



EAGLE ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter, 2017

50 Great Maps Showing Los Angeles History, Including Eagle Rock

The Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society will present Glen Creason of the LA Public Library Tuesday, February 21 at 7:00 at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock, 2225 Colorado Blvd. Admission is free and all are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Mr. Creason has been the map librarian for the Los Angeles Public Library for the past twenty-seven years and a reference librarian in the History department since 1979. He is recognized as the leading expert on Los Angeles' history as shown in historic maps. We expect a lively and visual presentation.

He was a co-curator of the landmark map exhibit "Los Angeles Unfolded" in 2009 and in October of 2010 he published the book "Los Angeles in Maps" for Rizzolli International. He has written about local history, maps

and popular culture for local publications including the Downtown News, Mercators World, the Public Historian, the Communicator the Los Angeles Times and Edible Ojai. He blogs weekly on maps for Los Angeles Magazine and is a contributor on research topics for the Huffington Post.

He is a native Angeleno, UCLA grad, born and raised in South Gate and now living in Glassell Park. Besides maps, he likes native plants, cats, baseball and his only daughter, Katya.

Maps tell stories in ways that are only possible by visual means. Relationships between geography, political entities, infrastructure and other information can be told clearly and simply. The stories told visually would require many words and the word picture

would still be difficult to quickly understand. The two maps of Eagle Rock and its surroundings in the center of this issue show my effort to encapsulate the early and modern history of our valley in an easily-understood visual manner. They were produced as overlays of historic maps bookending the book, "Eagle Rock."

Mr. Creason will use the maps he will present in much the same manor showing the development of our contemporary city in the context of the unchanging geography of the region. We are reminded in times of changing weather and politics that all of our human endeavors take place in a context of geography and history. Expect things that you may have found puzzling in the past to become clearer as you see changes take place visually through the power of mapping.

**50 GREAT MAPS showing the HISTORY OF L.A.
including EAGLE ROCK
with GLEN CREASON of the L.A. LIBRARY**

**Eagle Rock Valley
Historical Society**

**Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock 2225 Colorado
Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 Free and Open to All**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
EAGLEROCKHISTORY.ORG**

President's Message

To all our members and friends, we wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

The Board of ERVHS is busy planning for another year of activity. Besides our popular Ice Cream Social, which will be held this year on Sunday, August 6th, we will be having three other gatherings open to the public, featuring guest speakers on subjects related to our community history. The first event will be on February 21st with a presentation by Glen Creason of the Los Angeles Library on historic maps of Los Angeles, including Eagle Rock (see page 3 & 4). Future meetings are scheduled for April 18th and October 17th. Mark your calendars and watch our newsletter for details.

Speaking of calendars, the turning of the year marks a milestone for recording the passage of time and documenting people and events as to their place in history. For example, this is being written on the day of the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States. Whether you are blue or red (or perhaps in this case orange) the events leading up to today that signal a change of national policy will be of obvious historic importance. In history, some dates take on a meaning of their own, like the 4th of July or November 11th and others, December 7, 1941 or 9/11, are considered infamous. Most often the specific date of some events that over time have historic significance may not be readily evident. An article in today's Los Angeles Times by Christi Parsons (Obama is desert-bound, Los Angeles Times; page A9, 1/20/2017) stated that according to a close friend, President Obama believes that the exact scope of influence (of his term in office) is still taking shape and that the President himself is contemplating "what this time means in the greater arc of history." Historic consequences are not always obvious and may not be apparent for some years to come. This is true on the national and worldwide level but probably even more so on the local level. Therefore, as the community historical society, it is important that we not only maintain and research old documents but also continue to collect

contemporary material that documents community happenings. This enables future generations to evaluate which events and people living today may be viewed as historically significant in the future.

Eagle Rock is fortunate to have extensive archives of historic material and we continue to gather new information to document our community's history. As a reminder, our archives are open, with the exception of holidays and some summer weekends, each Saturday of the month from 10AM to 12 noon. Archival material is available for research to all active members. If you would like to use the archives and you are not a member, simply joining at the minimum level will give you that privilege.

Frank Parrello

The objectives of the Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society

- to preserve, clarify through research and to perpetuate the history of Eagle Rock Valley
- to make this history available to students, researchers, libraries and all interested persons
- to preserve and protect our local landmarks, especially the Eagle Rock

Membership is open to all who would further these objectives

**Public Archive Hours 10 to 12 every Saturday
at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock
2225 Colorado Blvd. Eagle Rock CA 90041
for information call 323-257-1357**

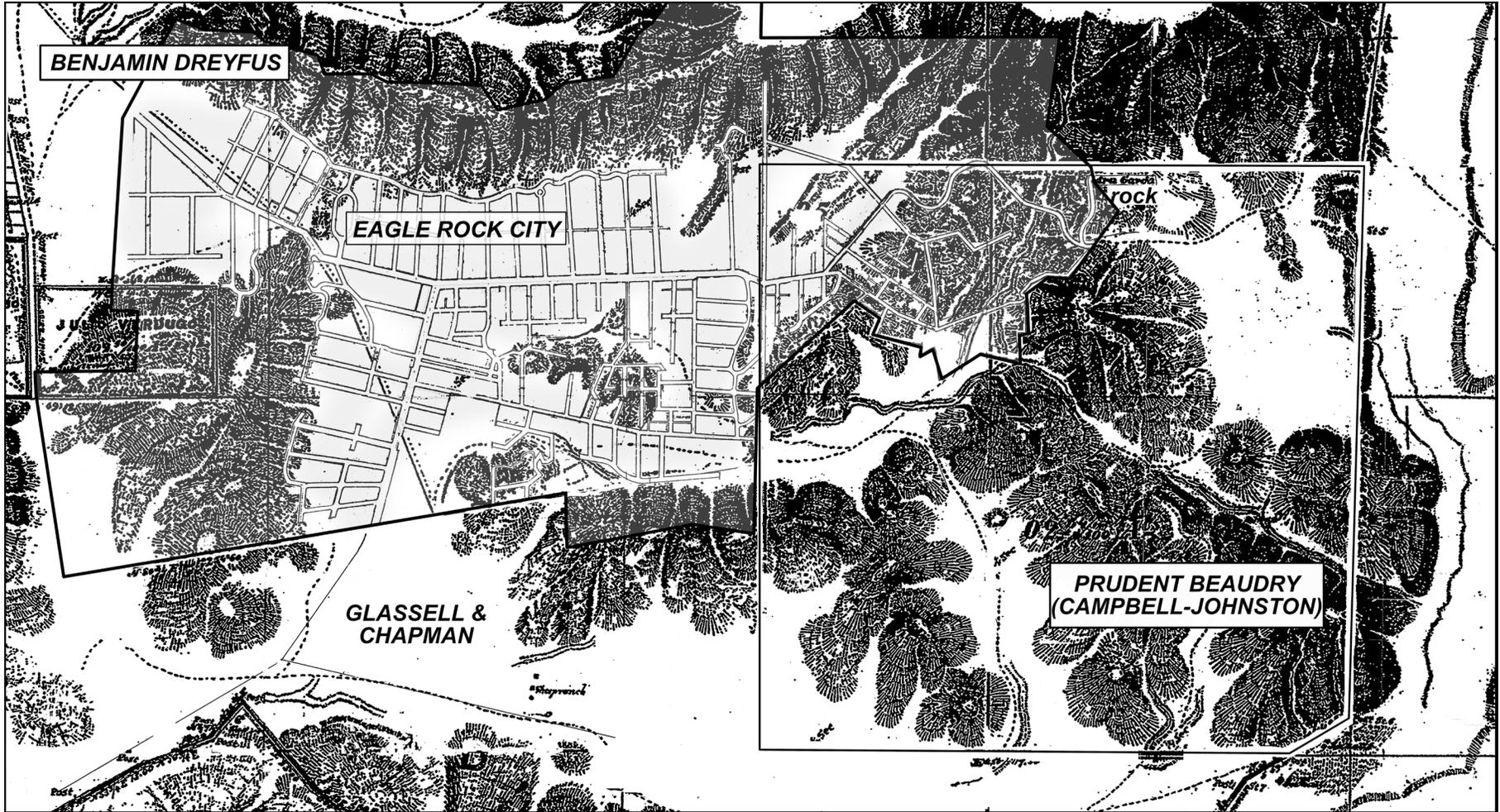
**This journal is published quarterly by
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Editor, Eric Warren
Layout, David Mc Nutt
Contributors, Katie Taylor, David Dellinger, Eric Warren**

**Visit our website at:
eaglerockhistory.org**

It's time to renew your membership. If you have already paid your 2017 dues, thank you. If not, please take a moment and mail your check now. If we have not heard from you, a dues form and envelope are included with this newsletter.

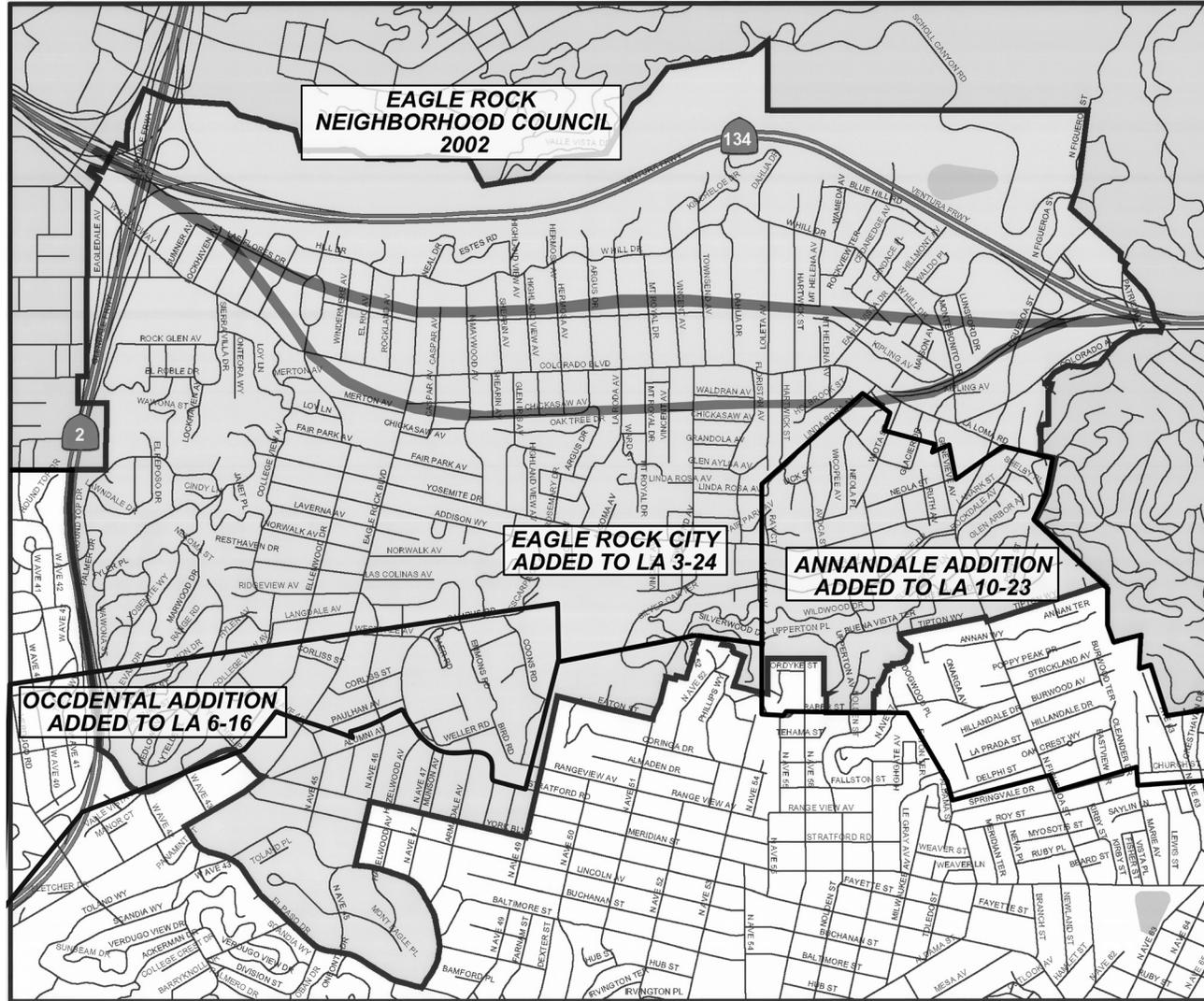
Thanks, we depend on you.

Our Town, Our History



The Rancho San Raphael and the City of Eagle Rock The underlying map is of the Rancho at the time of the great partition in 1871. After a long passage through the courts the ownership of Julio and Catalina Verdugo's land was decided and Julio's debt was discharged by the division and sale of his land. The geography of the area can be clearly seen. Overlaid is the City of Eagle Rock at its incorporation in 1911. The names of the streets are now all different but the basic pattern was in place.

Our Town, Our History



Is that in Eagle Rock? It's a more complicated question than most realize. The map shows the border of Eagle Rock City, which was incorporated from 1911 to 1924. Parts of the Annandale and Occidental Additions have generally been said to be "in Eagle Rock" The Neighborhood Council process outlined a somewhat larger area in 2002, but some parts of the City have been demolished and some isolated by Freeway construction. The thick grey lines are the freeway routes proposed in 1951, they resulted in a fifteen-year struggle for our town's existence.

It's Kate Pedigo: 1911-2016

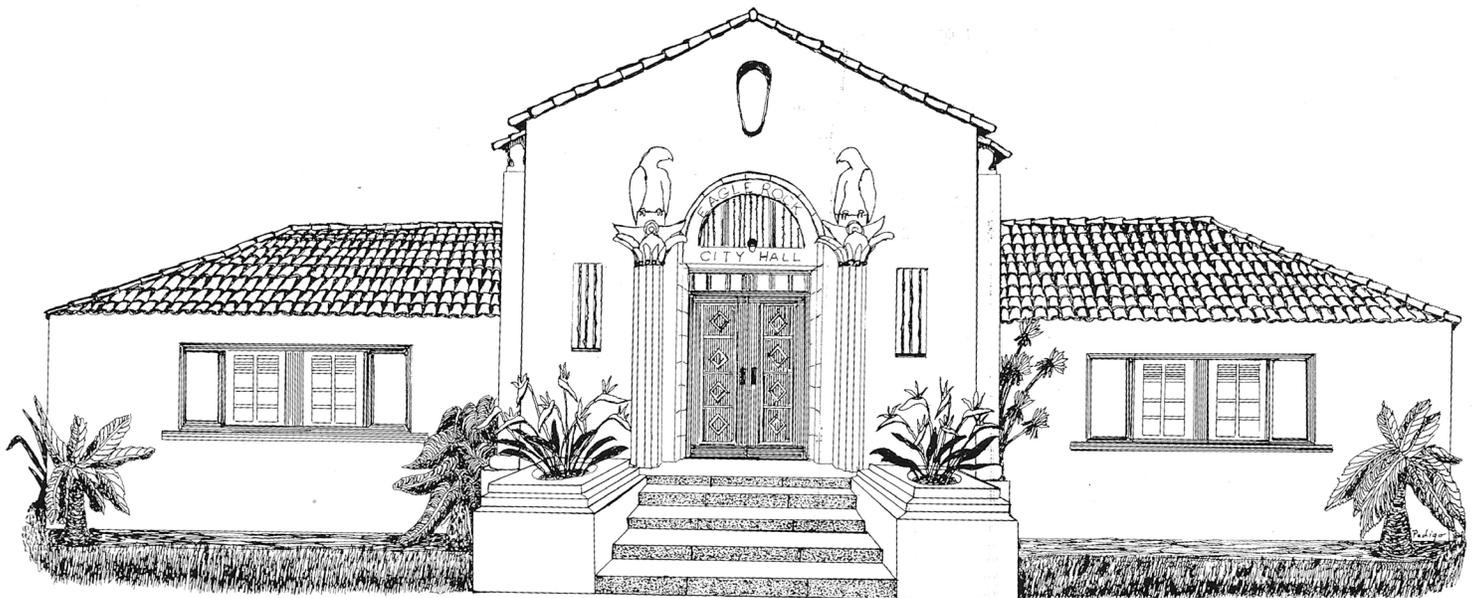
Kathryn Jeanette Pedigo moved to Eagle Rock in 1965 when she was 54 years old. She had lost her husband, Tex, after a 29-year marriage. Born in Joliet, Illinois on August 2nd, 1911, Kate grew up good at math and sewing. She graduated high school in 1929 and, after taking chemistry for three years, volunteered in hospitals in Louisville and Chicago to learn about working in their labs. She went on to work as a file clerk at a bank for three more years. She was encouraged to travel to Los Angeles for vacation. The day she stepped off the train she met Tex Pedigo, a Yellow Cab taxi driver, and eventually the Vice President of the company. They were engaged three days later.

Tex and Kate had an adventurous marriage, traveling the Alaska Highway 18 times in their 1941 Coupe. She visited all 50 states, had traveled from St. Petersburg, Russia to Australia and from the Arctic Ocean to the Strait of Magellan.

At age 60, with the encouragement of friends, Kate took up drawing and painting seriously, ap-

plying to the Otis Art Institute. Her naive style was dismissed, "So you can't draw either." But she persisted, continuing on to create art for the next 20 plus years. She was known as Eagle Rock's "Grandma Moses." Her art can be seen today hanging in our City Hall building, part of a series of murals of Eagle Rock's history painted in 1982. She was also the organizer of this ambitious project. Her organizational skills benefited the Chamber of Commerce and the Blue Ribbon Committee formed to repurpose the former library, now the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock. When Eagle Rock celebrated the centennial of its cityhood (1911-1923), Kate was celebrating her 100th birthday. She was the natural choice to be the Grand Marshall for the centennial parade.

In 1992, she moved to Leisure World in Seal Beach when she inherited an apartment there from a friend. She lived there until her passing on December 14th, 2016, at the age of 105. Her legacy is large and she will be missed.



"EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL" ©
HISTORICAL MONUMENT # 59
Home of the Eagle Rock Murals.

by KATE PEDIGO
Eagle Rock, Ca.



001 2017, APRIL 18, 2:00
 001 2017, APRIL 18, 2:00
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TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017 2:00

PRESENTED BY GALEN WILKES

LOS ANGELES RAGTIME!!

TUESDAY, FEB. 21, 2017, 7:00

50 MAPS OF LOS ANGELES

GLEN CREASON:

at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock
 2225 Colorado Blvd. Eagle Rock CA, 90041



Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Membership Category:

Individual \$20
 Business \$35
 New
 Family \$25
 Life \$300
 Renewal

Will you help with the ongoing activities of the ERVHS ?

Yes No
 Archives Newsletter Oral history
 Meetings Fundraising E-mail me
 Publicity Displays to help

Other _____

Clip and mail to : **ERVHS**
c/o Center for the Arts
2225 Colorado Blvd.
Eagle Rock, CA 90041

Date _____

The Member's Corner

Bradley Peacock



Born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Bradley moved to Georgia as a baby and grew up in Senoia. For college, he didn't move far, attending the University of West Georgia where he studied history and education. His dreams of becoming a high school teacher changed after volunteering in the archeology lab where his love for handling artifacts, working with data, and curating exhibitions grew.

An opportunity arose and Bradley found himself teaching English in Korea for three years before returning to the University of West Georgia to finish his grad degree in Public History. While finishing his degree, he has fond memories of living on an historic 1889 farm with his dogs. He became Interim Collections Manager in the archeology lab and also Assistant Curator at the Atlanta History Center after initially interning there. He is currently the Curator of the Hermosa Beach Museum, as of this month. Congrats!

Bradley and his girlfriend bought a home in Garvanza in 2016. He is very interested in the history of North East LA. "I'd like to see the Society work with the community on the uniqueness of Eagle Rock and the NELA in general," he told me. Fortuitously, Bradley came to our public meeting last fall and now he is our newest board member! We are so grateful to have his expertise. Thank you for moving here Bradley!

-Katie Taylor