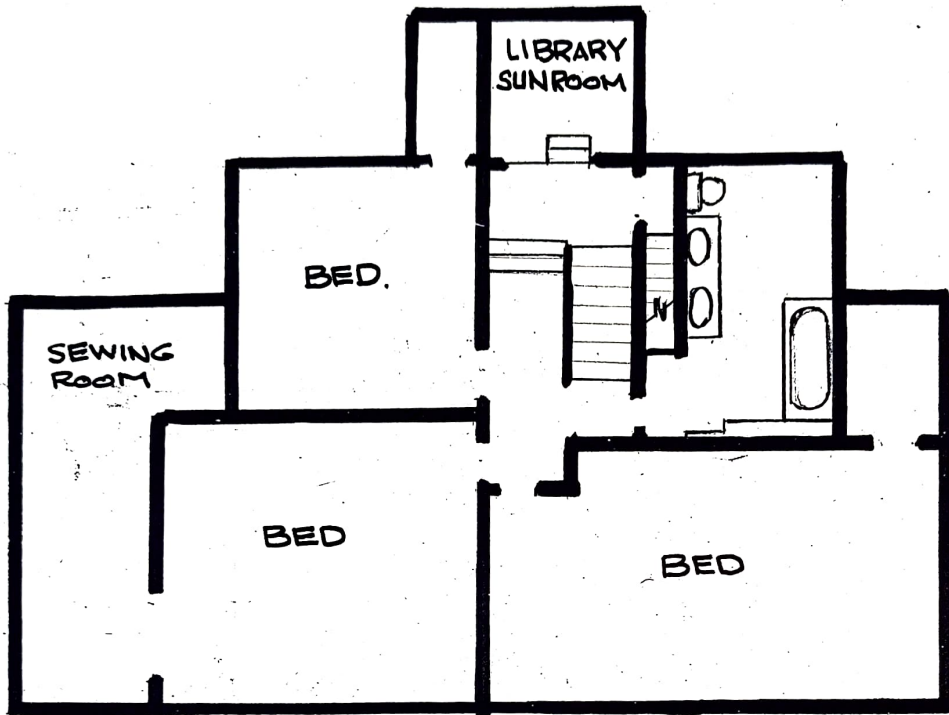


412 SO. FLOWER  
- SEILER -



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

412 SO. FLOWER

- SEILER -



# Tour to visit old haunts

The Wilson/ Shaffer home at 315 S. Flower Ave. was built by Donald U. Shaffer in 1938 in a Mediterranean style. The 2,450-square-foot house has a basement, attached two-car garage and original crown plaster moldings. A tin shed on the grounds served as the pump house for an early avocado grove.

Current residents Harold and Joyce Wilson bought the home in 1968, just after Wilson was appointed director of public works for the city of Brea.

The owners of one of the houses on Saturday's Historic Home and Church Tour feel haunted by the past, literally. Harold and Joyce Wilson inhabit the Flower Avenue home of William Shaffer, one of Brea's first mayors. But they aren't sure they're alone. The Wilsons fear they might be sharing the house with an uninvited, extra-worldly guest — a poltergeist.

"You hear little sounds, little things that go bump in the night," said Joyce Wilson.

"I've been home alone here for a month or more while Harold's been on a hunting trip. I hear noises that I rationalize, of course."

The Wilsons tell themselves that the house is simply settling. Three Wilson children, however, swear the poltergeist exists.

When they still lived at home, the children would say that things were moved from their position during the night or misplaced without anyone in the family moving them. Joyce Wilson is uncertain whether a playful ghost has been roaming the halls and rooms of the 1938 Mediterranean-styled home or whether a poltergeist was a convenient childhood scapegoat whenever something was lost.



**Sunny days:** Harold Wilson and his dog Cindy sit in the sunroom of their home, formerly the Shaffer family home, built when Shaffer Tool Works was one of the leading businesses in Brea. The house has 302 windowpanes. Wilson's home will be among those open during the Brea Historical Home Tour, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 4. The tour will explore Brea's architectural beginnings by featuring seven early homes and two original churches.

One night, a ball of yarn mysteriously unraveled. It not only rolled down the 17 steps of the stairwell but around the entry hall, past the kitchen and through the doggy door and into the yard.

The family dog was sound asleep all night, said Sandy Sarthou, a tour committee member and Shaffer house docent.

"Nobody believes the dog could have done it in that way either," said Joyce Wilson.

A poltergeist would have few places to hide during the daytime. One unusual feature of the house is a sun room with 120 individual panes of glass.

The kitchen has one of the first garden windows.

"It's a beautiful home," Sarthou said.

Altogether, there are 302 panes throughout the home, a window-washer's bonanza.

"I've decided I'm not going to be a slave to the windows," Joyce Wilson said.

A fountain was built at City Hall Park in honor of Shaffer, the house's original owner. The fountain was later torn down.

Shaffer was an important figure in Brea's early history. He owned and ran the Shaffer Tool and Die Works, supplying equipment to oil fields such as gusher caps and other essentials to keep the wheels of industry well greased.



# COMMUNITY

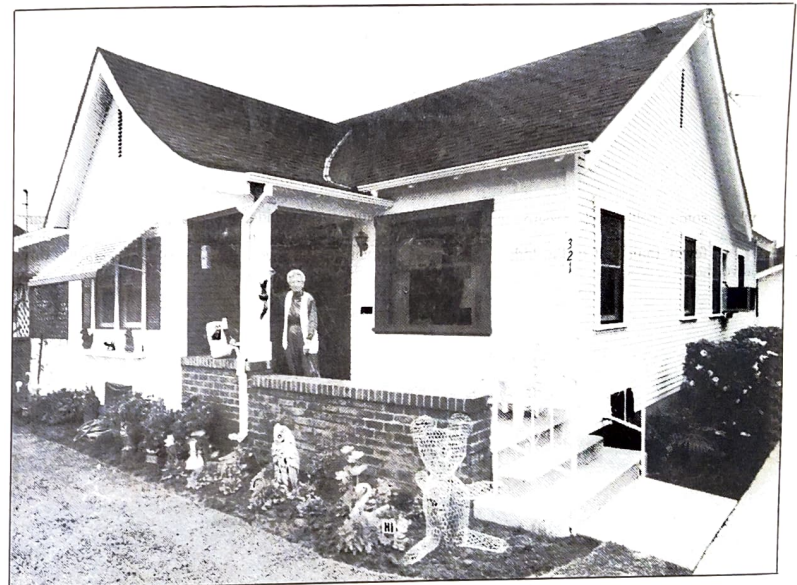
## Brea's Historical HOMES



(Star-Progress photos by Jack Hancock)

### The Tour

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## Police Blotter

### BREA Monday

9:28 a.m. — Theft reported at the Brea Mall, with a loss of \$900.  
10:48 a.m. — Theft reported in the 2500 block of Rainbow Way, with a loss of \$500.  
2:13 p.m. — Assault reported at Palm and Skywood Streets.  
4:40 p.m. — Theft reported at the Brea Mall, with a loss of \$2,545.  
5:16 p.m. — A 1988 Honda Prelude reported stolen from the Brea Mall.  
9:42 p.m. — Male juvenile reported arrested at the Brea Mall for suspicion of burglary.

### FULLERTON Monday

3:48 a.m. — Drunken driver arrested in the 400 block of East Commonwealth Avenue.  
1:10 p.m. — Auto burglary in the 300 block of Palm Drive.  
1:19 p.m. — Residential burglary in the 1800 block of West Orangethorpe Avenue.  
1:58 p.m. — Auto burglary attempt in the 2400 block of West Orangethorpe Avenue.  
4:14 p.m. — Auto theft recovery in the 900 block of West Valencia Drive.  
5:17 p.m. — Auto burglary at Troy High School.  
5:49 p.m. — Auto theft in the 3200 block of Sunnywood Drive.  
5:52 p.m. — Garage burglary in the 2000 block of East Wilshire Avenue.  
6:37 p.m. — Vandalism in the 2500 block of Deerpark Drive.  
10:28 p.m. — Auto theft attempt in the 3100 block of Palm Drive.  
Midnight — Auto burglary in the 200 block of East Imperial Highway.  
LA HABRA  
Monday  
5:30 a.m. — Malicious mischief in the 500 block of West Whittier Boulevard.  
6 a.m. — Burglary in the 200 block of Parkwood Avenue.  
1 p.m. — Malicious mischief in the 500 block of West Whittier Boulevard.

## Gallery show planned

The CMAL Gallery of the more than 400-member Costa Mesa Art League will display the work of Aster Miller Hazelton as the featured "Artist of the month" for April.

Hazelton's art consists of large oil florals, large California landscapes, and pastel portraits, pastel still life and landscapes, and silk screen prints.

Hazelton's April show will feature her new series of recently completed pastel landscapes and cityscapes of California. All show her preference for bright jewel colors which she uses with definitive sharp lines and bold strokes to depict various scenes and structures.

The CMAL Gallery is located in the South Coast Plaza Village at 1661 Sunflower, and is open 10 to 6 on weekdays and Saturday, and 11 to 5 on Sundays. Admission is free.



(Photos courtesy of Mary Murphy)

**IN REMEMBRANCE** — Nearly 250 supporters of late Fullerton police dispatcher Kathleen Thaete, who died of brain cancer, attended the March 29 benefit held at Anaheim Marriott Hotel. Helping raise \$18,000 toward medical expenses were the Thaete family including husband FPD Detective Paul Thaete, at right in top photo; Patricia Jacob, left, and her sister Maureen of Fullerton at right; and FPD Crime Analyst Brian Deering and Kathryn Pittman, below left, joined by FPD Detective Sean Fares and his wife.



## Fullerton College promotional tape wins award

FULLERTON — "A Bridge To Your Future," Fullerton College's acclaimed all-campus promotional videotape, has received a bronze award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

The 13-minute production received a third place Paragon Award at a ceremony that highlighted last week's annual conference of the affiliate of the American

Association of Community and Junior Colleges, meeting in Seattle, Wash.

Several hundred nationwide entries in all phases of community and junior college communications, marketing, promotion and public relations were adjudicated by outside panels of professional judges.

"A Bridge To Your Future" was produced and directed by Jay

Goldstein; with Steve Harris as videographer-editor; and Chris Adams as narrator. The executive producer was Mike Moore.

The promotion piece opens on black and white archive photographs of the oldest community college in continuous operation in the state and, with upbeat technology, color and sounds of today, offers proof positive that

Fullerton College is one of the most respected and innovative of the 107 California community colleges.

It shows the North Orange County Community College District campus serving as a bridge to the future of students by providing one of the best opportunities to obtain high quality academic and vocational training.

## LHHS announces student achievers

LA HABRA — The January students of the month have been named at La Habra High School. The following students have been recognized for their achievement:

Business — Veronica Lopez, Nga Nguyen; English — Heather Klausman, Kathy Thompson, Somer Parmley, Jose Lagan; Foreign Language — Brendan Mahon, Eric Mark; Home Economics — Julie Garcia, Megan Campbell; Industrial Technology — Tom Jelonek, Toby Dekowski; Agricultural — Victor Cardenas, Edie Topping; Mathematics — Diane Cheung, Daiana Varela; Office Experience — Melissa Walls; Oral Communications — Jamie Salzman, Audrey Brunier; Rotary — Lila Gordon; Science — Christine Perches, Patricia Clark, Robert Parks, Carrie Noriega; Social Science — Sandy Koehler, Ernesto Rivera, Matt Shaw, Tarek Capitan; ESL — Maribel De La Paz, Angelica Sanchez; Heritage — Carolynne Halls, Philip Haworth, Beatris Diaz.

Exercise your mind — read.



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## AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE

# State Survey on Prop 103 Auto Insurance Rates Reveals Huge Price Differences

■ But the rates at one California company are still among the lowest available anywhere.

Which means tremendous savings that could add up to hundreds of dollars a year.

How can they do it? It's simple. They sell to their cus-

insurer in California—with over a million satisfied customers.

One quick phone call is all it takes to find out how much you can save with 20th

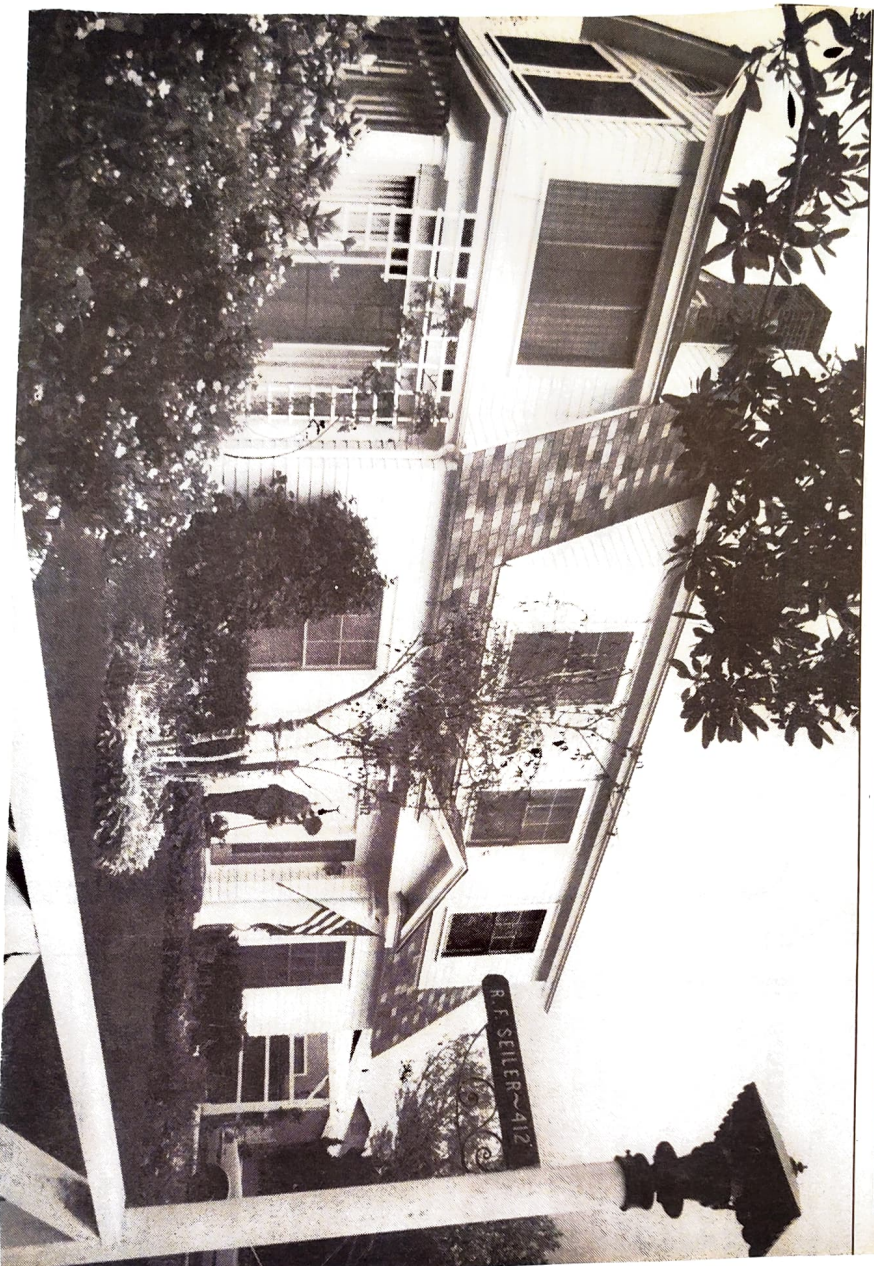
## COMPARISON FIGURES FROM DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE RATE SURVEY

	Allstate	AAA	GEICO	Farmers	20th Century
L.A. (Hollywood) (90036)	\$1492	\$1304	\$1990	\$2381	\$1068
	768	813	994	1207	554

WOODLAND HILLS — Prop. 103 has changed the way your auto insurance rates are calculated. Now, more than ever before, you need to compare



# Brea's Historical HOMES



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DSP Correspondent

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Elsie Gordon and her husband, the late Lawrence Gordon, purchased the home for \$2,900 in 1939 when "the town was so quiet my dog could sleep in the street for hours at a time," recalled Elsie, who will be at home to greet visitors on the day of the tour.

The neighborhood, just south of Imperial Highway, was also quiet at night, she remembered — so quiet and calm that she could hear the oil wells pumping at the oil leases across town.

The Gordon home, featuring arched doorways, barrel ceilings

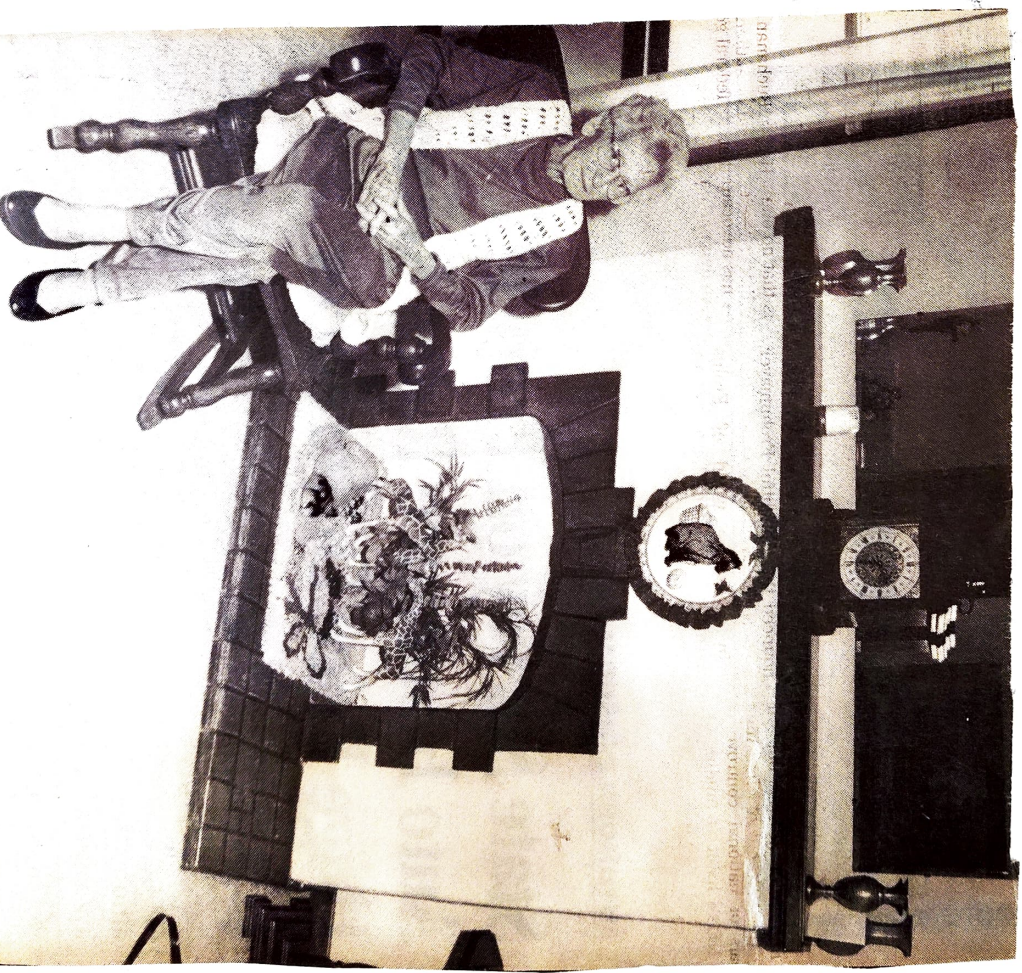
and mahogany trim, is filled with the fine touches of a bygone era — a cut-glass knob on the mailbox, a telephone nook, walk-in-closets with windows, and her-ringsome-patterned kitchen tile.

Most of the furnishings are original pieces the Gordons bought for their home, Elsie said. "Or take they date even farther back to the Gordons' parents or grandparents. With such strong ties to the past, Elsie isn't too impressed with modern conveniences, such as the gleaming 1964 Wedgewood gas stove in her kitchen.

"I don't call that old," she sniffed.

A black and white portrait of Elsie as a cherub-faced 4 1/2-year-old hangs in the hallway of the Madrona Avenue home, a reminder of 1919, the year Elsie moved to Brea with her parents, Arthur and Grace Smith. She attended Brea Grammar School and graduated from Brea High School with the Class of 1933.

Elsie married Lawrence Gordon, son of one-time Brea newspaper editor Charles F. Gordon, after a whirlwind two-month courtship. Their wedding vows, repeated in Elsie's family home on South Orange Street, sealed a 52-year marriage before Lawrence died in 1989.







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**HIDDEN HIDEAWAY** — Catherine Seiler, owner of a historic home in Brea, relaxes with a book in the study. An upcoming tour will give residents a chance to tour classic local homes.

The Catherine Seiler home at 412 S. Flower Ave. came from even farther afield. Built in 1920 in Pico Rivera, the two-story, Colonial Revival structure caught the eye of Catherine and her husband Richard, when it was put up for auction in 1950.

A hard-fought bidding war secured the home for the Seilers for \$3,500 — plus the cost of moving the building to Brea.

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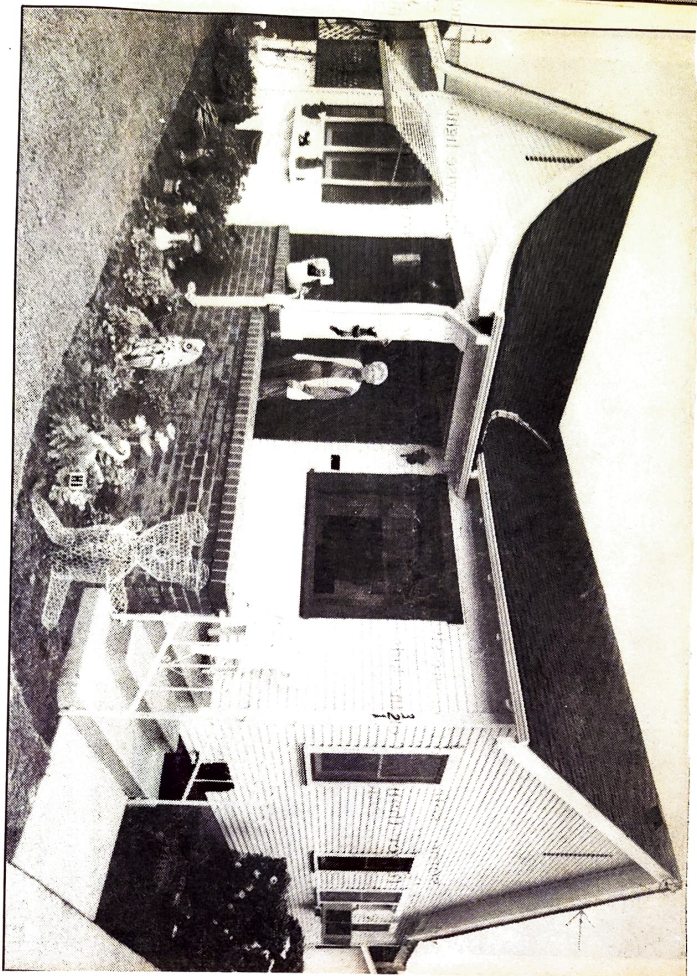
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Elsie's next-door neighbors, Dee and Carrel Powell and Leon and Nery Stevens, will also open their homes for the tour.

The Powell home, 317 S. Madrona Ave., and the Stevens' home, 323 S. Madrona Ave., were built in 1922 and 1923, respectively. Both are Craftsman bungalow designs, whose clean horizontal lines were one of the most popular styles in California during the early years of the 20th Century.

The Stevens' family purchased the home in 1962. The structure maintains its original canning cellar and floor plan, except for a small bathroom that the Stevens' added at the rear of the home.

The Powells moved to their Madrona Avenue residence in 1985. Since then, they have removed the asbestos shingles that once covered the home's original redwood siding.

The four other homes on the historical tour are clustered on the east side of Brea Boulevard. However, two of the houses are "out-of-towners" — homes that were moved to Brea from their original construction sites.

The Craftsman bungalow at 321 S. Orange Ave., now owned by Randy and Adele Foster, was built on the Graham-Lothus oil lease in 1922 at a cost of \$2,500. Like many other oil-lease homes, the structure was moved to Brea when the oilfield workers opted to move to town. The bungalow arrived on Orange Avenue sometime between 1940 and 1945.

Two other Flower Avenue homes are part of the historical tour.

The Provincial Revival home at 331 South Flower Ave. was built in 1928, with the Lynn Hogue family as its first residents. Hogue was a local grocer who served on the Brea City Council and was mayor of Brea from 1932 to 1936.

The house was purchased in 1973 by the current residents, Dale and Barbara Moody.

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**Homes, sweet homes:** In the early years of Brea's history, land belonging to the Union Oil Co. was subdivided into lots and homes were built for its employees. The area is filled with Craftsman and some Mediterranean-style homes that represent the lifestyle of the early Breans who settled this community.

## 790 Caring about history important

In this year of celebrating Brea's past, isn't it about time we really begin to appreciate what's left of our history before it too suffers the fate of the old downtown?

Let me say right off the bat that I'm a person who likes architecture. No, I'm not one who knows everything about this or that building style, but I do know about the architecture of old Brea. Because of that and because of my interest in preserving our history, I feel that it's imperative we start now to value what we have today before we lose it tomorrow.

Look at the old residential area bordered by Walnut Avenue, Imperial Highway, the flood-control channel, and Ash Street. Actually, because of redevelopment, there isn't much left of it now, but the few homes that are still standing and the ones that have already been demolished are and were among the very oldest and most historically important in the city.

And why did they have to go? The answer is simple. The neighborhood got run down, most people didn't care any longer and the area became ripe for redevelopment.

Now the question is, why didn't people care? That answer is also easy to answer. Many just didn't appreciate what they had. To most Breans, this area had simply become "that old neighborhood."

Every time I go to the Fullerton Library, I pass through some very special areas of that city. Street after street in the downtown area is lined by simple, older houses built about the same time as many of those here in Brea. There are literally thousands of these homes, and what's great about the neighborhoods

they're in is that they have become places where people want to live, not where they have to live. Houses are well-cared for, the neighborhoods are clean and the owners seem to be proud of their areas.

Coming back to Brea, we too have sections in the downtown area where older homes are well cared for and where there is pride of ownership. Unfortunately though, there aren't many of these places left. Too many have been partially or totally destroyed through redevelopment. Beautiful old craftsman bungalows, provincial revival and Mediterranean-style homes on the 100 and 200 blocks of Orange, Flower, Redwood, Poplar and Laurel avenues became run-down and were replaced by apartment houses. Many more of these homes will be destroyed in the coming years.

There is one area of the city, though, that is still almost totally intact and looks in many ways like it did when the houses lining its streets were built almost 70 years ago. I'm speaking of the neighborhood surrounding old City Hall Park.

In the early years of Brea's history, the land there belonged to the Union Oil Co. Then on June 8, 1921, it was announced that Union would subdivide part of this land into 62 lots and build homes for its employees. These homes would be along what is now the 400 block of Walnut (west side), the 400 block of Madrona (both sides) and the east side of Sievers.

Described in the local "Brea Star" newspaper as "one of Brea's best locations for a beautiful residential district," this new tract, continued the "Star," "shows the faith the Union Oil Co. has in the future of the city. It encourages others to make definite plans for the large city that is bound to develop here in the future."

Construction began soon after the announcement was made in the paper. Besides the

popular craftsman bungalow homes with their low-pitched roofs, wide porches and horizontal windows grouped in threes, there were also Mediterranean-style homes covered by red tile roofs. Interspersed among them all were three or four beautiful colonial revival homes.

Especially interesting today is the 400 block of Madrona. Just as in Fullerton, the houses here are well-cared for, and there is neighborhood pride in keeping the street a special place to live. I've always said that if I could move to any place in the city, this is where it would be.

My hope for this area is that it becomes a place appreciated for what it is. No, it's not filled with big Victorian houses that everyone seems to love, but it is filled with homes that represent the lifestyle of the early Breans who settled this community.

Take a drive around this neighborhood sometime and really look at this beautiful colonial revival house at 400 S. Madrona, the unusual craftsman bungalow next door at 406, or the small Mediterranean at 416. Now continue south to the 500 block of Walnut, where there are some wonderful steep-roofed provincial revival homes built in 1929. And what about the beautiful houses on the 300 block of Madrona? Aren't all of these little homes worth saving?

Of course, my answer is yes, but it's not only up to me. It's all of our responsibility. We just have to be aware of what we have and take care that we don't lose it. It's as simple as that. These older neighborhoods that still exist are truly special places. They certainly don't deserve to be lost to deterioration or redevelopment, as others have been, because of us not caring until it's too late.

Brian Saul is vice president of the Brea Historical Society.

### A WALK IN TIME

By Brian Saul





# Daily Star-Progress

LA HABRA

BREA

FULLERTON

DAILY STAR PROGRESS



## News Digest

### BREA

#### TANTALIZING TOUR:

The upcoming Brea Historical Home Tour promises "a peek into the window of Brea's architectural past." But ticket holders will get more than a peek — they'll have the chance to tour the homes and learn a bit of Brea history as well. **A5.**

By Barbara A. Williams  
DSP Correspondent

**BREA** — The upcoming Brea Historical Home Tour promises "a peek into the window of Brea's architectural past." But ticket holders for the April 4 event will get more than a peek — they'll have the chance to tour the homes and learn a bit of Brea history as well.

The Saturday tour, which includes seven homes and two churches, was organized by the historical division of the city of Brea's Jubilee Committee, as part of a yearlong celebration of Brea's 75th birthday. Included in the tour will be entertainment and exhibitions reflecting 1917-era lifestyles, fashions and music.

# Historical home tour to tantalize Breans

One of the clearest views of early Brea architecture will be available at the Elsie Gordon residence, a Provincial Revival home at 321 S. Madrona Ave. which has not been remodeled since it was built in 1929.

Elsie Gordon and her husband, the late Lawrence Gordon, purchased the home for \$2,900 in 1939 when "the town was so quiet my dog could sleep in the street for hours at a time," recalled Elsie, who will be at home to greet visitors on the day of the tour.

The neighborhood, just south of Imperial Highway, was also quiet at night, she remembered — so quiet and calm that she could hear the oil wells pumping at the oil leases across town.

The Gordon home, featuring arched doorways, barrel ceilings and mahogany trim, is filled with the fine touches of a bygone era — a cut-glass knob on the mailbox, a telephone nook, walk-in closets with windows, and her-

## Residents to get a first hand look at the homes in Brea's architectural past

ringbone-patterned kitchen tile.

Most of the furnishings are original pieces the Gordons bought for their home, Elsie said — or else they date even farther back to the Gordons' parents or grandparents. With such strong ties to the past, Elsie isn't too impressed with modern conveniences, such as the gleaming 1954 Wedgwood gas stove in her kitchen.

"I don't call that old," she sniffed.

A black and white portrait of Elsie as a cherub-faced 4 1/2-year-old hangs in the hallway of the Madrona Avenue home, a reminder of 1919, the year Elsie moved to Brea with her parents, Arthur and Grace Smith. She attended Brea Grammar School and graduated from Brea High School with the Class of 1933.

Elsie married Lawrence Gor-

don, son of onetime Brea newspaper editor Charles F. Gordon, after a whirlwind two-month courtship. Their wedding vows, repeated in Elsie's family home on South Orange Street, sealed a 52-year marriage before Lawrence died in 1989.

Elsie's next-door neighbors, Dee and Carrel Powell and Leon and Nery Stevens, will also open their homes for the tour.

The Powell home, 317 S. Madrona Ave., and the Stevens' home, 323 S. Madrona Ave., were built in 1922 and 1923, respectively. Both are Craftsman bungalow designs, whose clean horizontal lines were one of the most popular styles in California during the early years of the 20th Century.

The Stevens' family purchased the home in 1962. The structure maintains its original canning cellar and floor plan, except for a small bathroom that the Stevens added at the rear of the home.

The Powells moved to their Madrona Avenue residence in 1985. Since then, they have removed the asbestos shingles that once covered the home's original redwood siding.

The four other homes on the historical tour are clustered on the east side of Brea Boulevard. However, two of the houses are "out-of-towners" — homes that were moved to Brea from their original construction sites.

The Craftsman bungalow at 321 S. Orange Ave., now owned by Randy and Adele Foster, was built on the Graham-Loftus oil lease in 1922 at a cost of \$2,500. Like many other oil-lease homes, the structure was moved to Brea when the oilfield workers opted to move to town. The bungalow arrived on Orange Avenue sometime between 1940 and 1945.

The Catherine Seiler home at 412 S. Flower Ave. came from even farther afield. Built in 1920 in Pico Rivera, the two-story Colonial Revival structure caught the eye of Catherine and her husband Richard, when it was put up for auction in 1950.

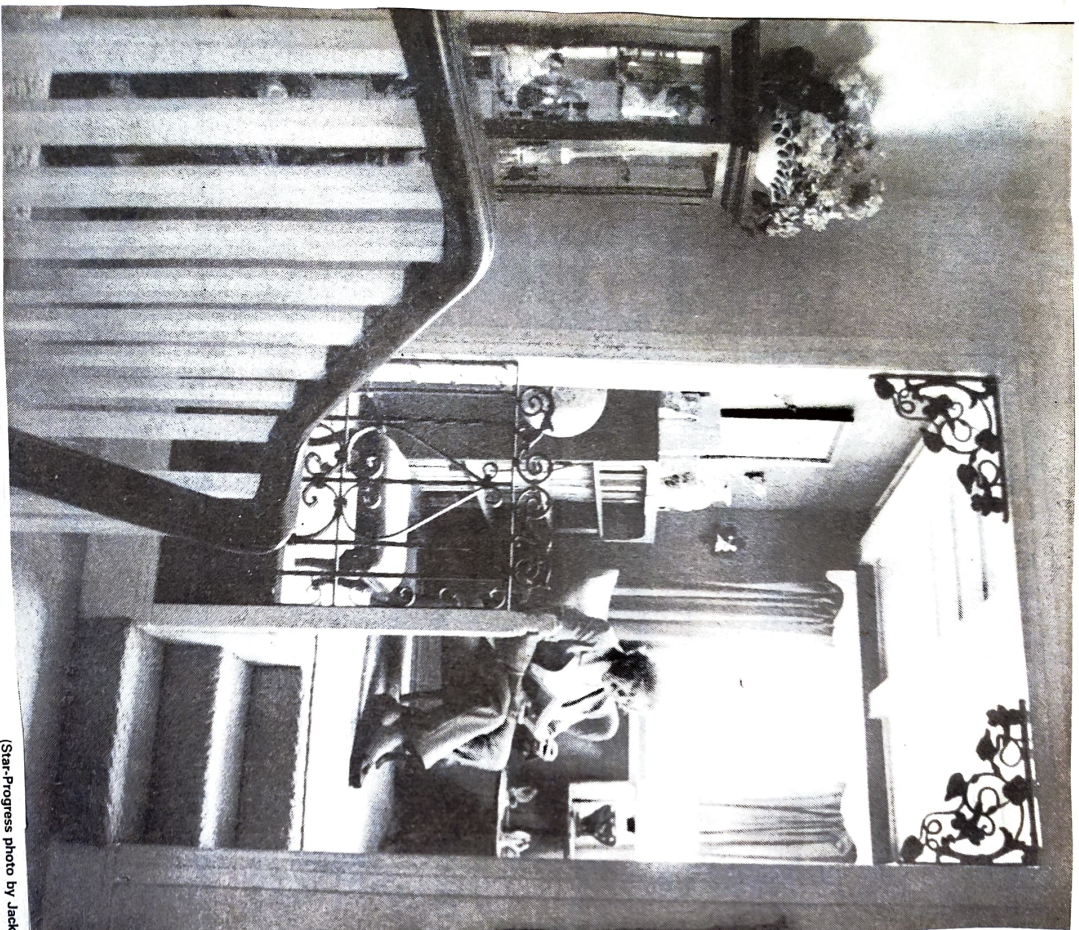
A hard-fought bidding war secured the home for the Seilers for \$3,500 — plus the cost of moving the building to Brea.

With permits in hand and the roof removed, the house traveled down Imperial Highway with an overnight stop at Telegraph Road, Catherine Seiler recalled. But when the building got to the La Habra line, police stopped its progress, citing a brand-new city ordinance which prohibited moving houses through town.

Luckily Brea's city judge was serving as a visiting judge in La

Habra that day, and he gave permission for the house to pass through. The judge was Harvey Moore, Catherine's father.





(Star-Progress photo by Jack H

HIDDEN HIDEAWAY — Catherine Seiler, owner of a historic home in Brea, relaxes with a book in the study. An upcoming tour will give residents a chance to tour classic local homes.

The house was placed in the midst of an orange grove, in the sparsely settled Flower Avenue neighborhood that had neither sidewalks nor curbs. Rebuilding the roof and fireplace, plus correcting other moving damage, brought the cost of the house close to the \$10,000 mark, Catherine remembered.

However, even though the financial burden made the young couple nervous, securing a three-bedroom home made it all worthwhile, she said.

"Homes were scarce after the war. There had been little construction during wartime, and then all the soldiers decided to stay in California and raise families," Catherine said.

With a child in hand and one on the way, the Seilers were delighted with their Pico Rivera find. They moved into the house the day Catherine came home from the hospital with her second child, David.

The Seilers adapted to their eventual four-child household by "manufacturing the house as we went along," Catherine said. They expanded the kitchen and extended the breakfast room into a family room in 1958, then added a laundry room and a brick-lined "slove room" in 1977.

Richard put in "window walls" to display the couple's glass collection and to offer a view of the outdoor "lathe house" and its forest of greenery. Also on the grounds today are a playhouse for the Seiler girls, clubhouses for the boys, garages, a workshop, a patio and a "Singing Garden" consisting of a birdhouse and adjacent rose garden.

Also incorporated into the Seiler home are Catherine's love for lavender, a cheery stairway reading nook that Catherine says she never has time to use, and mahogany furniture that she and her late husband "dragged home from second-hand stores ... before there was such a thing as an antique store," Catherine recalled.

Two other Flower Avenue homes are part of the historical tour.

The Provincial Revival home at 331 South Flower Ave. was built in 1928, with the Lynn Hogue family as its first residents. Hogue was a local grocer who served on the Brea City Council and was mayor of Brea from 1932 to 1936. The house was purchased in

1973 by the current residents, Dale and Barbara Moody.

The Wilson/ Shaffer home at 315 S. Flower Ave. was built by Donald U. Shaffer in 1938 in a Mediterranean style. The 2,430-square-foot house has a basement, attached two-car garage and original crown plaster moldings. A tin shed on the grounds served as the pump house for an early avocado grove.

Current residents Harold and Joyce Wilson bought the home in 1968, just after Wilson was appointed director of public works for the city of Brea.

The two churches featured in the historical tour were built by congregations with ties to Brea's early days.

At the corner of Ash Street and Walnut Avenue, now home to the Missionary Baptist congregation, is a church and log cabin built by the Brea Christian Church, which

was established in Brea in 1914. "The Little Brown church" eventually was painted white and lasted until 1935 when the stucco sanctuary was built.

The log cabin, still standing at the back of the church property, was constructed in 1921 by the church's Honor Knights class of young men.

The First Baptist Church of Brea, organized in 1925, purchased the property for its current home at the corner of Date Street and Flower Avenue in 1948. The church's sanctuary, which was dedicated in 1954, is part of the historical tour, while the church grounds will be the site of the exhibits and entertainment included in the tour festivities.

Committee members in charge of the Brea Historical Home Tour are Jack and Audrey Smith, Mary and Aaron Eseltine, Sandy Sartrou, Kathleen Ralph and Brian Saul. Docents for the home tours are community volunteers who will be attired in 1917 fashions.

Tickets for the tour are \$8. They may be purchased at the Brea Civic & Cultural Center, Community Services Department or by sending a check made payable to the City of Brea to: Historical Home Tour, Brea Civic & Cultural Center, 1 Civic Center Circle, Brea, CA 92821.

The tour begins at Old City Hall Park, 401 S. Brea Blvd., where tickets and guidebooks will also be available. Tour hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For further information about the Brea Historical Home Tour, call the Jubilee Hotline at (714) 990-7771.



# **pacific clippings**

post office box 11701  
costa mesa, calif. 92621

**BREA HIGHLANDER  
WEEKLY**

**FEB 14 1991**

790

As Brea approaches its 74th birthday, the Brea Historical Society offers a unique way to celebrate the city's birthday.

A walking tour through downtown Brea will take place at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 23. The tour will begin at the original Brea City Hall, in City Hall Park, Brea Boulevard and Date Street.

The tour, led by members of the Brea Historical Society, will feature historical buildings, including Brea's log cabin and the original City Hall, the site of the city's incorporation in 1917.

For information, contact Brian Saul, Brea Historical Society president, (714) 990-4461.

SEP 20 1980



Staff photo by Gary Gossett

**History in the making:** The Brea Historical Society offers tours of famous and, other, seldom seen buildings that have played important roles in the development of Brea and North Orange County. The tours are led by society chairman Brian Saul.

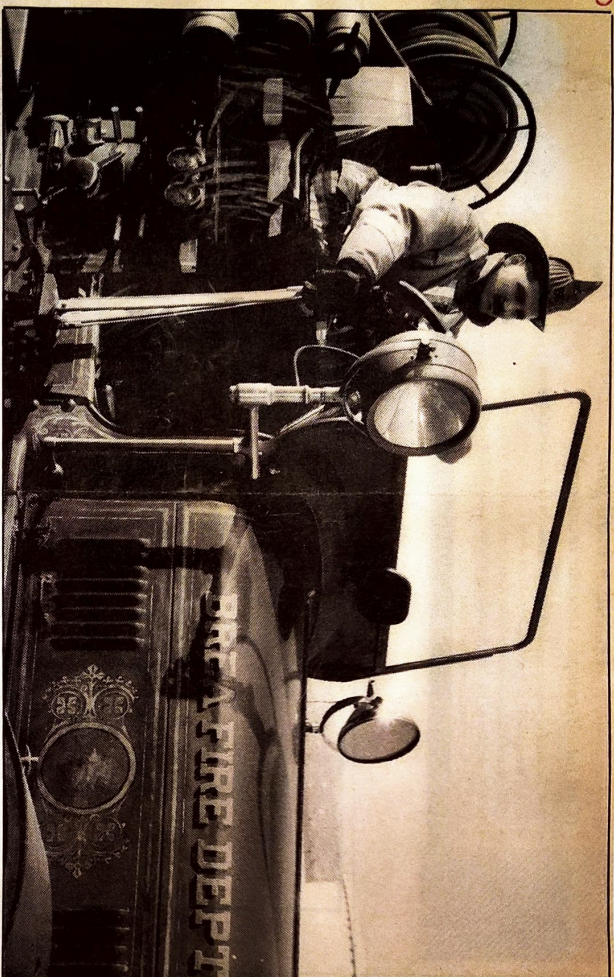
## Walking tour treks through history

Breens will have the opportunity to satisfy their curiosity regarding the city's history when the Brea Historical Society and Historical Committee hosts its latest walking tour at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 22 from the old city hall building, 401 S. Brea Blvd.

The tour will last approximately two hours and will travel through some of the oldest, most interesting buildings from the city's oil-boom days.

For information, call Brian Saul at 990-4461.





**A FIRE FROM THE PAST** — An old fire truck, complete with firefighter, will be one of the many period pieces on display during Sunday's "Living History Tour" of Brea. Residents on the tour will get to see and talk with actors who will portray firemen who battled Brea's legendary oil fire as well as crews who worked the wells that still dot the hillsides.

## Living history tours to search out Brea's past

**BREA** — In an effort to put residents more in touch with their past, the city and Jubilee Historical Committee is sponsoring a "Living History Tour" that is set to kick off Sunday with the opening of a 25-year-old time capsule buried in Old City Hall Park.

The time capsule was buried in the park during celebrations of the city's 50th birthday in 1967.

Though many of the tour sites bear little resemblance to how they looked several eras ago, the promoters of the tours hope to fa-

cilitate something of a collective flashback for residents who take the trip.

Those who take the tour will hear stories about the small, citrus producing town whose hillsides were dotted with oil derricks, as well as Brea's founding families and the city's first airport.

They'll also learn about tales of treasure buried somewhere in Tonnert Canyon.

The 90 minute tours will leave the park at 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. in wide-view window

buses supplied by Dial-a-Ride.

Tickets are \$5 a person and are available at the Community Services Desk at the third floor of the Brea Civic and Cultural Center.

Reservations are preferred, but non-reserved tickets may be purchased at the bus boarding site if space permits. Accommodations for the handicapped must be made in advance.

The tours are set to be repeated May 9th.

For additional information or reservations, call (714) 990-4461.

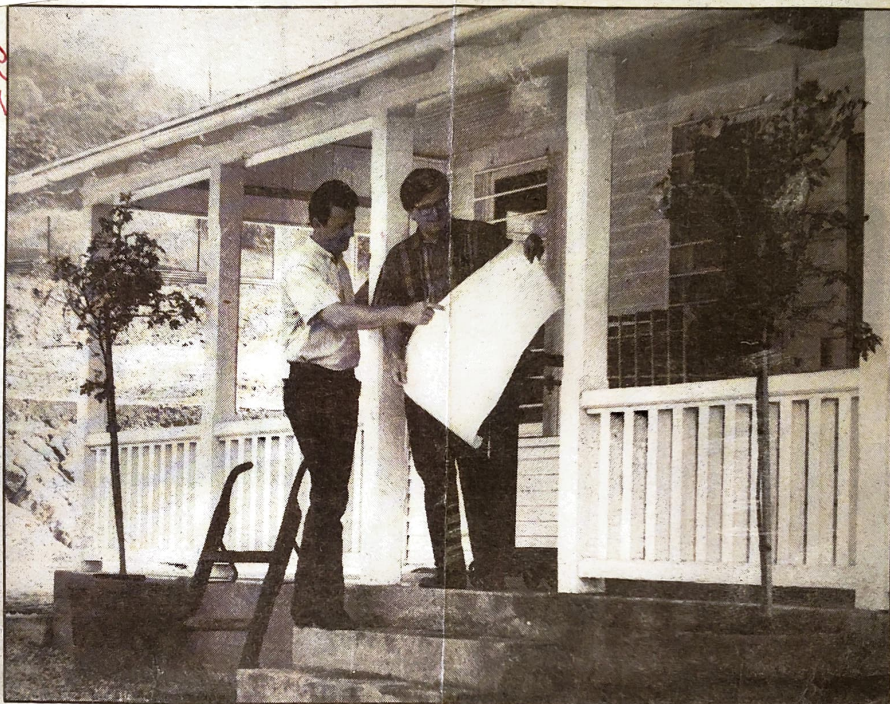


**pacific cupplings**  
post office box 1178c  
santa ana, calif. 92711

**BREA NEWS**

Weekly

APR 30 1992



Staff photo by Michael Loren

### **History in the mapping**

Jim Love, left, of Santa Fe Energy and Brea City Councilman Glenn Parker look over some plans of old Brea's street layout in preparation for the living history tours at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Saturday, May 9. The tours help celebrate the city's 75th birthday and will feature stops at the places where Babe Ruth played an exhibition game, where the first low-winged monoplane in the United States was built and the site of the 1926 oil fire. Other stops will include Old Olinda, Tonner Canyon and several historical reenactments performed by actors in period costumes. The tour leaves and returns to Old City Hall Park, Date Street and Brea Boulevard. Tickets, at \$5, are available at the Brea Community Services Department at the Civic Center. For details, call 990-7771.



## pacific clippings

post office box 1178  
astoria, oregon 97103

FEB 15 1990  
BREA HIGHLANDER  
WEEKLY

### 790 Historical Society walk scheduled

The Brea Historical Society and Historical Committee are co-sponsoring their second walking tour of old downtown Brea at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 24.

The tour will include visits to historical sites, homes, and buildings throughout the downtown area.

"We want to give people the opportunity to see some of these things before they disappear through redevelopment," said Brian Saul, coordinator of tour.

"Downtown Brea has quite a lot to offer historically. This tour will give people the chance to see it up close, while learning about our community's heritage."

The tour will leave from Old City Hall, 401 S. Brea Blvd., and last approximately one hour and 45 minutes.

For information, call Brian Saul at (714) 990-4461 evenings.

## pacific clippings

post office box 1178  
astoria, oregon 97103

STAR-PROGRESS  
Daily

SEP 17 1990

### Downtown tour set for Saturday

790  
BREA — Ever drive through downtown Brea and wonder about the history of those old buildings and houses?

The opportunity to satisfy curiosities will come during the latest walking tour of the old downtown on Saturday, cosponsored by the Brea Historical Society and the Historical Committee.

The approximately two-hour tour, which includes visits to historical sites, homes and buildings, will leave from Old City Hall, 401 S. Brea Blvd. at 10:30 a.m.

The purpose of the tours is to allow people to view the city's history before much of it disappears through redevelopment, according to tour coordinator Brian Saul.

For additional information, call Saul at (714) 990-4461.

## pacific clippings

post office box 1178  
astoria, oregon 97103

STAR-PROGRESS  
Daily

APR 20 1990

### Walking tour planned for downtown

790  
BREA — A walking tour of old downtown Brea and its historical landmarks will be held Saturday beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The free tour, sponsored by the Brea Historical Society and the Historical Committee, will pass by artifacts in the city's collection of downtown buildings, some of which are scheduled for demolition to make way for redevelopment.

The tour will depart from the old City Hall building at 401 S. Brea Blvd. and last about one hour and 45 minutes. For information, call Brian Saul at 990-4461.

## pacific clippings

post office box 1178  
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STAR-PROGRESS  
Daily

FEB 21 1990

## pacific clippings

post office box 1178  
astoria, oregon 97103

BREA HIGHLANDER  
WEEKLY

FEB 21 1991

790  
As Brea approaches its 74th birthday, the Brea Historical Society offers a unique way to celebrate the city's birthday.

A walking tour through downtown Brea will take place at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 23. The tour will begin at the original Brea City Hall, in City Hall Park, Brea Boulevard and Date Street.

The tour, led by members of the Brea Historical Society, will feature historical buildings, including Brea's log cabin and the original City Hall,

### Historical Brea to be toured

790  
BREA — The Brea Historical Society and Historical Committee are co-sponsoring their second walking tour of old downtown Brea on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. The tour will include visits to historical sites, homes and buildings throughout the downtown area.

The tour will leave from Old City Hall, 401 S. Brea Blvd., and last approximately one hour and 45 minutes. For more information, contact Brian Saul at (714) 990-4461 evenings.

## pacific clippings

post office box 1178  
astoria, oregon 97103

STAR-PROGRESS  
Daily

MAR 28 1990

### 790 Walking tour scheduled again

BREA — The Brea Historical Society and Brea Historical Committee are sponsoring another walking tour of the old downtown Saturday.

Participants will be led through the streets of the old downtown area scheduled for redevelopment later this year and will be told the significance and interesting stories of many of the buildings and sights that have been a part of Brea's history.

The one hour and 45-minute tour is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. in front of the old City Hall building at 401 S. Brea Blvd.

For further information, call (714) 529-2993.

the site of the city's incorporation in 1917.

For information, contact Brian Saul, Brea Historical Society president, (714) 990-4461.



## Brea schedules history tours

The city of Brea will offer three Living History tours on Saturday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and noon. The fee for each one-and-one-half hour tour is \$5 per person.

Tours will include stops at the sites:

- Babe Ruth played an exhibition game in Brea;
- First low-winged monoplane was built in the United States;
- The disastrous oil fire of 1926;
- Old Olinda Town and Tonner Canyon, where tour guests will learn the legend of the Tonner Canyon Treasure.

At a number of the stops guests will have an opportunity to experience

Brea's colorful history through dramatic reenactment. The reenactments will be performed by actors dressed in period costumes.

Tours will depart from and return to Old City Hall Park (Date Street and Brea Boulevard). Tickets may be purchased at the Brea Community Services Department, level three of the Brea Civic and Cultural Center or at City Hall Park on May 9. Citizens are encouraged to purchase tickets early as the 1 p.m. tour has already sold out.

For more information, call the Jubilee Hotline at (714) 990-7771.

### CITYSIDE

## Final living history tours scheduled

The city of Brea will offer four final Living History tours at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 19.

These historical tours will include stops at the site where Babe Ruth played an exhibition game in Brea; where the first low-winged monoplane was built in the United States; and where the disastrous oil fire of 1926 took place.

At a number of stops on the tour, guests will have an opportunity to experience Brea's colorful history through reenactments performed by actors dressed in period costumes.

Tours will depart from and return to Old City Hall Park, at Date Street and Brea Boulevard.

The fee for each of the one-and-one-half hour tours is \$5.

Tickets can be purchased at the Brea Community Services Department, level three of the Brea Civic and Cultural Center.

For information, call the Jubilee Hotline at 990-7771.

### MAIN EVENT

## Tours visit historical sites in Brea

Babe Ruth in Brea?

No, there hasn't been a rash of deceased baseball legend-sightings in north county. But you can visit the field where the Babe played an exhibition game and other historical sites during a living history tour sponsored by the city of Brea.

Other stops include the place where the first low-winged monoplane in the United States was built and the site of a 1926 oil fire.

Actors dressed in period costume will re-enact events in Brea's history at several stops during the 1½-hour tour.

**Starts:** 10, 11, 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday

**Show up:** Old City Hall Park, Date Street at Brea Boulevard, Brea

**How much:** \$5

**Call:** 990-7771



— Mary Jo Griffith/The Register

# OC Conservancy schedules walking tours of old Brea

<sup>490</sup>  
BREA — The Orange County Conservancy and the Brea Historical Society will conduct walking tours of old downtown Brea at 10:30 a.m. Saturday starting at Old City Hall, 401 S. Brea Blvd.

This may be a last opportunity for historical buffs to take a guided tour of the soon-to-be demolished historic Old Brea.

Buildings on Brea Boulevard are being destroyed to make way for redevelopment. Some portions already have been obliterated, but soon the whole street will be bare.

No longer will the "Brea Welcomes You" sign or the familiar "Old Clock" be seen, on Brea Boulevard. Brea Boulevard will soon be widened and Old Brea will no longer exist.

Buildings with a variety of architectural styles and heights from different periods of Brea's development will be seen on the tours.

— Built in 1928, the Gobbar Building at 201-207 S. Brea Blvd.

will be gone forever. Formerly the Oilfields National Bank built in 1928, it was the largest and costliest commercial building at the time of its construction.

— Sam's Place, built in 1911 at 117 S. Brea Blvd., is a unique Craftsman-style building first occupied by a bakery. This is the last chance for many to see the building's original brick ovens.

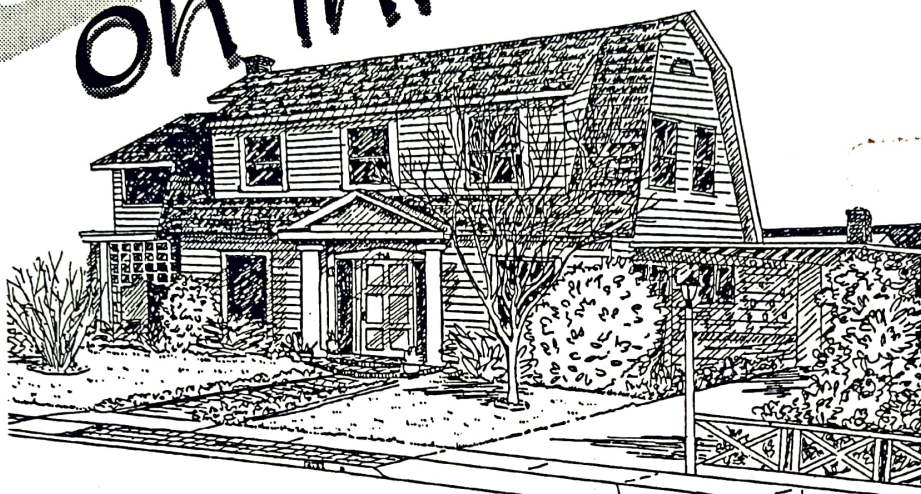
— Also missing will be the distinctive Blue Bungalow built in 1919 (200 S. Brea Blvd.) Dr. W.W. Davis, who constructed the building to serve as his office and residence.

Anyone interested in participating in these "last chance" tours of Historic Old Brea should send a check for \$10 per person to Debora Richey, California State University, Fullerton, Library, P.O. Box 4150, Fullerton, CA 92634. Checks should be made payable to the Orange County Historical Society (OCHS). Returned checks will be the receipt for registration.

If the general public desires further information concerning this special event, they should contact the Orange County Historical Society at (714) 557-7074.



# Come on in!



## Brea Historical Home Tour

Take a peek into Brea's architectural past through a guided tour of seven historical homes and two churches in Brea. Homes will be open from 10 a.m.- 4 p. m. on Saturday, April 4 and on Saturday, October 3. Tours will begin at City Hall Park, 401 S. Brea Blvd. Tickets are just \$8 per person. This is recommended as a walking tour, however, participants may drive their own vehicles from site to site. For more information, please call the Jubilee Hotline at 990 -7771.

### Historical Home Tour Ticket Request

Number of Persons \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail tickets to:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks payable to:* City of Brea

*Mail form and check to:*

Historical Home Tour  
Brea Civic & Cultural Center  
1 Civic Center Circle  
Brea, CA 92621



*For further information on Historical Home Tours and any Jubilee events  
please call the Jubilee Hot line at (714) 990-7771*

JUB-TOUR

# CITY OF BREA

## *JUBILEE HISTORICAL HOME TOUR COMMITTEE*

### INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

**WHAT: INFORMATION MEETING FOR  
HOMEOWNERS & DOCENTS**

**WHEN: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992**

**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

**WHERE: SENIOR CENTER (Sievers & Elm)**



THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE AS A DOCENT ON THE HOME TOUR. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU AT THE GENERAL ORIENTATION ON FEBRUARY 6TH. *THE BREa HISTORICAL HOME TOUR* IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1992, 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JACK OR AUDREY SMITH AT (714) 529-6653.

**GUIDELINES FOR DOCENTS**  
**BREA HISTORICAL HOME TOUR**  
**75th JUBILEE - APRIL 4, 1992**

**Knowledge of the history of the home or church:**

1. When was it built or brought to the site?
2. Who were the original owners and/or previous occupants?
3. What interesting occurrences are connected with the home or its occupants?

**Knowledge of the architecture of the house:**

1. What features are typical of the era in which the home was built?
2. What features are original or restored to the original state?

**Knowledge of the Jubilee Home Tour Program:**

1. Be able to give directions to other homes on the tour.
2. Be familiar with the information in the home tour brochure.
3. Be familiar with the entertainment and demonstrations planned at the Baptist church in connection with the tour.
4. Be able to direct viewers to nearby restroom facilities, restaurants, etc.

**Maintenance of the homeowner's privacy and security:**

1. Prevent theft or damage to the homeowner's property.
2. Remind viewers if needed that no smoking and photographing is allowed.
3. Prevent small children (if there are any) from straying from their parents.
4. Prevent viewers from bringing food, drinks, etc. into the homes.

**Control viewer traffic into the home:**

1. Keep viewers moving at a reasonable rate through the home.
2. Docents at the door need to welcome viewers, determine when they may enter the home and validate their brochures.

**SUGGESTED ATTIRE FOR DOCENTS:**

**WOMEN:** Ankle length dark skirts, long-sleeved high necked white blouses, dark stocking and shoes or boots.

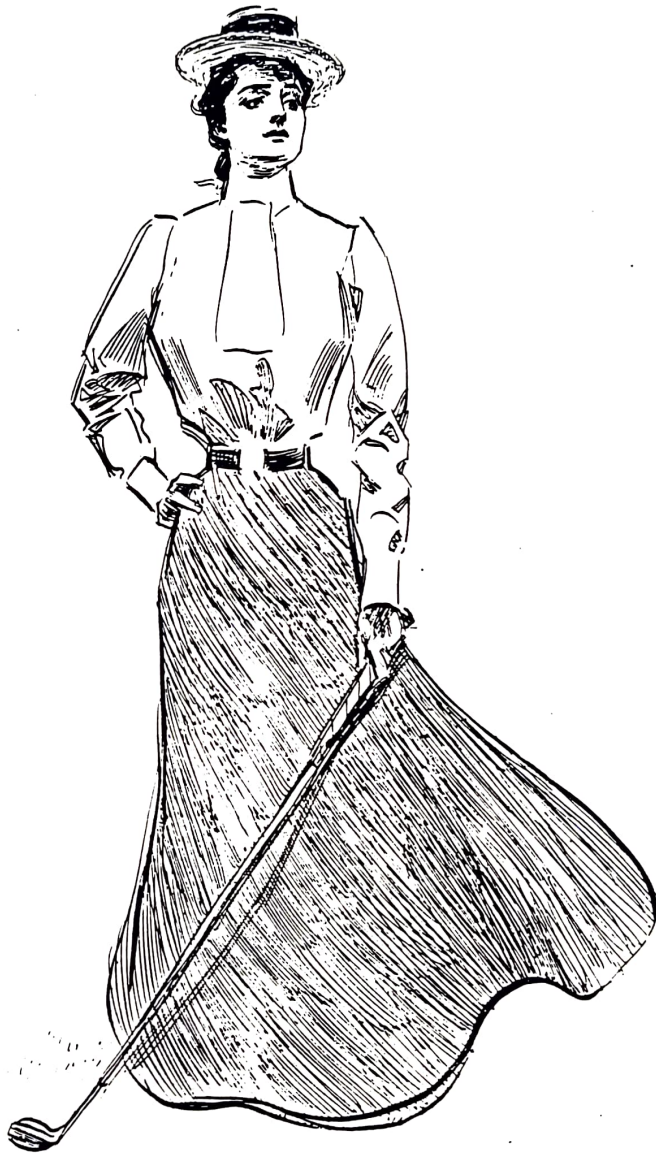
**MEN:** Dark slacks, white shirts, and suspenders.



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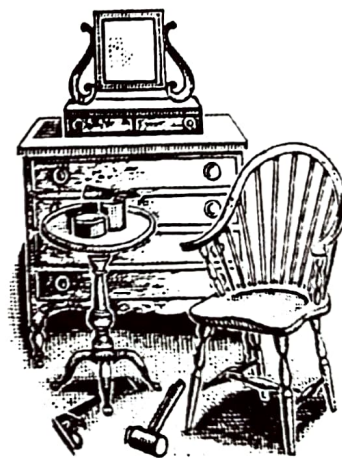
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Before the tunes begin  
why not drop in on our  
**Historical Home display?**



**VINTAGE BREA:**  
A Down Home Small Town Tour  
presented by the  
Brea Historical Society



Doors open at 5 tonight

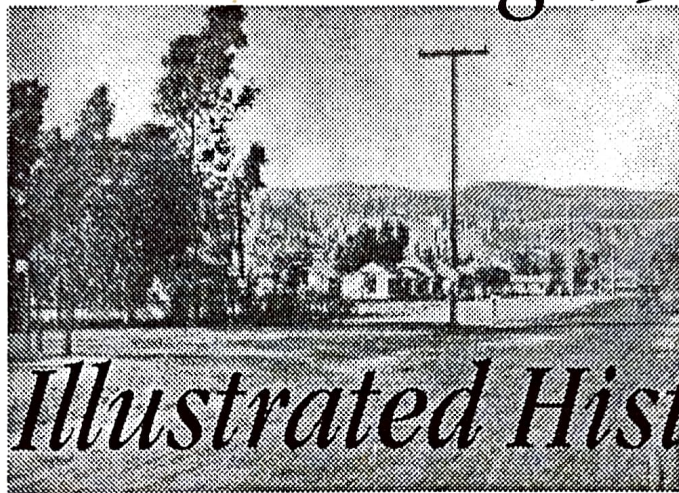
Brea Historical Museum at Old City Hall

401 S. Brea Boulevard - City Hall Park



# BREA: Celebrating 75 Years

*The Book No Breaan  
Should Be Without*



## *An Illustrated History*

by Teresa Hampson

Now available for only \$25.95 (plus tax)  
at the

Brea Civic & Cultural Center, Number 1 Civic Center Circle:

Community Services, Third Floor

City of Brea Gallery, Plaza Level

Brea Chamber of Commerce, Plaza Level

*during regular business hours*



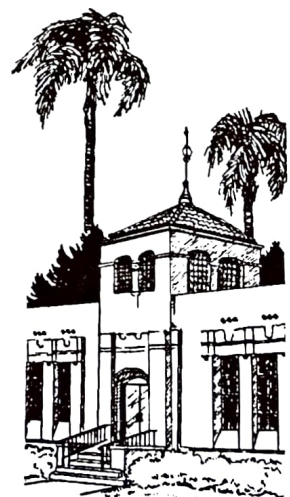
*...and at the*

Brea Historical Society

401 S. Brea Blvd.

(Old City Hall)

Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



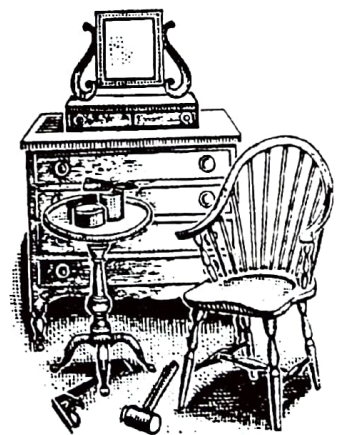
*To arrange for your personally autographed copy, call 256-2283.*



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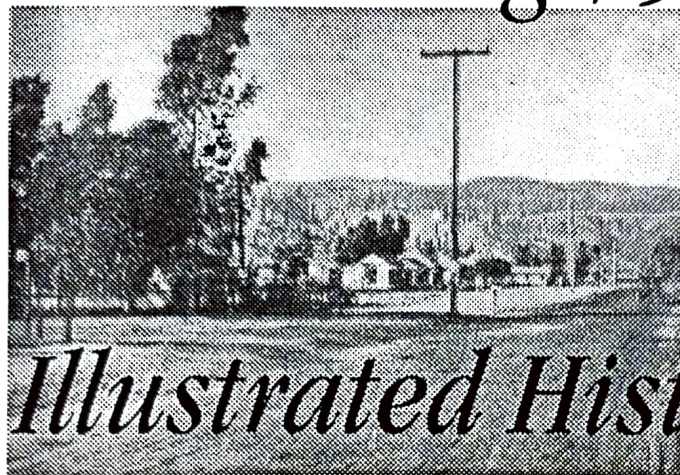
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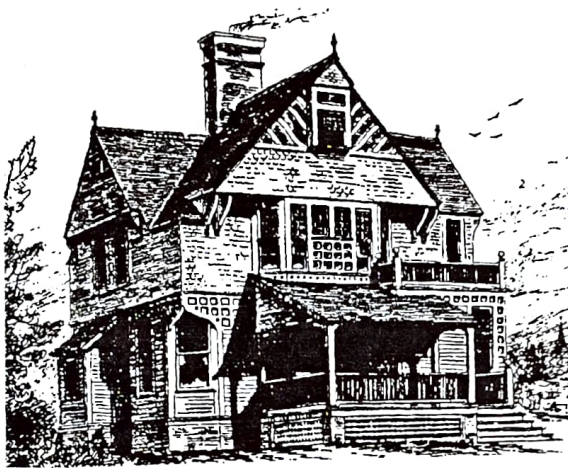
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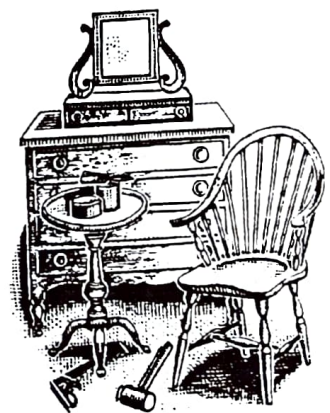
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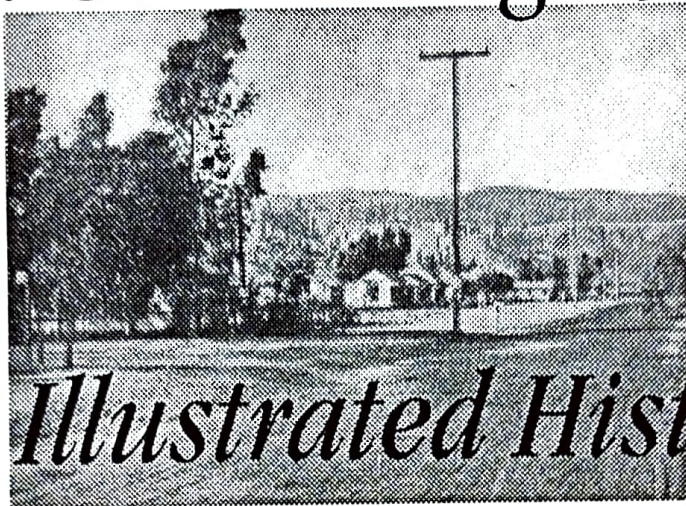
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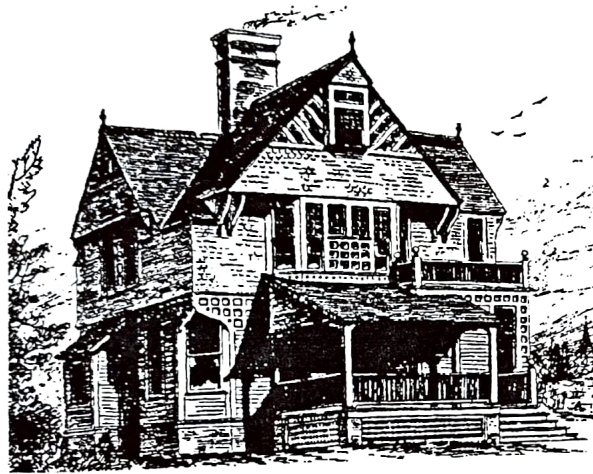
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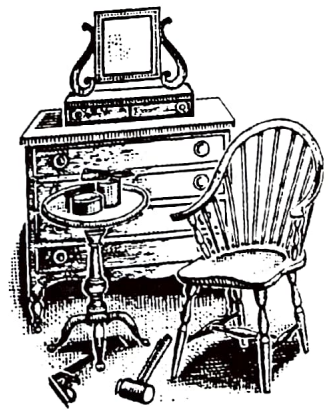
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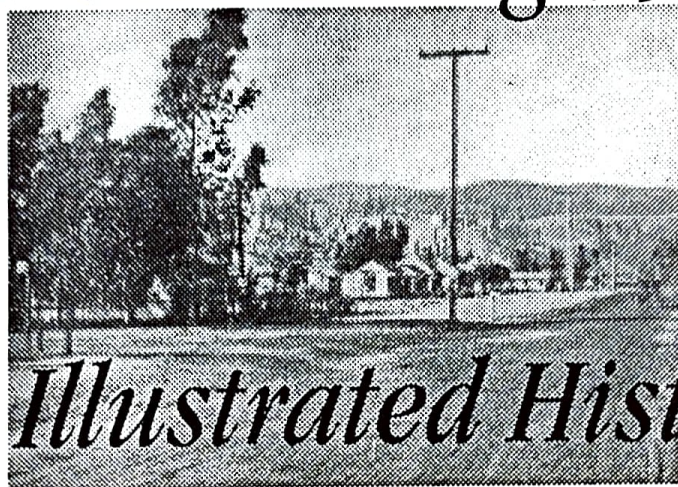
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## COMMUNITY

# Historical home tour to tantalize Breans

## Residents to get a first hand look at the homes in Brea's architectural past

By Barbara A. Williams

DSP Correspondent

BREA — The upcoming Brea Historical Home tour promises "a peek into the window of Brea's architectural past." But ticket holders for the April 4 event will get more than a peek — they'll have the chance to tour the homes and learn a bit of Brea history as well.

The Saturday tour, which includes seven homes and two churches, was organized by the historical division of the city of Brea's Jubilee Committee, as part of a yearlong celebration of Brea's 75th birthday. Included in the tour will be entertainment and exhibitions reflecting 1917-era lifestyles, fashions and music.

One of the clearest views of early Brea architecture will be available at the Elsie Gordon residence, a Provincial Revival home at 321 S. Madrona Ave. which has not been remodeled since it was built in 1929.

Elsie Gordon and her husband, the late Lawrence Gordon, purchased the home for \$2,900 in 1939 when "the town was so quiet my dog could sleep in the street for hours at a time," recalled Elsie, who, will be at home to greet visitors on the day of the tour.

The neighborhood, just south of Imperial Highway, was also quiet at night, she remembered — so quiet and calm that she could hear the oil wells pumping at the oil leases across town.

The Gordon home, featuring arched doorways, barrel ceilings and mahogany trim, is filled with the fine touches of a bygone era — a cut-glass knob on the mailbox, a telephone nook, walk-in closets with windows, and heringbone-patterned kitchen tile.

Most of the furnishings are original pieces the Gordons bought for their home, Elsie said — or else they date even farther back to the Gordons' parents or grandparents. With such strong ties to the past, Elsie isn't too impressed with modern conveniences, such as the gleaming 1954 Wedgwood gas stove in her kitchen.

"I don't call that old," she sniffed.

A black and white portrait of Elsie as a cherub-faced 4 1/2-year-old hangs in the hallway of the Madrona Avenue home, a reminder of 1919, the year Elsie moved to Brea with her parents, Arthur and Grace Smith. She attended Brea Grammar School and graduated from Brea High School with the Class of 1933.

Elsie married Lawrence Gor-

don, son of onetime Brea newspaper editor Charles F. Gordon, after a whirlwind two-month courtship. Their wedding vows, repeated in Elsie's family home on South Orange Street, sealed a 52-year marriage before Lawrence died in 1989.

Elsie's next-door neighbors, Dee and Carrel Powell and Leon and Nery Stevens, will also open their homes for the tour.

The Powell home, 317 S. Madrona Ave., and the Stevens' home, 323 S. Madrona Ave., were built in 1922 and 1923, respectively. Both are Craftsman bungalow designs, whose clean horizontal lines were one of the most popular styles in California during the early years of the 20th Century.

The Stevens' family purchased the home in 1962. The structure maintains its original canning cellar and floor plan, except for a small bathroom that the Stevens' added at the rear of the home.

The Powells moved to their Madrona Avenue residence in 1985. Since then, they have removed the asbestos shingles that once covered the home's original redwood siding.

The four other homes on the historical tour are clustered on the east side of Brea Boulevard. However, two of the houses are "out-of-towners" — homes that were moved to Brea from their original construction sites.

The Craftsman bungalow at 321 S. Orange Ave., now owned by Randy and Adele Foster, was built on the Graham-Loftus oil lease in 1922 at a cost of \$2,500. Like many other oil-lease homes, the structure was moved to Brea when the oilfield workers opted to move to town. The bungalow arrived on Orange Avenue sometime between 1940 and 1945.

The Catherine Seiler home at 412 S. Flower Ave. came from even farther afield. Built in 1920 in Pico Rivera, the two-story Colonial Revival structure caught the eye of Catherine and her husband Richard, when it was put up for auction in 1950.

A hard-fought bidding war secured the home for the Seilers for \$3,500 — plus the cost of moving the building to Brea.

With permits in hand and the roof removed, the house traveled down Imperial Highway with an overnight stop at Telegraph Road, Catherine Seiler recalled. But when the building got to the La Habra line, police stopped its progress, citing a brand-new city ordinance which prohibited moving houses through town.

Luckily Brea's city judge was serving as a visiting judge in La

Habra that day, and he gave permission for the house to pass through. The judge was Harvey Moore, Catherine's father.

The house was placed in the midst of an orange grove, in the sparsely settled Flower Avenue neighborhood that had neither sidewalks nor curbs. Rebuilding the roof and fireplace, plus correcting other moving damage, brought the cost of the house close to the \$10,000 mark, Catherine remembered.

However, even though the financial burden made the young couple nervous, securing a three-bedroom home made it all worthwhile, she said.

"Houses were scarce after the war. There had been little construction during wartime, and then all the soldiers decided to stay in California and raise families," Catherine said.

With a child in hand and one on the way, the Seilers were delighted with their Pico Rivera find. They moved into the house the day Catherine came home from the hospital with her second child, David.

The Seilers adapted to their eventual four-child household by "manufacturing the house as we went along," Catherine said. They expanded the kitchen and extended the breakfast room into a family room in 1958, then added a laundry room and a brick-lined "stove room" in 1977.

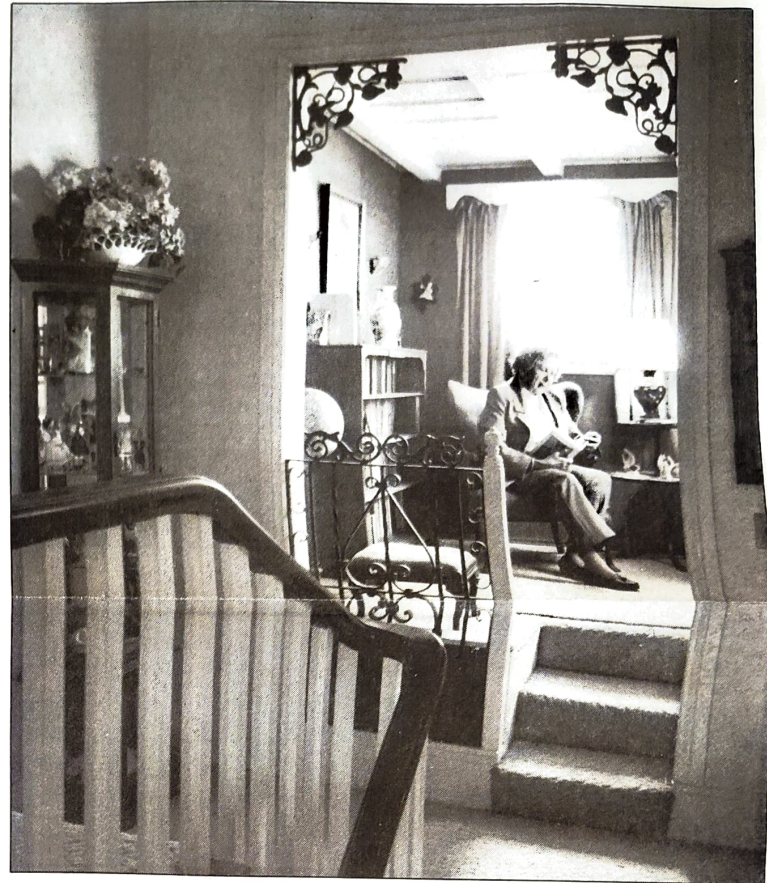
Richard put in "window walls" to display the couple's glass collection and to offer a view of the outdoor "lathe house" and its forest of greenery. Also on the grounds today are a playhouse for the Seiler girls, clubhouses for the boys, garages, a workshop, a patio and a "Singing Garden" consisting of a birdhouse and adjacent rose garden.

Also incorporated into the Seiler home are Catherine's love for lavender, a cheery stairway reading nook that Catherine says she never has time to use, and mahogany furniture that she and her late husband "dragged home from second-hand stores ... before there was such a thing as an antique store," Catherine recalled.

Two other Flower Avenue homes are part of the historical tour.

The Provincial Revival home at 331 South Flower Ave. was built in 1928, with the Lynn Hogue family as its first residents. Hogue was a local grocer who served on the Brea City Council and was mayor of Brea from 1932 to 1936.

The house was purchased in



(Star-Progress photo by Jack Hancock)

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1973 by the current residents, Dale and Barbara Moody.

The Wilson/ Shaffer home at 315 S. Flower Ave. was built by Donald U. Shaffer in 1938 in a Mediterranean style. The 2,450-square-foot house has a basement, attached two-car garage and original crown plaster moldings. A tin shed on the grounds served as the pump house for an early avocado grove.

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The two churches featured in the historical tour were built by congregations with ties to Brea's early days.

At the corner of Ash Street and Walnut Avenue, now home to the Missionary Baptist congregation, is a church and log cabin built by the Brea Christian Church, which

was established in Brea in 1914. "The Little Brown church" eventually was painted white and lasted until 1935 when the stucco sanctuary was built.

The log cabin, still standing at the back of the church property, was constructed in 1921 by the church's Honor Knights class of young men.

The First Baptist Church of Brea, organized in 1925, purchased the property for its current home at the corner of Date Street and Flower Avenue in 1948. The church's sanctuary, which was dedicated in 1954, is part of the historical tour, while the church grounds will be the site of the exhibits and entertainment included in the tour festivities.

Committee members in charge of the Brea Historical Home Tour

are Jack and Audrey Smith, Mary and Aaron Eseltine, Sandy Sarthou, Kathleen Ralph and Brian Saul. Docents for the home tours are community volunteers who will be attired in 1917 fashions.

Tickets for the tour are \$8. They may be purchased at the Brea Civic & Cultural Center Community Services Department or by sending a check made payable to the City of Brea to: Historical Home Tour, Brea Civic & Cultural Center, 1 Civic Center Circle, Brea, CA 92621.

The tour begins at Old City Hall Park, 401 S. Brea Blvd., where tickets and guidebooks will be available. Tour hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For further information about the Brea Historical Home Tour, call the Jubilee Hotline at (714) 990-7771.



## Police Blotter

### FULLERTON Thursday

7:48 a.m. — A silver Toyota was stolen in the 600 block of West Orangethorpe.  
 8:14 a.m. — A 1981 blue Buick was stolen in the 2900 block of Ruby Drive.  
 9:08 a.m. — Aggravated assault was reported in the 1800 block of West Commonwealth Avenue.  
 9:20 a.m. — A burglary was reported in the 200 block of East Orangethorpe Avenue.  
 10:59 a.m. — A Hazmat spill was reported in the 300 block of West Walnut Avenue.  
 11:15 a.m. — Grand theft was reported in the 1500 block of West Amerige Avenue.  
 12:59 p.m. — A transient was arrested in the 100 block of South Pomona Avenue.  
 1:11 p.m. — A hit-and-run accident was reported at Valencia Drive and Eadington Avenue.  
 2:26 p.m. — A suspicious person was reported in the 600 block of East Dorothy Lane.  
 2:57 p.m. — A burglary was reported in the 1100 block of North Lincoln Avenue.  
 3:50 — A gold 1976 Chevrolet Blazer was stolen in the 3000 block of West Orangethorpe.  
 4:25 p.m. — A burglary was reported in the 1900 block of Evergreen Avenue.  
 5:10 p.m. — A bomb threat was reported in the 2600 block of East Nutwood Avenue.

**LA HABRA  
Thursday**

2 p.m. — Petty theft in the 800 block of West Highlander Avenue.  
 8:55 p.m. — Petty theft in the 800 block of North Harbor Boulevard.

## Retirement workshop scheduled at area hospital

WHITTIER — Maximum wellness, maintaining financial security and identifying needed legal and estate planning steps will be among the topics covered in a five hour, two-session workshop on retirement.

The workshop, "Planning Your Retirement: A Workshop for the Third Age," sponsored by the Advantage Program of Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital and the Community Services program at Rio Hondo College, will be offered on Monday evenings be-

tween April 20 and May 18 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Each session will be held at the Hospital (12401 E. Washington Blvd. in Whittier). For more information contact RHC Community Services instructor Rog Rose at (310) 947-2324 or (310) 972-4910.

All participants are required to pre-register through Rio's Community Services office at (310)

699-6189 or (310) 908-3426. The sessions will be conducted through oral presentations, audio visuals and breakout discussions in small groups.

The workshop, open to all retired persons and non-retired persons age 50 and over, is designed to provide information relevant to retirement concerns and to increase awareness of the options in the area of wellness pro-

motion, financial planning, legal matters, social security, leisure time and new careers.

The workshop is open to people who are "within five years of retirement, concerned about remaining in good financial shape in the years ahead, thinking about how to maintain their well-being and are wondering what they'll do 16 hours a day, seven days a week after retiring."

## Renters' rights explored

COSTA MESA — A free one-hour seminar that looks at renters' rights and responsibilities will be offered on March 24, by Orange Coast College's Consumer Resource Center.

The workshop begins at 4 p.m. in OCC's Children's Center, located off Monitor Way at the northern edge of the campus. The seminar is open to the public.

Workshop lecturer Joe Caux is a representative of the Fair Housing Council.

For information about the seminar, contact OCC's Consumer Resource Center at (714) 432-5732.

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## Seminar studies trusts

PLACENTIA — A free educational seminar on "Understanding Living Trusts" will be presented by James F. Roberts, estate planning attorney, Wednesday, March 25 at 10:15 a.m., at the Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman, Placentia.

Subjects to be covered include "How to Reduce and Eliminate Taxes," "How to Avoid the Cost and Delays of Probate," "Why Loving Wills Aren't Loving," "Avoiding Conservatorship," and "The Best Way to Hold Title." Public is welcome.

For reservations call 1-800-244-4882.



# When they say bank on the leader, they must mean us.



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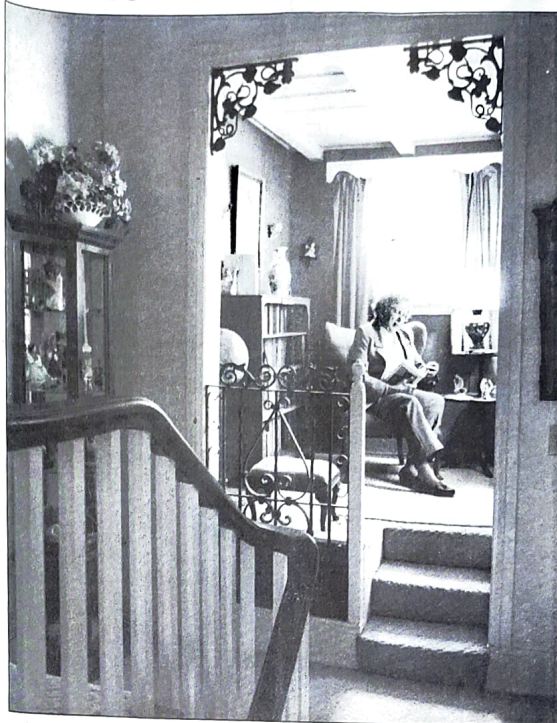
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The tour begins at Old City Hall Park, 401 S. Brea Blvd., where tickets and guidebooks will also be available. Tour hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For further information about the Brea Historical Home Tour, call the Jubilee Hotline at (714) 990-7771.

## Tower of Beauty tour slated by ORT

FULLERTON — A guided tour to the Merle Norman "Tower of Beauty" in Sylmar is being planned for April 1 by Women's American ORT, Fullerton Chapter.

Participants will leave by bus from Orange County at 8:30 a.m.

and return at approximately 2:30 p.m. A luncheon buffet at the Swedish Inn in Woodland Hills will be included, and total cost for the day will be \$23 per person. The community is invited to participate.

The "Tower of Beauty" is often

referred to as a museum, but it is actually a private collection of rare and musical instruments, antique automobiles and more. For more information or to make reservations, call Sarah at (714) 738-1987 or Edith at (310) 697-1202.

## St. Angela's to host parent information night March 18 for first time students at the school

BREA — St. Angela Merici Catholic School will host a Parent Information Night on Wednesday for parents interested in registering children at the school for the first time.

The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

In the school's Learning Lab, St. Angela's school board members and the school principal will be present to provide information and answer questions regarding the school and its programs for the 1992-93 school year.

St. Angela Merici School offers classes for students in grades 1 to 8. Testing dates for new incoming students will be March 30 through April 2.

For additional information, call the school office at (714) 529-6372.

## National Library Week to be observed in Brea

BREA — The Brea Library plans to kick off National Library Week on April 6 with a Patron Appreciation Day.

In an effort to thank new and long-standing patrons for their support, as well as to remind

them of services the library offers, refreshments will be served and a children's movie will be screened at 3:30 p.m.

All Brea Library services are free and include best sellers, magazines, business and con-

sumer information, videos, compact discs and children's programs.

For further information call the library at (714) 671-1722.

## Helping Hand scholarships now available

BREA — "Helping Hand" scholarships are now available for Brea's spring programs, including Tiny Tots, tennis and golf classes, computer workshops, self

defense classes, stenciling workshops, among others.

Residents in financial need may be eligible for these scholarships, which are funded by the

Brea Foundation.

The scholarships are designed to enable low-income families to participate in the city's recreational programs.



(Star-Progress photo by Jack Hancock)

**HOE HOE HOE** — Courtney Banks, left, considers a question put to her by Laurie Peters, a member of the Brea United Methodist Church's Hoedown Committee. The lonesome cowboys lined up back include, from left, Brian Luther, Kyle Van Deudekom, Nichols Worth and Tyler Peters.



## Police Blotter

### FULLERTON

Thursday

7:48 a.m. — A silver Toyota was stolen in the 600 block of West Orangehorpe.  
8:14 a.m. — A 1981 blue Buick was stolen in the 2900 block of Ruby Drive.  
9:08 a.m. — Aggravated assault was reported in the 1800 block of West Commonwealth Avenue.  
9:20 a.m. — A burglary was reported in the 200 block of East Orangehorpe Avenue.  
10:59 a.m. — A Hazmat spill was reported in the 300 block of West Walnut Avenue.  
11:15 a.m. — Grand theft was reported in the 1500 block of West Amerige Avenue.  
12:59 p.m. — A transient was arrested in the 100 block of South Pomona Avenue.  
1:11 p.m. — A hit-and-run accident was reported at Valencia Drive and Eadington Avenue.  
2:26 p.m. — A suspicious person was reported in the 600 block of East Dorothy Lane.  
2:57 p.m. — A burglary was reported in the 1100 block of North Lincoln Avenue.  
3:50 — A gold 1976 Chevrolet Blazer was stolen in the 3000 block of West Orangehorpe.  
4:25 p.m. — A burglary was reported in the 1900 block of Evergreen Avenue.  
5:10 p.m. — A bomb threat was reported in the 2600 block of East Nutwood Avenue.

### LA HABRA

Thursday

2 p.m. — Petty theft in the 800 block of West Highlander Avenue.  
8:55 p.m. — Petty theft in the 800 block of North Harbor Boulevard.

## Seminar studies trusts

PLACENTIA — A free educational seminar on "Understanding Living Trusts" will be presented by James P. Roberts, estate planning attorney, Wednesday, March 25 at 10:15 a.m., at the Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman, Placentia.

Subjects to be covered include "How to Reduce and Eliminate Taxes," "How to Avoid the Cost and Delays of Probate," "Why Loving Wills Aren't Loving," "Avoiding Conservatorship," and "The Best Way to Hold Title." Public is welcome.  
For reservations call 1-800-244-4862.

## Retirement workshop scheduled at area hospital

WHITTIER — Maximum well-being, maintaining financial security and identifying needed legal and estate planning steps will be among the topics covered in a five-hour, two-session workshop on retirement.  
The workshop, "Planning Your Retirement: A Workshop for the Third Age," sponsored by the Advantage Program of Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital and the Community Services program at Rio Hondo College, will be offered on Monday evenings be-

tween April 20 and May 18 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Each session will be held at the Hospital (12401 E. Washington Blvd. in Whittier). For more information contact RHC Community Services instructor Rog Rose at (310) 947-2324 or (310) 972-4910.  
All participants are required to pre-register through Rio's Community Services office at (310)

699-6189 or (310) 908-3426. The sessions will be conducted through oral presentations, audio visuals and breakout discussions in small groups.  
The workshop, open to all retired persons age 50 and over, is designed to provide information relevant to retirement concerns and to increase awareness of the options in the area of wellness pro-

motion, financial planning, legal matters, social security, leisure time and new careers.  
The workshop is open to people who are "within five years of retirement, concerned about remaining in good financial shape in the years ahead, thinking about how to maintain their well-being and are wondering what they'll do 16 hours a day, seven days a week after retiring."

## Renters' rights explored

COSTA MESA — A free one-hour seminar that looks at renters' rights and responsibilities will be offered on March 24, by Orange Coast College's Consumer Resource Center.

The workshop begins at 4 p.m. in OCC's Children's Center, located off Monitor Way at the northern edge of the campus. The seminar is open to the public.

Workshop lecturer Joe Caux is a representative of the Fair Housing Council.

For information about the seminar, contact OCC's Consumer Resource Center at (714) 432-5732.

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(Star-Progress photo by Stan Bird)

HIGH-TICKET ITEM — La Habra PTA Thrift Shop volunteers Paula Jones and Kay Hazlett show off the quilt that will be given away to a lucky \$1 raffle ticket holder at the April 30 La Habra Woman's Club Scholarship Luncheon for Sonora and La Habra high school students. The quilt can be seen at the thrift shop at 146 W. La Habra Blvd. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

## Pianist to perform at CFS recital

FULLERTON — The Department of Music of Cal State Fullerton will present Pianist M'Jon Dietzer in a faculty recital at 8 p.m., March 27. The recital will be held in the Recital Hall at the university's Performing Arts Center on campus.

General admission is \$5; admission is \$3 with Cal State Fullerton ID.

Tickets are available at the Performing Arts Center box office at (714) 773-3371 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and one hour before performance.

Got a local news tip? Call (714) 529-2144 or (310) 697-1734

## Chapman University sets production of 'The Diviners'

ORANGE — Chapman University's School of Communication Arts presents "The Diviners," a play by Jim Leonard, Jr., directed by Chapman theatre professor Tom Bradac.

The show will run from March 18 to 23 in Chapman's newly renovated Waltman Theatre, show times are 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$6 for general admission; \$4 for students, senior citizens and children under 12.

"The Diviners" takes place in the mythical town of Zion, Ind. on the eve of the Great Depression. Buddy Layman, played by Dustin Milbert, is a mentally retarded boy who has a gift for finding water, by divining, for the farmers in his town. He is afraid of the water, however, because his mother was drowned. A preacher,

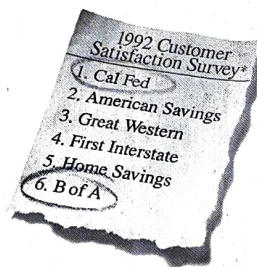
C.C. Showers — played by Pete Sepenuk — comes to town and tries to help Buddy, and he ends up changing the lives of everyone in town.

Although the play is set in the 1930s, "The Diviners" transcends its time frame and makes cogent observations about people of all times," Bradac says.

Bradac, producer and artistic director of Shakespeare Orange County, is an assistant professor of communications at Chapman, and a "director-at-large" for the Shakespeare Theatre Association of America.

Tickets for "The Diviners" may be purchased at the door or in advance at the Chapman University ticket office. To order by phone, call (714) 697-6812. Visa and Mastercard accepted; no refunds or exchanges will be made.

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# BUSINESS

## Craf-T-Macs: A friend to the novices

LH business still strong in its field

By Michelle Marsom  
Staff Writer

LA HABRA — Make it, take it and say to the world, "Look what I did!"

Jan Schield, owner of the retail crafts store Craf-T-Macs, has been helping novice and veteran crafters for so long that she has 20 years of experience.

Her talent for guiding people on the search for the artistic self is what has kept Craf-T-Macs a strong, independent contender in the ring of discount craft supply houses.

"The shop has always been run on material that's what I call it — and we teach you how to do whatever you want to learn," said Schield of her large shop at 141 S. Beach Blvd.

Craf-T-Macs offers a complete line of craft items, including paints, brushes, wood, stencils, ribbons, beads, jewelry, wreaths, jewelry findings, beads, craft books — the list goes on and on.

Run workshops at Craf-T-Macs run from the gamut from T-shirt and fabric painting to dollmaking and tote painting. Among the how-to classes are: earrings, bows, silk flower arrangements, customized baskets, wreaths, hair ribbons, needlecraft, crochet, knitting, wedding



(Star-Progress photo by Michelle Marsom)

**CRAFTY OPERATOR** — Craft store owner Jan Schield shows off various handmade items that she teaches students how to make during low-cost, in-store workshops, including a fabric-covered photo album, yarn collars for sweaters, decorated woodwork and the sweatshirt that she is wearing.

souvenirs and photo album covers.

Perhaps Schield's skill in teaching the creative arts to others can be attributed to Craf-T-Macs' founders, her parents, whom she identifies only as "Mr. and Mrs. Mac."

Schield's parents, who ran a hobby shop in Pomona, started Craf-T-Macs in 1969. Schield took over operations about 10 years ago after spending 12

years running a motorcycle sales shop with her husband, an auto designer.

The couple used to run a 1965 Shelby GT350 on the national race track circuit. Schield still keeps her hand in the automotive world as a member of the Vintage Automobile Racing Association.

She has two decades in the crafts instruction field. At one time, she led painting and "fan-

tasy creature" workshops for hospitalized children.

Business is booming, she reports, despite the economic slump.

"I've always felt this business is recession-proof because people turn to doing it themselves when money is tight," Schield said.

She said she has been able to hold her own against "heavily discounted" craft chains like



(Star-Progress photo by Michelle Marsom)

**BRUSHING UP** — Jan Schield, owner of Craf-T-Macs craft supply store in La Habra, puts the final touches on a painted sweatshirt.

Craft Mart, Michaels and others by offering a variety of classes.

"I thought, well, okay, I'll stick to giving our classes at a reasonable rate so that people can come in and we can help them," Schield said.

Lack of customer service is what the chains fail to provide, she insists.

"You need to be able to tell people, 'Yeah, this is the glue you use for this project.' Many of the clerks at the chain stores don't have that knowledge," Schield said.

She caters to her customers

by setting up numerous displays of completed craft items. In addition, her store clerks specialize in at least one craft.

"They're all crafters and they all teach," said Schield of her 10 part- and full-time clerks.

The crafter's search for self-satisfaction is probably what most fuels craft stores, she notes.

"There's a satisfaction in 'doing something for yourself,'" Schield said. "And giving something you made is appreciated so much more than a present purchased at the mall."

## OC's first hospital celebrates 90th year with series of events

United Western Medical Centers, Orange County's first hospital, kicked off its 90th anniversary celebration on March 5, according to John Boop, vice president of development and community relations.

The original structure, a two-story, 12-room building on Washington Street in Santa Ana, was known as Santa Ana Valley Hospital. Since opening its doors in 1902, the medical center has remained a county health care provider. Now a three-facility health care network with a combined licensed bed capacity of 485, it ranks among the three largest acute care hospitals in Orange County.

Keying in with its anniversary theme, "United We Stand Now — 90 Years of Service," the kick-off celebration included a series of events at its three facilities.

The day will begin with a continental brunch at WestMed/Anaheim, continued with a noon luncheon at WestMed/Santa Ana, and culminated with an afternoon reception at WestMed/Bartlett, the 241-bed convalescent hospital that now occupies the site of the original facility on Washington Street in Santa Ana.

Each event featured presentations by chief executive officers, historical displays and photographs, and the premier of a new video, "Our Pioneers: A Legacy in Progress." Time capsules filled with items of lasting significance, to be opened in the 21st century, were dedicated. Local dignitaries, physicians, employees, volunteers and community leaders participated in the ceremonies.

As part of the year-long celebration, a series of special events were planned, including:

- United Golf Tournament — WestMed/Anaheim and WestMed/Santa Ana joined together on March 9, for the annual golf tournament at Yorba Linda Country Club. Proceeds benefited Anaheim's new Maternity and Child Birthing Center and Santa Ana's neonatal intensive care unit.
- Panache United Fashion Show — WestMed Health Foundation's inaugural event on March 28, produced by Norstrom South Coast Plaza. Proceeds will benefit Anaheim's

Mother & Child Maternity Center.

- Club 1025 Membership Kick Off — A special event for Club 1025 supporters at Disneyland's Club 33 on April 28.
- Comedy Nite — Featuring four of the nation's hottest comedians. The comedy show will be on June 13 at the Celebrity Theatre in Anaheim. Proceeds will benefit Anaheim's Mother and Child Maternity Center.
- An Affair to Remember — This second annual event, held in August, will feature food and wine tasting, casino gambling and a silent auction. Proceeds will benefit Anaheim's Mother and Child Maternity Center.
- Championship Horse Show — the sixth annual benefit show at Orange County Fairgrounds, Sept. 10-13, featuring exhibits, displays and competitive jumping events. Proceeds will benefit WestMed/Santa Ana's regional trauma center.
- FUNDSV — Music, dancing, and live/silent auctions on Oct. 23, at South Coast Westin Hotel.
- Nite of 200 Stars — the WestMed Health Foundation's special evening, planned for late November, to thank supporters for their generous gifts of time, talents and funding.

In addition to being Orange County's first hospital, WestMed Medical Centers has a number of other "firsts" to its credit: first to provide a trauma center; first to construct a neonatal intensive care unit; first to use a linear accelerator in the treatment of cancer; and first to introduce ophthalmologic lasers.

Incorporated in 1951, United Western Medical Centers is a California nonprofit public benefit corporation that operates three subsidiary corporations: WestMed/Santa Ana, a 301-bed general acute care hospital and trauma center; WestMed/Anaheim, a 191-bed general acute care, psychiatric and rehabilitation hospital; and WestMed/Bartlett, a 241-bed convalescent hospital located in Santa Ana.

United Western Medical Centers serve virtually all of central and north Orange County, drawing patients from as far south as Mission Viejo and as far north as La Habra.

## Refinancing homes not for everybody

With interest rates lower than they have been in years, many homeowners who purchased their homes when rates were higher are considering refinancing. But is refinancing worth it? "Refinancing can be worthwhile, but it does not make good financial sense for everyone," says Jeanne Barnes, president of the North Orange County Association of Realtors.

A general rule of thumb is that refinancing is worth your while if the current interest rate on your mortgage is at least two percentage points higher than the prevailing market rate. This figure is considered a safe margin when balancing the costs of refinancing a mortgage against savings.

"There are other factors to consider, however," advises Barnes. "For instance, how long you plan to stay in your home is an important factor. It generally takes at least three years to realize fully the saving from a lower interest rate."

The North Orange County Association of Realtors advises that refinancing should be considered

for homeowners who meet one or more of the following:

- Want out of a high interest rate loan to take advantage of lower rates and plan to stay in their homes for at least three years.
- Have an adjustable rate mortgage (ARM) and want a fixed-rate loan to have the certainty of knowing exactly what the mortgage payment will be for the life of the loan.
- Want to convert to an ARM with a lower interest rate or more protection features, such as a better rate or payment cap.
- Want to build up equity more quickly by converting to a loan with a shorter term.
- Want to draw on the equity built up in their home to get cash for major expenses.

If you are deciding whether to refinance an adjustable rate mortgage, consider whether the next interest rate adjustment on your existing loan is likely to increase your monthly payments substantially, and whether the interest rate will be 2 or 3 percentage points higher than the prevailing rates being offered for either fixed-rate or other ARMs.

Also, if there is a cap on your current monthly payments, are those payments large enough to pay off your loan by the end of the original term? Will refinancing a new ARM or fixed rate mortgage enable you to pay your loan in full by the end of the term?

"These are questions that are important to consider before proceeding with refinancing an adjustable-rate mortgage," says Barnes.

"Homeowners who decide to refinance should be aware of the costs involved," advises Barnes. Much like a first mortgage, refinancing includes fees for the application, the title search and title insurance, and the lender's attorney's fee. In addition, there are loan origination fees (charges for lender's work in evaluating and preparing the loan) and discount points (pre-paid finance charges imposed by the lender at closing), an appraisal fee and other miscellaneous fees.

Homeowners should plan on

paying an average of 3 to 6 percent of the outstanding principal in refinancing costs, plus any cost of paying off a second mortgage that may exist. Costs may vary significantly, however, from lender to lender, so it's important to shop around.

"You may want to first check with the lender who holds your current mortgage," suggests Barnes. "The lender may be willing to waive some of the fees, especially if the work relating to the mortgage closing is still current."

Interest rates on long term fixed mortgages are currently hovering around 9.0 percent, up from their lowest point earlier this year, but still the best in 5 years! There are also 5 and 7 year fixed rate programs that have start rates as low as 7.75 percent. These loans adjust at the end of 5 and 7 years respectively, to the fixed rates at that time plus 0.5 percent.

## Coal miners fear loss of cradle-to-grave health care

SHREWSBURY, W.Va. (AP) — Union coal miners who spent a lifetime laboring in dank underground passageways were secure for decades in the promise of cradle-to-grave health care.

But now 120,000 retired coal miners and their dependents are threatened with a cutoff of their union health insurance, possibly as soon as April.

Already, payments are months behind and labor and management fear widespread strikes this spring unless they resolve the problem.

"I worked for everything I've got. But I want what I worked for," said retired miner Lewis Perry, who wonders how he will pay the bills for the treatments he must undergo for lymphoma.

"One trip to the hospital, honest, will break us," said Perry, 71, whose wife has heart problems

and diabetes.

A federal judge in Abingdon, Va., planned to hear arguments today on whether to prohibit the benefits from being cut off.

U.S. District Judge Glenn Williams issued a temporary restraining order Feb. 26 forbidding two troubled trust funds of the United Mine Workers union from cutting off the benefits. Retired miners were asking Williams today to make his order permanent.

"The United Mine Workers' two insurance trust funds are more than \$100 million in the red, drained by providing coverage to retirees whose former employers either went out of business or dropped them out of the union health plan."

The health plan was established in 1946 when President

Truman ordered a federal takeover of the nation's coal mines to end a strike.

To bring miners back to work, the government promised to oversee creation of a lifetime health care system. Coal mine owners promised to fund it in exchange for mechanization of the mines, which led to thousands of layoffs.

There are two benefit trusts — one established in 1950 and the other in 1974 — that are funded by company contributions and overseen by an independent board, the United Mine Workers of America's Health and Retirement Funds.

Legislation by Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., to revive the trusts with a 99-cent tax per wage-hour on Eastern coal and 15 cents a ton on Western coal passed the Senate Friday and is

now before a House-Senate conference committee.

But the legislation is opposed by the Bush administration and the Private Benefits Alliance, a group of primarily non-union coal companies, as an unfair tax on coal companies that don't pay into the trust funds.

Non-union coal companies say they should not have to pay for the health benefits of other companies' employees.

Labor Secretary Lynn Martin said the plan creates a government entitlement program for one industry and that she will ask President Bush to veto it.

Participation in the plan has dwindled to about 300 coal operators, who are assessed \$250 per wage-hour on Eastern coal and 15 cents a ton on Western coal producers.

## GM executive chosen to replace Iacocca

HIGHLAND PARK, Mich. (AP) — Robert J. Eaton, General Motors Corp.'s top executive in Europe, was named today as the eventual successor to Chrysler Corp. chairman Lee Iacocca.

Eaton also was named to the company's board of directors. He will become chairman and chief executive officer when Iacocca steps down on Dec. 31.

Iacocca, 67, had previously indicated he intended to retire as chief executive by the end of the year but stay on as chairman. He had led the company for 14 years.

Chrysler President Robert A. Lutz will retain his current responsibilities. Lutz, 60, had been named as a possible successor but a rift between him and Iacocca had been widely reported.

Eaton is a director and as chairman of the board's executive committee after Jan. 1, 1993.

"During the past year the board has conducted an exhaustive review of candidates, both inside and outside Chrysler, to lead the company into the 21st century," said A. Jean de Grandpre, senior board member.

"We are extremely fortunate to have found an executive of Mr.

Eaton's caliber. We are confident that he will continue to build on the outstanding progress Chrysler has achieved the past several years."

Eaton, 52, has been a GM star. He was responsible for operations that contributed \$1.76 billion to the world's largest automaker last year. The company overall lost a record \$4.5 billion.



# Blue-collar blues grips Chicago

**EDITORS' NOTE** — The Associated Press asks the major presidential candidates a question each week about their views on a particular issue and assembles their responses.

to regular employment."

**REPUBLICANS**

—George Bush: Has not taken public position on denial of

**DEMOCRATS**

—Jerry Brown: A spokesman said Brown is opposed to the New Jersey plan.

—Patrick Buchanan: "Yes."

—Paul Tsongas: "Such programs impose an unfair burden on those least able to shoulder it. At the same time, I do favor welfare reform in order to help long-term welfare recipients move on who show responsibility for their own lives. Those who choose to remain in programs for the poor and those who continue to act irresponsibly must learn that the welfare benefits will not be a precipitously increased."

# Democrats clash in heated debate

**BY JOHN KING**  
AP Political Writer

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Front-runner Bill Clinton was leveling his criticism that George Bush was "everybody's" Tsongas said in renewed support of Clinton.

putting popularity over prosperity and promising programs to help everyone. Tongas also said another reason he would not be interested in sharing the ticket with Clinton because of economic differences. The Democratic sparring means

“You ought to be ashamed for jumping on my wife,” Clinton said to Jerry Brown after the former California governor leveled charges of unethical behavior. “You’re not worth being on the same platform with my wife.”

Paul Tonoyan was not involved in that exchange, but he jumped in to accuse Clinton of distribution of false and misleading campaign literature.

Med

Boehman campaigned during the day, but Bush — miles away in the delegate court and virtually certain to win in Illinois as well — was at Camp David.

Boehman, however, the GOP candidate, lost the caucus by less — two more albeit certain wins for President Bush despite an aggressive effort in Michigan by conservative challenger Patrick Buchanan.

Boehman, however, the GOP candidate, lost the caucus by less — two more albeit certain wins for President Bush despite an aggressive effort in Michigan by conservative challenger Patrick Buchanan.

The clash among the Democrats came near the end of a five-minute debate in which the three men repeated their criticism over Bush's handling of the Persian Gulf War and its aftermath and repeated well-rehearsed di-

The fireworks began with Tsongas and Brown were asked whether they believed Clinton was electable in the fall an unspoken reference to allegations

The explosion came after a day of campaigning in which Clinton said churchpeople for votes and played well his trials sought to stop the Arkansas governor becoming the American's standing in the world.

But Brown said Clinton has "been lethargic problem," articulated a Washington Post, and cited a state report that as a result of the scandal, Clinton is still

**FLINT, Mich. (AP)** — The air-  
self-described "Tom Cruise of  
unions hall?"  
commercial about Patrick and  
announced himself un-

The public frenzy, whose currency "Bugs" and "Mac" chronicle the effect of auto boycotts on Florida earlier than introduced from California Gov. Jerry Brown to union leaders and even to become Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton in all other forum.

"How is the only one who speaking to the concerns of this area," he said. "The other Democrats — Clinton and former Massachusetts Sen. Paul Tsongas — amount to a choice between a political bet and a choice between David and Elmer Fudd."

Filmmaker Michael Moore, the

Filmmaker Michael Moore, the

For him, that's Bill Clinton got Paul Tsongas. But that looking-up speech reflects the demand, laid out by the Southern Slide, a hybrid model of Chinese-style authoritarianism and American-style capitalism. "None of them gives any credit at all," he said. "None [one] releases any fears at all. None of them is providing leadership in a leadership role in a church."

The blue-collar vote is crucial in delegate-rich Illinois, a Michigan, states where thousands of auto and steel workers live.

Nearly 950,000 people were laid off in the last 10 years, or 10 percent of the work last month in both states.

Michigan's 9 percent jobless rate was No. 1 among 11 industrial states; Illinois ranked fifth with 8.5 percent unemployment, while the national jobless level was 7.3 percent.

**oundup**  
**n heated debate**

The Post story, which Brown said he learned of earlier in the day in a phone call with Ralph Abner, focused on the Rose law suit, alleging politics the state's highways.

The one-hour debate was sponsored by the Chicago Sun-Times, WLS-TV, and the Illinois Democratic Party. It was simulcast

term of which was 10 years. But the work it did for the sale of Alaska. It did not say that Clinton funded money to Clinton business to the firm.

Clinton said his wife has received her partnership share in any income the law firm receives from the sale and said he "never" funded business or money to the firm.

Clinton responded only "I feel

Michigan.

Earlier, Fordges and Brown argued that Clinton was not entitled to suggest Democratic voters think again before handballing Clinton two more primary victories.

"You have to stand for something," Fordges told NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" before visiting back church and manning in St. Patrick's.

The former California governor also visited a black church, where he hoped to cut into Clinton's overwhelming support among black voters. His appeals to labor in Michigan have brought him

Clinton, meanwhile, made a blitz of black church visits, quoting the Bible and offering the promise of promoting racial unity. "If we are all equal in the eyes

"Jerry comes here with his family wealth and his \$1,500 suit," Clinton added. "I think we have lost one step. 'I think we have lost one step.'"

Clinton then returned Tuesday's match-up. The poll gave each of them 43 percent in a head-to-head matchup and gave Clinton 27 percentage point lead over Reagan. The poll of 1,075 registered voters had a 3 percentage

union hall?"

**Yukking it up**  
Paul Youngs was yukking it up with patrons of a restaurant on the north side when

Chicago, telling tales about the man he said was the first to start Secret Service agents that now guard his side at almost every waking moment.

Reporters reported that it was icy when the president arrived in Michigan over the weekend, and his body guards kept grabbing him by the neck and pulling him on to him, trying to ward off a blizzard on the ice that would surely

Along those same lines, one of Brown's key volunteers would hold me up by my pants,

Along those same lines, one of Brown's key volunteers would hold me up by my pants,

"It seems to be in favor of the little guy, and that's what we all want," said Bob Thompson, an inspector in Aurora, Ill., on strike against Centennial, Inc., the heavy equipment manufacturer. "It represents workers at a plant set to be closed."

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...The opposition has done a good job of painting him as a fraud," said Ray Pasarek, a United States attorney in New York City.

[illegible]

But for many, the choice is union or Teamsters. Northern Michigan has a large number of Teamsters who work for the auto industry. "We're going to find a base of appeal among people who know facts that they have been left behind," Patrick said. "He's going to find a base of appeal among people who know facts that they have been left behind."

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[illegible]

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**Wednesday, March 18th**

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11:30 am - Choosing Careers  
10:00 pm - Interviewing for Success  
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**March 1<sup>st</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 1992**

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## COMMUNITY

# Historical home tour to tantalize Breans

## Residents to get a first hand look at the homes in Brea's architectural past

By Barbara A. Williams  
DSP Correspondent

BREA — The upcoming Brea Historical Home tour promises "a peek into the window of Brea's architectural past." But ticket holders for the April 4 event will get more than a peek — they'll have the chance to tour the homes and learn a bit of Brea history as well.

The Saturday tour, which includes seven homes and two churches, was organized by the historical division of the city of Brea's Jubilee Committee, as part of a yearlong celebration of Brea's 75th birthday. Included in the tour will be entertainment and exhibitions reflecting 1917-era lifestyles, fashions and music.

One of the clearest views of early Brea architecture will be available at the Elsie Gordon residence, a Provincial Revival home at 321 S. Madrona Ave. which has not been remodeled since it was built in 1929.

Elsie Gordon and her husband, the late Lawrence Gordon, purchased the home for \$2,900 in 1939 when "the town was so quiet my dog could sleep in the street for hours at a time," recalled Elsie, who will be at home to greet visitors on the day of the tour.

The neighborhood, just south of Imperial Highway, was also quiet at night, she remembered — so quiet and calm that she could hear the oil wells pumping at the oil leases across town.

The Gordon home, featuring arched doorways, barrel ceilings and mahogany trim, is filled with the fine touches of a bygone era — a cut-glass knob on the mailbox, a telephone nook, walk-in closets with windows, and heringbone-patterned kitchen tile.

Most of the furnishings are original pieces the Gordons bought for their home, Elsie said — or else they date even farther back to the Gordons' parents or grandparents. With such strong ties to the past, Elsie isn't too impressed with modern conveniences, such as the gleaming 1954 Wedgwood gas stove in her kitchen.

"I don't call that old," she sniffed.

A black and white portrait of Elsie as a cherub-faced 4 1/2-year-old hangs in the hallway of the Madrona Avenue home, a reminder of 1919, the year Elsie moved to Brea with her parents, Arthur and Grace Smith. She attended Brea Grammar School and graduated from Brea High School with the Class of 1933.

Elsie married Lawrence Gor-

don, son of onetime Brea newspaper editor Charles F. Gordon, after a whirlwind two-month courtship. Their wedding vows, repeated in Elsie's family home on South Orange Street, sealed a 52-year marriage before Lawrence died in 1989.

Elsie's next-door neighbors, Dee and Carrel Powell and Leon and Nery Stevens, will also open their homes for the tour.

The Powell home, 317 S. Madrona Ave., and the Stevens' home, 323 S. Madrona Ave., were built in 1922 and 1923, respectively. Both are Craftsman bungalow designs, whose clean horizontal lines were one of the most popular styles in California during the early years of the 20th Century.

The Stevens' family purchased the home in 1962. The structure maintains its original canning cellar and floor plan, except for a small bathroom that the Stevens' added at the rear of the home.

The Powells moved to their Madrona Avenue residence in 1985. Since then, they have removed the asbestos shingles that once covered the home's original redwood siding.

The four other homes on the historical tour are clustered on the east side of Brea Boulevard. However, two of the homes are "out-of-towners" — homes that were moved to Brea from their original construction sites.

The Craftsman bungalow at 321 S. Orange Ave., now owned by Randy and Adele Foster, was built on the Graham-Loftus oil lease in 1922 at a cost of \$2,500. Like many other oil-lease homes, the structure was moved to Brea when the oilfield workers opted to move to town. The bungalow arrived on Orange Avenue sometime between 1940 and 1945.

The Catherine Seiler home at 412 S. Flower Ave. came from even farther afield. Built in 1920 in Pico Rivera, the two-story Colonial Revival structure caught the eye of Catherine and her husband Richard, when it was put up for auction in 1950.

A hard-fought bidding war secured the home for the Seilers for \$3,500 — plus the cost of moving the building to Brea.

With permits in hand and the roof removed, the house traveled down Imperial Highway with an overnight stop at Telegraph Road, Catherine Seiler recalled. But when the building got to the La Habra line, police stopped its progress, citing a brand-new city ordinance which prohibited moving houses through town.

Luckily Brea's city judge was serving as a visiting judge in La

Habra that day, and he gave permission for the house to pass through. The judge was Harvey Moore, Catherine's father.

The house was placed in the midst of an orange grove, in the sparsely settled Flower Avenue neighborhood that had neither sidewalks nor curbs. Rebuilding the roof and fireplace, plus correcting other moving damage, brought the cost of the house close to the \$10,000 mark, Catherine remembered.

However, even though the financial burden made the young couple nervous, securing a three-bedroom home made it all worthwhile, she said.

"Houses were scarce after the war. There had been little construction during wartime, and then all the soldiers decided to stay in California and raise families," Catherine said.

With a child in hand and one on the way, the Seilers were delighted with their Pico Rivera find. They moved into the house the day Catherine came home from the hospital with her second child, David.

The Seilers adapted to their eventual four-child household by "manufacturing the house as we went along," Catherine said. They expanded the kitchen and extended the breakfast room into a family room in 1958, then added a laundry room and a brick-lined "stove room" in 1977.

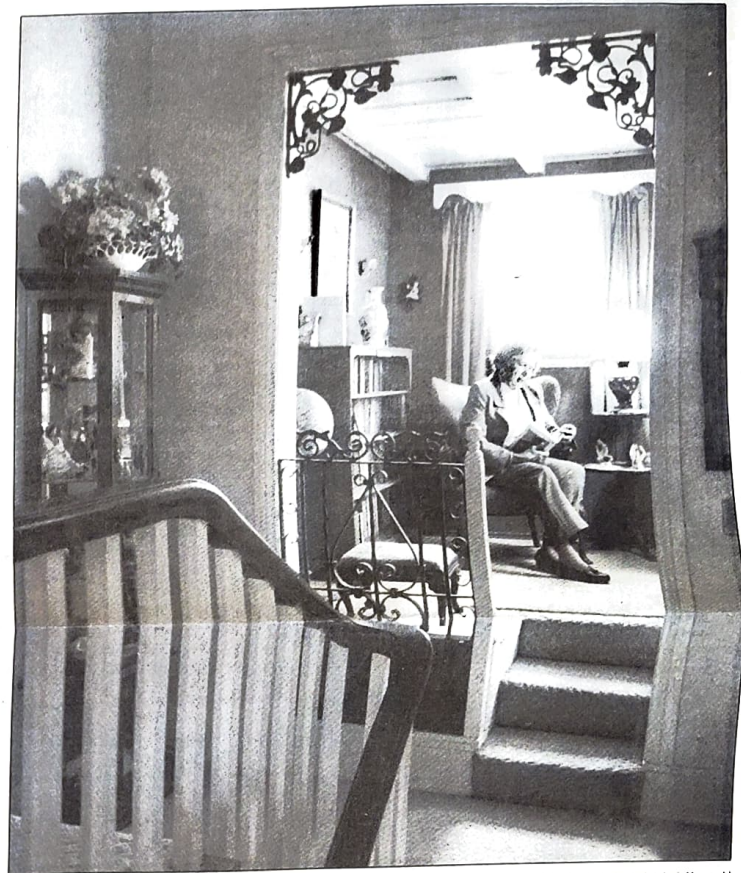
Richard put in "window walls" to display the couple's glass collection and to offer a view of the outdoor "lathe house" and its forest of greenery. Also on the grounds today are a playhouse for the Seiler girls, clubhouses for the boys, garages, a workshop, a patio and a "Singing Garden" consisting of a birdhouse and adjacent rose garden.

Also incorporated into the Seiler home are Catherine's love for lavender, a cheery stairway reading nook that Catherine says she never has time to use, and mahogany furniture that she and her late husband "dragged home from second-hand stores ... before there was such a thing as an antique store," Catherine recalled.

Two other Flower Avenue homes are part of the historical tour.

The Provincial Revival home at 331 South Flower Ave. was built in 1928, with the Lynn Hogue family as its first residents. Hogue was a local grocer who served on the Brea City Council and was mayor of Brea from 1932 to 1936.

The house was purchased in



(Star-Progress photo by Jack Hancock)

**HIDDEN HIDEAWAY** — Catherine Seiler, owner of a historic home in Brea, relaxes with a book in the study. An upcoming tour will give residents a chance to tour classic local homes.

1973 by the current residents, Dale and Barbara Moody.

The Wilson/ Shaffer home at 315 S. Flower Ave. was built by Donald U. Shaffer in 1938 in a Mediterranean style. The 2,450-square-foot house has a basement, attached two-car garage and original crown plaster moldings. A tin shed on the grounds served as the pump house for an early avocado grove.

Current residents Harold and Joyce Wilson bought the home in 1968, just after Wilson was appointed director of public works for the city of Brea.

The two churches featured in the historical tour were built by congregations with ties to Brea's early days.

At the corner of Ash Street and Walnut Avenue, now home to the Missionary Baptist congregation, is a church and log cabin built by the Brea Christian Church, which

was established in Brea in 1914. "The Little Brown church" eventually was painted white and lasted until 1935 when the stucco sanctuary was built.

The log cabin, still standing at the back of the church property, was constructed in 1921 by the church's Honor Knights class of young men.

The First Baptist Church of Brea, organized in 1925, purchased the property for its current home at the corner of Date Street and Flower Avenue in 1948. The church's sanctuary, which was dedicated in 1954, is part of the historical tour, while the church grounds will be the site of the exhibits and entertainment included in the tour festivities.

Committee members in charge of the Brea Historical Home Tour

are Jack and Audrey Smith, Mary and Aaron Eseltine, Sandy Sarthou, Kathleen Ralph and Brian Saul. Docents for the home tours are community volunteers who will be attired in 1917 fashions.

Tickets for the tour are \$8. They may be purchased at the Brea Civic & Cultural Center Community Services Department or by sending a check made payable to the City of Brea to: Historical Home Tour, Brea Civic & Cultural Center, 1 Civic Center Circle, Brea, CA 92621.

The tour begins at Old City Hall Park, 401 S. Brea Blvd., where tickets and guidebooks will also be available. Tour hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For further information about the Brea Historical Home Tour, call the Jubilee Hotline at (714) 990-7771.



## Police Blotter

### FULLERTON Thursday

7:48 a.m. — A silver Toyota was stolen in the 600 block of West Orangethorpe.  
8:14 a.m. — A 1981 blue Buick was stolen in the 2900 block of Ruby Drive.  
9:08 a.m. — Aggravated assault was reported in the 1800 block of West Commonwealth Avenue.  
9:20 a.m. — A burglary was reported in the 200 block of East Orangethorpe Avenue.  
10:59 a.m. — A Hazmat spill was reported in the 300 block of West Walnut Avenue.  
11:15 a.m. — Grand theft was reported in the 1500 block of West Amerige Avenue.  
12:59 p.m. — A transient was arrested in the 100 block of South Pomona Avenue.  
1:11 p.m. — A hit-and-run accident was reported at Valencia Drive and Eadington Avenue.  
2:26 p.m. — A suspicious person was reported in the 600 block of East Dorothy Lane.  
2:57 p.m. — A burglary was reported in the 1100 block of North Lincoln Avenue.  
3:50 — A gold 1976 Chevrolet Blazer was stolen in the 3000 block of West Orangethorpe.  
4:25 p.m. — A burglary was reported in the 1900 block of Evergreen Avenue.  
5:10 p.m. — A bomb threat was reported in the 2600 block of East Nutwood Avenue.

### LA HABRA Thursday

2 p.m. — Petty theft in the 800 block of West Highlander Avenue.  
8:55 p.m. — Petty theft in the 800 block of North Harbor Boulevard.

## Seminar studies trusts

PLACENTIA — A free educational seminar on "Understanding Living Trusts" will be presented by James F. Roberts, estate planning attorney, Wednesday, March 25 at 10:15 a.m., at the Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman, Placentia.

Subjects to be covered include "How to Reduce and Eliminate Taxes," "How to Avoid the Cost and Delays of Probate," "Why Loving Will's Aren't Loving," "Avoiding Conservatorship," and "The Best Way to Hold Title." Public is welcome.

For reservations call 1-800-244-4882.

## Retirement workshop scheduled at area hospital

WHITTIER — Maximum wellness, maintaining financial security and identifying needed legal and estate planning steps will be among the topics covered in a five hour, two-session workshop on retirement.

The workshop, "Planning Your Retirement: A Workshop for the Third Age," sponsored by the Advantage Program of Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital and the Community Services program at Rio Hondo College, will be offered on Monday evenings be-

tween April 20 and May 18 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Each session will be held at the Hospital (12401 E. Washington Blvd. in Whittier). For more information contact RHC Community Services instructor Rog Rose at (310) 947-2324 or (310) 972-4910.

All participants are required to pre-register through Rio's Community Services office at (310)

699-6189 or (310) 908-3426. The sessions will be conducted through oral presentations, audio visuals and breakout discussions in small groups.

The workshop, open to all retired persons and non-retired persons age 50 and over, is designed to provide information relevant to retirement concerns and to increase awareness of the options in the area of wellness pro-

motion, financial planning, legal matters, social security, leisure time and new careers.

The workshop is open to people who are "within five years of retirement, concerned about remaining in good financial shape in the years ahead, thinking about how to maintain their wellness and are wondering what they'll do 16 hours a day, seven days a week after retiring."

## Renters' rights explored

COSTA MESA — A free one-hour seminar that looks at renters' rights and responsibilities will be offered on March 24, by Orange Coast College's Consumer Resource Center.

The workshop begins at 4 p.m. in OCC's Children's Center, located off Monitor Way at the northern edge of the campus. The seminar is open to the public.

Workshop lecturer Joe Caux is a representative of the Fair Housing Council.

For information about the seminar, contact OCC's Consumer Resource Center at (714) 432-5732.

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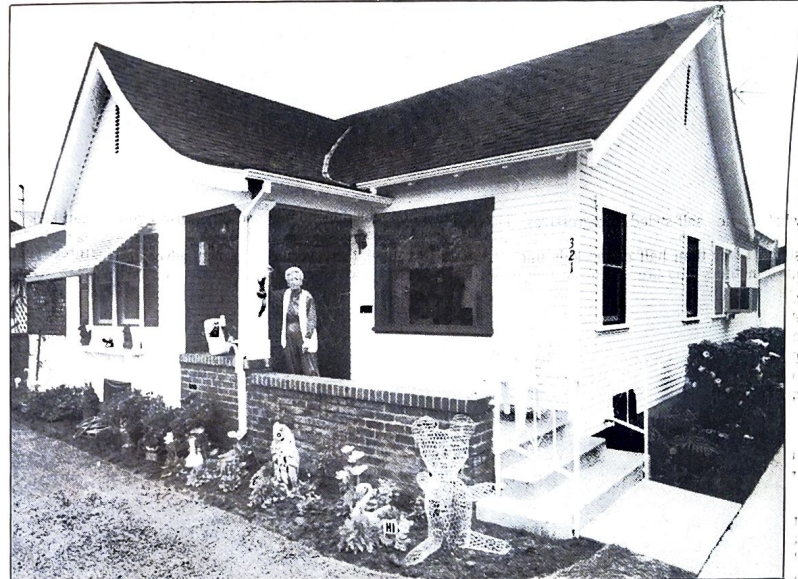
# Brea's Historical HOMES



(Star-Progress photos by Jack Hancock)

## The Tour

Historically significant homes will be open to the public this Saturday, with a tour commencing at 10 a.m. from Old City Hall Park. Homes on the tour itinerary will include the Gordon Home at 321 S. Madrona Ave., which Elsie Gordon proudly displays below from her porch and in her rocking chair next to the home's converted fireplace. The larger Seiler Home, located at 412 S. Flower St. is also on the tour list. The Brea Christian Church and its authentic log cabin, located at the corner of Ash Street and Walnut Avenue, will also be included in the tour, as will the First Baptist Church, located at Flower Avenue and Date Street.



## Tour Entertainment

Live entertainment reminiscent of the 1920s and 30s will be part of the tour. Performances will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., starting with the Brea Olinda High School Concert and Chamber choirs. Resident Laurie Hull will sing and play bango and guitar at 11:30 a.m. Country Hills High School second-grade singers under the direction of Lureen Skaggs at 12:30 p.m.. The Country Hills School Chorus, third through sixth graders, under the direction of Norma Guazzo, at 1 p.m., and the BOHS Concert and Chambers choirs performing again at 2 p.m..



9:28 a.m. — Theft reported at the Brea Mall, with a loss of \$900.  
 10:48 a.m. — Theft reported in the 2500 block of Rainbow Way, with a loss of \$500.  
 2:13 p.m. — Assault reported at Palm and Skywood Streets.  
 4:40 p.m. — Theft reported at the Brea Mall, with a loss of \$2,545.  
 5:16 p.m. — A 1988 Honda Prelude reported stolen from the Brea Mall.  
 9:42 p.m. — Male juvenile reported arrested at the Brea Mall for suspicion of burglary.

#### FULLERTON Monday

3:48 a.m. — Drunken driver arrested in the 400 block of East Commonwealth Avenue.  
 1:10 p.m. — Auto burglary in the 300 block of Palm Drive.  
 1:19 p.m. — Residential burglary in the 1800 block of West Orangethorpe Avenue.  
 1:58 p.m. — Auto burglary attempt in the 2400 block of West Orangethorpe Avenue.  
 4:14 p.m. — Auto theft recovery in the 900 block of West Valencia Drive.  
 5:17 p.m. — Auto burglary at Troy High School.  
 5:49 p.m. — Auto theft in the 3200 block of Sunnywood Drive.  
 5:52 p.m. — Garage burglary in the 2000 block of East Wilshire Avenue.  
 6:37 p.m. — Vandalism in the 2500 block of Deerpark Drive.  
 10:28 p.m. — Auto theft attempt in the 3100 block of Palm Drive.  
 Midnight — Auto burglary in the 200 block of East Imperial Highway.

#### LA HABRA

#### Monday

5:30 a.m. — Malicious mischief in the 500 block of West Whittier Boulevard.  
 6 a.m. — Burglary in the 200 block of Parkwood Avenue.  
 1 p.m. — Malicious mischief in the 500 block of West Whittier Boulevard.

## Gallery show planned

The CMAL Gallery of the more than 400-member Costa Mesa Art League will display the work of Aster Miller Hazelton as the featured "Artist of the month" for April.

Hazelton's art consists of large oil florals, large California landscapes, and pastel portraits, pastel still life and landscapes, and silk screen prints.

Hazelton's April show will feature her new series of recently completed pastel landscapes and cityscapes of California. All show her preference for bright jewel colors which she uses with definitive sharp lines and bold strokes to depict various scenes and structures.

The CMAL Gallery is located in the South Coast Plaza Village at 1661 Sunflower; and is open 10 to 6 on weekdays and Saturday, and 11 to 5 on Sundays. Admission is free.

FULLERTON — "A Bridge To Your Future," Fullerton College's acclaimed all-campus promotional videotape, has received a bronze award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

The 13-minute production received a third place Paragon Award at a ceremony that highlighted last week's annual conference of the affiliate of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, meeting in Seattle, Wash.

Several hundred nationwide entries in all phases of community and junior college communications, marketing, promotion and public relations were adjudicated by outside panels of professional judges.

"A Bridge To Your Future" was produced and directed by Jay

Goldstein; with Steve Harris as videographer-editor; and Chris Adams as narrator. The executive producer was Mike Moore.

The promotion piece opens on black and white archive photographs of the oldest community college in continuous operation in the state and, with upbeat technology, color and sounds of today, offers proof positive that

Fullerton College is one of the most respected and innovative of the 107 California community colleges.

It shows the North Orange County Community College District campus serving as a bridge to the future of students by providing one of the best opportunities to obtain high quality academic and vocational training.

## LHHS announces student achievers

LA HABRA — The January students of the month have been named at La Habra High School. The following students have been recognized for their achievement:

Business — Veronica Lopez, Nga Nguyen; English — Heather Klausman, Kathy Thompson, Somer Parmley, Jose Lagan; Foreign Language — Brendan Mahon, Eric Mark; Home Economics — Julie Garcia, Megan Campbell; Industrial Technology — Tom Jelonek, Toby Dekowski; Agricultural — Victor Cardenas, Edie Topping; Mathematics — Diane Cheung, Daiana Varela; Office Experience — Melissa Walls; Oral Communications — Jamie Salzman, Audrey Brunier; Rotary — Lila Gordon; Science — Christine Perches, Patricia Clark, Robert Parks, Carrie Noriega; Social Science — Sandy Koehler, Ernesto Rivera, Matt Shaw, Tarek Capitan; ESL — Maribel De La Paz, Angelica Sanchez; Heritage — Carolynne Halls, Philip Haworth, Beatriz Diaz.

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Pasadena (913107)	768	813	994	1207	<b>554</b>

WOODLAND HILLS — Prop. 103 has changed the way your auto insurance rates are calculated. Now, more than ever before, you need to compare prices before you buy.



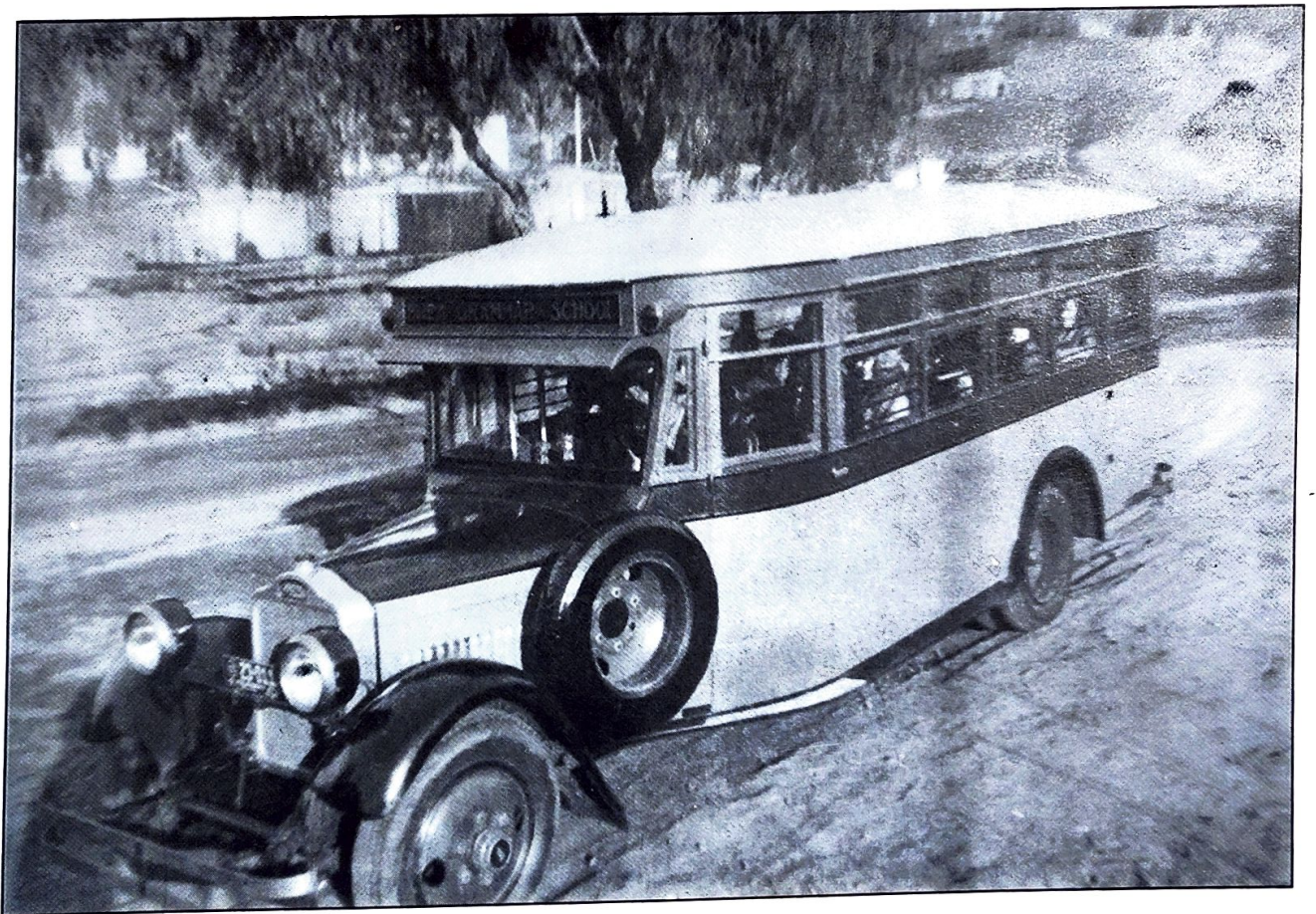
(Photos courtesy of Mary Murphy)

IN REMEMBRANCE — Nearly 250 supporters of late Fullerton police dispatcher Kathleen Thaete, who died of brain cancer, attended the March 29 benefit held at Anaheim Marriott Hotel. Helping raise \$18,000 toward medical expenses were the Thaete family including husband FPD Detective Paul Thaete, at right in top photo; Patricia Jacob, left, and her sister Maureen of Fullerton at right; and FPD Crime Analyst Brian Deering and Kathryn Pittman, below left, joined by FPD Detective Sean Fares and his wife.





# *Journey Into Brea's Past*



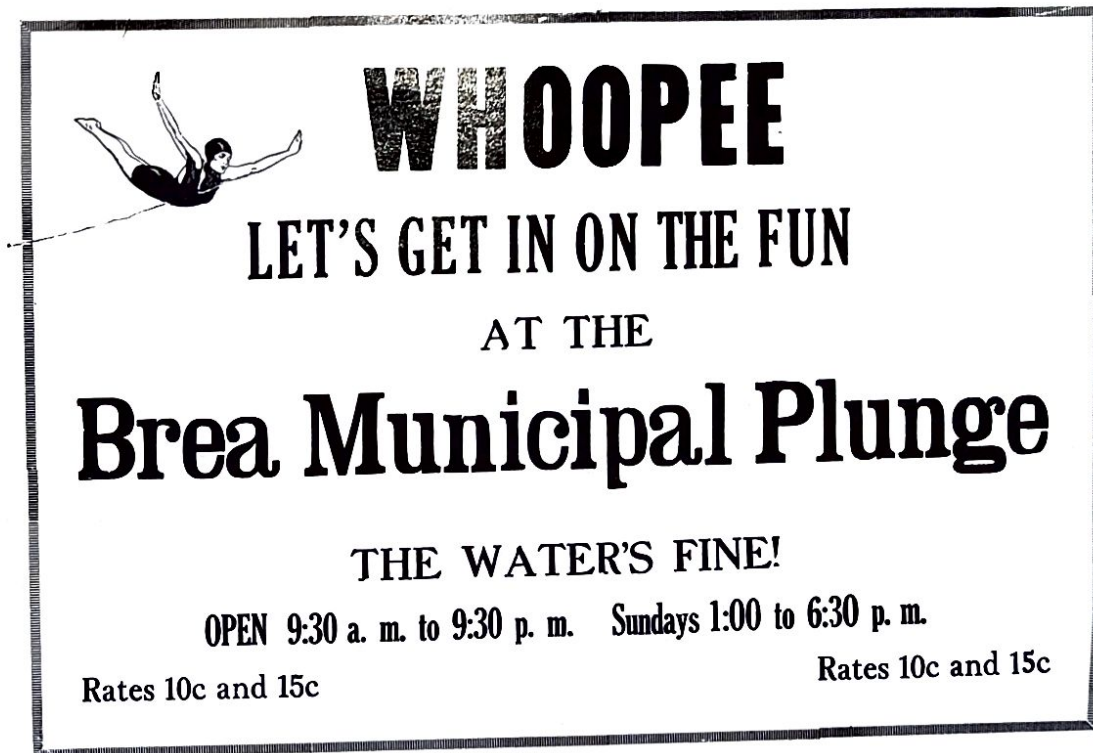
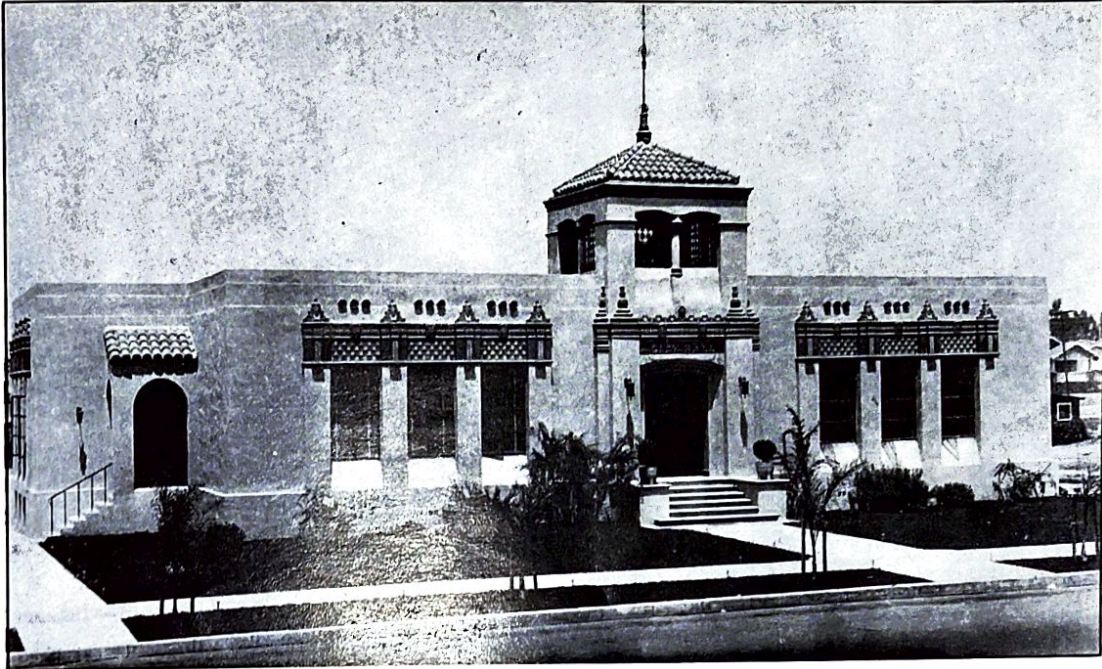


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Brea City Hall, soon after it's completion in 1929. It housed the city offices, police, and fire departments and the orange county free library



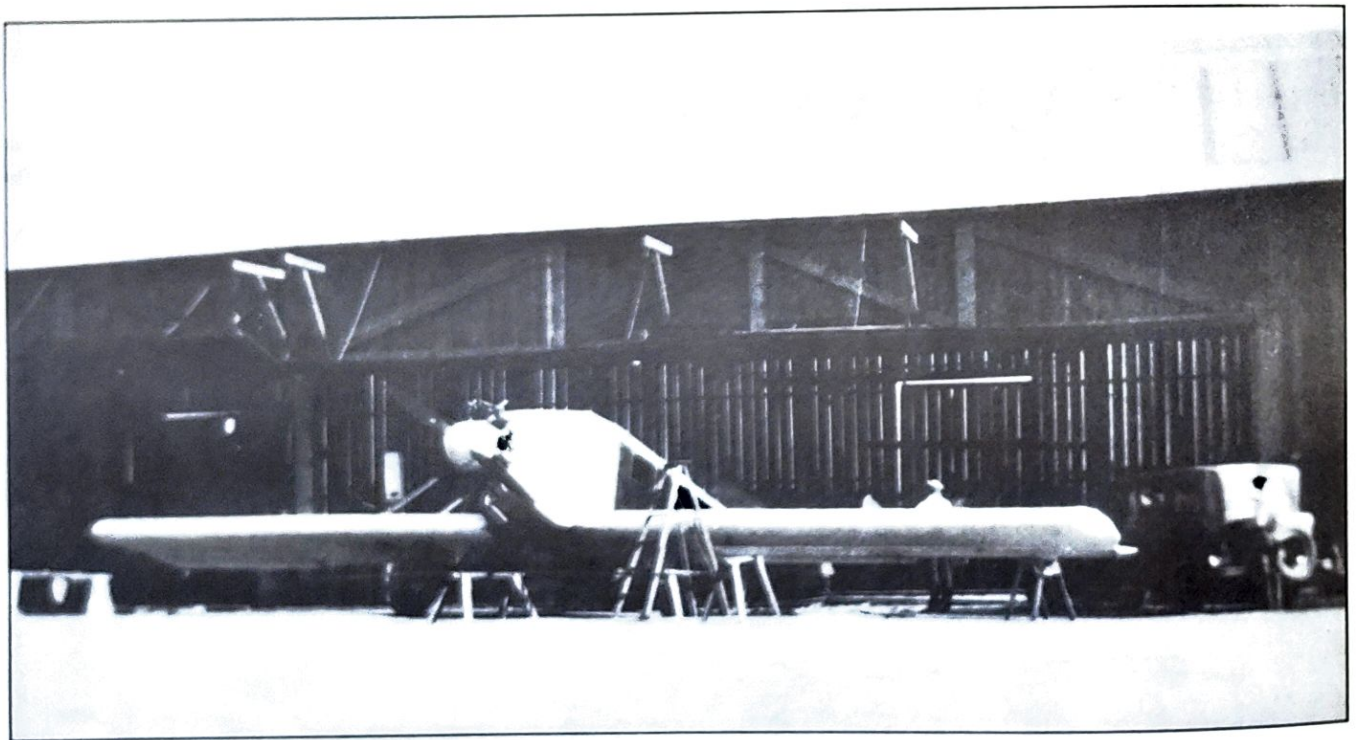
Let's go swimming at the "Plunge". The cost is only 10 cents.  
The swimming pool was constructed in 1929.



# Brea Airport



The famous Little "Hummingbird" at the Brea airport. Designed by Fred Thaheld in the Trimaine garage on Brea Blvd. In 1924 it was the first low-winged monoplane built in the U.S.A.

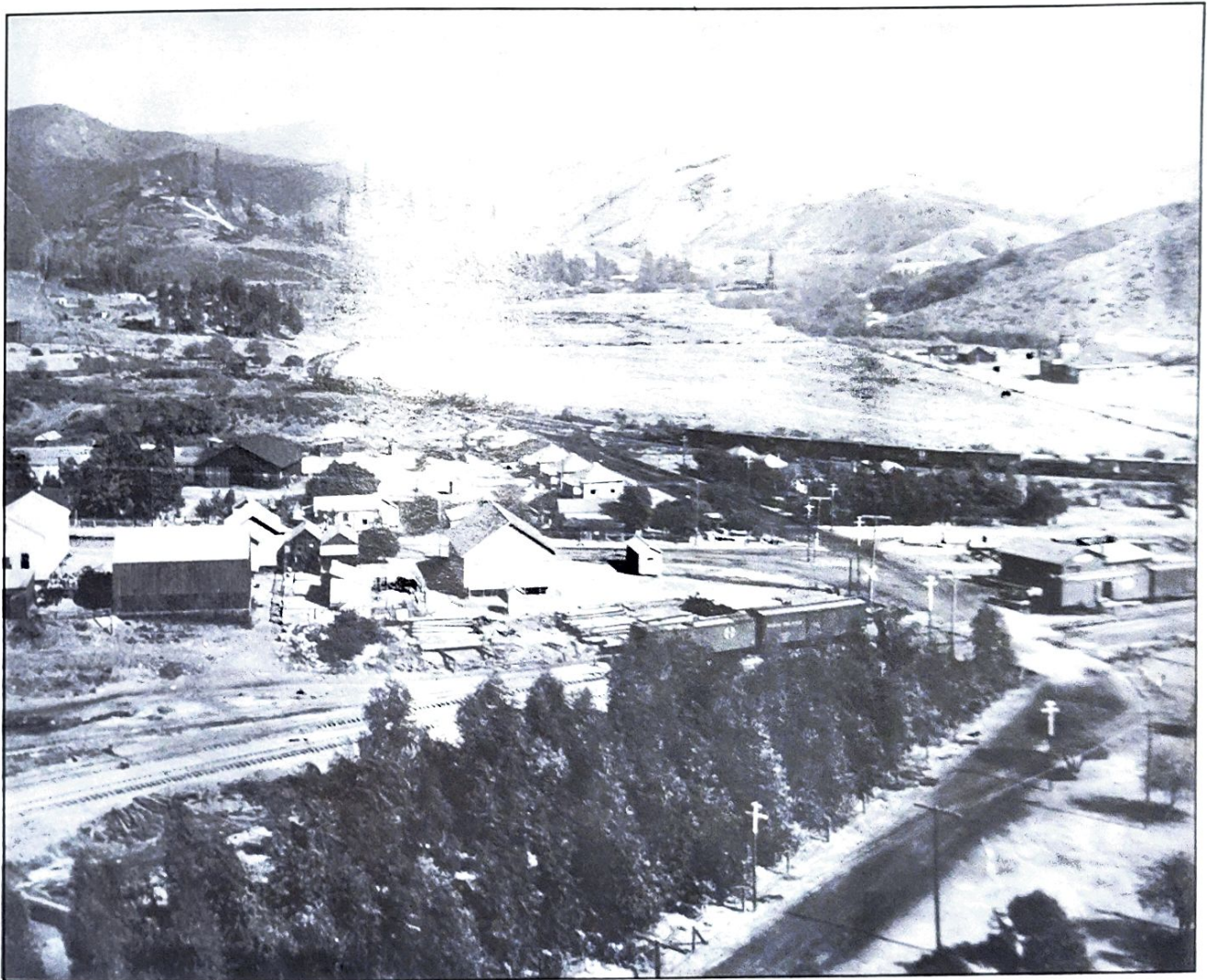


This Plane was constructed in Brea to fly in the Dole air race from San Francisco to Honolulu in 1927, this monoplane also designed by Fred Thaheld, crashed in San Diego due to fog. Photo was taken in front of the hangar at the Brea airport.



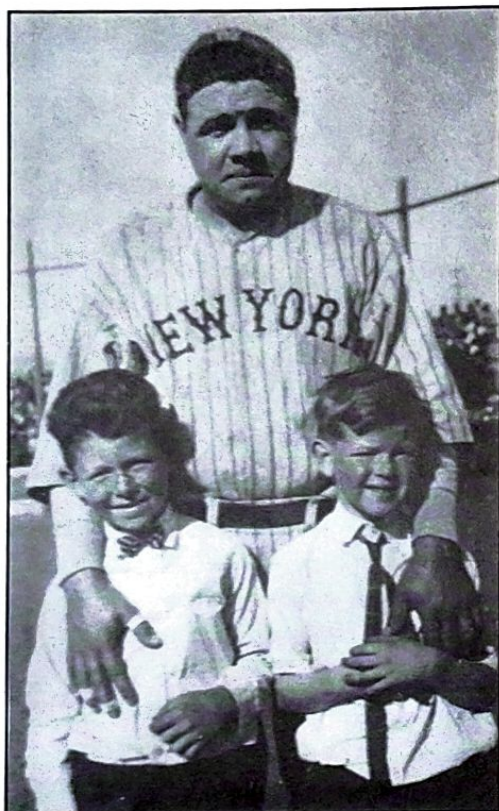
# OLINDA

Santa Fe land lease in Old Olinda in the early 1900's. Note the school on the right. Where it stood is now part of Carbon Canyon Park.





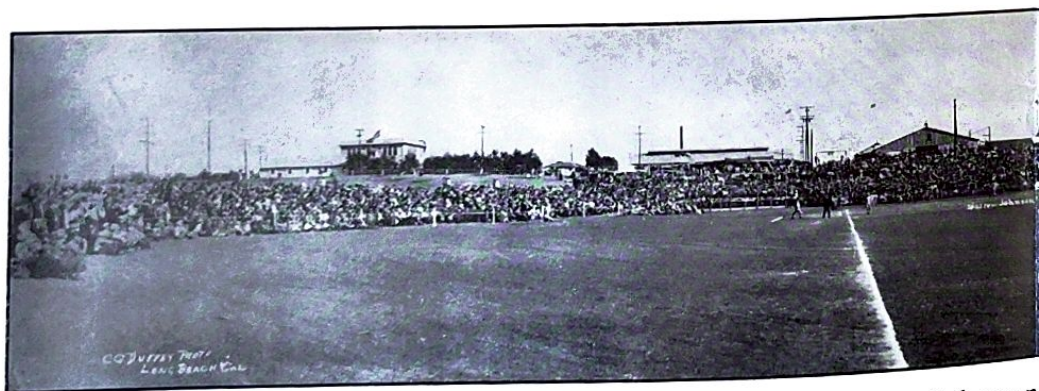
# Playing



Babe Ruth with 2 of his young fans at the big exhibition baseball game in Brea on Oct. 31, 1924



Members of a late Carbon Canyon. A

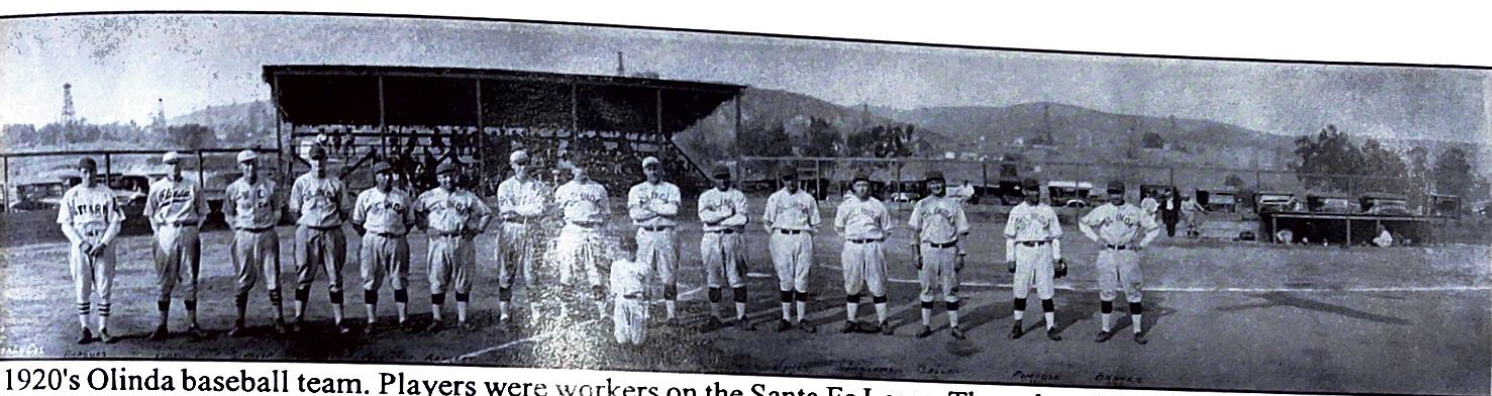


6,500 fans attended the "Big Ball Game" in Brea. When Walter Johnson





# g Field



1920's Olinda baseball team. Players were workers on the Santa Fe Lease. They played their games in what is currently  
*Photo courtesy of the Historic Brea Collection at Brea Bistro.*



of Old Olinda and Babe Ruth displayed their talents on the playing field.







## Stewart Tank Farm Fire....

1926 newspaper.

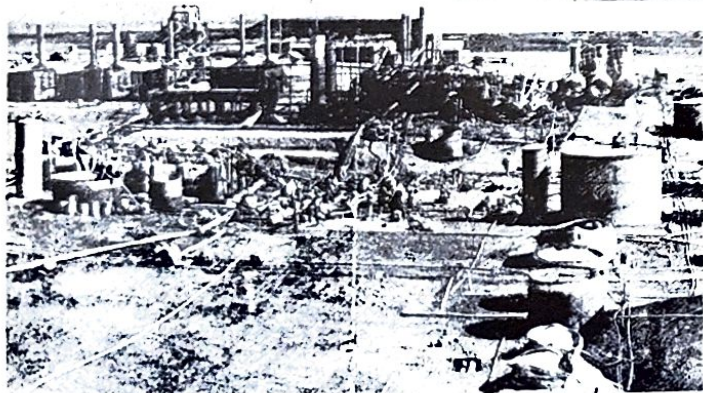
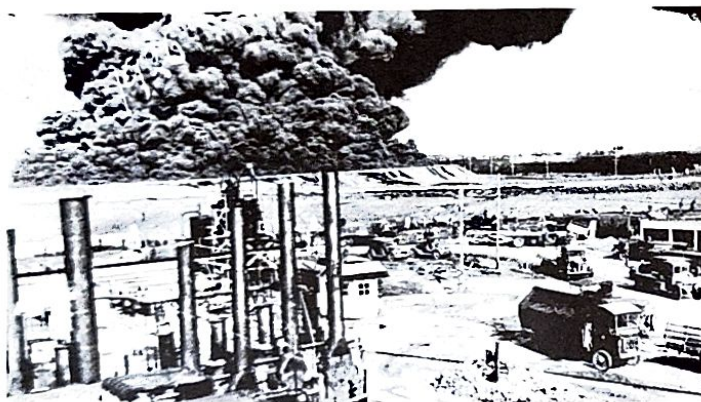


PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILROAD tracks reduced to twisted ribbons of steel by heat from fire.

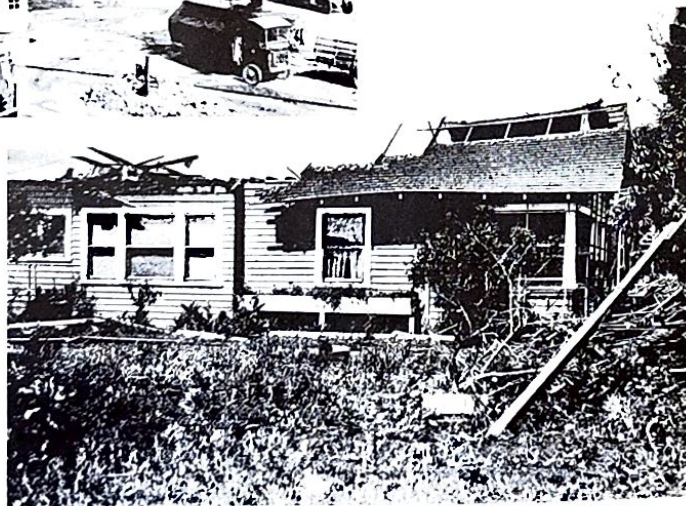


CITRUS TREES in adjacent groves uprooted by the heat of the three day blaze.

SMOKE AND FLAMES can be seen in this picture as they rose to heights of 1,000 feet in the air in giant columns of black smoke.

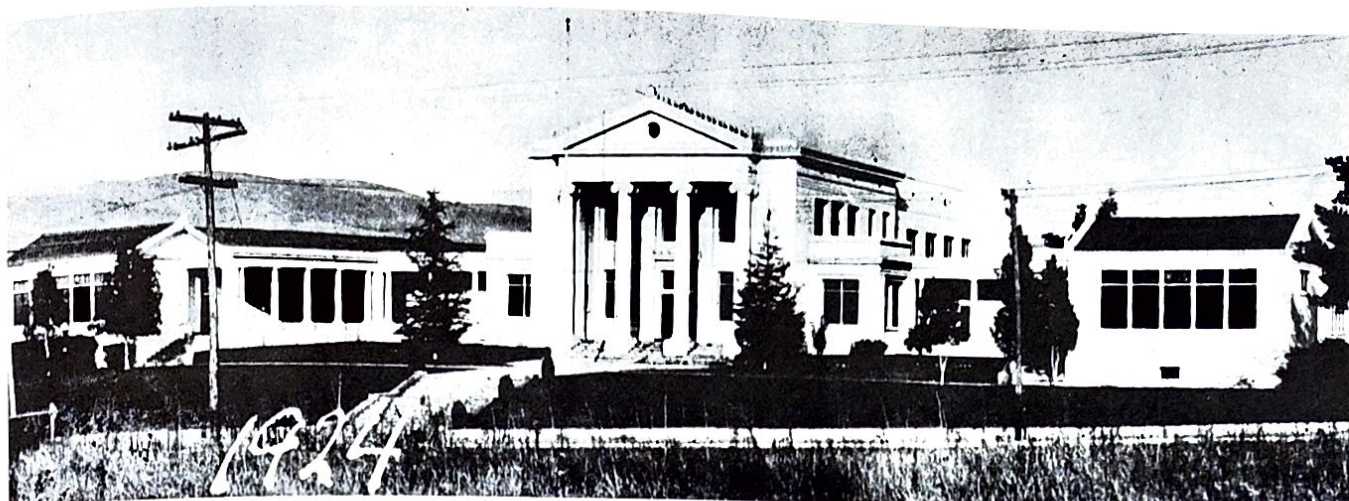


WRECKAGE AFTER THE FIRE which amounted to over nine million dollars in damages.

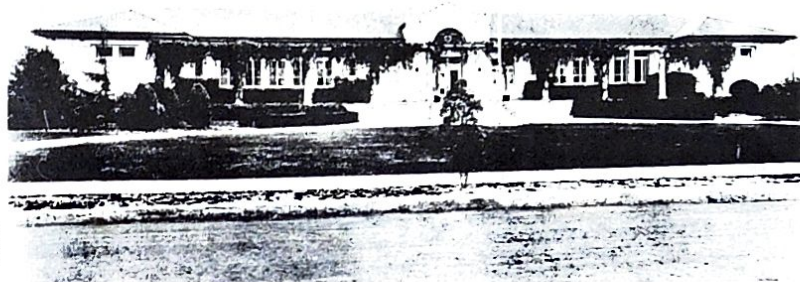


ROOF OF THE SUTPHEN HOME on southeast corner of Imperial Highway and Madrona Avenue was blown off by wind currents caused by heat of fire set off when lightning struck the tanks.

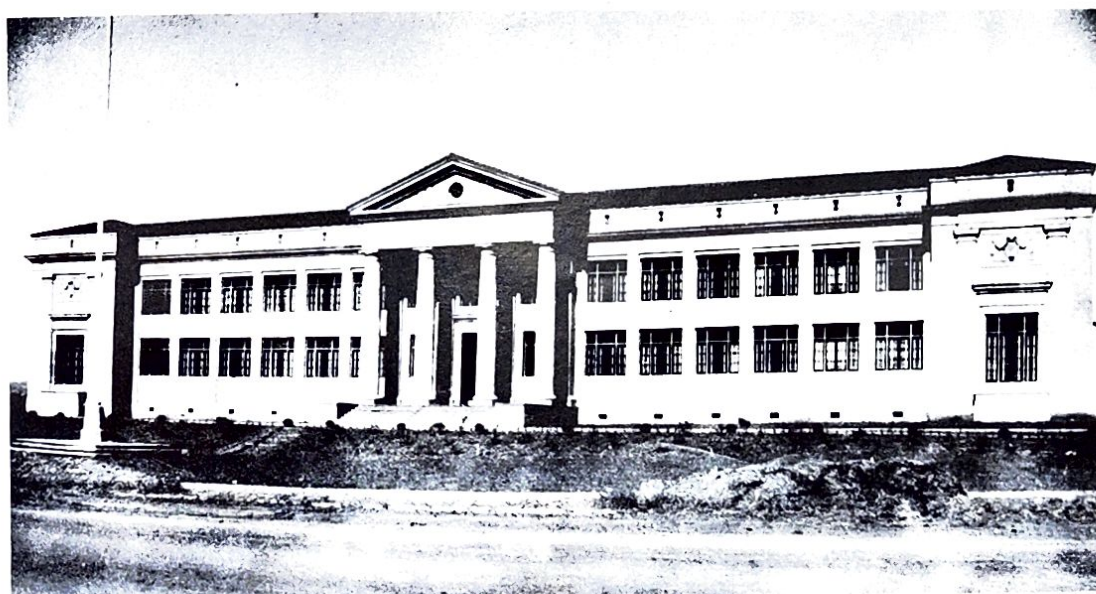




*BREA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL in 1924. At one time the Junior High was the Brea Grammar School which looked different than it does today.*



*LAUREL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in 1922 including the new kindergarten facilities built that year.*



*BREA-OLINDA HIGH SCHOOL in 1927, before the state law was passed in 1933 requiring safety changes including the removal of the pillars in front.*





A very special thanks to the actors and actresses for donating their time and talent for the living history at Olinda and Stewart Tank Farm.

## **Living History Bus Tour Committee:**

Brian Saul  
Jane O'Brien  
Mary Jo Parker  
Reine Roeser  
Bev Perry  
Susan George  
Carol Berkson  
Herc Roeser  
Gil Realon  
Jerry Wakefield  
Bill Higgins



# Very Special Thanks To The Following

Santa Fe Energy Resources, Inc.

Unocal Corp. Pipeline Dept.

Brea Canon Oil Co.

Fieldstone Company

Sears - Brea

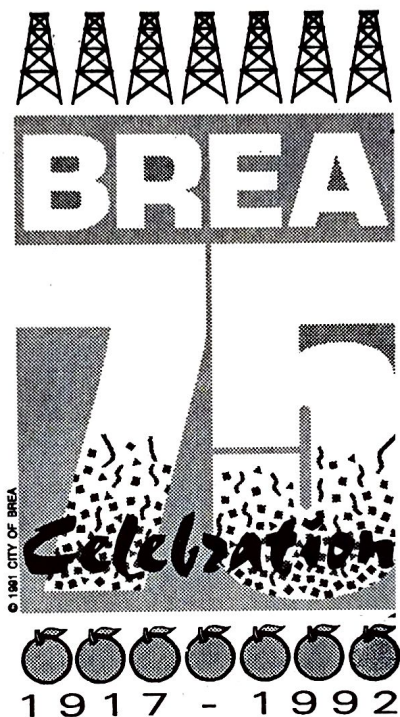
Brea Fire Dept.

Brea Historical Society

Family of Fred Thaheld

Minuteman Press of Brea





# A Year of Celebration



Casa Brea Inn  
215 East Ash Street  
1926

The first apartment building was constructed in 1926. Modern furnished apartments attracted many newcomers to Brea, many of whom stayed to make Brea their home.



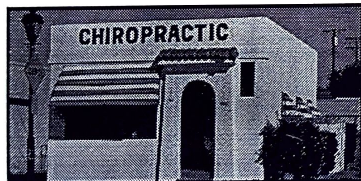
Kinsler House  
129 South Orange Avenue  
1910

Charles and Rena Kinsler were the initial residents of this bungalow. Mr. Kinsler was Brea's Fire Chief and the first City Clerk. His office, on the alley, was a building that had been moved from the Brea Canyon oil fields in 1924. Later another small office was attached to the front of the house on Orange Avenue. Mr. Kinsler installed a wooden sidewalk to allow people to reach his alley office from Brea Boulevard.

The palm trees along Orange Avenue were purchased and planted by Mr. Casner, who also built the S & G Market and the Honeymoon Courts along Birch Street. Looking south on Orange Avenue, it is noted that the first boy (Clifford Yates) and the first girl (Thelma Wagstaff) born in Brea lived on this block.

S & G Market, Apartments  
(Sam and Gladys Market, Honeymoon Court)  
200-214 East Birch Street  
1926

The Sam and Gladys Market and the Honeymoon Court were built in 1926 by Mr. Casner. Annie Pope operated a beauty parlor in the east building, and many of Brea's leading citizens rented these courts when they were first married.



Chiropractic Office  
(American Telephone Building)  
115 East Birch Street

From 1926 to 1948 switchboard operators sat with earphones and asked, "Number please." During those years all phones had only three numbers. There is a telephone sign that can still be seen on the east side of the building. This building has been occupied for many years by chiropractors.

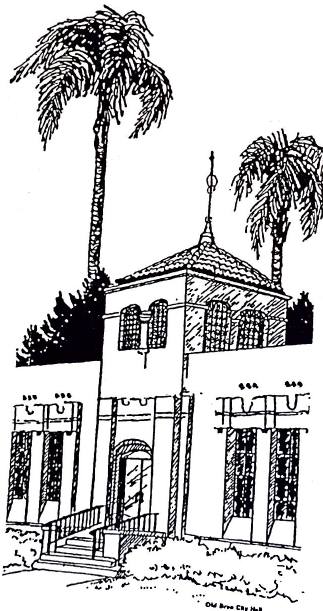
"Brea Welcomes You" Sign  
200 block of South Brea Boulevard  
1935

This neon sign is suspended across Brea Boulevard, mid-block between Imperial Highway and Birch Street. It was paid for and installed by the Lion's Club and Mayor William E. Shaffer in 1935.

Research by: Inez Fanning  
Sharon Dean

Layout by: Brian Flynn

## City of Brea Historic Walking Tour Downtown 1990



## "Good Old Brea" Historic Tour

This tour is an introduction to the historic buildings of downtown Brea and a sampling of what is architecturally unique about our City. There is an extraordinary collection of buildings and neighborhoods here. Brea has a variety of significant landmark buildings, which are a result of the development of the oil industry.

The tour starts at Old City Hall and proceeds north on Brea Boulevard to the intersection where Ash Street intersects Brea Boulevard. This is Brea's first intersection. From here the tour explores both West and South Orange. The tour continues south on Orange Avenue to Birch Street, then west to Brea Boulevard, and finally south returning to the Old City Hall.

The Historical Committee, appointed by the Brea City Council, is working in conjunction with the Brea Historical Society to produce this brochure and conduct the historic walking tours of downtown Brea. Both groups are working diligently to preserve the history and heritage of Brea's important past.

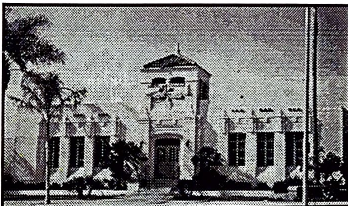
It is hoped that this tour will assist in creating community pride as well as desire to preserve the past and intelligently plan for an historically compatible future in downtown Brea. So enjoy this sampling of the many historic treasures to be found in Brea.

To aid you on the walking tour, please note that odd address numbers are located on the west and north sides of streets, while even address numbers are on the east and south sides.

### City Hall Park

1927

In 1924, the City took the first steps in acquiring the land from the Union Oil Company. A bond issue for \$60,000 was finally passed in 1927 to acquire the land. The Park includes Old City Hall, the Plunge, the Old American Legion Building, the Gazebo (dedicated 1976), and the City Rose Garden.



American College of Law  
(Old City Hall)  
401 South Brea Boulevard  
Completed 1929

This building originally included the jail, Fire Department quarters, and a library. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, along with the Park. Recently, some remodeling has been done to accommodate a law school and the Brea Historical Society headquarters.

Municipal Plunge  
430 South Walnut Avenue  
Opened 1929

This facility was very popular because there were no private pools in Brea until later years. The amenities included rental swimsuits and bath towels.

Emergency Ambulance Service  
(Old American Legion Building)  
495 South Brea Boulevard

Many volunteers cared for the victims of the 1933 Long Beach earthquake in this building. Brea Methodist Church started here. During the 1970's, the City used the building for its Police Station; it is now leased by an ambulance service.

### City Rose Garden

In 1946 a large fountain was built in the City Hall Park in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Shaffer of Shaffer Tool Works. Later the fountain was replaced by the Rose Garden. Now a person's memory can be honored by placing name on a plaque.

### Time Capsule

This was placed by the Historical Society during Brea's Golden Jubilee in 1967 (the City was incorporated in 1917). The capsule is scheduled to be opened in 1992 on the City's 75th birthday.

Upstairs - Downstairs  
(Dr. C. Glenn Curtis Home)  
418 South Brea Boulevard  
1928

Claude and Wille Steen were the initial residents of this revival style residence which was constructed in 1928. Around 1930, the home was purchased by Dr. C. Glenn Curtis and his bride, Bernice. Mrs. Curtis taught piano lessons and was an excellent photographer who practiced both professions in the home. Dr. Curtis practiced medicine on North Pomona Avenue (now Brea Boulevard) until his death in 1955.

Glenn Gheen Home  
420 South Brea Boulevard  
1925

Glenn and Ad Gheen were the first residents of this house constructed in 1925. Mrs. Gheen was still living in the house until 1989. Mr. Gheen owned and operated several grocery stores and meat markets in Brea. This house is the only known house in Brea with a cellar and wash-house.

300 Block South Brea Boulevard  
1915

The Bowie and Wallace families occupied these homes continuously from the time they were built until 1989. This is a very good example of how homes were interspersed with business along Brea Boulevard.

### Imperial Highway

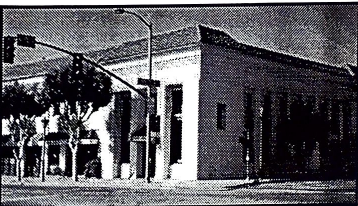
Imperial Highway was originally named Cedar Street. It was a two lane, dirt road with walnut orchards on both sides. There were courts on the south side near Walnut Avenue, and at one time Ted Craig's home was on the north side between Brea Boulevard and the alley. Ted Craig was Speaker of the California State Assembly in the 1930's and the man for whom Craig Park was named. In those days, Imperial Highway was just another street in Brea where children rode their bikes and played ball.

Sandy's Casita  
(Southern Counties Gas Building)  
227 South Brea Boulevard  
1929

This building was constructed in 1929 as the local office of the Southern Counties Gas Company. Over the years it was occupied by several restaurants and by the Brea-Clinda Unified School District at one time during the 1960's.

Brea Boats  
(Imperial Cafe, Bar and Restaurant Building)  
221 South Brea Boulevard  
1932

This building was originally constructed as the Higgenfeld-Rollins Funeral Parlor in 1926. Sutter-McAulay Funeral Directors took over the funeral parlor later in the 1930's. At one time it also housed the Cummings Furniture Store. In the 1940's, it became the Imperial Cafe and Bar owned by the Oliver Family.



Gobar Building  
(Oilfields National Bank)  
201-207 South Brea Boulevard  
1928

Originally the Oilfields National Bank, this was the largest and costliest commercial building in Brea at the time. The land was purchased from the Brea Congregational Church.



Pacific Oil World Building  
(Trojan Cafe)  
227 South Brea Boulevard

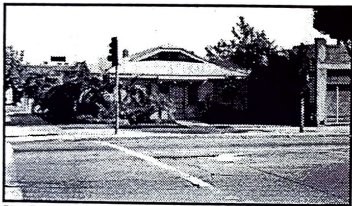
This building was originally the Trojan Cafe, a popular place for many years. After the Trojan Cafe, the building housed a plumbing store. During the aftermath of the Watergate Scandal, the building was occupied by the local Republicans as their headquarters with the plumbing sign still intact on the front of the building. Jack Rider purchased the property in 1977 and published his Pacific Oil World magazine there until 1990. Pacific Oil World magazine has been published since 1908.

VFW/American Legion Building  
210 South Brea Boulevard

Frank and Helen Davies constructed this store in the 1950's and operated a furniture business for many years. It is now temporarily occupied by the VFW/American Legion.

(Baldwin Motor Company Building)  
206 South Brea Boulevard

Originally constructed for Baldwin Ford in the 1920's, this building later became a J. W. Burch Ford dealership. It also served as the meeting place for the Brea Elementary School Board. In the 1950's it was a bowling alley.



Blue Bungalow  
(Office of Dr. W. W. Davis)  
200 South Brea Boulevard

Dr. W. W. Davis constructed this small structure in 1919 to serve as his office and residence. The front of the house served as a waiting room. The building was recently used as the headquarters for the Brea Redevelopment Agency.

Romancing the Home, Brea Bike & Lawnmower Shop  
141-143 South Brea Boulevard

This structure has had numerous commercial establishments in the years since it was constructed in 1921. In the 1920's, it housed a restaurant, a barber shop and a pool hall. Later, Woodruff's Department Store and a grocery store were located here.

Pawlack Tile  
(Bergman Garage)  
146 South Brea Boulevard

James and Walter Bergman had this constructed as an auto garage in 1920. Later it became Daugherty Chevrolet. There was a drive-through service station on the corner and drive-through garages in the back.

Red Lantern Theatre  
136 South Brea Boulevard

Demolished in 1987  
Constructed in 1922, the Chinese red and gold theme was unique in this part of Southern California at the time. People came from far away to see this beautiful theatre. Judy Garland was among those who appeared on stage here. In later years it was called the Brea Theatre. It was later occupied by Calvary Chapel just before its demolition in 1987.

Moose Lodge No. 1268  
(Craig Building)  
124 South Brea Boulevard

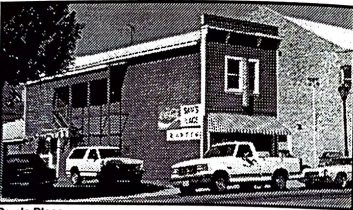
Constructed by local contractor Isaac Craig in 1921, this building once housed the U.S. Post Office and O.S. Close Drugstore. The upstairs hall was the frequent scene of numerous community gatherings.

1st Stop Party Shop  
(Gheen Market)  
120 South Brea Boulevard

One of three attached brick buildings constructed in 1920, this building was at one time Glenn Gheen's Market.

Fabric City  
123 South Brea Boulevard

Early 1980's  
This area was originally the location of Mrs. Gurley's Rooming House. For many years it was occupied by Jeanne's Yardage.



Sam's Place  
117 South Brea Boulevard

This unique Craftsman style building was constructed in 1911 and was first occupied by the bakery. It has been a bar and cafe for many years since.

Various Commercial Uses  
(Sewell Building)  
105-113 South Brea Boulevard

This brick structure, known as the Sewell Building, has a varied history. It was Brea's first City Hall from 1917 to 1929. Its many uses include: MacClatchie Hardware, Brea Cash Market, Ford's Confectionary, The Masonic Temple, a Safeway Store, Dr. Jarvis's Office, and a pharmacy. At one time Richardson's Picture Show was located in the original wood structure that burned down before the present Sewell Building was constructed in 1914.

That Frame Place  
(La Habra Valley Bank)  
103 South Brea Boulevard

At one time, the intersection of Brea Boulevard and Ash Street was the center of town. This building, at the southwest corner, was constructed for the La Habra Valley Bank in 1913. It was also the place where the people of Brea voted to incorporate in 1917. The bank changed to the First National Bank of Brea in 1920. In later years, the building was occupied by the U. S. Post Office and others.

Private Residence  
(Elmer Jamison Home)  
103 South Walnut Avenue

The Jamison home, the oldest existing house in Brea, is a classic example of a Box House. It is a typical oil workers' house that has not been altered in any way. Similar houses with tent-type roofs were originally constructed in the nearby oil fields.

Brea Missionary Baptist Church  
(Brea Christian Church)  
201 West Ash Street

The congregation was formed when the first building was constructed in 1914. The log cabin in the back was designed and built by high school students with the help of their teacher in 1918. The present stucco church building was constructed in 1935.

Russell House  
113 West Ash Street, on alley between Brea Boulevard and The Missionary Baptist Church

This house began before 1910 as a one-room icehouse. The walls of what is now the living room are insulated with sawdust. At one time, it was the office for the Standard Oil Company who had its tin

## Brea's Early History

"Black Gold," or oil as it is usually known, played a crucial role in the founding and development of Brea. In 1894, the Union Oil Company purchased 1,200 acres from Abel Stearns, a large property owner in the foothills which adjoin the City of Brea. Intensive exploration and production began in the late 1890's as numerous oil companies joined Union Oil in the oil quest.

At this time, a small town developed in the foothills known as Olinda, and was the home of numerous oil workers and their families. They constructed modest bungalows of varying sizes and styles.

As Olinda developed, the Ontario Investment Company decided in 1908 to establish a new town to the west as a speculative venture. They filed a subdivision map in 1908 and called this new town Randolph. The Randolph Township's lots apparently were not selling quickly and in 1911, the Randolph Subdivision was refiled with the new name of "Brea," meaning "tar" in Spanish. The town needed an important transportation link in 1912 when the Pacific Electric Railway constructed a line from Los Angeles to Yorba Linda and built a station in Brea.

Between 1910 and 1920, the town expanded with many pioneer families coming to Brea to reside while working in the adjoining oil fields. A series of compact residential neighborhoods developed around the Brea Boulevard commercial center. Neighborhoods were primarily settled by oil workers.

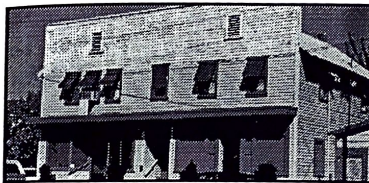
warehouses on Brea Boulevard. J. E. Russell purchased the house in 1910 and added two bedrooms, a kitchen, and a bath. The Russell Family still owns this property.

Brea Hotel  
(Hotel Kinsler)  
108 North Brea Boulevard

Constructed in 1913 for M. J. McCarty and Mr. Bowen, this structure was the first hotel in the community. Numerous stores have occupied the street level portion of the structure, including a pool room, a barber shop, an electrical store, and a restaurant.

Brea Clock  
(Charlie's Clock Shop)  
East side of Brea Boulevard, near Brea Hotel

The Brea clock was constructed around 1908 and once stood in the old Riverside Railway Station. When the owner moved his shop and the clock from Brea to Tulsa in 1975, the City of Brea purchased the clock and returned it to Brea Boulevard within a year.

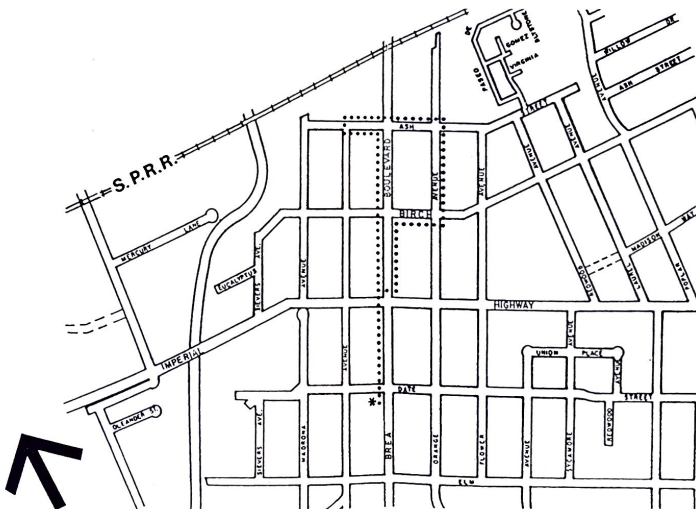


Wall Building  
105-109 East Ash Street

Constructed in 1911, this is the oldest commercial building in Brea. It once housed the Brea Pharmacy, a restaurant and Brea's first barber, Vern Russell. Like Sam's place, it is a unique structure. The Wall and Craib families lived upstairs.

Brown & Dauser Lumber Co.  
S.W. Corner of Orange and Ash

The original office of the lumber company still stands on the corner. Bird and Allen Oil Riggers occupied the building on the alley where they also sold cement. With the brick yard nearby, this area was the center for purchasing building materials.





# City of Brea Historic Tour

This tour is an introduction to the historic buildings of Brea and a sampling of what is architecturally unique about our City. There is an extraordinary collection of buildings and neighborhoods here! Brea has a variety of significant landmark buildings some of which are a result of the development of the oil industry. But more than just these individual structures, Brea has whole neighborhoods of special distinction. The tour has selected those important individual buildings as well as specific buildings from each of the neighborhoods.

The tour was planned for either walking or biking and since many are homes please respect the owner's privacy. The tour starts with the Sievers/Walnut neighborhood and proceeds in a circular direction covering each of the five areas ending with the Good Old Brea commercial district. Since there are several buildings which are outside of these neighborhoods, at any point feel free to diverge from the neighborhood tours to visit these other sites.

This walking tour is a product of a year long Historic Survey which began in August, 1980 as an effort to inventory the historic and architectural buildings within the community. More than 500 homes and buildings dating prior to 1940 have been itemized in the Historic Survey Inventory. To view the complete inventory or to obtain additional copies of this brochure contact the Information Desk at the Brea City Hall.

The result of the Brea Historic Survey has been to uncover the architectural and historical treasures in the City. It is hoped that this tour will assist in creating community pride as well as a desire to preserve the past and intelligently plan for an historically compatible future. So, enjoy this sampling of the many historic treasures to be found in Brea.

## SIEVERS-WALNUT NEIGHBORHOOD

Much of this neighborhood was part of the 1911, Town of Brea Subdivision. The first pioneers came to Brea and settled here, and included such families as the Schweitzers, the Casners, the Huddlestons, and the Woodwards. The houses they constructed were usually small and simple reflecting the limited finances of the time. Many of the houses were built by the owners with some constructed by local contractors. This is Brea's oldest intact neighborhood and it has a variety of early pioneer Craftsman style homes.



207 South Madrona Avenue  
Casner Residence

### 1. 203 West Ash Street 1915, 1935

**Brea Christian Church**  
The high tower of the Brea Missionary Baptist Church punctuates the skyline of this neighborhood. Originally the Brea Christian Church until the early sixties, the old church building was remodeled in 1935 to its present design. Behind the church is a small log cabin constructed by the Honor Knights, a church youth group in 1923.

### 2. 116 South Walnut Avenue 1911

Having the distinction of being one of the oldest houses on this block, this early Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow was constructed by one of Brea's early pioneers. At that time, streets were unpaved, having no curbs, gutters, or sidewalks.

### 3. 207 South Madrona Avenue 1915

**Casner Residence**  
A wealth of Craftsman style detail are visible on this house. Note the large porch where one could rest on a hot summer evening. William Casner, early Brea pioneer who participated in the development of many of Brea's early commercial buildings resided here.

### 4. 219 South Madrona Avenue 1919

**Fanning Residence**  
Shingles clad this quaint Craftsman style bungalow. Built for William and Stella Fanning, William Fanning was principal of the Laurel School and later Superintendent of the local school district.

### 5. 415 East Imperial Highway 1921

**Williams Residence**  
This large Mediterranean Revival style house is distinctive for its large porte cochere which is one side of the house. The porte cochere was a covered roof over a driveway that protected persons entering and leaving their vehicles. The house along this block of Imperial Highway were constructed during the twenties on property which was originally part of the Sievers Ranch.

## UNION OIL NEIGHBORHOOD

Major portions of this neighborhood were subdivided by the Union Oil Company in the early twenties for use by its employees. The company assisted it employees by carrying the mortgages on the houses. As Brea's best intact residential neighborhood, it has a wide range of architectural styles from the twenties and thirties.



212 West Elm Street

### 6. 326 South Madrona Street 1923

This block has an appealing mixture of Craftsman and Revival style residences. This particular Mediterranean Revival style house was constructed of reinforced concrete with a plaster finish. Such construction materials were unusual for residences and may be due to the early owners fear of fire or earthquakes.

### 7. 343 South Madrona Avenue 1922, 1936

**Van Tuyle Residence**  
Local Contractor, Arthur Van Tuyle constructed these two residences as his home. It was a common practice to construct a small make-shift bungalow at the rear of lots, and when finances improved build a larger house at the front. Arthur Van Tuyle was elected to the Brea City Council in 1940.

### 8. 400 South Madrona Avenue 1922

**Van Denburgh Residence**  
This block of Madrona Avenue is Brea's finest example of small bungalows constructed by Union Oil company employees. The street illustrates the variety of styles which were popular like this Colonial Revival residence.

### 9. 416 South Madrona Avenue 1922

Symmetry characterizes this Mediterranean Revival style house. This style was quite popular in Southern California during the twenties and architects and contractors built them to fit the most limited budgets.

### 10. 448 South Madrona Avenue 1922

**Critchlow Residence**  
This oilworkers Craftsman bungalow is one of the many examples to be found in this neighborhood. Such houses were small versions of the Craftsman style homes designed by famous architects Greene and Greene in Pasadena.

### 11. 400 South Sevierville Avenue 1916

This seemingly simple Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow illustrates the types of houses which were moved into Brea. Located here in 1937, it was most likely moved from the oilfields.

### 12. 212 West Elm Street 1927

During the twenties numerous architectural styles were transplanted to Southern California. The Provincial Revival style was said to have been brought back from Europe after World War I. With its shingle siding, this house is one of the many examples which can be discovered in this neighborhood.

### 13. 523 South Walnut Avenue 1923

This large multi-unit Mediterranean Revival style bungalow court is a one-of-a-kind in Brea. Such courts were popular in such areas as Hollywood where aspiring actors could live on limited budgets. This popular housing style found its way to Brea!

### 14. City Hall Park 1928-30

Brea's important public park was built on land purchased from the Union Oil Company. Los Angeles architect Allen Ruoff designed the City Hall in 1928 at a cost of \$23,000. The American Legion Hall, which later became the Brea Police Department is well remembered for the numerous dances held in its basement. Local gardener, Louis Papilio provided the original trees and shrubs for the Park.

## EAST ELM - EAST DATE NEIGHBORHOOD

Numerous Revival style residences can be discovered in this small neighborhood. The area was developed during the twenties and thirties and has a mixture of housing styles and designs. At one time orchards bordered the south and east sides of this neighborhood.

### 15. 108 East Date Street 1922

**Papilio Residence**  
This picturesque Provincial Revival house illustrates a variety of building materials including stone, stucco and wood. Its irregular appearance is reminiscent of a small Italian hillside home. Louis Papilio operated a nursery at the front of the lot in the twenties and thirties.

### 16. 311 South Orange Avenue 1930

**Bergman Residence**  
This is just one example of the many fine Revival style homes which can be found on this block. Note the small tower above the entry.

### 17. 412 South Flower Avenue 1919

An eye-pleasing Colonial Revival residence dominates this block. Originally located in Pico Rivera, this house was moved to Brea in the early fifties.

### 18. 335 South Flower Avenue 1929

**Rutcher Residence**  
Elegance best describes this large Provincial Revival style house. Such designs were popular in Southern California for their picturesque qualities. Notice that the porch has all but disappeared by the time this house was designed.

### 19. 300 East Imperial Highway 1915, 1928

**Brea Congregational Church**  
Long a part of Brea's religious community, the Congregational Church was originally located at the corner of Birch and Brea Boulevard. When the Oilfield National Bank offered the church a substantial sum of money for the lot, the church moved to its present location and remodeled its building in a Spanish design. For many years its bell rang out to the community as a call to church services.

## LAUREL HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD

Noted for its numerous small rolling hills, the area east of Flower Avenue was once part of the Yriarte Ranch. When the ranch was split-up this area was divided for new housing. The area was slow to develop and during the thirties many houses were moved in. Several of the streets have a preponderance of Craftsman and Revival style homes such as the 200 block of Laurel Avenue.



200 South Flower Avenue  
Laurel School

### 20. 260 South Redwood Avenue 1905

Originally located in Glinda, this Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow was moved to this address in 1925. As Glinda declined, many of its houses were moved to Brea during the twenties and thirties.

### 21. 116 South Redwood Avenue 1929

**Moore Residence**  
Several Provincial Revival style houses are located on this small hilly block. The numerous examples of this style indicated the ingenious way the local contractors varied the style.

### 22. 329 East Ash Street 1920, Barn - 1909

**Agustan Yriarte Ranch**  
Alone at the top of a small hill is this simple Craftsman Ranch house. Once surrounded by groves, the house was built for Agustan Yriarte who still resides here! The Yriarte family had come to the Brea area in 1905 as ranchers. When the family property was split, Agustan constructed this residence and moved the old family barn here.

### 23. 200 South Orange Avenue 1922

**Laurel School**  
An important local landmark, it was constructed when voters approved Brea's first local bond of \$60,000. Designed in an attractive Spanish style, the structure was undamaged by the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. Its lush landscaping is a pleasant retreat from busy Imperial Highway.

### 24. 134 South Orange Avenue 1921

**Muzzal Residence**  
This is just one example of the many houses on this street constructed by early oil workers. This block was part of the original plan of the Town of Brea and its small houses are indicative of what the oil workers built. Note the rows of palm trees which add additional character to the street.

## GOOD OLD BREA

Invisibly pedestrian oriented, the Good Old Brea Commercial Center developed around the corners of Ash Street and Brea Boulevard in the early teens. Expansion continued in a southward trend until by the 1930's the commercial center occupied a 1/2 block stretch of Brea Boulevard. A small town atmosphere is evoked from the area because the buildings are close to the street and many are intact. Ranging in height, the buildings are a variety of styles indicative of the different periods of development.



105-09 East Ash Street  
Wahl Building

### 25. 105-09 East Ash Street 1911

**Wahl Building**  
One of the early Craftsman-False front commercial structures, this is one of Brea's oldest commercial structures. In the past, the upper story consisted of rented rooms while stores occupied the lower floors. The building originally faced on Brea Boulevard but was burned on the lot. Note the Good Old Brea clock located at the corner which was placed here recently by the City.

### 26. 100 South Brea Boulevard 1915, 1934

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Long a part of the Brea commercial center, this building was originally constructed by the Stern and Goodman Mercantile Company but was later sold its simple Spanish design complements the Brea Boulevard fabric.

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Four small brick commercial buildings each designed different from the other define this portion of the block. Constructed together each shop remains different while still being part of the block of buildings.

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While seemingly simple in style, this was Brea's first brick building and replaced a fire-ravaged structure. Between 1917 and 1928 the Brea City Hall was located on the second floor while numerous commercial establishments occupied the ground floor shops.

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Early pioneer architecture inspired the builder of this Craftsman-Falsefront structure. At one time the location of the Brea Bakery, numerous other enterprises including a restaurant have been located here.



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Between 1910 and 1920, the town expanded with many pioneer families coming to Brea to reside while working in the adjoining oil fields. Early pioneers included the Casners, the Craigs, the Woodwards and the Sextons. A series of compact residential neighborhoods developed around the Brea Boulevard commercial center. Neighborhoods were primarily settled by oil workers.

By the late teens, Brea had begun construction on its new grammar school and in 1917, local elections were held to determine whether Brea should be incorporated as a city. Voters overwhelmingly supported this movement and when the first city council was elected, Jax Sexton was voted Mayor by the council.

The twenties were a period of growth of the community as oil production continued. New neighborhoods, such as the Union Oil and Laurel Heights, were developed to accommodate the growing population. Brea Boulevard expanded south to become a two and a half block commercial strip. The new City Hall and Park were designed and constructed in 1928, capping a ten year effort to build a civic landmark in Brea.

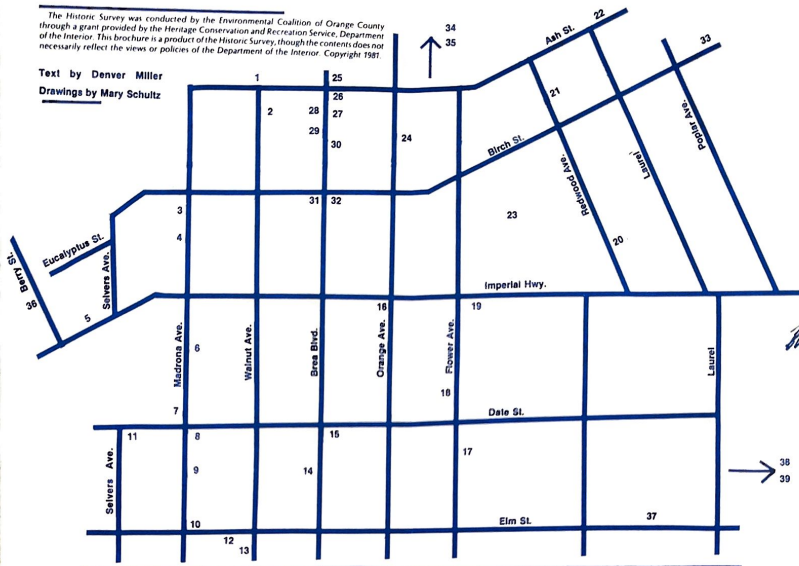
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By the 1960's, the oil fields and groves gave way to tract homes, shopping centers and freeways. Brea's population in 1970 stood at 27,650. In a short span of twenty years, Brea had become one of the most significant urban centers of Orange County. While Brea's appearance has changed, much of its older downtown remains, a reminder of the early years of the community.

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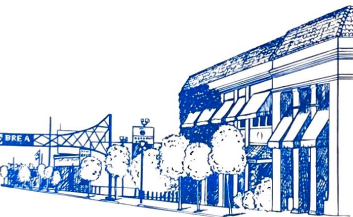
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## City of Brea Historic Tour



Old Brea City Hall



201-207 South Brea Boulevard  
Oilfields National Bank Building



# City of Brea Historic Tour

This tour is an introduction to the historic buildings of Brea and a sampling of what is architecturally unique about our City. There is an extraordinary collection of buildings and neighborhoods here! Brea has a variety of significant landmarks, buildings some of which are a result of the development of the oil industry. But more than just these individual structures, Brea has whole neighborhoods of special individuality. The tour has selected those important individual buildings as well as specific buildings from each of the neighborhoods.

The tour was planned for either walking or biking and since many are homes please respect the owner's privacy. The tour starts with the Sievers/Walnut neighborhood and proceeds in a circular direction covering each of the five areas ending with the Good Old Brea commercial district. Since there are several buildings which are outside of these neighborhoods, at any point feel free to diverge from the neighborhood tours to visit these other sites.

This walking tour is a product of a year long Historic Survey which began in August, 1980 as an effort to inventory the historic and architectural buildings within the community. More than 500 homes and buildings dating prior to 1940 have been itemized in the Historic Survey Inventory. To view the complete inventory or to obtain additional copies of this brochure contact the Information Desk at the Brea City Hall.

The result of the Brea Historic Survey has been to uncover the architectural and historical treasures in the City. It is hoped that this tour will assist in creating community pride as well as a desire to preserve the past and intelligently plan for an historically compatible future. So, enjoy this sampling of the many historic treasures to be found in Brea.

## SIEVERS-WALNUT NEIGHBORHOOD

Much of this neighborhood was part of the 1911, Town of Brea Subdivision. The first pioneers came to Brea and settled here, and included such families as the Schweitzers, the Casners, the Huddlestons, and the Woodwards. The houses they constructed were usually small and simple reflecting the limited finances of the times. Many of the houses were built by the owners with some constructed by local contractors. This is Brea's oldest intact neighborhood and it has a variety of early pioneer Craftsman style homes.



207 South Madrona Avenue  
Casner Residence

1. 203 West Ash Street  
Brea Christian Church 1915, 1935

The high tower of the Brea Missionary Baptist Church punctuates the skyline of this neighborhood. Originally the Brea Christian Church until the early sixties, the old church building was remodeled in 1935 to its present design. Behind the church is a small log cabin constructed by the Honor Knights, a church youth group in 1923.

2. 116 South Walnut Avenue 1911

Having the distinction of being one of the oldest houses on this block, this early Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow was constructed by one of Brea's early pioneers. At that time, streets were unpaved, having no curbs, gutters, or sidewalks.

3. 207 South Madrona Avenue  
Casner Residence Circa: 1915

A wealth of Craftsman style detail are visible on this house. Note the large porch where one could rest on a hot summer evening. William Casner, early Brea pioneer who participated in the development of many of Brea's early commercial buildings resided here.

4. 219 South Madrona Avenue  
Fanning Residence 1919

Shingles clad this quaint Craftsman style bungalow. Built for William and Stella Fanning, William Fanning was principal of the Laurel School and later Superintendent of the local school district.

5. 415 East Imperial Highway  
Williams Residence 1921

This large Mediterranean Revival style house is distinctive for its large porte cochere which is one side of the house. The porte cochere was a covered roof over a driveway that protected persons entering and leaving their vehicles. The house along this block of Imperial Highway were constructed during the twenties on property which was originally part of the Sievers Ranch.

## UNION OIL NEIGHBORHOOD

Major portions of this neighborhood were subdivided by the Union Oil Company in the early twenties for use by its employees. The company assisted its employees by carrying the mortgages on the houses. As Brea's best intact residential neighborhood, it has a wide range of architectural styles from the twenties and thirties.



212 West Elm Street

6. 326 South Madrona Street 1923

This block has an appealing mixture of Craftsman and Revival style residences. This particular Mediterranean Revival style house was constructed of reinforced concrete with a plaster finish. Such construction materials were unusual for residences and may be due to the early owners fear of fire or earthquakes.

7. 343 South Madrona Avenue  
Van Tuyle Residence 1922, 1936

This house was constructed by two residences as the local Contractor, Arthur Van Tuyle constructed these two residences as his home. It was a common practice to construct a small make-shift bungalow at the rear of lots, and when finances improved build a larger house at the front. Arthur Van Tuyle was elected to the Brea City Council in 1940.

8. 400 South Madrona Avenue  
Van Denburgh Residence 1922

This block of Madrona Avenue is Brea's finest example of small bungalows constructed by Union Oil company employees. The street illustrates the variety of styles which were popular like this Colonial Revival residence.

9. 416 South Madrona Avenue 1922

Symmetry characterizes this Mediterranean Revival style house. This style was quite popular in Southern California during the twenties and architects and contractors built them to fit the most limited budgets.

10. 448 South Madrona Avenue  
Crichtow Residence 1922

This oilworkers Craftsman bungalow is one of the many examples to be found in this neighborhood. Such houses were small versions of the Craftsman style homes designed by famous architects Greene and Greene in Pasadena.

11. 400 South Sievers Avenue 1916

This seemingly simple Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow illustrates the types of houses which were moved into Brea. Located here in 1937, it was most likely moved from the oilfields.

12. 212 West Elm Street 1927

During the twenties numerous architectural styles were transplanted to Southern California. The Provincial Revival style was said to have been brought back from Europe, after World War I. With its shingle siding, this house is one of the many examples which can be discovered in this neighborhood.

13. 523 South Walnut Avenue 1923

This large multi-unit Mediterranean Revival style bungalow court is a one-of-a-kind in Brea. Such courts were popular in such areas as Hollywood where aspiring actors could live on limited budgets. This popular housing style found its way to Brea!

14. City Hall Park 1928-30

Brea's important public park was built on land purchased from the Union Oil Company. Los Angeles architect Allen Ruff designed the City Hall in 1928 at a cost of \$23,000. The American Legion Hall, which later became the Brea Police Department is well remembered for the numerous dances held in its basement. Local gardener, Louis Papilio provided the original trees and shrubs for the Park.

## EAST ELM — EAST DATE NEIGHBORHOOD

Numerous Revival style residences can be discovered in this small neighborhood. The area was developed during the twenties and thirties and has a mixture of housing styles and designs. At one time orchards bordered the south and east sides of this neighborhood.

15. 108 East Dale Street  
Papilio Residence 1922

This picturesque Provincial Revival house utilizes a variety of building materials including stone, stucco and wood. Its irregular appearance is reminiscent of a small Italian hillside home. Louis Papilio operated a nursery at the front of the lot in the twenties and thirties.

16. 311 South Orange Avenue  
Bergman Residence 1930

This is just one example of the many fine Revival style homes which can be found on this block. Note the small tower above the entry.

17. 412 South Flower Avenue 1919

An eye-pleasing Colonial Revival residence dominates this block. Originally located in Pico Rivera, this house was moved to Brea in the early fifties.

18. 325 South Flower Avenue  
Fleischer Residence 1929

Elegance best describes this large Provincial Revival style house. Such designs were popular in Southern California for their picturesque qualities. Notice that the porch has all but disappeared by the time this house was designed.

19. 300 East Imperial Highway  
Brea Congregational Church 1915, 1926

Long a part of Brea's religious community, the Congregational Church was originally located at the corner of Birch and Brea Boulevard. When the Oilfields National Bank offered the church a substantial sum of money for the lot, the church moved to its present location and remodeled its building in a Spanish design. For many years its bell rang out to the community as a call to church services.

## LAUREL HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD

Noted for its numerous small rolling hills, the area east of Flower Avenue was once part of the Yriarte Ranch. When the ranch was split-up this area was divided for new housing. The area was slow to develop and during the thirties many houses were moved in. Several of the streets have a preponderance of Craftsman and Revival style homes such as the 200 block of Laurel Avenue.



200 South Flower Avenue  
Laurel School

20. 260 South Redwood Avenue 1905

Originally located in Olinda, this Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow was moved to this address in 1925. As Olinda declined, many of its houses were moved to Brea during the twenties and thirties.

21. 116 South Redwood Avenue  
Moore Residence 1929

Several Provincial Revival style houses are located on this small hilly block. The numerous examples of this style indicated the ingenious way the local contractors varied the style.

22. 329 East Ash Street  
Agustin Yriarte Ranch 1920, Barn - 1909

Alone at the top of a small hill is this simple Craftsman Ranch house. Once surrounded by groves, the house was built for Agustin Yriarte who still resides here! The Yriarte family had come to the Brea area in 1905 as ranchers. When the family property was split, Agustin constructed this residence and moved the old family barn here.

23. 200 South Flower Avenue  
Laurel School 1922

An important local landmark, it was constructed when voters approved Brea's first local bond of \$80,000. Designed in an attractive Spanish style, the structure was undamaged by the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. Its lush landscaping is a pleasant retreat from busy Imperial Highway.

24. 134 South Orange Avenue  
Muzzal Residence 1921

This is just one example of the many houses on this street constructed by early oil workers. This block was part of the original plan of the Town of Brea and its small houses are indicative of what the oil workers built. Note the rows of palm trees which add additional character to the street.

## GOOD OLD BREA

Invitingly pedestrian oriented, the Good Old Brea Commercial Center developed around the corners of Ash Street and Brea Boulevard in the early teens. Expansion continued in a southward trend until by the 1930's the commercial center occupied a 2 1/2 block stretch of Brea Boulevard. A small town atmosphere is evoked from the area because the buildings are close to the street and many are intact. Hanging in height, the buildings are a variety of styles indicative of the different periods of development.



105-09 East Ash Street  
Wahl Building

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Wahl Building 1911

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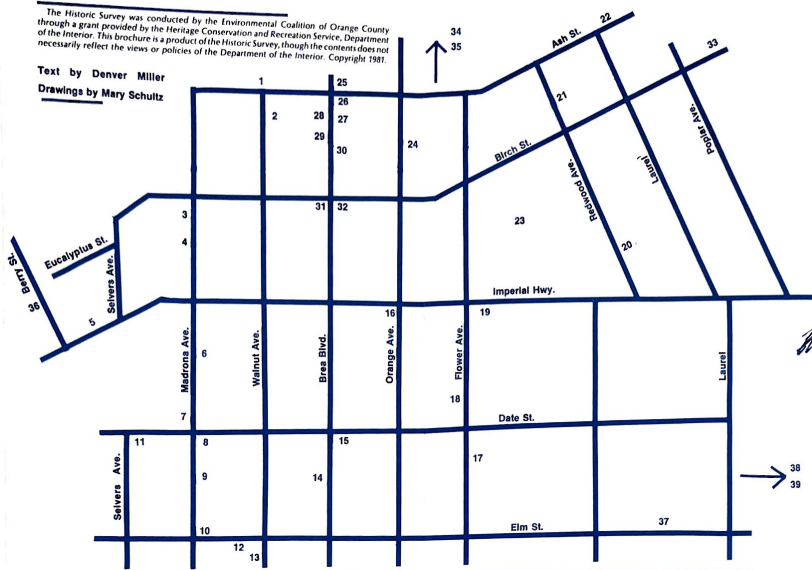
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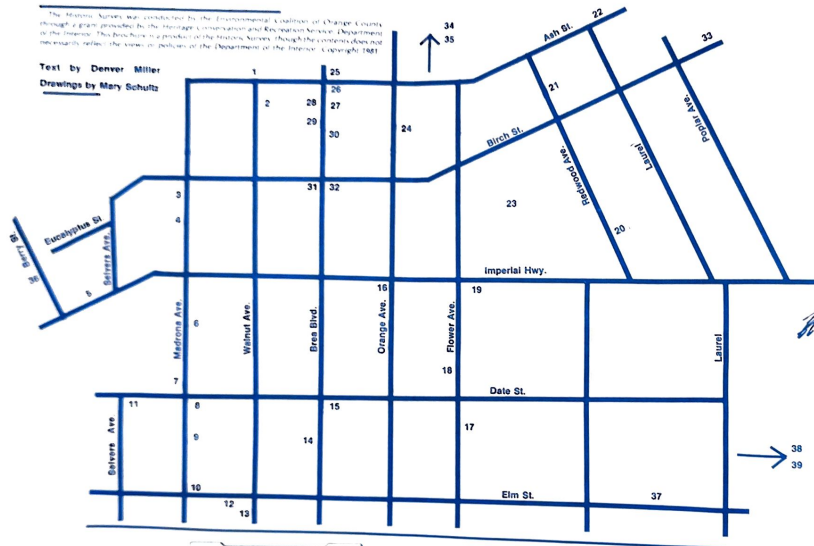
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1926  
Once surrounded by graves this lightly embellished Spanish Revival style house was constructed for Frank Schwitzer. Son-in-law, Frank Schwitzer was appointed to the Brea City Council in 1917 and served on this council for twenty years.

## City of Brea Historic Tour

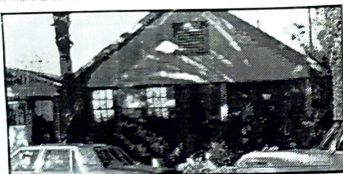


Old Brea City Hall



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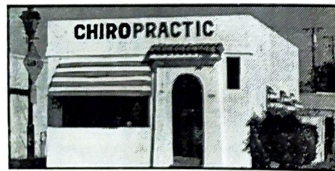
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200 Block of South Brea Boulevard  
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## City of Brea Historic Walking Tour Downtown



Old Brea City Hall

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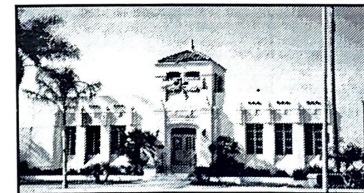
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This was placed by the Historical Society during Brea's Golden Jubilee in 1967 (the City was incorporated in 1917). The capsule is scheduled to be opened in 1992 on the City's 75th birthday.

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This building was originally constructed as the Higgenfeld-Rollins Funeral Parlor in 1926. Sutter-McAulley Funeral Directors took over the funeral parlor later in the 1930's. At one time it also housed the Cummings Furniture Store. In the 1940's, it became the Imperial Cafe and Bar owned by the Oliver Family.



Gobar Building  
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1928

Originally the Oilfields National Bank, this was the largest and grandest commercial building in Brea at the time. The land was purchased from the Brea Congregational Church.



Pacific Oil World Building  
(Trojan Cafe)  
227 South Brea Boulevard

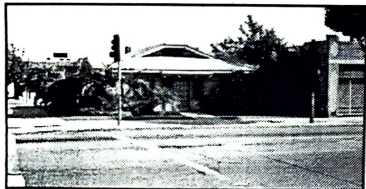
This building was originally the Trojan Cafe, a popular place for many years. After the Trojan Cafe, the building housed a plumbing store. During the aftermath of the Watergate Scandal, the building was occupied by the local Republicans as their headquarters with the plumbing sign still intact on the front of the building. Jack Fisher purchased the property in 1977 and published his Pacific Oil World magazine there until 1990. Pacific Oil World magazine has been published since 1908.

VFW/American Legion Building  
210 South Brea Boulevard  
1950's

Frank and Helen Davies constructed this store in the 1950's and operated a furniture business for many years. It is now temporarily occupied by the VFW/American Legion.

(Baldwin Motor Company Building)  
206 South Brea Boulevard  
1923

Originally constructed for Baldwin Ford in the 1920's, this building later became J. W. Burch Ford dealership. It also served as the meeting place for the Brea Elementary School Board. In the 1950's it was a bowling alley.



Blue Bungalow  
(Office of Dr. W. W. Davis)  
200 South Brea Boulevard  
1919

Dr. W. W. Davis constructed this small structure in 1919 to serve as his office and residence. The front of the house served as a waiting room. The building was recently used as the headquarters for the Brea Redevelopment Agency.

Romancing the Home, Brea Bike & Lawnmower Shop  
141-143 South Brea Boulevard  
1921

This structure has had numerous commercial establishments in the years since it was constructed in 1921. In the 1920's, it housed a restaurant, a barber shop and a pool hall. Later, Woodruff's Department Store and a grocery store were located here.

Pawlick Title  
(Bergman Garage)  
146 South Brea Boulevard  
1920

James and Walter Bergman had this constructed as an auto garage in 1920. Later it became Daugherty Chevrolet. There was a drive-through service station on the corner and drive-through garages in the back.

Red Lantern Theatre  
136 South Brea Boulevard  
Demolished in 1987

Constructed in 1922, the Chinese red and gold theme was unique in this part of Southern California at the time. People came from far away to see the beautiful theatre. Judy Garland was among those who appeared on stage here. In later years it was called the Brea Theatre. It was later acquired by Calvary Chapel just before its demolition in 1987.

Moose Lodge No. 1268  
(Craig Building)  
124 South Brea Boulevard  
1921

Constructed by local contractor Isaac Craig in 1921, this building once housed the U.S. Post Office and O.S. Close Drugstore. The upstairs hall was the frequent scene of numerous community gatherings.

1st Stop Station Shop  
(Green Market)  
120 South Brea Boulevard  
1920

One of three attached brick buildings constructed in 1920, this building was at one time Glenn Green's Market.

Fabric City  
123 South Brea Boulevard  
Early 1920's

This area was originally the location of Mrs. Gurley's Rooming House. For many years it was occupied by Jeanne's Yardage.



Sam's Place  
117 South Brea Boulevard  
1911

This unique Craftsman style building was constructed in 1911 and was first occupied by the bakery. It has been a bar and cafe for many years since.

Various Commercial Uses  
(Sewell Building)  
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This brick structure, known as the Sewell Building, has a varied history. It was Brea's first City Hall from 1917 to 1929. Its many uses include: MacClatchie Hardware, Brea Cash Market, Ford's Confectionery, The Masonic Temple, a Safeway Store, Dr. Jarvis's Office, and a pharmacy. At one time Richardson's Picture Show was located in the original wooden structure that burned down before the present Sewell Building was constructed in 1914.

That Frame Place  
(La Habra Valley Bank)  
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1913

At one time, the intersection of Brea Boulevard and Ash Street was the center of town. This building, at the southwest corner, was constructed for the La Habra Valley Bank in 1913. It was also the place where the people of Brea voted to incorporate in 1917. The bank changed to the First National Bank of Brea in 1920. In later years, the building was occupied by the U. S. Post Office and others.

Private Residence  
(Elmer Jamison Home)  
103 South Walnut Avenue  
1911

The Jamison home, the oldest existing house in Brea, is a classic example of a Box House. It is a typical oil workers' house that has not been altered in any way. Similar houses with tent-type roofs were originally constructed in the nearby oil fields.

Brea Missionary Baptist Church  
(Brea Christian Church)  
201 West Ash Street  
1914, 1935

The congregation was formed when the first building was constructed in 1914. The log cabin in the back was designed and built by high school students with the help of their teacher in 1918. The present stucco church building was constructed in 1935.

Russell House  
113 West Ash Street, on alley between Brea Boulevard and The Missionary Baptist Church  
circa 1910

This house began before 1910 as a one-room icehouse. The walls of what is now the living room are insulated with sawdust. At one time, it was the office for the Standard Oil Company who had its tin

## Brea's Early History

"Black Gold," or oil as it is usually known, played a crucial role in the founding and development of Brea. In 1894, the Union Oil Company purchased 1,200 acres from Abel Steams, a large property owner in the foothills which adjoin the City of Brea. Intensive oil exploration and production began in the late 1890's as numerous oil companies joined Union Oil in the oil quest.

At this time, a small town developed in the foothills known as Olinda, and was the home of numerous oil workers and their families. They constructed modest bungalows of varying sizes and styles.

As Olinda developed, the Ontario Investment Company decided in 1908 to establish a new town to the west as a speculative venture. They filed a subdivision map in 1908 and called this new town Randolph. The Randolph Township's lots apparently were not selling quickly and in 1911, the Randolph Subdivision was relined with the new name of "Brea," meaning "tar" in Spanish. The town received an important transportation link in 1912 when the Pacific Electric Railway constructed a line from Los Angeles to Yorba Linda and built a station in Brea.

Between 1910 and 1920, the town expanded with many pioneer families coming to Brea to reside while working in the adjoining oil fields. A series of compact residential neighborhoods developed around the Brea Boulevard commercial center. Neighborhoods were primarily settled by oil workers.

warehouses on Brea Boulevard. J. E. Russell purchased the house in 1910 and added two bedrooms, a kitchen, and a bath. The Russell Family still owns this property.

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(Hotel Kinsler)  
108 North Brea Boulevard  
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East side of Brea Boulevard, near Brea Hotel  
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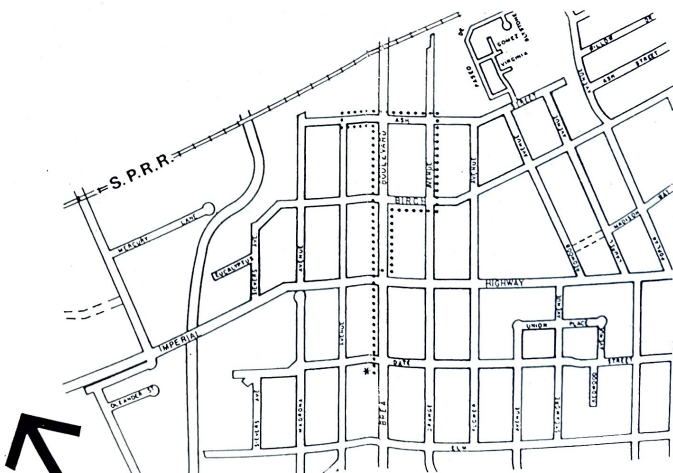


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Brown & Dauser Lumber Co.  
S/W Corner of Orange and Ash  
Circa 1920's

The original office of the lumber company still stands on the corner. Bird and Allen Oil Riggers occupied the building on the alley where they also sold cement. With the brick yard nearby, this area was the center for purchasing building materials.





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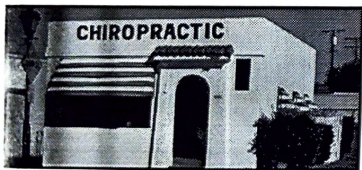
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**Research by:** Inez Fanning  
Sharon Dean  
**LAYOUT by:** Brian Flynn

## City of Brea Historic Walking Tour Downtown 1990



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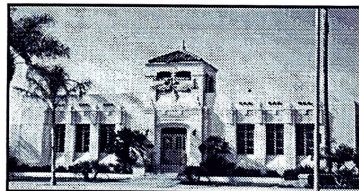
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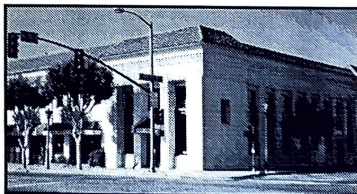
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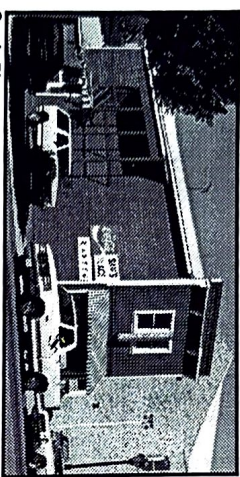
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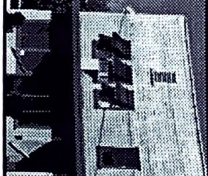
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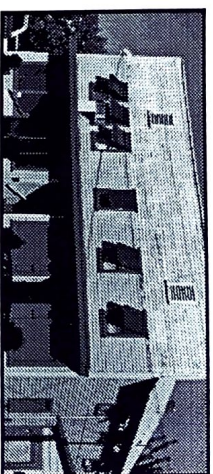
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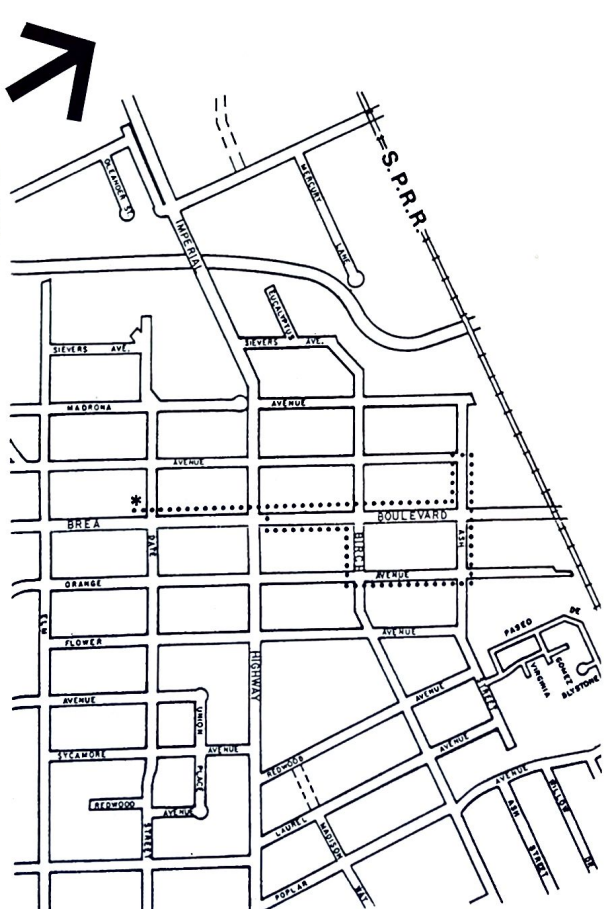


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**\* City Hall Park**



# Hillside tour north of Brea to plant development seed

David Bernard

DSF Correspondent

**BREA —** Hoping to garner a glimpse of what the future holds for the hillside north of Brea, 150 community representatives met at Pioneer Hall on Saturday for a bus tour of the area that until now has been the home primarily of oil rigs and a landfill.

The tour was part of a workshop designed to gain community input on future development in the 74-square-mile area.

Orange County considers the area, which is unincorporated, to be in its sphere of influence.

Most of those who turned up for the tour and workshop were interested parties who had heard about the meeting.

The tour is the latest stage in a plan to develop a "blueprint" for development in the area, instead of reacting to piecemeal proposals from developers.

Among the community designers were representatives from

Santa Fe Energy, California State Department of Parks and Recreation as well as land owners in Brea's sphere of influence.

The designers, who were broken down into groups of a dozen, were lectured by architects, a geologist and a traffic engineer on local conditions. Topics ranged from the Whittier Fault, to the black walnut trees, to the problem of linking the area to Brea proper.

Among the ideas for linking the

two areas were one lane roads, Santa Ana (57) Freeway access and county rail.

"As far as transit is concerned, anything is possible, if we are prepared to pay for it," said Terry Austin, a traffic engineer. If rail transport reaches into the sphere of influence, he said, the county, Brea and residents would probably pay for it.

With that information, the groups met for two hours after lunch. Scores of ideas for po-

tential development were coaxed from the group, each one being summarized and recorded on paper.

At the end of the brainstorming session, each group selected a spokesman to present its best ideas at a main meeting in the Senior Center that afternoon.

The groups shared several general concerns, among them the idea that there should be golf courses, bicycle trails, pristine ridge lines and accessibility to

cars.

The groups also seemed to want to preserve the historical structures, such as the 90-year-old corrugated sheep herders shack that still stands in the area.

The next phase of the "vision" workshop will be when the city puts the ideas together and presents it to the same group of people at a meeting in January.

Any development within this northern area falls in Brea's (Continued on Page 2)

## Hillside tour...

(Continued from Page 1)  
sphere of influence and city staff has stated it is likely to be annexed by the city in the future.

The area is bounded on the south and east roughly by Lambert Road and Carbon Canyon Road. The Los Angeles County line marks the northern edge of the area.

The western edge of the property stretches in an irregular

spike for a mile and a half past the Santa Ana (57) Freeway.

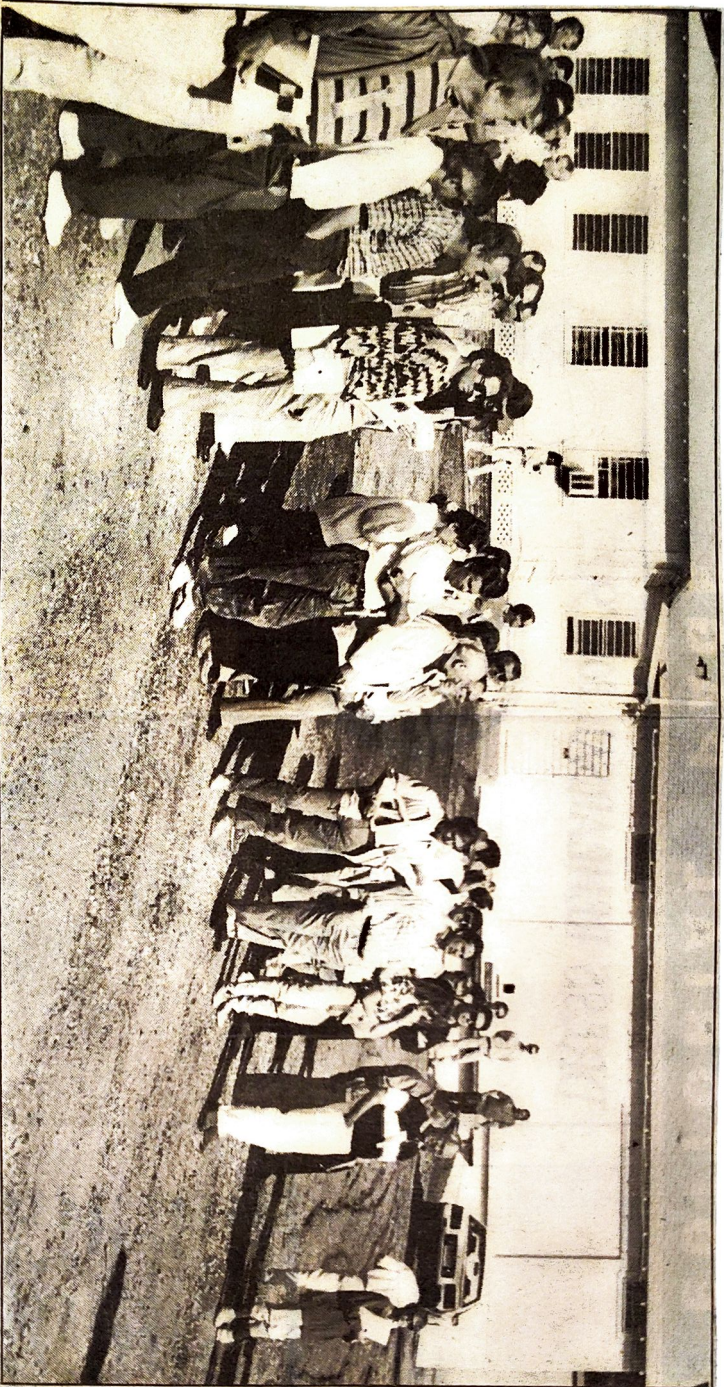
The area encompasses Tonner Canyon, a portion of the Firestone Scout Reservation and some 400 oil rigs that are scattered on privately owned land.

Commercial oil production dominates a third of the available land, with Unocal, Shell Oil, Albert Levinson and Orange County being the four largest property owners.

Monday, November 18, 1991

Daily Star-Progress





**LOOKING FOR A VISION** — A group comprised of business owners, property owners and Brea residents gather to listen to geologist Eldon Gath lecture on landslides and the Whittier Fault. The group

was part of a field trip taken into the hillsides north of Brea on Saturday. The city is trying to cultivate a "blueprint" for future development in the area.

(Star-Progress photo by David Bernard)



Wall Building  
105-109 East Ash Street  
1911

Constructed in 1911, this is the oldest commercial building in Brea. It once housed the Brea Pharmacy, a restaurant and Brea's first barber, Vern Russell. Like Sam's place, it is a unique structure. The Wall and Crabill families lived upstairs.

Brown & Dauser Lumber Co.  
Corner of Orange and Ash  
Circa 1920's

Bird and Allen Oil Riggers occupied the building on the alley where they also sold cement. With the brick yard across the street, this area was the center for purchasing building materials.

Casa Brea Inn  
215 East Ash Street  
1926

The first apartment building was constructed in 1926. Modern furnished apartments attracted many newcomers to Brea, many of whom stayed to make Brea their home.

Kinsler House  
129 South Orange Avenue  
1910

Charles and Rena Kinsler were the initial residents of this bungalow. Mr. Kinsler was Brea's first Fire Chief and the first City Clerk. His office, on the alley, was a building that had been moved from Brea Canyon oil fields in 1924. The small office was attached to the house on Orange. Mr. Kinsler installed a wooden sidewalk to allow people to reach his office from Brea Boulevard.

The palm trees along Orange Avenue were purchased and planted by Mr. Casner, who also built the S & G Market and the Honeymoon Courts along Birch Street. Looking south on Orange Avenue, it is noted that the first boy (Clifford Yates) and the first girl (Thelma Wagstaff) born in Brea lived on this block.

S & G Market, Apartments  
(Sam and Gladys's Market, Honeymoon Court)  
200-214 East Birch Street  
1926

The Sam and Gladys's Market and the Honeymoon Court were built in 1926 by Mr. Casner. Annie Pope operated a beauty parlor in the east building, and many of Brea's leading citizens rented these courts when they were first married.



Chiropractic Office  
(American Telephone Building)  
115 East Birch Street

From 1926 to 1948 switchboard operators sat with earphones and asked, "Number please." During those years all phones had only three numbers. There is a telephone sign that can still be seen on the east side of the building. This building has been occupied for many years by chiropractors.

"Brea Welcomes You" Sign  
200 block of South Brea Boulevard  
1935

This neon sign is suspended across Brea Boulevard, mid-block between Imperial Highway and Birch Street. It was erected by the Lion's Club in 1935.

### Brea's Early History

"Black Gold" or oil as it is usually known, played a crucial role in the founding and development of Brea. In 1894, the Union Oil Company purchased 1,200 acres from Abel Stearns, a large property owner in the foothills which adjoin the City of Brea. Intensive oil exploration and production began in the late 1890's as numerous oil companies joined Union Oil in the oil quest.

At this time, a small town developed in the foothills known as Olinda, and was the home of numerous oil workers and their families. They constructed modest bungalows of varying sizes and styles.

As Olinda developed, the Ontario Investment Company decided in 1908 to establish a new town further south as a speculative venture. They filed a subdivision map in 1908 and called this new town Randolph. The Randolph Township's lots apparently were not selling quickly and in 1911, the Randolph Subdivision was refiled with the new name of "Brea," meaning "tar" in Spanish. The town received an important transportation link in 1912 when the Pacific Electric Railway constructed a line from Los Angeles to Yorba Linda and built a station in Brea.

Between 1910 and 1920, the town expanded with many pioneer families coming to Brea to reside while working in the adjoining oil fields. A series of compact residential neighborhoods developed around the Brea Boulevard commercial center. Neighborhoods were primarily settled by oil workers.



Moose Lodge No. 1268  
(Craig Building)  
124 South Brea Boulevard  
1921

Constructed by local contractor, Isaac Craig, in 1921, this building once housed the U.S. Post Office and O.S. Close Drugstore. The upstairs hall was the frequent scene of numerous community gatherings.

1st Stop Party Shop  
(Gheen Market)  
120 South Brea Boulevard  
1920

One of three contiguous brick buildings constructed in 1920, this building was at one time Glenn Gheen's Market.

Fabric City  
123 South Brea Boulevard

This area was originally the location of Mrs. Gurley's Rooming House. For many years it was occupied by Jeanne's Yardage.

Sam's Place  
(Brea Bakery)  
117 South Brea Boulevard  
1911

This unique Craftsman style building was constructed in 1911 and was first occupied by the Brea Bakery. It has been a bar and cafe for many years since.

Various Commercial Uses  
(Sewell Building)  
105-113 South Brea Boulevard  
1914

This brick structure, known as the Sewell Building, has a varied history. It was Brea's first City Hall from 1917 to 1929 and the place where the people of Brea voted to incorporate in 1917. Its many uses include: MacClatchie Hardware, Brea Cash Market, Ford's Confectionary, The Masonic Temple, a Safeway Store, Dr. Jarvis's Office, and a pharmacy. At one time Richardson's Picture Show was located in the original wooden structure that burned down before the present Sewell Building was constructed in 1914.

That Frame Place  
(La Habra Valley Bank)  
103 South Brea Boulevard  
1913

At one time, the intersection of Brea Boulevard and Ash Street was the center of town. This building, at the southwest corner, was constructed for the La Habra Valley Bank in 1913. The bank changed to the First National Bank of Brea in 1920. In later years, the building was occupied by the U. S. Post Office.



Private Residence  
(Elmer Jamison Home)  
103 South Walnut Avenue  
1911

The Jamison home, The oldest existing house in Brea, is a classic example of a Box House. It is a typical oil workers' house that has not been altered in any way. Similar houses with tent-type roofs were originally constructed in the nearby oil fields.

Brea Missionary Baptist Church  
(Brea Christian Church)  
201 West Ash Street  
1914, 1935

The congregation was formed when the first building was constructed in 1914. The log cabin in the back was designed and built by high school students with the help of their teacher in 1923. The present stucco church building was constructed in 1935.

Russell House  
Circa 1910  
On alley between Brea Boulevard and Church

This house began before 1910 as a one-room icehouse. The walls of what is now the living room are insulated with sawdust. At one time, it may have been the office for the Standard Oil Company and had its tin warehouses on Brea Boulevard. J. E. Russell purchased it in 1910 and added on two bedrooms, a kitchen, and a bath. The Russell Family still owns this property.

Brea Hotel  
(Hotel Kinsler)  
108 North Brea Boulevard  
1913

Constructed in 1913 for M. J. McCarty and Mr. Bowen, this structure was the first hotel in the community. Numerous stores occupied the street level portion of the structure, including a pool room, a barbershop, and an electrical store. It was originally named Hotel Kinsler.

Brea Clock  
(Charlie's Clock Shop)  
East side of Brea Boulevard, near Brea Hotel  
1905

The Brea clock's base was constructed in 1905 and once stood in the old Riverside Railway Station. The owner moved his clock shop and the clock to the City of Tustin in 1975. The City purchased and returned the clock to Brea Boulevard within a year.

Shaffer Tool Works

Office built in 1926. The first shop was just south of the existing building.



## Imperial Highway

Imperial Highway was originally named Cedar Street. It was a two lane, dirt road with walnut orchards on both sides. There were courts on the south side near Walnut Avenue, and at one time Ted Craig's home was on the north side between Brea Boulevard and the alley. Ted Craig was Speaker of the California State Assembly in the 1930's and the man for whom Craig Park was named. In those days, Imperial Highway was just another street in Brea where children rode their bikes and played ball.

## Sandy's Casita

(Southern Counties Gas Building)  
227 South Brea Boulevard  
1929

This building was constructed in 1929 as the local office of the Southern Counties Gas Company. Over the years it was occupied by several restaurants and by the Brea-Olinda Unified School District at one time during the 1960's.

## Brea Boats

(Imperial Cafe, Bar and Restaurant Building)  
221 South Brea Boulevard  
1926

This building was originally constructed as the Hilgenfeld-Rollins Funeral Parlor in 1926. Sutter-McAulay Funeral Directors took over the funeral parlor later in the 1930's. At one time it also housed the Cummings Furniture Store. In the 1940's, it became the Imperial Cafe and Bar owned by the Oliver Family. Today the building is occupied by Brea Boats.

## Gobar Building

(Oilfields National Bank)  
201-207 South Brea Boulevard  
1928

Originally the Oilfields National Bank, this was the largest and costliest commercial building in Brea at the time. The land was purchased from the Brea Congregational Church.

## Pacific Oil World Building

(Trojan Cafe)  
227 South Brea Boulevard

This building was originally the Trojan Cafe, a popular place for many years. After the Trojan Cafe, the building housed a plumbers' store. One of several stories is that during the aftermath of the Watergate Scandal, the building was occupied by the local Republicans as their headquarters with the plumbing sign still intact on the front of the building. Jack Rider purchased the property in 1977 and published his Pacific Oil World magazine there until 1990. Pacific Oil World magazine has been published since 1908.



VFW/American Legion Building  
210 South Brea Boulevard

Frank and Helen Davies constructed this store in the 1950's and operated a furniture business for many years. It is now temporarily occupied by the VFW/American Legion.

(Baldwin Motor Company Building)  
206 South Brea Boulevard  
1923

Originally constructed for Baldwin Ford in the 1920's, this building later became J. W. Burch Ford dealership. It also served as the meeting place for the Brea Elementary School Board. In the 1950's it was a bowling alley.

Blue Bungalow  
(Office of Dr. W. W. Davis)  
200 South Brea Boulevard  
1919

Dr. W. W. Davis constructed this small structure in 1919 to serve as his office and residence. The front of the house served as a waiting room. The building was recently used as the headquarters for the Brea Redevelopment Agency.

Romancing the Home, Brea Bike & Lawnmower Shop  
141-143 South Brea Boulevard  
1921

This structure has had numerous commercial establishments in the years since it was constructed in 1921. In the 1920's, it housed a restaurant, a barber shop and a pool hall. Later, Woodruff's Incorporated, a grocer, was located here.

Pawlack Tile  
(Bergman Garage)  
146 South Brea Boulevard  
1920

James and Walter Bergman had this constructed as an auto garage in 1920. Later it became Daugherty Chevrolet. There was a drive-through service station in the corner and drive-through garages in the back.

Red Lantern Theatre  
136 South Brea Boulevard  
Demolished in 1987

Constructed in 1922, the Chinese red and gold were unique in this part of Southern California at the time and people came from far away to see this beautiful theatre. In later years it was called the Brea Theatre, and was later occupied by Calvary Chapel before its demolition in 1987.



## City of Brea Historic Walking Tour - Downtown - 1990

### "Good Old Brea" Historic Tour

This tour is an introduction to the historic buildings of downtown Brea and a sampling of what is architecturally unique about our City. There is an extraordinary collection of buildings and neighborhoods here! Brea has a variety of significant landmark buildings, some of which are a result of the development of the oil industry.

The tour starts at Old City Hall and proceeds north on Brea Boulevard to the intersection where Ash Street intersects Brea Boulevard. This is Brea's first intersection. From here the tour explores both West and East Ash Street, proceeding east on Ash Street to the 100 block of South Orange. The tour continues south on Orange Avenue to Birch Street, then west to Brea Boulevard, and finally south returning to the Old City Hall.

The Historic Committee, appointed by the Brea City Council, is working in conjunction with the Brea Historical Society to produce this brochure and conduct the historic walking tours of downtown Brea. Both groups are working diligently to preserve the history and heritage of Brea's important past.

It is hoped that this tour will assist in creating community pride as well as desire to preserve the past and intelligently plan for an historically compatible future in downtown Brea. So enjoy this sampling of the many historic treasures to be found in Brea.

To aid you on the walking tour, please note that odd address numbers are located on the west and north sides of streets, while even address numbers are on the east and south sides.

### City Hall Park 1924

In 1924, the City took the first steps in acquiring the land from the Union Oil Company. A bond issue for \$60,000 was finally passed in 1927 to acquire the land. The Park includes Old City Hall, the Plunge, the Old American Legion Building, the Gazebo (dedicated 1976), and the City Rose Garden.

### American College of Law (Old City Hall) 401 South Brea Boulevard Completed 1929

This building originally included the jail, Fire Department quarters, and a library. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, along with the Park. Recently, some remodeling has been done to accommodate a law school and the Brea Historical Society headquarters.

### Municipal Plunge 430 South Walnut Avenue Opened 1929

This facility was very popular because there were no private pools in Brea until later years. The amenities included rental swimsuits and bath towels.



Emergency Ambulance Service  
(Old American Legion Building)  
495 South Brea Boulevard  
1932

Many volunteers cared for the victims of the 1933 Long Beach earthquake in this building. Brea Methodist Church started here. During the 1970's, the City used the building for its Police Station; it is now leased by an ambulance service.

#### City Rose Garden

In 1946 a large fountain was built in the City Hall Park in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Shaffer of Shaffer Tool Works. Ten years later the fountain was replaced by the Rose Garden. Now a person's memory can be honored by placing name on a plaque.

#### Time Capsule

This was placed by the Historical Society during Brea's Golden Jubilee in 1967 (the City was incorporated in 1917). The capsule is scheduled to be opened in 1992 on the City's 75th birthday.

Upstairs - Downstairs  
(Dr. C. Glenn Curtis Home)  
418 South Brea Boulevard  
1928

Claude and Willa Steen were the initial residents of this revival style residence which was constructed in 1928. Around 1930, the home was purchased by Dr. C. Glenn Curtis and his bride, Bernice. Mrs. Curtis taught piano lessons and was an excellent photographer who practiced both professions in the home. Dr. Curtis practiced medicine on North Pomona Avenue (now Brea Boulevard) until his death in 1955.

Glenn Gheen Home  
420 South Brea Boulevard  
1925

Glenn and Ad Gheen were the first residents of this house constructed in 1925. Mrs. Gheen was still living in the house until 1989. Mr. Gheen owned and operated several grocery stores and meat markets in Brea.

#### 300 Block South Brea Boulevard

The Bowie and Wallace families occupied these homes continuously from the time they were built until 1989. This is a very good example of how homes were interspersed with business along Brea Boulevard.



## RANDOLPH

1992 may be the year of Brea's 75th birthday, but if early land developers had had their way, this celebration could have happened 15 years ago.

The following is the story of Randolph, the little townsite which began optimistically in 1902 but ended a year later due to unfulfilled promises. Being the forerunner of Brea, it's part of our city's early history that has nearly been forgotten but deserves to be recalled in this year of celebrating our past.

It all began back at the turn of the century when the eastern end of the La Habra Valley, where Brea is now located, was basically undeveloped. The first oil well had successfully been drilled in Brea Canyon in 1899, but apart from the oil company bunkhouses and the small homes that were just beginning to dot the hillsides, there was nothing here that one could remotely call a town.

Newspaper articles of the day described this area as having "a superb climate, pure water and deep soil remarkable for its fertility." Already the land around present-day La Habra had farms, orchards, and fields of barley and hay covering its landscape, and this new undeveloped land east of La Habra was touted as having the same excellent potential.

It was into this area in 1902 that developers came and decided to purchase 2,200 acres of land below the mouth of Brea Canyon. Plans were made to subdivide the property into 10 and 20 acre lots, layout a townsite, and provide water. Ads were placed in surrounding newspapers praising the land as having "no superior in South California for oranges or walnuts," and claiming that a 36-inch cement pipe was to bring pure, fresh, soft water to new residents. Lots were to sell for \$150.00 per



acre.

By the end of 1902, it was reported that there was a big demand for the available lots, and 50 of them had been sold in one day. The new town, which had not been named as yet, had contracted for city water and electric lights and was soon to be connected to the Pacific Electric Railway (the Red Cars).

A month later, in January 1903, the new townsite was officially christened. It became Randolph, named for Epes Randolph, the general manager of the Pacific Electric Railway Co.

That same month a petition was circulated for a new school district for the town. It was to be formed from parts of the Fullerton, La Habra and Placentia districts, although the small portion of Placentia land to be included was later dropped from the plan.

Local newspapers now began to write glowing and probably somewhat exaggerated reports of the success of the new settlement. On February 7, 1903 a reporter for the Whittier News stated:

"The new town of Randolph is flourishing. The rain has brightened its fertile acres and made it look still more inviting to the prospective purchaser. Many of the new owners are setting out trees, walnuts proving themselves first favorites. About seventy-five acres are being prepared for trees at this writing, and this acreage will doubtless be still further increased.

"A good deal of lumber is already on the ground, and soon the next stage of the new town will begin. School houses, churches, stores and homes will dot the landscape, where but a few months ago barley and mustard held full sway.

"To the average easterner the rapidity of growth shown by the new



western towns seems a trifle uncanny, but Randolph having fine water and climate and the near prospect of good transportation facilities, should grow, and grow rapidly."

Work was now progressing on laying the water pipeline to Randolph, and new landowner C. E. Utt, one of the founders of Tustin, but known locally as the "Peanut King," was planting his property with walnut trees and peanut plants.

By April 1903 an extension of the county road was being built between La Habra and Randolph. A month later grading was nearing completion on the new Fullerton-Pomona Road which was to run through the townsite. Local oil companies and the land development company were providing the oil to cover the entire length of the new road.

The end of June still saw the work on the new water pipeline to Randolph not yet completed, but work was progressing. This gave hope to local landowners that the water they had been promised would soon be flowing into their fields.

Besides this pipeline, a schoolhouse to serve the 70 children of the new Randolph School District was another important matter that summer of 1903. On July 29 a district election was held, and voters decided to build a school on a 2 1/2 acre lot at the northern end of the town.

One month later a second election took place to decide whether to issue bonds worth \$8,000 for the new schoolhouse, but it was defeated 16 to 1. Since most of the children going to the new school were living in Brea Canyon, their parents felt that the new townsite school would be too far away and that a temporary school should be built in the canyon. They also thought that \$8,000 was too much to spend on a school building for such a small district. Local oil companies did say though that if



the new settlement of Randolph did fill up with people as was expected, they would help the valley property owners get the new schoolhouse.

In that same month of August the long-awaited pipeline finally reached its destination, but three months later something happened. The pipes were taken out and hauled back to Whittier. The Randolph Townsite Co. had cancelled its contract with the East Whittier Water Co. and had arranged to develop and pipe its own water to the entire Randolph tract.

"Mansions" to be built in the new town by Epes Randolph, fellow Pacific Electric Railway executive George E. Pillsbury, and wealthy local land developer W. J. Hole were put on hold and then never constructed.

Finally, in an article in the Fullerton Tribune dated Dec. 10, 1903, it was reported that "the Randolph Townsite (Co.) people have been offered a good price by a Los Angeles syndicate for its 2,000 acres of La Habra (Valley) land and may sell in a few days."

What had happened? Why had events taken a negative turn? And why were there very few references to Randolph in the newspapers during the following years?

It's felt that the failure to establish Randolph as a town was probably due to not being able to get enough water to the townsite. Also, from the start it had been promised by developers that the Pacific Electric Railway would reach the area, but unfortunately they hadn't been able to get the right-of-way to Randolph.

Was Randolph dead? Not entirely. C. E. Utt continued growing peanuts on his land until 1906 when he sold it to Truman Berry of Whittier for approximately \$20,000. The "temporary" Brea Canyon School remained in use until 1910 when the new Randolph School was built on the southwest corner of what is now Brea Blvd. and Lambert. 1910 also saw



in Randolph the arrival finally of the Pacific Electric Railway and the improvement of the water system.

Just as the lack of the railway and sufficient water had spelled the end of the town in 1903, ironically the arrival of these things also brought about the demise of Randolph, but this time it was only of the name. In 1911 Randolph was changed to Brea, people began building homes on their newly-purchased townsite lots, businesses sprang up along Pomona Ave. (now Brea Blvd), in 1917 we became an incorporated city, and 75 years later we're celebrating our 75th birthday.

We've certainly come a long ways in all those years, but at the same time we've also lost much of our early history. Except for Randolph St. running alongside the Brea Mall and Berry St. to the west of Brea Blvd. there are very few references of or traces left of old Randolph. The Pacific Electric Railway Depot was demolished many years ago as was the old Randolph School. No one is quite sure any longer where the Brea Canyon School used to be nor what it looked like.

Even though the years have done their best to swallow up the memories of old Randolph, it's important that those memories not be forgotten. They were unfortunately not the most successful years of our history, but nevertheless they did help to shape and lay the foundation for the Brea of today.

Brian Saul



Business throughout the country is generally ahead of last year in volume. February bank clearings are largest on record and gross railway earnings are enormous. Foreign trade continues very heavy. Prices for commodities did not alter materially during the month.

In our immediate district present business conditions are most favorable. The coming of the rain has relieved the anxiety of the agriculturist and proved a boon to stockmen. Grain which had been of slow growth on account of unusually cold, dry weather of January and February was beginning to turn yellow, and pasturage was short. Now with just average spring rains and sunshine the large crops predicted earlier in the season for Southern California will be insured.

Work in bean and beet field is progressing with renewed confidence. The strike of the beet thinning crews delayed work somewhat at Oxnard, where acreage is larger than ever before.

It is now conceded that the orange crop suffered little injury from frost this season, but that lemons were considerably damaged. Deciduous fruit trees and vines were benefitted by cold and are reported in excellent

condition. Shipment of oranges have been about 500 carloads since the start of the season. The quality and prices good.

Orange shipping is now brisk, 125 to 150 carloads daily. Records show that to date about 7,000 carloads less have been shipped this season than last. Cold weather and cheap price for apples have affected to some extent eastern orange market.

It is estimated 4, Lima bean crop still remains in this section unseeded. However, the spring trade demand, it is thought, will easily absorb this without lowering present price quotations, leaving market well cleaned up for new crop.

Citrus fruit market is quiet. Quotations nominal in absence of wholesale transactions. The directors of California Raisin Grower's Association are formulating a plan of reorganization for term of five years which will soon be submitted to growers.

The California Honey Producer's Association, which formed in December along the lines of Southern California Fruit Exchange has now 1,200 colonies pledged and promises to be a factor in the bee-keeping interests of the coming year.

Locally trade conditions were never better. Travel to the city has been

heavy. Business conditions are a steady growth meeting demand. Work on projected suburban lines with no cessation and one of them are reaching completion. Total resources of all National banks in Los Angeles have increased 34 1/2 per cent. the past three months.

Failures for month, four. Liabilities \$8,700; assets, \$5,300. This does not include failures of houses with headquarters in San Francisco. Failures for same month last year, four. Liabilities, \$24,000; assets, \$10,000.

#### More Rins.

Disturbances of strikers are not nearly as grave as an individual disorder of the system. Overwork, loss of sleep, nervous tension will be followed by other collapse, unless a reliable remedy is immediately employed. There is nothing so efficient to cure disorders of the liver or kidneys as Electric Rins. It's a wonderful tonic, and effective nerve and the greatest all around medicine for run down systems. It dispels nervousness, rheumatism and neuralgia and expels malaria germs. Only 50c, and satisfaction guaranteed by Keudrick & Stafford, druggists.

The Southern Pacific sells 25 ride tickets between Whittier and Los Angeles for \$4.25, 17 cents per trip. They also sell monthly school tickets good for 60 rides for one individual at \$5.00.

## We're Fixed

all right in our new quarters, nicely fixed, thank you. We have a big line of goods that can't help appealing to you. We don't make very much fuss about it but we certainly are doing the business. Look in at 123 West Philadelphia.

P. J. W. Y. W. Store

## Fresh Bakery Goods

At Paul Debbert's Old Stand

ROUNDS & TURKISH

# WHERE IS RANDOLPH

The La Habra Valley Land & Water Co. have just subdivided into 10 and 20 acre lots in the beautiful and fertile La Habra valley 2200 acres of fine land as ever lay out of doors. It has no superior in South California for oranges or walnuts. An abundance of pure, fresh, soft water is conveyed to the land by 36 inch cement pipe, and distributed on the land by smaller mains.

Your choice of this tract for \$150.00 per acre with one inch of water conveyed with every ten acres of land

TERMS: One-third cash, balance on one and two years time at 6 per cent. OFFICE, at RANDOLPH, the new townsite on the tract.

Parties wishing to make inquiries or to purchase lands at RANDOLPH can call on

## J. F. ISBELL and CHESTER ROBINSON

Agents for La Habra Valley Land & Water Co., at Randolph, J. C. Hiatt at Whittier, or Townsend & Robinson at Long Beach.



# Randolph



## 2000 Acres

Of choice Orange and Walnut Land, with Water, in this Tract.

Also Lots in Randolph City.

See our Agent on the Grounds, or



... The ...

Townsend=Robinson  
Investment Company  
Long Beach, Cal.



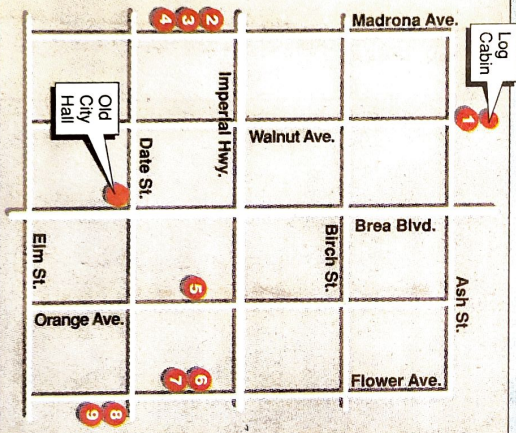
# 790 HISTORIC BREA ON DISPLAY

Reporting by **Cerise A. Valenzuela**  
 The Orange County Register

Seven Brea homes and two churches constructed between 1919 and 1938 will be featured in the city's first historical walking tour 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 4. Community volunteers in costumes from 1917 will be at each location to explain buildings architecture and history. Antique farm tools, quilts and crafts will be displayed at the First Baptist Church, 408 S. Flower Ave. Tickets are \$8 per person and may be purchased in advance from the Community Services Department at the Brea Civic and Cultural Center, 1 Civic Center Circle, or at City Hall Park the day of the tour.

## ON THE TOUR

1. Missionary Baptist Church: Originally the Brea Christian Church, 1914. Stucco sanctuary added, 1935. Euclalyptus log cabin built 1921.
2. Powell house: 317 S. Madrona Ave. Craftsman-style bungalow house, 1922.
3. Gordon House: 321 S. Madrona Ave. Provincial revival-style home, 1929.
4. Stevens house: 323 S. Madrona Ave. Craftsman-style bungalow house, 1923. Original canning cellar intact.
5. Foster house: 321 S. Orange Ave. Craftsman-style bungalow house, 1922.
6. Wilson/Schaffer house: 315 S. Flower Ave. Regency revival home, 1938.
7. Moody house: 331 S. Flower Ave. Provincial revival architecture, 1928.
8. First Baptist Church: 408 S. Flower Ave. Sanctuary building, 1924. Church established 1925.
9. Seiler house: 412 S. Flower Ave. Colonial revival home, 1920.



Source: Brea

# Brea's old baseball field once hosted Babe Ruth

By **Cerise A. Valenzuela**  
 The Orange County Register

BREA — It was the bottom of the ninth inning and Babe Ruth threw the pitch.

It had been a breeze. Ruth was pitching a shutout in an exhibition game at the old Brea Bowl.

But as the ball was lobbed in and across the plate, Bob Meusel slugged it. Wham! The ball went screaming through the air. Going. Going. Gone.

The game was Oct. 31, 1924. Yes, long before Anaheim Stadium.

The Brea game was a fundraiser by the Anaheim Elks Club for its Christmas charity programs. It drew about 5,000 people to the Brea baseball field.

Ruth and Meusel, both stars with the New York Yankees, were the big draws, along with hometown hero Walter Johnson, then a member of the Washington Senators. Johnson grew up in nearby Olinda Village.

Meusel scored his team's only run. The game ended, 12-1. Ruth hit two home runs.

Those home run heroes are



Brea Historical Society

Babe Ruth stands with two local boys in 1924 in Brea. Houses now stand where the baseball field was.

gone. And so is the field where they played, where star-struck neighborhood kids who gathered

Please see **BASEBALL**6



# Brea's History Briefly

"Black Gold" or "oil," as it is usually known, had a crucial role in the founding and development of Brea. In 1894, the Union Oil Company purchased 1,200 acres from Abel Stearns, a large property owner, in the foothills which adjoin the City of Brea. Intensive oil exploration and production began in the late 1890's as numerous oil companies joined Union Oil in the oil quest.

At this time, a small town developed in the foothills known as Olinda, and was the home of numerous oil workers and their families. They constructed modest bungalows of varying sizes and styles.

As Olinda developed, the Ontario Investment Company decided in 1908 to establish a new town further south as a speculative venture. They filed a subdivision map in 1908 and called this new town Randolph. The Randolph Township's lots apparently were not selling quickly and in 1911, the Randolph subdivision was refilled with the new name of "Brea," meaning "tar" in Spanish. The town received an important transportation link in 1912 when the Pacific Electric Railway constructed a line from Los Angeles to Yorba Linda and built a station in Brea.

Between 1910 and 1920, the town expanded with many pioneer families coming to Brea to reside while working in the adjoining oil fields. Early pioneers included the Casners, the Craigs, the Woodwards and the Sextons. A series of compact residential neighborhoods developed around the Brea Boulevard commercial center. Neighborhoods were primarily settled by oil workers.

By the late teens, Brea had begun construction on its new grammar school and in 1917, local elections were held to determine whether Brea should be incorporated as a city. Voters overwhelmingly supported this movement and when the first city council was elected, Jax Sexton was voted Mayor by the council.

The twenties were a period of growth of the community as oil production continued. New neighborhoods, such as the Union Oil and Laurel Heights, were developed to accommodate the growing population. Brea Boulevard expanded south to become a two and a half block commercial strip. The new City Hall and Park were designed and constructed in 1928, capping a ten year effort to build a civic landmark in Brea.

The onset of the Depression brought an economic slowdown to Brea. The city's population remained stable and the oil companies continued to employ the bulk of Brea's population.

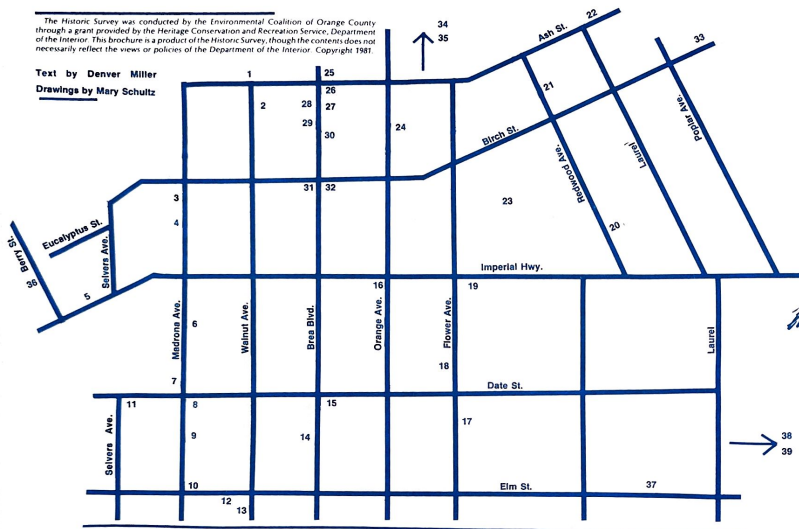
By 1940, Brea had begun to recover from the economic downturn and new tracts of homes began developing. But Brea remained a small town with the population only 3,215 in 1950.

By the 1960's, the oil fields and groves gave way to tract homes, shopping centers and freeways. Brea's population in 1970 stood at 21,650. In a short span of twenty years, Brea had become one of the significant urban centers of Orange County. While Brea's appearance has changed, much of its older downtown remains, a reminder of the early years of the community.

The Historic Survey was conducted by the Environmental Coalition of Orange County through a grant provided by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior. This brochure is a product of the Historic Survey, though the contents does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior. Copyright 1981.

Text by Denver Miller

Drawings by Mary Schultz



1021 East Elm Street  
Schwelzer Residence

30. 124 South Brea Boulevard 1921

Isaac Craig, local contractor, built this building as Brea's first reinforced concrete structure. Designed in a simple Mediterranean style, the U.S. Post Office once occupied the ground floor.

31. 201-07 South Brea Boulevard 1928  
Oilfields National Bank Building

Brea's finest Spanish Revival style commercial building, this edifice was constructed for the Oilfields National Bank. Constructed on land acquired from the Congregational Church, the building was the largest and costliest built at the time. The former banking room was located on the ground floor at the corner.

32. 206 South Brea Boulevard 1923  
Baldwin Motor Company

Decorative glazed brick highlights the steeped parapet facade of this commercial building. Once a car dealership, later it became a bowling alley.

## OUTLYING BUILDINGS

33. 603 East Birch Street 1924, 1934  
Brea-Olinda High School

The Brea-Olinda High School was the community's first high school. In 1925, the Brea Elementary Schools left the Fullerton Union High School District and formed a new district. The high school, when constructed cost \$350,000 and the school opened in 1925 with 50 students. In 1933, the building was damaged by the Long Beach earthquake and architect, Theodore Kistner redesigned the school in its present Classical-Modern style.

34. 400 North Brea Boulevard 1916, 1933  
Brea Junior High

Formerly known as the Brea Grammar School, the Brea Junior High was the community's first large school structure. Built at a cost of \$140,000, it was designed to accommodate the mushrooming school-age population. Damaged in 1933 by the Long Beach earthquake, Theodore Kistner rebuilt the school in its present Spanish design.

35. 1531 North Brea Boulevard 1912  
Brea Canon Oil

This Craftsman style structure still houses the offices of the Brea Canon Oil Company which was once owned by E. L. Doherty. It is the last known structure in Brea which was exclusively utilized by the early pioneering oil industry.

36. 285 South Berry Street 1919  
Slevens Residence

This large residence is an eclectic combination of Craftsman and Mediterranean styling. Built for John and Mary Slevens, John Slevens was the vice-president of the local La Habra Valley Bank. In 1926, a major fire from oil tanks to the north destroyed the Slevens' groves and the family sold the house to the Union Oil Company and moved to Santa Catalina Island.

37. 527 East Elm Street 1916  
Sexton Residence

This is an informal and well maintained Craftsman bungalow hidden behind several large pine trees. Brea's first Mayor, Jay Sexton and his wife, Mary, had this bungalow constructed.

38. 921 East Elm Street 1930  
Brown Residence

Reminiscent of the large Spanish style houses in Santa Barbara, this is certainly Brea's most exuberant example. As vice-president of the local Oilfields National Bank, Alonzo Brown, and his wife, Luella were able to build this house of their dreams.

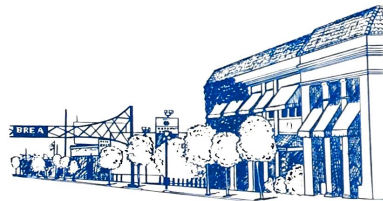
39. 1021 East Elm Street 1926  
Schwelzer Residence

Once surrounded by graves this lightly embellished Spanish Revival style house was constructed for Frank Schwelzer Senior. Frank Schwelzer was appointed to the Brea City Council in 1917 and served on this council for twenty years.

# City of Brea Historic Tour



Old Brea City Hall



201-207 South Brea Boulevard  
Oilfields National Bank Building



# City of Brea Historic Tour

This tour is an introduction to the historic buildings of Brea and a sampling of what is architecturally unique about our City. There is an extraordinary collection of buildings and neighborhoods here! Brea has a variety of significant landmark buildings some of which are a result of the development of the oil industry. But more than just these individual structures, Brea has whole neighborhoods of special distinction. The tour has selected those important individual buildings as well as specific buildings from each of the neighborhoods.

The tour was planned for either walking or biking and since many are homes please respect the owner's privacy. The tour starts with the Sievers/Walnut neighborhood and proceeds in a circular direction covering each of the five areas ending with the Good Old Brea commercial district. Since there are several buildings which are outside of these neighborhoods, at any point feel free to diverge from the neighborhood tours to visit these other sites.

This walking tour is a product of a year long Historic Survey which began in August, 1980 as an effort to inventory the historic and architectural buildings within the community. More than 500 homes and buildings dating prior to 1940 have been itemized in the Historic Survey Inventory. To view the complete inventory or to obtain additional copies of this brochure contact the Information Desk at the Brea City Hall.

The result of the Brea Historic Survey has been to uncover the architectural and historical treasures in the City. It is hoped that this tour will assist in creating community pride as well as a desire to preserve the past and intelligently plan for a historically compatible future. So, enjoy this sampling of the many historic treasures to be found in Brea.

## SIEVERS-WALNUT NEIGHBORHOOD

Much of this neighborhood was part of the 1911, Town of Brea Subdivision. The first pioneers came to Brea and settled here, and included such families as the Schweitzers, the Casners, the Hudsonstons, and the Woodwards. The houses they constructed were usually small and simple reflecting the limited finances of the times. Many of the houses were built by the owners with some constructed by local contractors. This is Brea's oldest intact neighborhood and it has a variety of early pioneer Craftsman style homes.



207 South Madrona Avenue  
Casner Residence

1. 203 West Ash Street  
Brea Christian Church

1915, 1935

The high tower of the Brea Missionary Baptist Church punctuates the skyline of this neighborhood. Originally the Brea Christian Church until the early sixties, the old church building was remodeled in 1935 to its present design. Behind the church is a small log cabin constructed by the Honor Knights, a church youth group in 1923.

2. 116 South Walnut Avenue

1911

Having the distinction of being one of the oldest houses on this block, this early Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow was constructed by one of Brea's early pioneers. At that time, streets were unpaved, having no curbs, gutters, or sidewalks.

3. 207 South Madrona Avenue  
Casner Residence

Circa: 1915

A wealth of Craftsman style detail are visible on this house. Note the large porch where one could rest on a hot summer evening. William Casner, early Brea pioneer who participated in the development of many of Brea's early commercial buildings resided here.

4. 219 South Madrona Avenue  
Fanning Residence

1919

Shingles clad this quiet Craftsman style bungalow. Built for William and Stella Fanning, William Fanning was principal of the Laurel School and later Superintendent of the local school district.

5. 415 East Imperial Highway  
Williams Residence

1921

This large Mediterranean Revival style house is distinctive for its large porte cochere which is one side of the house. The porte cochere was a covered roof over a driveway that protected persons entering and leaving their vehicles. The house along this block of Imperial Highway were constructed during the twenties on property which was originally part of the Sievers Ranch.

## UNION OIL NEIGHBORHOOD

Major portions of this neighborhood were subdivided by the Union Oil Company in the early twenties for sale by its employees. The company assisted its employees by carrying the mortgages on the houses. As Brea's best intact residential neighborhood, it has a wide range of architectural styles from the twenties and thirties.



212 West Elm Street

6. 326 South Madrona Street

1923

This block has an appealing mixture of Craftsman and Revival style residences. This particular Mediterranean Revival style house was constructed of reinforced concrete with a plaster finish. Such construction materials were unusual for residences and may be due to the early owners fear of fire or earthquakes.

7. 343 South Madrona Avenue  
Van Tuyle Residence

1922, 1936

Local Contractor, Arthur Van Tuyle constructed these two residences as his home. It was a common practice to construct a small make-shift bungalow at the rear of lots, and when finances improved build a larger house at the front. Arthur Van Tuyle was elected to the Brea City Council in 1940.

8. 400 South Madrona Avenue  
Van Denburgh Residence

1922

This block of Madrona Avenue is Brea's finest example of small bungalows constructed by Union Oil company employees. The street illustrates the variety of styles which were popular like this Colonial Revival residence.

9. 416 South Madrona Avenue

1922

Symmetry characterizes this Mediterranean Revival style house. This style was quite popular in Southern California during the twenties and architects and contractors built them to fit the most limited budgets.

10. 448 South Madrona Avenue  
Cribbs Residence

1922

This oilworkers Craftsman bungalow is one of the many examples to be found in this neighborhood. Such houses were small versions of the Craftsman style homes designed by famous architects Greene and Greene in Pasadena.

11. 400 South Sievers Avenue

1916

This seemingly simple Transitional-Craftsman style bungalow illustrates the types of houses which were moved into Brea. Located here in 1937, it was most likely moved from the oilfields.

12. 212 West Elm Street

1927

During the twenties numerous architectural styles were transplanted to Southern California. The Provincial Revival style was said to have been brought back from Europe after World War I. With its shingle siding, this house is one of the many examples which can be discovered in this neighborhood.

13. 523 South Walnut Avenue

1923

This large multi-unit Mediterranean Revival style bungalow court is a one-of-a-kind in Brea. Such courts were popular in such areas as Hollywood where way to Brea!

14. City Hall Park

1928-30

Brea's important public park was built on land purchased from the Union Oil Company. Los Angeles architect Allen Ruoff designed the City Hall in 1928 at a cost of \$23,000. The American Legion Hall, which later became the Brea Police Department is well remembered for the numerous dashes held in its basement. Local gardener, Louis Papilio provided the original trees and shrubs for the Park.

## EAST ELM — EAST DATE NEIGHBORHOOD

Numerous Revival style residences can be discovered in this small neighborhood. The area was developed during the twenties and thirties and has a mixture of housing styles and designs. At one time orchards bordered the south and east sides of this neighborhood.

15. 108 East Date Street  
Papilio Residence

1922

This picturesque Provincial Revival house utilizes a variety of building materials including stone, stucco and wood. Its irregular appearance is reminiscent of a small Italian hillside home. Louis Papilio operated a nursery at the front of the lot in the twenties and thirties.

16. 311 South Orange Avenue  
Bergman Residence

1930

This is just one example of the many fine Revival style homes which can be found on this block. Note the small tower above the entry.

17. 412 South Flower Avenue

1919

An eye-catching Colonial Revival residence dominates this block. Originally located in Pico Rivera, this house was moved to Brea in the early fifties.

18. 335 South Flower Avenue  
Fletcher Residence

1929

Elegance best describes this large Provincial Revival style house. Such designs were popular in Southern California for their picturesque qualities. Notice that the porch has all but disappeared by the time this house was designed.

19. 300 East Imperial Highway  
Brea Congregational Church

1915, 1928

Long a part of Brea's religious community, the Congregational Church was originally located at the corner of Birch and Brea Boulevard. When the Oilfields National Bank offered the church a substantial sum of money for the lot, the church moved to its present location and remodeled its building in a Spanish design. For many years its bell rang out to the community as a call to church services.

## LAUREL HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD

Noted for its numerous small rolling hills, the area east of Flower Avenue was once part of the Yriarte Ranch. When the ranch was split-up this area was divided for new housing. The area was slow to develop and during the thirties many houses were moved in. Several of the streets have a preponderance of Craftsman and Revival style homes such as the 200 block of Laurel Avenue.



200 South Flower Avenue  
Laurel School

20. 260 South Redwood Avenue

1905

Originally located in Olinda, this transitional-Craftsman style bungalow was moved to Brea during the twenties and thirties.

21. 116 South Redwood Avenue  
Moore Residence

1929

Several Provincial Revival style houses are located on this small hilly block. The numerous examples of this style indicated the ingenious way the local contractors varied the style.

22. 329 East Ash Street  
Agustan Yriarte Ranch

1920, Barn - 1909

Alone at the top of a small hill is this simple Craftsman Ranch house. Once surrounded by groves, the house was built for Agustan Yriarte who still resides here! The Yriarte family had come to the Brea area in 1905 as ranchers. When the family property was split, Agustan constructed this residence and moved the old family barn here.

23. 200 South Flower Avenue  
Laurel School

1922

An important local landmark, it was constructed when voters approved Brea's first local bond of \$50,000. Designed in an attractive Spanish style, the structure was undamaged by the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. Its lush landscaping is a pleasant retreat from busy Imperial Highway.

24. 134 South Orange Avenue  
Muzzal Residence

1921

This is just one example of the many houses on this street constructed by early oil workers. This block was part of the original plan of the Town of Brea and its small houses are indicative of what the oil workers built. Note the rows of palm trees which add additional character to the street.

## GOOD OLD BREA

Invitingly pedestrian oriented, the Good Old Brea Commercial Center developed around the corners of Ash Street and Brea Boulevard in the early teens. Expansion continued in a southerly trend until by the 1930's the commercial center occupied a 2 1/2 block stretch of Brea Boulevard. A small town atmosphere is evoked from the area because the buildings are close to the street and many are intact. Ranging in height, the buildings are a variety of styles indicative of the different periods of development.



105-09 East Ash Street  
Wahl Building

25. 105-09 East Ash Street  
Wahl Building

1911

One of the early Craftsman-Fairst front commercial structures, this is one of Brea's oldest commercial structures. In the past, the upper story consisted of rented rooms while stores occupied the lower floors. The building originally faced on Brea Boulevard but was turned on the lot. Note the Good Old Brea clock located at the corner which was placed here recently by the City.

26. 100 South Brea Boulevard  
Cambridge's Brea Hardware

1915, 1934

Long a part of the Brea commercial center, this building was originally constructed by the Stern and Goodman Mercantile Company but was later sold to its simple Spanish design complements the Brea Boulevard fabric.

27. 116, 118, 120, 122 Brea Boulevard

1920

Four small brick commercial buildings each designed different from the other define this portion of the block. Constructed together each shop remains different while still being part of the block of buildings.

28. 103-13 South Brea Boulevard  
Sewell Buildings

1914

While seemingly simple in style, this was Brea's first brick building and replaced a fire-ravished structure. Between 1917 and 1928 the Brea City Hall was located on the second floor while numerous commercial establishments occupied the ground floor shops.

29. 117 South Brea Boulevard  
Brea Bakery

1911

Early pioneer architecture inspired the builder of this Craftsman-Fairst front structure. At one time the location of the Brea Bakery, numerous other enterprises including a restaurant have been located here.