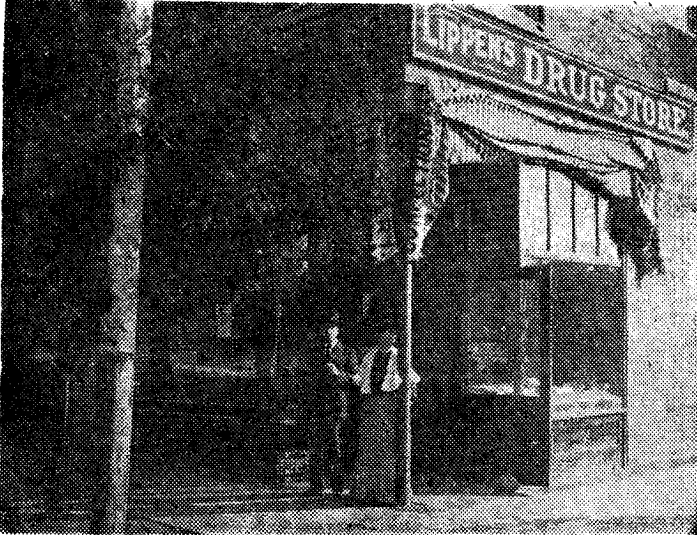


Pioneer drug building razed

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PIONEER DRUG STORE — Early photo shows drug store building at corner of Ave. 64 and York Blvd. in 1904. Structure was demolished last week to make way for new gas station.

By **DON BEALE**

A building that housed a drug-store for more than 54 years, famous Highland Park landmark on the corner of Ave. 64 and York Blvd., is being razed to make way for a major oil company service station.

The dilapidated structure, if it could talk, would tell of count-

less people—on foot, horseback, in surries and early model cars—who passed before it on their way to Pasadena.

TO BE A DRUG STORE

The building was erected for one purpose—to be a drugstore. And a drugstore it was. In 1903 Harry G. Lippen, a native

Northeast Los Angeles, started a drug business in a building on the northwest corner of York and Ave. 64, across the street from the old store, a building which is now Dusty's cafe.

Shortly after Lippen opened, a storm almost completely wrecked the store, showering the interior with glass and destroying valuable drugs.

OWNED REAL ESTATE

Camel Johnson, owner of the damaged building and other holdings in the Garvanza area at the time, refused to repair the store, related Mrs. Mary L. Good, daughter of the pioneer druggist who now lives at 200 S. Ave. 66. Litigation was almost inevitable, she said.

Consequently, Lippen moved his business across the street into a small house, awaiting completion of a new structure, the one that is now being demolished. Johnston, pioneer developer in Northeastern Los Angeles, went down with the "Titanic" in 1912, when it collided with an iceberg, killing 1513 people.

LOCAL CONTRACTOR

The new structure was built and owned by a Mr. Blakely, Mrs. Good said. Blakely was a local contractor.

After a few years as a druggist in the new store, Lippen was forced to leave the business due to ill health. But other druggists throughout the years kept

and improved the standards of the store.

RECENT PROPRIETOR

Most recent proprietor of the Garvanza Pharmacy is H. Allan Oliver, who occupied the 1904-built structure for more than 10 years before moving to new quarters diagonally across the street, giving him a roomier and more modern store.

Recent owner of the property on the busy corner was Elmer Dahlen, Oliver said, who sold to the Children's Hospital. The hospital has leased the property to Standard Oil Company of California.