

Peralta Hacienda Audio Scripts

PERALTA LAND LOSS ROOM			
Stop	Speaker/title	Script	duration
200	<p>Californio perspective on the US takeover.</p> <p>from the writings of</p> <p>Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo</p>	<p>“The Stars and Stripes now waves in Alta California...The language now spoken in our country, the laws that govern us and the faces we see daily, are new to us who are the owners of the land, and naturally the newcomers are antagonistic to our interests and rights. However, what does that matter to the conqueror? He wants his own welfare and not ours! I consider this very natural in individuals but I condemn it in a government that had promised to respect and our rights and make others respect them, and to treat us like its own sons. But, what good is it to complain? The evil is done and can’t be undone.”</p>	<p>1:16</p> <p>Actor:</p> <p>Alex Saragoza</p>
201	<p>La perspectiva de los californios sobre el toma de california por los E.E.U.U.</p> <p>from the writings of</p> <p>Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo</p>	<p>Ya el pendón de las estrellas ondea en la Alta California ...El idioma que ahora se habla en nuestro país, las leyes que nos rigen y las caras con que diariamente tropezamos, son nuevas para nosotros los dueños del suelo y por supuesto antagónicas a nuestros intereses y derechos, pero ¿Qué importa eso al conquistador? ¡ él quiere el bien propio y no el nues-tro! cosa que yo considero muy natural en los individuos pero que vitupero en un gobierno que había prometido respetar y hacer respetar nuestros derechos y tratarnos como a hijos, pero ¿a qué bien quejarnos? el mal está hecho y ya no tiene remedio.</p>	<p>1:17</p> <p>Actor:</p> <p>Alex Saragoza</p>

<p>202</p>	<p>East Bay Gold Rush era night spot, 1849.</p> <p>from the diary of</p> <p>Harry Morse, who was to become the first sheriff of Alameda County</p>	<p>Where the road enters what is now East Oakland, stood a notorious rendezvous and fandango house known all over the country as the “Chileno Gate”. This institution had in connection with it a bull pen, where throngs of Mexicans assembled on Sundays to witness the exciting spectacles of bull-fighting, horse racing, cock-fighting and other equally interesting and sanguinary exhibitions. The Chileno Gate was an earthly pandemonium nightly. Pretty women were in attendance to attract patrons, and the discordant scrapings of an asthmatic violin excited the Terpsichorean proclivities of the gathered rabble who alternately danced and drank of the vilest of liquors until the full break of the coming day.</p>	<p>2:51 Actor: Wells Twombly</p>
<p>203</p>	<p>East Bay’s landscape in 1849.</p> <p>from the diary of</p> <p>Harry Morse, arriving as a ship’s mate, aged 15.</p>	<p>“... the live oaks looked in the dim distance like an oasis in the midst of a great, brown countryside. The low shoreline was backed up by high hills upon some of whose ridges grew immense redwood trees. The crew’s curiosity about the Contra Costa grew. And finally a few of us determined on an exploring expedition. Obtaining one of the ship’s small boars, we set sail on the fair morning of August 15, 1849, and landed at about the foot of Oakland’s present Broadway. That is how I came to see the oak groves and the site of the city in all of its untouched original</p>	<p>1:48 Actor: Wells Twombly</p>

		<p>beauty.</p> <p>We walked up from the waterfront into the edge of these mighty trees and gazed about us with a feeling of surprise and pleasure at the beautiful vistas spread before us. There was nothing to break the solitude of the place except the occasional lowing of semi-wild cattle or the bleating of calves belonging to the herd. Over the broad acres as far as the eye could reach there was no sign of man or his habitation. The undergrowth was full of quail, while now and then a deer would start up and bound away, giving a startled, almost reproachful look at the intruders. The country was lovely, the climate delightful. Here in the contra Costa nature had been most prodigal. Here on this ideal site for a great city, Oakland was to be born as a town in 1852 and incorporated as a city two years later.”</p>	
204	<p>Population Deluge</p> <p>Narration by</p> <p>Holly Alonso</p>	<p>After the U.S. Mexican War, gold was discovered in the Sierras. A flood of men and goods poured into California desperate for riches; the population went up 100 times in four years! Californios and Native Americans soon became a minority. The Bay Area, on the direct route to the gold fields, was hit much harder and faster by this population deluge than Southern California.</p>	<p>2:22</p> <p>Actor: Tessa Koning-Martinez</p>
205	On Race, 1851	Many citizens of California have received from nature a very dark skin; nevertheless, there are among them	33 secs

	<p>the words of</p> <p>Noriega de la Guerra transcribed at the California Consitutional Convention.</p>	<p>men who have heretofore been allowed to vote, and not only that, but to fill the highest public offices. It would be very unjust to deprive them of the privilege of citizens merely because nature had not made them white.</p>	<p>Actor: Alex Saragoza</p>
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<p>206</p>	<p>Looking back at the Peraltas and the squatters</p> <p><u>From The History of Alameda County</u> by</p> <p>William Halley, writing in 1880.</p>	<p>During the summer of 1850, the notorious firm of Moon, Carpentier and Adams appeared upon the scene in Oakland. They squatted upon the land, and built a small house at the foot of Broadway. They sought not our Signor Peralta, the rightful owner of the soil, to purchase or lease his acres, but set him boldly at defiance, relying upon other means than those usually dictated by a sense of right and justice, to maintain possession and grab all that they could. Moon and Carpentier were lawyers; the latter, at least, was well versed in all the devious ways of chicanery and legal trickery, and being altogether free from the slightest trace of honest conviction or the merest scruple of conscience, at once entered upon a career of fraud and villainy that has no parallel in the annals of our State.</p> <p>Carpentier and his companions boldly assumed that the ground was government land, and immediately parceled it out among themselves. The State was then in its infancy, the Courts were not organized, and justice was tardy. Other squatters soon followed.</p>	<p>1:48</p> <p>Actor:</p> <p>Wells Twombly</p>
<p>207</p>	<p>1850s report on Spanish documents in U.S. courts.</p>	<p>The boundaries of the land were too indefinite to enable the Court to identify it, and the U.S. surveyor to mark it out. . . The grant states that it is bounded on the South by the river Leandro. That was a well known landmark, and well known to the ancient Mexican inhabitants, but</p>	<p>1:09</p> <p>Actor:</p> <p>Wells Twombly</p>

	<p>from a U.S. legal document</p>	<p>as to the cerito mentioned in the application, there must be doubt, because it is in proof that there are various cerritos at least a dozen of them all along on the coast.</p> <p>There is no doubt about that.</p> <p>Cerritos, arroyos and willow groves are so numerous in that locality, and similar in appearance, that it is impossible to ascertain from the papers or testimony what particular cerrito, arroyo or willow grove is referred to.</p>	
208	<p>“As the ranchos shrank”</p> <p>Narration by</p> <p>Holly Alonso on Native Americans after the Gold Rush.</p>	<p>As the ranchos shrank, very few English-speaking landholders or squatters would hire Native Americans or let them live on “their” land. Native American workers were forced off the land to the outskirts of the fast growing towns, where many disappeared into other identities for self-protection. The lucky few lived in small outlying villages where they were able to maintain some of their customs while adjusting to the massive onslaught of emigrants.</p>	<p>53 sec</p> <p>Actor:</p> <p>Tessa Koning-Martinez</p>
209	<p>Kidnapping: massacres in the Gold Rush era by the</p>	<p>Forced removal and kidnapping did not start with the Gold Rush: The Californios had also taken Native Americans by force from counties to the north and brought them to the Bay Area in the decades before.</p>	<p>1:07</p> <p>Actor:</p> <p>Tessa Koning-</p>

	<p>incoming U.S. settlers and U.S. authorities left Native children without parents.</p> <p>Narration by</p> <p>Holly Alonso from Aimee Arrigoni and Bev Ortiz</p>	<p>Many were kidnapped inland in the northern counties, then brought on foot and in wagonloads to be sold as domestic servants in the Bay Area.</p> <p>In Saint Mary’s chapel on Rancho San Antonio, in the registry of baptisms, the identity of the child’s birth parents is missing in almost every case, hinting at the well-known and accepted practice of kidnapping.</p>	<p>Martinez</p>
<p>210</p>	<p>Native American destiny</p> <p>written by</p> <p>Peter H. Burnett, first governor of California,</p>	<p>That a war of extermination will continue to be waged between the two races until the Indian race becomes extinct, must be expected; while we cannot anticipate this result with but painful regret, the inevitable destiny of the race is beyond the power and wisdom of man to avert.</p>	<p>34sec Actor: Wells Twombly</p>
<p>211</p>	<p>Act for the government and Protection of the Indians,</p>	<p>Any Indian found loitering and strolling about, or frequenting public places where liquors are sold, begging or living an immoral or profligate course of life shall be liable to be arrested on the complaint of any</p>	<p>1:10 Actor: Wells Twombly</p>

	<p>passed in 1850.</p>	<p>resident citizen of the county and brought to any Justice of the Peace, and satisfied that he is a vagrant shall make out a warrant authorizing and requiring the officer having him in charge or custody, to hire out such a vagrant within twenty-four hours, to the highest bidder for any term not exceeding four months.</p> <p>Complaints may be made before a Justice of the Peace, by white persons or Indians, but in no case shall a white man be convicted of any offense upon the testimony of an Indian.</p> <p>When an Indian is convicted of an offense punishable by fine, any white person may give bond. The Indian shall be compelled to work for the person, until he has discharged or canceled the fine against him, providing the persons bailing shall treat the Indian humanely, clothe and feed him.. . .</p>	
<p>212</p>	<p>Treaties with California’s Native Americans “lost” by US Congress.</p> <p>Narration by</p>	<p>In 1850, the US Congress set out to negotiate treaties with California’s Native Americans.</p> <p>Three commissioners met with leaders of under half of the Native population. The Congress approved 18 treaties with some of the leaders, and assigned them remote lands, far from their traditional homelands.</p>	<p>2:00</p> <p>Actor: Tessa Koning-Martinez</p>

	<p>Holly Alonso</p>	<p>The Native American groups affected by the treaties began to move onto the lands they had been assigned.</p> <p>In 1850, Congress also passed an act saying that all lands not claimed within two years would pass into the public domain.</p> <p>The groups who had not been contacted by the commissioners were not aware, nor were they notified, that they needed to claim the lands they lived on, and failed to meet the deadline.</p> <p>As a result, these groups lost all rights to their land just a year later, in 1852. Only a handful of Mission Indian groups had lands protected by early Spanish and Mexican land grants.</p> <p>In 1852 the United States Senate, under pressure from the California legislature, even refused to ratify the eighteen treaties they had approved a year before. These became known as the 18 “lost” treaties. Since the groups covered by these treaties had already left their traditional areas to move to the assigned lands, they also became landless and homeless.</p>	
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<p>213</p>	<p>“My daughter is wild and dark-skinned.”</p> <p>from the correspondence of</p> <p>Antonio Peralta</p>	<p>The French man who bought the land the other day sends this letter requesting some information. You, who are well acquainted with the customs of those of use who were born here, will see that he has insulted me in several ways. Once when I was not at home and my brother was in the house, he came and asked my brother permission to talk to my daughter. My said no. On another occasion he came and asked the same from me. I told him a thing or two, but he didn’t understand me and I didn’t understand him either.</p> <p>Four days ago there was a race in San Leandro. My family went and he wanted to take my daughter for a ride in his wagon; he asked permission from one of my sons. My son said no. All this has been an insult to me. He thinks that because my skin is dark I am of mixed blood and just may be wrong! My friend, please explain to him that he is behaving badly. I told him you would explain these things to him. My daughter does not want him. Tell him I think that he wants to marry my daughter for his own selfish reasons, but not for her sake, because the girl is wild and dark-skinned. You can tell him everything I am saying, and and you can tell me how he responds.</p>	<p>2:13</p> <p>Actor: Carlos Barón</p>
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<p>214</p>	<p>—La muchacha es fiera y prieta—</p> <p>carta de</p> <p>Antonio Peralta</p>	<p>El francés que compró la tierra el otro día conduce ésta para que usted le explique lo que en ella verá y usted pondrá de más; pues usted sabe bien las costumbres de los del país pues este señor me ha insultado en los modos siguientes: una vez estando yo fuera de mi casa hallándose al cuidado de ella igualmente mi ermarno vino él y solicitó licencia de él para ir hablar con mi hija y igualmente no le permitio; y otra vez vino y quería que yo le permitiese lo mesmo. Yo le dije algunas cosas pero ni el me entendió bien pero ni yo le entendí a él.</p> <p>Hace 4 días que hubo una carrera en san Leandro y fue mi familia y allá quería pasear a mi hija en su carreta con permiso de uno de mis hijos. Mi hijo le dijo que no, todo esto a sido un insulto para mí. Éste piensa que porque tengo la cara prieta soi algún rallado pues quisás se equiboca; pues mi amigo, ágale usted capas de todo lo mal que a echo poniendo usted algo de más. Llo quedé con él llamarlo cuando usted bino para que usted le esplicara lo que hay al caso. La muchacha sé bien que no quiere, mas dígale que yo pienso que el quiere casarse con mi hija por algún interes mas no por ella porque la muchacha es fiera y prieta, todo lo que le digo dígaselo, y con el me escribe y me dise algo de lo que el responda para mi gobierno.</p>	<p>1:52</p> <p>Actor:</p> <p>Carlos Barón</p>
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<p>215</p>	<p>Lumberjack’s view of Antonio Peralta, August, 1857</p> <p>from the diary of Arthur Lamson</p>	<p>This Antonio Peralta, who bears the title of Don, is very rich, and claims a large tract of land, on a portion of which are situated the villages of Oakland, Clinton and San Antonio.</p> <p>But a great part of his lands have been seized by squatters by virtue of an act of the legislature giving each settler a pre-emption claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land. Peralta’s lands, as well as those of nearly every other Mexican land holder in the Sate, have been taken in this manner, in the hope that his claim would be rejected by the United States Commissioners appointed to adjudicate these land titles, when the squatters would become owners of valuable farms at a merely nominal price...</p> <p>I was at Peralta’s house some months since, when a man in the course of conversation used the word “squatter.” Peralta could not, or would not, speak English, but he well understood the signification of that word, and I was struck with the expression of scorn and hatred which he threw into his countenance as he slowly repeated, “squatter! squatter!”</p>	<p>1:20 Actor: Wells Twombly</p>
<p>216</p>	<p>“My honor is jeopardized,”</p>	<p>With tremendous shame I take up my pen only bother you, but may I ask you to do me the favor of lending me 2,600 dollars? My dear friend, if I weren’t in the mess</p>	<p>1:02 Actor:</p>

	<p>from the correspondence of</p> <p>Antonio Peralta</p>	<p>that I am in, I would not bother you. I thought I had gotten through the problems with a certain piece of land, but the buyer defaulted, as my son in law Mendizábal will tell you when he brings this message. He will tell you about this and some other affairs of mine he is bringing to discuss with you.</p> <p>My friend, I am sorry to bother you but no less than my honor is jeopardized. I place my hopes in you that I will get through the distress I find myself in.</p>	<p>Carlos Barón</p>
217	<p>—Con muchísima bergüenza tomo la pluma—</p> <p>carta de</p> <p>Antonio Peralta</p>	<p>Con muchísima bergüenza tomo la pluma tan solo por molestarlo, y es que me aga el favor de abilitarme con la suma de dos mil seiscientos pesos; pues compadrito, sino me allara tan comprometido como me allo no le molestaría. Llo pensaba aber salido de estos compromisos en que me encuentro con un pedazo de tierra pero el comprador me faltó como se lo dirá el portador que lo es mi hijo político Mendizábal, quien lo inpondrá de otros asuntos míos que lleba para con usted.</p> <p>Compadre usted me dispense la molesta en que lo ocupo pues me ba nada menos que mi onor y en usted tengo la esperanza de salir de la congoja en que me encuentro.</p>	<p>1:01</p> <p>Actor: Carlos Barón</p>
218	<p>Vicente loses his land</p>	<p>William Heath Davis, (vo): In my travels around the bay on business, I had observed a picturesque spot for a</p>	<p>7:30</p>

	<p><u>Taken from 75 Years in California by</u></p> <p>William Heath Davis, Hawaiian American hide and tallow trader doing business out of Boston</p> <p>Adaptation by Holly Alonso</p>	<p>town on the estuary of San Antonio, due east from San Francisco. The site was known in early times as Encinal de Temescal, on Vicente Peralta's portion of Rancho San Antonio. This site is the present city of Oakland.</p> <p>My relation with Don Vicente was good, socially and commercially. In the fall of 1846, he was in my store making purchases.</p> <p>Davis: I have a proposition to make for your consideration. I desire you to dine with me this evening.</p> <p>Davis: There is a spot on that part of your rancho that pleases me for a town. I offer you five thousand dollars cash for two-thirds of the Encinal, to build a Catholic church, and to construct a wharf and run a ferry-boat from San Francisco to this new town, all of which to be at my cost and expense. Whenever sales of lots are made, we would both sign the deeds, and each take our pro rata of the money.</p> <p>Vicente Peralta: I will take the matter under advisement and let you know. What is the extent of the land you seek to purchase?</p> <p>Davis: Fifteenth street from the bay to Lake Merritt is</p>	<p>Actor: Michael Brown</p>
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		<p>the northern boundary, and thence from Lake Merritt, following the meandering of the shore to the intersection of Fifteenth street with the shore line of the bay of San Francisco.</p> <p>Vicente: I'm not yet ready to to give you an answer.</p> <p>Davis, vo: I described the project to the leading citizens of San Francisco.</p> <p>Davis: . . . a "Brooklyn" for San Francisco-an outlet for the coming city!</p> <p>Gentlemen, all at once, in a hubbub: We're willing to buy a block or more of land for a retreat so near the metropolis, whenever you complete your arrangements with Peralta. Let's map the town.</p> <p>Davis: vo I had numerous conversations with Vicente Peralta.</p> <p>Davis: If you decline to accept my generous offer, you will suffer from a business standpoint; your land will be squatted on, and your cattle slaughtered without your knowledge at night by evil-doers, and the meat shipped to San Francisco and sold.</p>	
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		<p>Davis: Beef is selling here at retail from three-quarters of a dollar to one dollar per pound. I paid that price to supply my table with meat in the winter of 1849-50. If you sell me the land I will have the tract inclosed at once with a good fence; I will start the town with the best and wealthiest people of San Francisco, which would be a body-guard against the appropriation of your property without your knowledge and consent.</p> <p>Vicente: Well, I must get the consent of my father for my action in the matter.</p> <p>Davis, vo: This was simply done to put me off, as he hated to part with any land, although convinced that it would be for his benefit to put some of his possessions into money. It was the old notion of the big rancheros of the department to have leagues of land, with thousands of animals.</p> <p>Davis: This is Luis Maria Peralta. This is James Alex. Forbes British vice-Consul for California. He is married to a sister of Vicente's wife.</p> <p>Luis: Yes, I know her well. The land you desire to buy from my son Vicente absolutely belongs to <u>him</u>.</p>	
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		<p>Davis: I preserved in my project year after year, to induce Don Vicente to yield to my liberal proffer, as I considered I was doing him a kindness. But it was of no avail, and the stubborn man stood alone in his singular notion, against the judgment and advice of his good wife, of the British vice-Consul (his brother-in-law), of the Catholic priest, and other friends of Don Vicente, all of whom advised him to accept my proposition by all means.</p> <p>Davis, vo: Boatmen from San Francisco brought meat from the cattle belonging to Vicente Peralta to the city. The squatters on his lands killed the cattle with rifles in the night, under the shadow of the oak grove. Vicente and a vaquero once came on a party of men quartering a beef, preparing to ship it to San Francisco. The squatters immediately pointed their guns at Peralta and his vaquero, who departed in order to save their lives. This slaughtering of his animals began as early as 1848, before the discovery of gold. In the fore-part of 1850 I made my last call on Don Vicente, his Encinal already covered with squatters.</p> <p>Davis: I renew once more my offer.</p> <p>Vicente: I am not ready to sell.</p>	
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		<p>Davis. But your loss in cattle must exceed one hundred thousand dollars. I have heard it estimated by others much above that figure.</p> <p>Vicente: I will not sell.</p> <p>Davis (vo): He sold the site that I wanted to buy from him in the fall of 1850, for eleven thousand dollars, after spending more than the amount he received, in fruitless lawsuits, for the possession of his lands from the squatters. Everything that I had predicted to Peralta, several years before proved to be a reality, and he lost a large fortune by his stupidity, in refusing to have me associated with him in the ownership of some of his land. I had selected the best men in San Francisco, as founders of the new town I had conceived to build. Probably we would have prevented Carpentier, Adams, Moon and others, from becoming citizens of the town, adverse to our title.</p> <p>Davis, vo: Several years after the above event, one bright spring morning, I met Don Vicente accidentally on Broadway in Oakland.</p> <p>Vicente: I invite you to a French breakfast!</p> <p>Vicente: I remember our friendship when you stayed at</p>	
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		<p>the adobe, and we did business together. The bear that scared Encarnacion, your first bear and bull fight . . Yo fui muy tonto, de no aver aceptado su proposicion, tocante al Encinal de Temescal ."</p> <p>Davis, translating: (I was very foolish not to have accepted your proposition, in regard to the Encinal de Temescal</p> <p>Vicente: Es inutil de llorar por leche derramada."</p> <p>Davis, translating: It is useless to cry over spilt milk.</p>	
<p>219</p>	<p>What did the press say?</p> <p>from the <u>Daily Alta California</u> newspaper, 1854, 1857</p>	<p>Daily Alta California, Feb 8, 1854</p> <p>Yesterday was a busy day. Six cases, including the famous Peralta case, were decided by the U.S. Land Commissioners... The case is of immense importance and will probably occasion severe pecuniary loss to many...Mr. Simpson made a motion for leave to insert the daughters of Luis Peralta and their heirs as claimants in addition to the sons. . the motion was refused.</p> <p>Daily Alta California, Feb 11, 1854</p> <p>. . There are three classes of settlers on the Peralta claim. There are about 300 persons, including the inhabitants of the three towns of Alameda, San Antonio and Clinton, holding under the Peraltas; there are about 1500 squatters holding by preemption and without</p>	<p>2:13</p> <p>Actor: Wells Twombly</p>

		<p>regard to any Spanish claim. and the third class are persons holding under the Castro claim. This class includes about 1,000 who purchased from Moon, Adams and Carpentier . . .</p> <p>Daily Alta California, Feb 16, 1854 The celebrated Peralta claim, covering about 60,000 acres of land across the bay, east of the city, was decided by the U.S. Land Commission of the 8th. . . .news of the confirmation caused a great excitement in Oakland where most of the settlers had purchased under persons claiming adversely to the Peraltas.</p> <p>Daily Alta California, Dec 14, 1857 The owners of large tracts of land, under Mexican grants, on the eastern side of the bay, refuse to sell, but offer to lease their land. Among those persons are the proprietors of the Peralta, Estudillo, De Soto, Castro, Vallejo, De la Guerra, and Alviso ranches, reaching from Oakland to Santa Clara. It is only of late that the settlement of the titles have enabled the ranch-holders to drive off the squatters, who for several years, covered their land, and not only refused to pay rent, but were in almost constant feuds and sometimes deadly quarrels with them...The landholders, now having the advantage, are now determined to do what they can to drive their political and social enemies from the land.</p>	
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		<p>Daily Alta California, Dec 23, 1857 The Californios are endeavoring to establish a system of serfdom--of landlord and tenant--similar to that existing in the old country. But the American people, the material they are trying to convert into serfs, were made for no such purpose. . .</p>	
<p>220</p>	<p>Sisters' betrayal</p> <p>from the correspondence of</p> <p>Antonio Peralta</p>	<p>The day before yesterday I learned that Bernarda is seeking witnesses to testify that my father was insane. One such witness was Jose Sepulveda. I asked Sepulveda today. He told me that he was asked and he refused. He told me that he was possibly the only one visiting my father and that my father liked him because Sepulveda's wife was my father's relative and that Sepulveda visited him quite frequently and never saw him acting crazy. He told me that he always talked coherently. I asked him if he would testify if asked and he agreed. I asked him to do it, in case you happen to ask him. He told me he wouldn't say no. This is the most important witness because all the members of my family know that he visited my father. That is why Bernarda is looking for him in particular. If you ask him he will come right away. I beg you to talk to him and to find out beforehand what his testimony will be and maybe advise him what else to say. My father even went and gave little gold pieces to his sons, Selpulveda told me.</p>	<p>1:44</p> <p>Actor: Carlos Barón</p>

		<p>Greet your wife and family and ask for whatever you need from me, your friend who kisses your hands.</p> <p>Don't let the messenger see you with Sepulveda, that is my worry.</p>	
221	<p>...que declaren que mi padre estaba loco—</p> <p>carta de</p> <p>Antonio Peralta.</p>	<p>Antes de ayer supe que Bernarda habia andado buscando testigos para que declaren que mi padre estaba loco, a uno de ellos se fue a Jose Sepulbeda, hoy llame al dicho Sepulbeda y le pregunte me dijo que era cierto que lo combidaba para ello y el se le escuso que no queria pues como el dicho Sepulveda era el unico quisas que visitaba a mi padre y mi padre lo veia con cariño por la mujer que el la reconocia por pariente, y Sepulbeda lo visitaba bastante y seguido y me dijo que nunca lo vio fuerea de sentidos conversava cualquiera cosa muy bien.</p> <p>Le dije que si podria dar declaracion sobre esto en caso que fuera preguntado y me dijo que si Yo le dije que si quien lo invitaba que no se negara me dijo que no se negaria, este testigo nos va a valer mucho porque toda la familia podemos decir que este vistitaba a mi padre, por esta razon Bernarda lo busco a el y otros pero este es el principal, ya quedo el entendido de que si que quien lo invitaba ira pronto, por lo que suplico a quien hable con el y se informe de lo que el vaya a declarar y algo mas puede quien albertirle, hasta les anduvo dando a sus hijitos</p>	<p>1:42</p> <p>Actor: Carlos Barón</p>

		<p>escuditos de oro me dijo Sepulbeda, saludame a mi comadre y familia y quien made lo que guste a su affma compadre B.S.M</p> <p>No deje de verse con Sepulbeda el portador lo es mi cuiado el puede dar alguna de como se allaba mi padre pues este salia visitando algunas veses valido de que mi padre lo trataba con cariño como el puede decir, agale quien algunas preguntas haver si nos puede servir de testigo.</p>	
<p>222</p>	<p>What a fishing trip the devil has gone on!</p> <p>from the correspondence of Antonio Peralta</p>	<p>My dear Sister</p> <p>I have already settled with your lawyers because lies have had so much help that they have become truth, and the truth, lies. But God knows what is truth and what is lies. He will judge this and will know which of us is right.</p> <p>I am sending you the title which my father gave me so you can see that I was not greedy but was accurate, and have exactly the land that he gave me in 1842.</p> <p>I believe that he was free to dispose of what he owned in the way he wanted. I have paid the taxes on the land he indicated was mine. I followed the formal process by which he gave me possession, calling witnesses and setting the boundaries. I did not ask him for this, it</p>	<p>2:08</p> <p>Actor: Carlos Plazola</p>

		<p>was his spontaneous wish. As for the other brothers, I witnessed the fact that he gave them possession on the day after he granted my land to me. I know he was not crazy at this time because he came by himself on horseback. Now it has been said that he was crazy, and this viewpoint is still being maintained, even now!</p> <p>What a fishing trip the devil has been on, with so many false oaths, perhaps for some vile gain. And you, why have you hidden the draft, thereby continuing the calumnies against Forbes and against us? The copies are so similar, both the copy with witnesses and the copy without witnesses. That is the only difference. Why don't you produce it so that the whole truth be known, and not burden your conscience with lies as you have done?</p> <p>I know what is in the two copies: My father left you no right to the land. I address myself to you because you have been the agitator, doubtless seduced by some persons in order to disturb our peace. I didn't need this, because I said to my father on a specific occasion that I wanted to ask for land and he told me not to do so. He asked us so often to give him the pleasure of seeing us remain united. Obedience was a mistake for me. How badly he was deceived about his family's obedience to</p>	
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		<p>him.</p> <p>Take the paper which my father gave me as title and put it into the fire or tear it up as it serves me no purpose, but has been the very thing that got all the legal proceedings going. Perhaps you will know his handwriting. I send it to you so that you may not think that it was my influence or greed. I am telling you so that you will be satisfied.</p> <p>God may not be pleased that you have roasted the chicken and another eats it, but if that has been your pleasure much good may it do you, and I don't have much doubt about the results of that.</p> <p>I have given for you one thousand five hundred acres and for Teodora's children, three hundred acres, total 1800. Ignacio Peralta</p>	
<p>223</p>	<p>1861 epic floods cause the demise of the cattle industry.</p> <p><small>from <u>Up and Down California in 1860-1864</u> by</small></p>	<p>. . . The amount of rain that has fallen is unprecedented in the history of the state. . . The great central valley of the state is under water. . . three to four million acres! An old acquaintance, a bucaro, came down from a ranch that was overflowed. The floor of their one-storehouse was six weeks under water before the house went to pieces. . . Steamers ran back over the ranches from the river, carrying stock to the hills. . . .</p>	<p>53 sec</p> <p>Actor Wells Twombly</p>

	William Brewer of the U.S. Geological Expedition	William Brewer of the U.S. Geological Survey, 1861	
224	<p>Horace Carpentier defrauds Domingo Peralta</p> <p>from the fictionalized writings based on family oral history of</p> <p>Domingo Peralta descendant Mary Carleton, in the early 20th century</p>	<p>“...Sobrino, I am sore pressed by these gringos. They take my lands. First a piece here, then a piece there. I take my case to the court...the jury, which is composed of squatters, decides against me. And now comes this caballero, Don Horacio. I would like your advice about him, Jose. Of course he is a gringo, but he knows the law and he says he is my friend. He comes riding on his white horse, you have seen him, have you not, wearing his blue cape with the brass button, his blue pants and large, black sombrero? He is very fair of skin, has blue eyes, a not very tall man, neither handsome nor yet ugly. He came only last week, dined and spent the night...He speaks such beautiful Spanish. He finally told me that if I would sign some papers, written to be sure, in English, he would help me to win against the squatters, and I have signed. But I do not feel easy about it.”</p> <p>Time passes and Domingo Peralta continued to fight the squatters. Don Horacio now seldom stopped to do him the honor of a visit...Finally nothing was left to Don Domingo but his homestead. In 1865 he died...</p>	<p>3:50</p> <p>Actor: Tessa Koning-Martinez</p>

One day Don Horacio, attired in a long, black broadcloth coat, driving a splendid team of horses hitched to a fine surrey, drove up to a few hundred feet of the house. There he stopped and pointing to landmarks of outstanding character, he seemed to the widow to be showing to his prosperous associates the boundaries of the homestead. She could not but exclaim, 'Ladrones! (thieves) as she watched these antics from behind closed shutters. She could feel in her pounding heart the foreshadowing of doom. Not many days later a messenger brought a formal notice of eviction to the Peraltas.

Their household belongings were moved to a house at Second and Harrison in Oakland. On this last afternoon Dona Eduvigis, leaning against the honeysuckle-covered pillar for support, wet the sweet flowers with her tears. Suddenly, Abel, one of the younger boys, appeared carrying an armful of hay and leading two horses with which, in a few minutes they were to drive away. He led the horses to the front door, and, throwing it open and scattering the hay within, he urged the horses into the sala.

Abel, in the name of God, whatever are you doing? The hoofs of the horses will ruin the beautiful floor.

Madre mia, they will not take the house of the Peraltas. We leave them only the stable.

225	Condescending romanticization of the californio period. from article in the SF Chronicle, 1900	There is a warmth and luxury in the snug little lodge scarcely dreamed of in the days of the old patriarchs, whose garnished floors were of the same materials as the walls, smooth-swept but still earthy, while their windows were wooden shutters, their furniture primitive and bound with rawhide thongs, and their warmth that which came from the earthen bricks, which seemed to absorb sun all summer only to radiate it back in winter. It is said by those who have tried it that any one who has once lived in an adobe house will never wish to reside in any other - snug and warm in winter, cool and refreshing in summer, they bear mute testimony to the intelligence of the old Spanish-Californian, who, using the material found readiest at his indolent hand, yet builded far better than he knew.	1:30 Actor: Wells Twombly
226	Modern Native American view of californio land loss from a 2009 interview with Ruth Villaseñor	Not Transcribed: first line: I like the fact that the Gold Rush had such an impact on the Peraltas, too...	20sec Ruth Villaseñor