Artistic Expressions in Public Spaces in Los Angeles and Some Other American Cities (Third File)

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Part One: Public Arts in Non-Profit Spaces

Section Five: Art at Cultural or Recreational Facilities and Sites

This Section of the Research Paper shall discuss art works found in cultural or recreational facilities and sites, such as libraries, museums, and cultural centers; art works created in these places might be sponsored by non-profit organizations, or government establishment. Due to their strong connections with public service, their themes and styles are usually strongly reflective of the preferences and tastes of the relevant constituencies; and this is different from art works art works created in the neighborhood, discussed in the Section Four of this Research Paper, which allow greater room for individual expression. As shown in *Figures 5A* through *5J*, the themes of the art works found range from history and cultures of diverse ethnic communities, to classics and mythology, and to the beauty of the nature; and the aesthetic tastes appear to be traditional, refined and reserved. In this part of the study, art works have been found mostly at public institutions of arts, culture and research in the Greater Los Angeles Area, such as the world-famous Huntington Library, Art Galleries and Botanical Gardens, Los Angeles County Museum of Arts, Los Pueblos de Los Angeles Mexican-American historical site, Los Angeles Central Library and several of its branches.









Figure 5A. Classic style sculptures at Huntington Library, Art Galleries and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA 91108, donated to the public by American railroad tycoon Henry E. Huntington, as an educational and research institution established by Henry E. Huntington in San Marino, in the San Rafael Hills near Pasadena. The institution displays an art collection strong in English portraits and French 18th-century furniture in the mansion, and features the Japanese style Zen Garden, the Chinese Scholar's Garden and many other specialty gardens. It is one of the most important source of classical arts in the world.



Figure 5B. Threedimensional abstract mural above the main entrance of Monterey Park Library, 318 South Ramona Avenue Monterey Park, CA 91754-3237.



Figure 5C. A mural depicting literacy activities on the exterior wall of Anthony Quinn Public Library, 3965 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Los Angeles, at the cross section of Hazard Avenue.



Figure 5D. Ceramic mural depicting Aztec culture from Mexico on the exterior wall by the entrance to the City Terrace Public Library, 4025 E. City Terrace Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90063



Figure 5E. Ceramic mural near the entrance to Monterey Park Civil Center and east Los Angeles Library, depicting Aztec culture from Mexico and life in Latino communities.



Figure 5F. Three-dimensional art works made of a variety of materials (metal, plastic, cloth, etc.) and hanging from the ceiling (left) and a stainless sculpture with an abstract motive which meaning is up to interpretation (right); both found at Los Angeles Central Library, 630 W. 5th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071.





Figure 5G. Murals celebrating Mexican-American culture at the entrance to the old Mexican Consulate General in downtown Los Angeles, in the historical site Los Pueblos de Los Angeles, near the cross section of Alameda street and Avenida Cesar Chavez/Sunset Boulevard.







Figure 5H. A ceramic murals celebrating Mexican-American culture, in a small plaza at the historical site Los Pueblos de Los Angeles, across the Alameda Street from the Union Station in downtown Los Angeles.







Figure 5I. Bronze sculptures of the heads of 12 Zodiac Animals in the garden of Los Angeles County Museum of Arts.









Figure 5J. Bas-reliefs on the roof of George C Page Museum, LA Brea Discoverie, depicting prehistoric animals in the wildness (top), and statues of carnivorous animals in the garden (bottom left and right).