1863 Los Angeles

Map of LA area in the mid-1800’s
1869 LA City Square
From Wikipedia
William Mulholland

Owens Valley?

Kern?

Colorado?
Owens Valley today

Owens Lake 1911
Owens River

Lippincott, Eaton & Mulholland, 1906
General construction of the 233-mile aqueduct began in 1908
Mojave steam shovel

Lining Mojave conduit
Owens Valley water leaving Owens Valley and arriving in LA

Jawbone Siphon
The aqueduct opened with great fanfare as about 30,000 people looked on.
1912 San Fernando Valley
Guarding the aqueduct

The people of the Owens Valley take over the gates
Water flows back into the Owens River through the open gates

DYNAMITE GANG SEARCH STARTS

Full Aqueduct Blast Inquiry
Promised by Sheriff

Ample Water in Reservoirs
to Prevent Shortage

Repairs on Broken Section of Siphon Rushed
View from the top of the St. Francis Dam, looking north where the reservoir was located. The point between light and dark in the photo was the water line of the reservoir just before the dam failed on March 12-13, 1928.
A lone oak tree stands in the wake of floodwaters following the St. Francis Dam disaster

Dam victims
Mullholland and his deputy inspect the dam wreckage, 1928
This is the point at which the aqueduct breaks off from the Owens River and starts diverting the water out of the river into the aqueduct and down to the ever thirsty city of Los Angeles.
Water table elevations dropped below root zone as LA increased pumping
Community of Keeler engulfed by Owens Lake dust plume climbing over Cerro Gordo Peak - Stage II Health Advisory Feb. 28, 2006
Dust mitigation efforts by LADWP

Before long, the bone-dry banks of the Owens River will come alive with desert sage brush and salt grasses, says Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Chief Biologist Brian Tillemans.