



# In Search of Eldorado

Link to the Eldorado Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VczD1olutQ8>



Day 59  
Sunday,  
March 1st

Pasadena

Weather  
50's to 50's Cloudy & Rainy

## Hello to Family & Friends

Wow, March already. How time flies when you're having fun.

I know you're all sitting on the edge of your seats wondering what the schedule is for today, right? No?

I can always hope.

I have one sight to see in Chatsworth, about four miles north of where I spent the night in Canoga Park, then on to Pasadena.

We'll see what happens from there.

## In Search of Eldorado

By Edgar Allan Poe

Gaily bedight,  
A gallant knight,  
In sunshine and in shadow,  
Had journeyed long,  
Singing a song,  
In search of Eldorado.

But he grew old—  
This knight so bold—  
And o'er his heart a shadow—  
Fell as he found  
No spot of ground  
That looked like Eldorado.

And, as his strength  
Failed him at length,  
He met a pilgrim shadow—  
'Shadow,' said he,  
'Where can it be—  
This land of Eldorado?'

'Over the Mountains  
Of the Moon,  
Down the Valley of the Shadow,  
Ride, boldly ride,'  
The shade replied,—  
'If you seek for Eldorado!'

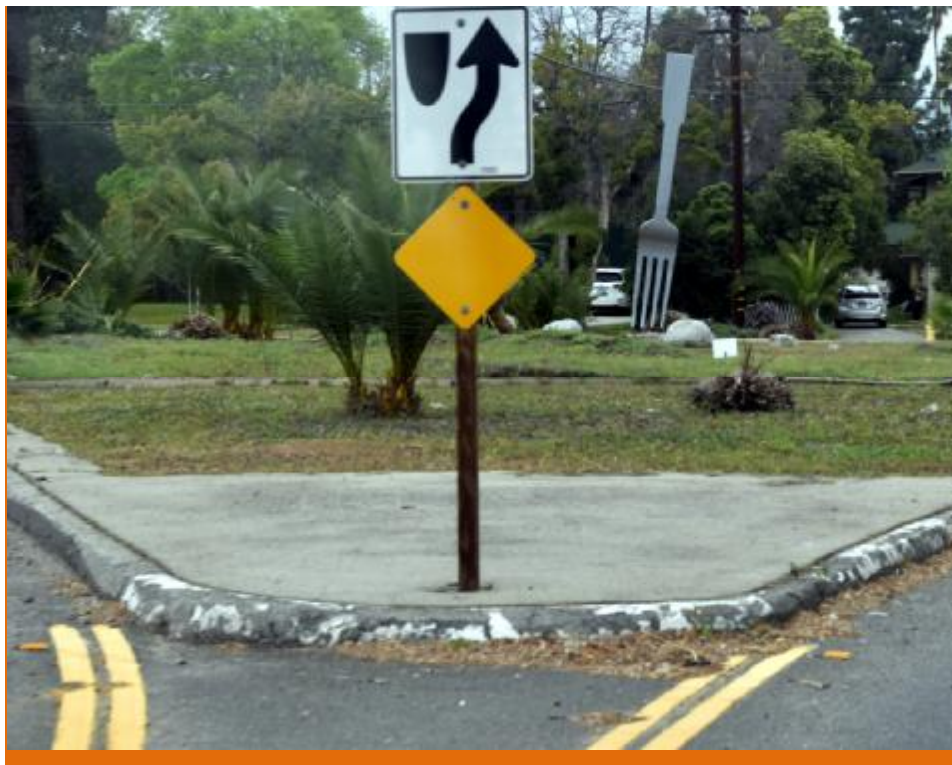


I'm willing to bet no one can figure out the significance of the red barn pictured above. Hint: *A horse is a horse, of course, of course.* I know most of you have it by now.

Atlas Obscura: If you've ever wondered where talking horses get born, this iconic red barn on Harvester farms (named after Mr. Ed's father) is the answer. Quintessentially red and offset beautifully by green foliage in the foreground, is where Mr. Ed the Talking Horse (real name, Bamboo Harvester) came into this world in 1949. Bamboo Harvester was named after his father, Harvester, as is tradition in equine breeding. The barn is special not only because of its role in Mr. Ed's life, but because architecturally, it is one of few original redwood barns of its kind remaining in all of the Los Angeles area. It was built around the turn of the century and operated as a poultry farm, its many acres also housing cattle and horses. In the 1950s, the place became the Palomino Horse Association headquarters and Mr. Ed's father was used as a stud to create the pedigree. The current owner has been living in the neighboring house and maintaining the barn since the '80s. The barn is also being considered as a state landmark due to its historical significance. "Willlllburrrrr"



This home in Pasadena is one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most groundbreaking designs. Created in 1923 for rare book dealers George and Alice Millard, it was Wright's first attempt at modular building. The house is most often called the Millard House, but it also has the name La Miniatura. La Miniatura is on three levels, with a double-height living room. It occupies 4,230 square feet and has four bedrooms, four baths, kitchen, living room and a formal dining room. A studio was added in 1926, designed by Wright's son Lloyd. Like many Wright projects, it overran its initial budget of \$10,000, costing nearly \$17,000 in the end. According to public records, it last sold in 2015 for \$3.65 million. Breaking away from his more traditional Prairie style houses and the beginning of the so-called "textile block" period. Wright challenged himself to do something with concrete, which he called "the cheapest (and ugliest) thing in the building world." To make the concrete blocks for the Millard House, he used sand, gravel, and minerals found on the property and molded them into highly sculptured building blocks. Following his ideas of organic architecture, he also thought the earth-toned concrete would blend with the site its materials came from. The motif for the blocks is a modernized pre-Columbian design with a cross in the center and a square in each corner. Thank you TripSavvy. Not really much to see, but definitely different.



The fork in the road. At the otherwise unremarkable intersection of Pasadena and St. John Avenues in Pasadena, California, two local business owners decided to honor their city with a massive kitchen utensil that doubles as a clever visual gag.

The 18-foot wooden fork stands right where the roads split, literalizing the "fork in the road." Originally placed by locals Bob Stane and Ken Marshall without the consent of the city, the statue was temporarily removed but has been replaced since the builders purchased the pertinent insurance and blessings from city officials. Atlas Obscura

Anybody recognize this house? For sure not Frank Lloyd Wright. *Halloween* anybody? This is the house where Michael Myers kills his sister in the opening scenes of the movie, which was actually filmed on site. When they found it, the house appeared exactly as it does in the scene where little Tommy Doyle (Brian Andrews) and Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis) take a different route to school to put the key underneath the mat of the old Spookhouse. Check out the next page



Great music score

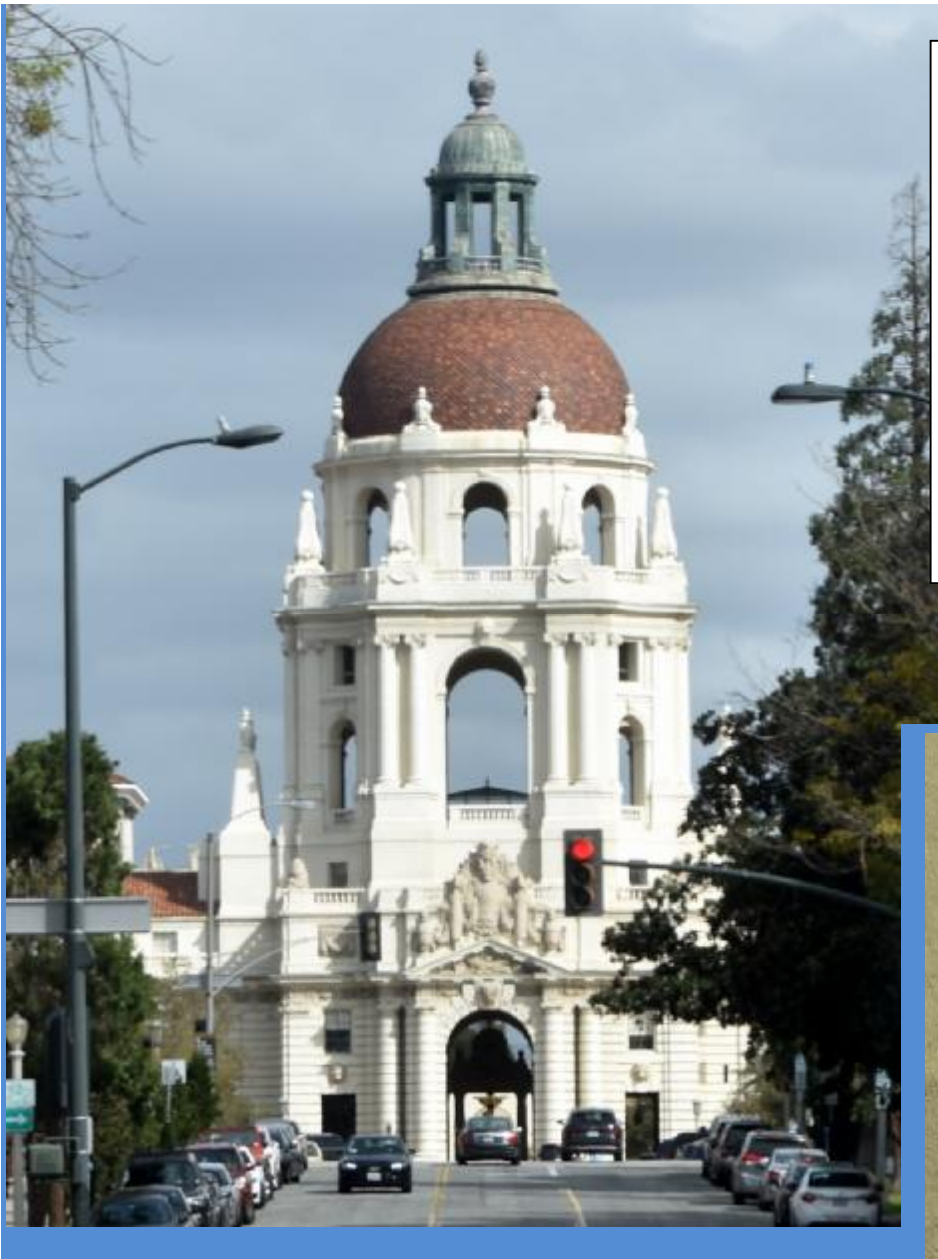


This is the image from the movie



I took this picture about ten days ago on the celebrity homes tour. This is the house where Jamie Lee Curtis is babysitting and stabs Michael Myers in the neck with a coat hanger and is then shot by his psychiatrist played by Donald Pleasence.

**Boo!!**



Left is the Pasadena City Hall.

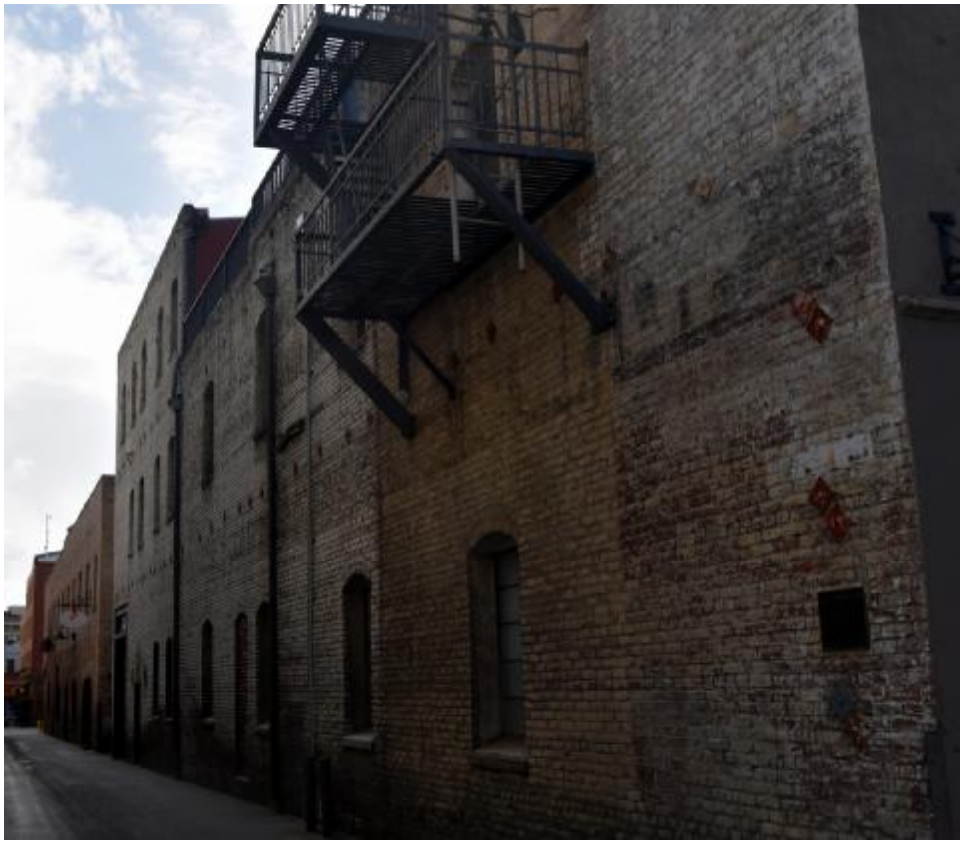
I was surprised at how livable Pasadena turned out to be. I enjoyed making my way around, traffic was not bad at all, very nice architecture, well cared for properties, museums, charming downtown. Very enjoyable. I may have to spend some more time here looking around.



I came across this while walking to the Kendall Alley below.



Not a big deal, it's just an alley in Pasadena, but it will be there for a long time.



Kendall Alley is one of the many cobblestone thoroughfares which snake through Old Town Pasadena's commercial blocks, many of which feature hideaway bars, cafes, and even movie theater complexes. This particular alley, which looks much as it did in the 1930's, has been featured in films such as Pulp Fiction, Paper Moon, Live Free or Die Hard, and The Sting. I had very poor lighting for this shot



Ok, so call me stupid. My whole life I thought the Rose Bowl was played at the Coliseum in L.A. Imagine my surprise, and head shake at my stupidity, when I came to realize that the Rose Bowl game has its own stadium right here in Pasadena.

**"WELCOME TO  
THE GRANDDADDY OF THEM ALL<sup>®</sup>  
- THE ROSE BOWL."**



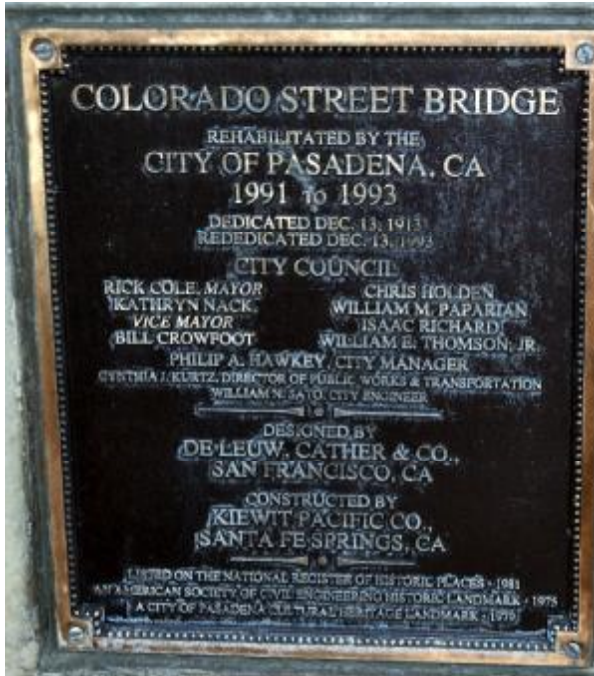
The 1942 Rose Bowl was the 28th Rose Bowl Game. Originally scheduled to be played in the Rose Bowl Stadium in Pasadena, California, it was moved to Durham, North Carolina, due to the fears of an attack on the West Coast of the United States following the attack on Pearl Harbor and the start to World War II



Keith Jackson, THE voice of college football.

In 2014 they built this plaza to honor the 100<sup>th</sup> Rose Bowl, all Pac Ten (twelve) and Big Ten schools are represented.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



With its majestic arches rising 150 feet above the deeply cut Arroyo Seco, the Colorado Street Bridge was proclaimed the highest concrete bridge in the world upon completion in 1913. The bridge impressed travelers from the day it opened. Until then, the crossing of the Arroyo Seco required horses and wagons to descend the steep eastern slope, cross a small bridge over the stream, and then climb the west bank through Eagle Rock Pass. Given this harsh topography, the Colorado Street Bridge proved a challenge to design and build. Solid footing eluded engineers in the seasonally wet arroyo bed. These engineering challenges were solved when engineer John Drake Mercereau conceived the idea of curving the bridge 50 degrees to the south. This solution coupled with a graceful design of soaring arches and a curved deck created a work of art that received Historic Civil Engineering Landmark designation and listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Mercereau chose to support the bridge's 28-foot-wide roadway and five-foot-wide sidewalks using spandrel construction. Mercereau's design also included classical balusters and ornate cast-iron lamp posts supporting multi-globed lamps. Construction took 18 months. Horse carts brought materials down the steep sides of the gorge. Records show that some 11,000 cubic yards of concrete and 600 tons of steel reinforcing went into the bridge. The company's single cement mixer poured concrete half a yard at a time into the bridge's hundreds of wooden forms that, when removed, revealed the bridge's arches, girders, spandrels, and decorative details. The bridge cost one quarter of a million dollars to build. Thousands of Pasadena citizens came to celebrate its opening. The bridge connected Pasadena to Los Angeles, poised it to grow. Traffic on the new bridge was heavy. Only two lanes wide, the bridge was considered inadequate as early as the 1930s. The bridge remained part of Route 66 until the 1940 completion of the Arroyo Seco Parkway. By then, the Colorado Street Bridge had a sinister reputation as "suicide bridge." The first person jumped from the bridge in 1919. A number of other leaths by suicide followed, especially during the Great Depression. Over the years, estimations put the number of people, who took their lives leaping into the Arroyo, at more than 100. The historic bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1981, but by that time, it was in disrepair. Chunks of concrete sometimes fell from its ornate arches and railings. After the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, the bridge closed as a precautionary measure. Eventually Federal, State, and local funds provided 27 million dollars in renovation costs. The bridge reopened in 1993, complete with all of its original ornate detail and a suicide prevention rail.

[https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/route66/colorado\\_street\\_bridge\\_pasadena.html](https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/route66/colorado_street_bridge_pasadena.html)



I know, a lot of info from other sites today. That's what happens when the ideas come from Roadside America, Atlas Obscura and whatever else I can find. Besides, gimme a break, this is two newsletters in one day again, that's a lot of uncomfortable sitting on my dinette bench for five hours.

We will see what tomorrow will bring.

Until next time.....