

THE LOS ANGELES RIVER

ITS LIFE, DEATH, AND POSSIBLE REBIRTH BLAKE CUMPRECHT



The Los Angeles River Its Life Death And Possible Rebirth

VM Jensen



The Los Angeles River Its Life Death And Possible Rebirth:

The Los Angeles River Blake Gumprecht, 2001-04-30 Winner of the J B Jackson Prize from the Association of American Geographers Three centuries ago the Los Angeles River meandered through marshes and forests of willow and sycamore Trout spawned in its waters and grizzly bears roamed its shores The bountiful environment the river helped create supported one of the largest concentrations of Indians in North America Today the river is made almost entirely of concrete Chain link fence and barbed wire line its course Shopping carts and trash litter its channel Little water flows in the river most of the year and nearly all that does is treated sewage and oily street runoff On much of its course the river looks more like a deserted freeway than a river The river's contemporary image belies its former character and its importance to the development of Southern California Los Angeles would not exist were it not for the river and the river was crucial to its growth Recognizing its past and future potential a potent movement has developed to revitalize its course The Los Angeles River offers the first comprehensive account of a river that helped give birth to one of the world's great cities significantly shaped its history and promises to play a key role in its future

Down by the Los Angeles River, 2010-11 In the last decade millions of dollars have been spent on restoring and revitalizing the Los Angeles River and its surroundings Dozens of parks miles of bike trails public art installations and hundreds of trees and plants follow the river as it winds 51 miles through more than 100 communities Down by the Los Angeles River is the first on the ground guide to checking out sites new and old and getting to know the historic river that runs through greater L A The book includes striking original illustrations as well as maps Twenty seven walks and twelve bike rides along the Los Angeles and its tributaries each with directions to the starting point and descriptions of natural historic and artistic features along the way The river paths are already popular for walkers and joggers bicyclists dog walkers historians and bird watchers a readymade audience for this one of a kind book

Los Angeles River Ted Elrick, 2007 For centuries the Los Angeles River was unpredictable prone to flooding a raging torrent during rare Southern California rains and just a trickle and marshlands the rest of the year To tame it the U S Army Corps of Engineers walled in the river after the disastrous 1938 flood Decades later roadside signs that proclaimed Los Angeles River prodded the question How can this cement drain strewn with trash and abandoned refrigerators be considered a river Abused through the 20th century the L A River is in the midst of a comeback thanks to the Friends of the Los Angeles River FoLAR and local governments The realization that this arroyo has been as crucial to the development and growth of the city as the climate is again alive in the community The vintage photographs for this historic and redemptive look at one of the great natural features of Los Angeles County were collected from private and public archives From publisher description

United States West Coast Adam Sowards, 2007-08-06 The most up to date and insightful overview available on the environmental history of the West Coast of the United States a region of extraordinary physical beauty distinguished by its inhabitants efforts to both sustain and exploit their natural resources Part of ABC CLIO's

Nature and Human Societies series United States West Coast An Environmental History explores the interplay of ecology economy and culture throughout the history of the region of North America where the waters drain to the Pacific Ocean Synthesizing the most recent and insightful studies on the region United States West Coast portrays environmental change in the far western United States from the emergence of humans in the Pacific Northwest about 12 000 years ago to the rise of European colonial trade networks to the era of industrialization and urbanization to present day activism and public policy responses to environmental damage By investigating how humans interact with their nonhuman surroundings across a specific expanse that encompasses all kinds of landscapes cultures and commercial enterprises this insightful volume shows just how interdependent the relationship between people and their environment is **Managing Water** Dorothy Green,2007-10-09 Dorothy Green has produced a tour de force with her wonderfully clear exposition of the evolution of water management successes and failures in the greater Los Angeles area and much of the state Norris Hundley author of The Great Thirst Californians and Water A History If you have questions about water management in California this book holds the answers Water delivery systems make life possible in California from natural watersheds and rivers to man made aqueducts treatment plants and delivery pipes Dorothy Green s Managing Water uses the Los Angeles area to tell a statewide story of water supply drinking water quality and treatment conservation recycling and future planning How is water kept pure or when polluted made clean again What contaminates lurk in groundwater basins What agency delivers water to your home And how are water policy decisions made that effect your future This is a detailed summary of the complex world of California water management that provides common sense recommendations for the future David Carle author of Introduction to Water in California For students of California water Dorothy Green uses the complexity of water management in the Los Angeles area as the essential classroom This is required reading and a necessary reference for all who participate in southern California s efforts to manage its most limited and threatened resource Jeffrey Mount University of California Davis author of California Rivers and Streams **Floodpath** Jon Wilkman,2018-01-16 Floodpath attempts to rescue the disaster from obscurity The author captures many heartbreaking stories of survivors The effect is powerful The Wall Street Journal Just before midnight on March 12 1928 the St Francis Dam a twenty story high concrete structure just fifty miles north of Los Angeles suddenly collapsed releasing a devastating flood that roared fifty four miles to the Pacific Ocean destroying everything in its path It was a horrific catastrophe yet one which today is virtually forgotten With research gathered over more than two decades award winning writer and filmmaker Jon Wilkman revisits the deluge that claimed nearly five hundred lives A key figure is William Mulholland the self taught engineer who created an unprecedented water system allowing Los Angeles to become America s second largest city and who was also responsible for the design and construction of the St Francis Dam Driven by eyewitness accounts and combining urban history with a life and death drama and a technological detective story Floodpath grippingly reanimates the reality behind L A noir fictions like the classic film

Chinatown In an era of climate change increasing demand on water resources and a neglected American infrastructure the tragedy of the St Francis Dam has never been more relevant Public Lands in the Western US James H.

McDonald, Kathleen M. Sullivan, 2020-12-10 This edited collection explores the many ways in which diverse individuals and groups such as state and federal managers First Peoples ranchers miners oil and gas extraction industries sports enthusiasts environmentalists local residents and tourists actively negotiate contest and collaborate on issues regarding public lands in the American West Tracing these ever morphing alliances and antagonisms this volume highlights the recurring patterns within this diverse array of social actors **Blue Sky Metropolis** Peter J. Westwick, 2012-06-04 Like citrus oil movies radio and television aerospace helped create Southern California and embody its values Blue Sky Metropolis launches an entirely fresh consideration of an iconic industry that answered the immemorial hunger of the human race for flight and the future

Kevin Starr University of Southern California Blue Sky Metropolis presents an intriguing survey of a unique time in Southern California history when cheap land and benign weather lured massive aerospace enterprises to the region eventually serving as home to nearly half of the nation's defense and space fabricators Before there was a Silicon Valley high tech dreamers were on the loose in the Southland creating inventions as diverse as the Voyager planetary spacecraft and the Stealth bomber These highly readable essays help us understand how it happened how Southern California shaped aerospace and vice versa Charles Elachi Director Jet Propulsion Laboratory Peter Westwick has assembled a rich collection of essays that tell a wonderful story about the importance of the aerospace industry to Southern California and the importance of Southern California to the aerospace industry There's technology sociology economics geography anthropology and much more woven through the chapters It's an ambitious project but it succeeds in being interesting informative and entertaining Michael Rich President and CEO The RAND Corporation *A Land Between* Rebecca Fish Ewan, 2000-12-08 A Land Between tells the stories of the people who have lived in the valley and uncovers the marks they have left on the land

Natural Disasters in the United States Natalie Rauscher, Welf Werner, 2025-09-26 This volume examines the history of natural disasters in the United States and the nation's ongoing struggles with long term disaster preparedness and response It explores the political economic and cultural factors that have shaped the country's vulnerability It highlights why despite its vast resources the United States has remained one of the most resistant actors in recognizing and mitigating disaster risk Bringing together contributions from a variety of fields this book analyzes the role of political institutions media narratives and cultural perceptions in shaping disaster policy It examines key historical events to identify patterns of governance failure and missed opportunities to build resilience Ultimately this volume provides crucial insights into the historical baggage that the United States brings to multilateral climate negotiations helping to explain its often frustrating role on the international stage This book is essential reading for students researchers and scholars in the social sciences humanities and environmental studies as well as policymakers and practitioners seeking a deeper understanding of the challenges and shortcomings of U S disaster

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