

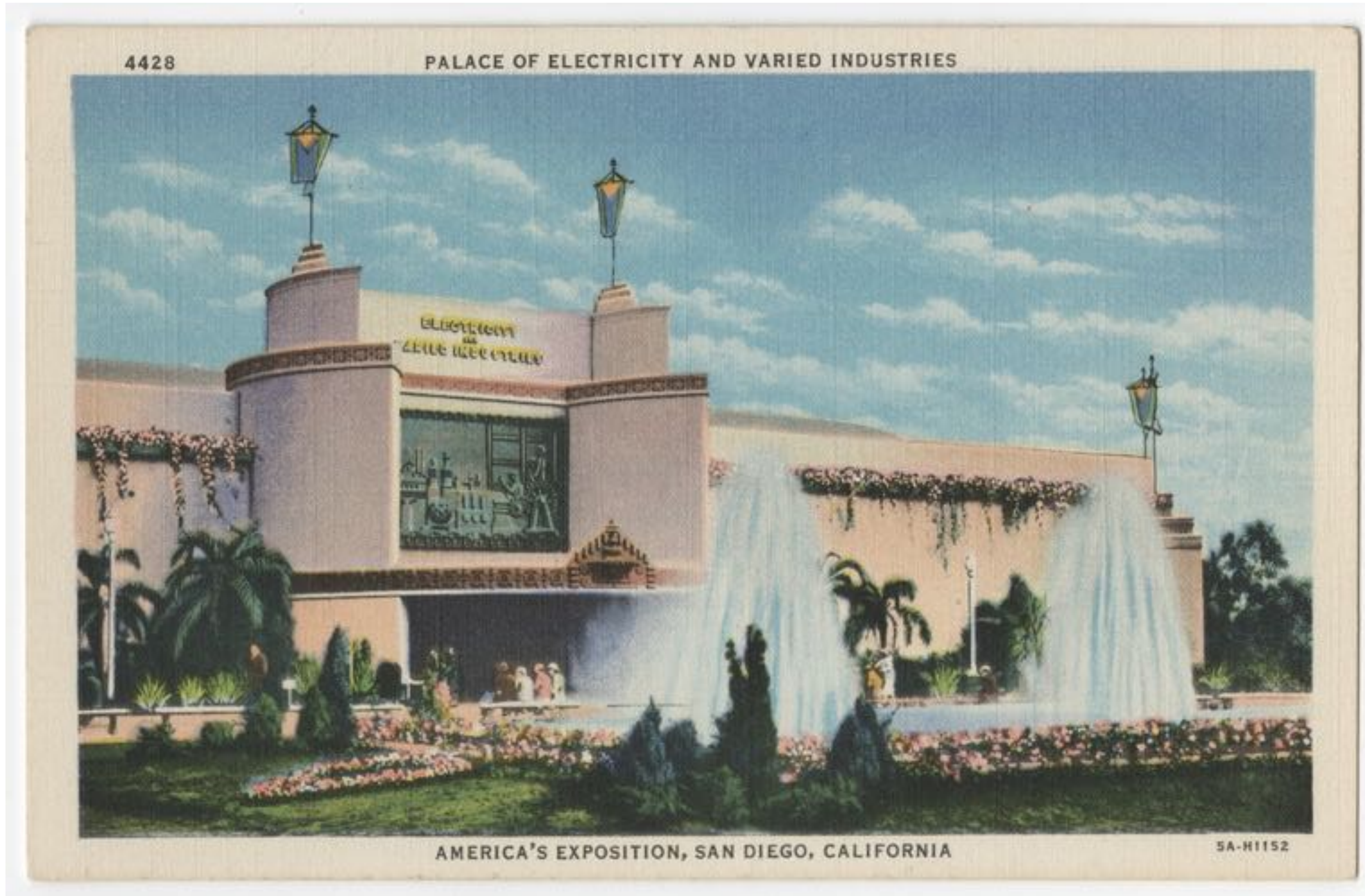
Palace of Electricity & Varied Industries/Municipal Gym Restoration

Balboa Park Committee of 100 presentation to
Balboa Park Committee, Sept. 2, 2021

Roger Showley, Kevin Carpenter - C100

Palace of Electricity & Varied Industries, 1935

California Pacific International Exposition



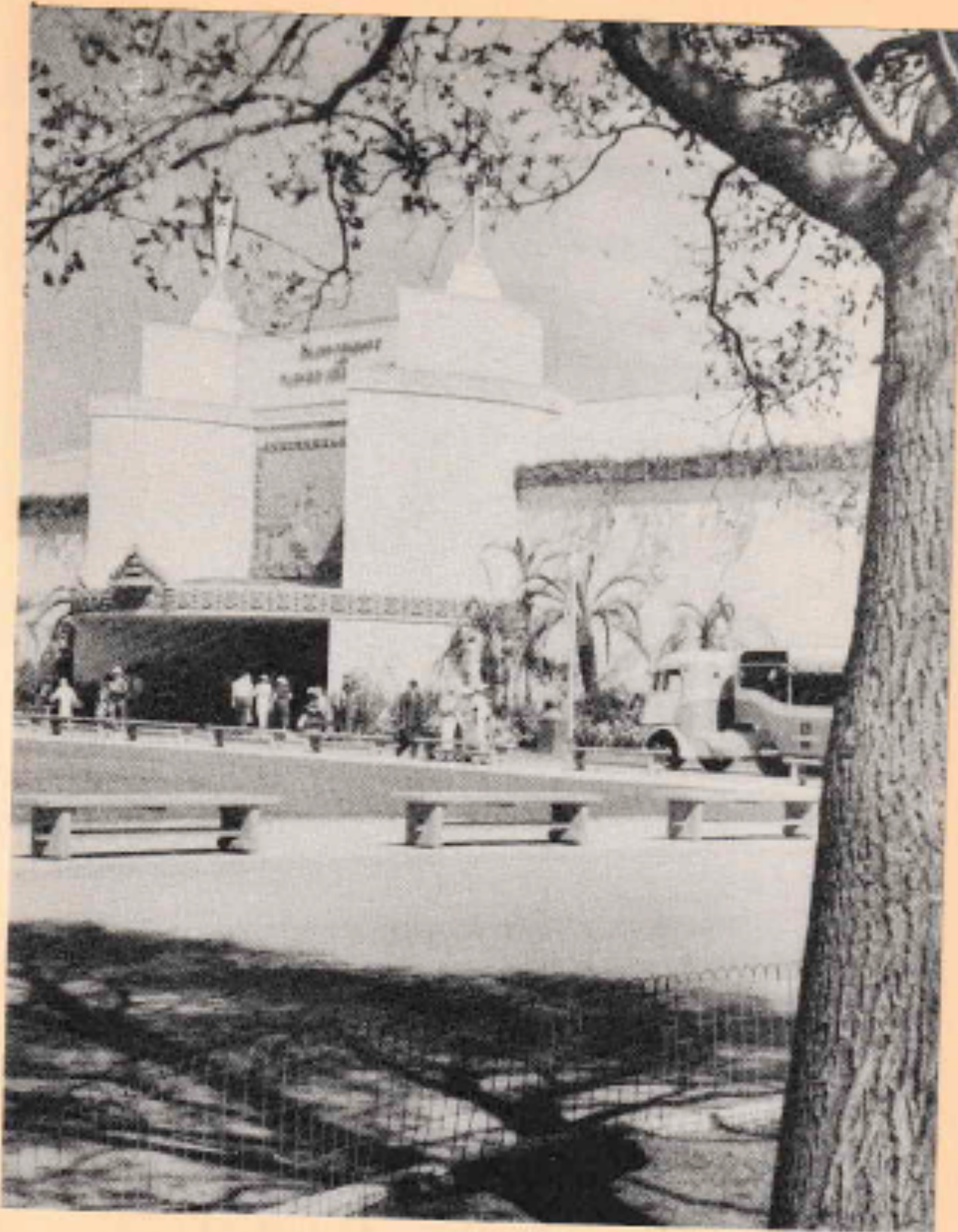


Key decorative features:

- Bas-relief, 13x22 ft.
- Ornamental panels, 82
- Terrazzo-like entry feature
- "Bagel" paint color

Richard Requa vision

"Stimulating appeal to the eye"



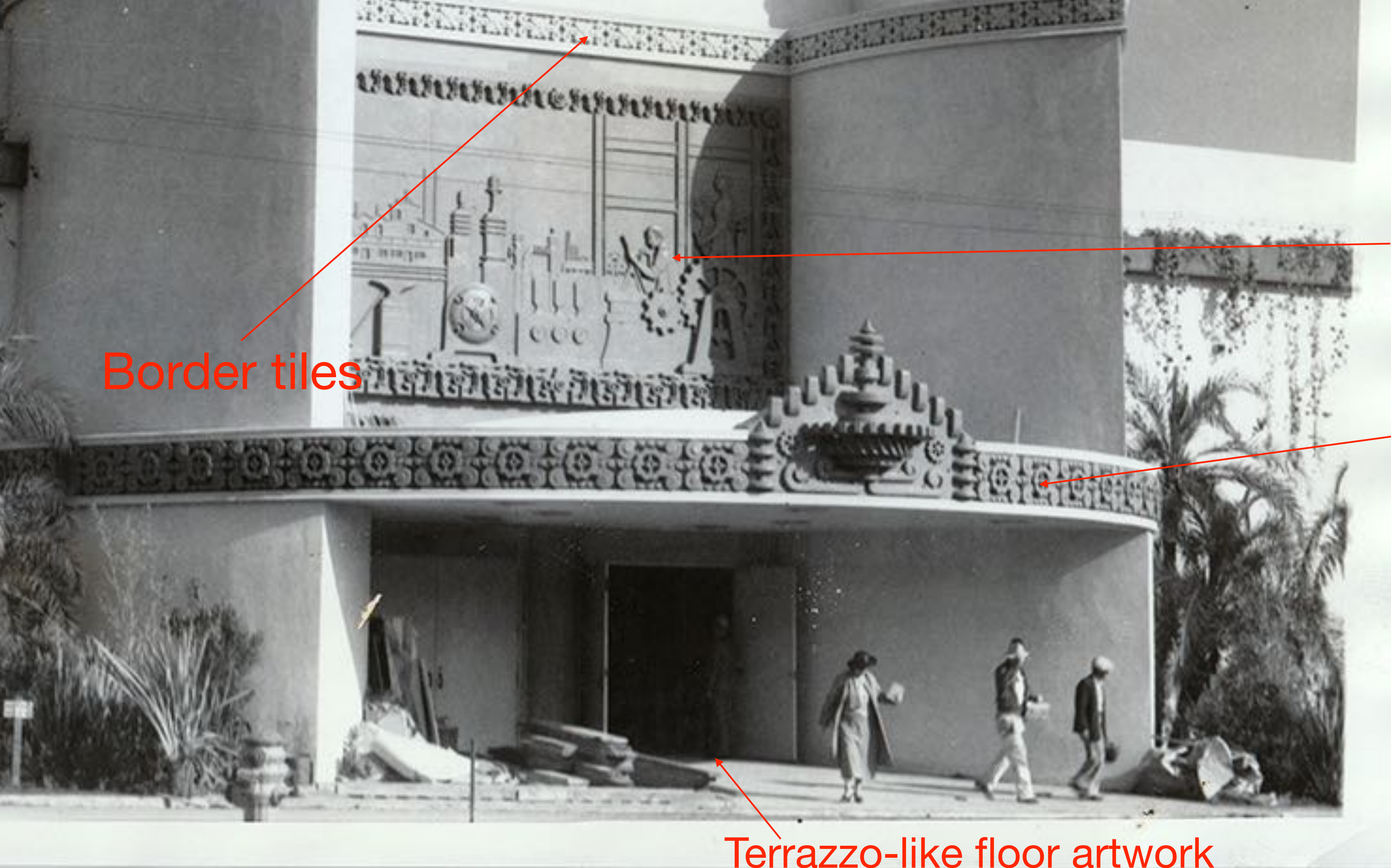
PALACE OF ELECTRICITY AND VARIED INDUSTRIES, main entrance, a modern development of prehistoric American architecture.

THE ARCHITECTURE
1915 Exposition presented a fascinating and more or less complete story of monumental architecture in Southwestern America from the time of its discovery to the end of Spanish domination.

In considering the general architectural scheme for the 1935 Exposition, I was determined that this original and inspired idea of Mr. Goodhue's must be carried on. The buildings should further illustrate the architectural story of the Southwest. To introduce an alien note would be a desecration of a beautifully conceived and executed plan.

However, in building an Exposition, the dominant consideration must be the Public. It must always be borne in mind that an Exposition is primarily a show, stimulating in appeal to the eye and the imagination, and that originality and the spectacular are essential in order to catch and hold the attention. No matter how perfectly one may express an architectural truth, if that expression lacks the dramatic, the unusual and the striking effect . . . it is doomed to failure.

In my search for a style that would combine novelty, beauty and authenticity and yet remain in historical harmony with the old buildings, I turned, for ideas and inspiration, to the prehistoric and native architecture of the Southwest, studying the Indian Pueblos and the architecture developed to such a wonderful state of perfection in Mexico and Yucatan by those mysterious early inhabitants, the Aztecs and the Mayas. It is interesting to consider that while Imperial Rome was expressing its highest cultural achievements, putting its indelible marks upon history in the form of edifices of



Border tiles

Bas-relief

Marquee

Terrazzo-like floor artwork

At the Expo, 1935-36

	Palace of Electricity and Varied Industries	
19		
20A		
6	Airway Electric Appliance Corp.	Electrical Appliances 16
32	American Potash and Chemical Co.	Chemical Products 3
17	Belgian Art Gallery.....	Belgian Art 29
21	Bureau of Power & Light.	Electrical Appliances 20
3	Bureau of Power & Light.	Electrical Appliances NE Cor.
15	California General Electric Appliance Distributors	Electrical Appliances NE Cor.
34	Clevelin Realty Corp.....	Recreational Properties 14
12	Collier's Violin Shop.....	Violins 13
33	Comer, E. Clarke.....	Real Estate 6
4	General Cable Corp.....	Cables 21
13	General Electric House of Magic	Electrical Appliances NE Cor.
30	Linares, Abelardo	Toledo Ware from Spain 37
24	Pacific Wire Products....	Wire Products 11
y	San Diego Fire Equipment Co.	Fire Equipment 12
5-6	Simms & Pascoe.....	Abalone Art 7
Patio	Southern California Edison Co.	Electrical Appliances NE Cor.
17-18	Union Oil Co.....	Petroleum Products 8 to 10
to 16	Western Sugar Refinery..	Honey Dew Sugar 5
7	White Sewing Machines...	Sewing Machines 1 to 3

ELECTRIC 'MIRACLES' TO BE SEEN AT EXPO 'HOUSE OF MAGIC'

\$50,000 DISPLAY IS SPONSORED BY 4 WESTERN FIRMS

(Continued from Page 1)

performs many intricate tricks, and other electrical phenomena. Also housed in the exhibit will be model rooms demonstrating the uses of electricity for everything around the home from air conditioning to bathing the dog. Another feature will be a model of Boulder dam, 53 feet long, with fresh water running through the reservoir and spillways.

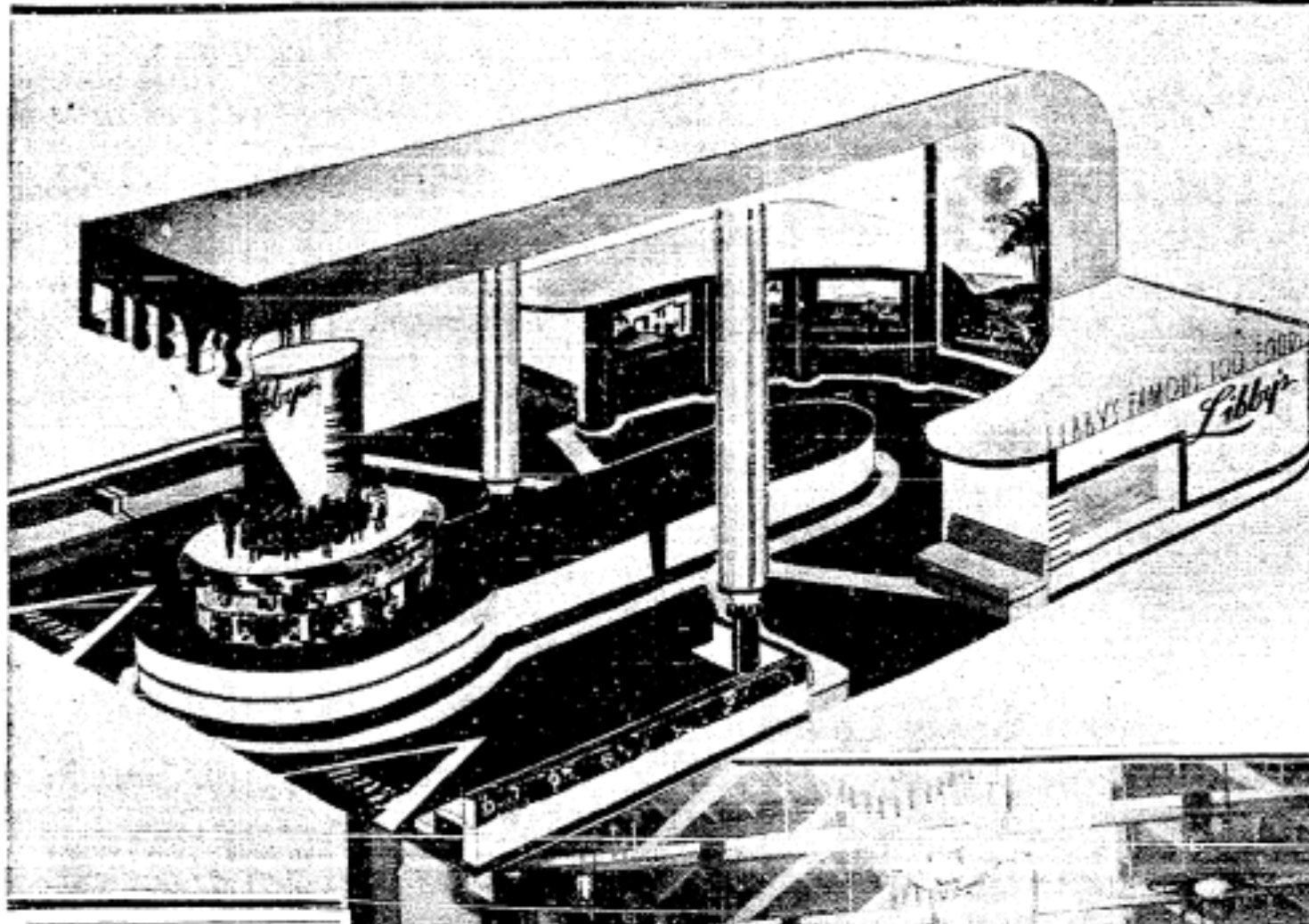
Throughout the exhibit palaces, workmen are busy on the various shows, which will take as many different shapes as there are booths. Some are built to front along walks, others have constructed complete buildings inside the Palace.

Among those where building was started yesterday were the Eastman Kodak Co. and the Libby, McNeill and Libby booths.

Dioramas Featured
Seven large dioramas are featured in the exhibit of the tanning company, showing the growing of many of the products. Artists have asserted that the dioramas are the most beautiful and realistic ever brought to the coast. They were built at a cost of \$1500 each. In the center of the display a mechanical marionette show, in which the actors are caricatured as vegetables, will go on all the time. Synchronized records supply the words spoken by the characters.

Coinciding with the announcement of the activity in the exhibit installation, Harry P. Harrison, head of the admissions department,

FAIR BOOTHS TO CONTAIN THOUSANDS OF ODDITIES



EARL ROSENBERG TO DIRECT EXPO CHORAL GROUPS

Appointment of Dr. Earl Rosenberg as director of choral activities for the Exposition was announced yesterday by department of music officials.

Dr. Rosenberg has assumed his duties and will conduct first try-outs and rehearsals in the Lincoln school at 7:30 tomorrow night. Dr. Rosenberg was founder and conductor of the famous 24 cappella group "Pollyphonia," director of St. Joseph's Catholic choir of La Jolla and musical director for the civic pageant, "Heart's Desire."

"I am most appreciative of the splendid spirit of cooperation manifested by my fellow choral directors in this great civic music movement," said Dr. Rosenberg. "It is my plan that every qualified vocal director of our community, in addition to guest conductors of other cities, have a definite part in the success of the augmented Exposition chorus."

Ramblers' Celebrities 'Toast' Expo Success in Mammoth Wire Message

Screen, stage and radio stars—artists, writers and sport champions—by the hundreds—all are actively interested in San Diego's Exposition, according to an announcement last night by Charles D. Smead of the U. S. Grant hotel. "Here's to you and the success of the California International Exposition,"

Chosen to Lead



Dr. Earl Rosenberg, San Diego musician, yesterday was appointed director of choral activities for the California Pacific International Exposition.

Visitors From Foreign Lands Tour Expo Site

Fame of the Exposition is spreading throughout the world. Mr. and Mrs. William H. Coats, missionary workers in Cuban, Guatemala, stopped off on a boat trip to Portland, and, though Coats is forced to walk with canes, toured the Exposition grounds. Feliza Fortia, of Managua, Nicaragua, has taken up his residence here and plans to stay for the duration of the big fair. Another visitor was T. W. Collins, New Zealand trade commissioner.

CHALIAPIN 'UNCHANGED'
PARIS, May 4 (A.P.)—Physicians at the American hospital said the condition of Feodor Chaliapin, noted Russian singer, was unchanged today. He is suffering from grippe and bronchitis complicated by acute rheumatism of the joints.

Tea drinking in Japan has been "traced" by a historian back to the year 729 A. D. when the Emperor Shunmu is said to have invited 100 Buddhist monks to take tea with him in his palace.

MOTHER'S DAY Greeting CARDS

A most beautiful assort-

EXPO EXCERPTS

Highlights and Personalities at America's Biggest Show

"Jigglers," mechanical oscillators upon which Exposition visitors may rest their weary feet, is a novelty at the Electricity and Varied Industries building. It means the end of "Exposition feet," operators say.

awarded by Mickey MacDougal, master of ceremonies.

The marine corps band and a company from the marine base, conducted the "retreat" ceremonies, the main plaza yesterday at 5. T

CORN IS POPPED BY RADIO WAVE

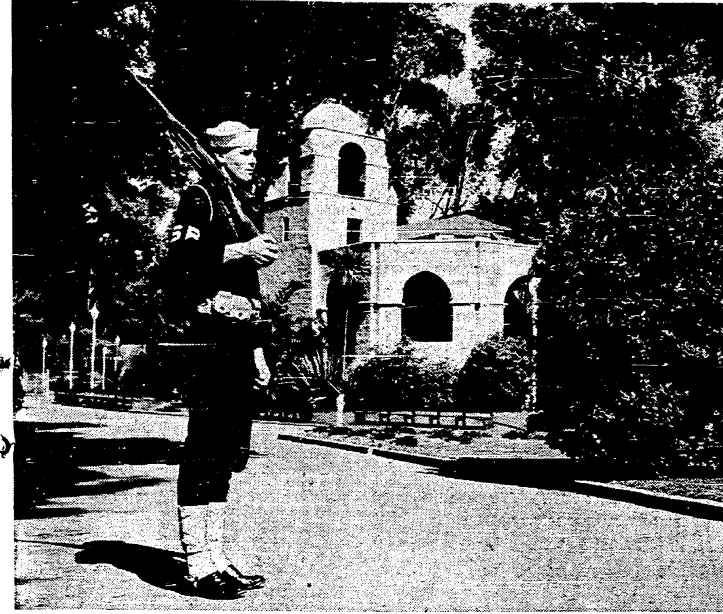
Situated in the Palace of Electricity and Varied Industries at the Exposition, in the General Electric's "House of Magic," is a device for popping corn without the use of fire.

Using a radio short wave transmitter, developed for use in radio-therapy, the machine will also develop a synthetic fever in the human body.

Corn, which explodes at a temperature of 326 degrees, when placed in the field of radio waves created by the machine, pops without heating the glass container in which it is confined.

World War II

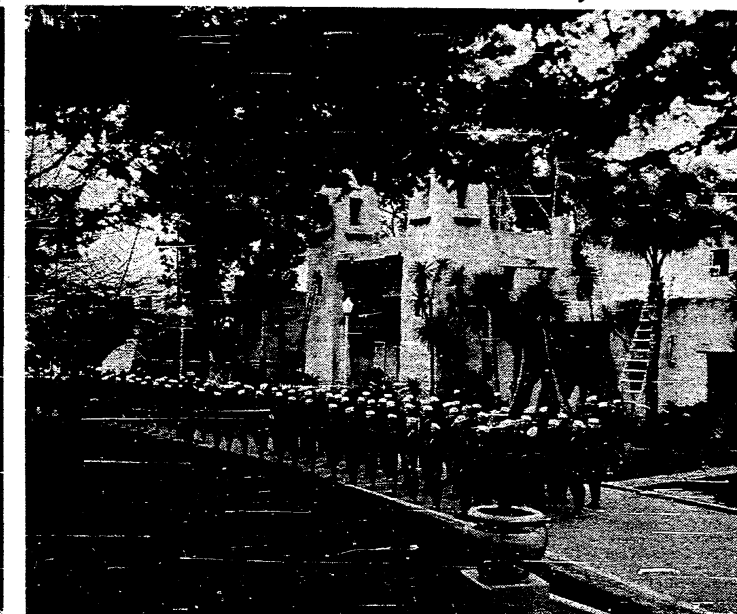
Beautiful Balboa Park Now Camp Kidd, Training Center for Bluejackets



San Diego's Balboa park, advertised throughout the world as a beauty spot by millions who have strolled along its winding paths, has been named Camp Kidd, unit of the San Diego Naval Training station, and now is playing an important part in the United Nations' war effort. Ralph Anderson, of Long Beach, stands guard on one of the many tree-lined roads. (Official U.S. Navy photos.)



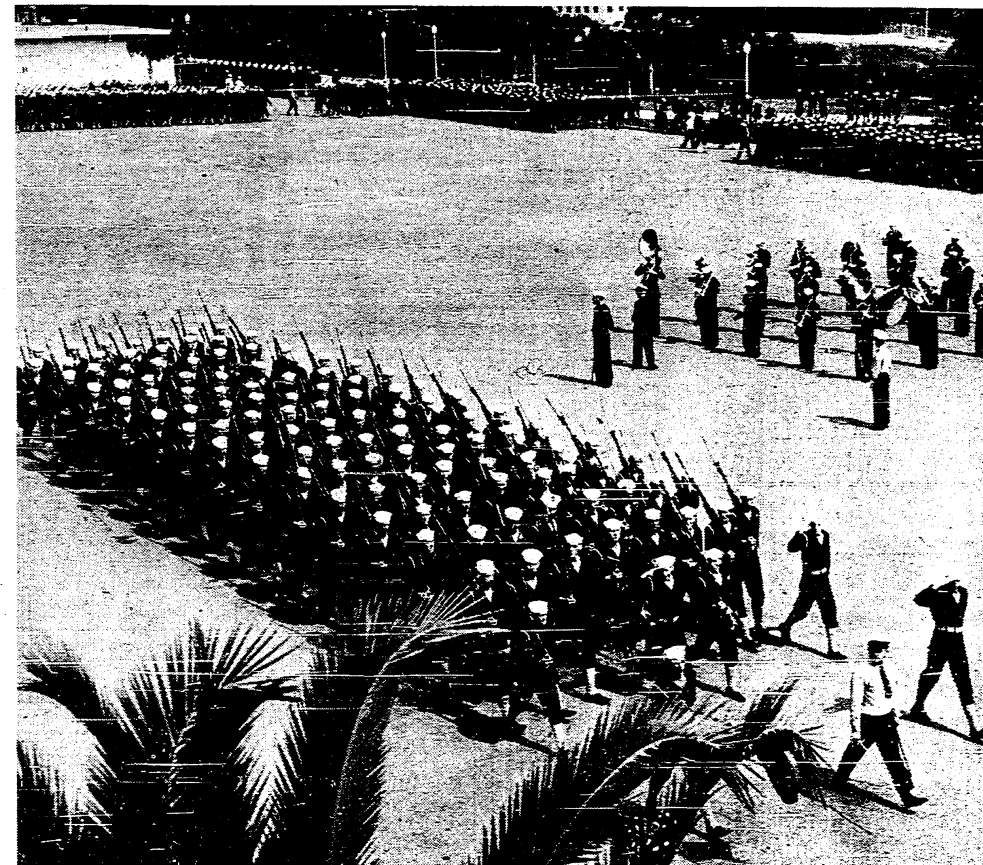
Framed in the grillwork over a rustic wishing well, sailors tread a path by Spanish cottages in which are quartered commissioned and chief petty officers assigned to Camp Kidd. In background is the library, Press building during the 1935-36 Exposition.



Preparing for early-morning activities, these sailors line up amid semi-tropical splendor on the grounds of the Camp Kidd unit. In the background is the dispensary, which was the Palace of Education during the last San Diego Exposition. Naval officers say the park is an ideal training ground for the new sailors, who soon will be manning ships on the seven seas.



CAPT. HENRY C. GEARING
... commander of "the world's most beautiful training station."



Swaying palms and wide, green lawns border the Camp Kidd drill area, where sailors in training are seen during a regimental parade.



LT. F. M. KELLY
... Camp Kidd's regimental commander, leaving camp headquarters.



Marion Murphy, one of the Camp Kidd receptionists, selects a book from the camp library for J. F. Heath, of Amarillo, Tex. Those reading are (left to right) Gill Gorham, of El Monte; Fred Rabston, of Harbor City; James M. Russell, of San Fernando; and James Webb, of Smithville, Tenn.

HEALTH, MORALE OF MEN HIGH IN LANDSCAPED PARADISE

Among scenes which have made San Diego's Balboa park internationally famous, thousands of young Americans are undergoing instruction in the world's most beautiful training station. The leisurely steps of year-around visitors from all corners of the globe have been replaced by the echoing cadence of marching feet as bluejackets are sent through training intended to prepare them for duty aboard ships in Uncle Sam's growing navy.

It is the second time that the park has been converted to wartime purposes. In World War I, the army took over considerable acreage, utilizing some of the buildings erected for the Panama-California International exposition of 1915, and set up a cantonment. This time the navy is making use of the many new structures and facilities which formed a part of the 1935-36 San Diego exposition, and its claim to possession of the "world's most beautiful training station" is unchallenged.

Amid towering eucalypt, expansive lawns, swaying palms and multicolored flowers, the sailors pursue their various activities. They are surrounded by beauty and

on all sides are landmarks of position days. Looking down upon their drill grounds from the north is the world's largest outdoor organ, and on the south, shadows are cast by the awesome Ford building, largest erected for the exposition a few years ago. Shrub-lined paths leading through groves of semi-tropical foliage wind throughout the grounds, and the men need only to step outside the camp gates to find ample recreation. Within a few blocks are the museum, Fine Arts gallery, the renowned San Diego zoo, and other points of interest.

San Diegans and visitors who have marveled at the beauties of the park need have no fears about possible desecration of its scenic splendor. In fact, it is in all probability receiving finer care than ever before. Each day working parties of sailors go over the entire area occupied by the navy, tending lawns and flowers, sweeping walks, streets and drill grounds. As a means of eliminating dust or mud, many of the gravel walks have received a coating of asphalt, and there are dozens of trash cans available so that no papers or cigarette butts will be strewn about. Two of the park's most impressive



An interlude in the training program is provided by two popular harmonica players, Herman W. Chartrand, of Camas, Wash., and Robert T. Stockfleth, of Oakland. Behind the sailors is the former Federal building, which now serves as a barracks accommodating 1,000 men. Recreation is provided.

Between 1942 and 1945, some 1,400 military men double-bunked in the gym. The Palisades was known as "Camp Kidd," for Admiral Isaac Kidd, killed at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

(Continued on Page 2-B, Col. 1)

Gym reopens, 1947

GENERAL NEWS
Local, State and National

The San Diego Union

CLASSIFIED
Want Ads

SAN DIEGO 12, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 2, 1947

SECTION 8

'Navy May Return Part of Balboa Park to City Before End of Year

Civil Agencies Work to Smooth Restoration

Hospital Structures Still Inadequate For U.S. Needs

Return to civilian use before the end of the year of one or more Balboa park buildings, used by the navy as annexes to the huge Naval hospital here since the outset of the war, was considered a definite possibility yesterday.

Civilian agencies, both governmental and private, are working toward that end, and the navy yesterday has urged the city to appoint a committee to survey navy-occupied property within the park with the aim of recommending what will be necessary to restore the gardens and buildings to their pre-war state.

NAVY SEEKS SPACE
At the same time, the navy, lacking facilities within its present massive Naval hospital structures to care for the thousands of patients in casualty and veteran patients coming from the front, has urged to seek additional park lands from the city for expansion of its permanent buildings.

Navy officials have declined to make public whatever developments have taken place since the war ended, and the public has been left to its own surmises.

City park officials are known to have requested Mrs. E. V. Ryan, member of the house naval affairs committee, to get from the navy department in Washington some clear indication of when it intends to relinquish occupancy of the numerous, expensive buildings, the three public museums and other facilities in the park, heretofore the public almost since the start of the war.

CONFERENCE HELD
Two weeks ago it was learned, however, that the navy, through its representative, city administration and business leaders met with officials of the 11th Naval district and the Naval hospital in an effort to learn from them the navy's intentions regarding release of park property.

At that meeting a representative of the navy, who was accompanied by a member of the city manager's staff, appointed a committee to study the city's position and to recommend to the city manager a course of action, including at least one member of the city commission and the city park director.

The city manager said the committee probably will tour the navy-occupied part of the park with naval officers, and that the navy undoubtedly would be asked to leave intact many of the wartime improvements it made on the city property, while other construction would have to be removed.

One source estimated the navy has spent millions of dollars in improvements in the park, many of which are being converted into hospitals, wards, convalescent homes, barracks and training facilities.

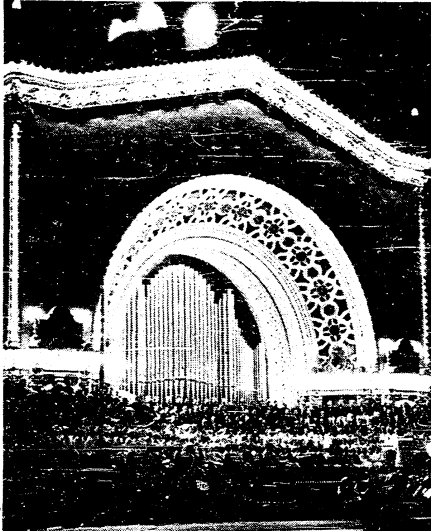
RESTORATION QUESTIONED
When the navy took over the property it had a gentlemen's agreement with the city to restore all buildings and grounds to their original condition, but whether this would be done by the navy's bureau of public works or by the city with navy funds is not known.

Apparently the city has no written agreement with the navy for restoration of the property, and some observers anticipate a bitter fight if an act of restoration is necessary before the buildings can be returned to their original condition.

GOAL BREEDERS TO MEET
The monthly meeting of the Southern California Milk Goat Breeders' association will be held next Sunday at the home of Gilbert C. and Ethel, 5619 Bancroft dr., according to Mrs. Marie D. Walker.

REPORTS CONFLICT
At the city-navy meeting Aug. 20 came three conflicting reports.

One prominent conferee said navy officials, in answer to a direct question as to how soon the buildings would be turned back to the city, said the group was told the navy expects to vacate park buildings other than the Fine Arts gallery, the Museum of Man and the National history museum within six months after the end of the war.



Before the war, the famed Spreckels outdoor organ was one of Balboa park's most popular attractions. Concerts like this often were given in the evening. The navy took over most of the park's buildings and grounds after Pearl Harbor, and plans for their release reportedly are being drawn, but no public announcement has been made so far.

SAN DIEGO'S BIG PARK UNFAMILIAR TO MANY

Much of 1400-Acre Tract, Fair Buildings, Museums Barred to Public During War

San Diego's 1400-acre Balboa park (left) to formal public reception is pretty much a mystery to those who have made their homes here since the war. Their knowledge of the park is limited to the fact that it is the site of the Spreckels outdoor organ, the Ford building, in which the navy has operated a vocational school throughout the war, and the pre-war residence of the late Mrs. E. V. Ryan.

Only the pre-war residence can recall the summer sports center in the Ford house, formerly within the park's botanical gardens, the rich variety of recreation—golf, archery, tennis, swimming—some of which have been continued during the war. But for the most part the park is a mystery to those who have lived here since the war.

NEEDED BY NAVY
The navy asked and the city granted the exhibition building in the House of Hospitality and the Pacific Relations center. The city's needs for expanded facilities in connection with both the Naval Training center and the Naval hospital.

ALL CIVILIAN DEFENSE EQUIPMENT CALLED IN
City Manager Fred A. Rhodes yesterday requested all members of the civilian defense equipment corps who have not yet turned in their equipment to do so immediately.

FORD BOWL USED
The Ford bowl, built for the 1935-36 exposition and one of the most beautiful of its kind, is being used by the navy for its vocational school.

DOWN EASTER TO GATHER
The first fall meeting of the New England States will be held here Saturday, Oct. 13, Mrs. C. E. MacFarlane, executive vice president, said yesterday.

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Looking west from the park's central plaza, the California tower is the most striking feature of the landscape. Visible for miles, it is one of the few park buildings thousands of newcomers to San Diego have ever seen. During the war buildings became an annex of the Naval hospital, which with more than 10,000 patients is navy's largest.

Coronado Plans Post-War Work

New Police Building Heads Project List

Coronado's post-war construction program was being whittled into a neat shape yesterday for presentation to the voters at a special bond election scheduled for Nov. 4. The total sum to be sought has not yet been determined.

Leading the list of projects are \$20,000 police headquarters building, the public library, city hall, 1125 Loma ave. The police are housed with the fire department at Fifth st. and Orange ave. This structure would be turned over to the fire department on completion of the new police building.

Rooms for lectures, typewriting, the care of children, music and additional publications storage would be extended from the existing library building around a patio under plans sent by the city council to the Navy board yesterday. Cost of this work is estimated at \$27,000.

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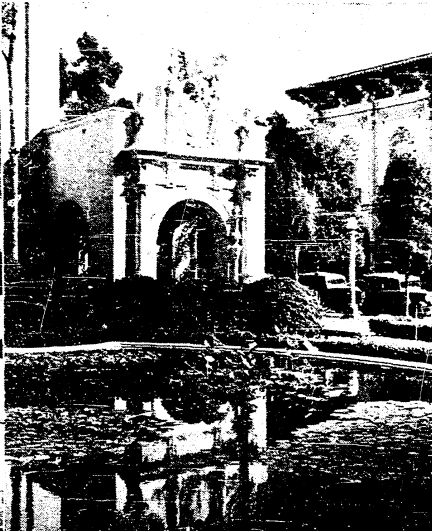
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Typical of postwar Balboa park's scene of beauty spots is this corner of the botanical garden city pool. Currently the site has been moved for safekeeping and the pool has been converted into a swimming place for convalescent navy personnel. When the park is returned to civilian use, its pre-war features will be restored.

Workers Await First Labor Day Vacation

Those Who Toiled in Production to Relax As War Job Done

Front of a war job well done, San Diego labor literally and figuratively sat back in an easy chair last night, relaxed and looked forward to its first real Labor day holiday since Pearl Harbor.

No formal celebration is scheduled tomorrow—abrupt end of hostilities forestalled plans for an elaborate Labor day program—but thousands of workers, now beginning a Sunday-Monday vacation, will look inland to the beaches.

In sharp contrast to Labor day in local parlance during the war years will be the general outpouring there tomorrow. Only necessary maintenance crews and plant protection personnel will be on duty. After Pearl Harbor shifts and increased tempo to bring victory a Federal employee, whose only active holiday has been Christmas, started off a three-day vacation yesterday.

More than 70 percent of the population of Guatemala is pure Indian. In the southwest, the great redwoods of the U.S. west coast reach a height of 300 feet. (Continued on Page 12-B, Col. 3.)

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MUNI GYM REOPENED

The Municipal gym in Balboa park, closed to the public since December, 1941, when the navy took over, was reopened last night as a next week will become the focal point of muni basketball and badminton activity.

Leo Calland, representing the city manager, presided at brief ceremonies last night at which the gym was rededicated. Also taking part were Councilman Vincent Godfrey, Mrs. M. D. Boucher, representative of the city recreation committee, and W. A. (Bud) Kearns, of the playground department.

More than 100 badminton players took turns on the gym's 10 courts after the ceremony. Beginning Monday, the gym will be open from noon to 10:30 p.m. on week days and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

NOW! 20 MILLION ROOMS HAVE BEEN PAINTED WITH KEM-TONE MIRACLE WALL FINISH

Rooms for lectures, typewriting, the care of children, music and additional publications storage would be extended from the existing library building around a patio under plans sent by the city council to the Navy board yesterday. Cost of this work is estimated at \$27,000.

GENUINE KEM-TONE MIRACLE WALL FINISH

ONE GALLON COSTS \$2.98 decorates an average room (1 gallon makes 1 1/2 gallons paint, ready to use)

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Diamond Ensembles \$4950

647 84th W. Grand Floor Bank of America Building

Sports center, 1947-



Phil Fairbanks, left, of the Orange County Dons seeks defensive position against a dribbling Rod Bayardo of Los Angeles Stars during Balboa Park wheelchair basketball game won by the Stars.

L.A. STARS WIN ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE TOURNEY 1977 Wheelchair Basketball Not For Timid

By MARGARET WARNER
SAN DIEGO (UPI) -

Anyone who thinks the handicapped are doomed to sit among the ranks of able-bodied spectators has never watched the rough-and-tumble contest of a wheelchair basketball game.

Eight teams competed in the third annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament for Disabled Veterans yesterday at the Municipal Gym in Balboa Park and they played with all the energy and fierce competitiveness of top athletes of any kind.

The more lambasted spectators wailed occasionally as they watched players jockeying for position, their wheelchairs colliding and falling backward, only to be set right with the push of one powerful hand against the floor.

Such fast-paced turns, near-fights and collisions don't spring from reckless abandon, however, but from the confidence that comes to these athletes from skill, determination and months of training.

SWEEP TOURNEY

The L.A. Stars lived up to their name, sweeping the round robin tournament with an undrained record against seven other teams from around the state.

In a game against the Orange County Dons, the Stars displayed their reputation of speed, turns, close calls and plain good basket-shooting and cheer from fans.

Rod Bayardo, a star among the Stars, jumped lightly as he wiped the sweat from his face during the half-time break.

JUST ONCE

"Are you ever nervous out there?" asked an interviewer, still haunted by the image of Bayardo's chair crashing backward.



The Los Angeles Stars' David Efferson, right, puts up a short bank shot over the Orange County Dons' Mingo Melowick, left, and Al Grizulis. The Stars emerged champions of the Third Annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament for Disabled Veterans yesterday at the Municipal Gymnasium.

"Only once, last year in the Nationals," Bayardo grinned, misinterpreting the question. "We got to the finals and then Detroit beat us." He leaned forward and whispered: "But it took them overtime to do it."

The star player can dribble the ball with his right hand while pumping the wheel with his left.

The referees, on hot, soaked benches after several minutes of nonstop play. "These aren't specially selected referees," Bayardo said. "But the only difference they have to be aware of, in calling fouls, is that the chair is part of the player. The chair is his leg."

STRIPPED DOWN

The chairs are a study in themselves — light, stripped down, spindly, armless and nearly backless, with roller bars front and back to aid recovery from a sudden pitch forward, and the wheels angled out near the base for stability.

"A lot of these players have built their own chairs from scratch — to be faster, lighter and tougher," said Jim Moore, head of special events for the Parks and Recreation Disabled Services division. "Everyone brings his own tactics to these tournaments, along with his tape and splints."

The host team, San Diego Sports Ltd., was not as skilled nor nearly as large as the L.A. Stars, but captured fifth place in the eight-team tournament.

San Diego Sports coach Greg Moore said he wishes he had more than the 11 members he expects for the upcoming season. "But we're going all right. I only wish we were doing better right now." He turned to watch his players spin to the far end of the court.

GETS BALL

"Last game we won 98-24. Now we can't get one basket." Just then his owner got the ball. "Come on, baby," Moore called, leaning forward.

The center said the shot. "That's more like it," Moore cried, leaning back and stepping his right foot. "That's more like it."



Stucco wall surface of park gymnasium collapses - none hurt 1992

San Diego Union-Tribune, The (CA) - December 13, 1992

- Author/Byline: ED JAHN, Staff Writer
- Edition: 1,2
- Section: LOCAL
- Page: B-3

Ball caption for B-3

All of the stucco on the south-facing wall of the Municipal Gymnasium in Balboa Park came crashing down yesterday afternoon, but no injuries were reported.

Inspectors from the city later checked the building and allowed it to be used as a shelter for the homeless. About 50 homeless men had gathered outside the building, which is a designated shelter during cold or inclement weather.

Recent rains apparently loosened the inch-thick stucco that is plastered over chicken wire that is nailed to planks and tar paper, according to John Montoya, a city inspector.

Other uses

1969

*Tourism and Cultural Exhibit—
Spanish Sherry and Tapas Bar*

Spain's Expotur

Enjoy exciting Spanish entertainment
Learn the glories of Spanish travel
Watch experts prepare tapas
Visit a real Spanish cafe

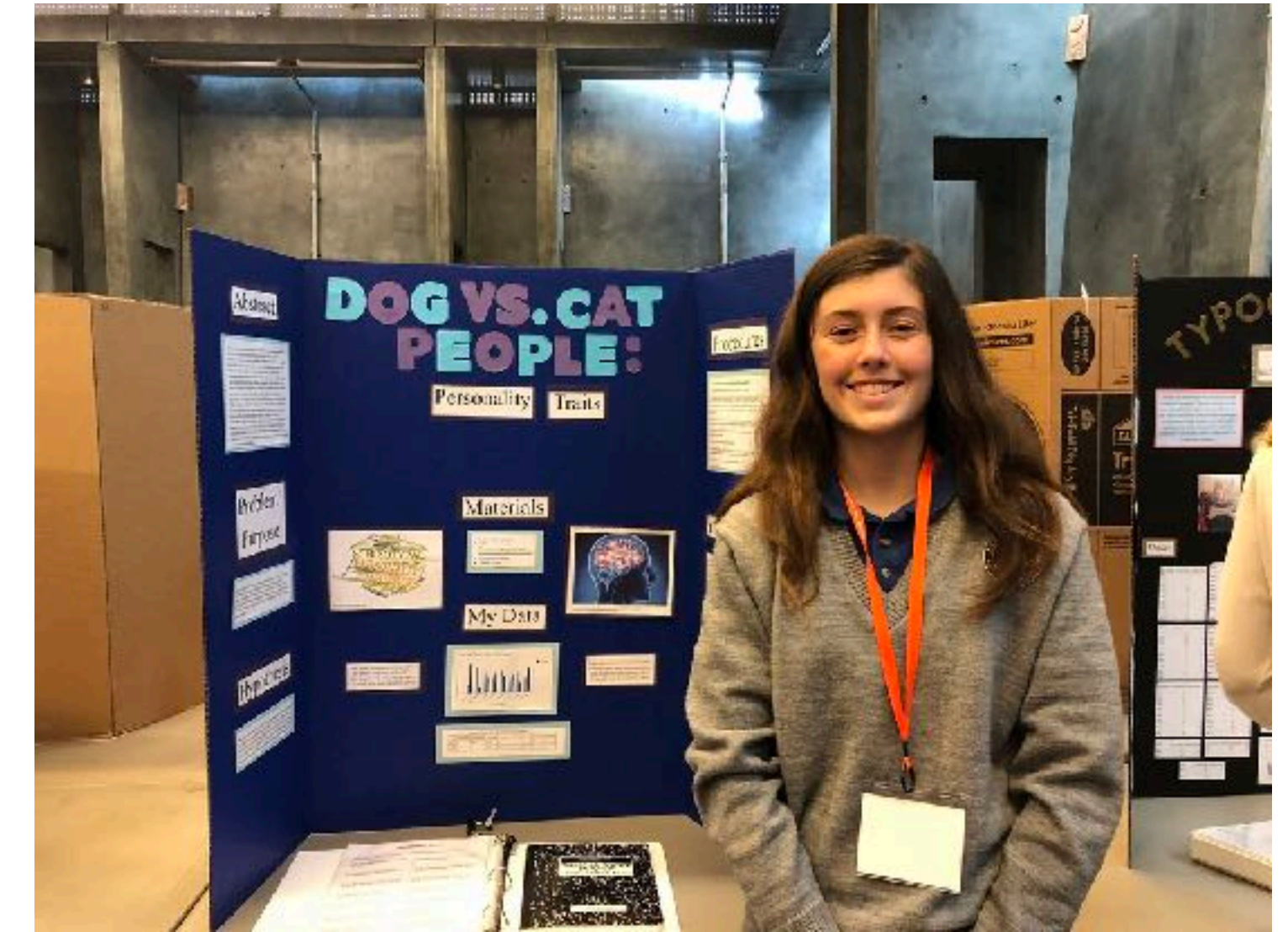
Municipal Gymnasium
Balboa Park
April 7-20

Spanish Swirl

Tuesday, April 8
10 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Wednesday, April 9
through Sunday, April 20
10 A.M. to 9 P.M.
Admission Free!



Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair, 1998. This photo from a recent fair shows the type of enthusiasm budding scientists develop at such events.



Covid-19 vaccination site, 2021



Municipal Gym Restoration

Phase 1 - Repaint in historic "bagel" color



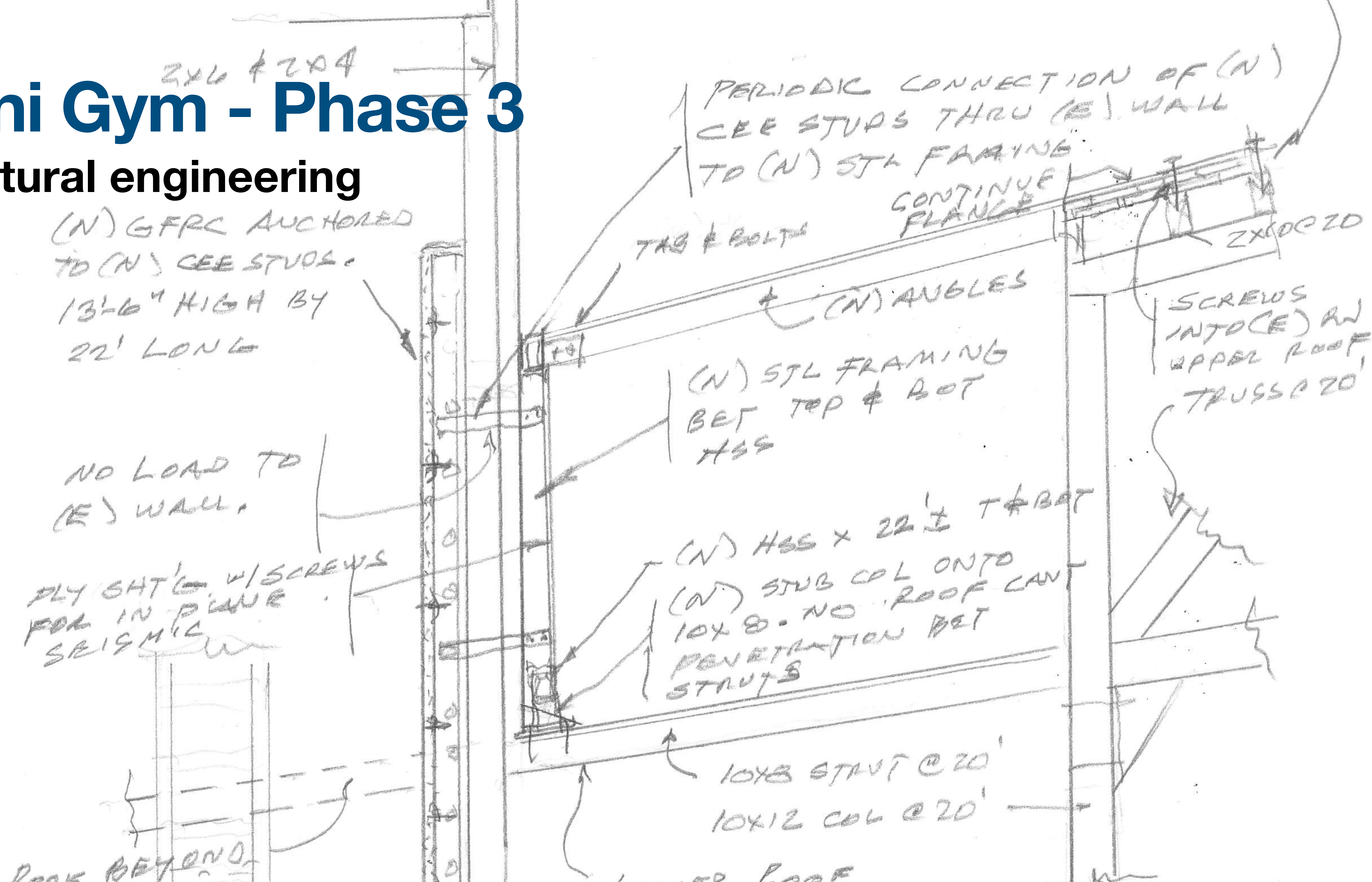
Muni Gym - Phase 2

Fabrication

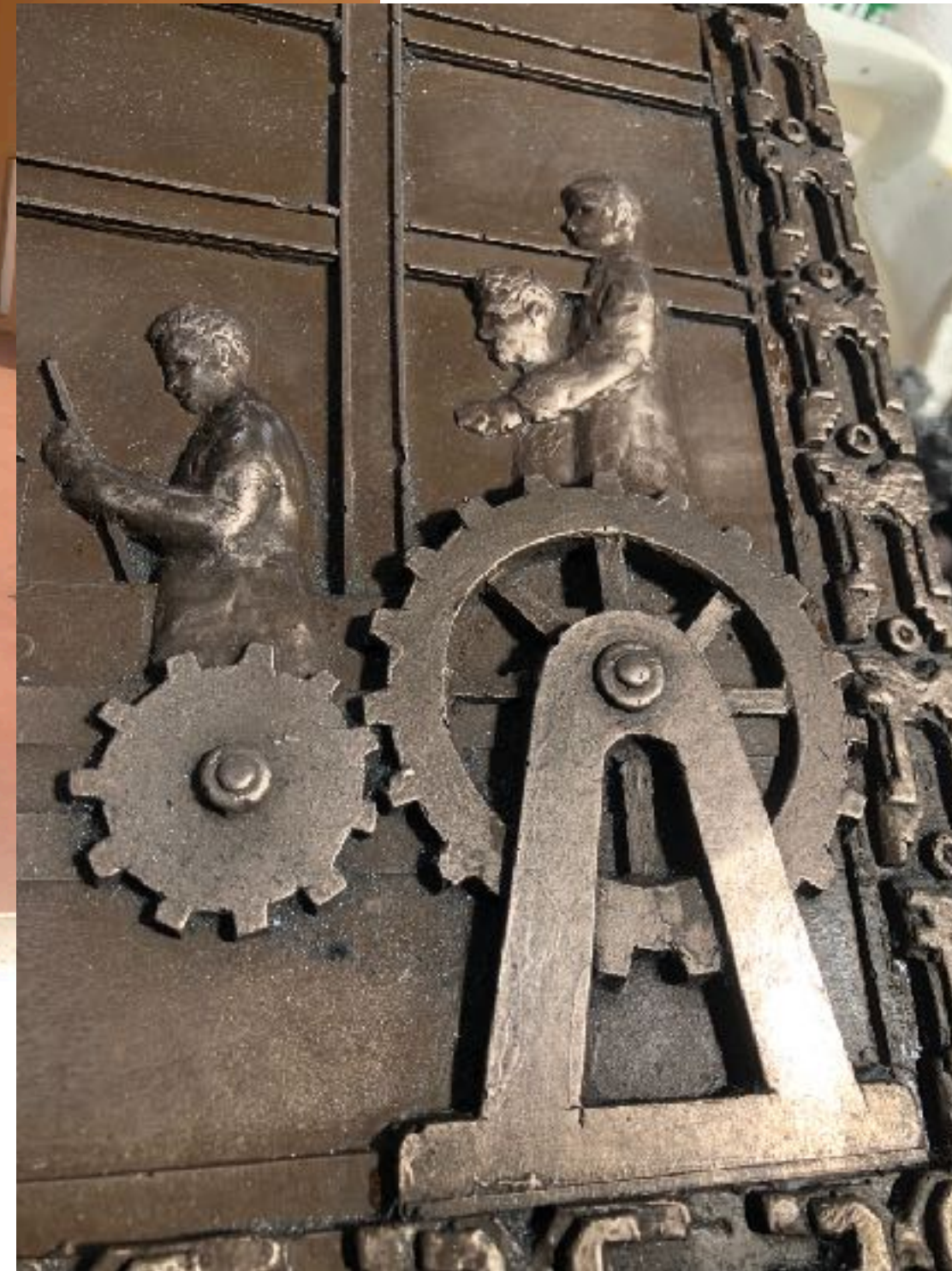


Muni Gym - Phase 3

Structural engineering



Muni Gym - Phase 4 Installation



Timeline

July-December: Fund-raising (goal \$300,000)

September-December: Design and entitlement

January-March: Construction and installation



Questions and Comments?

