

Membership . . .

If you would like to join the Torrance Historical Society or are currently a member and would like to renew your membership, please complete the information below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

New Membership Renewal

Memberships (except Life) are due annually in February

Adult \$20

Family \$30

Youth (-18) \$10

Senior (65+) \$15

Business \$50

Organization \$50

Individual Life \$350

Yes, I'd like to give a gift of
\$ _____ to the Museum

(THS has a 501 (C) (3) non-profit status)

Please make your check payable to the *Torrance Historical Society* and mail it with this form to:

Torrance Historical Society

1345 Post Avenue

Torrance, CA 90501

Note: Membership cards will be mailed following payment. Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for processing.

How Torrance Got Its Name

As noted in the book, *Historic Torrance* (pages 56-57), according to the minutes of March 20, 1912, meeting of the board of directors of the Dominguez Land Co., the U.S. Post Office Department would not allow the new development to be called "Dominguez" because there was already a Dominguez on the map in California and another in Colorado.

Various variants of the name "Dominguez" had been suggested, principally "Dominguez City," "San Dominguez," and "El Dominguez," but the (Dominguez Land Co.) general manager (H.H. Sinclair) reported that none of these would be satisfactory to the Dominguez family and that they would prefer to retain the name "Dominguez" for the present (railroad) station of that name (near the Dominguez adobe) and requested that the Dominguez Land Co. select some other name for the industrial city.

A general discussion followed in which about 30 names were suggested, most of which had to be dropped on account of duplication in other parts of the United States. The names "Southport," "Obrador," "Coronel," "Don Manuel" and "Industrial" received the most favorable considerations, but none of these were considered to be satisfactory.

An informal vote was then taken on the name "Torrance"—it was unanimously decided that this name was the logical and most satisfactory name and should be used if (Dominguez Land Co. Board) President (Jarred Sidney) Torrance would withdraw his objections. President Torrance protested against the use of the name, but Vice President Sinclair assumed the chair and a resolution proposed by Mr. (John S.) Cravens and seconded by Mr. (Maurice S. Hellman) was unanimously adopted.

Sign Up Today!



*A Membership &
Renewal Opportunity*



Benefits . . .

Did you know that Torrance was founded on a land grant — Rancho San Pedro? . . . bought directly from the Dominguez descendants? And . . . was one of the West's first planned industrial city? Preceding you, were many colorful men and women who turned dusty grazing land into one of Los Angeles County's most vital industrial, commercial and residential centers.

By becoming a member of the Torrance Historical Society, you will learn about the people, politics and events that shaped this area. By getting involved, you too can become a part of this city's history.

Benefits include:

- Invitations to "Members Only" events
- Special programs & exhibits
- Historic Home & Bus Tours
- Research privileges in the historic archives
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Docent Training
- Meet fellow Historians
- Opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors
- *Torrance Historian* Newsletter

Museum . . .

The Torrance Historical Society & Museum is open free to the public.

■ Museum Hours

Open:

Tuesday - Thursday & Sunday
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Special hours can be arranged for private tours or research. Please contact the Museum directly at (310) 328-5392.

Closed:

Mondays, Fridays, Saturdays,
and holidays.

■ Museum Address

Torrance Historical Society
& Museum

1345 Post Avenue
Torrance, CA 90501
(310) 328-5392

www.TorranceHistoricalSociety.org

We thank you for supporting the Torrance Historical Society and its Museum. Not only does your membership offer a year of enjoyment and enrichment, it also allows you to contribute to the success of the Torrance Historical Society & Museum in presenting exhibits, programs and services of the highest quality.

See you at the Museum!

About THS . . .

The Torrance Historical Society (THS) was created in 1973 to acquire, display and encourage public interest in preserving items relevant to the history of the Torrance and the San Pedro Rancho.

At that time, the Torrance Public Library at 1345 Post Avenue, built in 1936 as the main library, was still a functioning branch of the Torrance Public Library System. The Society sought to establish a historical room there and, in 1974, did so for the first time. Its first newsletter premiered in 1975.

With the closing of the branch library there, the Society and the city opened the Museum in March 1979. It had an official grand opening in May 1981, showing off displays designed and built by Bob Wade, Museum of Natural History retiree. This was also the 60th anniversary of the City's incorporation.

The Society has an ever-growing collection of photos, documents, books, artifacts and other material relevant to the City's past.