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Images Available

**Rare Ansel Adams Photos of Los Angeles from
Los Angeles Public Library's Photo Collection on View
at "drkrn gallery," 727 S. Spring St., downtown,
February 18—March 17, 2012**

**Images of 1940s Los Angeles Donated by Adams to the Library
Include Many Lost Icons**

Rare images of prewar Los Angeles taken by Ansel Adams and donated by the photographer to the Los Angeles Public Library are exhibited at the "drkrn gallery," 727 S. Spring St., downtown Los Angeles, from February 18 to March 17, 2012.

Famous for his black and white landscapes, Adams shot more than 200 pictures of Los Angeles on assignment for *Fortune* magazine in 1940. A handful appeared in the March 1941 issue, and the rest Adams filed away for two decades. After discovering them in his archives he donated 216 negatives and 135 prints to the Los Angeles Public Library in 1962. At the time, the library accepted the collection as a "charitable contribution" valued at \$150, according to librarian Christina Rice.

"Adams did not think highly of the images" Rice said. "But he contacted the Los Angeles Public Library because he thought the photos might have some historic interest since he shot different parts of the city. He even gave us the option to 'put them in the incinerator' if we had no use for them. Fortunately, library staff realized the significance of the photos, which now stand as a fascinating historical document of a Los Angeles that no longer exists."

The library has since digitized the photographs, which can be viewed on the Library Website at www.lapl.org. The images are part of the library's collection of more than 3 million historic photographs.

Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

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“When John Matkowsky at the “drkrn” approached the Los Angeles Public Library about exhibiting the Adams photos at his gallery, we thought it sounded like a great opportunity to highlight the collection,” said Rice.

The drkrn gallery in association with Edgar Varela Fine Arts, created new silver-gelatin prints from the original negatives and printed a selection of 40 photos for the exhibit. The images show daily L.A. life, including businesses, street scenes and a variety of other subjects. Also recorded are images of many lost icons such as the Brown Derby, Lockheed and Douglas aircraft plants, the Olympic Trailer Court in Santa Monica and much more.

Copies of the images will be sold to benefit the Los Angeles Public Library.

For more information, visit www.drkrn.com/ansel_adams.html. To view the entire collection of Ansel Adams photos, visit photos.lapl.org.

Ansel Adams Los Angeles is also a part of Pacific Standard Time, an unprecedented collaboration of more than 60 cultural institutions across Southern California that have come together to tell the story of the birth of the Los Angeles art scene. Initiated through grants from the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time will take place for six months which began October 2011.

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest urban population of any library in the country. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, more than six million books, and state-of-the-art technology provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

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