

Annotated Bibliography

Estrada, William David and Devra Weber. *The Los Angeles Plaza: Sacred and Contested Space*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2008.

David W. Estrada's, *The Los Angeles Plaza* details the evolution of the Plaza as it relates to political, economic and cultural changes that make up the city of Los Angeles. The Plaza represents a public space where reality and the imaginable overlap. The book is divided into nine sections, each focusing on one particular theme. The sections have titles such as, "From Ciudad to City," "Revolution and Public Space," and "Cultural and Historical Origins" that are an expression of the everyday interactions that are developed at the heart of the city: *The Plaza*. The daily interactions and the conversations of the people that live in and around *The Plaza* add to the vibrancy and evolution of the city. The author includes photographs, portraits, maps and drawings that add to the book and depict the important events that have occurred in and around the city. Events such as the Zoot Suit Riots of 1943 and the 1871 Chinese Massacre are only a couple of examples of the cultural, political and racial violence that were very much part of the evolution of the city of Los Angeles. This book provides a look at the many changes that occurred in the lives of the people that lived in this space and how these changes reflected the evolution of the city.

Glassberg, David. *Sense of History: The Place of the Past in American Life*. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2001.

David Glassberg's *Sense of History* takes the reader on a journey while exploring the question, "What is a sense of history?" In each chapter the author investigates and interprets a specific time in history while putting new perspectives and evidence of how the people and cultural landscapes interconnect. The author examines how the personal experiences, the public memories and historic events are intertwined. The author provides evidence of how public history is created once the past is interpreted and understood. Glassberg also reflects on the important role that historians play in confirming people's memories and experiences. Each chapter is a commemoration of the collective identity of the different people and classes that make up a community. Through civic celebrations, festivals, memorials and political protests the author provides a riveting tale of the evolution of public history.

Hayden, Dolores. *The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History*. Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 1997.

Dolores Hayden's *The Power of Place* combines the history of landscapes with race, ethnicity and peoples' personal experiences to help promote a more

inclusive urban preservation. This book is divided into two primary sections. The first section enumerates the history of the landscapes that encompass towns or neighborhoods. The author provides examples of how the people and the landscapes relate as well as how they evolve over a period of time. The second section outlines the author's research which provides proof of the interconnections between the people and landscapes. The landscapes, buildings and other public spaces help the reader to relate to history with all five senses; smell, taste, sight, hearing and touch. The author helps the reader to understand and embrace her/his collective past, visual memories and identify with who we are as a community. Dolores Hayden draws upon other historic projects across the United States to guide the reader to a more accurate model of new and creative projects that ultimately will connect peoples' lives, personal experiences, visual memories and the landscapes to public history.

Images of America: Los Angeles's Boyle Heights. Japanese American National Museum. Chicago, Illinois: Arcadia Publishing, 2005.

Los Angeles's Boyle Heights serves as a collection of histories and stories through photographs of the area known as Boyle Heights. The neighborhood in East Los Angeles is one of the earliest and has seen changes in demographics and served as an anchor for people from variety of ethnic, religious and economic backgrounds who all mixed and mingled in the area.

Compiled from the experiences of over 200 photograph lenders and oral history narrators, *Los Angeles's Boyle Heights* shows a changing and adapting history through remarkable periods in United States' history including: World War II, the Japanese internment camps and the Cold War. The book serves as a celebration in diversity of the Boyle Heights area of Los Angeles.

Karp, Ivan and Steven D Levine. *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display*. Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1991.

Ivan Karp and Steven D. Lavine's *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display* engages in the debate over representation and meaning in museum displays. There is a clear focus on the problematic nature of multiculturalism. In the various issues raised throughout the stances, they argue that there should be an emphasis placed on the relationship between the culture presented and the audience. There are competing and overlapping ideologies that have a vested interest in presentation and representation of history via museums. A variety of authors present essays that engage the reader in the debate over importance and validity of museum representations and specific absences, omissions and silences of histories.

West, Richard W. *The Changing Presentation of the American Indian: Museums and Native Cultures*. London: University of Washington Press, 2000.

The Changing Presentation of the American Indian is a collection of papers by Canadian and American scholars that met at the National Museum of the American Indian's George Gustav Heye Center in New York City in 1995 to discuss the ways in which Indians have been misrepresented and disregarded. The authors represent the multiple voices that touch upon the ongoing debates about Native American exhibitions and the role that museums have in presenting Indian life to the public. Authors such as Evan Maurer argue that the attitudes towards Native Americans did not substantially start changing until the 1960's and James D. Nason, the director of the American Indian Studies Center at the University of Washington asserts that unless there is collaboration with Native professionals and scholars, the meanings of the artifacts that are part of the exhibitions will be forgotten or lost. The consensus among the authors that contributed to this book was that museums *need* to involve Native Americans communities in the preparations of the exhibits that are representing their culture.