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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Campo de Cahuenga Archaeological Discoveries FINDINGS TO BE UNVEILED AND DISCUSSED DURING COMMEMORATION OF 1847 PEACE TREATY SIGNING BETWEEN MEXICO AND US

WHAT: An MTA archaeologist has just discovered a section of the original 18th Century foundation of the Campo de Cahuenga adobe where an historical peace treaty was signed. Archaeologist John Foster of Greenwood and Associates will discuss the significance of his finds uncovered in a 6-1/2-foot by 6-1/2-foot area in the courtyard of the Campo de Cahuenga City Park, including foundation stones and fallen roof tiles, at an event marking the end of the Mexican-U.S. War in California. The celebration will include a reenactment of the January 13, 1847 meeting between Lt. Colonel John C. Fremont and General Andres Pico, in command of the Mexican Forces in California, which led to the cessation of hostilities between the two countries and paved the way for California and other Western states to join the Union. The MTA plans to build an interpretive public display in the park courtyard and parking lot. MTA has been responsible for safeguarding the buried past of the park since the mid-90s when construction on the adjacent Metro Red Line subway began. (see attached discovery timeline)

WHEN: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, January 13, 2002

WHERE: Campo de Cahuenga
3919 Lankershim Boulevard (across the street from Universal Studios and north of the Universal City Metro Red Line Station)

WHO: John Foster, archaeologist, Greenwood and Associates

VISUALS: Archaeological dig; Reenactment of signing of the treaty
Actor Roberto Garza, performing Gov. Pio Pico monologue;
Ray Herbeck's Frontier Legions in authentic uniform dress;
Firing of an 1847 Howitzer by Cap Cresap; Fiesta celebration with Carolina Russek Fiesta Dancers; Yesteryear Dancers with Mademoiselle Irene and Company

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**CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCE
FINDINGS AT CAMPO DE CAHUENGA**

1795 – Original adobe structure is built.

1847 – At the Campo de Cahuenga, the U.S. and Mexico sign the Articles of Capitulation, thus ending hostilities in California between the two nations.

1931 – J. Marshall Miller conducts first excavations of the site and discusses findings of the adobe structure's foundations.

1935 – Campo de Cahuenga obtains status as a State Historic Landmark.

1949 – The City of L.A. constructs a park building that memorializes the site's original adobe structure, and the site is declared a Memorial Park.

1983 – Final Environmental Impact Statement/Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIS/FEIR) evaluates historic and cultural resources at the site, and establishes a Memorandum of Agreement concerning the mitigation of impacts of the Metro Rail Project on historic properties, including the Campo de Cahuenga.

1994 – LACMTA enters into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Universal Studios, which requires the widening of Lankershim Blvd. in front of the Campo de Cahuenga historical resource.

1995 – LACMTA archaeologist encounters glass and ceramics, and documents the presence and orientation of the original cobblestone foundations and tile floor of the Campo.

1996 – LACMTA archaeologist encounters a stratum of roof tiles at 30 cm depth, and the foundations and floor tiles of the original Campo de Cahuenga adobe. Other resources found include lime mortar, dog paw prints, ceramic plates, edgeware, porcelain plates, a pipe bowl, rifle cartridges, and scattered Native American relics, among other items, throughout six different rooms.

1997 – The State Office of Historic Preservation determines that the Campo de Cahuenga Historical Memorial is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), under the archaeological criterion.

1998 – LACMTA submits a Section 4(f) to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) that proposes a significant reduction in the amount of Campo de Cahuenga land to be used for widening of Lankershim Blvd. in order to protect the site's adobe foundations.

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