

**The
Brea Museum
Coloring Book**

**Made especially for
the 3rd grade class
at
Mariposa School**

Brea June 6, 2002

The first people to live in what is now Brea were the Gabrielino Indians. They were very peaceful and lived in the hills where they hunted and fished for food. When Gaspar de Portola stopped in Brea Canyon on his way to Monterey Bay, the Indians were friendly and helped him. The Indians lived in houses called "wikiups".



Brea's First Settlers

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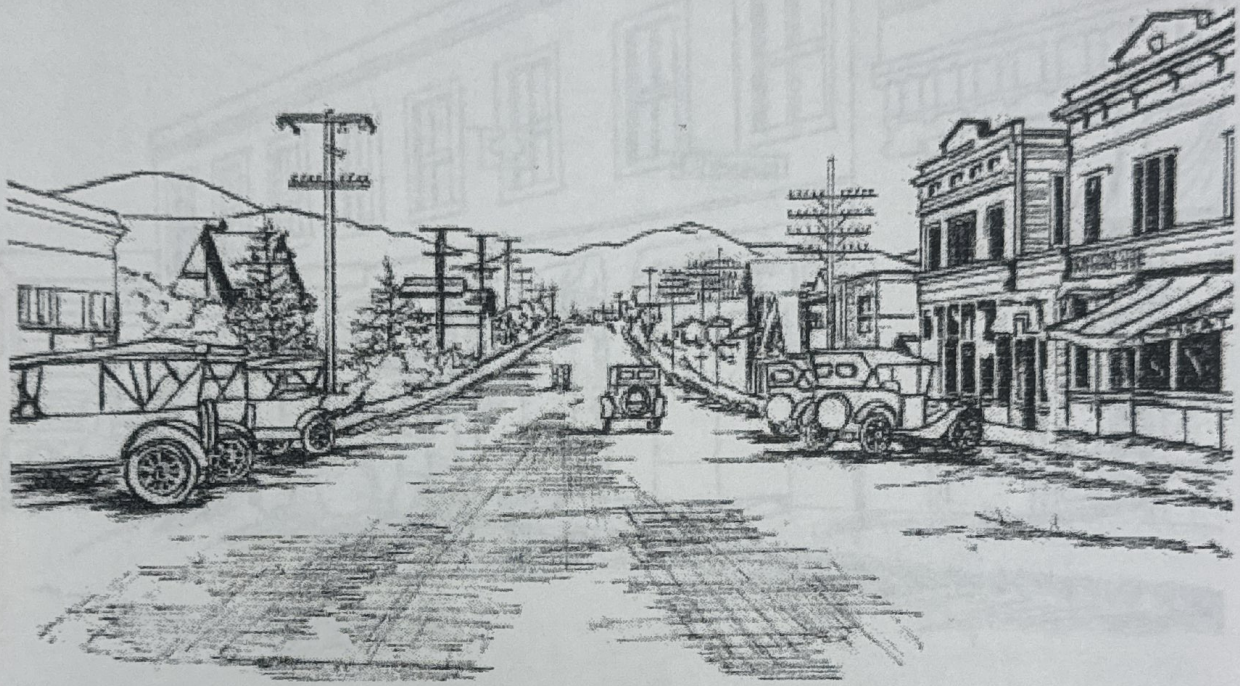


Early Downtown Brea

Brea first became a real town in 1911, when a lot of people started living here. In 1917, the people who lived in early Brea worked mostly in the oil fields and on the citrus ranches. As Brea grew even bigger, a main

The Portola Monument

The Portola Monument is in Brea Canyon. It was put there so that people would remember that the Spanish explorer, Gaspar de Portola, and his men came through this area on their way to Monterey Bay. The de Portola expedition spent the night in Brea Canyon.



Early Downtown Brea

Brea first became a real town in 1911, when a lot of people started living here. In 1917, the town voted to become an official city so that they could be part of Orange County. The people who lived in early Brea worked mostly in the oil fields and on the citrus ranches. As Brea grew even bigger, a main street was made through Brea from Fullerton so that people could travel through the hills to Pomona. The street was called Pomona Avenue. About 40 years ago the name of Pomona Avenue was changed and today it's called Brea Blvd.



Brea's First City Hall

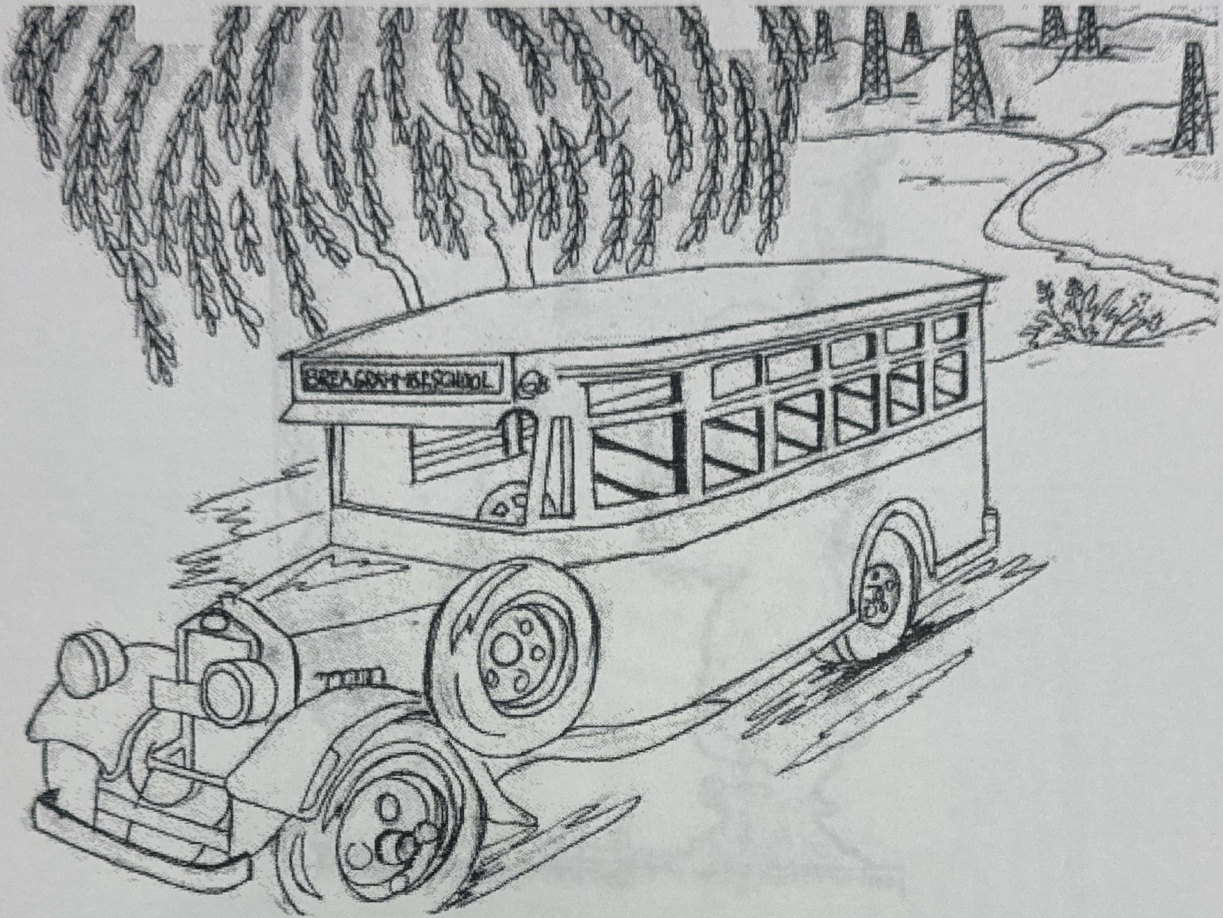
Brea's first City Hall was on the second floor of a structure called the Sewell Building which was originally made out of wood, but it burned down a little while after it was first built. The city decided to help rebuild it using bricks. City Hall was in this building until 1929, when the new City Hall was built at City Hall Park. A few years ago, the Sewell Building was torn down so that the downtown area could be improved. The bricks from it were saved and they have been used to make some of the sidewalks in the downtown of Brea today.



Schools in Brea

Brea Canyon

One of the first oil wells ever drilled in Brea was in Brea Canyon. More and more oil wells were drilled because more oil was discovered and people who worked on the oil wells moved to Brea Canyon with their families. They even built houses near the oil derricks so that they could be close by to where they worked.



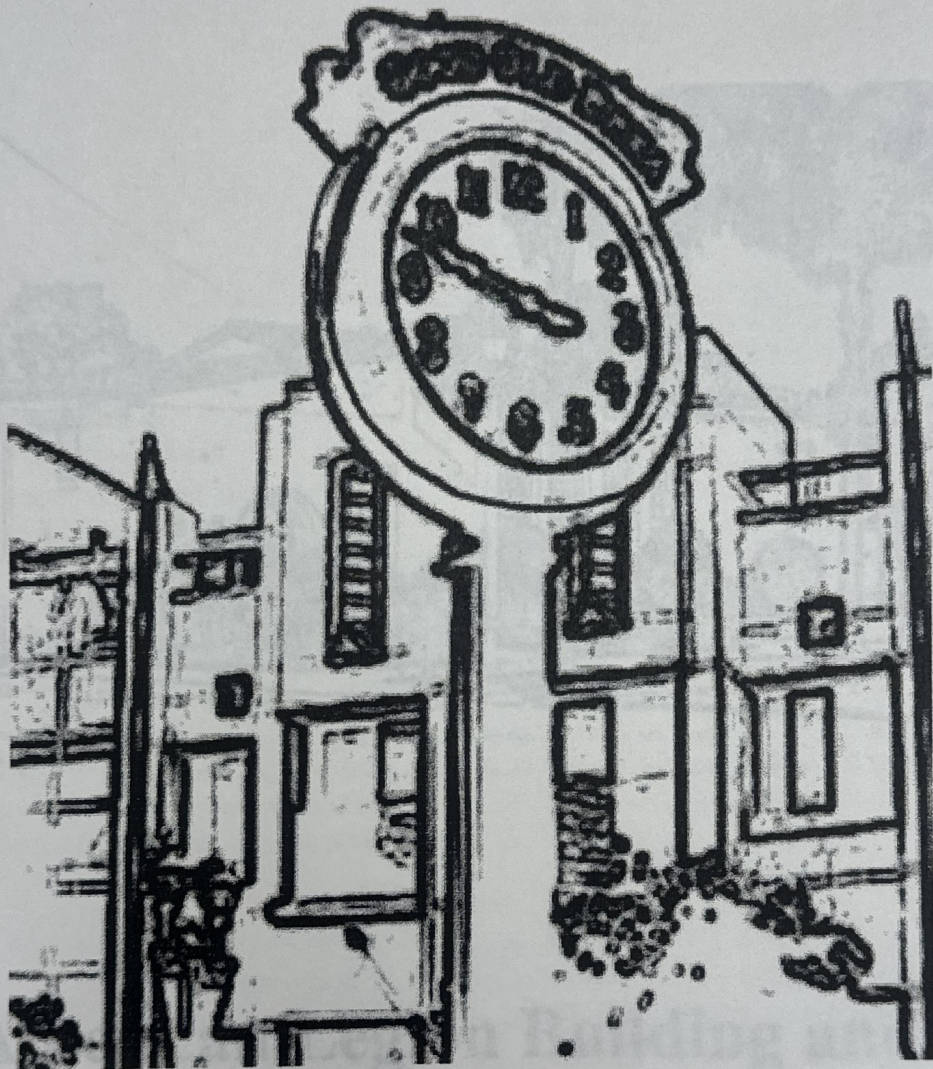
Schools in Brea

Brea's first schools were built in and near where the oil wells were drilled. The schools were very small because there weren't many people living in Brea yet. When the city got bigger, it needed larger schools because there were more children to teach. When there were no more schools left up in the hills and all the children in Brea went to school in the city, school buses would drive up into the hills to where some of the children lived and bring them to Brea Grammar School. Today, Brea Grammar School is known as Brea Junior High School.



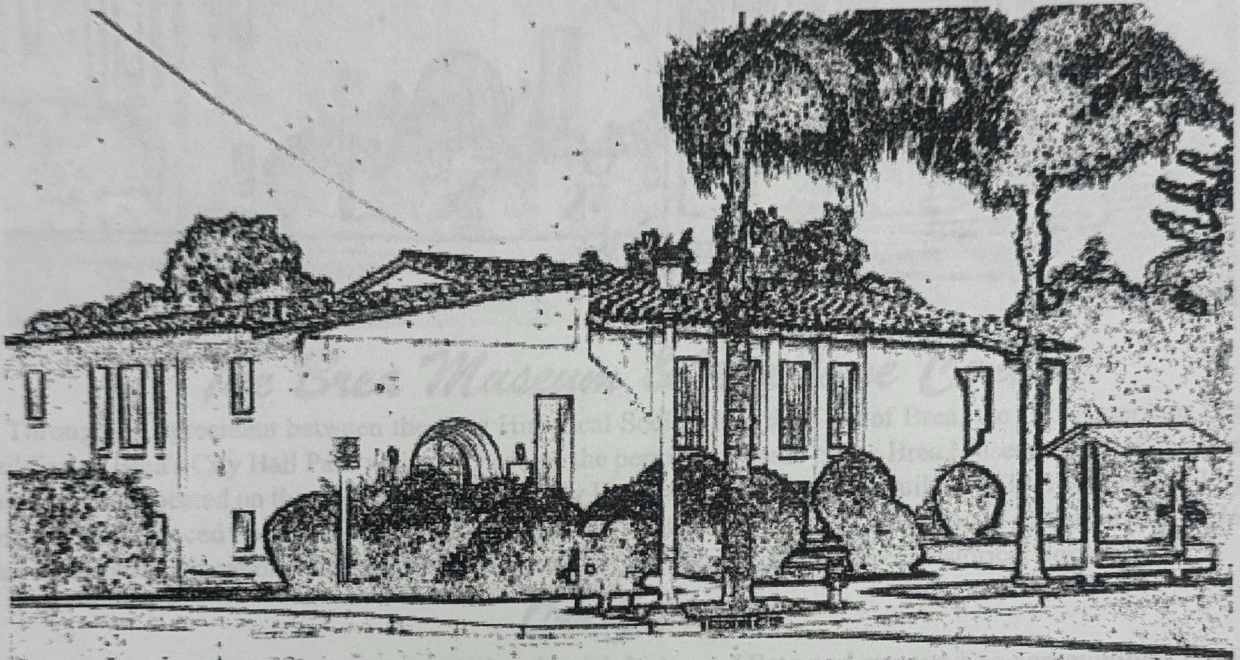
The Stewart Tank Farm Fire

The Brea Clock is an important landmark in the city that people like a lot.
In 1926, there was a big fire that started when lightning hit at least two oil storage tanks at the Stewart Tank Farm. Big clouds of black smoke went into the air, and the light from the fire burned so bright that people could read newspapers in the middle of the night on the streets in downtown Brea.



The Brea Clock

The Brea Clock is an important landmark in the city that people like a lot. It used to be on Brea Blvd. in front of an old hotel and had to be taken down for repairs in the 1990's. After the repairs were finished and the city found a new place to put it, the clock was placed on the corner of Madrona and Birch St. in August, 2001.



The Brea Museum & Heritage Center, where the museum will display historical artifacts, exhibits, displays, research areas, conference rooms, and educational programs to connect our schools to Brea's past. Preserving our past for the future is our ongoing project.

Members:

As a member of the Brea Historical Society, you will receive our monthly newsletter, "Historical Happenings", which features research articles about Brea's past. We will also keep you informed through our newsletter about the

The American Legion Building and City Hall Park

Individual	\$ 15.00
Family	\$ 25.00
Sponsor	\$ 50.00

City Hall Park was first built in the 1920's when Brea bought the property from the Union Oil Company and built the Plunge and a new City Hall building. In 1930, the American Legion Post #181 in Brea built a building on a corner of the park. All three buildings at City Hall Park are protected by the U.S. Government and can never be torn down or changed on the outside. The American Legion Building has been empty for many years, but soon will become the new home of the Brea Museum & Heritage Center, where students and their parents will be invited to come and learn about Brea history.



The Brea Museum & Heritage Center

Through an agreement between the Brea Historical Society and the City of Brea, the Old American Legion Building at Brea's City Hall Park will soon become the permanent home of the Brea Museum & Heritage Center. This building, located on the southeast corner of City Hall Park, was originally built in 1930 by American Legion Post #181 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1984. This is the perfect location for the artifacts and memorabilia entrusted to the Brea Historical Society.

Our Goals:

In addition to permanent displays depicting the rich history of Brea and surrounding communities, the Brea Museum & Heritage Center, under the direction of the Brea Historical Society, will seek to provide interactive displays, research areas, conference rooms, and educational programs to connect our schools to Brea's past. Preserving our past for the future is our ongoing project.

Members:

As a member of the Brea Historical Society, you will receive our monthly newsletter, "Historical Happenings", which features research articles about Brea's past. We will also keep you informed through our newsletter about the progress we're making in achieving our goals and bring you up-to-date information on construction progress and the eventual move to the Old American Legion Hall.

Application for Membership



Individual	\$ 15.00
Family	\$ 25.00
Sponsor	\$ 50.00
Patron	\$ 100.00
Corporate Sponsor	\$ 250.00

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone #: _____ Email address: _____

Contributions and membership dues should be sent to:
Brea Historical Society
PO Box 9764, Brea, CA 92822-9764
The Brea Historical Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.