



After pushing the orphanage official from the truck, Charlie and Jackie pass behind the Baker Building (right) as they turn south onto Arcadia. Sanchez Street (see *Police chapter*) appears in the far background.



Built in 1878 by Col. Robert S. Baker for his wife Arcadia (see *Police chapter*), the Baker Building, located one block south of the plaza, was the grandest building in Southern California.

The entire façade was made of cast iron plates, and a large wooden awning surrounded the shops on the first floor. The central entryway facing Main Street featured an enormous grand double staircase flanking both sides of the lobby. Lawyers, physicians, and prominent business people rented offices on the second floor, while the top floor contained fashionable apartment suites. Its

elaborate cupola towers were a prominent early landmark. In its final years it served as the headquarters for Good Will Industries before it was demolished to make way for the Santa Ana Freeway.

This same alleyway appears in two later Jackie Coogan films: during a chase scene in *My Boy* (1921) to the left and as Jackie sells scrap items in *The Rag Man* (1925) to the right. The alley was quite narrow, and could be closed shut by drawing down a vertical gate. Chaplin framed his shot (above) in a way to make it appear more like a true street corner. Notice that Chaplin's slim truck is barely two seats wide—a normal-sized truck would have had trouble negotiating the tight corner.

