

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

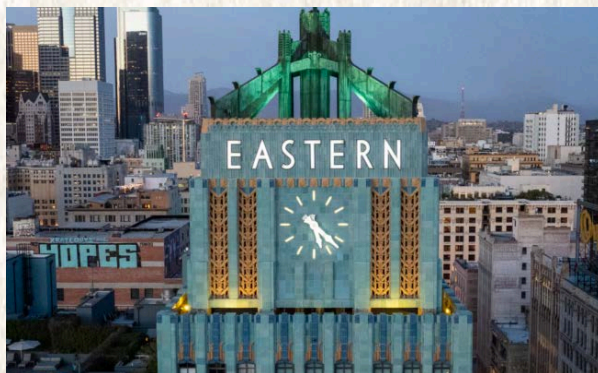
Jewelry District Timeline



LAYKIN DIAMOND CO

1920s

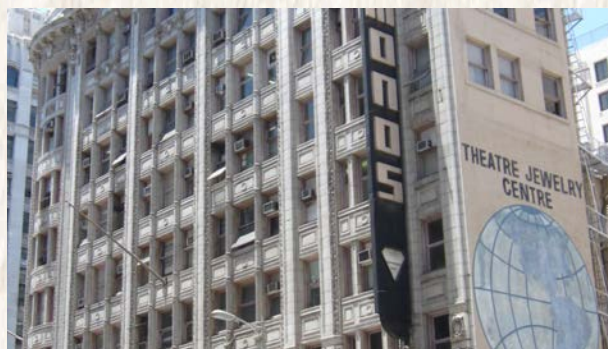
Laykin Diamond Company established its presence in Downtown Los Angeles in the late 1920s. Founded by Solomon W. Laykin and partners, the operations were run out of the Alexandria Hotel. In 1932 the company expanded into the Jewelry District. Then in 1935 the name was changed to Laykin et Cie.



LA JEWELRY CENTER

1970s

Built in 1920, the nine-story, steel-framed Pantages Theatre was designed by B. Marcus Priteca in the Beaux Arts style as the city's second theatre for the Pantages vaudeville circuit, featuring a 2,200-seat auditorium with shops and offices above. Renamed the Warner Bros. Downtown Theatre in 1929, it closed in 1975 and was later repurposed as a church and then the Downtown Jewelry Exchange in the late 1980s. Traces of its Warner Bros. era remain on the façade, while much of the ornate interior survives, including the coved ceiling with a sunburst mural, classical figures, and original Corinthian columns flanking the stage.



DOWNTOWN JEWELRY EXCHANGE

1980s

The Los Angeles Jewelry Center opened inside the Eastern Columbia Building. This iconic 1930 Art Deco building, originally an office tower, was renovated in the 1970s to house numerous jewelers, becoming a major center for the industry.



HARRY WINSTON & CO

1932

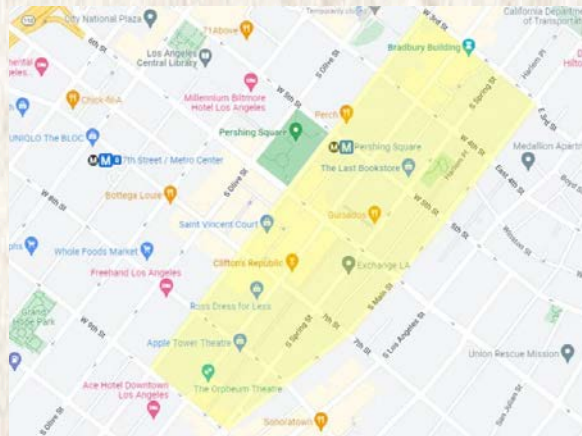
The Winston family moved to the West Coast in 1909 and opened a small jewelry shop on Figueroa. In 1932 they established into the Jewelry District initially at the Alexandria Hotel.



SAINT VINCENT JEWELRY CENTER

1983

Bullock's Department Store opened in 1907, using the narrow alley beside it—then called St. Vincent's Place—for deliveries; in 1957, the alley was redesigned with decorative façades to resemble an old European lane, renamed St. Vincent Court, and became a pedestrian destination with cafés and shops; in 1983, much of the former Bullock's building was converted into the St. Vincent Jewelry Center, transforming the area into a world-renowned jewelry district that today houses over 500 independent jewelry vendors offering wholesale and retail goods, making it the largest jewelry mall in the nation.



THE JEWELRY DISTRICT

2026

As of 2026 there are an estimated 5,000 jewelers within the jewelry district of Los Angeles.