



# REDLANDS

# CHRONICLES

October 2015

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## Souvenir of Redlands, California

Monday, October 26, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.  
Assembly Room at A.K. Smiley Public Library  
125 W. Vine Street

THE REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY meeting for October 26<sup>th</sup> is a presentation on the society's new publication *Souvenir of Redlands, California*. This book was originally published by Fred C. Hoogstraat in 1898 and 1903.

Hoogstraat sold tourist curios and leather products from his business located on Orange Street just one block from the railroad depots. He decided to publish *Redlands Souvenir* with extensive photographs to illustrate the homes and flora and fauna of California found in Redlands. Hoogstraat covered each book with leather that is individually inscribed to attract the tourist.

Early Redlands photographers such as R. J. Philippi and Elias Everett sold panoramas of Redlands that were very popular. Hoogstraat took photos of the notable mansions and middle class homes to give variety to his book. He took one of the earliest photos of Kimberly-Crest with a flag pole atop the roof.

Robin Grube, Marie Reynolds and Tom Atchley, board members of the Historical Society updated the book with address locations and explanations of the historical photographs. Ron Running chaired the publication committee, prepared all the new text, scanned all the photos and arranged for the book printing.

The presentation consists of a power point with some of the photographs published by Hoogstraat in 1898 and 1903. Books will go on sale at the meeting for the Christmas gift season. Historical Society meetings are free and open to the public.

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## Old House Group

Wednesday, October 28, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.  
Miles Residence  
77 N. Buena Vista Street

SINCE NORTH BUENA VISTA is only one block long, not everyone realizes the interesting houses to be found there, north of Brookside. This neighborhood was built in the 1920s with many styles of architecture. We have been invited to see a fine example of "Spanish Revival" this month.

Almost two years ago, Laura Miles was considering buying this house. Before the sale was even complete, she started making plans for restoring the home with the help of National Specialist of Historical Restoration expert, Kathleen Beall. They shared a vision of regaining the original look of the house with a strict adherence to authenticity.

The resources they mined for appropriate materials will inspire you. Some items from the house itself were found in storage and re-purposed. There have been many owners of this house, so there were some changes that needed to be remedied. Laura even removed light switches and returned to the use of electric push buttons. You will be amazed to see what was found when the walls were stripped in an adjoining shed that has now become the "cottage room". Even the kitchen has been restored to near what it was when the house was built.

From the street you cannot see that the house is a "U" and an



interesting courtyard is in the back. Laura is mindful of our environment and has made sure her yard is as water-efficient as possible. But she also embraces our Redlands heritage, and has planted a mini orange grove.

Please join us to tour this special house and hear the many stories of its renaissance.

-by Robin Grube

# A Letter from your President...

Greetings to all of our members . . . fall has finally arrived and it marks the beginning of a busy schedule for Redlands Area Historical Society.

The month of October brings several unique and fun events that make Redlands a special community. Oktoberfest in Sylvian Park, Rah Rah Redlands which is a community pep rally to celebrate the University of Redlands first home game of the year, as well as several Halloween celebrations. On Halloween you can enjoy a walking historic home tour and the traditional Halloween festivities that take place on Cajon Street, as well as the biggest celebration in the community that takes place on Olive Avenue.

Redlands Area Historical Society (RAHS) began the program year with two events that will be hard to top. On Monday, September 28th, we hosted our first general membership meeting for the year which was held at the Contemporary Club. The capacity crowd was treated to a forum of Redlands World War II Veterans. Each of the longtime residents shared their stories from when they left their hometown to serve our Country. The second event was the Annual Potluck Dinner. This year's dinner was held at Kimberly Crest House and Gardens. The evening had many highlights. Each member brought their favorite homemade main course, side dish and dessert, what a treat! In addition, each attendee was given a behind the scenes tour that took our members to the third floor of Redlands' greatest treasure, Kimberly Crest. I would like to especially thank **RAHS Board Member, Leslie Irish** for handling the details for this year's Annual potluck, thank you Leslie for a job well done! I would also like to thank the Kimberly Crest Board of Directors, volunteer docents and their staff for hosting our Annual Potluck Dinner.

The month of October will feature several more RAHS events in which our members can participate. On October 26<sup>th</sup> we will have an exciting General Membership meeting at the A.K. Smiley Public Library where we will provide a preview of the society's newest product, which is a re-release of a book titled "Redlands Souvenir". We will also host our Annual Cemetery Tour on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and the monthly Old House Group meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 28th. Please see the newsletter for additional information for each of these special events.

As your President it is my pleasure to serve you and I look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming events that we have planned for the month of October.

*Bill Blankenship*

Redlands Area Historical Society would like to thank our **CORPORATE UNDERWRITERS:**

**Wes & Peggy Brier**   **Marjorie Lewis - Realtor, Redlands Vintage Homes**

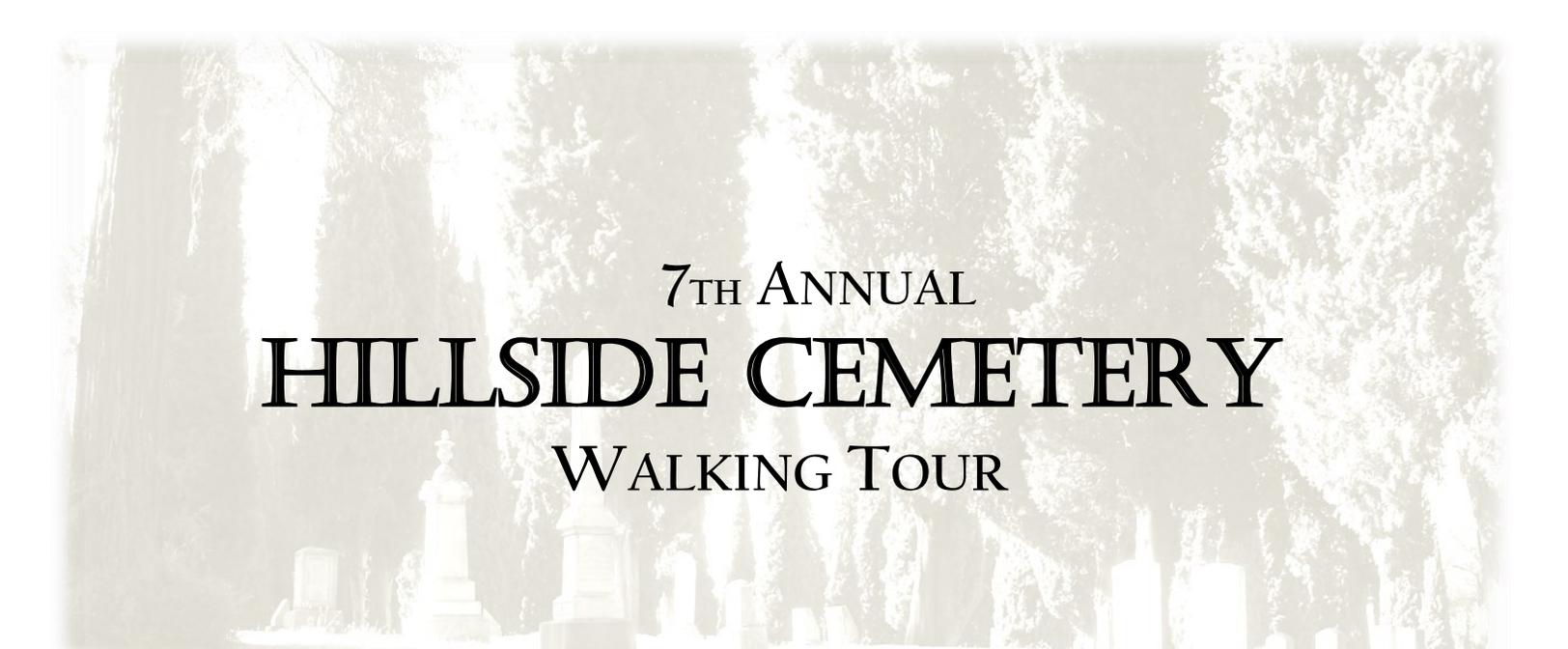
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**Jerry & Brenda Bean**

**Leslie Irish & Rebecca Mangum**

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**ROCHFORD FOUNDATION**



# 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HILLSIDE CEMETERY WALKING TOUR

ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, the Redlands Area Historical Society will conduct a walking tour of Hillside Memorial Park at 1540 Alessandro Road at 4:00 p.m. beginning near the Egyptian Mausoleum and finishing before sundown. Tom Atchley will lead the tour assisted by Sue McClure, both directors of the Historical Society. Sue will collect a \$10.00 donation from each person joining the tour. The walk will not be lengthy but uneven surfaces and moderate hills are abundant in the cemetery.

Judson and Brown, the founders of Redlands, never envisioned a cemetery in their preliminary map of Redlands in 1881. When their good friend and mentor, Myron Crafts, died in 1886 that event led to their purchase of 23.47 acres from the Southern Pacific Railroad Land Company. Judson and Brown then donated this Hillside Cemetery site to the Hillside Cemetery Association. The association consisted of six board members: John W. Edwards, Edward G. Judson, Charles Putnam, A.L. Park, Karl C. Wells and James S. Edwards. They met the first time June 8, 1886. The city did not take over management of the cemetery until February of 1918.

For some two decades pioneers had lived in the East San Bernardino Valley and with the exception of the Native American cemetery in Crafton established by Myron Crafts, no other cemetery had been started. Judson and Brown were able to purchase the land cheaply from the Southern Pacific Company for \$2.50 an acre. Charles Gothier, a Civil War veteran, and resident of the future Smiley Heights was the first interment followed quickly by Myron Crafts.

The Board of Health listed "consumption" what is today called tuberculosis as the number one cause of death in early Redlands followed by typhoid fever, scarlet fever, whooping cough, meningitis and diphtheria.

Gravestones themselves will be utilized to focus on the pioneer biographies of important people in Redlands history. The 1928 Egyptian Mausoleum reminds Redlanders of their fascination with the discovery of King Tut's tomb in Egypt in the 1920's.

During the 1930's, the City of Redlands had some stormy City Council sessions concerning the cemetery when it was learned that Cemetery Endowment Funds were used to purchase Mill Creek Water Rights. A deficit city budget led to the city treasurer to impound city money to review the Endowment Fund questions.

The Great Depression was good for the cemetery. Work Progress Administration spent \$25,000 for 35,000 cubic feet of stone walls, split stone curbs and retaining walls. WPA had 141 men in 1938 building the retaining wall along Alessandro Road costing some \$56,000 on just that wall.

In a Redlands Daily Facts article for 1937 the War Dead History of Hillside Cemetery listed 151 Civil War veterans, 36 Spanish American War vets and 69 World War I burials.

Join the tour and learn many other interesting facts on Hillside Memorial Cemetery, one of the few city-managed cemeteries in California.

*SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup>*

*FOUR O'CLOCK P.M.*

*MEET AT THE MAUSOLEUM*

# The Early Years of

(PART TWO)

## Physical traits and Personality

FRANK BROWN was five feet, two-inches tall and prematurely bald by the age of 26. He was always just a little pudgy with a well-rounded face and manicured business beard and full mustache. He is easily found in group photographs due to his stature. Brown was amazingly physically fit. Prior to building the Bear Valley dam he climbed Mount San Geronio and explored extensively the drainages of both the Santa Ana River and the Whitewater River. The year before the dam was built Brown made over forty round trips to Bear Valley from Redlands following the Santa Ana Canyon to the Seven Oaks Pack Trail switch-backing to Bear Valley. On many of these trips he traveled with either Sylvanus Thurman or Jim Mc Haney, mountain men that marveled at his stamina. All of these adventures were business related accompanied with instruments to measure altitudes, contours, and water resources in the East San Bernardino Valley and beyond.

By today's standards Brown had a hyper-active personality. He was definitely a workaholic whose personality was wrapped in energetic idealism with a dose of friendly optimistic childlike inventiveness that made the people he met feel his vibrant personality. As a practical engineer with determined scientific confidence Brown came across as a super salesman or Yankee engineer that could tame the frontier and solve problems. His personality attracted confidence in his plans and many invested on the strength of his predictions.

Brown was extremely self-

disciplined. After failing to mail some important letters and living on West Highland Avenue his daughter said, "her father, got up early in the morning and walked to the downtown post office to teach himself a lesson." Brown kept scrupulous annotated day books that contained lists of objectives to accomplish each day. As an item was accomplished, he crossed the item from the list dutifully.

Brown could have easily become a lawyer. He wrote most of the contract documents for the firm of Judson and Brown demonstrating the same precise and scrupulous attention to detail that he brought to civil engineering. His legal mind captured the same business innovation discovered by the likes of Carnegie, Edison, Vanderbilt, Rockefeller, and other Robber Barons of the period. Many of the corporations he created followed a pyramid scheme that had his investment dollars controlling the other corporations fashioned beneath. Judson and Brown tip-toed on the edge of financial ruin and bankruptcy throughout the early years. Contracts for land payments to Myron Crafts, Ben Barton, William Somers, Lewis Jacobs and Southern Pacific Railroad overlapped on a calendar with each deadline looming precariously on intended income.

The ultimate risk-taker he was multi-task oriented, pragmatic, bold and honest. Brown was the only whistle-blower warning of the demise of the Irrigation Company in 1893. Filing a court deposition document prior to a Bear Valley bankruptcy suit, he was asked by a lawyer why he and Judson doubled the amount of water shares for each Redlands Water Company share owner. His answer was simply, "he wanted to make the

water shares as good as wheat." As a developer of Redlands his intention was more than sheer business profit. He envisioned a model community presenting a legacy of his work and vision. This goal was shared very much by Edward Judson, his business partner and life-time friend.

L. A. Ingersoll wrote in his Century Annals history, "The story of the inception of Redlands, reads like a made to order illustration of applied knowledge, clear foresight, and unyielding perseverance in the face of great obstacles." The obstacle Redlands faced was lack of water and



*Bear Valley Dam in 1891.*

the solution brought Frank Brown to prominence nationally. His engineering pioneered the way for William Mulholland and the Owen River project completed in 1913. The Colorado River Aqueduct and the Metropolitan Water District of 1928 brought water to Los Angeles. Michael O'Shaughnessy did the same for San Francisco in his controversial building of the Hetch Hetchy Dam in Yosemite National Park. All these projects were funded by public bonds supported by powerful newspaper publishers and city mayors. Redlands was unincorporated, lightly populated and depended on Brown's convincing San Bernardino and Riverside businessmen to risk investment where others had

# Frank Elwood Brown

-by Tom Atchley

previously failed since 1874.

The J & B canal, tunnels and dam influenced the development of John North in Riverside and led Matthew Gage to build his flume from nearby San Bernardino artesian lands to Riverside in 1888. In Ontario, the Chaffey Brothers Euclid Avenue and more directly Magnolia



*Euclid Avenue in Ontario.*

Avenue in Riverside provided street design ideas. These led Brown to design wide avenues and the center divider on Brookside Avenue. The Chaffey's borrowed the Brown idea of tunneling into San Antonio Canyon debris cone to capture the underground water flowing therein.

Frank Brown and Edward Judson practiced humility despite their Redlands achievement. They never purchased a mug book biography to tout their accomplishments. The first history to mention the Redlands Colony occurred in the 1883 History of San Diego and San Bernardino Counties in 1883. The J & B ad included a brief description of the project and a sketch map of the Redlands Colony drawn by Brown. Both Judson and Brown avoided the press for articles on themselves and shifted the publications to discuss the advantages of Redlands instead.

Brown was self-effacing with an ever present sense of humor. He relished time on the trail with seemingly uncouth mountain men

playing jokes on unsuspecting tour guests. On one such excursion to show the Bear Valley reservoir and dam to journalists from San Diego, Brown and Thurman placed the two pressmen between two horses and several burros known for their flagellant behaviors on the trail. When the horses and burros erupted as predicted both Brown and Thurman laughed vigorously. The journalists had previously questioned Brown's engineering ability on the San Diego Sweetwater dam in both the San Diego Union and San Diego Sun papers. These men were so



*Wilson & Berry Business Block in Lugonia.*

impressed with the Bear Valley project they built the first business block in Lugonia called the Wilson and Berry Block and subdivided land in Lugonia into the newspaper streets.

Frank Brown was a life-long Republican. However, he supported Hiram Barton for the State Assembly since Barton, a Southern Democrat, pledged to write irrigation legislation that would bolster water development in Southern California. Brown, famous for his Bear Valley dam in 1884, traveled to Riverside on behalf of Barton to campaign for his successful election the following year. Both Judson and Brown participated in the late 1880's Republican County Conventions held in Riverside. Both supported the election of James Blaine in the 1884 election. In fact,

one of the scows used to build the Bear Valley dam was named Blaine while the other was the Cleveland. A special election district was formed so construction workers could vote without leaving the valley.

Brown's religion was never on display. He was a member of the Congregational Church. He attended church first in Lugonia and later sparingly in Redlands. Judson helped found the Second Congregational Church of Lugonia . even though he was a Presbyterian. Judson, like Brown, was not known for church attendance. Both these men wanted to establish a colony with high morals and sought virtuous families. Both attended meetings in Lugonia that discussed strategies to keep saloons out of this end of the valley two years before incorporation. When a saloon



*Second Congregational Church of Lugonia, 1883.*

arrived in 1888; Judson, as mayor, recognized the city economic advantages a high license could serve financing the new city. Neither men favored prohibition and supported Scipio Craig and The Citrograph in the quest for high license to manage the liquor establishments. No archival materials report that either founder imbibed.

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

Both Judson & Brown set the standard for philanthropy in Redlands. They began in 1883 by donating the lots for the Congregational Church. They continued in 1886 with the land for the Hillside Memorial Cemetery on Redlands Heights. This land was expensive and considered some of the best orange farmland in the valley. Church property for the Episcopal congregation (1886), Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians followed in contract gifts. The deeds of Judson & Brown included performance requirements that obliged the specific congregations to promise to build a substantial \$1500 structure within a year or forfeit the lot. The Methodists went to J & B three times to receive an extension on their Fourth Street and West Citrus lot.

William R. Tolles began a legacy of school land donation. Tolles donated the lot for Lugonia School in 1877 on the corner of Church and Lugonia. Frank Hinckley donated the next Lugonia School lot on the corner of Lugonia and Orange Street in 1885. J & B donated a lot on West Palm for the Redlands School in 1884 and later lots on the corner of West Cypress and Cajon in 1888. J & B continued supporting education with lots for Crafton, McKinley, Franklin and Church Street.

City Parks began with J & B at The Triangle in 1888. The Triangle Park is the oldest city park in



Triangle Park with the Library in the background.

Redlands. The park encouraged the United Women for Public Improvement to create three animal drinking troughs with a center piece

fountain in 1888. This group was the forerunner of the Redlands Horticultural Society.

Judson & Brown wanted an aesthetically pleasing community and set the tone early in 1881. Elon J. Waite had no cash to purchase land in 1881. The J & B deed to Waite specified that Waite use his two-horse team and wagon to plant trees along the Redlands subdivision graded streets. In addition, Waite was required to plant a citrus orchard on the 2 and ½ acres located on the northwest corner of Center and Cypress. J & B deeded the property to Waite in 1883 when this was accomplished. The two deodar fir trees on the corner were planted by Waite from the nursery propagated by Judson. New residents were given trees from the Judson nursery to continue street tree adornment.

Brown was the student of agriculture that convinced bachelor Judson to pursue experiments in fruit propagation. By 1879, Judson and Brown had already planted dozens of fruit trees throughout the eastern valley examining their successful growth. The enthusiasm of Brown infected Judson, the ex-stock broker, to become a life-long horticulturalist. They both wanted beautiful tree lined streets and only adopted citrus after thorough examination of the possibilities.

William T. Holton captured a bit of Frank Brown in a 1954 letter describing Brown. He said, "Brown liked to see things hum. He is really not content unless he is doing something." Scipio Craig, editor of *The Citrograph*, said much the same in his August 16, 1890 comment about Brown. "F. E. Brown, alias the Irishman's flea is.....in town again. He had no seeming limit to the magnitude of the dream which was much like the Smiley twins.

An interview with Frank Brown's daughter-in-law revealed some information about the salesman in Frank Brown. Mrs. Elizabeth K.

Brown stated that,

"He could persuade people to do anything that he wanted them to do. He had the most persuasive ways that you could imagine. He believed in things and when [he] believed in things he could make you believe in them and that was his power."

While vacationing at Bear Valley in 1888, Brown submitted to a character analysis by a Dr. Doolittle. The Brown characteristics were ranked on a scale of one to seven. Doolittle said one would have a low rating and seven would be the highest rating. Brown was rated: "destructiveness (energy) 7, firmness 6+, reflective 6+, perceptive 6+, acquisitiveness 5, secretiveness 5, pride 5, hope 7, veneration 6, spirituality 6+, self-esteem 5, [inhibitiveness] inhibit 6+, philo-progenitive 7, [amativeness] 6, congeniality 5, and vivacious 5."

Dr. Doolittle then observed Brown's physical nature: "vital organs 7, circulatory power 7 and continuity 5."

In a humorous contract camped at Seven Oaks May 22, 1888 Brown made this contract with a Dr. D. Johnson. "If Dr. Johnson, makes [a] fair crop of hair grow on top of my head, within 21 months I'm to deliver myself to him on his ranch in fair condition to keep him [tend] inculpable. I agree to follow his directions in the matter as a patient." Initialed by F.E. B., S. B. H. and Dr. J. No photo after 1888 indicates a fair crop of hair.



Brown, bald, with Thurman on Whitewater, 1881.

# Upcoming Events

- October 24, 4:00 p.m. CEMETERY WALKING TOUR  
 Egyptian Mausoleum  
 Hillside Memorial Park  
 Sunset & Alessandro  
 \$10 per person
- October 26, 7:00 p.m. Program  
 REDLANDS SOUVENIR  
 Lyon Assembly Room  
 A.K. Smiley Public Library  
 125 W. Vine Street
- October 28, 6:30 p.m. OLD HOUSE GROUP MEETING  
 77 N. Buena Vista Street
- November 14, 9:00 a.m. HIGHLAND AVENUE WALKING TOUR I  
 Meet at Highland and Cajon &  
 End at Center Street  
 \$10 per person
- November 21, 9:00 a.m. HIGHLAND AVENUE WALKING TOUR II  
 Meet at Highland and Center &  
 End at Cedar Avenue  
 \$10 per person
- 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month Historic & Scenic Preservation  
 Commission Meetings  
 City Hall Council Chambers  
 35 Cajon Street



*Stokes Entry Gate, above, and Egyptian Mausoleum, below.*



## Newsletter Deadline

All RAHS members are encouraged to submit articles for *Redlands Chronicles* to Marie Reynolds at [sccmarie@yahoo.com](mailto:sccmarie@yahoo.com) by the 1st of each month.

## ORDER YOUR DVD/VIDEO

All of our monthly programs and Heritage Awards ceremonies are dutifully recorded by Gerry and Linda Brassfield of Blue Eagle Video. Videos are \$20 each.

To order a video contact Blue Eagle Video at:  
 (909) 882-2003 or email: [blueeaglevideo@aol.com](mailto:blueeaglevideo@aol.com).



Visit us on the World Wide Web at [www.rahs.org](http://www.rahs.org)

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Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

**Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.**



**REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
 P.O. Box 8775  
 Redlands, CA 92375  
 (909) 307-6060

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