Berkeley campus. The number of Berkeley's Nobel Laureates gathered for this 1960 photograph. They are from left to right with date of Nobel award: Owen Chamberlain (1959), Edwin M. McMillan (1951), William F. Giauque (1949), John H. Northrup (1946), Wendell M. Stanley (1946), Emilio G. Segre (1959), and Glenn T.

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The Assimilation Years: 1930 - Present

1930s Frank Capra is at the height of his fame as a film director.

1931-44 Angelo Rossi serves as mayor of San Francisco.

1934 The San Francisco General Strike is put down by among others, Mayor Rossi.

1935 Harry Bridges alleges that a longshoreman’s strike occurs because longshoremen refuse to load scrap metal bound for Mussolini’s Abyssinia campaign.

1940 California has an Italian population of 100,911, the largest of any western State. By this time, Italians make up the largest foreign-born ethnic group in the United States.

1942 Executive Order 9066 is used to intern small numbers of Italian nationals and some naturalized citizens on the Pacific Coast in February. Curfews and travel-restrictions are later removed on Columbus Day of the same year for Italian immigrants. Meanwhile, the California Legislature Un-American Activities committee calls on prominent Italian-Americans (including San Francisco mayor Rossi) to testify on fascist activities in California.

1946 Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini is the first naturalized American citizen to be canonized.

1947 The Federated Italio Americans of Southern California is organized with over 70 clubs.

1950s Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Gregory Corso are two prominent poets of the 1950's Beat Generation.

1959 Emilio Segre shares the Noble Prize in physics for his work on the antiproton.

1963 Friar Luigi Donanzan launches the radio show "Ora Cattolica Italiana."

1964 Mario Savio is one of the leaders of the Free Speech Movement at UC Berkeley.

1967 Joseph Alioto is elected mayor of San Francisco.

1971 Bob Moretti becomes the first Italian American to hold the position of speaker of the assembly.
1975 George Moscone is elected mayor of San Francisco, and is later assassinated that year. In addition, Renato Dulbecco receives a share of the Nobel Prize for his research on the interaction between tumors and genetic material.

1978 Il Museo Italo-Americano is founded as the only museum in the United States devoted exclusively to Italian and Italian-American art and culture.

1985 Edward A. Panelli is elected to the California State Supreme Court.

1990 There are 1.5 million Italian Americans living in California, making up 5 percent of the population and tying with New Jersey for the second largest in the nation.

1998 Louis J. Ignaro is a corecipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology for Medicine for his work with nitric oxide.