



The Glendale Historical Society

NEWSLETTER VOL. 5, NO. 3, 1984

SURVEY REVEALS UNEXPECTED HISTORIC RESOURCES IN GLENDALE

Sixteen months and \$14,000 after it began, Glendale's first historic resources survey is drawing to a close with submittal of the final survey report.

In October the hundred-page document, colorfully illustrated and bound, was delivered to the State Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento by Leslie Heumann, project coordinator and principal in the firm of Heumann, Gleye and Associates.

Copies of the document are now being circulated to the survey's steering committee for review and comment. The principal findings include the 1934 Post Office, with its classic Italian Renaissance ornamentation, which was marked as a strong candidate for the National Register of Historic Places. The study also:

--Identified five properties in central Glendale which are potentially eligible for listing on the National Register: the Masonic Temple building, 232 S. Brand; the E. D. Goode house, 119 N. Cedar; Kiefer and Eyerick Mortuary, 314 E. Harvard; the Municipal Power and Light Station at 145 N. Howard; and the YMCA, 140 N. Louise.

--Identified two other properties as "conditionally eligible": the Harrower Laboratory at 920 E. Broadway and the demolished Egyptian Village Cafe at 131 N. Brand.

--Identified 15 other properties suitable for some type of local landmark status, including the Security Pacific Bank building, 100 N. Brand; Woolworth's, 201 N. Brand; Burns-Davis building, 201 E. Broadway; Glendale City Hall, 613 E. Broadway; Hotel Glendale, 701 E. Broadway; a bungalow at 120 S. Cedar; the Elks Club, 120 E. Colorado; a two-story house at 227 N. Everett; the Glendale Public Service building, 119 N. Glendale Ave.; Colonial Buick, 138 S. Glendale Ave.; First United Methodist Church Education Building, 134 N. Kenwood; Unity Temple, 117 S. Kenwood; First Baptist Church; 201 N. Louise; and a home at 822 E. Wilson.

Preservation of these and other structures is associated with a series of recommendations advanced by Heumann and Gleye:

1. City wide survey and identification programs to find and protect historic resources which are outside of the 60-block study area;
2. Adoption of a heritage preservation ordinance featuring neighborhood conservation strategies, and fostering a review of City policies which restrict protection of historic resources;
3. A broad-based education program, to be launched with the consultants' delivery of a slide show and walking tour for TGHS use later this year.

The first survey focused on a 60-block section of central Glendale roughly comprising the southern half of the original Town of Glendale. Future surveys are proposed, extending the survey program northward toward the Ventura Freeway and reflecting the need to protect neighborhoods threatened by insensitive planning and redevelopment policies. A second year grant is currently pending with the State Office of Historic Preservation, which administers the grant program using federal funds.

Throughout the project, TGHS volunteers played integral roles without which the final product would not have been possible:

Survey Steering Committee: TGHS members Zelia Blanton (President), Carole Dougherty (immediate past president), Dick Montgomery (Treasurer), Vonnie Rossman (Board Member), and Steve Preston (Board Member) spearheaded the drive to submit the grant proposal in a record two weeks time. Following approval of the Grant, the committee became overseers of the project, coordinating the difficult and complex financial and administrative functions not directly under the project coordinator's command.

Volunteer Surveyors and Researchers: Many people contributed to the survey by walking neighborhoods, recording facts, researching, staffing the office, and distributing leaflets. They include Sherry Beckman, Bill and Ruth Dodson, Carole Dougherty, Tom Gates, Margaret Hammond, Kate Huang, Dawn Jacobson, Barbara Johnson, Paula Kelly, Marie Luft, Suzanne McKay, Aline Merchant, Mimi Plutae, Susie Rosalie, Carol Shor-Harrison, Maggie Valentine, Evelyn Wallace, and Susan Ward.

Consultants: Many longtime friends of The Glendale Historical Society offered their expertise to the project. Serving on the survey evaluation committee, which examined and ranked the significance of 200 sites, were Carole Dougherty, Christy Johnson McAvoy, Dr. Robert M. Newcomb, Steve Preston, and Larry G. Tison. Cara Stemen, media supervisor at CalTech's public events office, handled press and public relations. Philip Docktor supplied top-notch graphics.

Many people not directly associated with TGHS also contributed to the project. In particular, the Board wishes to thank City Manager James Rez and his staff, who provided a significant contribution of facilities and labor to supplement the grant; Building Superintendent Alexander Pyper and Clerk Bea Smits, who watched the survey office when it was unattended and made available the Building Section's extensive files.

Copies of the individual survey forms which were prepared for the structures surveyed will be placed on file with the City and The Glendale Historical Society. Products yet to come include the full color slide show and a walking tour identifying the best of the survey's findings. As recommended by the survey consultants, a Preservation Task Force has been formed by our organization to investigate and act on issues pertaining to our historic resources.

TGHS members who want to receive a copy of the survey report can place orders with Steve Preston at 956-2115 days. The report will be reproduced in black and white for a cost of approximately \$10.00.

Congratulations to The Glendale Historical Society and all the program's participants for a job well done.

Steve Preston
Chairperson
Survey Steering Committee

THE DOCTORS' HOUSE: THE THIRD DOCTOR

ALLEN L. BRYANT, M. D.
GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA

Allen Lincoln Bryant, born in 1865 in Windom, Minnesota, spent his boyhood in New Sharon and Marshalltown, Iowa. Josephine Elizabeth Ferguson, born in Marshalltown in 1876, became his wife in 1895 when she was 19 and he 30 years of age.

From the time they began life together, Josephine referred to her husband as "Doctor", and indeed he was already an alumnus of Drake University with an internship completed at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. The Bryants lived in Birmingham, Alabama as well as in Marshalltown before coming to California.

With 2-year-old twin sons Dean and Hugh, they left Marshalltown in 1903 intending to go to Oakland, where Doctor Bryant had rented offices. En route they stopped in Los Angeles and in Pasadena, staying at the Green Hotel. Mrs. Bryant described the hotel as the most elegant place she had ever experienced up to that time. They happened to drive across the Glendale valley in order to visit one of Mrs. Bryant's relatives, and they were so struck with its beauty, that they decided to stay. At that time, very early 1904, there was little but beauty here, with only a very small commercial block on Glendale Avenue. Glendale's Doctor Hunt immediately took a great liking to the new doctor, and they became very closely associated professionally, personally, and in community work. The Bryants were recorded into membership at Glendale Methodist Church in February, 1904.

When Dr. Hunt decided to move to Redlands in 1906, it seemed only natural that Dr. Bryant should take over the practice Hunt had developed. Dr. Bryant obliged by taking not only the practice but the house as well, together with the converted carriage house and new office structure which Hunt had built when he moved his practice out of the main house. Thus the Bryants succeeded the Hunts as residents in the stately home. It was about this time that the third Bryant son, Albert Allen (or Cody as he was known to the family) was born.

Like most other doctors of the day, Dr. Bryant used a horse and buggy for his transportation. This was indeed the customary mode for travel in the valley or to Los Angeles, although the Salt Lake Line railroad had the right of way on Glendale Avenue to Doran Street. Son Hugh Bryant later described the excitement of the occasional horse and buggy trips to Los Angeles to shop at Mullen and Bluett for the family clothing needs. In 1908, about the time he moved from the "Doctor's House", Bryant sold his horse and buggy and bought a late model Reo automobile.

Allen and Josephine Hunt were serious about their obligations to their adopted community, and from the earliest days under the tutelage and influence of old Dr. Hunt they took important civic roles. A 1914 newspaper article honored Dr. Bryant as foremost among Glendale's professional men, a "vital part of the city through long residence and an absorbing interest in everything that pertains to Glendale's advancement and uplift."

Dr. Bryant succeeded E. D. Goode as originating secretary of the High School Board of Education, serving 12 years. He was also the first officer of the Library Board of Trustees. After seven years' effort, in September 1913, Dr. Bryant, still Library Board President, announced that Mr. Carnegie had accepted plans for the proposed new structure at Harvard and Kenwood. The building was completed within 18 months and stood until 1977.

When the Bryants came to Glendale, they left their relatives in Iowa and other Eastern points. But at one particular social gathering, it is recorded that 56 persons, all connections of the Bryants and all residing in Glendale, were present. Perhaps it was his influence in bringing so many people from the Midwest to live in Glendale which earned him the affectionate title, "the Mayor" before Glendale actually had such an office.

Dr. Bryant was also known as "the children's friend". Not only did he love children and particularly enjoy pediatrics; he also served as school physician for decades, again following Dr. Hunt in office. Friends described A. L. as a most intelligent and caring man with a quiet manner rooted in true humility. The Bryants were active in the social life of Glendale, and became members of Glendale's first Country Club at Wilson and Brand Boulevard. The doctor belonged to Elks Lodge, and was a 32nd degree Mason and Shriner of Al Malaikah Temple of Los Angeles. Josephine belonged to Eastern Star Lodge, chartered Chapter L.P.E.O., and was a charter officer of the Tuesday Afternoon Club.

Among those who have described their recollections of Dr. Bryant are Leone Kiefer, Albert Cornwell, Wilbur Lee, Dorothy Lee Weller, and Carroll Parcher. Wilbur remembers Doctor Bryant delivering his baby brother Kenny while the Bryants lived in The Doctors' House in 1907. His sister Dorothy recalls the occasion in 1914 when the Glendale men put on a "model meeting" spoofing their wives of Chapter L.P.E.O. Dr. Bryant, usually so reserved, was an absolute spectacle in a pink tutu. Josephine was livid, but in the end she too laughed. Dr. Bryant was physician to the Parcher family, and he would have of course been well acquainted with Mayor Wilmot Parcher through his many civic activities. Carroll Parcher remembers him clearly, and offered the description of a "small, very active and purposeful man" for whom he (Carroll) had "kindly feelings." Since Dr. Bryant typically made house calls, the patient "seldom went to the office for medical needs."

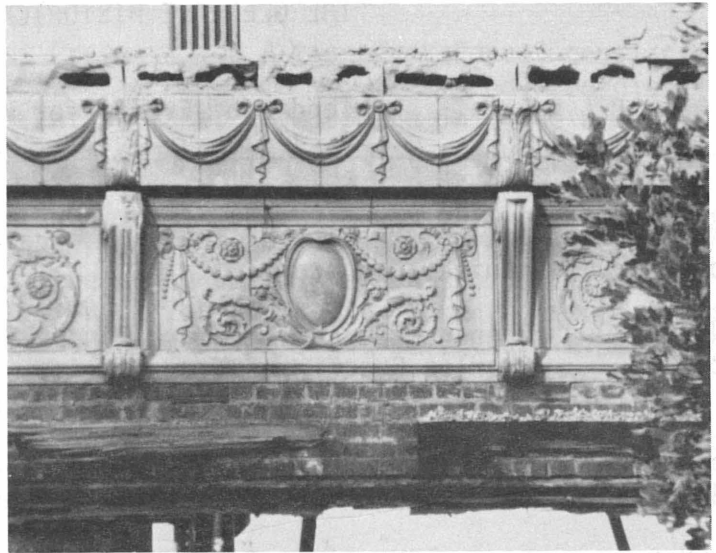
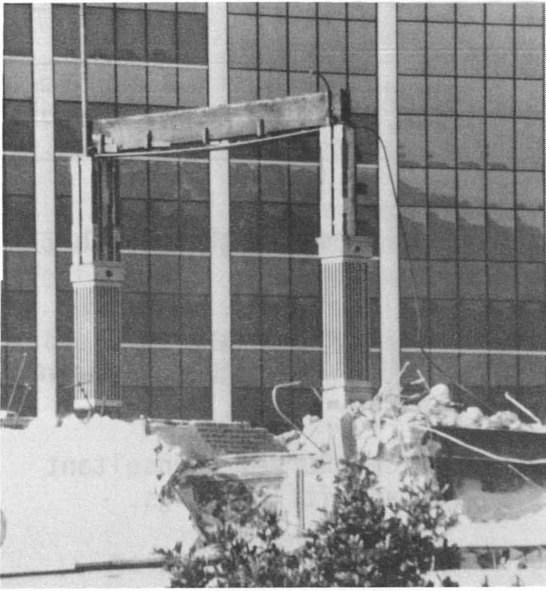
Josephine Bryant, like her husband, was a small person. She was loved by all three of her daughters-in-law, who, widowed, are all still living in California. Only Sally Bryant Hopkins, widow of Dean Bryant, now lives in Glendale. To her, Josephine was "Mother Bryant" a happy, laughing person. She was also a most articulate storyteller and actually published a group of short stories and plays. The family passion was music, and Josephine was as accomplished at piano as she was with voice. Doctor played mandolin. By surviving accounts, Josephine's talent was exceptional.

Several letters of the 1910s and 1920s from Dr. and Mrs. Bryant to a young man Dr. Bryant had generously sponsored from an orphaned situation, were turned over to us by the man's widow after being kept throughout his lifetime. Josephine wrote to him with a great deal of humorous teasing, solicitude, and affection. She also mentioned her long and restrictive illness, which was a heart weakness of over a half-century's duration. The doctor, it seems, was forever confining her and she was forever dreaming up new adventures to pursue. The balance worked; she lived to age 84 while he lived to be 76. They are both buried in Grandview Cemetery.

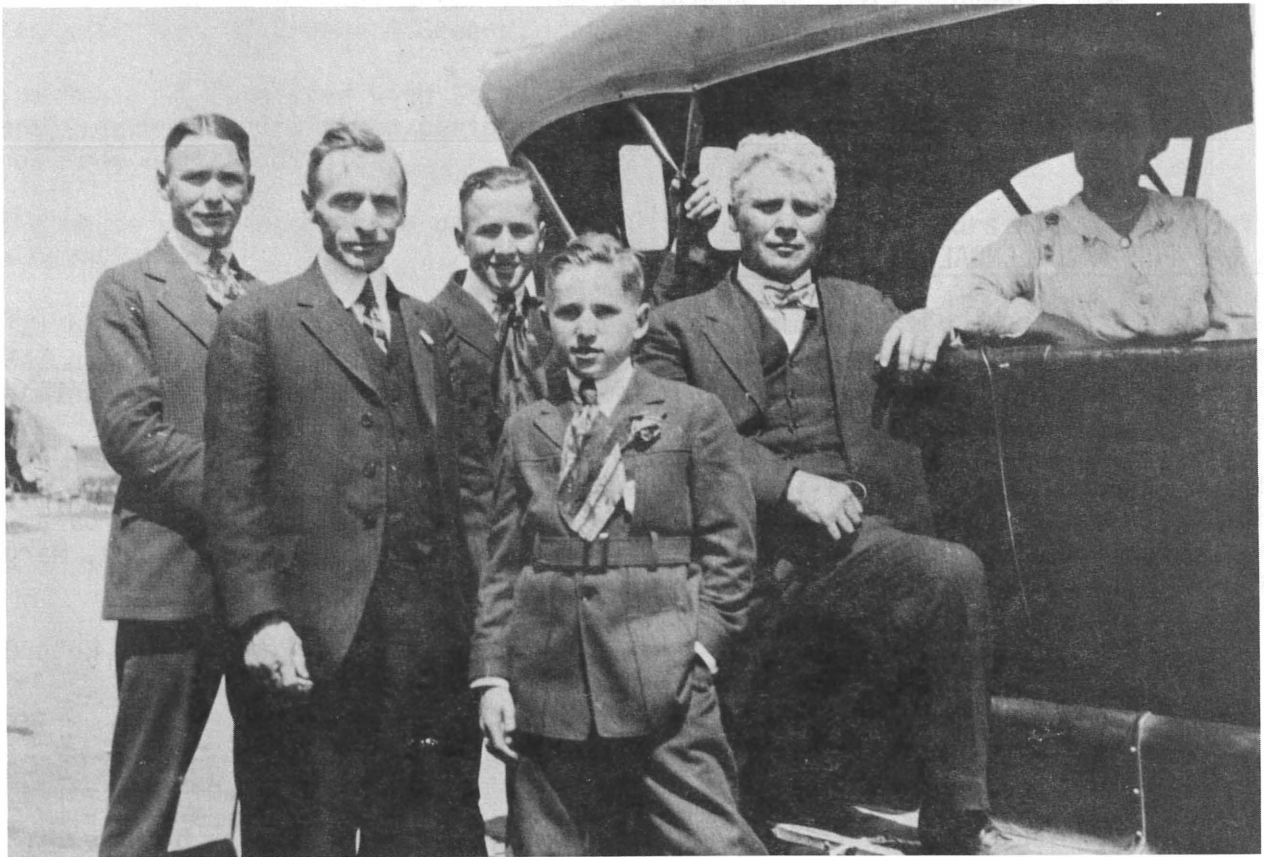
Dr. Bryant lived and practiced medicine in Glendale for 37 years, from 1904 until his death in 1941. Thus, while his was the shortest stay in The Doctors' House, he was by far the longest Glendale resident of the four doctors and had the most sustained involvement in community life.

Sue Lazara

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The final stages of the demolition of The Egyptian Village Cafe reveal, on the left, two of the cafe pillars and, just above the foliage, a corner of the decorative frieze which was part of the facade of the Jensen Building in the 1920s. Details of this frieze appear in the right photo. (Thanks to Ernie's Camera Shop for help with R. Newcomb's photography.)



The Dr. Allen Lincoln Bryant Family about 1915. From left to right they are son Dean, Doctor Bryant, son Hugh, son Albert Allen (Cody), "adopted son" Louis Titus, and Mrs. Josephine Bryant who is seated in the car. (Photo donated by Mrs. Louis Titus, widow of the Bryant's "adopted son".)

THE GLENDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Calendar of Events for Winter, 1985

- JANUARY 2
Wednesday General Meeting of TGHS. Glendale Federal Savings presents their 50th anniversary program.
- JANUARY 19
Saturday Opening tour of the Mary Ranney House, Pasadena residence designed by Charles Greene and Mary Ranney. Free. Special TGHS hours 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. 440 Arroyo Terrace (Corner of Orange Grove), Pasadena.
- February 6
Wednesday General Meeting of TGHS. Glendale Historic Resources Survey consultant Leslie Heumann gives a final report on the survey and its findings.
- MARCH 6
Wednesday General Meeting of TGHS. Business meeting and historic film program.

CONTINUING

Sundays The Doctors' House, Brand Park. Open to the public 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Free docent-guided tours of the recently restored Queen Anne-Eastlake style 1890 home.

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WEBB'S DAY FOR THE GLENDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We wish to thank Webb's department store and all who gave of their time and talents to participate in our "Webb's Day", October 9. Webb's has given our organization \$451.00, an amount representing a percentage of the purchase amounts of all customers mentioning our name at the time of their purchase.

Hosts, hostesses and helpers included Frances Grigsby, Marie Luft, Marjorie Gillin, Natalie and Dick Montgomery, Isabelle Meyer, Loraine Zabaro, Audrey Hales, Barbara Hansen, Karen Cline, Mae McPherson, Ruth Ogden, Dorothy Krieger, Gladys Walker, Margaret Hammond, Sherry Beckman, and Mary Franzen.

Reported by Ruth Ogden

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Newsletter Editor: Suzanne McKay Assistant Editor: Dr. Robert Newcomb

Thanks to Susan Read for typing the newsletter and to Daphne Linstrum for bulkmailing.

TGHS PRESERVATION TASK FORCE BEGINS ITS WORK

The Glendale Historical Society's first Preservation Action Task Force, consisting of members Steve Preston, Carole Dougherty, Natalie Montgomery, Greta Reed, Georgie Kajer-Weis and Bob Weis, has been formed to investigate, develop and initiate a legislative action program protecting Glendale's endangered historic resources.

The first assignment of the Task Force involves impending adoption of a new zoning/land use ordinance by the City Council in January. This new zoning ordinance could affect parcels of land which have historic value or on which stand historic structures. The committee is currently analyzing the five Draft Zoning Maps to make recommendations to the TGHS Board of Directors with regard to changes which might affect any of Glendale's historic resources.

Greta Reed

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TGHS TOUR OF MARY RANNEY HOUSE

Ranney/Greene, A General Partnership, announces the Grand Opening of the MARY RANNEY HOUSE at 440 Arroyo Terrace, (corner of Orange Grove) Pasadena, California.

This Craftsman home, designed by Charles Greene and Mary Ranney of the architectural firm of Greene & Greene, was built in 1907 with a 1912 addition to follow.

The house is furnished with Stickly furniture (on loan from El Adobe Galleries of Pasadena), authentic Craftsman period pottery, and reproductions of Tiffany light fixtures from Buffalo Studios.

The house will accommodate groups of 150 for self-guided tours with hosts available for information.

The Glendale Historical Society is honored to be the first of several groups invited to tour this restoration of a Craftsman style home in Pasadena. You will remember this house as the site of the TGHS Christmas Reception in 1983, while restoration was in process. Our tour time is 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday, January 19. Don't miss this opportunity to view a living museum of the Craftsman period.

Zelia Blanton

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SPRING GARAGE SALE APPROACHES

This spring we will again be holding one of our large and popular garage sales. Audrey Hales, 243-6320, will be co-ordinating the sale. So clean out that closet or attic and contact Audrey for delivery arrangements. Workers will also be needed to assist at the sale. Watch for further announcements of the exact date.

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MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new members Robert and Georgia Weis, Nora Barsuk, Dr. Pam Vorden, Teresa Janics, Glayds Titman, S. E. Bailey, Ruth Samuel, Donald and Majorie Schilling, Luanne Sauter, Gaile Nelson, Mary Franzen, Hynda L. Rudd, Christina Carlile, Rowland Holland, Steven Der-Abramians, and the Society of Architectural Historians.

Membership in The Glendale Historical Society is open to all persons interested in learning about, promoting, and preserving aspects of Glendale's history. Members receive quarterly newsletters, announcements of events, discounts on TGHS tours, and the opportunity to work on a variety of projects. Annual dues are \$15 for single active, \$25 for family active, \$50 for sustaining, \$5 for student/senior, \$25 for non-profit organization, and \$100 for corporate.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ () New Member () Renewing Member

I would like to assist in the following areas:

EDUCATION
RESERACH
CLERICAL

PRESERVATION ACTION
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP
WAYS AND MEANS
OTHER: _____

General meetings are held monthly (except December, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Carrillon Room, Glendale Federal Savings, 401 North Brand Boulevard. Telephone: 242-7447

The Glendale Historical Society
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