

## **Historic Site Markers**

**# 1. -- The Historic Civic Center on West Sixth Street, between Vicentia Street and Buena Vista Street, served as Corona's second high school from September 1923 to 1961 and as Corona's City Hall from 1962 to Spring 2005. The main building is set behind a beautifully landscaped lawn with a central fountain and mature evergreen trees to shade the site. The main building and east wing are built on raised basements. This two-story structure is built in Mediterranean – Spanish Revival style architecture, with various rectangular sections. There is a large sunburst window above the front doors. The auditorium at the center-rear of the building is characterized by the use of massive wood trusses to support the roof resting on reinforced pilasts. Classroom wings with covered breezeways extend to the east and west of the auditorium. The structure immediately to the east and south of the east wing of the main structure, was constructed in 1931 of reinforced concrete and was used for classrooms/library. A half-round second floor balcony on the south end above the library's ever present round "study hall" table and reading area. The balcony was accessed by a flattened arch doorway. Above the doorway is found a marvelous coat of arms characterized by an oval shield on the scroll edged escutcheon with the lamp of learning and an open book depicted. To each side of the escutcheon is found a student, a girl on the left, a boy on the right, each with an open book in his/her hands. This structure served as the City Manager's office for many years. The structure farther east was used for the school cafeteria, food preparation areas and the Domestic Science (home economics) Department. North of the home economics structure is the school gymnasium which has complementary architectural elements and remains in use at the present time with City Parks and Recreation athletic activities.**

**The main building was originally built in 1922 and opened for use in 1923. It was designed by noted Riverside architect G. Stanley Wilson. It was built by Cresmer Manufacturing Co. The three arches over the recessed entry are embellished with columns, cornices and various moldings. Fourteen (14) ornate low relief carvings/castings appear below the second floor balconet railings above the entrance, and also on the side windows. Three themes (learning, natural sciences and fine arts) are repeated in these scroll edged escutcheon castings. A symmetrical shield with point at the bottom, a flaming torch at the top and a scroll and open book represent learning. The natural sciences are depicted on an irregular shaped shield and represented by a globe, various engineering or astronomical measuring instruments and the sun, moon and stars. Fine Arts are represented on an oval shield by an**

artist's palette and brushes, the capital (top) of an ionic column representing architecture and a partially rolled fabric or paper on which drawings or paintings may be made. Six of these castings symmetrically highlight double arched second story windows corresponding to the open arches at the recessed front entry. Two escutcheons are located on the second story single window balconets to the left and right of the entry. Three escutcheons are located on the balconets of the triple windows located on the sides of the main entry façade. Under the eaves, characterized by sculpted rafter tails, are large oval vents with decorative vertical spindles. The central hip roof is covered with clay tile, the east and west end sections of the roof are gabled and are also covered with clay tile.

Marker Plaque placed July 2, 1996 as a part of Corona's centennial celebration.

- # 2. -- The "First Church" in South Riverside was a small wooden structure built, where the congregational doctrine was used but all faiths were welcome. It was built in 1888, on land donated by the South Riverside Land and Water Company, on the corner of Eighth and Ramona Streets. The current, commanding, Tudor Revival structure replaced it in 1911. The building features beautiful Tiffany stained glass windows on three sides, fine brick and granite masonry, two towers, and in traditional Tudor fashion, steep gables and half timbering. The sanctuary includes a cantilevered balcony, a large circular stained glass window, and Corona's first pipe organ (a Robert Morgan pipe organ installed in 1928) that is still in use. The First Congregational Church, at the southeast corner of Eighth and Ramona Streets at 809 S. Ramona remains a fixture in Corona's downtown. It was designed by noted California architect, Norman Foote Marsch. Marker Plaque placed July 1996 as a part of Corona's centennial celebration.
- # 3. -- The location near East Sixth Street and Howard Street where, in 1913, Marshal G. C. Alexander, the only Corona peace officer to be killed in the line of duty, was shot and killed. (monument was designed and built by Life Scout Blaine Winn, Troop 533, as his Eagle Project). Monument and Marker placed July 10, 1996, as a part of Corona's centennial celebration.
- # 4. -- Thomas Jefferson Elementary School was built in 1927 at Tenth and Vicentia Streets and was recognized in 1998 for continuously educating the children of Corona for over 70 years. The earliest permanent structures are built in Mediterranean – Spanish Revival style architecture. The administration building, built in 1927, and the Library wing, built in 1931, were designed by noted Riverside architect G. Stanley Wilson. (monument was designed and built by Life Scout Kirt Smith, Team 533, as his Eagle Project). Monument and Marker placed March 13, 1998.
- # 5. -- The site of the first Corona Fire Station, built in 1898, is at the northeast corner of South Main Street and Eighth Street. A brass fire hydrant and

marble faced monument marks the site. (monument was designed and built by Life Scout Christopher Jensen, Troop 251, as his Eagle Project). Monument with bronze fire hydrant and granite marker plaques placed October 2, 1998.

- # 6. – Site of the first and second Lincoln School campuses occupied the current Victoria Park site from 1889 to 1950; The first structure was a two-story Victorian masonry structure with a large bell tower near Tenth Street. A portion of the second Lincoln School building, facing Howard Street, near Ninth Street still remains at the park. (projects to raise funds for the marker and placement of the marker were coordinated by Life Scout Vess Pearson, Troop 233, as his Eagle Project). Monument and Marker on the south end of the remaining building were placed November 7, 1998.
- # 7. – The *Hotel Del Rey* opened on the southwest corner of Sixth Street and Victoria Avenue on March 15, 1904. It was built as a two-story structure by Corona pioneer woman Ida B. Frazier and received Corona's first telephone line. In 1907 it was made into a three-story structure by raising the original two stories and constructing a first story beneath. Over the years the hotel had many names, including the President, Hart, Californian, Centennial, Colonial and ultimately, the Victoria Hotel. The hotel structure was saved from demolition by the Society in 1998 with the assistance of Bank of America and was disassembled for relocation and restoration at Corona Heritage Park. (monument was provided by Bank of America). Monument and Bronze Marker placed May 7, 1999. Granite marker replaced stolen bronze marker in 2009.)
- # 8. – Corona's first General Hospital was a two-story flat roofed, plastered structure located in the 800 block of South Main Street from 1933 to 1963. The parking lot for Corona Regional Medical Center currently occupies the site. (monument was designed and built by Life Scout Scott Milligan, Troop 533, as his Eagle Project). Monument and Marker placed November 6, 1999.
- # 9. – Corona's first High School, a two-story plus basement architectural gem built in the Greek Revival style in 1907, once stood on South Main Street, between Grand Boulevard and Olive Street. In 1923 the site became Corona's first Junior High School. In 1941 the original building was demolished. The site is currently the campus of the Corona Fundamental Intermediate School. (projects to raise funds for the marble Marker, and placement of the marker were coordinated by Life Scout Robert Skaggs, Troop 233 as his Eagle Project). Granite Marker Plaque placed May 12, 2000.
- # 10. – The single-most significant events occurring in Corona in the 20<sup>th</sup> century were the world-class Road Races of 1913, 1914, and 1916 that were run on the circular Grand Boulevard roadway. A circular raised monument, on the south side of Grand Boulevard marks the location of the Start/Finish line, just west of Main Street, near the intersection with

**Washburn Street.** (monument was designed and built by Life Scout Scott Brown, Team 533, as his Eagle Project). Bronze marker placed in the ground October 18, 1986 as part of centennial celebration of the founding of South Riverside (Corona's first name) and elevated to circular above ground monument March 23, 2002.

- # 11. – The First Baptist Church, at the northwest corner of South Main and Eighth Streets was organized in 1891. The first structure, was built in 1895 and served until January 24, 1937, when a fire destroyed the main building. The existing chapel structure, built in 1938, remains in use. (monument was designed and built by Life Scout Josh Lang, Troop 54, as his Eagle Project). Monument and Marker placed January 27, 2005.**
- # 12. -- The Corona Foothill Lemon Company home ranch headquarters located at 510 West Foothill Parkway (formerly near the corner of old Chase Drive and Taylor Streets) celebrates Corona's rich citrus heritage. The Hampton house and the company store structure remain in use as a part of the Corona Heritage Park and Museum. (monument was designed and built by Life Scout Barret Roloson, Troop 107, as his Eagle Project). Masonry monument with irrigation water valve and bronze marker placed October 15, 2005.**
- # 13 – The Santa Fe Railroad Depot in Corona, built in the Spanish Revival style is located at 150 Depot Drive (formerly Railroad Street), south of the Santa Fe railroad tracks and just west of the Main Street over-crossing of the tracks, celebrates both the first (1897 – 1937) Victorian style and second (1937 to present) depot structures marking the arrival point for passengers and settlers and the departure point for Corona's citrus harvest. (building exterior was refurbished and granite marker plaque was provided and installed by Life Scout Cameron Blair, Troop 399 as his Eagle Project) Granite Marker Plaque was placed March 5, 2007.**
- # 14 – The Corona Woman's Improvement Clubhouse, located at 1101 Main Street (the southeast corner of South Main and Eleventh Streets) was built in Craftsman style after the fashion of a Welsh Church, in 1913 and is the oldest secular assembly building in Corona. Marker was placed April 28, 2009.**