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DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR

1. LA MESA LEMON COMPANY BUILDING
   8247 La Mesa Boulevard
2. LA MESA DEPOT
   4695 Nebo Drive
3. WALKWAY OF THE STARS
   8338 La Mesa Boulevard
4. LA MESA DRUG STORE BUILDING
   8301 La Mesa Boulevard
5. HISTORIC BANK BUILDING/PORT FAVOR
   8302 La Mesa Boulevard
6. BOBEOU
   8384 La Mesa Boulevard
7. LEGACY PARK LOOKOUT
   8402 La Mesa Boulevard
8. SHELDON’S CAFE
   8401 La Mesa Boulevard
9. SHASTA HOMES
   5502 Shasta Lane
10. EXTRAORDINARY BANANA PUDDING
    7777 University Avenue
11. GROSSMONT CENTER
    5500 Grossmont Center Drive
12. HERRICK COMMUNITY HEALTH LIBRARY
    9001 Wakarusa Street
13. BRIERCREST PARK
    9001 Wakarusa Street
14. 5220 WILSON [FUTURE PROJECT]
    5220 Wilson Street
15. THE HAVEN AT LA MESA
    9585 La Mesa Boulevard
16. MCKINNEY HOUSE/LA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
    8369 University Avenue
17. PORTER HALL/MACARTHUR PARK
    4910 Memorial Drive
18. JEFFERSON LA MESA
    4949 Baltimore Drive
19. RIVIERA SUPPER CLUB
    7777 University Avenue
20. SECRET STAIRS
    Windsor Drive & Canterbury Drive

MORE TO SEE

- Public pedestrian walkways were a common element of exclusive high-end early 20th century suburban subdivisions, especially in hillside tracts. These popular public pathways continue to serve as assets (and exercise northward and back to Mt. Helix to the east.
- Currently under construction Jefferson La Mesa will be a four-story luxury multi-family development. The four-story garden-style community will feature studio, one, two and limited three-bedroom units.
- Four story loft with lower level common amenity spaces, library specializing in health-related materials. The Library provides books, archives where visitors can come learn about their homes, buildings, the bells will continue to ring every hour on the quarter hour.
- Originally built in the 1940s, this restaurant is a rare surviving example of a classic retro menu. From the Googie style sign and rock wall exterior, to the leather banquette seating, it sets the perfect backdrop for a unique mid-century aesthetic.
- Designed by Welton Beckett and Associates, 1961
- Designed by world renowned architect/planner Welton Beckett. Though much of the center has been remodeled or replaced, the Macy’s department store designed by Welton Beckett.
- In this 4.2-acre park you can find green elements such as on-site water features and studio, one, two and limited three-bedroom units.
- MCKINNEY HOUSE/LA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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  Windsor Drive & Canterbury Drive
LA MESA

1. LA MESA LEMON COMPANY BUILDING
   8247 La Mesa Boulevard, 1895
   The oldest commercial building in the city is the La Mesa Lemon Co. building, dating to 1895. Although the building no longer houses lemons, it is still in use as the home of several businesses.

2. LA MESA DEPOT
   4675 Nebo Drive | Restoration by Larry Rose, 1894
   The San Diego Railroad Museum, under direction of late La Mesa architect Larry Rose, returned the building to its location and undertook this award-winning historic restoration in the 1990s.

3. WALKWAY OF THE STARS
   8338 La Mesa Boulevard, 2003
   The “Walkway of the Stars” is a pedestrian walkway that has been transformed into an urban park. The walls feature murals painted by eight artists, on the theme of “People Helping People.”

4. LA MESA DRUG STORE BUILDING
   8301 La Mesa Boulevard | Designed by Marker and Russell, 1921
   This iconic historic building served as a drug store from its February 1922 opening until 2020.

5. HISTORIC BANK BUILDING/ POR FAVOR
   8302 La Mesa Boulevard, 1927
   The Bank of Southern California building opened on this prime corner of Lookout Avenue and La Mesa Boulevard in 1927. Since 1974, the building has been the home of Por Favor, a favorite local restaurant.

6. BOBEAU
   8384 La Mesa Boulevard
   BoBeau is Bohemian-chic meets industrial elegance, with an eclectic mix of exposed concrete walls, wood floors, eclectic tiles, and corrugated metal ceilings. The restaurant also features roll-up walls along the street, allowing a connection with the village activity, as well as an outdoor patio and garden.

7. LEGACY PARK LOOKOUT
   8402 La Mesa Boulevard | Designed by Jesus and Mary Dominguez, 2016
   Designed by locals Jesus and Mary Lynn Dominguez, the traditional gazebo structure is clad in a not-so-traditional multi-colored mosaic, with imagery and dates significant to La Mesa’s history.

8. SHELDON’S CAFE
   8401 La Mesa Boulevard, 1920/2012
   This site was originally George Sheldon Gas Station, the first service station in La Mesa. An example of adaptive reuse, Sheldon’s now has a second life as a popular local coffee shop that still refuels La Mesa’s every day.

9. SHASTA HOMES
   5502 Shasta Lane, La Mesa | Designed by Foundation for Form, 2021
   Shasta Homes is a forward-looking approach at suburban-infill development. Utilitarian materials are incorporated in a modern way to attract a diverse mix of residents. The massing speaks to each’s own vertical domain, with a weighted ground floor, private entries and intentional unit delineation.

10. EXTRAORDINARY BANANA PUDDING
    8257 El Paso Street
    Owner Toran Grays started with his great-grandmother’s recipe for banana pudding, opening his restaurant in 2020. This one-of-a-kind shop features a cheery mural by artist Jesse Amaro, painted in a banana yellow, as well as a hand painted menu.

11. GROSSMONT CENTER
    5500 Grossmont Center Drive
    Designed by Welton Beckett and Associates, 1961
    Now celebrating its 60th anniversary, this pioneering commercial center was designed by world renowned architect/planner Welton Beckett. Though much of the center has been remodeled or replaced, the Macy’s department store building still shows the mid-century modern style of the original mall.

12. HERRICK COMMUNITY HEALTH LIBRARY
    9001 Wakarusa Street, 2000
    The Dr. William C. Herrick Community Health Care Library is a free public library specializing in health-related materials. The Library provides books, DVDs, pamphlets, magazines, newsletters, online resources, and its website with extensive links to reliable sources for all major health topics.

13. BRIERCREST PARK
    9001 Wakarusa Street | Designed by James Hubbel, 2005
    In this 4.2-acre park you can find green elements such as on-site water harvesting, a plant palette that is almost exclusively native, and state-of-the-art environmentally sustainable materials.

14. 5220 WILSON (FUTURE PROJECT)
    5220 Wilson Street | Designed by Studio E
    This upcoming mixed-use project will feature 49 residential units and a small ground floor commercial space envisioned as a neighborhood-serving use such as a coffee shop. The top floor common amenity space will offer views northward and back to Mt. Helix to the east.

15. THE HAVEN AT LA MESA
    8585 La Mesa Boulevard | Designed by Benson & Bohl Architects, 2021
    This project features the adaptive reuse of a chapel and convent that were originally constructed in 1939. The chapel, altar, and choir loft were converted into a community room, business center, and library/loft. The west wing, most recently nursing home units, was brought up to current code and converted to 10 apartment units. The bells will continue to ring every hour on the hour.

16. MCKINNEY HOUSE/LA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
    8369 University Avenue, 1908
    This iconic vernacular home was once part of a 2-acre lemon farm. Today it is the core of the La Mesa History Center including the society’s research archives where visitors can come learn about their homes, buildings, families, and neighborhoods.

17. PORTER HALL/MACARTHUR PARK
    4910 Memorial Drive, 1930
    This revival style building with Asian elements served as the city library until 1957. It was moved to its current location in La Mesa’s Post-War McArthur Park to make way for the current adult center. Porter Hall is now home to the Foothill Art Association’s gallery.

18. JEFFERSON LA MESA (UNDER CONSTRUCTION)
    4949 Baltimore Drive | Designed by ARK Architects, 2021
    Currently under construction Jefferson La Mesa will be a four-story luxury multi-family development. The four-story garden-style community will feature studio, one, two and limited three-bedroom units.

19. RIVIERA SUPPER CLUB
    7777 University Avenue
    Originally built in the 1940s, this restaurant is a rare surviving example of a unique mid-century aesthetic. From the Googie style sign and rock wall exterior, to the leather banquette seating, it sets the perfect backdrop for a classic retro menu.

20. SECRET STAIRS
    Windsor Drive & Canterbury Drive, 1908/1927
    Public pedestrian walkways were a common element of exclusive high-end early 20th century suburban subdivisions, especially in hillside tracts. These popular public pathways continue to serve as assets (and exercise challenges) for both local residents and visitors.

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