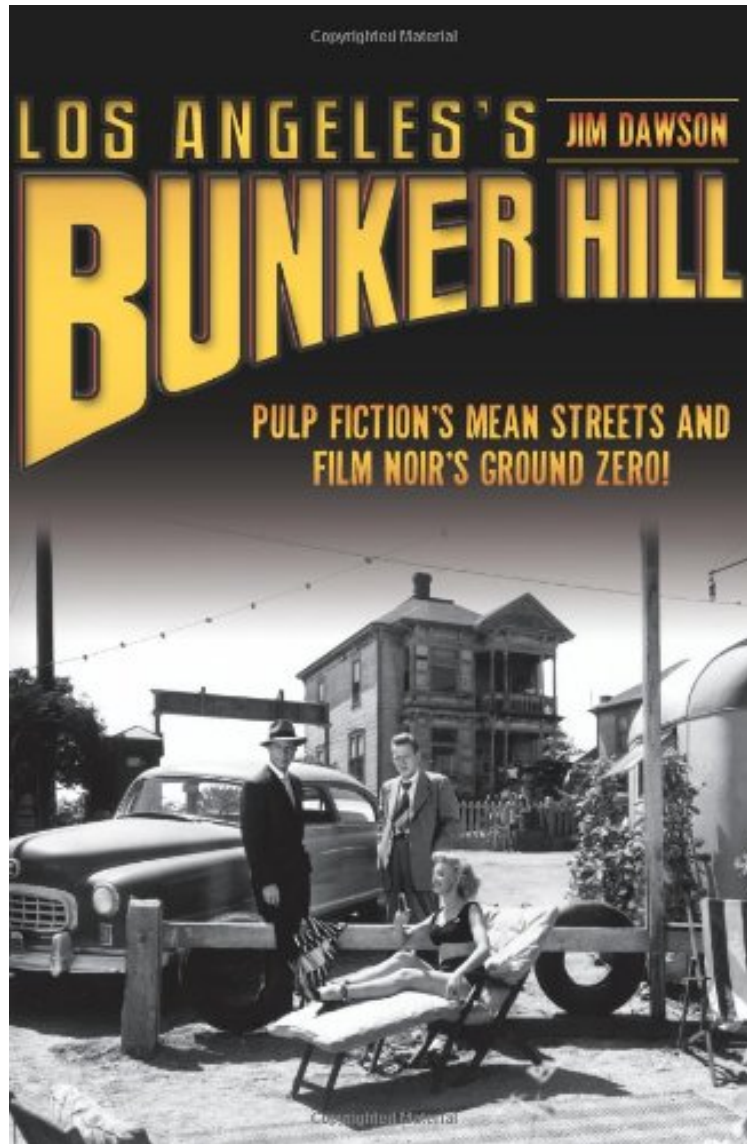


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Los Angeles's Bunker Hill: Pulp Fiction's Mean Streets and Film Noir's Ground Zero!

Jim Dawson

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Jim Dawson : Los Angeles's Bunker Hill: Pulp Fiction's Mean Streets and Film Noir's Ground Zero! before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Los Angeles's Bunker Hill: Pulp Fiction's Mean Streets and Film Noir's Ground Zero!:

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Must have for fans of LA Noir By J M Dho Whether you're a fan of the classics of Los Angeles film noir like 'Murder My Sweet,' 'Double Indemnity,' 'Kiss Me Deadly' and 'Criss Cross'

or you were recently introduced to Los Angeles' mean streets by last year's excellent computer game, LA Noir. . .this book is for you. Bunker Hill was once one of LA's premiere residential areas but by the late 1940s, it had regressed to a run down neighborhood of once opulent hotels and mansions converted to low-income apartments. The seedy nature of the neighborhood along with spectacular views of the rapidly expanding Los Angeles skyline and some great locations, including the Angels Flight funicular and the Third Street tunnel, and its proximity to the Hollywood studios made Bunker Hill a made-to-order film set. Sadly, Bunker Hill succumbed to redevelopment in the 60s leaving very little of the original intact. As Jim Dawson points out in his excellent paen to Bunker Hill and LA-based film noir, even the restored Angel's Flight railway was reinstalled in the wrong location! Mr. Dawson's copiously illustrated book takes the reader on a nostalgic journey through the famous and not so famous movies of the late 40s through early 60s while providing a fascinating history of arguably the most interesting neighborhood in Los Angeles, past or present. Highly recommended! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Loved It By William H. Haugland III This book was everything I was hoping it would be: a history of a lost neighborhood that should still be in Los Angeles; great references to the movies filmed there and the sad story of its demise. Thank you Esotouric.com for the recommendation to read this book. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. LA's Bunker Hill By M. P. Those of us who are LA history buffs will really enjoy this. Losing Bunker Hill was a terrific loss to the city that is irreplaceable. More and more of historic LA is disappearing. We may only have the memories in books soon.

When postwar movie directors went looking for a gritty location to shoot their psychological crime thrillers, they found Bunker Hill, a neighborhood of fading Victorians, flophouses, tough bars, stairways and dark alleys in downtown Los Angeles. Novelist Raymond Chandler had already been there exploring the real-life mean streets that his hardboiled detective, Philip Marlowe, prowled in the writers exacting prose. But the biggest crime was going on behind the scenes, run by the city's power elite. And Hollywood just happened to capture it on film. Using nearly eighty photos, writer Jim Dawson enlarges the record of L.A. history with this grassroots investigation of a vanished place.

"...the author's characteristic mix of meticulously compiled background information, bold analysis and inarguably concluded extrapolations is aimed at rectifying the colorful myths and even wilder truths that have emanated from and been laid at the feet of this Los Angeles locus classics." --LA Weekly "Long before the busloads of tourists and soaring skyscrapers and Disney Concert Hall, the Bunker Hill area of downtown Los Angeles was a charming neighborhood marked by its stunning Victorian homes and vibrant street life." --Which Way, L.A.? About the Author Jim Dawson is a graduate of West Virginia University and a longtime resident of Hollywood. He is the author of over a dozen books, including Los Angeles's Angels Flight (2008), as well as a short documentary called Los Angeles's Bunker Hill (2011) on the Criterion Collections Blu-ray/DVD reissue of the 1955 film noir classic Kiss Me Deadly.