

**1** City Hall and Library Building, 704 Pier View Way. Built in 1934 this building was designed by Irving Gill. The \$100,00 building was dedicated Dec. 19, 1934. The City Hall building remains a testimony to Gill's simple and modernistic approach to architecture.



**2** The Oceanside Fire Station, adjacent to City Hall was also designed by Irving Gill. It was later renamed the Walter Johnson Fire Station after a long time beloved fire chief. Built in 1929.



**2a** Oceanside Police Station, 305 North Nevada. It also housed the City Court and jail, located upstairs. It is now the home of the Oceanside Historical Society. Built in 1929.



**3** St. Mary Star of the Sea Church, 609 Pier View Way, is an excellent example of the Mission Revival architecture. Constructed in 1927, it replaced an 1896 church that was moved and restored at 1510 Lemon Street in the historic Eastside Neighborhood.



**4** The Bank of Italy, 202 No. Coast Highway, was built in 1927 and opened 1928. It was designed by noted L.A. architects Morgan, Walls and Clement. The Bank of Italy later became Bank of America.



**5** The First National Bank of Oceanside, 201 North Coast Highway, was built in 1925. It replaced an earlier bank building built in 1887 that housed the library, city hall and private offices. This building remained a bank until the Great Depression. It later housed a five and dime store, as well as a men's wear store.



**6** The J.E. Jones Hardware store at 501 Mission Avenue was completed in 1913. Jones, a farmer in the San Luis Rey valley, sold farm implements, hardware and household items. It was later Howe's Hardware and eventually became Huckabay's Department Store for many years. The Silver Slipper ballroom, a popular spot in the 1940s, was located upstairs.



**7** The IOOF building was built in 1924. The Independent of Odd Fellows Oceanside Lodge No. 346 meetings were held upstairs while the downstairs was used as the City Hall. In 1929 the JC Penny Company leased the downstairs for their department store for 40 years.



**8** This building at 517 Seagaze was Oceanside's first permanent post office. Dedicated in January of 1936 it was a WPA project, one of several in Oceanside. Louis Simon aided in the design. A mural of the San Luis Rey valley, painted by Elise Seeds, (also a WPA project) graces the interior. One other WPA project is the wooden Coat of Arms over the doorway, completed by Stuart Holmes in 1936.



**9** One of the oldest buildings in Oceanside, 625 Seagaze, was built in 1886 as the Congregational Church. The Methodists purchased the building in 1898 and called it home for decades. The fellowship hall (west side) was added on in 1958.



**10** The First Christian Church, 204 South Freeman, was built in 1928. The congregation is the oldest in North County, forming in 1875. The beautiful stain glass windows are dedicated to those early charter members who lived in the San Luis Rey Valley.



**11** The Keisker Hotel at 133 South Coast Highway was built in 1927. Touting steam heat and hot and cold running water to every room, it was AAA recommended. The hotel catered to travelers on their way from Los Angeles to Del Mar, San Diego and Tijuana. It was renamed the Dewitt Hotel by the 1940s, later the Dolphin Hotel and now named The Fin.



**12** The Oceanside-Blade Tribune Building at 401 Seagaze was the last project renowned architect Irving Gill completed before his death in 1936. It was commissioned by the newspaper's owners, Harold and Paul Beck. Born into an Iowa newspaper publishing family, the brothers in 1929 became the youngest publishers in the State of California.



**13** While the historic name is the Henry Graves' residence, most longtime residents refer to this home on North Pacific as the "Top Gun" house because it was used in the popular 1986 movie starring Tom Cruise. The house was built in 1887.



**14** The Rorick Homes built in 1906 and 1913 are of the Craftsman style. The homes were designed by David Rorick, Sr., former city attorney who came to Oceanside from Lawrence, Kansas. David Rorick, Sr. and his family lived at 110 South Pacific and his father lived at 108 South Pacific. David Rorick, Jr. owner of Rorick Buick and civic leader was born in the family home in 1913.



**15** Oceanside's bandshell was built in 1950. The first of 4 bandshells was built in 1919. A stage for the Miss Southern California Beauty Contests, concerts, beach openings, this current bandshell was even used in the 2000 movie "Bring It On" starring Kirsten Dunst.



**16** The Oceanside Pier, our 6th was built in 1987. Our first pier was constructed in 1888 and was located at the end of Wisconsin Street. In 1894, the pier was rebuilt at the present location. Other piers were built in 1903, 1927 and 1947. The concrete approach, ramp and stairs were built in 1927.



**17** The George P. McKay building at 302 Pier View was completed in 1908. McKay moved from his previous location at the corner of Mission and Cleveland. The first floor of this building housed a general merchandise store carrying a wide variety of items.



**18** Theodore C. Bunker purchased this property in 1885 from J. Chauncey Hayes and erected this 2-story brick structure at 322 North Cleveland Street in 1886. Known as the Bunker House it was a family residence as well as a boarding house. After Mr. Bunker's untimely death the family moved to L.A. Years later it was renamed the Traveler's Hotel. The building is said to have a colorful history, from the stabbing death of one of its owners to the years of use by prostitutes. It is the oldest remaining brick commercial/residential structure in Oceanside.



# HISTORY

## OCEANSIDE Historical Society

★ **Museum Location: 305 North Nevada St.**  
**Open Wednesday-Friday 10 am to 2 pm**

