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NAME Apalblassa, Cayetano (deceased November 14,
1889)

PUBLIC OFFICES HELD (DATE)

CITY:

City Council

1877-1878

COUNTY:

STATE

FEDERAL:

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

PORTRAIT:

ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED IN ENVELOPE:

PORTRAITS APPEARING ELSEWHERE (DATES)

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Local History Collection

Biography

NAME Apalblassa, Cayetano (deceased November 14, 1889)

Occupation Realtor

Address _____

Birth (Date and Place) September 16, 1847, Los Angeles

FATHER Juan Apalblassa

Birth (Date and Place) Chile

If Deceased, When Los Angeles

MOTHER _____

Birth (Date and Place) _____

If Deceased, When _____

IF MARRIED, TO WHOM Concepcion Carasco

Birth of Same (Date and Place) Los Angeles

If Deceased, When _____

When Married _____

CHILDREN (Married Names of Daughters)

John V.

Cayetano J.

Mary; Mrs. Maria Conley

Candelaria; Mrs. Finlay

Laura; Mrs. Thesing

SKETCH

(Please make this as full as possible, giving business affiliations, positions of honor or trust with dates if possible.)

Cayetano Apalblassa was born on September 16, 1847 in Los Angeles. After attending parochial school he entered the Wilmington Shipbuilding Company at Wilmington as a shipbuilder's apprentice. He served in this capacity for five years, from the time he was seventeen until he was twenty-two. (1864-1869)

His was the first wagon and machine shop here. In 1869 he opened his shop at what is now Apalblassa and Alameda Streets. In the course of business he re-tired mountain wagons, mended wagons, shod horses and conducted a general repair shop. His shop was a meeting place for those interested in civic and political happenings of the day.

In December 1877 Cayetano Apalblassa was elected to the City Council from the first ward where he served one term. During his councilmanic term he was a member of the police committee.

In 1883 Mr. Apalblassa subdivided his property opposite the Plaza and erected living quarters for the Chinese residents of Los Angeles. This was the first subdivision in Los Angeles. It was opened for tenancy on February 3, 1883. All property was leased on a twenty-five year basis.

Mr. Apalblassa was thrown by a runaway horse and sustained injuries which resulted in his death on November 14, 1889.

ANECDOTES AND PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS:

The Apalblassa home was in a seven acre orchard directly opposite the old Plaza where he lived with his family. In 1882 the feeling against the Chinese residents was intense. The murder of a Los Angeles police officer by a Chinaman precipitating the lynching of several Chinese and the burning of Chinatown. A fire in 1882 completely wiped out the then existing Chinatown and rendered the Chinese homeless. When told of the tragedy, Mr. Apalblassa sent word to the Chinese to come to his home for refuge. He put them up in barns and temporary structures until their leader arranged with Mr Apalblassa to subdivide his orchard into lots and lease the property on twenty-five year leases to the Chinese. This is the location of the present Chinatown that is now being razed to make way for the new Union Railroad Depot. Incidentally, the Apalblassa tract was the first real estate sub-division in Los Angeles.

SKETCH

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

BOOKS:

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS:

L.A.Vital Statistics - Death Records
L.A.Probate Court Records

PERSONAL INTERVIEW: Dr. C. A. Apalblassa (Biogra-
phee's son)

INTERVIEWED BY: Florence H. Goddard

DATE OF INTERVIEW December 19, 1937

Written by: Florence H. Goddard

December 21, 1937

Apablasa

SEPULVEDA, APABLASA HEIR FIGHT AT END

Partial Distribution of Funds
Ordered in \$750,000 Estate,
Part of Spanish Land Grant

TEN-YEAR ~~COURT~~ BATTLE
JUN 28 1938

Superior Judge Burnell Rules
in Favor of Children by Two
Husbands of Late Matron

Partial ^{Clark} distribution of
funds in the Apablasa-
Sepulveda estate, pending
in courts for nearly ten
years, was begun yester-
day by Superior Judge
Charles S. Burnell, thus
bringing an end to the
mass of litigation.

The \$750,000 estate was left by
Concepcion Apablasa-Sepulveda.
She died in 1929, and thereafter
grose a court battle which lasted
a decade to determine her heirs.

CHILDREN WIN

Judge Burnell ruled in favor
of children resulting from her
marriages to Cayetano Apablasa,
early Spanish resident, and Ilde-
fonso Sepulveda. They include
John V. Apablasa, Dr. Cayetano
Apablasa, Laura Theising and
Maria Conley.

The bulk of the estate—several
parcels of downtown real estate—
was part of a Spanish land grant
which Mrs. Apablasa-Sepulveda
inherited from her first husband,
Cayetano Apablasa, on his death
45 years ago, according to Judge
Burnell.

Sale of some of the property,
the Dalma Garage—opposite the
Biltmore Hotel on Grand avenue,
for \$150,000 was approved by the
court. The proceeds are to be
distributed at once to the long-
waiting heirs. Liquidation of the
entire estate is expected to be
completed forthwith.