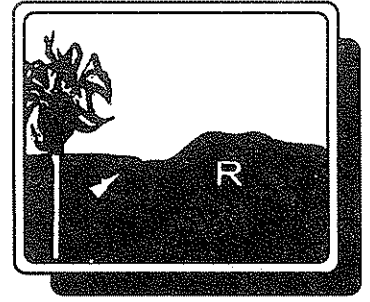


REDLANDS CHRONICLES



May, 2009

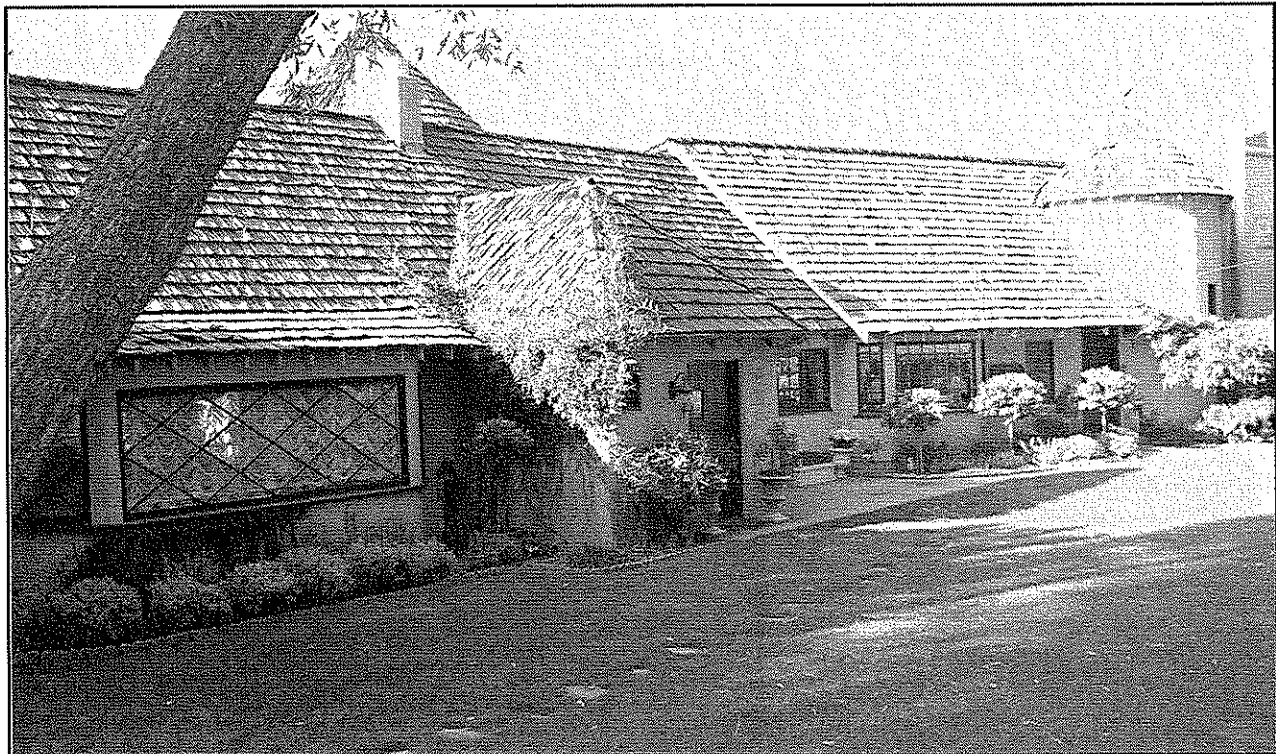
Old House Group Meeting

Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 7 pm
1445 Pacific Avenue

A building permit was issued on December 15, 1928 to Charles E. Maud. The architect/ builder listed is G. Huizing. The value was \$6000.00. The original house was about 2700 square feet. The property is 2.3 acres. Neal and Kim Clifton purchased the property in March 2001 as a "fixer upper". The previous owners put a 3500 square foot addition on in 1988. The house is now 6200 square feet with 7 bedrooms and 8 bathrooms. Their first of many projects was to replace the foundation under the old part of the house. There had been, at one time, a water main break under the house, which washed away a lot of the dirt on which the foundation was supported. Someone just put in a few 2x4s to keep the house from falling down.

The style of this home could be French country. The exterior is stucco with a cedar shingle roof and two turrets.

Parking will be a slight problem as Pacific Ave. is quite narrow at the southern end.



A Letter from your President...

The three-hour Historic Mill Creek Zanja Tours April 18th were sellouts, well organized and, unlike the SS Minnow, returned to the parking lot of Stater Bros. on time. Sandie Green and Susan Rettig were the two board members who took all the phone calls and collected the checks and cash. Tour attendees were treated to a new bus with large clean windows, a bathroom, and comfortable seats. I really appreciated the microphone that allowed me to sit in the front row and watch where I was going, plus an added feature: the microphone worked!

Repeating the Zanja tour twice in one day really emphasizes some history in my mind. The Mill Creek Zanja is really the oldest legacy of San Bernardino Valley history. This irrigation water thread connects the communities of Greenspot, Mentone, Crafton, Redlands, Barton, Old San Bernardino and Loma Linda together. Our collective histories begin with cooperative plans carried out by Franciscan priests, Spanish/Mexican citizens, and Native Americans. "On the Banks of the Zanja" was truly a refrain along twelve miles of this waterway now 190 years in the making.

We have rented the bus again for May 23rd. Both a 9:00 a.m. tour and 1:00 p.m. tour will cover the Zanja Tour for \$25 per seat. Call 307-6060 and Sandie will let you know if we have space. The bus rental is \$770 for the two tours, so we want the tours filled to recover all our costs. When I sent this letter to Nathan Gonzales April 28th we still had one space left on the afternoon tour and 8 left for the 9:00 a.m.

We saw many members attending the Old House Group meeting at 1004 Cajon Street last month. Susan Pyle did such a good job on the 1891 Mitchell home on La Salle Street we presented her a 1983 Heritage Award. So the expectations are high that she will do the same with 1004 Cajon but no pressure Susan! Her two months of ownership have led to extensive pruning, clearing, cleaning, and dream plans. We all look forward to the new 88 citrus trees on the half-acre home site.

Paul Wormser, Director of the National Archives at Laguna Niguel, more than pleased the April 27th regular meeting attendees. He impressed me with the numerous photos of the pioneer Chinese in Redlands. With the exception of only one photograph of two Chinese men on Orange Street, I'd never seen so many photos of the Chinese in Redlands.

The "seditious" noting of the *Redlands Daily Facts* and Paul Moore's inclination to be pro-German in World War I was entertaining. In the same category, unidentified flying objects above Redlands Marketeer was also interesting.

Paul's program had some for everyone. The flood photographs of Colton in 1938 and Mill Creek were crystal clear. The fact that the government documented the damage mile after mile leaves historians with a complete story.

Paul's "homestead papers" of Edward Judson were full of surprises. Judson built a home in Lugonia in 1881 and it was a dinky \$200 room. The 1883 \$200 home wasn't much larger. We often forget what a "shoestring" operation the development of Redlands was in the beginning. However, these two small homes were only requirements of the homestead to acquire the free government land. Judson had a larger home on Pioneer Street in 1877, but we have no photographs for comparison. The homestead documents, if studied in a vacuum, leave the impression of a poor young man struggling. By 1883, Judson and Brown had two land sales in Redlands and made \$19,000 at the first sale in 1881.

If you missed the program but want the DVD to see what you missed, contact Ger and Linda Brassfield of Blue Eagle Video for a \$15 copy. Their number is 909-882-2003.

Your President, Tom Atchley

West Olive Avenue Walking Tour

West Olive Avenue is the selection for the next Redlands Area Historical Society walking tour May 9th, 9:00a.m. beginning at the "Lord's Corner," West Olive and Cajon Street. The tour is led by Tom Atchley and will proceed along West Olive to Center Street for a fee of \$10.

Olive Avenue was the focal point for church building in early Redlands. The Congregationalists moved from Church Street to Olive and Cajon in 1887. They were soon followed by the Baptists, who conducted their services in a tent until the building was erected. Roman Catholics founded Sacred Heart (Holy Name of Jesus) in 1895 on Olive and Eureka. Trinity Episcopal abandoned their Center Street location for East Olive in 1896.

Methodists followed the migration in 1898 gracing the "Lord's Corner." Within another decade the First Christian Church located on the corner of Nordina and Olive. Lutherans built their \$5,000 church on the corner of Olive and Myrtle. The Shakers had a brief stay on Eureka next to the Catholics. The last to build and arrive were the Seventh Day Adventists, building on East Citrus and East Olive.

Catholics were the first to build their own school. Sacred Heart School is the oldest parochial school in Redlands, dating to 1898. Methodists (1924), Baptists (1926), and Congregationalists (1909) all built extensive Sunday school extensions to educate their young brethren.

An Irish Catholic neighborhood sprang up along West Olive and their church. Catholics faced some discrimination with their Protestant neighbors until Father Fitzgerald soothed the toleration issues.

West Olive was one of the first streets in Redlands to receive mule car trolley service. Beginning each day at 6:00 a.m., Phil Dreiser made his rounds to the downtown traveling down the center of West Olive. The trolley system was electrified in 1898 by Henry Fisher and part of the San Bernardino Valley transit company until sold to Henry Huntington and Pacific Electric in 1908. Pacific Electric tracks were not removed on West Olive until 1922. During the "de-crowning" of West Olive in the 1980s original sections of the Redlands 1888 trolley were found.

Nearby churches, Smiley Library, downtown, and the Orange Street railroad hub made Olive

Avenue a fine residential neighborhood selection by 1900. Few homes built carriage barns for horse buggy transportation, since everything was close to Olive Avenue.

Most of the West Olive homes were built at the end of the Victorian period and in the short span before the California bungalow. Classic box homes with Victorian features became popular and Redlands architects found Olive Avenue a street to showcase their original designs.

The original brick McKinley School was designed by architect Fred Harris and constructed by Lynn & Lewis for \$33,000. Built in 1903, this elementary school was the most expensive ever built in Redlands at the time. President McKinley's triumphant visit to Redlands was fresh in everyone's memory. The design was similar to the Redlands Union High expansion in 1903, and spectacular to punctuate his visit and recent death.

Herbert Powell completed the 1938 plans for McKinley School and they were as exciting as the earlier 1903 designs. The "school designed for children" opened, costing \$100,000, with remarkable lockers, tile decorations and an inner courtyard with classrooms only opening to the inside.

The Olive Avenue Market or A.M Nolder store opened amidst a storm of protest in 1924. While residential mom and pop markets were common throughout Redlands, no market had ever been built on church-dominated and residential Olive.

The market controversy led to the establishment of a Redlands City Planning or Zoning Commission to restrict commercial development in residential neighborhoods. The zoning codes were followed by the City Council until Gerrard's Market moved from Orange Street to Center and Cypress in the 1960s. Neighborhood protests of Gerrard's were equal to the 1924 Olive Market controversy.

Well-behaved dogs attached to their owners are welcome on the tour.

Newsletter Deadline

All RAHS members are encouraged to submit articles for the *Redlands Chronicles* to Nathan Gonzales at ngonzales@akspl.org by the 1st of each month.