



AGUAJE DE LA CENTINELA: CENTINELA SPRINGS (1937)

Rancho Aguaje de la Centinela was chosen by settlers for its ready source of fresh artesian water. The spring water made the Rancho Centinela attractive for farming crops and herds.

Archibald Garner was also commissioned to create the monumental water fountain to mark the spring at the center of what was originally Centinela Park. Garner constructed three basins from irregular granite boulders to quench human, horse, and canine thirsts. Although the drinking fountain is no longer operational, Centinela Springs still flow underground.

A second monument was created in 1970 for the re-dedication of the Centinela Springs.

Garner's fountain bears three plaques.

Edward Vincent Junior Park / Centinela Park
700 Warren Lane
Inglewood, California

Landmark:

California Registered Historical Landmark
Designated 1939

Artist:

Archibald Garner

Material:

Granite

Preservation Organization:

Historical Society of the Centinela Valley



Inscription on the three plaques

“FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL GOD’S BLESSING OF SWEET WATER TO ALL HIS CREATURES”
 MARKED BY CALIFORNIA HISTORY AND LANDMARKS CLUB -
 MARCH 2, 1939

AGUAJE DE LA CENTINELA (CENTINELA SPRINGS) ON THIS SITE BUBBLING SPRINGS ONCE FLOWED FROM THEIR SOURCE IN A DEEP WATER BASIN WHICH HAS EXISTED CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THE PLEISTOCENE ERA. PREHISTORIC ANIMALS, INDIANS, AND EARLY INGLEWOOD SETTLERS WER ATTRACTED HERE BY THE PURE ARTESIAN WATER. THE SPRINGS AND VALLEY WERE NAMED AFTER SENTINELS GUARDING THE CATTLE IN THE AREA.

CALIFORNIA REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 363
 PLAQUE PLACED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN COOPERATION WITH THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CENTINELA VALLEY OCTOBER 9, 1976.



Archibald Garner

Archibald Garner was born in Onida, South Dakota in 1904. Garner was a pupil of San Francisco artists Ralph Stackpole and Ruth Cravath in the 1930s. Moving to Los Angeles, he studied at the Chouinard Art School. Garner was one of the many artists who worked on the *Astronomer’s Monument* at the Griffith Observatory in Griffith Park in Los Angeles. His bas reliefs in other post offices including *Transportation of the Mail* in the San Diego post office and *Justice* in a post office in Fresno. *Law*, Garner’s limestone statue, depicts a young woman with a tablet stands in the lobby of the Federal Courthouse in Los Angeles. In addition to his commissions for TRAP, Garner worked for 20th Century Fox, the film company, as a sculptor. Archibald Garner died in 1969.