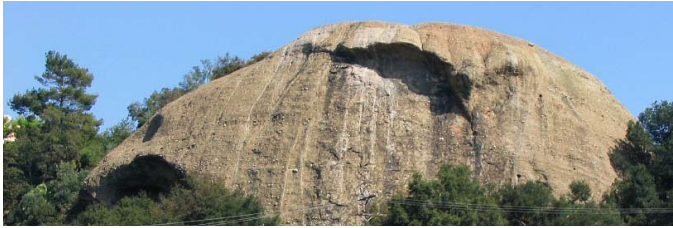


OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

EAGLE ROCK



Eagle Rock's proud history includes pageants in the 1920s at the Eagle Rock, nationwide fame as grower of prized dahlias, and final home of Occidental College. Eagle Rock joined the city of Los Angeles to obtain water and municipal services. The Eagle Rock City Hall predates becoming part of Los Angeles. The City Hall and Eagle Rock Cultural Center (converted library) serve the community well. A well-attended October Music Festival and trendy restaurants draw visitors from a wide area. Occidental College's third campus opened in Eagle Rock in 1914. The college hosts significant conferences and public meetings. The Santa Cecilia Orchestra has found a home in the campus Thorne Hall. Among well-known alumni are President Barack Obama and the early 20th century poet, Robinson Jeffers. Easter Sunday, 2011, brought a revival of the early tradition of a Sunrise Service drawing more than five hundred worshippers.

HERMON



Hermon's Free Methodist residents utilized the biblical name of Mount Hermon for their area, which featured annual camp revival meetings. A religious college, Los Angeles Pacific College, and a high school were nearby. The buildings are still in use by the Los Angeles International Charter High School. The Monterey Pass Cut on Monterey Road was built in 1930. After nationwide prohibition was repealed, Hermon continued legal prohibition and fielded Prohibition Party candidate Claude Watson for president every four years for several election cycles.

GLASSELL PARK



The history of Glassell Park began with the Verdugo land grant, Rancho San Rafael. In 1869 Andrew Glassell and Alfred B. Chapman purchased 32,500 acres from Rancho San Rafael. Originally used for grazing sheep and cattle, the area was subdivided for land sales. Glassell built a large and ornate mansion on the present day site of Washington Irving Middle School. Railways, highways and freeways have criss-crossed Glassell Park, but its inner core of residences remains. The historic Van de Kamp's bakery was saved from demolition by plans for a Los Angeles Community College satellite campus, as yet unrealized.

MONTEREY HILLS



In 1973 the Monterey Hills property was acquired, graded, and the building of condos begun by the CRA. The residents of the 1,781 homes enjoy jogging, hiking and tennis. The late Police Chief Darryl Gates lived here. For sixteen years, the late summer Monterey Hills Jazz Festival has presented well-known musicians and award-winning ensembles from local schools and colleges. Success in the recent fight to save Elephant Hill promises a long-range park plan which will preserve the community's panoramic views.

HIGHLAND PARK



Highland Park was an early suburb of Los Angeles devoted primarily to farming. It joined the city of Los Angeles in 1895 to obtain water and other municipal services. The Judson Studios, Occidental College (2nd site out of three), Charles Lummis, and other artists and writers contributed to the Arroyo Seco culture. Historic homes are protected by an Historic Preservation zone (HPOZ), one of the city's first and largest. This HPOZ has recently been made even larger and more significant by the addition of the Garvanza area. A little-known historic structure is Abbey San Encino, downhill from the Arroyo Seco Library. It was built by printer Clyde Browne, grandfather of Severin and Jackson Browne, and is still in the family.

LINCOLN HEIGHTS



The "Lincoln" in Lincoln Heights and Lincoln Park was brought about by Lincoln High School principal, Dr. Ethel Andrus, who advocated renaming the park and area to match the school. The carousel from Eastlake (Lincoln) Park is now at Griffith Park. The adjacent private Selig Zoo had massive elephants, lions and tigers at its gates. They disappeared to a wrecking yard in Colton where a zoo docent found them and began the arduous path to relocate, restore and install them at the Griffith Park Zoo gates. The rich panorama of historic Lincoln Heights homes is now protected by an Historic Preservation Overlay Zone. An earlier preservation effort brought about the saving of the original Carnegie Library and careful restoration and inclusion of community rooms.

CYPRESS PARK



One of the earliest communities in the Arroyo Seco area, Cypress Park was first subdivided in 1882. Its roots go back to the Tongva who dwelt in the area, using the resources of the nearby river and hills. Cypress Park became a railway town for Southern Pacific Railway workers, with scores of modest craftsman bungalows. After the railroad closed the yards and announced plans to sell, the Coalition for a State Park in Taylor Yard formed to demand recreational use rather than the planned warehouses. In 2002 Governor Gray Davis proclaimed Taylor Yard a future state park signaling the development of El Parque del Rio as it is today. The community also lobbied for re-use of Lawry's California Center instead of condos or retail use. A compromise produced the River Center as it is today, with the gardens preserved and the public buildings managed by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

MONTECITO HEIGHTS

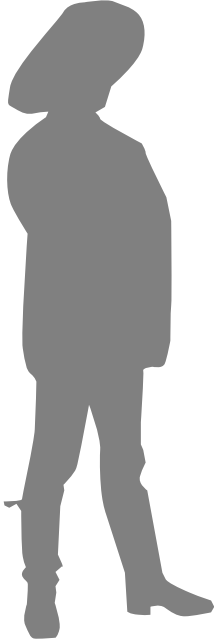


Retired Civil War surgeon Dr. John S. Griffin purchased 2,000 acres of northeast Los Angeles land for 50 cents an acre. In 1874 he began subdividing it. A rail line through Lincoln Heights had its terminus at Griffin Avenue and Montecito Drive. In 1910 the hills overlooking El Sereno, Lincoln Heights and Cypress Park became a development by the Mutual Home Building Corporation, which transformed the pasture lands to a residential community with spacious oversized lots. The Four Square Gospel Church, founded by the late Aimee Semple McPherson, established a hilltop radio tower and station. Debs Park was opened in 1968. Heritage Square Museum was founded in 1969. The nationally known Audubon Center debuted in the early years of the 21st century.

EL SERENO



El Sereno was originally home to the Tongva village of Otsunga. With the Spanish takeover it became part of San Gabriel Mission land. With Mexican rule the ownership went to Juan Ballesteros, who named his land Rancho Rosa de Castilla. Under Yankee rule farmers grew hay and barley and raised dairy cows, pigs and sheep. The construction of the Santa Fe, Southern Pacific and Pacific Electric railways brought urban development centering on Huntington Drive, where it remains today. The community is now welcoming the development of the large open space Ascot Park. Ascot Park was the scene of an early auto speedway. Adjacent University Hills has seen the growth of the large campus of California State University at Los Angeles.



MOUNT WASHINGTON



Ancestral Tongva hunting and gathering land, Mount Washington has evolved into slopes with four parks – Elyria Canyon, Rainbow Canyon, Moon Canyon, and Heidelberg Park – and lots of hikers, joggers and dog-walkers. Known world-wide, The Self-Realization Fellowship was established in 1925 by Paramahansa Yogananda on the site of the old Mount Washington Hotel. Funicular service to the hotel from Marmion Way had stopped six years before. Art and innovative architecture have been prominent. In the 1950s and 1960s an annual PTA art and music festival brought visitors from all over the city. Furthering attention to Mount Washington, Los Angeles TIMES writer Jack Smith wrote chatty columns about his neighbors, pets and wildlife. His life is now commemorated by the Jack and Denny Smith Library and Multi-Purpose Room at Mount Washington Elementary School.