

R. B. Young
Los Angeles Architect
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ABSTRACT

R. B. Young (Robert Brown Young) began his life in Canada. His desire and determination to make something of himself took him to Denver for his education and then to San Francisco to practice architecture. He moved to Los Angeles at the right time, in 1881, during an economic boom, but another factor played into his success: his marriage. R. B. Young married wisely. He married a woman whose mother was just as determined to improve her life in Los Angeles as Young was determined to improve his life and future. With his mother-in-law, Eliza Wilson, behind him, R. B. Young became one of the most successful Los Angeles architects at the end of the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century.

R. B. Young scaled the social ladder of early Los Angeles and became the equal of other prominent men in the community. By joining the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and sitting on industry boards, Young made the necessary connections that enabled him to design many landmark buildings in Los Angeles from 1884 to 1914. R. B. Young is important in Los Angeles history because he built much of the burgeoning city. Unfortunately, little of what he built remains.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Robert Brown Young arrived in California when the state had been in existence for a mere thirty-one years. California was granted statehood in 1850, and R. B. Young arrived in California in 1881.¹ When R. B. Young settled in Los Angeles, only three other architects practiced architecture in the city. Ezra Kysor and Octavius Morgan were in a partnership, and they were known by their firm name of, Kysor & Morgan. The other architect in the city worked alone, and his name was Charles Wellington Davis.²

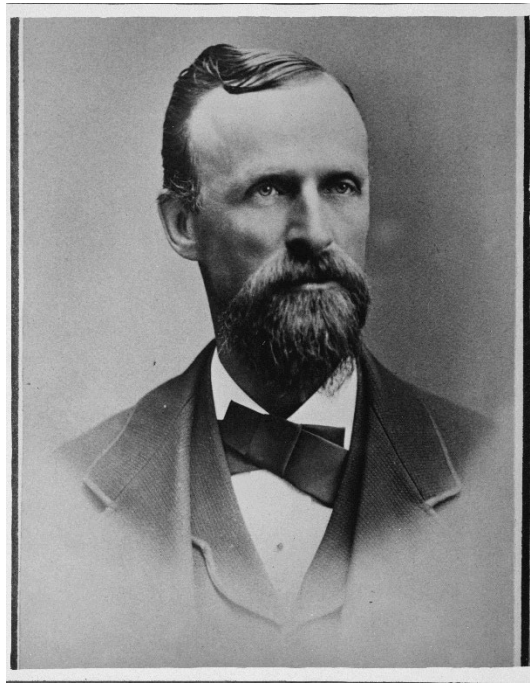


Figure 1.1. Ezra Kysor Courtesy the Huntington Library.

EZRA KYSOR

Ezra Kysor (1834-1907) is considered by most sources to be the first architect to practice architecture in Los Angeles. Ezra Kysor was the architect behind the Pico House and the Merced

¹ *Press Reference Library: Notables of the Southwest* (Los Angeles: The Los Angeles Examiner, 1912), 459.

² "Buildings are His Monument," *Los Angeles Times*, June 30, 1914, III.

Theater. The Pico House was built for Pio Pico, the last governor of Alta California. “The cornerstone of the Pico House was laid September 18, 1869...and completed in June 1870.”³

The Merced Theater is adjacent to the Pico House. Kysor received the commission for the Merced in July 1870, and the theater opened on December 30, 1870.⁴ Kysor was in a partnership with architect W. H. Mathews in the early 1870s, but that partnership ended in April 1876. It was by mutual agreement, and Mathews moved to San Francisco to work with his father, who was also an architect in that city.⁵ In June 1876, Ezra Kysor was back to being a solo architect, and he was the architect of St. Vibiana’s Cathedral (1876). Architect John C. Austin publicized this fact in the 1920s. Austin had been selected to do renovation work on St. Vibiana’s Cathedral and in

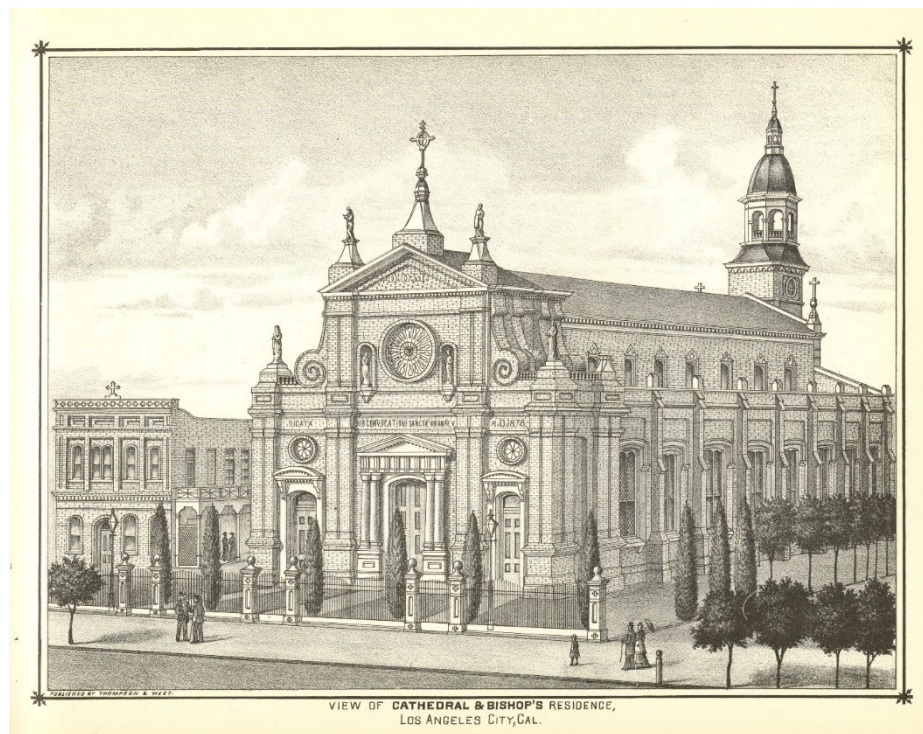


Figure 1.2. Vibiana’s Cathedral from *History of Los Angeles County*.

³ Arnold Hysten, *Los Angeles Before the Freeways* (Los Angeles: Dawsons Book Shop, 1981), 28.

⁴ Arnold Hysten, *Los Angeles Before the Freeways* (Los Angeles: Dawsons Book Shop, 1981), 29.

⁵ “Local Brevities,” *Los Angeles Herald*, April 2, 1876, unpagged.

his research, he rediscovered that Kysor was the building's architect. Almost fifty years after the building was completed, he touted this information in the *Los Angeles Times* to a new generation of Angelenos.⁶ John C. Austin was one of the most prolific architects in Southern California at the turn of the last century. He designed the Griffith Observatory with his partner Frederick M. Ashley.⁷ The Shrine Auditorium was another one of his projects and his partner on the Shrine was A. M. Edelman.⁸ John C. Austin, along with John Parkinson and A. C. Martin, also designed Los Angeles' iconic city hall, which opened in 1928.

The American Architect and Building News said of Kysor upon his death in 1907, "After a critical illness of more than three months, E. F. Kysor, for many years one of Los Angeles's most prominent architects, died here July 24. Mr. Kysor was born at Cattaraugus, N. Y., on June 8, 1835. He came West late in 1865 and finally reached Los Angeles in 1868. Eight years later he founded the firm of Kysor & Morgan, architects, and the firm, of which he was head until 1890, designed buildings for the University of Southern California and several other well-known structures. Since 1890, Mr. Kysor had been retired from active business."⁹

OCTAVIUS MORGAN

Octavius Morgan (1850-1922) traveled around the southwest in a covered wagon on his way to Los Angeles. He arrived in the United States from England in 1871 and initially worked in Denver, Colorado, for a contractor, builder, and architect with the last name of Nichols.¹⁰ Denver had a population of 4,000 at the time and little building activity, so Morgan left Denver and traveled West, where he mined for gold in a number of western states. Morgan wasn't very

⁶ Henrietta Boeckman, "To Enlarge St. Vibiana's," *Los Angeles Times*, April 9, 1922, II3.

⁷ "Architects for Hall Approved," *Los Angeles Times*, June 26, 1931, 15.

⁸ "Shrine Auditorium," *Southwest Builder and Contractor* 64, no. 6 (August 8, 1924), 53.

⁹ "Personals," *The American Architect and Building News* 42, no. 1651 (August 17, 1907): 33.

¹⁰ *Press Reference Library: Notables of the Southwest* (Los Angeles: The Los Angeles Examiner, 1912), 30.

successful at mining, with the exception of a small strike in San Bernadino, so he moved to Los Angeles in June 1874.¹¹ When Morgan met Ezra Kysor in Los Angeles, the two decided to work together, and a partnership was formed in 1876.

In 1885 *The Los Angeles Times* said of their firm, “Messrs. Kysor & Morgan are the oldest architects of the city. On every hill within the city limits, and on almost every street, is a building after their plans. The Nadeau block is the finest in the city and is a credit to the architects. The Opera House block is also the work of this firm and is justly regarded the pride of the city.”¹² After Ezra Kysor withdrew from the practice of architecture in 1888 to go into real estate, Morgan formed a partnership with John Walls. Their practice was known as Morgan & Walls.¹³ Their firm produced numerous buildings, including the Hollenbeck Home for the Aged (1896) and The Farmers and Merchants Bank (1905).

When Morgan’s son joined the firm in 1910, the firm’s name was changed to Morgan, Walls & Morgan. That firm designed the Walter P. Story Building (1910), the I. N. Van Nuys Building (1912), and the Kerckhoff Building (1914). The firm continued to change, and by late 1922, it became known as Morgan, Walls & Clements.¹⁴ Octavius Morgan died in 1922, as did John Walls, but the firm of Morgan, Walls & Clements became one of the most successful firms in Los Angeles history. Morgan, Walls & Clements would go on to build the Odd Fellows Building (1922), the Richfield Oil Building (1929), and the Samson Tire and Rubber Building (1929).¹⁵

¹¹ *Notables of the West* (New York: International News Service, 1913), 240.

¹² “Reports from the Los Angeles Architects,” *Los Angeles Times*, January 1, 1885, 5.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ “Morgan, Walls & Clements,” *The Architect and Engineer* 51, no. 2 (May 1930): 27.

¹⁵ Antonio Gonzalez, *Architects Who Built Southern California* (Charleston: The History Press, 2019), 126-160.



Figure 1.3. from *As We See 'Em*.

The Architect and Engineer said of Octavius Morgan upon his death in 1922, “Mr. Octavius Morgan, one of the pioneer architects of Southern California, died suddenly of heart disease at his home, 819 So. Westlake Ave., Los Angeles, March 29. Mr. Morgan had been in apparently good health and spirits, having attended a meeting of the Allied Architects Association during the day and the theater in the evening. Mr. Morgan was senior member of the architectural firm of Morgan, Walls and Morgan. He was born in Canterbury, Eng., Oct. 20, 1850. For two years after coming to the United States he was engaged in mining in Colorado,

Wyoming, Idaho, Utah and Nevada and in 1872 secured a claim on Lytle creek, San Bernardino county, California.”¹⁶

CHARLES WELLINGTON DAVIS

As for Charles Wellington Davis (1826-1897), most of what was known of him and what Davis designed has been lost to time. He was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts on March 24, 1826. He attended grade school at local institutions and eventually did an apprenticeship where he learned the trade of carpentry. While in his early twenties, he worked for an architect in Boston for two years, but the gold rush called him.¹⁷ Charles W. Davis sailed from Boston to San Francisco on a ship named the Euphrasia. The journey around Cape Horn took six months and fourteen days. When Davis arrived in San Francisco, he had \$2.50 in his pocket.¹⁸ Davis’s carpentry skills and architectural knowledge served him well. In San Francisco, Davis designed, “the Jewish Synagogue on Sutter Street; Church of the Rev. Thomas Starr King, and the Robert Wait Block on Kearney Street.”¹⁹ After twenty years in San Francisco, he moved to Santa Cruz for four years. Finally, in 1874, he moved to Los Angeles. In Los Angeles not only did he work as an architect, but he also worked in real estate and “laid out the Davis subdivisions on Washington street.”²⁰

¹⁶ “Passing of Octavius Morgan,” *The Architect and Engineer* 69., no. 1 (April 1922): 110.

¹⁷ *An Illustrated History of Los Angeles County California* (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1889), 730.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ Henry F. Withey & Elsie Rathburn Withey, *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*, (Los Angeles: New Age Publishing, Co., 1956), 164.

²⁰ *An Illustrated History of Los Angeles County California* (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1889), 730.

He was first married to Caroline Collins of Amesbury, Massachusetts, and the couple had three children. After her death, he married Frances Parks Tuttle on March 8, 1879. They had “two sons: Edward W. and Calvin W.; and two daughters, Frances Pearl and Anna Diamond.”²¹

Charles W. Davis was listed in an 1875 directory as an architect with an office in the Downey Block.²² In 1888, he was listed in the newspaper’s column of architects along with C. H. Brown, J. C. Newsom, Caukin & Haas, and Kysor, Morgan & Walls.

R. B. Young was not on that list of architects.

According to the Pacific Coast Architectural Database, Charles W. Davis had an office in the Downey Block. The Downey Block was located at 207 N. Main Street. The Downey Block’s date of erection is unclear, but it was built before 1861.²³ It was originally known as the Temple Block and “was mostly built by John Temple’s younger brother, F. P. F. Temple generally known by Spanish-speaking residents as “Templito” or “Don Francisco.”²⁴ The Downey Block was added onto over the years and at least one source says Charles W. Davis added onto the building during its lifetime. The Downey Block was demolished in 1905.²⁵

Charles W. Davis died in Gardena, California, on March 14, 1897. His funeral service was held at the Kregelo & Bresse funeral parlor on March 17, 1897, at 11 a.m. He was 71 years old at the time of his death.²⁶

²¹ Ibid.

²² *Hand-book and Directory of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern, San Bernardino, Los Angeles & San Diego Counties* (San Francisco: L. L. Paulson, 1875), 339.

²³ I was able to find advertisements for individuals and events happening at the Temple Block in 1860 newspapers.

²⁴ *An Illustrated History of Los Angeles County California* (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1889), 448.

²⁵ This is according to the Pacific Coast Architectural Database. *The Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)* states Charles Davis moved to Los Angeles in 1874 and established an office in the Downey Block.

²⁶ “Death Record,” *Los Angeles Times*, March 17, 1897, 12.

On March 28, 1897, Frances P. Davis requested, through a court petition, that she be made the administrator of Charles W. Davis' estate. It was a small estate. Charles W. Davis had \$100 in an account at the Los Angeles National Bank. The estate also included furniture and farm implements.²⁷



Figure 1.4. The Downey Block from the *University of Southern California Libraries*.

R. B. YOUNG

When R. B. Young arrived in 1881, some of the city's buildings were still constructed of adobe. Most Los Angeles' buildings were one-story and two-story, but there were exceptions. The Pico House, the Merced Theater, and St. Vibiana's were all constructed of brick and towered over the city.

So why did R. B. Young choose Los Angeles? He must have been optimistic about the city's prospects. He must have surmised the city would grow and there would be work for him.

²⁷ "Flotsam and Jetsam: Miscellaneous," *Los Angeles Times*, March 28, 1897, 24.

He was right. By 1890, the population of Los Angeles had risen to 50,395. In 1900, the population was 102,479. By 1910, it had tripled and was tallied at 319,198.

R. B. Young was not included in the 1920 census, but he did leave a mark on early Los Angeles during a period of enormous growth, and his designs helped build the city. While most of R. B. Young's work has been destroyed, and he has been entirely forgotten by the majority of architectural historians who have documented Los Angeles history, he was one of the most successful architects who practiced at the end of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century in Los Angeles.

Chapter 2: Robert Brown Young: 1851-1914

Robert Brown Young was born in Quebec, Canada on April 1, 1851.²⁸ His parents were Alexander and Mary Ann (née Dowler). According to a book about Young's architecture published in 1905, "Mr. Young felt that the place of his birth hardly afforded sufficient scope for the full bent of his indomitable energies, and having decided to follow the profession of architecture for a livelihood, turned about for a place that would offer a larger field for his talents."²⁹ He left Canada at the age of twenty-six in 1877.³⁰ He moved to Denver, Colorado, and took architectural design and construction courses. In Denver, he married Mary C. Wilson on January 2, 1880.³¹

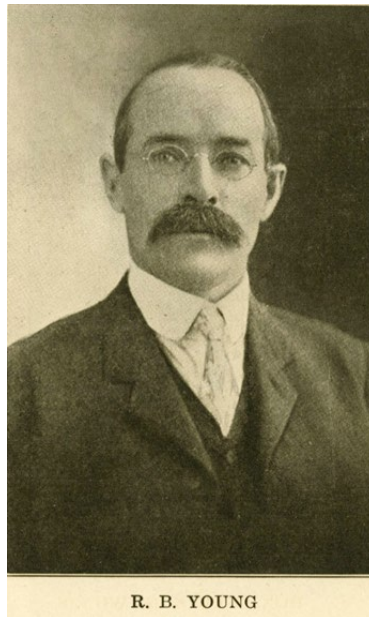


Figure 2.1. R. B. Young from *Notables of the Southwest*.

²⁸ *Press Reference Library: Notables of the Southwest* (Los Angeles: Los Angeles Examiner, 1912), 459.

²⁹ *Architecture of R. B. Young* (Los Angeles: J. L. Le Berthon, 1905), unpagued.

³⁰ *Press Reference Library: Notables of the Southwest* (Los Angeles: Los Angeles Examiner, 1912), 459.

³¹ *Ibid.*

Mary C. Wilson was the daughter of Henry and Eliza Wilson. When Young finished his architectural studies in Denver, he and his new wife moved to San Francisco in 1881.³²

The Youngs only stayed in San Francisco for two months before they switched course and moved south to Los Angeles. Los Angeles was on the verge of a building boom in 1881, so Young arrived precisely at the right time. He opened an architectural office and was quickly inundated with work. According to Young, “At that period Los Angeles was a thriving city of about 10,000 inhabitants, and extended from the old Plaza on Main Street, south to Fourth Street. Kysor & Morgan (now Morgan & Walls,) and Charles Davis, were the only architects practicing here at that time.”³³

Young’s in-laws, Henry and Eliza Wilson, also moved to Los Angeles. In August 1882, Young’s father-in-law, Henry Wilson, commissioned Young to design a home on Olive Street for Wilson and his wife. The house was two stories and had a footprint of twenty-four feet by thirty-two feet. The home contained ten rooms.³⁴ Henry and Eliza Wilson were early investors in the city of Los Angeles. The Wilsons invested over \$14,000 in various real estate opportunities during their first year in Los Angeles.³⁵

Young’s mother-in-law, Eliza Wilson, became well-known in Los Angeles real estate. She built and owned many prominent buildings in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and continued to build and amass buildings into the first decade of the twentieth century.³⁶

³² *Press Reference Library: Notables of the Southwest* (Los Angeles: Los Angeles Examiner, 1912), 459.

³³ *Architecture of R. B. Young* (Los Angeles: J. L. Le Berthon, 1905), unpagued.

³⁴ “An Olive Street Home,” *Los Angeles Times*, August 27, 1882, 04.

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ “Mrs. Eliza Wilson,” *Los Angeles Herald*, October 13, 1903, 7.

R. B. Young and Mary Young had their first child, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth Young, on November 7, 1882.³⁷

R. B. Young, according to the *Los Angeles Herald*, built, “an elegant cottage of five rooms for himself on Tenth street near Olive” in August of 1884.³⁸ Yet, the elegant cottage on Tenth Street was just a temporary home for Young because two years later, he built a house for his family at 99 Soto Street in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles. The family would eventually move to another R. B. Young-designed home at 802 West Seventh Street in the 1890s.³⁹ The Young family’s final home would be at 1001 South Hoover Street, built in 1906.⁴⁰

Good news greeted the Young family on June 30, 1887. On this day, Mary C. Young gave birth to the couple’s second child, a son, who was christened Frank Wilson Young.⁴¹

In December 1889, Young filed a defamation suit against a man named F. C. Howes because Howes had publicly proclaimed that “Young was not a competent architect.”⁴² This was the second time Young had sued Howes. In November 1888, Young sued F. C. Howes for \$468 for architectural services that were not paid. The bill was for a building Young had designed on 1st Street and another building Young had designed on North Main Street. The suit was heard before Judge Wade, and the verdict was in Young’s favor. The verdict cost Howes \$500 in damages plus court costs. Young must have garnered some satisfaction when someone who questioned his architectural competence had to pay for the offense.⁴³

³⁷ According to the 1900 U.S. Census via Ancestry.com.

³⁸ “Mr. R. B. Young,” *Los Angeles Daily Herald*, August 3, 1884, 5.

³⁹ “Real Estate and Building,” *Los Angeles Herald*, December 10, 1896, 6.

⁴⁰ “Two Styles Here,” *Los Angeles Times*, January 21, 1906, V24.

⁴¹ According to the 1900 U.S. Census via Ancestry.com.

⁴² “The Courts,” *Los Angeles Times*, December 14, 1889, 2.

⁴³ “The Courts,” *Los Angeles Times*, November 1, 1888, 3.

MRS. R. B. YOUNG

Mrs. R. B. Young was the victim of a crime on a northbound Terminal train to Pasadena on January 24, 1891. She was accompanied by her husband, R. B. Young, when a young man named Charles Johnson noticed her pocketbook sticking out of her dress. Johnson deliberately bumped into her, and the pocketbook fell to the floor. Johnson quickly picked it up, hoping his action would not be noticed, but R. B. Young immediately confronted him. Johnson attempted to return the pocketbook, but R. B. Young would not accept it. Instead, he called for the police and held Johnson until the police arrived.⁴⁴

A different newspaper account of the incident reported that Johnson did return the pocketbook to Mrs. R. B. Young immediately after the attempted theft and before the arrival of the police. However, this newspaper stated that Johnson was still detained by R. B. Young even after he returned the pocketbook.

Charles Johnson was tried the following month in superior court. Initially, he was charged with robbery, but the charge was changed to grand larceny. The proceedings revealed that Mrs. R. B. Young's pocketbook contained \$2.50. Johnson pled guilty to the crime and claimed he only took the pocketbook because he was "rendered insane by hunger" and "stole the purse in desperation." Johnson pleaded for mercy and reminded the court that this was his first offense.

Judge Smith, who oversaw the case, said at Johnson's sentencing, "When a criminal is detected in his evil work, he professes repentance and resolves to do better. But history teaches us that in a majority of cases the resolution does not last long. And when a person is hungry, he

⁴⁴ "Crazy from Hunger," *Los Angeles Herald*, February 27, 1891, 6.

can find food by calling at almost any house. Only a man with a bad heart and vicious habits will steal rather than beg.” Judge Smith sentenced Charles Johnson to one year in Folsom penitentiary.⁴⁵ Johnson began his sentence on March 4, 1891.⁴⁶

The following year, in March 1892, Henry and Eliza Wilson accompanied R. B., Mary, and their children on a six-month vacation. (Note: In 1891, the Youngs had another child, a son who was named Robert Young, after his father, but this child died in 1893. There was also a third son named Salva Young. Mrs. R. B. Young gave birth to Salva before marrying R. B. Young. R. B. Young adopted Salva and gave him his last name.) The extended family visited San Francisco, Oregon, and Washington. It was unusual that they all went on vacation together because it was common for Eliza Wilson, Mary Young, and the children to go on vacations and leave Henry Wilson and R. B. Young to fend for themselves in Los Angeles.

In July 1896, R. B. Young and a grading contractor named Thomas Reynolds got into a physical altercation at the corner of Third and Spring Streets in Los Angeles. Newspaper accounts reported Reynolds hit R. B. Young in the head with a rock. Reynolds was arrested on a battery charge on a warrant sworn out by R. B. Young.⁴⁷ Reynolds said it wasn’t true and that Young was the aggressor and instigated the fight.

After his arrest, Reynolds demanded a jury trial to prove his innocence.

Reynolds received a jury trial, but the jury did not believe his story. After two hours of deliberation, the jury found Reynolds guilty of assault. Judge Owens, who presided over the case, fined Reynolds \$30. Reynolds immediately paid the fine, but after the trial, he continued to

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ The Huntington has court case records. I have been unsuccessful finding this court case in their records though.

⁴⁷ “Engaged in Fight,” *Los Angeles Times*, July 31, 1896, 3.

plead his case to local reporters. Reynolds wanted everyone to know that no rock was involved. He only used his fists during the fight.⁴⁸

SALVA YOUNG

Salva Young appears to have lived an uneventful life in Los Angeles before he was sent to St. Mary's College in Oakland. He graduated from St. Mary's in 1899. The graduation ceremony occurred at the Macdonough Theater, and Grace Archbishop Patrick William Riordan handed out the diplomas.

Before the ceremony, a brief write-up was sent out regarding the eleven graduates, and the notice included the topic each graduate would speak about during the ceremony. The following was said of Salva, "Salva P. Young of Los Angeles is one of the best musicians that ever entered the college, and although 18 years old, has already figured as a composer. He will discourse on the topic "The Church and Art." He has already taken steps to adopt architecture as his profession."⁴⁹

FRANK WILSON YOUNG

Frank Wilson Young received his primary education in Los Angeles schools and then attended St. Vincent's College in Los Angeles and St. Mary's College in Oakland. After his college stints, he did an apprenticeship at his father's firm and became a part of the firm R. B. Young & Son. He was the son in the firm's name. Frank Wilson Young supervised on-site construction for the firm.⁵⁰

ELIZA WILSON

⁴⁸ "Police Court Matters," *The Herald*, August 15, 1896, 10.

⁴⁹ "Medals to be Awarded to Graduates," May 26, 1899, *San Francisco Call*, 9.

⁵⁰ *Press Reference Library: Notables of the Southwest* (Los Angeles: Los Angeles Examiner, 1912), 459.

Eliza Wilson, the matriarch of the Young family, built a mausoleum for herself in 1907. She entrusted her son-in-law, R. B. Young, with the design. When finished, the mausoleum was twenty-five feet wide, thirty feet deep, and twenty-five feet high.

The mausoleum's exterior is polished grey granite applied over reinforced concrete. The entrance gates and doors are bronze. The interior is white Italian marble, and there are twelve crypts within it. The final cost was \$25,000.

MARY ELIZABETH YOUNG

On June 16, 1907, the engagement of Mary Elizabeth Young to James Oran Moore was announced in newspapers. The announcement described Miss Young as a “handsome girl” and the daughter of a pioneer.⁵¹ She was also described as “charming and vivacious and talented, painting beautifully in oil and on china. She also has done some remarkably pretty pastels.”⁵² She was educated locally and was born at the Tenth and Olive Steet house. At the time of her birth, in 1882, the house was surrounded by an orange grove and owned by Eliza Wilson, her grandmother. Eliza Wilson owned all the land between Olive and Hill Streets and, a few years later, would subdivide it and turn it into a saleable tract.

Mary Elizabeth Young’s fiancé was from Menominee, Michigan. Moore had met Mary Elizabeth Young years before, was taken with her, and planned to move to Los Angeles one day to be reunited. In Menominee, he was a cashier at the Commercial National Bank.

It was a short engagement. The marriage occurred at 9:00 a.m. on July 3, 1907, at St. Vibiana’s cathedral. The bride’s brother, Frank Wilson Young, was one of the bridegrooms.

⁵¹ “News of Society, Gossip of Men and Women, Weddings, Parties, Dinners,” *Los Angeles Times*, June 16, 1907, VI3.

⁵² *Ibid.*

The bride wore a \$5,000 wedding dress made of rose point lace and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley. Mary McGarry was her maid of honor. McGarry wore a pink liberty satin gown trimmed with duchess lace and carried a bouquet of Cecil Bruner roses. St. Vibiana's was decorated with white roses and ferns. After the ceremony, a wedding breakfast for seventy-five attendees was held at the Young's residence.

The newlyweds went on an extended honeymoon and returned to Los Angeles in October 1907 to live with the bride's parents on Hoover Street.⁵³

SALVA YOUNG & MABLE FOUTS

When he attended St. Mary's College in Oakland, Salva Young met a woman named Mable Fouts. Fouts eventually married Salva Young, but the marriage did not work out, and by 1905, the two had filed suits against each other for divorce. Fouts wanted a divorce "against Salva P. Young for intemperance."⁵⁴

Salva Young wanted a divorce based on desertion. In January 1906, Mabel Fouts Young and a male friend, Thomas J. Crawford, had rooms at 356 O'Farrell Street in San Francisco. Thomas J. Crawford had a big issue to deal with at the end of January 1906. He was charged in the death of William H. Ellis. Mabel Fouts Young was seen as his "accomplice" because Mabel Fouts Young had borrowed \$200 from Ellis, and when Ellis demanded the money back, Crawford stepped in and beat Ellis.⁵⁵ The police believed the beating was the cause of Ellis' death.

⁵³ "To Have Large Church Wedding," *Los Angeles Herald*, July 3, 1907, 5.

⁵⁴ "Tells a Tale of Brutality," July 19, 1905, *San Francisco Call*, 16.

⁵⁵ "Took Trip on Money," January 30, 1906, *Humboldt Times*, 4.

At this point, Salva Young was living at the Young family's home in Santa Monica, but the divorce case took a back seat to the Thomas J. Crawford/Mabel Fouts Young manslaughter allegations.

R. B. Young expressed frustration with his son's wife and their relationship. Young said, "She has been the curse of my son's life. She met him while he was at college in Oakland and taught him to drink and completely won him over."⁵⁶

Salva Young unexpectedly died in 1906 before his divorce was finalized.

ACCIDENT & DEATH

R. B. Young had a serious accident the following year. He stepped from a streetcar near his home on Saturday, July 25, 1908, lost his balance, and fell. He struck his head on the curb.⁵⁷ He was unconscious for three days but regained consciousness on July 28th and fortunately recovered from the mishap.

Eliza Wilson died at her daughter's home at 1001 Hoover Street on July 12, 1909, at 2:00 a.m. In the coverage of her death, it was noted that Wilson laid out the first housing tract in Los Angeles, the one bounded by Ninth, Tenth, Hill, and Olive streets.⁵⁸ Funeral services for the matriarch were held at the Young home and were followed by a requiem mass celebrated at St. Vibiana's cathedral. Eliza Wilson was interred in the mausoleum she built for herself at Calvary Cemetery.⁵⁹

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ "Los Angeles Architect," *The Architect and Engineer* 14, no. 1 (August 1908): 77.

⁵⁸ "Critical Condition," *Los Angeles Times*, July 11, 1909, 12.

⁵⁹ "Solemn Mass Celebrated After Funeral of Woman," *Los Angeles Herald*, July 15, 1909, 5.

In October 1913, the Southern California chapter of the American Institute of Architects elected R. B. Young as the president of their chapter. Albert C. Martin was elected vice president, and Fernand Parmentier and August Wackerbarth were re-elected secretary and treasurer.

DEATH

The Young family must have sensed the possibility of R. B. Young's death after the onset of his medical condition in 1913. He had acquired a malady which had caused him to become a shut-in. By January 1914, he had been in poor health for months. R. B. Young died on January 29, 1914, at 12:20 a.m., but newspaper reports did not list the cause of this death. They simply said he had been periodically given oxygen in the last days of his life.⁶⁰ He died at his home at 1001 South Hoover Street. *Southwest Contractor and Manufacturer* was a little more revealing regarding Young's ailment. It said, "The end came peacefully after months of intense suffering which he had borne with remarkable fortitude. Mr. Young had not been able to take an active interest in business since last summer and was confined to his home the greater part of the time following a surgical operation which he underwent in August in the hope of relieving his malady."⁶¹

Young's funeral service was held at St. Vibiana's Cathedral on January 31, 1914, at 11:00 a.m. He was sixty-two years old.

The death certificate of R. B. Young lists epithelioma of the left upper jaw as the cause of his death.⁶² Epithelioma is a disfiguring condition.

⁶⁰ "Buildings are His Monument," *Los Angeles Times*, January 30, 1914, III.

⁶¹ "Robert B. Young," *Southwest Contractor and Manufacturer* 12, no. 13 (January 31, 1914): 9.

⁶² State of California. Certification of vital record. County of Los Angeles. Registrar-Recorder/county clerk.

Southwest Contractor and Manufacturer went a step further than most obituaries and said, “Mr. Young was not only successful in the practice of his profession but reaped substantial benefits from the growth of the city and acquired large property interests. He possessed many sterling qualities which made for him unwavering and lifelong friendships. Generosity and hospitality were traits of which all his friends received abundant proof.”⁶³

He was a member of the American Institute of Architects, Chamber of Commerce, Jonathan Club, Los Angeles Athletic Club, Union League Club, and B. P. O. E.

His survivors included his wife, Mary C. Young, daughter, Mary Elizabeth Young, and son, Frank Wilson Young. The Wilsons and the Youngs are buried in a tomb at Calvary Cemetery in Los Angeles. The tomb has the name Eliza Wilson carved above the entrance.

Frank Wilson Young, the son of R. B. Young & Son, died on November 24, 1918. After an illness of six days, Frank Wilson Young succumbed to Bronchopneumonia and influenza. He was thirty-one years old and one of the fatalities of the flu pandemic of 1918.⁶⁴

Mary C. Young, R. B.’s wife, was burdened with a series of unfortunate events beginning in 1901. In 1901, her father, Henry Wilson, died at 92. Five years later, Mary’s son, Salva P. Young, died in 1906 at 25. Three years later, Eliza Wilson, her mother, died in 1909 at the age of 89, and then R. B. Young died in 1914. Four years later, Francis Wilson Young, her other son, died in 1918 at the age of 31.

⁶³ “Robert B. Young” *Southwest Contractor and Manufacturer* 12, no 13 (January 31, 1914): 9.

⁶⁴ State of California. Certification of vital record. County of Los Angeles. Registrar-Recorder/county clerk.

Mary C. Young died in 1938 at the age of 74. Mary Elizabeth Young Moore, R.B. and Mary's daughter, died in 1971 at 89. Mary Elizabeth Young Moore's marriage ended in divorce, and she had no children.⁶⁵

⁶⁵ According to Ancestry.com.

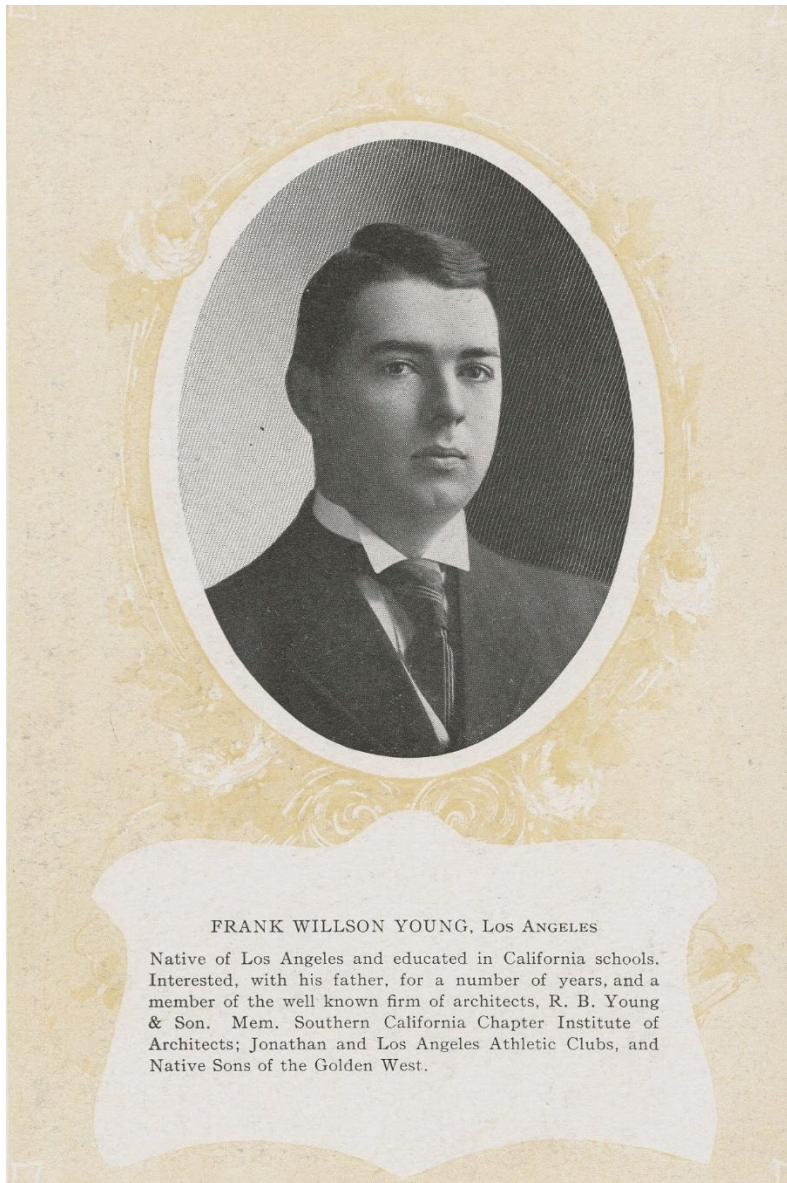


Figure 2.2. Frank Wilson Young from *Greater Los Angeles and Southern California*.



MISS MARY E. YOUNG,
society girl, whose engagement to James Moore of Michigan is announced
today.

Figure 2.3. Mary E. Young from the *Los Angeles Times*.



Figure 2.4. Eliza Wilson Tomb designed by R. B. Young. Author photo.



Figure 2.5. Inside the Eliza Wilson Tomb. Author photo.

Chapter 3: R. B. Young: 1884-1900



Figure 3.1. R. B. Young from *As We See 'Em*.

Los Angeles experienced a building boom between the years 1885 and 1887. In an early account of Young's work is a short story about how Young managed to supervise the progress on his work during a particularly busy point in his practice. "At one time during this period of "boom" excitement, Architect Young had under construction 87 buildings. In order to properly superintend this vast number of structures, he found it absolutely necessary to secure some more

rapid means of getting around than by walking. The best he could do was a California burro, and it is still an amusing incident of how Young found it compulsory to limit the mule's luncheon hour, so as to make the rounds between sunrise and sunset.”⁶⁶

HOLLENBECK BLOCK & HOLLENBECK HOTEL

Two of R. B. Young's early landmark buildings look alike due to their massing and roofs. The first to open, in 1884, was the Hollenbeck Block. It was located at 207 South Spring Street and was originally a two-story building a few blocks from the central Los Angeles business district. John and Elizabeth Hollenbeck, who would go on to build the Hollenbeck Home for the Aged in L.A.'s Boyle Heights neighborhood, got their start in Los Angeles with this building. The building block extended for 120 feet on Spring Street and 230 feet on Second Street.

R. B. Young took bids for the Hollenbeck Block's construction on March 24, 1884. The \$66,000 contract was awarded to W. I. Burr. The building was constructed from brick and stone, and the stone used in the project was to be taken from Mr. McDonald's quarry “on the hill within the city limits.”⁶⁷

The first story was designed for retail establishments, and the second story, according to the *Los Angeles Herald*, “will be made with eighty rooms, in the form of the New York flats, for the accommodation of single tenants or families. A large kitchen will be made in the building so that ample facilities can be furnished for tenants to do their cooking if they so desire. This will be the first regular building made as a flat in Los Angeles and will prove quite a convenience.”⁶⁸ The major tenant on the first story was The Coulter Dry Goods Company, owned by Mr. B. F.

⁶⁶ *Architecture of R. B. Young* (Los Angeles: J. L. Le Berthon, 1905), unpagued.

⁶⁷ “Local Brevities,” *Los Angeles Herald*, March 25, 1884, 3.

⁶⁸ “The First Flat in Town,” *Los Angeles Daily Herald*, February 12, 1884, 2.

Coulter. Coulter's goal was to make the store one of the "most palatial mercantile establishments in Southern California and have the satisfaction of knowing that there are but few establishments in the state that will compare to it."⁶⁹

Coulter Dry Goods had large windows on Spring Street and Second Street. The store was sixty-six feet by one hundred and fifteen feet. In the center of the store was the cashier's room. At the rear of the building were toilets for men and women employees. The court at the rear of the store was laid with patent stone "as has the entire sidewalk in front of the store, on both streets, for three hundred and sixty feet."⁷⁰

Once the business district expanded to include the area surrounding Second and Spring Streets, A. C. Bilicke, who was in charge of the building in 1889, thought it would be financially feasible to add two stories and transition the building from a rooming house to a hotel. Rev. William S. Young (no relation to R. B. Young) was one of the trustees of the estate of Elizabeth Hollenbeck, and Rev. Young remembered Bilicke as the mastermind behind Hollenbeck's transition.⁷¹

Boyle Workman, who was elected to three terms on the Los Angeles City Council, recounted the events differently. Workman wrote, "When, after Hollenbeck's death, his wife added two more stories to the hotel, Mrs. Hammond, now also a widow, was placed in charge. Fred Crowley and Charles D. Baker were the next hotel managers, and John Koster operated the café on Second Street. Later, the hotel was under the management of Albert C. Bilicke, who

⁶⁹ "A Palatial Business House," *Los Angeles Daily Herald*, September 27, 1884, 6.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ "Old Hollenbeck Hotel Sacrifice to Progress," *Los Angeles Times*, November 5, 1931, A5. Bilicke would die in 1915. He and his wife were on the *Lusitania* when it was struck by a German torpedo on May 7, 1915. Bilicke took the cruise to recover from an abdominal operation. His body was never recovered, but his wife survived.

became one of our city's big hotelmen and capitalists. The city suffered a great loss when Bilicke went down on the Lusitania."⁷²

Whether it was Bilicke or Mrs. Hollenbeck, the right decision was made. The Hollenbeck Block morphed into the Hollenbeck Hotel, and its 220 rooms became a fashionable hotel for visitors to the city. Some famous personalities who stayed at the Hollenbeck Hotel were actresses Lily Langtry, Lillian Russell, and Anna Held. Boxer Jim Jeffries also stayed at the hotel, but the most prominent guest, by far, was President Benjamin Harrison.⁷³

LANKERSHIM BLOCK

In 1886, R. B. Young designed the Lankershim Block for Col. James Boon Lankershim.⁷⁴ James Boon Lankershim was born on March 24, 1850, and moved to San Francisco with his parents in 1860. When Lankershim settled in Los Angeles in 1872, he was in charge of the 60,000 acres in the Lankershim-Van Nuys Company.⁷⁵ Lankershim and R. B. Young worked together on many projects in the last quarter of the nineteenth century.⁷⁶

The Lankershim Block was located on the east side of Spring Street below Third Street. The building had 105 feet of frontage on Spring Street and was 80 feet deep. It was three stories tall, and the first floor was devoted to mercantile and contained six separate storefronts.

⁷² Boyle Workman, *The City that Grew* (Los Angeles: The Southland Publishing Company, 1935), 198.

⁷³ "Old Hollenbeck Hotel Sacrifice to Progress," *Los Angeles Times*, November 5, 1931, A5.

⁷⁴ "A Big Brick Block to be Built," *Los Angeles Herald*, May 30, 1886, 6.

⁷⁵ J. M. Guinn, *A History of California and an Extended history of Los Angeles and Environs* (Los Angeles: Historic Record Company, 1915), 106-108.

⁷⁶ Lankershim and Young were also prominent stockholders in the Savings Bank and Trust Company, which was located at 326 South Main Street, in downtown Los Angeles. Other notable stockholders in the bank included Griffith J. Griffith, I. N. Van Nuys, William G. Kerckhoff, Herman Hellman and Lankershim, who was president of the bank. "Post Office Savings Bank and Trust Co.," *Los Angeles Times*, November 5, 1889, 5.

The two upper stories were designed for offices and could be configured into two—or four-room suites. The offices facing the street were 14 feet x 20 feet, and the offices in the rear were 12 feet x 16 feet. The suites came with fireplaces, mantels, and closets.

The building was topped with a mansard roof that was covered in slate. French plate glass was used in all the windows. The second and third floors had two-story bay windows at the opposite ends of the building. The main hallway in the Lankershim Block was 16 feet wide and 65 feet long. This hallway was covered with a skylight that contained stained glass.⁷⁷

The cost of the block was \$30,000.⁷⁸

CITY HALL PLANS

Despite his bespectacled appearance, R. B. Young was a fighter and wasn't afraid of confrontation.

In 1885, Young was the frontrunner for the new Los Angeles City Hall commission. Young's city hall proposal was for a two-story brick building with a mansard roof. It would contain a clock tower with an eight-foot clock dial above the main entrance. The distance between the sidewalk and the cornice would be 63 feet. The distance from the sidewalk to the top of the clock tower would be 106 feet. A 32-foot flagpole would be attached to the clock tower. The location the city had chosen for the new city hall was at the corner of Second and Spring Streets.⁷⁹

⁷⁷ "A Big Brick Block to be Built," *Los Angeles Herald*, March 30, 1886, 6.

⁷⁸ "Other Business Houses," *Los Angeles Times*, July 1, 1887, 2.

⁷⁹ "Main City Building," *Los Angeles Times*, August 2, 1885, 6.

The side entrances would be a combination of Roman and modern design and “tastefully combined.”⁸⁰ On each side of the tower above the entrances would be niches. The niches would hold statues of both the Goddess of Liberty and the Goddess of Justice. An ornamental fence with an entrance gate would encircle the building, designed to sit ten feet from the sidewalk. On the north side of the property, an alley would cut through the rear of the property to provide access for the transportation of prisoners to the jail.

On the first floor on the right side of a fifteen-foot hall, R. B. Young had placed the Surveyor’s office, the Surveyor’s drafting room, offices for the Superintendent of Streets, offices for the Inspector of Buildings, the Inspector of Weights and Measures, the City Physician’s office, the Health Officer’s office and two rooms for the Zanjero.⁸¹

The left side of the first floor was designed for the offices of the city clerk’s office, auditor’s office, treasurer’s office, assessor’s office, and tax collector’s office. A staircase at the end of the hall led to the second and third floors.

Over the main Spring Street entrance was the mayor’s office. The office had a 21-foot balcony, but the office was only 13 feet by 13 feet. To the left of the Mayor’s office was an adjoining room for the Mayor’s clerk, which was similar to a secretary or administrative assistant. The Mayor’s courtroom was on the other side of the clerk’s room. This left section of the second floor was completed by the Council Chamber, which was 30 x 53 feet.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ The Zanjero is the person in charge of the zanjas.

The Assistant City Attorney's office was on the right side of the Mayor's office, followed by the City Attorney's office. The left side of the Mayor's office was completed by offices for the Constable, City Justice, jury, and witness rooms.

The third floor of Young's plan, in the center and the front, included two offices for the City Librarian. A ladies' reading room was lit by large windows and a skylight. Across the hall was a library ante-room, the library, a gentleman's reading room, and a janitor room.

The mansard roof would have been constructed of iron. A long skylight, 15 by 53, would light the hallway beneath. The clock tower was planned to be built of iron and brick. R. B. Young had planned for the floors to be constructed of corrugated iron, laid on iron beams, and covered with cement. The building was designed to be fire-proof, and the cost was estimated to be \$65,000.⁸²

When R. B. Young's city hall design was questioned, he did not shrink away but confronted the person who questioned it head-on and in the press.

At a city council meeting, architect Octavius Morgan complained that the jail plan, which was part of the city hall project, had terrible ventilation and lighting. Morgan listed some other complaints and presented a jail plan of his own design to the council. Morgan ended his appraisal of the plan by saying, "The cells are not fit to shut a dog in one night, much less a human being."⁸³

In an October 11, 1885, letter to the editor, R. B. Young responded to criticism Octavius Morgan levied against Young's city hall/jail design. Young wrote that Morgan's criticism was

⁸² Ibid.

⁸³ "City Council: Proceedings of the Long and Mixed Session Yesterday," October 7, 1885, *Los Angeles Times*, O2.

not objective criticism but rather rooted in “ungentlemanly jealousy” and was from an “incompetent rival in business.”⁸⁴

Young systematically addressed Morgan's critique and indicated how Morgan’s analysis was incorrect. As part of his summation, Young brought up two buildings Morgan’s firm had designed, the Nadeau Block and the Schumacher Block. Both building blocks had undergone extensive plumbing redesign due to a rash of illnesses that had plagued tenants. The illnesses were eventually linked to the plumbing being incorrectly arranged in the two building blocks. In his final paragraph, Young reminded readers that a section of a building Morgan had designed near the existing city hall had to be dismantled and rebuilt at the cost of approximately \$1,000 before city inspectors would allow anyone to occupy the building.⁸⁵

The Los Angeles City Council appointed a special committee to evaluate Young’s design. After their review, the special committee said, “After careful examination the committee resolved to report to the Council that in its judgement, the plans are not such as the needs of the city demand and recommending that the Clerk advertise for new plans.”⁸⁶

Young was given another opportunity to submit a revised plan. Boring & Haas, Kysor & Morgan, and R. B. Young were the three architectural firms vying for the commission. On March 22, 1886, all had their “rough” plans examined by the Los Angeles City Council.⁸⁷

It wasn’t to be for Young. Instead, this landmark city hall commission went to the firm of Boring & Hass.

⁸⁴ “Letters From the People,” *Los Angeles Times*, October 11, 1885, 2.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

⁸⁶ “The New City Hall,” *Los Angeles Daily Herald*, February 7, 1886, 6.

⁸⁷ “City Hall Plans,” *Los Angeles Herald*, March 23, 1886, 6.

Note: Three sources claim R. B. Young's city hall was built. One source is the back of the USC photograph, on which it is written that the city hall plans "were approved by the City Council on July 11, 1884. Records showed the first City Hall occupied a lot 98 by 92 feet on the northwest corner of Second and Spring streets. The building was three stories tall with two towers, one for a clock and one for a bell to sound alarms. Designed by Architect R. B. Young it was rococo and baroque with French and Felemish motif. It was first occupied in 1885..."

The second source is the Los Angeles Water & Power "photo website," which has a photograph of a city hall building circa 1884-1888 that looks similar to the building in the USC photograph. However, the Water & Power photo is from the side and at a distance, making matching it with the USC photograph difficult.

The third source is John Crandall. In his book *Homage to Downtown*, he lists the address of R. B. Young's city hall as 211 W. Second and the date it was built as 1885. However, he does not write about this city hall elsewhere in his book; he only lists the address.

It is possible that Young's city hall was built but none of these sources are compelling for a variety of reasons.

1. An August 1885 newspaper article mentions the need for a Los Angeles city hall. The reasons include the safety of the city's public records, the comfort of city officials, and the need for a central location where everyone and everything can be housed under one roof.⁸⁸
2. A September 1886 newspaper article lists city hall locations that citizens have offered for the new city hall location.⁸⁹

⁸⁸ "The Bonds," *Los Angeles Times*, August 16, 1885, 5.

⁸⁹ "Council: Bids Called..." *Los Angeles Times*, September 28, 1886, O4.

The questions the USC photo and newspaper articles prompt are: Why would a new city hall be needed in the late 1880s if there was already a new city hall in 1885? Why would the newspaper article stress the need to house everyone and everything under one roof if there was already a city hall? Why would there be a list of city hall locations under consideration in 1886 if a new city hall was built in 1885? The city hall plans may have been approved on July 11, 1884, but that doesn't mean the building was ever built.

HOTEL WESTMINSTER

The Hotel Westminster was another early success for R. B. Young and was similar in design to the Hollenbeck. After it opened in March 1888, the Westminster was hailed as a great addition to Los Angeles and praised in the local press. One review began by reminding readers that until recently, Los Angeles had been a place of oblivion, but the city had quickly become a “shining and a beautiful emblem of prosperity and wealth.”⁹⁰

The Hotel Westminster was a four-story brick building with 250 rooms, all constructed in what one newspaper termed the modern style. The rooms facing south and west contained bay windows that filled the suites with light and provided ventilation.

The hotel's address was 342-350 Main Street. When it was built, it had four bays on the Main Street side and five bays on the Fourth Street side. It was topped with conical roofs, two on Main Street and one on Fourth Street. A prominent tower topped with a mansard roof was at the Main and Fourth Street intersection.

The center of the building contained a large interior court, with a skylight overhead, which allowed inside rooms access to natural light. All the rooms were carpeted with Brussels carpets

⁹⁰ “Hotel Westminster,” *Los Angeles Times*, March 11, 1888, 3.

and furnished with hardwood furniture in cherry, oak, and mahogany. No money was spared to make the hotel “strictly first class.”⁹¹

The hotel also had single rooms, each containing what one reporter deemed a novel piece of furniture: a folding bed known today as a “Murphy” bed.

There were bathrooms on every floor.

The lady’s parlor surpassed “anything of its kind in Los Angeles.”⁹² There were “fine masterpieces of art on the walls” and “velvet plush carpet and upholstery.”⁹³

A fireproof hotel was a big selling point for tourists and travelers, and the Westminster sold itself as a fireproof hotel. There were firewalls throughout the building, and they extended from the basement to the roof. Each floor had two fire plugs with 100 feet of two-inch hose. The hose was connected to an independent water source separate from the regular water supply.⁹⁴

What nineteenth-century individuals referred to as the office would today be called the check-in desk. Much was made of the office and how it was not relegated to a corner on the second floor, as many hotels had done in recent years. Instead, the Westminster’s office was placed on the first floor, right inside the door and near the entrance. The beauty of the office area was noted, and special attention was given to the brass chandeliers and the “powerful and brilliant electric light.”⁹⁵

Another review of the hotel mentioned the kitchen. “If the countless people who complain of the badly kept dining rooms and the dirty kitchens of many of the Los Angeles

⁹¹ Ibid.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ Ibid.

⁹⁵ Ibid.

restaurants could peep into the culinary department attached to the Hotel Westminster, they certainly would be convinced that it, at least, was exempt from all reproach.”⁹⁶

President William McKinley and President William Howard Taft stayed as guests at the Hotel Westminster.”⁹⁷

⁹⁶ “Women’s Department: A Model Kitchen,” *Los Angeles Daily Herald*, February 19, 1888, 12.

⁹⁷ “Historic Los Angeles Hotel Newly Bought,” *Los Angeles Times*, May 1, 1955, F18.

FIRST WILSON BLOCK

The first Wilson Block, located at First and Spring Streets, was erected in 1888 and had a marble entrance. This is the building designed by Burgess J. Reeve. The marble entrance was the distinguishing feature of the building. It was frequently commented upon because no other building in Los Angeles had a marble entrance before the first Wilson Block. This building was owned by Peter Wilson, a Swedish immigrant.⁹⁸ The second Wilson Block, designed by R. B. Young and located on Broadway between Fourth and Fifth Streets, was erected in 1895. This is the Wilson Block that would become newspaper fodder in 1901. The second Wilson Block was named after R. B. Young's mother-in-law, Eliza Wilson.

HOTEL WESTMINSTER RENOVATIONS

On September 30, 1892, a building permit was issued to O. T. Johnson for a \$35,000 addition to the Westminster Hotel.⁹⁹ Three months later, a short paragraph appeared in a local newspaper regarding the progress of the work: "Workmen are busy with the interior of the Westminster Hotel annex, which is expected will be completed this month. The addition fronts sixty-two feet on Main street and is four stories high."¹⁰⁰

This clarifies differences in the appearance of the Westminster Hotel in vintage photographs of the exterior.

In August 1894, The Westminster Hotel underwent renovation work again, this time for the winter tourist season. The hotel bathtubs were replaced with new enamel tubs. A new billiard

⁹⁸ "Landmark Doomed to Go," *Los Angeles Times*, July 26, 1927, A1.

⁹⁹ "News Notes," *Los Angeles Herald*, October 1, 1892, 8.

¹⁰⁰ "New Buildings," *Los Angeles Times*, December 5, 1892, 3.

room large enough to accommodate three tables was reconfigured. And the ceilings in both the reading room and the office were redecorated.¹⁰¹

E. WILSON BLOCK

The 2nd Wilson Block was located at 425-435 South Broadway between Fourth and Fifth Streets. It opened in 1895, but it had an 1894 date at the cornice of the building. Under the date was the name E. Wilson. The building had 120 feet of frontage on Broadway and was 125 feet deep. The building was three stories with a basement. It had six storefronts on the first floor and 90 rooms on the second and third floors. Each room was “supplied with a hot water radiator, making it the only building in the city with such modern improvements.”¹⁰²

The ninety rooms on the second and third floors were used as hotel rooms, and the hotel was known as the Broadway Hotel. The hotel claimed that “in point of comfort and perfect arrangement [it] will excel anything of like kind west of Chicago.”¹⁰³

This advertisement for the Wilson Block noted that the planning and construction was supervised by R. B. Young, “one of the leading architects of this city.”¹⁰⁴ After listing the companies who had done the ironwork, roof, carpentry work, cornice, painting, and plumbing, the final paragraph saluted R. B. Young’s mother-in-law, Eliza Wilson. “Thus, it will be seen that Mrs. Eliza Wilson, the owner of the building, has spared neither pains nor expense in making the Wilson Block one of the best ever erected in this city.”¹⁰⁵

¹⁰¹ “Preparing for the Tourist Season,” *Los Angeles Times*, August 12, 1894, 15.

¹⁰² “A Beautiful as Well as Substantial Structure, Now Nearing Completion,” *Los Angeles Herald*, January 1, 1895, 24.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

LANKERSHIM BUILDING

After he designed the Wilson Block, R. B. Young went to work on a five-story building for J. B. Lankershim at the southeast corner of Third and Spring Streets. It was a stone and brick building 90 feet by 125 feet, costing \$125,000. Once completed in 1896, it was referred to as the Lankershim Building and located at 126 West 3rd Street.

The Lankershim Building would eventually become even larger in 1902. Two stories were added to the five-story building at an estimated cost of between \$25 and \$30 thousand, so its final height was seven stories.¹⁰⁶

LANKERSHIM WAREHOUSE

Young would build another building for Lankershim in 1899. The 1899 building was a two-story brick warehouse initially slated to be built on the north side of Winston Street across from the post office.¹⁰⁷ Winston Street was located between Main and Los Angeles Street, and the warehouse was to cost \$5,000, but issues arose.

The federal government wanted to expand the post office, and “the policy of the government is to own and maintain an unoccupied space of ground at least forty feet wide on each side of its buildings. The Federal building in this city has such a space sown to grass on the south side, and it is upon this lot that the new wing of the building is proposed to be erected.”¹⁰⁸ Due to this conflict with the federal government, a two-story warehouse, with a basement, was eventually built on the southwest corner of Easton and Alameda streets, at a cost of \$16,000.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁶ “Another Tall Building,” *Los Angeles Times*, July 12, 1902, 7.

¹⁰⁷ “Among the Architects,” *Los Angeles Herald*, March 30, 1899, 10.

¹⁰⁸ “He has a Good Graft,” *Riverside Enterprise*, September 6, 1899, 1.

¹⁰⁹ “House and Lot,” *Los Angeles Times*, May 26, 1899, 11.



Figure 3.2. Hollenbeck Hotel. From the *California Historical Society* and the *University of Southern California Libraries*.

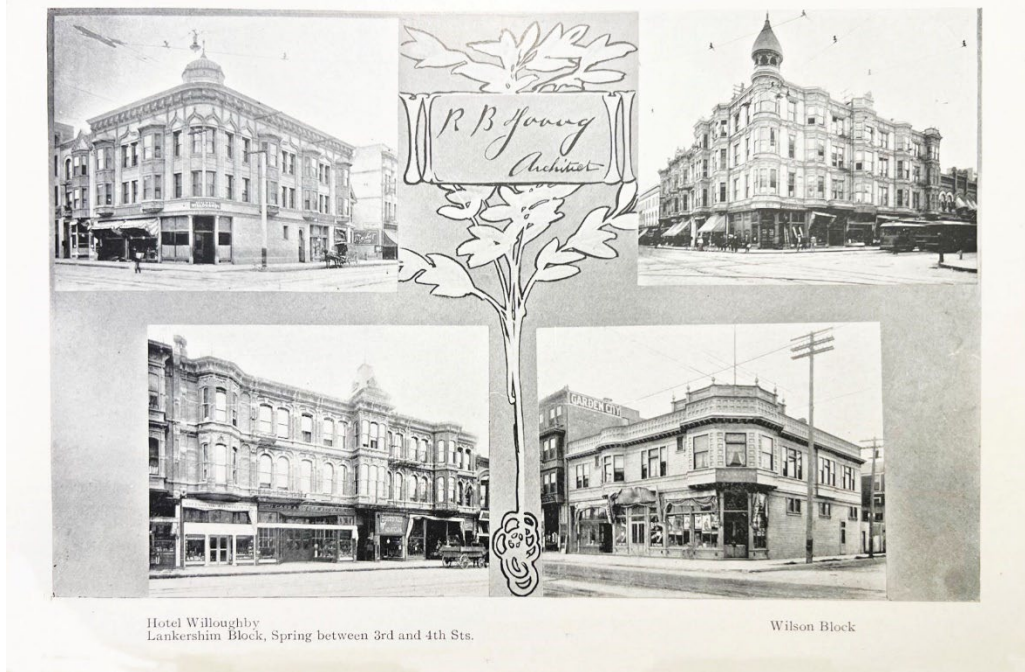


Figure 3.3. The Lankershim Block (lower left) from the *Architecture of R. B. Young*.



Figure 3.4. R. B. Young City Hall drawing. Photograph from the *University of Southern California Libraries*.



Figure 3.5. Water & Power photograph. Possible R. B. Young 1884-1888 city hall is on the right side of the photograph.



Figure 3.6. Hotel Westminster circa 1895 from the *California State Library*.



Figure 3.7. E. Wilson Building from the *Architecture of R. B. Young*.



Figure 3.8. Lankershim Building from the *University of Southern California Libraries*.

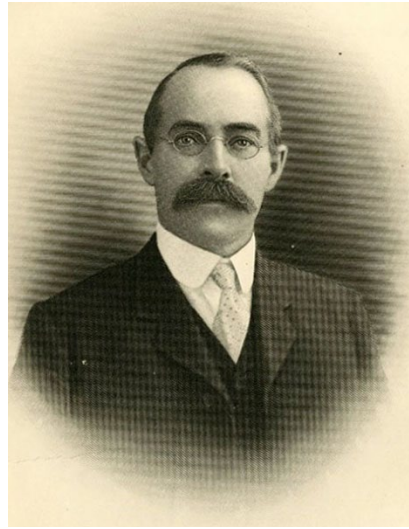


Figure 4.1. From *A History of California*.

LANKERSHIM HOTEL

R. B. Young's next big project unfolded the following year when he announced plans for a seven-story steel, brick, and stone office building on the southeast corner of Broadway and Seventh Street. The building would have retail stores on the ground floor and offices above.¹¹⁰

In November 1902, Captain James B. Lankershim, who was referred to in the press as both a captain and a colonel, changed the purpose of the building that R. B. Young had mysteriously alluded to from an office building to a hotel. The hotel would eventually be known as the Lankershim Hotel and was scheduled to open in 1903.

By January 1903, excavation work was underway at the hotel. The building's plans called for it to be seven stories with a frontage of 106 feet on Seventh Street and 120 feet on Broadway. It would be fireproof, with cement floors, a steel frame, and metal lath interior walls.

¹¹⁰ "Possible Office Building for South Broadway," *Los Angeles Times*, September 23, 1902, A4.

Plans were made for the basement to have a billiard room, bowling alley, laundry room, and cold storage. The first floor would have a variety of offices, parlors, and dining rooms. The offices and the lobby would have encaustic tile floors and California marble wainscoting, while the parlors and dining rooms would have inlaid floors and tile wainscoting. Frescos were planned for the ceilings. The Lankershim Hotel would have steam heat and a phone in every room. The estimated cost of the building at this early stage was more than \$200,000.

In December 1903, the building was still under construction. The *Los Angeles Herald* said about its progress, “The new Lankershim hotel, corner Seventh and Broadway, is now under roof, and inside work is being rapidly completed. The building is the most pretentious improvement in the section of the city south of Seventh street.”¹¹¹

In April of the following year an opening date of September 1, 1904, was set. John R. Matheson, who was the broker for the lease, said the Lankershim, “will eclipse anything now in operation in the city and every unique feature that has been worked into the St. Francis of San Francisco will have a place” at the Lankershim.¹¹²

Later in the month, it was revealed that the Lankershim would be nine stories instead of seven and have 320 rooms. The furniture for the bedrooms alone would cost approximately \$100,000, and the silver service cost for the dining room was approximately \$20,000. The hotel planned to open in time for the Knights Templar pilgrimage and the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows encampment in the fall.¹¹³

¹¹¹ “December Shows Gains in Building,” *Los Angeles Herald*, December 6, 1903, V1.

¹¹² “Will Open in September,” *Los Angeles Times*, April 11, 1904, 14.

¹¹³ “Lankershim Hotel Leased,” *Los Angeles Times*, April 28, 1904, A1.

The hotel still wasn't finished in October 1904, and a new opening date was set for January 1, 1905. An update on the hotel informed the public that E. R. Cooper from Denver had been awarded the lease. A Turkish Bath in the basement, a smoking room, and a writing room on the first floor had been added to the amenities. Cooper decided each floor above the first floor would be decorated in a different style. Cooper said the styles would include Mission, Empire, Louis XV, Queen Anne, Colonial, oriental, etc.¹¹⁴ Col. Lankershim had invested over \$800,000 in the venue as of October 1904, and the remaining equipment and furnishings would propel the final cost to one million dollars or more.

There was a great deal of buildup but no grand opening for the Lankershim Hotel. February 15, 1905, was the official opening day only because that was the day the dining rooms opened. Yet guests had been staying at the hotel since February 1st. The Lankershim Hotel allowed guests to check in before the hotel's completion because the hotel's management wanted to honor individual reservations. The hotel opened with 200 employees, 350 rooms, and 160 baths.¹¹⁵

YOUNG FAMILY HOME

The home the Young family shared at 1001 South Hoover Street was designed by R. B. Young's son, Frank Wilson Young, and built in 1906. Frank Wilson Young would have been nineteen years old when he designed this home. R. B. Young gave his son sole credit for the building. The home had 130 feet of frontage on Hoover Street and 150 feet of frontage on Tenth Street. It was designed in an old English style and built on a raised lot.

¹¹⁴ "Cooper Effects Lease of City's Biggest Hotel," *Los Angeles Times*, October 23, 1904, A1.

¹¹⁵ "Opening Day," *Los Angeles Times*, February 15, 1905, II1.

There were plate glass windows on each side of the front door and a small entrance vestibule 6 feet by 20 feet. Beyond the entrance vestibule was a reception hall. The reception hall contained a fireplace constructed of pressed brick in a cream color, and it was 8 feet wide. This fireplace extended to the ceiling. A library on the first floor, contained a fireplace with a rosewood mantle and bookcases on each side. The dining room, one of the rooms accessed from the reception hall, had a beamed ceiling, wainscoting, an 8-foot-high plate rail, a built-in buffet, and a built-in china closet, and was finished in antique oak. Across from the dining room was a parlor in white and gold. Adjacent and behind the parlor was a side entrance that led to a Portecochere. This side entrance had a marble floor, and a gentlemen's lavatory and a cloakroom were adjacent to the side entry. Beyond the side entrance was a breakfast room finished in black oak. The rear of the first floor contained the kitchen, pantry, refrigeration room, dumb waiter, and the servant's stairs.

The home's main staircase led from the public reception area to the family quarters on the second floor. The second-floor landing contained a large fireplace and had golden oak built-in seating. There were six bedrooms on the second floor. The front corner bedrooms had "on suites," and the on suites had tile floors and wainscoting. The other four bedrooms had lavatories. All of the bedrooms had large closets and dressing rooms. The second floor also had a guest restroom. At the rear of the second floor was a sun balcony and a large staircase that led to the third floor. On the third floor was a 25-foot by 50-foot assembly room. The third floor also contained servants' quarters, servants' stairs, and a massage room.¹¹⁶

¹¹⁶ "Two Styles Here," *Los Angeles Times*, January 21, 1906, V24.

PROPOSED HOTEL

Mrs. R. B. Young was a very wealthy woman after her mother's death. Her goal in 1911 was to construct a hotel on Seventh Street, which would stretch from Figueroa to Flower Street. It would occupy the space formally occupied by the Young home on Seventh Street and the surrounding land. Her husband's firm designed the plans, and it was a \$1 million project. The hotel would have had 600 rooms and would have occupied the space where the old Barker Bros. Building on Seventh Street now sits, but the hotel was never built.¹¹⁷

THE YOUNG APARTMENTS

The Young Apartments, located at 1621 South Grand Avenue, were designed by R. B. Young in 1911. The owner's name on the building permit, issued on June 28, 1911, was W. F. Young. William Frank Young was an oil and real estate man who was from Alden, Iowa. William Frank Young moved to Los Angeles in 1907 and formed a company, the Young Investment Company, which built apartment buildings.¹¹⁸ The contractor's name was listed as the Young Construction Company.

According to the building permit, the estimated cost of the building was \$100,000.

The five-story building is located on the northwest corner of Seventeenth Street and Grand Avenue, south of downtown Los Angeles. It is constructed of reinforced concrete and was considered absolutely fireproof when built. It covers a ground area of 62 feet by 122 feet. The building contains a large open court that is oriented toward Seventeenth Street.

¹¹⁷ "Great Hotel to Occupy Full Block on Seventh," *Los Angeles Times*, October 29, VII.

¹¹⁸ *Press Reference Library: Notables of the Southwest* (Los Angeles: The Los Angeles Examiner, 1912), 464.

The Young Apartment building has a pressed brick exterior trimmed in cream-colored terra cotta. When the complex opened, it had 67 two- and three-room apartments and 187 rooms in total. Some of the building's amenities included a billiard room, an extra-large social room, an open-air terrace, and a lounging porch.

The first floor had a large lobby, offices, elevators, and a reception alcove. All apartments had a kitchen and a bath. They also came with a dressing room and a built-in wardrobe. The apartments could be two rooms because most were equipped with "disappearing beds."¹¹⁹

The building received its certificate of occupancy on August 14, 1912. The apartments were advertised in local newspapers as "furnished in a manner that will appeal to people of refinement."¹²⁰

¹¹⁹ "Modern Apartments to be Fireproof," *Los Angeles Times*, July 16, 1911, V1.

¹²⁰ "For Rent," *Los Angeles Herald*, August 10, 1912, 12.



Figure 4.2. Hotel Lankershim on a postcard.



Figure 4.3. Young Family residence at Hoover and Tenth. From the *Architecture of R. B. Young*.

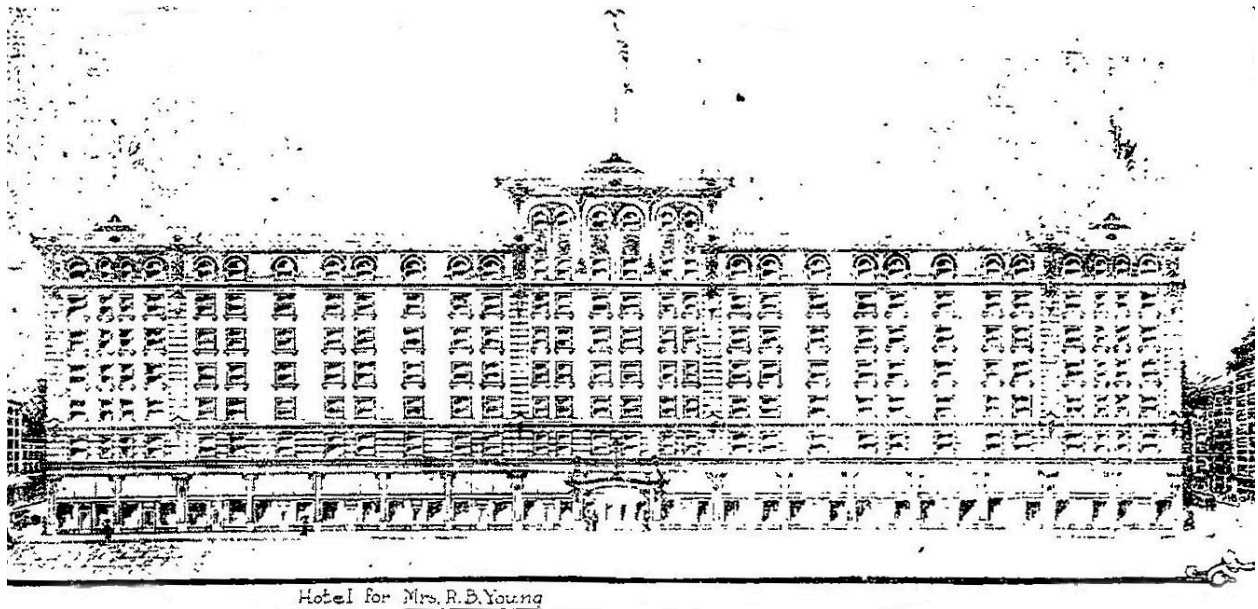


Figure 4.4. Proposed Hotel for Mrs. R. B. Young. From the *Los Angeles Times*.



Figure 4.5. Young Apartments. Author photo.

Chapter 5: Conclusion

The Wilson Block on Broadway survived a fire in March 1917,¹²¹ but a demolition permit was issued for the property on February 5, 1932. The Hollenbeck Hotel was also demolished in 1932.¹²² The city of Los Angeles condemned the Westminster Hotel in 1960. It was torn down and replaced with a parking lot.¹²³

The Lankershim Hotel was listed on the National Register of Historic Places but suffered structural damage from the Sylmar earthquake in 1971. Due to the earthquake, the hotel was vacant above the street level because it did not meet city fire and seismic codes. In 1984 the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency proposed a solution for the crippled building.

The CRA proposed the removal of the upper seven stories of the Lankershim Hotel. The remaining two stories would be turned into a shopping center with an open atrium, fountain, and 33,000 square feet of leasable space. The new incarnation was to be called Lankershim Square.

The project fell through, and on June 7, 1990, a demolition permit was issued for the hotel. A parking structure now occupies the space.¹²⁴

The Young apartments still stand at Seventeenth Street and Grand Avenue. They narrowly escaped destruction when the Interstate 10 freeway was constructed in the 1960s.

One reason there is little information about early Los Angeles architects is because no local library, university or college requested their business papers or architectural drawings when these architects died in the first half of the twentieth century. R. B. Young suffered this fate.

¹²¹ "11 Injured in Fight to Save Downtown Hotel," *Los Angeles Herald*, March 13, 1917, 1.

¹²² "Three Historic Structures Will Soon be Razed," *Los Angeles Times*, January 10, 1932, D3.

¹²³ "Death of a Hotel; Main Street to See its Gabled Palace to Go," *Los Angeles Times*, January 4, 1960, B1.

¹²⁴ "Rehab Near on Lankershim," *Los Angeles Times*, February 19, 1984, VIII2.

When he died in 1914 his estate was bequeathed to his family and when R. B. Young's daughter, Mary Elizabeth Young, died in 1971 she was his last heir and she had no children, so the fate of any R. B. Young papers or archive is unknown. One thing is clear, Mary Elizabeth Young did not donate a family archive to any local library, university or college.

Yet, Robert Brown Young's contribution to the city of Los Angeles was overwhelming during the years he worked in the city, from 1880 to 1914. The thirty-five images in the Appendix are a small sample of his work prior to 1905. He continued to design and erect buildings for another ten years until his death in January 1914.

Young was one of the architects in early Los Angeles who laid the groundwork for the city. He designed buildings that marveled Los Angeles citizens, who, in turn, hired him for subsequent work. Young set the standards for building design in Victorian Los Angeles. His building blocks, which included the Hollenbeck Hotel, J. B. Lankershim Building, E. Wilson Block, Lankershim Hotel, and Westminster Hotel, were the anchor buildings on the blocks where they stood. Young created work for other architects who built in the adjacent empty lots surrounding his landmark buildings. Young was a talented architect who understood his clients and delivered what they requested. His repeated work for James B. Lankershim is a good example. He designed at least five buildings for Lankershim over the years. The Lankershim Block built in 1886 at 316 S. Spring Street, the original Lankershim Building at 126 W. 3rd Street built in 1896 and its addition in 1902, the Lankershim Warehouse built in 1899 at Easton & Alameda Streets, the Lankershim Hotel at Broadway and Seventh Streets in 1905, and the two floors Young added to the San Fernando Building at 400 S. Main Street in 1911.

Young's residential architecture rivaled his commercial work. He built homes, duplexes, and apartment houses across Victorian Los Angeles. Built in various Victorian styles, some

remain and continue to house Los Angeles residents who are probably unaware of the architect who designed them.¹²⁵

Young was a prominent citizen in Los Angeles and used his connections through the American Institute of Architects, the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the Jonathan Club, the Union League Club, the B.P.O.E., and his interactions with fellow bank stockholders to further his architectural career. Young was also fortunate to have as a mother-in-law Eliza Wilson, who funded some of his works and made possible the E. Wilson building and the Occidental Hotel, to name two. Eliza Wilson spurred R. B. Young forward to create a better life for her daughter and her grandchildren.

Most of his large commercial work has been demolished except for the Young Apartments, located at Grand and 17th Street, south of downtown Los Angeles. Yet, despite the destruction, what Young did was significant, and he should not be dismissed as someone from the past who was unimportant. Real people lived in the homes and apartments he built. People stayed at the hotels he designed, wrote letters on the hotel stationery, and sent postcards depicting Young's work to their friends across the country. The buildings R. B. Young designed were recognized and familiar places to Angelenos.

R. B. Young was a busy and important architect who was respected by the majority of his fellow architects. His work was held in high esteem by the leading citizens of Los Angeles. The photographic images of his work that still exist document R. B. Young's work. They are a reminder of how Los Angeles appeared at the turn of the last century. They document the scope of his work and what Los Angeles has lost.

¹²⁵ *Architecture of R. B. Young* (Los Angeles: J. L. Le Berthon, 1905).

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APPENDIX 1
Sanborn Maps

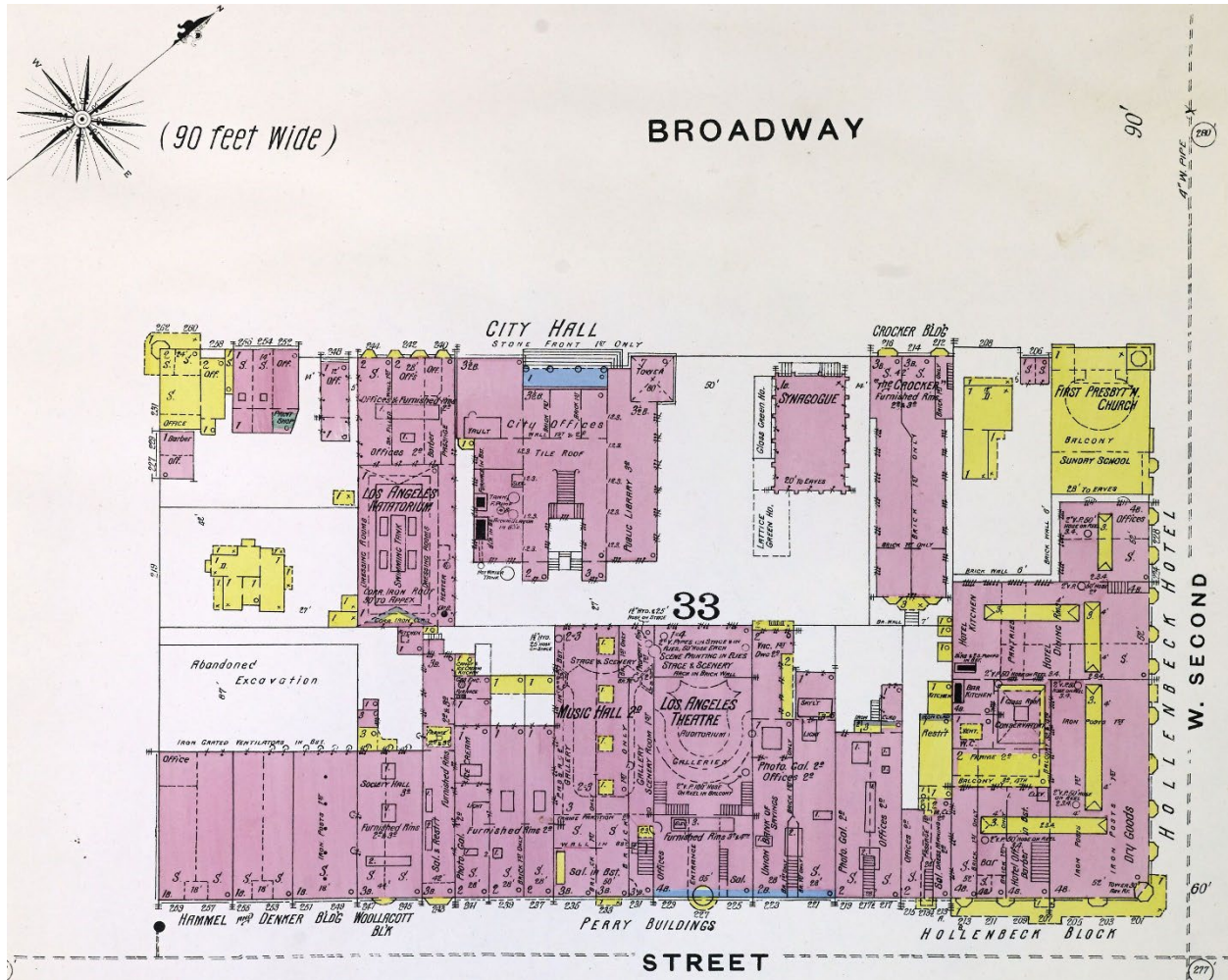


Figure 5.1. 1894 Sanborn Map: Hollenbeck Block and Hollenbeck Hotel.¹²⁶

¹²⁶ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 1, 1894. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_003/.

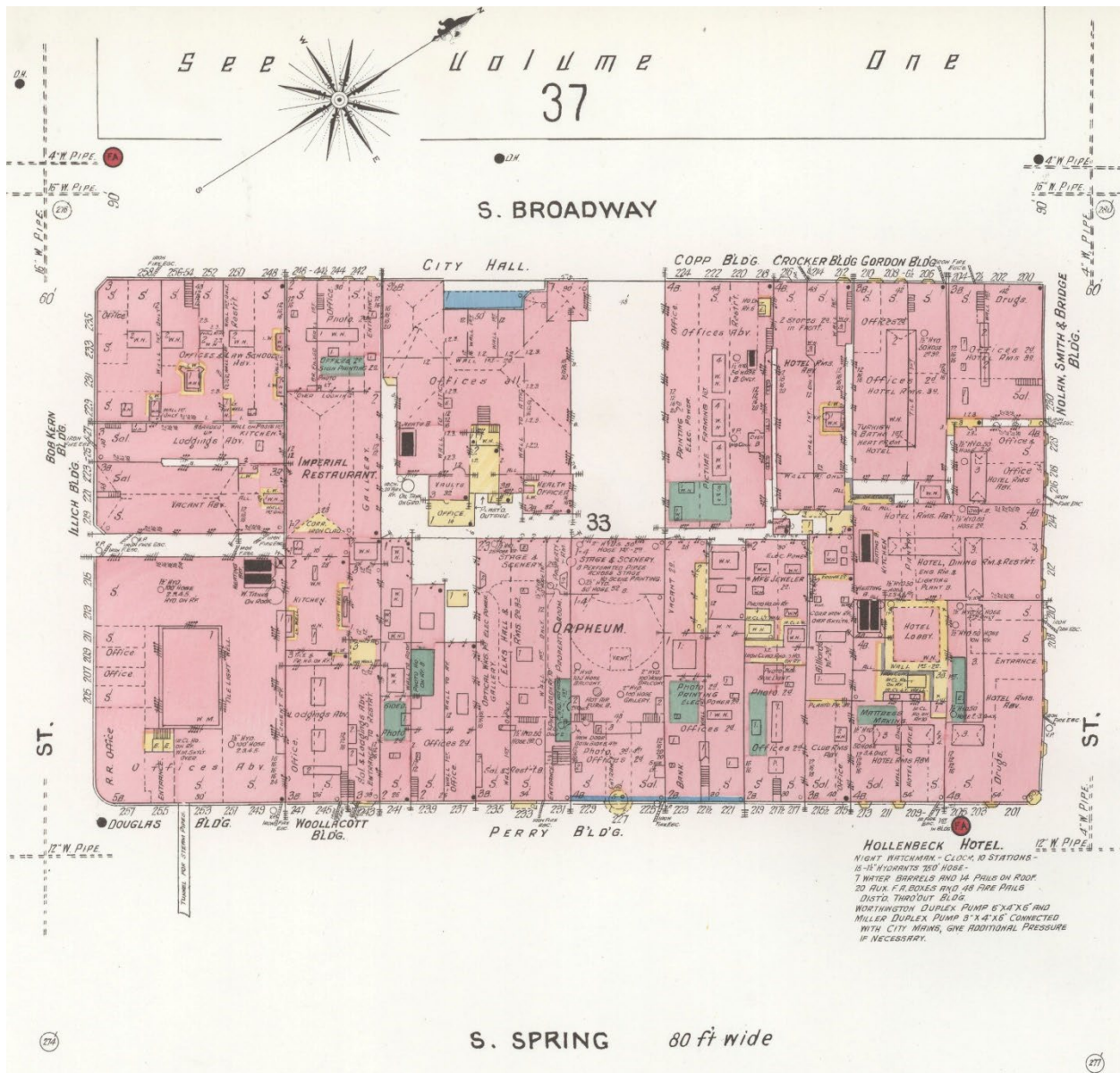


Figure 5.2. 1906 Sanborn Map: Hollenbeck Block and Hotel.¹²⁷

¹²⁷ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 2, 1906. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_008/.

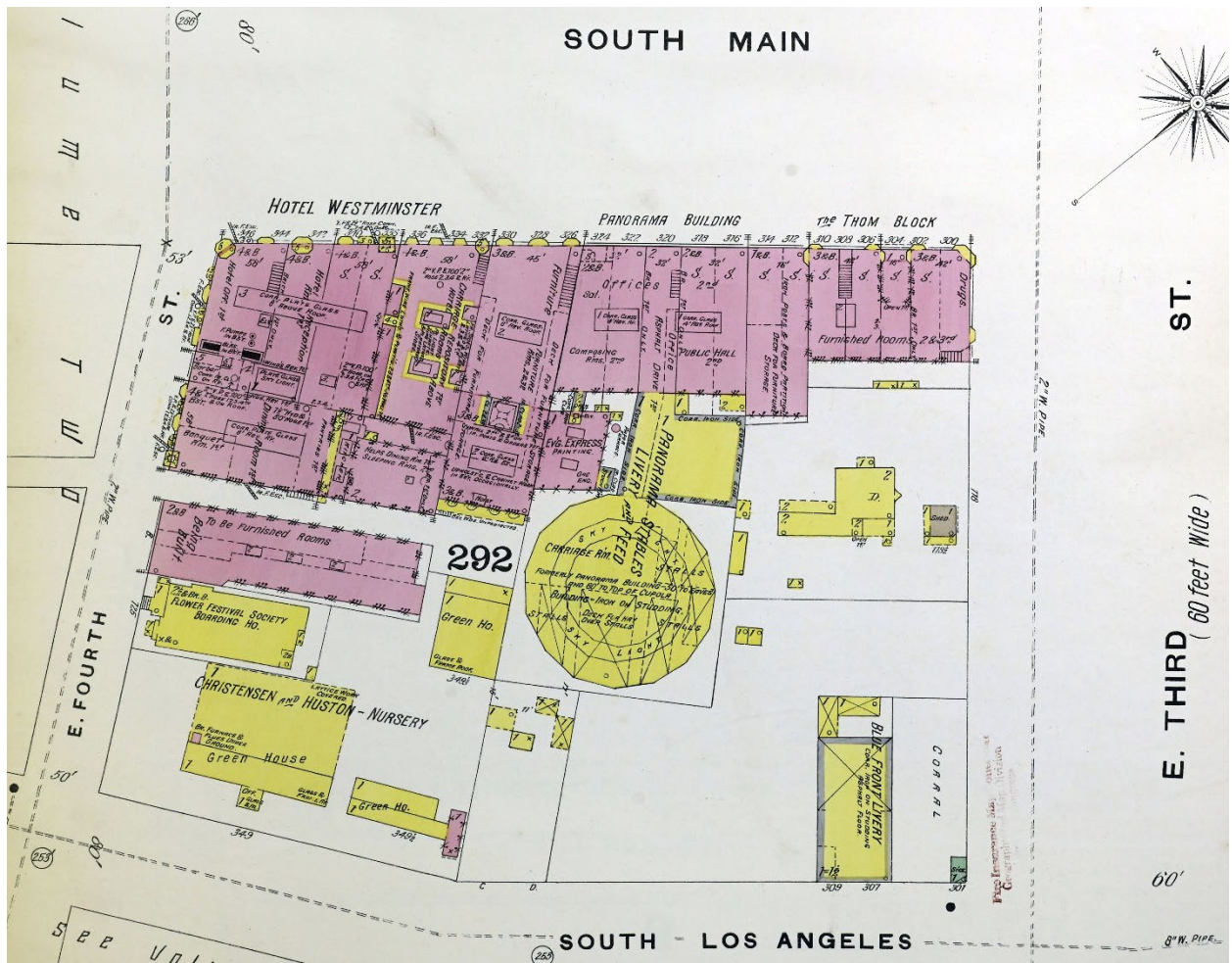


Figure 5.3. 1894 Sanborn map: Hotel Westminster.¹²⁸

¹²⁸ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 1, 1894. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_003/.

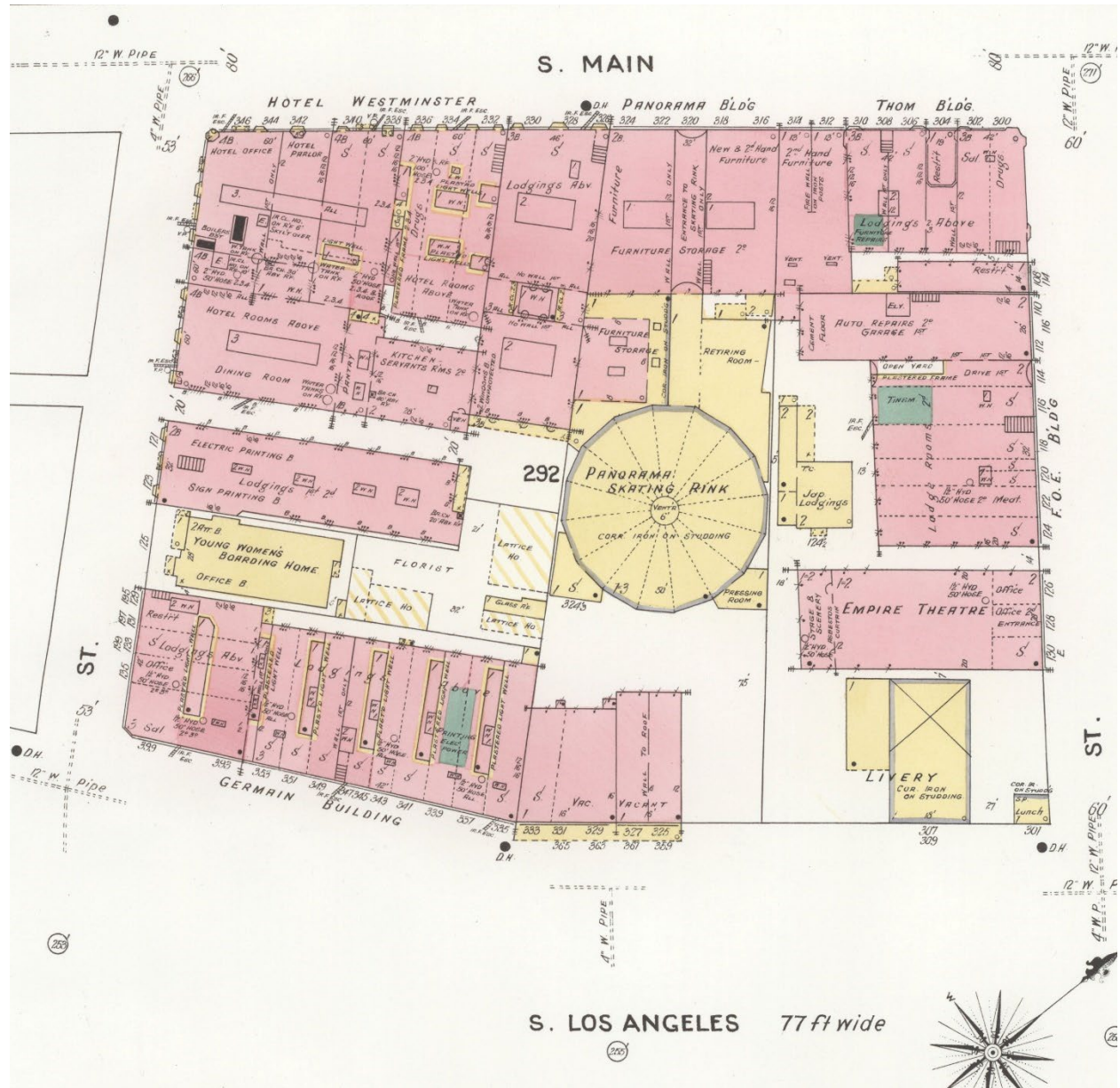


Figure 5.4. 1906 Sanborn map: Hotel Westminster.¹²⁹

¹²⁹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 2, 1906. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_008/.

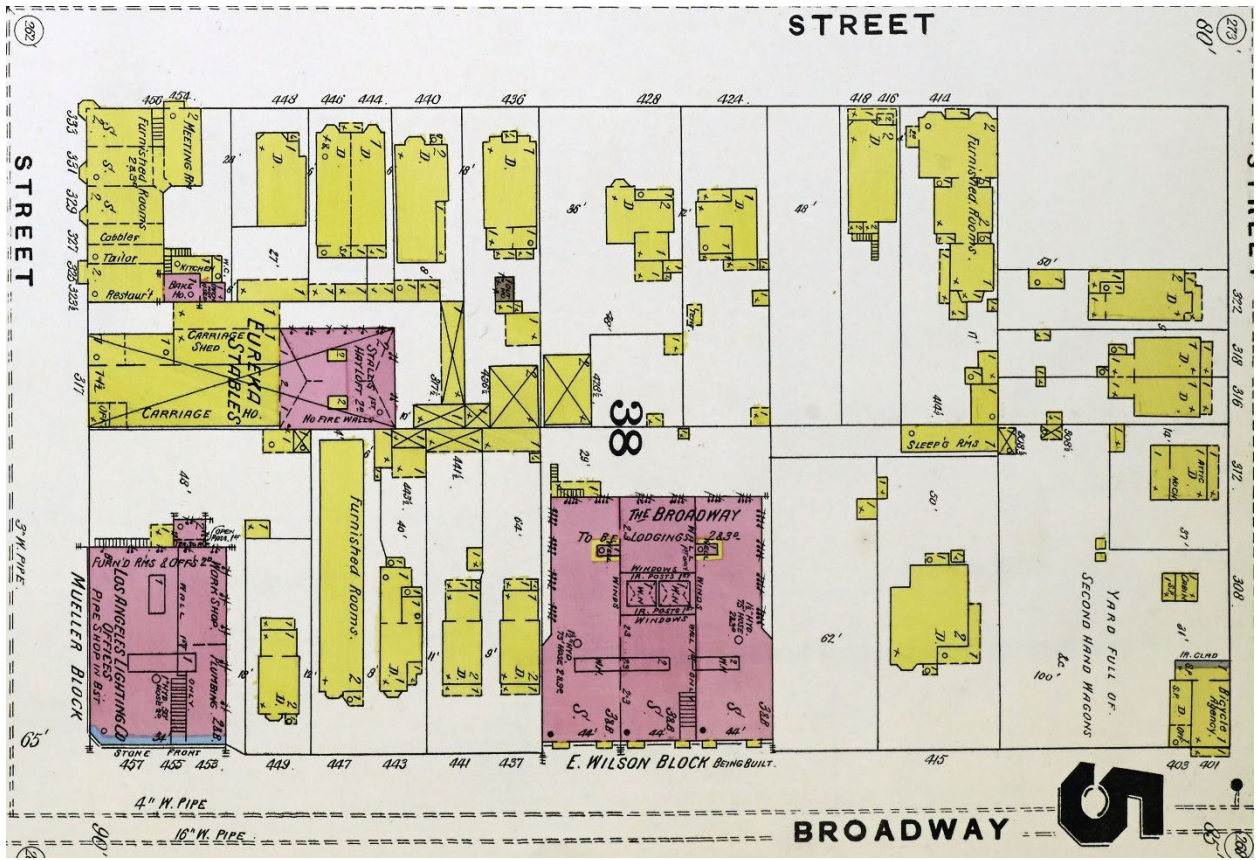


Figure 5.5. 1894 Sanborn map: E. Wilson Building and the Broadway Hotel.¹³⁰

¹³⁰ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 2, 1894. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_004/.

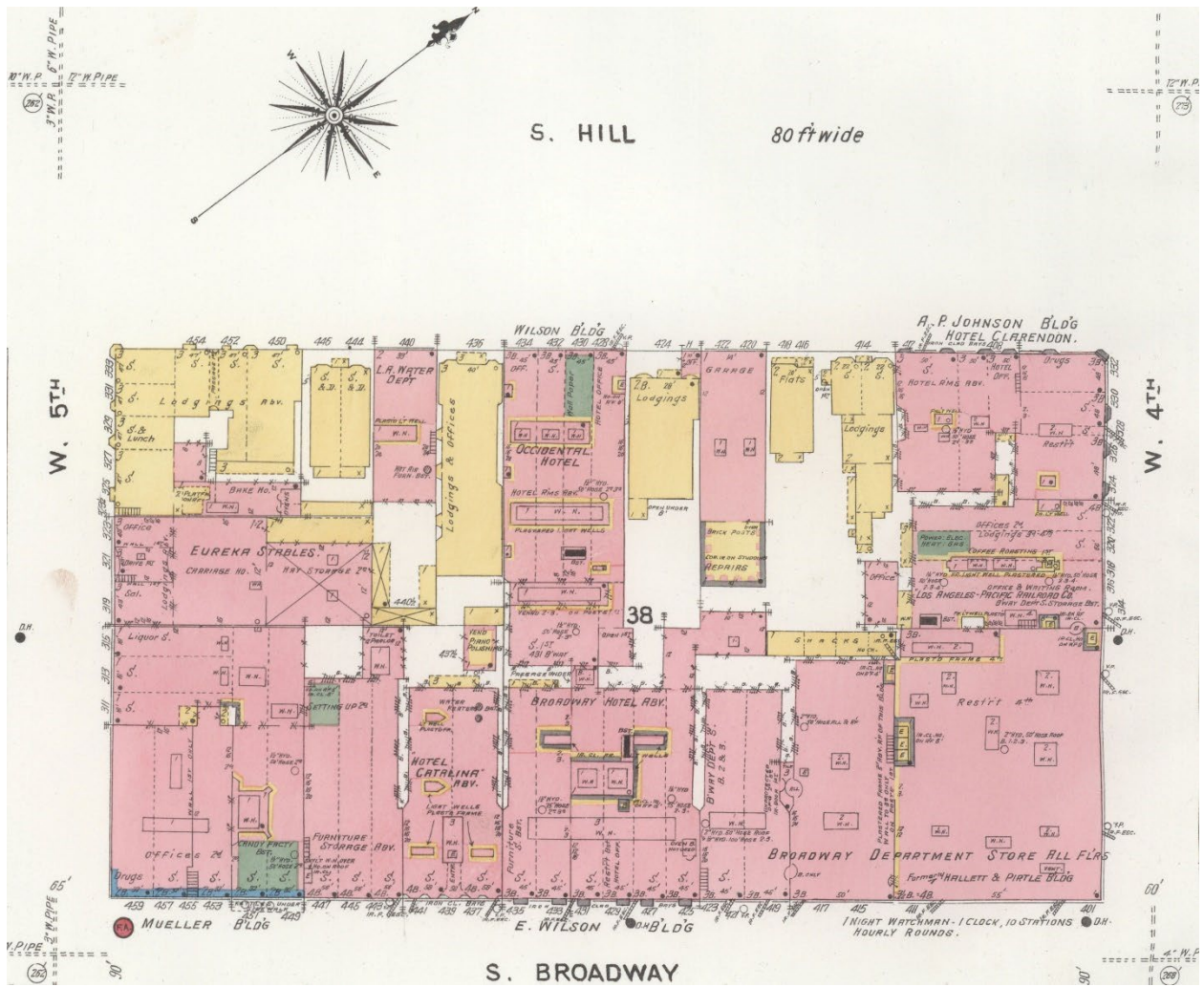


Figure 5.6. 1906 Sanborn map: E. Wilson Building and the Broadway Hotel.¹³¹

¹³¹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 1, 1906. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_007/.

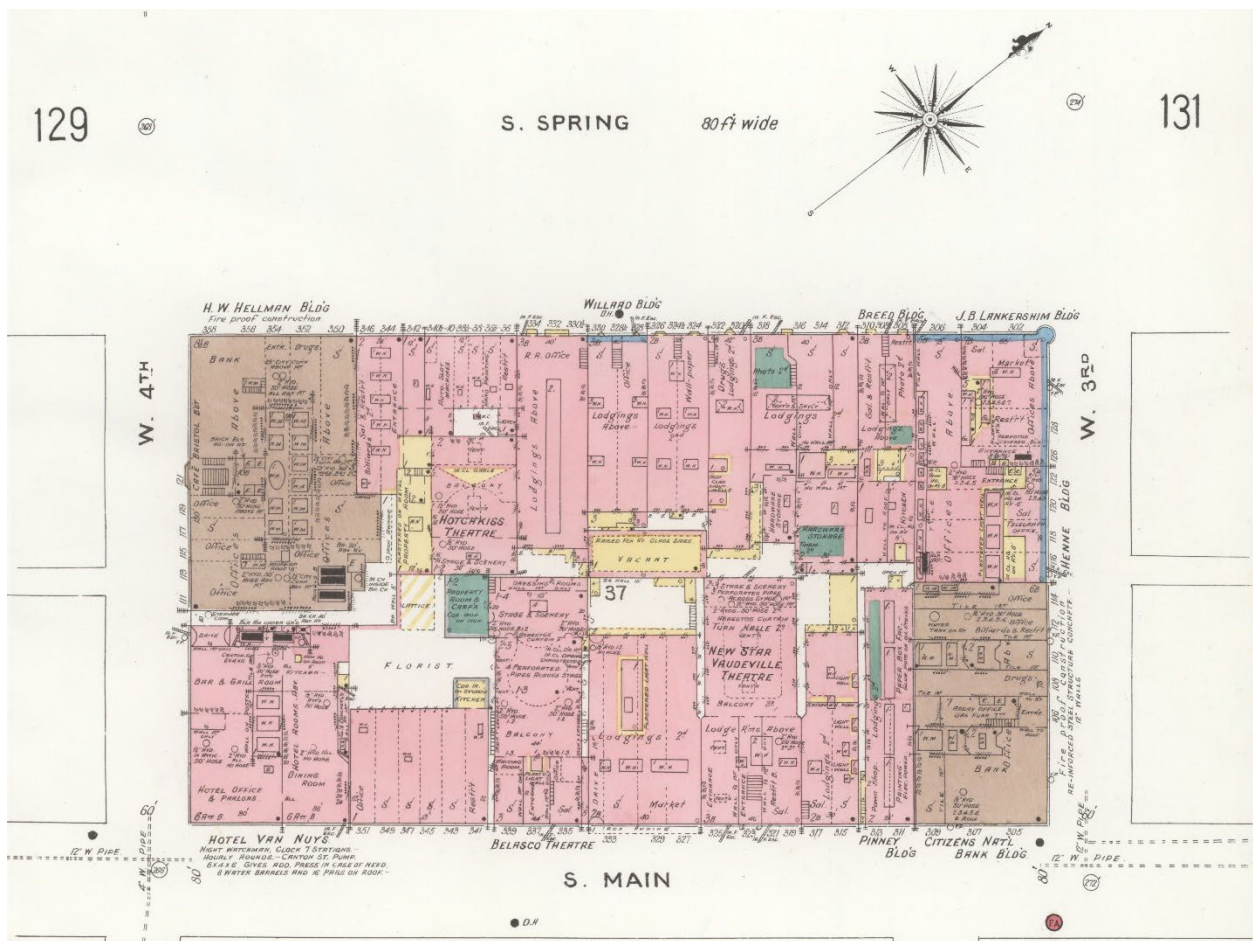


Figure 5.7. 1906 Sanborn map: J. B. Lankershim Building.¹³²

¹³² Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 2, 1906. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_008/.

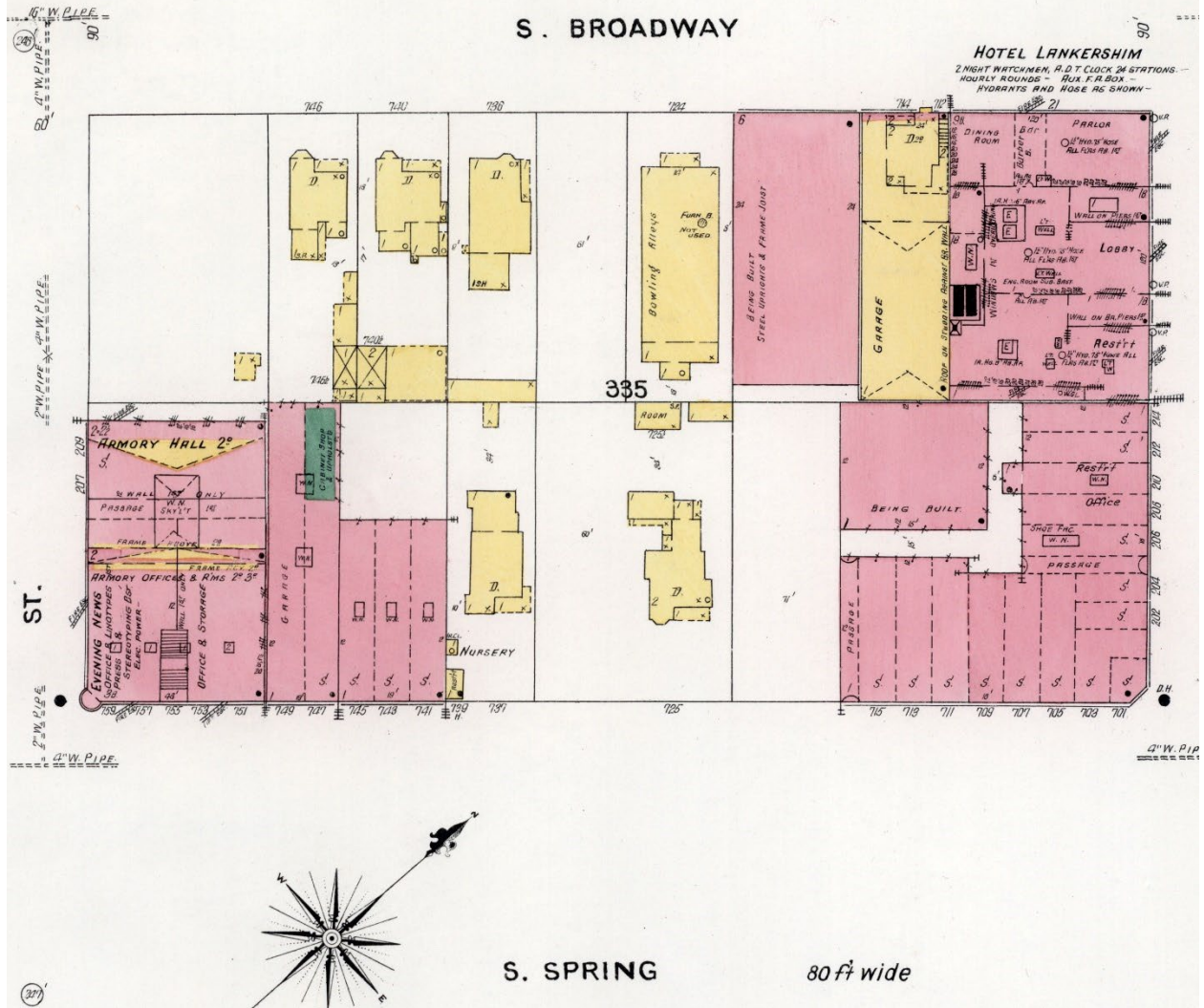


Figure 5.8. 1906 Sanborn map: Hotel Lankershim.¹³³

¹³³ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. Sanborn Map Company, ; Vol. 2, 1906. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn00656_008/.

APPENDIX 2

Images from the *Architecture of R. B. Young*.

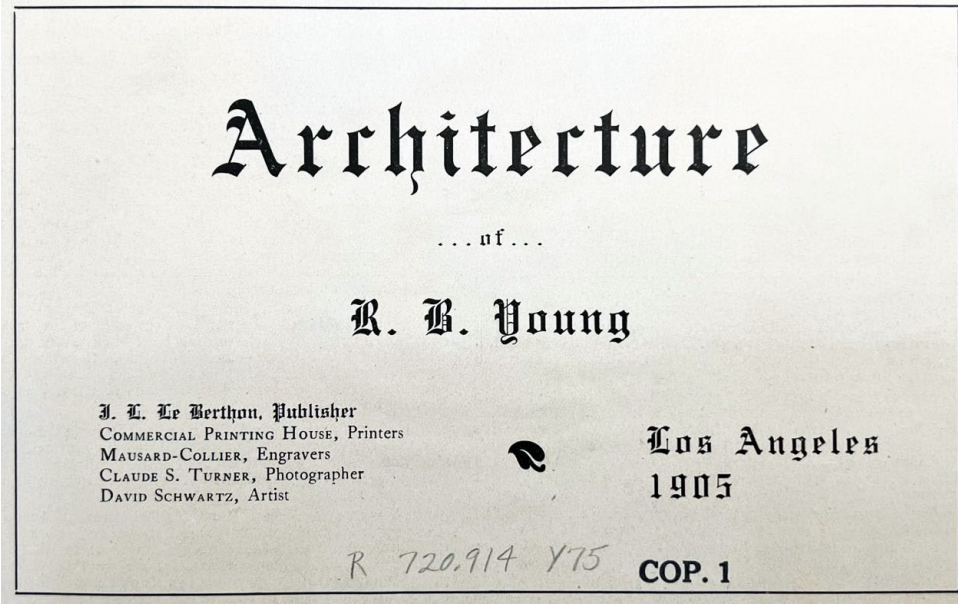
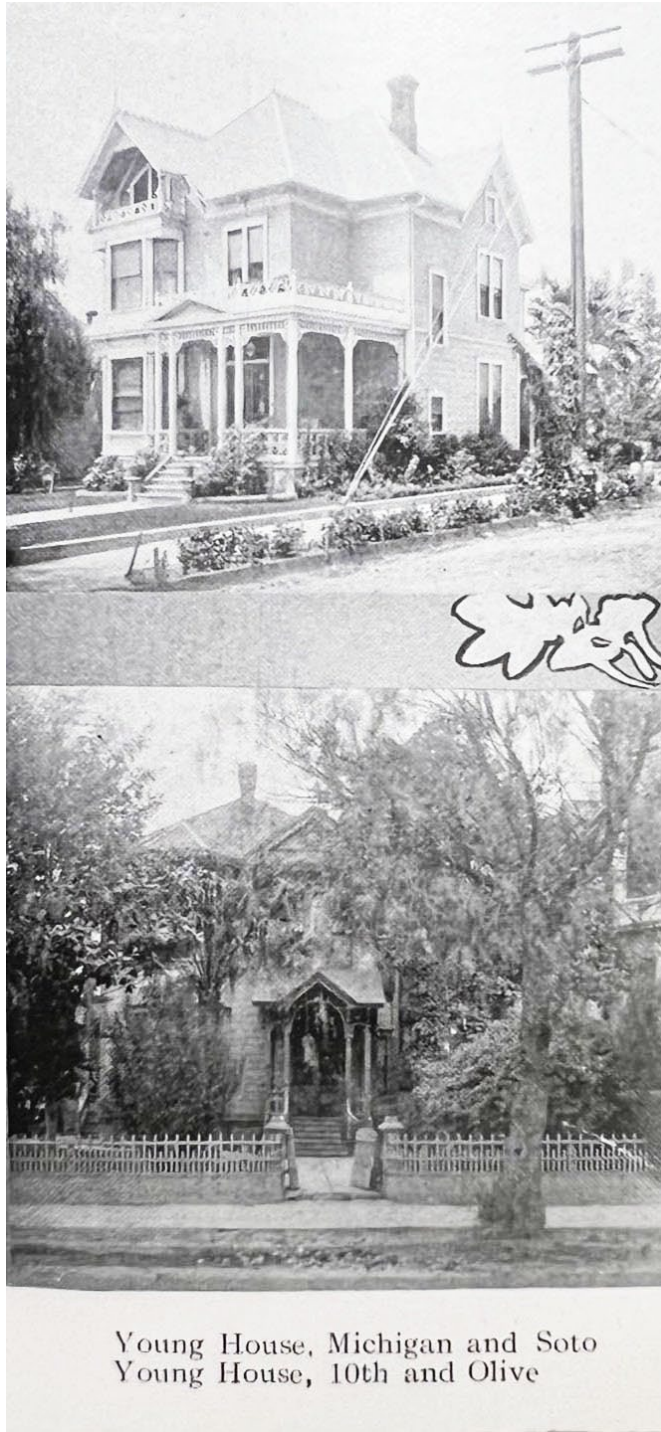


Figure 6.1. *Architecture of R. B. Young* title page.



Figure 6.2. Photograph of R. B. Young from the *Architecture of R. B. Young*.



Young House, Michigan and Soto
Young House, 10th and Olive

Figure 6.3. Young House at Michigan and Soto; Young House at 10th and Olive. The house at the top is the R. B. Young home in Boyle Heights. The house at the bottom is the R. B. Young home South of downtown Los Angeles.



Figure 6.4. The Antlers.



Figure 6.5. F. W. Braun Building.



D. A. HULSE BLOCK

Figure 6.6. D. A. Hulse Block.



EXTERIOR LEXINGTON HOTEL

Figure 6.7. Exterior Lexington Hotel.



Figure 6.8. The Lyndon.



MRS. J. J. MEYLER BUILDING

Figure 6.9. Mrs. J. J. Meyler Building.



Figure 6.10. Roberts Building.

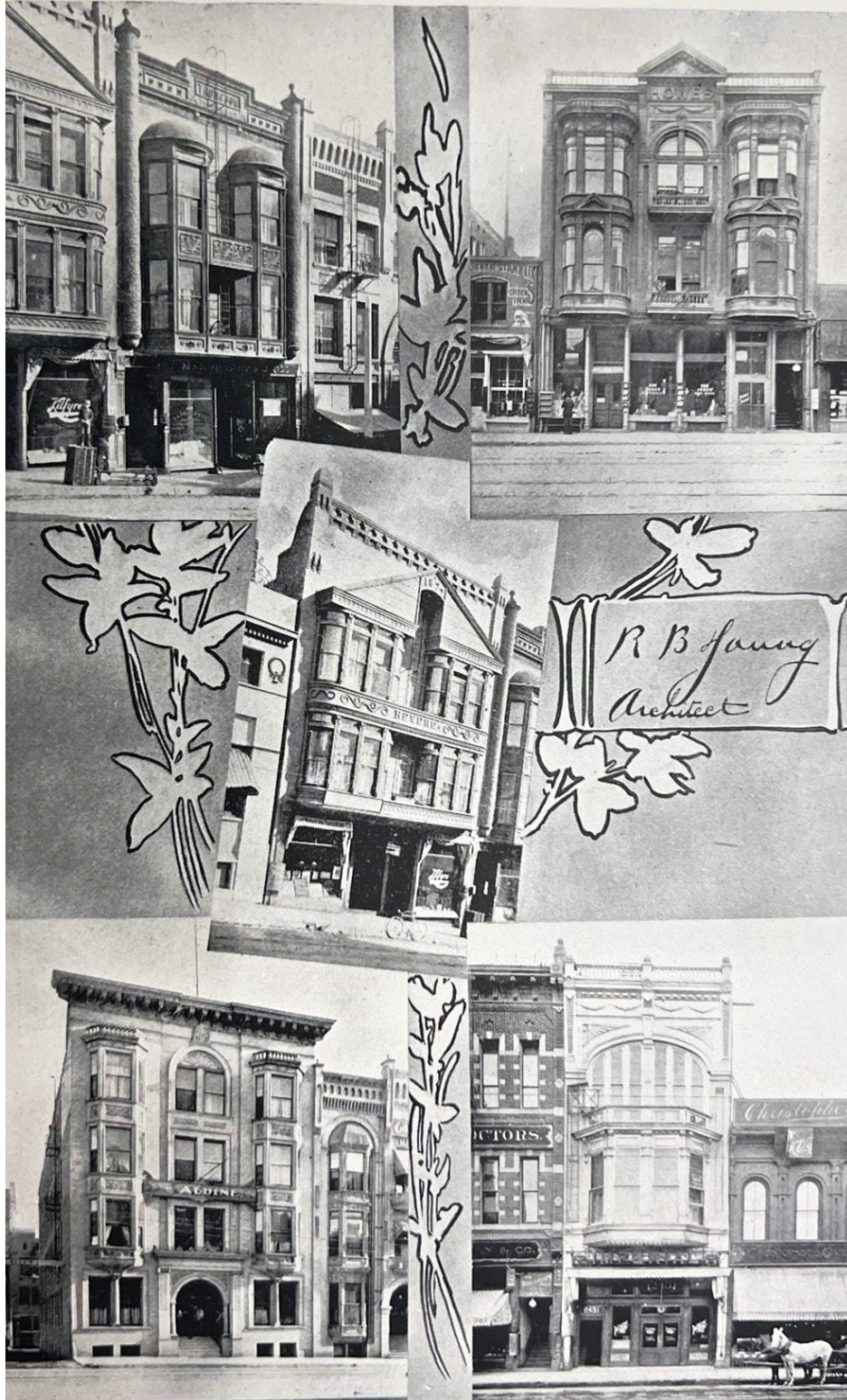


Figure 6.11. Upper left: Thompson Building, Upper right: Howes Building, Center: Reeves Building, Lower left: Aldine Building, Lower right: Imperial Restaurant.



STATE REFORM SCHOOL AT WHITTIER

Figure 6.12. State Reform School at Whittier.



THE CLOUD

Figure 6.13. The Cloud.



FORMER RESIDENCE OF R. B. YOUNG

Figure 6.14. Former Residence of R. F. Young.



Erected by O. T. Johnson

Figure 6.15. Heywood-Wakefield Building.



R. L. CRAIG & COMPANY'S BUILDING

Figure 6.16. R. L. Craig & Company Building.



HOTEL PALMS

Figure 6.17. Hotel Palms.



Figure 6.18. Hotel Rosslyn.

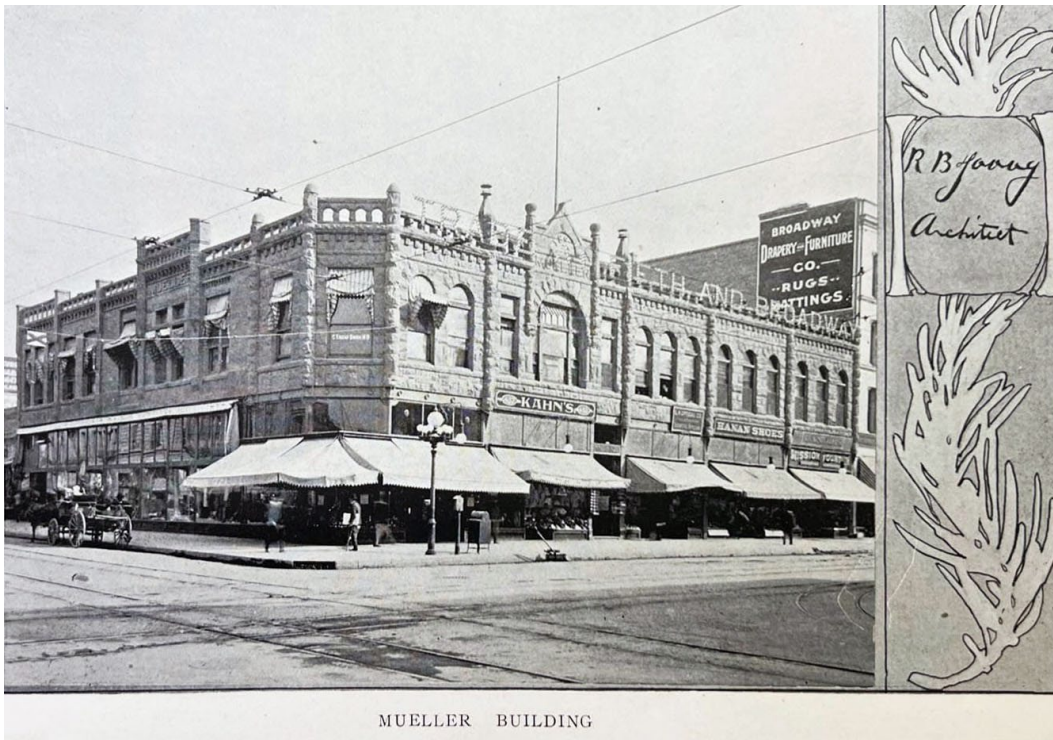
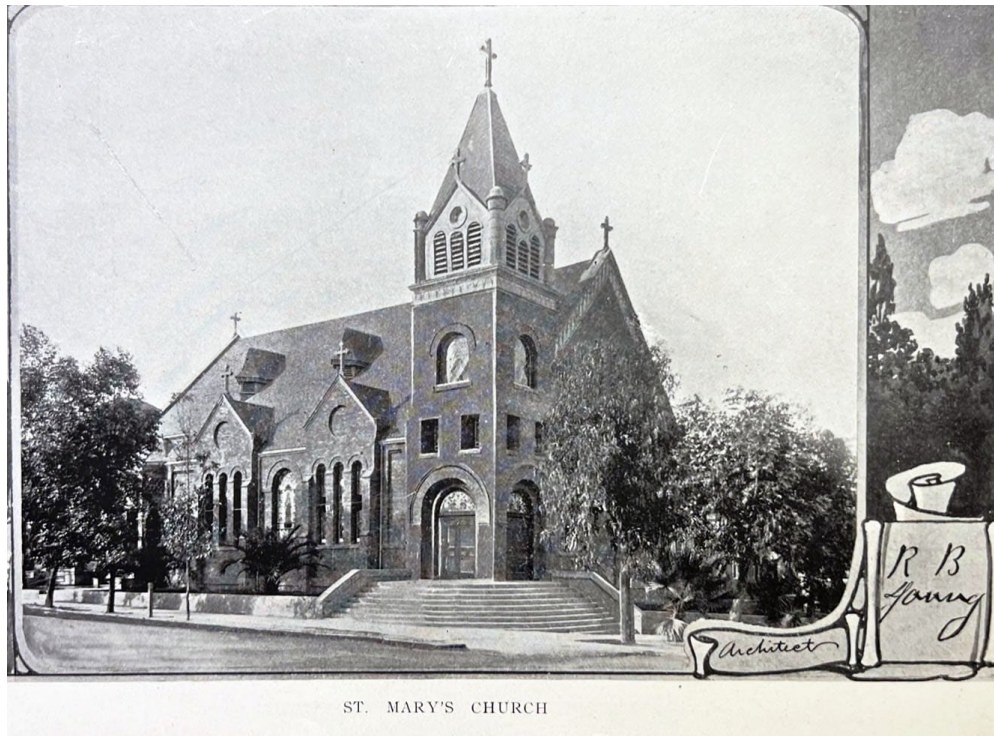


Figure 6.19. Mueller Building.



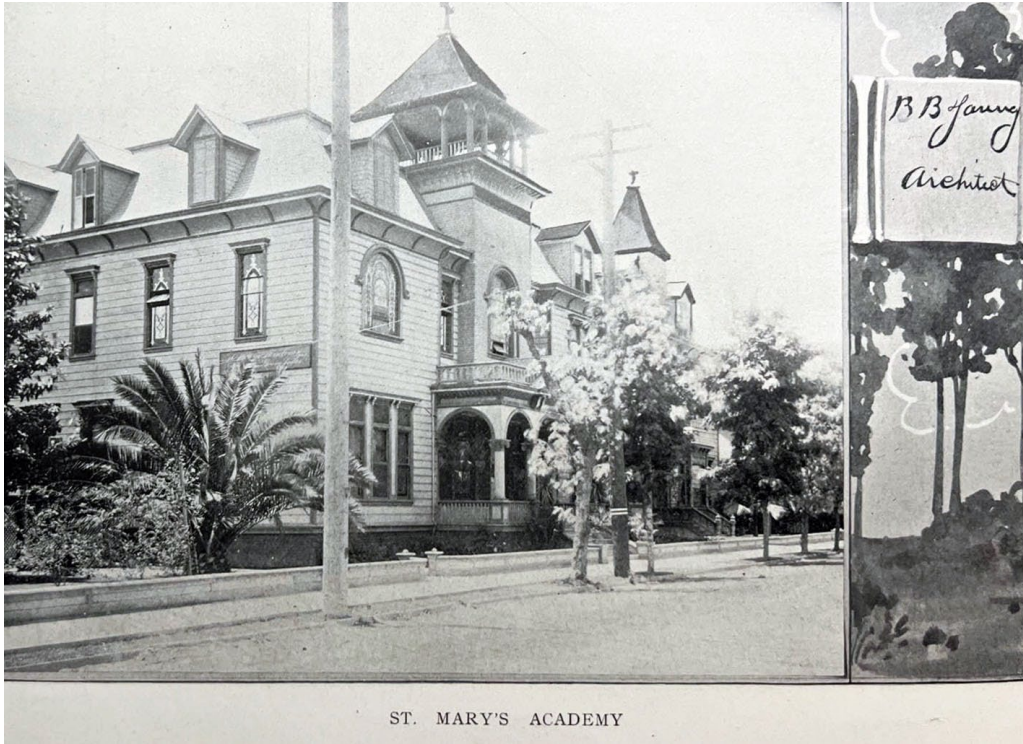
ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Figure 6.20. St. Mary's Church.



INTERIOR, ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Figure 6.21. Interior St. Mary's Church.



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

Figure 6.22. St. Mary's Academy.



RESIDENCE OF BISHOP T. J. CONATY

Figure 6.23. Residence of Bishop T. J. Conaty.



Figure 6.24. Academy of the Holy Names, Pomona; Academy of the Holy Names, Pasadena; St. Patrick's Parochial School.

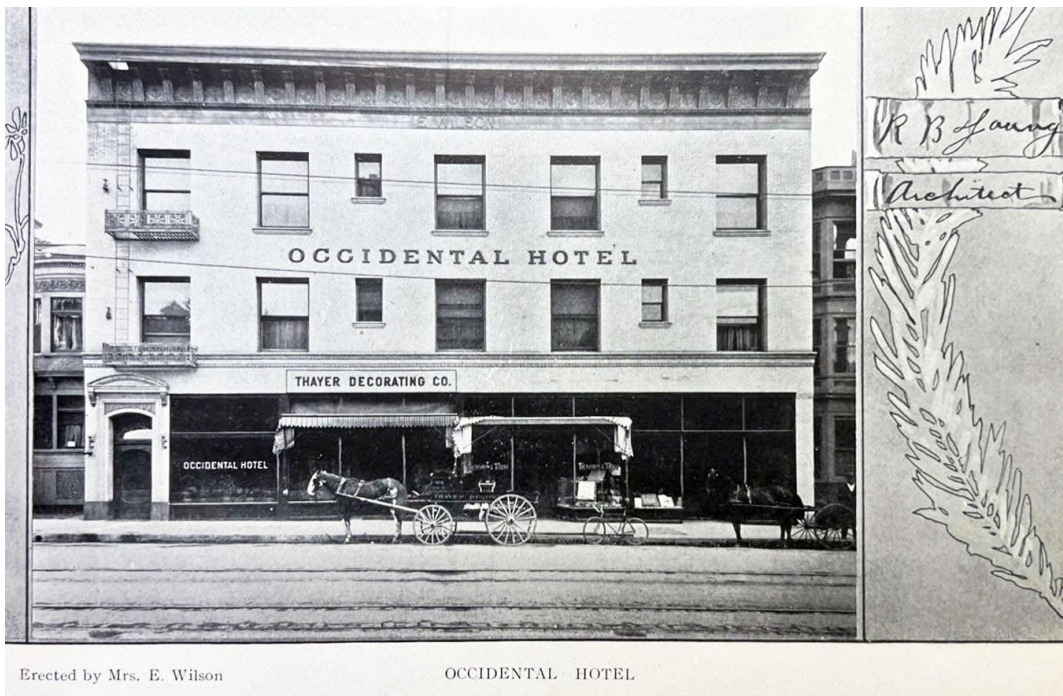


Figure 6.25. Occidental Hotel.

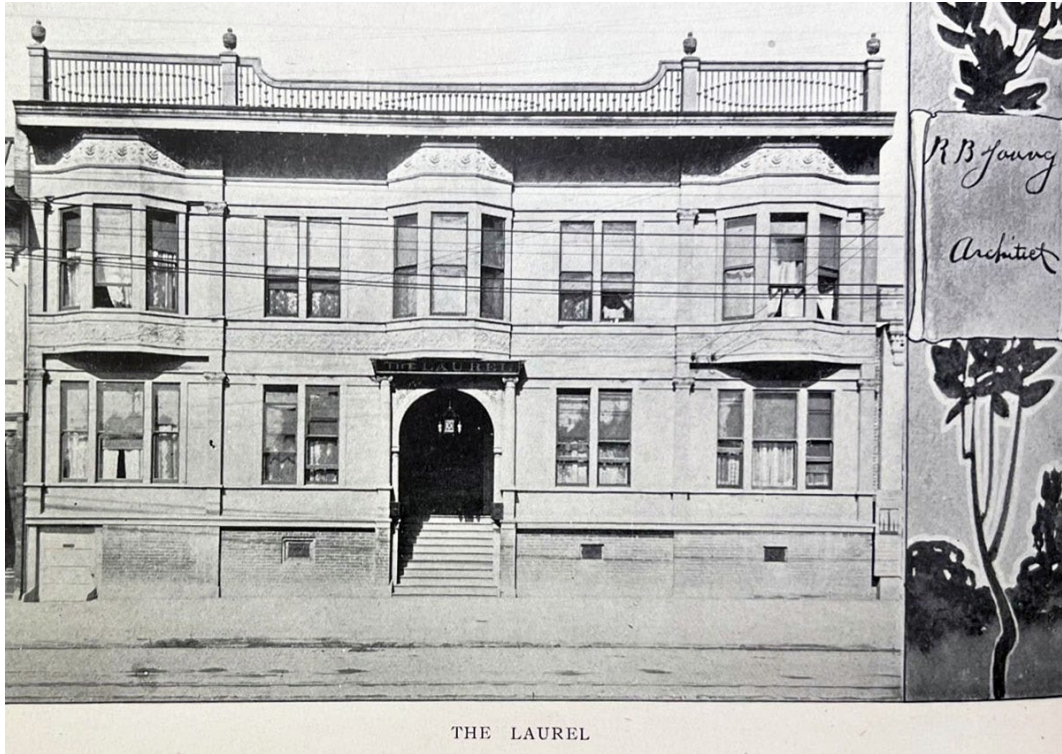


Figure 6.26. The Laurel.



Figure 6.27. Mason Building.

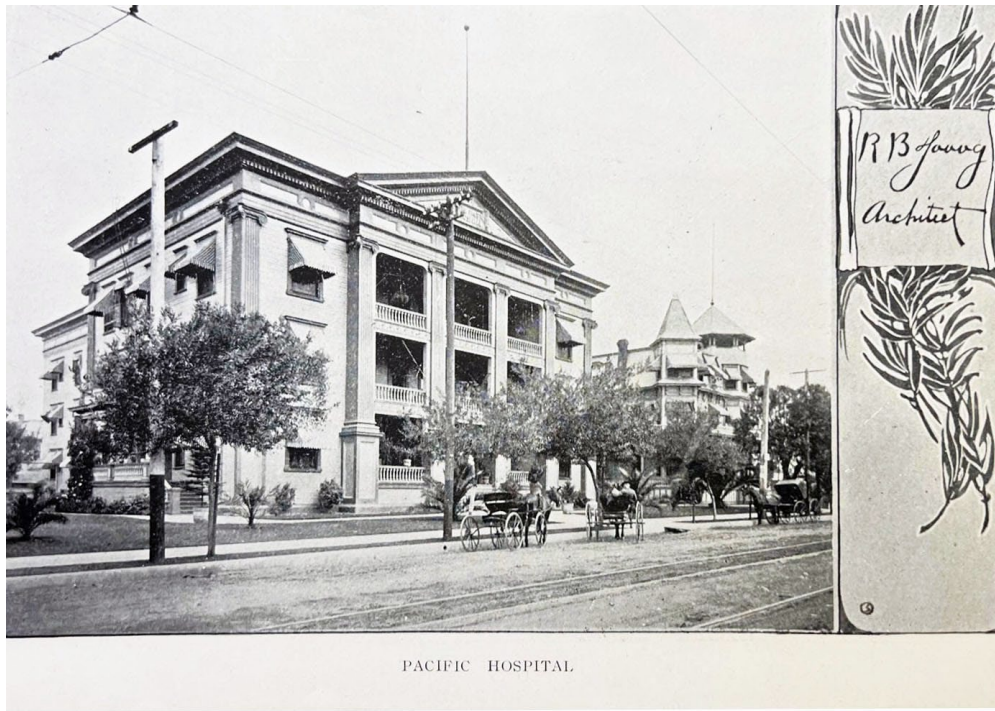


Figure 6.28. Pacific Hospital.



Figure 6.29. Engine House; California Show Case Company's Building; McLean Building; Washington Iron Works.

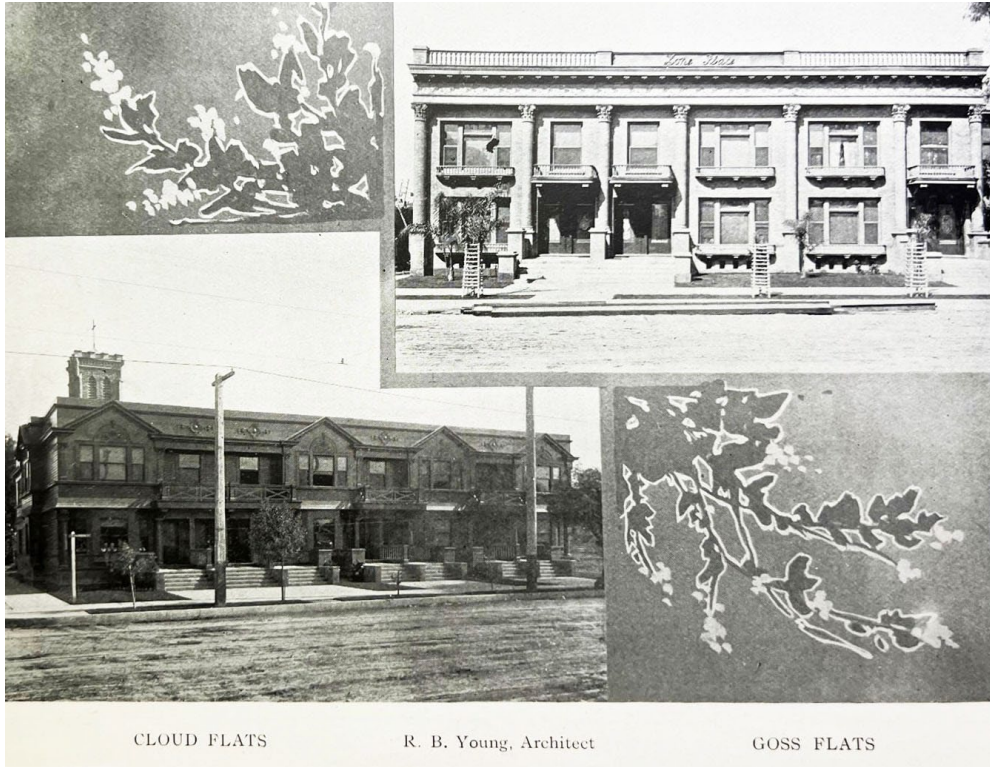


Figure 6.30. Cloud Flats; Goss Flats.



Figure 6.31. Hotel Johnson; Clifton House; The Rialta; Hotel Leroy.



Figure 6.32. Novelty Theater.



6.33. Former Woollacott Residence.



Erected by Mrs. Hotchkiss
Robert Steere Building

Goodenow Building

Empire Theatre
Eagles Hall

Figure 6.34. Erected by Mrs. Hotchkiss; Robert Steere Building; Goodenow Building; Empire Theater; Eagles Hall.



The Everett, erected by Capt. Solano
Italian Chapel

Erected by J. B. Lankershim
Father Maloney's Chapel

Figure 6.35. The Everett; Italian Chapel; Erected by J. B. Lankershim; Father Maloney's Chapel.

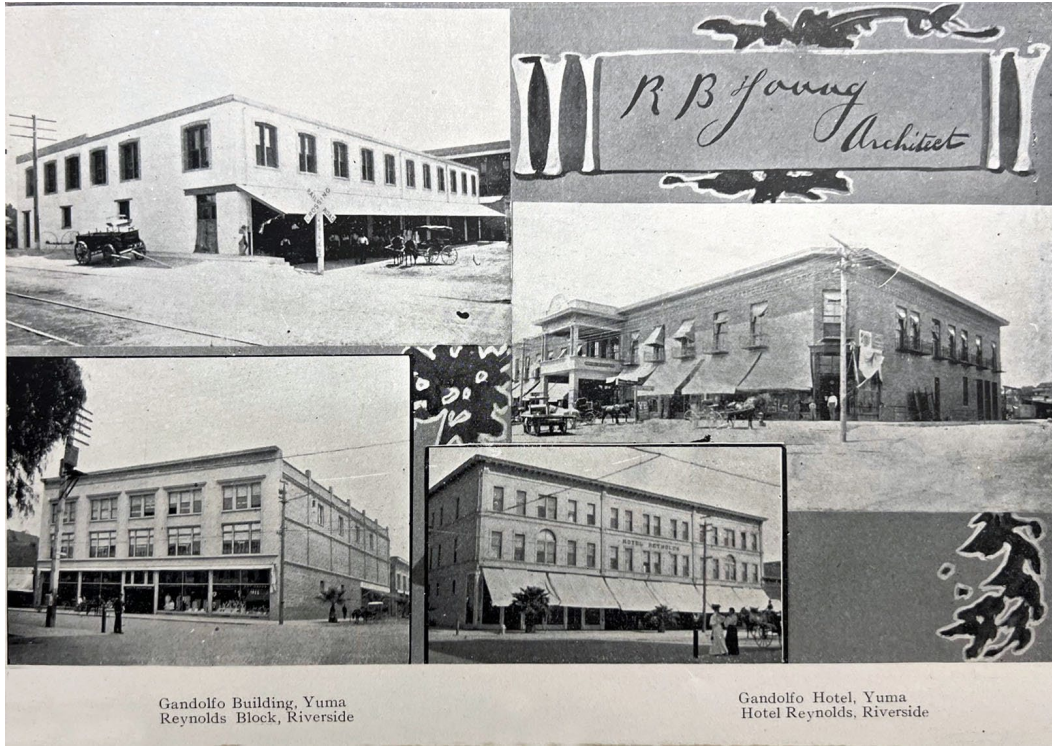


Figure 6.36. Gandolfo Building and Gandolfo Hotel, Yuma; Reynolds Block and Hotel Reynolds, Riverside.

APPENDIX 3

Hollenbeck Hotel, Hotel Westminster, and Hotel Lankershim on postcards.
Hotel Lankershim luggage label and brochure.



Figure 7.1. Hollenbeck Hotel postmarked September 23, 1919.



Figure 7.2. Lobby, Hollenbeck Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal. Undated.



Figure 7.3. Café, Hollenbeck Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal. Postmarked June 28, 1911.



Figure 7.4. Hotel Westminster undated.



Figure 7.5. Lobby, Hotel Westminster undated.



Figure 7.6. A Portion of Westminster Hotel Café postmarked August 5, 1912.



Figure 7.7. The Spacious and Luxurious Lobby of the Westminster Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal. postmarked October 20, 1914.



Figure 7.8. Hotel Lankershim, Los Angeles, Cal., undated.



Figure 7.9. Hotel Lankershim, Los Angeles, Cal. Postmarked March 15, 1906.



Figure 7.10. Reception Lobby, Broadway entrance Hotel Lankershim, Los Angeles, Cal. Postmarked May 3, 1911.



Figure 7.11. Main Lobby Hotel Lankershim Los Angeles, Cal. Undated.



Figure 7.12. Dining Room, Lankershim Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal. Undated.

● HOTEL LANKERSHIM ●

<p>ESTABLISHED - TWO GUESTS ONE CHARGE</p> <p>LOCATION: SEVENTH AND BROADWAY THE CENTER OF SHOPS AND SHOWS.</p> <p>COMFORT: FOR YOU IN FURNISHINGS ATMOSPHERE AND SERVICE.</p> <p>POLICY: ONE OR TWO GUESTS IN ROOM ~ SAME PRICE NO DOUBLE RATE.</p> <p>RATES: BATHS AND SHOWERS CHOICE DOUBLE BED DOUBLE BED or TWINS \$2.50 \$3.00 \$3.50</p> <p>NO BARGAINING - NO WORRY</p>	<p>Mr. _____</p> <p>Street _____</p> <p>City _____</p> <p>State _____</p>
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LOS ANGELES - - - CALIF.

Figure 7.13. Hotel Lankershim luggage label. Undated.



Figure 7.14. Hotel Lankershim brochure — front and back, undated.



Figure 7.15. Hotel Lankershim brochure — interior text.

APPENDIX 4

Hollenbeck Hotel, Hotel Westminster & Hotel Lankershim stationery.



Figure 8.1. Hollenbeck Hotel stationery — accompanied envelope postmarked August 26, 1912.



Figure 8.2. Hotel Westminster stationery — dated 1892 on back.



Figure 8.3. Hotel Westminster stationery — accompanied envelope postmarked September 5, 1911.

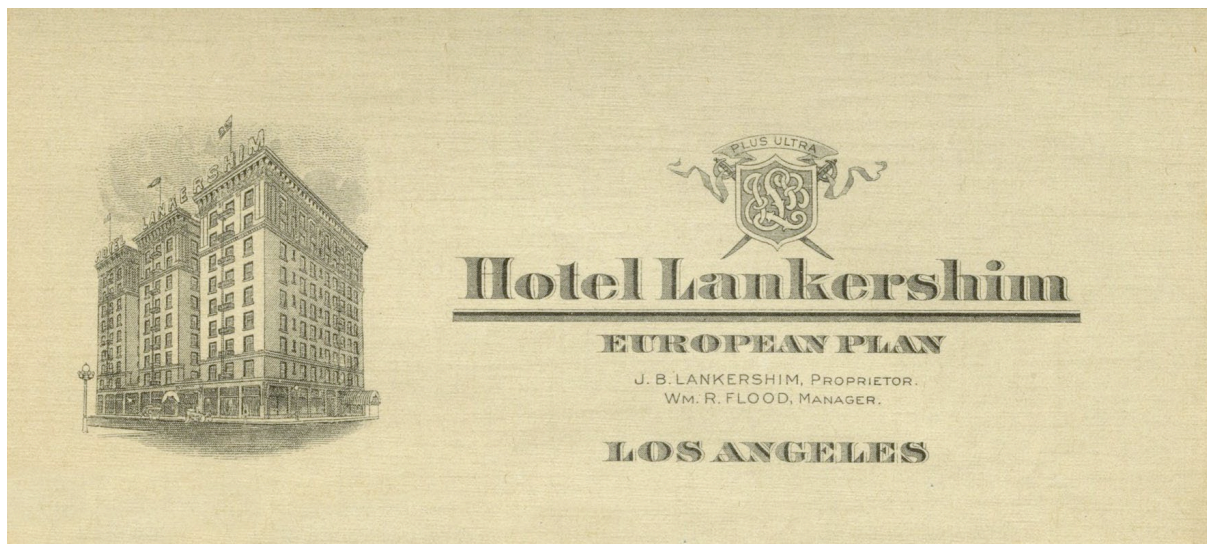


Figure 8.4. Hotel Lankershim stationery — accompanied envelope postmarked September 4, 1915.