



**ANGELS WALK® LA**  
SELF-GUIDED HISTORIC TRAILS

# Hill and Park



**Metro**

THE TRANSIT & WALKING DISTRICTS OF HISTORIC LOS ANGELES



**FROM LOS ANGELES MAYOR**

**ERIC GARCETTI**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Angels Walk, Highland Park.

Thousands of Angelenos and visitors alike have taken Angels Walks in Downtown, Chinatown, the Wilshire Corridor, and Hollywood to enhance their knowledge and appreciation of the diverse architecture, culture, and heritage of Los Angeles. Now it's time to celebrate Highland Park.

There is no better way to come to know and love our great city than by exploring its culturally rich neighborhoods by foot. Through this informative guidebook, both visitors and locals alike will come to know many of Highland Park's treasures, such as the Highland Theater, the Southwest Museum, and Occidental College. Best of all, Angels Walk takes full advantage of North East LA's expansive public transit network, so walkers can move freely about the neighborhood without needing a car.

Enjoy your walk, and thank you for celebrating the unique spirit of Los Angeles.



Very truly yours,

Eric Garcetti  
Mayor of Los Angeles

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## WELCOME

## FROM COUNCILMEMBER, GIL CEDILLO



Highland Park is a historic community rich in history, culture, art, and activism. I am honored to represent the people of this vibrant community on the Los Angeles City Council. I am so happy that the Angels Walk LA historic walking trail is coming to Highland Park; it is a great way to see and celebrate this neighborhood.

The Highland Park Angels Walk guidebook will take you through historic Highland Park. It features the Southwest Museum that opened in 1907, the Charles Lummis House, built by Charles Fletcher Lummis in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Arroyo Seco, and the beautiful stretch of North Figueroa Street that has been featured in countless films.

After enjoying the Highland Park Angels Walk LA tour, I hope you will take the time to have a meal at one of the area's many great restaurants that celebrate the richness and diversity of this neighborhood.

The Gold Line Station is in the center of the burgeoning commercial district with many long time businesses, restaurants, coffeehouses, and the Highland Theatre. Once you have explored Highland Park, you can hop on the Gold Line to enjoy other Angels Walk LA tours in Chinatown or Union Station, both of which are just a few stations away in this wonderful City of Angels.

Thank you for getting to know and enjoy this wonderful neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Gilbert Cedillo  
Councilmember, 1st Council District



## WELCOME TO ANGELS WALK HIGHLAND PARK

This is the eighth self-guided walking tour that Angels Walk has completed in the City of Los Angeles, and we are so proud of it. It beautifully embodies the founding premise of our program: to highlight and celebrate the wonderful, but often under appreciated history of Los Angeles and its diverse communities. The walk consists of two elements: this user-friendly guidebook, and the on-street stanchions, which highlight the area's most notable historical people, places, and events.

Highland Park is uniquely distinguished from its neighbors, Pasadena and Downtown Los Angeles. Historically, it's been connected to these neighbors by way of the Pacific Electric Red Cars, world-famous Route 66, the Arroyo Seco Parkway, and the Metro Gold Line, all of which have become a part of Highland Park's rich history.

Learn about Charles Lummis, Occidental College, North Figueroa Street's commercial core, and the Chicano arts movement, all of which have helped to make Highland Park such a distinct neighborhood.

As you're enjoying the walk, grab a bite to eat at one of the neighborhood's excellent restaurants, and consider exploring the adjacent residential streets, where you'll find architectural gems in every style.

Highland Park, like many L.A. neighborhoods, endeavors to preserve its heritage as time progresses. Our walk demonstrates that this vibrant neighborhood possesses the rich history and active community necessary to distinguish it as a regarded chapter in the Los Angeles story!

*Deanna Molloy*

Deanna Spector Molloy  
Founder, Angels Walk LA



# GETTING THERE

Angels Walk Highland Park is designed as a continuous self-guided walking trail that can be joined anywhere along its path; however, it is recommended that you begin at the Highland Park Metro Station (Stanchion #1). The walk is approximately two and a half miles long and depending on your pace, takes about two hours to complete.

## WALK SMART!

Check local weather (90042) before heading to the walk and be sure to bring drinking water. Also, please use common sense and be aware of your surroundings.



## Metro

Visit [www.metro.net](http://www.metro.net) for detailed transit information and to help plan your trip. The Metro website has a trip planner including downloadable maps and timetables.

## BY RAIL

Board any Metro Gold Line train and disembark at the Highland Park station to begin the walk. You may also disembark at the Southwest Museum station if you want to begin the walk at Stanchion #15 (see map on back cover). There is also a station at Heritage Square should you wish to visit this Farther Afield site (see page 35).

## BY BUS

DASH and Metro Line 81 buses run up and down North Figueroa Street throughout the day. Check websites for maps, connecting lines, additional routes, and fare information. Both DASH and Metro have mobile apps available for Android and Apple devices.

## DASH

Website: <http://ladotbus.com>

For real time info call 213-785-3858 or text ladot #### to 41411. #### represents the actual stop number you need to enter, for example, "ladot 2746" (all lowercase with space between).

## Metro

Website: [www.metro.net](http://www.metro.net)

For bus line info call: 323-GO-METRO (323-466-3876) M-F from 6:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. and weekends from 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.). For the hearing-impaired, use the California Relay Service, 711, then dial the number you need.

## BY CAR

There are public lots and street parking along Marmion Way near the Highland Park Metro Station, and on North Figueroa and surrounding streets. Please take note of posted hours and restrictions.

## ACCESS



All public sidewalks on the walk have wheelchair access by ramps.

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Emergency Fire, Paramedic, Police (24-hour dispatch): **911**  
Non-Emergency Police (24-hour dispatch): **877-ASK-LAPD**

## SECTION

1

ANGELS WALK HIGHLAND PARK  
HP METRO STATION » YORK

## SITES



### 1 Highland Park Metro Station

151 N AVENUE 57 | 10 BIKE RACK SPACES | 16 BIKE LOCKERS

The Highland Park Metro Station, which opened on July 27, 2003, sits upon the site of a previous Santa Fe railroad station that was in use from the 1920s until it was closed around 1958. It later served as a meeting location for local Boy Scouts and was demolished in 1965. The foundation of the old station was still at the site when ground was broken for the current station. The artwork for the current station was done by artist Jud Fine, including the Stone Tree Inverted Post (Copper Bound Water Light) that dominates the plaza area at the front of the station along Marmion Way.

### 2 Old L.A. Certified Farmers Market

TUESDAYS 3-8 PM (2-7 PM IN WINTER)

ADJACENT TO THE HIGHLAND PARK  
METRO GOLD LINE STATION ON  
MARMION WAY & N AVENUE 58

This weekly, outdoor market has been running every Tuesday for years. It is a popular destination for local and organic produce and groceries, as well as a variety of artisan foods and goods.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Exit the station and start at Stanchion #1: Highland Park Transit, located near the corner of Marmion Way and N Avenue 57. Continue the walk by heading one block south on Marmion Way, past residences, then turn left at N Avenue 56 towards Figueroa...



## DIRECTIONS

### 3 Masonic Temple

104 N AVENUE 56

This Commercial Renaissance building was designed in 1923 by Elmore Robinson Jeffrey of the firm Jeffrey and Schaffer as the home for Highland Park Masonic Lodge No. 382, which was originally chartered in 1907. Jeffrey donated the plans to the Lodge and served as its Worshipful

8 ANGELS WALK HIGHLAND PARK

The information on this page will help you navigate the walk using this guidebook. Additionally, you should refer to the map in the back, as it shows the walk at a glance, including points of interest, stanchion locations, farther afield sites, and transportation information.

## SECTIONS

Colored tabs divide the guidebook into walking sections. Each section is numbered and made up of several blocks.

### 1 SITES

These numbered icons indicate all the points of interest along the walk route.

### ➔ DIRECTIONS

Directional guidance along the walk is given throughout the text in the light yellow boxes with arrows.

## FARTHER AFIELD

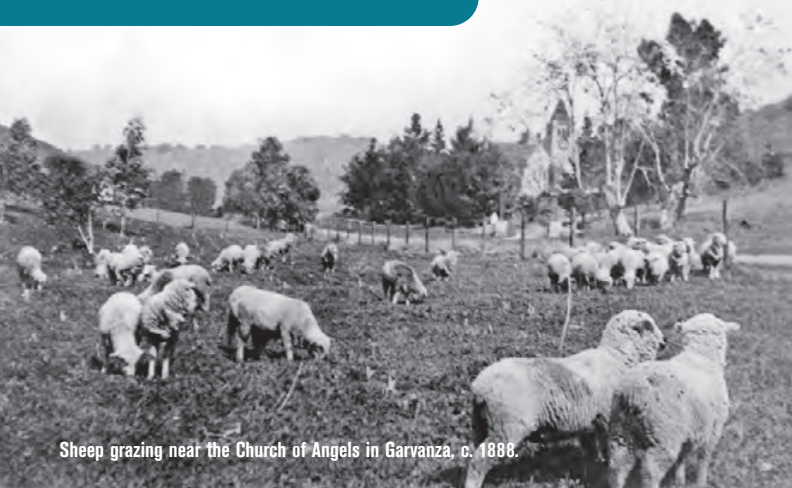
Farther afield sites are places of interest farther off the walk that may require travel by bus or car.

## STANCHIONS

There are fifteen on-street historical markers, or stanchions, along the walk that will add to your enjoyment, provide additional historic perspective, and help guide you along the way.



# INTRODUCTION



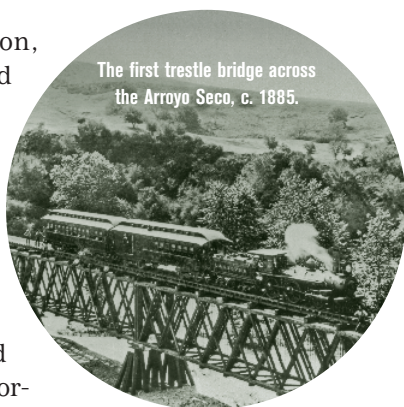
Sheep grazing near the Church of Angels in Garvanza, c. 1888.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF HIGHLAND PARK

What is now Highland Park began at least 13,000 years ago, when the ancestors of the Chumash settled in the area before consolidating along the coast and Channel Islands. Some 3,500 years ago, the Tongva arrived from the east and, discovering the interior mostly abandoned, founded numerous villages in the area. The Spanish came from the south, claiming all of Alta California in 1542, although their colonization didn't begin until the 1770s. Highland Park was granted to José María Verdugo as part of Rancho San Rafael in 1784. The lands remained in the hands of the Verdugos until lawyers Andrew Glassell Jr. and Albert Beck Chapman took possession of a portion in 1869. The attorneys leased the land to shepherds until 1885, when they sold a section to George W. Morgan and Albert H. Judson, who subdivided it as the Highland Park Tract in 1886.

Highland Park's location, between Pasadena and Los Angeles—and its connection to both by rail—made it an attractive suburb for well-to-do home buyers. However, the undependability of the Arroyo Seco as a water source, and the perceived undesirability of neighboring Sycamore Grove motivated

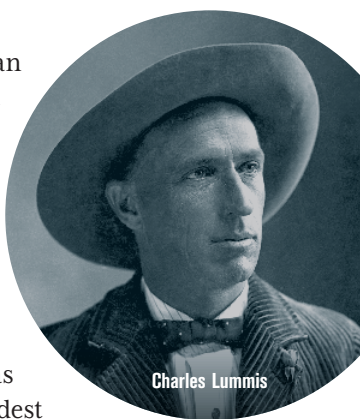
its residents to vote for annexation by Los Angeles in 1895. The neighboring town of Garvanza followed their lead in 1899. The communities of Hermon, York Valley, and part of Annandale were likewise annexed in 1912. In 1922, all of the so-called “five friendly valleys” united as Greater Highland Park, believing that a united front would achieve more success. Despite their new shared identity, all of these communities strived for some distinction and individuality.



The first trestle bridge across the Arroyo Seco, c. 1885.

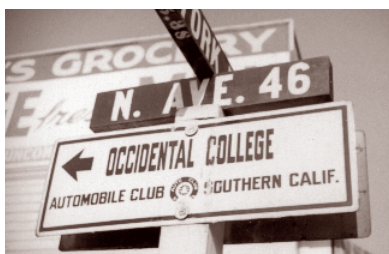


Highland Park's reputation as an arts community dates almost to its inception. Artists and artisans inspired by the Southern California Arts and Crafts movement joined *plein air* painters, poets, and intellectuals, in the newly settled highlands around the turn of the century. Highland Park was also the home to Los Angeles' oldest liberal arts college, Occidental College, and its first established museum, Charles Lummis' Southwest Museum. The 1970s brought the emergence



Charles Lummis

of a dynamic and active Chicano arts movement whose legacy remains in organizations like Avenue 50 Studio and the Arroyo Arts Collective.

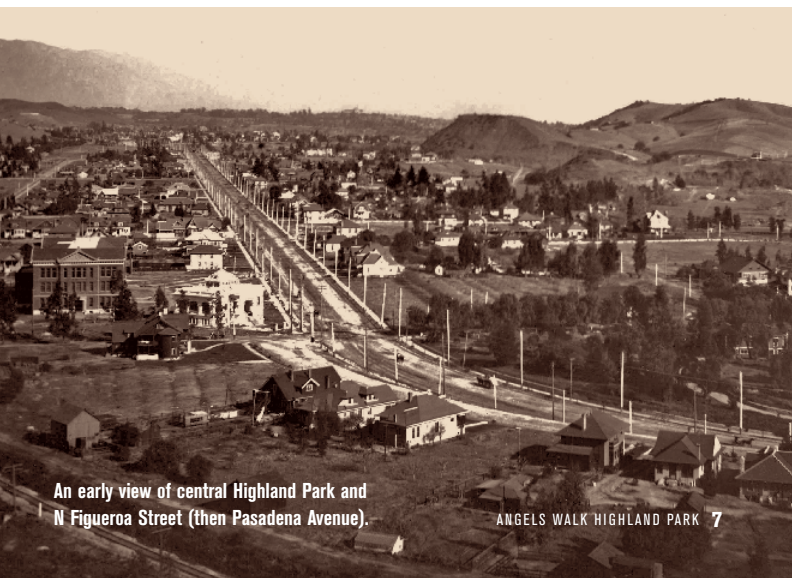


Through the years, Highland Park has welcomed members of every faith, as well as progressive activists who have championed various causes for the community. Today, Highland Park boasts a diverse population, and an ever-growing reputation as a place where the new and the old seamlessly coexist. And regardless of the changes that have taken place, Highland Park locals are dedicated to retaining a strong sense of history, community involvement, cultural diversity, and artistic expression.



Centro de Arte Público studio space, c. 1978.

Photos: University of Southern California Libraries and The California Historical Society Collection, 1860-1960; Library of Congress; Los Angeles Public Library; Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Research Library and Archive; Occidental College Special Collections and College Archives; Avenue 50 Studio.



An early view of central Highland Park and N Figueroa Street (then Pasadena Avenue).



## 1 Highland Park Metro Station

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### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



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Master in 1927. Due to declining membership, Highland Park Lodge merged with Eastgate Lodge No. 290 in 1982 and became Fellowship No. 290. The building was sold in 1983 due to the need for costly seismic retrofitting, which was then done by the new owners. Fellowship Lodge consolidated with Garvanza Lodge No. 492, which also met in the building in 1983, and finally with South Pasadena Lodge No. 367 in 1992. It was listed as Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 282 on August 29, 1984 and was added to the National Register of Historic Places on January 18, 1990.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**When you get to the corner of N Avenue 56 and Figueroa, turn right and take a quick stroll about a half-block south for a view across the street of the famous Chicken Boy statue atop the Future Studio building, then return back up Figueroa to continue the walk...**

## 4 Security Trust and Savings Bank Building

5601 N FIGUEROA STREET



Built in 1922 as the Highland Park branch of the growing Security Trust and Savings Bank, this Classical Revival building was designed by the father and son architectural team of John and Donald B.

Parkinson. It was one of the earliest of the Parkinson and Parkinson buildings to institute the concept of branch banking using buildings of similar design to advertise the various locations to inter-branch bank. Later named Security First National Bank and eventually Security Pacific National Bank, the branch closed after Security merged with Bank of America. The building was declared Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 575 on February 9, 1993. The building is now owned by the City of Los Angeles.

#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Proceed towards Stanchion #2: Highland Theatre. Take note of the theater, which is located across the street, then continue heading north up Figueroa...**



Interior of Centro de Arte Público studio space, c. 1978.

## 5 Centro de Arte Público (former site)

5605 N FIGUEROA STREET

In the 1960s and 70s, Highland Park saw an increase in its Latino population—a group of young, political, Chicana/o artists moved in, bringing with them diversity, awareness, culture, and vision. In 1977, Carlos Almaraz, along with Guillermo Bejarano, and Richard Duardo founded the Centro de Arte Público artists' collective. Duardo, a UCLA grad and former silk screen printer for Self Help Graphics, had grown up in Highland Park. C.A.P. artists created paintings, sculpture, screen-prints, murals, posters, and even protest signs. The Centro also contributed to the feminist movement, as Chicana art gained recognition and validation through the studio's support and inclusivity. The *ChismeArte* magazine was active from 1977 to 1980, and also operated from the second floor studio. The magazine's mission was to represent local Chicana/o art in Los Angeles, and was published through Concilio de Arte Popular, an arts advocacy group established as a foundation for Chicana/o artists from all over California to connect.

## 6 Highland Theatre

5604 N FIGUEROA STREET

The Highland Theatre is the last remaining of the four theaters that were at one time on Pasadena Avenue (now North



Figueroa Street). Opened in 1925 and designed by prolific theater architect Lewis A. Smith, the Moorish Revival-style building was the largest and best known of the four. The others were the Sunbeam, the Franklin, and the Park.

The theater was built for local banker Clyde M. Chase. It was one of two designed by L.A. Smith for Mr. Chase, the other being the Rialto Theatre in South Pasadena. Both houses were ultimately to become historic fixtures on U.S. Route 66. Chase leased both buildings to Fox West Coast Theaters for 99 years. The Highland is distinguished the iconic incandescent rooftop sign. The Highland Theatre was declared Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 549 on October 2, 1991.



## 7 Highland Park Bowl

5621 N FIGUEROA STREET

In 1927, the building that now houses the Highland Park Bowl was originally home to an auto garage and doctors' offices. Around 1935, the space was converted into a bowling alley named the Highland Park Bowl. In 1966, the building was purchased by Italian immigrant Joseph Teresa, who ran it as "Mr. T's" for the next two decades. As bowling waned in popularity, Mr. T's was frequented as a bar and eventually morphed into an eclectic music venue. After Teresa passed away in 2003, the club was run by his son for the next ten years. In 2014, new owners, the 1993 Group, began a meticulous renovation, bringing the alley back to life by showcasing, repairing, and repurposing many of the original features and details. The gleaming new Highland Park Bowl reopened in 2016 with its original eight lanes, a wood-burning pizza oven, and two bars serving signature craft cocktails. Around back you can still see some of the original painted wall signs for the former Mr. T's.



## 8 Fashion 21

5637 N FIGUEROA STREET



The now multi-billion dollar global fashion brand Forever 21 began here with this first store in 1984. Fashion 21 was founded by Do Won Chang and Jin Sook Chang, a married couple who immigrated to Los Angeles from South Korea in 1981. The couple's two daughters, Linda and Esther, are also part of the family business.

## 9 Las Cazuelas

5707 N FIGUEROA STREET

Established in 1985, Las Cazuelas is a family-owned restaurant specializing in Salvadorean and Mexican cuisine. The restaurant occupies a Streamline Moderne building designed by early Los Angeles female architect Edith Northmann, which housed Manning's Coffee Store from 1936 until 1959. The Manning's sign atop the building has recently been restored and relit. It's a rare and unique combination of neon and opal glass letters with "Manning's" in red neon, and "Coffee Store" in opal glass backlit by light bulbs.



## 10 S.H. Kress / Frank's Camera

5715 N FIGUEROA STREET (PERMANENTLY CLOSED)



This 1928 vintage building was the local outlet for the S.H. Kress department store from its opening until the early 1970s. With stores stretching from the East Coast to Hawaii, the emporium-style business used the smell of buttered popcorn to lure customers in and keep

them shopping. The Highland Park store consisted of two stories and a full basement, all used for open merchandising and stock. You can still see the painted wall sign for Kress at the top side of the building (from N Avenue 57). The building was later home to beloved Frank's Camera. Vera and Frank Vacek owned and ran the store for over three decades, from 1978 to 2015. It was the largest mail order camera business in America.

### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



Continue north on Figueroa stopping to read **Stanchion #3: The Commercial District...**

## 11 Ivers Department Store (former site)

5801 N FIGUEROA STREET

A portion of the current mini-mall was once part of the largest and most memorable department store in Highland Park, Ivers. The family-run store, established in the 1920s, utilized several buildings, with the last one constructed in 1955. During its heyday, which lasted into the early 1970s, the store sold more merchandise per square foot of floor space than any other department store in Los Angeles. However, changing shopping trends and the reluctance of the new generation to carry on the business led to its closure in 1981.

## 12 Fire Station No. 12

5921 N FIGUEROA STREET

The current Streamline Moderne fire station was built in 1949 on the site of the original 1903 Fire Station No. 12, a two-story Gothic design that was set up for horse-drawn equipment until the horses were phased out around 1915. The original horse collar hooks were to remain in the old building until it was demolished in 1948. Station No. 12 is believed to be the earliest active fire company still operating at its original site in Los Angeles.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Continue north on Figueroa, cross N Avenue 60 stopping to read Stanchion #4: The Arroyo Seco. When you get to the corner of N Avenue 61, look left to see...**

### 13 Mexico-Tenochtitlan “The Wall That Talks” Mural

SW CORNER N AVE 61 AND FIGUEROA

*Mexico-Tenochtitlan “The Wall That Talks”* is a large, acrylic mural, painted in 1996 by John Zender Estrada with the assistance of ten other artists. The subject matter concerns solidarity amongst the world’s indigenous peoples and conveys its message through a design that incorporates imagery from Aztec, Maya, and Olmec cultures, and depicts revolutionaries from different eras.



### 14 La Estrella Restaurant & “Life” Mural

6103 N FIGUEROA STREET



La Estrella is a small, family-operated chain of Mexican restaurants. The original location was founded by Mario Ramirez in Pasadena. The menu varies at each, as do the precise names.

The Highland Park location (La Estrella #3) occupies a Mid Century food stand built in 1962 and features a colorful mural titled *Life*. The mural was painted in 1999 by Raul Baltazar, whose imagery was inspired by Buddhism, peyote ceremonies, and the artist’s personal relationships.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Continue north on Figueroa. Approach the train tracks cautiously, looking both ways before crossing...**

### 15 Highland Park Recreation Center

6150 PIEDMONT AVENUE

The original Community Clubhouse building on Piedmont Avenue was the pride of the area, with a gymnasium, auditorium, bowling alleys, billiard rooms, nurseries, and rooms



for community functions, all free of charge. The building was designed by Hunt and Burns and was built in the Craftsman style. The old clubhouse fell victim to the push to build new facilities and is no longer used. The new Rec Center building has been criticized for being sterile and utilitarian, lacking the warmth it once embodied.



## WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Continue north on Figueroa (for a long block), then stop to read Stanchion #5: Arroyo Seco Branch Library...**

## 16 Arroyo Seco Branch Library

6145 N FIGUEROA STREET



The current public library is the third to occupy the triangular lot next to the recreation center. The first library was built in 1914 under a grant from the Carnegie Foundation

and was designed by the architect Frederick M. Ashley, who lived in nearby Garvanza. Ashley later joined in partnership with John C. Austin. The firm of Austin and Ashley is best known for the design of the Griffith Observatory, built in the 1930s. The Carnegie building was demolished in 1960 and replaced with a Modernist design by architect John J. Landon. The building was on the cutting edge of design, utilizing a rooftop parking area that proved problematic after the first decade, when the constant movement of vehicles caused the roof to leak. The current building, which opened its doors in 2003, was designed by the architectural firm of M2A (Barry Milofsky and Thomas Michali). The building was designed to relate to the history and architecture of Northeast Los Angeles, utilizing elements from other historic buildings in the area, including the original Carnegie building and the Charles Lummis Home on Avenue 43. A large mural by Robert Bacerra was removed from the second building and placed adjacent to the parking lot for the new building.

## 17 Site of First Los Angeles Electric Pole Plaque

FRONT TRIANGLE OF ARROYO SECO BRANCH LIBRARY (PIEDMONT AVE SIDE)

This site is significant as the location of the first power pole in the citywide power system for Los Angeles, dedicated at a gala ceremony on March 30, 1916. A plaque in the sidewalk at the corner commemorates that day.





## 18 Mount Angelus

NOTE: MOUNT ANGELUS IS A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT BEST EXPLORED BY CAR. PLEASE RESPECT THE PRIVACY OF RESIDENTS WHEN VISITING.

Subdivided in 1908 by Cora Scott Pond Pope, a well-known advocate of women's suffrage, Mount Angelus pays

tribute to many other reformers, having streets named after such notables as Progressive Wisconsin Governor/Senator, Robert La Follette, abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, and author Harriet Beecher Stowe. The hill is also noted for its many walk streets and staircases, although many have been closed to public access.



## 19 York Junction

INTERSECTION OF N FIGUEROA STREET AND YORK BOULEVARD

The corner where York Boulevard crosses North Figueroa Street is known as "York Junction," being the intersection of the two major business streets in the area. With Highland Park to the south and west, Garvanza to the east, and Eagle Rock a mile to the north, the intersection was one of the major links in Route 66, with all four of the roadbeds having at one time or another, been part of the "Mother Road."

### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Before crossing Figueroa, look across York to see...



## 20 Arroyo Seco Bank Building

6301 N FIGUEROA STREET

The Arroyo Seco Bank Building, Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 492, is the oldest building in the area that has continuously served as a banking institution since it was built. This Renaissance Revival building was designed by John C. Austin and Frederick M. Ashley in 1926. The original Arroyo Seco State Bank was acquired by Bank of America, which maintained a branch there until the 1960s. It was then the birthplace of Highland Federal Savings, which was acquired by Jackson Federal Savings Bank, which subsequently merged into Union Bank. The building has also been known as the "York Square Building."



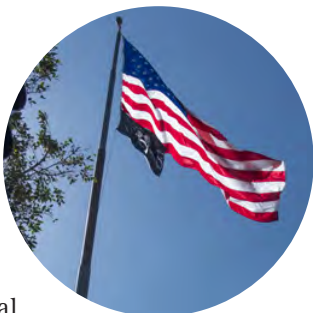
**WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:**

**Cross Figueroa at York and head towards the flagpole...**

**21 Veterans Memorial Square**

INTERSECTION TRIANGLE OF N FIGUEROA STREET AND YORK BOULEVARD

The commemorative flagpole was installed on Memorial Day in 1974 to honor the U.S. veterans of Northeast Los Angeles. There have been veterans living here dating back to the Spanish-American War in 1898. The original plan for the memorial was an obelisk, then a B-52 bomber wing was suggested. After community objections to the overtly militaristic symbol of a bomber wing, the flagpole was decided upon. At the time of its installation, it was the tallest flagpole in the city.

**22 Chile-Ville (former site)**

6214 YORK BOULEVARD

One of the lost treasures of Highland Park is Chile-Ville, a renowned eatery that existed from the early 1920s until the early 1970s. Many people considered Chile-Ville a landmark in Highland Park. In fact, it was not uncommon for motormen on the old street car line to call out “Chile-Ville Junction” rather than “York Junction.” Many of the older



residents remember courting their “best girl” at Chile-Ville. The business was run from 1929 until 1961 by Paul Buscaglia and later by his son-in-law, Ray Mortara. For many years, Chile-Ville was open 24 hours a day. The building, which was up against the Union Pacific railroad until 1969, was later torn down and turned into a parking lot.

**WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:**

**At the south end of the triangle, use the crosswalk and stop to read Stanchion #6: York Junction, then continue the walk by heading south on Figueroa...**

## 23 Highland Park Adult Senior Citizens Center

6152 N FIGUEROA STREET

Originally dedicated on July 12, 1952, as the “Highland Park Playground Adult Recreation Center” by 14th District City Councilman John C. Holland, the facility quickly became the go-to place for many of the area’s older citizens. An appropriation in 1969 enlarged



the facility a bit, but by the 1980s it was clearly inadequate. The building was completely remodeled and a substantial addition was added. The building was rededicated with great fanfare on August 18, 1984, by Councilmembers Arthur K. Snyder and Peggy Stevenson, along with Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley as the “Highland Park Adult Senior Citizen Center.” Prior to World War II, the site was used for the local public swimming pool.

### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Continue south on Figueroa. When you get to Arroyo Glen Street, turn left and take a short side stroll to see...**

## 24 Abbey San Encino

6211 ARROYO GLEN STREET | NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Printer and typographer Clyde Browne, who arrived in Los Angeles around 1903, designed the distinctive home known as Abbey San Encino. In 1915, he began constructing the home for his family using rocks collected from the Arroyo Seco’s river and other salvaged materials. Although mostly completed by 1921, the Brownes didn’t move in until 1924. It remains in the Browne family and was famously featured on the album cover of *For Everyman*, released by Clyde’s grandson, Jackson Browne, in 1972.





### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Return to Figueroa and head south. As you walk, you will pass the sites of two former Highland Park landmarks...**

## 25 Sternburger's Rite Spot (former site)

6138 N FIGUEROA STREET

Home of Sternburger's Rite Spot from 1922 until 1969, this small triangular building may be the birthplace of the cheeseburger in 1924. Herman Sternburger opened his first restaurant, the Rite Spot, on Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena in 1919. His 17-year-old son,

Lionel, put a piece of American cheese

on a burger he was making for lunch at one of the two locations.

The rest is history. After their father's death, Lionel and his twin brother Van, ran the Highland Park business until Van's death in 1969. The restaurant was so popular that people frequently had to wait in a long line to be seated. Sternburger's

Rite Spot is remembered today as one

of the best eateries in Los Angeles. An

unconfirmed story is that the Sternburger sauce was the basis for the sauce on the Bob's Big Boy burger. A number of attempts have been made to restart the Rite Spot both at this location and in Old Town Pasadena, but they have never fully captured the magic of the original.



## 26 Albert Nies Blacksmith Shop (former site)

6100 N FIGUEROA STREET

From 1898 until his death in 1954 at the age of 81, Al Nies was the "village smithy" in Highland Park, operating this shop at 6100 Pasadena Avenue. In 1912, he expanded his business to include auto repair, but his first love was always

working the anvil and forge. "Albert Lewis Nies wasn't dragged into the 20th Century, but once it was here, he wouldn't compromise either," stated Roger Swanson, in a 1976 *Highland Park News Herald and Journal* article on the blacksmith. An Iowa-native, Nies came to the area with his parents in 1882. His father was a local cattleman. Located next to the former Santa Fe Railroad track, the shop was where the parking lot for the mini-mall is today.



Virginia Neely Collection





#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Continue south on Figueroa. Approach the train tracks cautiously, looking both ways before crossing. Stop and read Stanchion #7: Artists & Activists, then continue...**

### 27 U.S. Post Office, Highland Park Station

5930 N FIGUEROA STREET

The first post office in Highland Park operated out of Stockdale's Store in 1892, located on the other side of the street. Later stations were next to the Highland Park Bank near Avenue 57, on the 5900 block, and at 111 Avenue 59, in a small Moderne building that is now occupied by Mr. Holmes Bakehouse. The current building, built in 1955, is unaltered and still sports its original mid-century block lettering above the entry canopy.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Stop to read Stanchion #8: Public Services, then continue south on Figueroa...**

### 28 Baddour Apartments Building

5908 N FIGUEROA STREET

The faded blue neon signs at North Figueroa and S Avenue 59 have boldly proclaimed the “Coldest Beer in Town” for decades. It may or may not have the coldest beer, but it does house the only speakeasy deli in town. The Baddour Apartment building, with its corner liquor store, is typical of the small, mixed-use buildings that comprised much of the early commercial district in the area. Zoning laws prevented this form of mixed use for several decades, until the city realized that residential activity in commercial zones tends to help keep crime and blight down. Today, this type of development is encouraged.



## 29 Sunbeam Theatre Building

5720 N FIGUEROA STREET

The 1,296-seat Sunbeam Theatre opened in 1914. The architect responsible for its Spanish Colonial-inspired design was Arthur Lawrence Valk, although the alterations to the facade have rendered it all but unrecognizable. It closed in 1925 after it was purchased and shut down by the owners of the then-new Highland Theatre. In the 1980s, the theater was used by the live Outback Theatre company. The front of the cinema is currently home to U.S. Office Machines Co., Sunbeam Vintage, and several other businesses.

## 30 Sunbeam Vintage

106 S AVENUE 58

Sunbeam Vintage, previously known as Modcrib LA, was originally started on Craigslist, and moved to its Highland Park, brick and mortar location in 2010. The large, filled-to-the-brim space is accessed from the side of the old Sunbeam Theatre building (hence the name)



on S Avenue 58. It houses an ever-changing inventory of carefully curated, Mid Century-focused pieces, as well as home goods, art, and lighting fixtures. You can also visit their smaller showroom storefront on Figueroa, or shop online at [sunbeamvintage.com](http://sunbeamvintage.com).

## 31 U.S. Office Machines Co.

5722 N FIGUEROA STREET

The U.S. Office Machines Co. is one of the only remaining typewriter shops in the United States. It was established in 1962 by Jesse Flores, who died in 2011. At that point, his son Ruben took over the business.



## 32 G.W.E. Griffith Building

5708 N FIGUEROA STREET

Built in 1914 as the G.W.E. Griffith Building, this glazed-tile-covered edifice was one of the first full-service markets to open in Highland Park. The facade was altered a bit



An early view of the 5700 block of North Figueroa Street (previously Pasadena Avenue). From left to right: the Sunbeam Theatre, the G.W.E. Griffith Building, the Greater Highland Park Association, the Highland Park Herald, and Highland Park Bank. (Virginia Neely Collection)

after the 1933 Long Beach earthquake, when the parapet was cut down to the stepped design that we see today. The building was covered over with an aluminum facade in the 1950s, as were many of the historic buildings on Figueroa at that time. The cover was later removed as part of a facade improvement project along the street during the 1990s.

### 33 Chase Bank

5700 N FIGUEROA STREET

On the same corner where the current Chase Bank stands, the first bank in Highland Park opened in 1906. Highland Park Bank was designed by local architect Thornton Fitzhugh in the Classical Revival style. It changed hands several times until eventually being remodeled for Home Savings of America. Home Savings renovated once again in the 1970s with architectural designer Millard Sheets, whose mosaics still grace the exterior. Sheets and his studio designed a number of Home Savings buildings throughout Southern California, many of which are now branches for Chase Bank.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Stop and read Stanchion #9: Central Highland Park, then turn left on S Avenue 57 for a short side stroll to see...**

### 34 Highland Park Ebell Club

131 S AVENUE 57

The Highland Park Ebell Club is one of several California women's clubs named for Dr. Adrian John Ebell, a progressive supporter of women's education, who organized the first club in Oakland in 1876. The Highland Park Ebell was founded in 1903. Members practice philanthropy and support community development, women's and children's health, schools, libraries, arts, and conservation. The founders were principal advocates for the creation of the Arroyo Seco Park. Early women's club members also worked tirelessly



for women's suffrage, established in California in 1911. The Highland Park Ebell Club awarded its first scholarship in 1907 and continues to reward deserving local students and community groups. The Prairie-style clubhouse was designed by Sumner P. Hunt and Silas Burns and was built in 1912, with Sidney Clifton designing the annex in 1937. It was declared Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 284 on August 29, 1984.

### 35 Folliero's

5566 N FIGUEROA STREET

A true Highland Park institution, this mom-and-pop business was first opened in 1968 by Naples-born, Tony Folliero. For many years Folliero was known to come in and make his pizza dough early in the morning to keep his recipe secret. The restaurant occupies the southern end of a 1923 building and exudes classic old-school atmosphere with its carved wooden door and raw brick interior walls.



### 36 Chicken Boy & Future Studio

5558 N FIGUEROA STREET | CHICKENBOY.COM

The Chicken Boy statue, which towers over Figueroa from its roost atop Future Studio, arrived in 2007. From 1969-1984, the larger-than-life, bird-man (a customized fiberglass figure known as a "muffler man" created by International Fiberglass) stood atop a downtown L.A. restaurant called Chicken Boy. After the restaurant closed, the



statue was rescued by artist Amy Inouye, who provided him with a new home in Highland Park where he has become a much loved and iconic landmark. Inouye's Future Studio Gallery houses a Chicken Boy gift shop which is usually open during art openings, or you can shop online at [chickenboyshop.com](http://chickenboyshop.com).





#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Continue south on Figueroa stopping to read Stanchion #10: Route 66 & Chicken Boy...

### 37 Franklin Theatre Building

5500 N FIGUEROA STREET

The Franklin was one of several local movie houses that used to line Figueroa. The Franklin Theatre building is a product of over 80 years of adaptive reuse. It was originally built in 1922 for Fred Stillwell as an auto sales agency and garage. By 1929, it was operated by the local Chevrolet dealer. In 1934, new owner E.H. Rose converted the building into a market. The theater conversion occurred in 1936 with a neon marquee advertising the Hughes Theatre. The name was soon changed to the Franklin Theatre, under which it operated until 1952, when it closed and was converted to DeWitt Storage. For several years in the late 1960s and early 1970s, it was the local headquarters for the Republican Party. At that time, the theater portion was still intact. The parapet and tower were cut down in the early 1990s.



### 38 Northeast Newspapers Building

5420 N FIGUEROA STREET

Founded in 1905, the Highland Park Herald was the first of six local newspapers published by the Northeast Newspapers. The paper chain operated out of leased office space until this building was constructed in 1971. For many years, the local paper was the main source of news for Northeast Los Angeles communities, but it ultimately succumbed to the times when it was bought out by a corporate raider and ceased publication after nine decades.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Continue south on Figueroa, at the Avenue 54 crosswalk stop and look across the street to see...

## 39 Mechicano Art Center (former site)

5403 N FIGUEROA STREET

At what is now the Feli-Mex Market, once stood the influential Chicana/o arts organization Mechicano Art Center. Mechicano was founded by community organizer Victor Franco in the La Cienega arts district in 1969. Shortly thereafter it moved to East Los Angeles, with artist and graphic designer Leonard Castellanos at the helm. During this time Mechicano initiated the mural program at the notorious Ramona Gardens housing project. In 1975, under the direction of artist Joe Rodriguez, Mechicano made the move to Highland Park. The studio hosted many Chicana/o art exhibitions, continued work on the Ramona Gardens murals, and operated a silk screen workshop, run by artist Sonya Fe.



From the Oscar Castillo Photograph Collection, Courtesy of the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center. ©Oscar Castillo.

### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Continue south on Figueroa stopping to read Stanchion #11: Highland Park Living, then look across the street to see...**

## 40 Faith United Presbyterian Church

115 N AVENUE 53



This local Presbyterian Church was established shortly after Occidental College, also founded by Presbyterians, moved to Highland Park in 1897. The church's first permanent home was a Mission Revival sanctuary built in 1904, designed by Thornton Fitzhugh. That structure was replaced in 1923 by the current brick Gothic building, designed by the architect

George Lindsey. The name was changed to Faith United when the church merged with Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church around 1970. Today, the building is the home of La Comunidad, a Spanish-speaking Presbyterian church, and it also serves as the campus for the Academia Avance Charter School.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Continue south on Figueroa stopping to read Stanchion #12: Religious Diversity...**

### 41 Mystic Dharma Buddhist Temple

5206 N FIGUEROA STREET

The Buddhist temple that sits at the corner of Figueroa and Avenue 52 was originally the Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist. The building was constructed in 1924, a time when Christian Science was at its height of membership. It was built by the Milwaukee Building Company and designed by their in-house architect, John Wilkerson, who lived in nearby Garvanza. Mystic

Dharma Buddhist Temple was founded to serve the area's Mandarin Chinese community and moved into the church in the early 1980s.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Cross to the west side of Figueroa at N Avenue 52 and continue the walk heading south. Take note of some of the large old homes that still line the avenue...**

### 42 Builders of the Adytum Temple (former Automobile Club of Southern California)

5101 AND 5105 N FIGUEROA STREET

Founded by Dr. Paul Foster Case (1884-1954), the Builders of the Adytum is a religious organization dedicated to spiritual attunement through study, practice, and worship in the tra-



dition of the Western Mysteries through the study of the ancient Qabalah. Adytum is the Greek word for "Inner Shrine" or "Holy of Holies." The buildings were originally

built in 1931 and 1940 and served as the local office for the Automobile Club of Southern California. The Auto Club moved to a new building at York Boulevard and Hamlet Street in the 1960s and closed the office in the 1990s.

## WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Continue south on Figueroa stopping to read Stanchion #13: Occidental College. At N Avenue 50 turn right at the corner and take a short side stroll to see...

## 43 Occidental College Hall of Letters

121 N AVENUE 50



The brick building at the center of the property behind the courtyard apartments is the only surviving building from the original Highland Park campus of Occidental College. Originally three stories tall, the Hall of Letters was designed by Oliver P. Dennis and Lyman Farwell in 1904. The college

moved to its current Eagle Rock campus a decade later. The building had its screen debut as the hospital setting in Charlie Chaplin's 1921 silent film, *The Kid*. After damage from the 1925 Santa Barbara earthquake, the top floor was removed, a parapet was designed by the architect John Zeller, and the building was converted to the Savoy Apartments. The Hall of Letters was declared Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 585 on October 15, 1993.



Three of the main buildings built for Occidental College in Highland Park: the Stimson Library, Hall of Letters, and Academy Building, c. 1898. (Virginia Neely Collection)

## WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Continue west on N Avenue 50 to see...



## 44 Avenue 50 Studio

131 N AVENUE 50 | AVENUE50STUDIO.ORG

This boldly-painted 1925 storefront building with its original mosaic roof line is the home of Avenue 50 Studio, a nonprofit arts organization focused on Chicana/o and Latino art and culture. Through creative programming and education, Avenue 50 endeavors to connect and inspire members of the diverse Northeast Los Angeles community through monthly exhibitions, workshops, lectures, and readings. The small studio gallery was founded in 2000 by artist Kathy Gallegos, who wanted to give opportunity and exposure to fellow Latino artists. The gallery has since grown to become a significant arts institution and venue for the area, providing gallery space for local artists and poets, community art space, and three resident art studios. Over the last two decades Avenue 50 has organized over 400 exhibitions and showcased nearly 1,000 artists, poets, educators, and musicians.



### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Return to Figueroa...**

**Note: The last leg of the walk takes you down a long hill to Sycamore Grove Park and ends at the Southwest Museum. The easiest way back is by train or bus. You may also choose to end the walk here.**

**If you continue, cross N Avenue 50 at Figueroa and take a side stroll onto Sycamore Terrace to see...**



## 45 Professor's Row

4900 BLOCK OF SYCAMORE TERRACE

**NOTE: PLEASE RESPECT THE PRIVACY OF HOMEOWNERS WHEN VISITING**

Several of the homes on this short and curvy street were built as housing for Occidental College professors. One is known as the Arroyo Stone House (4939 Sycamore Terrace) and is a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument. It was built in 1900 for Elizabeth Young



Gordon, who was one of a handful of female developers in Los Angeles at the time. Gordon's husband, John Gordon, was a professor at Occidental, and he had previously bought and donated the land for the college's Highland Park campus. Several large Craftsman homes up the street were built between 1912 and 1914 by the Milwaukee Building Company and are also local landmarks.



## WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Return to N Avenue 50 and cross to the east side of Figueroa, turn right and head south down the hill to....

### 46 Pillar of Fire Church & Sycamore Grove School

4900 N FIGUEROA AND 161 S AVENUE 49

The large house with the circular driveway and the church at the corner of Avenue 49 are part of a group of buildings owned by the Pillar of Fire International Church since the mid 1940s. The church was founded in Denver, Colorado in 1901 by the Rev. Alma White after the Methodist Church refused to ordain her on account of her being a woman. The Highland Park church building was built in 1947, and the large Craftsman house dates from 1900.



## WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Continue down the hill stopping to read Stanchion #14: Sycamore Grove then continue on Figueroa....

### 47 Sycamore Grove Park

4702 N FIGUEROA STREET

At the turn of the 20th century, the Pacific Electric Railway made daily stops at this once-thriving red light district, unloading thrill-seekers and miscreants. At the urging of the area's concerned neighbors, Sycamore Grove was officially designated a park when the City of Los Angeles purchased the land in 1905. Cleansed of its illicit past, the park became a popular recreational spot featuring well-kept grass, picnic tables, and a bandshell that showcased

a number of concerts. Sycamore Grove

Park was also the site of annual State Picnics, where residents from the mid-west who had migrated to Los Angeles would gather to celebrate their home states. Today one of the oldest parks in Los Angeles, the 15-acre Sycamore Grove Park offers the perfect setting for relaxation and recreation near the Arroyo Seco.



48

## Sousa-Hiner Bandshell

SYCAMORE GROVE PARK



The bandstand was built in the 1920s at the behest of band leader Edwin Hiner, whose home was across the street. Both Hiner and his close friend, John Philip Sousa, conducted

at the bandstand over the years. The original Spanish Colonial design was remodeled into its present form around 1950. A concert by singer Jackson Browne, a Highland Park native, brought a crowd of well over 5,000 for the close of the annual Lummis Day festivities on June 1, 2008. The bandstand is still in use today for concerts and events.



### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Stop and read the final stanchion, Stanchion #15: Charles Lummis then cross Figueroa at the crosswalk to see...**

49

## Glenmary Archway

4669 N FIGUEROA STREET

This archway and stairs were built in 1904 to serve as a station stop for the Pacific Electric Red Car, which ran a line up what used to be Pasadena Avenue, to serve both the Woodside Tract above it and Sycamore Grove Park across the street. The Red Car was removed from Figueroa Street in the late 1930s, but the Los Angeles Railway's Yellow Car "W" Line remained on Marmion Way and Monte Vista Street until 1958, when it was replaced by a bus line.



### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Either take the foot path at the top of the Glenmary stairs or continue south on Figueroa until you see....**

50

## Casa de Adobe

4605 N FIGUEROA STREET | CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

The Casa de Adobe was built by Jose Velazquez in 1917 for the Hispanic Society of California, who desired to recreate a sample of Los Angeles' Spanish and Mexican past. The adobe, designed by Theodore Eisen, was made of soil



taken from the site, and the rooms were decorated with period furniture and artifacts. An annual fiesta featured live music and dancing for many years. Ownership was transferred to the Southwest Museum of the American Indian in the 1920s. In 1990, it was designated Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 493.

#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Keep going on the upper path or turn right onto Woodside Drive and go up the stairs to see....**

### 51 Ziegler Estate

4601 N FIGUEROA STREET

**PLEASE NOTE: THE ZEIGLER HOME IS OCCUPIED BY A PRIVATE BUSINESS AND IS NOT OPEN OR ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC**

Built in 1904, the building was designed by Charles Hornbeck and Alfred P. Wilson with elements of both Queen Anne and American Craftsman architecture. In the 1950s, Carl Dentzel, director of the Southwest Museum at the time, purchased it as a potential addition to the Southwest Museum complex, which also includes the Casa de Adobe and the Braun Research Library. The Zeigler Estate is designated Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 416.



#### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:



**Go down the stairs to cross Woodside Drive, then proceed right to the walkway leading to...**



## 52 Southwest Museum Metro Station

NEAR INTERSECTION OF MARMION WAY AND MUSEUM DRIVE

Artist Teddy Sandoval had a vision for this station to become the “Gateway to Highland Park,” when he designed the unique sculptures that have graced the Southwest Museum Metro Station since 2003. Triangulating the station, three 13-foot tall white columns support winged “guardians” made of glistening tile mosaics capped with ornate metal crowns. Each figure points to a destination on the Metro Gold Line—Union Station, Pasadena, and the Southwest Museum.



## 53 Southwest Museum

234 MUSEUM DRIVE | LIMITED PUBLIC HOURS | [THEAUTRY.ORG](http://THEAUTRY.ORG)



Founded by Charles Fletcher Lummis in 1907, the Southwest Museum moved into this iconic hilltop building, designed by the architectural firm Hunt & Burns in 1914. The oldest museum in Los Angeles, it houses the largest collection of American Indian art and artifacts outside of the Smithsonian

Institution. To facilitate pedestrian entry to the museum, a Mayan-inspired tunnel entrance was constructed at the base of Mt. Washington in 1919. This 281-foot-long, underground tunnel and its elevator provided a means of entering the museum that proved preferable to the laborious hike up the steep hill. Its walls’ built-in alcoves, which once hosted historical Native American dioramas, were briefly repurposed for a contemporary art exhibition called “Tunnel Entrance” by Thomas McDonnell and Brock Enright in 2016. The Southwest Museum merged with The Autry Museum of the American West in 2003.



### WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

**Congratulations! You have completed the walk.**

**You may return to the start of the walk by taking the Metro Gold Line northbound one stop to the Highland Park station.**

**Please note that there are a number of additional sites to explore in the area. These are listed next in the “Farther Afield” section. Some of the sites will require transportation via the Metro Gold Line, bus, or car.**



## FARTHER AFIELD

**A Monte Vista Street**BETWEEN N AVENUE 50 AND  
MOUNT ANGELUS

Two blocks off of N Figueroa, and separated by the Metro Gold Line tracks is Monte Vista Street. Step back in time as you take a drive along the stretch of road between N Avenue 50 and Mount Angelus. Along the way you'll see many classic examples of early 20th century homes, courtyard apartments, and one-story brick commercial buildings. Other notable sites include Temple Beth Israel founded in 1929 (5711 Monte Vista), Highland Park Baptist Church founded in 1928 (5817 Monte Vista), Saint Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church founded in 1916 (322 N Avenue 61), and the Department of Water Power Distribution Station No. 2, from 1916 (corner of Monte Vista and N Avenue 61). Monte Vista Street also leads you straight up and into Mount Angelus where you can explore this distinctive residential enclave (see page 15).

**B Judson Studios**

200 S AVENUE 66 | CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC | JUDSONSTUDIOS.COM



The Arts and Crafts Movement began in the 1880s in England as an international decorative and fine arts movement, and particularly flourished in Southern California in the first decades of the 20th century. One of the movement's practitioners, English-born painter, William Lees Judson, moved to Los Angeles in 1893 and a few years later became a

professor for the University of Southern California, establishing their College of Fine Arts in a building on this site. In 1897, Judson, with his three sons, started a stained glass studio, the Colonial Art Glass Co., which would later become the W.H. Judson Art Glass Company. After a fire destroyed the original fine arts building in 1910, a new building was designed for the school. The College of Fine Arts remained until moving to USC's central campus in 1920, after which the Judson Studios moved in. The family-run studio continues to operate out of this same Train & Williams designed building today.

**C Los Angeles Police Museum**

6045 YORK BOULEVARD | LAPHS.ORG

Construction of Highland Park's Renaissance Revival-style Police Station No. 11 began in 1925, and it is currently the city's oldest surviving police station. It ceased to function as an active station in 1983, when the Northeast Division moved

to Glassell Park. Efforts of the Highland Park Heritage Trust preserved it. In 1984, it was designated Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 274 and was also added to the National Register of Historic Places. Today, it operates as both an active police substation and a police museum.



## **D Galco's Soda Pop Stop**

5702 YORK BOULEVARD

Galco's Soda Pop Stop carries a staggering variety of bottled sodas and beverages, including over 750 independent brands from nearly every corner of the globe. Its official name, Galco's Old World Grocery, reflects its roots as a traditional Italian grocery store founded in 1897. John F. Nese, son of the market's founder, steered the store away from pasta and tomatoes, and towards obscure and mostly forgotten sodas representing an array of unique flavors, such as rose, celery, cucumber, rhubarb, lavender, and lemongrass. Galco's also has a make-your-own soda bar, a deli, and a well-stocked classic candy counter.



## **E York Boulevard**

YORK BOULEVARD NEAR AVENUE 50 & 51

In 1927, four distinct communities effectively joined together to become Greater Highland Park. One such district was New York Valley (later shortened to York Valley), centered around Avenue 50 and York Boulevard (formerly New York Street). Unlike Garvanza and Hermon, York Valley's former name remains almost completely unused today, although the area retains a character recognizably distinct from that of Highland Park proper. This vibrant, walkable neighborhood is filled with art galleries, bars, bicycle shops, boutiques, record stores, vintage shops, coffee bars, and eateries.



## FARTHER AFIELD

**F Occidental College**

1600 CAMPUS ROAD

Occidental College, Los Angeles' oldest liberal arts college, had its campus in Highland Park from 1898 until 1914, when it moved to its current location in Eagle Rock. The school was originally founded in Boyle Heights in 1887, but a fire destroyed everything, and the school moved to a ten-acre property

donated by Sarah Judson, wife of the Highland Park Tract's co-developer Albert H. Judson. There were three major buildings on the Highland Park campus: the Academy Building, the Stimson Library, and the Hall of Letters, the latter two completed in 1904. Smaller buildings included a laboratory and student dormitories. Nearby Sycamore Terrace came to be known as "professor's row," as many of the school's faculty lived there. All of the major campus buildings except for the Hall of Letters were demolished long ago. Oliver P. Dennis and Lyman Farwell designed the Hall of Letters, which was converted into an apartment building, and in 1993 was designated Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 585. Additionally, many of the stately homes of professor's row still stand, and also share Historic Cultural Monument status.

**G Audubon Center at Debs Park**4700 N GRIFFIN AVENUE | [DEBSPARK.AUDUBON.ORG](http://DEBSPARK.AUDUBON.ORG)

Ernest E. Debs Regional Park is a 282-acre open-space nature reserve and one of the largest regional parks in Los Angeles. Before it was a park, the area was known informally as the Monterey Woods. Expansion was planned to incorporate Rose Hill Courts, a housing project at the



woods' southern end, into the area. The project was halted by community members who opposed the construction of social housing. Instead, the woods were transformed into Rose Hill Regional Park. It was later renamed after former County

Supervisor Ernest E. Debs. Within the park are groves of native black walnuts, oaks, and numerous recreational trails. It is also home to the nation's first carbon-neutral building, the Audubon Center at Debs Park, an educational and conservation center.



## **H Lummis Home – El Alisal**

200 E AVENUE 43 | LIMITED PUBLIC HOURS

The distinctive home known as El Alisal was built by noted activist, writer, and adventurer Charles Fletcher Lummis over the course of thirteen years. On a plot of land he had purchased in the 1890s after walking 3,507 miles from Cincinnati to Los Angeles, Lummis (with some help from others) carried river rocks from the Arroyo Seco to his property and crafted a small castle. Once completed, Lummis frequently hosted writers, bohemians, artists, and other *bon vivants* in lavish



parties he referred to as “noises” at El Alisal. From 1965-2015, it was home to the Historical Society of Southern California. El Alisal is now managed by the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department. In 1970, it was designated Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 68, and the following year it was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

## **I Heritage Square Museum**

3800 HOMER STREET | HERITAGESQUARE.ORG

Heritage Square Museum is an open-air “living history” museum created by the Cultural Heritage Foundation in 1969 to preserve homes and other structures built between 1850 and 1950. The buildings on the property all faced demolition, for either redevelopment or the construction of freeways through residential neighborhoods. The structures include several grand mansions as well as a barn, a church, and a train station dating back to the 19th century. The museum hosts tours, lectures, silent film screenings, and other events.



## RESTAURANTS + MORE

## ON OR AROUND FIGUEROA

(listed in the order they are encountered along the walk)

**Good Girl Dinette** 110 N Avenue 56 *modern vietnamese***Panaderia Delicias** 5567 N Figueroa St *mexican bakery***Kindness & Mischief Coffee** 5537 N Figueroa St *coffee bar***Café Birdie** 5631 N Figueroa St *cafe***Good Housekeeping (behind Café Birdie)** *bar***Civil Coffee** 5629 N Figueroa St N Figueroa St *coffee bar***RBTA** 5629 N Figueroa St N Figueroa St *japanese***Antigua Bread** 5703 N Figueroa St *bakery/cafe***Las Cazuelas** 5707 N Figueroa St *mexican/salvadoran***Tropical** 5729 N Figueroa St *fruit/juices***Antojitos el Paisa** 106 N Avenue 58 *mexican***Tam's Junior Burger** 5801 N Figueroa St *american***Los Orientales** 5803 N Figueroa St *mexican***Subway** 5805 N Figueroa St *sandwiches***Little Caesars Pizza** 5813 N Figueroa St *pizza***Taco Fix** 5831 N Figueroa St *mexican***La Monarca Bakery** 5835 N Figueroa St *bakery***El Pollo Loco** 6009 N Figueroa St *fast casual***Carolina's Mar y Sol** 6011 N Figueroa St *salvadoran***Andy's Bakery** 6025 N Figueroa St *bakery***La Estrella Restaurant** 6103 N Figueroa St *mexican***Penny's Burger** 6300 N Figueroa St *burgers***Taco Bell** 6060 N Figueroa St *fast food***Little Cave / La Cueva** 5922 N Figueroa St *bar/specialty drinks***Kitchen Mouse** 5904 N Figueroa St *vegetarian/gluten-free***Tinfoil Liquor & Grocery** 5900 N Figueroa St *liquor store/secret deli***Mr. Holmes Bakehouse** 111 S Avenue 59 *specialty bakery***Baskin Robbins** 5802 N Figueroa St *ice cream***Flame Broiler** 5638 N Figueroa St *fast casual***ETA** 5630 N Figueroa St *bar***The Greyhound Bar & Grill** 5570 N Figueroa St *gastropub***Folliero's** 5566 N Figueroa St *italian/pizzeria***La Palapa** 5560 N Figueroa St *juice/paletas*

Kitchen Mouse





Mr. Holmes Bakehouse

**La Fuente** 5552 N Figueroa St *mexican*  
**Terra Mia Coffee** 5528 Monte Vista St *coffee*  
**La Fuente** 5530 Monte Vista St, *mexican*  
**China Beauty** 5465 N Figueroa St *chinese*  
**Fanny's Restaurant** 5455 N Figueroa St *mexican*  
**Big Mama's Donuts** 5409 N Figueroa St *donuts*  
**Metro Balderas** 5305 N Figueroa St *mexican*  
**El Pescador** 5230 N Figueroa St *mexican/seafood*  
**Wienerschnitzel** 5215 N Figueroa St *fast food*  
**Monte 52/La Tropicana** 5200 Monte Vista St *coffee/juice/deli*  
**Via-Mar Seafood** 5111 N Figueroa St *seafood*  
**McDonalds** 5008 N Figueroa St *fast food*  
**Chico's** 100 N Avenue 50 *mexican*  
**Fidel's Pizza** 307 N Avenue 50 *pizzeria*

## ON OR AROUND YORK

**Starbucks** 6240 York Blvd *coffee*  
**Jack in the Box** 6250 York Blvd *fast food*  
**The Offbeat** 6316 York Blvd *bar*  
**OK Chinese** 6320 York Blvd *chinese*  
**Waba Grill** N 6316 Figueroa St *fast casual*  
**My Taco** 6300 York Blvd *mexican*  
**Burger King** 6155 York Blvd *fast food*  
**Villa Sombrero** 6101 York Blvd *mexican*  
**Coco's** 6040 York Blvd *american*  
**Maximiliano** 5930 York Blvd *italian/pizzeria*  
**Fusion Burger** 5933 York Blvd *eclectic burgers*  
**Pizza Hut** 5839 York Blvd *pizza*  
**Jane** 5830 York Blvd *coffee/cafe*  
**Divino Salvador** 5816 York Blvd *salvadoran*  
**McDonalds** 5725 York Blvd *fast food*  
**Galco's Soda Pop Stop** 5702 York Blvd *bottled sodas/sandwiches*  
**Carlie's** 5633 York Blvd *cafe*  
**Parsnip** 5623 York Blvd *romanian inspired*  
**Fiesta Fastfood** 5532 York Blvd *filipino home-style*  
**China in the Box** 5628 York Blvd *chinese*  
**Subway** 5626 York Blvd *sandwiches*  
**Dominos** 5624 York Blvd *pizza*  
**Huarache Azteca** 5225 York Blvd *mexican*



# RESTAURANTS + MORE

**Jugos Aztecas** 5213 York Blvd *juice bar/mexican*

**Sonny's Hideaway** 5137 York Blvd *eclectic american/specialty cocktails*

**The Hermosillo** 5125 York Blvd *craft beer/wine bar*

**Donut Friend** 5107 York Blvd *specialty donuts*

**Scoops** 5105 York Blvd *ice cream*

**Town Pizza** 5101 York Blvd *pizza*

**Collage** 5106 York Blvd *coffee bar*

**Berry Bowl** 5056 York Blvd *smoothies/juices*

**Block Party** 5052 York Blvd *bar*

**Ramen of York** 5051 York Blvd *ramen*

**Burgerlords** 5043 York Blvd *burgers*

**Belle's Bagels** 5043 York Blvd *bagels*

**The Hi Hat** 5043 York Blvd *bar*

**á bloc** 5025 York Blvd *coffee bar*

**The York** 5018 York Blvd *gastropub*

**Highland Café** 5010 York Blvd *modern cafe*

**Johnny's Bar** 5006 York Blvd *bar*

**Café de Leche** 5000 York Blvd *coffeehouse-latin inspired*

**The Juice** 4936 York Blvd *juice*

**Troy Burgers** 4738 York Blvd *fast food*

## GALLERIES

(Check online for hours and visitor policies)

**Avenue 50 Studio** • [www.avenue50studio.org](http://www.avenue50studio.org)

**Future Studio Gallery** • [www.futurestudio.com](http://www.futurestudio.com)

**Align Gallery** • [www.aligngallery.org](http://www.aligngallery.org)

**Rock Rose Gallery** • [www.rockrosegallery.com](http://www.rockrosegallery.com)

**co-LAB Gallery** • [www.co-labgallery.org](http://www.co-labgallery.org)

**MorYork** • [www.moryork.org](http://www.moryork.org)

## EVENTS

**Lummis Day Festival (June)** [www.lummisday.org](http://www.lummisday.org)

**Highland Park Independent Film Festival (Oct)** [www.hpifilmfest.com](http://www.hpifilmfest.com)

**Northeast LA Christmas Parade (Dec)**

**NELAart Gallery Nights (2nd Saturdays)** [www.nelaart.org](http://www.nelaart.org)

## MORE INFORMATION

**Council District 1 Field Office** 5577 N Figueroa St • (323)550-1538

**Happening in Highland Park** [www.happeninginhighlandpark.com](http://www.happeninginhighlandpark.com)

**North Figueroa Association** [www.oldla.org](http://www.oldla.org)

**The Eastsider LA** [www.theeastsiderla.com](http://www.theeastsiderla.com)

**Highland Park Heritage Trust** [www.hpht.org](http://www.hpht.org)

**Friends of the Southwest Museum** [www.savesouthwestmuseum.com](http://www.savesouthwestmuseum.com)

**North East Los Angeles Arts Organization** [www.NELAart.org](http://www.NELAart.org)

**Arroyo Arts Collective** [www.arroyoartscollective.org](http://www.arroyoartscollective.org)

**Highland Park** (Images of America book) by Charles Fisher



### **NORTH FIGUEROA STREETSCAPE MOSAICS**

Along both sides of Figueroa, between Avenue 50 and Avenue 60, you'll find intricately designed mosaics embedded into the sidewalk beneath your feet and recently installed by Axiom Group. Designed by SWA Landscape Architects who conceived the idea of bringing historical mosaics to the Figueroa Corridor, and created by Brailsford Public Art, these colorful mosaics celebrate key scenes from the history of Highland Park. This project falls within one of fifteen areas being revitalized under Mayor Garcetti's Great Streets Program, and was the result of close collaboration between the community and city, including the Office of Councilmember Gil Cedillo, The Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI), and The North Figueroa Association.



Highland Theatre and Chicken Boy



Activist, Rosalio Muñoz



Early streetcars along Pasadena Avenue



"El Alisal" Lummis House

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For more information about Angels Walk LA and to download guides of our other historical walks visit: [www.angelswalkla.org](http://www.angelswalkla.org)

*Angels Walk LA is a 501(c)(3) public benefit organization devoted to enhancing the pedestrian environments of Los Angeles by developing self-guided walking trails that commemorate the history, architecture and culture of our city's neighborhoods. Angels Walks encourage pedestrians to explore and discover Los Angeles by connecting directly with major transit and rail lines.*

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