

Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation

The making of our image of Toypurina

Why is this image inaccurate?

This commonly used image is from a project under famous artist Judy Baca. She found this picture of a mestiza (having Spanish blood) in the Cal State Los Angeles archives. There is no familial association with Toypurina.



How did we get our image?

Toypurina lived before photography was available. However, we are fortunate that we do have a photograph of one of her daughters from her Spanish husband. She is the second from the right. We took this image, along with a current photograph of Toypurina's 6th great granddaughter, and asked artist The Nyugen of Cal State Fullerton to mesh them together to produce a realistic image of what Toypurina could have looked like. It is this image that artist Rick Hill used to make a bronze bust of her. We are hoping to have a life sized statue of her placed in San Gabriel.



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