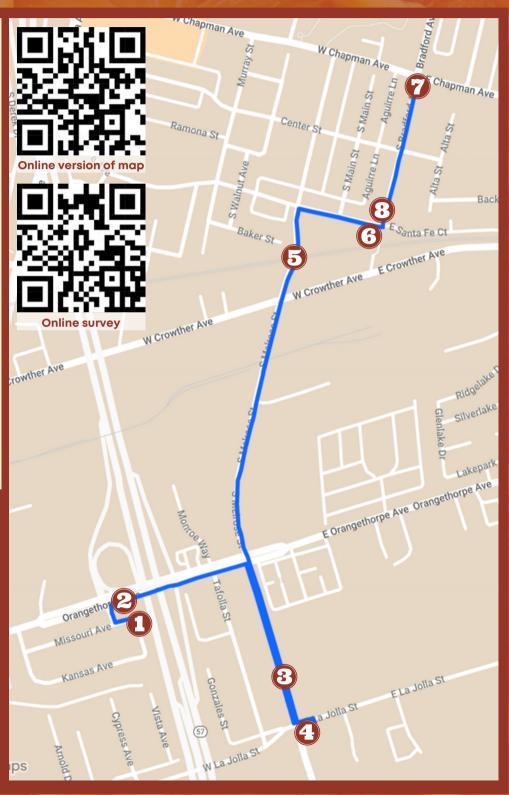


A PEOPLE'S GUIDE TO ORANGE COUNTY

A Walking Tour of Placentia's Lesser Known History

A People's Guide to Orange County is an alternative tour guide that documents sites of oppression, resistance, struggle, and transformation in Orange County, California. The California Global Education Project at CSU Fullerton, with support from a CSU Fullerton Scott-Jewett Fund for Innovation and Student Success, and the History Project at UC Irvine are pleased to sponsor this Placentia walking tour of eight of these sites. These sites have histories told within families and communities, but rarely in our classrooms. By recognizing and sharing our lesser know histories we can better recognize how events and issues today and yesterday impact all of us, and better understand, acknowledge, and articulate our own and others' feelings on an issue. Ultimately, we can better empathize with others and recognize the value of each person in our local and global community. Thank you for joining us!









### HARRIS HOME FIREBOMBING

When the African-American Harris family bought a home here in 1956, vigilantes burned a cross on the lawn and threw a because it showed this was a neighborhood without restrictive covenants.





## **SANTA ANA RIVER**

Santa Ana River was a meeting point between the Tongva Gabrieliño Nation and the Acjachemen Juaneño Nation. It also flooded in 1938, killing at least 36 Mexican-American people who had been pushed to live in the flood zone.





## MELROSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Melrose Elementary School featured experimental activity-based learning in the 1930s in a way that was both progressive and racist. It became such a beloved part of the La Jolla Colonia that the community protested when it





#### **FORMER BRACERO BUNKHOUSE**

Apartments, corner of E. La Jolla St & S. Melrose St, housed short-term contact laborers ineligible for citizenship and vital to U.S. immigration history. After the bracero program ended in 1965, the bunkhouses became apartments that were condemned as substandard and bulldozed in 1972, prompting neighborhood protests.





# SPANISH FANTASY PAST MURALS Old Town Placentia

In the 1930s, legendary journalist Carey McWilliams coined the phrase "Spanish fantasy past" to describe the trend of fiestas, red-tiled roofs, and orange-crate labels that portrayed a fantasy of leisure instead of a reality of labor, placing Latinx people into California's nostalgic past instead of the ongoing present or future.





### WHITEWASHED CHICANO MURAL

In 2005, members of CSUF's MEChA painted a mural of Latinx students typing on computers, attending college classes, and wearing graduation robes, under the words, "Cultural Self Determination Prevents Youth Incarceration." The local merchants' association removed it after less than a month.





# FORMER CALVARY CHURCH 102 S. Bradford

Where famed radio preacher Charles Fuller got his start, after selling his Placentia orange grove to an oil company and before moving away to found Fuller Theological Seminary. It's an important part of conservative megachurches in southern California, and its current status as a Korean church reflects our shifting demographics.





## **TLAQUEPAQUE RESTAURANT**

Started by a former bracero, this restaurant reflects the ways that supposedly-temporary immigrants found ways to stay. It features mariachi bands on Sundays and tamales every December.





### SOCIETAS FRATERNA "GRASSEATERS" COLONY

600 Block of Macadamia Lane (too far to walk. See Google M)

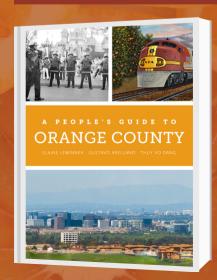
Societas Fraternas was a vegetarian utopian commune that faced charges of child abuse. It illustrates one strand of California spirituality and brought new varieties of walnuts, persimmons, strawberries, loquats, and macadamias to the U.S.





# A PEOPLE'S GUIDE TO ORANGE COUNTY

A Walking Tour of Garden Grove's Lesser Known History



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