

## **Grace Hill and Grace Mansion, the William Stanton Residence**

### **William Stanton:**

William Stanton originally hailed from Ohio, and like some Midwesterners of his time, had the opportunity to visit Pasadena, California. Stanton was a cousin to Edwin Stanton, the Secretary of War in President Abraham Lincoln's Administration. (Edwin Stanton was the key person directing events after the shooting of Lincoln and upon his death is credited with the quote, "Now, he belongs to the ages.")

After a long and successful legal career east, spending time in the Ohio legislature and also in politics in Pennsylvania, William Stanton relocated to California. It was during a visit in 1889 that he became so charmed with Pasadena that he purchased Grace Hill, comprising thirteen acres of land. Apparently, Stanton and his wife, Ellen, had spotted the site for their new mansion and its water tower while gazing through a window of the Raymond Hotel, where they had been staying.

In 1891, Stanton commissioned **Fredrick Roehrig** to design a new home on Grace Hill, with a sweeping view of the valley to the south and the San Gabriel Mountains to the north. The mansion and an accompanying water tower were built as their new home, and the Stantons lived there until their deaths in the 1920s. Their daughter Emily sold the property at auction, and soon afterward the water tower was turned into a residence.

From the time he located in Pasadena, Mr. Stanton took an interest in the affairs of the town and became active in real estate, becoming a large landowner. By 1895, he became Vice President of the National Bank of Pasadena, located at the corner of Colorado and Raymond Aves., one of only two banks in Pasadena before the turn of the century. He also purchased the Stanton Building, one of the main commercial operations in the business center of Pasadena at the time.

### **Frederick Roehrig:**

Frederick Louis Roehrig (1857 – 1948) was an early 20th-century American architect, born in LeRoy, New York, the son of the noted "orientalist and philologist," Frederick L.O. Roehrig. He graduated from Cornell University in 1883 and also studied architecture in England and France. His architectural styles evolved over time, covering the Victorian, American Craftsman, and Neo-Classical styles. Roehrig is particularly known for his many landmark buildings in Pasadena, California, including the Hotel Green. Roehrig died at age 90 in 1948. Roehrig's notable works include the following:

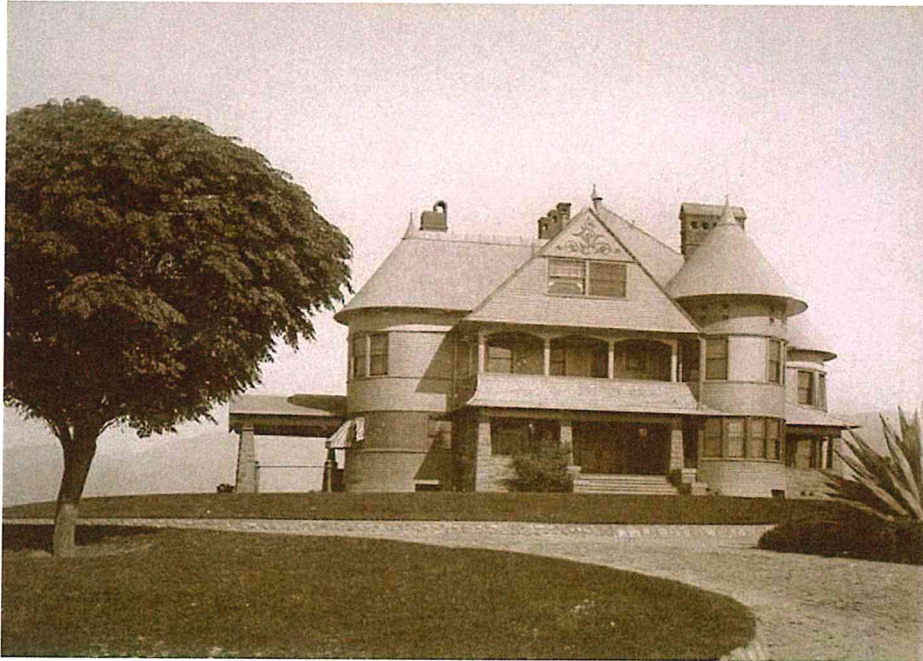
**Hotel Green** — The landmark Hotel Green, located at 99 South Raymond Avenue in Pasadena, was built in the late 19th century and helped build Roehrig's reputation. The Hotel Green was home to both the Tournament of Roses and the Valley Hunt Club. It was built by George Gill Green and was supplemented by two later buildings, including Castle Green. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

**Castle Green** — Another of Roehrig's landmark structures is Castle Green, built in 1898 as an annex to the Hotel Green. In 2003, the Los Angeles Times described Roehrig's concept for Castle Green as follows: "And there is Castle Green, which is not really a castle either, but a fantastic folly created from the imagination of a Victorian architect with a penchant for Arabesque opulence. ... You have to stop and remind yourself that this is no longer a grand turn-of-the-century hotel, but condominiums."

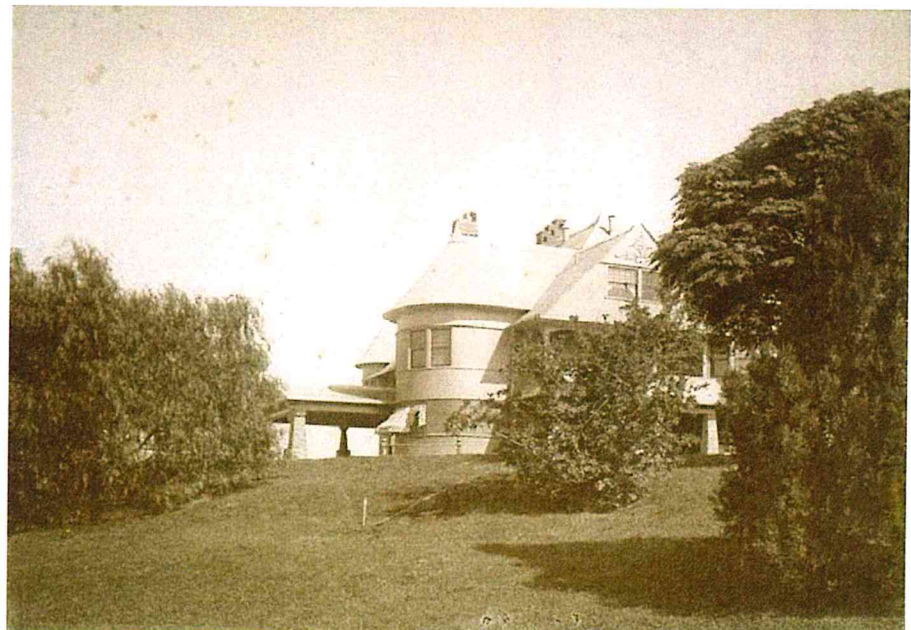
**Mansions of "Millionaire's Row"** — Roehrig also designed several mansions built between 1892 and 1911 along Pasadena's famous "Millionaire's Row" on South Orange Grove. Though many of the

mansions on South Orange Grove were demolished in the 1950s and 1960s, three of Roehrig's mansions were preserved as part of the campus of the Worldwide Church of God's Ambassador College and were listed for sale in 2003.

**Grace Mansion and Water Tower** — Roehrig also designed a Pasadena home for William Stanton. He designed both Grace Mansion and an adjacent water tower built in 1891 to match the mansion. The tower had a wood-shingle exterior, designed to camouflage the 50,000-gallon steel water tank serving the adjacent mansion and surrounding land. The water tower was later converted into a home. Grace Mansion has been converted to luxury apartments.

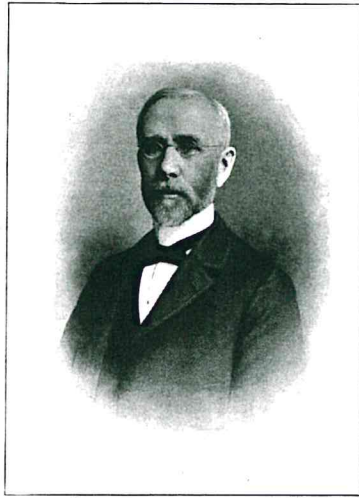


**Grace Hill, Pasadena, CA. Willam Stanton Residence, 1892.**

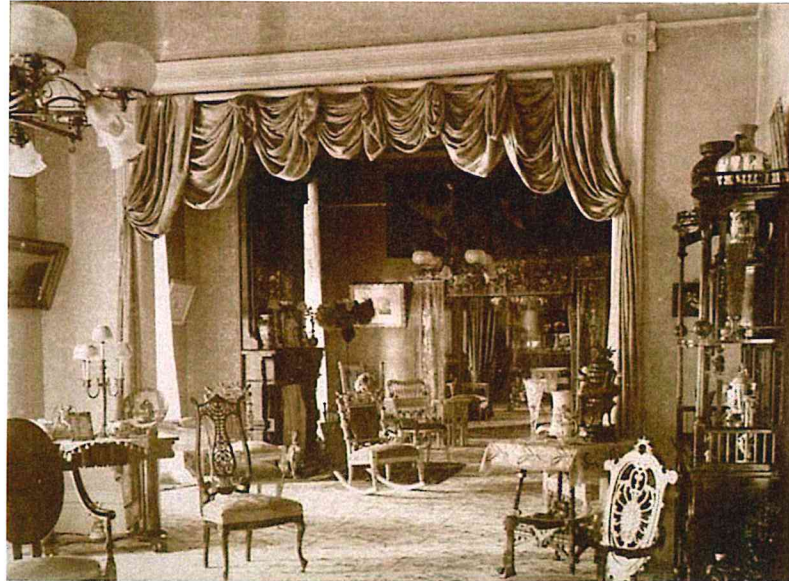




## Interior of Stanton Residence



HON. WILLIAM STANTON



## Modern Day Interiors and View:



**View of Water Tower and Interiors**





### **98 Grace Terrace:**

In the 1920's, after the Stanton Mansion was sold at auction, Grace Hill was subdivided for the construction of new homes. In 1924, the romantic Spanish Colonial Revival at 98 Grace Terrace and the elegant English Tudor next door were designed and built, along with a traditional Craftsman Bungalow at the base of Grace Hill facing State Street.

