



In Search of Eldorado

Link to the Eldorado Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VczD1olutQ8>



Day 31
Sunday,
February 2nd

San Diego
Old Town

Weather
50's to 60's and Sunny

Hello to Family & Friends

Viejas Casino, where I spent the night, was very quiet. I had three neighbors in RV's but that was about it.

I hit the road to the Harbor View VC, on the harbor obviously, which has a free dump station and opens at 9:00

Thirty-eight miles to the VC, and two RV's in line ahead of me to dump their tanks. So while I was waiting in line I took a quick shower, so that water could get dumped also.

While I waited I noticed the VC looked like it was in a state of remodel. A quick search on the web told me this VC is now permanently closed.

The next closest is in Old Town which I planned to spend a day in anyways, so I'll spend today there.

Being early I found a free parking spot on the street and walked to the VC. I asked about the February half off discount card. Huh? I asked about the Go San Diego Card. Huh?

In Search of Eldorado

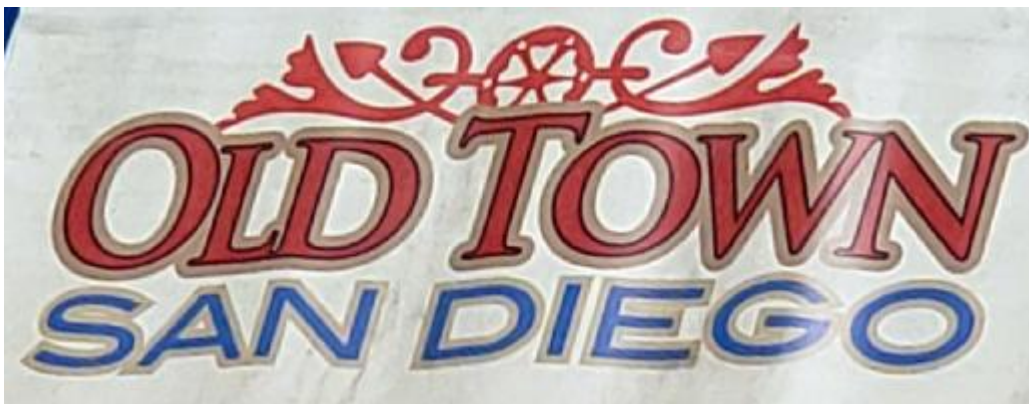
By Edgar Allan Poe

Gaily bedight,
A gallant knight,
In sunshine and in shadow,
Had journeyed long,
Singing a song,
In search of Eldorado.

But he grew old—
This knight so bold—
And o'er his heart a shadow—
Fell as he found
No spot of ground
That looked like Eldorado.

And, as his strength
Failed him at length,
He met a pilgrim shadow—
'Shadow,' said he,
'Where can it be—
This land of Eldorado?'


'Over the Mountains
Of the Moon,
Down the Valley of the Shadow,
Ride, boldly ride,'
The shade replied,—
'If you seek for Eldorado!'



REMEMBERING THE MORE THAN 20 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO LIE BURIED BENEATH SAN DIEGO AVE. ONLY ASSEMBLYMAN EDWARD L. GREENE WAS EXHUMED AND PLACED WITHIN THE NEW BOUNDARY OF EL CAMPO SANTO CEMETERY. THESE GRAVES WERE DISCOVERED WITH THE USE OF GROUND PENETRATING RADAR IN 1993.

REST IN PEACE

THIS PLAQUE WAS PLACED BY THE HISTORICAL SHRINE FOUNDATION WITH FUNDS FROM THE SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT IN 1994.



San Diego Avenue

EL CAMPO SANTO CEMETERY
 (THE HOLY FIELD)
 FOUNDED 1849

 STATE HISTORICAL LANDMARK #68

I did notice the markers on the sidewalk but didn't attach the significance to them until it was too late to get a photo.



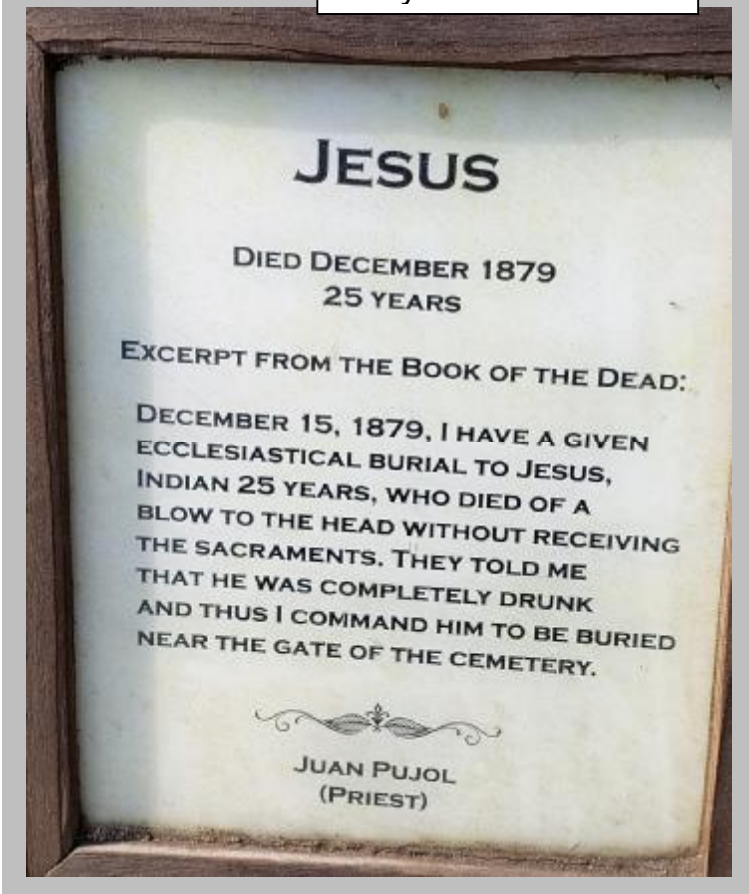
BILL MARSHALL & JUAN VERDUGO

HANGED
 DECEMBER 13, 1851

BILL MARSHALL WAS AN AMERICAN MAN MARRIED TO THE DAUGHTER OF A LOCAL INDIAN CHIEFTAIN. HE WAS A RENEGADE SAILOR FROM PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, WHO HAD DESERTED FROM A WHALING SHIP AT SAN DIEGO IN 1844. HE HAD TAKEN UP HABITATION WITH THE INDIANS. HE TOOK AN ACTIVE PART IN THE GARRA INDIAN UPRISING IN 1851. BILL MARSHALL AND THE INDIAN, JUAN VERDUGO WERE CAUGHT AND BROUGHT BACK TO SAN DIEGO TO BE PROMPTLY TRIED BY COURT MARTIAL. MARSHALL WAS FOUND GUILTY AND THUS SENTENCED TO HANG, AS WAS JUAN VERDUGO. THE INDIAN ACKNOWLEDGED HIS GUILT, BUT MARSHALL INSISTED HE WAS INNOCENT. AT TWO O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON, A SCAFFOLD WAS ERRECTED NEAR THE OLD CATHOLIC CEMETERY, THE MEN PLACED IN A WAGON, THE ROPES ADJUSTED ABOUT THEIR NECKS, AND THE WAGON MOVED ON, LEAVING THEM TO STRANGLE TO DEATH.

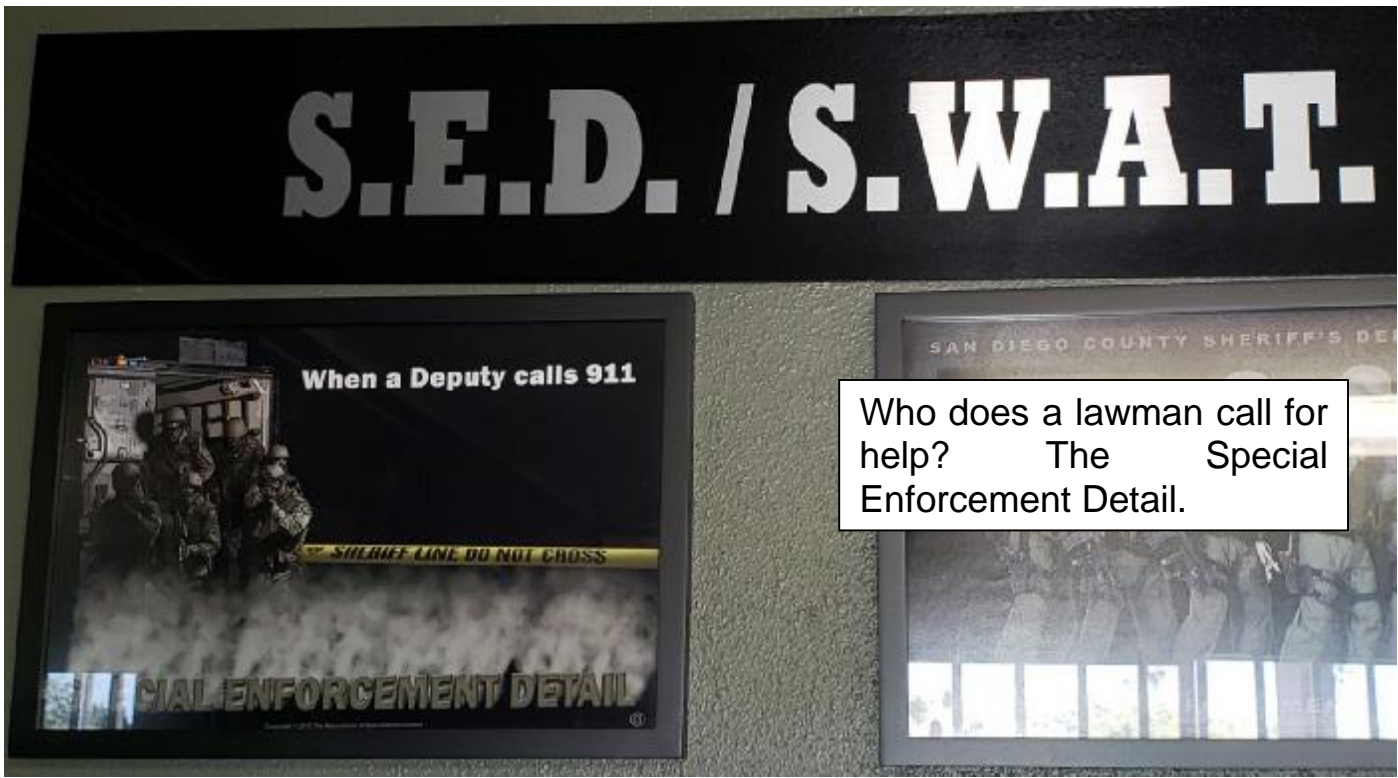


These three graves had an interesting story

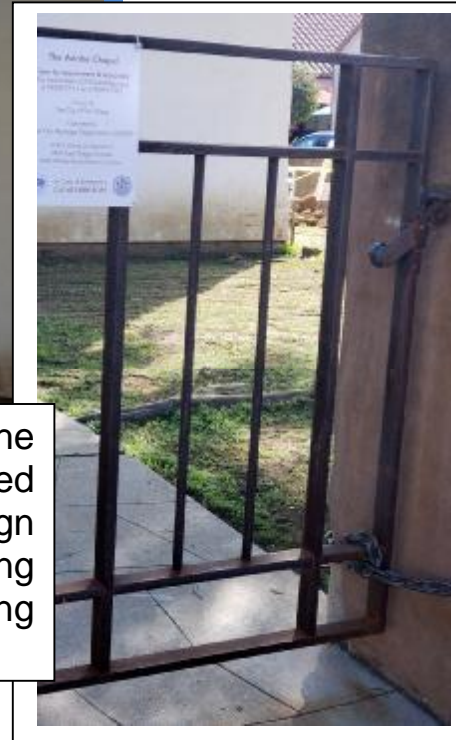
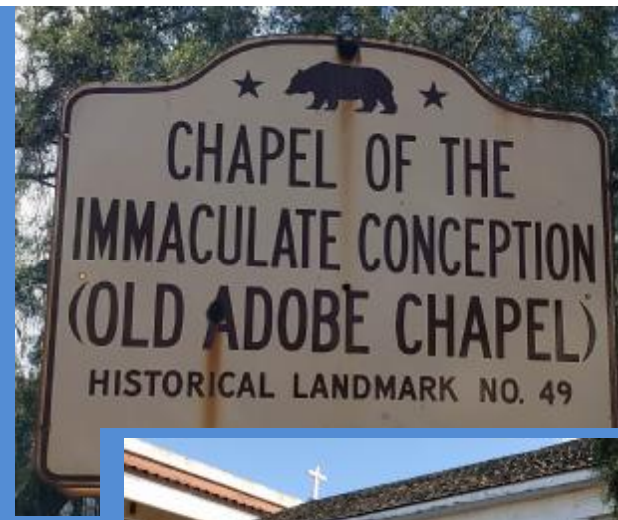




Look closely at the sign over my right shoulder. Maybe that advice should be taken into account before posing for a picture like this.



Who does a lawman call for help? The Special Enforcement Detail.



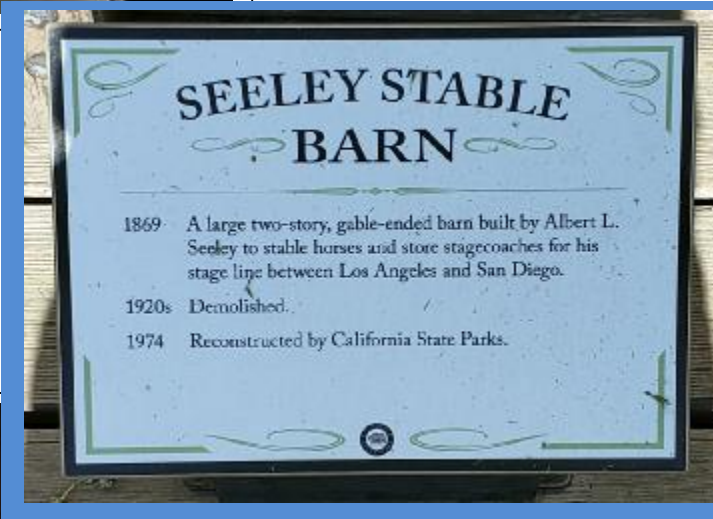
Note that the gate is chained shut and the sign says the building is being remodeled.



There are a lot of old buildings here; what they refer to as a 'museum' which might only be one, two or three, rooms; most of the walls are almost two feet thick; a lot of shops in the old buildings mostly Mexican knick knacks; several food stands/restaurants; and a couple nice public squares with live music and more shops.

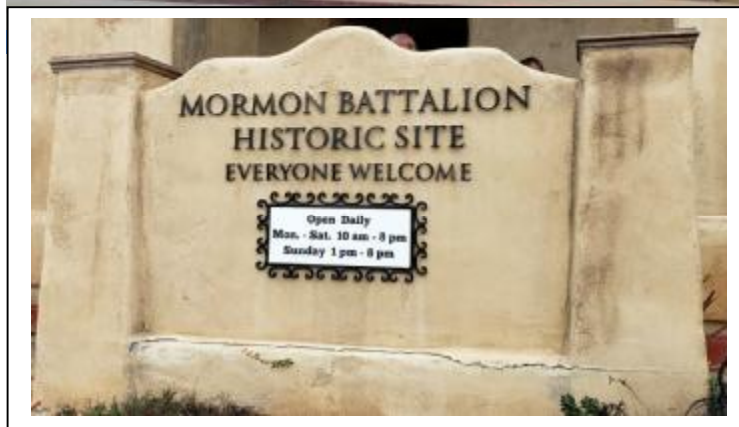
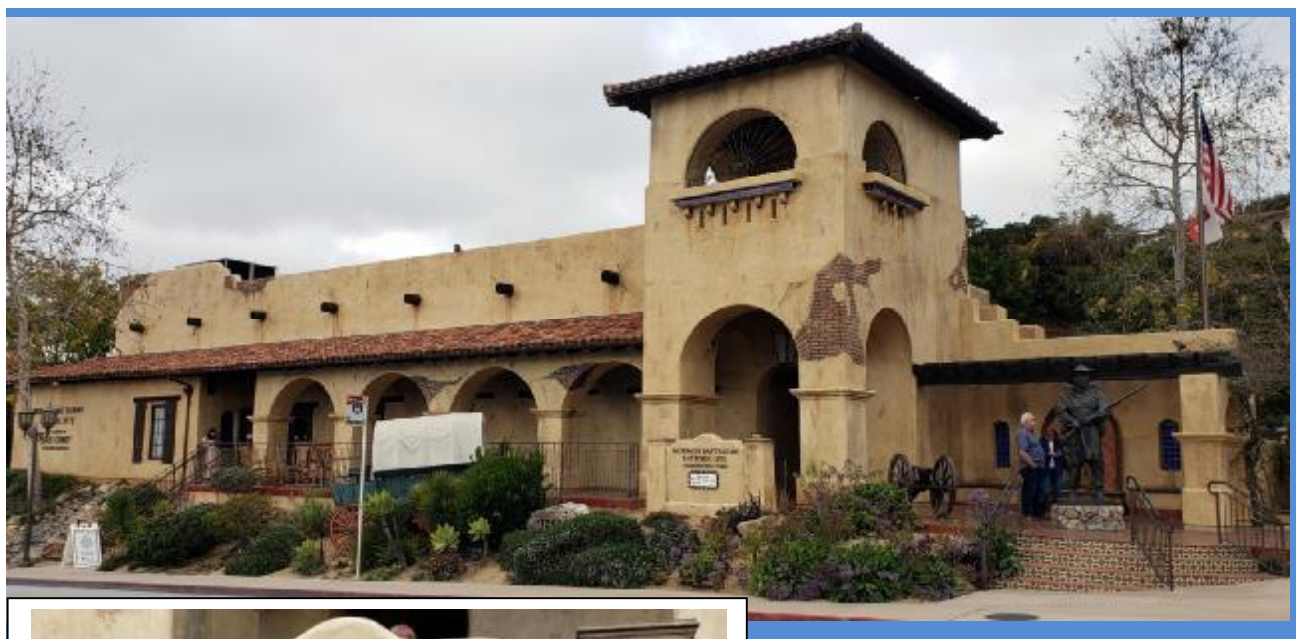


I forget which 'museum' this was in, but what a great piece of furniture. How'd you like to have a desk that opens like this, with all those cubbies?

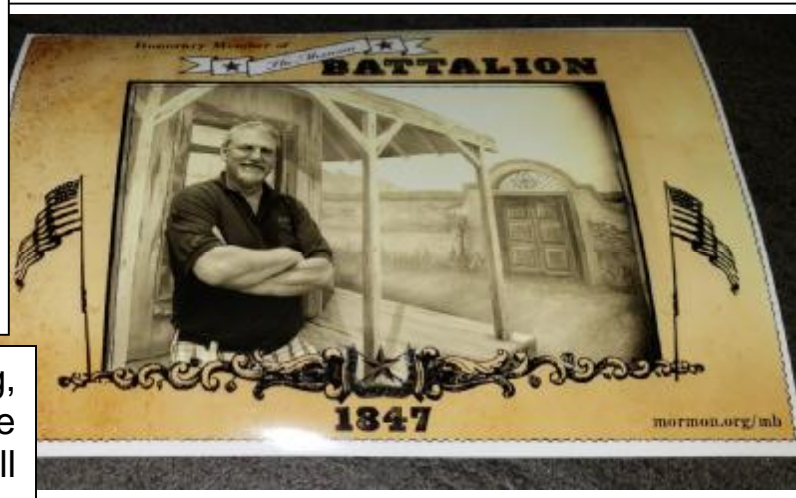


There were about a half dozen restored wagons on display along with a lot of other information and photos.

Yesterday it was trucks made in Kenosha, today its wagons made in Racine. I was not aware Wisconsin ever made wagons for the westward movement.



The presentation inside this newer building, made to look old, was excellent! I can't give anything away because Todd & Maureen will be here in a couple weeks, and this is one item so far that I am definitely recommending.



I forgot to take a picture of the outside, but this is a model train layout/museum. I'm not a fan of Lionel trains, they take up too much space to make really detailed layouts, as you will see below. They sure tried to pack in as much as possible.



The space was divided in two, with one-half daylight lit and the other twilight. There sure was an preference for city life and not mountains and gorges.



Representative of America in the 50's, they are showing THE BLOB at the outdoor theater.





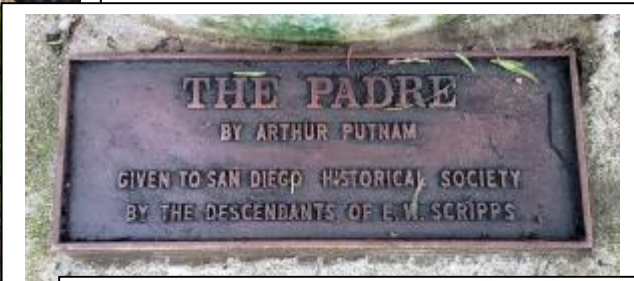
The trains passing on separate trestles

I found this rather unintentionally humorous. If you look back at the first photo you can see another balloon in the air. There was a string for this one too, so I don't think it was intentional. Oddly enough the car and boat were getting towed away, then, the un-deflated balloon lands on the boat and upends the car. The two guys standing there crack me up, the one scratching his head like 'What we gonna do now, Henry?'

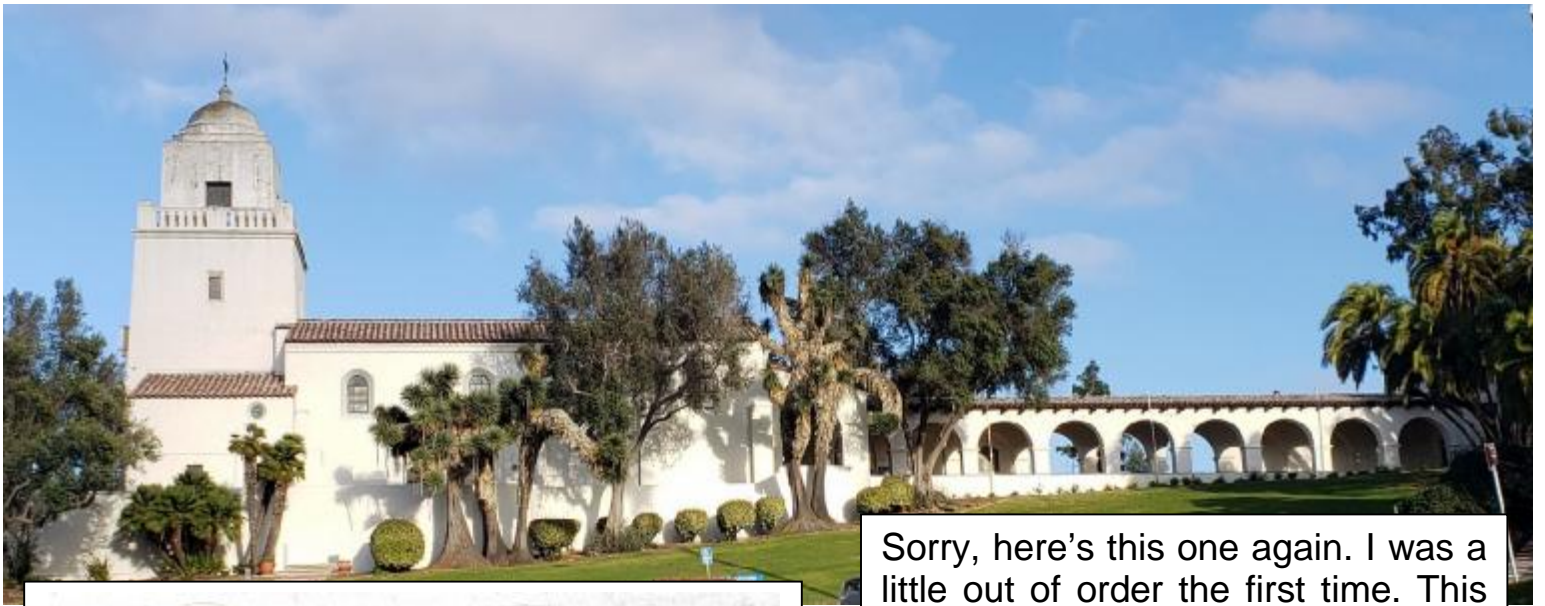




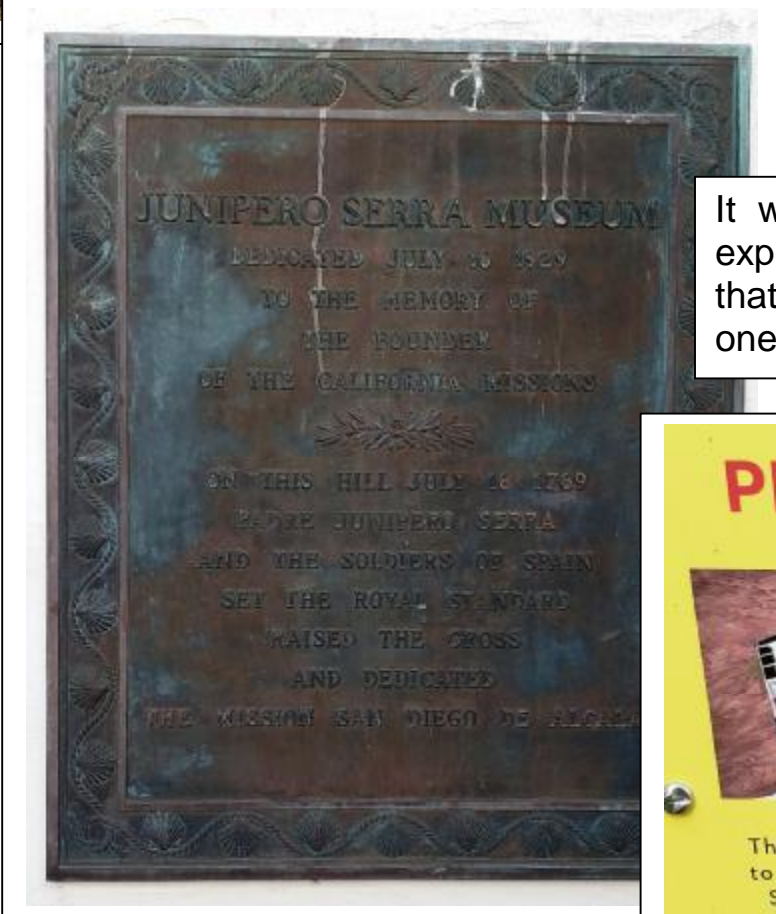
In this ancient Indian village of Cosoy
 Discovered and named San Miguel by Cabrillo in 1542
 Visited and Christened San Diego de Alcala by Vizcaino in 1602
 Here the First Citizen
 Fray Junipero Serra
 Planted civilization in California
 Here he first raised the cross – Here began the first mission
 Here founded the first town San Diego July 16th, 1769
 In memory of him and his works, The Order of Panama 1915
 The last few lines talk about the placement of the plaque and are pretty much indecipherable



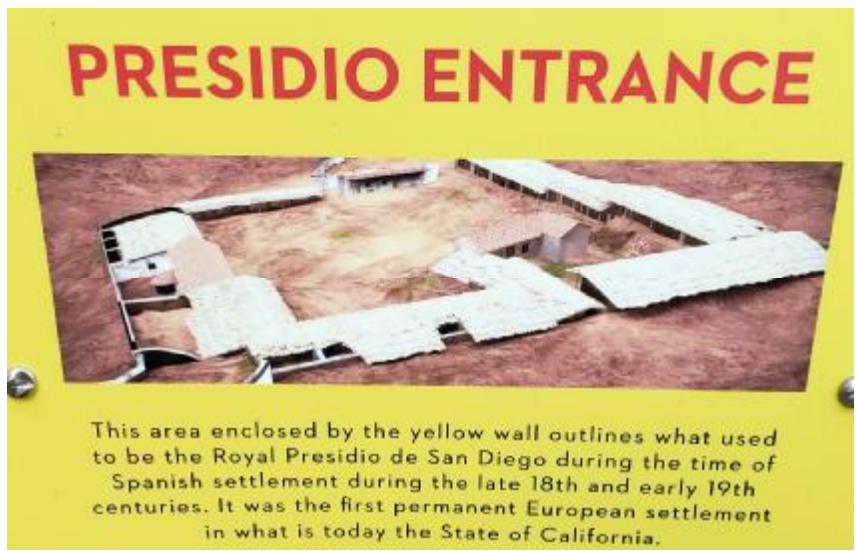
I have read that many artists struggle with different parts of the body when either painting or sculpting. With some it's facial features, others, hands. I think Arthur Putnam had trouble with feet, especially toes. The Padre's toes were extremely large and grossly out of proportion to the rest of his body.



Sorry, here's this one again. I was a little out of order the first time. This is the Junipero Serra Museum.



It would appear these plaques have been exposed to Mother Nature for some time and that no one wants to take care of them. This one is just dedicating the museum.



This portion of the wall is called the Witches Tower, there is no explanation as to why.



Max, I thought you would appreciate this one.

After walking around Old Town all day I drove over to the Corvette Diner for dinner and to watch the second half of the game.

Congrats to the Chiefs and Andy Reid!

I have not had a response from the Boondockers Welcome host here in Dan Diego (Lemon Grove) to my request from last week. In fact this morning I received an email telling me my request had expired. So I sent another request.

In the mean time, I sat in the diner parking lot and purchased a GO San Diego card which gets me into a lot of the things I want to see here. I am also picking up a half off museum card at the closest library in the morning.

To avoid having to drive all the way out to the casino again, I slept in the diner parking lot. Not supposed to, but what the hey. I did not put the slide out, so hopefully it just looked like I was someone parked there and not sleeping there.

The plan is Balboa Park today once I get those passes. Most of the museums don't open until 10:00 so I should be fine.

As you can tell this is a day late. My newsletters may be sporadic over the next week since there are now things to see and do here in the evenings. I won't have three or four hours every night to put one of these together.

Until next time.....