

SCRIPPS PARK PROJECT
Ellen Browning Scripps Memorial Park, La Jolla, CA
Historical Context and Cultural Landscape Report (Draft)

Part 1 _____

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Foreword

This Cultural Landscape Report and Historic Context has been prepared for the Scripps Park Project to help create a master plan for Ellen Browning Scripps Park. The Secretary of the Interior encourages the use of Cultural Landscape Reports when planning for historic places. These reports are used to educate the public on the history, alterations and continuity, integrity of existing conditions and improvements, use patterns, natural systems, and archeological resources of the site.

The notion for a community workshop that considered preservation and restoration issues at Scripps Park came as a recommendation in the Preliminary Plan for the La Jolla Coastline in 1989, which stated, "Continual repairs, modifications, and new structures in the area have created a scene of disorganized visual clutter. Improvements have not been made with a clear visionary master plan."

Since that time the La Jolla Town Council, which is recognized by the City of San Diego as the lead community group for coordinating public input on projects at Scripps Park, has repeatedly requested a master plan that would enable it to better assess the numerous recommendations from citizens and organizations for further "improvements" within the park. Their request for a master plan at Scripps Park has been a part of the City's Capital Improvement Program since the early 1980's. Proceeding with development of that plan was hampered by a lack of available funding and the need for someone to organize the effort.

In 2001, La Jolla Town Council trustee Patrick Ahern took up the challenge. His recent success with a similar planning effort at Windansea Beach prompted Town Council member Jack Holzman and others to encourage and support Mr. Ahern in organizing a group of interested local citizens to initiate a master plan for Scripps Park.

A steering committee was formed and regular meetings were conducted to determine the best way to proceed. They encouraged broad participation in the effort and were joined by representatives from the Community Planning Association, Promote La Jolla, La Jolla Town Council, The La Jolla Conservancy, The City of San Diego, The Facilities Access Review subcommittee, The Park and Recreation Department, Concerts by the Sea, The La Jolla Bridge Club, and Park and Recreation Inc.

The group came to be called the Scripps Park Project (SPP). They raised funds from local service clubs such as the Kiwanis and the Rotary, various foundations, business organizations, and from numerous private individuals.

In order to assure that the workshop would be conducted in a professional manner, the La Jolla Conservancy was asked to prepare a "Request for Proposals," which was used to solicit bids to conduct the workshop from qualified facilitation and planning firms.

The landscape planning firm of Campbell & Campbell in Santa Barbara was selected and will lead the workshop in November. Campbell & Campbell have successfully

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conducted a number of workshops to plan for public places, most recently at the Imperial Beach pier and beachfront and on Santa Catalina Island at the Avalon waterfront.

As part of the preparation for the workshop, the SPP steering committee requested that the La Jolla Conservancy assist with the preparation of a Cultural Landscape Report for use by workshop participants in order to consider the past as they plan for the future. We have followed the guidelines set forth by The Secretary of the Interior and reviewed similar reports that have been prepared by the Olmstead Center for Landscape Preservation.

We are pleased to present and make available Part 1 of the Cultural Landscape Report as the initial step of an ongoing project to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic buildings, structures, objects, and landscape of La Jolla's Ellen Browning Scripps Park.

This report is the first component of a comprehensive report that is designed to help future stewardship of the area. Part 2 of the report will be prepared by Campbell & Campbell and will document the results of the community workshop. That report will include a Concept Master Plan and a list of guiding principles to be used for the implementation of that plan. Part 3 of the report will document the completed improvements within the park.

This edition of Part 1 is published in a "draft" format in the hope that local citizens will review its content for accuracy and feel free to offer comments or corrections prior to publication of the finished report. Please forward your comments to Mark Holmes at markholmes53@msn.com. We would like to thank the many individuals who have contributed countless volunteer hours gathering the information contained in this document. This list includes Pat Dahlberg, Betty Wells, Jim Neri, Steve Pomerence, Gayle Pate, Jack Holzman, Patrick Ahern, Mark Brown, Steve Woods, Ron Dahlin, Vern Fleet, Bob Shea, Tony Ciani, Angeles Leira, Ivan Holmes, Bob West, Neil Murray, David Shaw, Don VanKekerix, Dr. Douglas Inman, Robert Thiele, Joe Barnett, Dennis Sharp, Vern Westenberger, Brendan Ruff, and Marco Gonzales. Thank you also to The La Jolla Historical Society, San Diego Historical Society, and California Room at the San Diego Library for the use of their research archives, secondary sources, and extensive photograph collections. And finally, a special thank you to Jeremy Hollins for his tireless efforts in researching and editing this report.

Mark Holmes, President
The La Jolla Conservancy

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Introduction

As mentioned above the Scripps Park Project volunteers are the driving force behind this report and its use at the upcoming community workshop. They have tried to avoid the tendency to rush towards answers to perceived problems within the park. Instead, they opted to layout the “big picture” for use by community participants and the consultants, who will lead them at the workshop. Following is a list of broad based issues, which are addressed in this report and which will become the focus of the workshop:

- a. Safety – ensure that the park is a safe and clean environment for all users
- b. Environment – consider environmentally sound practices and principles such as sustainable building and landscape methods.
- c. History – establish an historical context for the development of the plan
- d. Views – focus on the natural scenic vistas that are central to the park's beauty and enjoyment
- e. Erosion and water pollution – examine existing drainage control and consider ways to bring the park area into compliance with the California Ocean Plan as it relates to the La Jolla Ecological Reserve, which is classified as an Area of Biological Significance.
- f. Natural resources – evaluate “shoreline processes” as they effect the perimeter of the park at The Cove, Boomer Beach, and Shell Beach
- g. Physical improvements – assess current and proposed physical improvements within the park and identify enhancements that are consistent with the natural, open space environment
- h. Landscaping – evaluate the appropriateness of existing landscaping within the park
- i. Parking – evaluate the current parking situation in the park
- j. Access – consider the various access links between the park and the village of La Jolla
- k. Donation recognition – assess the current methods used to commemorate individuals and organizations that donate funds for park improvements.
- l. Vector animal control – assess current problems which stem from vector animals such as rats, squirrels, and pigeons.

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- m. ADA requirements – consider methods that make the park ADA friendly. In particular, consider options for the ADA ramp being planned as part of the Cove lifeguard tower improvements

Management Summary

The purpose of the Scripps Park Project Cultural Landscape Project and Historic Context, which accompanies the workshop, is to analyze and interpret the park's historic and cultural resources, significance, condition, and integrity.

This report aims to:

- A. Raise awareness of the historicity (historical authenticity) and significance of the park
- B. Encourage participation in the public workshops, which will be held at the Bridge Club on Friday evening, November 18 and at the La Jolla Cove Suites roof terrace on November 19, 2005
- C. Aid and improve participants' considerations and decisions at the workshop
- D. Address the use and management of the park's resources to guide future decisions by local bodies, community planning groups, and officials
- E. Serve as the foundation for future permitting, environmental compliance laws (i.e. CEQA), and fund-raising efforts
- F. Supplement the development and implementation of a long-term master plan to preserve, restore, and enhance the Ellen Browning Scripps Memorial Park
- G. Provide a historic context that supports future treatments to the park's historic landscape and to accommodate the non-historic resources (i.e. trash storage areas, maintenance facilities, parking areas, public safety barriers, signage, drainage/pollution control facilities) necessary to operate a public site

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Historical Summary

Before the subdivision of La Jolla in 1887, Native Americans inhabiting the nearby area first used the site. The park area was part of their subsistence existence, where collection of marine life, like abalones and urchins, and flora were part of the Native American cultural lifestyle. Native American artifacts, such as arrowheads and stone bowls, from 2,000 years ago have been recovered at nearby sites, specifically the Children's Pool. During the Spanish colonial period (1769-1849) of San Diego, ships from different countries passed the site often and settlers might have visited the site's shores on several occasions. Following California statehood in 1849, San Diego residents traveled twelve miles to La Jolla for day trips and visits. By the 1870s, La Jolla was a popular tourist destination for city residents and visitors, who frequently went to the cove and the surrounding caves to picnic and swim.

In 1887, the pueblo lots that comprised La Jolla were subdivided, and the present site was established as a park. The landscape at this time was natural and bare, lacking any heritage plantings (plantings by a person of significance or dedicated to a person or event significant to La Jolla or its development) or designed landscape elements. The park's boundaries were defined by the creation of first dirt and later paved streets. The park's uses at the time remained consistent to its original functions as a picnic and bathing area. However, during the summer months, it became a "tent city," with residents and vacationers camping on the grounds and enjoying the temperate climate. The subdivision's founders believed maintaining the park as a pristine beautiful area would create an incentive for people to buy lots and live in La Jolla.

As early as 1894, several buildings were built at the park, and it soon became the social and cultural center of La Jolla. Bathhouses, dancing pavilions, and a marine biological laboratory and museum were distinctive buildings at the park. Celebrations, community events, and recreational activities all occurred at the park. In fact, the park hosted the ceremonial completion of La Jolla railroad service with a day of parties, foot races, and dancing in 1894. Additionally, several plantings and landscape improvements occurred, improving the aesthetic quality of the area previously defined as "dusty" and "brown."

Throughout the early 1900s, plantings in the park continued, often replacing ones that had died or dedicated to a significant individual, like the Ellen Browning Scripps. In 1927, the park was renamed after Miss Scripps. Some of the original buildings, like the bath houses, marine biological laboratory, and dancing pavilion, were removed from the park, creating more open space for citizens and visitors to enjoy. Belvederes, swing sets, benches, and an Abraham Lincoln Centennial flagstaff were installed, as well.

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Through its history, the park experienced new uses. In 1915, the cove became part of the annual Rough Water Swim. In the 1930s, a new building was built at the park: the Bridge and Shuffleboard Club. Consisting of a clubhouse designed by Richard Requa and eight shuffleboard courts, the park provided adults with a recreational activity at the park. Recent years in the park have seen a movement by the public to preserve the natural and character defining features of the site, like creating an ecological preserve and reinforcing the Cove's retaining walls.

Scope of Work and Methodology

This document is the result of a limited investigation of the site known as Ellen Browning Scripps Memorial Park from 1881 through the present (2005), with an emphasis on 1887 through 1939 as the period of significance. Period of significance refers to a chronological period as it relates to a historic context, and is defined as a year or range of years when a site achieved historical significance. The report is the cumulative effort of the Scripps Park Project, which is an open advisory board of interested local citizens led by a fifteen person Steering Committee, which includes representatives of all major La Jolla planning groups. The project began in August of 2003 and regularly conducts publicized and open meetings. The project received funding assistance from civic groups, foundations, businesses, and individuals to support its efforts.

The report:

- A. Examines the development, conditions, and uses of the site during the park's period of significance (1887 through 1939) and assesses alterations to the park's natural and built environment.
- B. Studies the integrity of the site's natural and cultural resources, character defining features, and historic and cultural fabric
- C. Evaluates past and existing boundaries
- D. Makes conclusions based on the historical context for future stewardship and management of the site

Primary sources for investigating the site were historical drawings, period photographs, aerial photographs, newspaper articles, and journal and diary entries. Archival research was performed at the San Diego Historical Society, La Jolla Historical Society, San Diego Central Library California Room, and the UCSD Geisel Library. Information on current conditions was gathered through site visits, evaluations, assessments, and interviews with former lifeguards, residents, business owners, and frequent visitors to the site.

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Secondary sources for investigating the site were Patricia A. Schaelchlin's *La Jolla: The Story of a Community* (1988), Howard S.F. Randolph's *La Jolla: Year by Year* (1955), and the La Jolla Historical Society's *Inside La Jolla: 1887-1987* (1987). For purposes of clarity, the term "the park" will refer to the site. Additional names used in the report will be "La Jolla Park" (the name from 1887-1927) and "Scripps Park" (the name from 1927-present).

Study Boundaries

Scripps Park is located in the city of San Diego, in San Diego County, California. The park is part of the community of La Jolla. The park's present authorized boundary is Block 58 as listed in the 1887 Pacific Coast Land Bureau Subdivision Map by R.J. Pennell and the County of San Diego's Assessor Maps. The area encompasses 5.6 acres and is bordered by Coast Boulevard (to the south), Girard Avenue (to the east), and the Pacific Ocean (to the north and west). Natural features and coastal zone elements that line the site's coastline include Alligator Head, Point La Jolla, Rocky Point, La Jolla Cove, Shell Beach, Boomer Beach, and the San Diego - La Jolla Underwater Preserve. Due to the park's location on the Pacific coast, the park's boundaries are subject to wind erosion, rainfall erosion, and ocean currents, which result in the changes to the natural contour of the site. This effect is known as *shoreline processes*.

Summary of Findings

Scripps Park's built environment and cultural landscape has changed and evolved tremendously since the area was subdivided in 1887. Before subdivision, the area had a naturally bare landscape with few plantings or trees and an absence of designed landscape elements. Since then, several phases of designed landscape elements, such as paved walkways, and street and heritage plantings have occurred due to individual and group efforts to the designated open space. Environmental factors, such as lack of proper irrigation and wind erosion, have damaged or destroyed trees, shrubbery, geological features, and other coastal zone elements continuously within the park. Due to human impact within the park and its surrounding environment, pollution and water contamination have been constant issues at the site.

The built environment has featured buildings, structures, and objects during the park's period of significance. Objects, like Civil War memorials and commemorative plaques, have been erected to honor individuals and events significant to San Diego, California, and the nation's past. Buildings and structures, like swing sets, a dance pavilion, bathhouses, a marine biological institution, lifeguard towers, comfort stations, retaining walls, and a marine biological laboratory, have been constructed and removed throughout the site's history. Most buildings constructed during the period of significance (1887-1930) were transitional Victorian and Craftsman eclectic buildings, often designed by prominent master architects like Richard Requa and William

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Templeton Johnson. Other buildings, like the Bridge and Shuffleboard Club, have been altered and have not retained a significant amount of their original integrity or historic fabric.

Since the late nineteenth century, usage of the site has been continuous and constant. Many of the initial uses from that period, specifically picnics and swimming, persist today by tourists and citizens alike. The park remains an important cultural and historical aspect of San Diego's past, and significantly contributes to the area's aesthetic quality, and visual narrative.

Site History

Pre-European Landscape

The community of La Jolla, including the area where Scripps Park is located, was initially inhabited 10,000 years ago by the San Dieguito Native American tribe. They found in the La Jolla area the necessary ingredients for sustaining a civilization (food, water, and shelter). San Dieguito Native Americans were a nomadic hunting and gathering culture that used stone tools and left no indication of agricultural pursuits. Known as the area's first settlers, they camped on the area's shores 10,000 to 7,000 years ago.¹

Following the San Dieguito were the La Jolla Native Americans. They used material culture consisting of *metates*, *manos*, small mortars, and stone tools. They were the first Native American culture in the area to practice human burials. They placed their dead in a flexed position with the knees drawn up, arms crossed, head facing north, and sometimes with ritual beads. Archaeological excavations have revealed evidence of their burial practices in northern La Jolla, near Scripps Institution of Oceanography and University of California-San Diego. They had a population of 500 people and existed 7,000 to 2,000 years ago.²

A semi-nomadic culture, the Kumeyaay, settled in La Jolla next and were present during the arrival of European settlers during the Mission Period of San Diego (1763-1833). The Kumeyaay lived part of the year in the mountains, and inhabited coastal areas of San Diego and La Jolla during other parts of the year. They had a complex culture, and lived in extended family groups related by marriage. Their housing and shelter consisted of dome shaped shelters and the group's food came from the land and ocean: rabbits, deer, quail, eggs, rodents, grasses, seeds, acorns, and shellfish. As food supplies diminished, the Kumeyaay would relocate to other sites. The Kumeyaay created and used ceramic and

¹ Schaelchlin, 24.

² Ibid, 24.

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stone bowls for food preparation and storage.³ In 1961, lifeguard Joe Barnett, and several archaeologists, discovered a stone bowls near Scripps Park and at the Children's Pool, which indicated the culture's inhabitation of the area.⁴

As European settlement and emigration continued, settlers and ranchers occupied more of the area's Native American land. Throughout the nineteenth century, white civilization disrupted the Kumeyaay's lifestyle and culture. In 1870, they were displaced and uprooted to reservations away from the coastline. However, evidence of their existence in La Jolla has been detailed through archaeological sites everywhere from Bird Rock to La Jolla Farms.⁵

Vegetation

Scripps Park, during the prehistoric period, had a much different topographic setting than it has today. During the San Dieguito, La Jolla, and much of the early Kumeyaay period, the coastline extended much farther than it presently does, indicated by the recovery of artifacts and material culture from underwater archaeological sites that were previously above water. However, as the glacier's receded and melted, ocean water filled areas that were originally part of the coastline. Some of the area's geological features, like Alligator Head and the Cove, were created during this period by the changes in the environment.

During the pre-European settlement era, Scripps Park did not feature any trees or heritage plantings by the Native Americans. An early settler to La Jolla, Ellen Mills, who arrived to La Jolla in 1886, recalled the landscape upon her arrival as simply being an "expanse of grey-green sage brush and darker chaparral from the top of Mt. Soledad to the Cove."⁶ Distribution of these native plants, such as the sage brush and chaparral, were dependent upon moisture, salinity, elevation, and wind exposure. The absence of agricultural pursuits by Native Americans left the area, in some parts, "incredibly dusty," and "muddy."⁷

The Park's History Within a Context: the American Park

American park planning and development have followed relatively distinct patterns. These patterns have been divided into five historic periods and characterized by their dominant themes. The following paragraphs describe

³ Ibid, 27.

⁴ "Local Archaeology Discovery," *San Diego Union*, 15 June 1961, B-1.

⁵ Schaelchlin, 27.

⁶ Randolph, 10-11.

⁷ Randolph, 11.

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these periods and note the corresponding development within Ellen Browning Scripps Park.

1850-1900: The Pleasure Garden

The chief park planning principle of this period was to bring a pastoral ideal into urban settings, providing beautiful informal green areas and very few buildings. La Jolla Park, as it was first known, was established during this period and conceived as an open space and recreational area to be enjoyed by residents and tourists alike. An extensive tree planting campaign was undertaken, but largely failed due to a shortage of water. Park activity was informal---swimming, picnicking, and fishing.

1900-1930: The Reform Park

Parks took a strong recreational turn during this period, incorporating playgrounds, pools, and supervised recreational activities. Parks design emphasized improving life conditions through vigor, health, and hygiene. Following suit, La Jolla Park was transformed into a bustling, facility-intensive community center. A dance pavilion featured dances, card playing, concerts, and children's programs. Three swing sets were introduced. A small bathhouse was built and then destroyed by fire. Quickly, it was replaced on a grander scale, including a bowling alley, pool, and café. Briefly, under the auspices of the Marine Biological Association, a biological library and aquarium/museum were added to the Park.

1930-1965: The Recreational Facility

Recreation became a chief public service during this period and parks were seen as vehicles for the delivery of this service. A corresponding emphasis upon facilities---courts, pools, museums, stadiums, ball fields, playgrounds---overtook landscaping concerns. The Bridge and Shuffleboard Court was built in 1939, the Park's only true example of the overwhelming pattern of the time. The Park actually saw facility development decrease. The Marine Biological Association's facilities were long gone, settling instead at La Jolla Shores. Seen as an eyesore, the bathhouse had been removed in 1925. Plans for a larger and more diverse facility were drawn, but the building was never constructed.

1965-1980: The Open Space Era

The American exodus to suburbs was in full force and support for parks diminished. In addition, automobiles carried people into the actual countryside, reducing the demand for urban facsimiles. During this period, little development took place in Ellen Browning Scripps Memorial Park. However, a very significant step was taken in 1970 with the establishment of the La Jolla Underwater Preserve.

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1980-Present: The Redefinition of Urban America

Long-suffering cities experienced selective revitalization during this period and interest in urbanity was rekindled. In the economically robust 1980's and 1990's, private sources funded major new urban developments—hotels, sports facilities, retail centers. Gradually, the emphasis upon revitalization spread to parks, long neglected by financially distressed municipalities. Only minimal physical change occurred in the Park during this period. (The replacement of the Shuffleboard Court with gardens and sidewalks being the lone exception.) On the other hand, the Park gained new prominence, serving as the site of several major community events—a fireworks display, the La Jolla Half Marathon, a concert series. The 2003 establishment of the Scripps Park Project can certainly be viewed as an indicator of the urge to redefine and revitalize the American park.

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Historical Periods at Ellen Browning Scripps Park

1870-1887: Settlement in La Jolla and Designation of the Park

Though Spanish settlers were the first people of European descent to inhabit San Diego, they did not settle La Jolla due to its isolation from “Old Town” San Diego. When California became an American state in 1850, interest in La Jolla grew over time. In 1869, the first Pueblo lots in La Jolla were sold for \$1.25 an acre to Samuel and David Sizer. Both men purchased eighty acres each and the land stretched from “La Jolla Blvd. to beyond Fay Avenue, and from Westborne Street to above Marine” to as far as Palomar Street. The Sizers cleared the land on Pueblo Lots 1261 and 1259 and grew grapes. The pueblo lots that encompass Scripps Park were not sold until 1871. On January 16, 1871, Charles Griffith purchased Pueblo Lots 1282, 1283 (with the exception of the southeast forty acres) and the north half of Lot 1284, which totaled nearly 400 acres, and sold it the following day to Charles Dean. Scripps Park was located within Pueblo Lots 1283 and 1284.⁸

(Insert Pueblo Lot Map- R-7)

Dean recognized the potential in the land, and frequently advertised the exquisite beauty of the area, specifically the “charming rocks...caves...moss, shells... [and] white sandy beaches washed by the waves.”⁹ Though some anticipated Dean erecting a building on the land, he never developed the site and left San Diego for St. Louis in 1881. In 1884, title of the property that contained Scripps Park was transferred to William Armstrong, who then sold it to Charles MacArthur on January 5, 1886. Two months later, on March 24, 1886, MacArthur sold the lots to Frank T. Botsford and A.C. Williams. Within on month, on April 16, 1886, Botsford acquired Williams’ stake for \$1200.¹⁰

(Insert picture of Botsford S-30)

Botsford first arrived to La Jolla eight days before he purchased the Pueblo Lots from MacArthur. Upon his arrival, he called the area “magnificent,” and shortly set out to subdivide the area he called La Jolla Park. He partnered with Charles Dearborn and George Heald (who each purchased an undivided ¼ share), and enlisted the aid of the San Francisco-based Pacific Coast Land Bureau (PCLB) to survey, assign the area boundaries, lot numbers, sizes, and street names. Botsford, Dearborn, and Heald signed an agreement with the PCLB on December 29, 1886 and surveying immediately began. R. J. Pennell, ¼ owner of

⁸ Schaelchlin, 27-32.

⁹ *San Diego Union*, 15 April 1881, 3.

¹⁰ Schaelchlin, 27-32.

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the PCLB, was the manager of the project, and filed the survey map with city engineer M.C. Wheeler on March 22, 1887.¹¹

(Insert subdivision map s-46)

Entitled “La Jolla Park,” irregular streets and blocks, that complimented the curvilinear features of the coast, characterized the subdivision map. The “La Jolla Park” subdivision encompassed three hundred acres, with 25' x 140' lots laid out and eighty foot wide streets. The PCLB felt:

“...the laying out of the streets and blocks of La Jolla Park was done with an eye to the contour of the land and general picturesqueness...When this is done, La Jolla will be a town of marvelous beauty and without a parallel in America.”¹²

The subdivision also identified and established two parks: Union Park and La Jolla Park. Union Park was a circular open area located at the intersection of Park Row and Beach Row, and did not feature a lot or block number. On Block 58, the subdivision’s namesake park, La Jolla Park, was plotted.

La Jolla Park was the original name for 5.6 acre area of land later renamed Ellen Browning Scripps Memorial Park (a.k.a Ellen Browning Scripps Cove Park). It sat atop a high bluff and gently sloped towards the shoreline of the Pacific Ocean. The park bordered Coast Blvd. and Grand Avenue (now known as Girard Avenue). Within the subdivision map, two natural landmarks were featured within the park’s boundaries: Alligator Head at the northern point and Rocky Point at the south end. La Jolla Park did not feature individual lot numbers and was intended to be open space and a recreational area for residents and tourists alike.

On April 30, 1887, lots in the subdivision were sold at an auction across from La Jolla Park after considerable advertisements in the *San Diego Union*. The PCLB had a San Francisco cartography firm create 15,000 maps for the public and they sold \$61,385 worth of land that day. The PCLB received payment of \$40,000, 1/7 and 1/3 shares of future sales, and dissolved their partnership with Botsford, Heald, and Dearborn.¹³

¹¹ Ibid, 42-48.

¹² Ibid, 48.

¹³ Ibid, 49, 56, 59.

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Improvements to the Park

Before sale of the Pueblo Lots, the landscape of the park was not altered. Chaparral, wildflowers, and sage brush continued to grow wild.

Improvements to the area known as La Jolla Park began in 1886, before the area was subdivided. Prior to the survey, Botsford and Heald were responsible for clearing and grading the land and they finished four days before the auction. They removed the sage brush and chaparral, creating open lots throughout the subdivision and specifically in the park.¹⁴

In 1887, the PCLB placed the responsibility of maintaining the park in the hands of recently formed La Jolla Improvement Society (LJIS). Early residents headed this group, and they were told not to “mind the expense” for the park was invaluable to the success of the subdivision. They began an extensive tree planting campaign throughout the park and subdivision. The LJIS planted nearly 10,000 trees in the subdivision, with 2,000 cedars, eucalyptus, and palms designated specifically for the park.¹⁵ The PCLB felt trees in the park would enhance the land, “making it attractive to the people, and induce them to go out there, that we might sell the lots surrounding it (the park).”¹⁶

The PCLB covered expenses, which included wages for John Kennedy (superintendent of the pumping works and a local carpenter), landscape planter J. Jellison, two mules, ploughs, and wagons. In June 1887, Joe Smith planted the trees obtained from a nursery.¹⁷ The PCLB predicted:

“...the richness of soil and abundance of water will render the growth of all kinds of tree and shrubs and flowers rapid and luxuriant. In but a few years La Jolla will be rich with bloom and resplendent with vegetable color.”¹⁸

However, contrary to what they expected, a shortness of water and a dry climate caused many of the original plantings to perish, and, by 1893, the park was once again bare.¹⁹

From 1870 through 1887, no permanent structures were erected in the park.

¹⁴ Ibid, 40.48.

¹⁵ Randolph, 11.

¹⁶ Schaelchlin, 48-49.

¹⁷ “La Jolla Locals,” *San Diego Union*, 5 May 1887, 4.

¹⁸ “La Jolla Park Five Years Hence,” *San Diego Union*, 10 May 1887, 1.

¹⁹ Randolph, 11.

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Land Use of the Park

La Jolla Park, prior to subdivision, was used predominately as a picnic, swimming area, and tourist destination for San Diego residents of San Diego. Articles in the *San Diego Union* detailed the use of the park. The first article appeared on November 16, 1872, and recalled a recent picnic at the beach and visit to the Caves near the park. On

February 3, 1875, the Horton House in downtown San Diego organized a trip for the guests of the hotel. There were 110 visitors, from 23 different states, who lunched on the beach at the Cove, collected mosses and shells, and swam.²⁰

(r-1, Inside La Jolla- XIII,

By 1887, three stage lines traveled the “long dusty fourteen miles” to La Jolla daily at 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. and returned at 5 and 6 p.m. Swimming, picnicking, and fishing remained popular activities.²¹

Approximately 1887, four access paths were created in Block 59 of the Subdivision. These paths provided access from Prospect Street to the Park.

(Insert assessor map from RFP)

Highlight these paths on the map

1888-1914: Growth of La Jolla and Utilitarian Uses of the Park

Immediately following the auction, La Jolla continued to grow and new buildings and structures dotted the community. Four cottages were built on the east side of Prospect Street between Girard and Herschel Avenue. Another cottage was built on Girard Avenue. Four of these cottages were used as hotels and one was a restaurant for La Jolla's early tourist industry. Botsford, Heald, and Kennedy were the first to build homes in 1887. Heald's home went up first and it was located at Herschel Avenue and Wall Street. It was a folk Victorian house. Kennedy's house was completed next on Ivanhoe, just south of Wall Street. Lastly, Botsford built an ornate Queen Anne Victorian House at the corner of Ivanhoe and Prospect.²² Near Scripps Park, at the corner of Girard and Prospect, a grand Victorian Stick building, known as the La Jolla Park Hotel, was completed in 1887, after being heavily publicized in the *San Diego Union*. However, it did not open for business until January 1, 1893 why?. Six months later, on June 14, 1896, the hotel was destroyed by fire, believed to be an act of arson.²³

²⁰ *San Diego Union*, 3 February 1875, 3.

²¹ Ibid; “La Jolla Park Items,” *San Diego Union*, 26 April 1887, 3.

²² Schaelchlin, 38-43; Randolph, 13-14.

²³ Schaelchlin, 66; Randolph, 14-19.

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(Insert picture of La Jolla Park Hotel, r-17)

(Insert Botsford House, s-39)

(Insert Heald House, s-42, r-12)

From 1888 until 1893, development in La Jolla slowed considerably. Citywide, San Diego real estate and the building industry hit a bust period during this time. Few buildings and structures were erected, and the community's founders felt the strain of operating a new subdivision located away from downtown San Diego and its suburbs. Without a form of public transportation, it was difficult to reach La Jolla. However, interest and development in La Jolla peaked again following the extension of the *San Diego, Old Town, and Pacific Beach Railway*.

(Insert picture of San Diego Pacific Beach Railroad or La Jolla Railroad Time Schedule, s-50, r-61)

On March 14, 1894, work began on the railroad that would connect La Jolla to San Diego. On April 3, 1894, the articles of incorporation for the *San Diego, Pacific Beach and La Jolla Railway Co.* were filed. By April 12, 1894, the company had received twelve carloads of rail and two weeks later, two miles of rail were laid. The work was completed shortly after and the first train left San Diego May 13, 1894 at 10:30 a.m. The train served Bird Rock, La Jolla Strand, and the Village.²⁴ On May 15, 1894, the ceremonious driving of the last spike occurred after a day of festivities that included performances by bands and foot races at the Cove in the park.

(Insert spike photo, r-37, r-30)

More residences and cottages were erected following the rail's completion. In 1894, The Red Rest and Red Roost (also known as the Neptune) cottages were erected on Coast Blvd on a bluff above the park. The cottages were redwood, square in shape, and featured overhanging hipped roofs. They are characterized by large ocean-facing picture windows and partial-width wrapping front porches. The Red Rest has a sleeping bay on the façade's roof. Used primarily as rentals, the cottages are significant to the history of the park. They bordered the park and their vernacular architecture enhances the rustic landscape and setting of the park. These cottages stand today, but they are in a dilapidated condition.

(NEED picture of cottages, r-56)

Also, in 1894, Anna Held established the Green Dragon Colony on Prospect Street. Anna Held was of German descent, and the former governess for U.S.

²⁴ Randolph, 34-36; Schaelchlin, 50-56, 61.

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Grant's family, traveling with the family from Westchester County to La Jolla. Anna Held, who later married singer Max Heinrich, created the Green Dragon Colony, a collection of twelve cottages that were used as an artist colony. The vernacular cottages were named the Den, Studio, Gables, Open Door, the Ark, Kleiber Aber Mein, Outlook, Barn, and Wigwam. Authors, artists, musicians, composers, architects, and teachers all spent time at the Green Dragon. She encouraged a creative free environment, where the bluffs, ocean waves, and open space near the Park would inspire artists and intellectuals.²⁵

(Green Dragon Photo, r-51)

Ellen Browning Scripps arrived to La Jolla in 1896. Born in England in 1836, Ellen Browning Scripps had no silver spoon in her mouth. As the daughter of a book binder whose wife died leaving him with six small children, she could hardly have been expected to do more than survive her childhood. However, with quiet determination, instinctive gentleness, and a deep belief in the harmony of life, Ellen Browning Scripps lived a life surpassing the expectations of even the most privileged progeny of the day.

Motherless, Ellen took on the mothering of her brothers and sisters at the age of eight. Her father, James Mogg Scripps, bankrupt and widowed a second time, relocated his family to America, and settled on 160 acres of poor farmland in the small frontier town of Rushville, Illinois. Here, he remarried and, by age fourteen, Ellen was baking bread every day for a second growing family, keeping a dozen children fed and clean.

Despite the burdens of responsibility and hard work, Ellen completed her education, attending Knox College in 1857 and received a 'certificate of completion' (since women were not awarded degrees). She returned to Rushville and was able to secure a permanent teaching position. She resumed keeping house for her father until he died in 1873, when she was 37.

During her college years, two of Ellen's brothers (James and E.W.) went to work at the *Detroit Tribune*. After it was destroyed by fire, the brothers started their own paper, the *Detroit News*, and were later joined by a third brother, George. When their father died in 1873, Ellen began working for the *Detroit News*, writing a front page feature called "Matters and Things" from December 16, 1881 to August 7, 1883. She was a disciplined, hard worker and undertook every task with characteristic care and intelligence, from sweeping the floors to serving as the leveling member at the business meetings with her three brothers.

²⁵ Randolph, 47-55; Schaelchlin, 81-85.

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Five years later, when her half-brother, Edward, who was eighteen years her junior, became the editor of the *Penny Press* in Cleveland and appealed to her for help, she channeled her knowledge and humor into writing “packets of miscellany” for his paper, adding to her already immense tasks at the *Detroit News*. The *Penny Press* eventually became the very successful *Cleveland Press*.

The Scripps brothers expanded their newspaper business, and E. W., upon recovering from his health problems, married Nackey Holtsinger. After visiting San Diego County and finding the climate conducive to his health, he bought land on a dry mesa in 1890, calling it Miramar. By then, E. W. was the head of the Scripps-McCrae newspaper chain (which later become Scripps-Howard Newspapers). When Ellen came to visit, he suggested that it was time she built herself a home. At age 60, Ellen Browning Scripps put down roots for the first time, buying two large lots on Prospect Street across from Draper Street with a view of the ocean as the site of her own home.

Her house, built of redwood, was modest and unpretentious. It was completed in 1897, along with two cottages, one for a library the other for visitors, and she called it South Moulton Villa after the street she was born on in London. She lived there, continuing her life-long habits of sleeping on an uncovered porch at night and arising at 5 am. She enjoyed walking along the beach and through her gardens, which she shared with the people of La Jolla.

In La Jolla, Ellen Browning Scripps was involved with civic activities and the local community, especially with the children.

In August of 1915, South Moulton Villa, along with the home of Ellen's sister, Virginia, was destroyed by a fire, which spared the two cottages on Ellen's property. The fires spurred the community into not only improving their fire fighting capabilities but also into passing a resolution expressing their sympathy for the Scripps and acknowledging all that they had done for La Jolla.

At age 79, Ellen Browning Scripps still had a sense of adventure and a spirit of giving. She hired Irving J. Gill, the San Diego architect, to design her new home – a house that would not only be fireproof but could be left for community use. Very modern for 1916, the second South Moulton Villa was made of concrete and stucco with flat surfaces and straight lines, and was built with the ocean as its main focus. Today it houses the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art and is home to works of art, which celebrate the creative spirit. Clearly, it was Ellen Browning Scripps intention to share her beloved home with the public.

In fact, Ellen Browning Scripps felt very connected to her projects and to the “benefits that accrue from my giving.” While she abhorred personal recognition and was always concerned that any one would feel a sense of obligation

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resulting from her giving, she herself felt a responsibility to manage her wealth (which in 1900 was an unimaginable annual income of \$750,000) in a way to bring the appreciation of nature to everyone – a need that exists now more than ever.

San Diego's unique benefactress was a motherless child who survived a harsh world during a harsh century, and who lived her last days planning and managing a legacy of natural beauty for the people of San Diego.

(Photo of Ellen Browning Scripps)

By 1910, there were 350 residents and over a hundred cottages in La Jolla. Additionally, tourism remained a prominent industry in the subdivision. The community's growth led to the establishment of churches and several general stores and restaurants. Large scale hotels were also built, like the Cabrillo Hotel in 1908 on Prospect Street. This was a four story Mission style building, designed by Irving Gill, with 46 guest rooms, a flat roof, and a stucco exterior. The top floor had arched windows and was accentuated by wrought-iron balconies. The Colonial Hotel followed the Cabrillo in 1911 on Prospect. This building was designed by Richard Requa and was a square Craftsman building with 28 apartments, 25 single rooms, and a sun parlor.²⁶ Other indications of a growing community included the establishment of a weekly newspaper, the *La Jolla Journal*, which began in 1913. It was published by La Jollans A.O. Reed, B.B. Harlan, and P.A. Depue.

(Cabrillo and Colonial Pictures, r-89, inside la jolla-51)

²⁶ Schaelchlin, 88-93; Randolph, 105.

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Improvements and Alterations to the Park

As early as 1850, the chief park planning principle in the United States was to bring a pastoral ideal into urban settings, providing beautiful informal green areas and very few buildings. La Jolla Park, as it was first known, was established during this period and conceived as an open space and recreational area to be enjoyed by residents and tourists alike. Park activity was informal including swimming, picnicking, and fishing. By 1900, parks in the United States took a strong recreational turn incorporating playgrounds, pools, and supervised recreational activities. Parks design emphasized improving life conditions through vigor, health, and hygiene. Following suit, La Jolla Park was transformed into a bustling, facility-intensive community center. Temporary and permanent buildings and structures were created on the grounds to serve a multitude of purposes ranging from recreation to science.

Tent City

As early as 1890, the park was used as a temporary "tent city," which housed vacationers, guests, and people from inland areas eager to escape the summer heat. The tent city was spread throughout the park near the Cove area, and consisted of canvas tents acting as temporary shelters. Compared to Coronado's famous Tent City, the one at the park was not as institutionalized or

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organized. The tents were typically raised the third week of May, near Memorial Day. For many years, the tent city was run by J.G. "Toot" Martin, who held many jobs including former chauffeur to physicians, skipper of the San Diego quarantine ship, and firefighter for the railroad. The *San Diego Union* recalled hundreds of people had the opportunity to enjoy camping out in mild form. The tent city continued until approximately 1907.²⁷

(insert tent city pics, inside la jolla-14, s-58, r-40)

Early Plantings

In 1893, many of the original thousands of trees planted at the park had died. In order to beautify the area, Lila Almina Hamilton improved the park through planting "several hundred" shade and ornamental trees in an "artistic design." In 1891, Hamilton, of Brooklyn, New York City, had acquired 5/7 interest of the subdivision from the PCLB through the firm *Strong, Arm, and Co.* following the dissolution of the PCLB partnership. Instead of lining the perimeter of the park with trees, Hamilton had the trees planted in various clusters throughout the park. Hamilton also planted a line of trees approximately one hundred feet from the bluff's western edge. The use of heritage plantings enhanced the setting of the park and was consistent with Botsford's goal of using the park's beauty to prompt development in the subdivision.²⁸

Dance Pavilion

Many of the permanent buildings at the park were built at the expense of the railroad company. In 1894, to lure people to the area, the railroad built a dancing pavilion, a bath house, and erected three swing sets. The dancing pavilion was located on the west side of Coast Blvd near the intersection of Girard Avenue. The dance pavilion helped the park grow from a picnic and bathing area into the community's social center. It was used primarily for dances, card playing, phonograph parties, children's programs, concerts, and many other activities. Locals claimed the pavilion's floor was "the best in Southern California."²⁹ Its opening was on June 12, 1894, and a ceremony was held by the Foresters of America. A grand picnic and ball occurred complete with races, games, and sports.

Following the event, the *San Diego Union* recalled:

"About five hundred people attended the picnic of the American Order of Foresters...when the new pavilion was opened. During the afternoon a very interesting programme of sports was presented,

²⁷ "This Week at La Jolla," *San Diego Union*, 20 May 1900, 4.

²⁸ Schaelchlin, 49.

²⁹ Randolph, 36, 38; "Summer at La Jolla," *San Diego Union*, 3 June 1900, 6.

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including long jumping, running, tug-of-war, etc. In the evening dancing began and continued to a late hour, the ride home in the moonlight being no small part of the enjoyment."³⁰

The pavilion became a gathering center for La Jolla's various classes and socio-economic backgrounds. When a party would occur, notices would be pinned up at the Post Office, and everyone would attend- "millionaire, merchant, musician, and mediocrity." It was also the location of several New Years Eve parties. One party in particular, in 1897, had 48 guests, featured singing, phonograph music, cake, sandwiches, coffee, and cocoa supplied by local residents.³¹

The pavilion had several character defining features. It was a vernacular Folk Victorian structure, constructed by an unknown builder. It had a wood exterior and sat on stilts. It had a symmetrical rectangular form and shape and a low-pitched dutch gable roof. Five narrow double-hung windows provided fenestration along the east and west exterior walls. The façade featured a full-length porch and second-story balcony. It was accentuated with floor to ceiling porch beams. The roofline featured decorative cresting and the pavilion was surrounded by **low shrubs**. The ocean elevations featured a verandah, and the railroad described the building as "an attractive affair." Before it was constructed, the railroad had to apply for permission from the City Council. The pavilion remained unaltered at its original location until November 1907, when the building was taken apart and many its materials were used in the construction of the Cabrillo Hotel.³²

³⁰ Schaelchlin, 62, 78; Randolph, 38.

³¹ Ibid, 38.

³² Ibid, 38; Schaelchlin, 89.

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(Insert pavilion pictures,



San Diego Historical Society Archives, note large surf breaking at South BoomerBeach

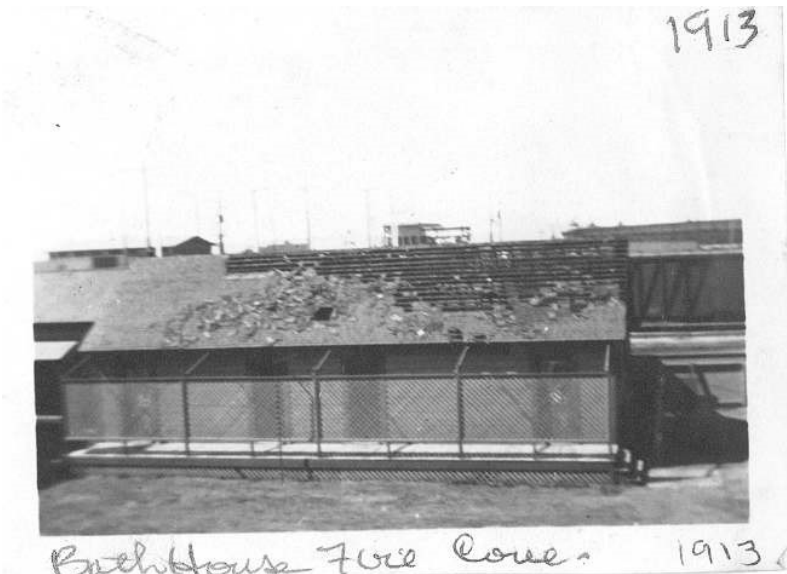
Bath House

Accompanying the dance pavilion was a bath house. The bath house was located atop the cove and faced northward. The bath house was a small rectangular building with a low-pitched gable roof, board and batten walls, an open verandah facing the ocean, with bathrooms facing Coast Blvd. It had small bushes and shrubbery surrounding it. Its primary purpose was to cater to the day-visitor and it had a small short-order restaurant that served lunch, coffee, and cold drinks. In 1904, the bath house received a new coat of white paint. It was originally leased by Lila Almina Hamilton. On August 28 1905, a small fire, caused by an exploding gasoline stove, burnt the building. It reportedly took only a half hour for the small wood building to burn completely.³³

(insert old bath house picture, r-9)

³³ Schaelchlin, 99; Randolph, 83.

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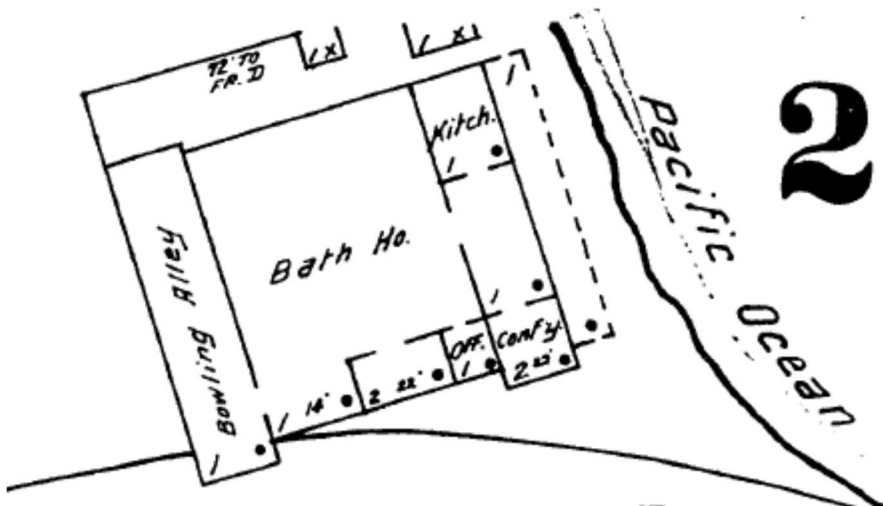
On January 5, 1906, construction began on a new bath house. Whereas the old house was small and unimposing, the new one was a large two story Craftsman structure built on the original location of the first bath house. The building had an irregular rectangular shape, a flat roof with

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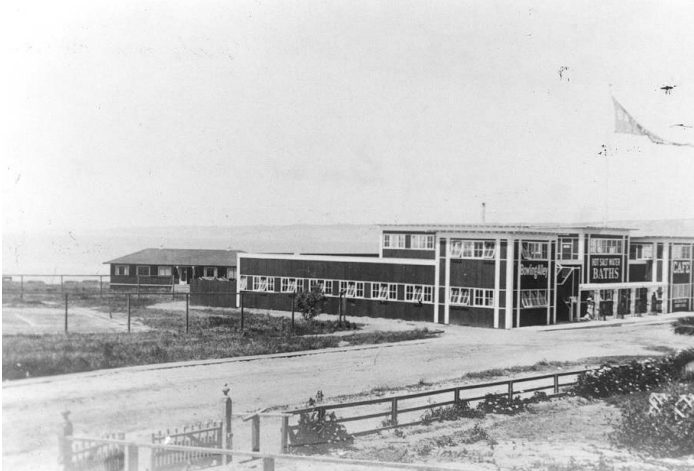
varying rooflines, exposed rafter tails, ribbon pivot windows with a 2 x 2 square sash glazing, a partial width verandah facing the ocean, and an enclosed porch next to the verandah. There were interior and exterior staircases. It had several decorative details, such as stickwork along the wall junctions, corbels beneath the roof, a wooden loggia stretching across its Coast Blvd elevation, and a large flag reading "BATHHOUSE." Immediately west of the bath house was a water tower, approximately twenty-five feet high. The building was periodically decorated with advertisements on the ocean elevation that advertised products like "Bradley Spring Water" and "Lion Clothing Co." The interior featured a bowling alley, a pool (plunge), cafe, 180 dressing rooms, and lockers.



From the 1909 Sanborn Map



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Are those tennis courts to the left behind the fence?

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La Jolla Historical Society Archives

(s-100)

The bowling alley was located along the south elevation, and the cafe located on the northwest elevation. The pool was located in the center of the building. In 1907, when the Dance Pavilion closed, the pool was covered and became a dance floor.

Shortly after its construction, a small wooden staircase was built immediately east of the building and provided access to the cove. The staircase faced west. Prior to the staircase, a sloping path provided access to the cove from Coast Blvd. Approximately 1911, another wooden staircase was added to the cove side of Alligator Head. The steps provided access to the sand from the verandah of the bath house. There were approximately twenty wooden steps separated by a small landing. The wooden steps connecting to the sand faced north and the wooden steps above the landing faced west.

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(Wood staircase photo)



La Jolla Historical Society Archives

The proprietors of the bath house were Fred Scripps and Hugh McKie. (insert pictures of bath house). The bath house was a lasting edifice in the park throughout this period.³⁴

Swings and Belvederes

The railroad also placed two swing sets on Alligator Head and another swing set was immediately north of the dance pavilion and bordered Coast Blvd. By 1906, the swings were removed. Also, a belvedere was placed parallel to the ocean above Shell Beach. The belvedere had a high pitched gable roof with a decorative roof crest, benches, and wood vertical siding.

³⁴ Ibid, 99; Ibid, 86.

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(Insert swing, and belvederes pictures, s-100, 2005 calendar-cover,



Notice the sloping beach path that is at the base of the bath house, La Jolla Historical Society Archives

Marine Biological Association

In 1905, the Marine Biological Association of San Diego, the predecessor to Scripps Institution of Oceanography, established a laboratory at the Cove. The Marine Biological Association was associated with the University of California, and came to La Jolla through the efforts of Dr. William E. Ritter and Dr. Charles A. Kofoid. They wanted a seaside marine biological laboratory in Southern California to perform research in the summer and collect specimens. They previously had stations in San Pedro (1901-1902) and at the Hotel Del Coronado in Coronado (1903-1904). In 1905, at the urging of Ellen and E.W. Scripps and physician Dr. Fred Baker, they relocated to La Jolla.³⁵ Ritter was excited about working in La Jolla, and boasted, "There can be no doubt a laboratory capable of great things... might be built in San Diego."³⁶

The Marine Biological Association's mission was to:

³⁵ Schaelchlin, 36, 126-128.

³⁶ Joe Hlebica, "Scripps Visionary Builds Foundation for Century of Oceanography," 23.

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"...carry on biological and hydrographic survey of the waters of the Pacific Ocean adjacent to coast of Southern California; to build and maintain a public aquarium and museum..."³⁷

Accordingly, the Association planed a 60 X 24 foot building containing three laboratories, a library, a reagent room, and an aquarium-museum. On April 9, 1905, construction began above Alligator Head. It was paid for by the Scripps family and local La Jolla residents through donations to the La Jolla Village Improvement Society. The "little green laboratory," was designed in the Craftsman Style, had a symmetrical rectangular footprint, shape, and form. It had a hipped roof that extended past the exterior walls, exposed rafter tails, wood siding, and, towards the bottom of exterior walls, a decorative wood beltline painted white accentuated the resource. There were two entry accesses; one on the western elevation facing the Cove and the other was along the southern elevation. The western elevation door featured five small steps and was beneath a small pent roof supported by two decorative brackets. The doors were wood and had three beveled panels. The building was accentuated with rows of sliding and double-hung windows on the southern and northern elevations. At the eastern and western elevations, two fixed decorative windows featured a row of horizontal squares at the top.

(insert biological pictures, s-127,)



³⁷ Schaelchlin, 126.

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From 1905 through 1910, The Marine Biological Association was operated by University of California scientists. However, as early as 1907, residents began complaining of the water contamination caused by a drainage pipe on Point La Jolla that emptied near Boomer Beach, remnants of that pipe can still be seen today. As a solution, the Association bought Pueblo Lot 1298, located in La Jolla Shores, from the City of San Diego and planned to relocate there. Construction on their new laboratory at the Shores began in August 1907 and continued until 1910. In November 1909, the Association offered to deed the old building to the Board of Park Commissioners. The scientists wanted the building to remain in its original place, and used as an aquarium. However, the building needed a \$300 repair to the pipes. The Park Commissioner thought a bathroom and comfort station would be a more appropriate use for the building, and the construction of a verandah would enhance its aesthetic quality. The Board of Park Commissioners agreed to accept the donation, but could not make any changes due to a lack of funds. Eventually, by approximately 1912, the old building was removed from the site, and converted into two cottages on the west side of Girard Avenue, just north of Pearl.³⁸

(inside la jolla- 91)

Lincoln Centennial Flagstaff

On February 12, 1909, La Jolla celebrated the centennial of President Lincoln's birthday by erecting a flagstaff in the park. The flag was raised by Gettysburg veteran Myron C. Close and a tablet set in a large boulder was placed at the base of the flagstaff. The tablet read:

"Abraham Lincoln
Centennial Memorial
February 12

³⁸ "Biologists Offer Building to Park Board," *San Diego Union*, 18 November 1909, 6; Randolph, 82

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1809 1909
Erected By The People
Of
La Jolla³⁹

(Insert picture of Flagstaff)

Planting and Landscape Additions

In 1910, Samuel Parsons Jr., a landscape architect from New York who did the 1902 plantings in Balboa Park, performed a parks survey in San Diego. He investigated every designated park in the city and wrote a report in the *San Diego Union* detailing the current conditions. He evaluated Scripps Park and made recommendations for future plantings. Parsons felt the “the original plan has been partly carried out and...development be continued on the same lines, except as to the kinds of trees and shrubs.”⁴⁰ Most of the plantings done in 1894 by Almina Hamilton were in a desperate condition and Parsons noted this was caused by the close proximity to the seashore. He commented the existing conditions of the Park, stating:

“The cypresses do well in such exposed places, as proven by the picturesque and vigorous Monterey specimens growing in one or two parts of the park. Even better than the Monterey cypresses, perhaps, are the Guadalupe and Italian forms, and also the Arizona cypress, which is especially hardy wherever it has been tried. These cypresses are intended to be the chief attraction of La Jolla park. A number of the *Halipensis* pines also find acceptable employment.”⁴¹

Parsons also made several recommendations for the park:

“Perhaps the most satisfactory of the plants suited to this park are the lower-sized kinds, such as the Tamarisk, deciduous a very little while, which, everywhere around the world, loves the ocean. Then there is also the Australian salt bush, always vigorous in such places, the *Pittisporums* and the lovely *Coprosomos Brewerii*, with shining leaves. Wherever the trees do not occupy the ground of the park, the various beautiful kinds of *Mesembryanthemums* should be

³⁹ Randolph, 98.

⁴⁰ Samuel Parsons, “Make City Park Paradise of South, Urges Scenic Artist,” *San Diego Union*, 5 July 1910, 9.

⁴¹ *Ibid*, 9.

SCRIPPS PARK PROJECT

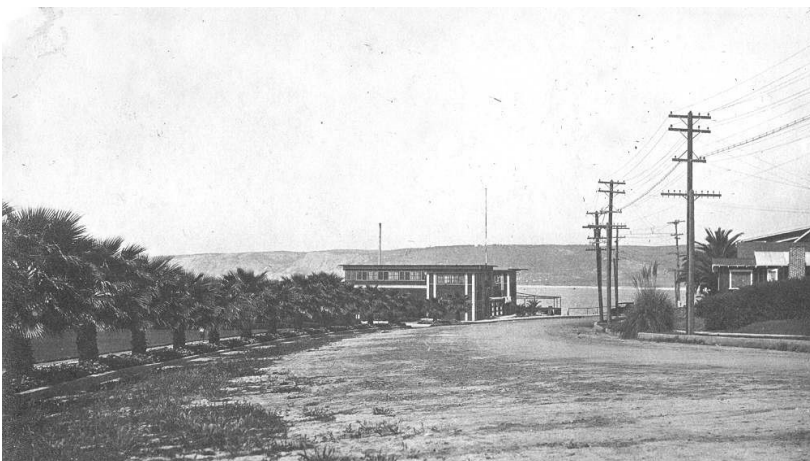
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used, for they do particularly well on the seashore. There are other vines, like the *Bougainvillea*, that can also be used with success in such places. Many forms of cacti might be made to do excellent work on these seaside banks.

Along the southern side of the park is a boulevard, from which a wide opening across the lawns to the sea is carefully retained [this historic view corridor is now blocked by shrubs and trees]. Here, large beds of brilliant flowers are maintained. One of the best kinds that can be used for this exposure is the *Agapanthus* Lily, the great sky-blue flowers of which bloom a long time and give life and variety to the scenery. A park by the seashore, with cottages around it, welcomes the color of brilliant flowers provided they are properly arranged."⁴²

Parsons suggestions for plantings were not immediately followed. Instead, in 1910, a local La Jolla citizen, Walter Lieber, donated the funding for the planting of the *Washingtonia Robusta* (Mexican Fan palms) that line Coast Blvd. Lieber was a local realtor, who owned a cottage rental business, and donated the Abraham Lincoln flagstaff a year earlier. Since his arrival in 1904, Lieber was always interested in beautifying the park, and remarked upon his arrival "Scripps Park was a place of tents and tent floors and piles of manure, tins, and bottles." At the time of the planting, the palms were only a foot high, and were evenly spaced.⁴³

(pictures of trees, 2001 calendar-july)



⁴² Ibid, 9.

⁴³ "Walter Lieber Died," *La Jolla Journal*, 7 June 1945, 1; Randolph, 80-82.

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The belvedere at Boomer Beach can be seen in the distance in this photo

(s-82)

Special Events

In 1894, special events were consistently organized at the park to sustain visitors and resident's interest in La Jolla. The railroad typically planned the events to persuade people to take the train into the community. During the ceremonious opening of the railroad line on May 15, 1894, a day of outdoor sports was planned at the park. The railroad created an oval track 855 feet in diameter above the Cove, and held 200 yard hurdle races, women's races, half mile runs, high jumps, Australian knee jumps, and chalking contests.⁴⁴

⁴⁴ Ibid, 34-35.

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(Picture with track, calendars 2005-march)

On June 17, 1894, after the opening of the Dance Pavilion, the railroad organized balloon ascension" by Miss Hazel Keyes, her trained monkey Yan-Yan, and accomplished aeronaut Professor Romeo.⁴⁵ By balloon, the trio was lifted in the air, and then they parachuted to the ground at the Park. Other events at the park included a woman lion-tamer, and diving displays from the cliffs immediately northeast of the Cove.

The Park continued to be primarily used as a picnic area for La Jolla residents and tourists. For example, on June 2, 1900, 300 people attended the San Diego High School, Commercial School, and Business College picnic at the Park and Cove. This amount of people caused extra trains to run to the community. The picnic attendees enjoyed swimming and dancing at the Pavilion. A week later, on June 10, the *Sons of Hermann*, a fraternal social club created in 1861 in Texas, had their annual picnic at the Park.⁴⁶

Swimming and bathing remained immensely popular at the Park. As early as 1895, swimming at the Cove was made less dangerous when a "lifeline" was placed in the water and tied to a stake beneath the bath house. The "lifeline" was installed every summer, and removed at the start of the fall.⁴⁷ This was also the beginning of life guarding service at the cove.

(Lifeline picture) and picture of La Jolla's first lifeguard from Mark Brown

⁴⁵ Ibid, 38, 41.

⁴⁶ "Summer at La Jolla," *San Diego Union*, 3 June 1900, 3; "Delights at La Jolla," *San Diego Union*, 10 June 1900, 4.

⁴⁷ "Delights at La Jolla," *San Diego Union*, 10 June 1900, 4.

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From the La Jolla Historical Society Archives

In 1899, construction began on a boat at the Cove by two Scandinavians. Known only as Thorson and Lawson, they built the *Viking* next to the original bath house and completed it in July 1900. They had previously built a glass bottom boat to take tourists out in the Cove. They launched the second boat on August 22, 1900, after naming it the *Viking*. For six years, the *Viking* took fishermen out, before it was eventually wrecked in a storm.⁴⁸

(Viking picture, r-75)

Approximately 1910, the formation of the La Jolla Band brought regular concerts to the Park in the summer. A band consisting of La Jolla and San Diego residents would play musical selections just southwest of the Bath House.

(insert picture of concerts)

⁴⁸ Randolph, 74-76.

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From the La Historical Society Archives

Most notably during this period, the future and open-space designation of the park were challenged. In 1903, ownership and the right to develop the park were contested. Joseph and Lila Almina Hamilton brought litigation against Botsford, Dearborn, Heald, and the PCLB claiming Block 58 was never dedicated to the City as a park, and should be available for rightful ownership. Botsford stated in court that the intent was to use it as a public park and that their publicity supported this. He felt the city "...just never got around to deeding it."⁴⁹ The city won the suit, with the judgment based on Resolution 357, created in 1893. The resolution stated:

"...all streets, alleys, parks, and plazas within the corporate limits of the City of San Diego which have been dedicated by the owners thereof , or in which there have been a firm offer of dedication by such owners for the use of the public are hereby accepted and declared to be public."⁵⁰

The park's usage as designated open-space was preserved by the resolution. It allowed the site to continue as a landscape significant to La Jolla's history, visual quality, and planning.

(s-6, 2001 calendar-cover, inside la jolla-63)

⁴⁹ SC 11200 San Diego County Court House Old Records

⁵⁰ Ibid.

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1915-1945: Community Development of La Jolla and Recreation Uses of the Park

From 1915 through World War II (1945), La Jolla continued to grow and expand as a community. Its growth in population and development coincided with San Diego's own boom. By 1920, La Jolla had 2500 residents and by 1925, the population was 5000. The *San Diego Union* commented, "...La Jolla is growing at least three times as fast as the remainder of San Diego, and it is attracting men and women of substantial means."⁵¹

(r-158)

With a sharp rise in population, La Jolla needed more utilities and services for its residents. In March 1915, the road leading to La Jolla from the north, Torrey Pines Grade, was paved. In January 1918, work began on paving Prospect Street. Before 1925, most streets in the village, including Girard, Exchange, Wall, Cave, Fay, and Ivanhoe, were paved, had curbs, and "handsome lights." By 1924, an electric railway connected La Jolla to Mission Beach. It replaced the original railroad that was removed in 1918. Several stations were built for the railway, specifically at Prospect and Fay and the San Carlos Station at La Jolla Blvd, which is the present site of the United Methodist Church. For twenty-two years, the electric railway served the community and a bus line eventually replaced it in 1940.⁵²

(Electric Railway-San Carlos)
(s-54)

La Jolla added more parks to accommodate the growing number of families with children. The La Jolla Playground was dedicated on July 3, 1915. Irving and Louis Gill (is this correct? Or should it be only Irving Gill) designed the playground and building now known as the Recreation Center. Other services, like Dr. Samuel T. Gillispie's Sanitarium and the Scripps Metabolic Clinic, were created in 1916 and 1924 respectively. In 1922, La Jolla High School was built on Nautilus Street. In 1931, the Children's Pool and breakwater were completed, which provided a safer swimming alternative for children.⁵³

(Add Playground and Childrens Pool Pictures, calendar 2001-may, s-10)

The US's entry into World War I in 1917 established a new economic base in La Jolla. Camp Kearny, located at the present site of UCSD, was an army base built

⁵¹ Schaelchlin, 141.

⁵² Randolph, 122-123, 138.

⁵³ Ibid, 107, 111, 144.

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in May 1917. During the war, over 25,000 soldiers were trained at Camp Kearny, and they frequently spent their "leave hours" in La Jolla's villages and beaches.⁵⁴

(Camp Kearny photo)



From San Diego Historical Society Postcard Collection

The tourist industry, however, remained La Jolla's economic base. In 1920, work began on the luxurious Casa de Manana hotel. Located on Coast Blvd above the Children's Pool, the Casa de Manana was designed by master architect Edgar Ullrich in the Spanish Colonial Revival style. It had a hundred rooms and Ullrich reportedly designed it as it was being built. It was eventually completed in 1924, and it soon became the social center of the community, hosting New Years Eve parties, weddings, and fundraising balls. The construction of other hotels soon followed, like the Little Hotel by the Sea in 1925 (behind the Colonial Hotel on Jenner Street) and the La Valencia hotel (at 1132 Prospect) in 1926. La Valencia was built in two phases, with Reginald Johnson designing the first, and Herbert Mann and Thomas Shepherd designing the second.⁵⁵

(s-150)

Social and civic groups, institutes, and organizations became important cultural aspects in La Jolla. The La Jolla Art Association formed in 1919, and held occasional exhibits and sales. In 1924, the La Jolla Opera Company was formed and produced yearly operas. The La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club, originally named the Beach and Yacht Club, was built in 1927. Originally, the club's proprietors sought to create a yacht harbor in the natural slough at the site. This plan never materialized, and the club eventually became a cornerstone of

⁵⁴ Schaelchlin, 130; Randolph, 117.

⁵⁵ Schaelchlin, 90, 146-154.

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recreation in the community when the Kellogg family purchased it. In 1927, the La Jolla Golf Course outgrew its original location at Cave and Prospect Streets and relocated to the western slope of Mt. Soledad as the La Jolla Country Club.⁵⁶

(Original beach and yacht photo and County Club)

By 1925, nearly every lot in the original subdivision was either developed or owned. Consequently, development outside of the original subdivision soon commenced. Development essentially occurred in two locations: along the artery to Pacific Beach and east towards Mt. Soledad. In 1926, the Bird Rock subdivision was created south of the La Jolla Park subdivision, along with the Hermosa area, and La Jolla Strand. East of the original subdivision (at the base of the mountain), the Center Addition, Country Club Heights, Ludington Heights, the Villa Tract, and the Muirlands were offered for sale. In 1926, south of the original subdivision, 120 lots in the La Jolla Shores tract were opened for sale to the public. Established communities, like the Barber Tract (planned in 1899), expanded during the 1920s.⁵⁷

(Bird Rock Map, s-159)

In 1930, the Pacific Coast Highway (State 101) was rerouted through Rose Canyon to bypass La Jolla. This caused several gas stations, restaurants, and auto repair stores to close.

Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, the arts and civic groups continued to define La Jolla. The Women's Club, founded originally in 1914, remained a social leader in the community, and frequently held balls, art exhibits, plays, concerts, scholarly lectures, and philanthropic events. In 1941, the Art Center, now known as the Museum of Contemporary Art, purchased the former residence of Ellen Browning Scripps through a fundraiser. The Art Center's first exhibit was from works done by members of the Art Association, renowned plain-air painter Alfred Mitchell among them. Also, in 1941, the Musical Arts Society was incorporated and its mission was to "bring chamber music of the highest type to La Jolla."⁵⁸ The concerts were frequently staged at La Jolla High School.

In 1941, World War II caused significant changes to La Jolla. San Diego, a center for the aviation and defense industry, experienced its largest population boom to date, and La Jolla was impacted as well. Many local residents supported the war effort through jobs at places like Convair. Following Pearl Harbor, the

⁵⁶ Randolph, 74, 125, 134, 140.

⁵⁷ Schaelchlin, 155-163.

⁵⁸ Randolph, 146-147.

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community was fearful of a Japanese attack. In response, residents organized a Civilian Defense Corp, and assigned eighty air raid wardens, created procedures for an air or watercraft attack, and established a shelter in the basement in the Art Center. Paranoia was so excessive, that many business owners and citizens relocated to the hills of Mt. Soledad.⁵⁹

In 1941, on the northern edge of La Jolla, Camp Callan was established as an anti-aircraft and seacoast artillery training and mobilization center. The training lasted thirteen weeks, and 15,000 soldiers passed through the program each cycle. Camp Callan was operative until December 26, 1945. East of Camp Callan was Camp Matthews. Camp Matthews was established in 1917 and served as a firing range during World War II. For recreation, USOs were located first at 1015 Prospect and then at 7776 Eads Avenue (presently St. James Hall), in 1941 and 1942 respectively. In 1942, the Bird Rock Anti-Aircraft Training Center was established. Gun placements were installed on the bluffs and extended south along Calumet Avenue. The gun mounts were embedded on concrete slabs in front of a long, low concrete block building that housed radar, fire control equipment, instructors, and safety observers. The training center closed in 1945, and the buildings were removed in 1952.⁶⁰ Lastly, during the war, a coastal observation station was built at the Childrens Pool above the caves to the north of the beach access stairs. After the war, it became a lifeguard station and was operational until the 1950s, when the bluff below it collapsed into the sea during heavy winter surf.

s-191



⁵⁹ Schaelchlin, 191-195.

⁶⁰ Ibid, 191-196.

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From the La Jolla Historical Society Archives

From 1915 through 1945, La Jolla grew as a social and cultural center, and its visual look and topography were significantly altered with the creation of new subdivisions and institutions. No longer a small remote village, La Jolla developed into a diverse multi-faceted community that was considerably modernized by the 1945.

Improvements and Alterations to the Park

From 1915 through 1945, two major structural alterations occurred at the park. Foremost, the bath house was removed in 1925. Second, at the northern end of the park above North Boomer Beach, the Bridge and Shuffleboard Club was built in 1939.

Removal of the Bath House

Plans to remove the bath house initiated in May 1919. Many residents complained the present bath house was an eyesore, and did not "satisfy either the needs or demands of those who may be temporarily sojourning or permanently residing in La Jolla."⁶¹ Additionally, the "lease of the La Jolla bath house," Mr. Casou, and owners Fred T. Scripps and Hugh N. McKie were constantly scorned by local residents for the unsanitary condition of the facility. After a visit by two health inspectors, Casou was actually arrested for failing to cleanse drinking utensils with hot water.⁶² Following Casou's arrest, the structure was leased to Myrl and Ralph Livingstone. Before the Livingstone's lease even expired, plans were made for a new "modern" bath house.⁶³

The new bath house project actually proposed several significant changes to the cove and park. The new building would be erected in the same spot and have a Mission style design. In January 1920, plans were drawn by William Templeton Johnson, and his renderings were compared to the "early Spanish Missions of New Mexico."⁶⁴ The style was chosen because it was the "most suitable to harmonize with the sandstone topography of the cove at La Jolla."⁶⁵ The bath house would be 16,000 square feet, with a frontage of 156 feet along Coast Blvd, and 132 feet in depth. It would have low rooflines and would not block the afternoon "sun's rays." The plan featured balconies and promenades, used as gathering places for the village. The plunge bathing pool would be 50 x 84 feet,

⁶¹ "New Bath House Proposed," *La Jolla Journal*, 30 May 1919, 1.

⁶² "Casou Arrested and Fined," *La Jolla Journal*, 22 August 1920, 1.

⁶³ "Bath House Changes Hands To Be Renovated and Run Right," *La Jolla Journal*, 6 January 1920, 1.

⁶⁴ "The Bath House," *La Jolla Journal*, 24 September 1920, 1.

⁶⁵ *Ibid*, 1.

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and vary in depth from 2 to 8.5 feet. It would also have 200-250 dressing stalls, showers, toilets, a small café, a souvenir shop, tool house, public comfort station, hair dressing parlors, hot salt water baths, and living quarters for the superintendent. Johnson's work was underwritten by prominent citizen Wheeler J. Bailey, and a contour survey was completed by Edward Stahl. The cost was estimated at \$60,000-\$100,000 and it was scheduled to be completed by September 1921.⁶⁶

Besides the bath house, a breakwater was also proposed. The breakwater would extend eight hundred feet from the shoreline of Alligator Head, and consist of loose rock and concrete. The breakwater would cost \$225,000.⁶⁷

From the initial conceptual planning, public sentiment over the project was split. Local residents felt the addition of a breakwater would disrupt the unique natural waves at the Cove. The breakwater would cause "such a shifting of sand" that the safety of the Cove would be affected. Many were also against the funding of the project. The project would be at the taxpayers' expense, and some residents felt the cost was too expensive. Local property owners would pay nearly \$8.22 annually for the project, until the bonds were paid. Supporters of the project cited how the recent paving of the streets would increase La Jolla's tourist trade, and a new bath house would be the center attraction of the community and park. The park's pristine condition and maintenance was constantly praised, and modernizing the bath house into a more sanitary condition was the top priority for several La Jollans.⁶⁸

Though the Park Board approved the project on October 22, 1920, it was not immediately executed. Rather, it only raised more issues. The breakwater was discarded and a petition was signed by 133 citizens that stated the group's objections. They felt the bath house would affect the city park and beach, improvements would cause more use by tourists and less access for citizens, smoke from the furnace and boiler room would pollute the village, the current building was adequate, the project was promoted by non-residents, and several questions were raised concerning the repayment of the bonds. Other issues were raised regarding the validity of the current's building ownership. Many felt Fred Scripps received the title to the building as a favor from then San Diego Park Board Commissioner George Marston.⁶⁹

⁶⁶ "La Jolla Bath House and Plunge," *La Jolla Journal*, 10 December 1920, 1.

⁶⁷ "Proposed New Bath House and Jetty," *La Jolla Journal*, 3 September 1920, 1.

⁶⁸ "Bath House Project," *La Jolla Journal*, 7 January 1921, 1; "Answer to 'Protest Building of Bath House,'" *La Jolla Journal*, 23 September 1921, 1.

⁶⁹ Schaelchlin, 102.

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As the project dragged on for nearly four years, support for it diminished. On August 22, 1924, the *La Jolla Journal* announced the project was officially abandoned. Following a vote of 319 to 28, the city decided it would not pursue a new building.⁷⁰ Immediately, this spawned talk of restoring the old building, or developing another part of the park site. Though architect Herbert Palmer presented plans for a loggia near the site of the bath house shortly after the city's decision, it was short-lived, and demolition of the building began in December 1924. By March 10, 1925, "...the old bath house, except for part of one wall, has been torn down."⁷¹ Though the removal of the old bath house took nearly five years, it demonstrated the importance of civic participation in the community and the amount of pride La Jollans had for their park.

(Picture of no bath house, inside la jolla-50)

Shuffleboard Club

The second major structural alteration to the park was the addition of the Bridge and Shuffleboard Club. Known originally as the Adult Recreation Center Club, planning of the club began in October 1932. The original proposed site was on Girard Avenue, but the project never proceeded. In June 1939, Scripps Park was chosen as the site of the new club. During the 1930s and 1940s, parks in the United States became centers of recreation for people of all ages, and Scripps Park created a facility to serve an older demographic. The *La Jolla Journal* noted "...soon, La Jollans and visitors won't have to go to sea to play shuffleboard," referring to its popularity onboard cruise ships. A local fund-raiser, along with support from the La Jolla Chamber of Commerce, provided the building money for the project and noted architect Richard Requa performed the design work. The city donated the land, and the Works Progress Administration supplied the labor for the Depression era project.⁷²

Initially, the club had eight shuffleboard clubs and several horseshoe pits that opened onto an 80 X 12 foot terrace. The horseshoe pits were removed before 1945, six more shuffleboard courts were added in the pits' place. Next to the courts, a 36 X 16 foot clubhouse was used for bridge, chess, and checkers. It was designed in the Craftsman style, and featured green clapboard siding, a low-pitched side-facing gable roof, and evenly spaced exposed rafter tails. It had a symmetrical rectangular shape and form. The club house faced west over Boomer Beach, and access to the building was along the northwest and southeast elevations. The western and eastern elevation featured full length windows that are decorated with square sash glazing. Between the western elevation windows, decorative stickwork accentuated the building. The

⁷⁰ "Bathhouse Project Goes into Discard," *La Jolla Journal*, 22 August 1924, 1.

⁷¹ Schaelchlin, 102.

⁷² "Shuffleboard Being Built in La Jolla," *La Jolla Journal*, 15 June 1939, 1.

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windows overlook the Cove and Boomer Beach. The ground surrounding the club was landscaped with low-lying shrubs.

(Bridge club pictures)

The Bridge and Shuffleboard Club was completed in November 1939. On November 21, 1939, La Jolla celebrated the grand opening of the club. The ceremony was open to the public, and featured speeches from City Park Director William Perry and Assistant City Engineer Phelps, two men instrumental in the building's completion. Perry complimented the committee on its work, as well as the Club and its officers on having "such fine equipment with which to add to the sum of human enjoyment."⁷³

Shortly after its opening, the club was "very popular" with residents and visitors. The *La Jolla Journal* claimed, "La Jolla has been provided with a new recreational area that is the answer to a real need."⁷⁴ Most days, the shuffleboard courts were filled to capacity, allowing fifty-six people to play shuffleboard at a time. The clubhouse received considerable use by bridge players, and people even found it as a "grand place to rest, and for conversation, and to meet one's friends, and to form new acquaintances."⁷⁵ The club's facilities often hosted social outings, like the Mission Beach Woman's Club annual picnic.

However, not every resident supported the club. In April 1940, Walter Lieber wrote a discouraging letter to the *San Diego Union* claiming an "ill advised group has built a shuffleboard court and clubhouse on the most beautiful and most prominent section" of the park.⁷⁶ Lieber quoted former park head and philanthropist George W. Marston as saying, "I am very sorry to hear that your little park has been disfigured by a shuffleboard house. La Jolla Park was never designed for such purposes."⁷⁷ Lieber feared development in the park would continue with additions, like "a merry-go-round for the little kiddies..." since, "Haven't the children as much right down there to be amused as adults have?" He argued that the park would shortly become an "amusement center," when its initial purpose was "a recreational park for all classes and not for any one class."⁷⁸ Architect and President of the La Jolla Conservation Society, Thomas Shepherd agreed with Lieber, and the stated the Conservation Society "felt that

⁷³ "Grand Opening of Shuffleboard Club," *La Jolla Journal*, 23 November 1939, 1.

⁷⁴ "Shuffleboard Court Proves Popular," *La Jolla Journal*, 30 November 1939, 1.

⁷⁵ "Shuffleboard Club Popular These Days," *La Jolla Journal*, 21 June 1945, 1.

⁷⁶ Walter Lieber, "La Jolla Park: The Union's Public Forum," *San Diego Union*, 5 April 1940, 3.

⁷⁷ *Ibid*, 3.

⁷⁸ *Ibid*, 3.

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the size of the park did not lend itself to other uses." The Conservation Society had 150 members and they were eager to prevent "further extension of playground facilities or concessions in La Jolla Park."⁷⁹

After 1945, additions would be made to the building, and the sentiments regarding the Club's place in the park would remain divided.

Concrete Steps

In December 1938, a set of concrete steps designed by Richard Requa replaced the historic 1911 wooden steps that were located on the cove side of Alligator Head. The concrete steps had a concrete handrail and faced northwest. These steps extended slightly further towards the water than the original wooden steps and they began near the top of Alligator Head. The steps had a small landing three-quarter of the way down. Requa's design featured an undulating texture on the wall surfaces and included occasional bulging shapes that were intended to mimic the cementations that are seen projecting from the natural bluffs in the area. The addition of the concrete steps provided a more permanent stable entrance to the beach at the Cove.⁸⁰

(Picture of concrete steps)

Landscape Additions

From 1915 through 1945, few other landscape changes occurred at the park. In 1915, a dirt pathway was created near a cluster of dragon trees planted years earlier that provided access to the park from Coast Blvd.

(Picture of path)

(r-129)

Notably, during this period, several heritage plantings honoring prominent citizens were dedicated at the park. In 1936, a "young straight" Monterey Cypress was planted in honor of Ellen Browning Scripps' 100th birthday by founding member of the Art Center, Eleanor Parkes. Miss Scripps had passed away four years earlier on August 3, 1932, leaving behind a legacy that no other La Jollan will ever surpass. In 1940, a plaque was placed next to the tree to commemorate her. The plaque read:

"THIS TREE WAS PLANTED BY
ELEANOR B. PARKES
OCTOBER 18, 1936

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BIRTH OF

⁷⁹ Ibid, 3.

⁸⁰ Randolph, 145.

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OUR BENEFACTRESS
ELLEN BROWNING SCRIPPS
FOR WHOM THIS PARK IS NAMED"⁸¹

(Picture of Plaque at Historical Society)

Years earlier, the tree and plaque were preceded by the renaming of the park to honor Miss Scripps' contributions to La Jolla and San Diego. The citizens of San Diego and the San Diego Park Commissioners chose to rename La Jolla Park after Ellen Browning Scripps on her 91st birthday on October 18, 1927. Two days later, Miss Scripps wrote a letter to the *La Jolla Journal* expressing her gratitude for "bestowing [her] name on the dear little park that was loved and nurtured so many years past."⁸² Ellen Browning Scripps Park became the new name of the park.

On October 8, 1939, the Garden Club of La Jolla planted a heritage tree in honor of the horticulturist Kate Sessions' 82nd birthday. Sessions was the owner of a flower shop and a succession of nurseries in Coronado, City Park, Mission Hills, and Pacific Beach. She was a central figure in California and national horticultural history with her landscaping, plant introductions, and classes. She published articles in newspapers and in *California Garden*, the publication of the San Diego Floral Association, which Miss Sessions helped to found in 1906. Appointed supervisor of agriculture and landscaper for the city schools in 1915, she taught horticulture and botany to the schoolchildren and supervised their school gardens traveling from one school to another during the year. Sessions passed on March 24, 1940.⁸³ The Garden Club planted a New Zealand Christmas Tree on the grass south of the Cove. She wrote an article for *California Garden* in December 1932 discussing the species' beauty, and its ability to withstand the coast winds and ocean's spray. Beneath the tree is a plaque that read:

"THIS TREE PLANTED BY
LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB
TO HONOR
MISS KATE O. SESSIONS
ON HER 82ND BIRTHDAY"⁸⁴
(picture of sessions and plaque)

⁸¹ "La Jolla Park Honors Miss Scripps," *San Diego Union*, 20 October 1940, 5.

⁸² Ellen Browning Scripps, "Miss Scripps Writes to Thanks Friends," 20 October 1927, 1.

⁸³ San Diego Historical Society Biography, www.sandiegohistory.org.

⁸⁴ Randolph, 72.

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On February 9, 1939, plans were made for further landscape additions and structural improvements to the park. A retaining wall was installed above the Cove. Additionally, mesembryanthemum and shrubs were placed above and around the cove. San Diego Park Superintendent William Perry chose these plants to prevent soil erosion and to make the cove more "picturesque and beautiful."⁸⁵ Additionally, Kate Sessions recommended using these plants years earlier at her nursery.⁸⁶

(picture of shrubs and cove wall)

Land Uses of the Park

From 1915-1945, the park's uses remained consistent with its past uses. However, new recreational activities also created new uses for the park. This coincided with a national park planning movement where parks were seen as vehicles for the delivery of recreation. Throughout the United States, a corresponding emphasis upon facilities and new uses---courts, pools, museums, stadiums, ball fields, playgrounds---overtook landscaping concerns. At Scripps Park, an example of this was the construction of the Bridge and Shuffleboard Club in 1945. Additionally, special events and activities became centered at parks during this period, as well.

Rough Water Swim

In 1915, the cove became an integral part of the annual Rough Water Swim. The Rough Water Swim, then called the Biological Pier Swim, was originally "sponsored as an added attraction to the California-Pan American Exposition."⁸⁷ The course was from the biological pier in La Jolla Shores to the Cove, a distance of 1 ¾ miles. The swim was held almost every September with some exceptions, like during World War I, and several times in the 1920s due to funding. By 1931, the competition had become "nationally famous," and was a "first class aquatic carnival."⁸⁸ In 1941, the organizers adapted a new course from the Beach and Tennis Club to the Cove. The course change was to provide spectators a "clear view of the whole show from any point along the cliffs," and fewer patrol boats were necessary.⁸⁹ In 1946, the swim's course was altered to its current form into a triangular pattern that began and ended at the Cove. The number of participants has grown from just six participants to nearly 2,000 (divided by various age classes) by the twenty-first century. Celebrities and Olympiads have participated in the swim, and it developed into a major social and athletic

⁸⁵ "Plans Made for Planting at Cove," *La Jolla Journal*, 9 February 1939, 1.

⁸⁶ San Diego Historical Society "Kate Sessions File."

⁸⁷ Randolph, 112.

⁸⁸ *Ibid*, 112-113.

⁸⁹ *Ibid*, 113-114.

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function. Today, the Rough Water Swim tradition continues, and while the course has changed in the past, the cove has remained a staple in its history.⁹⁰

(Rough Water Pictures)

Lifeguard Service

In the early 1920s, the San Diego police department was responsible for lifeguarding the area's beaches. In 1923, Paul Shea, the third employee of the new Police Department Lifeguard Division, was La Jolla's first lifeguard. Shea also built the first lifeguard station. It was carved out of the cliff to the immediate east of the wooden stairs on the east side of the cove, about half way down. It consisted of four posts anchored into the sandstone with an open chair on top. The metal pylons can still be located in the vegetation. In the 1940s, it was moved to its present location further east and it consisted of a simple white-painted box, open to the sky, with a ladder down to the beach, and removable windows. An abbreviated frame was later constructed to accommodate a tarp for lifeguarding during the winter months

Proposed Projects

During the Depression, the park was the proposed site of several projects intended to provide employment and relief to hundreds of San Diego citizens. These projects would change not only the landscape of the park, but its uses as well. Ten years after originally proposing to build a breakwater at Alligator Head, another plan for a breakwater occurred in July 1931. The breakwater would be 700 feet long and located on the westerly side of Alligator Head. It would be ten feet high, slope at its sides, and be constructed of loose rocks. It would project 350 feet than curve inland towards the shore. A thirty-five foot gap was in the middle to allow "waves and currents free passage to the cove." The San Diego Harbor Commission drafted the plans, and San Diego yachting enthusiasts supported the project. Many saw the proposed project as the ideal harbor for yachts.⁹¹

Three years later, in September 1934, the Recreational Bureau of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce approved plans to extend the size of the Cove. Extending the Cove would create more beach room for swimmers and sunbathers and increase the size of the park. The swimming cove would be enlarged through "digging back into the adjacent hill and terracing the slopes."⁹² Material excavated from the hill would be dumped on the ocean side

⁹⁰ Ibid, 112-114.

⁹¹ "Residents Urge Breakwater off La Jolla Cove," *San Diego Union*, 30 July 1931, 9.

⁹² "Swimming Cove Extension Urged," *San Diego Union*, 28 September 1934, 5.

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of Alligator Head, “thus keeping its present excellent condition.”⁹³ The State Emergency Relief Administration (SERA), an agency similar to the Works Progress Administration, would provide labor for the project. However, neither the breakwater nor the extension of the Cove was followed through, and the projects were suspended shortly after they were proposed.

Despite new uses, like the Bridge and Shuffleboard Club, Scripps Park continued its historic function as a picnic and swimming area. For example, during World War II, when thousands of men were stationed at nearby Camp Kearny and Camp Callan, soldiers consistently spent free time at Scripps Park. In 1941, the park was the site of a series of Sunday afternoon parties for servicemen and their families.

1946-Present: Expanding La Jolla and Preserving the Open Space of the Park

Following World War II, La Jolla prepared itself for planned growth of the community. Expansion was practically inevitable, and careful planning was needed to preserve the character and integrity of La Jolla. In 1946, a committee chaired by Milton Sessions, nephew of Kate Sessions, was formed to “identify La Jolla.”⁹⁴ With help from San Diego Planner Glenn A. Rick, and nationally known planning consultant Charles W. Eliot, the “Eliot Plan” was presented to the community in September 1946. The plan identified La Jolla as “a resort,” and the plan suggested a park system of development with a cultural complex in the Prospect Street area, bounded by The Bishops School, Scripps Clinic and Hospital, the Art Center, La Jolla Woman’s Club, and St. James-by-the-Sea Club.⁹⁵ The plan also recommended eight proposed parks along the shoreline and six proposed parks along Mt. Soledad. There was an emphasis on recreational facilities, tree planting, parking, business and school needs, and future uses of vacant land.⁹⁶

(Eliot Plan Picture, s-204)

La Jolla residents had a mixed reaction to the Eliot Plan. Many feared the establishment of new parks and rezoning of certain area would cause “the danger of losing...homes by condemnation proceedings.”⁹⁷ While the plan was never formally adapted, several ideas and policies were. Parks identified in the plan, like Kellogg Park near the Beach and Tennis Club, were eventually created.

⁹³ Ibid, 5.

⁹⁴ Schaelchlin, 201.

⁹⁵ Ibid, 202-206.

⁹⁶ Ibid, 202-206.

⁹⁷ Ibid, 205.

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Roadways, such as the Adrath Road Extension (La Jolla Parkway) were built.⁹⁸ Though the Eliot Plan was not successful in its passing, it demonstrated the foresight La Jollans needed to manage their growth in the mid to late twentieth century.

In the post-war years, La Jolla grew at an alarming rate, and new developments were created. The population rose from 7,736 in 1946 to 25,300 in 1970. Many new residents were former servicemen, who were stationed in San Diego, and were eager to return and start a family. Mass-produced houses soon dominated La Jolla's landscape, and housing prices doubled from 1939 to 1947. New subdivisions were found near La Jolla Shores, La Jolla Hermosa, Country Club Heights, the Muirlands, Bird Rock, and Mt. Soledad. The majority of the new homes were single-family residences. Additionally, La Jolla experienced a rise in retired people and new retirement houses catered to this growing demographic. The Social Service League, White Sands, and the Casa de Manana were retirement homes that many seniors found attractive. Cooperative residences, like the Wind 'n Sea at 240 Coast Blvd. and the La Jolla Capri Air at 5353 La Jolla Blvd., offered homeowners amenities, like pools and patios, without garden or exterior responsibilities. Large scale high-rise condominiums soon followed. In 1964, the eighteen story 939 Coast Blvd, and a year later, the twelve-story Seville Garden Apartments were built at 1001 Genter Street.⁹⁹ These building were extremely controversial, and resulted in a building height limitation in La Jolla.

(High-rise photo, s-233)

The founding of the University of California-San Diego bolstered La Jolla's growth. The University of California-San Diego was established on November 24, 1960. Initially, the city of San Diego deeded pueblo Lot 1781 and the western half of Lot 1780, 240 acres total, to the University of California Board of Regents. The lots were the former site of Camp Callan and the acquisition of the land changed La Jolla significantly. The addition of the University altered La Jolla's boundaries geographically, culturally, and ethnically. Former Scripps Institution of Oceanography director Dr. Roger Revelle spearheaded the project, fulfilling his dream of a "full university in La Jolla, one that would rival all of the California institutions." Eventually the university received 1200 acres with the acquisition of the former Camp Matthews site. Additionally, the Regents purchased 130 acres in La Jolla Farms, and the William Black home for use as the Chancellor's residence.¹⁰⁰

(UCSD photo, s-224)

⁹⁸ Ibid, 205-206.

⁹⁹ Ibid, 212-220.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid, 224-230.

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La Jolla's large growth needed better management, and in October 1964, La Jollans, Inc. was established to create a comprehensive survey of La Jolla. Working with the Real Estate Research Corporation, La Jollans, Inc. created a \$20,000 250 page document that addressed the problems and assets of La Jolla. From the report, the La Jolla Community Plan was generated. On April 13, 1967, the San Diego City Council adapted the Community Plan and it was updated in March 1975. The plan rezoned 126 acres from R-4 to R-3, decreasing potential development by thirty percent. In January 1987, La Jollans, Inc. renamed the committee the La Jolla Community Planning Association.¹⁰¹

Throughout the 1970s, new construction and an influx of residents continued in La Jolla. More buildings were constructed that combined retail and residential space. In the 1980s, several retail and residential buildings were built on Prospect Street, Torrey Pines Road, Ivanhoe Street, in Bird Rock on La Jolla Blvd., and Girard Avenue.

Also, in the 1970s, the architectural character and visual quality of La Jolla's main commercial arteries (Prospect, Girard, Fay, and Ivanhoe) were altered significantly with the creation of several Post-Modern style buildings. The new buildings featured sharp lines, angles, and pastel colors. These new buildings caused the demolition of several Craftsman style bungalows that had previously dominated La Jolla's landscape. Between 1970-1974, over 109 units were torn down for new growth.¹⁰²

(post-mod buildings, s-248)

In 1977, in response to the loss of several historic buildings, a Historical Inventory and Survey was funded determine the historical and architectural significance of several early buildings. 1,976 resources were identified in the survey, and today nearly fifty percent of these buildings have been demolished. Measures were taken to create a historical district or conservation easement to preserve many of the buildings identified, but it met great opposition. However, at 7210-7212 La Jolla Blvd, Heritage Park was created to accommodate four buildings that were threatened with demolition. The San Diego Historic Resources Board designated all these buildings and a conditional use permit allows the park special zoning privileges.¹⁰³

Additionally, La Jolla's geographic boundaries stretched even further with the completion of the Golden Triangle condominiums. Bordering Interstate 5 on La

¹⁰¹ Ibid, 231-232.

¹⁰² Ibid, 245-252.

¹⁰³ Ibid, 257-258, 263.

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Jolla's eastern border, the Golden Triangle had easy access to La Jolla's village, which bolstered its economy but added to many other problems, as well.

La Jolla was one of the first California cities where citizens showed concern for its endangered coastal resources. Clearly, the growth of the community was having severe effects on the environment. To protect La Jolla's natural coastal resources, a Local Coastal Plan was created in 1972, which addressed issues of shoreline access, protection of marine resources, development in the coastal zone, traffic and circulation.¹⁰⁴ This was followed in 1976 by the state-wide *California Coastal Act*. By enacting that legislation, the citizens of California responded to the deteriorating condition of their coastal resources and signaled a desire for a change in the way those resources are managed. The Coastal Act declares, "that the California coastal zone is a distinct and valuable natural resource of vital and enduring interest to all the people and that it exists as a delicately balanced ecosystem." Among the Coastal Acts stated goals are the following:

- Protect, maintain, and where feasible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the coastal zone environment and its natural and artificial resources.
- Assure orderly, balanced utilization and conservation of coastal zone resources.

To ensure that the vision of the Coastal Act was enforced and carried out, a number of new agencies were created. The California Coastal Commission was charged with enforcement. The Coastal Conservancy was created to carry out a variety of tasks associated with the preservation of our coastal assets. They were granted flexible powers to serve as an intermediary among government, citizens, and the private sector in recognition that creative approaches would be needed to preserve California's coast. Their mission statement recognizes that "entrepreneurial techniques are necessary to purchase, protect, restore, and enhance coastal resources." Since its establishment the Coastal Conservancy has joined in partnership with more than 100 local land trusts and other nonprofit groups. In a number of instances they have assisted in the establishment of regional organizations patterned after them to assist in furthering their mandated mission. The La Jolla Conservancy is one of those organizations. The conservancy's goal is to work with regional organizations to take advantage of local "know how," both technically and politically, by involving concerned citizens who are more aware of local conditions, history, needs, traditions, and issues.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid, 262.

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In June 1988, the *La Jolla Village & Waterfront Workshop and Design Charrette* occurred. The Village Street Association (VISTA), a committee of the La Jolla town council, led the workshop. Its goals were to enhance and maintain La Jolla's streetscapes. Funding for the workshop was donated by the Parking and Business Improvement Association. The workshop coordinator was Peter Brand from the California Coastal Conservancy. Local citizens partnered with the following group of design professionals and advisors to consider existing conditions and how they could be improved:

- Christopher Alexander – professor of architecture at UC Berkeley
- John Lund Kirkland – urban design architect from Skidmore, Owens & Merrill
- Bruce Judd – architectural preservation specialist from the Architectural Resources Group in San Francisco
- Andrew Spurlock – local landscape architect
- Donald H. Tompkins – architect and professional in environmental design and planning with the SWA Group
- Angelis Liera – San Diego City Planning Department
- Ron Buckley – Historical Site Board
- Art Belenzon & DeVere Braysted – Parks and Recreation Department

Participants in the charrette worked side by side with these planning and design professionals to examine all of La Jolla's community property – parks, beaches, shoreline, streets, and alleys. The designers took the information gathered in the workshop and generated their interpretations of what could be.

One of the ideas put forth that was considered by many to be the most worthwhile came from Christopher Alexander who stated that the village's center seemed to be the intersection of Girard and Prospect an area known as "The Dip" He proposed replacing the street with grassy terraces where people could gather to enjoy the "spectacular vista of the green grass at Scripps Park meeting the blue-green sea. This was not a new idea. In 1975, local designer Judith Monk, working with architect Tony Ciani and sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, drew up a proposal for a "Performance Park" for the same area. That effort even included an experiment to test the acoustic conditions during artistic performances, for which the city closed down Girard. The traffic department cooperated, and found that the impact on traffic and availability of parking spaces was acceptable. A funding resource was never found and this vision never materialized.

Several recommendations came from the La Jolla Village & Waterfront Workshop and Design Charrette. Primary among them was the suggestion to conduct a second Public Workshop, which focused on La Jolla's parks, beaches and historical features.

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In October of 1988 the La Jolla Coastline Workshop was held. Peter Brand from the California Coastal Conservancy was again the workshop coordinator. He was assisted by La Jolla Coastline Workshop Committee members Tony Ciani, Peter Lucic, Gayle Tejada Pate, and David Singer. Local experts spoke to workshop participants sharing their knowledge on a variety of related subjects, they included:

- Dr. Douglas Inman – shoreline processes expert from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO).
- Jeff Frautschy – also from SIO and a former chairman of the Coastal Commission.
- John Shelton and David Schug – local geologists
- Fred Sproul – a botanist from Pacific Southwest Laboratories
- Ken Raymond – National Marine Fisheries Service
- Carrol Forrest – a local engineer

Workshop participants were encouraged to try and see the coastal zone through the eyes of other users and decision makers, such as city officials and parks department managers. Their work and consensus agreements were the foundation for the development of "The Preliminary Plan for the La Jolla Coastline – 1989," which documented a number of measures intended to preserve, enhance, restore, and improve various coastal resources. The report noted that workshop participants had recognized the unique character of each distinct segment of the La Jolla coastline and stated that their basic goal was preservation. Ellen Browning Scripps Park was singled out as an area that was in particular need of further study and a master plan.

The Preliminary Plan for the La Jolla Coastline was adopted by the La Jolla Town Council and the Community Planning Association, but not without some controversy. One of the issues concerned the recommendation to restore the Red Rest and Red Roost cottages, which are on the National Register of Historical Places. Some local property owners saw this suggestion as a threat to individual land rights. However, since the plan included so many practical and widely supported suggestions for preserving coastal resources, it ultimately became a regular resource for determining appropriate action when proposed projects came before them for approval.

In 1995, the Preliminary Plan for the La Jolla Coastline was used as the basis for working plans that were prepared by the landscape firm KTU&A. Project architect Jim Neri developed the Coast Boulevard Park Improvements Plan, which detailed various improvements along the coastal zone from Goldfish Point to Hospital Point. Implementation of that work was hampered by the complicated permitting process and a lack of available funding resources.

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Several portions of the work were ultimately completed, observation platforms at Goldfish Point, observation turn outs at the Cove, Shell Beach, Seal Rock, and an irrigation system upgrade at Scripps Park.

By 2000, many of the issues that plagued the community throughout the latter part of the twentieth century continued. Parking and large-scale construction continued as controversial topics, and the need to protect La Jolla's character defining features persisted. Growth also continued, and by 1999 La Jolla's population swelled to 30,909.

La Jolla's reputation as a cultural and arts center continued into the twenty-first century. The University of California expanded and developed into one of the top research institutions in the country, attracting distinguished faculty from across the world. Other institutions, like the La Jolla Playhouse and the Museum of Modern Arts, remained cornerstones of the community. Philanthropic efforts also were a significant aspect of La Jolla, and civic groups and organizations like the Woman's Club and Las Patronas still provided funding for groups and had strong participation in the community. Individual philanthropists, like Florence Rifford, Audrey Geisel (the widow of Ted Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss) and Joan and Irwin Jacobs, have contributed significantly to the quality of life in La Jolla.

During the post-World War II years through the present, La Jolla has continued to grow and change as a community. It has developed into a community that provides its citizens with a multitude of opportunities, scenic beauty, and an identity that is unlike any other in San Diego. Many of the ideals and principals that date to the original subdivision are still seen today, and the community retains a significant amount of its original character.

Improvements and Alterations to the Park

During this period, there have not been many major structural or landscape alterations or improvements to the park. Recently, the park has remained as open space, and since the Bridge Club, no large scale building projects have been built on the site.

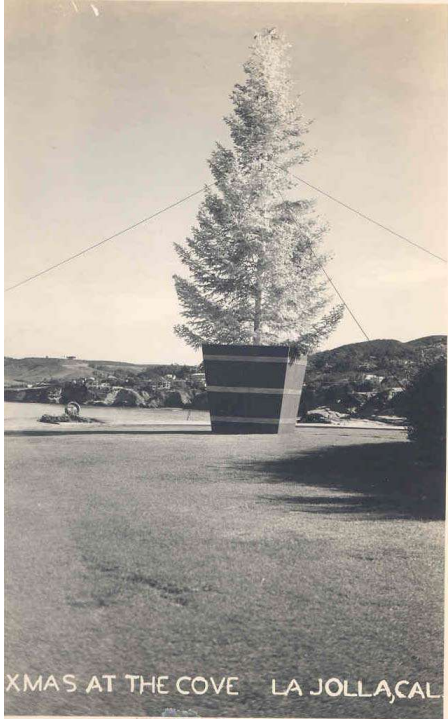
Christmas Tree

In 1948, a short-lived tradition began during the holiday season. On December 16, 1948, a large fifty-foot white Christmas Tree in a planter box was placed on the grass above Alligator Head and it was decorated in lights. Crowds would gather for the unveiling and lighting of the tree by the mayor of San Diego and it stayed up until after the New Year. A popular program known as "Christmas at the Cove" accompanied the tree lighting, and performances by St. James by

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the Sea choir were always highlights. This tradition continued until the 1960s and then was discontinued.¹⁰⁵

(Picture of Tree)



San Diego Historical Society Archives

Rededication of Park

In March 1954, Scripps Park was renamed once again. San Diego's City Park and Recreation office renamed the park "Ellen Browning Scripps Cove Park," and a city resolution passed by the city council made it official.¹⁰⁶ This name, however, was only temporary and it was renamed seven years later. On October 16, 1961, to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Ellen Browning Scripps, the park was renamed Ellen Browning Scripps Memorial Park. A ceremony was held in Miss Scripps' honor that began with a luncheon at the Beach and Tennis Club, and then followed by a trip to Scripps Park. More than a 175 people attended, and the ceremony featured a choir performance by The Bishops School, speeches by Mayor Dail, and master of ceremonies Vice Adm. Thomas H. Binford. A committee led by Miss Scripps biographer Major Edward D. Clarkson and Izetta Jewel Miller purchased a wood sign and plaque that commemorated the occasion. The sign and plaque are located at the

¹⁰⁵ "Christmas Tree at Cove is Dedicated," *La Jolla Journal*, 16 December 1948, 1; "Christmas Programs To Be at the Cove," *La Jolla Journal*, 16 December 1948, 1.

¹⁰⁶ "Cove Park Named for Ellen Scripps," *San Diego Union*, 25 March 1954, 14.

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southeast edge of the park along the intersection of Coast Blvd. and Girard Avenue.¹⁰⁷

(Picture of Sign)

Landscape and Physical Elements

The following is a description of the landscape elements at the park from approximately 1957. This information was provided by former lifeguard Tony Ciani:

“At the south end and middle of the park, many large Monterey Cypress trees dominated the landscape. A large pine at the corner of Coast and Girard is still a strong reminder of that time. Two stands of Australian Tea Trees, one at south Boomer Beach and another at Alligator Head were favorite places for hide and seek and climbing. A stand of Dragon Trees flanked a walk way to north Boomer Beach. At the main entrance to the cove, several Yucca-like plants flanked the stairs at the top. A few Century plants stood along the bluff above the cove.”

Ciani further discussed the physical structures at the park during this period:

“Park Structures included three green picnic shelters: Shell Beach, South Boomer and North Boomer; the Shuffleboard courts and building; and small Spanish Colonial Revival (style) restrooms. Except for the sidewalk at the street, the walkways were asphalt paths in the same pattern of the current colored concrete walks. Above the cove, a concrete curb circumvented the top of the bluff all the way around Alligator to join a seat wall at North Boomer. The bluff sloped down to a lower dirt path that also had a curb along the bluff edge directly above the beach. Several wooden benches were nestled along the lower path. At the main stairs to the Cove located adjacent the sidewalk, a concrete wall/guardrail flanked the stair and extended to the East end of the Cove adjacent to the sidewalk. At that point an older wooden open rail fence, painted white, continued up the street to the cave Store. There were no railings from Boomer south to Jenner Street.”

Natural Erosion and the effects of Shoreline Processes

¹⁰⁷ “A Historical Event Takes Place Monday,” *San Diego Union*, 12 October 1961, 6.

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Exposure to heavy winds and the ocean's shifting tides caused the loss of a significant natural feature. On June 29, 1955, city engineer A.K. Fogg recommended demolition of the natural arch connected to Alligator Head due to its unstable condition. The arch had severely deteriorated and restoring the "arch to safety with concrete would cost \$7,500."¹⁰⁸ However, the city engineers' recommendations were not followed through and the unstable archway lasted until January 1978. On January 12, 1978, the *La Jolla Journal* reported a winter storm collapsed the arch.¹⁰⁹ Many citizens made efforts to restore the landmark, but the city cited a lack of funds to complete a restoration. In 1983, the remaining parts of Alligator Head collapsed, as well.¹¹⁰

(picture of collapse)

Over 50% of the perimeter of Scripps Park is bordered by the ocean. This orientation is one of the primary reasons that people are so drawn to this special place. Proximity to the ocean is what creates the natural pulse that so many people notice while visiting the park, however, it also poses a number of challenges to continual use. The ocean edge of the park is subject to what are called "shoreline processes." The Scripps Institution of Oceanography devotes special attention to the study and understanding of this natural phenomenon. Dr Douglas Inman heads that department and is a recognized expert in the study of its effects on our environment. The Scripps Park Project members are encouraging workshop participants to recognize shoreline processes as they consider the future of the park. Below is a summation of that dynamic, which was prepared with information, provided by Dr. Inman:

SHORELINE PROCESSES

"The coastline is the zone in which shoreline processes operate or have a strong influence. The term shoreline refers to the shifting line of contact between water and land. The Coast is more than a shoreline, it also includes the shallow water zone, beaches, cliffs and coastal dunes. The coast is a very dynamic interface between the lithosphere (the solid rocky part of the earth), hydrosphere (all the water on the surface of the earth, including oceans, lakes, and glaciers) and the atmosphere (the air and other gases that rotate with the earth). Its dynamism is a result of the huge amount of energy supplied by the ocean, mostly in the form of waves. That energy is in part responsible for the fast-changing nature of coasts.

¹⁰⁸ "Picturesque La Jolla Landmark Ruled Unsafe," *San Diego Union*, 29 June 1955, 4.

¹⁰⁹ La Jolla Historical Society, "Alligator Head File."

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

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Seven groups of processes are primarily responsible for shaping the coastal zone: changes in water level, tides, waves, currents, stream outflow, ice push, and coral growth. Of these, the following have a direct effect on the coastline of Scripps Park.

- Sea-level changes are long-term fluctuations (hundreds of thousands of years or longer) of water level in a coastal zone. Sea-level changes create emergence and submergence of coastlines. The two reasons for sea level change are:
 - *Tectonic* – uplift or sinking of a landmass. The actual amount of water in the ocean does not change, however an uplift or sinking of a portion of coast (or ocean bottom) shifts the shoreline up or down. This process has had a dramatic effect on the La Jolla coast.
 - *Eustatic* – increase or decrease of the amount of water in the ocean. The major reason for such an increase or decrease is glaciations. Large masses of ice are formed in areas where the rate of snowfall constantly exceeds the rate at which snow melts. This process has been significantly affected by “global warming.” In the last 50 years ocean water level has risen 12 inches on the California coast.
- Tides are oscillations of ocean waters due to the gravitational pull of the Moon and Sun. Every 25 hours coasts experience 2 high tides and 2 low tides, with 6 hours and 13 min between tides. Tides move enormous amounts of water four times every day, yet the topographic effect of tides on the coastal zone is small because of their relatively low speeds.
- Waves are generated by the friction of air blowing across the water surface. Thus the energy of waves comes from wind. There are two kinds of waves:
 - Forced waves – are caused by the stress that wind exerts on the water surface. If the wind is strong, forced waves can develop to considerable size, however, they remain dependent on sustained wind, and therefore, exist for a limited time and do not travel far.
 - Swell – once waves escape the direct influence of wind, they become swell. Unlike forced waves, swells are free (not forced) oscillations of water surface. They can exist for a long time (because friction within water is so low), thus they travel long distances.

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Wave height is especially important for shaping the coast. Wave height depends on:

- *Wind speed*
- *Wind duration* – the longer the wind blows, the higher waves get.
- *Water depth* – waves become higher in shallow seas because of friction against the bottom.
- *Fetch* – the length of open water along the direction of wind. The longer the fetch, the higher waves can be.

Deep-water waves are known as *waves of oscillation* because water makes circular movement without substantial horizontal increase. As waves enter the shallow coastal zone friction against the sea bottom causes them to become higher and steeper, tilt forward and finally break. Thus the energy of circular oscillation is translated into the energy of forward movement. Such waves are called *waves of translation*. The action of these waves as they hit beaches is called *swash*. Their retreat or reverse flow is called *backwash*. Significant sand movement and bluff erosion is caused by wave action.

The small pocket beaches on the perimeter of Scripps Park are dramatically effected by wave action which shifts their sands from one end to the other (most noticeable at Boomer Beach) as a result of swell direction. In the winter, waves generated by storms in the Gulf of Alaska, prevail from the north/west and push the sand to the south end of the beach. In the summer, waves generated by storms in the southern hemisphere near New Zealand, prevail from the south/west and move the sand to the north end of the beach.

Currents – the primary driving force behind ocean currents are consistent winds. Differences in water temperature and salinity are also contributing factors. Currents that flow near coasts have a substantial effect on coastal landforms. The most important type of current in the coastal zone is the longshore current, these travel in shallow water parallel to the shoreline, generally down wind. Longshore currents transport sand along coasts, sometimes they are powerful enough to erode the sea bottom. Dr. Inman, what effect do currents have on the Scripps Park coast line?

Coastal erosion, sediment transport, and sediment deposition are the most obvious effects of shoreline processes on Scripps Park.

Coastal erosion is accomplished mostly by waves through several processes:

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- Mechanical impact of rushing water (and abrasive particles that it carries) against the shore.
- Pneumatic action – abrupt compression and expansion of air in rock cracks as a wave breaks on shore. This is also especially effective on loose shore sand.

Erosion is most effective at sea level or just above it, where wave erosion carves notches and caves which can lead to collapse of bluffs. This action pushes shore cliffs further inland. The demise of Alligator Head was a dramatic example of this effect and the Cove Cave appears to be very near a similar situation. Bluff retreat at South Boomer Beach has reached the point where the walkway is within a few feet of the edge.

Sediment transport occurs when waves, which typically approach the shore at an angle, wash onto the beach and move sand diagonally. That action is followed by backwash, which moves sand straight down. The net result of this zigzag movement is the displacement of sand along the beach, known as *beach drift*. Besides the beach drift, longshore current also transports sand this is called *longshore drift*. Together beach drift and longshore drift are called *littoral drift*.

Coastal deposition occurs when wave energy in shallow water captures sand from the sea floor. As the waves approach shore they slow down often to the point where they deposit this sand. This action creates beaches. Coastal erosion and deposition are very dynamic. When the energy of waves changes, the balance between erosion and deposition shifts. Normally, beaches grow during quiet weather and retreat during storms. Some shores experience long-term trends of either accumulation or erosion:

- *Progradation* – building out of shore (accumulation)
- *Retrgradation* – cutting back of shore (erosion)

The beach at La Jolla Cove is in a *retrgradation* period while the beach at the Childrens Pool is experiencing a *progradation* period."

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Plantings

On March 3, 1964, Town Council Trees and Beautification Committee initiated a tree planting in the park. The committee planted 8 trees throughout the park and an individual or group sponsored the planting of each tree. The City of San Diego, Stella Maris Academy, and the Rotary Club planted the first three trees. The types of tree planted were three Stone Pines and five Holly Oaks. The March plantings coincided with the countrywide "plant a tree week." The trees replaced eight Stone Pines and Holly Oaks damaged by storms eight years ago. The cost of sponsoring a tree was \$20.

(picture of tree planting and present Lincoln memorial)

Lifeguard Tower

Approximately 1957, the City wired the lifeguard tower at the cove for electricity. This allowed the use of a small space heater for cold, winter days. At this time, the tower had a white wooden exterior with a ladder located adjacent to a concrete platform with steps leading to the center of the beach. Adjacent to the tower was a subterranean support facility, with a phone line, cold-water sink and shower. A lifeguard call box was installed at north Boomer Beach in the late 1950s connecting to the Cove, Children's Pool, and Headquarters. The present tower was built in the mid 1980s, and it briefly had an Astroturf roof, until public protest made the City change it.

Aluminum Railing

In May 1967, the San Diego City Council awarded a contract to the Sierra Company for an aluminum railing to be placed at the west edge of the park. The installation of the railing occurred after lifeguards noticed several unstable areas on the bluff. Park and Recreation officials chose the cheapest solution to

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the problem by installing the aluminum railings. The project was quite controversial, due to the use of the shiny aluminum pipe and because the railing blocked the access path to Boomer Beach.

(railing picture)

Bridge and Shuffleboard Club Additions and Alterations

From 1967 through 1969, the Shuffleboard Club made several additions to its clubhouse, increasing the size of the building and altering its shape and form. Since its inception nearly thirty years earlier, the club had grown in popularity and membership. On March 8, 1967, ground was broken for a \$20,000 addition that would “increase the clubhouse space by 50% and mean hot and cold water, restrooms, and a kitchen.”¹¹¹ The City of San Diego funded the project and several citizens questioned why public money was spent on such a project. Workers finished construction on June 13, 1967, one month earlier than the original anticipated finish date in July. The dedication ceremony was held on June 17th and 125 people attended the event.¹¹² A few weeks later, on July 1, 1967, the City Council awarded a contract to B.I. Gentry Construction Company for “building shelters” at the Shuffleboard Club. The contract was worth \$2,282.¹¹³

A year later, on December 12, 1968, La Jolla philanthropist and real estate investor Florence Rifford donated \$15,000 worth of stock to the club for the construction of a lounge. The city also donated \$6,000 and the club agreed to pay the difference for the \$24,000 project.¹¹⁴ On December 15, 1969, club members dedicated the new lounge.¹¹⁵ After the additions, the building's look was substantially altered with two high-pitched hipped roofs flanking each side of the building and an extension of the original building. In August 1999, the shuffleboard courts were removed, and replaced with landscaping. Jim Neri prepared the plan, and the Benbough Foundation provided the funding. The club was then known as the Bridge Club. Additionally, approximately 1960, a flagpole was installed on the grounds along the access path east of the building.

(additions and aerials of bridge club, s-57)

Improvements to the Cove Wall and Surroundings

¹¹¹ “Addition Is Started at Shuffleboard Club,” *San Diego Union*, 9 March 1967, 5.

¹¹² “Shuffleboard House Addition is Dedicated,” *San Diego Union*, 17 June 1967, 7.

¹¹³ “Shelter Job Awarded,” *San Diego Union*, 1 July 1967, 5.

¹¹⁴ “Ms Rifford Gives \$15000 to Local Club,” *San Diego Union*, 12 December 1968, 5.

¹¹⁵ “Shuffleboard Club Dedication Today,” *San Diego Union*, 15 December 1969, 9.

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In 1996, city officials conducted a review of erosion encroachment of the bluffs in La Jolla from Goldfish Point to the Children's Pool. That effort was prompted by the recent classification of the cove wall at the east end of the beach as a "high risk" situation due to its deteriorated condition. In 1999, they proposed a remedial plan to the Parks and Beaches Committee of the La Jolla town council. That plan consisted of filling all cracks and caves in those areas with concrete. Additionally, a massive, highly visible, concrete wall was proposed to replace the existing Cove wall. The committee strongly objected to this proposal and began to lobby for more environmentally appropriate solutions.

The Preliminary Plan for the La Jolla Coastline had proposed the principle of "planned retreat." Based on this concept Jack Holzman, then president of the Parks and Beach Committee, worked with a local engineer to develop an alternate plan based on the following:

- Bury all bluff retention walls
- Gain adequate space by narrowing streets and moving sidewalks if necessary
- Cantilever sidewalks seaward to gain more space.

These ideas met repeated resistance from the City of San Diego and their consultants. No other plans, however, preserved the natural bluffs, were simple to build, or were less expensive. Gradually, after four years, the merits of this approach were accepted. The La Jolla Cove Wall Replacement and Bluff Improvements Plan was funded and the work was completed in 2004. The new wall has a cobble stone veneer, which matches the existing historic walls in front of the Red Rest and Red Roost.

In 2003 the badly deteriorated stairs to the beach at Cove were restored. John Lorman, a trustee of the La Jolla Town Council, lobbied the California Coastal Conservancy (CCC) to financially assist with this effort. Since coastal access is a primary element in the stated mission of the CCC they agreed to partner with the city of San Diego on the \$350,000 project. Bob West of the La Jolla Swim Club cut the ribbon on the new stairs on March 21, 2003.

(cove wall pictures, inside la jolla-50)

Memorials at the Park

There are over 25 memorial plaques located in the park. The oldest is dedicated to Abraham Lincoln and was installed in 1909. Two other notable plaques are one that was dedicated to Ellen Browning Scripps in 1936 (now removed from the park and located at the La Jolla Historical Society) and another dedicated

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to Kate Sessions in 1939. The majority of the memorial plaques were installed from the late 70's and are attached to benches.

One of the more unique memorials in the park is the David C. Freeman Memorial lifeguard call box. Installed in 1995 at Boomer Beach it was a combined effort by design committee members Larry Asakawa, Bill Bender, Mark Freeman, Hal Handley, Mark Holmes, Tom Keener numerous other volunteers, who wanted to replace the existing lifeguard call box to commemorate the life of a beloved waterman and bodysurfer. The design of the call box, by Paul Sibel, was selected in a juried competition after a public workshop which was facilitated by Tony Ciani. The call box is a bronze structure, surfaced with raised words volunteered by participants at the workshop which reflected their feelings about Boomer Beach. The words appear horizontally on the callbox, but a particular vertical reading reveals the name David C. Freeman. From a distance, the raised vertical letters look like encrusted barnacles.

The issue of memorial plaques and monuments within the park has come up repeatedly at the La Jolla Town Council and the Parks and Beaches subcommittee meetings. A number of people feel that there are too many in the park. Several solutions have been put forward, such as establishing a single monument where all names would be listed together. To date there has been no resolution.

Risk management type improvements – The City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department is in charge of management and maintenance within the park. From approximately 1960 to the present, the Park and Recreation Department have installed a number of risk management improvements. These installations have been quick response reactions to perceived dangers that were put in place without any community input in order to limit city liability. Often times, due to budgetary restraints, the least expensive solution was used. The following is a list of those projects:

- Chain link fencing at Shotgun – Shotgun is an erosion ravine located on Point La Jolla. During calm ocean conditions, divers and swimmers used it as an access path to enter the water. When the surf is large, a surge condition channels up through Shotgun, which can be dangerous for those who are not familiar with the area. A number of chain link fences have been installed around the area. Old post footings can be seen in the bluff from two previous fences and the current six foot fence is in poor condition. The presence of this fencing is a double edged sword situation. While it prevents access to users during occasional dangerous conditions, it is also an obstacle to lifeguards, who would use this path as a quick response path to enter the ocean at Rocky Point for rescues.

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- Aluminum railing at access path to Boomer Beach – This railing was installed along the west boundary of the park to keep people back from the unstable bluff. It was put in without public input and extended across the path, which at that time was badly eroded by storm water and irrigation runoff. During that installation, two benches on the west side of the concrete walkway were removed. Lifeguards who were stationed at Boomer during large surf conditions used those benches. The railing also blocked access to the lifeguard callbox, which was in bad condition. In 1995, the call box and access path were restored during the Dave Freeman Memorial effort. Because of those improvements, the railing in this area no longer serves any purpose.
- Pipe structure at the storm water inlet on Point La Jolla – This inlet is the low spot for drainage from the park during extreme weather conditions. It is located just south of Alligator Head. The pipe structure was installed after lifeguard Joe Barnett saved a small child who was caught up in the runoff flow during a heavy storm. It is in poor condition and serves a very limited purpose since the conditions described above are an extremely rare occurrence.
- Wood railing at the access path to the bluff area north of the Cove – this bluff area abuts the inlet known as “the hole.” the former diving platform area known as “million dollar point”, and extends around to Emerald Cove. In years past, the area was a popular observation spot and during the Rough Water Swim, it was the primary gathering location. The access path is located across the street from Brockton Villa and an opening in the wood railing allowed its use. During the recent Cove Wall Replacement project, the railing was replaced and the opening was removed. Minor grading activity obscured the path and landscaping was installed over the entrance zone.
- Posts and guy wires at the Aleppo Pine – This tree is located near the park identification sign at the corner of Coast Blvd. and Girard. Over the years, it’s branches extended across the sidewalk at a height that obstructed passage. They have been propped up with a number of wood posts and further supported by guy wires attached to a large dead branch that extends vertically from the center of the tree. All of this has created a very unnatural looking condition, which could be remedied by proper pruning techniques or replacement of that tree.

Land Uses of the Park

From 1946 through the present, many of the past uses and traditions at the park continued. For example, events like the Rough Water Swim and Concerts by the Sea are annual events and activities at the park. However, new uses of the park developed during this period. This coincided with a revitalized American interest and emphasis on parks. Immediately following World War II, the rise of suburban communities and automobiles carried people into the countryside, reducing the

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demand for urban retreat facsimiles. Consequently, parks suffered from neglect and few improvements occurred. By the 1970s, this trend reversed and people were taking measures to preserve the quality and aesthetic beauty of their local parks.

(S-47)

Protests

In 1965, Scripps Park hosted a community-wide protest in response to the construction of several high rises and large-scale office buildings in La Jolla. Largely, the protest was in response to the eighteen story and twelve story condominium complexes on Coast Blvd and Genter Street. Long-time resident Sally Speiss organized an anti-high rise rally in Scripps Park on October 16, 1965. Speiss was the chairperson of the citizens' Height Limitation Committee. The Committee's purpose was to show the "San Diego City Council the amount of support for a proposed high rise moratorium in La Jolla."¹¹⁶ The citizens sought a law and regulation that would prohibit projects over fifty feet in height, and a petition circulated throughout the La Jolla. Over fifty citizens attended the protest, chanting in unison, "FIGHT HEIGHT." The master of ceremonies was art gallery owner Thomas Jefferson, and speeches were given by former actress Izetta Jewel Miller and General Atomics physicist Martin Stern, chemist Sidney Langer, and past La Jolla Town Council president Andrew Andeck. The event was an excellent example of community involvement and demonstrated a new use for public park.¹¹⁷

(Hi-Rise photos)

Efforts to Preserve the Ocean

Beginning in the 1960s, La Jollans took efforts to preserve the ocean, coastline, and sustain the marine life within the park's boundaries. These efforts allowed further use of the ocean and an increase in participatory activities involving the ocean. In 1966, Boomer Beach was dedicated to bodysurfing only, and became the first California beach to disallow "board surfing." Due to the danger of rip currents, large rocks, and board collisions, San Diego lifeguards supported the "body surfing only" dedication at Boomer.

This designation has turned Boomer Beach into a haven for bodysurfing enthusiasts who further the tradition of bodysurfing which began in the 1930's. Hal Wiggins who surfed at Boomer in those days occasionally stops by when the surf is up. Sharing his stories of the early days, according to him the place got its

¹¹⁶ "Anti-High Rise Rally Saturday in La Jolla," *San Diego Union*, 14 October 1965, 29.

¹¹⁷ "La Jollans Rally, Hit High Rise," *San Diego Union*, 17 October 1965, 1.

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name because they use to refer to getting “boomed” in wipeouts that occurred on big days. Others say that it's the beach that named itself because you can hear the “booming” noise of the surf clear up in the village when the large winter north swells role through.

Watermen like Pete Karen, Henry Hensen, Tony Ciani, Bob Shea, Vern Fleet, and Ron Church took on those huge north swells during the 50's and 60's providing dramatic entertainment for tourists who could easily observe their rides from the park. The current Boomer “crew” continues to take up the challenge provided by these winter swells that can grow to 15 to 20 feet during extreme conditions. A number of these men and we men regularly participate, and win, at the Oceanside Bodysurfing World Championship. They also participate at the Pipeline Classic held each winter at Banzai Pipeline on the north shore of Oahu. Hal Handley, former world champion, placed 5th at the Pipeline Classic in 2003.

On July 28, 1968, “members of various San Diego diving clubs cooperated in a combined drive against sea urchins yesterday at La Jolla Cove.” The divers removed “the urchins because they are harmful to abalone.”¹¹⁸

In 1970 the San Diego City Council dedicated 6,000 acres of tidal and submerged lands that were owned by the City as an underwater park. Their creation of the San Diego-La Jolla Underwater Park was in response to a citizen initiative conceived by local divers to protect marine resources which were threatened by over fishing in a location particularly appropriate for underwater exploration, education, and recreation. The park extends from Alligator Head, in the south, to near the northern boundary of the Torrey Pines State Reserve. The San Diego Council of Divers, lead by Harold F. Riley, took the lead in the process of encouraging the establishment of the park. Conrad Limbaugh, from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and the State Park and Recreation Board also supported the idea.

Within the Park there are two special areas that were created by the California Fish and Game Commission:

- The Marine Life Refuge – established in 1929 to allow the regents of the University of California to take, for scientific purposes, invertebrates and specimen marine plant life.
- The Ecological Reserve – established in 1971 this 514 acre area is restricted to “look but don't touch” in order to protect native marine plants and animals. It is marked by a string of yellow buoys and includes a “boat free zone” swimming zone in the waters outside La Jolla Cove.

¹¹⁸ “Diving Drive Removes Urchins from the Cove,” *San Diego Union*, 29 July 1968, 3.

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In 1972, Section 13170.2 of the California Water Code became law and directed the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to formulate and adopt a water quality control plan for the ocean waters of California. The State Water Board in response to that directive developed the California Ocean Plan, which establishes water quality objectives for California's ocean waters and provides the basis for regulation of wastes discharged into the State's coastal waters.

The California Ocean Plan designates a number of coastal water zones as Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). The San Diego - La Jolla Underwater Park is one of those areas. More than 100 illegal storm water and non-point source drains have been identified as discharging into the Underwater Park, many of which discharge via the storm water drainage system at Scripps Park. The California Ocean Plan clearly states that waste shall not be discharged to ASBS and that such discharges shall be located a sufficient distance from ASBS to assure maintenance of natural water conditions in these areas.

One of the primary goals established by the Scripps Park Project is to bring the Scripps Park stormwater drainage system into compliance with these laws. To that end, they have asked the workshop facilitator to include the following components as a part of the master plan for the park:

- Examine existing surface water runoff patterns, the existing storm water drainage system, and its discharge outlets within the park. Consider ways to bring these systems into compliance with the California Ocean Plan.
- Generate a concept civil engineering plan that shows proposed ridgelines and drainage patterns designed to minimize bluff erosion and water born pollution discharge from irrigation and storm water runoff.

A Daring Rescue

Lifeguard Bob Shea was involved in an amazing rescue late one night in the early 70s, being called in due to reports of a woman swept off the rocks by huge swells. Expecting the standard false alarm, he arrived at the Cove with his swim fins but no trunks, so he went in his boxer shorts that were immediately stripped off by the giant waves through which he had to swim. Unbeknownst to everyone, the distressed young woman had thrown off all her clothes to keep from being dragged under. In the dark of night through huge, cold winter surf, Bob Shea had to swim over an hour to get her to safety over at La Jolla Shores, almost a mile away.

A huge crowd had gathered at the Shores, attracted by the noise of the Coast Guard helicopter circling over the area the whole time futilely searching for them. Just as Bob emerged from the water with his victim in his arms, the helicopter's searchlight illuminated them to the astonished onlookers. Shea

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deservedly received a heroism award for this skilled and daring rescue and his fellow lifeguards forever remind him of it.

Push Carts and Vendors

In February 1984, the San Diego Park and Recreation Department staff approved a plan allowing push cart vendors in several city parks, including Scripps Park. The deputy city Manager Sue Williams and other local leaders, like Bryon Wear of the Coastal Area Committee, supported the push carts. Near the cove in the park, adjacent to the lifeguard towers, a hot dog cart and ice cream cart were installed, despite objections that it violated the La Jolla Community and affected merchants within the nearby commercial area. The Community Plan, March 1975, Open Space and Recreation Element stated:

“Concessions and other forms of commercial activity should not be permitted on any beaches or in any parks with the possible exception of Torrey Pines City Park.”¹¹⁹

Proponents of the vending carts felt that food and beverage establishments were not “easy walking distance to the adjacent shoreline,” specifically at Scripps Park and they wanted independent vendors to serve this need. Many also argued that the rental of boogie boards at Kellogg Park disobeyed the provision against commercial activities at La Jolla beaches. A lottery selected the first vendors who were able to operate in San Diego’s parks. Vending is still allowed at the site, and in 2003, a protest occurred to prevent a Pepsi vending machine away from the comfort station.

After nearly 120 years, many of the original activities and traditions at the park continued through the present. Scripps Park remains a popular picnic, swimming, and sunbathing area, enjoyed by both residents and visitors. With the past as an example, these uses will surely continue beyond the present.

Existing Landscape Elements

Existing landscape elements were observed and cataloged by a group of volunteers. That group included Don VanKekerick – member of the Master Gardner’s Society, Jim Neri – landscape architect, David Shaw – University of California specialist in grasses, and Mark Holmes from the La Jolla Conservancy. Their findings were recorded on field identification forms and notated on an aerial photo of the park. That data is included in an addendum to this report. A summation of their findings is shown below.

- In general the plantings within the park are in relatively good condition. The specimens are appropriate for the coastal zone setting and although volunteers were not able to trace a direct link to Kate Sessions for their

¹¹⁹ La Jolla Historical Society, “Pushcart File.”

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selection, at least 90% of what does exist are specimens which were specifically recommended on printed hand outs that she distributed at her Pacific Beach nursery. She is also known to have been a regular consultant to various groups who were involved in landscape efforts for public places.

- Trees specimens in the park include:
 - Monterey Cypress *Cupressus macrocarpa* – California 's rarest tree, native to the Monterey peninsula. Beautiful tree to 40 ft. or taller, with rich bright green foliage, picturesque in age, especially in windy coastal conditions. There were a number of spectacular specimens in the park and also in the village of La Jolla however they are very subject to coryneum canker fungus and most have them have died. There are two remaining trees within the park one is above Boomer beach and has been driven into a prone position by onshore winds, it is a popular natural play structure for children who visit the park. The other is located at the central lawn area where it's tall stature serves as a line-up coordinate for bodysurfers at Boomer Beach. Lifeguard Ron Trenton who worked the area from the 60's until his death in a small plane accident in the 90's propagated a large collection of Monterey Cypress *Cupressus macrocarpa* from seeds taken from the Scripps Park specimens. Upon his death that collection was distributed among his many friends. Over the years it has been repeatedly suggested that some of those specimens should be gathered together and planted as a stand within the park to commemorate this highly regarded waterman.
 -
 - Italian Stone Pine *Pinus pinea* – Native to southern Europe and Turkey. Moderate to fast growth reaching 50-100 ft. tall, 25-30 ft. wide. Stately in age, with open branches in spirelike crown. Handsome orange brown bark in plates. Useful for groves and does not like wind. There is a small specimen behind the lifeguard tower at the Cove. That tree is in a challenging location since it's branches need to be trimmed up at the bottom to allow pedestrian passage and also have to be trimmed down at the crown in order to keep the view corridor open.
 - Norfolk Island Pine *Araucaria heterophylla* – A native to Norfolk Island near Australia. They have a moderate growth rate to 100 ft. tall and 60 ft. wide and have a pyramidal shape. There are four specimens within the park which have a very distorted shape due to on-shore coastal winds. These are a better looking tree when planted in groups which prevents wind distortion and allows them to achieve their more pleasing symmetrical shape.

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- Torrey Pine *Pinus torreyana* – Fast growth to 40-60 ft. or more. Broad, open, irregular picturesque habit when exposed to ocean winds. The Torrey pine is the rarest native pine in the United States. They can be found in a number of areas in California and even in Oregon, however they only occur naturally in La Jolla and on Santa Rosa Island off the coast of Santa Barbara. The root system of a 40 ft Torrey pine can reach as far as 200 ft in search of water. This habit can be detrimental to coastal bluffs as these roots can follow cracks or fissures and as they grow contribute to minor landslides. With this in mind specimens should be kept back from the bluff edge. These trees were officially named in 1850 and have been protected since 1885 when posted signs cited a \$100 reward for the apprehension of anyone vandalizing a Torrey pine tree. In 1899 the City Council set aside 364 acres of pueblo lands in what is now Torrey Pines State Park in order to further protect these rare trees. In 1911, when lands surrounding that park were in danger of being commercially sold, Ellen Browning Scripps acquired two additional pueblo lots and willed them to the people of San Diego. There is a single Torrey pine in Scripps Park located near the intersection of Coast Blvd. and Girard Ave. it is a small specimen, approximately 15 ft tall.
- New Zealand Christmas Tree *Metrosideros excelsus* – This is the most common tree specimen within the park. They are native to New Zealand and grow to 30 ft. tall or more, spreading as wide as tall. There is an excellent specimen with a graceful multi-trunk shape that was planted by the La Jolla Garden Society in 1939 to commemorate the 82nd birthday of Kate Sessions. It is located near the center of the park on the western fringe of the grassy area.
- Canary Island Date Palm *Phoenix Canariensis* – big, heavy-trunked palm to 60 ft. tall, with a great many green to bright green, graceful arching fronds that form a crown to 40 ft. wide. Takes seacoast conditions. There is a young specimen on the bluff edge at the Cove. Its location is causing the plant to lean out from the bluff. With age it will straighten resulting in an arching shape to the trunk. Fronds now blocking certain views will ultimately be out of the view corridor.
- Mexican Fan Palm *Washingtonia robusta*- These fast growing fan palms can reach 100 ft tall and 10 ft wide. The trunks are generally slightly curved or bent and support a head of bright green foliage. There are specimens located throughout the park. The ones that line Coast Blvd were planted in 1910 and have become the signature landscape element of Scripps Park.
- Pink Melaleuca *Melaleuca nesophila*- Native to Australia, there are more than 140 species of melaleuca. All types are easy to grow

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and most can withstand the winds, poor soil conditions, and limited moisture associated with coastal locations. The nesophila grows naturally as a small tree to 15-20 ft high. It develops gnarled, heavy branches that sprawl or ascend in picturesque patterns. Grayish cream to pale brown bark is thick and spongy; grey-green leaves are thick, roundish, to 1 in long. Roundish bottlebrush flowers at branch ends are mauve pink. There is a grove of these trees located above Alligator Head, they appear to be a least 50 years old. This group of trees blocks one of the premier view corridors within the park. Jim Neri indicated that he has had good success with moving these trees on projects that he has been involved with at the San Diego Zoo.

- Paperbark Tree *Melaleuca quinquenervia*- This melaleuca has an upright open growth to 20-40 ft tall and about as wide. Thick, spongy, light brown to whitish bark peels off in sheets. The specimens in the park are small and not in good shape as this is one of the few melaleucas which does not do well in the coastal zone.
- Bracelet Honey Myrtle *Melaleuca armillaris*- This melaleuca can be trained as a sprawling shrub or in a tree shape. Branches are drooping with furrowed grey bark that peels off in strips near the base of the trunk. It has fluffy white flowers on long spikes from spring to fall. Tough and adaptable it is especially useful as a wind screen from sea winds. There are several locations in the park where these are used. The ones above Alligator Head block the view corridor
- Guadalupe Palm *Brahea edulis* – From Guadalupe Island off Baja California. Slow grower eventually to 30 ft tall. Old leaves drop, leaving a naked, elephant-hide, stout trunk ringed with scars. Will take beach as well as dessert conditions. There are two specimens in the park located on the bluff that is east of the lifeguard tower.
- Giant Yucca *Yucca gigantea* – From Mexico and Central America. Fast growing (up to 2 ft per year) to an eventual 15-30 ft, by 8 ft. usually has several trunks. Rich deep green, soft tipped leaves to 4 ft long, 3 in. wide. Striking silhouette when planted alone. Tall 3-6 ft. spikes of creamy white flowers in spring. There are 3 mature specimens on the bluff east of the Cove lifeguard tower. They appear to be at least 75 to 80 years old. The largest of the 3 is close to 20 ft tall. That plant is infested with english ivy which will eventually cause it to die.
- Dragon Tree *Dracaena draco* – Native to the Canary Islands. Stout trunk with upward reaching branches topped by clusters of heavy, 2-ft-long leaves. Grows to 20 feet high and as wide. There are three

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- excellent specimens located on the south side of the Bridge Club that can be seen in photographs dating from as early as 1905.
- Cow Itch Tree *Lagunaria patersonii* – Native to South Pacific and Australia. Rather fast growth to 20-50 ft. spreading to as wide as 40 ft., with flat-topped look. Densely foliated in thick, oval, 2-4-in.-long leaves that are olive green above, grey beneath. Pink, 2-in.-wide summer blossoms resemble hibiscus flowers. Blooms best in coastal conditions. Seed pods and stems have short, stiff fibers that can irritate skin and eyes. There are four large specimens 20-30 ft. around the comfort station. They are lovely when in bloom.
 - Aleppo Pine *Pinus halepensis* . These pines are from the Mediterranean region. They have an open, irregular crown of many short ascending branches. There are seven specimens in a grove at the corner of Coast Blvd. and Girard. On-shore winds have distorted their shapes and the largest one requires a number of posts and guy wires to support it's branches.
 - Australian Tea Tree *Leptospermum laevigatum* – native to Australia. Called tea tree because Captain Cook brewed tea from the leaves and gave it to his crew as a scurvy preventative. It is a large shrub or small tree 10-30 ft. high and wide. Solitary plants that are allowed to grow to full size develop picturesque character, with shaggy, grey-brown, muscular-looking trunks that twist and curve gracefully. There are three very old specimens, 80-100 years, located in the BBQ area that is above the middle area of Boomer Beach. The trunks on them are up to three feet in diameter and have developed the picturesque character described above.
 - Shrubs – the following shrubs are found in various areas within the park.
 - Indian Hawthorn *Raphiolepis indica* – Native to China. The variety of this shrub that is most common in the park is “ballerina” which is 2-3 ft. tall, 4 ft. wide. They have deep rosy pink flowers and the leaves take on a reddish tinge in the winter. There are several large groupings of this hardy shrub in the park. The ones at the Bridge Club and and above South Boomer beach appear to be 40 – 50 years old.
 - Karo *Pittosporum tobira* – Native to Japan. Dense rounded growth 6-15 feet tall and wide. Leathery, elliptical, shinny dark green leaves to 5 in. long. Creamy white flowers with fragrance of orange blossoms are borne at branch tips. Very tolerant of seacoast conditions. There are several groves of this shrub in the park. A large grouping, 28 specimens, appear to be at least 50 years old and have reached small tree size up to 10 feet tall. That grove is infested with sooty mold and white flies and is in need of special attention from maintenance personnel.

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- Cape Pittosporum *Pittosporum viridiflorum* – from South Africa. Leaves to 3 in. long are glossy deep green, paler beneath. Dense clusters of fragrant yellowish green flowers in late spring. Excellent for screens and windbreaks. A number of the specimens in the park appear to be 80 to 100 years old.
- Mirror Plant *Coprosma repens* – Native to New Zealand, valued for ease of maintenance in difficult situations and for handsome, almost unbelievably shiny and glossy foliage. There is a large hedge of this shrub on the west side of the Bridge Club.
- 'Marble Queen' Mirror Plant *Coprosma repens 'variegata'* – Same as above but with creamy white leaves irregularly splashed and dotted with green. There are a number of these on the south west corner of the Bridge Club.
- Hollywood Juniper *Juniperus chinensis 'Torulosa'* – This shrub will grow in virtually any soil as long as drainage is good. To 15 ft high and 10 ft wide. They are irregular and upright with a twisted appearance and rich green foliage. There is a fairly good specimen located near the lifeguard tower at the Cove.
- Ground covers – The following ground covers are seen along the bluffs at the perimeter of the park. Ice plants or mesembryanthemums were a favorite of Kate Sessions she promoted their use in order to control erosion.
 - Ice Plant *Mesembryanthemum crystallinum* - this edible plant has naturalized in parts of California and can be seen on the bluff above the Cove cave next to Alligator Head. Very drought tolerant with white to pinkish flowers that bloom in summer.
 - Red Apple Iceplant *Aptenia cordifolia* – a commonly-used variety has trailing stems that are profusely set with fleshy bright green leaves. Red, inch wide flowers bloom in spring and summer
 - Disneyland Ice Plant *drosanthemum hispidum* – Several large areas are covered with this specimen on the bluffs at Boomer Beach. Their 3-foot-long stems are not inclined to stem-root so it has limited erosion-control capabilities. Showy one-inch bright purple flowers cover these plants in late spring and early summer producing a stunning show of color, particularly as viewed from the water.
 - Sea Fig *Carpobrotus edulis* – This is the most common form seen within the park. From South africa. It has curved, 4-5-in.-long leaves, pale yellow to rose flowers. Fruit is edible but not particularly tasty. In the past it was commonly used for erosion control but has fallen out of favor since it was determined that the weight of it's spreading growth can contribute to land slides during extreme wet conditions.
- Succulents – The following succulents are present within the park

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- Century Plant *Agave americana* these are a particularly good landscape element to use when trying to limit access to sensitive or dangerous areas. They have hooked spines along the margin of their leaves and a wicked spine at the tip. Visually and in fact, they represent a significant deterrent to visitors venturing below the tops of the bluffs. After 10 years or more, the plant produces a branched, 15-40-ft. flower stalk bearing yellowish green flowers. Suckers that are produced from the root system replace the mature plants as they die after blooming.
- Foxtail Agave *Agave attenuata* – Leaves 2 ½ ft. long, soft green or grey green, fleshy, somewhat translucent, without spines. Makes clumps to 5 ft. across. Greenish yellow flowers borne densely on arching spikes to 12-14 ft. long. These do well in poor soil conditions and near the ocean.
- Tree Aloe *Aloe arborescens* – There is a very large stand of these next to the east stairs at the Cove and smaller groupings are present through out the park. They withstand salt spray and their root systems are helpful for erosion control. They bloom in winter when they produce long spiky red clusters.
- Perennials and annuals – The following are present:
 - Sea Lavender *Limonium perezii* – Large, leathery, green leaves contrast with airy clusters of tiny, delicate rich purple flowers on nearly leafless, many branched stems. Long spring and summer bloom. First-class beach plant. Often naturalizes in coastal Southern California. Seen along the bluff on the east side of the Cove.
 - Lily-of-the-Nile *Agapanthus orientalis* - Broad, arching leaves in big clumps. Stems to 4-5ft. tall bear up to 100 blue flowers. A number of large clumps are located along the path in the Bridge Club garden.
 - Schultz-Bip *Argyranthemum foeniculaceum*. A specie of chrysanthemum, which are mostly native to China, Japan, and Europe. Grows exceptionally well near the coast. Drought tolerant. These are abundant along the bluffs to the east of the Cove.
- Grasses – The park area devoted to grass equals approximately 85% of the total area. The primary specimen is Kikuyu Grass *Pennisetum clandestinum*. This is a particularly hardy variety that does well in coastal areas, the same variety is used at the Torrey Pines Golf course. It has a ropey growth habit that results in a thick thatched condition if it is not occasionally cut back and aerated. Currently that thatched condition exists at the perimeter next to the public sidewalk and concrete paths within the park. This situation causes two problems:
 - The elevated effect creates a drainage avenue for excess water that can freely drain across the walkways at the western edge of

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the lawn. This flow has created erosion patterns on the adjacent bluffs above Boomer Beach and Rocky Point.

- The thickened thatch edge creates a barrier for wheelchair access to the lawn areas

David Shaw from the University Of California Cooperative Extension who represents the San Diego County Farm Advisor for landscape, turf, and irrigation consultation came to the park to comment on the lawns and irrigation system. He recommended contacting the City of San Diego Water Department to request a water conservancy assessment of current irrigation methods. Standing puddles of water in several areas indicate that excessive irrigation is taking place. He also observed rehab efforts for the lawn area above the Cove where Park and Recreation Department maintenance workers are trying to repair various bald spots by introducing Bermuda Grass *Cynodon dactylon*. That specimen does not like the coastal zone due to general cool conditions. He recommends the introduction of Kikuyu grass in place of the bermuda grass.

Mr. Shaw also identified a particularly hardy type of grass, *Distichlis spicata*, that is present in several bluff edge locations at the Cove, Boomer Beach and Rocky Point. This variety is regularly used by Cal Trans to control erosion around freeway zones and is very salt-tolerant, the sample that was examined by him under a microscope was covered with salt crystals. Propagation of this grass in erosion trouble zones would help to control bluff deterioration

Existing improvements within the park

- Lifeguard tower and support facility – The current lifeguard tower was built in the early 1980's. It is in poor condition and is scheduled for replacement in the near future. It is adjacent to a support facility that was built in the 1930's. That building includes a locker area, shower, and toilet. It is an underground structure in poor condition, which provides inadequate square footage for the needs of the lifeguard service.
- Access stairs at the Cove – These stairs were recently restored through a grant from the California Coastal Conservancy. They include stainless steel handrails. There are two flights of stairs one on the east side and another on the west. Both stairs have large final steps, 18 to 24 inches high, at the beach. At the base of the west stairs there is a collection of broken concrete debris left over from the former stairs.
- The Cove cave – The Cove cave has an internal concrete support system and rock veneer reinforcing at the north side opening. There is no record of when this work was done. However, it was most likely put in place in the 1930's when the Cove walls were built. The condition of the support system is poor with rusted rebar showing in a number of places. There is also an erosion caused hole in the ceiling, which increases in size each winter during the rainy season. Without some kind of rework and

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- improvement to the interior support system, this popular photo location and access path to the tide pools on the north side will surely collapse.
- The Bridge Club – Built in 1939 as a WPA project the original design was by Richard Requa. Over the years since then the building has been remodeled a number of times to the point where it no longer resembles the style of the original historically significant structure. The building is in good condition and is regularly used for Bridge Club card games, Alcoholics Anonymous biweekly meetings, Yoga classes, and wedding parties. The location of this improvement has been questioned by a number of the Scripps Park Project participants since it is in the view corridor, which looks out towards Torrey Pines State Park to the north.
 - The Comfort Station – The comfort station was built in the late 1960s and replaced the original structure, which was designed in the Mission style by William Templeton Johnson. Underneath this building is sewer pump station #33, which underwent significant upgrade in 2004. On the south side is a trash storage area behind wood gates that are in very poor condition. To the west is an outdoor shower area, which is in unsightly condition due to a mold infestation on the block walls. At the center of the north side is a new handicap unisex toilet facility, which was installed in 2005 and meets all current ADA standards. The interior facilities of the original building are in very poor condition. Toilet facilities have been modified to meet ADA standards by using plywood partitions. Sinks do not have soap or paper towels. There are no mirrors and the shower stalls have been haphazardly modified in an attempt to meet ADA standards. Lighting is nonfunctional. The facility is obviously beyond its useful life expectancy and in need of replacement. Its location is also questionable since it blocks the primary view corridor from the main lawn area of the park.
 - Park benches – There are a variety of bench styles within the park. All are in serviceable condition but nearing the end of their useful life expectancy. The wooden units have termite damage and several of the concrete ones are cracked and showing signs of rusted rebar. None of them includes a companion space for wheelchair bound visitors per current ADA standards. Most have a trash receptacle directly next to them, which creates unpleasant situation for those who sit on the benches.
 - BBQ areas – these assemblies of tables, benches, BBQ grills, hot coal depositories, and trash containers are in good condition. They do not include handicap and the areas around them is paved with decomposed granite, which makes wheelchair use difficult due to pot holes and mud puddle areas.
 - The Green Shacks – These are rebuilt replicas of the original historic structures. They are maintained in good condition and are popular resting and viewing locations. The shacks at Boomer Beach are close to

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the bluff edge. Handicap access to those is hampered by a one-inch concrete lip at the entrance. The shack at Shell Beach is completely inaccessible to wheelchairs due to a steep asphalt ramp and broken down handrail.

- Access stairs at Shell Beach - These stairs, which were built in the mid 1990s, are currently closed with the entrance blocked by a locked chain. They are considered a hazard by city officials due to splitting of the concrete surface at several treads and risers. Tourists regularly ignore the chain, stepping over it to access the beach below.
- Access path at Bommer Beach - This path was improved in 1995 as part of the Dave Freeman Memorial callbox installation. Volunteers compacted soil that had been enhanced with Portland cement into the severely eroded path. Additionally, they positioned large boulders to help hold the soil in place and serve as occasional steps in the slopping path.
- Access stairs at Point La Jolla – These wooden stairs are located on the north side of Point La Jolla. They were repaired several years ago and are in serviceable condition. They lead tourists down to the most dangerous portion of the point, which is next to a surge channel with a ten foot drop off to the water below. That area becomes even more dangerous in the winter when continued soaking from large surf causes moss to grow on the bluff edge creating a slippery landing at the base of the stairs. Relocation of these stairs to the south would alleviate these hazards.
- Light poles – The light poles in the park were replaced in the late 1990s when the top portion on one of the cast iron units that were there fell off and almost struck a sightseer who was sitting at the bench above Boomer Beach. All of the badly rusted existing cast iron units were replaced with light weight fiberglass poles. These lights have not fared well under the trying conditions of this coastal location. Several of the tops are missing and the imitation wood texture of the posts looks out of place in this natural setting.
- Concrete walkways – Colored concrete walkways replaced asphalt paths in the mid-1960s. They are in good condition, however their close proximity to the bluff edge is cause for concern in several areas. Particularly at South Boomer Beach. The bluff in that area has receded to within six feet of the walkway and when viewed from the beach the bluff appears to be undercut to a point that is actually underneath the walkway.
- Park identification monument – This monument was installed in 1954. It is located at the corner of Coast Blvd. and Girard. It is built from concrete blocks and has a wooden sign with the park name. View of the sign has been obscured by the installation of a bench and trash receptacle. It is further concealed by large branches from an adjacent tree.
- Signage – Most signage within the park is limited to the standard city signs, such as no dogs, no fires, no glass containers, etc. There is some signage

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at Alligator Head and the Cove describing the Underwater Park and various warning signs near hazard areas.

- Guard rails – there are three main types of guard rails in the park:
 - Galvanized pipe rails above the Cove and at Alligator Head
 - Aluminum pipe rails with wood posts from Boomer Beach south to the Shell Beach Stairs
 - White painted wood rails from Shell Beach to the south of the stairs.
- Trash receptacles – the trash receptacles in the park are relatively new. They are concrete with blue plastic caps that prevent sea gulls from getting into them.

Existing ADA compliance report – The ADA is the Americans With Disabilities Act, passed into law in 1990. It is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities. The ADA is a federal statute governing almost all aspects of public life. Its purpose is to make discrimination against persons with disabilities a federal civil rights violation. It contains definitions of what discrimination is, persons protected by the Act, and remedies against persons and organizations that discriminate. It is enforced by the Department of Justice and private lawsuits. It provides the broad intent of the statute without the specifics of how to carry it out.

A review of existing improvements compliance with current ADA requirements for public places was conducted during a “roll around tour” with disabled consultant Dennis Sharp from Sharp Design Consultants, Vern Westenberger a city wide access compliance officer from the City of San Diego Community Economic Development Dept. and Mark Holmes from the La Jolla Conservancy. Following are their observations:

- Benches require wheelchair companion spaces 36" x 48" – none comply, most have trash cans in that area
- Drinking fountains need better access and proper fountain configuration for use while seated in a wheelchair.
- Green Shacks have an access hampering concrete lip at entrance. Shack at Shell beach has a non conforming ramp
- The thick edge at the lawn perimeter prevents smooth access for wheelchairs.
- BBQ areas need access paths. Stabilized DG would be good solution. Entire area around BBQ's and tables would better serve the disabled if it were paved with stabilized DG
- Bridge Club door thresholds do not comply with wheelchair access regulations
- Bridge Club emergency exit on the west side has a step, needs ramp
- A viewing area at Alligator Head would be desirable

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- Interior shower facilities at the comfort station do not have conforming water valves; they should be located on a side wall towards the rear to allow for operation while seated in a wheelchair.
- Access ramp from the street above Shell Beach does not allow level passage on the sidewalk it should have 4 foot wide level passage zone next to the ramp
- There are insufficient handicap parking spaces for a public park with the level of usage found at Scripps Park

The controversy concerning access to the proposed viewing platform which is included in remodel plans for the Cove Lifeguard Tower was discussed at this meeting and at the SPP meeting which was held that evening at the La Jolla Library. Mr. Westenberger and Mr. Sharp confirmed that ADA goals with regard to that project are not focused on access to the viewing platform, in fact they felt that a viewing area west of Alligator Point would be far superior. They are also not interested in access to the beach below. The true issue is the need for disabled people to have access to an emergency first aid area at the lifeguard facility

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Analysis of Integrity

As a historical site, Scripps Park retains a significant amount of its integrity. Integrity is defined as the ability of a site to convey its significance. Integrity is based on seven aspects: Location, Design, Setting, Materials, Workmanship, Feeling, and Association.

Location

The aspect of location concerns the place where the historic event occurred, or where the historic property was built.

Scripps Park is located on the same site where it was initially planned in the original 1887 "La Jolla Park" subdivision map created by the Pacific Coast Land Bureau, Botsford, Dearborn, and Heald. The park's boundaries have not changed, and the location of specific historic buildings and natural and heritage landscape elements (i.e. Bridge Club, *Washingtonia robusta* Palms, the Cove, Point La Jolla, Boomer Beach, etc.) retain the same location and spatial distances from when they initially achieved historical significance.

Design

The aspect of design concerns the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a site.

Most surviving historic buildings designed landscape elements, and circulation paths at Scripps Park retain their historic design. However, there have been

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alterations to many of these elements. The Bridge Club has been altered significantly with two additions, and the removal of the shuffleboard courts. The shuffleboard courts have been replaced with a garden. The building now longer has its original, shape, and form. Several historic memorials, like the plaque commemorating Miss Ellen Browning Scripps and the Lincoln Centennial Flagstaff are absent. The plaque from Scripps Park is now at the La Jolla Historical Society. While the original boulder and plaque that was adjacent to the Lincoln flagstaff is present, the actual flagstaff was removed approximately 1960. Due to structural problems, several hardscape elements, like the cove wall, were replaced with reinforced structures that are not historic. Aspects of the park that were removed earlier, like the bath houses, Swings above Alligator Head, Marine Biological Laboratory, have not been replaced or reconstructed.

Setting

The aspect of setting is the physical environment of a historic site.

The setting of Scripps Park is its most important aspect of integrity. It was initially planned as open space, and the subdivision map shows it was never divided into lines. It has always had a park-like natural setting, with few buildings and structures built on the site during its history. Today, the park remains predominately unaltered, and many of the original circulation paths are still used today and contribute to the historic setting. While in the past, historic view corridors were prevalent along Coast Blvd and Prospect Street (which dictated the placement of some of the original buildings like the Red Rest), commercial and residential development has removed many of them. However, many of the view corridors within the park are still extant and allow views of several historic natural features.

Materials

The aspect of materials is the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration.

Despite modern alterations, much of the original building materials - undulating stucco walls, use of cobble stone, plain white railings, are present within Scripps Park. The original materials and building fabric convey the period of significance for the buildings, and reflect their importance to the park, as a whole.

Workmanship

The aspect of workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period of history or prehistory.

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Heritage plantings, designed landscape elements, and historic buildings within the park retain a high level of appropriate design and workmanship. The Bridge Club was built through WPA labor during the Depression, and remains in excellent condition. The thoughtful selection for a number of historic plantings are evidenced by their ability to thrive in a coastal environment prone to high-winds, prolonged periods without rainfall, and heavy storms.

Feeling

The aspect of feeling is the expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period.

The absence of major structural changes has created a strong sense of feeling within the park. Yet, the construction of modern buildings and structures, like the lifeguard tower, the comfort station with trash storage and maintenance areas, parking facilities, public safety barriers, signage, and storm drain system disturb the aesthetic and historic sense of a particular period. Today, these modern buildings and structures are needed to operate a public site. Landscape elements that are historic or match historic elements in-kind convey a historic feeling in the park, and contribute to the significance of the site. While natural erosion and coastal storms and winds have destroyed several prominent natural features, like Alligator Head, the remnants of these features retain aesthetic value and convey a historical feeling.

Association

The aspect of association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic site.

Throughout the history of the site, numerous individuals of local, state, and national significance have been associated with the site. These individuals include Frank Botsford, Charles Dearborn, George Heald, the Pacific Coast Land Bureau, Ellen Browning Scripps, Kate Sessions, Walter Lieber, Myron Close, Richard Requa, William Templeton Johnson, Dr. William Ritter, Dr. Charles Kofoid, Eleanor Parkes, and Bob Shea. Furthermore, the park is part of a historic event, as one of two original parks planned in the initial subdivision of La Jolla.

CONCLUSION

Ellen Browning Scripps Park has and continues to be a significant part of La Jolla's history. The landscape, natural features, and predominance of open space have provided quiet repose for local citizens and international tourists since 1887. The park has been the cornerstone of the community and the setting for numerous popular public events. While the village of La Jolla has grown into

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modern times the park continues to serve as a reminder of what initially attracted people to the area. Inevitable change has taken place over the years with original plantings and buildings being lost, and new ones added, but the park remains a historical and cultural treasure.

Research undertaken during the preparation of this report indicates several issues that have been problematic for previous planners in the park and the adjacent village of La Jolla. Those involved with this planning effort can learn from history by keeping the following in mind:

- Scripps Park is located directly adjacent to the ocean and is greatly affected by the dynamic of “shoreline processes”. Improvements to the area have to anticipate the inevitable change that occurs due to those processes. The recent replacement of the original Cove wall is a good example of what can happen when structures are put too close to the ocean edge of the park.
- Over the years, thousands of trees and shrubs have perished in the park due to the harsh conditions associated with the site. Research done by Kate Sessions and others led to the selection of a number of plant specimens that can survive and thrive in the area. Any new plantings that occur also need to be thoughtfully selected.
- Planning efforts that do not involve significant community participation are doomed to failure, no matter how well they are conceived. The Elliot Plan from 1946 is a good example of what can happen. It was brilliantly laid out and included elements that could have been significant improvements. But it represented the ideas of a small group for an area that is treasured by many local citizens. Recent planning efforts for Kellogg Park were unsuccessful for the same reason. Professional planners need to keep the community engaged during the process of change.
- The government approval and permitting process can be very complicated for projects on public lands in the coastal zone. Planning efforts that do not anticipate and plan for streamlining that process can be stalled for years. The Coast Blvd. Improvement plan of 1993 was painstakingly prepared with broad community input but was never totally realized due to continual delays and expense associated with getting from “plan” to “do”.
- Water pollution has been a problem at this site from the earliest days of modern use. Both of the bathhouses (1897 – 1919) discharged waste water at Boomer Beach and the original Scripps Institution of Oceanography building at Alligator Point (1905 - 1912) had to relocate due to complaints concerning lab water discharge into the Cove. Currently the waters off the Cove, which are now classified as an Area Of Special Biological Significance by the California Ocean Plan, are regularly contaminated with raw sewage overflow and storm water discharge. The

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Scripps Park Project has identified the resolution of this ongoing problem as a primary issue for this planning effort.

- The lack of a workable funding strategy has been the demise of numerous improvement ideas over the years. For example
 - The Performance Park at the intersection of Girard and Prospect known as “The Dip” – 1975. This widely supported idea has been discussed and planned for thirty years.
 - The Downtown La Jolla Master Plan – 1990. The financing plan for that effort was “some type of assessment district combined with private donations”. Virtually none of the work has been completed.
 - The collapse of Alligator Head – 1978. That beloved natural landmark was identified as being in need of reinforcement in 1955 but funds were never allocated.

In this day and age when city government budgets are far from adequate proponents of improvements to the park will need to consider creative measures to finance those ideas.

If the vision of a bright and healthy future for the park is to be realized, those who share that vision must learn these lessons and plan accordingly.