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Dear Friends,

The Angels Walk historic walking trail program has added tremendous interest and vitality to Downtown Los Angeles, Hollywood and Chinatown. Thousands of locals and visitors alike have utilized Angels Walks to enhance their knowledge and appreciation of the diverse architecture, culture and heritage of Los Angeles.

Please join with me in appreciation of the Wilshire Boulevard Angels Walk. As most Angelenos know, Wilshire Boulevard is, in many ways, our Main Street from Downtown to the beach. Angels Walk connects our heritage to Angelenos and visitors alike along a historic corridor that is rich with public transit options that are easy to use and convenient to access.

Thank you, Angels Walk — let’s celebrate L.A.

Very truly yours,

Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **Introduction to the Walk**  ........................................... 2-3
- **Getting There** ........................................................... 4
- **Using This Guidebook** ................................................. 5

## ANGELS WALK® WILSHIRE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Start to End</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SECTION 1</td>
<td>Alvarado &gt; Lafayette</td>
<td>6-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECTION 2</td>
<td>Lafayette &gt; Vermont</td>
<td>15-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECTION 3</td>
<td>Vermont &gt; Normandie</td>
<td>20-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECTION 4</td>
<td>Normandie &gt; Western</td>
<td>27-31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## FARTHER AFIELD ........................................... 32-35

- **Restaurants & Hotels** ............................................. 36-37
- **Dash Maps** .......................................................... 38-39
- **Map** .................................................................. inside back cover
**FROM 10TH DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER**

The 10th Council District is a proud supporter of the Angels Walk for Wilshire Center. The 10th District has always defined the very heart of Los Angeles so it is fitting that Angels Walk Wilshire will lead Angelenos and visitors through it.

As it continues down Wilshire Boulevard — Los Angeles’ “main street to the beach” — Angels Walk will guide you through several historic sites from Los Angeles’ past including the Ambassador Hotel, the Brown Derby, the Chapman Market and the Wiltern Theater.

Angels Walk is easily accessible through public transit, including the Metro Red Line, which runs the length of the Walk.

Please come to the historic 10th Council District via Angels Walk and enjoy Wilshire Boulevard.

Sincerely,

Herb J. Wesson, Jr.
Councilmember, 10th District

---

**FROM 1ST DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER**

Welcome to the 1st Council District! I invite you to explore one of the most historic sections of Los Angeles through Angels Walk Wilshire, a discovery of landmarks, restaurants, shops and art that begins in my district.

The 2-mile long Angels Walk Wilshire, accessible by Metro Red Line and Metro bus lines, offers you opportunities to discover the city’s rich history, architecture and culture.

As you journey west along Wilshire from Alvarado Street to Western Avenue, you can relax by the lake at MacArthur Park, grab lunch at one of many great restaurants nearby or enjoy renowned public art pieces.

I am honored to represent you and look forward to seeing you on Angels Walk Wilshire.

Ed P. Reyes
Councilmember, 1st District

---

**FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Wilshire Boulevard reigns as the elite Main Street of Los Angeles. It curves for 15.8 miles connecting Downtown with the Miracle Mile District, Beverly Hills, Westwood and the ocean bluffs that overlook Santa Monica Bay. If Los Angeles is the ultimate Automobile Age metropolis, Wilshire is the thoroughfare that best reflects the history and ambitions of the city that loves its cars.

Wilshire Boulevard is the namesake of Henry Gaylord Wilshire, a socialist entrepreneur born to wealth. He graded a wide dirt swath across his barley field on the remote western edge of town, named it for himself, and borrowed the French term boulevard. Mr. Wilshire’s unpaved boulevard ran for just four blocks, but his timing was perfect. Los Angeles was expanding west, and the new boulevard formed the spine of the growing city.

The greatest concentration of noteworthy sites is found in a two-mile leg through the Westlake District and Wilshire Center and this Angels Walk will take you there. Publishers, judges and business titans built mansions on the new grand concourse. Elegant hotels and houses of worship soon followed, joined by department stores and corporate headquarters.

Step out onto the boulevard that winds through a modern metropolis to the Pacific Ocean and see the street that helps make Los Angeles a great city.

Deanna Molloy, Angels Walk LA

---

Angels Walk Wilshire is designed as a continuous walking trail that can be joined anywhere along its path, so feel free to join in at whatever point is most convenient. We recommend that you start at the Westlake/MacArthur Park Metro Rail Station parking lot.

Angels Walk Wilshire is two miles long and depending on your pace should take you two to three hours to complete in its entirety.

**ACCESS**

The entire walk has wheelchair access by either elevators, lifts or ramps.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

Emergency Fire, Paramedic, Police (24-hour dispatch): 911

Non-Emergency Police (24-hour dispatch): 877-ASK-LAPD
Brown Derby Plaza

This 1960s-era Korean mini-mall pays tribute, in a fashion, to the Brown Derby Café, the iconic Wilshire institution that gave the world the Cobb Salad. In 1925 the original Brown Derby opened under a wooden hat one block west, where the high-rise Equitable Tower now stands. The café moved in 1936 to the northeast corner of Wilshire and Alexandria. It remained there until 1980, when it was razed to make way for the mini-mall. Only the hat was salvaged, and it now sits atop a restaurant on the upper level.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
The Walk continues west on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard. At this point, however, you can take a side stroll to the north on Alexandria to 6th Street where you will see…

SIDE STROLL: NORTH ON ALEXANDRIA

Chapman Market

This hidden open-air market is another Stiles O. Clements-designed historic-cultural monument. Opened in 1929 as a marketplace for grocers, it resembles a Spanish fortress, with thick sandstone-textured concrete walls and erupting corner towers. Pedestrians enter the secretive inner courtyard through mysterious passageways. Beautifully restored, the market today is filled with cafes, restaurants and small upscale shops. The market and the similar-looking studio building to the west, which has no inner courtyard, were built as part of a coherent complex of Spanish Revival commercial buildings.

THE FOLLOWING BUS LINES WILL TAKE YOU TO THE WALK:

East/West:
Wilshire - 20, 21, 720; 6th Street - 18; 8th Street - 66, 366

North/South:
Alvarado - 200; Vermont - 204, 754; Normandie - 206;
Western - 207, 757

FARES & INFO

A $3 Metro day pass allows access to any Metro Bus or Metro Rail route throughout the Metro System for one entire day. A one-way fare for both bus (exact change required) and rail is also available for $1.25 ($0.45 senior/disabled/Medicare).

Information on Metro services is available at www.metro.net or by calling 1-800-COMMUTE (Monday-Friday from 6 a.m.-8:30 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday from 8 a.m.-6 p.m.) For the hearing-impaired call: TTY 1-800-252-9040. The metro.net Web site has a trip planner including downloadable maps and timetables.

DASH

The City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation operates a system of short-distance shuttles called DASH. For maps and information, see pages 38-39 or visit www.ladottransit.com or call 213-808-2273.

Two DASH routes serve Wilshire Center and Koreatown, crossing Wilshire Boulevard at Vermont and Western avenues. The Hollywood/Wilshire route serves Hollywood from the intersection of Wilshire and Western.

BY CAR

Parking is available at street meters and in private pay lots all along the Walk route. Pay attention to posted limits.

Sections:
The following bus lines will take you to the walk: East/West:
Wilshire - 20, 21, 720; 6th Street - 18; 8th Street - 66, 366

North/South:
Alvarado - 200; Vermont - 204, 754; Normandie - 206;
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By Car:
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Westlake/MacArthur Park Metro Rail Station

660 S. Alvarado Street

Galleries and art schools made Westlake the city's original artist district. Today, small shops serve a boisterous Latino community drawn mostly from El Salvador and Guatemala. Both the artistic and the multicultural are on display in the station, a visual festival of bright blue and red ceramic tiles. At the ends of the mezzanine, Chilean-born artist Francisco Letelier's murals El Sol and La Luna present colorful scenes evocative of the neighborhood. High above, suspended in the filtered glare of the skylight, are five ordinary objects — a house, ladder, leaf, cone and diamond — that combine to form a floating sculpture by artist Therman Statom. The pieces throw an ever-changing pattern of shadows on the floor to amuse passers-by.

Follow the portal lined in deep-blue tiles out of the station to Alvarado Street. The small lake across Alvarado in MacArthur Park dates from the 1890s. Beyond is the skyline of Wilshire Center, once the most prestigious business and shopping address in Los Angeles. In the other direction, the office towers of Downtown are visible in the distance behind the station. Don’t fear the tamale carts lining Alvarado and 7th streets. They are licensed by the health department under the city's first formal sidewalk vendor district designation. Offerings change daily and come from the kitchens of Mama’s Hot Tamales Café at 2122 W. 7th Street, which runs an innovative apprentice program.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Upon emerging from the station, turn right and head north to Wilshire. You have the option to turn left for a short side stroll going south on Alvarado, crossing 7th Street to see...

Westlake Theatre

636 S. Alvarado Street

Built in 1926 as a Fox movie house called the West Coast Westlake, with a Wurlitzer organ to pump up the silent action, the former theatre houses an indoor swap meet. Stalls sell everything from boots and Spanish-language videos to religious icons. Although the seats and Art Deco fixtures were stripped out, visitors may walk through and admire ceiling murals by esteemed artist Anthony Heinsbergen, whose name comes up several times on the Walk. The theatre’s balcony and fire curtain also remain, and the ticket booth out front has been converted to a locksmith’s shop. The Spanish Colonial Revival architecture with hints of baroque was not uncommon in the Westlake District in the 1920s. On the exterior side wall facing Wilshire, a towering mural shows actor Edward James Olmos beside Jaime Escalante, the high school mathematics teacher he played in the popular 1988 film *Stand and Deliver.*

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Upon emerging from the station, turn right and head north to Wilshire. You have the option to turn left for a short side stroll going south on Alvarado, crossing 7th Street to see...

Langer’s Delicatessen and Restaurant

704 S. Alvarado Street

This neighborhood landmark opened in 1947 to serve a flourishing Jewish neighborhood and studio district popular with architects and designers. Art students used to fill the booths until three in the morning. Now open just from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed Sundays), Langer’s attracts a large and loyal lunch clientele with stuffed kishka, fresh chopped liver and arguably the juiciest hot pastrami in Los Angeles. You might see Mr. Langer sitting at the counter.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:

Return north on Alvarado crossing Wilshire to see...
MacArthur Park
WILSHIRE BOULEVARD AT S. ALVARADO STREET

A gently curved viaduct makes it easy to traverse the urban green belt of MacArthur Park, known as Westlake Park when it opened on the dusty western edge of Los Angeles in 1890. The rambling paths, flower beds and sailing pond beautified a marshy refuse dump acquired from the father of World War II General George S. Patton. The Westlake label still sticks on the surrounding district, six decades after the park was renamed for another general, Douglas MacArthur. Newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst promoted the change to boost MacArthur as a presidential candidate. Once a serene refuge from noise and traffic, the atmosphere turned more gritty when the city extended Wilshire Boulevard across the park in 1934.

Today, the park’s 32 acres dotted with palm trees and public art pieces attract large crowds from the neighborhood. Contrary to the 1997 action film Volcano, there is no risk of lava erupting from the Metro Red Line subway tunnel that passes 30 feet beneath the lake. The park’s reputation as a high crime area has eased since the Los Angeles Police Department added patrols and observation cameras. Community festivals are held on many weekends, and paddle boats may be rented from the boathouse. Prominent near the corner of Wilshire and Alvarado is an eight-foot-high cast-concrete sculpture of Prometheus bringing fire to Earth, executed in 1934-35 by Nina Saemundsson for the Federal Arts Project.

Modern sculptures and monuments can be found throughout the park. Embedded in the lakeside walk closest to Wilshire, a terrazzo by Alexis Smith pays homage to the Westlake Theatre and includes a line from novelist Raymond Chandler. In the park’s northern section, the once-popular bandshell is scheduled for a spiffing up.

On the skyline, note the numerous rooftop neon signs. Neon as an art form was introduced to the United States in the 1920s by Los Angeles automobile dealer Earle C. Anthony. Glowing orange and blue tubes quickly became a fixture of nighttime Wilshire. Doused by World War II blackout restrictions, many were never relit until an innovative city-sponsored restoration in the 1990s.

Along the sidewalk, the classic brass Wilshire Special street lamps are unique to the boulevard. Unveiled in 1928 at a civic celebration proclaiming Wilshire the city’s most brightly lit thoroughfare, they feature stylized female figures at each corner of the elongated light box topped by a finial.

BEFORE YOU PROCEED:
At the Wilshire intersection with Park View, look across the boulevard to see the...

Harrison Gray Otis Statue
WILSHIRE BOULEVARD AT S. PARK VIEW STREET

In the 1921 silent movie Hard Luck, comedy legend Buster Keaton eludes the cops by hiding among a trio of newly installed statues. Two of the figures by Paul Troubetzky remain, mounted on stone in an attractive flower planter. A newsboy hawks papers, while the larger sculpture depicts Los Angeles Times publisher Gen. Harrison Gray Otis in his Spanish-American War uniform. Otis’s raised finger points across the intersection at the site of his former home on the northwest corner. The Bivouac, as he called it, was the first mansion erected after Wilshire Boulevard was dedicated in 1895.
American Cement Building
2404 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Giant X’s made of concrete form a distinctive latticework on the exterior of the substantial building west across Park View. Each criss-cross stands 11 feet high and weighs two tons. Built in 1964 to show off the structural benefits of concrete, this former office building features open floors and a minimum of supporting pillars. The innovative design made it appealing to convert to work-live lofts. Peeking from behind the building is the neon sign for the 1920s’ Park Wilshire apartments.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Cross Park View and turn right, heading north to see the...

Charles White Elementary School
2401 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

After the death of General Otis in 1917, his residence housed the newly formed Otis Art Institute. The art school later expanded and built a modern facility, remaining on the corner until 1997. The Otis buildings were redesigned for the neighborhood public school named for the renowned African American artist Charles White, who taught at Otis. On the west wall of the school, viewed from Carondelet Avenue, is a giant mural by Otis graduate Kent Twitchell.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Proceed a little farther north on Park View to see the...

Park Plaza Hotel
607 S. PARK VIEW STREET

From anywhere around MacArthur Park, eyes are drawn to the commanding presence of oversized angels and warriors that gaze down from the 11-story, etched concrete edifice. Designed by Alexander Curlett and Claude Beelman, the hotel opened in 1925 as the most influential Elks Club in Los Angeles. Powerful members drawn from politics and the professions gave the lodge an envied image as the unofficial City Hall West. Taxes, however, did them in. By the 1960s the Elks could no longer afford the upkeep. Rooms were rented to seniors and MacArthur Park’s recreation center. Plans call for renovation of this city historic-cultural monument into a high-end boutique hotel, but the Park Plaza’s major use over the past two decades has been as a party location and popular filming locale for movies, television and commercials.

Noteworthy features include a wide lobby staircase, vaulted ceiling with a celebrated mural by painter Anthony Heinsbergen, and impressive ballrooms overlooking MacArthur Park. The lobby, usually open to visitors except during film shooting, has a display of photographs from the Elks era and materials from some of the dozens of movies shot there.

BEFORE YOU PROCEED:
Please note that across Park View in the park is the...

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Proceed a little farther north on Park View to see the...
La Fonda Restaurant
2501 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

One of the last surviving Churrigueresque gems designed for Wilshire Boulevard by versatile architect Stiles O. Clements fills most of the block at Carondelet Avenue. The Los Angeles historic-cultural monument dates from the mid-1920s. Mansions gave way to commercial buildings in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, many of them by the firm of Morgan, Walls and Clements. La Fonda, the ground-floor Mexican restaurant that opened in 1969, is internationally known to mariachi fans as the home of Mariachi Los Camperos. The troupe has performed at the White House and in concert halls around the world. Natividad Cano, director of Los Camperos, has also recorded with Linda Ronstadt and appeared on NBC's Tonight Show.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west on Wilshire along the north side of the boulevard to see the...

Wilshire Royale
2619 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Not many boulevard apartments have gone by as many names as the Wilshire Royale. Built in 1927 as the Arcady on the site of a spectacular Victorian mansion, temperance crusader Olive Philips favored renters “who are accustomed to fine living” and who could afford $150 a month. As Fifield Manor in the 1980s, the floors catered to senior citizens affiliated with the nearby First Congregational Church. In the 1990s, the building became a Howard Johnson’s tourist hotel. Recently re-dubbed the Wilshire Royale, the 12-story building has returned to its roots as rental apartments. Incidentally, the mansion that was moved to make room for the Arcady is a city historic-cultural monument located just off Wilshire two miles west at 637 S. Lucerne Boulevard.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Return to Wilshire Boulevard by turning left on Carondelet and see...
Lafayette Recreation Center  
WILSHIRE BOULEVARD AT S. LAFAYETTE PARK PLACE

Sunset Park, its original name, was donated to the city of Los Angeles in the 1890s by philanthropist Clara Shatto. At first, no one knew what to do with 35 acres of oil wells and tar seeps. Eventually, though, draping Canary Island palm trees and jacarandas were planted and the park matured into a desirable Wilshire District destination encircled by magnificent architecture. The retreat was renamed after World War I for Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, the French Marquis de Lafayette who helped the colonies in the American Revolution. His statue was placed near the Wilshire Boulevard entrance in 1937 as a symbol of French-American friendship. The basketball courts were upgraded by 20th Century Fox for the 1992 film *White Men Can’t Jump*.

**BEFORE YOU PROCEED:**
Please note that south on Lafayette, across Wilshire are the...

Granada Buildings  
672 S. LAFAYETTE PARK PLACE

These restored 1927 Spanish-style artist studios, also called the Granada Shoppes and Studios, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Unusual in Los Angeles, each unit originally featured an upstairs living area. Young George Hurrell made portraits there of film stars Ramon Novarro and Norma Shearer that propelled him to a career as one of Hollywood’s most celebrated glamour photographers. Entry is by permission only.

**WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:**
The main Walk continues west on Wilshire Boulevard. At this point, you can take a side stroll to the north on Lafayette to 6th Street, turning west around the park to see the...
First Congregational Church
540 S. COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

Standing watch over a corner of Lafayette Park, the inviting English Gothic Revival church was finished in 1932 for the oldest Protestant congregation in continuous service in Los Angeles. For a time it was also the largest Congregational church in the country, but membership has declined in recent decades. Erected on land presented by Lafayette Park donor Clara Shatto, the exterior was designed by Allison and Allison architects to resemble stone. Distinctive horizontal lines left by the wood forms, however, are a giveaway that the walls are actually poured concrete. Inside is the largest church organ in the world, with 22,000 pipes. Free half-hour organ concerts are presented every Thursday beginning at 12:10 pm, plus there are Sunday afternoon concerts scheduled through the year.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Return to Wilshire by going south on Commonwealth until you reach the...

Los Angeles Superior Court Building
600 S. COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

The 19-story mirrored glass cube at 6th and Commonwealth was designed by Langdon and Wilson and built in 1972 as offices for CNA Insurance. It now houses divisions of the Los Angeles County Superior Court. Expect to go through a security check to enter.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Return to Wilshire by going south on Commonwealth until you reach the...

Precious Blood Catholic Church
435 S. OCCIDENTAL BOULEVARD

This small Roman Catholic church built in 1926 on a side street north of 6th has some enticing architectural details. Designed with mostly Romanesque features, it mixes in some Gothic flourishes and a high rose window over the sanctuary. A grinning devil hides on the stairwell leading to the organ loft. Ceiling mosaics depicting scenes from the Bible were added after construction, as the money for artists and materials became available. Famed Los Angeles architect Wallace Neff oversaw a partial remodeling in 1951 and commissioned a mosaic of angels catching the blood of Christ by Millard Sheets, later director of the Otis Art Institute.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Turn left onto Commonwealth taking note of the...

Felipe de Neve Branch Library
2820 W. 6TH STREET

Another entry on the National Register of Historic Places, the 1929 brick exterior and high ceilings by Austin Whittlesey offer a cool respite on hot days. Part of the sprawling Los Angeles Public Library system, the branch caters to its community with books and videos in English, Spanish and Korean. The branch is named for the Spaniard who was the governor of Alta California when the pueblo of Los Angeles was founded in 1781. Open Monday-Saturday.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west on 6th Street to Commonwealth; along the way to the right you will see...

SIDE STROLL: NORTH ON LAFAYETTE

Felipe de Neve Branch Library
2820 W. 6TH STREET

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WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Return to Wilshire by going south on Commonwealth until you reach the...
Clark Building
3000-3008 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
A fine example of the boulevard’s French Provincial period in the 1930s, the Clark originally housed elegant designer shops. The Earl Stendahl Gallery at 3006 was the city's cutting-edge venue for exhibitions of work by Pablo Picasso, David Alfaro Siqueiros and other visiting artists.

Southwestern University School of Law (Bullock’s Wilshire Building)
3050 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
Piercing the sky above the Wilshire Center District is the city’s most exciting specimen of Art Deco and Moderne exuberance. The 241-foot tower sheathed in copper and tan terra-cotta rises above the former Bullock’s Wilshire department store. When the store opened in 1929, the neighborhood was still residential. Bullock’s Wilshire announced a new Los Angeles commercial ethos in which style mattered and the automobile was king. Bullock’s Wilshire was the first store in Los Angeles devoted to customers who arrived by car. Sidewalk windows were fashioned to catch the eye of passing motorists. The main entrance was in the rear, under a porte cochere decorated with a Herman Sachs mural under which white-gloved dowagers would arrive to shop. Suburban malls and demographic changes in the Wilshire District spelled the end. In 1992 Bullock’s Wilshire suffered extensive riot damage. The store closed in 1993.

Southwestern University Law School, located across Westmoreland Avenue, oversaw an expensive restoration. Sidewalk display windows allow glimpses of the law library and preserve Bullock’s artwork. The frieze above the front door was created by George Stanley, a teacher at Otis Art Institute who sculpted the first Oscar® statuette for the Academy Awards®. It reads, “To build a business that will never know completion.” Upstairs rooms may be rented for weddings and other events, but the former store is only occasionally open to the public.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west along the south side of Wilshire until you reach Vermont, where you will see signs for...

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Cross Wilshire Boulevard to the south and continue west to the...
ANGELS WALK WILSHIRE

VERMONT > NORMANDIE

Wilshire/Vermont Metro Rail Station
3191 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

This part of Wilshire Center has one of the country’s largest Korean American business communities. Most of the prominent office towers are owned by Korean-heritage investors. The Shell gasoline station on the northwest corner even sells boba tea, the iced tapioca beverage popular with the Asian American community. The Metro station occupies a famous site in Wilshire Boulevard lore. It was the locale of Villa Madonna, a celebrated mansion built in 1913 for the Hancock family, owners of the La Brea Tar Pits and the rancho land on which Hollywood, Hancock Park and Wilshire’s Miracle Mile were developed. Selected rooms from the mansion are preserved today on the University of Southern California campus. The highlights of the Metro Rail station are the whimsical floating sculptures by Peter Shire that hang over the portal and the colorful tile-clad columns with punctuation and typographic symbols by artist Bob Zoell located at platform levels. Apartments and retail stores are being developed above the station.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
The walk continues west on Wilshire Boulevard.

Wilshire Galleria
3240 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Just past Vermont, the Korean-oriented store collection is entered from the rear off New Hampshire Avenue. It occupies the former Wilshire Center flagship of the I. Magnin chain, opened in 1939 as the first fully air-conditioned department store in the country. I. Magnin mirrored the intent of Bullock’s Wilshire, three blocks away, to cater to automobile drivers and exude a strong design sense. Myron Hunt, architect of the Ambassador Hotel and the Huntington Library in San Marino, designed Magnin out of white marble, with mattes of black granite around the sidewalk windows. An attractive porte cochere still covers the main entrance off the parking lot. Small shops and a health club fill the lower floors of the Galleria. Upstairs are the Solid Rock Church, a Japanese restaurant and karaoke club, and offices for dentists and other professionals. There is a pleasant outdoor café in the back for quick refreshments.

BEFORE YOU PROCEED:
Look across Wilshire and note...

Republic of South Korea Consulate
3243 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Directly across the boulevard from the Galleria, the Korean consulate occupies a nondescript office building. Consular offices and tourism boards for a dozen nations are located in Wilshire Center.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west along the south side of Wilshire to...

The Talmadge
3278 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Still stately 80 years after it opened, the rose-brick apartment building is named for silent film star Norma Talmadge. She lived on the tenth floor for a short time in the 1920s with her husband, the movie producer Joseph M. Schenck. In Wilshire’s heyday, the Talmadge was an exclusive address for leaders in local business and politics, as well as the newly retired. It offered wood-burning fireplaces and suites of up to nine rooms and four baths, with maid’s quarters. The Talmadge still advertises as “the ultimate in gracious living.” The building was designed by Carlett and Beelman, two years before the architects created the stunning Elks Club on Park View Street.

BEFORE YOU PROCEED:
Look across Wilshire and note...
Presidents stayed at the Ambassador too, alongside famous figures such as Albert Einstein and Charles Lindbergh. Part of the appeal was the nightclub off the lobby, the Cocoanut Grove, where Hollywood royalty like Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks partied. Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Sammy Davis Jr., Judy Garland and Barbra Streisand all performed at the Grove, famously decorated with dangling monkeys and faux palm trees.

Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Parkway, the planted median on Wilshire in front of the demolished hotel, commemorates the 1968 assassination of the U.S. Senator from New York. The Ambassador never recovered from the blow, and closed its doors for the last time in 1989. The buildings and grounds languished for 15 years as a filming location and turf for feral cats. In 2005, the hotel was razed for a public school with the Kennedy family’s blessing.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west along the south side of Wilshire to...

The Gaylord and HMS Bounty
3355-3357 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Built as resident-owned apartments in 1924, the Gaylord towered above Wilshire Boulevard then and still does today, its neon roof signs visible for miles. Units in the building have been completely renovated, and there is a pleasant patio and pool toward the back. Casual visits are discouraged, but it’s permissible to check out the lobby if you are a customer of the HMS Bounty, the bar and grill on the first floor. The HMS Bounty has also been known as the Gay Room, Secret Harbor and the Bull 'n Bush.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west along the south side of Wilshire to the...
Brown Derby Plaza
3377 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
This 1980s-era Korean mini-mall pays tribute, in a fashion, to the Brown Derby Café, the iconic Wilshire institution that gave the world the Cobb Salad. In 1925 the original Brown Derby opened under a wooden hat one block west, where the high-rise Equitable Tower now stands. The café moved in 1936 to the northeast corner of Wilshire and Alexandria. It remained there until 1980, when it was razed to make way for the mini-mall. Only the hat was salvaged, and it now sits atop a restaurant on the upper level.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
The Walk continues west on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard. At this point, however, you can take a side stroll to the north on Alexandria to 6th Street where you will see...

SIDE STROLL: NORTH ON ALEXANDRIA
Chapman Market
3465 W. 6TH STREET
This hidden open-air market is another Stiles O. Clements-designed historic-cultural monument. Opened in 1929 as a marketplace for grocers, it resembles a Spanish fortress, with thick sandstone-textured concrete walls and erupting corner towers. Pedestrians enter the secretive inner courtyard through mysterious passageways. Beautifully restored, the market today is filled with cafes, restaurants and small upscale shops. The market and the similar-looking studio building to the west, which has no inner courtyard, were built as part of a coherent complex of Spanish Revival commercial buildings.

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles
3424 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
The Archdiocese includes Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara counties and serves a Catholic population of more than 3.5 million. The Archdiocese has 284 parish churches located in 120 cities.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Cross Wilshire at Alexandria to the south and continue west passing the...

SIDE STROLL: SOUTH ON MARIPOSA
The Langham
715 S. NORMANDIE AVENUE
The Langham opened in 1928 as the city’s largest apartment hotel — and with the first rooftop pool in Los Angeles. According to building lore, Ronald Reagan lived in a penthouse at The Langham while he was president of the Screen Actors Guild. Farther west on 7th Street is The Piccadilly (682 S. Irolo Street) which opened shortly after, forming a neighborhood of elegant high-rise living just steps off Wilshire Boulevard. That easy access to the boulevard, coupled with the classic appeal of the 1920s, makes the restored buildings popular today.
Wilshire Christian Church
634 S. NORMANDIE AVENUE

Designed in the Romanesque style in 1923, Wilshire Christian dominates the major corner of Wilshire and Normandie. The rose window above the west-facing entrance is the church’s pride. Executed by the respected Judson Studios, the stained glass copies a window in the Rheims Cathedral in France. The visible lines on the church’s exterior are a design feature of the poured-concrete finish; they are the ridges left by the original wood forms used to shape the walls. Designed by architect Robert Orr, a member of the congregation, the building is a visually striking city historic-cultural monument regarded as ’20s Los Angeles church architecture at its best. The first graduation of the religious college that grew into Chapman University in Orange County was held there.

BEFORE YOU PROCEED:
Look across Wilshire and note…

Indonesian Consulate
3457 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Before its renovation into an office building, this was the 1930s home of custom-built luxury Auburn-Cord automobiles. The Art Deco showroom on the ground floor faced Wilshire with dramatic display windows, polished marble floors and hardwood finishes. Upstairs service bays were reached by interior ramps. Transmission towers on the roof broadcast the signals of radio stations KFAC and KFVD. The consulate houses an impressive collection of Indonesian arts and crafts.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west on Wilshire on the south side of the boulevard to Normandie. Cross Wilshire to the north and see the…

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west on Wilshire the same way you came and turn left heading west to the…

Tishman Plaza
3440-3450-3460 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Designed by Claude Beelman and opened in 1952, the trio of 12-story office buildings kicked off Wilshire Center’s transformation into a prestige corporate district. Tishman Realty Company, an East Coast developer, proclaimed that Wilshire Boulevard would become the New York of the West. It wasn’t entirely prophetic, but Wilshire did attract Fortune 500 companies.

BEFORE YOU PROCEED:
Look across Wilshire and note the…

Wilshire/Normandie Metro Rail Station
3510 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

The curved mural at the west end of the station by Frank Romero depicts the Festival of Masks held in Wilshire’s Miracle Mile District. Characters include a Chinese dragon, Native American eagle dancer, traditional Korean dancer, Brazilian carnival celebrants and the scarecrow from *The Wizard of Oz*. In the background are boulevard landmarks such as Bullock’s Wilshire and the Brown Derby. Wilshire/Normandie also features a rotating exhibit of photographic artworks on light boxes mounted at the mezzanine level.
St. Basil’s Catholic Church
3611 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

This replacement for a 1920s church that burned down is the newest of the “million-dollar churches” in Wilshire Center. Dedicated in 1969, it also the most modern, designed around 12 concrete towers meant to symbolize the apostles and the tribes of Israel. The tallest, reaching 180 feet, offers a visual landmark that can be seen from many parts of the church’s parish. Claire Falkenstein fashioned the breathtaking vertical stained glass windows and the stunning entry doors.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west on Wilshire on the north side of the boulevard to...

Aroma Wilshire Center
3680 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

The Korean-oriented retail complex introduces a bold new personality to the block between Hobart and Serrano Avenues. Offerings include a luxurious family health club, an international food court, a Starbucks coffee outlet and the city’s most dramatic urban golf-driving range. Patrons at the fifth-floor Aroma Golf Academy enjoy a gorgeous view over the Wilshire District and drive balls into a giant net suspended above a parking garage. Aroma Center’s most impressive contribution to the Wilshire streetscape is a video screen, 22 feet tall by 33 feet wide, hung on the west wall facing the boulevard’s traffic.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Continue west on Wilshire on the south side of the boulevard to...

Wilshire Boulevard Temple
3663 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

The Byzantine-inspired temple is the lone Wilshire religious institution honored with inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. At the 1929 dedication, Jack Warner of the studio-owning Warner Bros. presented murals depicting Hebrew history by Hugo Ballin. Painted on canvas in the artist’s Santa Monica studio, they were mounted around the 100-foot-high, mosaic-inlaid dome that vaults above the octagonal sanctuary. Stained glass windows by the Judson Studios enhance the interior grandeur, as do Italian and Belgian marble, carved mahogany trim and inlaid gold. The impressive front doors facing the boulevard are made of East Indian teakwood. Architects David Allison and Abraham Edelman collaborated on the much-honored design. The intersection of Wilshire and Hobart is named Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin Square, in honor of the leader of the B’nai B’rith congregation — oldest in Los Angeles — when it moved from Downtown to Wilshire Boulevard.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:
Cross Wilshire to the south side of the boulevard at Hobart to see the...
Fir trees and a lawn decorate the front view of the 11-story office building built in 1966. Like many office towers in this area, it is a holding of the Korean American-owned Jamison Properties.

**BEFORE YOU PROCEED:**
Look across Wilshire and note...

**Wilshire Park Place**
3700 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

**Wilshire Colonnade**
3701 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Edward Durrell Stone Associates designed the most gleaming white modern office complex in Wilshire Center.

**WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:**
Continue west on Wilshire on the south side of the boulevard to...

**The Wiltern**
3760-3790 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the ZigZag Moderne landmark designed by Stiles O. Clements is clad in thousands of ceramic tiles glazed the color of “Pellissier green.” The color, and the building, are named for Germain Pellissier, a French sheepherder who in 1882 acquired from the Southern Pacific Railroad 140 acres along the future route of Wilshire Boulevard. By gradually subdividing his sheep ranch, the Pellissier family influenced the development of Wilshire Center into a mixed commercial and residential district. Just 12 stories in height, the tower appears to soar higher due to the clever illusion of chevrons and vertical lines. It rose at the busiest intersection in 1930 Los Angeles. Doctors and dentists quickly filled the upper floors. It is occupied today by architects, designers and writers who admire the Art Deco styling, views and windows that open to the fresh air.

The Wiltern Theatre on the ground floor, now a music venue, opened in 1931 as the Warner Bros. Western Theatre. Aficionados laud the design by G. Albert Lansburgh that includes artistry by Anthony Heinsbergen, the muralist who painted the vaulted ceiling inside the Park Plaza Hotel. Plans in 1979 to demolish the building for a parking lot incited a preservation fight that involved the newly formed Los Angeles Conservancy and led to extensive restoration.

**WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:**
Cross Wilshire to the north side of the boulevard on Western and see...

**Wilshire/Western Metro Rail Station**
3775 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Two 52-foot-long ceramic murals by Richard Wyatt brighten the end walls. They celebrate the diversity of Los Angeles. In **People Coming**, community members approach the viewer; **People Going** shows some of the same people walking away. At the entry portal plaza an arrangement of sculptural benches by Pae White and Tom Marble provide seating. The western terminus of the Red Line connects Wilshire Center to Union Station downtown. To continue on the Red Line out to Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley, it is necessary to return to the Wilshire/Vermont Station.

**WHERE TO GO FROM HERE:**
You have completed Angels Walk Wilshire and may take the Metro Rail back to Alvarado. Please note there are a number of additional sights to see in the general area that are not on the Walk. Some of the sites are just two blocks west on Wilshire and others will require transportation.
**Getty Oil headquarters**  
*3810 Wilshire Boulevard*

Once owned by billionaire J. Paul Getty, the 22-story tower designed by Claude Beelman Associates was built in the high-rise construction boom that followed the 1957 lifting of height restrictions. Never especially noteworthy as offices, today the former Wilshire Western Building is a prominent example of a trend sweeping the 21st century boulevard. The office floors have been gutted and converted into condominiums starting in the $400,000 range and offering panoramic city views. The Mercury, its new name, includes a rooftop entertainment center with a pool, spa and outdoor theater.

**Wilshire Professional Building**  
*3875 Wilshire Boulevard*

This 1929 Art Deco specimen is another fun example of ZigZag Moderne. Notice how the tower shrinks in girth as it ascends. This stepping back enhances the vertical lift while guaranteeing that even if another tower were built next door, both would have sufficient sunlight and room to breathe. Although the tower was originally built to accommodate doctors and dentists, architect Arthur E. Harvey liked his creation enough that he moved in his offices. Cross Wilshire at St. Andrews to get a close look at the terrazzo sidewalk of geometric shapes, specially created by the Portland Cement Co.

**St. James’ Episcopal Church**  
*3903 Wilshire Boulevard*

St. James’ Episcopal, begun in 1925, is Flemish Gothic Revival in design with stained glass windows from the Judson Studios. It salvaged the organ removed from the demolished St. Paul’s Episcopal Cathedral at Wilshire and Figueroa in downtown. Frank Sinatra, Duke Ellington and other musical legends attended the 1965 funeral of Nat King Cole at St. James’.

**Los Altos Hotel & Apartments**  
*4121 Wilshire Boulevard*

Designed by Edward Rust and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Los Altos is the former retreat of newspaper mogul William Randolph Hearst and actress Marion Davies. It was called “a new standard of beauty and dignity” in 1926, and has been recently remodeled back to its former glory. Perino’s, the height of restaurant elegance on Wilshire for many decades, was next door to the east.

**Scottish Rite Masonic Temple**  
*4257 Wilshire Boulevard*

Millard Sheets, a highly regarded watercolorist, was also an accomplished architect as well as director of the Otis Art Institute. He designed the 1961 Masonic temple with statues of Egyptian pharaohs, Roman emperors and George Washington. The Masons sold the temple in the 1990s and it is now a community venue called the Wilshire International Pavilion.

**Higgins/Verbeck Mansion**  
*637 S. Lucerne Boulevard*

Built in the Queen Anne style for a Chicago grain merchant in 1902, the mansion is the oldest and best survivor of the elegant original Wilshire Boulevard residences. It was designed by architect John C. Austin and used to occupy the northeast corner of Wilshire and Rampart boulevards, today the location of the Wilshire Royale. The three-story home was cut into pieces and moved to Windsor Square in 1924.
Once the largest women’s club in the country with close to 5,000 members, the Ebell of Los Angeles (founded in 1894) survives as a formidable institution. Its rambling 1927 Italian Renaissance clubhouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The club has hosted innumerable luncheons, lectures and society cotillons, and it remains a popular wedding venue. Its cork-floored corridors and dignified salons have also served as an unexpected backdrop in dozens of feature films. For instance, the Army hospital where Tom Hanks recovers from war wounds and masters ping-pong in Forrest Gump was actually an upstairs room in the Ebell. Aviator Amelia Earhart made her last public appearance in the attached Wilshire Ebell Theatre, which continues to stage live performances.

Fremont Place

One of the oldest neighborhoods along Wilshire Boulevard, begun in 1911, is also one of the most exclusive in Los Angeles. Gates keep the curious from driving past the homes of Hollywood stars, corporate leaders and diplomats. Silent film star Mary Pickford rented a home here in 1919, and many decades later boxer Muhammad Ali owned and lived in the first Fremont Place mansion.

La Brea Tar Pits and George Page Museum

For the first 100 years of Los Angeles’ existence, inhabitants sealed the roofs of their adobes with asphalt pitch gathered for free from treacherous ponds west of the pueblo. Not until 1909 did scientists begin to investigate the bones of ancient exotic animals that stuck out of the tar pools. Since then, more than 500,000 Ice Age fossils have been removed from the world-famous tar pits: mammoths, wolves, bears, saber-toothed cats and one set of human remains, a tiny female dubbed “La Brea Woman.” The archaeological trove is housed in the Page Museum, while excavation continues in pits scattered around Hancock Park. Watch your step: the tar has proven notoriously impossible to contain, and often seeps to the surface in lawns, sidewalks and even cracks in the Wilshire Boulevard pavement.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Wilshire Boulevard became the museum row of the city after LACMA’s 1965 opening. Large crowds enjoy the galleries and major special exhibits. The four-story Ahmanson Gallery houses the permanent collection; the Lytton Gallery hosts changing exhibitions and the Leo S. Bing Center has a 600-seat auditorium and bookstore. The newer Robert O. Anderson wing, facing Wilshire Boulevard, accommodates the 20th century art collection.

Petersen Museum

The Japanese-themed Seibu department store originally occupied the prominent Miracle Mile corner designed by Welton Becket Associates. Ohrbach’s, a discount clothing store, moved in next. Since 1994 the city’s largest collection of antique and restored automobiles has attracted fans.

Farmers Market

Fresh produce has been sold in stalls at 3rd and Fairfax since 1934. Designed from the start as a gathering spot, Farmers Market offers food and wares from around the world and is popular with local residents and tourists. The familiar clock tower was added in 1941. Next door is the outdoor shopping center The Grove.
ALVARADO STREET
Yoshinoya Beef Bowl 642 S. Alvarado Street
McDonald’s 692 S. Alvarado Street
Langer’s Deli 704 S. Alvarado Street

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD (NORTH SIDE)
La Fonda 2501 Wilshire Blvd
Kar Nak Restaurant 3319 Wilshire Blvd
Subway 3323 Wilshire Blvd
Camy’s 3339 Wilshire Blvd
Café Mermaid 3353 Wilshire Blvd
HMS Bounty 3357 Wilshire Blvd
Palm Tree LA 3357 Wilshire Blvd

BROWN DERBY PLAZA 3377 Wilshire Blvd
Blink
Curry Factory
Euro Café
Jinju Korean Restaurant
Jumak Sheeri
K-Town Pho
Lai Lai Chinese Restaurant
L’Espresso
Quizno’s Subs

Kau Kau Japanese Grill 3435 Wilshire Blvd
Yoo Ki Restaurant 3435 Wilshire Blvd
Trimana 3435 Wilshire Blvd
Wasabi 3445 Wilshire Blvd
Saka-E 3515 Wilshire Blvd
Tulips Garden Restaurant 3515 Wilshire Blvd
Bonjuk 3551 Wilshire Blvd
BCD Tofu House 3575 Wilshire Blvd
Haneda Sushi Bar & Seafood 3839 Wilshire Blvd
Zip 3855 Wilshire Blvd
Soju Town 3869 Wilshire Blvd
Furusato Japanese Restaurant 3881 Wilshire Blvd

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD (SOUTH SIDE)
Sunshine Café 2500 Wilshire Blvd
Pata Café 3012 Wilshire Blvd
House Tofu 3020 Wilshire Blvd
La Presso 3020 Wilshire Blvd
Dong Won Restaurant 3104 Wilshire Blvd
One Café 3250 Wilshire Blvd
Crazy Hook 3250 Wilshire Blvd
Café Metropolis 3350 Wilshire Blvd
Café Amsterdam 3356 Wilshire Blvd

CENTRAL PLAZA
Numero Uno 3432 Wilshire Blvd
Café Metro 3438 Wilshire Blvd
Brass Monkey 3440 Wilshire Blvd
Wasabi Japanese Noodle House 3444 Wilshire Blvd
O’Mama Mia 3446 Wilshire Blvd
Robeks Juice 3448 Wilshire Blvd
McDonald’s 3454 Wilshire Blvd
Kraze Dog & Taco Loco 3456 Wilshire Blvd
Deli-In 3456 1/2 Wilshire Blvd
Essence Coffee 3458 1/2 Wilshire Blvd
Togo’s 3462 Wilshire Blvd

WILSHIRE FOOD COURT 3500 Wilshire Blvd
California Rotisserie
Carl’s Jr.
Ching Yen
Jeon Jon Korean BBQ
Sarpino’s Pizza
Burger King 3540 Wilshire Blvd
Noodle Time 3540 Wilshire Blvd
Nara Sushi 3540 Wilshire Blvd
Francois Café Bakery 3540 Wilshire Blvd
Sonamu Korean BBQ 3600 Wilshire Blvd
Myoung Dong Kyo Ja 3630 Wilshire Blvd

AROMA WILSHIRE CENTER 3680 Wilshire Blvd
International Food Court
L’Aroma
Starbucks Coffee
Denny’s 3750 Wilshire Blvd
Opus Bar & Grill 3760 Wilshire Blvd
Young Dong Restaurant 3828 Wilshire Blvd
M Grill 3832 Wilshire Blvd
Café Moet 3832 Wilshire Blvd

OTHER NOTEWORTHY RESTAURANTS
Cassell’s 3266 W. 6th Street
Pacific Dining Car 1310 W. 6th Street
Rosen Brewery 400 S. Western Avenue
Soot Bull Jeep 3136 W. 8th Street
Taylor’s Prime Steaks 3361 W. 8th Street
Woo Lae Oak 623 S. Western Avenue

HOTELS
Wilshire Grand Los Angeles Hotel
930 Wilshire Blvd
Radisson Plaza Hotel 3515
Wilshire Blvd
Ramada Inn 3900 Wilshire Blvd
**Legend**

- DASH Wilshire Center / Koreatown Clockwise Route
- DASH Wilshire Center / Koreatown Counterclockwise Route
- DASH Hollywood / Wilshire Route
- Metro Rail Red Line
- Metro Rapid Bus
- Bus Stop
- Points of Interest
- Time Point
- Transfer Point
- Metro Rail Station

**Legend**

- DASH Wilshire Center / Koreatown Clockwise Route
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