
South Bay Historical Society Bulletin

April 2016

Issue No. 12



This view of Imperial Beach in 1910 features its most significant historic site, the landmark pier. All of the original buildings shown here are no longer standing, but the pier has been rebuilt over the years at its same location. The first hotel on the left burned in a fire, but a hotel has always been at the same location; today it is the Pier South Resort.

Historic Sites of Imperial Beach

This year the city of Imperial Beach celebrates its 60th anniversary. The South Bay Historical Society has joined with the city to organize an exhibit that will be on public view at Pier Plaza during the Sun & Sea Festival July 15-16. The historic sites listed in this issue of *The Bulletin* remind us how important it is to preserve our past. These sites conform to the criteria of the U. S. Department of Interior's National Register of Historic Places. They are at least 50 years old and represent a building or location associated with a person or event that has been a significant part of the city's history.

Imperial Beach became a city on July 18, 1956. However, its history began much earlier. When Father Serra crossed the Tijuana River in 1769, he encountered Kumeyaay villages that had been in the area for thousands of years. It was part of Rancho Melijo granted to the Arguellos in 1833, and was known as Monument City for many years after the first border monument was erected in 1851. During the railroad boom of the 1880s, several towns were established, including South San Diego, Coronado Heights, Nestor and Oneonta. The name "Imperial Beach" was first used in 1908 for a 40-acre subdivision of South San Diego.



This 1849 map by Andrew Gray shows the old road from the border at Goat Canyon to the Arguello adobe above the Otay River. This was the route followed by Crespi and Serra in 1769 and is the beginning of the Camino Real in California.

1769 - The original El Camino Real began at the border and followed the route of Father Crespi and Father Serra across the Tijuana River Valley north to San Diego. This was the path used by Spanish missionaries and soldiers who traveled by land from the missions in Baja California on the old El Camino Real from Loreto. After the end of the Spanish era in 1821, Mexican ranchos were granted the former mission lands. New roads were opened linking together these ranchos. The highway known today as Interstate 5 follows the path used by the Arguellos to travel from Rancho Melijo to Rancho Tijuana. During the American era after 1848, a town developed at the border around the old Arguello

adobe ranch home. The old missionary road from Goat Canyon fell into disuse as Americans instead used the rancho road to Tijuana. When homesteaders began to claim land in the Tijuana Valley, the government survey of 1872 realigned the old missionary road to become a straight line extension of National Avenue south to the border. This extension today is Hollister Street. The old missionary road was forgotten when the Camino Real Association in 1906 decided to mark the route in California with mission bell guideposts. The route selected by the Commission became Highway 101 from the border at Tijuana to San Francisco.

1887 - The Grissom house at 554 10th St. was built in South San Diego, and survives today as the oldest home in Imperial Beach. Frank Grissom was a supply sergeant in Battery A of the 19th Coast Artillery and became the caretaker of Fort Emory when it was deactivated in 1944. Frank and his wife Mary lived in the base hospital with their family until Fort Emory was turned over to the Navy in 1950. He then moved to this house that Mary's mother had purchased in 1946 from John and Sarah Whitt.



The Grissom House

1888 - Coronado Belt Line was the railroad built by Elisha Babcock to transport passengers around the bay to his new Hotel del Coronado. The railroad tracks and some bridge segments still exist. In 2003 a section of the tracks and the bikeway built along the route of the tracks was designated Historic Site #640 by the City of San Diego.



The Nestor Post Office and Grocery Store is shown on the left in 1920, and the same building still stands today on the right, now a pizza restaurant.

1896 - Nestor Post Office originated in a building moved from Oneonta that was a general store owned by Charles E. Smith. It was this store, still standing today, that became the Olde Smokehouse Market at Coronado and Hollister. "At the turn-of-the century, Charles E. Smith owned the business. But it was Alfred and Emma Powers who, in the early 1900s, began to develop the smokehouse recipes and national reputation. The Powers operated the smokehouse until 1965, when they sold to Henry and Jean Creaser. In 1970, Gene and Virginia Brown continued the smokehouse tradition of producing excellent smoked products, which have graced the tables of the Henry Ford family and the White

House, and have been delivered as far away as an Air Force radar station in the Bering Strait off Alaska, four miles from the Soviet Union. Joe Martinez processed the meats and cheese for the Creasers and the Browns, using secret recipes and methods passed on and improved throughout nearly a century. (*The Imperial Beach Star-News*, Sept. 1, 1983)"

1896 - Nestor United Methodist Church at Coronado and Hollister was built on land donated by Captain John Folks. The first Methodist organization in the South Bay area was the Tia Juana Valley Methodist Sunday School in Oneonta, beginning in 1888. Services were conducted in the upstairs room of the Oneonta School. The cornerstone of the present structure at 1120 22nd Street was laid on July 23, 1896. The National City and Otay Railway ran special trains to the ceremony from San Diego.



Nestor United Methodist Church

1899 - Mount Olivet Cemetery at 7141 Iris Avenue is a private cemetery founded by the Peavey family. In 1899, Hollis Peavey's grandfather got together with 15 to 20 other "old-timers" to purchase the property from Uriah Bennett for \$400. Peavey remembered Bennett as "a mean old devil" who owned 10 acres of land. Most of it was planted with orange trees.

"The kids would steal his oranges just for the devilment. Those oranges were sour and no good." he said. "Bennett planted cactus all around the orchard to keep the kids out. One night he thought he heard someone messing around out there so he came out with his shotgun and fired. He ended up shooting his own dog." Bennett was buried at Mt. Olivet in 1920. He shares his gravestone with his wife and brother. The earliest gravestone was set in memory of "Reuben C. Andrews, a native of Nantucket," in 1901. There are also gravestones without names and even some graves without markers. To keep track of where the graves without markers Peavey set gray cement bricks at their heads. To make it even plainer, numbers like 10 and 24 are painted in white on the red-brown fence at the cemetery's eastern edge. Thus the marking "10" means if you stand at the fence and walk 10 feet to the west, you'll find a grave. "Those graves belong to some Mexicans," Peavey said, but not all the graves belonging to those with Hispanic surnames are unmarked. Jesus Castro and his wife were buried at Mt. Olivet. In remembrance, their survivors embedded ivory cameos on the gravestones. The cameos were pried off by vandals but the elegant etching remained. The Mount Olivet Cemetery Association was incorporated by the Peavey Foundation in 1954 to care for the private cemetery after the death of Hollis Peavey. (*The Imperial Beach Star-News*, Feb. 16, 1984.)



1908 - The Lori Bragg house at 968 Florida Street was built in 1908 and at one time was a chicken ranch.



The Imperial Beach Star-News, Feb. 17, 1983.

1909 - The original pier was built by the South San Diego Investment Company, called the "Edwards Wave Motor Pier," and lasted until 1949. A boardwalk was also built on the beach and ran for two blocks north of Palm Avenue to Carnation Street

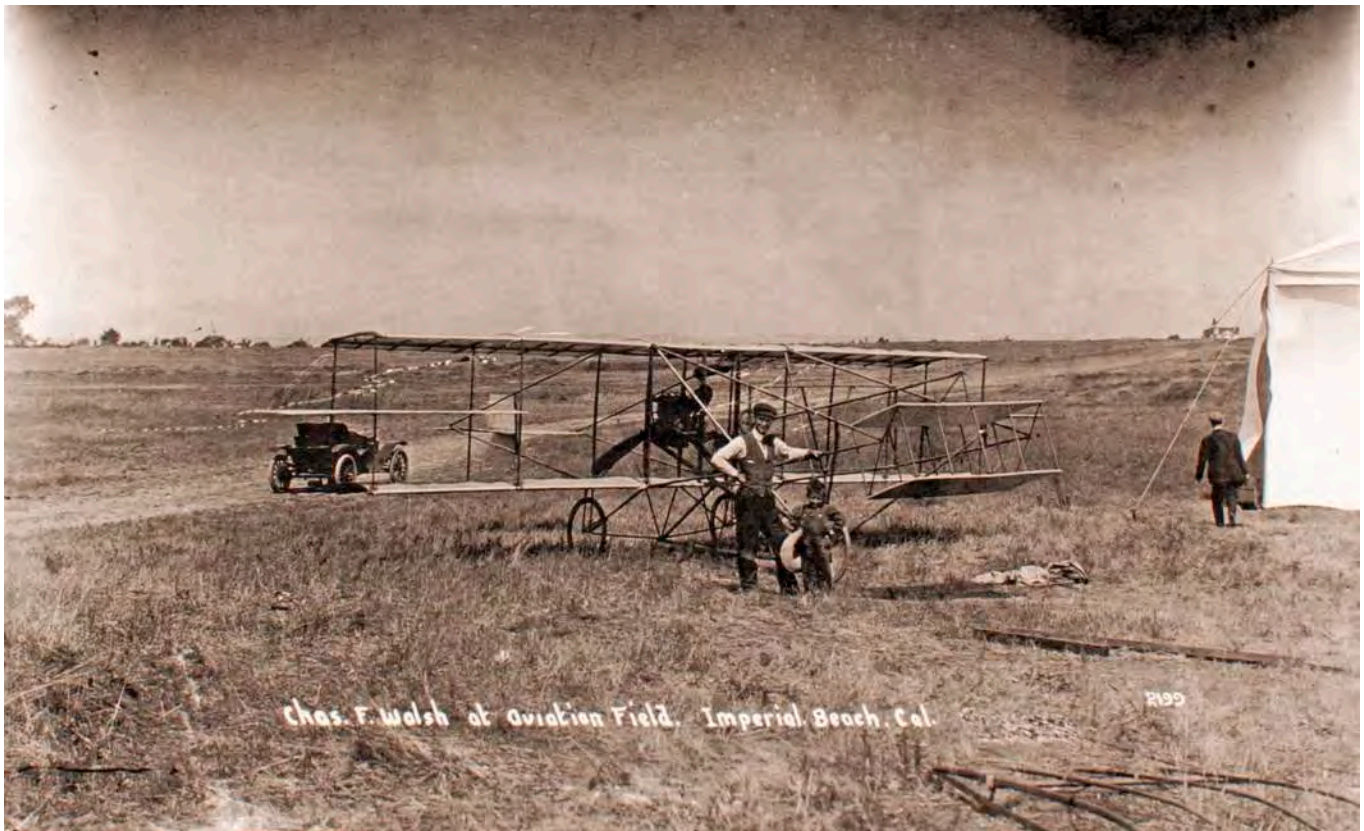
until destroyed by storms in 1953. The pier was rebuilt in 1963 with a T-shape on the end that housed a restroom, bait and tackle concession, drinking fountains, and fish-cleaning stations. In 1978 a new sign for the pier was donated by the Imperial Whalers and Sunset Watchers Society and the whale became a landmark symbol of the pier. The south section of the T washed away in a storm in 1980. The pier was rebuilt in 1982 without the T-section but was closed in 1986 after storm damage. With financial help from the Port District, the pier was repaired and reopened in March 1989.

1909 - Snow family house at 855 Seacoast Dr. was built.

1910 - Ream Field is known today as Naval Outlying Landing Field Imperial Beach. It began in 1910 as the "Aviation Field" where Charles F. Walsh and Bernard F. Roehrig designed and built their own airplanes. Bill Mendoza remembers his uncles who came to the valley in 1910 loved to go to the field

and watch the test runs of these "flying machines," the first such planes to be built in California rather than imported from the east. In 1918 the Navy established the Oneonta Gunnery School on this site to teach aerial gunnery to Air Service pilots preparing to fight in World War I. On October 1, 1918, it was renamed in honor of Major William R. Ream of San Diego, a reserve Army military aviator and the first flying surgeon to be killed in an aircraft crash.

1912 - The Jay Jackson ranch at 2055 Leon was established by Jay's father, James Russell Jackson, in 1954, but the house on this ranch dates much earlier. Jay's grandmother, Agnes Jackson, came from Scotland to the Puget Sound region with her family in 1886 when she was 3 years old. After marrying James Jesse Jackson, she moved to San Ysidro in 1916 and started a dairy on Willow Street. After the 1927 flood, she moved to higher ground on Beyer Way until she sold the dairy in the mid-1940s. Her son James Russell Jackson became a truck farmer in San Ysidro, married Eleanor Kramer, then bought 40



Charles Walsh at Aviation Field in 1910

acres south of Leon in 1954. Jay was 10 years old when he moved from San Ysidro to a 10-acre ranch that his mother owned, just north of his dad's 40-acre farm. Adjacent to this parcel was the house and water tower at 2055 Leon that was built in 1912. Bill Mendoza's family lived in this house in the 1930s; then was owned after 1941 by Benjamin Parr, a butcher from Chicago, until Parr's wife died in 1970 and the house was sold to Jay Jackson.



1919- Navy Radio Compass Station established; renamed 1932 US Navy Direction Finder Station; part of Camp Emory in 1942; site of big Wullenweber antenna in 1962.

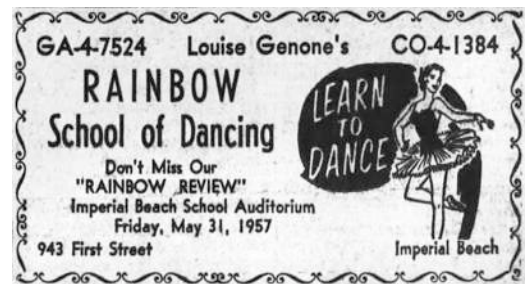


1915 - Packing house on the railroad siding at Palm and Hollister used by the Iguchi brothers, the first Japanese farmers in Imperial Beach. Later it was the Golden West Packing house for the Egger-Ghio farm located on 200 acres between Palm Avenue and the bay, owned and operated by Emil Ghio and Robert Egger.



1919 - House at 203 Elm Avenue was built; occupied by Louise P. Genone, former Hollywood dancer, director of the Rainbow School of Dancing in Imperial Beach and Chula Vista in the 1950s and 1960s.

1916 -The Army established Border Field in May, 1916, as an outpost to defend against an invasion such as Pancho Villa's attack on Columbus, New Mexico, on March 9, 1916. Similar camps were located at Palm City and San Ysidro from 1916 to 1920. The Navy expanded Border Field in the 1920s, built five machine gun circular ranges along the beach, a large oval track for moving target practice, and 35 buildings by World War II. Border Field State Park was dedicated in 1971 by First Lady Pat Nixon.



1920 - Benny Holt house at 176 Imperial Beach Blvd. was moved from Coronado by barge.

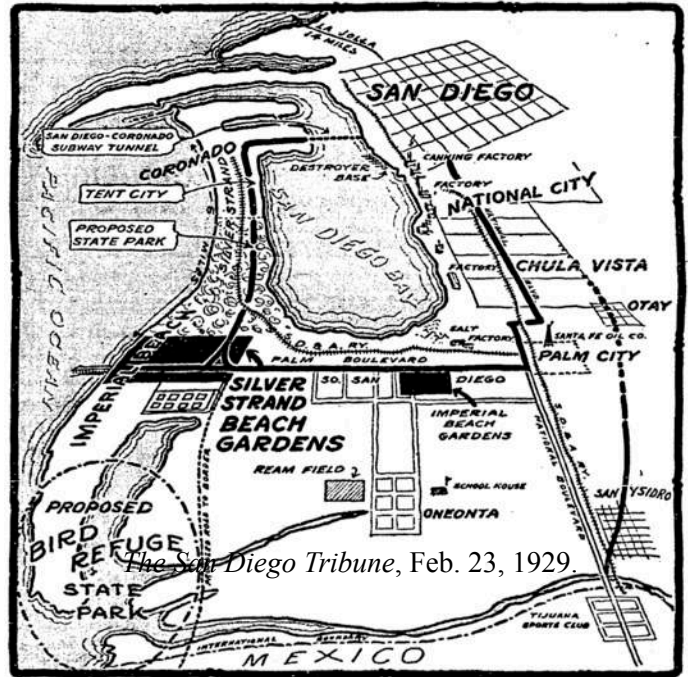


1923 - Colonial two-story home built at 898 5th Street.



1925 - The house at 1323 Saturn once belonged to the Swiss dairyman Meinrad Zumstein and his wife Margaret who came from Holtville in the Imperial Valley in 1941. Meinrad's sons Leo, Joe and Walter farmed in the valley, and his daughter, Margaret, married Julius Hofer, Jr. The Hofers owned the land south of Emory School along Saturn where many of the street names have Swiss origin, such as Hofer Drive, Zurich Drive and Yodel Lane. The Hofer home was located at 1215 19th Street. Julius Hofer immigrated from Swizerland in 1916, lived in the Imperial Valley until moving to Mission Bay in San Diego in 1940, and then to South San Diego in 1952 with his wife Rosa and 3 children. With his son Julius Hofer, Jr., he operated a dairy on 19th Street and on 40 acres near Gate No. 2 at the border. Son Walter Hofer operated a cattle ranch in Descanso.

When Julius retired, the property on 19th Street around Emory School was subdivided in the 1980s, and today has street names.



1926 - Subdivisions built in Silver Strand Beach Gardens, Imperial Beach Manor, Sea Breeze.



Genevieve Ord and family at the beach in 1927, in front of what appears to be the "Castle" at the end of Elkwood Drive. Young Patricia is standing next to Harold Ord who is holding baby Joyce. The Castle is still standing today, two houses down from the Lifeguard station.

1926 - The house at 862 Seacoast Drive, once owned by the Harris family, is now Schaumburg Real Estate.



1927 - "The Castle" at Elkwood and Seacoast Blvd. has been a landmark on the beach since the 1920s.

1929 - Navy acquired land that became a gunnery range and later Border Field State Park.

1929 - Southwest Junior High School built at 2710 Iris Avenue.

1930 - The Bilbray house at 9th and Grove, and the Dick and Jackie Palmer adobe on Beverley Ave. were built on what had been the Abner Whitely ranch on the north side of Oneonta in 1892.



1930 - South Bay Union School District office at 601

Elm St. was designed by architects John Siebert and Irving Gill.

1930 - Emory Elementary School dedicated, the 1st school in the new South Bay Union District; damaged by earthquake in 1948; rebuilt in 1963. It was named in honor of General William Emory who led the survey commission in 1848 that drew the boundary line with Mexico.

1931 - Egger dairy barn at Leon and Saturn is located on the site of one of the dairy farms founded by August Schnell and his son Henry Schnell from 1888 and consolidated into Dairy Mart Farms in 1937. Robert Egger was a Swiss dairyman from the Imperial Valley who moved to the Tijuana River Valley in 1930 to improve his health. He bought the Schnell dairy at Leon and Saturn in 1931 and, with his wife Emma, became a large landowner in the valley and in Imperial Beach. He was a leader among the Swiss farmers who founded the Swiss Club of San Diego County in 1939. His grandson David Egger manages the farm today. The current barn was built in 1956.

1932 - Two-story building at 235 Palm was the community hall; in 1965 it was the Imperial Beach Beauty Salon; today it is a Skate Shop.

1933 - The Palm City Woman's Club was founded; it became the Imperial Beach Woman's Club in June 1962 with the first 17 members electing Mrs. LeRoi Horgan as president, and meeting the second Wednesday each month at the Beach House, 716 Ocean Lane. The current structure was built in 1956.

1937 - The Tijuana Slough is the marshland at the mouth of the Tijuana River where it flows into the Pacific Ocean. The surfing history of Imperial Beach began in the summer of 1937 when Allan "Dempsey" Holder became the first to surf the waves breaking

at the Slough. He said "I went down to the Sloughs and camped with my family. Well, I saw big waves breaking outside shore break and went bodysurfing. I never did get out to the outside of it. A big set came and I was still inside of it. Well, I sort of made note of that—boy, you know, surf breaking out that far," He was joined in the 1930s by a small group of pioneer surfers, including Toney Cromwell, John Elwell, and the Hughes brothers, who rode the Sloughs on redwood planks ten-feet long. The Slough was also the public dump and the home for Depression-era families who scavenged the dump and survived on fishing. Mary Louise Richards has written her story in "Sand In My Shoes, Life in the Tijuana Sloughs 1931-1944."

on the beach at 652 through 664 Seacoast Drive were demolished in 1991, but one was saved and moved to the YMCA Camp Surf.



1939 - The McKinney Oceanfront Center in the YMCA Camp Surf is built around the last Summerville Cottage that came from Tent City in 1939.



1938 - Herman Hippe opened the Bamboo Inn at 1719 Palm Ave.; in 1992 owners Carlos and Rosalie Ramirez changed its name to Rosalie's Bamboo Inn. Today it is being remodeled as a meat market.



1939 - The house at 260 Dahlia Avenue was one of a group of houses moved from Tent City to the Silver Strand Beach Gardens subdivision. It was purchased in 1943 for \$2750 by Bridie Kilburn, grandmother of the current owner James F. Smith. The homes at 184, 243, 251 and 252 Dahlia are similar in appearance.

1939 - In 1939 several hundred cottages from Coronado's Tent City were moved by barge from the Silver Strand to Imperial Beach. Some of them were meant to become the center of a Writers' Colony

being established by Thomas Halbert Hall. Some of them were moved to the beach and became known as the Summerville cottages. The cottages





1939 - David Smith, his wife Juanita and his brother Jim lived in both Summerville and the Dahlia Avenue cottages. In this 1970s photo, Juanita with her surfboard stands in front of the 1- and 2-story brown Summerville cottages (on the right).



1940 - Sullivan's Market at 801 Seacoast Drive was built by Francis Sullivan after he moved from Texas in 1935; he ran the market until he retired in 1977; it has been remodeled and leased to several shops.

1942 - Fort Emory was built on the site of Coronado Heights. A part of the sewer line from the fort to the estuary is still visible near the Estuary Visitor Center. Sewage went into two large ponds that are now filled in.



The bunkers at Fort Emory were built in 1942 on the former site of Coronado Heights to house coastal defense guns manned by the 19th Coast Artillery. The base was transferred to the Navy in 1950 and became part of the Naval Radio Receiving Station that had been established in 1920.

1942 - Bunker Hill is the mesa named for the World War II observation bunkers built into the top of the mesa in 1942. No guns were placed in these bunkers. They were observation posts only, called Base End Stations, meant only to observe and report to Fort Rosecrans on Point Loma. The empty cement bunkers can be reached today by hiking up the road to the top of Bunker Hill.



1943 - Imperial Beach Elementary School, the District's 2nd school, was built by the federal government at 650 Imperial Beach Blvd. The Auditorium in 2005 was dedicated to former school superintendent Robert Burress.



1946 - St. Charles Catholic Church at 900 Saturn Blvd. was founded on land donated by Robert Egger. The church classrooms became St. Charles Catholic School in 1948. Marian Catholic High School began in 1960 on 20 acres donated by Robert Egger. In 2007 the school buildings were closed and the high school was moved to Chula Vista as Mater Dei Catholic High School.

1946 - South Bay Community Park at Coronado Avenue and 17th street was dedicated June 19, 1946, on 5 acres donated to the county by Robert and Emma Egger. An annual barbecue and bazaar was held in this park after 1948 to benefit St. Charles Catholic Church. This park was the site of the very first Schwingfest of the Swiss Club held in 1949. After the city of San Diego annexed the South Bay in 1957, the park was re-dedicated Sept. 12, 1957, as the Robert Egger, Sr., South Bay Recreation Center.

1947 - Mendoza Farms was located where Mendoza Elementary School is located today at 2050 Coronado Ave. Teofilo Mendoza, father of Bill Mendoza, was born in Mexico in 1904, paid a 50-cent fee and crossed the border to Texas in 1910, then came to California to join Teofilo's older brothers Sotero and Rosalio in San Diego. The brothers worked construction at the 1915 Expo in Balboa Park. Teofilo worked at the poultry farm of

Christopher and Olivia Spooner on Spooner Mesa, lived in the stone house in Goat Canyon until 1930, then moved to Leon Avenue, married Maria, and farmed on Coronado Avenue.



1947 - The home at 287 Evergreen was built by Edward Braga who came to Imperial Beach in 1947 on his honeymoon with his bride Olga after getting married in Massachusetts; they fell in love with the place and decided to stay.

1948 - Palm Avenue Cafe at 24 Palm Ave. was opened by owners Paul and Mary Whelchel. In 1956 it became the Patio Cafe, and in 1964 became the Ye Olde Plank Inn under owners John and Peggy Cash.



In 1983, owner Alan Winkelman had to rebuild the Inn after flood damage. (*The IB Star-News*, Feb. 3, 1983)



1948 - Lucille's Restaurant opened at 951 Palm Ave.; today it is the Scoreboard II Sports Bar and Grill.



1948 - Bunny Inn Cafe was built at 940 Palm Ave.; it became Little Bonanza in 1989, and is now The Fine Auto Shop.



1948 - Rexall Drug Store was built by Jimmie Zurcher at 123 Palm Ave., became the Bonanza Night Club in the 1970s, and since 1979 has been Post 5477 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



1948 - Jeffers Hardware and Variety opened at 226 Palm in a building erected by Bernard M. Rosenthal, community developer, associated with his son-in-law, Ben B. Margolis, who started in 1939 and erected 160 homes. In 1950, John Jeffers sold the Jeffers Hardware store to George Eide, owner of the Stork Shop next door. In 1952, Sidney W. Mundt purchased the Eide Hardware Store and Susy's Stork Shop from George Eide. Mundt was an arch-conservative who claimed he was a "shirt-tail relative" of Senator Karl Mundt who had served on the House Un-American Activities Committee and charged that Alger Hiss was a communist spy. A 1956 ad for his hardware store proclaimed "Trade at Mundt"—Put Money in the City Treasury. When you trade with Mundt you fight slum housing and the human vultures that promote it." In 1957 he led the failed movement to repeal the incorporation of Imperial Beach. He said the members of the Imperial Beach City Council were communists, and lost a \$800,000 libel suit for failing to prove his charges. He and his brother David were jailed for fighting with police officers in his store. One court observer said in 1963, "The most interesting case he's seen locally was the Mundt brothers case where they were accused of attacking several officers in their Imperial Beach hardware store. "The proceedings there had everything you could ask for in a court case—human interest, humor, tragedy and just plain drama." Sidney Mundt lost his store and his brother David was sentenced to prison.

1949 - West View Elementary School, the District's 3rd school, was built at 525 3rd Street, on the site of Camp Hearn that was an Army cavalry post from 1916 to 1931.



1950 - Imperial Beach United Methodist Church moved to its building at 455 Palm Ave in Dec. 1950. The congregation started as the Imperial Beach Methodist Episcopal Church in 1917, and during the 1940's met in a little green building at 213 Evergreen Avenue which has since been remodeled for a dwelling. Evergreen Street was then called 5th Street.

1952 - Contractor O. L. Parker built 1144 Palm for Simpson Realty; now is Billie Jean's Hairstyling.

1953 - Central Elementary School, the district's 4th school, was built at 1290 Ebony Street.



1953 - Mar Vista High School built at 505 Elm Avenue. The first classes began in 1950 at Brown Field, and then at Chula Vista High School 1951-52. Construction of the Elm Avenue school was finished in 1953 and the first class of 92 students graduated in June 1953. Malcomb Whitt remembered that before World War II this area was open fields. "There used to be an antelope trail two feet deep, went from North Island down through the Tia Juana River. It cut through where Mar Vista High School is now. The antelope grazed at North Island in those days and if water was scarce, they'd go clear to the Tia Juana River to drink. The last antelope was killed at the foot of San Miguel Mountain. They used to sell the carcasses, 75 cents for the little ones, \$1 for the big ones." (Reminder, Aug. 20, 1975)



1956 - Imperial Beach Post Office was built at 946 Donax, absorbing the former Palm City Post Office.

1956 - 1008 Ocean Lane was owned by Louis Eskiborn, a retired Navy chief who fought in three wars: World War II, Korea and Vietnam, and saved seven men from drowning in two heroic episodes, for which he received a Navy Commendation Medal in 1967. He was a former reserve firefighter, reserve police officer and scout leader, who was known for sweeping the streets in his neighborhood with an old broom.

1957 - Jalisco's Cafe at 1669 Palm Ave. was originally Steve's Cafe started by Ruth and Steve Gonzalez and Alice Salazar.

1957 - Ann Price house was built at 332 Daisy Ave.

1958 - The South Bay Drive-In opened at 2170 Coronado Ave. on 17 acres leased from Robert Egger.



1960 - Army Corps Engineers built two stone groins to protect beach.



1960 - Before Marco's moved to this location in 2003, the restaurant at 1205 Palm was the Red Hawk Steak House, founded by Leo and Marc Angel and named after a Spanish galleon. It was decorated in a nautical theme, with large 3-D murals made by Marc Angel. In 1963, it was bought by Carl Eugene Smith and Jacqueline Smith. Gene Smith was a retired Navy commander and his chef, Venancio A. Salas, was a former Navy chief. The Red Hawk became a well-known hangout of SEAL teams and anti-submarine squadrons from North Island, and their unit patches decorated the walls. In 1991 it was sold to Raymond Halowell and Allen Cooper, and in 1999 was sold to Tony Oliva and Carlos Perez.

1960 - Bayside Elementary School, the District's 5th school, was built at 490 Emory Street.

1960 - Oneonta Elementary School, the District's 6th school, was built at 1311 10th Street.



1961 - The motel at 785 Seacoast Dr. was originally the Pacific Sands Motel owned by Grace Greathouse; in 2003 it was remodeled and became the Sand Castle Inn.

1962 - Nestor Elementary School, the District's 7th school, was built at 1455 Hollister.



1961 - Mar Vista Baptist Church built at 888 5th Street; had been meeting near the beach at 121 Elm Avenue since 1951.

1962 - Reama Park built; named after Harold L. Reama, the city's first police chief and councilman from 1958 until his death in 1962.

1962 - Strand Shopping Center built at Palm and Rainbow.



1963 - New city hall dedicated at 825 Imperial Beach Blvd. replaced old quonset hut on Palm Ave.



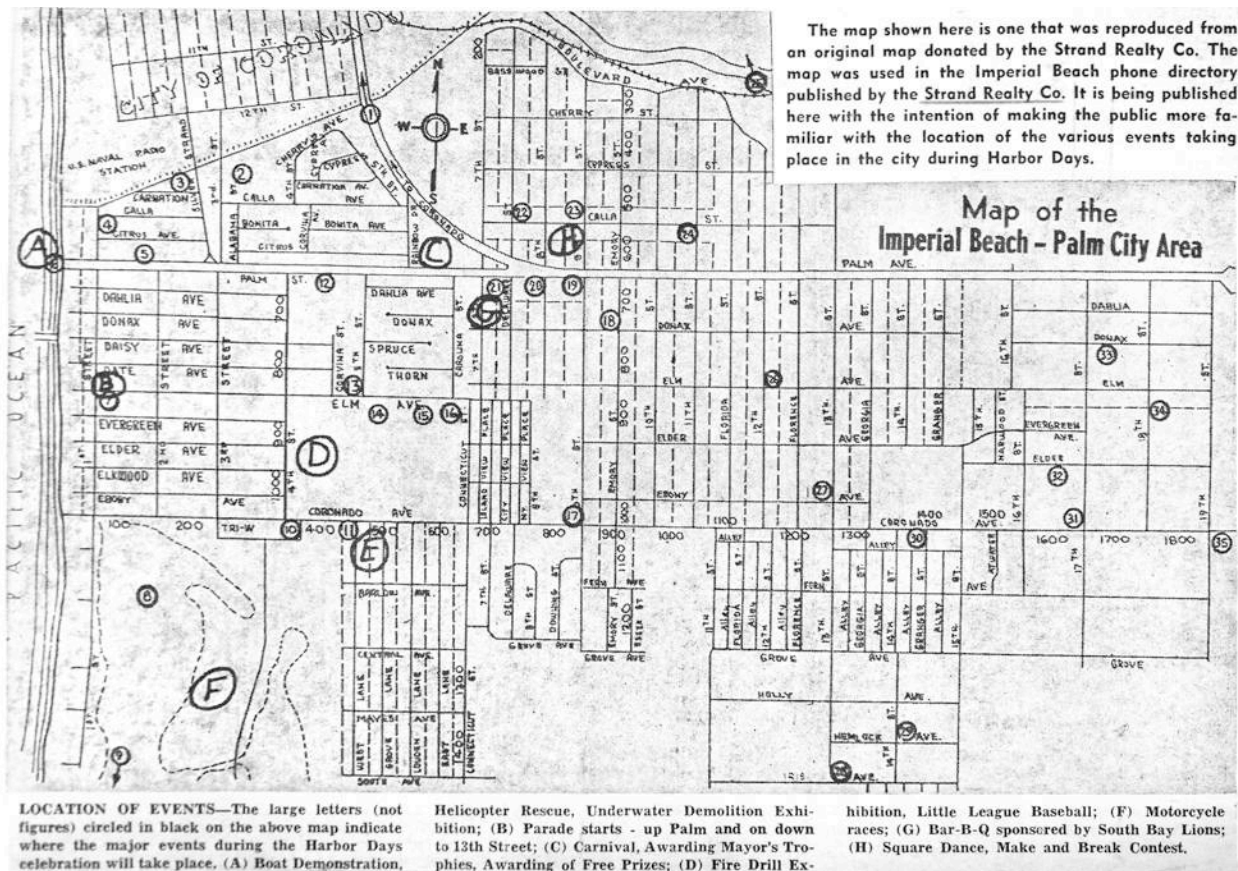
1965 - A new building for the Clock Cafe was constructed by Ann and Joe Baas at 285 Palm Ave.

became "the newest, most modern and largest cocktail lounge in the South Bay" with the "Largest Most Beautiful Dance Room In South Bay Area." It became the Marquis Steak and Sea Food in 1981, Bryan's Landing in 1986, Marisa's Mexican Seafood Grill in 2006, and has been Filippi's Pizza Grotto since 2013.



1966 - Harborview Elementary School, the District's 8th school, was built at 650 Imperial Beach Blvd. It now is a charter school.

The map below was made for the city's first Harbor Days in July 1958 that evolved by 1960 into the Sun & Sea Festival.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION.....

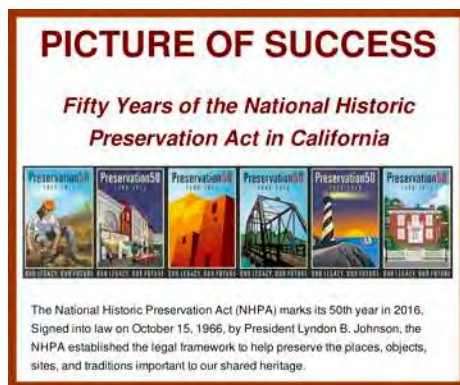
This year is the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. In celebration, the California Office of Historic Preservation has launched a series of e-posts called "Picture of Success" on the web at <http://conta.cc/205cRi8> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/calshpo>. For the April "Picture of Success" posting, the Office selected the H. Lee House of Lemon Grove, California. "The H. Lee House is a 1928 Tudor Revival mansion moved from the path of State Route 125 in 2002 and rehabilitated by Caltrans and the Lemon Grove Historical Society. Designed by Frederick C. Clemeshaw and built by George Simpson, the house now serves as the city's cultural center."



The H. Lee House photo courtesy of the Lemon Grove Historical Society

The 1980 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 provided for the establishment of a Certified Local Government Program (CLG) to encourage the direct participation of local governments in the identification, evaluation, registration, and preservation of historic properties within their

jurisdictions and promote the integration of local preservation interests and concerns into local planning and decision-making processes. The CLG program is a partnership among local governments, the State of California (OHP), and the National Park Service (NPS) which is responsible for administering the National Historic Preservation Program.



As part of the CLG Program, federal grants are awarded annually to local governments to assist with historic preservation programs. One of the 2016 grants has gone to the City of San Diego, for \$30,000 to "prepare a historic context statement addressing the themes and resources significant to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community. San Diego has a long association with the gay rights movement, and is home to many advocacy and support groups."

With our new list of Historic Sites in this issue of the Bulletin, it is hoped that Imperial Beach will apply for next year's CLG grant. More info is available on the

Certified Local Government web page at www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/clg.

OTHER NEWS.....

Chula Vista Art Guild Presents The 2016 Spring Active Members Art Show April 13 – May 28, 2016. This is a free event for members and friends of the Museum. The Bonita Museum is located at 4355 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA.

Spring Valley Historical Society invites you to our Founders Day Celebration! Sat. April 23, 2016, 1:00-3:00 pm at the Bancroft Ranch House Museum, 9050 Memory Lane, Spring Valley.



Bancroft Ranch House Museum

South Bay Historical Society

Bulletin No. 12, Apr.. 2016
Editorial Board Steve Schoenherr, Harry Orgovan

Board of Directors Peter Watry, Steve Schoenherr, Patti Huffman, Mitch Beauchamp, Harry Orgovan, Shelley Rudd, Barbara Zaragoza

For more information, see our web page at

<http://sunnycv.com/southbay/>