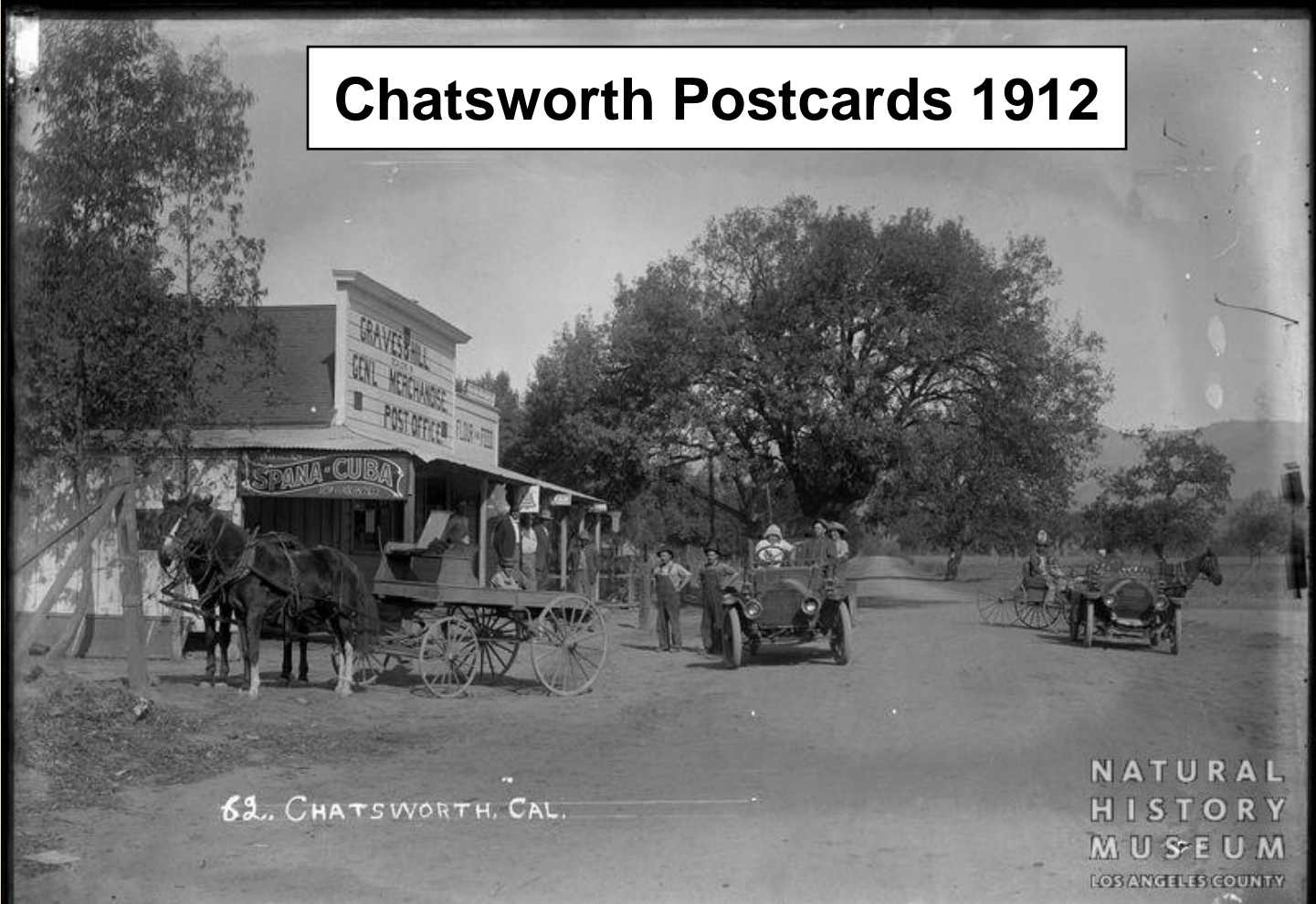


Chatsworth Postcards 1912



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

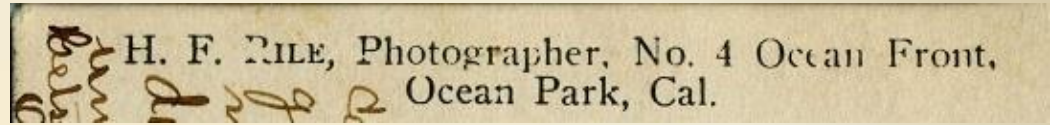
- The Los Angeles County Natural History Museum recently added 19 photographs of Chatsworth to their digital collections...
- And the Chatsworth Historical Society archives include donations of postcards of the same photos from the Homesteader Families.
- This presentation explores the locations of those photographs which became postcards, and documents what Chatsworth was like in 1912, 24 years after its founding. It was a rural city of dirt roads, that were well traveled....



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- This Presentation discusses 19 photographs of Chatsworth taken in 1912 by H.F. Rile, who then sold the photographs as postcards. Topics include:

- The H.F. Rile collection at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum
- H.F. Rile and his photography studio on Santa Monica Beach
- A brief history of Postcards
- A discussion of each of the photographs selected by H.F. Rile to represent Chatsworth, including messages written by Homesteaders on H.F. Rile postcards of Chatsworth.



Above, a crop of the back of a postcard mailed in 1913 by Lovell Hill to his sister Minnie, note "H.F. Rile, Photographer"

Below, 1886 Rile and Pencost Studio on Santa Monica Beach. Featuring "Fine Photographs", and "Tin Types in Bathing Costumes"



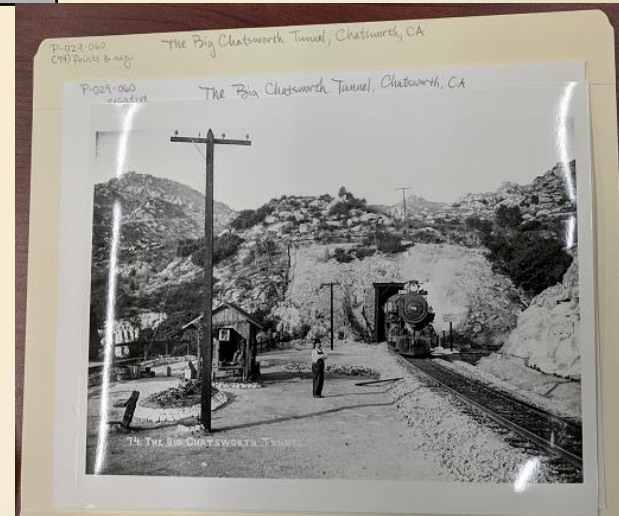
The H.F. Rile Collection

- We visited the Seaver Center at the Natural History Museum in January 2019 to view the collection.
- The 19 photographs of Chatsworth are a part of the Harry Franz Rile collection, which is comprised of 152 unique photographs.
- The Chatsworth photos are a collection of 5" x 7" glass negatives, and some prints. Images of the glass negatives are posted online.



glass negative,
"65. Rocky Point,
Chatsworth CA"

print,
"74. The Big
Chatsworth Tunnel"



The H.F. Rile Collection

- The photographs are numbered 50 through 75, so a total of 26 photos existed at some time, although only 19 are in the collection.
- #53 is not in the Seaver collection, but both the Iversons and Hills donated copies of #53, seen at the right.
- Perhaps the negative was damaged or given away prior to the collection donation to the Seaver Center.
- #64, also not in the Seaver collection, was found the CHS archives in Feb 2020.
- #67 was also missing, but a copy was sent to us by collector David Coscia.



An often photographed view of “The Cut”, viewing north towards today’s Santa Susana Pass Road and Red Mesa Road.

In 1915 Lovell Hill sent postcard #53 to his sister Mary and her husband.

The H.F. Rile Collection

- All of the photographs have the same lettering on the front, and appear to have been taken during the same visit to Chatsworth.
- The photographs were not dated, but we narrowed down the date as follows:
 - #68 “Fan Palms” includes a photo of the Hill Cottage, built in **1912** per Minnie Hill Palmer’s oral interview. (circled in red)
 - #53 “Near Chatsworth Tunnel” was donated to us by the Iverson family as a postcard, and was dated **Feb 1913**, from Carl Iverson to his brother Aaron in Cuba.



H. F. Rile, Photographer sold Souvenir Photographs in 1886 on Santa Monica Beach, before the 1907 era of Picture Postcards

- Harry Frantz “H.F.” Rile was born in Philadelphia in 1860. He learned photography in his late teens and made his way west earning a living as a commercial photographer, taking jobs in Chicago, Kansas City, Portland, San Francisco, then Santa Monica.
- By 1886 at the age of 26 he had established Rile and Pencost Studio on Santa Monica Beach.



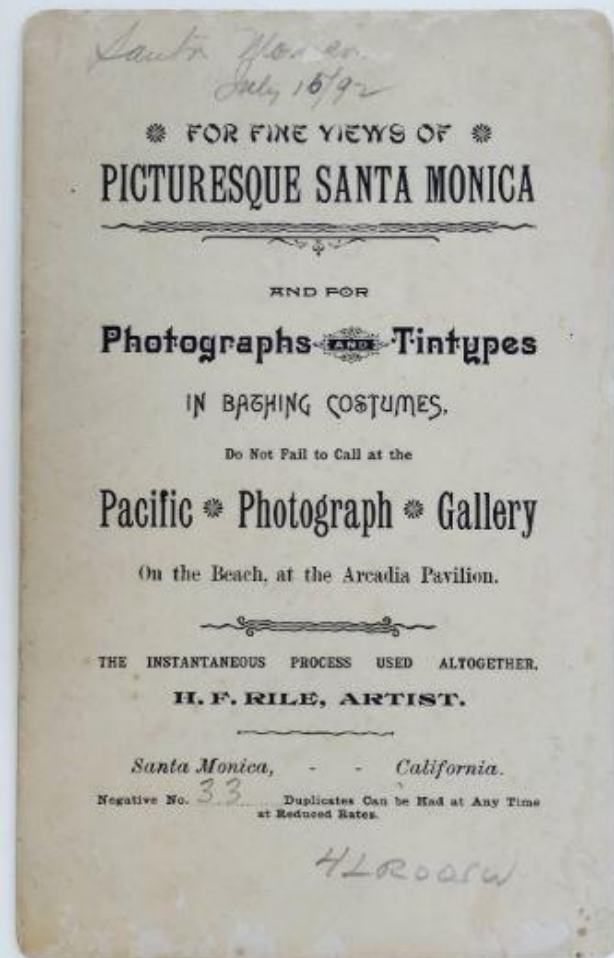
The 1886 Rile and Pencost Studio on Santa Monica Beach. Featuring “Fine Photographs”, and “Tin Types in Bathing Costumes”

H. F. Rile, Photographer

By 1892, he had established the Pacific Photograph Gallery on the Santa Monica Beach, at the Arcadia Pavilion.



An 1892 Souvenir Card (Front & Back) from the Pacific Photograph Gallery, H.F. Rile, Artist (Santa Monica History Museum Collection)



H. F. Rile, Photographer

The 1887 Arcadia Hotel and the Arcadia Pavilion



Photograph inscribed: "61. View South from the Bluffs opposite Oregon Avenue, Santa Monica, Cal. H.F. Rile, photo."

The 1887 Arcadia Hotel, visible in the back left of the photo, was one of the grandest hotels on the Pacific Coast. In the middle of the photo is the North Beach Bathhouse with a large 100' by 50' plunge, a hot saltwater bath.

Off the bathhouse is the North Beach Bathhouse Pier, built in 1898, its main use being as a tourist promenade and a fishing spot. (Santa Monica History Museum Collection)

H. F. Rile, Photographer

The Arcadia Pavilion, which includes the North Beach Bathhouse and bowling pavilion, Santa Monica.



H. F. Rile, Photographer

An 1897 Photo of Pacific Photograph Gallery. The side of the building says,

“Don’t Forget to Take Home a Picture of the Beach” (Santa Monica History Museum Collection)



H. F. Rile, Photographer

The back of a souvenir photograph:

The oddest collection of Accessories of an gallery.


“Have your picture taken
On the donkey
In the boat
On the elephant
As a mermaid
In your bathing suit
Under Japanese umbrella
By the gate
Bathing Costume, Tights,
Bloomers and Bicycle Furnished to have your picture taken”

H. F. Rile, Artist...

PACIFIC PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY

On the Walkway leading to n the Bridge to the Arcadia Pavillon
Tintype Buttons Something new—be in the swim, Ocean Scenery
Finished in Ten Minutes And have your face ins de a rim. Fine Effects
Photographs and Tintypes in Bathing Costume a speciality. The oddest collection of Accessories of any gallery. A large collection of California Views always on hand.

Have Your Picture Taken
On the donkey
In the boat
On the elephant
On the ostrich
As a mermaid
In your bathing suit
Under Japanese umbrella
By the gate
Bathing Costume, Tights, Bloomers and Bicycle Furnished to have your picture taken



Views of
The Mammoth Wharf
Picturesque Santa Monica
Old California Missions
Uncle Sam's Navy
Soldiers' Home
Southern California, etc.

Kodaks Developed and Printed.

*Rile is the man for whom we are look'en
Cause by him we get good tintypes took'en.*

H. F. RILE, ARTIST, SANTA MONICA, CAL.

Postcard History

- In 1873 the US Post Office issued pre-stamped penny postal cards. The front of a postal card was blank for messages and the back was reserved for the address.
- At the time only the Post Office was allowed to print postcards. Though expensive, private printers and publishers would purchase the cards and print images on the front. This quickly became a popular method to advertise businesses and hotels. In fact, **the first souvenir postcards were actually printed ads for the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago.**
- In 1898 Congress allowed private publishers to create their own postcards, but messages were only allowed to be written on the front of the postcards.
- Beginning in **1907** postcards began to have divided backs. The entire front was reserved for an image while the left side on the back was reserved for a message and the right side for the address. **The “Divided Back” Era (1907-1915) is considered the Golden Age of postcards.** The Standard Postcard size also became 3 ½ x 5 ½ inches.
- **The Divided Back Era opened up new business opportunities for H.F. Rile**

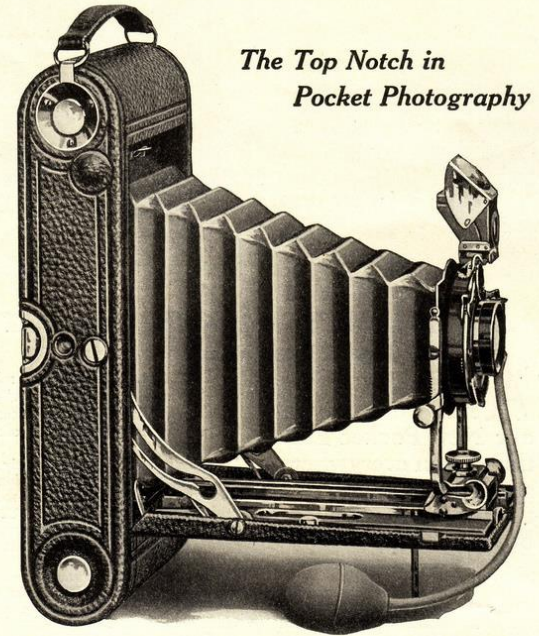
Postcard History

- In 1909, 969 million postcards were sent in the United States. To encourage collecting, companies produced numbered series and special postcard albums.
- The Eastman Kodak Company sold a “postcard” camera that produced postcard size negatives (3 ¼” x 5 ½”).



IF IT ISN'T AN EASTMAN, IT ISN'T A KODAK.

*The Top Notch in
Pocket Photography*



The 3A Folding Pocket Kodak

Every detail of design, material and workmanship has been worked out with the utmost care to produce a camera of the widest capabilities, yet it retains the Kodak simplicity—and “Kodak” you know, means photography with the bother left out.

A feature of the 1909 model is the Kodak Ball Bearing Shutter, in which we have embodied a new principle in shutter construction. The leaves are in five segments, mounted entirely on ball bearings and open in the form of a star, thus admitting a much greater amount of light in a given time than any other between the lens type of shutter. Practically frictionless and with a precision and smoothness that are a mechanical delight.



No. 3A Folding Pocket Kodak, pictures 3¼ x 5½, \$20.00.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY,

ROCHESTER, N. Y., *The Kodak City.*

Kodak Catalogue free at
the dealers or by mail.

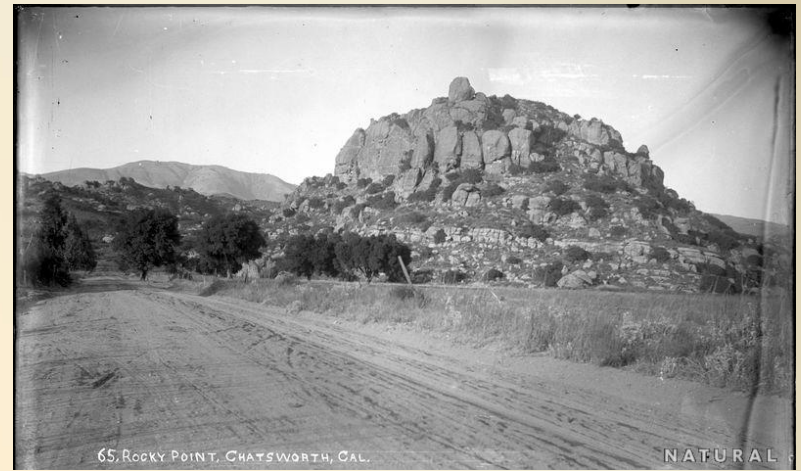
Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- In 1912, at the age of 52, Harry Rile visited Chatsworth. He probably took the train, and stayed at the Chatsworth Hotel.
- His tour guides may have been Fred Graves (age 37) or Lovell Hill (36), owners of the Graves & Hill General Store. And perhaps Charles Johnson (45), or Karl Iverson (52).
- Hollywood and D.W. Griffith discovered Chatsworth in 1912 (Man's Genesis).
- The balance of the presentation will discuss each of the twenty-one 1912 Harry Rile postcards (19 in the Seaver collection, 1 in our Homesteader collection and 1 from David Coscia).
- We have categorized them in groups via general location, as follows:
 - Andora (3)
 - Johnson/Iverson (4)
 - Lassen (4)
 - Pass Roads (2)
 - Railroad (5)
 - Unknown (3)

Chatsworth Postcards 1912

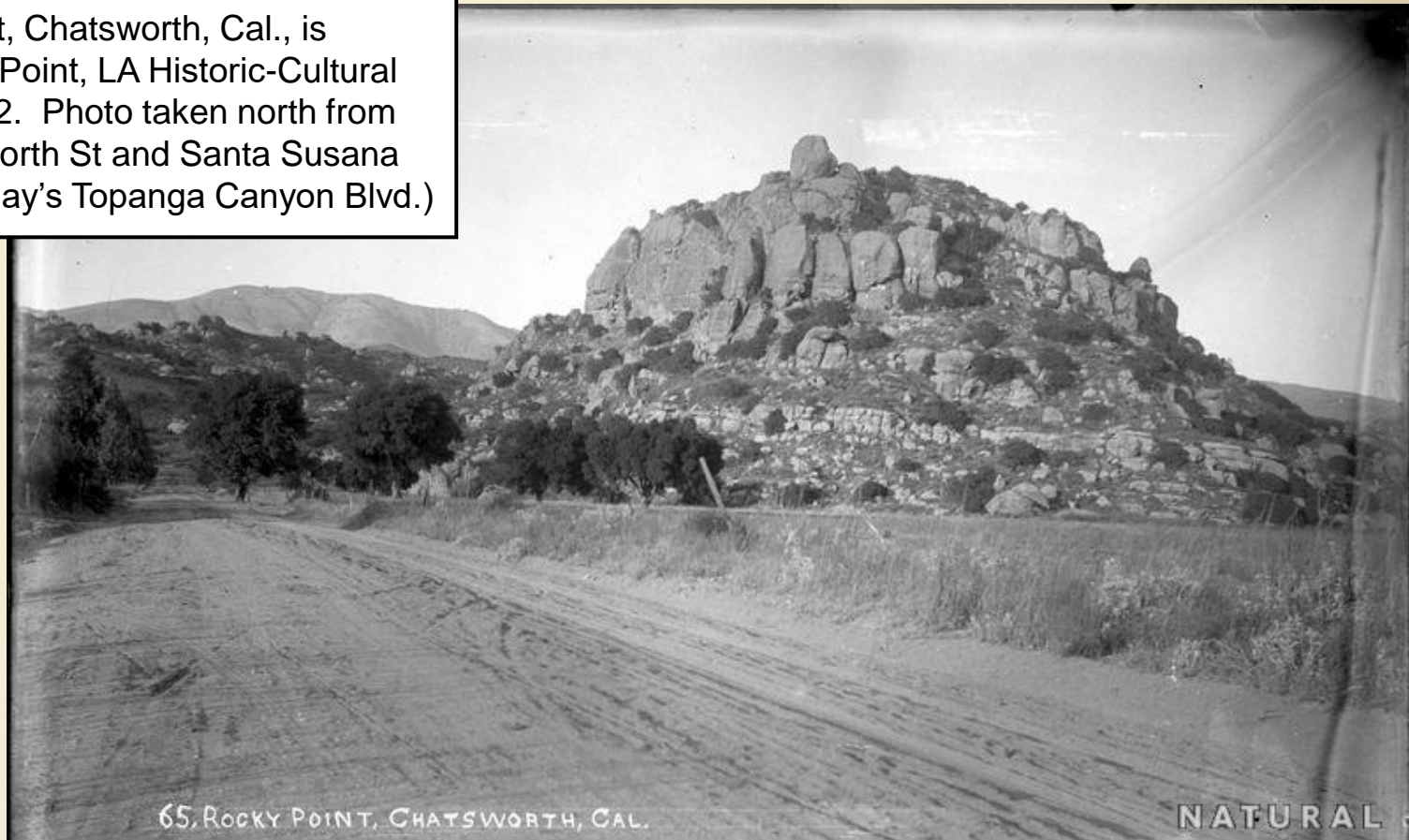
Andora

- 65. Rocky Point, Chatsworth, Cal. (Stoney Point)
- 66. Scene at Chatsworth, Cal. (Butler Fan Palms)
- 68. Fan Palms at Chatsworth, Cal.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 65. Rocky Point, Chatsworth, Cal., is today's Stoney Point, LA Historic-Cultural Monument #132. Photo taken north from Andora/Chatsworth St and Santa Susana Pass Road (today's Topanga Canyon Blvd.)

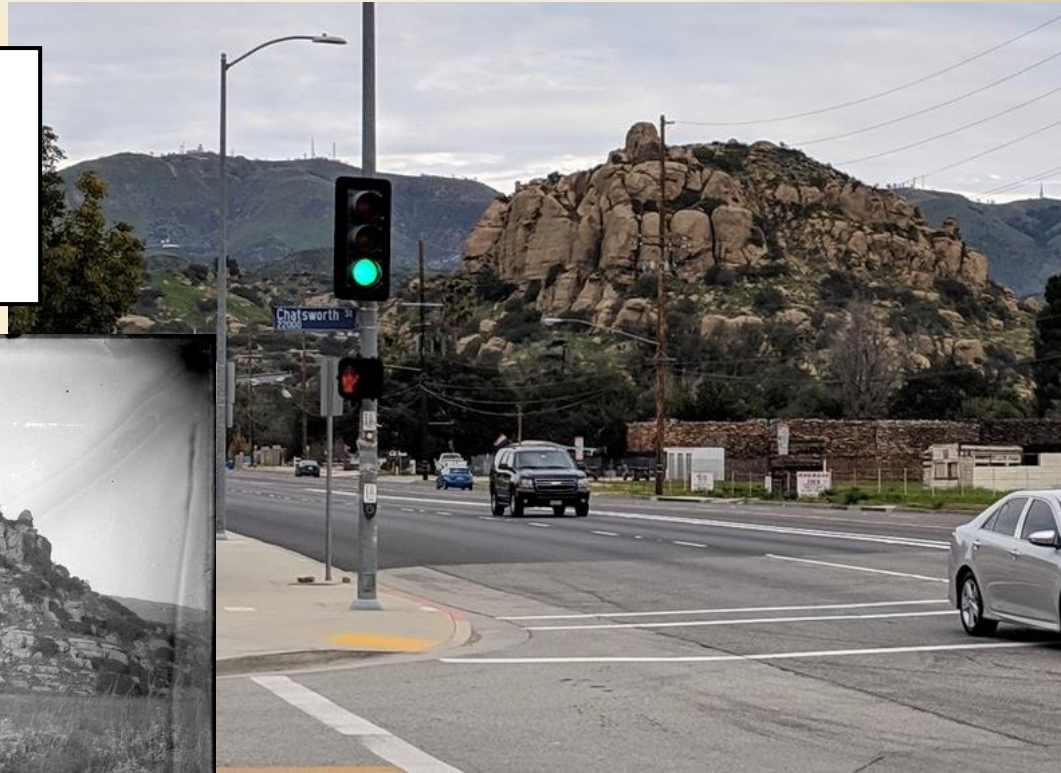
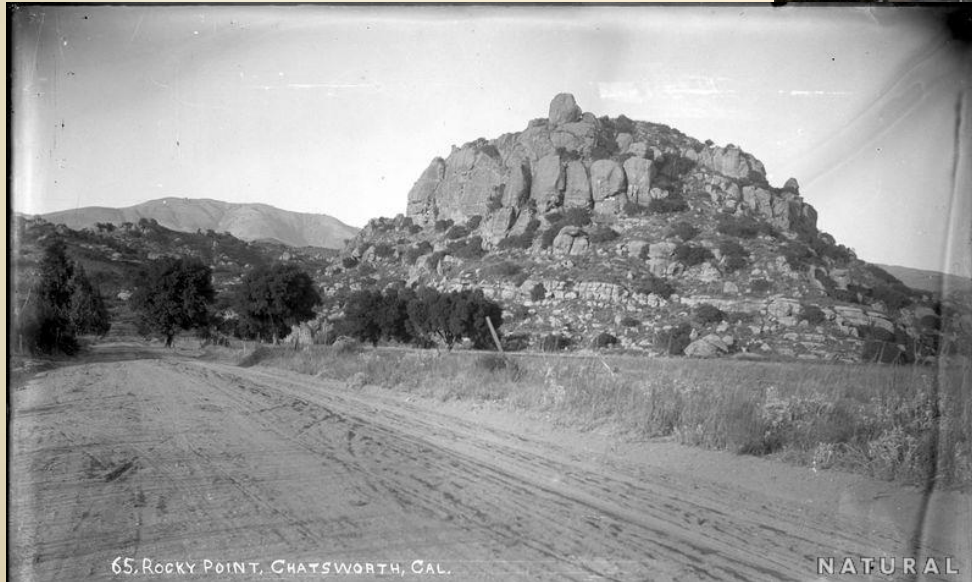


65. ROCKY POINT, CHATSWORTH, CAL.

NATURAL

Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 65. Rocky Point, Chatsworth, Cal., is today's Stoney Point, LA Historic-Cultural Monument #132.
- Then & Now Comparison 1912 to 2019



1912 Chatsworth Postcards

- 66. Scene at, Chatsworth, Cal., is today's Butler Palm Trees. Photo taken southwest from the intersection of Andora and Farralone Avenues.
- Eleven palm trees still exist today.

- We did an article on the Butler Palm Trees (named after homesteader Alexander Butler) in the April 2015 Smoke Signal, link below
- www.chatsworthhistory.com Publications, Smoke Signal, Smoke Signal 2015-04.pdf



1912 Chatsworth Postcards

Andora

In the 2019 Google Maps screenshot at the right, the shadows of the palm trees can be seen on Andora Avenue at Farralone.



1912 Chatsworth Postcards

Andora

- 68. Fan Palms at, Chatsworth, Cal., is today's Butler Palm Trees. Photo taken west from Andora just south of Farralone.
- Today's Hill Palmer Cottage can be seen in the background. (circled in red)



H. F. ZILK, Photographer, No. 4 Ocean Park, Cal.

MESSAGE

ADDRESS

Chatsworth Cal.

9/27/13.

Dear Sister.

Received your card this morning, and was glad you are coming on a nice long visit. The train does not leave Laclede Station until 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Be here at 8. Will meet you.
O. R. Lovell.

K
R
U

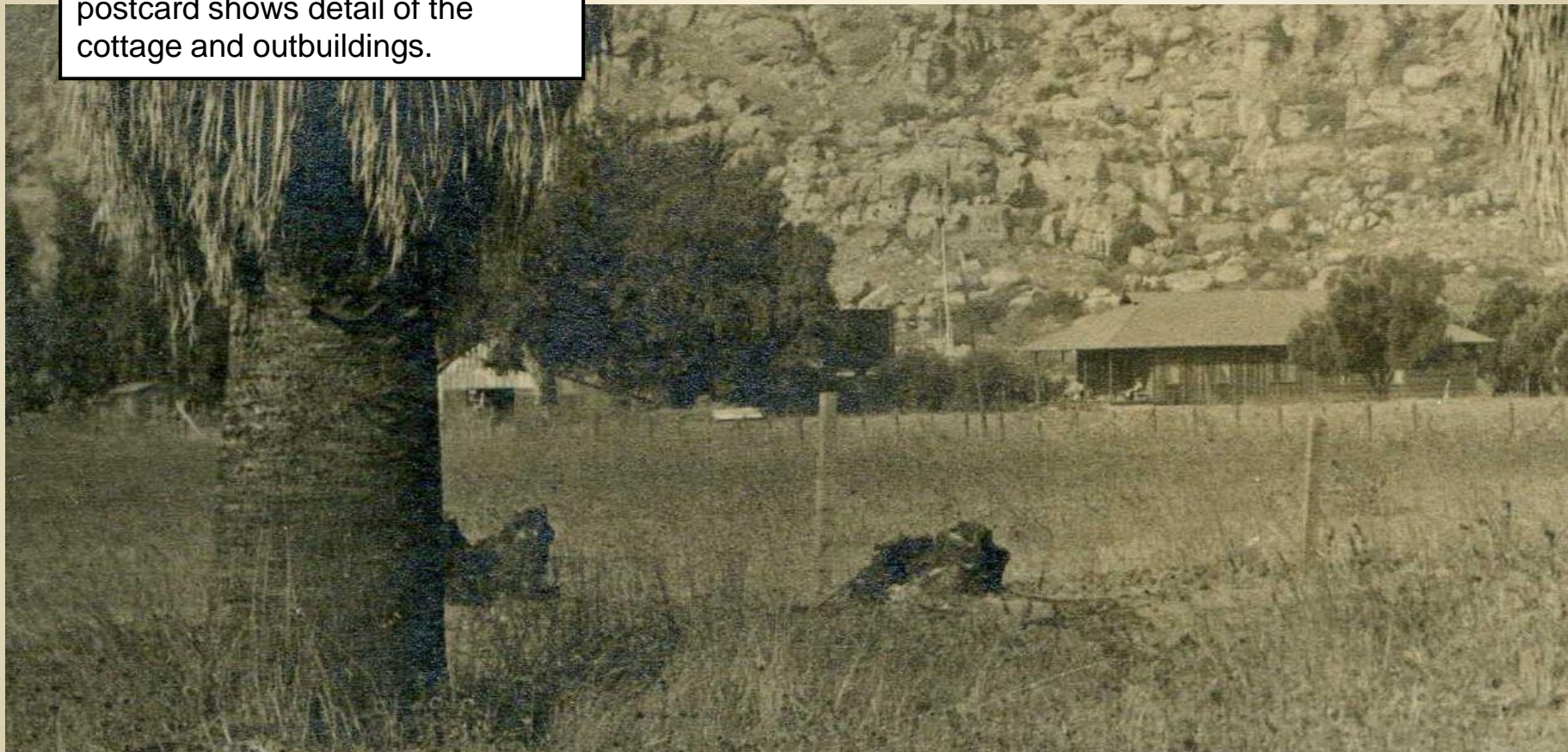
Mrs. Minnie A. Palmer
Inglewood
Cal.

R. F. D # 1 Box 93.

In 1913 Lovell Hill sent postcard #68 to his sister Minnie Hill Palmer.

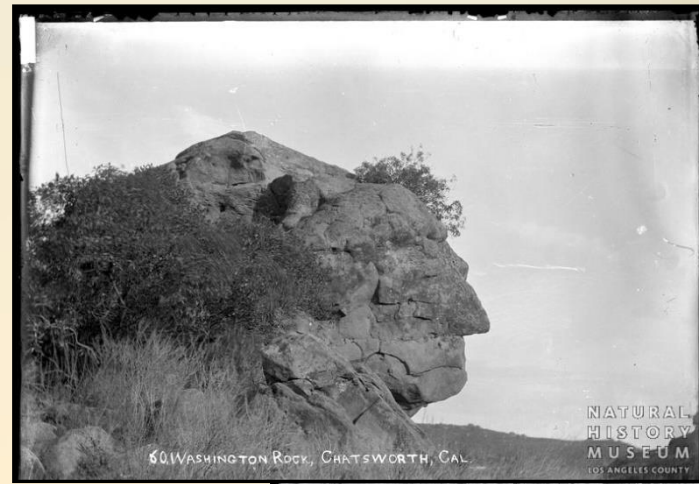


Zooming in on a scan of the 1913 postcard shows detail of the cottage and outbuildings.



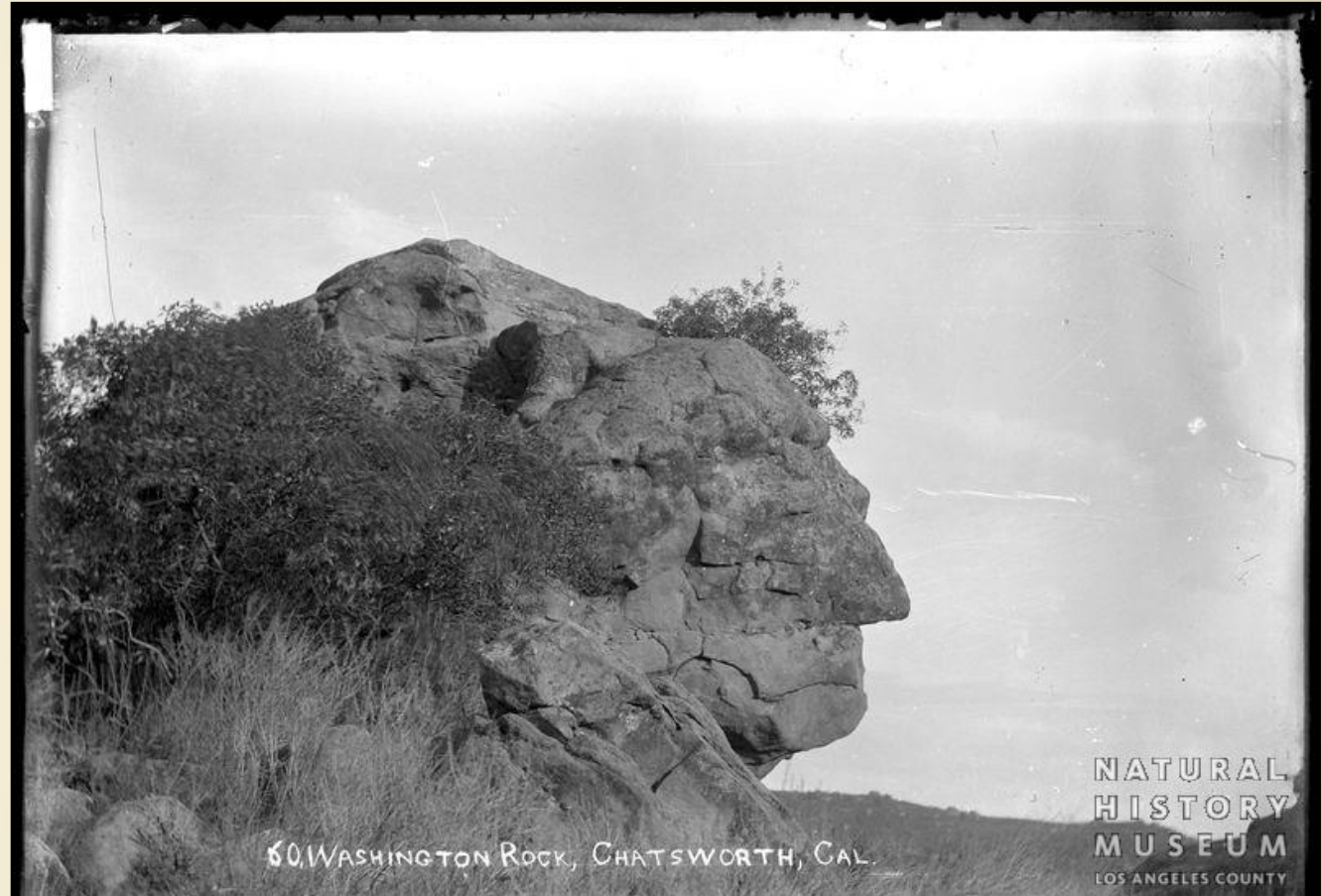
Chatsworth Postcards 1912 Johnson/Iverson

- 60. Washington Rock, Chatsworth, Cal
- 50. Washington Rock, Chatsworth, Cal
- 58. Scene Near Chatsworth (Williams/Johnson road)
- 70. Scene at Chatsworth (Garden of the Gods, from Williams/Johnson Road)



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 60. Washington Rock, Chatsworth, Cal. is on private property in today's Indian Springs, north of the 118 fwy.
- The Johnson's homesteaded the property, and it was photographed often by family members and others.

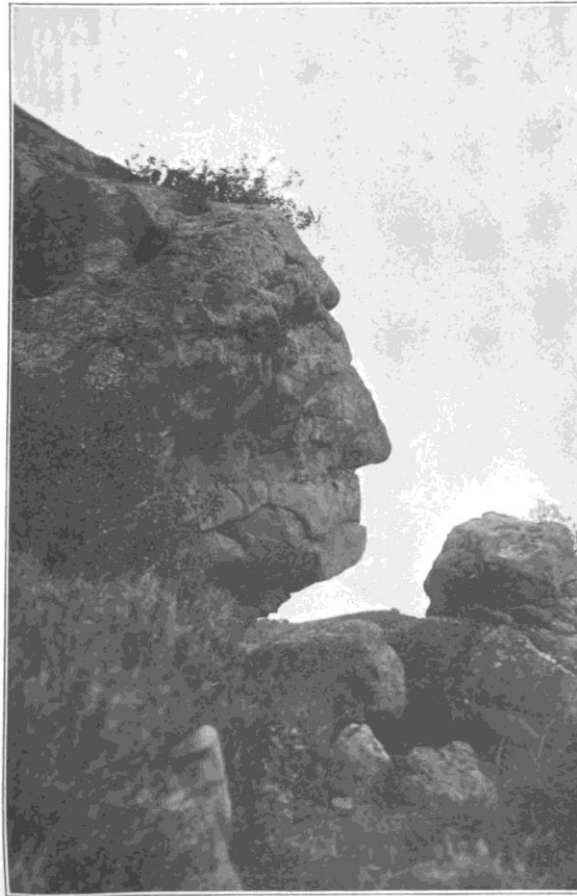


- The rock was first mentioned in 1901 in the San Francisco Call newspaper.
- The article described the rock as on a Chatsworth Park rancho, the property of Mrs. Johnson



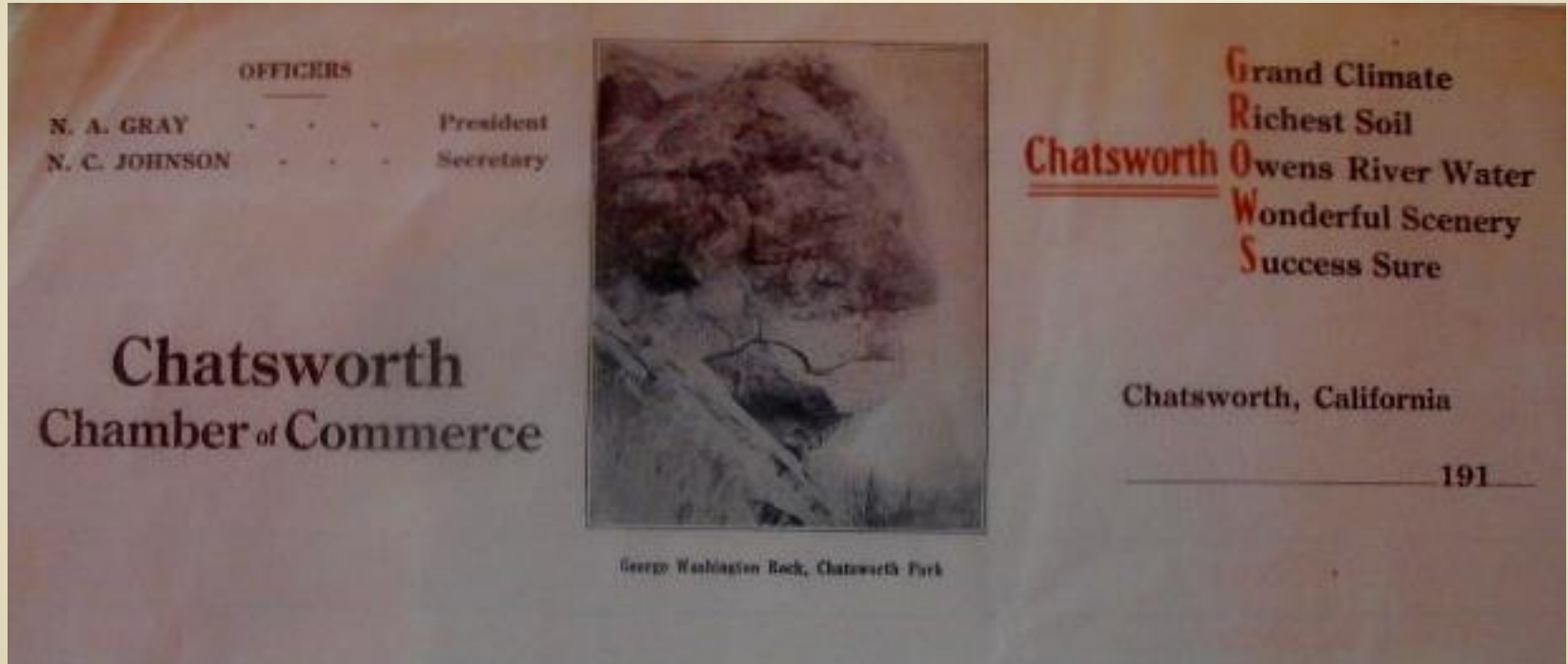
The 1902 book "Out West" by
Charles Lummis featured
Indian-Head Rock, Chatsworth Park, Cal.

Photo by Robert T Charlton, son of Stoney
Point Homesteader George Gray Charlton.

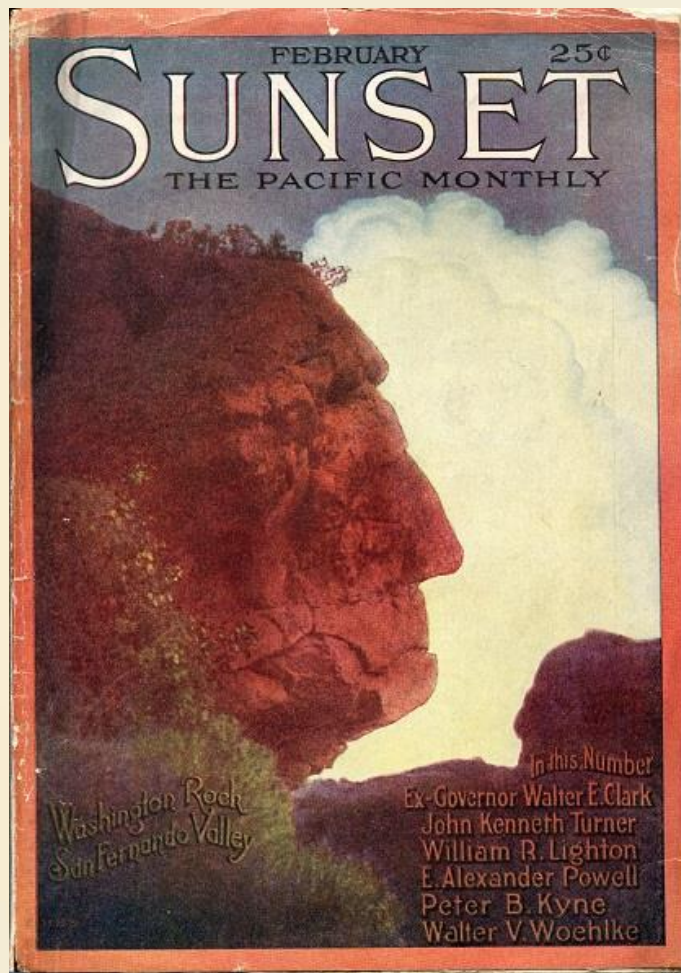


INDIAN-HEAD ROCK, CHATSWORTH PARK, CAL. *Photo by Robt. T. Charlton.*

George Washington Rock was on the
Chatsworth Chamber of Commerce letterhead in 191x.



It was on the February 1914
Sunset Magazine Cover as
Washington Rock
San Fernando Valley



In 1932 it was carried by national newspapers in the Ripley's Believe it or Not Section.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT



GEORGE WASHINGTON ROCK
AT TWIN LAKES PARK
-near Chatsworth, Calif.

A DOLLAR IS
TEN THOUSAND PER CENT
OF ONE CENT.



VIEW STREET
IS A
BLIND STREET
in Oakland, Calif.

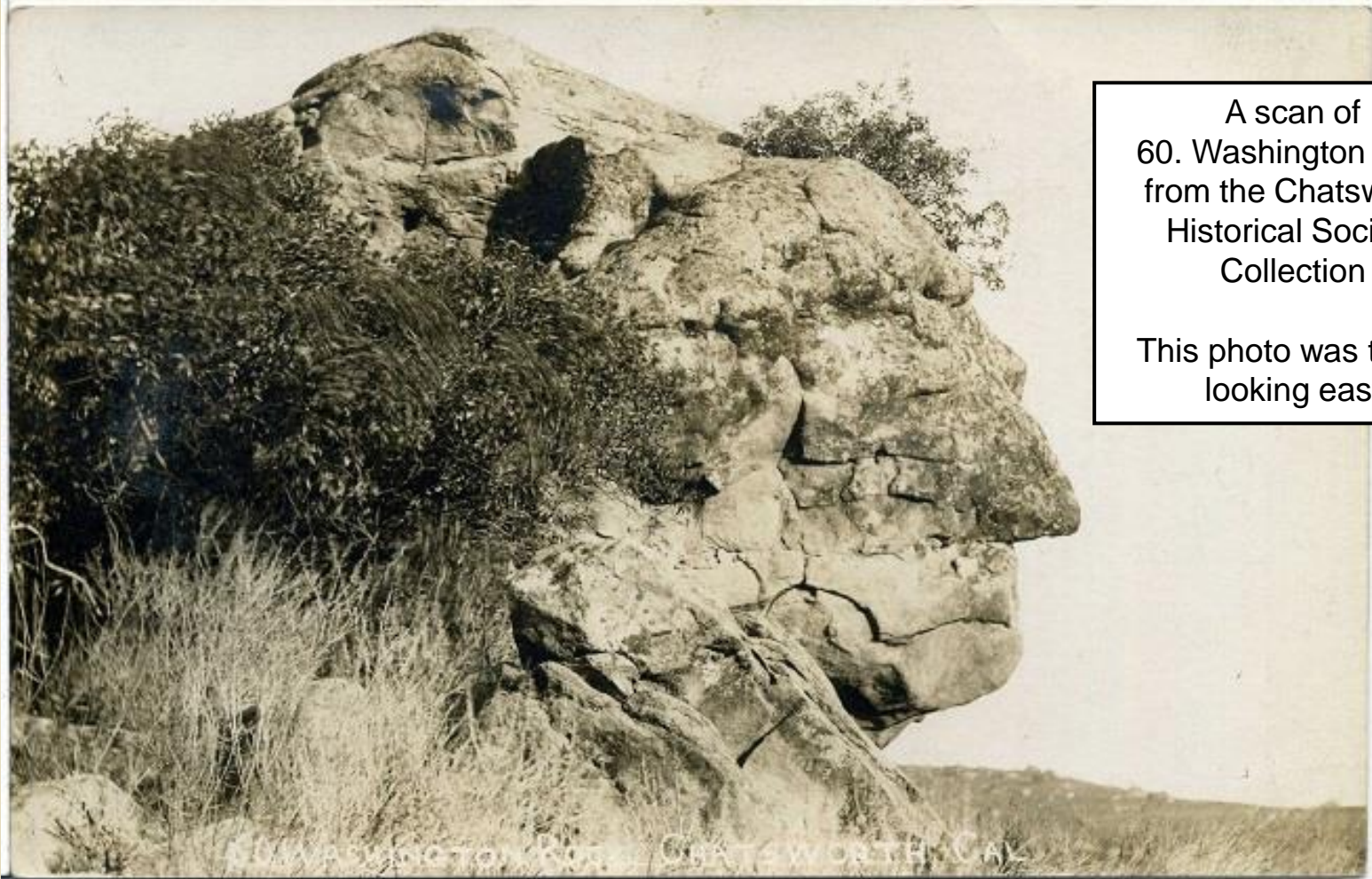
A MERCHANT ADVERTISED

Musa-Shiya the S
(also Kimono make & D
Announce cul this time
Happi Co.
\$2.25

This coats are wearin
ing suits very nice This
I have also delied salt wa
Happi coat reaching bee
for attractively for shame
time according low cove
to knee I was ably exp
picture back sides happ
why wearing Japan this
and reasons wore first
Japan

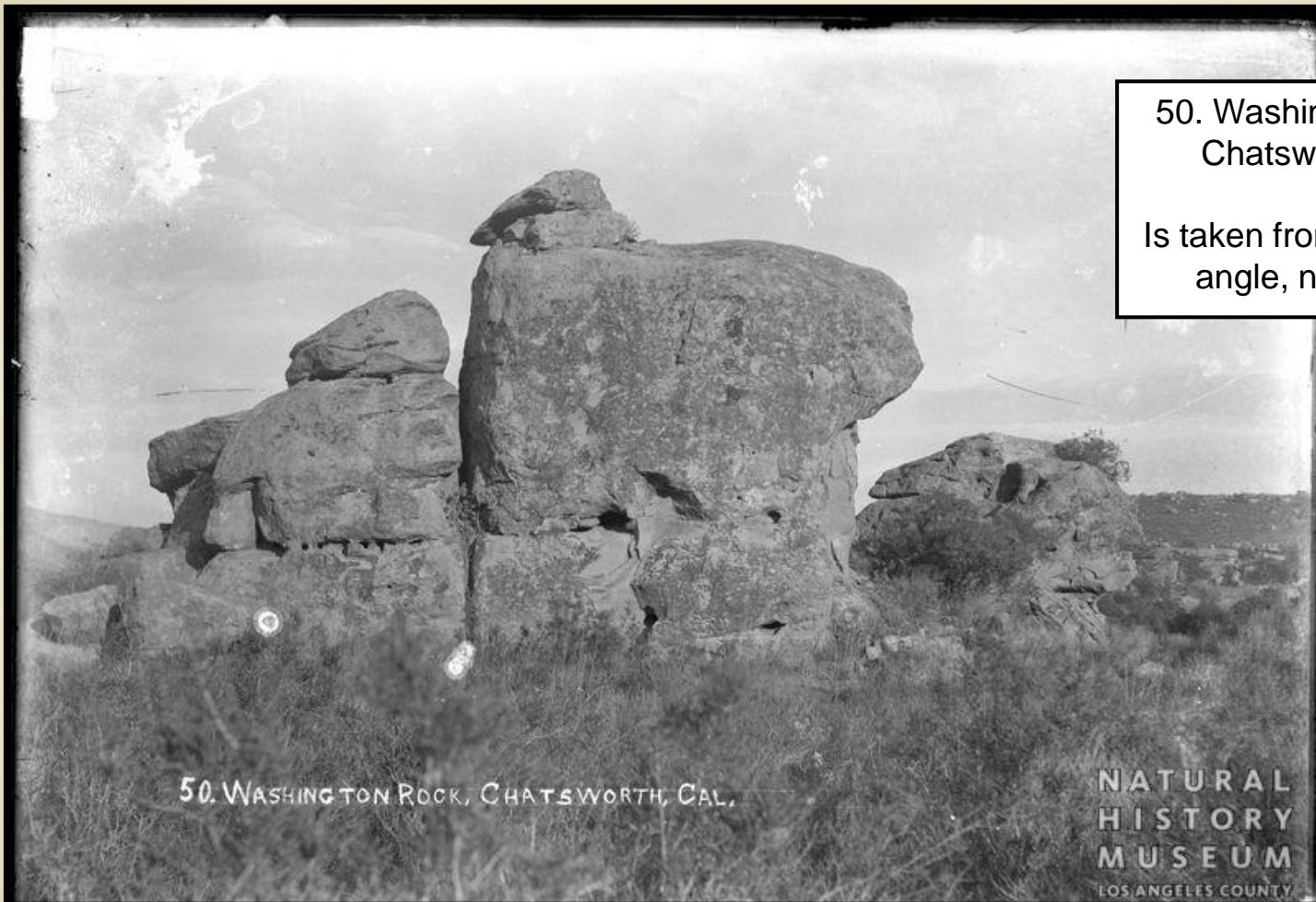
Directed finding — I
finding Musa-Shiya Sho
away in front famous Fi
until 179 North King St
River My Shop small re
place No 179 No King S
look nice sign say so N
the Shirfmaker, No. 179, a
on foot step entrance

Pass away insides.



A scan of
60. Washington Rock
from the Chatsworth
Historical Society
Collection

This photo was taken
looking east



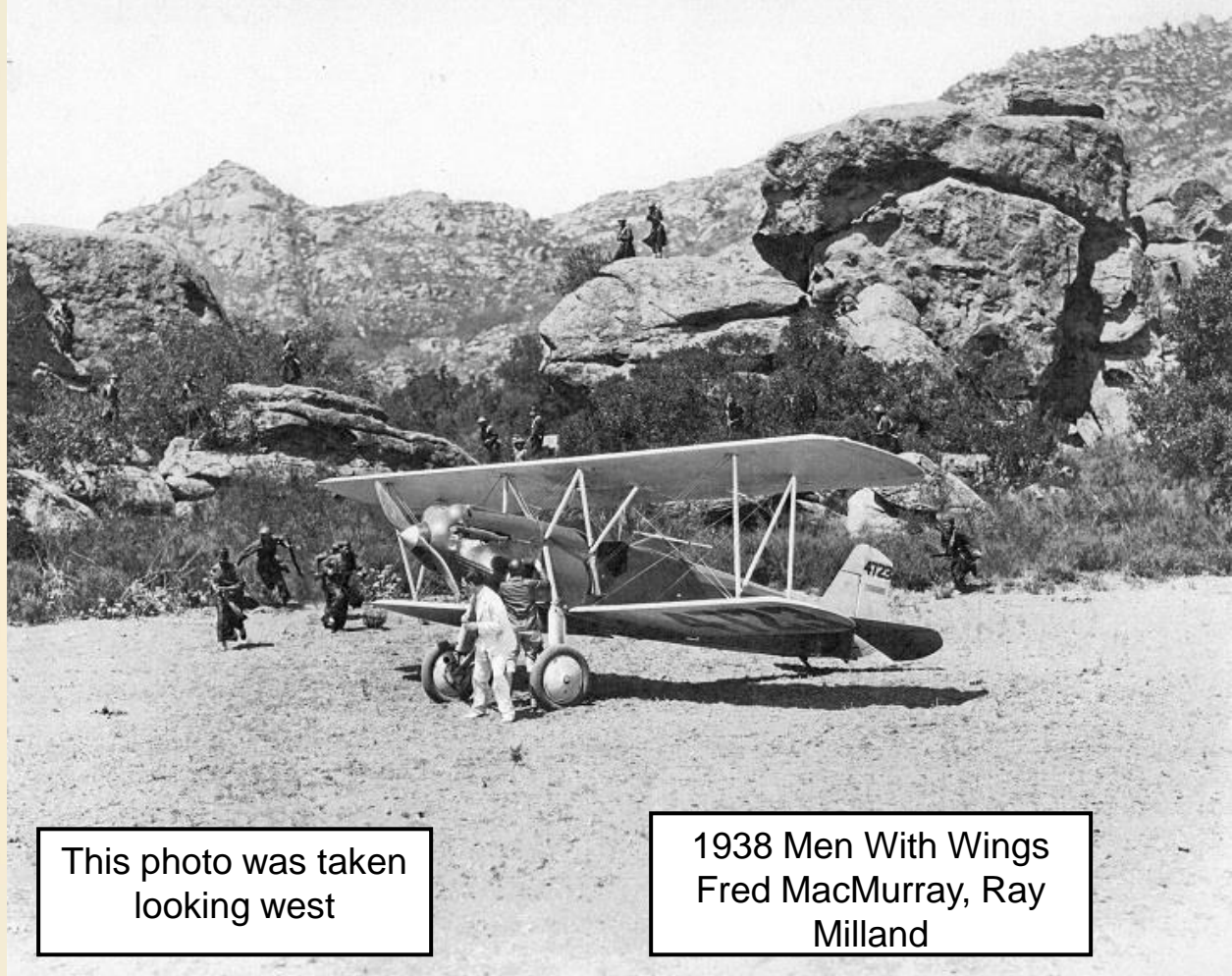
50. Washington Rock.
Chatsworth Cal.

Is taken from a different
angle, north east

50. WASHINGTON ROCK, CHATSWORTH, CAL.

NATURAL
HISTORY
MUSEUM
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

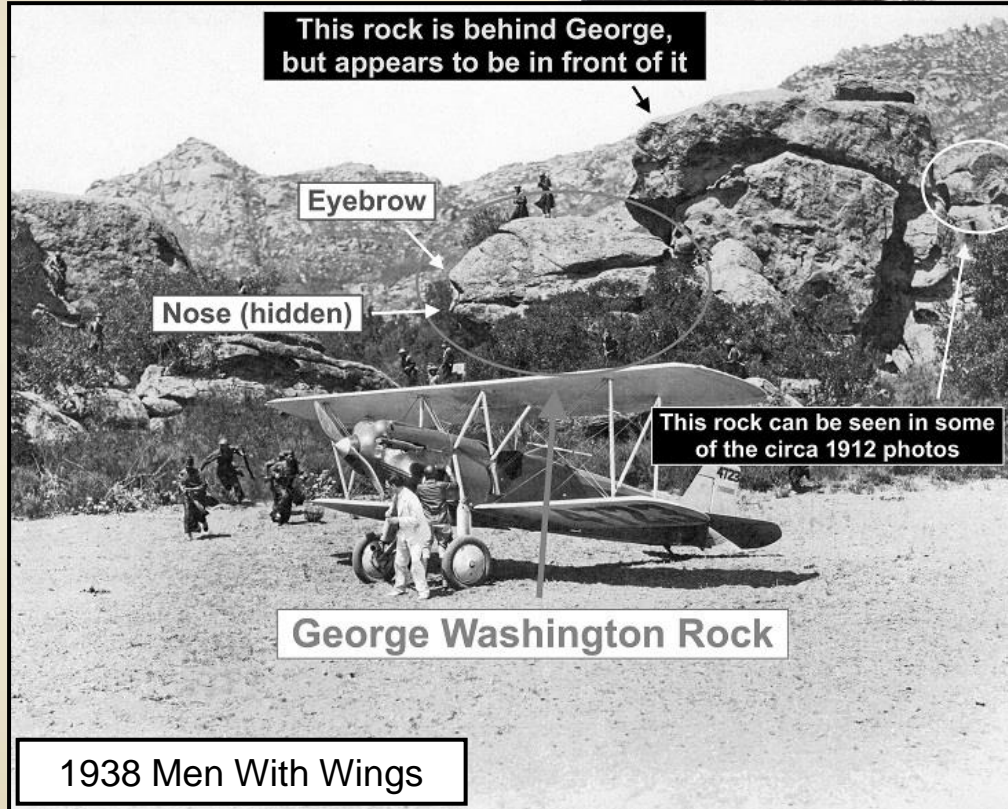
- I asked Dennis Liff if he knew of any movies with **George Washington Rock** in them, and he said he has never seen the rock in any productions, but he did find a promo still.
- “When Brandeis had the property they almost never filmed inside the perimeter of the large fenced area around the house, which was where the rock was.
- This promo still (and presumably the scene being filmed) was an exception to the rule.”



This photo was taken looking west

1938 Men With Wings
Fred MacMurray, Ray Milland

- **George Washington Rock** is unrecognizable in the camera angle of the promo still.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

Johnson/Iverson

The eucalyptus trees and the long straight road tell the story....

58. Scene Near Chatsworth
(Williams/Johnson road, looking south)



70. Scene at Chatsworth
(Garden of the Gods, at Williams/Johnson Road,
looking east)



A 1928 aerial overlay on Google Earth, with Homesteader boundaries identified in red.

Stoney Point (circled in orange)

The Williams/Johnson road was straight and lined with eucalyptus trees (in yellow) leading up to the Johnson Property

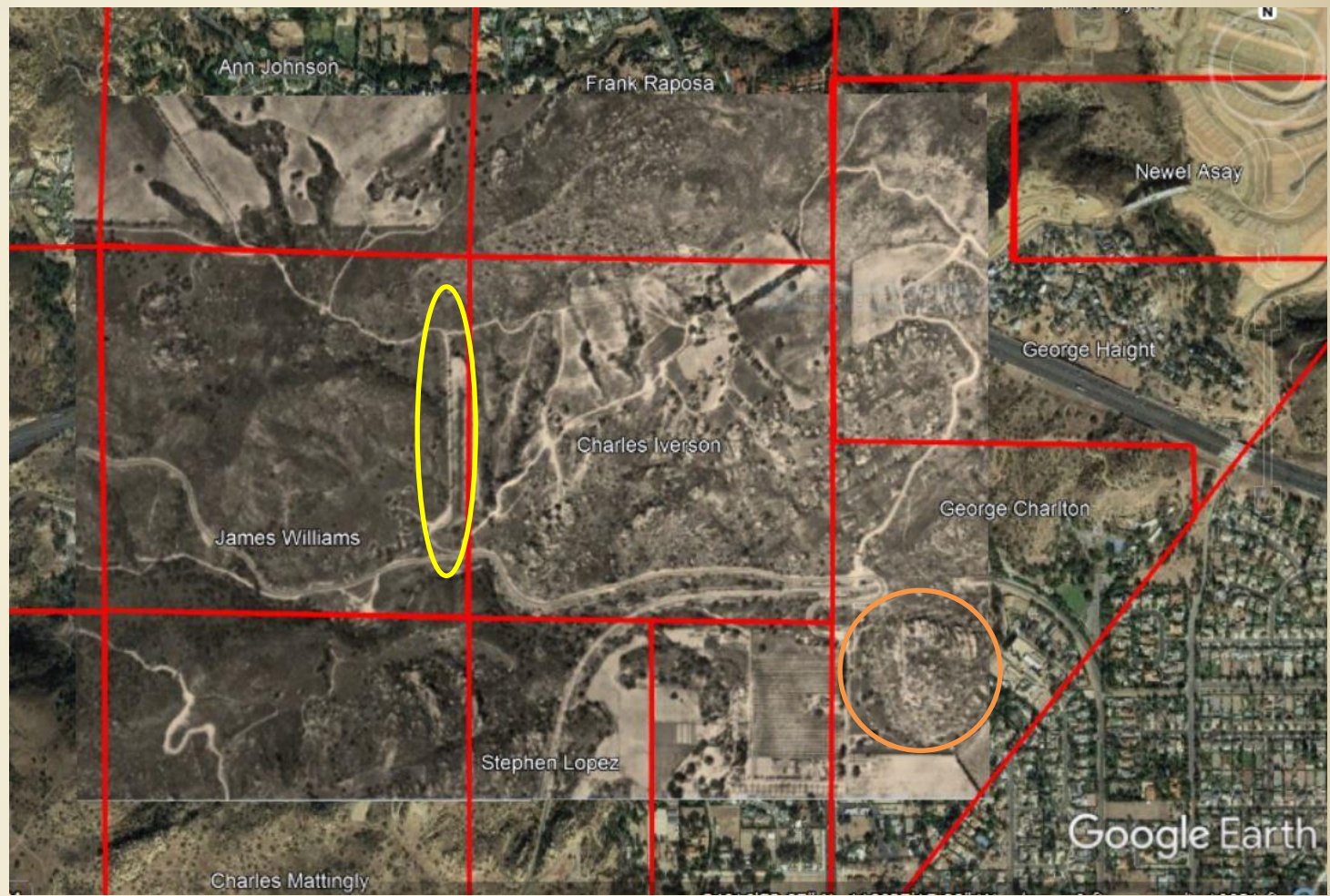


Photo 58 was taken at the top of the straight road, looking south.

Photo 70 was taken looking east, at what is today the Garden of the Gods.

Garden of the Gods (in blue)



58

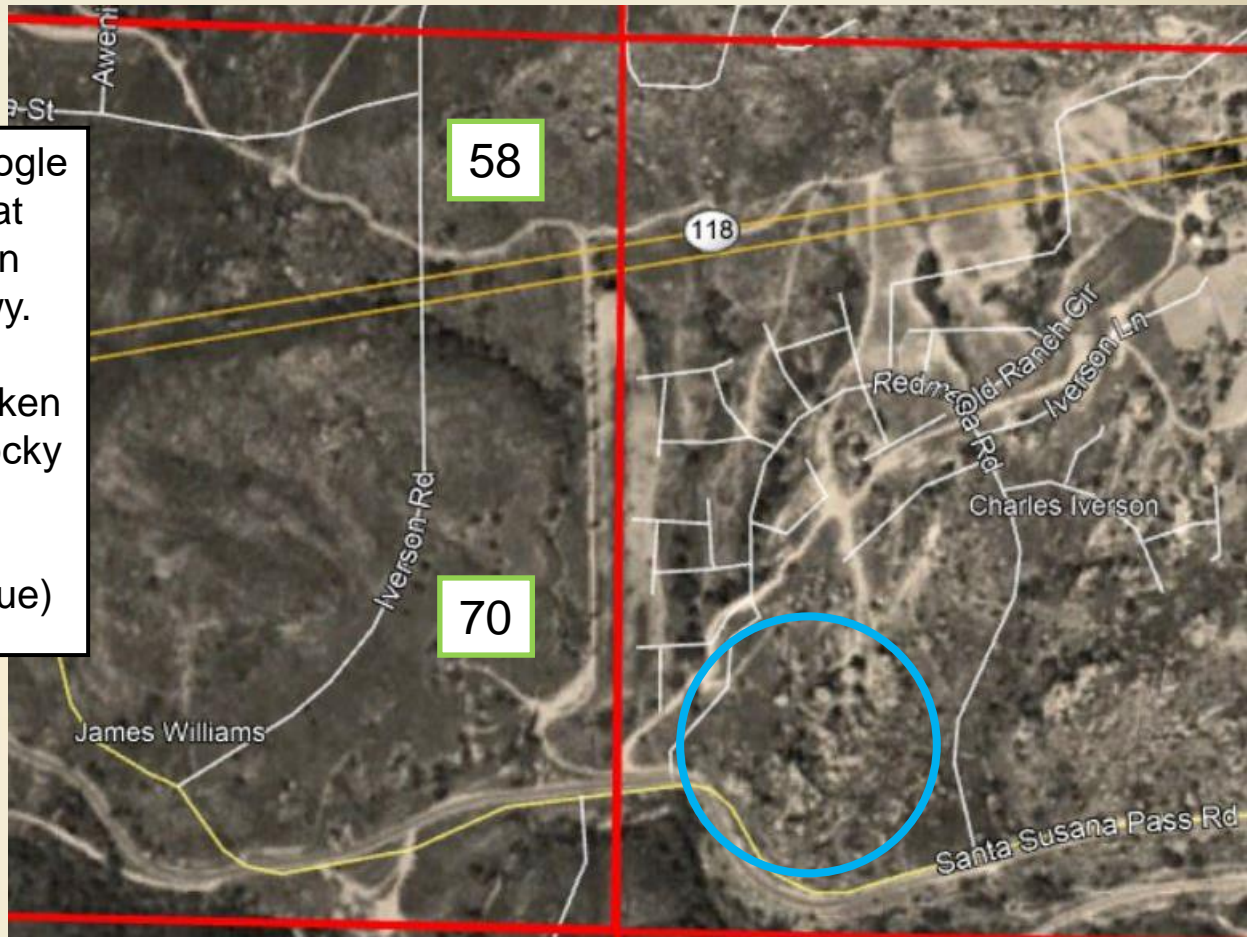
70

Charles Iverson

Adding “**Roads**” to the Google Earth Overlay shows that Photo 58 would be taken today north of the 118 fwy.

And Photo 70 would be taken from today’s Church at Rocky Peak property.

Garden of the Gods (in blue)



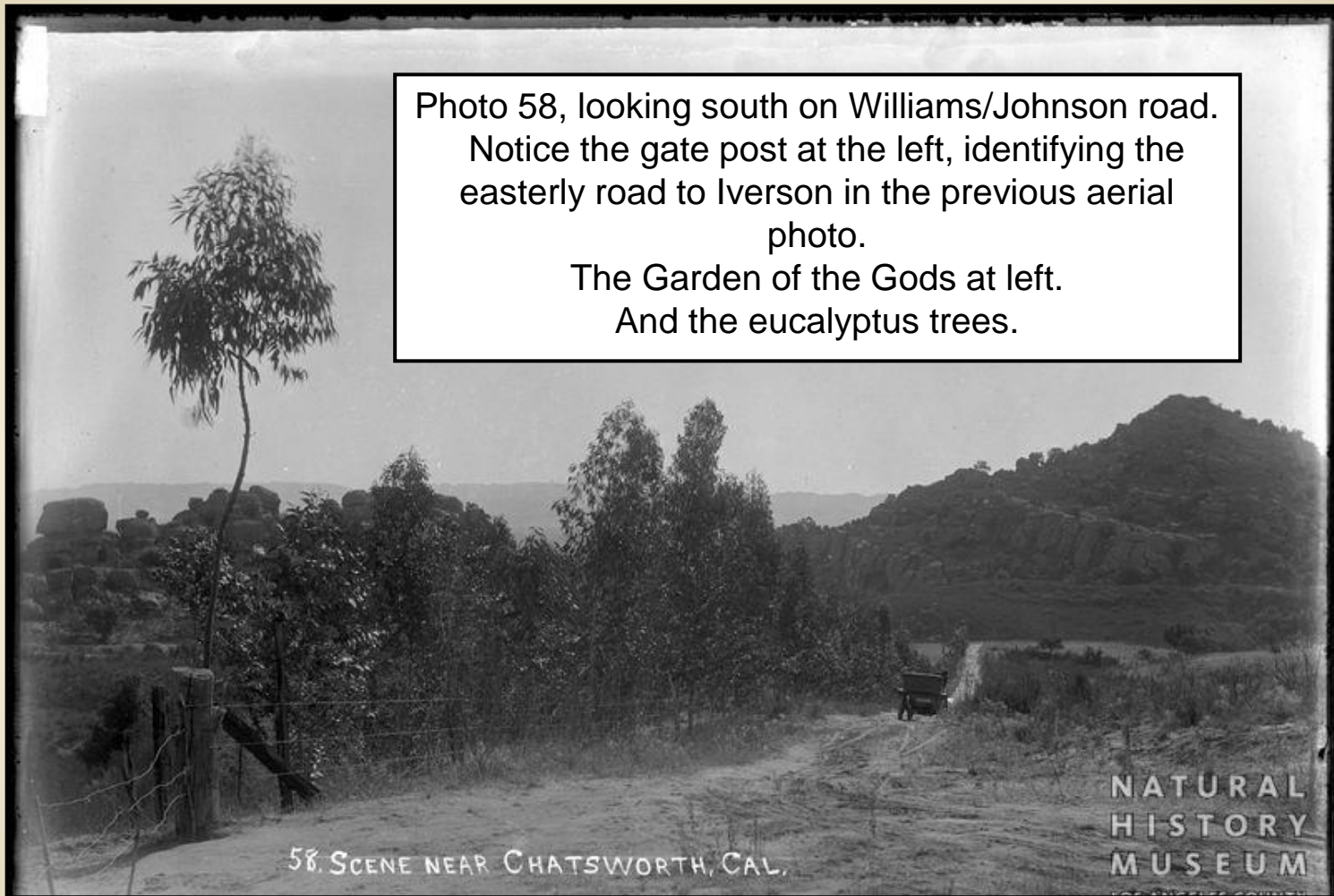


Photo 58, looking south on Williams/Johnson road.
Notice the gate post at the left, identifying the
easterly road to Iverson in the previous aerial
photo.

The Garden of the Gods at left.
And the eucalyptus trees.

58. SCENE NEAR CHATSWORTH, CAL.

NATURAL
HISTORY
MUSEUM

Photo 70, looking east.

The Garden of the Gods is framed past the Williams/Johnson road and eucalyptus trees in this photo.

Notice the flat field just east of the eucalyptus trees



- The 1922 Silent short “The Paleface” with Buster Keaton showed the same line of eucalyptus trees, in two scenes.
- They were larger than in 1912 after growing for 10 years.
- At 7:50 of The Paleface, Buster Keaton jumps off of Parachute Rock, using an Indian blanket as a parachute.
- Parachute rock is circle in red, south of the Williams/Johnson road.



- A screenshot of 1922 Parachute Rock and Buster Keaton.
- The Williams/Johnson road and eucalyptus trees circled in blue
- Notice the flat field just east of the eucalyptus trees.





1922 The Paleface
Parachute Rock



1922 The Paleface
Buster Keaton at a eucalyptus tree at
Williams/Johnson Road

Chatsworth Postcards 1912 -Lassen

- 62. Chatsworth, Cal. (Graves & Hill)
- 55. Chatsworth Hotel, Cal
- 69. Scene at Chatsworth, Cal. (Hotel)
- 59. Arch of Trees, Chatsworth, Cal (Lassen)



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 62. Chatsworth, Cal. (Graves & Hill), which is the iconic photograph of Chatsworth.
- We suspect that Harry Rile may have had this photograph staged somewhat for his camera.
- This image can also be found at the LAPL website.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 62. Chatsworth, Cal. (Graves & Hill)
- The Iverson family donated a scanned version of postcard #62 to us.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 55. Chatsworth Hotel Cal.
- The hotel was built in 1890, in advance of the Southern Pacific Train Depot in 1893.
- Access to the hotel was from Santa Susana (today's Topanga Canyon)
- View looking east.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 69. Scene at Chatsworth Cal. (Hotel)
- Opposite view as #55, looking west
- notice the same trees and palm trees at the front walkway to the Hotel.
- Harry Rile may have been staying at the Chatsworth Hotel.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- This is a circa 1893 photo, showing the train depot at right.
- The Chatsworth Hotel has a white roof and is behind the depot, closer to Lassen St.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 59. Arch of Trees.
Chatsworth Cal
- View west down
Lassen St. The
Miranda Adobe is
visible to the right
of the tree.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 59. Arch of Trees. Chatsworth Cal
- Then & Now Comparison 1912 to 2019



2019 view west on Lassen, at 22500 Lassen
The arch of trees is gone, but the boulders at the left remain.

02/05/2020

Chatsworth Historical Society - Chatsworth Postcards 1912

51

Chatsworth Postcards 1912

Pass Roads

- 61. Chatsworth, Cal. From the Old Stage Road. (Stagecoach Trail, built in 1859)
- 64. Santa Susanna Pass, Chatsworth, Cal (Chatsworth Grade Road, built in 1895, traveling east)
- 67. Santa Susanna Pass, near Chatsworth, Cal. (Chatsworth Grade Road, built in 1895, traveling east)



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 61. Chatsworth, Cal.
From the Old Stage
Road. (Stagecoach
Trail, built in 1859)
- View east



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 61. Chatsworth, Cal. From the Old Stage Road.
- A train traveling between tunnels 26 and 27 is visible on the left side.



The Iversons donated this circa 1913 postcard to Aaron in Cuba from his sister Anna.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

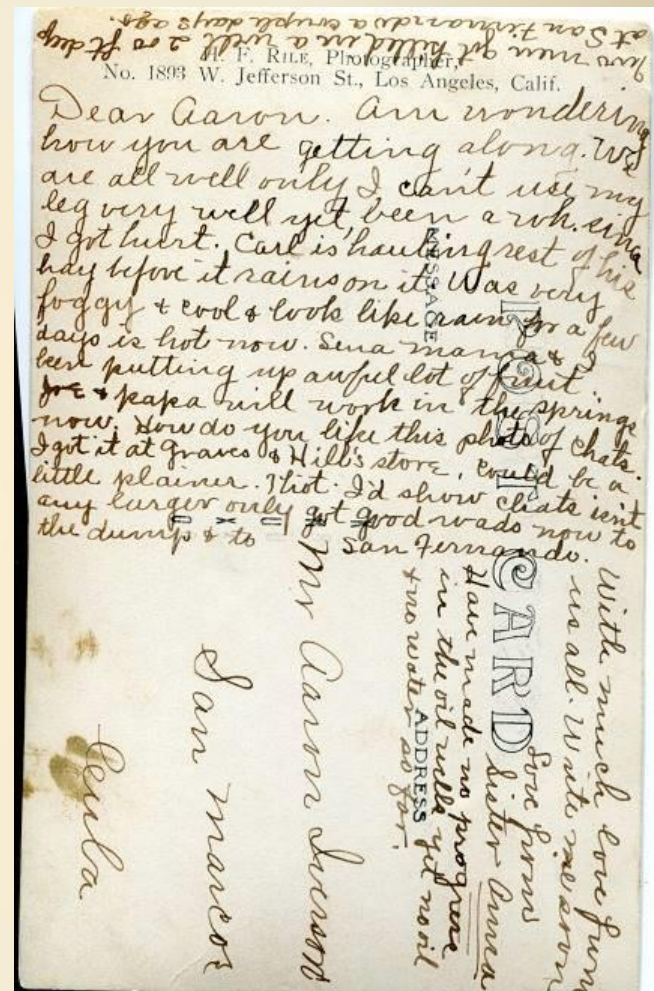
To: Mr. Aaron Iverson, San Marcos, Cuba [note: Aaron was in Cuba in 1913, this postcard is undated]

Dear Aaron. Am wondering how you are getting along. We are all well only I can't use my leg very well yet, been a while since I got hurt. Carl is hauling rest of his hay before it rains on it. Was very foggy & cool & looked like rain for a few days, is hot now.

Sena, Mama and I been putting up awful lot of fruit. Joe & Papa will work in the springs now. **How do you like this photo of Chats? I got it at Graves & Hill's store.** Could be a little plainer. Thought I'd show Chats. isn't any larger only got good roads now to the dump & to San Fernando.

With much love from us all. Write me soon, Love from Sister Anna.

Have made no progress in the oil wells yet no oil & no water so far. Two men got killed in a well 200ft deep at San Fernando a couple days ago.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 64. Santa Susanna Pass, Chatsworth, Cal. (Chatsworth Grade Road, built in 1895)
- View east, horse and wagon facing west but traveling east to Chatsworth on a switchback.
- This photo was taken after postcard 67, which is west of postcard 64.

Postcard from
the CHS archives



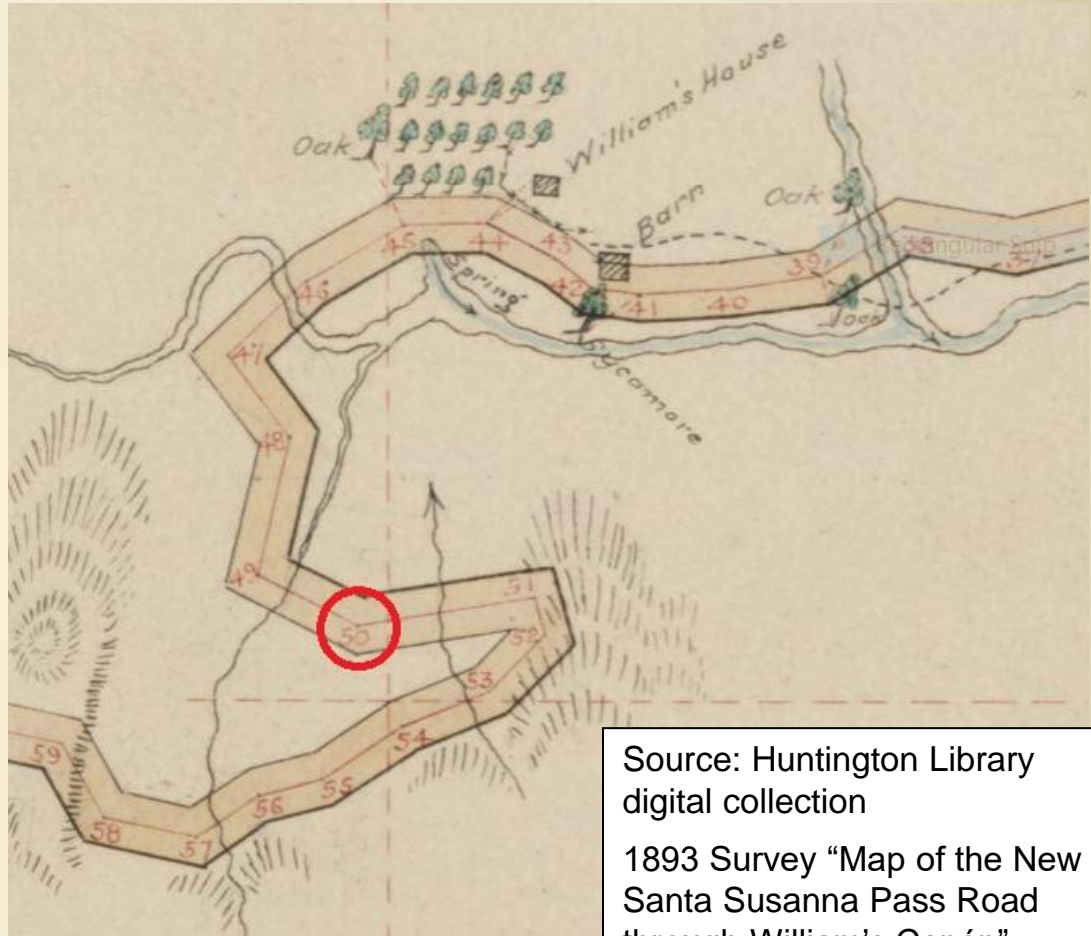
Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- This Google Maps photo identifies H.F. Rile's location on the Chatsworth Grade Road, and the path of the Grade Road at that time (the red line).
- The location is just south of today's Rocky Peak Church Baseball Field, south of the Santa Susana Pass Road.
- The wagon is on property that is today's Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- The red circle identifies the location of the wagon in the 1912 Postcard 64.
- The dashed lines identify section boundaries, with homesteader Richard Williams owning the upper right 160 acres. Notice the William's House and Barn identified on the 1893 map. In 2008, we took a tour of the William's house area with Tate McReynolds. There were no William's buildings remaining at that time.
- Tate told Ann Vincent during the tour that his family lived there in 1947, before it was sold to George Spahn in 1953. That story can be found at [CHS Digital Archives, Articles, Spahn Ranch](#).
- The William's House was located on what is today Church of Rocky Peak property.



Source: Huntington Library
digital collection

1893 Survey "Map of the New
Santa Susanna Pass Road
through William's Canón"

Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- 67. Santa Susanna Pass, near Chatsworth, Cal. (Chatsworth Grade Road, built in 1895)
- View northeast

photo courtesy
David Coscia



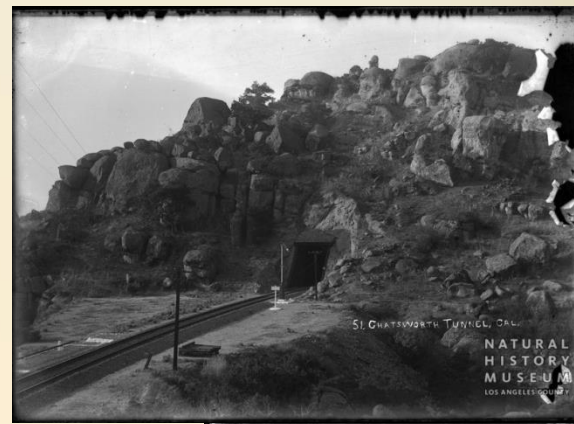
Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- Closeup view of 67. Santa Susanna Pass, near Chatsworth, Cal. (Chatsworth Grade Road, built 1895)
- Notice the horse-drawn wagon on the road, and the stone buttressing built of dimensional sandstone from the Bannon quarry.



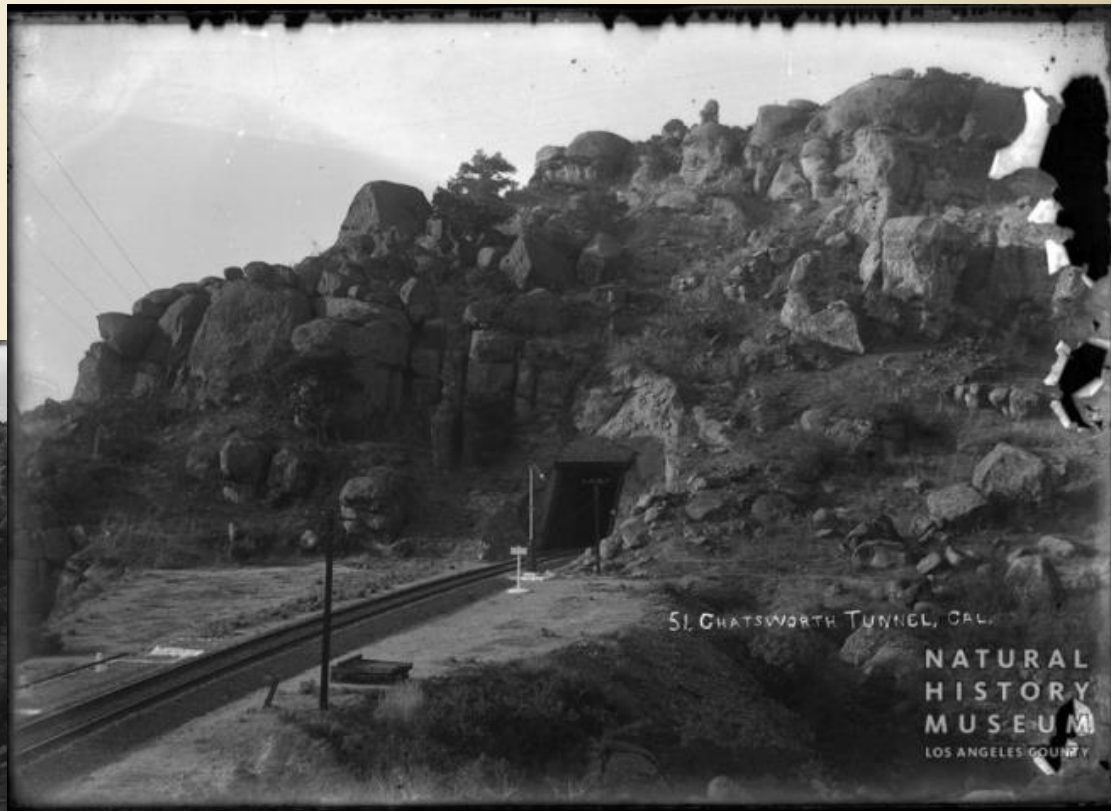
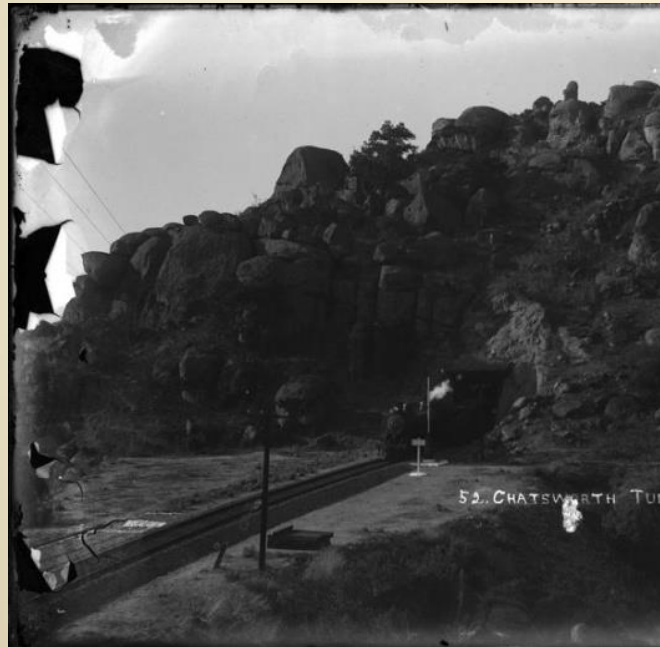
Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

- 51. Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal. (#27 east portal)
- 52. Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal. (#27 east portal with train)
- 53. Near Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal. (approaching east portal #27)
- 57. S.P. Train Between Two Tunnels (#26 & 27) Chatsworth, Ca.
- 74. The Big Chatsworth Tunnel (#26 east portal)



Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

- 51. Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal. (#27 east portal)
- 52. Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal. (#27 east portal with train)



Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

53. Near Chatsworth
Tunnel, Cal. (approaching
east portal Tunnel #27)

A 1915 Lovell Hill
postcard to his
sister Mary and
her husband
William P. Taylor



Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

53. Near Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal.
(approaching east portal Tunnel #27)

Aug 9, 1915

To: Mr. & Mrs. W.P. Taylor

Dear Bro & Sister

Received your card this morning. Glad to hear from you, and to know that you are enjoying your trip. Everybody is quite well here at Home. Cala and babies are out for a while.

Bye Bye with love,

L.A. Hill, Chatsworth Ca.

If not delivered in five days, forward to Bishop. Cal.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

53. Near Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal.
(approaching east portal Tunnel #27)

Feb 23, 1913 Chatsworth Calif

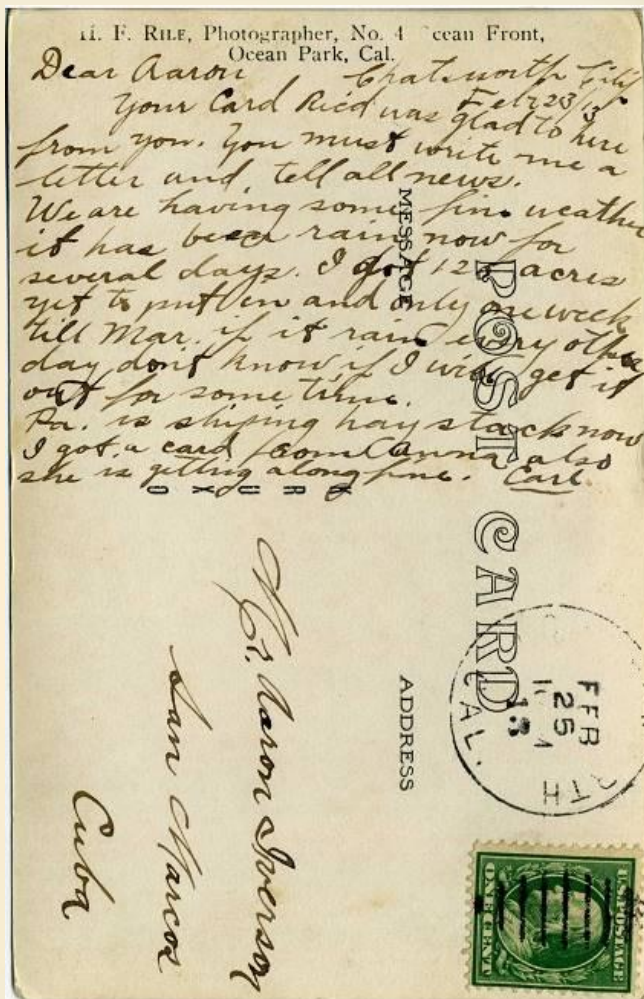
To: Mr. Aaron Iverson San Marcos Cuba

Dear Aaron

Your card received was glad to hear from you. You must write me a letter and tell all news. We are having some fine weather it has been rain now for several days. I got 12 acres yet to put in and only one week till Mar. If it rains every other day don't know if I will get it out for some time.

Pa is shipping hay stack now. I got a card from Anna also she is getting along fine.

Carl



A Feb 1913 postcard from Carl Iverson to his brother Aaron in Cuba

Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

53. Near Chatsworth Tunnel, Cal.
(approaching east portal Tunnel #27)

David Coscia, author of "Southern Pacific in the San Fernando Valley 1876-1996", provided a caption for us:

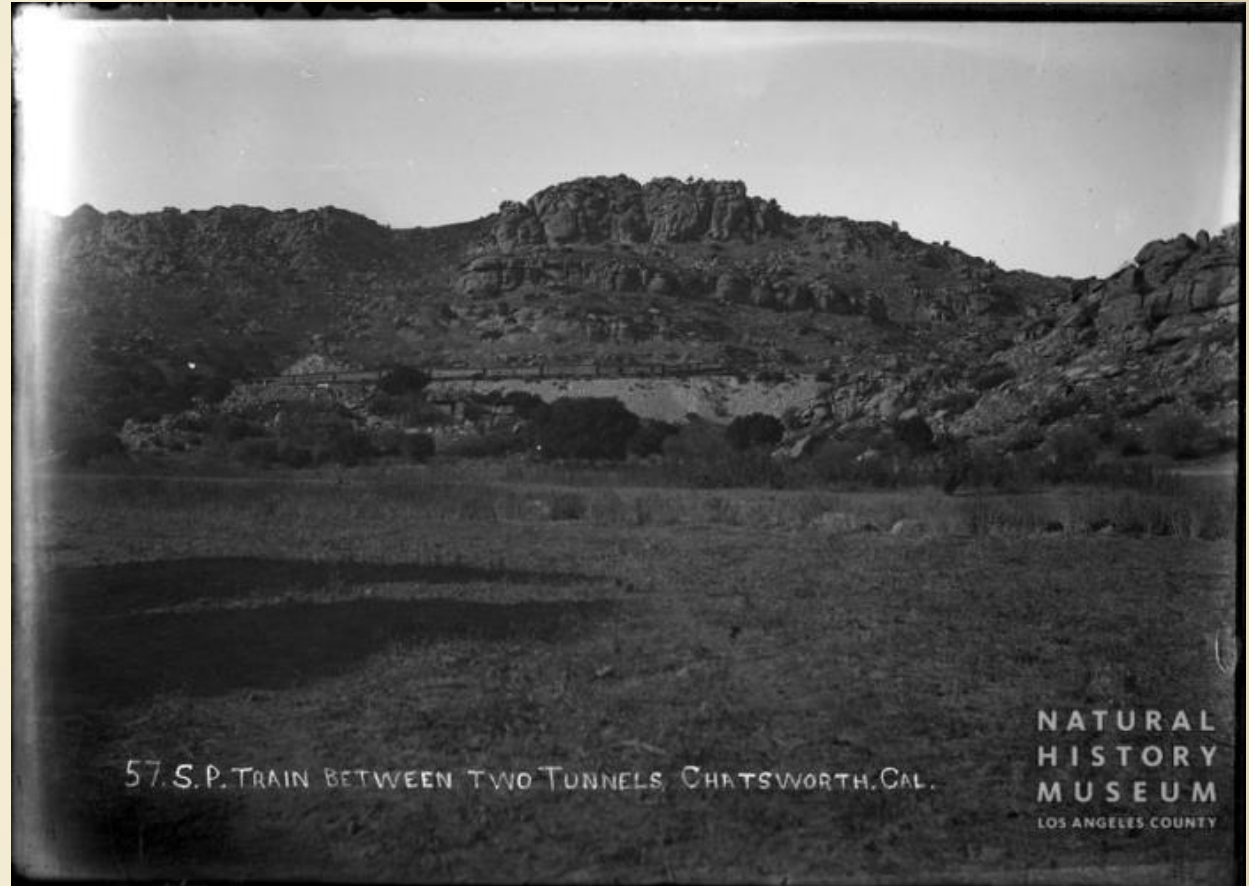
Southern Pacific Railroad train #19, the Shore Line Limited, passed through a cut between Tunnels 28 and 27 in Santa Susana Pass in 1912. The train was bound for San Francisco from Los Angeles, and led by SP 2437. The locomotive had a 4-6-2 wheel arrangement and entered service in April 1911.

It was a morning train.



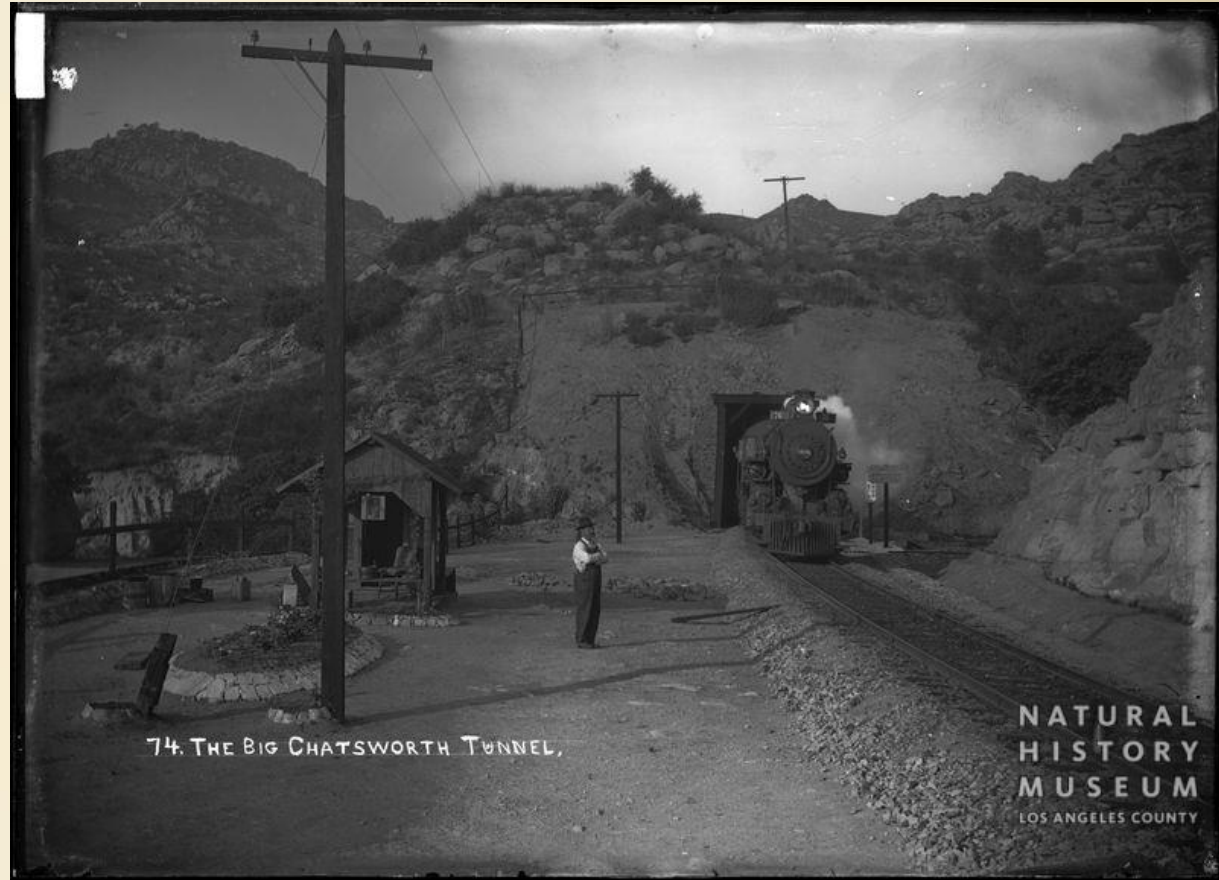
Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

- 57. S.P. Train Between Two Tunnels (#26 & 27) Chatsworth, Ca.
- This photo was taken from the field at the Hill homestead, which is today's Chatsworth Park South.
- Looking Northwest



Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

- 74. The Big Chatsworth Tunnel (#26 east portal)
- Looking West



Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Railroad

74. The Big Chatsworth Tunnel (#26 east portal) Looking West

David Coscia, author of "Southern Pacific in the San Fernando Valley 1876-1996", provided a caption for us:

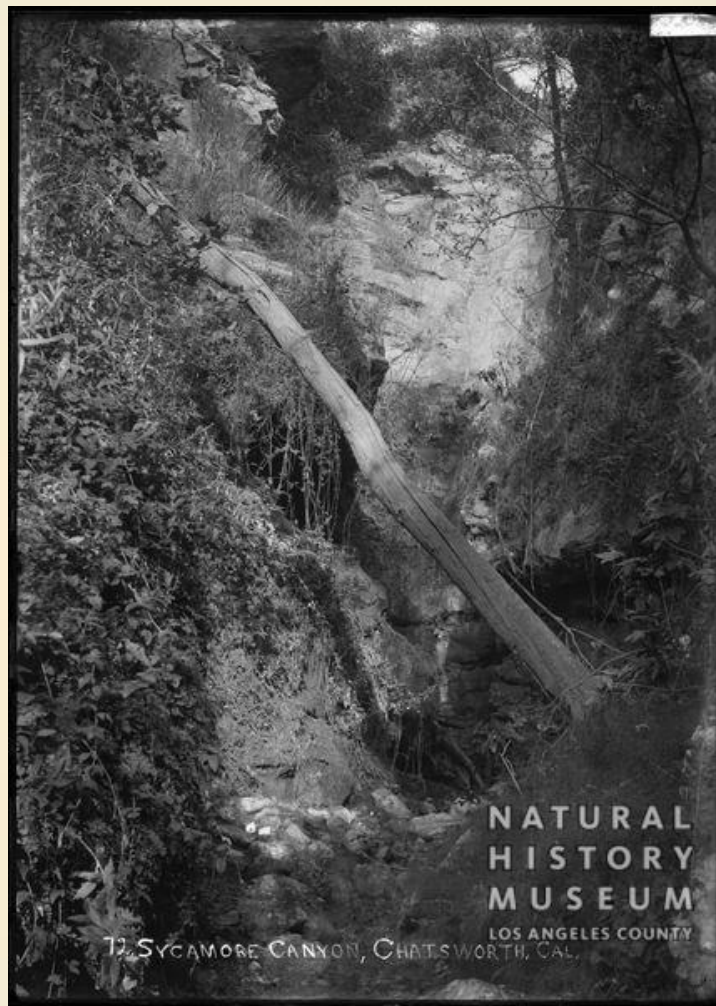
Southern Pacific Railroad train #76, the Lark, exits the east portal of Tunnel #26 in Santa Susana Pass in 1912. The overnight train was bound for Los Angeles from San Francisco and was due to arrive in the morning, usually around 9 am. The identified locomotive probably had a 4-6-2 wheel arrangement. The train is under the watchful eye of a man who may be a tunnel watchman as he stands by a small shelter.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912

- Unknown

- 72. Sycamore Canyon, Chatsworth, Cal.



Chatsworth Postcards 1912 - Unknown

- 73. Pasture Land, at Chatsworth, Cal.
- 75. Among the Live Oaks, at Chatsworth, Cal.



Sources/Acknowledgements

- Special thanks to local Chatsworth Historical Contributors for location identifications, anecdotes, and historical references:
 - Dennis Liff, Iverson ranch movie historian, and long time residents and researchers Ken Ditto and Reid Bogert.
- David Coscia, for providing a scan of Postcard 67 from his collection, and Railroad comments.
- Seaver Center for Western History Research, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, collection P029, Harry Frantz Rile Photographic Collection, 1880s-1940s
- Harry Frantz “H.F.” Rile Biography from the Seaver Center finding aid and other sources.
- Photographic archives and collections, Chatsworth Historical Society

Prepared by Ann & Ray Vincent, Chatsworth Historical Society, March 2019, revised Feb 2020

Appendix

Listing of H.F. Rile postcards, descriptions, collections

#	Category	Description	Seaver Collection	Not in Seaver Collection	Homesteader Collection	Private Collection
65	Andora	Rocky Point (Stoney Point)	x			
66	Andora	Scene at Chatsworth (Fan Palms Andora)	x			
68	Andora	Fan Palms (Andora)	x		Minnie Hill Palmer	
50	Iverson	Washington Rock	x			Linda van der Valk
58	Iverson	Scene Near Chatsworth (Williams/Johnson road)	x			
60	Iverson	Washington Rock	x			Linda van der Valk
70	Iverson	Scene at Chatsworth (Garden of the Gods Williams/Johnson Road)	x			
55	Lassen	Chatsworth Hotel	x			
59	Lassen	Arch of Trees (Lassen)	x		Shepler files	
61	Pass Road	Chatsworth from Old Stage Road	x		Iverson	
62	Lassen	Chatsworth (Graves & Hill)	x		Iverson, Iapl	
69	Lassen	Scene at Chatsworth (Hotel)	x			
51	Railroad	Chatsworth Tunnel	x			
52	Railroad	Chatsworth Tunnel	x			
53	Railroad	Near Chatsworth Tunnel		x	Iverson & Hill	
57	Railroad	SP Train Between Two Tunnels	x			
74	Railroad	The Big Chatsworth Tunnel	x			
72	Unknown	Sycamore Canyon	x			
73	Unknown	Pasture Land	x			
75	Unknown	Among the Live Oaks	x			
54		Unknown		x		
56		Unknown		x		
63		Unknown		x		
64	Pass Road	Santa Susanna Pass (1895 Grade Road)		x	Williams or Johnson Family?	
67	Pass Road	Santa Susanna Pass (1895 Grade Road)		x		David Coscia
71		Unknown		x		
		Total		19	7	
		Grand Total		26		