

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Q:** The popular view seems to be that Los Angeles has little great architecture and few historic homes. Is this in fact the case?

There is much more to this story. Between 1850 (when California became a state) and the start of the 20th Century, Los Angeles was transformed from a small pueblo to a vibrant business center. The new railroad links to San Francisco (1876) and to Chicago (1885) brought Americans by the thousands, all in need of housing.

Enabled by this newfound wealth, great architects arrived to build great homes. In his two volume set, *Houses of Los Angeles*, Sam Watters documents a total of 74 great homes between 1885 and 1935. Volume 1 (1885-1919) documents 38 homes, while Volume 2 (1920-1935), lists 36 more.

One of the greatest of those homes was built in 1912 for Dr. and Mrs. John Randolph Haynes (Watters, Vol. 1, pp. 232–239). Located at 2324 South Figueroa Street, the French style home was designed by Robert D. Farquhar, the same architect who designed the California Club, Beverly Hills High School and the Clark Memorial Library.

After the passing of Mrs. Haynes (in 1934) and Dr. Haynes (in 1937), the Haynes home became the headquarters of the Haynes Foundation. That continued until 1952, when the home was condemned and dismantled to make way for the Harbor Freeway Interstate 110.

## CITATION

*Author:*  
Watters, Sam

*Title:*  
*Houses of Los Angeles,*  
*Volume 1*

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