March 2019 trip to Los Angeles, Elly’s notes

Because I needed a visa for a trip to China, I had to drop off my passport one day and pick it up another. I figured I would do that in ASU’s spring break and make it a sightseeing trip. LA is the second largest city in the US, an exciting one I have visited on and off (Hollywood, Venice, Santa Monica, Malibu, Pacific Palisades) and where I had lived a couple of months (Westwood Village). The city occupies the original lands of the Chumash and the Tongva peoples. Hotel Normandie in Korea Town was within easy walking distance to the Chinese Consulate. Public transport (e.g. a great metro) and relatively flat walking make it an easy city to get around except where the trees have battled the sidewalks (see p. 11).

Building styles vary so much, from Art Deco to Modernist to Mission Revival to Cottage and Deconstructionist and so much more. Below are some samples.

Around Korea Town
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women's Christian Temperance</td>
<td>Next to it</td>
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<td>Korean Realtor</td>
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<td>Los Altos, on Wiltshire</td>
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<td>Reformed Presbyterian</td>
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<td>Along Broadway downtown</td>
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Along Broadway

Disney Concert Hall

City Hall

The below was a building on Broadway and 3rd? No name was attached, very mysterious.
There are many **challenges to finding good housing** in LA and it is even a challenge to find a good term for the possibly 50,000 people living in temporary shelter. LA leads the nation, unfortunately.

Wonderful **street art** all over (on legal walls as well as elsewhere) but with lots of cars in the way!
Christina Angelina and Fanakapan’s mural, 2017

Detail on the left

Abuelita Mural, a Navajo weaver, by El Mac. The pattern above is by Kofie and the lower left portion by Joseph Montalvo AKA Nuke One of the UTI Crew.
The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels was completed in 2002. It features an amazing contemporary design by José Rafael Moneo. Very visible from its campus is a High School for the Visual and Performing Arts with tags to its right.
Loads of billboards add to the visual landscape, advertizing video-games, beer, and Chinese dance. Shen Yun is a show I had seen just before coming to LA (and I was taken aback by their overt ideology).

Art
I visited the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA): what is on display is a bit disappointing but two great Franz Kline paintings are (*Monitor* and *Black Iris*) and some beautiful Rothko’s. The Broad had long lines (possibly because it is free) and I didn’t go. It houses works collected by Eli Broad (rhymes with ‘road’) and is right across the street from MOCA and the Disney Concert Hall.
On another day, I went to LACMA, which I had visited in 2002 for the last time. The `rock' and lights in front have been added as have a number of galleries, another Broad Gallery, for instance. Interesting exhibits on James White, Outsider Art (‘Outliers and American Vanguard Art’), and single works by Kandinsky, Chagall, Kline, Motherwell, de Kooning, Mitchell, (Joan) Brown, and a lot more. Very worthwhile although they are redoing many of the galleries!
Lovely views from The BCAM to the Northern Hills.
Lots of other reasons to go to LA: easy weddings and divorces; it is another Vegas!

The trees are fighting the pavement and walls in many places. I hope they are winning!

And LA is such a real transportation hub with the freeways and still some real trains!

To Union Station

Beautifully restored Union Station
The tracks and the LA River to the right (with barely any water)

A view of Downtown from the East.

References
- https://www.npr.org/2019/01/01/681208503/homelessness-strains-compassion-for-some-los-angeles-residents
- https://www.tripsavvy.com/los-angeles-arts-district-1587001