113 S. Shamrock Avenue

In response to the tremendous growth of the new town of Monrovia in the early part of 1887, a triumvirate composed of Cyrus Campbell, Joseph Sartori, and F.N. Myers bought land from Lewis L. Bradbury for a new subdivision which they called the Pacific View Tract. Lots were first offered for sale in October of 1887, and water was piped to each lot free of charge! The new subdivision continued the tradition of naming the streets of Monrovia for trees, shrubs, and flowers; Jasmine, Heliotrope, and Wild Rose Avenues were added to the collection.

The collapse of the land boom in 1889 brought further development of the Pacific View Tract to a standstill. The lots at the northwest corner of Wild Rose and Shamrock Avenues originally faced south. Prior to 1908, those lots were split and two new lots facing on Shamrock were created. The owners of the corner lot in 1908 were Charles E. and Charlotte C. Martin. By 1909 they had improved their property by constructing the comfortable Craftsman Style bungalow we see today.

The Martins did not live in the new house, but apparently offered it for rent. In 1911 the house was assigned a street number of 111 rather than 113. Daniel Martin is listed as living in the house in 1913—perhaps a relative of Charles and Charlotte. The residents in 1937 were Ralph C. and Otha Louden. Otha Louden had an interesting profession: she was a fur cutter at Hendricks Furs in Monrovia. Started by Mrs. E. K. Hendricks as a small business in her own home, Hendricks Furs gradually expanded until it served a clientele throughout the San Gabriel Valley.

113 S. Shamrock was for a number of years on Route 66—America's Main Street. Route 66 branched at Huntington Drive and Shamrock, with one branch continuing west and the other branch going first north on Shamrock and then west on Foothill. The dual designation was later dropped in favor of a single route through Monrovia.

The present owners purchased the house in 1993. They have recently completed the restoration of the living and dining room of the house by removing layers of paint from the Douglas Fir woodwork and river rock fireplace and returning them to their original natural finish.

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