



# EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter, 2014

## The Los Angeles Police Museum: Crime History, Historic Building

The Los Angeles Police Museum's executive director, Glynn Martin, will share information about the museum's past and its future during the February meeting of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society, Tuesday February 18, 7:00, at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock, 2225 Colorado Boulevard. The evening is free and open to all. Light refreshments will be served.

After being closed for nearly twenty years, the old Highland Park Police Station, located at 6045 York Blvd, reopened its doors, not as a police station, but

as a history museum. Since 2001, the architecturally beautiful structure has served as the home of the Los Angeles Police Museum. Operating as one of the few full-time police museums in the nation, the York Blvd. landmark houses and exhibits the rich history of the Los Angeles Police Department.

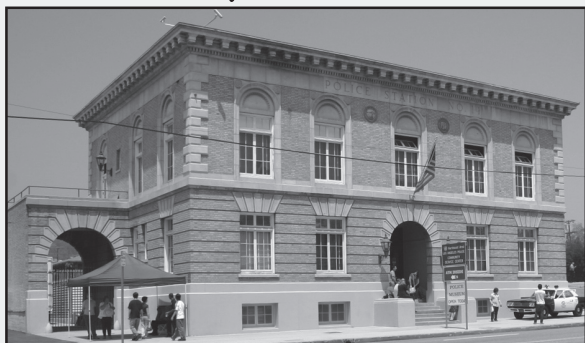
Museum visitors experience exhibitions of materials from famous LAPD cases, as well as examples of uniforms, badges and equipment. In the parking area north of the museum is a display of retired vehicles from various eras and functions of the LAPD.

Included in this display is a retired police helicopter and a pair of armored vehicles retired from LAPD service. All are linked via a professionally produced audio tour, the only one of its kind in any police museum. More information about the museum is available at [lapolicemuseum.org](http://lapolicemuseum.org).

Behind the scenes, the museum is a fully engaged historical preservation organization. Photos and film from the LAPD's past have been collected and are being cared for and stored to ensure their availability for generations still to come.

The museum is a proud participant in the annual Museums of the Arroyo day, a free event for the community. For this wonderful day, scheduled for May 19, 2014, the museum will partner with the Pasadena Museum of History, the Gamble House, Heritage Square and the Lummis Home to offer free admission, and free shuttle service to all of the facilities. More information is available at [museumsofthearroyo.com](http://museumsofthearroyo.com)

### LOS ANGELES POLICE MUSEUM Crime History, Historic Building



**Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society**  
**Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock**  
**2225 Colorado**

**Tuesday, February 18, 7:00**

**Free and Open to All**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [EAGLEROCKHISTORY.ORG](http://EAGLEROCKHISTORY.ORG)**

### Police Museum

We are delighted to host our history colleagues for our February meeting. This interesting museum occupies the historic Highland Park police station, the oldest station surviving in the city. It is the only precinct police station listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was refurbished after a devastating fire and now houses the museum reviewed as "one of the most overlooked treasures in Southern California".

### Women's Clubhouse Centennial

The celebration of the anniversary year leading up to the completion of the clubhouse begins with a concert by renowned pianist, Carl Matthes. He will play a varied program featuring some of the music played at the opening concert. This newsletter will probably arrive after the February 8th date. This event will kick off a year-long celebration and fund-raising effort. The ladies hope to follow up the Federal designation of last year with an effort to appropriately repair some of the damage the years have wrought, particularly to the north pergola. We support their efforts to care for this magnificent building and encourage all to contribute to its restoration.

### Author! Author!

I am delighted that our new book "Pioneers of Eagle Rock" is at the printers. The long effort by Frank Parrello and myself has led to the discovery of many lively accounts of Eagle Rock's early days. We look forward to presenting photos and excerpts to the public at our next meeting. As always, we are awed by the depth of the information left us by our predecessors in the Society.

### Dues are due!

Thanks to all of our loyal members who sustain

us with their dues. As our system is tied to the calendar year, those pesky envelopes appear again in this newsletter for those who haven't yet paid for 2014. As misunderstandings have arisen about the year for which dues have been paid, we will include on the mailing label the last paid membership year in our records. If you disagree, we will adjust, as we value your membership.

### The Haynes Foundation Grant

The pilot project funded by the grant toward the digitization of the Northeast Newspapers is nearly complete. We are moving forward to upgrade our computer to allow local access to these resources. We will be taking our efforts to the community to digitize the majority of the collection and make it available online.

#### The objectives of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society

- to preserve, clarify through research and to perpetuate the history of Eagle Rock Valley
- to make this history available to students, researchers, libraries and all interested persons
- to preserve and protect our local landmarks, especially the Eagle Rock

Membership is open to all who would further these objectives

Public Archive Hours 10 to 12 every Saturday  
at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock  
2225 Colorado Blvd. Eagle Rock CA 90041  
for information call 323-257-1357

This journal is published quarterly by  
The Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society  
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Layout, David Mc Nutt

Contributors, Katie Taylor, Frank Parrello, Eric Warren

Visit our website at:

[eaglerockhistory.org](http://eaglerockhistory.org)

**It's time to renew your membership. If you have already paid your 2014 dues, thank you. If not, please take a moment and mail your check now. If we have not heard from you, a dues form and envelope are included with this newsletter.**

**Thanks, we depend on you.**



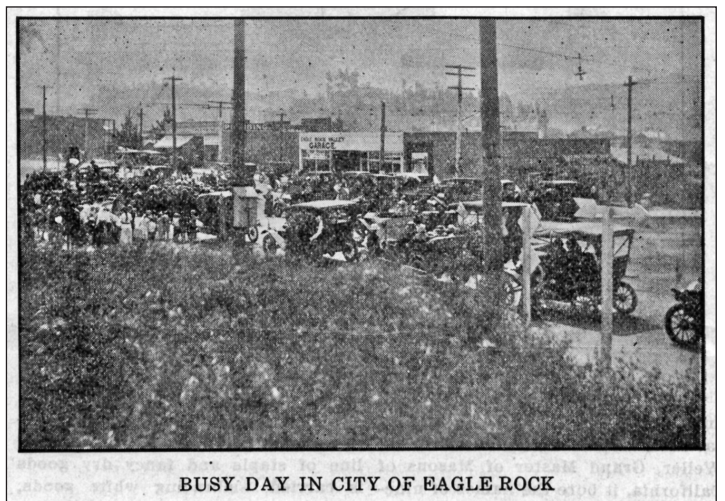
## 1914: A Year of Civic Improvements

As 1914 began, Eagle Rockers were excited to see that several of their ambitious plans to erect public buildings would soon be realized. A special supplement was published in the Eagle Rock Sentinel of December 1913 showing the state of the town and hailing the progress anticipated in the New Year. A site had been agreed upon, after considerable debate, for a library and a letter was sent to the Carnegie Corporation asking for financial support for the project. The Corporation granted \$7,500 for the construction of the building and the purchase of books. After many years of fundraising and consideration of various proposals for the location of a clubhouse, the Women's Twentieth Century Club settled on a site at Hermosa and Colorado. They purchased two lots for \$10. (Other accounts say \$1000) It was thought that both projects would be finished within the year.



Colorado Boulevard runs through the photo from left center to the lower right hand corner. On the south side, far left, is the "Bungalow Church" at the corner of Maywood. Two commercial buildings, both of which remain today in some form, are in the next block. Between Caspar and Eagle Rock are the Ritchey and Grotthouse plumbing store and the College Inn. The key corner hosts the raffish and very temporary real estate offices of George Diddock and, across Eagle Rock, Edwards and Wildey. The Eagle Rock Bank is on the northeast corner. In the center of the photo at the arrow is the 1909 Eagle Rock School. On the north side of Colorado, from left, are the Methodist Church and Symphony Hall at Caspar Avenue. From the bank building to the west are vacant lots until the home of J. W. Eddy at the far right. Occidental College can be seen in the upper left hand corner. (photograph by B.D. Jackson)

This "busy day" shows the Colorado and Eagle Rock Boulevard intersection in 1913. Over the wildflowers in the foreground, the traffic jam caused by an event at the intersection is seen. In the background are Ritchey and Grotthouse's plumbing supply and the College Inn building, partially occupied by the Eagle Rock Valley Garage.



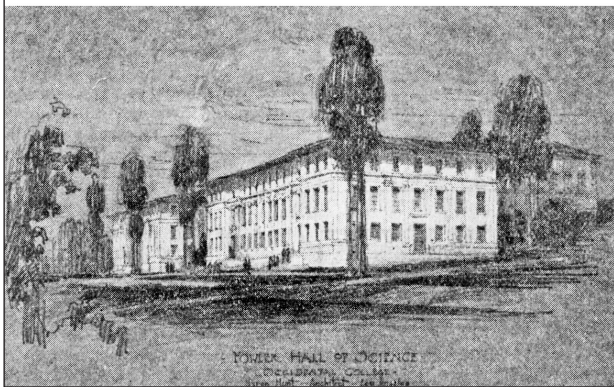
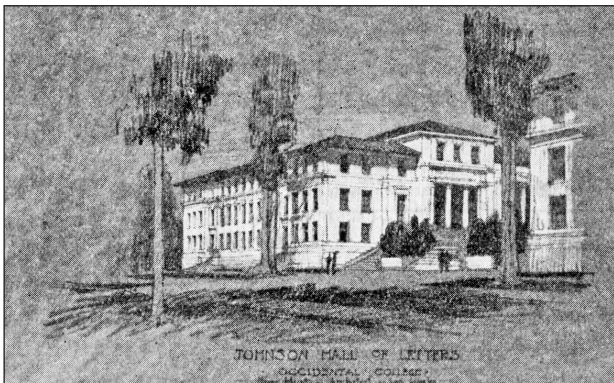
BUSY DAY IN CITY OF EAGLE ROCK



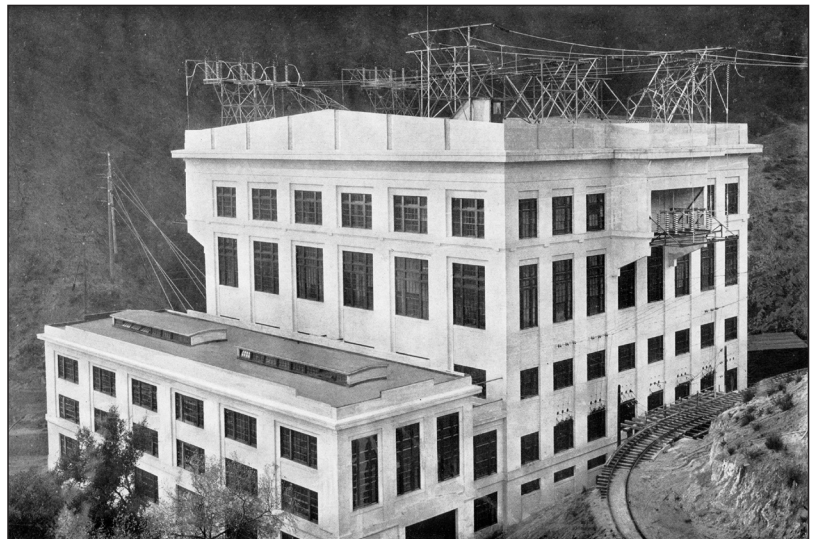
## Our Town, Our History

Occidental's move from Highland Park was well underway with the buildings nearly completed and opening of the campus anticipated. The Arroyo Seco Bridge had been constructed, opening traffic through Eagle Rock from Pasadena and into Glendale, thus energizing commercial development at the increasingly busy intersection of Colorado and Eagle Rock Boulevards. The Pacific Power and Light Substation was completed in the canyon behind the Eagle Rock, supplying power to Henry Huntington's trolley lines and, for a time, a growing Eagle Rock City.

The Arroyo Seco Bridge reduced the time to travel from Pasadena to Eagle Rock from most of a day to minutes. The completion of this marvelous combination of art and engineering established the primacy of the automobile as the transportation of the future.



These renderings by architect Myron Hunt show two of the three campus buildings which would soon open to students. The College had been in the process of moving from Highland Park since 1910. Fund raising and construction delays had slowed the project. Occidental would bring a substantial population to the then sparsely-populated New York Valley just south of Eagle Rock City.



The Pacific Power and Light Substation was the southern terminus of the Big Creek Project; then the largest privately owned hydroelectric project west of the Mississippi. Although the principal purpose was to supply power to Henry Huntington's Red and Yellow trolley car lines, the plant supplied power to Eagle Rock until 1923. (This item is reproduced by permission of The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.)



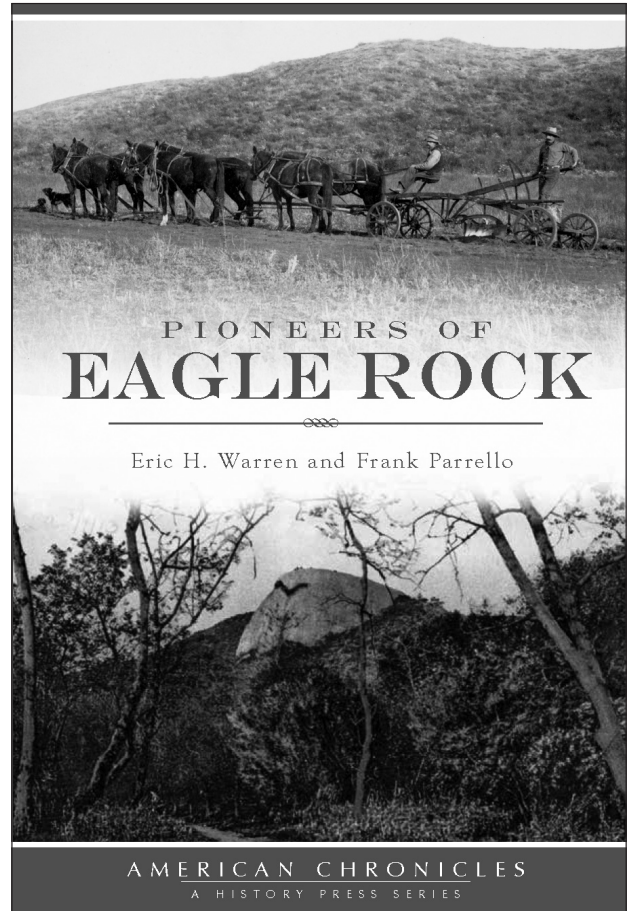
## Pioneers of Eagle Rock

A New Written History Available Soon!

### Meet the Men and Women Who Built L.A.'s Unique Neighborhood of Eagle Rock

After the Rancho San Rafael was divided, Benjamin Dreyfus was awarded the hilly area north of downtown Los Angeles known as Eagle Rock Valley. By 1911 this farming community had rapidly grown into a city. The Los Angeles Railway made downtown L.A. a trolley ride away, and continued growth led to Eagle Rock's consolidation with the city in 1923. Today, Eagle Rock is one of LA.'s most distinctive neighborhoods and a pride instilled by early settlers remains here. These inspirational settlers include soldier and ranchero Jose Maria Verdugo, diarist and historian Elena Frackelton Murdock, farmer and amateur hydrologist Mayor Cromwell Galpin, and publicist Anne Hare Harrison. Join authors Eric H. Warren S'65 and Frank Parrello as they profile the bedrock personalities who built Eagle Rock.

This new book will be introduced and signed by the authors at our April meeting.



From the page one article:

Photo of bestselling author James Ellroy and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck viewing the LAPD Museum's newest exhibit, which examines the Onion Field murders.



at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock  
 2225 Colorado Blvd.  
 LOS ANGELES POLICE MUSEUM  
 Crime History, Historic Building  
 Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 7:00  
 PIONEERS OF EAGLE ROCK  
 BOOK KICKOFF AND SIGNING  
 TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2014, 2:00  
 ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
 Thursday, August 7, 2014, 1:00



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category:

☐ Individual \$20   ☐ Business \$35   ☐ **New**

☐ Family \$25   ☐ Life \$300   ☐ **Renewal**

Will you help with the ongoing activities of the ERVHS ?

☐ Yes   ☐ No

☐ Archives   ☐ Newsletter   ☐ Oral history

☐ Meetings   ☐ Fundraising   ☐ E-mail me

☐ Publicity   ☐ Displays   ☐ to help

Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail to : **ERVHS**  
**c/o Center for the Arts**  
**2225 Colorado Blvd.**  
**Eagle Rock, CA 90041**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### The Member's Corner



#### Sharon Shively Gould

Sharon does not live in Eagle Rock, nor was she born here. Nonetheless, she simply says, "It is where my roots are"

Her history here began in the 6th grade at San Rafael Elementary school. Her parents were both police officers. Her mother was one of the first fifteen female officers in the LAPD. They had lived previously in Highland Park. She went on to ERHS where she graduated S'56. "I lived my youth in a wonderful time," she told me. The friends she made at ERHS continue to be in her life and she finds herself in Eagle Rock 2-3 days a week, working with either the ERHS Alumni board or as the recording secretary for the Women's Twentieth Century Club.

After college, she became a LAUSD teacher. She went on to earn two Master's Degrees. She has written textbooks, educated teachers on curriculum, consulted/directed at USC's Reading Clinic, been the District Curriculum Director of the San Diego area, and culminated her career as District Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services. Whew! Sharon has one daughter and two grandsons with whom she is very close. Her grandfather built a Craftsman on Vincent Avenue back in the day. She admits she likes to drive by it in hopes that one day it will be for sale. Maybe we'll be so lucky as to have her as a resident again!

Katie Taylor