

Walk in the History of El Segundo

Stop #1

Outside 324 W. El Segundo Blvd

- This oil refinery is the largest on the West Coast, processing 250,000 barrels per day every day. This refinery is a 24-hour operation, never completely closing for any reason. Some of the megaships supplying this refinery are so large they cannot go thru the Panama Canal. They are so large they cannot come close to shore. Instead, they transfer their cargo to smaller ships near Catalina Island, which are able to come within ¼ of a mile from shore, where they connect with a pipeline which brings the oil into the refinery. For safety reasons all of the Chevron ships are double hulled and the storage tanks are all double bottom. Also for safety reasons, transportation of personnel within the refinery is mainly by bicycle.
- First the crude petroleum is separated into its component parts by distillation. This results in more lubricating oil than is needed. So the excess lubricating oil is broken down by “cracking” at 1,000 degrees F. in the presence of a catalyst to more gasoline. The excess light fractions are alkylated in the presence of sulfuric acid or hydrofluoric acid at 40 degrees F. to form more gasoline. Every part of the crude petroleum is utilized; no part is wasted.

Stop #2

Franklin Street near Main Street
Standard Oil Mural

- John D. Rockefeller, by obtaining secret rebates from the railroads and by obtaining control of all the pipelines, achieved a 95% monopoly in the United States.
- In 1911, the U. S. Supreme Court decided that the Standard Oil Company was a monopoly in “restraint of trade”, imposed a large fine, and split Standard Oil into 34 separate and distinct parts. Many competitors refused to believe that each part was really a separate and distinct operation. So the new parts each changed their name. Standard Oil of New York became Mobil. Standard Oil of New Jersey became Esso. Standard Oil of California became Chevron, etc.
- In 2001, some of the parts started coming back together. Mobil and Esso merged to become the largest refinery in the world. Chevron and Texaco merged to become the second largest.
- This mural shows how sand dunes in El Segundo were leveled with the aid of 500 mules to provide the base for the erection of the refinery.

(1) (2)

Stop #3

214 Main Street
Aviation Mural

- The airplanes built by the Wright Brothers and those immediately following were all an open design with no cockpit for the pilot. The plants in the mural were of later design, all enclosed with a cockpit.
- The North American P-51 Mustang, emerging out of the circle on the mural, was the airplane used in bombing Germany in World War II.
- The North American B-25 medium bomber to the right and below the P-51 was the model used in the bombing of Tokyo in World War II.
- All of the airplanes depicted in this mural were manufactured here in El Segundo.
- The foreground is Mines Field, which became LAX.

Stop #4

Fire Headquarters Station No. 1

- The first dwellings in El Segundo were tent cabins. The next ones were wood cabins. Both were reduced to ashes by the Richmond Street fire of 1917. (4) (5)
- To prevent future fires, subsequent buildings were either brick or concrete.

Stop #5

350 Main Street

Flower bed in front of City Hall

- This is a demonstration garden of drought resistant plants suggested for home gardens. Seeds for these plants can be purchased at Home Depot.

Stop #6

348 Main Street

Police Department

- When the burglars of Escobar Ford were caught, they turned out to be off duty members of the El Segundo Police Department. Since that time, the police department has been very careful who they hire. Only 3 out of every 100 applicants are ever hired.
- The police department never stops hunting for suspects. A Gerald Mason, who committed rape and shot 2 policemen, was hunted until arrested 46 years later.

- The El Segundo police now have a much better record than neighboring cities as seen below:

1991-1995

<u>Assault</u>		<u>Homicide</u>		<u>Auto Theft</u>	
Inglewood	1,844	Inglewood	43	Inglewood	2,153
Hermosa Beach	71	Hawthorne	16	Redondo Beach	587
Manhattan Beach	44	Marina Del Rey	5	Marine Del Rey	364
El Segundo	26	El Segundo	2	El Segundo	188
				Hermosa Beach	145

Stop #7

350 Main Street
City Hall

- The end of the cold war resulted in drastic layoffs in the defense plants here, as shown by the following listing of employees:

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1993</u>
Hughes	35,000	10,000
Rockwell	8,190	1,300
Northrop	4,000	2,400
TRW	2,371	286
Aerospace Corp	4,129	3,410

Stop #8

520 Main Street
Aerospace Mural

(3) (6) (12) (13)

- There were three contestants for the \$25,000 Ortega Prize for the first airplane to cross the Atlantic Ocean non-stop.
- The Igor Sikorsky entered with a three engine airplane loaded with all sorts of gadgets. Admiral Richard Byrd entered with a two engine airplane which was to be piloted by four pilots trading positions. Charles Lindberg, by contrast, decided his airplane should have as little weight as possible so he entered with only one engine to be piloted solely by himself all the way. To keep the weight at a minimum, Lindberg removed all unnecessary gadgets and even removed the radio. Instead of loading all the fuel in the wings, Lindberg put most of the fuel in front, blocking view thru the windshield and forced to view out the side windows. Both Admiral Byrd and Igor Sikorsky crashed on takeoff whereas Lindberg flew all the way to Paris. (7)
- Note the space station depicted in the mural. The actual International Space Station launched in 1998 was the joint effort of the United States, Russia, Japan and eleven European nations.

(8)

So far the mission has been a success and shows the nations of the world can work successfully together when they plan to do so.

Stop #9

El Segundo High School
Main Street between Mariposa and Palm Avenue

- On competitive tests, the El Segundo High School scores higher than other nearby cities as tabulated below for 2003:

<u>City</u>	<u>Stanford 9 – 7th grade math</u>
El Segundo	84%
Redondo Beach	79%
Torrance	73%
Santa Monica	71%
Long Beach	49%
Los Angeles	30%
Inglewood	28%

- The most expensive houses in El Segundo are on million dollar hill. There, on the corner of Walnut Avenue and Bungalow Street, one 4,000 square foot home was listed in 2002 at \$1,200,000. Another bungalow sold for \$2,000,000.

Stop #10

Mariposa Avenue between Main and Standard Streets

- Prices of homes in El Segundo is moderate compared to nearby cities tabulated below for 2004:

<u>City</u>	<u>Median (In Thousands)</u>
Lawndale	\$ 330
Torrance	\$ 550
El Segundo	\$ 685
Redondo Beach	\$ 775
Hermosa Beach	\$ 930
Manhattan Beach	\$1,025
Beverly Hills	\$1,873

Stop #11

W. Palm Ave between Main and Standard Street

- Rents in El Segundo are moderate compared with nearby cities as tabulated below for 2003:

<u>City</u>	<u>Rent</u>
Hawthorne	\$ 636 per month
Lawndale	\$ 783 per month
El Segundo	\$ 882 per month
Redondo Beach	\$ 995 per month
Hermosa Beach	\$1,146 per month
Manhattan Beach	\$1,358 per month
Rolling Hills Estates	\$2,001 per month

Stop #12

Main Street between Palm Avenue and Mariposa

- The tree shaded streets in El Segundo are definitely cooler as shown by the following tabulation in August.

<u>% Canopy Cover</u> (9)	<u>Temperature</u>
100%	65 Degrees F.
60%	80 Degrees F.
40%	85 Degrees F.
0%	105 Degrees F.

Stop #13

111 W. Mariposa

- One of the few libraries open at 9:00 a.m. Has a separate room with books and pamphlets on the history of El Segundo, staffed on special occasions with members of the El Segundo Historical Society. Also has an entire room downstairs devoted solely to children's books.

Stop #14

140 Richmond Street
Old Town Hall

- Motion picture theater attendance reached a maximum in 1945. With the advent of television, the attendance has dropped drastically as shown by the following tabulation:

1945	85,000,000 per year
1960	40,000,000 per year
1990	20,000,000 per year

- This particular theater is a revival equipped with a Wurlitzer organ to play while showing silent movies Saturdays and Sundays only. There are only five such theaters left in the whole of Los Angeles County. (10)

Stop #15

Corner Concord Street and El Segundo Blvd

- The El Segundo Refinery is one of the few places in Los Angeles County left with high wages. For example: In refinery maintenance, a first year trainee receives \$21.43 per hour. A reliability mechanic receives \$29.46 per hour which, on a yearly basis, is \$61,277. By contrast, in Los Angeles mechanics, on average, start at \$9.66 per hour.
- The decline in wages corresponds to the drop in union memberships from the high of 35.5% in 1945 to 16.1% in 1991.

Comparable Statistics 2004

Population

El Segundo	16,700
Hermosa Beach	19,350
Lawndale	32,850
Manhattan Beach	36,300
Huntington Park	64,000
Hawthorne	89,400
Santa Monica	89,300
Inglewood	117,000
Long Beach	481,000
Los Angeles	3,864,400

Area

Hermosa Beach	1.4 sq miles
Lawndale	2.0 sq miles
Manhattan Beach	3.9 sq miles
El Segundo	5.5 sq miles
Hawthorne	6.1 sq miles
Santa Monica	8.3 sq miles
Inglewood	9.1 sq miles
Torrance	20.5 sq miles
Long Beach	50.4 sq miles
Los Angeles	469.1 sq miles

Per Capita Income

Maywood	\$ 8,926
Industry	\$ 9,877
El Monte	\$10,316
Compton	\$10,382
Commerce	\$11,117
Pico Rivera	\$13,011
Santa Fe Springs	\$14,547
Inglewood	\$14,776
Hawthorne	\$15,022
Montebello	\$15,125
Bellflower	\$15,982
Alhambra	\$17,350
Gardena	\$17,263
Vernon	\$17,812
Downey	\$18,197
Los Angeles	\$20,671
Whittier	\$21,404
Glendale	\$22,227
Torrance	\$28,144
Pasadena	\$28,186
Culver City	\$29,025
South Pasadena	\$32,620
El Segundo	\$33,996
Redondo Beach	\$38,305
Santa Monica	\$42,874
Manhattan Beach	\$61,136
Beverly Hills	\$65,507

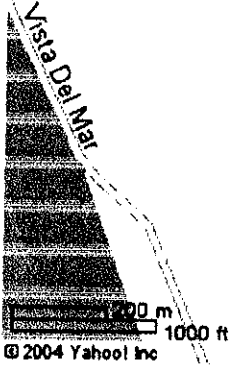
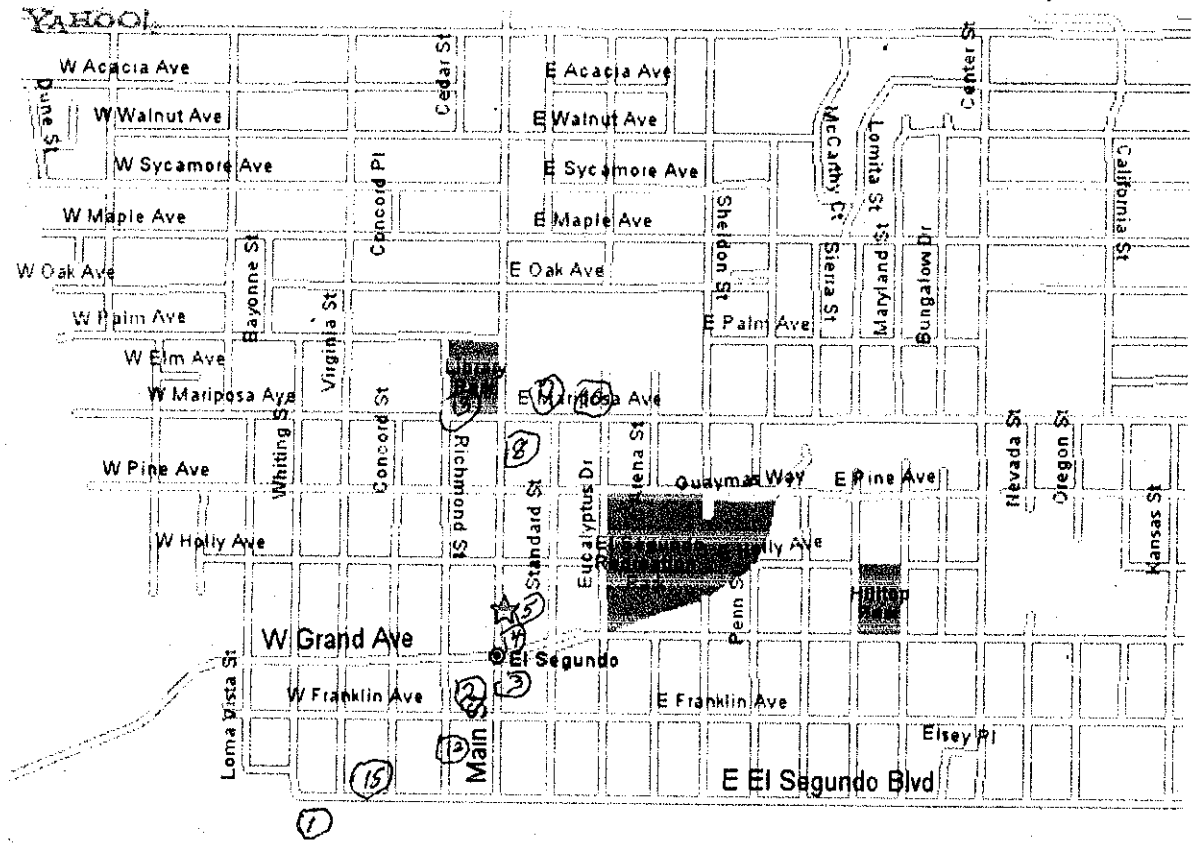
Educational Rank Stanford 9 – 7th Grade Math

Compton	23%
Inglewood	25%
Commerce	25%
Bell Gardens	25%
Montebello	25%
Gardena	26%
Los Angeles	26%
Bell	26%
Vernon	26%
Maywood	26%
West Hollywood	26%
Pico Rivera	33%
Alhambra	34%
Pasadena	37%
Bellflower	43%
Downey	46%
Industry	46%
Culver City	50%
Glendale	63%
Redondo Beach	64%
Hermosa Beach	64%
Santa Monica	67%
Torrance	69%
El Segundo	74%
South Pasadena	81%
Beverly Hills	81%
Palos Verdes Estates	85%
Manhattan Beach	88%

Comparable Statistics 2004

Date of Incorporation

Los Angeles	1850
Santa Monica	1886
Pasadena	1886
Redondo Beach	1888
South Pasadena	1888
Alhambra	1903
Vernon	1905
Glendale	1906
Hermosa Beach	1907
Inglewood	1908
Manhattan Beach	1912
Beverly Hills	1914
Culver City	1917
El Segundo	1917
Montebello	1920
Torrance	1921
Hawthorne	1922
Maywood	1924
Gardena	1930
Palos Verdes Estates	1939
Industry	1957
Santa Fe Springs	1957
Pico Rivera	1958
Commerce	1960



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