

**Enrique Grant Higley co-designed a Guadalajara bus station (1926) and a Pro-Jalisco campaign**

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**Enrique Grant Higley (1903-1969)**, later known in the US as Henry Grant Higley Sr., was born in Lima, Peru, on 11 June 1903,<sup>1</sup> and died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Los Angeles, California, on 8 May 1969 at the age of 65.

Enrique's parents (Henry Grant Higley and Rosario Andrade) moved from Peru to Mexico in about 1905, living initially in Mexico City, and later (by 1908) in Guadalajara. When his father, a florist and cartographer, died in Tampico in 1915, there is no evidence that Enrique and his mother were with him at the Gulf coast port. It seems likely that they had never left Guadalajara.

In 1917, Higley enrolled in the Escuela Preparatoria de Jalisco.<sup>2</sup> In 1920, he was among a group of students who formed a research group named the Sociedad de Estudios Científicos Humboldt. The honorary president of the group was Adrian Puga, and honorary members included Arq Agustín Basave (the director of the school), Ing Alberto Lancaster Jones, presbyter Severo Díaz and Dr José María Palafox.<sup>3</sup> Higley subsequently completed an engineering degree from the Universidad de Guadalajara in 1924.

In April 1926, Higley and fellow engineer Manuel Baumgarten were commissioned by the municipality to design and build a central bus station for Guadalajara's suburban bus services. The estimated cost of the proposed two-story building on Calzada de Independencia between calle Kunhardt and Avenida de los Héroes, was about \$80,000.00.<sup>4</sup>

A month earlier, the two engineers had launched a Pro-Jalisco campaign, in advance of the imminent arrival in Guadalajara of Ferrocarril Sud Pacífico. The initial announcement of this campaign was a competition to find a female lead to star in a promotional film, organized by the Guadalajara school of cinematography, directed by Nino de Carli.<sup>5</sup> The film would showcase "the beauty of our women, the magnificence and splendor of our landscapes and the surprising natural resources we have."<sup>6</sup> The decision was to be made by an impartial five-person jury, which included both Manuel Baumgarten and Henry Grant Higley.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> US Consulate in Guadalajara Report, dated 15 March 1920, of birth of child in Lima, Peru, to Henry Grant Higley (deceased) and Rosario Andrade de Higley (born in Ambato, Ecuador, age 36), living in Guadalajara. The 'physician/nurse' who signed the report was Dolores Andrade de Haynes, believed to be a sister of Rosario. Dolores Andrade (born Ecuador ca 1885) married Richard (Ricardo) S Haynes (born Massachusetts ca 1871). One of their sons was born in Lima in 1907, but died in Guadalajara in 1914; another son was born in Guadalajara in 1911.

<sup>2</sup> Photo dated 1917 in Alfonso Manuel Castañeda. 1972. "Hace Cincuenta Años." El Informador 27 Feb 1972, 10-C.

<sup>3</sup> Entry for 11 Jan 1920 in Alfonso Manuel Castañeda. 1970. "Hace Cincuenta Años." El Informador 11 Jan 1970, 10-D.

<sup>4</sup> El Informador: 27 April 1926, 6.

<sup>5</sup> La Escuela Italiana de Arte Mudo (cinematografía) opened in January 1926. El Informador: 8 Jan 1926, 4.

<sup>6</sup> Original: "las bellezas de nuestras mujeres, la magnificencia y esplendidez de nuestros panoramas y las sorprendentes recursos naturales con que contamos."

<sup>7</sup> El Informador: 11 March 1926, 5. Note that this is the first and perhaps only time that Enrique's American name was used in Spanish-language press.

Prior to the casting call, Baumgarten and Higley had partnered to form the Sociedad Cinematografica Pro-Jalisco. This name echoed the title of the first silent documentary filmed in Guadalajara in 1921. *Pro-Jalisco* was a 57-minute black and white movie, produced, directed and edited by Jakob Granat (1871-1945), with cinematography by Rodolfo Rosas. Granat, who owned the famed Sal6n Rojo movie house in Mexico City, is considered the first Jewish director to have made a film in Mexico.<sup>8</sup>

*Pro-Jalisco* was first screened on 2 February 1921 at the 6pera and Royal cinemas in Guadalajara. The film was made to help counter the negative image of Mexico in the USA which had resulted from a decade of revolutionary unrest. It offers an upbeat view of the state, including Guadalajara's businesses, aircraft landing strip, the Rosario racetrack, car races, a bullfight and natural sights.

Baumgarten and Higley's Pro-Jalisco campaign, announced on the front page of *El Informador* in June 1926, included a series of brochures, in English and Spanish, with descriptions of nearby places, such as Chapala, and (echoes of Higley's father) a "plano panor6mico de la ciudad de Guadalajara," showing buildings, tram lines, bus routes, street names and monuments.<sup>9</sup>

Higley and Baumgarten made an appeal to the C6mara Agr6cola, asking local farmers to consider improving their production to compete with northern states and expand their market, and sought municipal support.<sup>10</sup> The Pro-Jalisco project anticipated that the new railroad connections would boost the city's industry, trade and services.

In complete contrast to these serious promotional projects, Higley was among the newspaper contributors and journalists who performed a series of plays at the Degollado Theater in November 1926.<sup>11</sup>

Higley's mother, Rosario Andrade de Higley, was still living in Guadalajara in 1927,<sup>12</sup> but probably accompanied her son when he moved to Los Angeles, California, in 1928 following his engagement to Texas-born Loraine Coffman.

The marriage of Enrique and Loraine was registered in California on 11 February, though news reports in both Mexico and the US claimed the wedding was scheduled for 19 February.<sup>13</sup> At the time of the 1930 US Census, Enrique was living in California, and gave his occupation as Civil Engineer. His household consisted of himself (age 27), Loraine (27) and their one-year-old California-born son Henry.<sup>14</sup> Sadly, Loraine died in Texas of tuberculosis on 25 January 1931.

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<sup>8</sup> Biography of Granat: <https://lakechapalaartists.com/?p=7483>

<sup>9</sup> The life and cartographic work of Higley's father, Henry Grant Higley, are described in "[Henry Grant Higley and his 1908 plan of Guadalajara.](#)"

<sup>10</sup> *El Informador*: 23 June 1926, 1, 6; 24 July 1926, 7.

<sup>11</sup> *El Informador*: 7 Nov 1926, 3.

<sup>12</sup> She attended a wedding in Guadalajara. *El Informador*: 1 July 1927, 5.

<sup>13</sup> *El Informador*: 9 Feb 1928, 7. *Los Angeles Times*: 12 Feb 1928, 39.

<sup>14</sup> Henry Grant Higley Jr. (1929-2010) was born in Los Angeles on 14 March 1929. His mother died when he was an infant, and his father remarried almost immediately. At the time of the 1940 US census he was 11 years of age and living in Los Angeles with his paternal grandmother, Rosario Higley, then aged 60. He served in the US Navy in both Vietnam and Korea, and died in San Diego on 21 September 2010.

A year after losing his first wife, Enrique married Russian-born Mary Bavin (1905-1991) in Portland, Oregon. Mary had lived in the US since 1913, and in Los Angeles since 1923. She sought US citizenship in 1936 and it was approved within three months.<sup>15</sup>

Henry Grant Higley Sr. studied at Universidad de Guadalajara (BA in Engineering in 1924), the University of Nuevo León, University of Southern California, and at Los Angeles College of Chiropractic.

Dr. Henry Grant Higley Sr. co-authored a textbook on general chemistry<sup>16</sup> and undertook research in drugs, nutrition, space medicine and industrial problems. He was considered a leading scientist in the fields of nutrition and space medicine, and was director of research for the American Chiropractic Association.

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<sup>15</sup> This wedding date is based on Oregon records. According to her naturalization application in Los Angeles on 21 Feb 1936, Mary Higley (pastry baker, born in Tiflis, Russia on 27 Feb 1905) married Henry Grant Higley (born Peru 11 June 1903) on 3 Aug 1931 at Las Vegas.

<sup>16</sup> George H. Haynes and Henry G. Higley. 1938. General Chemistry. Haynes was Jorge Hector Haynes, born in 1911 in Guadalajara to Higley's aunt Dolores Andrade (c 1885-?) and her husband, Ricardo Haynes.