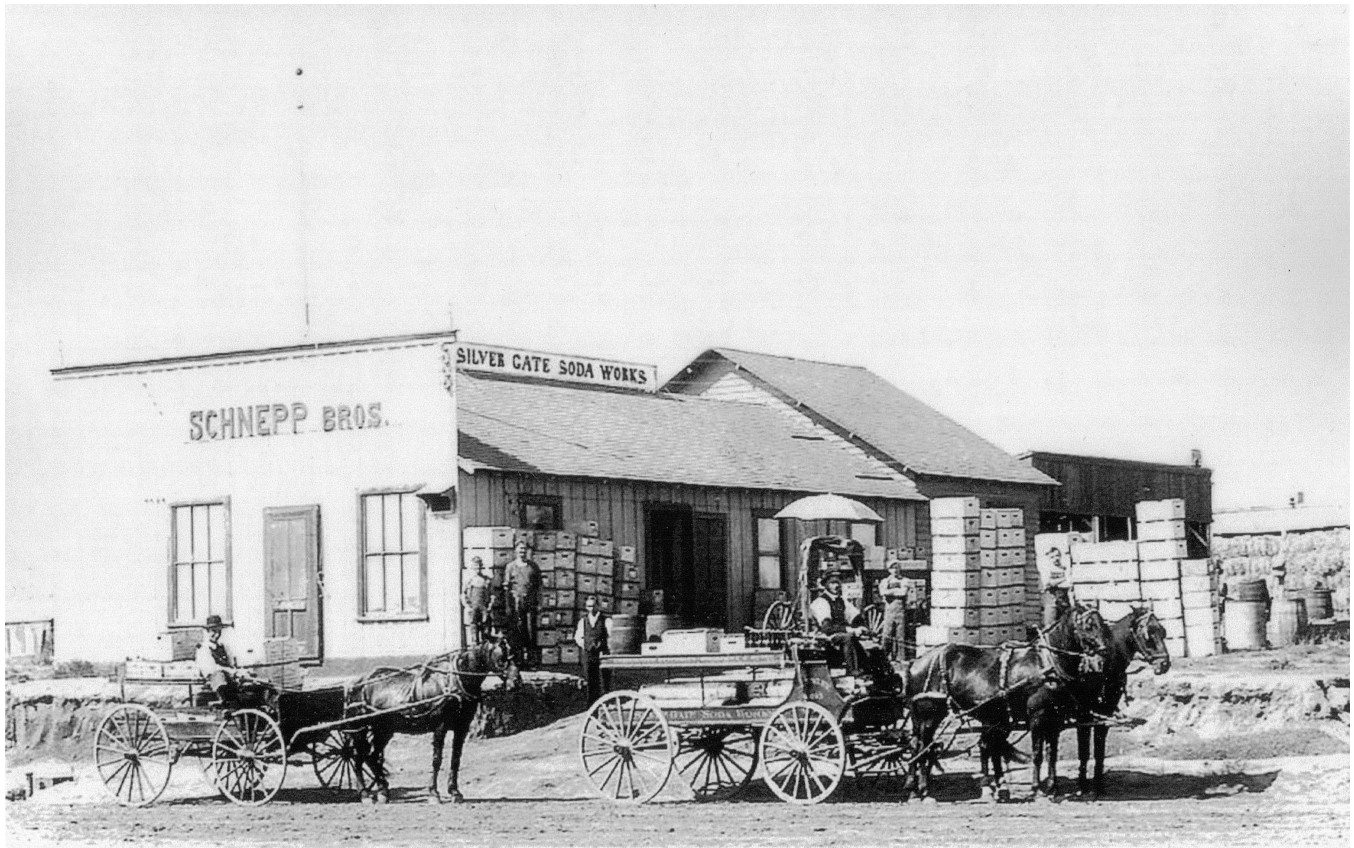


## Silver Gate Soda Works By Mike Bryant



Recently, a rare early picture postcard turned up for sale on Ebay. It sold for \$135.00. Having never seen this photo before, I contacted the San Diego History Center's Photo Collections department to see if I could obtain a copy. One of the archivists there spent two days searching through their vast collection of old San Diego photographs and could not find a copy. They did not have this picture in their collection. I then contacted the buyer and asked if I could have a scan of the photo. He obliged, but the scan was of a low resolution and making enlargements proved unsatisfactory. I hope further research will turn up a copy.

The Silver Gate photo resembles the 1903 San Diego Soda Works photo which has been published many times over the years. Although this photo is not dated, we know that Silver Gate Soda Works was in business from 1907 until 1918. The business was located at 1772 Main St in San Diego near where the Coronado Bridge is today. Because of the lack of internal combustion type vehicles i.e. trucks, cars, this picture most likely dates to beginning of the business. Interestingly, the man wearing the vest in the center of the picture looks to be Emil Schnepf, owner of the company.



*Emil W. Schnepf*