

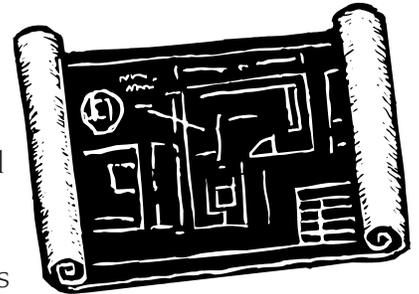


The Built Environment

Architecture aficionados may have to look a little harder to find exceptional buildings in the area, but they do exist!

The **John Rowland House** [16021 Gale Avenue, City of Industry, (626) 336-2382] is noteworthy for being the oldest surviving brick structure in southern California. Built in 1855, the Greek Revival style home of pioneer John Rowland is undergoing many improvements in preparation for future reopening (the interior is currently closed due to earthquake damage). After exploring the outside of the house, visitors may tour the Dibble Museum, which displays furnishings of the Rowland House along with native American crafts and pioneer memorabilia.

“Irving Gill” will ring a bell with many architecture buffs who may not know that one of his homes is nearby and open to the public. The **Clark Estate** [10211 Pioneer Boulevard, Santa Fe Springs, (562) 868-3876], which incorporates elements of Mediterranean and Mission Revival styles, was designed in 1919 for wealthy developers Chauncy and Marie Clark who planned to use the home as a summer residence. Because of the area’s growing industrialization brought on by the oil boom, the Clarks did not remain on the property long. The city remodeled the interior and now maintains the house for tours and community events.



If you are interested in crazy architecture (and donuts) you’ll love the **Donut Hole** [15300 East Amar Road, La Puente, (626) 968-2912]. Built in 1958 to resemble two large donuts, it was one of five drive-through establishments of its kind constructed in southern California. Hungry visitors can purchase their donuts 24 hours a day without having to leave the confines of their own automobiles. Just drive through the opening, order your donuts at the window, and exit out the other hole.

A trip to the **Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple** [3456 South Glenmark Drive, Hacienda Heights, (626) 961-9697], will show you just how diverse some of the architecture of the region has become. Structures built on the fifteen-acre site exemplify the traditional architectural styles of ancient Chinese monasteries. Completed in 1988, it’s the largest Buddhist temple in the Western Hemisphere. Visitors are invited to explore the Bodhisattva and Buddha Halls as well as an Exhibition Hall which houses Buddhist arts and crafts.



This is one of six sections of the Homestead Museum’s *Hidden Treasures* resource. Find more on-line at www.homesteadmuseum.org.

Homestead Museum • 15415 East Don Julian Road • City of Industry • California • 91745 • (626) 968-8492

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