



REDLANDS CHRONICLES

October 2014

The Arrowhead Line and the Water Train

Mark Landis, Speaker

Monday, October 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Assembly Room, A.K. Smiley Public Library

125 W. Vine Street

MARK LANDIS is a freelance columnist for the Inland Newsgroup and has written local history articles for more than eleven years. Last year he spoke to Redlands Area Historical Society about his new book, *The History of the Arrowhead Springs Hotel*. Landis will bring the popular book to sell again.

On October 27, he returns with the history of the Arrowhead Line and the Water Train, an electric trolley that serviced the famous hotel and transported Arrowhead Spring Water in specially-designed tank cars into San Bernardino. There the tankers joined the mainline to the bottling plants.

The famous Arrowhead Line was built in 1907 by the San Bernardino Valley Traction Company, a company founded by many Redlands investors and later sold to Henry E. Huntington. The company became part of The Pacific Electric

(Continued on page 7)



Arriving at Arrowhead Springs, in 1937.

Old House Group

Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

Mary A. K. Hamilton House

440 W. Highland Avenue



This month we are invited to visit the historic Mary Aurelia Kimberly Hamilton home. Mary was the sister of J. A. Kimberly and, like him, had also lived in Neenah, Wisconsin, where she married J.B. Hamilton. She had grown fond of Redlands as she visited her brother at Kimberly Crest, so she decided to build here as well.

The building permit was issued in 1908, and the cost was listed as \$5,500, joining other fine homes being constructed at that time on Highland Avenue. Mary was a widow and lived there with her daughter, also called Mary, who married Reverend Marquis. They all shared the amenities of this 13-room house, which was built in a U-shape. Eventually, an expensive 3-level elevator was installed. Mary continued to live there with her extended family and in 1931 was honored as Redlands' oldest citizen, at 101 years of

(Continued on page 7)

A Letter from your President...

Greetings to all of our members . . . October is here and Fall has finally arrived after what has been a very warm Redlands Summer.

The month of October brings Oktoberfest, Rah Rah Redlands - which is the University of Redlands first home game and community pep rally - as well as several Halloween celebrations. On Halloween you can enjoy the festivities on Cajon Street at Cypress, or the biggest Halloween celebration in the community that takes place on Olive Avenue.

Redlands Area Historical Society (RAHS) began the program year with two standout events. On Monday, September 22nd we hosted our first general membership meeting for the year titled "City Directories of Redlands California" lead by local author Ann Cordy Deegan. The lecture was interesting and instructive for all the members and guests in attendance. The second event was the Old House Group's Annual Potluck Dinner. The dinner was held at the home of Moshe and Karen Sibille located at 221 East Cypress Avenue. The evening had several highlights. First, each attendee brought their favorite homemade main course, side dish and dessert. What a treat! Second, each attendee toured the beautifully-restored 1894 Victorian home with its incredible art and antique collection. RAHS vice president and local historian Tom Atchley shared with the attendees the historical significance of the "Dike House" and Cypress Avenue. I would like to specially recognize RAHS Board Member, Leslie Irish for handling the details for this year's potluck; thank you Leslie for a job well done! I would also like to thank the Sibille Family for hosting the party.

Several more RAHS happenings in which our members can participate occur this month. In addition to our Old House Group meeting, we will have a very interesting General Membership meeting on October 27th at A.K. Smiley Public Library and we will also host our Annual Cemetery Tour on Saturday, October 25th. Please see the newsletter for additional information on each of these special occasions.

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, redlandsvintagehomes.com

Jill Huntsinger, CAPITIS Real Estate

Leslie Irish & Rebecca Mangum

Rochford Foundation

Hillside Memorial Park Cemetery Tour

Redlands Area Historical Society vice president, Ron Running, and board member, Tom Atchley, plan to lead the sixth annual Hillside Memorial Park cemetery walking tour. The Saturday, October 25th event begins at 4:00 p.m.

A \$10 donation per person will be collected for the historical society. We will begin at the 1928 Egyptian Mausoleum, which is located near the Sunset Drive entrance and the cemetery office. The tour ends near the Alessandro Road entrance and the first grave of the cemetery dated 1886.

The history of Hillside Park is given throughout the walk. Genealogy devotees find the tour helpful for the insight cemetery history can give to family research. The history of Redlands, with its movers and shakers is reviewed, since the tour features Block 4, the oldest section of the cemetery.

- Tom Atchley



AB 1999 Vetoed

Governor Brown vetoed Assembly Bill 1999 which would have allowed tax credits for persons restoring historic properties. The bill had been passed unanimously by both the senate and assembly. Several states have enacted similar statutes. It is disappointing that Governor Brown did not have the same opinion.

The City of Redlands has adopted the state's Mills Act which does allow for a rebate of a portion of property taxes for restoration of qualified historic properties.

- Ron Running

Post Office Stories

- Tom Atchley

Stories about the Redlands/Lugonia Post Office have persisted 125 years after incorporation of the city. Fact and fiction along with historical embellishment continue to beg for an authentic account.

The Lugonia Post Office became official September 5, 1882 with George A. Cook as the first Postmaster. Cook was more than happy to extend the postal business to his store that opened July 28, 1882 on the south-east corner of The Terrace and Orange Street. Cook realized the mail would make his store the destination of the tri-weekly George Phillips stage from San Bernardino. He could greet new residents, receive supplies, get fresh meat deliveries and also attract Lugonia farmers to his establishment. An additional room was added to the store for the mail responsibilities.



George Cook - later Benton Johnson - store
and Lugonia Post Office, 1882.

Frank E. Brown bought the store from George Cook in 1885 and moved the Judson & Brown Real Estate firm to the second story of the structure. Benton O. Johnson, the brother-in-law of Frank Brown, rented the first story and continued with a mercantile business. George Cook subdivided his Lugonia Park land, built a home on The Terrace and entered the real estate business in thriving Lugonia.

No doubt the trek from the Residence Tract and Redlands Heights was inconvenient for new residents of those subdivisions. Scipio Craig, the editor of *The Citrograph*, had to bemoan advertising for the Redlands News Company using a Lugonia Post Office address. Founders Judson and Brown kept quiet on the touchy subject.

Redlands folks petitioned the Postal Service to establish a new post office in Redlands. They were informed that a new office could not fall within two miles of an existing post office. This bad news arrived just as the incorporation debate between Redlands' *The Citrograph* and Lugonia's *South-ern Californian* heated tempers for the

competing communities. The trip to the Lugonia Post Office now meant traversing to partisan territory to pay homage to the Lugonia side of the Zanja. A remedy to the situation came from J. S. Edwards.

R. Quincy Brown reported in 1933 that James S. Edwards, a bachelor, volunteered to pick up Redlanders' mail and distribute it from his East Cypress Avenue shack. This continued for only a month because the Edwards location was within the two-mile limit and Edwards was rarely home.

To rectify the distance requirement Redlands mail moved to the J. B. Raynor home on Center and Chestnut. R. Quincy Brown admitted, "My brother, Lewis, and I, carried the mail on horseback between San Bernardino and Redlands for about a month." The fact was that the Brown boys were mere lads and trusting them with valuable mail over such a distance was risky. Raynor, however, was reliably home to distribute the mail with a Lugonia P. O. address. As downtown Redlands developed, the Residence Tract distribution proved distant with no Street Railroad until 1888.

The post office story pieces continue with Howard Andrews, a lumber store owner with his brother Cyrus, and a member of the first City Trustees. Andrews said Benton Johnson moved his store to the south-west corner of Orange and Water (Redlands Blvd.) and brought the mail from Lugonia daily to his new store. The postmaster was required to maintain the Lugonia office headquarters. This "new" location enraged Lugonia folks. Suggestions of a compromise name such as "Eastberne" failed to entice either Redlands or Lugonia support.

The California Central, also known as Santa Fe Railroad, arrived in April 1888 bringing the mail. Santa Fe offered a site for a post office on Stuart Avenue, resulting in both factions indignant at the suggestion. Why did both sides oppose the railroad location? Redlanders opposed the location since most Lugonia folks considered all land north of the Mill Creek Zanja as Lugonia. Lugonia folks learned to hate the site since the Redlands and San Bernardino Railroad began in May 1888, with one engine named "Redlands." This station was on the north side of the Zanja and both railroads called their depots "Redlands."

Soon after incorporation the City Council renamed "Water Street" (Redlands Blvd.) to Central to further unite the feuding communities. Judson and Brown renamed Chicago Colony #2 Tract along Orange Street to "The Link" to support the council.

Another post office story was written by L. A. Ingersoll in his *Century Annals of San Bernardino County* 1904. He wrote that "while awaiting a final decision from the postal department the people of Redlands took matters in their own hands and arranged for a mail carrier who was paid by subscription and established an office in a small frame building on the corner of Chestnut and Center Street. Here Miss Dora Kiefer taught a little private school and distributed the mail which was brought from San Bernardino by Mr. Rockwell."

Edith Parker Hinckley had the same story as L. A. Ingersoll with an extra caveat. She wrote that this small building "was recognized as the regular Redlands post office and J. B. Campbell was appointed postmaster. Then, mysteriously, in the middle of the night, the building was put on wheels and trundled down town. In due time the postal inspector came around and he discontinued the Lugonia post office!"

Ingersoll wrote that the owner of the small building, H. C. Malone, ordered the Postal Service to vacate the corner of Chestnut and Center lot. Ingersoll really meant Malone owned the lot and not the building. The building was moved to East Citrus Avenue behind the Academy of Music building on the northeast corner of Citrus and Orange Street. Months later the traveling post office stopped at East State for two more months. The wooden building violated the Judson & Brown lot codicil that forbade wooden structures on town lots. By September 1888, the Redlands Post Office was located in the Union Bank brick block on the north-east corner of Orange and State Streets.

Scipio Craig and *The Citrograph* covered the post office story with little tid-bits through the two-year period with specific points not mentioned by any of the other sources. Craig editorialized on the generally poor service of the Postal Service. His October 1887 editorial mentions that mail from San Diego and newspapers, including the *San Diego Sun* and *San Diego Union*, took ten days to deliver from only 140 miles away. Craig lamented the lack of post office boxes and few deliveries from San Bernardino to Redlands or Lugonia. The Lugonia office was considered too small to serve Barton, Terracina, Old San Bernardino, Crafton, Greenspot, Mentone and the Chicago Colony in East Redlands.

Scipio Craig was the first to report that John B. Campbell would be the Redlands

postmaster and that his bond was forwarded to Washington November 19, 1887. Craig reported the new Redlands office would be located on Palm Avenue west of Center Street in the private school house of Miss Kirkeby. Miss Kirkeby was asking for students to attend her private school. Evidently her school failed to begin. How busy could the Redlands office be if a school could use the same small building? Craig followed these reports with this December 10, 1887 update: "Building for the post office will be rushed to completion in ten days. It is located on Palm Avenue just west of Center Street. Postmaster Campbell has received his commission and things will be running in short order." In December, Craig reported that the post office had 300 post office boxes and money orders began in October. This is strange since the building was still under construction!

The Citrograph had much to report in January 1888. C. H. Lathrop became the new Lugonia postmaster and on January 28, 1888 the Redlands Post Office was open. The *New York Tribune* congratulated Scipio Craig, President of the Southern California Editors Association, for forwarding postcards informing one and all to address mail to Redlands, California.

The post office received good and bad news in March of 1888. The 100 new post office boxes arrived but an official eviction order from the building owner asked the Postal Service to leave. So Craig crowed, "Our worthy and law-abiding postmaster last week received peremptory notice to vacate the premises then occupied. Rooms are not easy to find. In fact, none were to be had at all, but finally Mr. Campbell was persuaded to let a small house which belonged to him to be used, and Israel Beal snaked it down on State Street, where it was available and the office moved in."



Union Bank, on East State and Orange, was the location of the Post Office from 1888-1891.

April 1888 ushered in railway mail service and Miss Dean was hired to assist Campbell in a second window. The little building owned by Campbell was too small and the Postal Service spent funds to expand the Union Bank. The foundation and walls went up quickly using Mentone Sandstone.

The building was completed by September offering a 20 x 30 foot room. The same issue of *The Citrograph* noted the closure of the Lugonia Post Office by Washington authorities with Craig genuinely sorry for the demise. Office furniture from Lugonia, a safe and equipment moved to Redlands in October. The old post office building in the residence tract was sold at auction to the highest bidder. Railroad mail service brought sealed pouches of mail three times a day. Lugonia residents had to change their address to Redlands, California and walk to State and Orange Street to get their mail.

Incorporation finally took place November 26, 1888, with a 216 to 63 vote. The official Redlands Post Office opened ten months previously making the incorporation vote a general vote for a community name.

C.H. Lathrop replaced George Cook at the Lugonia Post Office and officially abolished the office September 27, 1888. J. B. Campbell was the lone postmaster of the Redlands Post Office beginning in January of 1888. So in fact, Redlands and Lugonia both had sanctioned post offices violating the two-mile regulation for eight months. The incorporation vote was somehow supposed to be a plebiscite on the name of the post office and community. The post office name was secured nearly a year before incorporation. How Federally leased property could be removed without permission is another question never posed?

Post Office block 1891-1903 on the northwest corner of Orange and Central (Water Street) decorated for McKinley's visit.



Ira Haight, a Lugonia 1870's pioneer, was appointed postmaster April 1, 1891 by President Harrison with an annual salary of \$1400. The post office was moved to the north-west corner of Orange and Central opposite the Baker House Hotel. Haight was replaced by W. C. Phillips with an appointment by President Cleveland November 7, 1894. With the election of Republican McKinley, Isaac Newton Hoag became the postmaster in March 1898. He lived only one month in the position. Halsey

W. Allen succeeded him until July 19, 1902, then William Tisdale became postmaster. Postmasters were appointed by the newly-elected president as political patronage plums for political support. No actual postal experience was necessary for an appointment.

The post office building on the northwest corner of Orange and Central was a new building in 1891 replacing the 1888 San Bernardino and Redlands Railroad depot. (Dinky) The land was purchased by the Southern Pacific and sold to postal authorities. This building was torn down in 1919 when Central Avenue was widened to become the Ocean to Ocean Highway. The new location was another peace offering to Lugonia since the office was now on the north side of the Zanja until 1903. The "Crafts Collection" in the Heritage Room had a glass negative taken on the President McKinley visit to Redlands. After 1903, a piano and music store moved into the building and this later became City Market.

Redlands was granted mail carrier service April 1, 1898, but the city was slow to assign postal addresses for the rural community. Downtown addresses were based on numbers for every forty feet. With twenty-foot frontage on downtown lots the numbers proved inadequate and required renumbering. Many residential neighborhoods were renumbered three times since 1898. Some early City Directories only name the street or cross street as an address. As the orange groves were removed and building tracts became densely built, the old numbers were dropped. The biggest change in address numbers took place when multi-apartment complexes were built with hundreds of units.

Ford, Atwood and Meserve built a three-story building on the north-east corner of Fifth and East State which is now Ed Hale's Park. The Redlands post office moved to the first story, which measured 80 by 100 feet, on February 1, 1903. William M. Tisdale became postmaster July 21, 1902 and ushered the post office into the new building, remaining the postmaster until December 31, 1913.

The Chandler Furniture Store eventually occupied the top two stories. No dissatisfaction with this location was recorded in the newspapers. Lack of post office boxes required the post office to move again in 1918.

Postal business moved to the Woehr block on West State and Fourth Street in December of 1918. Postmaster R. Warner Thomas assured the community that the change before the Christmas rush would not impact postal business. The larger facility offered a money order office, postal savings counter, parcel post windows and a general delivery window. Twice the space was given for post office boxes with locks and the lobby was as large as the old building. Both men

and women restrooms were conveniently offered. All the carrier vehicles had parking spaces behind the building with a loading dock for efficiency.

The 1918 post office on West State was a sacrifice for the war effort in 1917-1918. Congressman William Kettner introduced a bill in 1916 for a new \$30,000 post office for Redlands. The bill was assured passage until Redlanders urged Congress to apply the funds to the national emergency of World War I. This stalled the post office effort for decades but certainly speaks volumes for "the Redlands way."

On December 10, 1928, Redlands *did* receive a new post office located at 200 West State Street. J. F. Wheat was postmaster and E. N. Sturtevant, assistant postmaster. This small office building had no parking for postal delivery vehicles and was sorely deficient in the number of post office boxes. Parking on West State caused concerns for both postal employee deliveries and patrons. The new post office was a short-term building to fill an enlarging service gap.

Each year the Chamber of Commerce wrote letters to Congress asking for a new post office. Congressman Phil D. Swing brought the matter to President Hoover. Hoover placed Redlands on the top of the list of cities for its size but continued to cut the funding to balance the budget in the Depression.

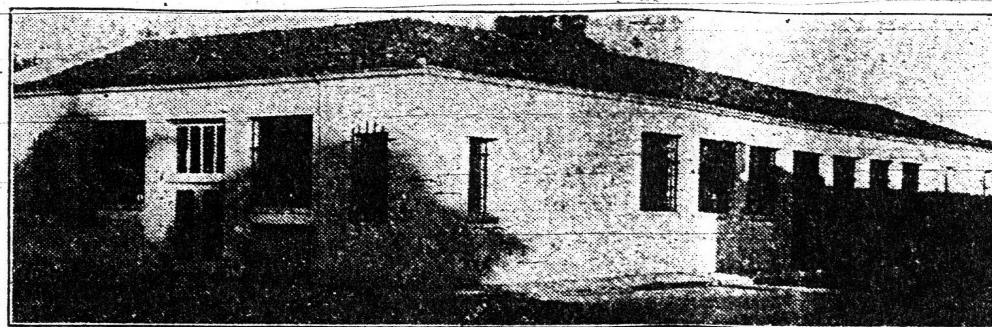
Redlander George S. Biggin led the effort to entice Congress with approval by organizing the property purchase of Brookside and Eureka Street. Charles Brown, WPA representative for this district, urged Congressman Phil Swing to support a post office construction for Redlands. The Architecture Committee, a citizen group pre-dating the Planning Commission, wanted a Spanish Renaissance building to match Smiley Library, Fox Theatre, La Pasada, The



Courtyard, Mutual Orange Distributors and other downtown buildings.

Mr. Swing introduced special legislation to fund a \$120,000 building designed by Riverside architect, G. Stanley Wilson. This was going to be a unique

Redlands New Post Office Placed in Service Today



The New Postoffice Building

Redlands Daily Facts photo of the new building at 200 West State Street in 1928.

government building and radical departure from the usual box-like structures the government built. The bill passed in 1933, awakening the Lugonia-Redlands old hostilities dating back before incorporation.

The old wounds of 1887-1888 remained simmering below the surface until the rupture of 1931. In 1931, the Postal Service announced plans for a new post office for Redlands. The Works Progress Administration program to stimulate jobs for Redlands wanted a new office built on the corner of Eureka and Brookside Avenue. Two objections were raised to the new office location. One: the new post office was located in a zoned residential area and two: the post office was moving out of the downtown and going south. All those memories of the Lugonia Post Office closing returned with pioneers that remembered the old supposed theft. The City Council was inundated with angry old citizens that wanted an explanation.

A model of the new Redlands Post Office appeared in the *Redlands Daily Facts* July 15, 1933. The spectacular building with a Spanish dome tower, Spanish tile roof, and multiple arched entries was amazing even in newspaper print. The North-Moller Company of Jackson, Michigan was awarded the contract. L. P. Scherer was named construction superintendent with a long list of his building accomplishments.

Architect G. Stanley Wilson was given four paragraphs of praise. He designed Riverside City College, an outside theater for 3,000, the University of California, Riverside, a junior college in Brawley, Corona High School, and Upland Junior High School. Wilson's work included the famous Riverside Mission Inn with myriads of arches, columns, brackets and curves, an effect impossible to express in print words. Congressman Swing insisted Congress approve the design which was in keeping with Southland history and existing architecture in Redlands. Needless to say, opposition to the location fizzled.

Last year the Postal Service announced the Redlands Brookside Post

Office was slated for closure. Reaction in Redlands was predictable. Today, the post office's future remains in limbo depending on the economic health of the National Postal Service.

The post office offers the amateur historian with the pitfalls that befall local history. Which of the stories is true? L.A. Ingersoll, R. Quincy Brown, Howard Andrews, James Edwards, Edith Hinckley and Scipio Craig all present a story or a part of one. When I first began teaching local Redlands history class participants swore that



Brookside Post Office in 1936.

the Lugonia post office was moved from Lugonia to Center Street. I believed the story until indexing *The Citrograph* led to a "doubting Thomas" syndrome. How could a sizable Cook store be moved to Center Street in 1887? Wouldn't the postal inspector file charges for theft of Federal property? The Cook Store or by this time the old Benton O. Johnson store burned completely in 1895.

In 1988, one hundred years since the closing of the Lugonia Post Office, the Lugonia Station Post Office opened on New York Street. For the past twenty-six years Redlands has enjoyed two post offices that are not two miles apart! The large mail distribution center for San Bernardino County is just east of Walmart on Redlands Blvd. Ironically, we email most of our correspondence today.

Photos courtesy of the Heritage Room

(Program, continued from page 1)

Company in the great railroad merger of 1911. The Water Train went directly north through San Bernardino until 1960.

Landis presents a PowerPoint program containing numerous rare photos, unique newspaper articles, and maps he created specifically for the program. Landis explains - sometimes with humor - the annoyance of the train to downtown San Bernardino citizens and now their ironic, nostalgic memory of this bygone train.

Redlands Area Historical Society programs are free and open to the public. One Society goal is preservation through historical education.



3rd St. Station, San Bernardino, circa 1912

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.

Newsletter Deadline

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

(Old House Group, continued from page 1)

age. The elevator is still in use, as current owner Nancy Davis finds it useful for bringing in the groceries!

Another architectural item that visitors will find interesting is the 2-story library with its beautiful stone fireplace that was created when daughter Mary enclosed the U-shape, in the 1940s. Also created at that time was a multi-sided powder room. Original windows, pillars, and double gables grace the front of this stately residence.

Upcoming Events

October 14, 6:30 p.m.

City Council Candidate Forum

The Redlands Conservancy is hosting a forum for City Council candidates. The focus of the forum will be to question the candidates about their positions on historic preservation, open space preservation and other quality of life issues facing Redlands today. The forum is always a wonderful opportunity to hear what our future leaders have to say about the issues they will be dealing with in the next few years.

Mission Gables House
167 Eureka Street

October 22, 6:30 p.m.

Old House Group

440 W. Highland Avenue

October 25, 4:00 p.m.

Hillside Cemetery Walking Tour

Egyptian Mausoleum

Near Sunset Drive Entrance

October 27, 7:00 p.m.

Program

Arrowhead Line and Water Train

Mark Landis, Presenter

A.K. Smiley Public Library

Assembly Room

November 15, 9:00 a.m.

Walnut & Chestnut Walking Tour

1st Thursday of the Month

Historic & Scenic Preservation

Commission Meetings

City Hall Council Chambers

35 Cajon Street



Visit us on the World Wide Web at www.rahs.org

Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

Board of Directors 2014-2015

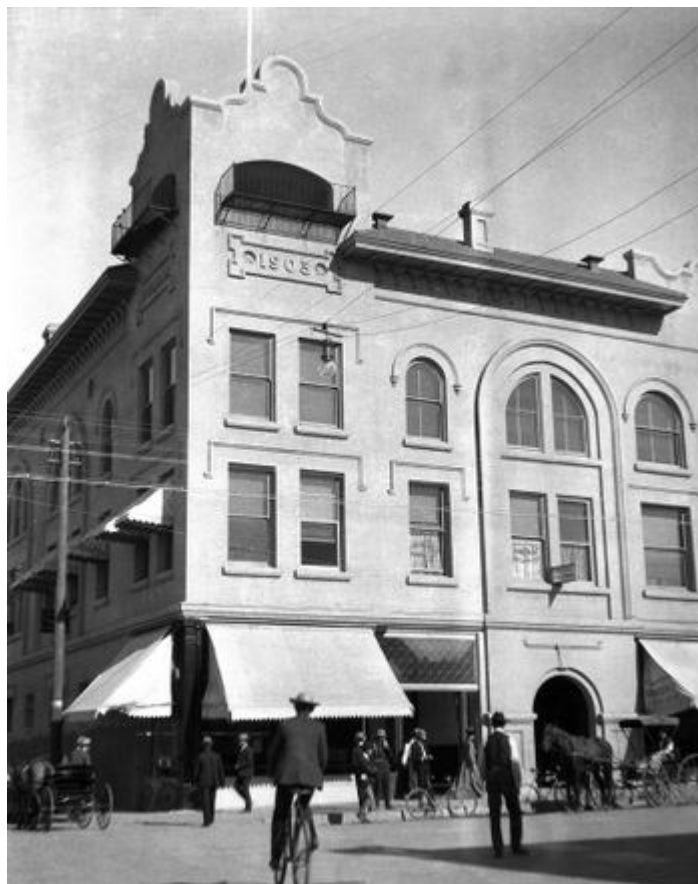
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Membership	Ron Running
Programs	Tom Atchley
Newsletter	Marie Reynolds

From 1903 to 1918, the Post Office was located in the Chandler Building on State and Fifth, now the site of Ed Hales Park.



REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 8775
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(909) 307-6060

Address Correction Requested



THE ARROWHEAD LINE & THE WATER TRAIN

MARK LANDIS, PRESENTER

This narrated slide program follows the early development of the Arrowhead Springs Hotel, and the electric trolley system that was built to service the world-renowned resort. Freight service on the Arrowhead Line transported the famous Arrowhead Spring Water in specially designed tank cars into San Bernardino, where they were put onto the mainline and hauled to the bottling plants.



3rd St. Station, San Bernardino, circa 1912

This famous line was built in 1907 by the San Bernardino Valley Traction Company, under the ownership of Henry E. Huntington. The SBVT was taken over and operated by the Pacific Electric Railway Company in the great merger of 1911. Passenger service on the trolley system carried riders from points in San Bernardino, up to the terminus of the line near the Arrowhead Springs Hotel. The route of the Water Train wound its way out of the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, and eventually made its way through the busy streets of downtown San Bernardino.

The Water Train was an annoyance to many San Bernardino residents, but when the line was abandoned in 1960, it became a nostalgic memory.

This program contains numerous rare photos, unique newspaper articles, and maps that were created specifically for the program. The program lasts approximately 60 minutes.



Arriving at Arrowhead Springs, in 1937

The Water Train making the turn at 3rd & D Sts. in downtown San Bernardino, in 1955

