

## 1930'S

Much of Monterey Park's early history pertains to attempts to stop it from becoming a sewer farm. This sewer issue was prevalent up until the 1930's.

In 1930, Mayor Sam Jones along with a City population of 6,551 attempted to join the metropolitan Sewer District, to eliminate cesspools in Monterey Park, however, the cities of El Monte and Alhambra fought to keep Monterey Park out of the District. In 1931 the City tried to tie in with the Pasadena Sewer Farm, however the voters rejected the measure by 10 votes. Finally in 1935 the sewer issue was put to rest as a bond measure was passed by a margin of 13 to 1 to raise \$297,898 for a sewer system. The Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works chipped in an additional \$132,596, and the system was in place by January of 1937.

The 1930's had another big issue as well, annexation. Due to effects from the depression, there was a movement in 1931 for Monterey Park to annex itself to the City of Alhambra. The movement was created by Alhambra largely because of Monterey Park's problems associated with the sewer issue. Of 3,180 registered voters, 1,028 had signed the petition for annexation. A last minute effort led by Mr. Charles Scudder thwarted the effort as the annexation came up 267 votes short.

Monterey Park had developed a glider club in 1930, gaining national recognition. Over 10,000 visitors flocked to Monterey Park in October of 1930 to witness the San Gabriel Valley's first glider contest.

In 1935 Monterey Park's first Park opened on February 16. It was dedicated as "Monterey Park Park" (Barnes Park).

In 1935, the Monterey Park Drum and Bugle Corps was organized to promote a cultural outlet for girls from age 10-14. The group won many awards and contests, and brought much notoriety to the City as it traveled up and down the State.

The City seemed to make a comeback in 1938 as building permits climbed to new heights, followed by the stunning \$870,000 in permits issued in 1939.

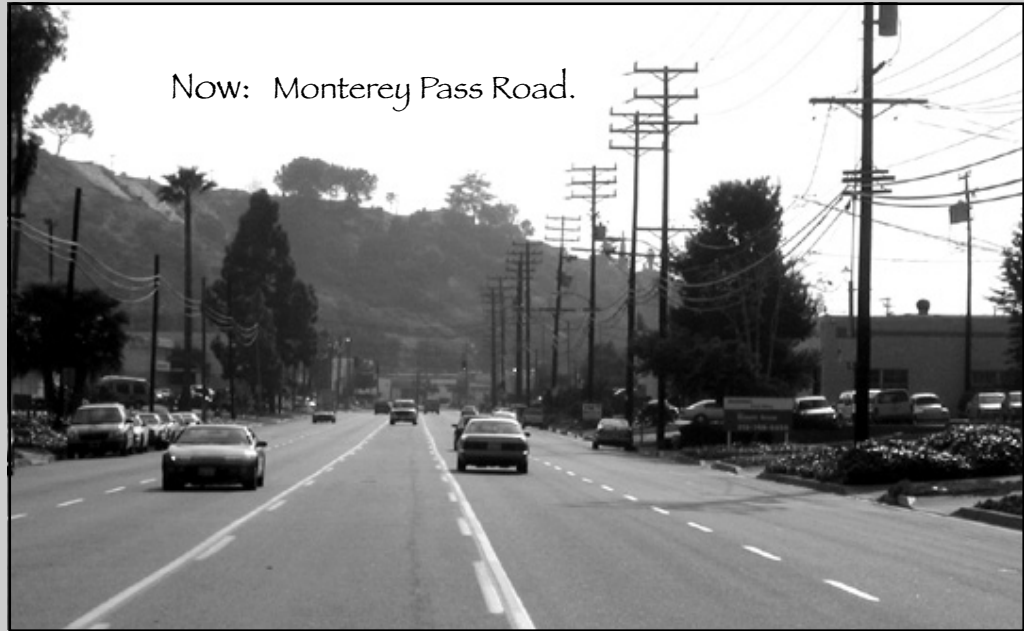
The new post office opened in 1939, and Mark Keppel High School was under construction at a cost of \$1,300,000. Lawrence White was named as the school's first principal.

~ ~ ~

Then: Coyote Pass in the 1930's, was the main route for early residents to get to East Los Angeles and Los Angeles.



Now: Monterey Pass Road.



Then: Gribble Gas Station at Garvey Avenue and Chandler opened in early 1930.



Now: Commercial Development - note the structural integrity has remained the same.

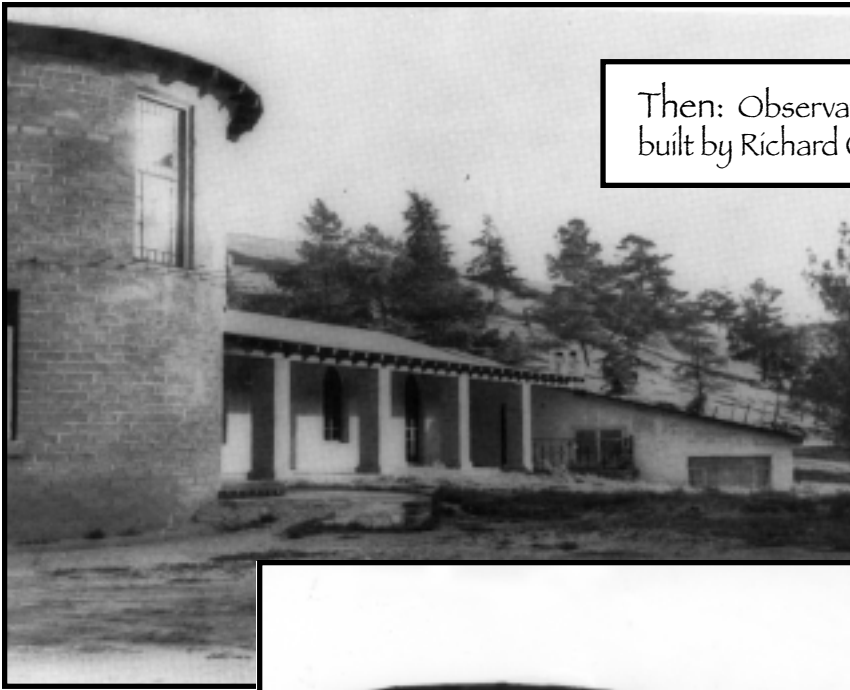


Then: Monterey Park's second location of City Hall at the corner of Garvey Avenue and Ramona Avenue. The Police Department was located on the first floor.

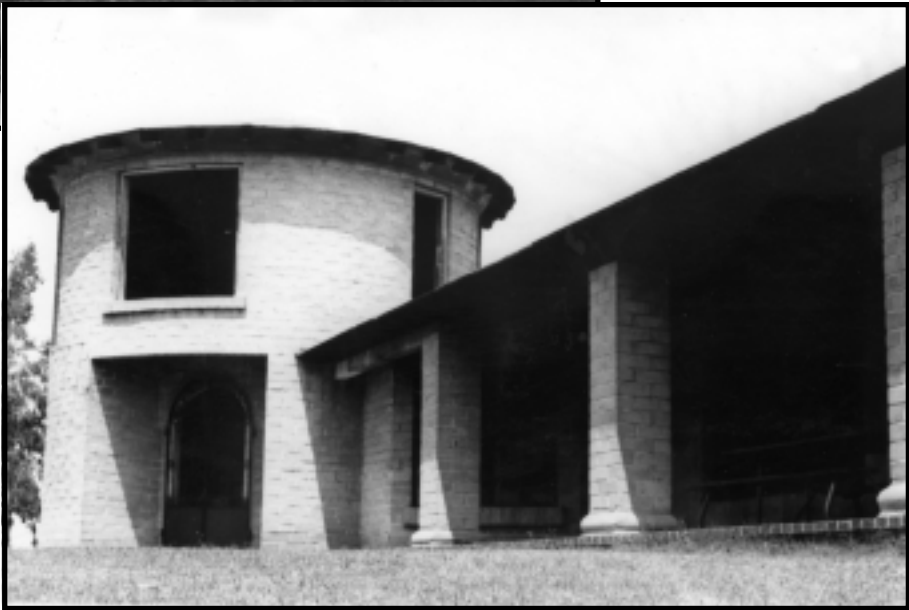


Now: Monterey Park Civic Center area, home to City Hall, the Police and Fire Departments.





Then: Observatory and Garvey Ranch Park, built by Richard Garvey, Jr.



Now: Garvey Ranch Historical Museum, home of Monterey Park Historical Society. Garvey Ranch Park Community Building and Observatory.