

Street Light Taxonomy Veronica (Left To Right)

1. Union Metal 895-S “Shepard’s Crook.” Found on Benedict Canyon Drive. The Veronica example is missing the usual General Electric Form 25-A luminaire, which still can be found on about half of the Benedict Canyon survivors.
2. Bel-Air 11. Attributed to Enterprise Foundry—of which little is known. Enterprise was at some point absorbed by Keystone Iron and Steel Works. These are still quite plentiful in the Bel-Air area. The 11 foot model is the one at Veronica. A couple of dozen 18 foot variations can be found just East of Sepulveda Blvd. on Moraga Drive.
3. CD 852-C. Used citywide in residential areas.
4. King 77 “Community”. Primarily found in West Los Angeles and Brentwood. King still manufactures the “Community” design.
5. Identified by its plaque as a “Walker 3 Light” at Bundy Drive and Gateway. I have some problems with this description. First, I believe the street light is a Llewellyn “Imperial” as found in the 1928 Llewellyn Iron Works catalog. Second: Bundy & Gateway don’t intersect! Whatever this light is, the Veronica example seems to be the sole survivor.
6. Melrose Hills Special. In Los Angeles, it’s found exclusively in the Melrose Hills neighborhood off of Marathon Street in East Hollywood. This is a relatively new street light, imported by the Melrose Hills Historic Preservation Overlay Zone. The shaft and luminaires are actually quite common in New York City’s Central Park. There are at least a couple manufacturers of this design: Spring City Electric and Sentry Electric to name two. “Madison” (which is Spring City’s pole description) is the name that appears on the Veronica plaque.
7. CD 931-A. Originally manufactured by Union Metal. Note the spiked finial. A number of subtle variations are used citywide in residential areas.
8. Hyperion Bridge. Most survive in that location. I don’t know the manufacturer.
9. Union Metal UM 1747 “Pacific.” This one is a reproduction. Originals can be found all over Los Angeles, including Pico Boulevard West of Robertson and West 7th Street West of Hoover. The reproductions line Pico Boulevard from Alvira to Robertson and La Cienega between Airdrome and Olympic.
10. CD 852-C. This appears to be a second example of the same post. But unlike #3 above, the luminaire is mounted post-top style. This configuration is usually found along pathways—although a few uses on residential streets have been noted. The plaque identifies the Palisades Highlands.
11. CD 929. Used citywide on arterials since the late 1940s. Still used occasionally for new installations. Union Metal was the original manufacturer and is still noted as the current supplier. The first street light in Los Angeles to be configured into a street light—overhead traffic signal design. Unlike the CD 931-A (#7 above), the CD 929 has a more rounded finial that some say resembles the U.S. Bank Tower in Downtown L.A. But, the CD 929 predates the tower by several decades. Maybe the tower was designed

to resemble the street light!

12. CD 951-A Modified. Better known as the “Little Tokyo Special.” Surviving examples of the CD 951-A number in the thousands. But, this two-globe modification exists only in the little Tokyo area.
13. Marbelite 485-M23. The famous “Lankershim Harp” that was found in the center divider of Lankershim Boulevard between Sherman Way and Hart Street. All have since been removed. There are only two surviving examples of the Harp configuration—this one, and one more found at the LABSL Museum in downtown L.A. The luminaire is a General Electric Form 81 (Rigid). The LABSL identifies it as the GE Form 81 (Plain). This is the center candle in the Veronica candelabrum.
14. Union Metal 40315 “Olympic Special Twin.” The twin version of the Olympic Special was found only on the stretch of Olympic Boulevard between Flower and Figueroa Streets. Only one survives on the Southwest corner of Olympic and Flower. It’s been disfigured with LED cobras—but a restoration of the teardrops is in the offing. A second (transplanted) example is found on the West side of Los Angeles Street, North of First Street. That one has been GROSSLY disfigured with large ball-shaped fixtures. The Veronica post is the only one with the original General Electric Form 81 (Flexible) teardrops. The LABSL refers to them as the GE Form 81 (Ornate).
15. CD 812-Y. Primarily found on arterials, but not nearly as common as the concrete CD 814. The CD 812 has a gently sloped base as compared to the bottle-like CD 814.. Examples of the CD 812 can be found on Van Nuys Boulevard North of Roscoe Boulevard in Panorama City.
16. King 62 “French.” Abundant in the Riviera section of Pacific Palisades, but found in various hillside neighborhoods. King still manufactures the “French.”
17. Westinghouse/Llewellyn “California Special.” By the late 1920s, Llewellyn was manufacturing street lights under license from Westinghouse. The Westinghouse and Llewellyn names can be found on the base. Chris Burden has dubbed the “California Special” as the “Magnolia Double” in some of his art pieces including Urban Light down on Wilshire. That seems to be the name that stuck. It IS found on Magnolia Boulevard between Lankershim and Cahuenga Boulevards. They also used to populate Burbank, but those examples vanished decades ago. Some have made their way (cut down to singles) to the tiny towns of Redstone and Basalt, Colorado!
18. CD 803. Originally known as the Marbelite S-134. Current day reproductions are made by Ameron and named “The Corsican.” Original S-134s are still found on Westchester streets as well as many other residential areas citywide. The Ameron replicas are used when “historic” street lights are needed for a new residential installation or as replacements for vintage concrete post-tops that have been toppled by errant drivers.
19. CD 956—The Century City Davit. Straight out of the space-age 1960s, these were fashioned on aluminum davits with large white plastic ball luminaires. In recent years, most of the balls—originally lamped with Mercury Vapor—

have been scaled-down a bit with new smaller orbs fitted with LED lighting. The Vermonica example maintains its original plastic sphere.

20. Westinghouse/Llewellyn “Capital 10.” Another example of a Westinghouse design produced locally by Llewellyn Iron Works. This is one of Westinghouse’s oldest designs—inherited from the George Cutter Company of South Bend, Indiana when Westinghouse gobbled-up Cutter in 1920. (Cutter spelled it “Capitol”, by the way). The surviving L.A. examples of the Capital 10 (the 10 describing the height) can be found on South Longwood Avenue between Wilshire and Olympic Boulevards.
21. Union Metal UM 1193 “Metropolitan.” Designed especially for Hollywood, but eventually spreading out to other parts of the city, the UM 1193 has a passing resemblances to the UM 1747 (#9 above). The UM 1193 has somewhat more angular design elements including Greek Keys, less “torchy” light fixtures, and a base surrounded by “bow-ties” and cabochons. It is almost always found with the General Electric Form 18-B lanterns whereas the UM 1747 sports various types of globes. The Metropolitans are still common in Hollywood having made their debut in 1924. In 2021, they’re found on Hollywood Boulevard (East of Gower), and both Cahuenga Boulevard and Ivar Street South of Hollywood Boulevard. Beware of those on Cahuenga above Franklin Avenue—they are reproductions!
22. Llewellyn “Whitley Heights Special.” Produced by Llewellyn Iron Works—their own design, not something under license from Westinghouse—the eponymous “Whitley” is found in what’s left of the Whitley Heights neighborhood after the Hollywood Freeway sliced through in the early 1950s. An errant handful can also be spotted on Coldwater Canyon Drive and Heather Road a few canyons to the West of Whitley Heights.
23. CD 808. A design used citywide, usually in residential neighborhoods. Every now and then, they bat in the majors and can be found on arterials such as Laurel Canyon Boulevard from Mulholland Drive to Berry Drive in Studio City. The more typical residential models abound in the newer portions of Bel-Air.
24. Keystone 8. These diminutive street lights are limited to North Edgemont Street between Franklin Avenue and Los Feliz Boulevard in the Los Feliz district. Keystone Iron & Steel Works was not a big player in L.A. street lighting, but did produce the distinctive Broadway Rose and Broadway Special street lights in the Broadway Theatre district. Financial problems put Keystone out of business by 1928. Other installations of the Keystone 8 in L.A. are long gone. Trivia note: Gloria Swanson and other cast members posed under a prop version of the Keystone 8 for 1950’s “Sunset Boulevard” publicity shots.
25. Union Metal Permastrand 886. Still very plentiful in the hills Northeast of Sunset and Beverly Glen Boulevards. The pendant mounted lanterns are the General Electric Form 19. For those really into “old-timey” street lights, the existing Holmby Hills lights are still Incandescent—although plans are afoot to change the bulbs to LED. The Permastrand 886 also exists in a post-top form found in the Lake Hollywood area and Westwood.