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Armenian Memorial Slated For Site In Bicknell Park

The Armenian communities of Montebello, Pico - Rivera, Monterey Park, and East Los Angeles is joining with other Armenian communities throughout Southern California in preparing to erect a monument in Montebello's Bicknell Park as a permanent memorial to over a million of its people who were massacred during World War 1, and as an enduring symbol of the dedication of Armenians everywhere to the cause of Freedom.

The Montebello site was selected because many of the survivors of the Turkish attempt to exterminate the Armenian people found refuge in the United States, a considerable number of

whom settled in the Montebello area and their future generations live here.

During the last half century the Armenians have emerged from the status of pitiful refugees and developed into an affluent and civically active component of the entire community. The memorial monument is one of many being constructed throughout the world and intended as an outward condemnation of genocide, and to remind all men that the price of freedom is an indomitable will and continual sacrifice.

THE MASSACRE of nearly one half of the Armenian nation between 1915 and 1918 was commemorated the world over during 1965, and this year the memorial services to be held on April 24 will be designed to stimulate the program of constructing memorial monuments in other parts of the country.

With Montebello selected as the most desirable site in this area because of its location in the virtual center of a large area - wide Armenian population, Michael Minasian, project chairman, has conferred with the City Council and Parks and Recreation Director, Mos-

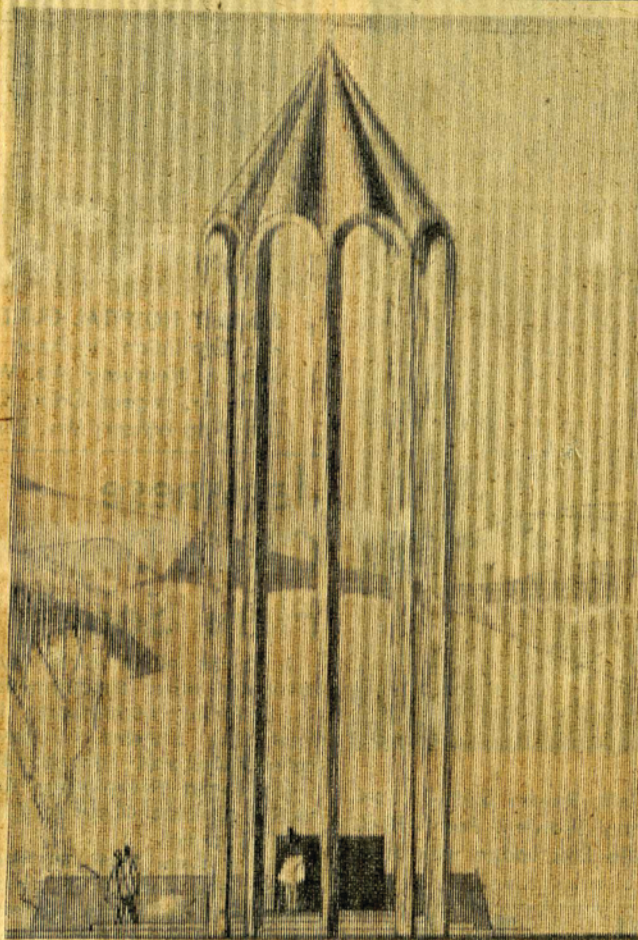
Garay, relative to the Bicknell Park site.

The Montebello Planning Commission, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Council have lauded the ideals for which such a memorial stands and have expressed favorable consideration of the site appeal and have indicated favorable consideration pending submission of a final design, plans and specifications.

In addition, the Montebello Junior Chamber of Commerce, of which Minasian is its charter first vice president, has lent its support to the Bicknell Park site request and added a further condition that the Junior Chamber would furnish 20 picnic tables in Bicknell Park for the use of the public when the memorial is completed.

IN DISCUSSING the memorial, Junior Chamber President David Morrison said: "I consider the erection of the Armenian monument an important service to Montebello. It will not only beautify Bicknell Park but will also make it an important landmark in Southern California."

Project chairman Michael Minasian added, "If the ideal



PROPOSED MONUMENT — Commemorative Monument Committee of Armenian Marchers has proposed a monument in Bicknell Park and City Council is expected to take action Tuesday night. Several suggestions have been offered the committee, including this one by Architect H. Hrant Agbabian showing the traditional Armenian church dome, which is considered to represent the origin of early Christian architecture. The octagonal dome symbolizes the spiritual harmony of the Armen-