

SCOTTSDALE HISTORY SPOTLIGHT

Making Hayden Road a major thoroughfare

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SPECIAL FOR THE REPUBLIC | AZCENTRAL.COM

Hayden Road is named for the pioneer Wilfred Hayden family, who farmed the land on the east side of Hayden, north of McDowell, for more than a half century.

Until the 1970s, Hayden Road just ran from McKellips Road to Indian School, a span of a little over three miles.

The three elements that impeded Hayden were the Salt River on the south, and a chunk of the Indian Bend Wash and Villa Monterey Golf Course on the north. Bridging the Salt River was Maricopa County's job, and that happened about 1980. Extending Hayden northward through the Indian Bend Wash was an expenditure that had to be made by the city of Scottsdale.

Routing Hayden Road through the Villa Monterey Golf Course was the most difficult stumbling block that had to be surmounted.

David Friedman

During the 1950s and 1960s, David Friedman developed a home building concept that ran counter to the trends of that day. Instead of building homes on one-acre lots, or even three or four homes per acre, he wanted to build eight homes to the acre.

His idea was to serve older folks ages 55 and up with a home that covered most of its lot. Some shared common walls. Each home had a fine master bedroom, a

smaller guest room, a nice sized living room, kitchen area and carport.

Each lot had a small front and back yard requiring little maintenance. The homes were designed with different exteriors. His development had an executive golf course (Villa Monterey) with a fine club house and was located near downtown Scottsdale.

This golf course blocked Hayden Road from going north. David Friedman, like many developers, was passionate about his project and not predisposed to make significant changes.

Negotiations

To address the issue, the city of Scottsdale formed a committee to meet with Mr. Friedman. And meet we did, convening eight to 10 meetings over a period of about half a year. Mayor Bud Tims, councilwoman Billie Gentry and I were on the negotiating committee.

In the beginning, Mr. Friedman's response was an absolute, "No." But Mayor Tims, in his wisdom, always asked for another meeting and continued to express optimism.

Early on in the process Billie Jo discovered that she and Mr. Friedman were proud of their salsa-making abilities, and after the first meeting, they always had new salsa recipes to share when we met.

Over those many months of meetings, we gained a greater appreciation of each side's perspective. Respect developed.

Mr. Friedman came to lunch one day with an idea for a new Villa Monterey clubhouse and a very limited and deeply reduced golf course. He offered to give Scottsdale the right of way we needed through the center of his beloved golf course.

Paul Messinger was raised in Scottsdale and founded Messinger Mortuaries in 1959. Reach him at 480-860-2300.