







Photos: Ken Vadnais



Asphaltum in the cliffs and along the beach at More Mesa.

Not only does oil come from natural seeps in the ocean, it also oozes out of cliff faces and rocky outcroppings along the Santa Barbara coastline and further inland. These hardened chunks of asphaltum were found locally.

The "tar in the jar" is actually not tar. It's liquid asphaltum, a sticky and highly viscous liquid or semi-solid form of petroleum. This was also collected from a local seep. When it hardens, it creates a protective and waterproof surface.











The History of Oil in the Santa Barbara Channel

Donor Acknowledgement

Major Sponsors

@

George H. & Olive J. Griffiths Charitable Foundation June G. Outhwaite Charitable Trust SOS California Lad Handelman and Judy Rossiter Wood-Claeyssens Foundation John C. Woodward

Sponsors

ExxonMobil Freeport-McMoRan Oil and Gas LLC Hank and Mari Mitchel Kenneth Vadnais Western States Petroleum Association Chuck and Mary Wilson

Supporters

R.H. Heck & Associates Robert and Claudia Kirby James Lima Petroleum Production Pioneers

Special Thanks

James Boles Lauren Cain Monica Carlsen Marybeth Carty Kent Christenson **Emily Falke** John Foster Greg Gorga John Iwerks Marc Kamerling Ojai Valley Museum Alan Salazar Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Santa Paula Oil Museum Dennis Schuett Emma Thorne-Christy Debi van Zyl

PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPT ONLY

3D artifacts - perhaps show different lamps to show evolution of lighting in the home



BOOMTIME: OIL INDUSTRY IN SANTA BARBARA









and the city quickly expanded in population and reputation as a place to visit. Roads were paved, trees planted, civic buildings rose, and grand hotels were built to accommodate the growing tourism industry. And the automobile had arrived.

World War I, followed by economic prosperity of the 1920s and foreign demand for U.S. oil in the 1930s, spurred further oil development in the Santa Barbara County. Oil production maintained a steady rate of gradual growth during the Great Depression years due, in part, to a growing foreign demand for oil.

World War II increased oil demand considerably and pushed oil production to record-high levels in Santa Barbara County. Important oil discoveries from the late 1940s to mid-1950s stimulated the last significant period of local onshore exploration.



Later, kerosene was replaced with electric ligthing, a direct result of the federal rural electrification programs of the 1930s. However, it is still widely used today in all turbojet engines that power passenger and cargo jet aircraft. It is the same kerosene that was produced in the Summerland oil fields.







Oil exploration in the United States was stimulated by the of whale oil that had, until that time, been the best oil to burn in lamps. People realized it was possible to use the petroleum coming out of the ground for this purpose.

The earliest petroleum extraction at Summerland in the 1880s was for the production of kerosene, a replacement for costly whale oil, making the whaling industry obsolete

Oil development at Summerland expanded rapidly. In 1896 the world's first off-shore drilling operations started here, via wooden piers that extended up to 1,350 feet from the via wooden piers triat extended up to 1,350 test from the shoreline, their piles reaching 35 feet to the floor of the Santa Barbara Channel. Using the same techniques as then used on land, steel pipes were pounded 455 feet below the seabed. The hunt for off-shore oil ultimately produced only a modest yield. The field's production peaked in 1902, and the wells were abandoned several years later.

about Whaling in our Historic Path exhibit.



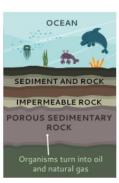
[area for interactive display]

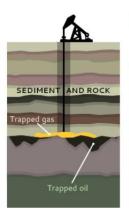


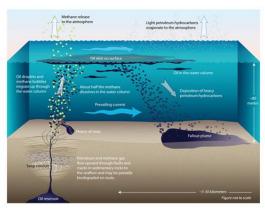
INFO GRAPHICS AND DIAGRAMS

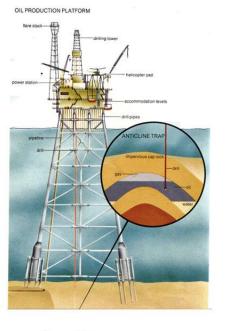
PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPT ONLY



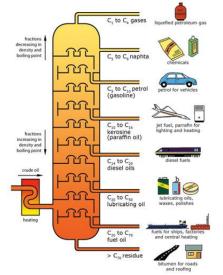




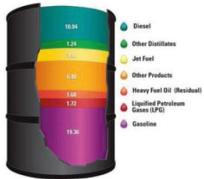


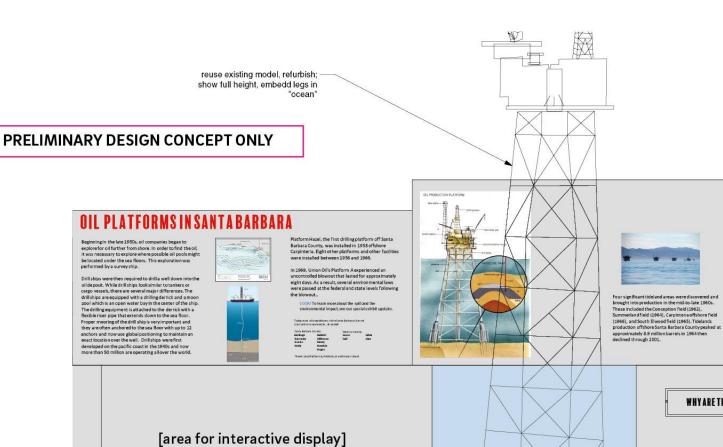












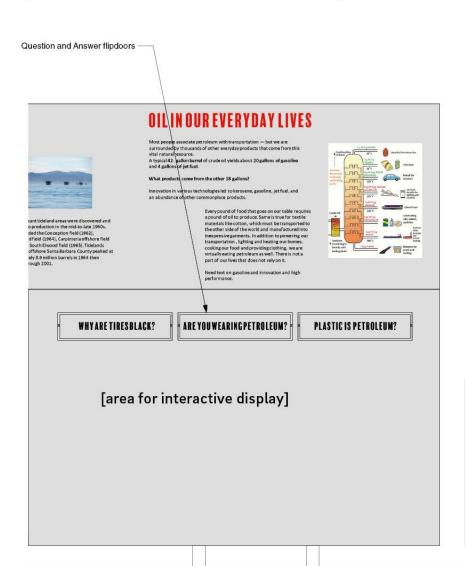


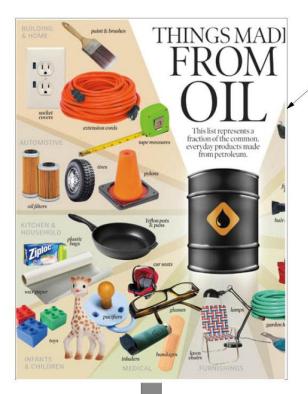
performed by a survey ship.



WHYARETIRESBI

PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPT ONLY





[in progress]

Install: Spring 2017

spining cylinder w embedded



Thank You

