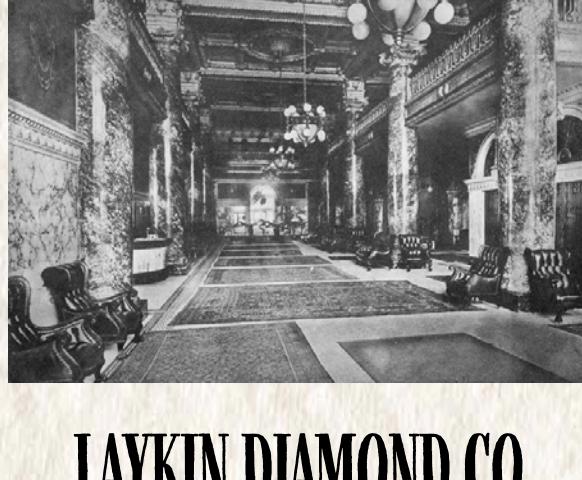


DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

Jewelry District Timeline



LAYKIN DIAMOND CO

1920s

Laykin Diamond Company established its presence in Downtown Los Angeles in the late 1920s. Founded by Soloman 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

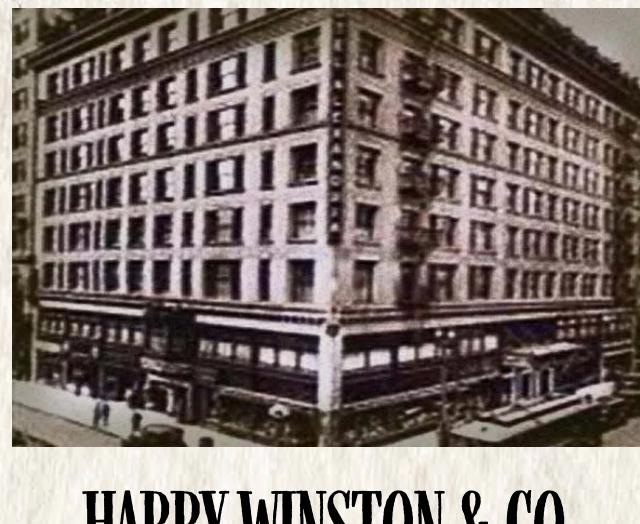
stage.



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.