Don Francisco de Paula Marin was born in Spain in 1774. After briefly serving in the Spanish Navy, Marin took up residence in Hawaii at the age of 19 or 20. He had several Hawaiian wives and many children. In addition to being a keen horticulturist, distiller, and entrepreneur, Marin was an interpreter, doctor, advisor, and confidant to King Kamehameha I. Marin built his house and other structures on land granted to him by Kamehameha I in downtown Honolulu around 1810, where he lived until his death in 1837, at the age of 63. Prior to the construction of a 28-story high-rise building (Marin Tower) and parking structure in 1994, archaeological survey and excavation identified 15 historic coffin burials representing ten adults, 3 children, and two fetuses, from the Marin property. Using historical, archaeological, and forensic/osteological evidence, I outline how we tentatively identified Marin’s skeletal remains. Other burials may represent two of Marin’s wives and any of his eight children who were likely to have been buried on the property.

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