



# METROPOLIS IN THE MAKING

LOS ANGELES IN THE 1920s

Edited by Tom Sitton and William Deverell

# Metropolis In The Making Los Angeles In The 1920s

**N Colangelo**



## **Metropolis In The Making Los Angeles In The 1920s:**

**Metropolis in the Making** Tom Sitton, 2001-08-01 Los Angeles came of age in the 1920s The great boom of that decade gave shape to the L A of today its vast suburban sprawl and reliance on the automobile its prominence as a financial and industrial center and the rise of Hollywood as the film capital of the world This collection of original essays explores the making of the Los Angeles metropolis during this remarkable decade The authors examine the city s racial political cultural and industrial dynamics making this volume an essential guide to understanding the rise of Los Angeles as one of the most important cities in the world These essays showcase the work of a new generation of scholars who are turning their attention to the history of the City of Angels to create a richer more detailed picture of our urban past The essays provide a fascinating look at life in the new suburbs in the oil fields in the movie studios at church and at the polling place as they reconceptualize the origins of contemporary urban problems and promise in Los Angeles and beyond Adding to its interest the volume is illustrated with period photography much of which has not been published before

**L.A. City Limits** Josh Sides, 2004-01-27 In 1964 an Urban League survey ranked Los Angeles as the most desirable city for African Americans to live in In 1965 the city burst into flames during one of the worst race riots in the nation s history How the city came to such a pass embodying both the best and worst of what urban America offered black migrants from the South is the story told for the first time in this history of modern black Los Angeles A clear eyed and compelling look at black struggles for equality in L A s neighborhoods schools and workplaces from the Great Depression to our day L A City Limits critically refocuses the ongoing debate about the origins of America s racial and urban crisis Challenging previous analysts near exclusive focus on northern rust belt cities devastated by de industrialization Josh Sides asserts that the cities to which black southerners migrated profoundly affected how they fared He shows how L A s diverse racial composition dispersive geography and dynamic postwar economy often created opportunities and limits quite different from those encountered by blacks in the urban North

**Andrea and Sylvester** Robert V. Dodge, 2015-10-01 In 1941 a young couple met and fell in love but one of them was considered Black while the other was considered White Laws against intermarriage between races had been upheld by every court in the United States since Reconstruction after the Civil War Andrea and Sylvester a Mexican American woman and an African American man challenged these laws and won and their success inspired changes that ended that taboo When same sex marriage became a pressing issue their case was the precedent that first persuaded the courts to allow it Thus Andrea and Sylvester can be credited with successfully challenging a second marriage taboo Dodge sets the scene for their personal drama and traces how their example helped establish the momentum toward more liberal marriage laws throughout the United States culminating with the 2015 Supreme Court s decision to allow same sex marriage This is the story of a couple that has received too little attention for the impact they have had on society and law Andrea a Mexican girl met Sylvester a Black man working on an assembly line during World War Two Both were second generation Los Angeles residents who

suffered from discrimination in a city dominated by white superiority and the center of the eugenics movement This book discusses their case and factors that led to the court decision Their victory broke the logjam on racial intermarriage and states began eliminating their prohibitions After 19 years the U S Supreme Court declared all laws prohibiting interracial marriage invalid Andrea and Sylvester were soon dating and in love When they went to get a marriage license their application was rejected A quirk in California law declared Mexicans White for certain purposes They challenged the constitutionality of laws preventing marriages between races though no case had been successful since the 1800s This book discusses their case and factors that led to the court decision Their victory broke the logjam on racial intermarriage and states began eliminating their prohibitions After 19 years the U S Supreme Court declared all laws prohibiting interracial marriage invalid After the Stonewall riots and when AIDS raised legal questions for many partners same sex marriage became an issue for more couples One response that states commonly gave was to pass laws defining marriage as a contract between a woman and a man and the federal government adopted this position Opponents of same sex marriage frequently said this was a new phenomenon and it involved unnatural behavior though same sex couples have been known for over 4000 years and the same had been said of those who advocated interracial marriage Some blamed natural disasters and war deaths on homosexuals as God s revenge Massachusetts was first to declare the law preventing same sex marriage unconstitutional and the precedent relied on most heavily was the case of Andrea and Sylvester as their past was revived to challenge a second marriage taboo California ruled next and again frequently called on Andrea and Sylvester s case for support That got things rolling and 37 states have approved same sex marriage through legislative action or court decision The US Supreme Court s decision will determine whether the final 13 also are included T Land of Sunshine William Deverell, Greg Hise, 2011-12-12 Most people equate Los Angeles with smog sprawl forty suburbs in search of a city the great what not to do of twentieth century city building But there s much more to LA s story than this shallow stereotype History shows that Los Angeles was intensely ubiquitously planned The consequences of that planning the environmental history of urbanism is one place to turn for the more complex lessons LA has to offer Working forward from ancient times and ancient ecologies to the very recent past Land of Sunshine is a fascinating exploration of the environmental history of greater Los Angeles Rather than rehearsing a litany of errors or insults against nature rather than decrying the lost opportunities of roads not taken these essays by nineteen leading geologists ecologists and historians instead consider the changing dynamics both of the city and of nature In the nineteenth century for example density was considered an evil and reformers struggled mightily to move the working poor out to areas where better sanitation and flowers and parks made life seem worth the living We now call that vision sprawl and we struggle just as much to bring middle class people back into the core of American cities There s nothing natural or inevitable about such turns of events It s only by paying very close attention to the ways metropolitan nature has been constructed and construed that meaningful lessons can be drawn History matters So here are

the plants and animals of the Los Angeles basin its rivers and watersheds Here are the landscapes of fact and fantasy the historical actors events and circumstances that have proved transformative over and over again The result is a nuanced and rich portrait of Los Angeles that will serve planners communities and environmentalists as they look to the past for clues if not blueprints for enhancing the quality and viability of cities **Sunshine Was Never Enough** John H. M.

Laslett,2012-11-12 Delving beneath Southern California s popular image as a sunny frontier of leisure and ease this book tells the dynamic story of the life and labor of Los Angeles s large working class In a sweeping narrative that takes into account more than a century of labor history John H M Laslett acknowledges the advantages Southern California s climate open spaces and bucolic character offered to generations of newcomers At the same time he demonstrates that in terms of wages hours and conditions of work L A differed very little from America s other industrial cities Both fast paced and sophisticated **Sunshine Was Never Enough** shows how labor in all its guises blue and white collar industrial agricultural and high tech shaped the neighborhoods economic policies racial attitudes and class perceptions of the City of Angels Laslett explains how until the 1930s many of L A s workers were under the thumb of the Merchants and Manufacturers Association This conservative organization kept wages low suppressed trade unions and made L A into the open shop capital of America By contrast now at a time when the AFL CIO is at its lowest ebb a young generation of Mexican and African American organizers has infused the L A movement with renewed strength These stories of the men and women who pumped oil loaded ships in San Pedro harbor built movie sets assembled aircraft and in more recent times cleaned hotels and washed cars is a little known but vital part of Los Angeles history Twilight Man Liz Brown,2021-05-18 Twilight Man is biography romance and nonfiction mystery carrying with it the bite of fiction Los Angeles Review of Books In Twilight Man Liz Brown uncovers a noir fairytale a new glimpse into the opulent Gilded Age empire of the Clark family Bill Dedman co author of The New York Times bestseller *Empty Mansions* The Mysterious Life of Huguette Clark and the Spending of a Great American Fortune The unbelievable true story of Harrison Post the enigmatic lover of one of the richest men in 1920s Hollywood and the battle for a family fortune In the booming 1920s William Andrews Clark Jr was one of the richest most respected men in Los Angeles The son of the mining tycoon known as The Copper King of Montana Clark launched the Los Angeles Philharmonic and helped create the Hollywood Bowl He was also a man with secrets including a lover named Harrison Post A former salesclerk Post enjoyed a lavish existence among Hollywood elites but the men s money and their homosexuality made them targets for the district attorney their employees and in Post s case his own family When Clark died suddenly Harrison Post inherited a substantial fortune and a wealth of trouble From Prohibition era Hollywood to Nazi prison camps to Mexico City nightclubs Twilight Man tells the story of an illicit love and the battle over a family estate that would destroy one man s life Harrison Post was forgotten for decades but after a chance encounter with his portrait Liz Brown Clark s great grandniece set out to learn his story Twilight Man is more than just a biography It is an exploration of how families shape their own legacies and

the lengths they will go in order to do so      **From Acorns to Warehouses** Thomas C Patterson, 2016-07 Thomas C Patterson's large scale history of the Inland Empire of Southern California traces the social political and economic changes in this region from the first Native American settlement 12 000 years ago to the present Framing his discussion of this region in the general growth trajectory of California's socio economic history he is able to connect landscape resources wealth labor and inequality using a Marxian framework for many key periods of the region's history In moving between large scale historical changes regional adaptations and resistance to those changes and a framework that places those responses in theoretical context Patterson's work allows the reader to see how inland Southern California developed into the warehouse empire of the 21st century and its prospects for the future      **The San Francisco of Alfred Hitchcock's Vertigo** Douglas A. Cunningham, 2012 This book is a collection of essays that examine the integrated relationship that the 1958 Alfred Hitchcock film Vertigo has with the history and culture of California and the San Francisco Bay area      *Manufacturing Suburbs* Robert Lewis, 2008 Urban historians have long portrayed suburbanization as the result of a bourgeois exodus from the city coupled with the introduction of streetcars that enabled the middle class to leave the city for the more sylvan surrounding regions Demonstrating that this is only a partial version of urban history Manufacturing Suburbs reclaims the history of working class suburbs by examining the development of industrial suburbs in the United States and Canada between 1850 and 1950 Contributors demonstrate that these suburbs developed in large part because of the location of manufacturing beyond city limits and the subsequent building of housing for the workers who labored within those factories Through case studies of industrial suburbanization and industrial suburbs in several metropolitan areas Chicago Baltimore Detroit Pittsburgh Los Angeles San Francisco Toronto and Montreal Manufacturing Suburbs sheds light on a key phenomenon of metropolitan development before the Second World War      **The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of Los Angeles** Kevin R. McNamara, 2010-05-06 Los Angeles has a tantalizing hold on the American imagination Its self magnifying myths encompass Hollywood glamour Arcadian landscapes and endless summer but also the apocalyptic undertow of riots environmental depredation and natural disaster This Companion traces the evolution of Los Angeles as the most public staging of the American Dream and American nightmares The expert contributors make exciting innovative connections among the authors and texts inspired by the city covering the early Spanish settlers African American writers the British and German expatriates of the 1930s and 1940s Latino and Asian LA literature The genres discussed include crime novels science fiction Hollywood novels literary responses to urban rebellion the poetry scene nature writing and the most influential non fiction accounts of the region Diverse vibrant and challenging as the city itself this Companion is the definitive guide to LA in literature      Olympic Legacies: Intended and Unintended J A Mangan, Mark Dyreson, 2013-10-18 For more than a century the Olympics have been the modern world's most significant sporting event Indeed they deserve much credit for globalizing sport beyond the boundaries of the Anglo American universe where it originated into broader

global realms By the 1930s the Olympics had become a global mega event that occupied the attention of the media the interest of the public and the energies of nation states Since then projected by television funded by global capital and fattened by the desires of nations to garner international prestige the Olympics have grown to gargantuan dimensions In the course of its epic history the Olympics have left numerous legacies from unforgettable feats to monumental stadiums from shining triumphs to searing tragedies from the dazzling debuts on the world's stage of new cities and nations to notorious campaigns of national propaganda The Olympics represent an essential component of modern global history The Olympic movement itself has since the 1990s recognized and sought to shape its numerous legacies with mixed success as this book makes clear It offers ground breaking analyses of the power of Olympic legacies positive and negative and surveys the subject from Athens in 1896 to Beijing in 2008 and indeed beyond This book was published as a special issue of the International Journal of the History of Sport

**Murder at the Sleepy Lagoon** Eduardo Obregón Pagan, 2009-06-03 This is a superior work Pagan succeeds in using the Zoot Suit Riot as a lens by which to illuminate a forgotten slice of American culture and race relations during the 1940s This is an important contribution to our understanding of race relations in World War II America David Montejano University of California Berkeley The notorious 1942 Sleepy Lagoon murder trial in Los Angeles concluded with the conviction of seventeen young Mexican American men for the alleged gang slaying of fellow youth Jose Diaz Just five months later the so called Zoot Suit Riot erupted as white soldiers in the city attacked minority youths and burned their distinctive zoot suits Eduardo Obregon Pagan here provides the first comprehensive social history of both the trial and the riot and argues that they resulted from a volatile mix of racial and social tensions that had long been simmering In reconstructing the lives of the murder victim and those accused of the crime Pagan contends that neither the convictions which were based on little hard evidence nor the ensuing riot arose simply from anti Mexican sentiment He demonstrates that instead a variety of pre existing stresses including demographic pressures anxiety about nascent youth culture and the war effort all contributed to the social tension and the eruption of violence Moreover he recovers a multidimensional picture of Los Angeles during World War II that incorporates the complex intersections of music fashion violence race relations and neighborhood activism Drawing upon overlooked evidence Pagan concludes by reconstructing the murder scene and proposes a compelling theory about what really happened the night of the murder

City at the Edge of Forever Peter Lunenfeld, 2020-08-11 An engaging account of the uniquely creative spirit and bustling cultural ecology of contemporary Los Angeles How did Los Angeles start the 20th century as a dusty frontier town and end up a century later as one of the globe's supercities with unparalleled cultural economic and technological reach In City at the Edge of Forever Peter Lunenfeld constructs an urban portrait layer by layer from serendipitous affinities historical anomalies and uncanny correspondences In its pages modernist architecture and lifestyle capitalism come together via a surfer girl named Gidget Joan Didion's yellow Corvette is the brainchild of a car crazy Japanese American kid interned at Manzanar and the music of

the Manson Family segues into the birth of sci fi fandom One of the book s innovations is to brand Los Angeles as the alchemical city Earth became real estate when the Yankees took control in the nineteenth century Fire fueled the city s early explosive growth as the Southland s oil fields supplied the inexhaustible demands of drivers and their cars Air defined the area from WWII to the end of the Cold War with aeronautics and aerospace dominating the region s industries Water is now the key element and Southern California s ports are the largest in the western hemisphere What alchemists identify as the ethereal fifth element or quintessence this book positions as the glamour of Hollywood a spell that sustains the city but also needs to be broken in order to understand Los Angeles now Lunenfeld weaves together the city s art architecture and design juxtaposes its entertainment and literary histories and moves from restaurant kitchens to recording studios to ultra secret research and development labs In the process he reimagines Los Angeles as simultaneously an exemplar and cautionary tale for the 21st century

A Companion to California History William Deverell, David Igler, 2013-11-13 This volume of original essays by leading scholars is an innovative thorough introduction to the history and culture of California Includes 30 essays by leading scholars in the field Essays range widely across perspectives including political social economic and environmental history Essays with similar approaches are paired and grouped to work as individual pieces and as companions to each other throughout the text Produced in association with the Huntington USC Institute on California and the West

Finding God through Yoga David J. Neumann, 2019-02-07 Paramahansa Yogananda 1893 1952 a Hindu missionary to the United States wrote one of the world s most highly acclaimed spiritual classics *Autobiography of a Yogi* which was first published in 1946 and continues to be one of the best selling spiritual philosophy titles of all time In this critical biography David Neumann tells the story of Yogananda s fascinating life while interpreting his position in religious history transnational modernity and American culture Beginning with Yogananda s spiritual investigations in his native India Neumann tells how this early global guru emigrated to the United States in 1920 and established his headquarters the Self Realization Fellowship in Los Angeles where it continues today Preaching his message of Hindu yogic philosophy in a land that routinely sent its own evangelists to India Yogananda was fueled by a religious nationalism that led him to conclude that Hinduism could uniquely fill a spiritual void in America and Europe At the same time he embraced a growing belief that Hinduism s success outside South Asia hinged on a sincere understanding of Christian belief and practice By universalizing Hinduism Neumann argues Yogananda helped create the novel vocation of Hindu yogi evangelist generating fresh connections between religion and commercial culture in a deepening American religious pluralism

*The San Diego World's Fairs and Southwestern Memory, 1880-1940* Matthew F. Bokovoy, 2005-11 Bokovoy peels back the rhetoric of romance and reveals the legacies of the San Diego World s Fairs to reimagine the Indian and Hispanic Southwest

Rebel Imaginaries Elizabeth E. Sine, 2020-11-23 During the Great Depression California became a wellspring for some of the era s most inventive and imaginative political movements In response to the global catastrophe the multiracial laboring populations who



formed the basis of California's economy gave rise to an oppositional culture that challenged the modes of racialism, nationalism and rationalism that had guided modernization during preceding decades. In *Rebel Imaginaries*, Elizabeth E. Sine tells the story of that oppositional culture's emergence, revealing how aggrieved Californians asserted political visions that embraced difference, fostered a sense of shared vulnerability and underscored the interconnectedness and interdependence of global struggles for human dignity. From the Imperial Valley's agricultural fields to Hollywood, seemingly disparate communities of African American, Native American, Mexican, Filipino, Asian and White working class people were linked by their myriad struggles against Depression-era capitalism and patterns of inequality and marginalization. In tracing the diverse coalition of those involved in labor strikes, citizenship and immigration reform, and articulating and imagining freedom through artistic practice, Sine demonstrates that the era's social movements were far more heterogeneous, multivalent and contested than previously understood. *History of California*, Tuberculosis and the Politics of Exclusion, Emily K.

Abel, 2007-10-08. Though notorious for its polluted air today, the city of Los Angeles once touted itself as a health resort. After the arrival of the transcontinental railroad in 1876, publicists launched a campaign to portray the city as the promised land, circulating countless stories of miraculous cures for the sick and debilitated. As more and more migrants poured in, however, a gap emerged between the city's glittering image and its dark reality. Emily K. Abel shows how the association of the disease with tramps during the 1880s and 1890s, and Dust Bowl refugees during the 1930s, provoked exclusionary measures against both groups. In addition, public health officials sought not only to restrict the entry of Mexicans, the majority of immigrants during the 1920s, but also to expel them during the 1930s. Abel's revealing account provides a critical lens through which to view both the contemporary debate about immigration and the U.S. response to the emergent global tuberculosis epidemic.

Beyond Chinatown, Steven P. Erie, Harold David Brackman, 2006. Examines the history of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California from its obscure 1920s-era origins through the Colorado River Aqueduct and State Water Projects to today's daunting mission of drought management, water quality, environmental stewardship and post-9/11 supply security. Simultaneous.

## Adopting the Tune of Expression: An Emotional Symphony within **Metropolis In The Making Los Angeles In The 1920s**

In a global taken by displays and the ceaseless chatter of instant transmission, the melodic elegance and mental symphony produced by the prepared word often fade in to the backdrop, eclipsed by the relentless noise and disturbances that permeate our lives. However, nestled within the pages of **Metropolis In The Making Los Angeles In The 1920s** a marvelous fictional treasure full of organic feelings, lies an immersive symphony waiting to be embraced. Constructed by an elegant musician of language, this interesting masterpiece conducts visitors on a mental journey, well unraveling the concealed melodies and profound impact resonating within each cautiously constructed phrase. Within the depths of the poignant assessment, we shall investigate the book is key harmonies, analyze its enthralling writing fashion, and surrender ourselves to the profound resonance that echoes in the depths of readers souls.

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