

Special Thanks

Sign Committee

Dan Reza
Lydia Moreno
Miguel Hernandez
Alicia Brown
Craig Havens
Nancy De Los Santos–Reza

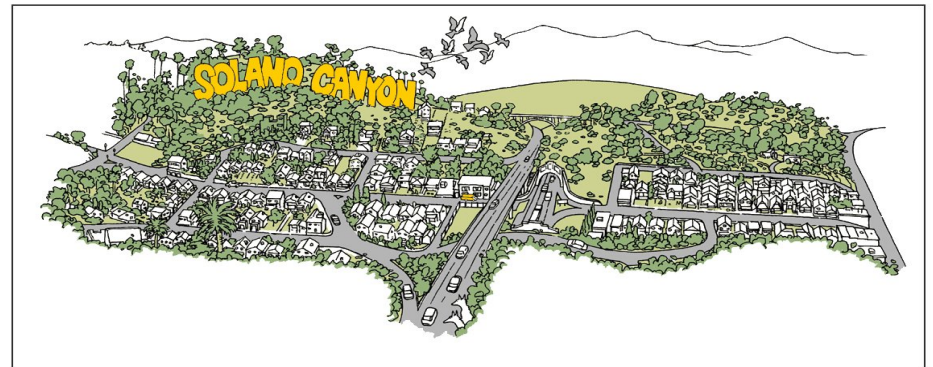
Volunteers

Malcolm McNeill, Artist
Judy Kameon, Landscape Designer
Josh Marcuson, Arborist
Azucena, Maldonado

Contributors

Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council
City of Los Angeles, Department
of Recreation & Parks
Solano Canyon Community
City of Los Angeles, Council District 1 –
Councilmember Ed Reyes

Solano Canyon Sign Dedication



December 13, 2008

Welcome

HISTORIC SOLANO CANYON

"Tucked away down the hill from *Dodger Stadium*, impervious to the incessant ruckus of the Pasadena Freeway, is the nicest neighborhood you've never heard of."

- Maryann Hudson-Harvey *LA times* 11/5/99

SOLANO CANYON, set on the rolling hills of Elysian Park, is one of the last great neighborhoods of Los Angeles. It is also the only remaining community that bordered the now gone Chavez Ravine neighborhoods of La Loma, Palo Verde, and Bishop. Although divided by a ridge, Solano Canyon and Chavez Ravine residents were neighbors and friends, and the canyon community was distraught when the Chavez Ravine neighborhoods were torn down in the late 1950s. Today the ridge is gone, swept away to clear a road to the baseball stadium, but Solano Canyon remains as a community committed to its historic roots.

The land that is Solano Canyon today was originally purchased from the City of Los Angeles by Francisco Solano in 1866, a native of Costa Rica. Francisco came to California with the family of his future wife, María Rosa de las Mercedes Casanova Pino. They married at the Plaza Church and built an adobe on what is now South Solano and raised six children. Francisco established a meat-packing business in Sonora Town, north of the Plaza. Later, he moved that business and his soap factory to the canyon. The south side of Solano Canyon was subdivided in 1888 into the current parcels by their son, Alfredo Solano – a prominent Los Angeles civil engineer and surveyor. The north side of Solano was subdivided in 1903. The Solano Family's property included the communities of La Loma and Palo Verde and ended in what is now the parking lot of Dodger Stadium.

The community boasts a top-notch elementary school, its own mission church, a community garden, and is home to many long time and new residents. Neighborhood youngsters still play on the side streets, neighbors meet for a yearly Block Party, and many attend Sunday mass and breakfast with the Guadalupanas at San Conrado. Residents believe that Hudson-Harvey got it absolutely right - Solano Canyon is one of the nicest neighborhoods in Los Angeles!

Event Schedule

December 13th

- 9:30 A.M. **Continental breakfast**
- 10:00 A.M. **Sign Dedication**
Welcome
Dan Reza, Solano Sign Committee
Ed Reyes, Council Member, CD1
Associate Justice Carlos R. Moreno
Kim Benjamin, President, HCNC
Alicia Brown
Sign Unveiling
Larry Bouett
Malcolm McNeill
Community Recognitions
- 11:00 A.M. **Closing**