

Toxic Legacies of War: the Irvine Case (workshop on October 26, 2019)

Statement prepared by Jennifer Terry, Convener and Professor of Gender & Sexuality Studies, UC Irvine

Background:

This project is part of a multi-sited collaboration of academics, artists, and activists who share an interest in exploring the seldom acknowledged modes of thinking and material structures and objects that entangle us in a permanent condition of war, whether officially declared or not. These elements are often disavowed or ignored, hidden in plain sight because of how deeply woven they are in the built environment, the economic system, social relationships, and the cultural priorities of highly militarized societies such as ours. *Toxic Legacies of War: The Irvine Case* grew out of a convergence of the *Critical Militarization, Policing, and Security Studies Research Group* established at UC Davis and the *Everyday Militarisms Research Group* at the University of Sydney that resulted in a 2018-19 UC Davis-University of Sydney Partnership grant co-directed by Dr. Caren Kaplan (Professor of American Studies, UC Davis) and Dr. Javier Arbona (Assistant Professor of American Studies and Design, UC Davis) with Dr. Tess Lea and Dr. Astrida Neimanis, both members of the University of Sydney Department of Gender and Cultural Studies and of the Sydney Environment Institute. With additional funding from the UC Humanities Research Institute the “collaboratory” on *Everyday Militarisms: Lethal Entanglements* convened two major meetings in the past year, in which participants presented their research on a wide variety of topics related to militarisms in various dimensions of everyday life. The first of these collaboratories was held in September of 2018 at UC Davis, which brought together faculty of all ranks, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows from the UC system (UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Santa Cruz, and UC Berkeley) and the University of Sydney and the second collaboratory was held at the University of Sydney in April 2019.

Mare Island and the UC Davis Arboretum Walkshops (September 2018)

One of the highlights of this first meeting in California was a day-long field trip the group took to Mare Island, facilitated by Prof. Javier Arbona (UC Davis) and based on his dissertation and post-doctoral research. Mare Island is a peninsula located about 23 miles northeast of San Francisco, where the Napa River enters the Carquinez Strait juncture and makes up the east side of San Pablo Bay. It is the site of a now decommissioned Naval Shipyard and was the first US Navy base established on the Pacific Ocean in 1854. An architect and geographer with great knowledge of Bay Area military sites, Arbona guided the tour along with a few local experts who have been involved for years in public education about the base. One guide was especially knowledgeable and involved in efforts to repurpose the base for ecological projects involving low-impact hiking and tent camping.

Going on site and actually walking around the Mare Island base afforded participants a keen opportunity to learn, using our five senses and our bodies’ movements to experience how the base was laid out, what its functions had been, what had become of it since being decommissioned, and how it revealed the highly militarized nature of the waterways around the greater Bay Area and Sacramento River Delta. We traveled together in vehicles that allowed lots of conversation and processing as we journeyed to and from the site, but it was especially the

walking that we did that day that made the greatest impression on many of us. As one participant, Gabi Kirk, noted, this walking together is a kind of embodied collective research method that allows for emergent conversations between new and old friends. ([Kirk 2019](#)). It is a sensorial engagement that is not unidirectional but experimental, contingent, anti-hierarchical, even at times meandering, and can elicit a range of emotions and ideas.

On another day of the collaboratory, Kirk and Robert Moeller, another participant, led us on a walking tour of the UC Davis main campus that took us through the arboretum, where traces of war and settler colonialism were revealed to be part of the foundation of the university and its “garden setting” itself. Part of the “hidden” history of the arboretum concerns the use of the campus by the U.S. Army Western Signal Corps during World War Two, the incorporation of the watershed for target practice, and the erasure of indigenous settlement. Walking through the arboretum and stopping at carefully researched key sites transformed our understanding of the UC Davis campus and revealed the blurry boundaries between “wartime” and “peacetime,” “domestic” and “foreign,” as well as “historical” and “everyday” meetings and activities.

Sydney Walkshop (April 2019)

The on-site and peripatetic method, also known as the “walkshop” method, enables open and collaborative dialogue, beyond the academic context, for participants with diverse attachments to militarisms to learn from others’ methods of inquiry, making it very practice-based and a valuable mode for engendering emergent research *in situ*. When the group convened in Sydney in April of 2019, [one of our four days of meeting](#) together was a walkshop that took us by foot and by ferry to many sites of significance for analyzing everyday militarism in the vast urban harbor area of Sydney. As fate would have it, the walkshop was scheduled for ANZAC Day, the Australian day of remembrance in which New Zealanders and Australians who have served in their nation’s militaries are honored. As veterans of all ages and military branches streamed along the pathways of the Hyde Park South toward the Anzac Memorial Museum and Monument in their finest military dress, many festooned with shiny medals across their chests, we gathered at Aboriginal artist Tony Albert’s publicly commissioned [Yininmadyemi, Thou Didst Let Fall](#), the first monument to acknowledge the services of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women in the Australian Defense Force. The monument, which was dedicated in 2015, features seven giant bullets, four steel and marble ones planted in a semi-circle and pointing upward, and three fallen shells strewn on their sides, for observers to walk near and around. They are mounted on a boomerang-shaped concrete base and the day we visited had bouquets of flowers and small notes of gratitude placed around them. Albert designed the piece to both pay respect to Aboriginal service members but also to serve as a reminder of the stark reality of war. [Eddie Albert](#), the artist’s grandfather, was his inspiration. Eddie served in the Australian military and was imprisoned in POW camps in Libya, Italy, and Germany during World War Two. He was one of many returning Aboriginal veterans whose sacrifices to the Australian nation were never really honored. Like returning veterans of color in the U.S. military, many returned home and were not welcomed in Veterans organizations or afforded the privilege of veterans benefits offered to white veterans.

We spent the rest of the day being led by various knowledgeable guides, including Uncle Jimmy, an elder of the Aboriginal Gadigal clan who have lived for centuries in what is now the city of Sydney. The Gadigal have a long history of thriving in sustainable relations with the natural elements of the coastal area basin, through fishing, hunting, and gathering edible plants. As we walked through the city's botanical garden, Uncle Jimmy pointed out the abundance of medicinal, nutritional, and beautiful native plants – what he called “nature’s supermarket” – that tie his ancestors and his people to the land. Refuting the [terra nullius narrative](#) that there was nothing there until Captain Cook “discovered” the area, Uncle Jimmy observed aloud, “if only the British had accepted the hospitality and knowledge of our people and our living co-habitants when they arrived rather than trying to exterminate us, we would have been happy to share this all with them.” A refrain to which he returned several times during his explanation of the wild garden resonated with many of us: “remember folks, capitalism kills.”

Later in the day we participated in [a performance art piece](#) led by collaboratory member Katja Aglert, a Swedish artist conducting practice-based research on box jelly fish (also known as Portuguese Man of War). As we all stood at the water's edge at a former Navy boat launching site, she lowered her sound generating instrument into the murky water, hoping to contact the massive jelly fish through sending underwater signals.

Another stop on the walkshop took us to the former site of a Union Carbide plant that produced massive amounts of the cancer-causing defoliant, Agent Orange, used profusely by the American forces in its war with Vietnam. The plant was demolished in 1986 to make way for upscale residential real estate development right on the banks of the beautiful Parramatta River near where it meets the expansive Sydney harbor. Our guides for this portion included Dr. Boi Hueyn Ngo, a graduate of the University of Sydney, whose family came to Sydney as war refugees from Vietnam and settled in the Parramatta area because it reminded them of the deltas back home. The river had a haunting effect interpreted by Dr. Ngo like a Deleuzian trace. The water, into which Agent Orange spilled for decades, has carried the defoliant to far-flung places, constituting a diffuse and liquid legacy of war.

Irvine Walkshop

Coming off of both the UC Davis and University of Sydney collaboratories, which also included several days of workshops and a conference open to the public where collaboratory participants presented research, I was inspired to plan a walkshop in Irvine. In addition to working on [attachments to war](#) for the past decade, I have recently been immersed in research concerning the specific and varied ways that the Southern California region and Irvine in particular is implicated in everyday militarisms. The massive freeway system was expanded under President Eisenhower in the name of national defense and the City of Irvine was planned with this system as a central feature. Southern California has many former and current naval, aerospace, and weapons bases, making the area a prime location for a walkshop similar to those we did in Mare Island and in Sydney. Another source of inspiration for the Irvine walkshop dates back to June 2006 when I participated in a one-day “Military Toxic Tour” of the Los Angeles area sponsored and guided by the Los Angeles chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility. As with the Mare Island and Sydney walkshops, the MTT put participants’ bodies and senses into the specific

locales where military activities had resulted in serious environmental contamination. The PSR's goal was explicit: "in an effort to better understand the military's impact, the military tour will visit select sites in the LA region" because "few Angelenos realize the military's considerable impact on the environment and public health." (PSR Guide 2006). I anticipate that much of what we experience through the Irvine walkshop will inform further practice-based research and spur interventionist scholarship and teaching among many of the group's participants. I hope that some of this research will be valuable to people living in Irvine and surrounding communities not simply to raise public awareness but to forge meaningful partnerships with local environmental, feminist, and indigenous rights groups around what they know and how we as researchers may contribute to some of the activist work they are doing.

Several of the locations I have selected for the Irvine walkshop are decommissioned Marine Air Corps Stations (El Toro and Tustin), which were established shortly after the US entered World War Two and served as Pacific Coast military aviation and reconnaissance operations centers. Since being closed in 1999, El Toro has been partially remediated into the Orange County Great Park and lucrative residential real estate development, despite the location's status as a Superfund site. The controversy over the building of \$300 million Portola High School in this affluent neighborhood of Irvine signals how real estate development in the city takes precedent over the health status of teachers and others who work in the school and thus may suffer from the long-term exposure to groundwater and soil contaminants left behind by military aviation operations. The Tustin Hangars are now surrounded by commercial and residential real estate but have been preserved as architecturally and historically significant buildings. Being able to walk around these locations is important both to comprehend the scale of the former bases but also to see how new forms of development may serve to obscure or occlude aspects of the history of these operations. Though it is unlikely that we will be able to enter the facilities of the two largest defense contractors listed on the itinerary, we can at least stop or even just drive by them to see how they are situated in relation to other commercial development and to the freeways and how they relate to the master planned residential and R&D aspects of the City of Irvine.

To understand the layers and latencies of militarism in the City of Irvine, I felt it was important to locate, when possible, sites that mark the seizure of land from the Acjachemen and Tongva people who have lived for centuries in and around what is now Irvine and who have been subject to dispossession and brutality for centuries. They were enslaved and forced into religious conversion at Missions throughout the region, notably Mission San Juan Capistrano, Mission San Diego, Mission San Fernando, and Mission San Gabriel, starting around the time of the American Revolution against British rule. The first to carry out this brutality were the conquistadors followed shortly after by Spanish priests, notable among them Father Junípero Serra. Though enslaved Acjachemen and Tongva people were formally emancipated in 1826 by the then governor of Alta California, the first Mexican governor, their rights to the land were never recognized. By 1841, most of the former Acjachemen territory was incorporated into Californio ranchos (*Californios* refers to Spanish-descendant colonizers who seized the land from indigenous people and eventually some set up ranching operations). As American forces occupied California in 1846, the war with Mexico had devastating effects on Native populations

in the region. During the 1850s, the California Indigenous population declined by an estimated 80 percent.

The land that is now Irvine was seized from the Acjachemen and Tongva first by the Spanish military and the Catholic Church, then sold to Californios Don Jose Andres Sepulveda, and then purchased in 1865 by an Irish immigrant named James Irvine, along with his two business partners, Flint and Bixby. Irvine had ventured west from first settling in the Cleveland, Ohio area. Prosperity and opportunity promised by the Gold Rush of 1849 brought Irvine out to the San Francisco Bay Area where he became more interested in purchasing large amounts of land than to follow the whimsy of panning for gold. Sepulveda sold the land to Irvine and his associates after a severe drought of 1863-1864 depressed its value. This, together with Sepulveda's heavy burden of gambling debt, led to a great opportunity for the buyers to purchase first 50,000 acres of land and two years later another 47,000 acres. James Irvine bought out his business partners' shares in 1878. For \$150,000, he bought the land that now includes the City of Irvine, Laguna Beach, Orange, Tustin, and Newport Beach, all of which were part of the Irvine Ranch (almost 1/5th of Orange County). James Irvine died in 1886 before his son and heir turned 25. Seeking to take advantage of the situation, the trustees of the Irvine Ranch attempted unsuccessfully to auction off the land. In 1894, Irvine's son James II had come of age and incorporated the land holdings of his deceased father and created The Irvine Company. The Company's operations included some ranching and increasingly industrial agriculture (beans and citrus, mainly). Starting in the 1940s, the Company began to open up the area for development. We will be visiting a couple of the places where this history is partially visible (the site of a grain and bean storage warehouse which is now a La Quinta Inn and the Irvine Historical Museum, located in one of the original ranch houses of the Irvine Ranch).

Nearly a century after James Irvine purchased the land from Sepulveda, in 1959 the Irvine Company sold a 1,500-acre spot called the San Joaquin foothills to the University of California for \$1 and the University of California hired the dashing architect William L. Pereira to design the campus. Construction began to build a new campus of the University of California on what some referred to at the time as terra nullius ([Birth of a Campus](#) 1964). UC Irvine was dedicated by President Lyndon Johnson in June of 1964 and the university enrolled its first students (total of 1,589) in 1965. Meanwhile, the Irvine Company started to build the new cybernetically master planned town of Irvine, with its "New Town" structure. The City of Irvine was formally incorporated at the end of 1971 by residents' vote, roughly around the time that the Irvine Company ceased all cattle ranching. The Irvine Company is now headquartered in the Fashion Island area of Newport Beach and develops suburban master-planned communities throughout central and southern Orange County. It also manages residential and commercial buildings in the San Jose, San Diego, and Los Angeles areas, and has offices around California as well as in Chicago and New York City, where it owns the MetLife Building. Several large retail centers – The Market Place (in Tustin), the Irvine Spectrum Center and Fashion Island – are owned by the company. Its chairman and sole shareholder are Donald Bren. He has given millions of dollars to UC Irvine for endowed fellowships and his name appears on many buildings around the campus, including the Bren Center and the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences.

We will also make a stop at Woodbridge Village, the first “village” of several that make up Irvine’s master plan. Woodbridge opened in 1976. It was also where Dr. Larry C. Ford lived with his family and died in 2000 of a self-inflicted shot gun wound after police acquired a warrant for his arrest in the attempted murder of Ford’s business partner. Ford’s case reveals how “the safest city in America” could also generate violence (Ford was accused by several of his female patients of poisoning him and authorities also found evidence that he was stockpiling conventional and biological weapons in his home and yard that linked him to covert operations of the Apartheid-era South African government’s “Project Coast”).

We will begin our day at Aldrich Hall on the UC Irvine campus to introduce ourselves to one another and for a short orientation by the guides for the day – we will be distributing this role to those willing and interesting in performing it – and we will end up for a debriefing and some refreshments at a location to be determined on campus (possibly in University Hills) to discuss some of the highlights of the day’s experience in an informal setting.

Logistics: We will rent two 12-passenger vans rented from UC Irvine and will need two drivers who are comfortable with driving such vehicles. We encourage participants to wear layered clothing as the weather is likely to change and to wear comfortable walking shoes. We also encourage everyone to bring water bottles and sun screen or hats if you are sensitive to the sun because it is likely to be sunny and warm. We will stop for lunch at Sam Woo’s Chinese Restaurant in the center of Irvine, and this will be covered by our budget (hopefully). We will also have refreshments at the end of the day – beverages and some pre-dinner snacks, catered. Anyone who wants to go to dinner afterwards, we can plan that somewhat organically based on who is interested. If you have difficulty standing for very long, please bring a small portable seat or stool that is easy to carry and doesn’t take up much room.

Requests:

People power:

- We need a couple of volunteer drivers from among the participants listed.
- I invite any volunteers who would like to be a “guide” at one of the specific sites on the list. This would involve doing additional research as you wish and think about how the site relates to *toxic legacies of war* or to your own research or to any of the other theoretical concepts and sub-themes that are of interest to the group.

Itinerary for Irvine Toxic Legacies Walkshop (Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019)

1. **UC Irvine Aldrich Hall** (9am) – Meet here first for introductions and a brief orientation from the guides. This is the central administration building and one of the original buildings of UC Irvine designed by William L. Pereira and Associates. Pair and share walking method exercise for sharing research interests.
2. **Irvine Historical Museum** @ 5 San Joaquin, Irvine, is the original ranch house that James Irvine commissioned in 1867 and was completed in 1877. The land grant purchased by Irvine was the home of Don Jose Andres Sepulveda (stretching from Red Hill Road to the

ocean and from Newport Bay to Laguna Canyon). Sepulveda sold the land to Irvine after a severe drought of 1863-1864 depressed the value of the land. This, together with Sepulveda's heavy burden of gambling debt, led to a great opportunity for Irvine to purchase the land and begin agricultural development of it.

3. **La Quinta Inn & Suites Off I-5 and I-405** – former bean and grain warehouse owned by the Irvine Ranch Company on the National Register of Historic Places
4. **Former Marine Corps Air Station at El Toro** (now the **Orange County Great Park**) @ 6990 Marine Way, Irvine, CA 92618. Opened in 1943 and was home of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. A Superfund site rated 37.43 on the EPA's Hazard Ranking System. Contents of the base museum sent to Miramar Navy Base in San Diego when the station closed in 1999.
5. **Portola High School** @ 1001 Cadence, Irvine, CA 92618 (off of Irvine Blvd) – built upon 43 acres of former El Toro Marine Corps Air Station contaminated with benzene and other cancer-causing petrochemicals. EPA removed the site from the National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund list on January 21, 2014. Admitted its first students in Fall 2016 (those 400 students will graduate in Spring 2020). Cost to build: \$300 million. Portola is the newest of Irvine's five public high schools. The first of these to be built was University High School, opened in 1970.
6. **Drive By/Not Stopping: Parker Hannifin Corporation** @ 14300 Alton Parkway, Irvine, CA 92618 – one of corporation's three locations within the Irvine city limits; HQ is in Cleveland area. "Parker Hannifin is the global leader in motion and control technologies. Precision engineered solutions for Aerospace, Climate Control, Electromechanical, Filtration." (from the PH website) Received in excess of \$1 billion worth of defense contracts (total of 6,037 contracts) between 2000 and 2018. Received largest number of contracts among the hundreds of for defense contractors based in Irvine. Located across Barranca from the former Tustin Marine Corps Air Station.
7. **Lunch break** – Sam Woo's Seafood Restaurant, 15333 Culver Drive, #720, Irvine 92606
8. **Woodbridge Village** (Culver @ Irvine Center Drive @ Jeffrey Road @ I-405) – former home of Dr. Larry Ford, the Irvine-based gynecologist who committed suicide in 2000 after police acquired a warrant for his arrest. Ford's suicide note indicated that he stockpiled guns and biological weapons inside the home and in the backyard. The neighborhood was evacuated for several days after the FBI and Irvine Police Department uncovered the toxic substances. The Woodbridge Village was the first in the city to open in February 1976. It includes residential homes and attached apartments, parks, pools, churches, a high school, and artificial lakes as well as a shopping center.
9. **Drive By/Not Stopping: Ceradyne** @ 1922 Barranca Parkway, Irvine -- defense contractor that received \$2,751,466,521 (353 contracts) between 2000 and 2018, the largest amount awarded to defense contractors based in Irvine. Reported DARPA research project on

electronics and communication equipment; also engineering technical services at the Naval Research Lab and other Defense Applied Research in textiles, clothing, and equipment. Also provided optical instruments, miscellaneous fabricated nonmetallic materials, personal armor.

10. Marine Corps Air Station at Tustin (72-7 Tustin Ranch Road, Irvine, CA 92606) – established in 1942 as Naval Lighter-Than-Air Station Santa Ana to support Navy coastal patrols using hydrogen powered blimps during World War Two. Later it was a center for Marine Corps helicopter aviation and radar operations on the Pacific Coast and was used to support the US forces during the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Home to two gigantic hangars (see packet for more information about these). Closed in 1999.

11. Return to UC Irvine by 5pm for debrief and refreshments (location TBA).

Organizer:

Jennifer Terry – Professor and Chair of the Department of Gender & Sexuality Studies at UC Irvine; participant in the Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory (UC Davis and University of Sydney)

Participants:

Javier Arbona – Assistant Professor of American Studies and Design, UC Davis; PhD in Geography from UC Berkeley; fellow at the UC Humanities Research Institute for Fall 2019 on Civil Wars Project; co-PI with Caren Kaplan in the Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory (UC Davis and University of Sydney)

Dan Bustillo – PhD student in Visual Studies, UC Irvine; Graduate Feminist Emphasis student at UCI

Katie Cox – PhD student in Anthropology, UC Irvine; organized walking tours in Signal Hill and Santa Ana

Kim Fortun – Professor and Chair of Anthropology, UC Irvine

Mike Fortun – Associate Professor of Anthropology, UC Irvine

Inderpal Grewal – Professor Emeritus of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Yale University

Laura Hyun-Yi Kang – Professor of Gender & Sexuality Studies, UC Irvine

Caren Kaplan – Professor Emeritus of American Studies, UC Davis; co-director with Tess Lea and Astrida Neimanis of the Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory (UC Davis and University of Sydney)

Lindsay Kelley – Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales in the Department of Art & Design; PhD in History of Consciousness and MFA in Digital Art and New

Media at UC Santa Cruz; participant in the Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory (UC Davis and University of Sydney)

Stefanie Lira – PhD student in History and Graduate Feminist Emphasis, at UC Irvine

Tess Lea – Associate Professor in the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry at the University of Sydney; member of the Sydney Environmental Institute; co-director of the Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory (UC Davis and University of Sydney)

Alana Tova Porat – UCI alumnus (BS in Human Biology/Medical Humanities, 2019) and Irvine native

Abigail Reyes – director of the UCI Community Resilience Projects in the Office of Sustainability at UC Irvine; environmental attorney and climate justice activist (JD Boalt Hall, UC Berkeley)

Diana Pardo Pedraza – PhD Cultural Studies, UC Davis (2019); Chancellor’s Post-doctoral Fellow (2019-2020) in UCI Department of Gender & Sexuality Studies; participant in the Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory (UC Davis and University of Sydney)

Catherine Sameh – Assistant Professor of Gender & Sexuality Studies, UC Irvine

Jeanne Scheper – Associate Professor of Gender & Sexuality Studies, UC Irvine

Tim Schuetz – PhD Student in Anthropology, UC Irvine; organized Anthropocene Field Campuses with walks in Saint Louis and New Orleans

Jessica Slattery – PhD student in Cultural Anthropology, UC Irvine; Graduate Feminist Emphasis student at UC Irvine

Toby Smith – PhD student in Cultural Studies, UC Davis; participant in the Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory (UC Davis and University of Sydney)

Salvador Zárate – PhD Ethnic Studies, UC San Diego (2018?); Chancellor’s Post-doctoral Fellow (2019-2020) in UCI Department of Gender & Sexuality Studies

Guides:

- **Jennifer Terry**
- **Joyce Stanfield Perry** (not yet confirmed) – member of the Acjachemen Peoples and Cultural Resource Director of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians
- **Harvey Liss** – former Irvine Planning Commissioner; PhD in Applied Mechanics and a Licensed Civil Engineer in California; longtime resident of Woodbridge Village, a neighborhood he helped design in the 1970s.

- **Salvador Zárate** – will co-guide the stop at the Marine Corps Air Station at Tustin

Readings/Resources:

Arthur Allen, "[Mad Scientist](#)," *Salon.com*, June 26, 2000, at -- on the case of Larry C. Ford

[Birth of a Campus](#) documentary film about the creation of UC Irvine, featuring William L. Pereira, Daniel Aldrich, President Lyndon Baines Johnson and others. Resembles the terra nullius narrative as if nothing existed in what is now Irvine until the Irvine family and later William L. Pereira arrived to make it into a meaningful and valuable place.

Ann Forsyth, *Reforming Suburbia* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005) Forsyth is a professor of urban planning in the department of Urban Planning and Design at Harvard. The book is a study of planned communities of Irvine, Columbia, Maryland, and The Woodlands (outside of Houston). All were part of the "new community" movement of the 1960s and 1970s that "attempted a grand experiment in housing." The movement inspired the construction of innovative communities "that were designed to counter suburbia's cultural conformity, social isolation, ugliness, and environmental problems. This richly documented book examines the results of those experiments in three of the most successful communities." Key argument: "Where they succeeded, in areas such as community identity and open space preservation, they provide support for current 'smart growth' proposals. Where they did not, in areas such as housing affordability and transportation choices, they offer important insights for today's planners, designers, developers, civic leaders and others interested in incorporating new forms of development into their designs." (from the book's blurb)

Matt Garcia, *A World of Its Own: Race, Labor, and Citrus in the Making of Greater Los Angeles, 1900-1970* (University of North Carolina Press, 2001) – mostly focuses on LA County and the San Gabriel Valley out to Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, with only a few mentions of Orange County, but provides a very good framework for understanding the history of "the citrus suburbs" in the LA area and the labor politics, racism, and anti-immigrant sentiments among Anglo settlers to the area.

[Full list](#) of companies that received defense contract funding in Irvine, California from 2000-2018, drawn from public record information made available and distributed by the Federal Government.

Lisbeth Haas, *Conquests and Historical Identities in California, 1769-1936* (University of California Press, 1995) – outstanding historical analysis of settler colonialism and racial formations in California as these relate to ranching and industrial agricultural, including that of James Irvine, William Chapman, L.F. Moulton, and other land-owning magnates. Opens with a striking account of Modesta Avila, a young woman who in 1880 was brought before the Orange County court and accused of obstructing the Santa Fe Railroad tracks that had been laid 15 feet from her doorstep in San Juan Capistrano. She demanded that the railroad pay her for using her property. She held a party to celebrate getting the money and was arrested for disturbing the peace. The judge

sentenced her to three years in prison for her defiance and she died in San Quentin, in her mid-twenties. Avila was born in the middle of the American conquest (1867) and like so many other Californios, lost the majority of their land to settlers from elsewhere.

Kelly Lytle Hernández, *City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion, and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles, 1771-1965* (University of North Carolina Press, 2017). Excellent history of mass incarceration dating from the Spanish colonial period that caged Native Americans, Mexican and Chinese Americans, and landless poor Anglos and African Americans. Valuable account especially of the seizure of land from the Tongva-Gabrielino people through criminalizing them.

Edward Humes, “The Medicine Man,” *LA Magazine* (July 2001) on the connection between Larry C. Ford and the Apartheid government of South Africa.

[Indigenous Community Engagement on Environmental Issues organized by UCI Community Resilience Projects of the Office of Sustainability:](#)

[Gabi Kirk, “Transpacific Entanglements of Science & War: Reflection on Everyday Militarisms Collaboratory,” *Backchannels: Society for Social Studies of Science* \(May 12, 2019\)](#) at -- provides an analytical reflection on the week of events organized by Tess Lea and Astrida Neimanis and Tess Lea in Sydney (April 2019), with an especially thoughtful treatment of the experimental methodologies of the workshop format as the blend of “arts and sciences” in collective and embodied practice.

Shiloh R. Krupar, *Hot Spotter’s Report: Military Fables of Toxic Waste* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013) – “Using an unusual combination of empirical research, creative nonfiction, and fictional satire, [the book] examines how the biopolitics of war promotes the idea of a postmilitary and postnuclear world, naturalizing toxicity and limiting human relations with the past and the land.” (from the cover blurb)

Carey McWilliams, *California: The Great Exception* (University of California Press, 1949) – a classic assessment of California by historian, journalist, and attorney McWilliams about 100 years after it was established as a state. Looks at the spread of prosperity in the wake of the Gold Rush and agricultural development but also makes clear how horrible the new Californians treated the Native peoples, how they stole water for development, and how they dealt so brutally with migrant labor. McWilliams was editor of *The Nation* from 1955-1975 and served as California Commissioner of Immigration and Housing for four years.

Carey McWilliams, *Factories in the Field: The Story of Migratory Farm Labor in California* (University of California Press, 1999, originally published in 1935) – the first exposé of the social and environmental damage inflicted by the growth of corporate agriculture in California. Works as a non-fiction companion to John Steinbeck’s *Grapes of Wrath*.

Carey McWilliams, *Southern California: An Island on the Land* (Peregrine Smith Books/Gibbs-Smith, 2010) – originally published in 1946; a classic from a progressive minded

journalist/attorney/historian. Chapter 11 on “The Citrus Belt” is worth reading but so is much of the rest of the book, especially McWilliams’ account of the “Los Angeles Archipelago,” in which he writes about the racial geography and conflict of the LA area in and around the 1940s.

Michelle Murphy, Murphy, Michelle. [“Distributed Reproduction, Chemical Violence, and Latency,”](#) *Life (Un)Ltd: Feminism, Bioscience, Race, The Scholar and the Feminist Online* Issue 11.3 (Summer 2013)

Astrida Neimanis and Perdita Phillips, Postcards from the Underground, forthcoming in the *Journal of Public Pedagogies* (November), an online open access journal and will be included in the packet provided to Toxic Legacies Walkshop. The article explores how Walkshops are a valuable form of learning.

Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles Chapter, *Military Tour of Los Angeles*, October 1, 2006. This tour was a partial inspiration for the Toxic Legacies Irvine Case walkshop. In June 2006, Jennifer Terry joined about 50 other community members, activists, donors, and stakeholders in cleaning up LA county on a bus tour that stopped at the Rocketdyne Laboratory in Simi Hills, site of a partial meltdown of a sodium reactor in 1959, which left this portion of the Santa Susana mountains and local residential communities exposed to nuclear toxicity for decades. We also visited the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena where JPL, prior to working for NASA, pioneered formulas for fabricating solid rocket fuel. The contamination of groundwater from this process led to JPL being placed on the EPA’s Superfund Site list. The tour allowed us to see various steps that NASA was taking to remediate the contamination. We stopped for lunch in Downey where we visited a former aerospace facility that was not far from a Kaiser Permanente clinic that hosted us with a presentation by one of the physicians in PSR. Our last stop was the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, where a local environmental activist described efforts to clean up Edwards Air Force base and other military sites. The original plan was to end up at the massive LA Air Force Base complex that is adjacent to LAX and several defense contractor giants (Raytheon) but we ran out of time. We also could have visited the massive LA/Long Beach Port complex to see how military logistics shaped that region and contributed greatly to its overwhelming problem of air pollution from particulate diesel fuel and other toxic airborne materials. A detailed guide to the day’s tour is available [here](#).

Iman Siddiqi, [“Local Native Tribes Address Invisibility at UCI,”](#) *New University*, the official campus newspaper of the University of California, Irvine, March 29, 2016. Discusses the struggles Acjachemen and Tongva tribes face due to not enduring patterns of anti-Native hatred in the Orange County region as well as to the lack of federally-recognized tribal status. The resistance of the federal government to recognize these tribes, the author notes, is because the land is so valuable to developers that it is greed that motivates the powerful not to recognize Native land or resource claims.

Louise I. Shelley, *Dirty Entanglements: Corruption, Crime, and Terrorism* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) – includes a discussion of biological weapons of mass destruction and Edward

Humes' writing about the Larry C. Ford's case in her chapter on Ultimate Fears: Weapons of Mass Destruction and Crime-Terror Connections.

Toby Smith, "[Lethal, Transpacific Entanglements, Hidden in Plain Sight – Everyday Militarisms,](#)" *Backchannels: Society for the Social Studies of Science Report-back* on the Collaboratory Convening at the University of Sydney in April 2019 (May 15, 2019), at -- photo essay to accompany Gabi Kirk's report-back on the convening.

Edward W. Soja, *Postmodern Geographies: The Reassertion of Space in Critical Social Theory* (Verso, 1989)

[US Environmental Protection Agency National Priorities List of Superfund Sites](#)

Manu Vimalassery, Juliana Hu Pegues, and Alyosha Goldstein, "On Colonial Unknowing," *Theory & Event* 19 (4) (2016) -- **colonial unknowing** is a concept that is valuable for thinking about decolonization, particularly in places like the US where the persistent habit of not acknowledging the colonial processes that deeply structure the present prevails (e.g. through ignoring the specificities of indigenous peoples and "colonial entanglements of differential racialization"). (1) The authors argue that this is not simply a matter of collective amnesia or omission. "The magnitude of this disavowal is not primarily a matter of a forgotten or hidden past, at least to the extent that forgetting might be viewed as a passive relation or a concealed past might suspend culpability. Instead, this ignorance – this act of ignoring – is aggressively made and reproduced affectively invested and effectively distributed in ways that conform [to] the social relations and economies of the here and now. Colonial unknowing endeavors to render the entanglements of racialization and colonization, occluding the mutable historicity of colonial structures and attributing finality to events of conquest and dispossession."

Visualizing Toxic Subjects, Center for Ethnography (UC Irvine), 2018-2019 design project that is part of the Center's larger Visualization in Ethnography project. For more information, go [here](#):

Rosemary Wakeford, *Practicing Utopia: An Intellectual History of the New Town Movement* (University of Chicago Press, 2016), especially the Introduction, Ch. 1 (The Origins of the New Town Movement) and Ch.4 (Cybernetic Cities), which includes a more detailed discussion of Irvine as a New Town planned in the mode of cybernetic cities. A particular strength of the book is its global reach – she looks at New Towns such as Islamabad and Brasilia as well as many Soviet New Towns the sprung up and some of which remained secret during the Cold War.

Materials for Workshop Packet

- Brief background on Irvine Ranch and the history of Irvine as a "New Town" (Haas; Wakeford; Ann Forsyth and Katherine Crewe)
- Brief background on the [Irvine Company](#)
- Background on the Workshop methodology (Astrida and Perdita's paper)
- Gabi Kirk's [write-up](#) of Sydney Collaboratory in April 2019
- [List of military bases in California](#)

- [Map of Irvine](#)
- [Map of Orange County](#) and [Map of Freeway system of Orange County](#)
- [Map of Acjachemen villages](#)
- [Background on Acjachemen People](#)
- [Background on Tongva People](#)
- List of private defense contractors based in Irvine that were awarded the greatest amount of government funding from 2000-2018
- [Project Coast](#) Wikipedia Entry
- Brief background on [Donald Bren](#), real estate developer who began buying Irvine Company shares in 1977 and by 1996 had purchased all outstanding shares of the company to become the sole owner of the Irvine Company

Budget Estimates

- Van rentals (2 x \$110) = \$220* [This may be more if we have to pick them up on Friday afternoon and return them on Sunday.]
- Lunch at Sam Woo's for 22 people = \$350
- Honoraria for two community-based guides (2 x \$100) = \$200
- Catered refreshments for end-of-the-day de-briefing session = \$500
- Air travel to Orange County from Sacramento and back for two UC Davis graduate students (Gabi Kirk and Tobias Smith) = \$700

Estimated total costs = \$