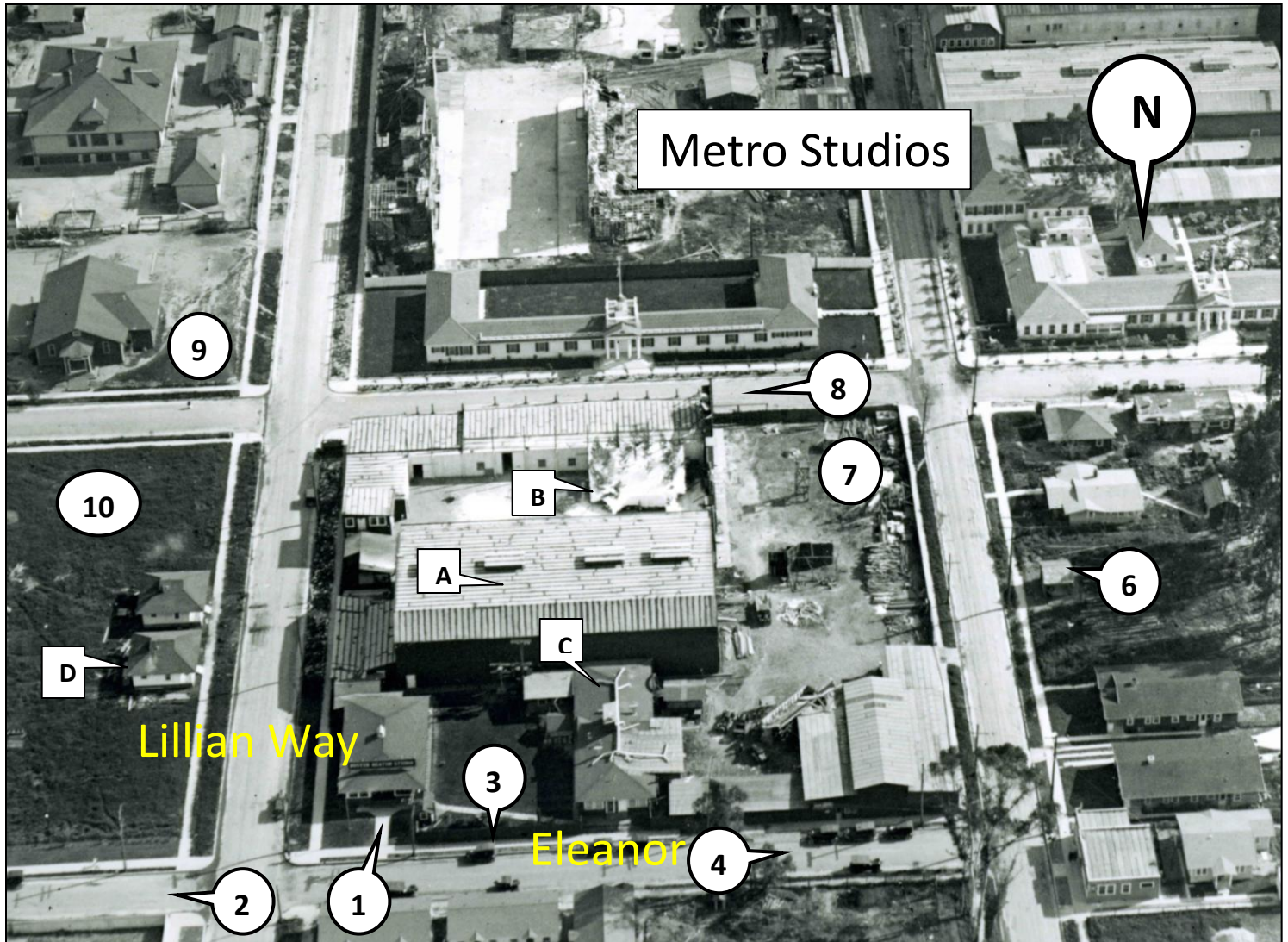




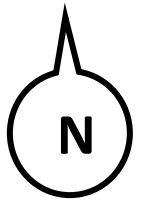
June 15 – 17, 2018



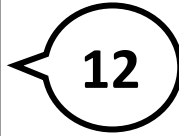
# Buster Keaton Weekend Studio Tour



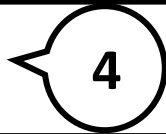
Looking south at the Buster Keaton Studio bungalow front office (1) at Eleanor and Lillian Way, with scenes from *Sherlock Jr.* and Chaplin's *The Fireman*; view east along Eleanor (2) in *Convict 13* and *Sherlock Jr.*; view north from studio lawn (3) including *The Goat* and *The Scarecrow*; shooting stage (A), snow bank set for *The Frozen North/Sherlock Jr.* (B), film developing laboratory and editing room (C); view west on Eleanor (4) at studio barn and barber shop/coffee shop in *The Blacksmith* and *Sherlock Jr.*; vacant lot on Cahuenga (6), next to small square set built for new scenes in *The Blacksmith* – lot (6) also appears in *The Scarecrow*, *College*, *Steamboat Bill, Jr.*; backlot corner (7) where sets were built including *Convict 13*, *Neighbors*, *The Boat*, *My Wife's Relations*, and Chaplin's *Easy Street*; view east down Romaine (8) at Metro Studio administration building in *College*; corner Romaine and Lillian Way (9) with Vine Street school at back, *Sherlock Jr.* and Chaplin's *The Fireman*, and corner church *One Week*; vacant lot site on Lillian Way of *The Balloonatic* balloon launch; bungalow (D) moved in 1926, still standing 11 miles away at 4908 McKinley Avenue.



Santa Monica



Cahuenga

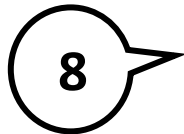
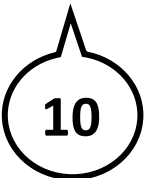


Eleanor



Keaton Studio  
site

Lillian Way

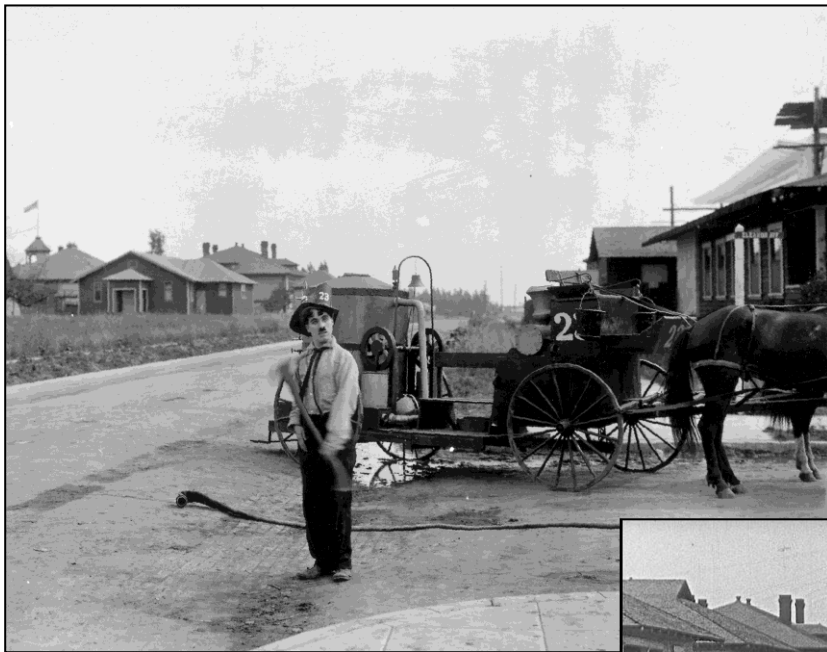


Romaine



1

The tour starts (1) at Eleanor and Lillian Way. Follow the posts in sequence. Group photo during *Neighbors* (1920) facing south at the studio corner office bungalow. The new plaque lies near where Joe Keaton (left of BK) and Buster are standing.

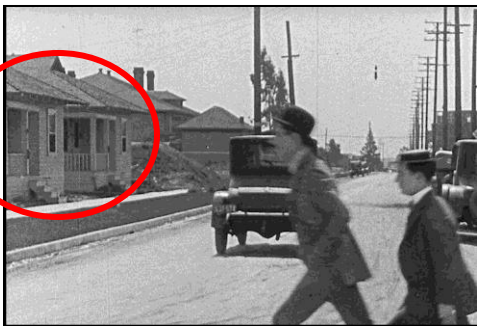
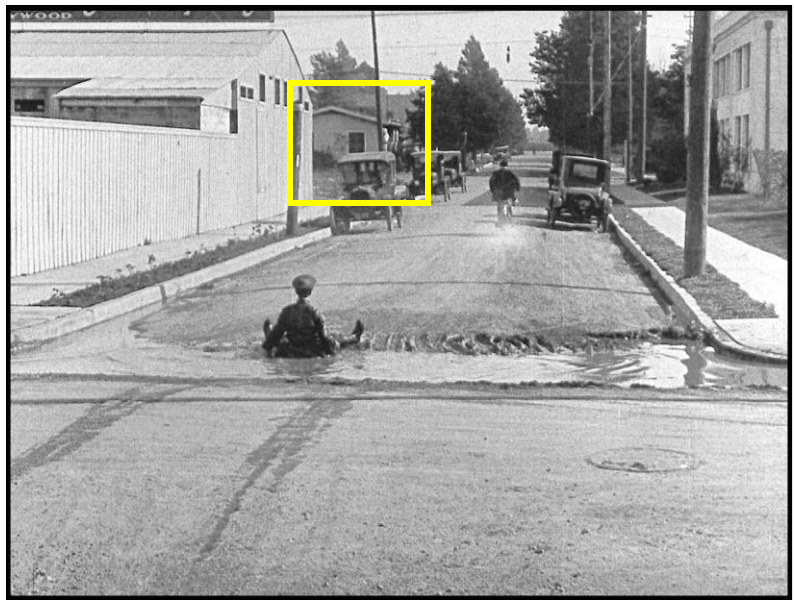
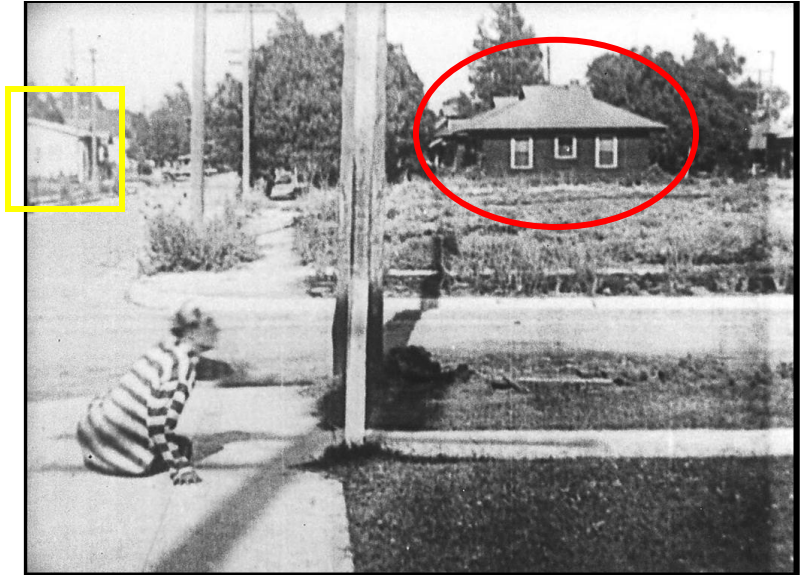


Looking south down Lillian Way at Eleanor – *The Fireman* (1916) and *Sherlock Jr.* (1924). Note matching chimneys of Vine Street Elementary School.



2

Matching views east down Eleanor from Lillian Way corner – *Convict 13* (1920) and *Sherlock Jr.* Buster fell off the motorbike as stunt double for another actor. The yellow box marks same house at Eleanor and Vine. The homes (red oval) on Eleanor were moved one block south to Romaine, then again to Lillian Way, where they appear in *Sherlock Jr.* (below) and *The Balloonatic* (1923).

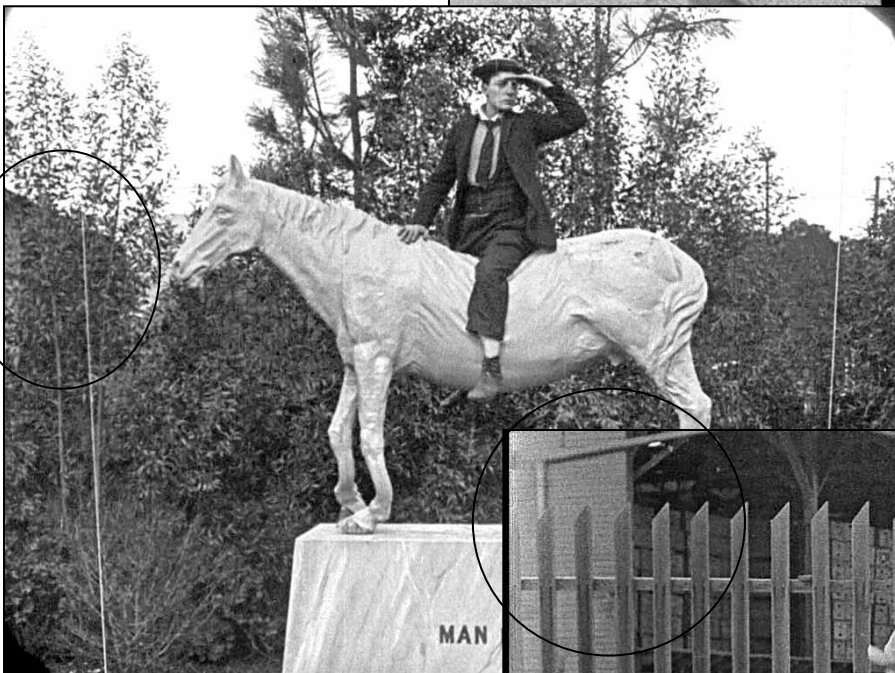


Moved a *third* time in 1926, the northern home still stands at 4908 McKinley Avenue.



3

Looking north from studio lawn – Buster with Joe and Roscoe – lemon warehouse on Eleanor across street.

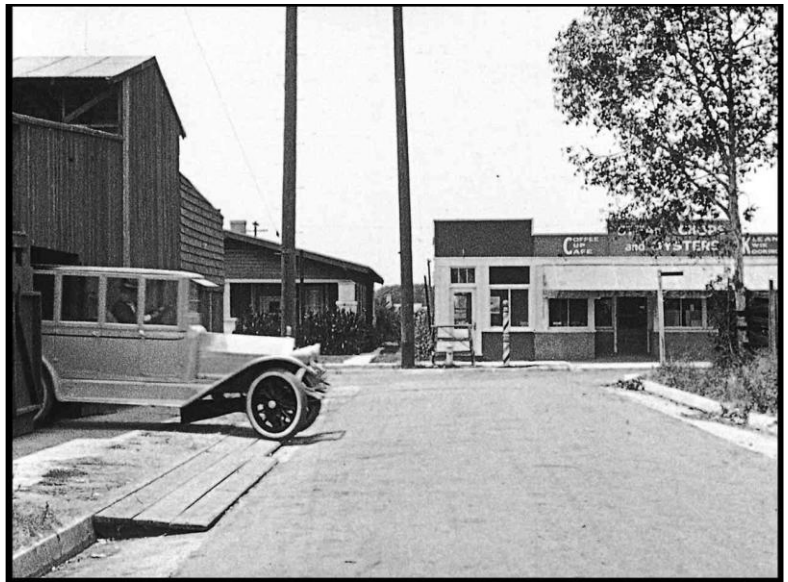


Looking north from studio lawn – Buster in *The Goat* (1920). Joe in *The Scarecrow* (1920) on Eleanor in front of lemon warehouse storage shed – see matching corners (oval).



4

Looking west on Eleanor toward a barber shop and the Coffee Cup Cafe, the studio barn at left – *The Blacksmith* (1922). View west from *Sherlock Jr.* reveals cafe “OYSTERS” sign at back.

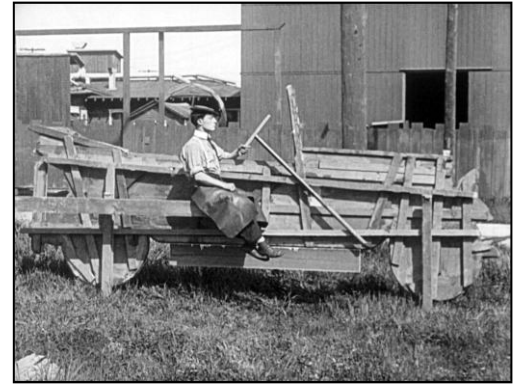
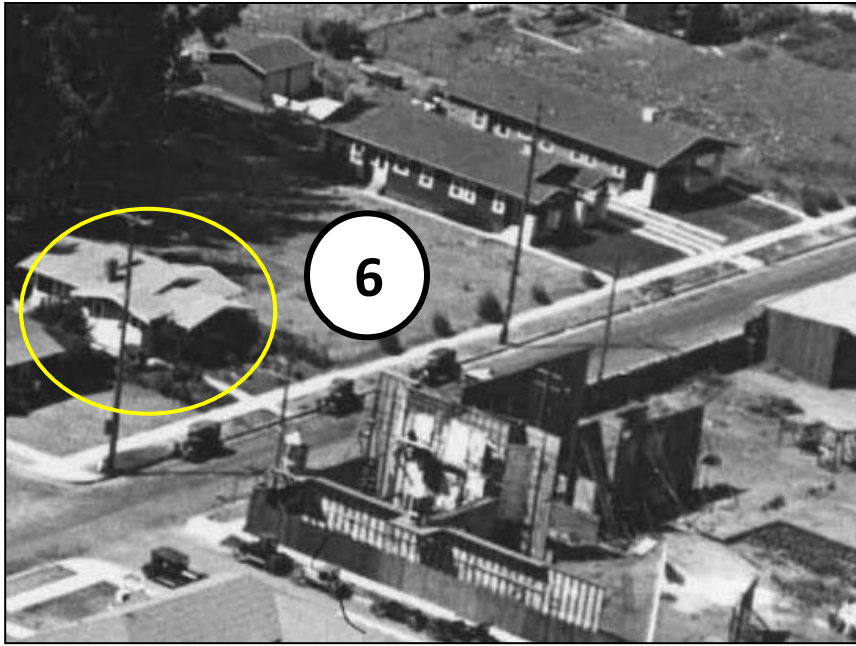


Looking SE toward corner of studio barn – Eleanor at left, Cahuenga at right.

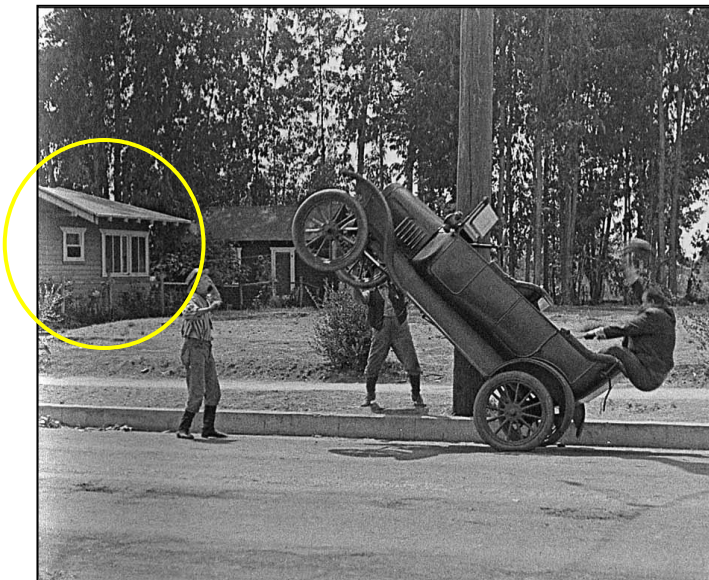


Looking east on Santa Monica at Cahuenga. Firemen preparing to hose down cattle – *Go West* (1925). Below, from *The Balloonatic* (1923) (tour site 10) looks north towards warehouse clock-tower (circle).

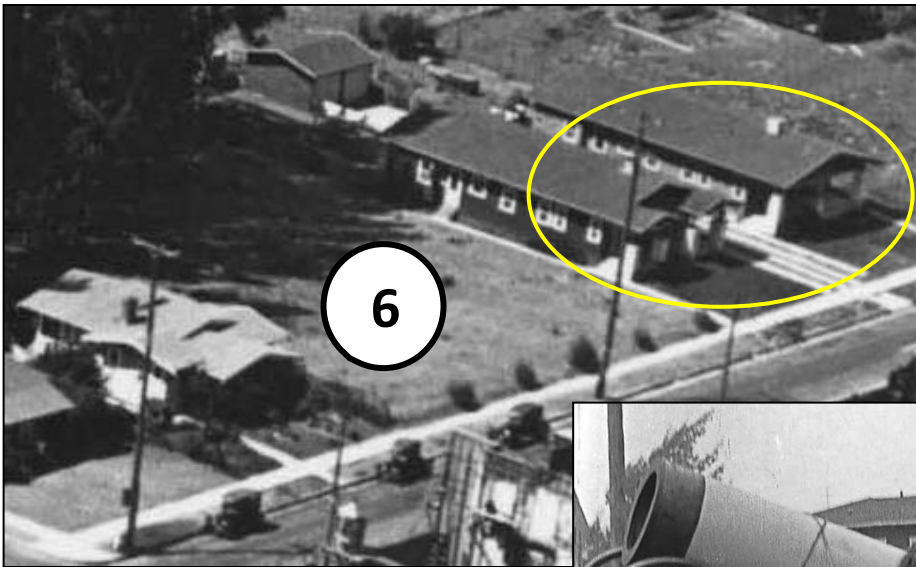




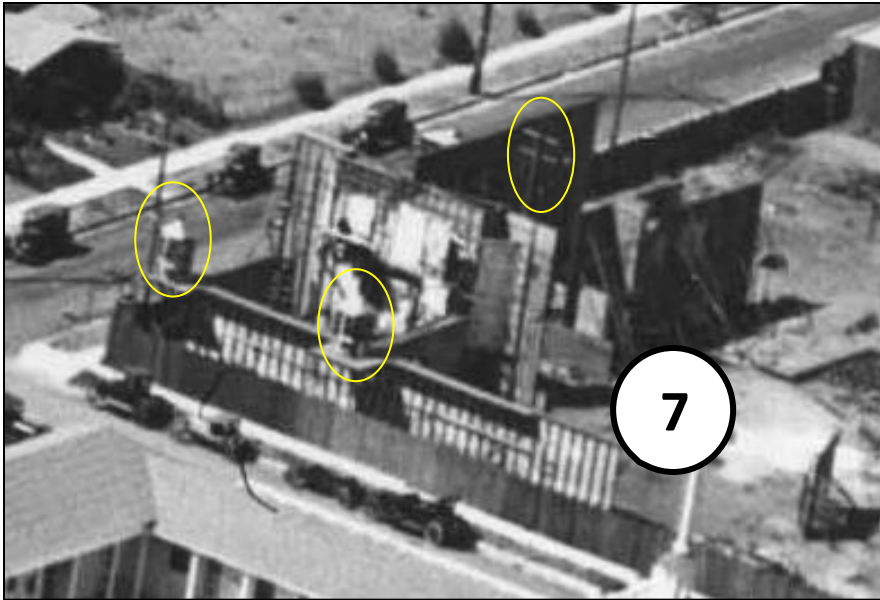
Looking NW, all these scenes show the small vacant lot on Cahuenga. Upper right, new views from *The Blacksmith*, showing the side of the studio stage in reverse shot. Bungalow 1007 Cahuenga (oval) appears in *College* (1927), right, *The Scarecrow*, lower left, and *Steamboat Bill, Jr.* (1928), perhaps the final scene Keaton filmed at the studio.



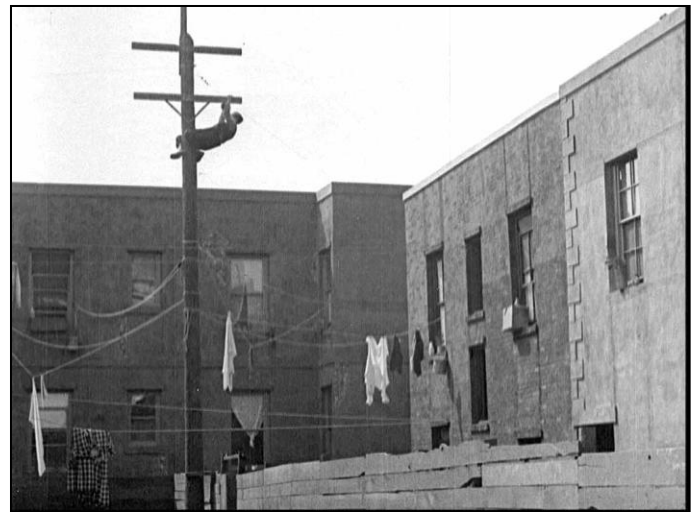
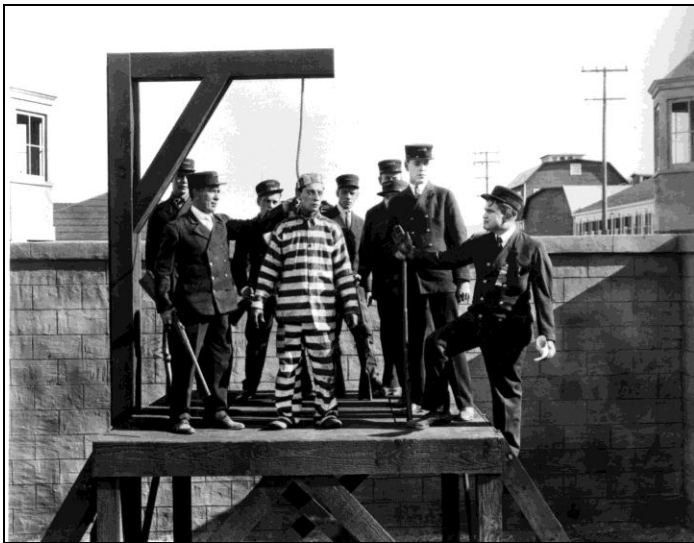




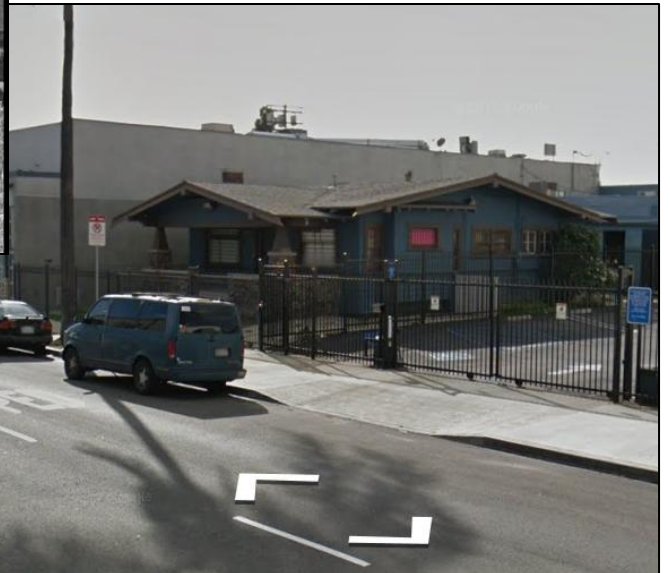
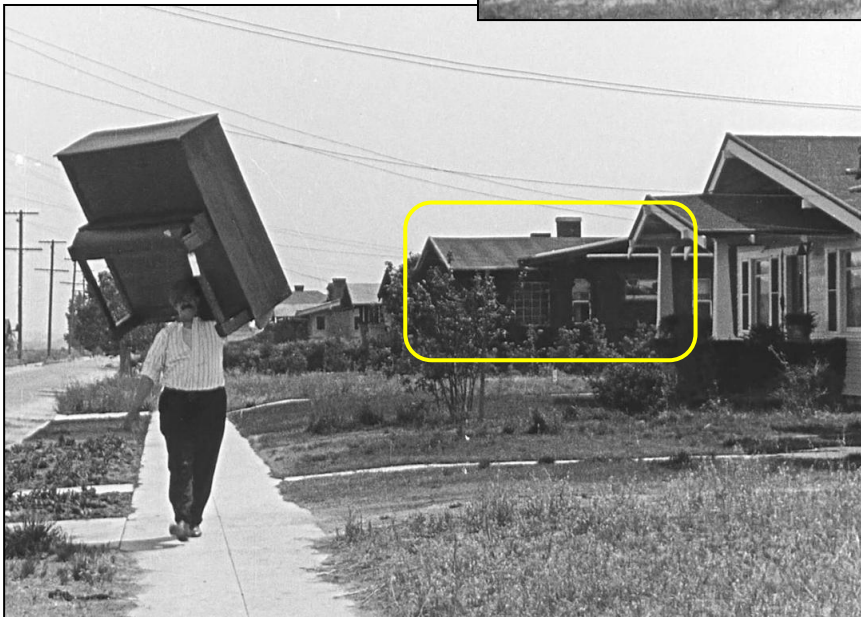
The distinctive duplex porches north of the vacant lot appear in *The Boat* (1921), *College*, middle, and in new footage from *The Blacksmith* lower right. The red circle marks the barbershop sign.



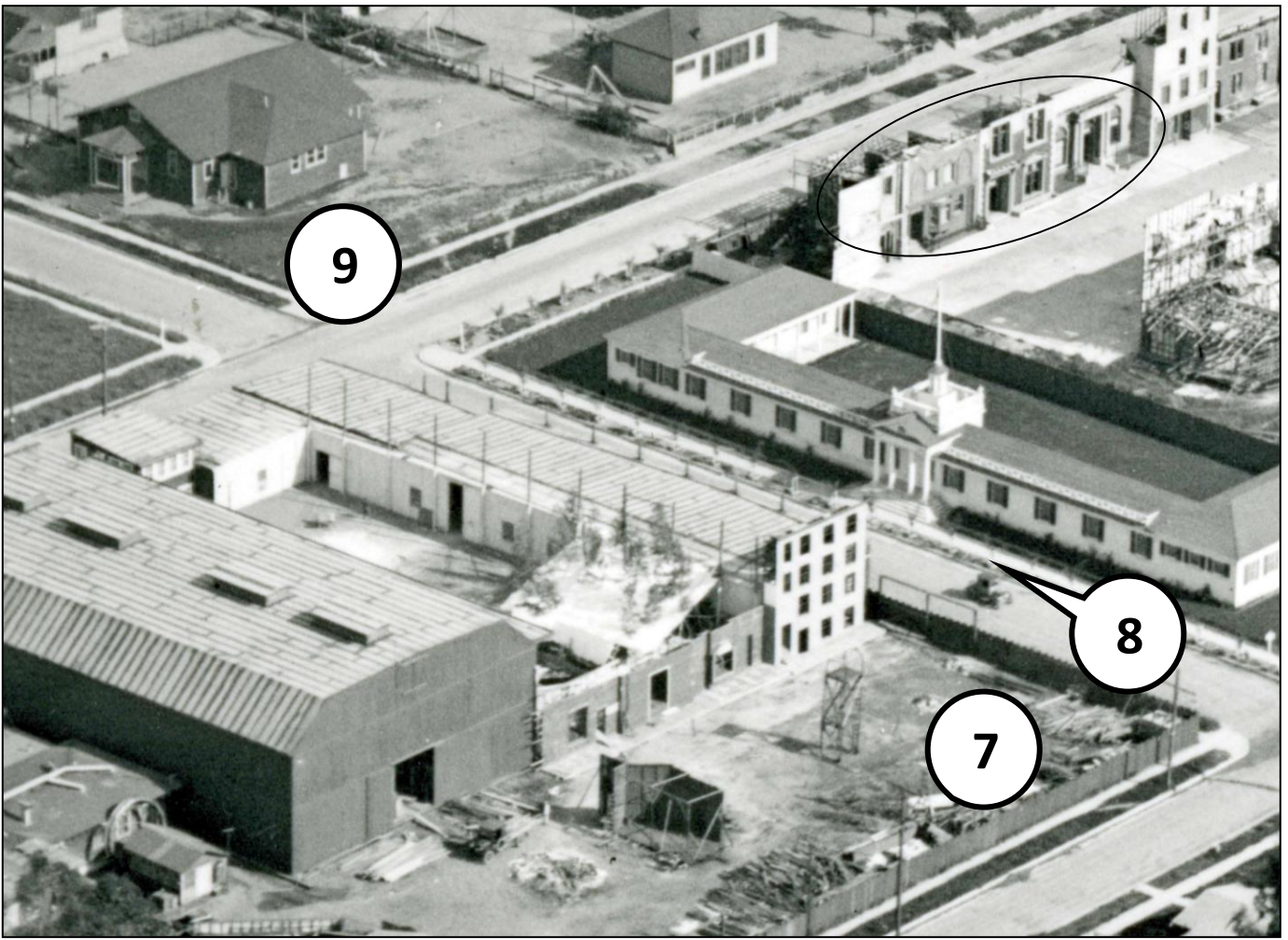
All large sets were built on this empty corner at Cahuenga and Romaine. You can see the guard towers of the *Convict 13* set, and the telephone pole from *Neighbors*. Also *The Boat* and Chaplin's *Easy Street* (1917) were filmed here.



Two blocks further south, 815 Cahuenga still stands. It appears twice in *One Week* (1920), and stood across from a Metro backlot, now the Red Studios.



815 Cahuenga



Looking SE at a stunt set – new footage from *My Wife's Relations* (1922) right, also used in *Day Dreams* (1922) below. The Metro lot sets (oval) appear in *Cops* (1922).



8

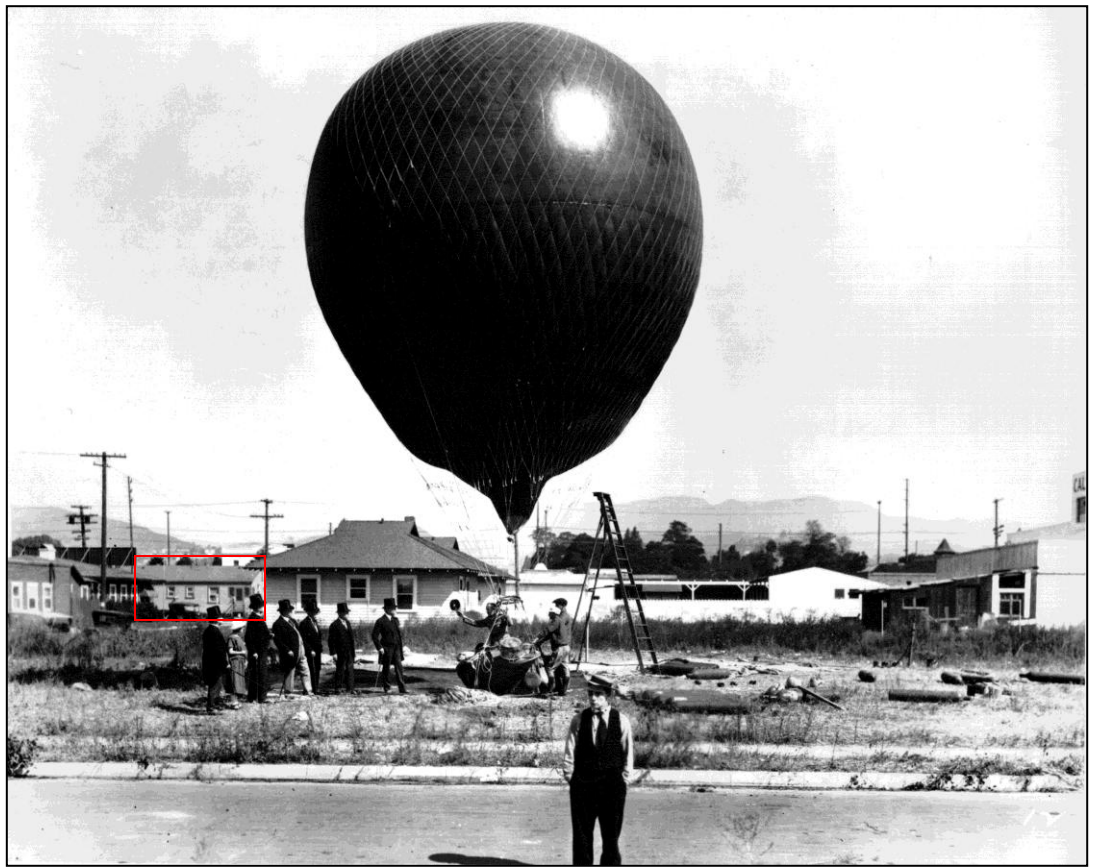
Looking east down Romaine – Buster bumps into Snitz Edwards in *College* at the studio corner. Also from *College*, Buster races past the abandoned Metro administration building, the Vine Street school appears at left.



9

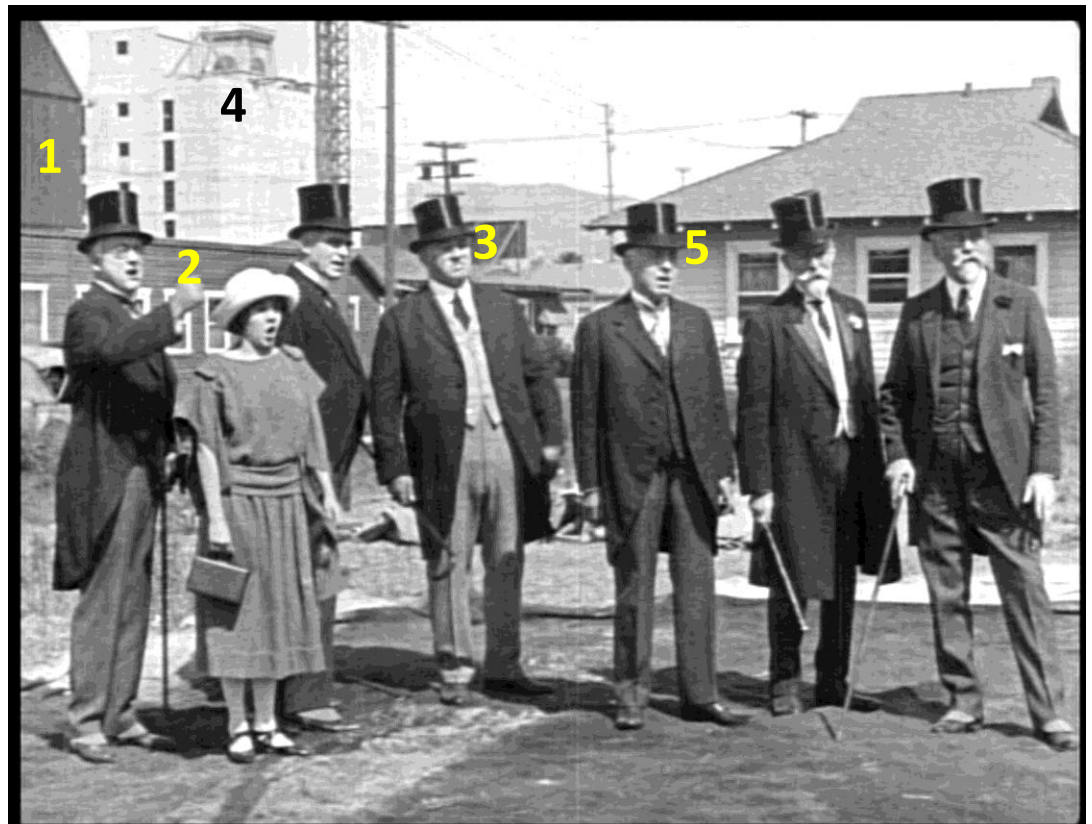
The *One Week* church stood near the corner of Romaine and Lillian Way.





The *Balloonatic* launch was staged due east of the studio. Below, the shooting stage (1), dressing room windows (2), and the back of the studio sign (3), appear at back, along with the *Go West* warehouse clock tower (4), and the *Convict 13/Sherlock Jr.* bungalows (5). The bungalow behind (5) was moved in 1926 and still stands – see page 4.

Some of these buildings (red box) were moved and are still standing – read <https://silentlocations.wordpress.com/2018/03/12/the-surviving-keaton-studio-neighbors/>



Head north up Lillian Way toward tour site 11. Looking south, the *One Week* church and Vine Street school appear in Chaplin's *The Fireman*, and in this inset from *Sherlock Jr.* (showing church now demolished).



11



SW view towards Lillian Way (left) and Eleanor. Infeasible to convert to talking pictures, the studio was demolished in 1931.

11

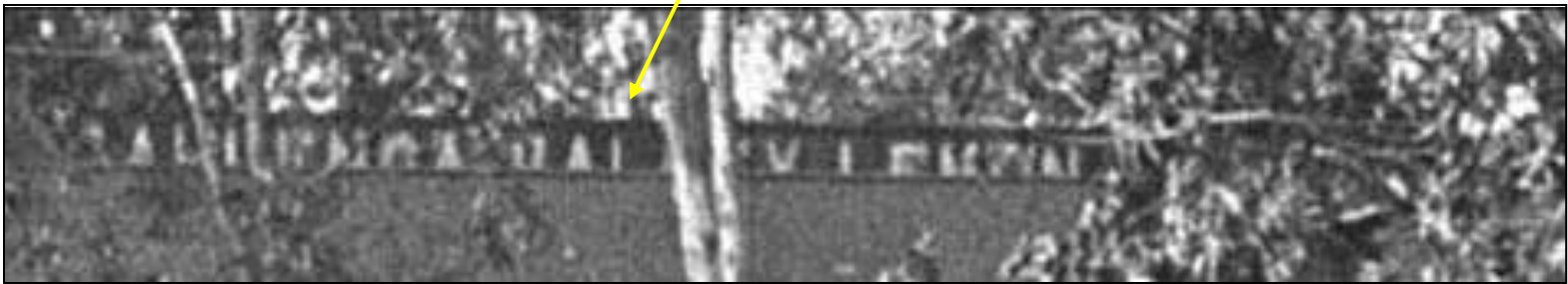
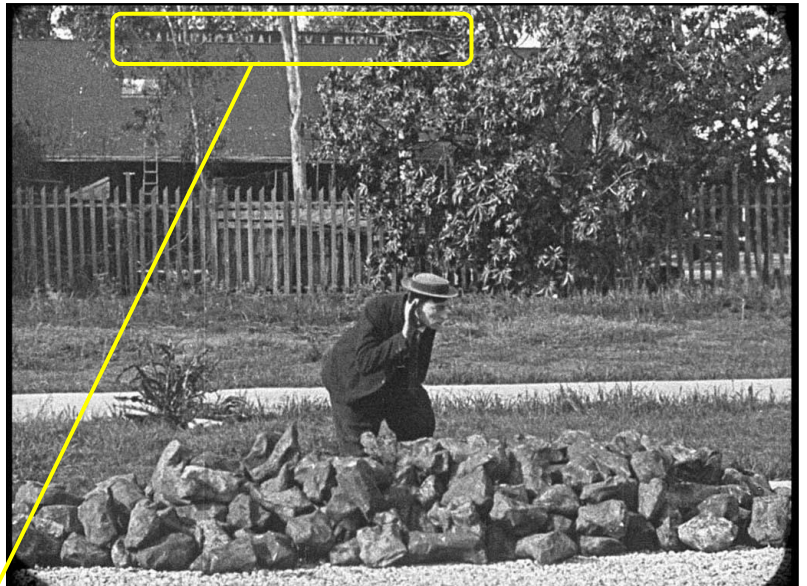
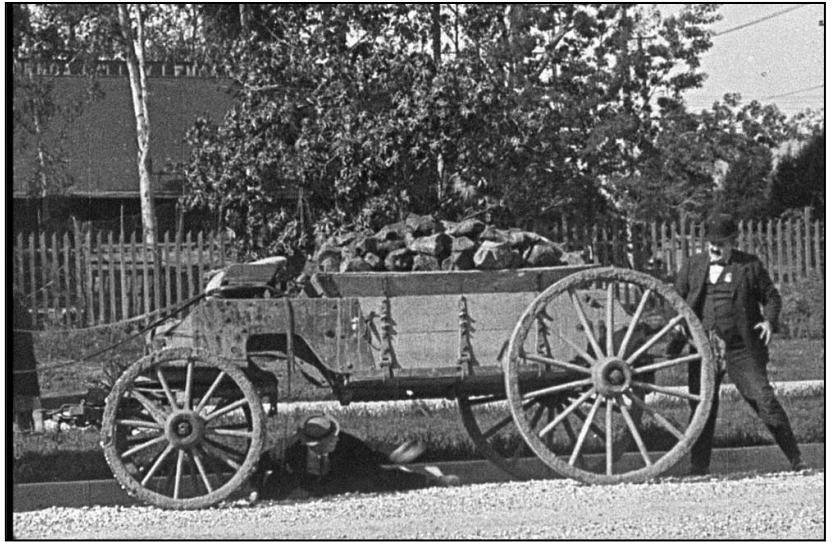
Buster and Joe's "rural" cottage in *The Scarecrow* stood on the NE corner across from the studio. The buildings at back, to the left, once stood at Santa Monica and Vine.



Buster behind *The Scarecrow* cottage, looking west towards Lillian Way and the north end of the lemon warehouse shed seen earlier in the film behind Joe.



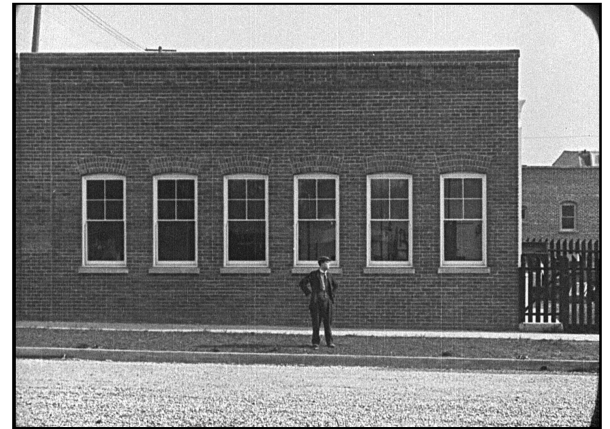
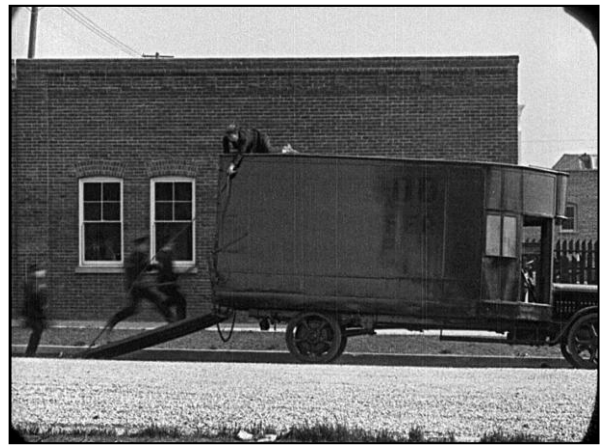
In *The Goat*, Buster lures Joe under a dump truck, looking west on Lillian Way towards the Cahuenga Valley Lemon Growers Exchange warehouse. You can read the sign behind Buster.



# CAHUENGA VALLEY LEMON

Looking east in *The Goat*, Buster lures the police into a moving van beside the Bell & Howell building along Lillian Way, at the corner of Santa Monica Blvd. Built in 1920, a southern slightly taller extension was added in 1925. The far right window here has been carved into a doorway.

Take a selfie with Buster – see next pages.



Buster intervenes when a man harasses Virginia Fox (looking east at SM Blvd. and Vine – all landmarks gone), so a cop investigates, walking south along the Bell & Howell Building on Lillian Way from the corner of SM Blvd.





John Bengtson's books *Silent Echoes*, *Silent Traces*, and *Silent Visions* explore the early Hollywood and New York history hidden in the background of the films of Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin, and Harold Lloyd. A business lawyer practicing in the Bay Area, John serves on the Board of the San Francisco Silent Film Festival, has presented his work at events hosted by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the TCM Classic Film Festival, and the Museum of the Moving Image, among others, and has prepared bonus feature programs for numerous DVD and Blu-ray releases.

For silent-era tours, maps, and new location discoveries, visit <http://SilentLocations.Wordpress.com/>

Some posts related to the Keaton Studio:

<https://silentlocations.wordpress.com/2013/07/20/found-a-new-version-of-keatons-the-blacksmith-and-the-ales-it-tells/>

<https://silentlocations.wordpress.com/2016/03/22/chaplin-keaton-studio-connections-the-fireman-and-convict-13/>

<https://silentlocations.wordpress.com/2016/09/20/silent-witness-the-house-that-watched-over-chaplin-and-keaton/>

<https://silentlocations.wordpress.com/2017/04/25/keatons-the-goat-the-geography-of-a-gag/>

<https://silentlocations.wordpress.com/2018/04/21/the-surviving-sherlock-jr-bungalow/>

<https://silentlocations.wordpress.com/2018/03/12/the-surviving-keaton-studio-neighbors/>

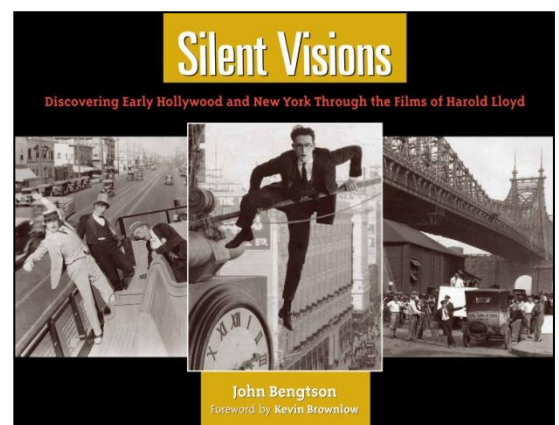
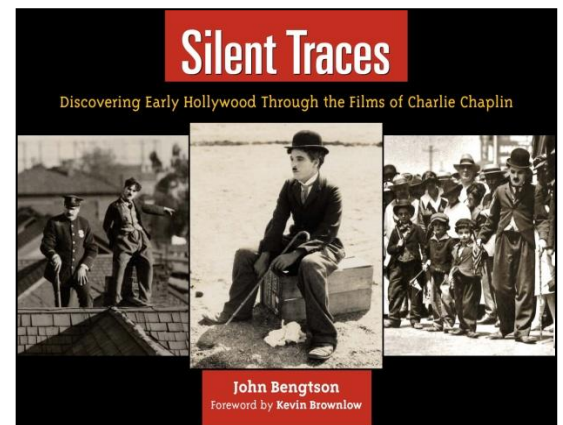
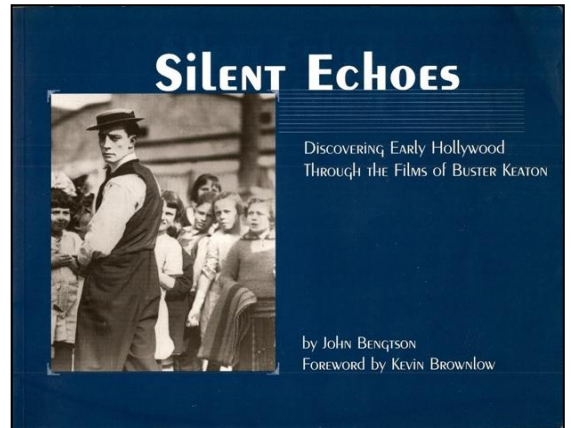
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