

FACT SHEET

HistoricPlacesLA Version 2.0

Los Angeles City Planning's Office of Historic Resources has launched Version 2.0 of **HistoricPlacesLA**, the City's historic resources inventory.

The launch of HistoricPlacesLA represents the first substantial update to the inventory's system since it was created in 2015. HistoricPlacesLA is an online tool created specifically for the City of Los Angeles on the [Arches](#) open source heritage data management platform first developed by the [Getty Conservation Institute](#) and [World Monuments Fund](#) for the management of cultural heritage data. Utilizing the Arches system permits the City of Los Angeles to inventory and map thousands of records pertaining to designated and surveyed historic resources such as buildings, districts, objects, and sites, and documents their significance.

Introduced in December 2023, the latest version is built on v6.2 of the Arches heritage data management platform and includes the following improvements.

Enhanced User Experience

A more user-friendly interface permits users to search by multiple means including location, resource name, theme, and more — all on a single web page. The search results list is displayed alongside a map highlighting the locations of the resources from the search results list.

Expanded Data

The inventory includes over 58,000 mapped historic places, including recently designated local landmarks, historical resources survey data recorded for former Community Redevelopment Areas and known historic places associated with the City's ethnic and cultural history and communities. The inventory also includes over 63,000




image records, and over 7,000 names of people and or groups associated with LA's historic places.

Mobile-Friendly

Mobile device users can interact more easily with the inventory utilizing the "Search Near Me" option while sharing location information with their internet browser.

Frequent and Featured Searches

Several carefully curated featured searches highlight subsets of the inventory's data expanding the system's storytelling capabilities using newly added historical images and newspaper articles. Visit [Taking Space, Making Place: The Art of Underrepresented Communities in Los Angeles](#) and [Asian American Entrepreneurship in Los Angeles](#) to explore two curated featured searches.

QR-Code and AR Experiences

Implementation of QR-code and Augmented Reality (AR) technology quickly and easily connects users to the mobile-friendly version of the inventory and two immersive experiences that explore the history of [The Garnier Building](#) and [St. Elmo Village](#).

Augmented Reality Experiences

- [St. Elmo Village](#)
- [The Garnier Building](#)

Printable Promotional Posters with QR-codes

- [HistoricPlacesLA - Mobile Search](#)
- [Garnier Building - AR Experience](#)
- [St. Elmo Village - AR Experience](#)

Video and Document Guides

For those seeking a more guided experience, a series of introductory and tutorial videos and document guides were developed to give users a better understanding of the system's features and functions.

Introductory and Tutorial Videos

- [Introduction to HistoricPlacesLA](#)
- [How to Search](#)
- [Resource Reports Walkthrough](#)

Document Guides

- [How to Search HistoricPlacesLA: A Step-by-Step Guide](#)
- [HistoricPlacesLA Resource Reports: Walkthrough Guide](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

What types of places are included in the inventory?


HistoricPlacesLA documents and organizes information for two kinds of resources in the city: Designated Historic Resources and Surveyed Historic Resources.

Designated Historic Resources include buildings, structures, objects, sites, or districts officially designated as historic by the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the City of Los Angeles. Historic designations in the City of Los Angeles include both Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCMs) and Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs). Information on designated historic resources can also be found at zimas.lacity.org.

Until all historic resources data is in HistoricPlacesLA, continue to search in ZIMAS for properties and districts formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register (NR) or the California Register (CR) by the Keeper, Part I Tax Certification, or through a Section 106 process, or other federal regulatory process in addition to HistoricPlacesLA.

Surveyed Historic Resources Include individual or district resources identified through SurveyLA or other study officially recognized as a historic resources survey. Though not all, some Surveyed Historic Resources may be Eligible Historic Resources, meaning potentially eligible for historic designation under local, state, and/or national historic preservation programs.

For purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Designated Historic Resources are considered “Historical Resources,” while Eligible Historic Resources may be considered “Historical Resources.” (PRC 15064.5(a))



See [Using ZIMAS to Find Historic Preservation Information](#) for a step-by-step guide to using the ZIMAS database to find out if a particular property in the City of Los Angeles has a historic designation or has been formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register (NR) or the California Register.

What data is found within HistoricPlacesLA?

Much of the data in HistoricPlacesLA is from historic resources surveys conducted for the City of Los Angeles, such as [SurveyLA](#), a citywide survey that systematically identified and documented Los Angeles's cultural heritage resources. This also includes data from resources identified through SurveyLA's [Ethnic-Cultural Historic Context Statements](#).

Survey data for the following Community Redevelopment Plans has also been added to HistoricPlacesLA:

- Adelante Eastside Redevelopment Area
- Hollywood Redevelopment Project Area
- San Pedro Commercial Center Redevelopment Area
- Westlake Recovery Redevelopment Area
- Wilshire Center and Koreatown Recovery Redevelopment Area

Survey reports for these areas are available in PDF format on City Planning's [Historic Resources Surveys](#) webpage, under "Other Recent Historic Resources Surveys."

In addition to survey data, the inventory includes data on designated historic resources. These include:

City of Los Angeles

- [City Historic-Cultural Monuments \(HCMs\)](#)
- [Historic Preservation Overlay Zones \(HPOZs\)](#)

California [Office of Historic Preservation \(OHP\)](#) and the [California Historical Resources Information System \(CHRIS\)](#)

- Properties listed in the California Register of Historical Resources; however not all properties are included at this time
- California Historical Landmarks
- California Points of Historical Interest



California [Office of Historic Preservation \(OHP\)](#) and the [National Park Service](#)

- Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- National Historical Landmarks

Data on designated resources under state and federal programs will continue to be added over time. Please continue to search for designated properties in [ZIMAS](#).

How can I tell if a resource in the inventory is a designated historic resource or eligible historic resource?

Resources in HPLA will have an associated status code that denotes which preservation program (local, state, or national) they have been designated under or are eligible for designation under. Status code and resource information can be found in the Resource Reports for properties included in the HPLA inventory. Some historic resources may be assigned a status code indicating they are not eligible for designation or that additional research is required to make a determination. See [How to Search](#) for more information.


How complete and up-to-date are the records in HistoricPlacesLA?

All initial SurveyLA and historic resource survey data has been added, and data entry of newly designated historic resources is ongoing.

HistoricPlacesLA does not yet include a number of properties and districts listed on the California Register of Historical Resources. Until all designated resources data is in HistoricPlacesLA, continue to search for designated properties in [ZIMAS](#).

Are all properties listed in HistoricPlacesLA designated and protected from demolition?

Properties listed in the inventory may be designated or eligible for historic designation under local, state, and/or federal programs.



For properties recorded as potentially eligible, inclusion in the inventory does not confer formal designation status on a property, nor does it ensure approval of designation. Properties that are not designated must be fully evaluated under relevant criteria to determine if they meet significance and integrity thresholds for designation, and then go through the process for formal designation.

In Los Angeles, designation does not guarantee that a building cannot be demolished, but it does delay demolition in order to create opportunities for preservation solutions to emerge. Designation ensures that Office of Historic Resources staff, trained in preservation and architecture, reviews and approves proposals for work on designated historic resources before any permits for alteration are issued. Properties designated as historic under local, state, and/or federal preservation programs are presumed to be a significant historical resource under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), triggering the requirement to perform an environmental review (that could lead to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report [EIR]) before demolition can occur.

For more information on HistoricPlacesLA visit: [About HistoricPlacesLA](#)

Questions and feedback can be directed to the Office of Historic Resources at planning.ohr@lacity.org, (213) 847-3676.