Urban America Los Angeles- Then and Now

The City of Los Angeles then and now. Change of class, culture, and people.

Muath Alnafisi Zachary Mays Matthew Caron Edward Eberle The City of Los Angeles, L.A, is the most popular city in California State and the second popular in the United States, the first is New York. Since its foundation in September 4th, 1781, the City of Los Angeles has gone through many changes. The City of Los Angeles was first found thousands of years ago by the Tongva and Chumash Native American tribes. L.A. was reached by the Spanish Empire on August 2nd, 1769. The Americans took control of California State by signing the Treaty of Cahuenga on January 13, 1847. When the oil was discovered in 1892, transportation and buildings start getting better and bigger. Railroads arrived to L.A. in 1876, a little bit before the discovery of the oil. In 1910, Hollywood started in L.A. with at least 10 movie companies within the city borders. By 1921, more than 80 percent of the world's file industries were located in L.A. To help the city's economy, the money which was generated by those companies, was kept in the city to help the economy, especially during the Great Depression. L.A. got bigger and it hosted the Summer Olympics of 1932 and the population was a bit over one million.

It has changed very much in so many different ways! L.A. is a global city because its strengths in business, international trade, entertainment, culture, media, fashion, science, sports, technology, education, medicine and research. All of these things have changed L.A. in different ways. The history and the look of the city of L.A. have changed and gone beyond what people think.





The City of Los Angeles was one of the first cities in the United States to have big buildings and malls. The Bradbury Building built in 1893 in L.A. was a fine example of multistore structure designed around an inner glazed court with open stairs and elevator cages. Most of companies' offices were located in L.A. the Richfield Oil Building built in 1929 was an excellent example of the Modern Style of the 1920s. The first fire house was built in 1884 and it was constructed by the City of Los Angeles for housing firefighting equipment and personnel. Now, people almost cannot tell which building of L.A. is the most common one, all of them are! There are five arenas in L.A. with huge capacity, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum (Capacity 92,500), Dodger Stadium (Capacity 56,000), Staples Center, Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, and Pauley Pavilion, UCLA.

There are tons of radio and TV stations in L.A. Some of the radio and TV stations are in many different languages such as, Spanish, Arabic, French, and German. The most common radio stations in L.A. are, KKBT, KYSR, KCRW, and KRTH. The most common local L.A. TV stations are, KTRO, KCBS, KTLA, and KABC.

Los Angeles was the first product off the assembly line of American urban planning. Turned on in the late 19th century, the city-making machine was fueled by an immense immigration of people who sought to create a new type of city out of the previously quaint pueblo. They also strove to craft the first major city developed primarily by Americans and outside of European archetypes. As a result, Los Angles is not only incredibly diverse, but also nearly impossible to define. Since it is a product of the American machine, understanding the community of Los Angeles becomes vital to understanding the United States. But to fully comprehend the present Los Angeles, one must look at the process that created it. Specifically, Los Angeles was created by upper class Anglo citizens of the 20th century, who strove to

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materialize their imagined reality of a rural city by establishing a process where affluent citizens fled to the suburbs and left the lower class residents their more urban rundown leftovers. This created world then became the setting for resistance from various groups, such as minorities and youth, who began to undermine the Anglo infrastructure through social interaction.

In many ways, today's Los Angeles can credit Anglo immigrants of the late 1800s and early 1900s as the driving force behind their communal roots. Their imagined reality of a rural city, the process of creating, leaving and fighting for their neighborhood, have left traces in the city. These traces can be seen in the fragmented infrastructure of Los Angeles. They can be seen in the callous, sometimes violent, social interaction within the community. Yet as youth and minority groups continue to socially interact in increased acceptance, Los Angeles will begin to lose some of its fragmented feel. Each generation will continue to unite Los Angeles through shared social interaction and experiences.



L.A. Downtown Then

L.A. Downtown Now

Many of the city parks in Los Angeles are centrally located, right in the heart of the city or neighborhood. Beverly Hills is a very wellmanicured area, which is a result of its wealth. This area is well-known for its foot traffic and safety. The parks here are located right in the middle of all the action, making them very accessible to tourists and

residents alike. Many of these parks are very vast, and even have lakes in them. Brentwood is a family-oriented neighborhood in Los Angeles. There are a few parks here, but it is mainly an extremely



expensive area complete with restaurant districts. It is known for being very close to the many beaches of LA. Downtown LA is a bit like New York City, with much of it being very accessible by walking. Here there are a lot of small city parks with many different paths to walk. This is likely a place one would want to go to during the day, as it can be dangerous at night, due to its lack of gardens and natural space.

Hancock Park is filled with old architectural houses. One could say it is a very historic district. Again this area is very expensive, and largely neighborhood-based. There are small neighborhood parks here, but not an excessive amount, due to the houses being very close together. Hollywood is a very central part of Los Angeles, and one of the most expensive neighborhoods to live. This is largely a tourist spot complete with gimmicky attractions. There

are not many parks here, though they would probably be overlooked if there were. Hollywood is well-known for having very bad traffic, both during the day and at night.



Miracle Mile is a neighborhood filled with city parks. Though there is not much to do and not much nightlife, it is a great place for kids to play and grow up. Many of the parks here have playgrounds and swing sets, making it a great place for families. Santa Monica is a beach town, and it is a short drive away from Malibu beaches. Like much of LA, it is good for walking. Due to it being largely a beach town, many of the parks here are small and not a large part of the culture. Silver Lake and Echo Park are largely 'hip' areas for young people and nightlife. Often times, there are issues with parking and sometimes there is crime at night. This is a suburban area and it is very good for kids. City parks are medium-sized and scattered throughout the neighborhoods. Venice is an arts neighborhood full of canals, boardwalks, and a rich history. This town is close to the beach, though it does have its share of parks in the center of town. There is a great sense of community here, and a lot of nightlife, especially for young artists.



Small Park in Miracle Mile Neighborhood Public housing in Los Angeles is managed mainly by the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA). They manage more than 60 public housing development locations consisting of large developments, as well as scattered establishments. Public housing by the HACLA is found in many locations throughout Los Angeles including San Pedro and the San Fernando Valley, as well as Mar Vista and East Los Angeles. Additionally, Section 8 housing is also available, though the application process is lengthy and tedious. Often times these are huge complexes, usually in the form of one story duplexes or high-risers. The areas are in which the Section 8 housing are generally poor areas of the city. Below are pictures of public housing in the City of Los Angeles.



Los Angeles has the more museums and theater in one city then any other in the U.S. The music scene in Los Angeles is also the center of music in America. Los Angeles is the entertainment capital of the world when it pertains to film and television. Los Angeles is the leading city with innovative Architectural buildings. Fashion is number one in Los Angeles because of all the new designers that keep coming out with new fashions. The museums in L.A. express the classical outlook that Los Angeles shows. There are many theaters in Los Angeles that contribute to the culture such as: The Walt Disney Concert Hall, Hollywood Bowl, Nokia Theatre, Dolby Theatre, the Wiltern and the Palladium. Some museums include: the Getty Center, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Norton Simon Museum, the Pacific Asia Museum, and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Museum. The Architecture in L.A. is so good that it has won awards for having innovative designs. Many of the buildings in L.A. have new designs that have no one has even thought about designing before. The movie and television industry host the most famous spot. Hollywood has been the most influential place in L.A.



There are many holidays that are in Los Angeles that are the same all around the country. There is New Year's Day, Matrin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. There is only one other major holiday in Los Angeles that is different and that is: César Chávez Day.



is different and that is: César Chávez Day. This day is about the man Cesar Chavez who promoted service to the community. Cesar Chavez was an educator, environmentalist, and he was a civil rights leader.

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