



REDLANDS CHRONICLES

September 2015

World War II Veterans Forum

Fred Bandel, Clare Henry Day, Wayland Reynolds, Ben Treas, Bob Leonard and George Andrews
Monday, September 28, 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 September 28th will be a forum on World War II veterans. Each veteran will speak for seven to ten minutes on the role they played in World War II.

Fred Bandel, Redlands High School class of 1940, flew transport planes during the war. Clare Henry Day, an architect today, was a cryptologist for the war effort completing intelligence work daily. Wayland Reynolds, RHS class of 1940, was involved in navy operations for both Iwo Jima and Okinawa. Ben Treas served in the Pacific theatre in navy operations off Iwo Jima and Okinawa. His hearing was impacted the blast of the sixteen-inch battleship guns as they blasted Mount Suribachi on the Island of Iwo Jima. Bob Leonard, RHS class of 1940, was part of the Marine Corps invasion of Okinawa. He was wounded in the fight. Bob has been a member of the Optimist Club since 1948. George Andrews fought with the 25th Infantry Division to free the Philippines, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. He recently wrote an editorial in the Daily Facts being thankful his division did not have to invade Japan and sustain huge casualties.

Unable to attend, Harry John was in the Army Air Corp but is visiting the Galapagos Islands in September. Morse Miller, RHS class of 1940, flew B-24 bombers in the war but has to decline in order to care for his wife.

If attendance overwhelms the Assembly Room of A.K. Smiley Library the meeting will move to the Contemporary Club house just south of the Lincoln Shrine and library at 173 Eureka Street.

Old House Group Potluck

Wednesday, September 23, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.

KIMBERLY CREST HOUSE & GARDENS

1325 Prospect Drive

REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY is proud to announce that the first get-together of our new year will be held at Kimberly Crest. Following tradition, this evening features a potluck that is open to all of you and your families. The gardens and new building facilities will be open for us as we meet our community friends and enjoy the food we have brought.

Mrs. Cornelia Hill's home was among the loveliest of the mansion era in Redlands, built in 1897 in the chateau style by the Donalds and designed by Oliver Perry Dennis and Lyman Farwell. The \$10,000 home was constructed quickly—Mrs. Hill moved in during October of the same year. The wealthy widow lived there with her young granddaughters Olive and Mae Carey, who attended Kingsbury school.

In 1905 it was purchased by John A. Kimberly of the famous paper-goods company that bears his name. His family spent many happy years here. Most of you have probably enjoyed seeing the beautiful Tiffany-designed rooms, and know the story of daughter Mary Emma Kimberly Shirk bequeathing the house to the city. This was in response to the people of Redlands raising enough money to

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Residence of Mrs. Cornelia Hill, later known as Kimberly Crest.

A Letter from your President...

I hope that all of our Redlands Area Historical Society (Society) members have had an opportunity to enjoy what was a near perfect Redlands summer. With the children going back school and the many summer festivities drawing to a close, it is again time to resume a full schedule of activities for the Society.

At the 40th Annual Heritage Awards and Ice Cream Social I was nominated to serve a fifth term as your president. In addition, the following board members were also nominated to serve in the following positions: Tom Atchley, Vice President, Susan Rettig, Treasurer and Steve Spiller, Secretary. The following board members were also nominated to head various committees: Marie Reynolds, Newsletter; Leslie Irish, Old House Group; Sue McClure, Hospitality; Steve Spiller, Heritage Awards; Ron Running, Membership and Special Projects; Tom Atchley, Programs; and Robin Grube was appointed to the Board of Directors and Steve Spiller as an Ex-Officio member to the Board of Directors.

I would also like to thank **Ellen Timothy and the Rochford Foundation** for once again hosting the 40th Annual Heritage Awards and Ice Cream Social. In addition, a special thanks to **Dr. Terry Vines** for donating Theron's Famous Frozen Custard, which made the ice cream social possible. I would like to especially recognize our board members and our Society volunteers who served on the 2015 Heritage Awards Committee, Chairman Steve Spiller, Ron Running (program production), Tom Atchley, Leslie Irish, Sue Mc Clure, Marie Reynolds, Sandi Green, Robin Grube and Society volunteers, Jill Huntsinger, and Karen Flippen.

I would again like to recognize the following recipients of our 2015 Heritage Awards: 424 West Olive Avenue, Chris and Tammi White – 701 West Olive Avenue, Robin and Carol Dyer – 511 Cajon Street , Randall and Tammy Young – 107 Garden Hill, Leonard and Candace Young – 1145 West Highland Avenue, Joe and Joanie Haid. Each award recipient has played a tremendous role by preserving and maintaining our Redlands heritage. Thank you to all who made this evening possible.

As we enter another season of activities the Society will host on September 28th our monthly program featuring a panel of Redlands residents who served our country in World War II. It is also time to make the big decision on what you will bring to the annual Old House Group potluck dinner, which will be held on Wednesday, September 23rd at the National and State designated historical landmark, Kimberly Crest House and Gardens. Our members will be able to enjoy the gardens and a special tour of the inside of the home.

As your president, it is my privilege to serve our members and I am excited to begin another year. I will look forward to seeing you at one of the many upcoming events that we have planned for this fall.

Bill Blankenship

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

Wes & Peggy Brier Marjorie Lewis ~ Realtor, Redlands Vintage Homes
Jill Huntsinger, CAPITIS Real Estate Jerry & Brenda Bean
Leslie Irish & Rebecca Mangum Barich & Associates
ROCHFORD FOUNDATION

*Below, Roy Atchley (L) and colleague.
At right, Fred Bandel's 1940 Makio photo.*



VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II



F. Wayland Reynolds in uniform.



Robert Leonard's 1940 Makio photo..

The Early Years of



FRANK ELWOOD BROWN, the co-founder of Redlands and several communities in Riverside County, was born into a family with pioneer traditions. Frank's great-grandfather, Cornelius Brown, was considered the first settler of Norfolk, Connecticut in 1744. Dense forest and rugged hills made this section of Connecticut inhospitable. Cornelius Brown was instrumental in the incorporation of this town in 1758, and he engineered the water delivery system to Norfolk.

Reuben Quincy Brown, the grandfather of Frank, was born July 13, 1779. He lived and died in Norfolk. Reuben Quincy, the father of Frank, was born in 1823 and died in 1870 at the age of 47. Frank Brown was 14 at the time of his death and attended the Seaside Male Academy founded by his father. His greatest accomplishment was the establishment of a boy's school at West Haven, Connecticut in 1852. The school was named the

Seaside Male Academy. According to the West Haven Historical Society the school also enrolled Chinese students. The Chinese students received Christian religious training before entering Yale and returning to China. All the Seaside Academy students were prepared for the rigors of college with advanced mathematics that led to engineering degrees in college. The Chinese graduates of Seaside performed well at Yale with several returning to China to build that nation's first railroads.

Frank Elwood Brown was born August 23, 1856, four years after the male seminary opened, in a family of five other siblings. Only three of Brown's brothers and sisters survived childhood.

Rebecca Wilmot Brown, mother of Frank, continued to manage the Seaside Academy after Reuben died. The school flourished since the graduates did well at Yale. Frank learned some Chinese at school and excelled in mathematics courses. The school graced the shoreline of New Haven along the Atlantic coast. The Brown family had a two-story home on Prospect Drive a short distance from the school.

Rebecca joined her son, Frank, in 1881 in Redlands. Rebecca brought her youngest son, Brainard Warren (1864-1913) to Redlands with her. Brainard was eight years younger than Frank.

Rebecca Brown became a civic leader in early Redlands. Church services were conducted in her home on North Place in 1883 before the Episcopal Church was built on Center Street in 1886. She conducted classes at the Lugonia grammar school with the first teacher, George Beattie. Rebecca babysat for the Brown children often and especially

after Frank built his new home on West Cypress Avenue in 1882. Rebecca died in Redlands at the age of 88 in 1922.

Quite a few Brown family members were attracted to Redlands after the community began to show signs of success. Minnie Rebecca, sister of Frank, came to Redlands with her husband, Benton Johnson. Frank sold Benton the former George Cook market and adjoining post office in Lugonia. Johnson became the post master and rented the upstairs of the building to Judson and Brown for their real estate office. Minnie was given the responsibility by Frank to sell the lots of Redlands Heights in the Summit Avenue neighborhood. Benton and Minnie built a Victorian home on Summit in 1888.

Philo Reuben Brown, cousin of Frank, came to Redlands for his health in 1882 and for a short period of time managed the Lugonia mercantile store. He died in 1888. Philo brought his son, Reuben Quincy Brown, on the eleven-day train trip from Connecticut. Reuben had a grocery store in Redlands for decades. When he died in 1952 these lines appeared with his obituary:

"No! no man ere lived in this town
So long as has Reuben Quincy Brown."

Dr. Ellen Brown Seymour, a cousin of Frank, also came to Redlands. Ellen studied medicine at Saratoga Springs, New York and graduated from medical school in New York City in 1873. Dr. Seymour practiced medicine in New Britain for nearly ten years. Before medicine became the focus of Ellen, she was a teacher in the public schools. When her husband of ten years, Rollen H. Seymour, died Ellen went to the South to teach children of the newly

Frank Elwood Brown

-by Tom Atchley

freed at General Armstrong's Hampton Institute at Hilton Head, South Carolina.

Frank wrote to her in early 1881, explaining that the new Redlands Colony needed a physician to attend to the new settlers and help those arriving with the dreaded consumption (TB). The need was not as great as Frank suggested. Dr. Seymour traveled to Riverside three times a week practicing medicine there and Redlands. Many of the laborers in Redlands were Native Americans that suffered the common work related injuries. Dr. Seymour attended to all without regard to the customary racial attitudes prevalent at the time.

With additional land sales in 1882, Frank asked Dr. Seymour to manage the Prospect House. The building was constructed to house construction laborers on Prospect Hill. Dr. Seymour insisted on a water supply for the "hotel" if she was to manage the building. Frank tapped Crystal Springs installing a long pipe line to deliver water to Prospect House. Ellen managed the hotel for six years.

Dr. Seymour was both a community leader of Lugonia and Redlands. She initiated the proposal to fund the building of the Second Congregational Church (Terrace Congregational Church) in 1883. Her efforts collected \$1600 to build the church. She organized the ladies of the church to save for the church bell and then donated the organ for the church from her own savings. Dr. Seymour was one of the original directors of the Redlands Water Company. All the early meetings of the new company were held at the Prospect Hotel.

One ad Dr. Seymour ran in the Riverside Press and Horticulturist

gave her office hours. "Office hours 7:00 to 9:00 a.m., 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Saturday evenings for Working Girls at reduced charge. I provide special attention to diseases of women and obstetrics. Mrs. E. B. Seymour, M.D." This ad pertained to Riverside since the other days of the week she was in Redlands. The presence of Dr. Seymour in Redlands gave the community a jolt of progressive innovation. The "Cult of Domesticity" was still prevalent nationally and only a few women worked outside the home professionally.



Prospect House with Dr. Seymour shown standing next to Frank Brown's wife, Jessie.

Dr. Seymour spent 26 years serving Redlands. Her last years were spent with Edward Judson Brown, son of Frank, while he was studying law. At one time she owned twenty lots in the Residence Tract. She built a home on Chestnut Street in 1891. In 1907, she returned to Norfolk, Connecticut and died in September at the age of 75.

Sheffield Scientific School

Frank Brown felt the touch of Abraham Lincoln while attending college at Yale. The Morrill Act of 1862 provided for land grant colleges to educate young men to farm and develop the Great Plains and learn

irrigation skills to propagate agriculture in the dry west. The Morrill Act offered financial advantages to colleges that would advance this education reform. Yale University took advantage of the act and established the Sheffield Scientific School in 1873.

According to the History of the Sheffield Scientific School book of 1928, the Yale University College was also called the College of Agriculture and the Mechanical Arts. The general public was generally agitated over the general question of how to liberalize the curriculum offered at liberal arts colleges. The trend would lead to more specific scientific and practical learning in school. In the inaugural speech by Professor Trowbridge stated that, "the profession of the mechanical or dynamical engineering would be the object of the new college. "The object of the school is exclusively the preparation and training of young men for the pursuit of the comparatively new profession." Trowbridge wanted a well-defined course in mechanical engineering that would lead naturally to a sharp distinction between it and the earlier course of civil engineering, hydraulic engineering and land irrigation.

The college also stressed scientific agriculture to acquaint the student with the "constitution of the soil, the laws of animal and vegetable life, and the experience of other nations, etc." Brown was enrolled in Trowbridge classes for civil engineering, mechanical engineering and scientific agriculture. These skills were later demonstrated by Brown in deciduous fruit growing, experimental citrus trees, the design of equipment for the fruit dryers, and the study of weather in all of Southern California.

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John Emory Clark (1873-1901 Sheffield) was Brown's mathematics teacher. He made many lasting impressions on Brown. Professor Clark was Deputy Surveyor in the Dakota Territory in the 1860's. He was part of Custer's Brigade of the Army of the Potomac during the Civil War. In 1873, Clark completed the government survey of Southern Colorado and the government survey of the northwestern boundary. This is where Brown acquired that compulsion to measure and survey all the points of the San Bernardino Valley as well and many locations in Riverside County. Old timers in Lugonia constantly chided Brown for carrying survey equipment in his carriage or strapped to his horse, Dolly.

Professor Samuel William Johnson was a chemist and leader in the scientific Agriculture Experiment Station which opened at Sheffield in 1873. The school boasted 31 graduates

in 1873. State of Massachusetts received Morrill Act funding which was for agriculture education. The state passed on funding for the Sheffield College agriculture education.

Frank Elwood Brown graduated from the Sheffield College of Engineering, a department of Yale University in June 1876 at the age of 19. He attended several post graduate classes in engineering until Christmas of 1876. He decided to go to California with friends and see the engineering possibilities in irrigation. He was influenced by the book written by Charles Nordhoff published in 1873 titled "California for Health, Pleasure and Residence."

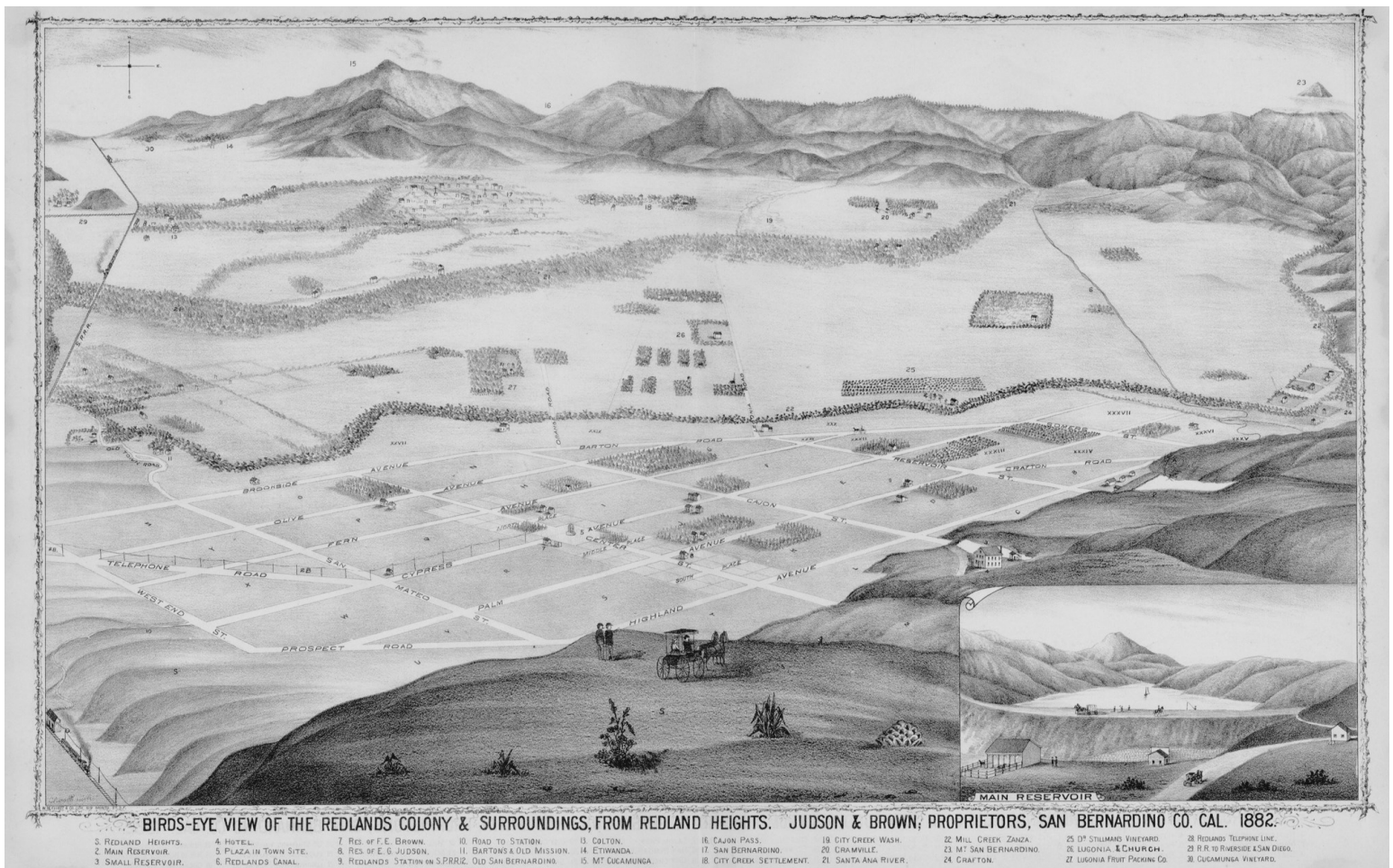
Frank Brown was influenced by other factors in his early education. His family could trace their early history to Norfolk. His father had established New Haven Seaside Academy. Yale's education supported the practical reform that its graduates enter into the education field. The

first job of Frank in Lugonia was as a teacher in San Timoteo Canyon. Mechanical engineering coupled with civil engineering and scientific agriculture complimented Brown's faddish for tabulating predictive calculations.

Frank Brown brought the knowledge of Sheffield to Southern California filled with enthusiasm and an idealism that often seemed boundless. He also brought a bit of West Haven, Connecticut with him in the naming of Redlands streets.

The street map of West Haven contains many clues about the names of streets for Redlands. Linden Avenue (Crescent), Highland Avenue, Church Street, Walnut Avenue, Water Street, Center Street, Terrace, North Place, and Prospect Street near Brown Street in West Haven.

The Early Years of Frank Elwood Brown will conclude in the next issue of Redlands Chronicles.

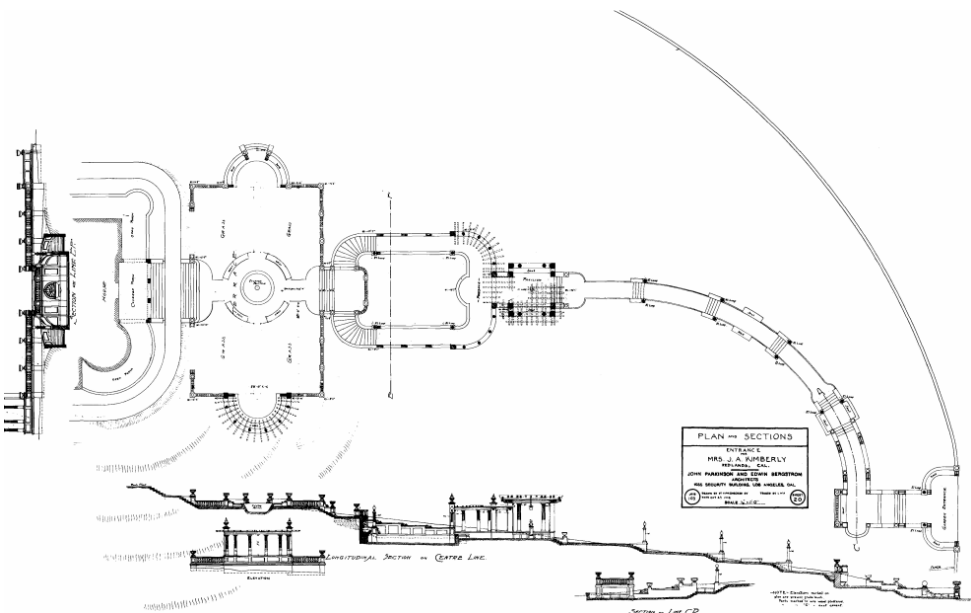


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fund Prospect Park, whose 39 acres adjoin the 6 acres of her property. She stayed here until her death in 1979.

The Italianate gardens, where we will enjoy the early evening, were designed by John Parkinson and Edwin Bergstrom (with landscaping chosen by Mrs. Helen Cheney Kimberly and Paul Howard) and planted in 1909.

Please bring your favorite covered dish – last names beginning with the letters A-S (main dishes) and T-Z (desserts.)



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*Architectural drawing of Kimberly Crest's formal gardens, top;
and the mansion as Mrs. Hill's grove house, circa 1898.
(Courtesy Archives, A.K. Smiley Public Library.)*

Newsletter Deadline

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

Frank and Jessie Brown's children, Emmeline, Reuben, Edward, Paul and baby Alessandra, are shown in 1891 at their home on the southwest corner of Highland Avenue and San Jacinto Street.



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Board of Directors 2014-2015

Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.
Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

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