



# REDLANDS CHRONICLES

October 2019

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## REDLANDS HISTORY CAN MOVE

Dr. Nathan Gonzales, Speaker  
Monday, October 28, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.  
A.K.S.P.L. Contemporary Clubhouse  
173 S. Eureka Street, Redlands

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DR. NATHAN GONZALES is the Redlands Area Historical Society speaker for the October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting at the A.K. S. P. L. Contemporary Clubhouse at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Gonzales recently acquired a new suite of equipment that can digitize 8mm, Super 8 and 16mm home movies frame-by-frame. The donated equipment has supplied the Heritage Room with Redlands history that can move. Dr. Gonzales will show some the film that has been digitized in his power-point presentation.

Nathan Gonzales graduated from the University of the Pacific with a degree in history in 1997. He then enrolled in the UC Riverside graduate program in history and completed his doctorate in 2006.

Nathan secured a position as a part-time archivist that became a full-time position in 1999. Nathan followed in the position of archivist of special collections at the library and curator of the Lincoln Memorial Shrine from Dr. Larry Burgess and then Don McCue. These two previous archivists later became the A. K. Smiley Library Directors.

Nathan is encouraging all those in possession of 8mm, 16mm or Super 8 film that records parades, events, festivals, homes, downtown business or unusual events with the library now. The film is returned to the owner since the copy is then in digital format.

This program will entertain history buffs and is free and open to the public.

-by Tom Atchley

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## HIGH AVENUE WALKING TOUR November 9<sup>th</sup>

THE REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY will conduct a walking tour of High Avenue, Sylvan Park, and adjoining streets on Saturday November 9. The tour will begin at 10:00 a.m. from the corner of High and Chapel Street and charges \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Tom Atchley will lead the tour with Marjorie Lewis providing the audio platform and golf cart.

This tour includes a history of Sylvan Park, several heritage homes and some before and after photographs that illustrate the evolving neighborhood. One section of the tour goes to Sylvan Blvd. to point out the location of the 1873 William F. Somers residence. Somers at one time owned 1200 acres from Church Street to Crafton Avenue in a mile wide estate. Somers donated the land from his holdings in 1891 for the creation of Redlands High School.

Some excellent examples of Victorian homes grace High Avenue that date from 1887. Isaac Hoag named Sylvan Blvd. in 1888, the first boulevard created in Redlands. Hoag, as the Southern Pacific Railroad land agent, sold thousands of acres in East Redlands to the Chicago Colony. Chicago Colony residents named Wabash, LaSalle, Dearborn, Lincoln and then State Street. The first subdivision of downtown Redlands was called Chicago Colony #1.

Division Street divides the "Lugonia Heights" subdivision that once had the Putnam University Grocery Store and now includes the Franklin School playground.

Stillman Avenue has a lively history named for Dr. Jacob D.B. Stillman. Stillman was a physician, scientist, author, and vintner, whose land now is occupied by the University of Redlands.

The tour ends on Chapel Street where the tour began.

-by Tom Atchley



## *Dear Redlands Area Historical Society Members,*

For those who attended the Mill Creek Zanja plaque dedication at Sylvan Park on Saturday, September 21, a big thank you! For those unable to attend, please take the time to visit the Park and see this new addition. The effort to replace the original State Historic Landmark bronze plaque stolen several years ago was a partnership with the Redlands Conservancy and The Contemporary Club, Inc. of Redlands. We sincerely appreciate the combined efforts of our three organizations. Thank you to Sherli Leonard, Executive Director of the Conservancy and Darlene Held, President of The Contemporary Club for your comments at the dedication. The cut stone pedestal is a work of art thanks to stone mason Gary Kasler. We acknowledge the generosity of Mick and Sandy Gallagher of Finishing Touch Engraving who donated the engraved granite plaque. I want to extend our appreciation to the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for participating in the dedication. Lee Clauss, Director of Cultural Resource Management for San Manuel shared with us an inspiring message on the significance of this humble irrigation ditch hand dug 200 years ago. Among those whose efforts we enjoy and value today were ancestors of San Manuel members. Others who deserve our appreciation include Kenneth Shoji from San Manuel and the Redlands City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and Tricia Swope, Manager, Facilities & Community Services for the City of Redlands. Thanks to my fellow board members – each played an important role(s) in making this dedication possible. A special thank you to Tom Atchley for providing the history and context for the Zanja and Sylvan Park.

Our first Old House Group gathering is on Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing you at this Halloween-themed evening at the home of Kim and Ken McCrory. Please remember that the Old House Group events are adult only. We are so very grateful for the generosity of the homeowners and their willingness to open their homes to Society members. We are their guests. A few reminders – early arrivals (prior to 6:30 pm) will not be allowed in and please refrain from sitting on furniture unless invited to do so. Although it is easy to pull out your cell phone and take a picture or two, please do not. Wondering what is in a cupboard or behind a closet door may be an intriguing thought. You may find yourself the unwanted center of attention. Have you ever heard of someone strategically placing marbles on a closet shelf? When the closet door opens the marbles come tumbling out onto the floor. And then . . . !

Each of our meetings is recorded by Gerry and Linda Brassfield of Blue Eagle Video. If you are interested in obtaining a video copy of a particular program, please let us know. The videos are available for \$5 each. Thank you Gerry and Linda for preserving our history.

With warmest regards,



*Steve Spiller*

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

**Wes & Peggy Brier**

**Tim Watson—Mission Pediatrics, Inc.**

**Morgan Framing**

**Rita Shaw, Realtor, Rita Shaw and Associates**

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**Marjorie Lewis ~ Realtor, Redlands Vintage Homes**

**Dr. Marcus Paulson DDS, MS—Paulson Orthodontics—[www.PaulsonOrtho.com](http://www.PaulsonOrtho.com)**

**Leslie Irish & Rebecca Mangum**

**Jill Huntsinger, Redlands REALTOR, CAPITIS Real Estate, [www.finedigs.com](http://www.finedigs.com)**

**Esri**

# Heritage Award Winners

## DAVID W. SARGENT BUILT HOME

1105 North Orange Street

Built in 1901

Marvin and Rita Shaw, Owners

The building at 1105 North Orange Street is located on Lot 2 of the Brocks Subdivision which was recorded on February 4, 1901. The water connection to the home is dated March 22, 1901. Archibald E. Brock was born in 1863 in Greenock, Scotland. Brock emigrated to Toronto, then moved to Cleveland, then Omaha before coming to Redlands in 1888. He settled in Redlands in 1890. Brock started out in the plumbing business, but was briefly involved in the newspaper business as half owner and business manager of the *Weekly Review* with Lyman M. King. He later became involved in real estate. Brock subdivided many areas of the city and had an office at 305 ½ North Orange Street. He was a school trustee and in 1898 elected from Lugonia to the City Council as a dry candidate. Brock also

served as city treasurer, mayor, and a state assemblyman.

The small home was built and owned by David W. Sargent. Mr. Sargent built and owned several residences in the area. Like many in this part of the city, the house has seen numerous occupants over the years. Walter B. Woodworth and his wife Clara are listed as the first residents in the 1902 city directory. Mr. Woodworth was also a plumber who worked for the Kline & Underwood Plumbing Company, and later at J.F. Dostal Plumbing. In 1905 Frank McNay, an apiarist and orange grower with his wife Minnie resided there. By 1910, C.W. Cazel lived on the property. The Cazels had a furniture shop further to the south on Orange Street. They were followed by Fred Gunn, an automobile mechanic in 1915. In 1919 Charlie E. McGonagle,

a violin teacher purchased and lived in the home. H. Lois Hunt was an owner in 1922. She is followed by Addie Bogges, a dress maker from 1923-1931.

The property is listed as vacant in the 1933 directory. O.M. Coffman lived on the property in 1936. By 1939 Harry P. Weeks purchased the property. He lived there until his death in 1962. Catherine L. Cotner is listed living on the property in 1965. In 1971 Michael L. and Mary Gurule purchased the home. In the 1980s the Triple Alarm Company was located in the building.

In 2013 the property was purchased by Rita Shaw and her husband Marvin Shaw. Mrs. Shaw has her real estate office on the neighboring property to the north at 1107 N. Orange Street. She and Marvin are supporters of the North Orange Street area of the City and are hopeful for its future.

The home has clapboard siding with a slightly bell-cast hipped roof. The half porch is supported by wooden columns and clapboard enclosed railing. The windows are double hung with flat board trim.

The Redlands Area Historical Society is proud to honor this example of Redlands' architectural heritage and to commend the stewardship of its owners, Rita and Marvin Shaw.



*by Ron Running*

# LUGONIA HISTORY: REDLANDS BEGINS

- by Tom Atchley

OUR LOCAL HISTORY is filled with plagiarism, myths, rumors, parochial attitudes, and the usual errors of memory expounded by the pioneers and then compounded by history writers.

One of those often-copied tales is the History of Lugonia as recorded by L.A. Ingersoll, Eliza P.R. Crafts, Edith Parker Hinckley and even Dr. Lawrence Nelson. Historians tend to copy the first edition history, when telling their particular story.

L.A. Ingersoll in his *Century Annals of San Bernardino County 1769 to 1904* provided the first historical sketch of Lugonia in five pages. Everyone relied on his brief history thereafter.

Mrs. Crafts in her *Pioneer Days in the San Bernardino Valley* was really interested in telling the history of Redlands and her old home in Crafton. Her 1906 work came at a high point of the Redlands Historical Society. Having lived in the San Bernardino Valley since the 1850's, she used her life memories to give us her history. The early 1820's are tales by Father Caballeria, which Mrs. Crafts believed to be true, and these were copied and are held as suspect history today.

Mrs. Crafts does give us personal insights on the personalities of early Lugonia. She knew many of them personally and did much to sell them on the East San Bernardino Valley, while she lived at the Crafton Retreat. Nearly all the first contacts with the prospective settlers of Lugonia and Redlands began along the banks of the Zanja in Crafton.

Edith Hinckley used the Ingersoll history of Lugonia and Mrs. Crafts' book. Her book is stronger on Old San Bernardino because the Hinckley family had settled along Cottonwood Row in 1883. Mrs. Hinckley found where some of the first settlers lived like George Beattie, Col. Tolles and Israel Beal. She interviewed Beattie and some of the first families of Lugonia capturing some rare insights. Hinckley reminds us of some of the emotional city incorporation fervor between Lugonia and Redlands in her 1951 volume.

Dr. Lawrence Nelson, *Only One Redlands*, printed in 1963, was aimed at telling a story of Redlands for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of city incorporation. Dr. Nelson had little time in this fund-raising effort to research Lugonia in depth. He used the work of the previous authors for *Only One Redlands*. Despite time restraints Dr. Nelson accurately reports using abundant quotes to tell the story of Redlands. Lugonia was never his focus and received only a glancing blow of history. This diminished focus has led

When Redlands incorporated in 1888, Lugonia in its entirety was included in the city boundaries. So, in fact, the beginning of Redlands history should be traced to Lugonia. Mrs. Hinckley's, *On the Banks of the Zanja*, by name pointed our history beginnings to the Estancia (Asistencia) and Old San Bernardino to the west. The Estancia, outside the city limits, would become decades later within the city limits. Redlands was devoid of Zanja water shares that might have impacted the history in either



Located along the banks of the Mill Creek Zanja,,  
Crafton Retreat was the home of author and early  
settler, Mrs. Eliza P. R. Crafts.

some to believe Lugonia was not that significant to the overall history of Redlands.

One of the interesting aspects of local history is the parochial attitudes that were created and how many persist today. Redlands history tends to divorce itself from Lugonia. This can be attributed somewhat to L.A. Ingersoll's *Century Annals*. He doesn't identify his sources for Lugonia history. His narrative probably came from the members of the Redlands Historical Society, Eliza Crafts, Scipio Craig, David Shaw, and James B. Glover, county supervisor and Lugonia pioneer.

Lugonia or Redlands until 1924. Only George Cook, owner of the Lugonia store, had water shares in the Mill Creek Zanja in 1888. Yet, as the history unfolds, Lugonia had several ties to Old San Bernardino and San Bernardino of the 1850's.

## BACKGROUND FOR MOVING EAST

Southern California history always has one major ingredient: water. San Bernardino Valley history is a story of one river, many streams and hundreds of ditches. William Hammond Hall

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understood this, when he wrote his 1888 book discussing irrigation here.

In 1855, Bishop Nathan C. Tenney was living in the ruins of the Estancia and using the Mormon purchased Mill Creek Zanja for irrigation and domestic purposes. Little Zanja water was reaching his property or the Guachama Indian village to the west due to drought. In fact, in 1854, Anson Van Leuven, using oxen and a plow called a crowder, deepened and improved the Zanja to receive more water. Fifty Native Americans from Guachama improved the Zanja diversion dam, removed sand and dug a deeper channel from Mill Creek.

Apparently, Chief Solano led Native Americans, without Bishop Tenney's permission to dig an entirely new ditch from the Santa Ana River to Old San Bernardino in 1855. Solano was perhaps the same Native American leader participating in the Zanja construction of 1819 and definitely had the labor force and skills required. The ditch was called the Tenney Ditch and contoured from the Santa Ana River, beginning a course

southwest to Old San Bernardino.

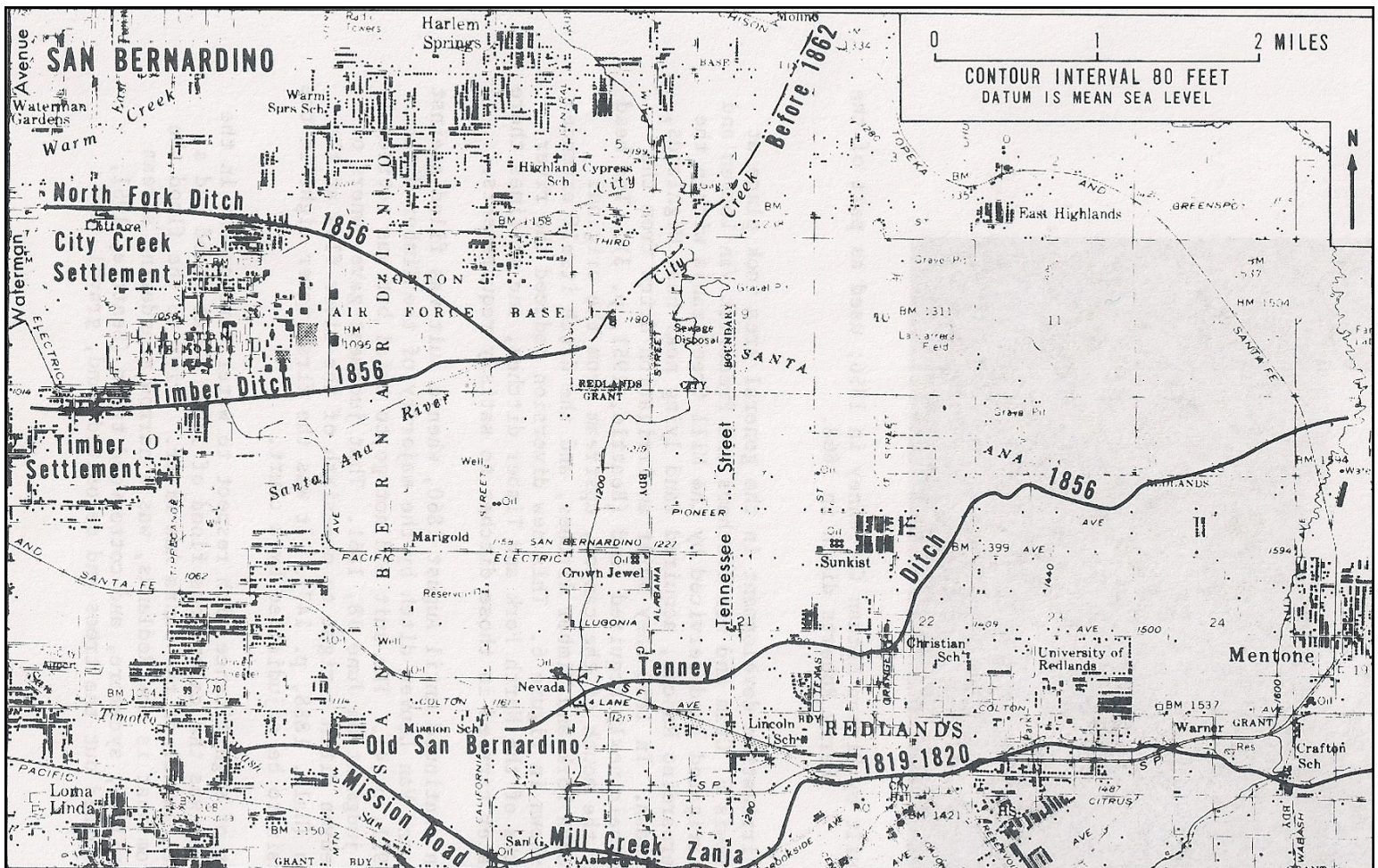
Mormon authorities incorporated the City of San Bernardino and the County (1854) of San Bernardino as well. One significant government entity was the Water Commission Board. These appointed and much respected community members acted as "judges of the plains" and apportioned the rare water resources of the valley. Bishop Tenney and Chief Solano had failed to petition for a water right and permission to build a ditch. The Tenney Ditch was ordered abandoned forthwith. Tenney pleaded ignorance of the project, but from his home on a bluff one wonders how he could have missed several hundred Indians digging on the plain northeast of his location.

San Bernardino Water Commissioners did approve a water right for two ditches off the Santa Ana River in May of 1856. The Timber Ditch would serve the Timber Settlement just a mile east of present Waterman Avenue on the north side of the river. The City Creek Settlement was allowed a ditch further north of the Timber Ditch. Each ditch

was given one-half of the flow of the entire Santa Ana River. The City Creek diversion was somewhat further east of the Timber Ditch diversion. The water master noted this problem in the first year of irrigation to the Water Commission. Much irrigation water was lost in the sandy river bottom to percolation, especially in drought years.

The river bottom east and south of Waterman Avenue was noted for abundant springs along with cottonwoods, alders, live oaks and grass land. Native Americans had a rancheria on Hunt's Lane called Jumuba. One source lists the Jedediah Smith expedition camping at Jumuba, while recovering from their desert journey in 1827. Meandering Santa Ana water percolates underground to become blocked by the subterranean Bunker Hill dike. Wildlife, water-fowl, and ponds surrounded by all the trees attracted both the Native American food gatherers and later 1850's farmers.

Mormon authorities sold land and water rights to a number of farmers from 1855-1856. Eventually, records





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indicate 369 acres of land were irrigated from the Timber Ditch. The semi-moist bottom river land produced corn, alfalfa, vegetables, wheat, barley, cattle, and fed many families. Even today, hints of the water just below the surface, nourishes numerous cottonwoods growing along the empty river outside the county flood control banks.

The Timber Ditch Settlement was not a Garden of Eden, however. In 1857, many Mormon settlers left the valley and confusion reigned as additional land sales and water right transfers occurred all over the valley. The 1860's brought the great flood of 1862 wiping out nearly all the bottomland farms and erasing the Timber Ditch. City Creek Ditch owners moved further east along the north side of the Santa Ana, further reducing the amount of water that could reach the Timber Ditch.

Water Commissioners weathered the flood and then faced an extended drought in the 1860's. Ditches required constant care and hourly apportionment became the rule. Each water right owner would receive the full flow of half the Santa Ana River according to their number of water shares given in hours and minutes. The Timber Ditch was ten feet wide and two feet deep. The sandy porous soil literally drank the water along its four and a half mile course. Each share holder was required to maintain the ditch or pay a monthly assessment to pay laborers to perform the work. Each farmer was responsible for their own farm ditches, laterals and flumes. If the ditch was full the farmer had more water than most could handle. Dividing the water reduced the ditch flow, so much that stream velocity slowed and percolation increased tenfold. Reservoirs to store excess water were deemed impractical due to the sandy soil.

#### BEARRY ROBERTS DITCH SETTLEMENT

Bearry Roberts, Edwin H. Thomas, Henry Suverkrup, George A. Craw, William W. McCoy, Asa A. Carter, Rev. Josiah Bates, W.T. Morris and E. Kerfoot were totally disgusted in 1867, when their entire corn crop, vegetables and wheat were lost due to lack of water in the Timber Ditch.

Bearry Roberts, Edwin H. Thomas, George A. Craw and Henry Suverkrup acquired a possessory claim to 160 acres in the northwest part of Lugonia near Tennessee and Pioneer Streets in the winter of 1867-68. They repaired part of the old Tenney Ditch to a point near Pioneer and Church Street. Collectively the group filed with the Water Commission March 10, 1869 claiming a waste water right to the Santa Ana River. The Water Commission named the ditch the Bearry Roberts Ditch. Respective owners owned any water flowing in the Santa Ana prior to the irrigation season beginning normally June 1. This surplus flow could produce a crop of corn, alfalfa, wheat, barley or vegetables before the summer heat. Farmers noted that freezing nights ceased after February 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Bearry Roberts Ditch filing was granted February 10, 1870. The filing

City Creek Ditch also began migrating east to eventually deliver water to Cramville and become widely known as the North Fork Ditch of the Santa Ana. City Creek received its name from the earlier City Creek Ditch settlement of the 1850's on the north side of the Santa Ana River on land east of Waterman Avenue.

The remaining Timber Ditch farmers felt these migrating farmers posed no threat to their rights or farming activities. Bearry Roberts had been a water master for the Timber Ditch. This is an elected position and proof suggesting farmers trusted Roberts with their most precious resource: water. The water master directed the flow of the ditch allowing water to flow for a specified time allotment depending on the number of shares in the ditch a farmer owned. Roberts, as water master, could assess farmers for work hours to maintain the ditch, diversion dam and



*Ditch built by Bishop Nathan C. Tenney in 1856; used as part of the Bearry Roberts ditch in 1868..*

gave a 500- inch flow to the men who repairs.

were claiming 400 acres of land. Roberts with help from the Thomas family and Henry Suverkrup constructed and repaired the old Tenney Ditch three feet wide and two feet deep in 1867, anticipating the Water Commission approval. Homestead Act requirements prodded the men to build the ditch prior to an actual land patent and water right approval. All the men were popular in the Timber Settlement and their farming frustrations of 1867 were shared. The

Lugonia begins from this simple new ditch location and the concept of a waste water right. Redlands founders Frank Brown and Edward Judson would learn the lesson of the Bearry Roberts Ditch inaugurating their ditch a decade later following the waste water concept.

*-by Tom Atchley*

(Lugonia History: Redlands Begins will continue in the next issue of Redlands Chronicles)

ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup> the Redlands Area Historical Society will conduct the tenth annual walking tour of Hillside Memorial Park 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 Jill Huntsinger.. Fee for the tour is \$10 for Historical Society members and \$15 for non-members. 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 the 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 internment 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 grave in Egypt in the 1920's. .

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 spending 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. One member of the Lincoln Shrine Civil War group has researched every one of the Civil War men buried in the cemetery.

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

-by Tom Atchley



*10th Annual*

# HILLSIDE CEMETERY

*walking Tour*

Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

Four o'clock p.m.

Meet at the Egyptian Mausoleum

\$10 for members  
\$15 for non-members





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

Address Correction Requested

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

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

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Follow us on Facebook  and Instagram.

## Upcoming Events

October 26, 4:00 p.m.  
Hillside Cemetery Walking Tour  
Meet at the Egyptian Mausoleum  
Members \$10, Non-members \$15

October 28, 7:00 p.m.  
Redlands History Can Move  
Dr. Nathan Gonzales, Speaker  
Contemporary Clubhouse  
173 S. Eureka Street

October 30, 6:30 p.m.  
Old House Group  
Ennis Residence  
Members Only

November 9, 10:00 a.m.  
High Avenue Walking Tour  
Meet at Chapel & High  
Members \$10, Non-members \$15

\$

1st Thursday of the Month

Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission Meeting  
City Hall Council Chambers  
33 Cajon Street