



WALKING TOUR FACT SHEET

The Historic Crenshaw District was a hub for cross-cultural events such as Nisei Week, an annual festival celebrating Japanese American culture, and the growth of the Yellow Brotherhood, a group of Asian youth who organized to help resolve issues that plagued their community, including high rates of gang involvement, drug use, depression, and suicide.

Holiday Bowl (Starbucks)

1



The Holiday Bowl was a bowling alley founded by a group of Japanese Americans in 1958. Open until 2000, this spot was known for its racially diverse crowd as well as its Googie-style architecture. The Bowl was also home to The Picnic Room with a menu that offered a mix of Japanese American, Hawaiian, and American diner food as well as soul food. The Bowl was a hub for community members from all backgrounds.

Due to redlining, Japanese American families moved to areas such as Crenshaw. As a result, Bronson Avenue was home to many of these families. Many of the gardeners of these homes were Japanese American and incorporated Japanese gardening like Bonsai trees. Their influence lives on beautifully in these historical homes.

Bronson Homes

2



Tak's Coffee Shop

3



Tak's Coffee Shop is known for its Hawaiian/Asian food and is still family-owned. The original owner, Mary Shizuru, was a former waitress at the Holiday Bowl and opened the shop to provide a similar mix of menu items. Mary retired and sold the shop to Angelina and Florentino Bravo, a first-generation Mexican American family. The shop continues to live on as a meeting spot and community hub.