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East Los Angeles—Richard Romo 2010-07-05 This is the story of the largest Mexican-American community in the United States, the city within a city known as “East Los Angeles.” How did this barrio of over one million men and women—occupying an area greater than Manhattan or Washington D.C.—come to be? Although promoted early in this century as a workers’ paradise, Los Angeles fared poorly in attracting European immigrants and American blue-collar workers. Wages were low, and these workers were understandably reluctant to come to a city which was also troubled by labor strife. Mexicans made up the difference, arriving in the city in massive numbers. Who these Mexicans were and the conditions that caused them to leave their own country are revealed in East Los Angeles. The author examines how their adjustment to life in one of the fastest-growing cities in the United States, how they fared in this country’s labor market, and the problems of segregation and prejudice they confronted.

East Los Angeles—Ricardo Romo 1994

Mexican American Baseball in East Los Angeles—Richard A. Santillán, Richard Peña, Teresa M. Santillán, Al Padilla and Bob Lagunas 2016 Mexican American Baseball in East Los Angeles highlights the unforgettable teams, players, and coaches who graced the hallowed fields of East Los Angeles between 1917 and 2016 and brought immense joy and honor to their neighborhoods. Off the field, these players and their families helped create the multibillion-dollar wealth that depended on their backbreaking labor. More than a game, baseball and softball were political instruments designed to promote and empower civil, political, cultural, and gender rights, confronting head-on the reactionary forces of prejudice, intolerance, sexism, and xenophobia. A century later, baseball and softball are more popular than ever in East Los Angeles. Dedicated coaches still produce gifted players and future community leaders. These breathtaking photographs and heartfelt stories shed unparalleled light to the long and rich history of baseball and softball in the largest Mexican American community in the United States.

East of East—Romeo Guzmán 2020-02-14 East of East: The Making of Greater El Monte, is an edited collection of thirty-one essays that trace the evolution of a California community over three centuries, from eighteenth-century Spanish colonization to twenty-first century globalization. Employing traditional historical scholarship, oral history, creative nonfiction and original art, the book provides a radical new history of El Monte and South El Monte, showing how interdisciplinary and community-engaged scholarship can break new ground in public history. East of East tells stories that have been excluded from dominant historical narratives—stories that long survived only in the popular memory of residents, as well as narratives that have been almost completely buried and all but forgotten. Its cast of characters includes white vigilantes, Mexican anarchists, Japanese farmers, labor organizers, civil rights pioneers, and punk rockers, as well as the ordinary and unnamed youth who generated a vibrant local culture at dances and dive bars.

Border Correspondent—Ruben Salazar 2018-06-01 This first major collection of former Los Angeles Times reporter and columnist Ruben Salazar’s writings, is a testament to his pioneering role in the Mexican American community, and in the evolution of race relations in the United States. Taken together, the articles serve as a documentary history of the Chicano Movement of the 1960s and of the changing perspective of the nation as a whole. Since his tragic death while covering the massive Chicano antiwar moratorium in Los Angeles on August 29, 1970, Ruben Salazar has become a legend in the Chicano community. As a reporter and later as a columnist for the Los Angeles Times, Salazar was the first journalist of Mexican American background to cross over into the mainstream English-language press. He wrote extensively on the Mexican American community and served as a foreign correspondent in Latin America and Vietnam. This first major collection of Salazar’s writing is a testament to his pioneering role in the Mexican American community, in journalism, and in the evolution of race relations in the United States. Taken together, the articles serve as a documentary history of the Chicano Movement of the 1960s and of the changing perspective of the nation as a whole. Border Correspondent presents selections from each period of Salazar’s career. The stories and columns document a growing frustration with the Kennedy administration, a young César Chávez beginning to organize farm workers, the Vietnam War, and conflict between police and community in East Los Angeles. One of the first to take investigative journalism into the streets and jails, Salazar’s first-hand accounts of his experiences with drug users and police, ordinary people and criminals, make compelling reading. Mario Garcia’s introduction provides a biographical sketch of Salazar and situates him in the context of American journalism and Chicano history. This title is part of UC Press’s Voices Revived program, which commemorates University of California Press’s mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, Voices Revived makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology. This title was originally published in 1996.

Boyle Heights—George J. Sánchez 2021-05-25 “This is a history of a Los Angeles community that represents cross-cultural possibility in America’s future. The history of Boyle Heights tells an important story of neighborhood strength because of its diversity and a constant stream of newcomers to Los Angeles, who become absorbed into the life of the city in ways that were both accommodating and complicated. It is clear that the residents of the neighborhood developed a unique identity that set them apart from the rest of the city, even while intense racialization was occurring among the various groups that made up the local population. Migrants to the United States learned what it meant to be American in Boyle Heights, as newcomers to Los Angeles learned what it meant to be Angelino. Even as the neighborhood changed dramatically over time because of larger racial and economic forces that fostered concentrated poverty and other unstable life conditions, a communal and progressive spirit prevailed in Boyle Heights that continued to define the promise of the American dream for all who lived there. This book is organized chronologically, with each chapter focusing on the interaction between different groups that made up the Boyle Heights population”—
An Oral History of DJ Culture from East Los Angeles - Gerard Anthony Meraz 2004

The Projects - James Diego Vigil 2009-03-06 The Pico Gardens housing development in East Los Angeles has a high percentage of resident families with a history of persistent poverty, gang involvement, and crime. In some families, members of three generations have belonged to gangs. Many other Pico Gardens families, however, have managed to avoid the cycle of gang involvement. In this work, Vigil adds to the tradition of poverty research and elaborates on the association of family dynamics and gang membership. The main objective of his research was to discover what factors make some families more vulnerable to gang membership, and why gang resistance was evidenced in similarly situated non-gang-involved families. Providing rich, in-depth interviews and observations, Vigil examines the wide variations in family life histories to augment and provide texture to the quantitative information. By studying life in Pico Gardens, Vigil feels we can better understand how human agency interacts with structural factors to produce the reality that families living in all public housing developments must contend with daily.

Land of Sunshine - William Deverell 2006-06-30 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—its place 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 constrained 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.

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Chicana School Resistance and Grassroots Leadership - Dolores Delgado Bernal 1997

ELADATL-Sebuah Foster 2020-08-25 A breathtaking free fall into the long (and fictional) history of a utopian era in American lighter-than-air travel, as told by its death-defying, aero-acrobatic heroes. “Foster and Romeo’s ‘real fake dream’ of the future-past history of the East Los Angeles Dirigible Air Transport Lines is a superb and loving phantasmasmagoria that gobbles up real histories for breakfast and spits out the seeds.”—Jonathan
In Search of the Mexican Beverly Hills—Jerry González 2017-11-15 Residential and industrial sprawl changed more than the political landscape of postwar Los Angeles. It expanded the employment and living opportunities for millions of Angelinos into new suburbs. In Search of the Mexican Beverly Hills examines the struggle for inclusion into this exclusive world—a multilayered process by which Mexican Americans moved out of the barrios and emerged as a majority population in the San Gabriel Valley—and the impact that movement had on collective racial and class identity. Contrary to the assimilation processes experienced by most Euro-Americans, Mexican Americans did not graduate to whiteness on the basis of their suburban residence. Rather, Institutions of this kind illustrate how urbanization illuminates how Mexican American racial and class identity were both reinforced by and took on added metropolitan and transnational dimensions in the city during the second half of the twentieth century.

City of Quartz—Mike Davis 1992 The hidden story of L.A. Mike davis shows us where the city’s money comes form and who controls it while also exposing the brutal ongoing struggle between L.A.’s haves and have-nots.

Race, Police, and the Making of a Political Identity—Edward J. Escobar 1999-09 This book offers a fascinating examination of the historically volatile relationship between the Mexican American community and the Los Angeles Police Department. Within the vibrant backdrops of Los Angeles, Escobar probes and interprets the roots of cultural misperception and social paranoia which culminated in the infamous Zoot Suit Riots.

Ethnic Los Angeles-Roger Waldinger 1996-12-05 Since 1965 more immigrants have come to Los Angeles than anywhere else in the United States. These newcomers have rapidly and profoundly transformed the city’s ethnic makeup and sparked heated debate over their impact on the region’s troubled economy. Ethnic Los Angeles presents a multi-investigator study of L.A.’s immigrant population, exploring the scope, characteristics, and consequences of ethnic transition in the nation’s second most populous urban center. Using the wealth of information contained in the U.S. censuses of 1970, 1980, and 1990, essays on each of L.A.’s major ethnic groups tell who the immigrants are, where they come from, the skills they bring and their sources of employment, and the nature of their families and social networks. The contributors explain the history of legislation and economic change that made the city a magnet for immigration, and compare the progress of new immigrants to those of previous eras. Recent immigrants to Los Angeles follow no uniform course of adaptation, nor do
they simply assimilate into the mainstream society. Instead, they have entered into distinct niches at both the high and low ends of the economic spectrum. While Asians and middle Easterners have thrived within the medical and technical professions, low-skill newcomers from Central America provide cheap labor in light manufacturing industries. As Ethnic Los Angeles makes clear, the city’s future will depend both on how well its economy accommodates its diverse population, and on how that population adapts to economic changes. The more prosperous immigrants arrived already possessed of advanced education and skills, but what does the future hold for less-skilled newcomers? Will their children be able to advance socially and economically, as the children of previous immigrants once did? The contributors examine the effect of racial discrimination, both in favoring low-skilled immigrant job seekers over African Americans, and in preventing the more successful immigrants and native-born ethnic groups from achieving full economic parity with whites. Ethnic Los Angeles is an illuminating portrait of a city whose unprecedented changes are sure to be replicated in other urban areas as new concentrations of immigrants develop. Backed by detailed demographic information and insightful analyses, this volume engages all of the issues that are central to today’s debates about immigration, ethnicity, and economic opportunity in a post-industrial urban society.

Give Me Life - Holly Barnet-Sanchez 2016-12-15 Chicanoism, the idea of what it means to be Chicano, was born in the 1970s, when grassroots activists, academics, and artists joined forces in the civil rights movement that spread new ideas about Mexican American history and identity. The community murals those artists painted in the barrios of East Los Angeles were a powerful part of that cultural vitality, and these artworks have been an important feature of LA culture ever since. This book offers detailed analyses of individual East LA murals, sets them in social context, and explains how they were produced. The authors, leading experts on mural art, use a distinctive methodology, analyzing the art from aesthetic, political, and cultural perspectives to show how murals and graffiti reflected and influenced the Chicano civil rights movement. This publication is made possible in part by a generous contribution from Furthermore, a program of the J. M. Kaplan Fund.

Boyle Heights - George J. Sánchez 2021-05-25 The radical history of a dynamic, multiracial American neighborhood. "When I think of the future of the United States, and the history that matters in this country, I often think of Boyle Heights." George J. Sánchez The vision for America’s cross-cultural future lies beyond the multicultural myth of the “great melting pot.” That idea of diversity often imagined ethnically distinct urban districts—the Little Italys, Koreatowns, and Jewish quarters of American cities—built up over generations and occupying spaces that excluded one another. But the neighborhood of Boyle Heights shows us something altogether different. A dynamic, multiracial community that has forged solidarity through a history of social and political upheaval. Boyle Heights is an in-depth history of the Los Angeles neighborhood, showcasing the potent experiences of its residents, from early contact between Spanish colonizers and native Californians to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, the hunt for hidden Communists among the Jewish community, negotiating citizenship and belonging among Latino migrants and Mexican American residents, and beyond. Through each period and every struggle, the residents of Boyle Heights have maintained remarkable solidarity across racial and ethnic lines, acting as a unified polyglot community even as their tribulations have become more explicitly racial in nature. Boyle Heights is immigrant America embodied, and it can serve as the true beacon on a hill toward which the country can strive in a time when racial solidarity and civic resistance have never been in greater need.

Becoming Mexican American - George J. Sánchez 1995-03-23 Twentieth century Los Angeles has been the focus of one of the most profound and complex intersections between distinct cultures in U.S. history. In this pioneering study, Sanchez explores how Mexican immigrants “Americanized” themselves in order to fit in, thereby losing part of their own culture.

Razabaily - Nicholas F. Centino 2021-07-13 Vocals tinged with pain and desperation. The deep thuds of an upright bass. Women with short bangs and men in cuffed jeans. These elements and others are the unmistakable signatures of rockabilly, a musical genre normally associated with white male musicians of the 1950s. But in Los Angeles today, rockabilly’s primary producers and consumers are Latinos and Latinas. Why are these “Razabailles” partaking in a visibly “un-Latino” subculture that’s thought of as a white person’s fixation everywhere else? As a Los Angeles Rockabilly insider, Nicholas F. Centino is the right person to answer this question. Pairing a decade of participant observation with interviews and historical research, Centino explores the reasons behind a Rockabilly renaissance in 1990s Los Angeles and demonstrates how, as a form of working-class leisure, this scene proves that rockabilly with西班牙裔与西班牙裔之间的交流与合作在洛杉矶的多民族社区中得以实现，使城市成为一个多元化的家庭。特立不群的拉美裔美国社区在20世纪初开始在洛杉矶社区中显现，那时的洛杉矶是一个多元文化的城市，各种族和文化背景的人们相互融合，共同生活。这些社区的形成和发展，反映了美国多元文化的历史，以及不同种族和文化群体之间的交流与合作。洛杉矶市中心的东洛杉矶社区（East Los Angeles）就是一个多元文化社区的例子，那里的人们在种族和文化意识上相互融合，共同生活。这本书详细分析了东洛杉矶社区的壁画艺术，将它们置于社会背景中，并解释了它们是如何被创作出来的。这本书的出版部分由 Furthermore，一个项目基金的资助所支持。

The Struggle in Black and Brown - Brian D Behnken 2012-01-01 It might seem that African Americans and Mexican Americans would have common cause in matters of civil rights. This volume, which considers relations between blacks and Latinos during the civil rights era, carefully examines the complex and multifaceted realities that came to define the civil rights assumptions—and that revise our view of both the civil rights struggle and black-brown relations in recent history. Unique in its focus, innovative in its methods, and broad in its approach to various locales and time periods, the book provides key perspectives to understanding the development of America’s ethnic and sociopolitical landscape. These essays focus chiefly on the Southwest, where Mexican Americans and African Americans have had a long history of civil rights activism. Among the cases the authors take up are the unification of black and Chicano civil rights and labor groups in California; divisions between Mexican Americans and African Americans generated by the War on Poverty, and cultural connections established by black and Chicano musicians during the period. Together these cases present the first truly nuanced picture of the conflict and cooperation, goodwill and animosity, unity and disunity that played a critical role in the history of both black-brown relations and the battle for civil rights. Their insights are especially timely, as black-brown relations occupy an increasingly important role in the nation’s public life.

Race and the War on Poverty - Robert Bauman 2014-10-22 President Lyndon B. Johnson’s War on Poverty did more than offer aid to needy Americans; in some cities, it also sparked both racial conflict and cooperation. Race and the War on Poverty examines the African American and Mexican American community organizations in Los Angeles that emerged to implement War on Poverty programs. It explores how organizers applied democratic vision and political savvy to community action, and how the ongoing African American, Chicano, and feminist movements in turn shaped the contours of the War on Poverty’s goals, programs, and cultural identity. Robert Bauman describes how the Watts riots of 1965 accelerated the creation of a black community-controlled agency, the Watts Labor Community Action Committee. The example of the WLCAC, combined with a burgeoning Chicano movement, inspired Mexican Americans to create The East Los Angeles Community Union (TELACU) and the Chicana Service Action Center. Bauman explores the connections that were formed in these organizations, and the way in which the organizations’ goals and programs were shaped by the communities they touched. Despite Nixon-era budget cuts and the nation’s turn toward conservatism, the War on Poverty continued to be fought today as these agencies embrace the changing politics, economics, and demographics of Los Angeles. Race and the War on Poverty shows how the struggle to end poverty evolved in ways that would have surprised its planners, supporters, and detractors—and that what began as a grand vision at the national level continues to thrive on the streets of the community.

Metropolis in the Making - Tom Sitton 2001-08 “Informed by the rich new literature on contemporary Los Angeles, Metropolis in the Making takes giant strides in illuminating the history of the present. Looking back to the future, this rich collection of historical essays offers a key for understanding the moments of America’s first decentralized industrial metropolis. Not only would Carey McWilliams be pleased, but so too will be every contemporary urbanist.”—Edward W. Soja, author of Postmetropolis: Critical Studies of Cities and Regions and co-editor of The City: Los Angeles and Urban Theory at the End of the Twentieth Century

A World of Its Own - Matt Garcia 2010-01-27 Tracing the history of intercultural struggle and cooperation in the citrus belt of Greater Los Angeles, Matt Garcia explores the social and cultural forces that helped make the city the expansive and diverse metropolis that it is today. As the citrus-growing regions of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys in eastern Los Angeles County expanded during the early twentieth century, the agricultural industry there developed along segregated lines, primarily between white landowners and Mexican and Asian laborers. Initially, these communities were sharply divided. But Los Angeles, unlike other...
agricultural regions, saw important opportunities for intercultural exchange develop around the arts and within multietnic community groups. Whether fostered in such informal settings as dance halls and theaters or in such formal organizations as the Intercultural Council of Claremont or the Southern California Unity Leagues, these interethnic encounters formed the basis for political cooperation to address labor discrimination and solve problems of residential and educational segregation. Though intercultural collaborations were not always successful, Garcia argues that they constitute an important chapter not only in Southern California's social and cultural development but also in the larger history of American race relations.

Mexican American Women Activists-Mary Pardo 1998-06-19 When we see children playing in a supervised playground or hear about a school being renovated, we seldom wonder about who mobilized the community resources to rebuild the school or staff the park. Mexican American Women Activists tells the stories of Mexican American women from two Los Angeles neighborhoods and how they transformed the everyday problems they confronted into political concerns. By placing these women’s experiences at the center of her discussion of grassroots political activism, Mary Pardo illuminates the gender, race, and class character of community networking. She shows how citizens help to shape their local environment by creating resources for churches, schools, and community services and generates new questions and answers about collective action and the transformation of social networks into political networks. By focusing on women in two contiguous but very different communities – the working-class, inner-city neighborhood of Boyle Heights in Eastside Los Angeles and the racially mixed middle-class suburb of Monterey Park – Pardo is able to bring class as eli as gender and ethnic concerns to bear on her analysis in ways that shed light on the complexity of mobilizing for urban change. Unlike many studies, the stories told here focus on women’s strengths rather than on their problems. We follow the process by which these women empowered themselves by using their own definitions of social justice and their own convictions about the importance of traditional roles. Rather than becoming political participants in spite of their family responsibilities, women in both neighborhoods seem to have been more powerful because they had responsibilities, social networks, and daily routines separate from the men in their communities. Pardo asserts that the decline of real wages and the growing income gap means that unfortunately most women will no longer be able to focus their energies on unpaid community work. She reflects on the consequences of this change for women’s political involvement, as well as on the politics of writing about women and politics.

Chronicles of Old Los Angeles-James Roman 2015-03-01 There's more to Los Angeles than lights, camera, action! From the city's early, devilish days populated by missionaries, robber barons, oil wells and orange groves, Chronicles of Old Los Angeles explains how the Wild West became the Left Coast. Learn how Alta California became the 31st state, and how ethnic waves built Los Angeles—from Native Americans to Spaniards, Latinos and Asians, followed by gangsters, surfers, architects and the Hollywood pioneers who brought fame to the City of the Angels. Then, discover the city yourself with six guided walking/driving tours of LA's historic neighborhoods, profusely illustrated with color photographs and period maps.

Barrio Rhythm-Steven Joseph Loza 1993 The hit movie La Bamba (based on the life of Richie Valens), the versatile singer Linda Ronstadt, and the popular rock group Los Lobos all have roots in the dynamic music of the Mexican-American community in East Los Angeles. With the recent “Eastside Renaissance” in the area, barrio music has taken on symbolic power throughout the Southwest, yet its story has remained undocumented and virtually untold. In Barrio Rhythm, Steven Loza brings this hidden history to life, demonstrating the music’s essential role in the cultural development of East Los Angeles and its influence on mainstream popular culture. Drawing from oral histories and other primary sources, as well as from appropriate representative songs, Loza provides a historical overview of the music from the nineteenth century to the present and offers in-depth profiles of nine Mexican-American artists, groups, and entrepreneurs in Southern California from the post-World War II era to the present. His interviews with many of today's most influential barrio musicians, including members of Los Lobos, Eddie Cano, Lalo Guerrero, and Willie chronicle the cultural forces active in this complex urban community.