

# **Historic Schools of the Los Angeles Unified School District**

**Prepared for  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division**



**March 2002**



# **Historic Schools of the Los Angeles Unified School District**

**Prepared in fulfillment of a Planning Grant  
provided under the Preserve Initiative  
of the J. Paul Getty Trust**

for

**Los Angeles Unified School District  
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by

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# INTRODUCTION

This booklet represents the culmination of the first systematic survey ever undertaken of the significant historic school properties of the Los Angeles Unified School District (District). The survey was performed in fulfillment of a Planning Grant under the Preserve LA initiative, administered by the Getty Grant Program, a program of the J. Paul Getty Trust (The Getty).

## **The Los Angeles Unified School District**

Since the founding of the first public school in Los Angeles in 1817, the Los Angeles Unified School District has grown to encompass 704 square miles and approximately 790 campuses. Over the course of its nearly two hundred-year history, the District has accumulated an unparalleled collection of historically and culturally significant buildings in an assortment of architectural styles, ranging from 19<sup>th</sup> century wood frame schoolhouses to the International Style of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Nearly a third of the campuses are more than 45 years old. These historic schools and campuses reflect a succession of educational, social, political, technological, engineering, and architectural advances and reforms throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The growth of the District paralleled that of Los Angeles and the larger southern California region, as the latter grew from a far-flung scattering of pueblos and ranchos into a major metropolitan center.



# INTRODUCTION (continued)

## The Preserve LA Planning Grant Initiative

The Getty is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts and composed of the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles as well as operating programs for research, conservation, and grants. Preserve LA, a three-year initiative launched by The Getty in 2000, was created to complement the national Save America's Treasures campaign. An initiative of the White House Millennium Council in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Save America's Treasures promotes the protection of objects and places of historic value throughout the United States.

The Preserve LA initiative was developed to provide dedicated funds for the conservation of Los Angeles landmark buildings and sites of architectural, cultural and historical significance. Funded projects are intended to strengthen the practice of architectural conservation and serve as models for the preservation of other historic buildings and sites. Recipients of awards under the program represent a range of Los Angeles landmarks, from historic residences and landscapes to museums, schools, libraries and places of worship. All have in common the occupation of a unique role in the identity of their respective local communities. Toward this end, grant guidelines stipulated that eligible sites should be accessible to the public or used for the benefit of the community planning. Grant awards of up to \$75,000 are intended for use in research, documentation and analysis necessary to identify preservation needs and develop a conservation plan.

The District was granted \$50,000, one of 18 competitive awards made through the program in 2000. The grant was entrusted to the District to allow completion of a Preliminary Historic Resources Survey of its properties. The survey was planned to provide baseline preservation information to inform future planning, school modernization, and preservation efforts within the district.



# INTRODUCTION (continued)

## The Preliminary Historic Resources Survey

The present project builds upon earlier efforts, most notably the District's *History of Schools 1855-1972*, a comprehensive, chronological list of District schools, and the evaluations undertaken by the State Office of Historic Preservation and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the wake of the 1994 Northridge earthquake. Utilizing these and other resources, an up-to-date database listing all schools with buildings 45 years old or older was compiled. A narrative historic context statement was then prepared, summarizing those aspects of Los Angeles's history relevant to the school district, to provide a perspective for evaluating the significance of historic resources and to illuminate associations with specific trends, themes or patterns.

Next, a "windshield" survey of approximately half of the 410 schools in the District identified as 45 years old or older was performed. Schools pre-dating World War II or modern schools with known associations with prominent architects were given priority. This windshield survey allowed preliminary evaluations of each facility's historic significance. In addition, digital photographs of over 100 campuses were taken. Finally, a representative sampling of 50 schools was researched further and documented on standard California Historic Resources Inventory forms.

This booklet presents a pictorial survey of selected historic schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District, representative of elementary, junior, and senior high schools, across all geographic and Board subdistricts, and through each era of school building since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

# LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CHRONOLOGY



**1769:** First European overland expedition, scouting mission locations along *El Camino Real*, enters present-day Los Angeles via Elysian Park, led by Father Junipero Serra and Captain Gaspar de Portola and accompanied by Father Juan Crespi. Present-day California is a territory of Spain.

**1771:** Nearby Mission San Gabriel is founded by Father Junipero Serra.

**1781:** Founding of *El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula* (The Town of Our Lady the Queen of the Angels of Porciuncula) by Felipe de Neve, Spanish Governor of California, on the orders of King Carlos III.

**1790:** Los Angeles totals 28 households and a population of 139.

**1812:** First *ayuntamiento* (town council) established to govern civic affairs.

**1817:** First primary school opens in Los Angeles by order of Pablo Vicente de Sola, the last Spanish governor of Alta (Upper) California (present-day California).

**1821:** Mexico declares independence from Spain.

**1822:** Mexican government assumes control of Alta California.

**1827:** Second school in Los Angeles opens on Los Angeles Street near Arcadia; noted as first school to accept female pupils and teachers.

**1835:** Los Angeles awarded city status by the Mexican Congress, replacing Monterey as the capital of California.

**1846:** Mexican American War begins.

**1848:** California becomes a territory of the United States under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo following two years of hostilities with Mexico.

**1849:** State Constitution establishes position for a Superintendent of Public Instruction, creates schools fund, makes it mandatory that the legislature provide for a system of common schools to be kept open at least three months per year.

**1850:** California becomes the 31<sup>st</sup> state in the Union; County of Los Angeles is established; City of Los Angeles incorporates.

**1851:** Legislation authorizes creation of local school districts and boards, levy of district school taxes, and establishment of high schools.

**1851:** First English-speaking school in Los Angeles opens its doors.

**1853:** City adopts public schools ordinance, appoints first Board of Education and Superintendent.

**1855:** First dedicated schoolhouse built at Second and Spring Streets.

**1866:** District-wide enrollment reaches 244 students in three schools.

**1872:** City school district formed as the result of passage of the “Act to Enforce the Educational Rights of Children”; education becomes compulsory.

**1873:** Southern California’s first high school built in Los Angeles on “Pound Cake Hill,” present-day site of County Courthouse (Temple and Broadway Streets).

# LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CHRONOLOGY

## (continued)



- 1876:** First kindergarten established, widespread program in place by 1890.
- 1881:** Los Angeles State Normal School established for education of teachers on present-day site of Central Library.
- 1884:** District enrollment reaches 3,417 students and 66 teachers.
- 1886-** “Boom of the 80s” reaches its height as railroad fare war brings thousands of real estate speculators and new residents to southern California; Los Angeles population approaches 100,000 by end of 1880s.
- 1888:** District encompasses over 85 square miles, 46,500 students; Los Angeles population reaches 319,000.
- 1910:** First junior high school established.
- 1911:** First World War begins.
- 1914:** District grows to over 400 square miles (larger than City) and 78,658 students.
- 1916:** End of World War I.
- 1918:** Huge increases in population in Los Angeles County touch off a school building boom.
- 1920s:** Frank Wiggins Trade School established to provide adult vocational training; offers first culinary training program in nation; evolves into present-day Los Angeles Trade-Technical College.
- 1925:** First junior college established.
- 1929:** District grows to encompass 688 square miles (Elementary School District) and 1,039 square miles (High School District), plus a Junior College District; enrollment stands at 404,351 students in 350 schools.
- 1931:** Long Beach Earthquake strikes; 40 of the district’s 1,691 unreinforced masonry buildings damaged beyond repair.
- 1933:** Field Bill (Act) passed by state legislature, directing the State Division of Architecture to oversee school reconstruction, establish a building code and enforce a program of construction inspection for schools to ensure earthquake resistant school structures. Massive school building program begins in Los Angeles.
- 1936-** Beverly Hills, Torrance, Culver City and William S. Hart Union High School districts formed after leaving the Los Angeles City School District.
- 1945:** World War II
- 1939-** World War II
- 1945:** World War II
- 1950s:** Postwar baby boom results in explosive growth of enrollment in district, concentrated in San Fernando Valley and other suburbs.
- 2002:** District covers 704 square miles encompassing City of Los Angeles, areas of unincorporated Los Angeles County, and parts of twenty other municipalities; 720,000 students; 659 schools.



# ARCHITECTURAL CHRONOLOGY OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Late Nineteenth Century Victorian Era



- Wood horizontal or shingle siding
- Open cupola or bell tower
- Queen Anne or Colonial Revival detailing
- Wood-framed, double-hung sash windows

## 1920s Spanish Colonial Revival



- Stucco or concrete exterior
- Gabled and/or hipped clay tile roof
- Asymmetrical plan
- Tower
- Arcades and balconies

## Early Twentieth Century Classical Revival



- Brick, concrete, or stone exterior
- Symmetrical composition
- Portico with columns
- Classical detailing

## 1920s Renaissance Revival



- Stucco, brick, or concrete exterior
- Gabled and/or hipped clay tile roof
- Cast stone or terra cotta architectural embellishment
- Generally symmetrical composition
- Elaborate main entry focal point



# ARCHITECTURAL CHRONOLOGY OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (continued)



## 1920s Collegiate Gothic



- Concrete or brick exterior
- Steeply gabled roof
- Cast stone or terra cotta ornament
- Tudor, pointed, or round arch openings
- Sculptural adornment

## 1930s P.W.A. or Streamline Moderne



- Board-form or smooth concrete exterior
- Typically flat-roofed, although occasionally gabled or hipped and tiled
- Generally symmetrical
- Mostly horizontal emphasis
- Piers, often fluted or reeded, separating recessed window channels
- Incorporation of shallow relief panels and interior murals
- Rounded or bullnosed corners or other curved elements
- Art Deco motifs such as chevrons

## 1940s and 1950s International Style



- One story
- Flat or shed roofed, often with cantilevered overhangs
- Stucco or brick exterior
- Modular planning
- Classrooms with glass walls on one side and clerestory windows on the opposite side
- Incorporation of outdoor classrooms
- Exterior corridors with roofs supported by pipe columns



# WHAT MAKES A SCHOOL, OR SCHOOL BUILDING HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT?

## Association with important historical trends, events, or people

- Establishment of a new school is evidence of the growth and development of the surrounding community.
- Annexations to the LAUSD often paralleled annexations of independent cities into Los Angeles.
- Schools represent shared experiences and traditions.
- Schools are often the focal point of a community, the most architecturally impressive and built as a result of a common financial investment.
- A school may be the site where an important educational advancement or innovation occurred.
- A prominent educator or student may have made a significant achievement at a school.
- An influential social trend may have been borne or nourished at a school.



# WHAT MAKES A SCHOOL, OR SCHOOL BUILDING HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT?

## Architectural merit or association with a significant architect

- Intact and representative examples of architectural styles, building types, periods, or methods of construction.
- Noteworthy or innovative achievements in school design
- Outstanding design or aesthetic qualities
- Age and scarcity of the style or type
- Intact and related groupings of school buildings constituting a historic district
- Significant work of a prominent or influential architect, including the following architects and firms who designed for the LAUSD

Robert Alexander

Hudson and Munsell

Richard Neutra

John C. Austin

Myron Hunt

Noerenberg and Johnson

Austin and Ashley

Hunt and Chambers

Parkinson and Parkinson

Edwin Bergstrom

Hunt and Burns

Charles Plummer

Stiles O. Clements

Gordon B. Kaufmann

Alfred Rosenheim

# HISTORIC SCHOOLS IN THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Buildings at the following schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District have been identified as historically significant, meeting either the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources. Additional schools may be added to this list as more research is performed or as additional schools meet the general threshold of fifty years of age. The schools itemized in **bold type** are illustrated on the following pages.



2<sup>nd</sup> Street Elementary School

**10<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School**

17<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School  
(now Senior High School Division Office)

24<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School

49<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School

**52<sup>nd</sup> Street Elementary School**

**66<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School**

109<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School

Adams Middle School

**Aldama Elementary School**

Alta Loma Elementary School

**Angeles Mesa Elementary School**

Arlington Heights Elementary School

**Baldwin Hills Elementary School**

Bandini Branch Adult Education Center

Bandini Street Elementary School

Barton Hill Elementary School

Bell High School

Belvedere Elementary School

**Berendo Middle School**

Broadway Elementary School

Bryson Avenue Elementary School

Buchanan Street Elementary School

**Burroughs Middle School**

**Canoga Park Elementary School**

**Canoga Park High School**

**Carpenter Avenue School**

**Carson Street School**

Cienega Elementary School

**Corona Avenue Elementary School**

**Dorris Place Elementary School**

**Dorsey High School**

**Eagle Rock Elementary School**

**El Sereno Middle School**

Eshelman Avenue Elementary School

Euclid Avenue Elementary School

**Fremont High School**

Fries Avenue Elementary School

Garvanza Elementary School

Glassell Park Elementary School

Gompers Middle School

# HISTORIC SCHOOLS IN THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (Continued)

Graham Elementary School  
Grant Elementary School  
**Gulf Avenue Elementary School**  
**Hamasaki Middle School**  
**Hamilton High School**  
Hancock Park Elementary School  
Hobart Boulevard Elementary School  
**Hollenbeck Middle School**  
**Hollywood High School**  
**Huntington Park High School**  
Irving Middle School  
**Jefferson High School**  
Jordan High School  
Kester Avenue Elementary School  
Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies  
Lankershim Elementary School  
**Le Conte Middle School**  
Leland Street Elementary School  
**Lincoln High School**  
**Lokrantz Special Education Center**  
Lomita Fundamental Magnet  
Los Feliz Elementary School  
**Mann Middle School**  
**Manual Arts High School**

**Marshall High School**  
**Miramonte Elementary School**  
**Morningside Elementary School**  
**Muir Middle School**  
**Nightingale Middle School**  
**North Hollywood High School**  
**Old Canyon School**  
**Old Farmdale School**  
**Old Vernon School (Heritage School)**  
**Pacific Palisades Elementary School**  
Pacoima Elementary School  
Perez Special Education Center  
**Point Fermin Elementary School**  
**Reed Middle School**  
**Reseda Elementary School**  
**Ritter Elementary School**  
Rowan Avenue Elementary School  
**San Fernando Middle School**  
San Gabriel Avenue Elementary School  
San Pedro Adult School  
**San Pedro High School**  
San Pedro Street School  
Santa Monica Elementary School  
Solano Avenue Elementary School

Soto Street Elementary School  
**South Gate High School**  
**South Gate Middle School**  
South Park Elementary School  
State Street Children's Center  
State Street Elementary School  
Sterry Children's Center  
**University High School**  
Utah Street School  
**Van Ness Elementary School**  
**Van Nuys High School**  
**Venice High School**  
**Verdugo Hills High School**  
Vernon City Elementary School  
Vine Street Elementary School  
Virgil Middle School  
Virginia Road Elementary School  
West Vernon Avenue  
Elementary School  
**Wright Middle School**  
Yorkdale Elementary School



This Spanish Colonial Revival Administration Building was constructed in 1922, although the school was founded in the nineteenth century. It is graced with a particularly fine oak door at the main entry, one of the relatively few original doors remaining in the District.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**10<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1888



The architectural firm of Edelman and Zimmerman was presented with an award in 1925 by the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects for their design of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Street School. Showcasing the Italian Renaissance Revival, the school displays the arched openings and architectural embellishments associated with the style.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**52<sup>nd</sup> Street Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1922



Rounded corners, shallowly incised horizontal and vertical lines, and subtle setbacks characterize the Streamline Moderne styling of this classroom building. It was constructed in 1937 of reinforced concrete.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**66<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1909

One of many schools completed by the school district in 1924, Aldama Elementary School was designed by architect Charles F. Plummer and illustrates this noted Los Angeles practitioner's dexterity with the Spanish Colonial Revival Style.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Aldama Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1924

The elegant Beaux Arts styling of Angeles Mesa Elementary School makes it unique in the District. Originally constructed for the Hyde Park School District, the school was designed either by G. A. Howard, Jr. or T. Franklin Power.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Angeles Mesa Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1917



A dramatically cantilevered canopy over the entry welcomes visitors to Baldwin Hills Elementary School, originally constructed in 1949-1951. Architect Robert E. Alexander also designed the Baldwin Hills Shopping Center (1954) and was part of the architectural team responsible for the groundbreaking, high density housing concept of Baldwin Hills Village (1940-1941).



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Baldwin Hills Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1943

The sculptural enhancements of Berendo Middle School include relief panels flanking the main entry, depicting a woman and a man escorting young students. One of the oldest institutions in the District, the current historic core of the campus dates from a reconstruction in 1937.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Berendo Middle School**  
 Opened in 1896

Northern Italian Renaissance Revival styling, incorporating remarkable brickwork and cast stone ornament, distinguishes the design of Burroughs Middle School. It is one of the most intact campuses from the 1920s remaining in the District.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**John Burroughs Middle School**  
 Opened in 1922





Originally called Owensmouth School after the former name of the community of Canoga Park, the Canoga Park Elementary School shared a Neoclassical building with local high school students. That building was demolished following the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake, and a new Spanish Colonial Revival Administration Building and Auditorium were constructed in 1935-1936 to plans drawn by architect Sumner Spaulding.

Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Canoga Park Elementary School**  
 Annexed in 1915



Dating to 1939, the Auditorium at Canoga Park High School is characteristic of the combination of Spanish Colonial Revival and P.W.A. Moderne stylistic elements favored for public building projects in southern California during the 1930s. Most of the current campus improvements post-date World War II.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Canoga Park High School**  
 Annexed in 1915

Surrounded by mature trees and lush landscaping, the Carpenter Avenue School Administrative Building dates to 1938. Its P.W.A. Moderne styling is highlighted by the fluted and reeded treatment of the entry surround.

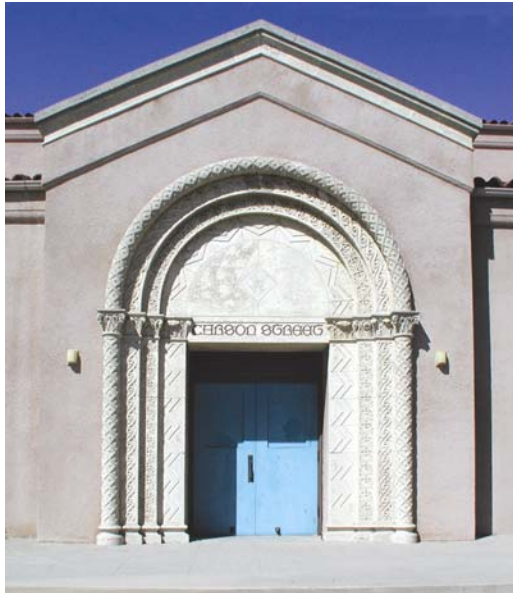


Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division

## Carpenter Avenue Elementary School

Opened in 1924

An elaborately framed main entrance is the focal point of this symmetrically composed school building. It was constructed in 1927 in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County that became the City of Carson in 1968.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Carson Street Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1921



Pioneer International Style architect Richard Neutra was offered a chance to realize his progressive ideas for school design when the Los Angeles School Board commissioned an addition to the Corona Avenue School from him in 1934. Finished in 1935, the new wing incorporated sliding glass walls that opened onto “outdoor classrooms.”



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Corona Avenue Elementary School**  
 Annexed from Bell in 1926

One of the handful of school buildings in the Los Angeles Unified School District that retain their pre-1933 Long Beach Earthquake appearance, Dorris Place Elementary School showcases a refined Romanesque Revival style. The 1927 building permit credits the Board of Education with the design, which features varicolored brick exterior walls and terracotta trim.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Dorris Place Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1925



The streamlined appearance of Dorsey High was conceived by architects H. L. Gogerty and C. E. Noerenberg, who declared that the design of the campus was intended to “architecturally and structurally express in functional form the outer envelope of a process of public education.” (*Southwest Builder and Contractor*, October 8, 1937, page 12.)

Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division  
**Susan M. Dorsey High School**  
Opened in 1937



The historic core of Eagle Rock Elementary School was built between 1917 and 1919, a few years after Eagle Rock incorporated as an independent city in 1911. The Spanish Colonial Revival campus became part of the Los Angeles Unified School District when Eagle Rock was annexed to the City of Los Angeles in 1923.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Eagle Rock Elementary School**  
 Annexed in 1923



The Italian Renaissance Revival styling of El Sereno Middle School, enlivened by an adroit use of terra cotta ornament, dates to 1937. Like several other middle schools in the District, El Sereno originally operated as a six-year high school, and it bore the name of Woodrow Wilson High School until 1969.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**El Sereno Middle School**  
 Opened in 1937

The Romanesque Revival auditorium provides a clue to the original appearance of Fremont High School. It was designed by famed architect Edwin C. Bergstrom in 1923.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**John C. Fremont High School**  
 Opened in 1924

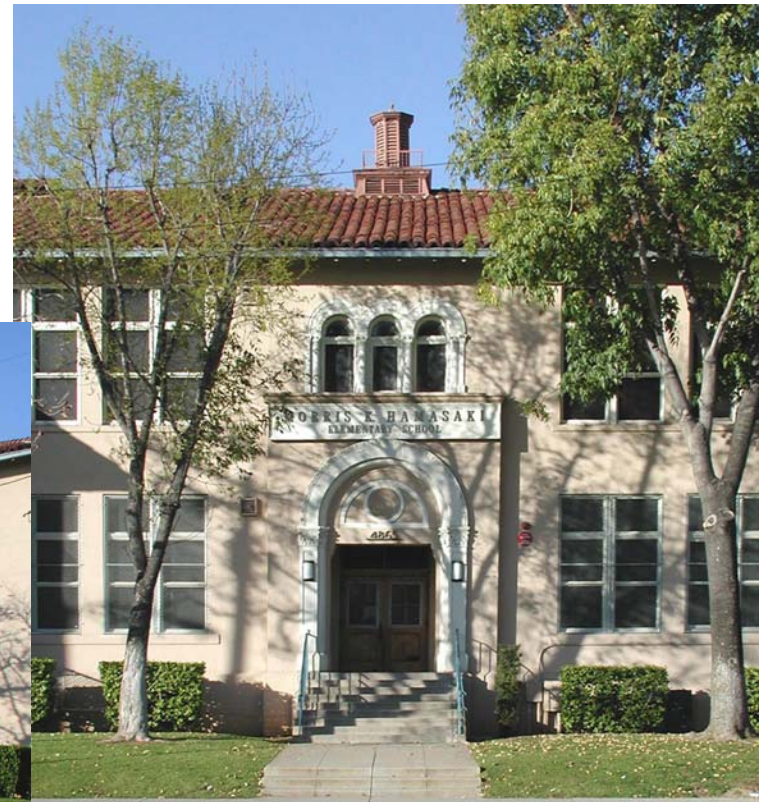
Constructed in 1926, the Administration Building and Auditorium of Wilmington's Gulf Avenue Elementary School showcase the Tudor Revival style. The varicolored brick and cast stone buildings were designed by architects Henry Harwood Hewitt and Norman Miller.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Gulf Avenue Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1923



Formerly known as the Riggin School, Hamasaki Elementary School was built in 1927. Its arched openings, classical detailing, tiled roof, and smoothly finished exterior walls are evidence of the influence of the architecture of the Mediterranean countries on styles in Los Angeles at the time.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division

## **Morris K. Hamasaki Elementary School**

Opened in 1926

Constructed in 1931, the Administration Building at Hamilton High School was designed by architects John C. Austin and Frederick C. Ashley in the Northern Italian Renaissance style. Multicolored and patterned brickwork, elaborate cast stone decoration, and a bell tower clad in verdigris copper distinguish the building.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division

**Alexander Hamilton High School**

Opened in 1931



Constructed primarily in 1936, the historic core of Hollenbeck Middle School was designed by eminent Los Angeles architect Alfred P. Rosenheim. Although primarily known for his traditionally styled commissions such as the Second Church of Christ Scientist on Adams Boulevard and the Pompeian Room of the Doheny Mansion on Chester Place, both in Los Angeles, Rosenheim demonstrated his facility with the P.W.A. Moderne with this campus.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Hollenbeck Middle School**  
 Opened in 1914

The cornerstone of the first Hollywood Union High School was laid in 1904, when Hollywood was an incorporated city. The current campus, a landmark on Sunset Boulevard as much for its entertainment industry connections as for its fine Streamline Moderne styling, was designed by the architectural firm of Marsh, Smith and Powell in 1934-1935. The bas-relief over the entry was sculpted by Bartolo Mako.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Hollywood High School**  
 Opened in 1903



The Huntington Park Union High School District was organized in 1909 and annexed to the Los Angeles Unified School District in 1932. The Art Deco Administration building, highlighted by bronze panels embellished with a zigzag motif, was completed in 1936, and replaced the Classical Revival main building destroyed in the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Huntington Park High School**  
 Opened in 1909



The historic buildings at Jefferson High School date to the rebuilding of the school district following the Long Beach Earthquake in 1933. Prominent Los Angeles architect Stiles O. Clements produced the designs for these outstanding examples of Streamline Moderne styling.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division

**Thomas Jefferson High School**  
Opened in 1917



Varicolored brick, accented by cast stone ornament, articulates the Renaissance Revival design of the Main and North Buildings of Le Conte Middle School. They were constructed in 1922-1923 and were designed by architect Edgar Cline.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Joseph Le Conte Middle School**  
 Opened in 1922

Architect Albert C. Martin provided the Moderne design for the Lincoln High School campus when it was rebuilt following the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake. Typical of the period, the buildings are generously embellished with W.P.A. murals and sculpture.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Abraham Lincoln High School**  
 Opened in 1918



The structural drama of the Lokrantz Special Education Center was created by architect Sidney Eisenstadt in 1961. The school features a soaring entry canopy, a circular plan, a folded plate roofline, and clerestory windows that help to illuminate the classrooms.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Sven Lokrantz Special Education Center**  
 Opened in 1961

Architects Edelman and Zimmerman, designers of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Street School, may also have been responsible for the eclectic Spanish styling of Horace Mann Junior High School. The arched main entry with its exaggerated surround of quoins and its scrolled keystone, tower, corbelled balcony, and open loggias are some of the highlights of Mann's architecture.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Horace Mann Middle School**  
 Opened in 1926



Architects John and Donald Parkinson, such as the architectural firm of Parkinson and Bergstrom which had provided the design for the original plant of Manual Arts High School in 1910, were called upon by the District for the post-1933 earthquake reconstruction of the school. The new buildings were constructed of reinforced concrete, with architectural interest provided by horizontal banding, rounded corners, concrete grilles, and tiled entries.

Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Manual Arts High School**  
 Opened in 1910



Architect George Lindsey's Collegiate Gothic design for Marshall High School is instantly recognizable to television and movie audiences from the campus's many appearances on screen. Named for the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court who served from 1801 to 1835, the school, like others in the District, originally enrolled students from grades 7 through 12.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**John Marshall High School**  
 Opened in 1931



The late Mediterranean Revival styling of the Administrative and Auditorium Buildings of Miramonte Elementary School dates to 1936-1937. Architects Howell and Winslow provided the design.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Miramonte Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1912



The oldest permanent school building still in use for its original purpose in the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Morningside Elementary School classroom building was constructed in 1915. The date is memorialized in tiles placed over the entry of the Craftsman style structure.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division

**Morningside Elementary School**  
Opened in 1915



Pointed arches and steep gables are signatures of the Tudor Revival styling of John Muir Middle School. John C. Austin, whose skills were utilized by several southern California school districts, designed the Administration Building, which dates to 1922.

Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**John Muir Middle School**  
 Opened in 1922



The harmonious Spanish Colonial Revival lines of North Hollywood High School are due to the 1926 design of architects Myron Hunt and H. C. Chambers. Like the community in which it is located, the original name of the school was Lankershim, after Isaac Lankershim and his son, J. B. Lankershim, landowners and subdividers of the southern portion of the San Fernando Valley.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**North Hollywood High School**  
 Opened in 1927



This P.W. A. Moderne style school was constructed from 1937 to 1939 to plans drawn by architects John C. Austin and Frederick M. Ashley. The P.W.A. Moderne married the symmetry and classicism of earlier eras with elements culled from the fashionable Art Deco and Streamline Moderne idioms.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division

## **Florence Nightingale Elementary School**

Opened in 1937

One of three nineteenth century schoolhouses in the District, the Old Canyon School was built in a vernacular Classical Revival style in 1894 on what is now Sycamore Road in Santa Monica Canyon. It was moved to this location in 1933 and now serves students at Canyon School as a library.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Old Canyon School**  
 Opened in 1894

One of the oldest schoolhouses in Los Angeles County, the old Farmdale School reflects the Queen Anne Revival style that was popular in the late nineteenth century. Attributed to architects Bradbeer and Ferris, the schoolhouse was restored and rededicated as a museum in 1976.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Old Farmdale School**  
 Opened in 1899



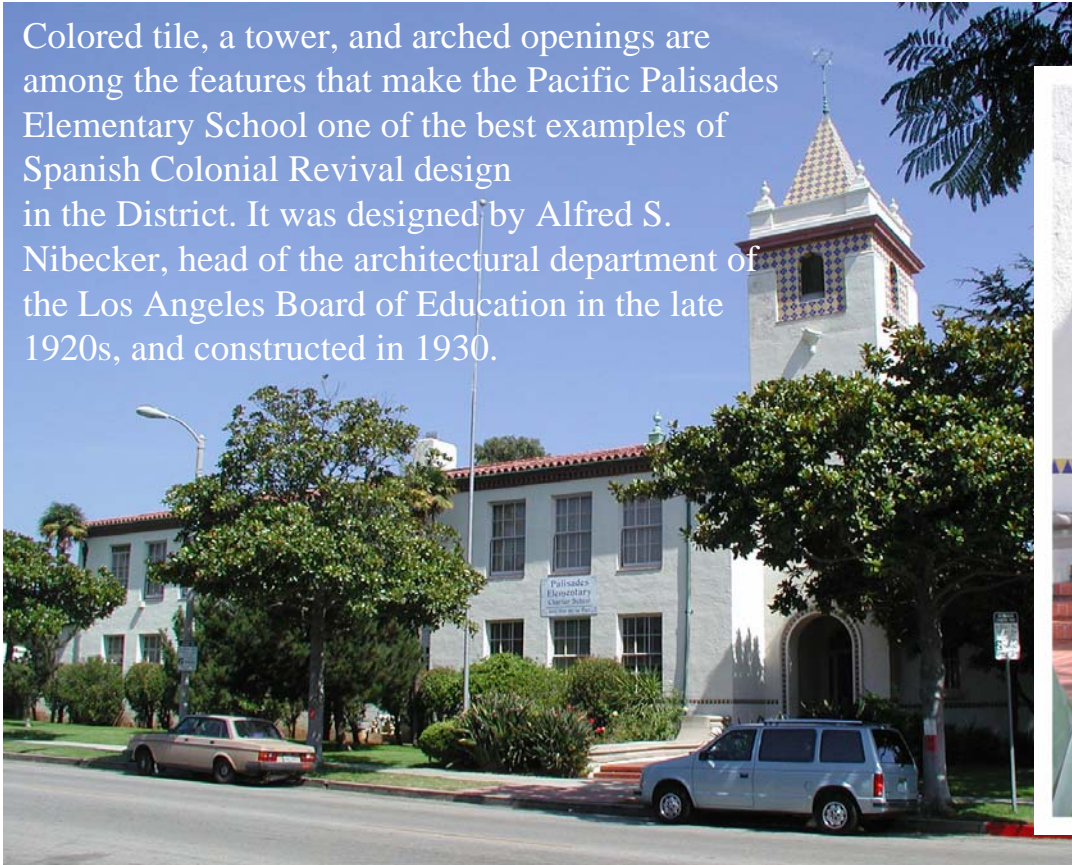
This typical nineteenth century schoolhouse is wood-framed and topped by a tower containing a school bell. Now located at the District's Administrative Offices, it was restored as the District's Heritage School in 1976.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Old Vernon Avenue School**  
 Opened in 1876



Colored tile, a tower, and arched openings are among the features that make the Pacific Palisades Elementary School one of the best examples of Spanish Colonial Revival design in the District. It was designed by Alfred S. Nibecker, head of the architectural department of the Los Angeles Board of Education in the late 1920s, and constructed in 1930.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Facilities Services Division

## **Pacific Palisades Elementary School**

Opened in 1922

Architects Sumner P. Hunt and Silas Burns drew the plans for the Point Fermin Elementary School Administration Building constructed in 1921. Partners from 1908 to 1930, Hunt and Burns were among the most respected designers in Los Angeles, and are credited with the designs for the Southwest Museum in Highland Park, the Automobile Club of Southern California on Figueroa Street at Adams Boulevard, and the Ebell Club and Theater on Wilshire Boulevard.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Point Fermin Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1912





Well-known Los Angeles architect John C. Austin designed the Renaissance-inspired buildings of North Hollywood Junior High School (which was renamed in 1957). In addition to providing the plans for numerous schools throughout the Los Angeles region, Austin, either alone or in association with other architects, is credited for the architecture of the Griffith Park Observatory, Shrine Auditorium, and Los Angeles City Hall.

Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Walter Reed Middle School**  
 Opened in 1939

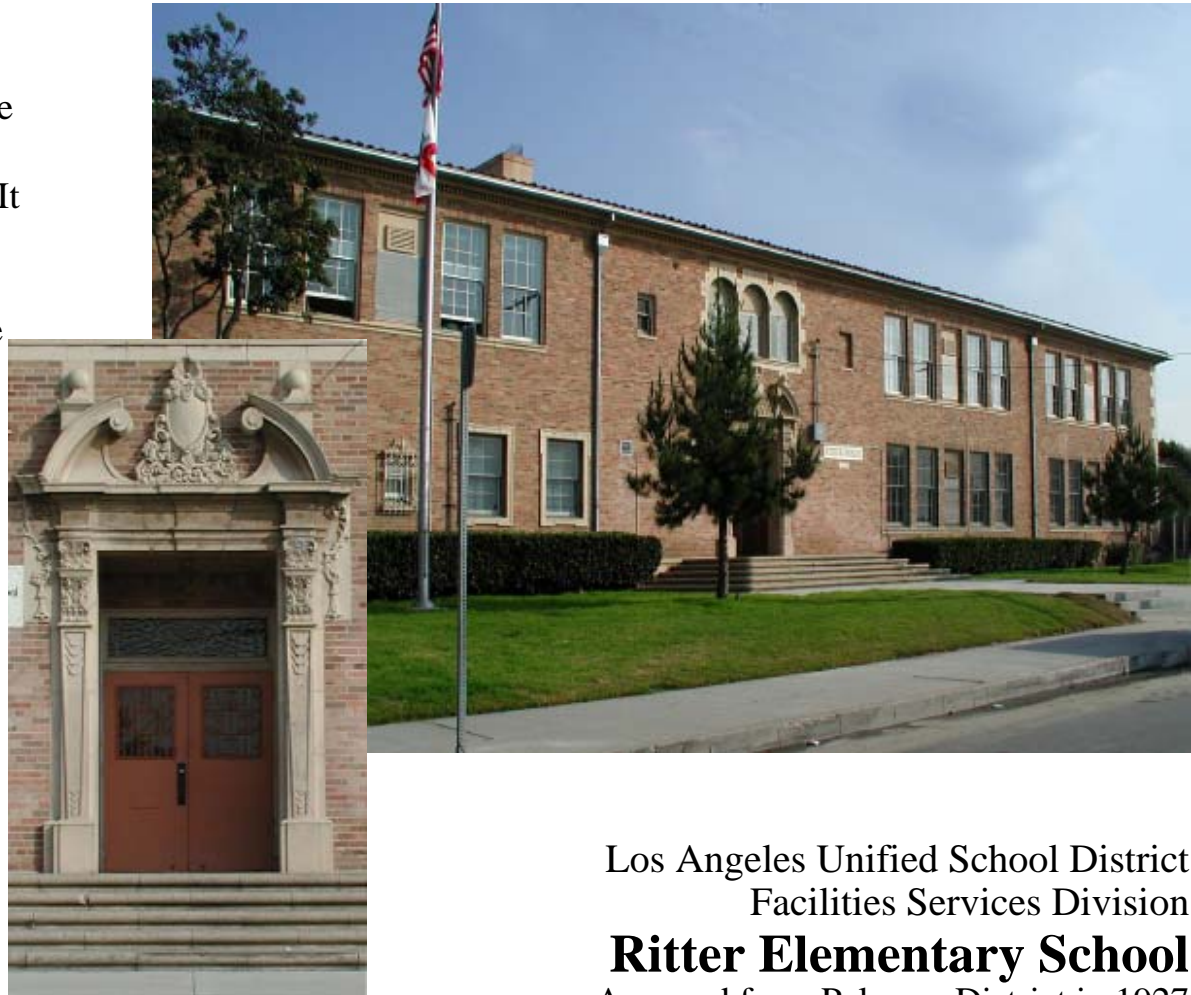


A tiled roofed arcade keynotes the late Mission Revival design of the main building of the Reseda Elementary School. It was built in 1936 following the Long Beach Earthquake and replaced an earlier, wood-framed structure.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Reseda Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1916

Polychromatic brick and the effective use of cast stone and terra cotta trim characterizes the appearance of this Renaissance Revival style school building. It was built in 1932 and is one of the few masonry school buildings in the District to have retained its brick exterior after the extensive rebuilding that followed the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Ritter Elementary School**  
 Annexed from Palomar District in 1927



The Neoclassical Auditorium of San Fernando Middle School, designed by architect John C. Austin and built in 1916, is a remnant of San Fernando High School, which moved to this site in 1906. From 1919 until 1952, the campus operated as a six-year facility for students in grades 7 through 12.

Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**San Fernando Middle School**  
 Opened in 1896 as San Fernando High School





Although it is the third oldest school in the Los Angeles School District, an entirely new campus was built for San Pedro High School following the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake. Designed by renowned southern California architect Gordon B. Kaufmann, the new buildings were constructed of poured-in-place concrete, grouped according to a cross-axial plan, and thematically united in their use of P.W.A. and Streamline Moderne styling.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**San Pedro High School**  
 Opened in 1903

Architects George M. Lindsey and Erwood P. Elden are responsible for the elegant Italian Renaissance Revival design of the Administration Building of South Gate Senior High School, constructed in 1930. Added in 1937, the Auditorium Building reflects the influence of the popular Streamline Moderne style.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**South Gate High School**  
 Opened in 1932



A distinctive use of bronze features, arresting period lettering, and a stylish mix of Moderne classical, and modern elements characterizes the appearance of South Gate Middle School. The campus dates to 1941, and its construction allowed South Gate High School to scale back to functioning as a three-year institution instead of a six-year one.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**South Gate Middle School**  
 Opened in 1941



Unusual siting, with the Administration Building angled across the property, and Renaissance Revival architecture distinguish University High School. A spring located on the school campus, registered as California Historical Landmark No. 522, is said to mark the spot where the Portola Expedition camped in 1769, Father Junipero Serra said Mass in 1770, and the City of Santa Monica once got its water.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**University High School**  
 Opened in 1922

The sculptural enhancement of the entry of Van Ness Elementary School is reminiscent of the Gothic style. Architects Noerenberg and Johnson were responsible for the design of the 1923 building.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Van Ness Elementary School**  
 Opened in 1916



Reconstruction after the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake resulted in an updated classicism in the architecture of the Van Nuys High School campus. Where the earlier building had featured a two-story Ionic colonnade at the entry, the new Administration Building substituted piers and decoration influenced by the Art Deco style. The balustrade flanking the rose garden in front of the school, however, dates from the pre-earthquake period.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Van Nuys High School**  
 Opened in 1915



When Venice High School first opened, classes were held in the former Lagoon Bathhouse. A campus in the Neoclassical style was constructed in 1913-1914, but was demolished following the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake. The architectural firm of Austin and Ashley, much favored by the Board of Education, drew the plans for the new Moderne buildings, which were erected between 1935 and 1937.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Venice High School**  
 Opened in 1911



Located in the foothills at the north end of the San Fernando Valley, Verdugo Hills High School opened its doors in September 1939. The Administration and Classroom Building pictured here was constructed in 1948, and continue the Spanish Colonial Revival theme of the buildings erected a decade earlier.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Verdugo Hills High School**  
 Opened in 1937

Modern architects Summer Spaulding and John Rex provided the design for Wright Middle School, built between 1948 and 1951. Veterans of the famed California Case Study House program, the architects incorporated characteristic International Style features such as modular planning, juxtaposition of solid panels with ribbon bands of windows, and an indoor-outdoor flow of space into the school.



Los Angeles Unified School District  
 Facilities Services Division  
**Orville Wright Middle School**  
 Opened in 1956