



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95816-7100
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DEPT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, Director

March 13, 2018

Dean Edwards
Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street, Room 1346
Los Angeles, California 90012

**RE: National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Chicano Moratorium March
December 20, 1969**

Dear Mr. Edwards:

I am pleased to inform you that the State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC) intends to consider and take action on the nomination of the above named property to the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). Details regarding the meeting are enclosed. The National Register is the United States' official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition and assists in preserving California's heritage. Listing in the National Register assures review of federal projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property. In addition, as of January 1, 1993, all National Register properties are now automatically listed in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) and afforded consideration during the State (CEQA) environmental review process. This includes properties formally determined eligible for the National Register. Listing in the National Register does not mean that the federal or state government will attach restrictive covenants to the property or try to acquire it. Public visitation rights are not required of owners. National Register listed properties may qualify for state and federal benefits. Additional information may be found at our website at www.ohp.parks.ca.gov.

You are invited to attend the SHRC meeting at which the nomination will be considered and acted upon by the SHRC. Written comments regarding the nomination may be submitted to California State Parks, Attn: Office of Historic Preservation, Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer, 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, California 95816. So that the SHRC may have adequate time to consider the comments, it is requested, but not required, that written comments be received by the Office of Historic Preservation fifteen (15) days in advance of the SHRC's meeting.

An electronic copy of the nomination is available in PDF format on our website at http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24368. Should you require a hard copy or have questions, please contact the Registration Unit at (916) 445-7009.

Sincerely,

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer

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MEETING NOTICE

FOR: State Historical Resources Commission Quarterly Meeting

DATE: Thursday, May 17, 2018

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: Lucie Stern Community Center
1305 Middlefield Road, Ballroom
Palo Alto, California 94301

This room is accessible to people with disabilities. Questions regarding the meeting should be directed to the Registration Unit (916) 445-7008.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES FACT SHEET

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts worthy of preservation. The National Register was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The purposes of the Act are: to insure that properties significant in national, state, and local history are considered in the planning of federal undertakings; and to encourage historic preservation initiatives by state and local governments and the private sector.

The following benefits are associated with National Register listing:

1. Listed properties may use the State Historic Building Code, a more flexible alternative to the Uniform Building Code. The use of this code may save owners money when repairing or rehabilitating their properties.
2. Under the Tax Reform Act of 1986, a privately owned building that is listed in the National Register or is a contributing building in a National Register historic district may be eligible for a 20% federal income investment tax credit based on the costs of a qualified rehabilitation of the building. These credits apply only to income-producing, depreciable properties, including residential rental properties. The credits do not apply to owner-occupied residential properties. Plans for the rehabilitation are reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service, and work on the building must meet federal rehabilitation standards.
3. The Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 provides federal tax deductions for preservation easements that result in a decline of fair market value, when conservation restrictions are placed on the property by the owner.
4. All properties and districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register are considered in the planning of federal undertakings such as highway construction and Community Development Block Grant projects. "Federal undertakings" also include activities sponsored by state or local governments or private entities if they are licensed or partially funded by the federal government. "Federal undertakings" **do not** include loans made by banks insured by the FDIC or federal farm subsidies. National Register listing does not provide absolute protection from federal actions that may affect the property. It means that if a federal undertaking is in conflict with the preservation of a National Register property, the California Office of Historic Preservation will negotiate with the responsible federal agency in an effort to eliminate, minimize, or otherwise take into account the undertaking's effect on the historic property. This review procedure applies to properties that are determined eligible for the National Register in the day-to-day environmental review process, as well as those actually listed in the National Register.
5. In California, a local tax assessor may enter into contracts with property owners for property tax reductions through the Mills Act.
6. Qualification for grants when funds are available.

7. Listed properties are recognized for their architectural or historic worth, an intangible benefit that is nonetheless valuable. Listing in the Register is primarily an honor, meaning that a property has been researched and evaluated according to established procedures and determined to be worthy of preservation.
8. Properties listed in, or officially determined eligible for listing in the National Register are automatically listed in the California Register of Historical Resources.

The following may sometimes be regarded as restrictions on National Register listed properties:

1. A project receiving federal assistance such as Community Development Block Grant funds must be reviewed by the Office of Historic Preservation to determine and hopefully avoid or lessen any potentially adverse effects on National Register properties. Any work undertaken using federal funds must generally use the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation Projects. Please note, however, that if a property is not listed, but is eligible for listing, the same requirements apply. In other words, actual listing does not increase the owner's responsibility under the law.
2. If a project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), then the National Register designation of a property (or the determination of its eligibility) would indicate its significance and the need to take into account any effects of the project on the property. Note - this is not necessarily a drawback, depending on the point of view of the owner/local agency. Note also that significance can also be evidenced by other state or local designation, surveys, or other professional evaluation.
3. A local agency **may** tie listing in the National Register to restrictions imposed locally, such as design review. This does not come automatically with listing, however, but must come about as a result of separate local action. Check with your local government.
4. If a property is listed in the National Register, either individually or as a contributor in a National Register district, the owner may not take the 10% federal investment tax credit available for rehabilitation projects on commercial buildings constructed prior to 1936. By following the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, however, the owner may take the 20% tax credit.
5. Proposals to demolish or significantly alter a National Register property damaged in an earthquake or other natural disaster may be subject to review by the Office of Historic Preservation. (See Section 5028 of the Public Resources Code.)

There are some common misconceptions about the implications of listing:

1. It is not true that the federal, state, or local government assumes any property rights in the building as a result of listing. Owners are not required to open their homes to the public. If a project is not subject to CEQA, to local preservation ordinances, or to the other environmental regulations outlined above, owners are free to make changes to their property. It is possible that the property could be so altered, however, that it would be removed from the Register.
2. Unfortunately, it is also not true that there are large sums of money available to assist owners and local agencies in rehabilitating National Register properties. Funds are very limited, with the federal tax credits being the most generally available financial assistance.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
HOW TO SUPPORT OR OBJECT TO LISTING**

Under federal law, a privately owned property may not be listed in the National Register over the objection of its owner or, in the case of a property with multiple owners, over the objection of a majority of owners. A district may not be listed in the National Register over the objection of a majority of owners of private property within the proposed district. Each owner or partial owner of private property has one vote regardless of what part of the property that person owns. Within a district, each owner has one vote regardless of how many buildings/parcels he or she owns.

If a private property owner, or a majority of private property owners, should object, the property or district will not be listed. In such cases, the State Historic Preservation Officer will not submit the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register for *listing* in the National Register and may submit the nomination for a *determination of eligibility* for the National Register. If the property or district is *determined eligible* for listing, although not formally listed, it will be given the same protection as a listed property in the federal environmental review process. A property determined eligible for listing is not eligible for federal tax benefits until the objections are withdrawn and the property is actually listed. The laws and regulations regarding this process are covered in the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and in 36 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations), Part 60.

Supporting a National Register Nomination:

Private owners who seek National Register listing for their properties are not required to submit statements of concurrence. However, letters of support, from owners or any others, are welcomed and become a permanent part of the nomination file.

Objecting to a National Register Nomination:

If you object to the listing of your property, you will need to submit a notarized statement certifying that you are the sole or partial owner of the property, as appropriate, and that you object to the listing. Owners who wish to object are encouraged to submit statements of objection prior to the meeting of the State Historical Resources Commission at which the nomination is being considered. However, statements of objection may be submitted and will be counted up until the actual date of listing. Listing usually takes place 45 days after the nomination is mailed to the Keeper of the National Register following the State Historical Resources Commission meeting.

Send letters of support or objection to:

State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Letters are added to the nomination file and become part of the public record.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

DRAFT

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
Other names/site number: Five Points Memorial; Obregon Park
Name of related multiple property listing:
Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles [primary]; Latinos in Twentieth Century California [secondary]
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: Five Points Memorial, N. Indiana Street, Michigan Avenue, Obregon Park
City or town: East Los Angeles State: California County: Los Angeles
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets
the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide ___ local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

<hr/> Signature of certifying official/Title:	<hr/> Date
<hr/> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/> Signature of commenting official:	<hr/> Date
<hr/> Title :	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>	structures
<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	objects
<u>8</u>	<u>24</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument
RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE/park
TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument
RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE/park
TRANSPORTATION/road-related

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Earth, stone, metal, concrete, asphalt, granite, and wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The first Chicano Moratorium march occurred on December 20, 1969. It began at Five Points Memorial in the City of Los Angeles and ended at Obregon Park in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County known as East Los Angeles. From Five Points Memorial at the intersections of East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue (Chavez Avenue), North Indiana Street, and North Lorena Street, the route progresses south on North Indiana Street and continues east along Michigan Avenue, terminating at Eugene A. Obregon Park (Obregon Park). The route follows flat residential streets in a neighborhood of low-rise, predominantly single-family homes and passes the athletic fields of Belvedere Middle School before a steep downward slope southward leading to Obregon Park where the final rally of the march took place. Within the district's 17.5 acres are eight contributing resources—four sites and four objects—and twenty-four noncontributing resources—three buildings, twelve structures, and nine objects. The character of the route and the park at the terminus retain sufficient integrity to the date of the march to convey their significance.

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Narrative Description

Five Points Memorial

CONTRIBUTING: two sites, four objects

NONCONTRIBUTING: one object

Five Points Memorial contains two irregularly shaped, flat plots, Morin Memorial Square and the War Memorial, formed by five diagonally intersecting streets. Situated north and south of Chavez Avenue, the plots function as small parks with monuments to Mexican American members of the United States Armed Forces.

Morin Memorial Square is the northern, triangular-shaped plot, bounded by Lorena Street to the west, Indiana Street to the east, and Chavez Avenue to the south. A concrete sidewalk surrounds the plot. The oval-shaped interior section of the plot is bisected by a stone block paved walkway. Benches with ashlar patterned stone piers and wood seats are located one at each of the northern and southern ends of the oval. At the southern end of the plot, forming the base of the triangle and facing outwards towards Chavez Avenue is a cast stone block enclosed by a low decorative iron fence. The block features metal lettering reading "MORIN MEMORIAL SQUARE" and a bronze plaque with dedication information. A flagpole is located between the memorial block and southernmost bench. Minimal plantings include a bird of paradise bush at the northern tip of the triangle and sparse grass across the plot.

The War Memorial is an irregularly shaped plot bounded by Chavez Avenue to the north, Indiana Street to the east, and Brooklyn Place to the south. Stone paving frames the edges of the concrete sidewalk at the northeastern tip of the plot. A stone paved hexagon is located at the northeastern point of the plot and contains a low, circular ornamental iron railing and stone post fence enclosing a smooth plaster column set on a geometric base. The column has bronze plaques and applied ornament at its base. Polished granite memorial plaques set on raised concrete and stone bases surround the hexagon. A round, metal time capsule set in a granite base is located on the western half of the plot. The plot is covered with grass. Plaques at the War Memorial are dedicated to service men and women from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Contributing resources are those that were present at the time of the march. Five Points Memorial is associated with the activities of the march as a gathering space. Contributing resources were present at the time of the march, and were not otherwise directly involved in the events of the march. Morin Memorial Square encompasses a contributing site and three contributing objects: the stone monument and two benches. The War Memorial is a contributing site with one contributing object, the monument. The noncontributing object is a time capsule added in May 1994, after the period of significance.¹

¹ George Ramos, "Traffic Debate Goes Round and Round," *Los Angeles Times*, April 21, 2001.

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March Route (approximately 1.1 miles long)

CONTRIBUTING: one site

The march route consists only of the street and does not include any of the surrounding buildings, structures, objects, or other resources alongside. The route progresses down the center of the right-of-way south on Indiana Street from Morin Memorial Square and continues east along Michigan Avenue. The route begins in a busy commercial and industrial setting, and almost immediately transitions to a residential setting. The route follows flat residential streets in a neighborhood of low-rise, predominantly single-family homes constructed in the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. There is no uniform street tree pattern. The streets are lined with concrete sidewalks. Along the route, outside of the boundary, are two large institutional buildings: a church at the northeast corner of Hicks Avenue and Belvedere Middle School at North Record Avenue. At the intersection of Michigan and Record Avenues, the route passes the southern boundary of Belvedere Middle School. Athletic fields and courts of Belvedere Middle School continue along the north side of Michigan Avenue. East of Belvedere Middle School the road slopes downward in a steep pitch to North Sunol Drive, the western boundary of Obregon Park.

Eugene A. Obregon Park

CONTRIBUTING: one site

NONCONTRIBUTING: three buildings, twelve structures, eight objects

Obregon Park is a seven-acre park on an irregularly shaped lot that is bounded to the north by Michigan Avenue, to the east by Marianna Avenue, and to the south by East First Street. It follows the curvature of Sunol Drive along its western boundary. Mature trees are scattered throughout the park and grass lawns separate recreational and athletic facilities, creating a shaded and green landscape.

The park contains numerous recreational facilities, including a basketball court at the northwest corner. A baseball diamond, surface parking lot, and batting cage are located along Michigan Avenue, the northern border. Across shared grass lawn, opposite the first baseball diamond, a second baseball diamond is located at the center of the park. The baseball diamonds are dirt and grass with chain link fence enclosing metal bleachers to either side of the home plate. At the northeast corner of the park are a swimming pool and changing facility as well as handball courts. The L-shaped concrete pool is surrounded by a high fence of vertical metal bars. The changing facility is a one-story concrete building with a rectangular plan and flat roof. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. The handball courts are immediately south of the swimming pool. There are four courts constructed of concrete. Sloping picnic areas along Marianna Avenue continue to the southeast corner.

The southwest corner of the park consists of a children's playground with fixed metal and plastic equipment, a gymnasium, and a concrete, low scale maintenance facility. The gymnasium is a one-story building sheathed in painted concrete bricks and covered by a flat roof. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. A second surface parking lot is located on the western side of the park, off Sunol Drive. All of the surface parking lots are finished with asphalt.

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Contributing resources are those that were present at the time of the march. Obregon Park is associated with the activities of the march as a gathering space. The only contributing resource present at the time of the march is the park (site).

Alterations and Noncontributing Resources

Alterations to Five Points Memorial since 1969 include additional plaques surrounding the memorial column and the noncontributing time capsule (object) at the southern end of the War Memorial plot. Some of the original plaques have been stolen, but most have been replaced in kind. The landscaped grass area at the southern end of the War Memorial plot was expanded between 1972 and 1980.²

Since the march on December 20, 1969, there have been no major changes to the street pattern followed by the marchers. The character of the streets along the route remains the same. Obregon Park was developed in the late 1960s. The park buildings were designed in 1967 by William Hirsch, an architect who worked primarily on City Water and Power buildings.³ The two surface parking lots (structures), swimming pool (structure) and changing facility (building), children's playground (structure), and maintenance facility (building) were all constructed by 1972.⁴

Obregon Park included three baseball diamonds in 1972. Two are extant (structures): a larger one to the northwest, laid out first, and a smaller one to the southeast. A third baseball diamond, at the southeast corner of the park, was removed by 1980 when the maintenance building was constructed at the same location.⁵ The gymnasium (building) was constructed in 1974.⁶ The four handball courts (structures) and picnic area with eight tables (objects) were constructed by 1980. The basketball court (structure) was constructed by 2003 and the batting cage (structure) was constructed by 2009.⁷ Obregon Park has been enlarged since the period of significance. In 1969, the southeastern section of the park that became the picnic area contained single-family residences. The southwestern section where the maintenance building is located contained a baseball diamond, since removed.

Integrity

The route of the first march of the Chicano Moratorium retains sufficient integrity as the site of a historic event to meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in the primary *Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County* Multiple Property Submission (MPS) as well as the secondary *Latinos in Twentieth Century California* MPS. The route retains integrity of location, as the beginning point, street pattern, and terminus of the march have not been moved from

² "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed June 3, 2015, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

³ "Hirsch to Design East L.A. Project," *Los Angeles Times*, February 12, 1967.

⁴ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed November 14, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

⁵ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed November 14, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

⁶ "Obregon Park Gym," *Los Angeles Times*, March 31, 1974, B5.

⁷ "Los Angeles 1972" and "Los Angeles 1980," *Historic Aerials*, accessed July 31, 2017, <http://www.historicaerials.com/>.

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where they were located in 1969. The integrity of setting is intact, as the surrounding neighborhood is much the same as it was during the period of significance: a low-rise residential neighborhood. Changes to the Five Points Memorial have not substantially altered its appearances or setting since 1969. The monuments retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, as monuments dedicated to Mexican American members of the Armed Forces. While there have been alterations and additions to Obregon Park since 1969, the overall plan of the park has not been substantially revised since the march, and the minor changes do not compromise the integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. The route from Five Points Memorial, along Indiana Street and Michigan Avenue, ending at Obregon Park, retains the essential physical features that enable it to convey its historic significance as the location of the march on December 20, 1969.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ETHNIC HERITAGE: Hispanic

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1969

Significant Dates

1969

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969 is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Social History, Ethnic Heritage: Hispanic, and Politics/Government. The property meets the registration requirements for sites of historic events in the context of "Making A Democracy: Latino Struggles for Inclusion" in both the primary *Chicano Moratorium in Los Angeles County Multiple Property Submission (MPS)* as well as the secondary *Latinos in Twentieth Century California MPS*. The march from Five Points Memorial in the City of Los Angeles to Obregon Park in unincorporated East Los Angeles drew attention to the historic contributions of the Latino community to the United States military in past wars and to the disproportionate sacrifices of the community in the Vietnam War. The success of this march garnered public support and attention for the Chicano movement and subsequent Chicano Moratorium marches. The August 29, 1970 march drew Chicano activists from across the United States, unified in opposition to the Vietnam War and committed to the struggle for Chicano equality. The period of significance for the first Chicano Moratorium March is 1969, the year the march took place. As an event sufficiently studied by scholars to determine its exceptional importance to the County of Los Angeles, the property meets Criteria Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The December 20, 1969 march was the first large-scale Chicano antiwar protest in Los Angeles County. The march helped to mobilize support for the cause while energizing the base of the movement. Ultimately, this led to thousands of protestors participating in the August 29, 1970 march and rally, the largest protest in Mexican American history to date. Despite its tragic conclusion, the 1970 march was a pivotal moment in Chicano activism that catalyzed a much larger Mexican American political awakening.⁸

On November 15, 1969, anti-Vietnam War demonstrations were held in major cities across the country including, New York, Washington D.C., San Francisco, and Los Angeles. These demonstrations were organized by the nationally active Student Mobilizing Committee (also known as Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Southeast Asia or "the MOBE").⁹ Chicanos participated in these events. However, the attitudes of these mostly Anglo groups convinced Chicano activists that they needed a Chicano group to oppose the war. Chicano activists felt condescension, if not outright discrimination, from the mainstream antiwar groups.

Several groups converged to form the Chicano Moratorium Committee. One of these groups was the Crusade for Justice, based in Denver and led by author Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales.

⁸ Chicano Moratorium MPDF, E 3-5, F 15-17.

⁹ Ernesto Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*": *Nationalism, Identity, and Insurgency in the Chicano Movement in Los Angeles, 1966-1978* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002), 64.

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Gonzales' group was founded in 1966. Another group, Chale con el Draft ("to hell with the draft") was founded by Rosalfo Muñoz¹⁰ and Ramsés Noriega in Los Angeles. Its first public antiwar act took place on September 16, 1969, Mexican Independence Day, when cofounder Muñoz burned his draft card at the Army induction center in downtown Los Angeles.¹¹ Muñoz and Gonzales, the leaders of these two groups, met at a symposium on Chicano Liberation held at California State College Hayward in November 1969. Muñoz proposed creating a Chicano antiwar committee with a national focus modeled on the Student Mobilizing Committee.¹² Gonzales embraced the idea. In early December 1969, the Crusade for Justice and Chale con el Draft gathered several other Chicano activists in Denver to discuss the formation of a national group. The Chicano Moratorium Committee grew out of their meeting in Denver. David Sánchez, prime minister of the Brown Berets, and Rosalio Muñoz served as co-chairs. At the Denver conference, the Moratorium Committee decided to hold a small demonstration in Los Angeles on December 20, 1969 to build momentum for a larger demonstration in the summer of 1970.¹³

The December 20, 1969 demonstration was much larger than anticipated with over 2,000 participants attending the demonstration in East Los Angeles.¹⁴ In its publicity prior to the march, the Moratorium Committee created materials citing statistics from Ralph Guzman's report demonstrating the disproportionate death rate of Mexican American soldiers in Vietnam.¹⁵ Fliers used dramatic language, encouraging people to turn out to "honor our Chicano brothers, relatives, and loved ones who have been channeled into the death pits of Vietnam."¹⁶ All fliers were in Spanish and English.¹⁷

The march followed a route between Five Points, a memorial dedicated to Mexican Americans who died in World War II, and Eugene A. Obregon Park, named after a Mexican American Marine and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, who died in the Korean War. Obregon was born in Los Angeles and enlisted in the Marine Corps at the age of 17. Following his training in San Diego, he was assigned to the Marine Corps Supply Depot in Barstow, where he served as a fireman until the outbreak of the war. He was transferred to the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade and served as a machine gun ammunition carrier. During an assault on the city of Seoul, he shielded a fallen friend with his body until fatally wounded by enemy machine gun fire.¹⁸ The

¹⁰ Muñoz was the first Chicano student body president at the University of California-Los Angeles, elected on November 4, 1968.

¹¹ Lorena Oropeza, "The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam," Paper presented at the Latin American Studies Association (Washington D.C., September 1995), 10.

¹² Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*," 64.

¹³ Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*," 65.

¹⁴ Chávez, "*¡Mi Raza Primero!*," 65.

¹⁵ Stanley Williford, "Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms," *Los Angeles Times*, December 21, 1969, D8.

¹⁶ Lorena Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!: Chicano Protest and Patriotism During the Vietnam War Era* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005), 140.

¹⁷ Jaime Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement and the Vietnam War," (unpublished senior thesis, Yale University, 1997), 25, located at Gloria Arellanes Papers California State University, Los Angeles.

¹⁸ "Private First Class Eugene Arnold Obregon, USMC (Deceased)," *United States Marine Corps History Division*, accessed January 13, 2014, https://www.mcu.usmc.mil/historydivision/Pages/Who's%20Who/M-O/obergon_ea.aspx.

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march sites were chosen to initiate a dialogue about the significant contributions and role of the Mexican American community in times of war.¹⁹

The military tradition was idealized in the Mexican American community and the Moratorium Committee had to reconcile historic perspectives with its antiwar stance. The locations of the first march embraced the legacy of World War II and Korean War heroism.²⁰ Mass Mexican migration in 1910s and 1920s led to a large conscriptable population of young men from the community during World War II. Mexican American servicemen emerged from World War II with a feeling that legitimacy in the United States could be gained through military service.²¹ The Moratorium Committee, according to Muñoz, had to rebrand antiwar protest as honorable and resisting the draft as an act of bravery.²² A theme of the Moratorium Committee effort was to ask Mexican American men to question the traditional value they had placed on military service for the United States and dying for a country where they were subject to discrimination.²³ Committee members tried to foster identification with a cross-class, border-spanning phenomenon of Chicano cultural nationalism. This concept was articulated as Aztlán: a place encompassing the people and territories ceded to the United States in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo following the Mexican American War.²⁴ Aztlán focused on a militant Mexican revolutionary tradition instead of the heritage associated with service in the United States armed forces.

The march began at noon at the Five Points Memorial with a reading of the names of Mexican Americans who died in combat in the Vietnam War. Following the reading, marchers proceeded south on Indiana Street, following six Chicano men carrying a symbolic coffin. Behind them, people "...held a large blood-splattered portrait of Private J.J. Montes, a representative of the many Chicanos who had died in Vietnam."²⁵ Seventy Brown Berets led the rest of the march down Indiana Street and east on Michigan Avenue to Obregon Park.²⁶ About 2,000 people gathered at the park, and Brown Beret Prime Minister David Sánchez noted this was "the first mass rally in East L.A. in history."²⁷

Dramatic moments, including the roll call of names at the beginning of the march, were inspired by similar events at the national protests the previous November. The Chicano Moratorium organizers broadened the scope of their antiwar protest to emphasize Chicano cultural

¹⁹ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 25.

²⁰ Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!*, 12.

²¹ Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 8.

²² Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 16.

²³ Oropeza, *The Making of the Chicano Moratorium Against the War in Vietnam*, 17.

²⁴ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 14.

²⁵ Pelayo, "The Chicano Movement," 26.

²⁶ Williford, *Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms*.

²⁷ The numbers vary in different sources: Oropeza claimed it was "some 2,000" (Oropeza, *¡Raza Si! ¡Guerra No!* 148); David Sánchez claimed 5,000 (Sánchez, *Expedition through Aztlán*, 4); the *Belvedere Citizen* claimed it was 2,500 (Acuña, *A Community Under Siege*, 199).

David Sánchez Oral History Interview, UCLA Oral History Collection, accessed June 1, 2015, <http://oralhistory.library.ucla.edu/viewItem.do?ark=21198/zz002hkcv5&title=%20Sanchez,%20David>.

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nationalism by featuring a variety of speakers at the Obregon Park rally after the march, including representatives from the United Farm Workers, a group led by activist César Chávez. The organizers emphasized the differences between the Chicano community and the other groups protesting the Vietnam War.²⁸ They used the war as a rallying point to begin a dialogue about the inequality of Chicano people in American society at large. This set the Chicano Moratorium and its mission apart from general anti-Vietnam War sentiments.

The success of the rally on December 20, 1969 encouraged the Moratorium Committee, leading to the organization of future events and marches in East Los Angeles.²⁹ Membership increased and the activists attracted individuals and organizations who previously dismissed them in the wave of general antiwar activities sweeping the United States. The rally on December 20, 1969 was a significant turning point for the Chicano Moratorium, building enthusiasm and attracting national attention, which they channeled into organizing the National Chicano Moratorium march on August 29, 1970.³⁰

²⁸ Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No!*, 143.

²⁹ Marguerite V. Marin, *Social Protest in an Urban Barrio: A Student of the Chicano Movement, 1966-1974* (New York: University Press of America, 1991), 206.

³⁰ Chávez, “*¡Mi Raza Primero!*,” 65.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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https://www.mcu.usmc.mil/historydivision/Pages/Who's%20Who/M-O/obergon_ea.aspx.

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Williford, Stanley. “Chicano Rallies Hit War and Grape Firms.” *Los Angeles Times*, December 21, 1969, D8.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: California State University, Los Angeles;
University of California, Los Angeles

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 17.5 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Morin Memorial Square	Latitude: 34.040615	Longitude: -118.192667
2. War Memorial	Latitude: 34.040214	Longitude: -118.192712
3. Indiana and Chavez	Latitude: 34.040455	Longitude: -118.192460
4. Indiana and Michigan	Latitude: 34.038081	Longitude: -118.192434
5. Belvedere Middle School	Latitude: 34.038099	Longitude: -118.180629
6. Obregon Park	Latitude: 34.037699	Longitude: -118.177071

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

From Five Points Memorial at the intersection of East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue, North Indiana Street, and North Lorena Street in the City of Los Angeles, continuing on North Indiana Street and Michigan Avenue, and terminating at Obregon Park in unincorporated East Los Angeles.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary follows the route of the first Chicano Moratorium march, December 20, 1969.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Allison M. Lyons, Associate Architectural Historian, Amanda Yoder Duane, Associate Architectural Historian, Audrey von Ahrens, Architectural Historian I

organization: GPA Consulting, Inc.

street & number: 617 S. Olive Street, Suite 910

city or town: Los Angeles state: CA zip code: 90014

e-mail allison@gpaconsulting-us.com

telephone: (310) 792-2690

date: August 2016; Revised April 2017, November 2017

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
City or Vicinity: Los Angeles
County: Los Angeles County

Chicano Moratorium March December 20, 1969
Name of Property

Los Angeles, CA
County and State

State: California
Photographer: Allison M. Lyons
Date Photographed: June 2, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

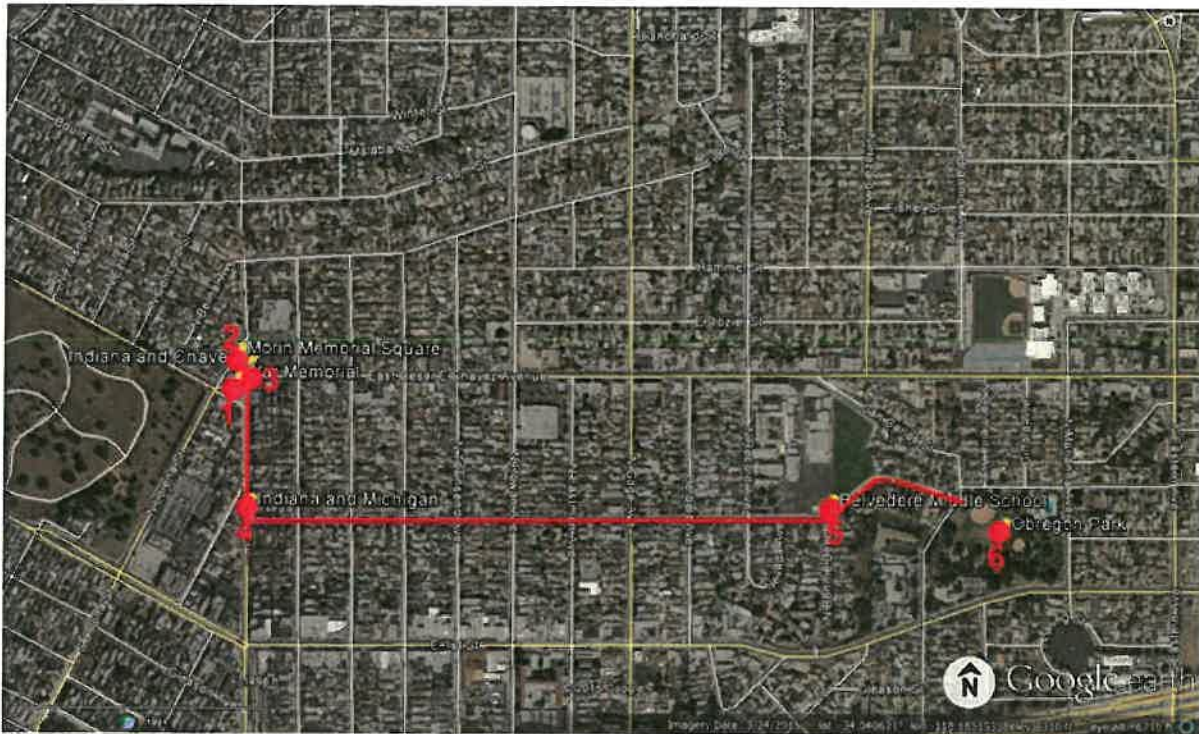
- 1 of 17 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing south
- 2 of 17 Morin Memorial Square at Five Points, camera facing northeast
- 3 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing south
- 4 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest
- 5 of 17 War Memorial at Five Points, camera facing northwest
- 6 of 17 Michigan Avenue at N. Alma Avenue, camera facing east
- 7 of 17 Michigan Avenue at N. Rowan Avenue, camera facing east
- 8 of 17 Michigan Avenue between N. Herbert and N. Record avenues, camera facing east
- 9 of 17 Michigan Avenue, Belvedere Middle School, camera facing west
- 10 of 17 Michigan Avenue, downward slope towards Obregon Park, camera facing southeast
- 11 of 17 Obregon Park, baseball diamonds, camera facing east
- 12 of 17 Obregon Park, children's playground (foreground) and gymnasium (background), camera facing southeast
- 13 of 17 Obregon Park, maintenance building south elevation, camera facing north
- 14 of 17 Obregon Park, gymnasium south elevation, camera facing northwest
- 15 of 17 Obregon Park, handball courts, camera facing west
- 16 of 17 Obregon Park, swimming pool north and west perimeter fence, camera facing southwest
- 17 of 17 Obregon Park, batting cage (left) and baseball diamonds, camera facing south

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Location Map

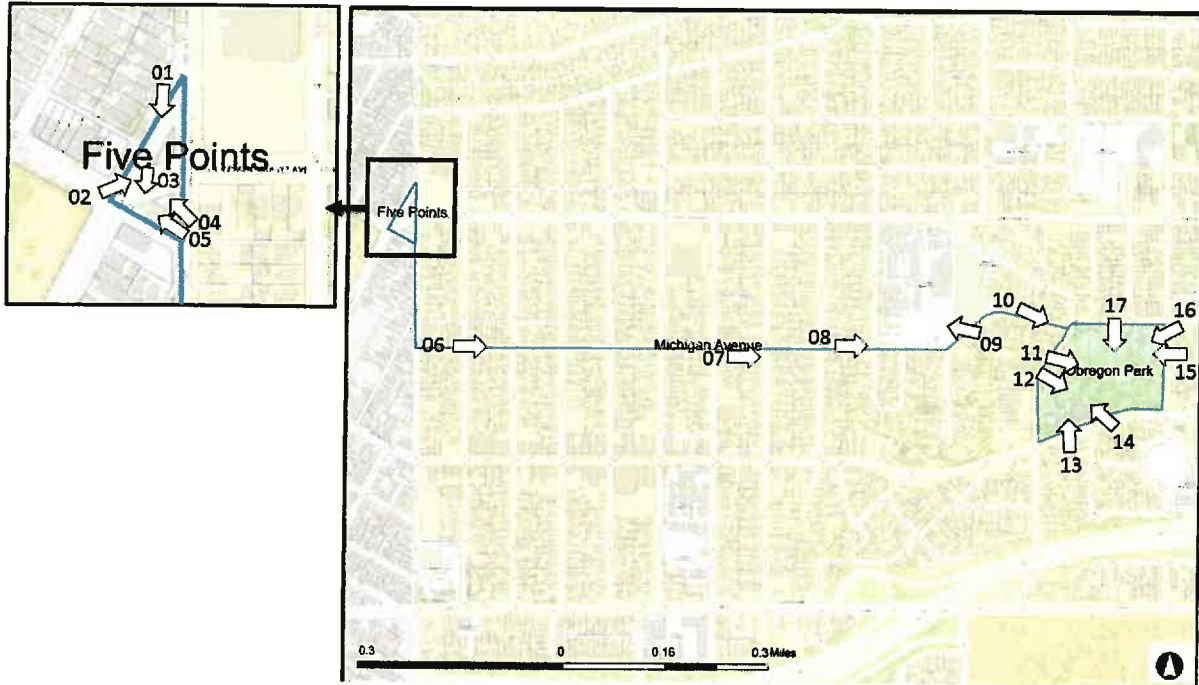
- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Morin Memorial Square | Latitude: 34.040615 | Longitude: -118.192667 |
| 2. War Memorial | Latitude: 34.040214 | Longitude: -118.192712 |
| 3. Indiana and Chavez | Latitude: 34.040455 | Longitude: -118.192460 |
| 4. Indiana and Michigan | Latitude: 34.038081 | Longitude: -118.192434 |
| 5. Belvedere Middle School | Latitude: 34.038099 | Longitude: -118.180629 |
| 6. Obregon Park | Latitude: 34.037699 | Longitude: -118.177071 |



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Sketch Map/Photo Key



Base maps courtesy of Los Angeles County Assessor

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.