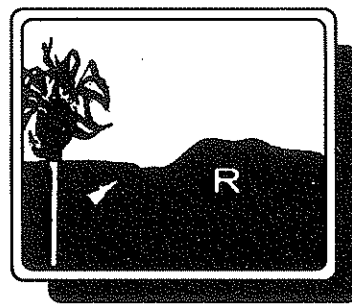


# REDLANDS CHRONICLES



February, 2009

## A Second Look at Redlands "Firsts"

Dr. Stanley D. Korfmacher

Monday February 23, 7 pm

Assembly Room, A. K. Smiley Public Library

Redlanders have been fascinated with cataloging and noting its "famous firsts" since the first edition of the Redlands Citrograph newspaper in 1887. Scipio Craig, editor, was very sensitive to the beginnings of Redlands history and announced his intention to record the history of the community in the newspaper pages. Dr. Stanley Korfmacher presented the latest list at the Fortnightly Club meeting last January. The list has grown to forty-four Famous Redlands Firsts. He visits the Redlands Area Historical Society for the February meeting with his additions, revisions, and some interesting tales in Redlands firsts. The meeting is 7:00 p.m. Monday February 23 in the Assembly Room of A.K. Smiley Library.

Dr. Korfmacher graduated from Carleton College as a chemistry-zoology major in 1953. He received his MD from Northwestern University. He enlisted in the U.S. Public Health Service to fulfill his draft requirement and served as Assistant Chief of Medicine in San Francisco. He met his future wife, Jan, a medical technologist in the research laboratory. They moved to Redlands and joined the Beaver Medical Clinic until retiring in 1994.

Dr. Korfmacher has been active in many Redlands organizations. His interests include classical and concert band music, gardening, landscaping, automobiles, gems and minerals, antique lighting, old electrical devices, art, preservation and dogs. He has over twenty collections, from human powered vacuum cleaners to art glass and Art Nouveau. His previous Fortnightly Club papers have run the gamut from gemstones, Tiffany, dogs, jade, and now Redlands Famous Firsts. His wife, Jan, served on the Redlands School Board and was chair of the Historic and Scenic Preservation Commission.

On the forty-four Redlands Firsts Dr. Korfmacher is likely to speak on Redlands' use of electricity, the Mill Creek Zanja, automobiles, Redlands Day Nursery, the first white line, Great "Y" Circus, Camera Club, Redlands Bowl, presidential visits, the Pledge of Allegiance, and Redlands High School.

His presentation on many diverse topics touches on his lifetime hobbies. Redlands Area Historical meetings are open to the public.

A Letter from your President...

At the last board meeting February 2, the board entertained some 12 heritage award nominations and voted to further discuss seven homes and one special recognition at our next board meeting March 2. Please accept a special thank you to those in the society who alerted the board to particular homes you found worthy. We took photos of your suggestions and then viewed them through a laptop screen. Just after the board was fairly content with the choices, I then dropped some photos on the table and this garnered another nomination but we dropped one from the former list. The board takes the selection process seriously. Our next step is to contact the property owners to seek their approval to accept a heritage award. Research begins once the board has owner approval. Hopefully all this ends with the Heritage Awards June 10th at the Carriage House in Prospect Park.

As you all learned the newsletter went through a new shake-down run for the January issue. Redlands Print Shop did a fine job and the photos in the edition looked good. We missed informing everyone of the Old House Group meeting at 707 South Buena Vista. Some of you called and we had a small gathering on January 21. Jim and Barbara Garcia have done a wonderful job with their 1930 Spanish Revival home.

Susan Rettig, Ron Running, and I worked through our annual budget meeting in January. We noted some drop-off in membership paid dues for this year. Perhaps the recession has come to Redlands. We also found that the newsletter we send to all of you costs \$258 to print and \$97 to mail. Remember the expanded newsletter was suggested by the membership. We hope everyone is enjoying the expanded version each month.

We have three tours planned for the remainder of the year. The first is West Highland Avenue on March 14th. The tour includes an inside look at 4 homes along the street.

The April 18th tour of the Historic Mill Creek Zanja is a culmination of student research of the Junior Redlands Historical Club organized last year at Redlands High. These eager students have written some 40 historical plaques, taken hundreds of photos, and are now preparing a PowerPoint program for all the 4th graders in the Redlands Unified School District. The April 18th trolley bus tour is the first tour of the Mill Creek Zanja from the beginning to its end. We pioneer new turf and interpret the history of this State historic site and National Historic designation. The Zanja is the ancestral egg that hatched the first agricultural development in the valley. The first irrigation began with this hand-dug ditch. Native Americans, mountain men, loggers, furniture manufacturers, wine makers, hog raisers, citrus men, and educators all settled along its path. Three ditches spurred from the Zanja to new locations. You'll be amazed at the history the students have amassed.

On May 16th we have a tour planned of West Olive Avenue beginning at the "Lord's Corner" at Cajon and Olive Avenue. The 9:00 a.m. walking tour will travel to Center Street and discuss every home along the avenue. Many of the homes are part of the Smiley Park Historic District. If you plan ahead, I'd suggest a lunch picnic purchased at the Olive Avenue Market and consumed in Smiley Park.

We had to cancel the Feb. 18th Old House Group meeting for this month. The Old House Group resumes March 18th at the Dave & Tracey Buck home at 1104 Cedar Avenue.

Don't forget reservations are required for the March 14 Highland Avenue Tour and the April 18 Zanja Tour. Call 909 307-6060 and make sure you indicate which tour you want to reserve. The Zanja tour is limited to 26 people because of the size of the trolley.

Hope the recession passes over your home and I sincerely hope the city, state, and federal governments react before a depression ensues.

Your President, Tom Atchley

# Genealogy Notes

## Findagrave.com

For the last year our trusty band of volunteers has been taking pictures of the gravestones found at the Hillside Memorial Park on Alessandro Road. We are up to 12,150 at last count and are placing them on the [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) website.

The website was founded in 1995 by Jim Tipton who's hobby had been to visit the graves of celebrities. Jim's hobby has grown to a website that now has over 29 million entries for cemeteries all over the world. On an average day over 50,000 people search for their ancestors using this site.

Findagrave is a free site with which over 500,000 volunteers have signed up to photograph and enter biographical data for the cemeteries in their local area. The site is used as a resource for family research or history buffs alike.

Once a volunteer registers on the website they then can load up to five photos for each entry. Additional photos (up to 20) can be added if you "adopt" the grave for a \$5 fee. Additionally, the volunteer can add biographical data in ways that I discussed in my last article.

Another special feature of the website is that it allows you to link the entries of family members no matter where their cemetery is located. So by searching for one ancestor you can then click to the

entries of their parents or their children. Findagrave also allows you to down load small music or video clips as well as indicating the exact GPS location of the grave.

Visitors to the website can also request volunteers' assistance to go to a particular cemetery and take a picture of a grave that might not already be on the website. Generally, we get several such requests a month from people all over the world.

Jim, the founder, wants the site to be a place where our ancestors can be memorialized for future generations who might not be able to easily visit the gravesite. With Findagrave they can do so electronically. Visitors can add remarks or electronic flowers to each entry. In so doing the site becomes a virtual cemetery. Jim has stated that the website will always remain a free site where access will be unlimited to anyone that has access to the Internet.

I would encourage everyone to take a look at the website and see if we have posted an entry for any of your ancestors. If you have any pictures or biographical information, we will be happy to post the material for you. Of course you can do it yourself if you have access to a computer.

Please contact me at (909) 798-1289 or any of the following volunteers if you need any help:

Barbara LeClaire	<a href="mailto:gypsy92408@yahoo.com">gypsy92408@yahoo.com</a>
Kym Winkler	<a href="mailto:kwinkler1@roadrunner.com">kwinkler1@roadrunner.com</a>
Donna Hunter	<a href="mailto:ancestorhunt@verizon.net">ancestorhunt@verizon.net</a>
Sue Hurlbut	<a href="mailto:skhgen@yahoo.com">skhgen@yahoo.com</a>



## Future Events

Date:	Saturday, February 14, 2009
Time:	1 p.m.
Event:	Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society
Place:	Yucaipa Public Library
Speaker:	Nancy Carlsberg
Topic:	Cemetery Research

Date:	Sunday, February 22, 2009
Time:	7 p.m.
Event:	Redlands Family History Center
Place:	Redlands LDS Stake Center 505 Wabash Avenue
Speaker:	Shawn Price
Topic:	The New FamilySearch.org

-- Ron Running

**David Morey**  
Birth: Oct. 7, 1842  
Pennsylvania, USA  
Death: Jun. 23, 1902  
Redlands  
San Bernardino County  
California, USA  
David Morey married Sarah DeForrest in May 1870.  
\*Interment date only  
Cause of death: Gunshot wound  
Special thanks to Redlands Historical Society for permission to add this information and photo.  
Please visit Illustrated Redlands for biographical sketch.  
Burial:  
Hillside Memorial Park  
Redlands  
San Bernardino County  
California, USA  
Plot: Orig-662  
Created by: Kym  
Record added: Dec 5 2007  
Find A Grave Memorial# 23251921

  
Added By: Kym  
  
Added By: Kym

## 1908 Reviewed 100 Years Later (continued!)

-- Tom Atchley

Redlands Firemen captured the Arrowhead Festival prizes in San Bernardino. Competing fire departments executed hose lines, passed water buckets and fired up their steam pumps in friendly competition. Remember: Beating San Bernardino in anything was the goal always for Redlands.

The Board of Health, a city commission, wanted dairy inspections to avoid tuberculosis problems. The Van Leuven, Cooley and Saunders Dairies all opposed the proposed ordinance. The board of health reported 31 scarlet fever deaths, 4 typhoid, 86 TB and 29 births for 1908. The doctors of Redlands were reported as the following:

First physician—Dr. Ellen B. Seymour 1882

Second-----Dr. James M. Wheat

Third-----Dr. W. L. Spoor

Fourth-----Dr. J. S. Riggs

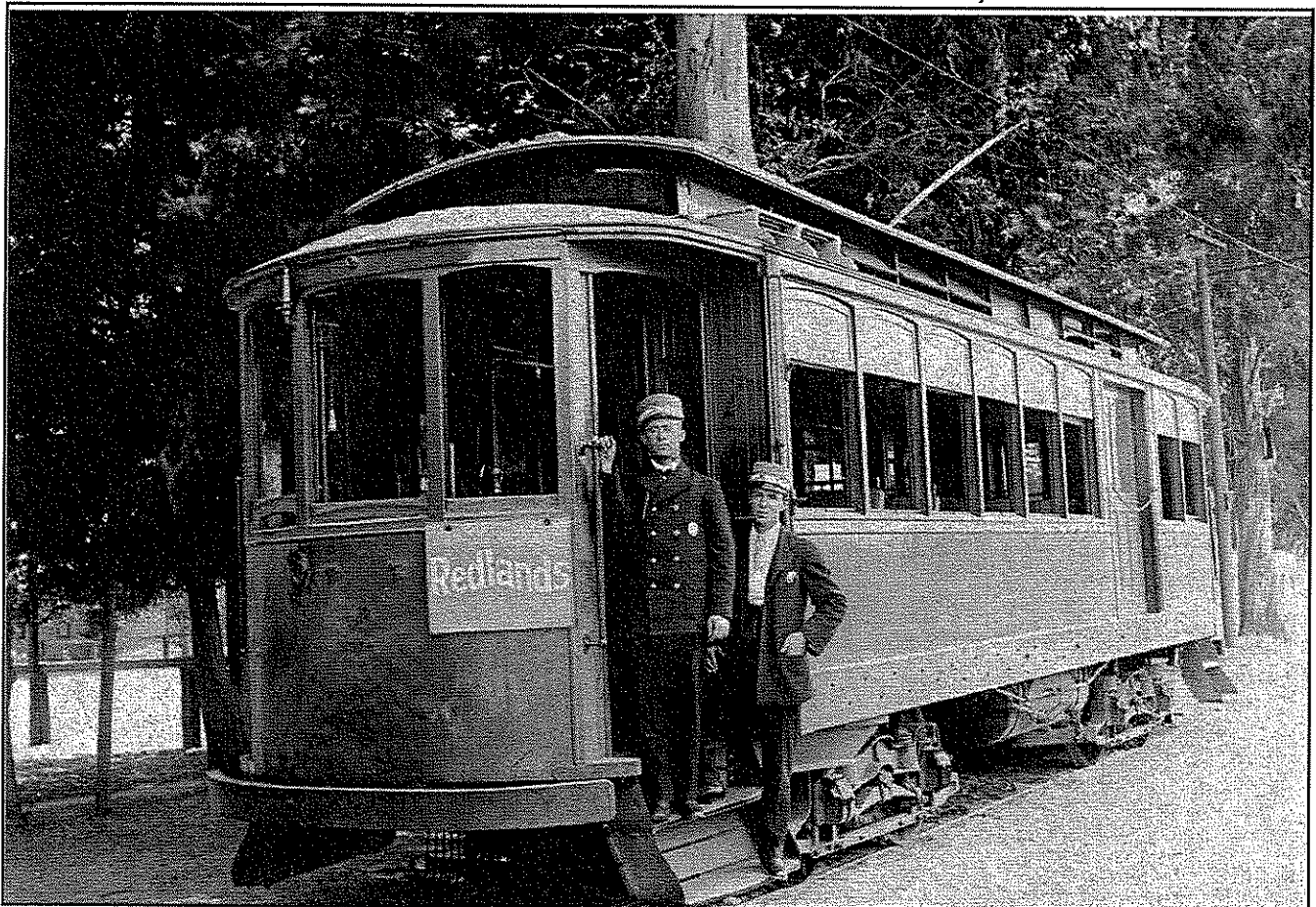
Fifth-----Dr. M. W. Hill

Sixth-----Dr. Sanborn

There were other retired doctors in Redlands, like Dr. Benjamin Watrous. He no longer practiced medicine and therefore was not counted in 1881.

The greatest disappoint of 1908 Redlands concerned the Redlands Central Railroad. Henry Fisher, and his son John H. Fisher, incorporated the Central Railroad Company and built the trolley barn on Citrus Avenue near Church Street in 1907. Service for the electric street car line was every half hour extending from Citrus east to Wabash and Citrus west to the end of Brookside Avenue. Track ran down the middle of the street. The Central Railroad ran into right of way problems with owners adjacent to the track that refused to offer right of way on the side of the street. The railroad would have extended to Riverside through Loma Linda and Highgrove. Business from these two latter towns would have come to Redlands. Development would have taken place along the line 100 years earlier since the "cold belt" for citrus in the valley definitely included the Mission District. Frustrated Henry Fisher elected to sell the line to Traction King Henry Huntington after his visit to Redlands in August.

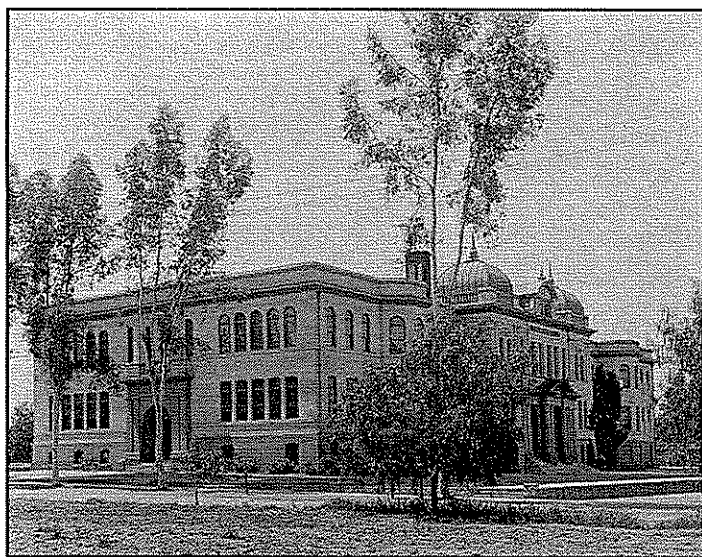
The Redlands and Yucaipa Railroad was the other failure for the year. Chestnut and Dunn,



druggists in Redlands, sold their franchise to build a railroad to Yucaipa to M.N. Newmark, A. P. McGinnis and J. M. Neeland of Los Angeles. These real estate brokers knew a railroad would bring settlement to Yucaipa and they would reap the benefits. Ten miles of track arrived with the promise to connect to Highland, Beaumont, Banning, San Jacinto and Hemet. Stock sales were increased from \$1 million to \$2 million by July. Dirt began to fly on West State in July 1908. Dubbed the "Mile High Railroad" and "Yucaipa and Oakglen Railway Company," each newspaper story gave breathtaking notice to the enterprise. These electric street car lines were designed to sell property along the intended route and in that the schemes failed. The 1907 recession tightened capital investment and speculative real estate endeavors. Yucaipa would not develop until 1910.

Redlands led the county in education funding in 1908. The tax apportionment for Redlands schools was twice that of San Bernardino and Ontario. Needles, Colton, and Chino spent only 1/3 of what Redlanders did for their schools.

Redlands High debate team beat San Bernardino. The high school military company was under the able leadership of E. J. Underwood, a veteran of the Spanish American War. Redlands High boasted a seven-period day, 45 minutes each, and a variety of electives offered. David Starr Jordan, President of Stanford University, spoke to the graduating seniors at the Wyatt Opera House graduation ceremonies.



*Redlands High School*

Led by Mary Fackler, first grade teacher at Kingsbury, grammar school teachers asked for better pay. The highest yearly pay for Redlands teachers was

\$675. San Bernardino paid \$720 and Riverside paid was \$810. The new superintendent, Wayne Prescott Smith, negotiated higher pay but not before the resignation of Miss Fackler. Fackler introduced the "Pledge of Allegiance" as a patriotic symbol in 1898.

University of Redlands built a Woman's Hall and sent the papers a sketch drawings of the intended Administration building.

Clubs and organizations have always been a strength of community-oriented Redlands. Associated Charities (Family Service) produced a report on the "Hungry Hobo Problem." This was especially a problem in 1908 due to the recession.

The Board of Trade (Chamber of Commerce) purchased a stereopticon projector to provide slide lectures on Redlands industries. The board formed a road committee and promoted tourism in Redlands. Their 1908 motto was "Making Redlands Beautiful." The Board of Trade was especially successful producing a new road map of the city and providing funding for street sweeping.

Some clubs and organizations that no longer exist today are: The Grand Army of the Republic Bear Valley Post (All the GAR members died), East Olive Magazine Club, Daughters of Pocahontas Club, Indian Association, Lincoln-Roosevelt League, Settlement Association (Aid to TB patients in San Timoteo Canyon), University Club, Woodmen of the World, Odd Fellows, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Clubs and organizations of 1908 that are still here today would include: The Redlands Band, Redlands Day Nursery, Redlands Historical Society, Redlands Hospital, Lutheran Church, Salvation Army, Family Service, and the YMCA. The "Y" was the most active in 1908. The YMCA conducted mechanical drawing classes, Bible study, health classes, recreation events, and organized the "Knights" to promote good teenage citizenship.

Downtown business promoted a variety of business opportunities. Two theaters offered evening films: The Empire and the Air Dome. The Air Dome Theater had outside moving pictures on West State Street and provided a five-piece orchestra for the ten cent admission.

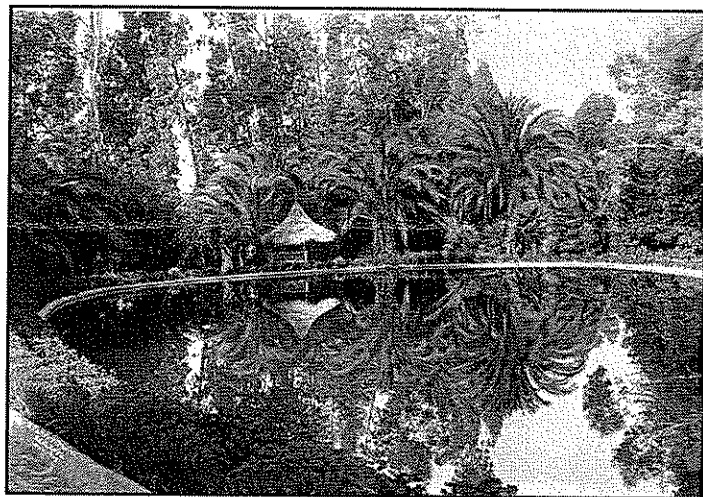
Five telephone companies offered Redlanders service in 1908. By the end of the year Sunset Telephone Co. was absorbed by Southwestern Home Telephone. Having a neighbor with a different telephone service would increase potential connections.



Two neighbors with altogether different services would be a communications technology nirvana.

T.C. Creamery incorporated in 1908 and for decades would serve Redlands with dairy products from the creamery on East State Street (Gourmet Pizza). Harris Brothers opened on East State. The Merchants and Manufacturing Association incorporated after beginning in 1904. Redlands men owned the Pacific Coast Carbon Paper Co. located in Corona. Redlanders also owned the Chiapis Land and Stock Company that intended to produce rubber.

In 1908 the Eucalyptus craze hit the Inland Empire and Redlands. Wood from this fast growing tree could supply fuel for wood burning stoves, railroad ties, wood for railroad steam engines, and meet the legal requirements of the Timber and Stone Act. Government land would be sold for less to developers that planted forest trees in the United States and especially the dry southwest.



*The trees around Mirror Lake in Cañon Crest Park*

The Eucalyptus Lumber Co. planted 260 acres southeast of Redlands in San Timoteo Canyon to grow 30-foot poles. Pratt Eucalyptus Association incorporated for \$50,000. The Riverside Trust Co. planned to plant 100,000 eucalyptus trees along the Santa Ana River bottom with red gum and sugar gum varieties for Redlands and San Bernardino. Florist Sidney Hockridge gave eucalyptus suggestions for Mentone and Santa Ana Canyon. Many of his trees still grow south of the City of Highland. Atwood and Ford planted a large grove in Yucaipa Canyon on the road to Oak Glen in 1908.

Anyone traveling on I-5 in Northern California or I-15 to San Diego will see eucalyptus groves along the highways. The Smileys introduced eucalyptus trees to Redlands in the late 1880s in both Cañon

Crest Park (Smiley Heights) and 1893 Tremont Park. Landscape architect Fred Hosp planted a grove near the new High School in 1891. One of those trees is the tallest in Redlands today growing along Citrus Avenue. The members of the Junior Redlands Historical Club planted new eucalyptus trees donated by the Redlands Street Tree Committee in 2008. Did they know they followed the craze of 1908 some 100 years later?

Great excitement for 1908 came from the expected Col. William Cornell Greene mansion under construction near Sunset Drive and Serpentine. Twelve carloads of cement, 200,000 board feet of lumber, 175-200 laborers and 20-30 horse teams were gathered for the project. The cement foundation was poured and Sidney Hockridge, florist and gardener, completed key tree plantings for the property. The Cananea Mines Copper King suffered million dollar losses in the financial crisis. He never completed the home or returned to Redlands.

The Greene Mansion foundation became the focal party point for teenagers for over three decades. Hidden in Redlands Heights before the 1960s building boom, the massive foundations for the intended home delighted teens from the 1930s to 1960s. Many a Redlands youth found the foundation slab a perfect salvation from adult supervision and it came with a view.

## Future Historical Society Events

Monday, February 23	RAHS Meeting
Wednesday, March 18	Old House Group
Monday, March 23	RAHS Meeting
Wednesday, April 15	Old House Group
Monday, April 27	RAHS Meeting
Wednesday, May 20	Old House Group
Wednesday, June 10	Heritage Awards

### *Newsletter Deadline*

All RAHS members are encouraged to submit articles for the *Redlands Chronicles* to Nathan Gonzales at [ngonzales@akspl.org](mailto:ngonzales@akspl.org) by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

## Tour of the Historic Mill Creek Zanja

The Redlands Area Historical Society announced plans for a trolley tour of the Historic Mill Creek Zanja from its source east in Mill Creek to the west in Loma Linda.

The society will use the trolley bus of Braswell's Chateau Villa retirement center. The trolley is limited to 26 seats. The three-hour tour will board the trolley at Stater Brother's Market parking lot on the corner of Lugonia Avenue and Wabash Street at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday April 18th. One short restroom stop is planned in Sylvan Park.

Reservations for the tour must be made by calling 909-307-6060 and mailing a check for \$25 to the Redlands Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 1024, Redlands, CA 92373.

The tour visits the original dam site that diverted Mill Creek into the artificial ditch in 1819. This "Zanja" or irrigation ditch is the oldest artifact in the county. The construction is an example of the cooperative effort to bring agriculture to the valley through the vision of Franciscan missionaries and Native Americans. Remnants of the Zanja are visible for nearly seven miles of its original course of some 12 miles.

Research for the tour has been the work of the Redlands Junior Historical Club of Redlands High School. Members have spent many Sunday afternoons pouring over history books, newspaper clippings, maps, photographs, obituaries, water suits and historical memorabilia writing historical plaque text for a History Channel Grant.

Under the direction of Tom Atchley, Historical Society president and club adviser, some fifteen dedicated students have unearthed some very interesting history of the Zanja and the settlers along its banks.

The tour will discuss the beginnings of Greenleaf, Greenspot, Crafton, Eastberne, Chicago Colony, Lugonia, Lugonia Heights, Redlands, Barton, Old San Bernardino, and the Mission District.

The Zanja had the first furniture factory in Southern California, the first water wheel for electric lights and the first pioneers of the east San Bernardino Valley along its artificial banks. Predating the Lugo San Bernardino Land Grant by two decades, the Mill Creek Zanja was built while Spain claimed California. Dating to the Mission Period the Zanja was built with engineering expertise and Native American manpow-

er. Zanja precious water has been fought over since the 1860s with a major water suit nearly every two decades.

Tour participants will learn the location of the Crafton Retreat, Paine Ranch, Cram furniture factory, Nicholas Earp ranch (Wyatt's father), Craig Red Hill Ranch, Bryne Ranch, Dearborn Reservoir, Cave Reservoir, Redlands' Fire Dept. bell tower, Osburn water wheel, Zanja Festival, Stillman Winery, Barton Winery, Cottonwood Row, Hinckley Ranch, Van Leuven Ranch, Frink American adobe, and the site of the first orange trees in our valley. The trolley will park on the site of the Alvarado Ditch and Serrano-Cahuilla work camp of early Redlands.

The Mill Creek Zanja has both State of California Historic designation and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

## West Highland Avenue Tour

The board of directors of the Redlands Area Historical Society is proud to announce a tour for West Highland Avenue Saturday March 14th from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The tour will begin at the Wormser/Watchorn residence on the corner of West Highland and Alvarado Street and end at 1012 West Highland at the Clara Clem/Judge Otis home on the corner of West Highland and Monterey Street.

This special tour is limited to 30 people and will cost \$25 per person. Reservations are required. Call the Redlands Area Historical Society number (909-307-6060). We will tour inside four homes on West Highland and board members will host the home history for the four different residences. Tom Atchley will lead the walking tour between the favored homes as the tour travels west.

Marie Reynolds, secretary of the society, will speak about the Robert Watchorn Heritage home. Steve Spiller, board member, will discuss the history of the Phil Livoni home at 705 West Highland and Center Street. Ron Burgess, vice president of the society, will host the Robert Clark residence at 925 West Highland and Pacific Street. Ron Running, board member and genealogy committee chair, will host the Clara Clem/Judge Otis Colonial Revival on West Highland and Monterey Street.

Please make voice reservations first by calling and then mailing your check to Redlands Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 1024, Redlands, CA. 92373.