

Cultural Exploration

Newport Beach



The Upper Bay of Newport is a canyon, which was carved by a stream in the Pleistocene period. The Lower Bay of Newport was formed much later by sand that was brought along by ocean currents, which constructed the offshore beach that is now recognized as the Balboa Peninsula of Newport Beach.

Before settlers reached the coasts of California, the Newport area and surrounding areas were very prominent Indian lands. Indian shells and relics can still be found today scattered throughout the area. Though, throughout the 1800s, settlers began to settle the area due to the availability of land. The State of California sold acre-plots of land for \$1 a piece in the Newport area. Anglo-American inhabitation in the area grew substantially following the events of 1870 when a 105-ton steamer named The Vaquero, captained by Captain Samuel S. Dunnells (against warnings posted by surveyors) safely steered through the lower and upper bay of Newport where it unloaded its cargo. James Irvine, after hearing the astonishing news, quickly traveled from his home in San Francisco to the San Joaquin Ranch. Meeting in Irvine's ranch house near current day UC Irvine with his brother, Robert Irvine, and friend James McFadden, they all agreed that the newly found port should be named simply, "Newport" thus where Newport Beach gets its name.[10]

In 1905, city development increased when Pacific Electric Railway established a southern terminus in Newport connecting the beach with downtown Los Angeles.[11] In 1906 (with a population of 206 citizens), the scattered settlements were incorporated as the City of Newport Beach.[2]

Settlements filled in on the Peninsula, West Newport, Newport Island, Balboa Island and Lido Isle. In 1923 Corona del Mar was annexed and in 2002 Newport Coast, East Santa Ana Heights and San Joaquin Hills, were annexed.[2] In 2008, after a long battle with the city of Costa Mesa, Newport Beach annexed West Santa Ana Heights.

Carbon Canyon Regional Park

- ▶ Website: www.ocparks.com
- ▶ Address: Brea, California, United States



Carbon Canyon Regional Park (or simply Carbon Canyon Park) is a regional park in Brea, California that was created after the Carbon Canyon Creek was dammed. It links up with Chino Hills State Park on the East side. The park also is home to a small forest of Redwood trees, which have been struggling to survive since the start of the 2010 California drought.

A small, three acre forest of Coastal Sequoia redwood trees reside within the park's boundaries and is host to various species of birds, rabbits, squirrels, chipmunks and fauna. The forest was threatened in 2008 by the Triangle Fire and by the California drought from 2010 to 2016.