

O P Callaway Water Wells in Early San Diego

1. November 18, 1871 Petition to Board of City Trustees to grant Mr. O. P. Callaway "such vacant lands of the Pueblo as you may deem best to aid and assist in the completion of the Artesian well now being bored in the City Park by Mr. Callaway who informs us without assistance from some source work will have to be suspended." Signed by W. H. Butler, E. S. French, J. A. Smith, J. M. Clark, E. Swift, C. G. Gilbert, A. Pardy (?), Wm. L. Williams, T. N. Peuig (?), Geo. W. Marston, J. O. Little, E. McGurck, Wm. H. Collier, F. Burbage, S. W. Graiyne, D. C. Herrnam, L. Shouse, H. H. Brown, Chas. E. May, Henry Kitterman, W. E. McKean, Tho. M. Leavy, A. Barkhardt, F. Schilling, Chas. S. Hamilton, J. W. Strong, Saml. Barkley, D. McNalley or D. W. Alley (?), Thos. Whaley, Joseph Gasket (?), illegible, Albert Bowman (?), Philip Crosthwaite, Jas. Fraune (?), William Cant (?), R. D. Case, Geo. A. Slocum, Wm. Whitaker, J. S. Wiliams, Charles G. Rudd, T. L. Nesmith, H. H. Daugherty. Certified as citizens of San Diego on Nov. 22d 1871, signed O.P. Callaway. W. S. McLellan as witness of signature.

2. July 13, 1871 Agreement with O. P. Callaway. "I hereby agree to sink an Artesian Well in San Diego in the City Park in a spot in the right side of 11th street continued/conterwised (?) from Horton's Addition where work has been commenced one thousand feet, unless flowing Water shall be obtained at less depth, for and in Consideration of Certain lands, deeded to use by said President & Trustees. On default of such performance, on my part, in sinking said Well, I agree to pay to the said President& Trustees the sum of \$12.800.00/100. for the said lands.

In case the Well is a sepsis / sueas (?) , then said Trustees reserve the right to purchase the Sairn / Sauer (?) from said Callaway, for the actual cost of sinking of their astian (?) (artesian?) to buy as not, but siad Well when sunk is to be subject to the control of the said Trustees.

Said Callaway is to have no claim against said City for services in sinking said Well, except as above stated. Said Well to be completed on or before December 31st 1871.

This privilege is to be considered in no wise a franchise for supplying the City with water, the City to decide within 30 days from the completion of the well whether they at nul (?) (at nal, at all?). San Diego July 13th 1871 Signed, sealed & delivered in the presence of S. E. Abels."

Crossed through the following paragraph: "The undersigned hereby further agrees for consideration of One 00/100 dollar and in under to give additional security to the aforesaid President & Trustees of the City of San Diego, to sell to them all and every right as derived by him from Servance & Halt to the Diamond drill & other machinery for the boring of Artesian Wells, in the County of San Diego."

3. June 8, 1871 to the President and Trustees of the City of San Diego, O. P. Callaway's request for permission "to present to you my proposition to the people of San Diego to bore an 'Artesian Well' accompanied by a petition of 132 voters and property holders of this City praying your honorable body to assist in the enterprise by granting unto me for a nominal consideration of sufficient quantity of the Lands of the Pueblo to insure the immediate commencement of this work.

I would ask your Hon Board to grant me two sections, embracing 1280 acres of land and would state that I have but a limited time to accept the proposition of the owners of the boring machinery I expect to use, and it will be necessary for me to go to San Francisco by the next Steamer or the one following, and for this reason I trust your Board will see the necessity of Immediate action upon the matter.

Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt..
O. P. Callaway"

4. Accompanying 1872 Petition In Re Issuing Bond for Artesian Wells (see above) to the Honorable Board of Trustees of the City of San Diego, Document No. 2221. "the petition of the subscribers citizens and taxpayers of said San Diego City, respectfully request your Honorable Board to authorize and hold an election in accordance with the provisions of the city charter, for the purpose of obtaining the will of tax payers of this City on the proposition of "Whether the City shall issue bonds for the sinking of an Artesian Well.'

Said bond to be payable in ten years bearing interest at ten per cent per annum, payable semi-annually.

And authorizing the Trustees to make such contract and terms with Messers Callaway & Co for the completion of their present well (?wells) or the sinking or the sinking of the same to the depth of 1000 - feet, as they shall deem must and proper for the best interests of the City.

And your petitioners will ever pray,

A. P. Knowles, Robt Bailey, C. G. Gilbert, A. S. Grant, J. M. Clark, Legare Allen, V. Parnaszsthy, S. Whitmore, John McLaren, C. L. Barn, E. O'Leary(many more).