


[Home](#)
[CEO Hotline](#)
[Viewpoint](#)
[Classified Ads](#)
[Archives](#)
[Metro.net \(web\)](#)

## Resources

[Safety](#)
[Pressroom \(web\)](#)
[Ask the CEO](#)
[CEO Forum](#)
[Employee Recognition](#)
[Employee Activities](#)
[Metro Projects](#)
[Facts at a Glance \(web\)](#)
[Archives](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[Research Center/Library](#)
[Metro Classifieds](#)
[Bazaar](#)

## Metro Info

[30/10 Initiative](#)
[Policies](#)
[Training](#)
[Help Desk](#)
[Intranet Policy](#)

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## Metro Asking Public to Help ID Artifacts Unearthed During Eastside Construction

- June 2005 discoveries date from late 1800s and early 1900s

By DAVE SOTERO

(March 8, 2007) Metro is seeking the public's help to identify possible next-of-kin for deceased identified through grave markers and headstones unearthed in Boyle Heights during construction of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension.

Human skeletal remains and artifacts dating from the late 1800s to early 1900s were discovered in June 2005 as construction crews began work to widen 1st Street adjacent to the LA County Crematorium and near the Evergreen Cemetery.

Construction was halted immediately and the area was declared an archeological zone. Metro consulted with the project's archeologist to ensure the proper removal and handling of the discoveries.

While most of the discoveries could not be identified, several grave markers and headstones have been unearthed that made identification of some of the deceased possible.

### Formed a sub-committee

Working with the Review Advisory Committee, a citizen's group that advises Metro on the light rail project, Metro formed an Ad-Hoc Sub Committee whose goals are to make recommendations for re-interment, ceremony and memorial.

Part of the committee's efforts have also been to help identify possible next-of-kin. A list of names found on headstones and grave markers, along with photos of the markers and stones, is available at [www.metro.net/lacemetery](http://www.metro.net/lacemetery).

Metro is asking members of the public to come forward if they are next-of-kin, and to submit information online that they think would help determine the ancestral history of the historic Los Angeles Cemetery.



Partial grave marker, 24 inches tall by 10 inches wide, is one of 70 shown on the [metro.net/lacemetery](http://metro.net/lacemetery) web site. Its Chinese characters read: Hoi Yup Wu Tse Grave; Yu Leung Lung Hoa Li.



Marker for T.E. Buzbee, born Aug. 12, 1865 and died Feb. 1, 1883.

Metro plans to re-inter all of the remains during an appropriate ceremony and present the community with a fitting memorial. The re-interment site and date are to be announced later.

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| [Home](#) | [Phone Directory](#) | [Forms Online](#) | [FIS Online](#)