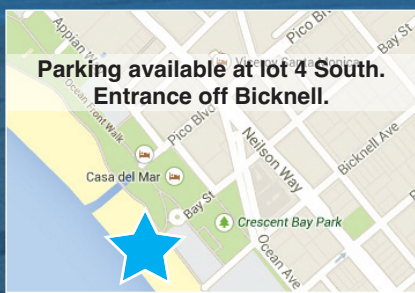




Heal the Bay



Need a pick-me-up?
So does our coast.



Coastal Cleanup Day

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2015 | 9AM TO 12PM

Join the biggest volunteer event in L.A. at HEALTHEBAY.ORG/CCD

Bay Street/Inkwell Monument Site, Santa Monica Beach

Coastal Cleanup Day gives us an amazing opportunity for action and education and remembrance of our collective history. Here we celebrate our collective love of the ocean, our layered community history, and move forward together as stewards of this precious environment.

At this site during the Jim Crow era (1900s–1960s) Santa Monica College student Nick Gabaldón, other African Americans and their supporters—challenged racism and class structures to make a contribution towards opening up public beach spaces for all.

"THE INK WELL"

A Place of Celebration and Pain

The beach near this site between Bay and Bicknell Streets, known by some as "the Ink Well," was an important gathering place for African Americans long after racial restrictions on public beaches were abandoned in 1927.

African-American groups from Santa Monica, Venice and Los Angeles, as early as the 1920s to the end of the Jim Crow era in the 1950s, preferred to enjoy the sun and surf here because they encountered less racial harassment than at other Southland beaches.

In the 1940s, Nick Gabaldon, a Santa Monica High School student and the first documented black surfer, taught himself how to surf here.

Inkwell Monument. Installation 2008 by the City of Santa Monica

Volunteers under 18 must have waiver signed by parent or guardian.

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