

TRANSLATION OF LETTER THAT ACCOMPANIED OLD CITY HALL SPIRE

Via Carlos Hernandez Nardin del Campo. We are sending a present consisting of a spire made of metal for the Civic Center of our Sister City of Arecibo.

Sincerely,

Javier Guerra Gonzalez
Director General

Attachment - Original Letter

cc: Mayor and City Council
Frank Benesi, City Manager
Sister City Committee
Historical Society

GUERRA Y ASOCIADOS FUNDICION,
S.A. DE C.V.

Lagos Jal Enero 31 de 1991.

A QUIEN CORRESPONDA:

Por conducto del Sr. Carlos Hernandez Martin del Campo y/o Carlos Terrez, estamos enviando un obsequio consistente en una asta bandera elaborada en Acero y Hierro Gris, para el Centro Civico de la Cd. Hermana de Brea, California.

Agradeceremos a las Autoridades correspondientes la atención que se sirvan prestar a la presente.

A T E N T A M E N T E
GUERRA Y ASOCIADOS
FUNDICION, S.A. DE C.V.

Javier Guerra Gonzalez
Director General.

March 23, 1992

To whom it may concern,

I'm sending you this letter today in order that I might be reimbursed for the \$25 I spent to buy back the spire stolen in 1989 from the gazebo in City Hall Park.

In late October of last year I turned the spire over to the Maintenance Services Dept. on Berry St.

Brian Saul

Brian Saul
505 E. Date St.
Brea, CA 92621
Tel. 990-4461

March 23, 1992

To: Brea City Council

From: Brian Saul
505 E. Date St.
Brea, CA 92621

Re: Original City Hall Spire

Councilmen,

Last October I was able to buy back the original old City Hall spire that had been stolen from atop the gazebo in City Hall Park in 1989.

Shortly thereafter, I turned it over to the Maintenance Services Dept. on Berry St. where I believe it is currently being stored until a location can be found for its permanent placement.

The reason I am sending you this letter today is to suggest such a location. Actually, my recommendation is not to find a new spot to place it, but instead to put it back on top of the gazebo.

The spire belongs back in the park. Certaining it cannot go back on top of City Hall, and frankly I wouldn't want it placed there. Our new spire, made by our friends in Lagos de Moreno, means a lot more to me now because it signifies the closeness and caring between our two cities.

Since the U.S. Bicentennial when the gazebo was built by the Brea Soroptomists, the old spire has been a part of the history of that structure, and that's where I feel it should return. In that way also it would not be far from its original location on City Hall. To place it anywhere else in the city would, in my opinion, cause it to lose its historical value and make it simply a nice piece of decorative iron.

I hope you will consider my suggestion. I might also add that in this Jubilee year, it might be nice to rededicate the spire on top of the gazebo during the 4th of July Country Fair. As far as I know, there is no other special Jubilee event planned for that day.

Sincerely,

Brian Saul

cc: Frank Benest
Ret Wixted



ALLSTAR STEEL, INC.

11025 REDWOOD, FONTANA, CALIFORNIA 92335

Lic. No. 653481
• (714) 350-3654
Fax (714) 350-8473

FAX TRANSMITTAL

DATE: March 27, 90

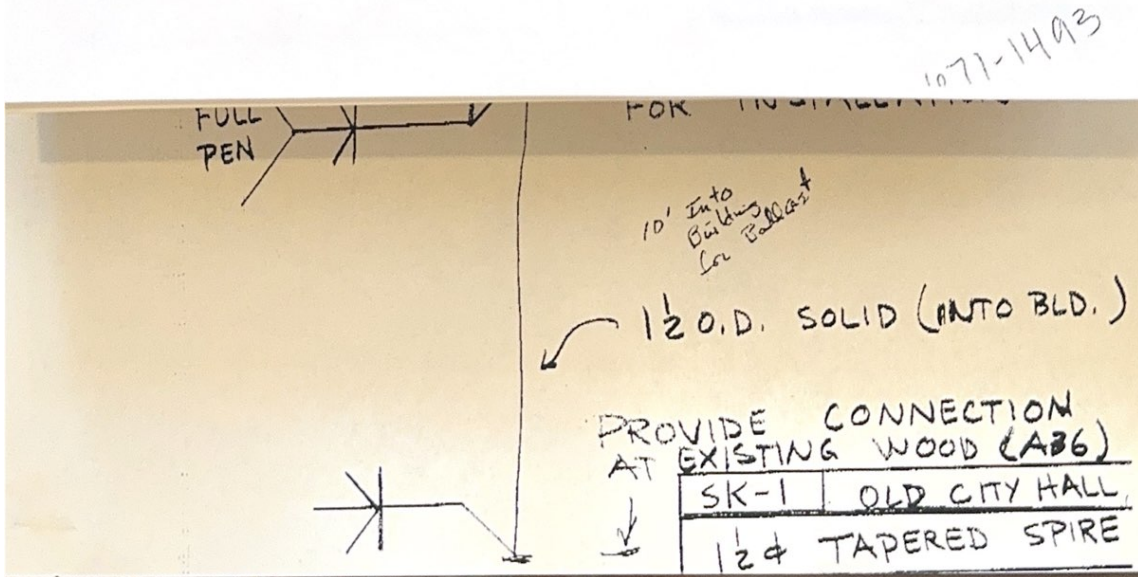
TO: City Service Center

ATTENTION: Bill Higgins

FROM: Dan

NO. OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: 2

COMMENTS:



PROPOSAL AND CONTRACT

TO: City of Brea
Historical Society
Attn: Bill Higgins

JOB Old Brea City Hall
LOCATION Brea Blvd.
ARCHITECT Not Known
DATE March 27, 1990

.....DOLLARS \$8,400.00 F.O.B.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH:— Plans:

Sketch (SK-1) as provided by Mr. Joe Jackson, City Yard
545 N. Berry, Brea, CA 92621

DELIVER F.O.D. TRUCKS AT JOBSITE:

- (1) One mild steel spire approximately 18 ft. 4 inches, as per sketch known as SK-1

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

Payment schedule as follows:

- 1) 50% at purchase order issue
- 2) 100% upon delivery to city agent
- 3) Payments to be made directly to Mr. Dan Higgins

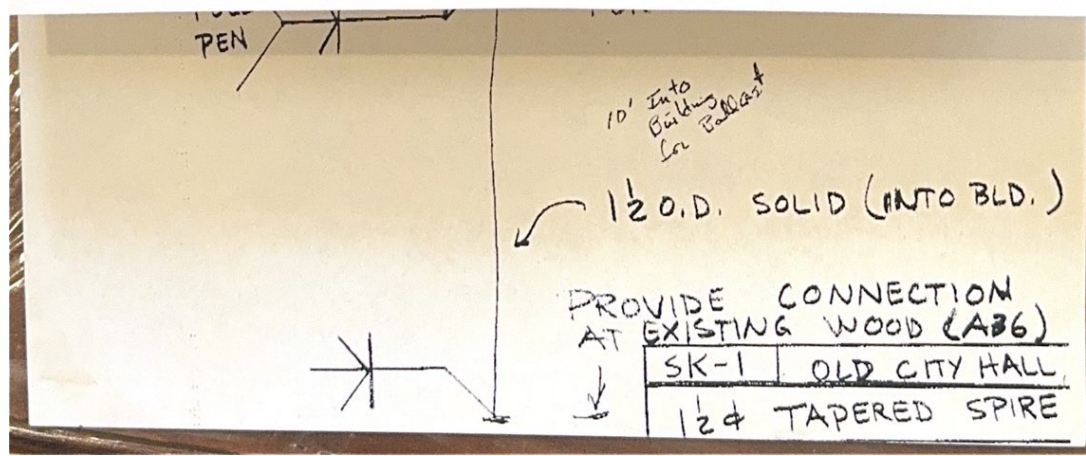
SPECIAL EXCLUSIONS:

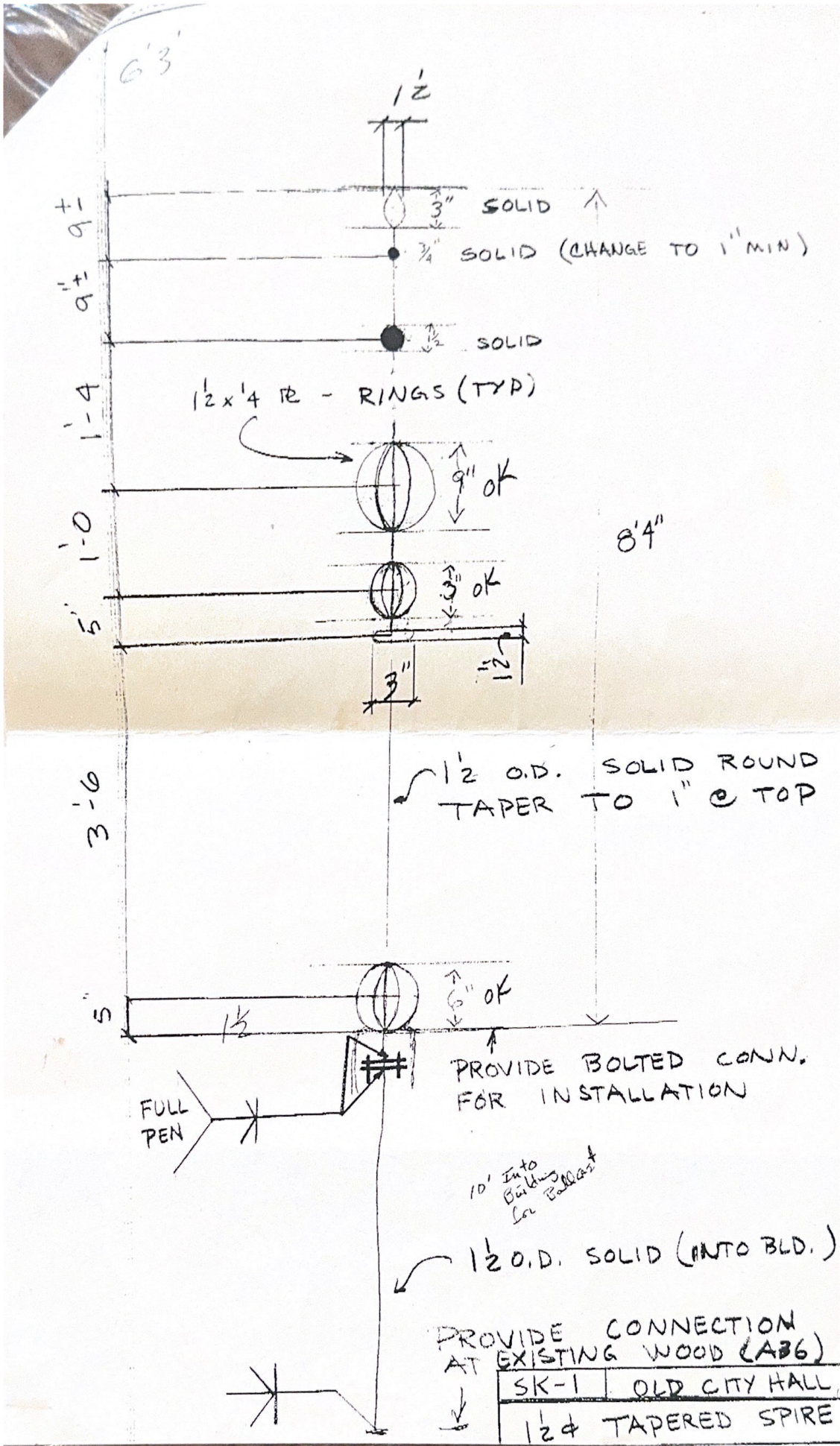
Testing - Inspection
Anything not shown on SK-1
All materials other than mild steel (A36)
Non-Galvanized

THIS PROPOSAL IS SUBJECT TO YOUR WRITTEN ACCEPTANCE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM DATE WHEN ACCEPTED BY YOU WITHIN SUCH TIME, THIS PROPOSAL WILL CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT OF SALE BETWEEN OURSELVES AS SELLER AND YOU AS PURCHASER.

ACCEPTED _____
BY _____
DATE _____

BY Danny M. Higgins





Brea Community

Old city hall

Spire back to distinction

By Barbara A. Williams
DSP Correspondent

BREA — Like a candle on a birthday cake, an 8-foot, wrought-iron spire renewed its reign at the top of Old City Hall on Sunday, as Brea celebrated its 74th birthday.

The new spire — a gift from a businessman in Brea's sister city, Lagos de Moreno — was dedicated within full view of the public during a 2 p.m. ceremony, and formally accepted by representatives of the City Council, the Brea Historical Society, the Brea Sister City Association and the Brea Historical Committee.

The ceremony included brief speeches and a history of the Old City Hall spire.

That history began in 1929, when construction was completed on Brea Boulevard's "new" city hall building.

Old pictures show an 8-foot length of interlocking circles and balls on top of the building's tower, said Brian Saul, vice president of the Brea Historical Society. The heavy spire was anchored in place by an even heavier 12-foot extension rod.

The spire was taken down from the tower nearly 20 years ago.

Saul, who also serves as chairman of the Brea Historical Committee and vice president of the Sister City Association, said he never knew why it was removed, or why it suddenly reappeared in 1976, gracing the

GAZEBO SANS SPIRE
gazebo in city hall park

top of the newly cc
City Hall Park gazebo.

That mystery was cleared Wednesday by Don Brea Maintenance building technician. said he had helped to spire down in the e when the building wa ernized" with plant brickwork. At that time called, architectural c believed the spire d with the building's new Fearing the spire mig tually be misplaced, said he suggested the placed on the gazebo was built as a bicenter to the city by Soropt Brea.

In September 1989, t disappeared from the



(Star-Progress photo by Jack Hancock)

DEADLY BUT NOT SERIOUS — After a hunt for a new spire, Brian Saul proudly holds the catch to be placed on old city hall.

city hall aspiring again

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Williams

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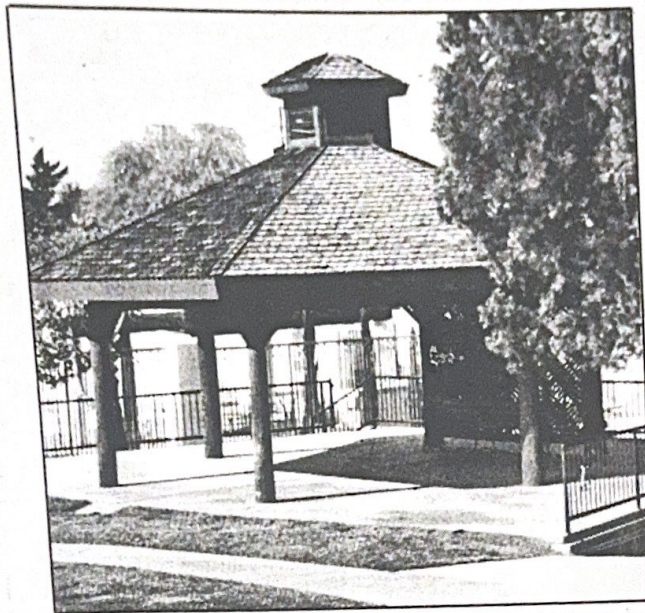
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(Star-Progress photo by Steve Creech)

GAZEBO SANS SPIRE — The former spire was placed above the gazebo in city hall park before it disappeared.

top of the newly constructed
City Hall Park gazebo.

That mystery was cleared up
Wednesday by Don Fretwell,
Brea Maintenance Services' building technician. Fretwell said he had helped to take the spire down in the early '70s when the building was "modernized" with planters and brickwork. At that time, he recalled, architectural designers believed the spire didn't fit with the building's new look.

Fearing the spire might eventually be misplaced, Fretwell said he suggested that it be placed on the gazebo, which was built as a bicentennial gift to the city by Soroptimist of Brea.

In September 1989, the spire disappeared from the gazebo.

When Saul noticed its absence during a Saturday morning visit to the park, he searched the grounds and the surrounding neighborhood for clues. He found only a few loose shingles near the base of the gazebo. The disappearance of the historic spire was attributed to "malicious mischief."

Because Brea's Old City Hall is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Saul said he had always hoped that the spire would eventually be returned to its original home. When it disappeared from the gazebo, he turned his attention to finding a duplicate for Old City Hall.

Using a magnifying glass and old photos of the building, Saul drew up sketches of the spire

and set out to drum up City Council interest in the project. Former Councilwoman Clarice Blamer asked Brea Maintenance Services personnel to expand on his drawings, Saul said, and the spire was put out to bid.

"Nobody wanted to have anything to do with it," Saul recalled. "There was only one response, and it was for over \$8,000."

So last summer Saul took the spire plans along with him when he visited Lagos de Moreno with a delegation from Brea. He hoped to find a Lagos foundry that would offer a more reasonable price.

Instead, he found Javier Guerra, a Lagos foundry owner who insisted on making the spire his gift to Brea.

"He told me Brea was very special to him and he would like to do it for free," Saul recalled.

Guerra promised to get the spire to Brea in time for the city's 74th birthday on Feb. 17. It arrived on Feb. 4, tucked inside the family car of Carlos Terres, the Lagos sculptor now serving as Brea's artist in residence.

Guerra's spire differs from the original in only two respects, Saul noted: It is made in three pieces for easier transportation, and its arrow-like tip is inscribed. One side says "Brea." The other side says "Lagos."

Maintenance Services personnel placed the new spire on top of the Old City Hall on Thursday.