

Become a member! Please indicate your preferred level of membership.

Membership Benefits*

- Student - \$5 Discounts on publications. Invitations to events.
- Individual - \$15 *Lookout Avenue.* Access to research archives.
- Family - \$20 Voting privileges.
- Sustaining - \$50 One special event.
- Sponsor - \$100 Tour of properties. Any one available publication.
- Patron - \$250 Two admissions to a LMHS event. Name on plaque in Palermo Archives Building.

* Each benefit accrues to subsequent level.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____

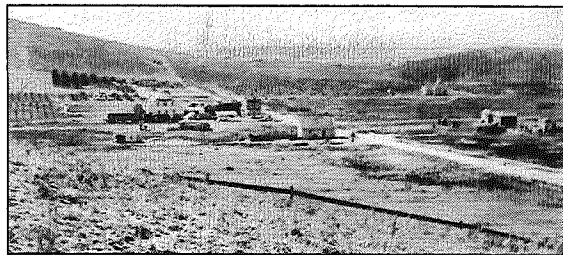
E-mail _____

Yes! I would like to volunteer in:

- Docent/Education
- Special Events
- Grounds/Buildings
- Archives/House Museum

Please complete, detach and mail with your check to:

La Mesa Historical Society
 P. O. Box 882
 La Mesa, CA 91944
 Telephone (619) 466-0197



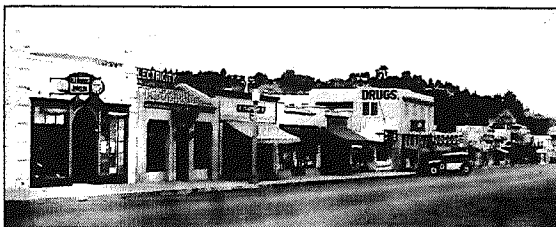
La Mesa in 1897

Early La Mesa

Once part of the lands of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the area was settled in the nineteenth century to graze sheep and cattle. Early development began in the 1880's with the coming of the railroad and the construction of the flume bringing water from the mountains. Small lemon ranches were established around the new town site of Allison Springs, named after the earliest rancher.

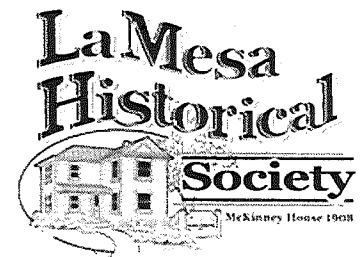
The area's slow growth quickened in 1906 when the Park-Grable Investment Company subdivided land and began selling lots in now-named La Mesa Springs. More homes were built and a small commercial area of wooden storefronts appeared along La Mesa Boulevard, then known as Lookout Avenue. When the city was incorporated in 1912, La Mesa's population had risen to more than 700.

By 1923, the population had increased to 1600 and La Mesa had been transformed from a rural, agricultural area to a thriving business and residential center.



La Mesa Boulevard (then Lookout Avenue) 1929

**WE INVITE YOU
 TO JOIN US!**

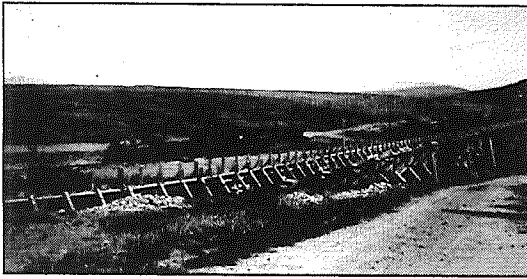


An organization actively engaged in preserving La Mesa's unique heritage for future generations to see and enjoy.



Reverend Henry A. McKinney House Museum (1908)

www.lamesahistoricalsociety.com



Train and Water Flume

The La Mesa Historical Society:

- is an all-volunteer organization, incorporated in 1975, with officers and directors elected by the general membership of the organization.
- is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt, public benefit, educational California corporation, and exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- is funded by annual membership dues, contributions, bequests and memorials, grants and fund-raising events.

Membership benefits include:

- informal roundtables with historical focus, expert moderators, and opportunity for one-on-one.
- access to research archives, photographs, and historic *La Mesa Scout* newspaper microfilms.
- *Lookout Avenue*, the Society's newsletter.
- invitations to the Holiday Open House, High Tea and Rose Celebration and other special events.
- discounts on home tour tickets, LMHS merchandise and publications.

We also invite members to participate in becoming docents, developing and mounting exhibits, collecting historical materials, newsletter writing, special events and fund raising, historical preservation and research, and maintenance of our facilities.

The La Mesa Historical Society's programs include:

- collection, preservation and interpretation of the documents, artifacts, photographs and oral records that portray La Mesa's history.
- operation of the Rev. Henry A. McKinney House as a house museum interpreting early twentieth-century life in the community. The Society, which purchased the house in 1975, has an ongoing program to restore the house and its contents as appropriate to the period 1908-1920.
- identification and documentation of local historic structures and sites and the encouragement of their preservation and restoration.
- creation and publication of books, CD's and other items relative to the history of La Mesa.
- education activities, such as historic home tours, walking tours of historic areas, photographic presentations on local history, exhibits at area special events, hosting field trips for local schools and organizations.

**Rev. Henry A. McKinney
House Museum**
8369 University Avenue (at Pine St.)

Rev. Henry A. McKinney, his wife Florence, and their two sons, Henry Cromwell and Wilfred Joyce, moved to the San Diego area from Perry, Illinois in 1898. They lived in National City before moving to La Mesa in 1901, where Donald, their third son, was born. Rev. McKinney was the appointed Methodist minister until 1904. He also owned a furniture store in La Mesa from about 1907 to 1920.

In 1908, the McKinney's purchased a 2.25 acre lemon orchard and had their two-story frame house constructed – the house which is today our Museum. The McKinney's were active in the cultural, educational, commercial and fraternal life of the La Mesa community.

The McKinney House is open the first and third Saturdays of each month, while our research archives are open every Saturday from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. For further information, please call (619) 466-0197, or go to www.lamesahistoricalociety.com.



La Mesa "city center" 1908