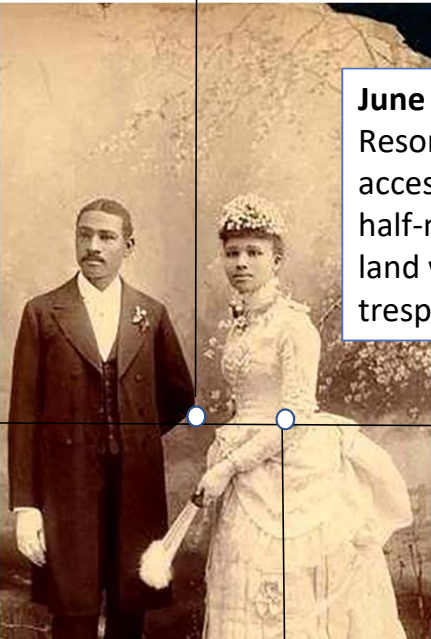




Summary of the Report from the Bruce's Beach Task Force History Sub-Committee



1912
Manhattan Beach incorporated.
Bruce Family Purchases Lot 8, Block 12 in Peck's Manhattan Beach Tract.



June 27, 1912
Resort guests were barred east access to the beach when a half-mile section of oceanfront land was "staked off" with "no trespassing" signs.

December, 1915
The Bruces begin work on a new "modern structure" that the MB News predicts will be "one of the finest apartment houses" at the beach.

1923
The Bruces purchase second lot (Lot 9), adjacent to the existing property. **November:** Petition filed and approved to purchase Blocks 5 & 12 for park purposes.

1927
Feb. Taxpayer Protect. League attempts recall of Trustees; Bruces write letter to MB News. **May:** Bruces surrender property; Cately Arrested in NAACP swim-in. **August:** 2 lots "leased" to Bessonette, fees not collected

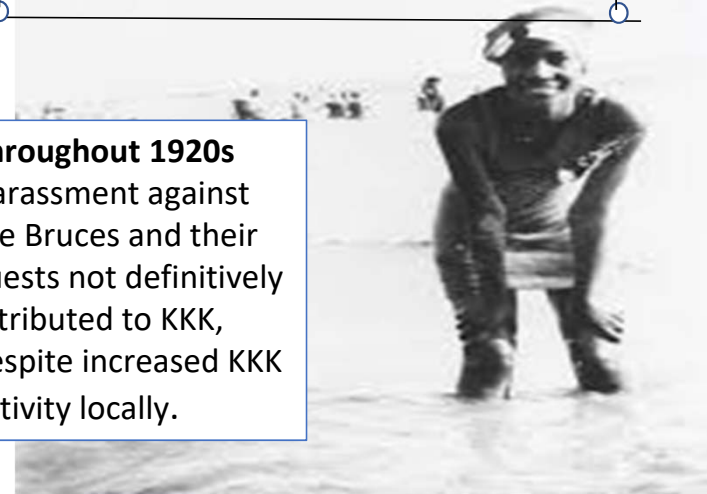
1919-1926
At least six other African American families buy property in Manhattan Beach. Four buy lots btw. 26th and 27th, the Strand and Highland.

June 1924
Board unanimously adopts Ordinance 276 approving the intention to acquire by condemnation Blocks 5 and 12. **December:** Bruces pursue legal challenge against city

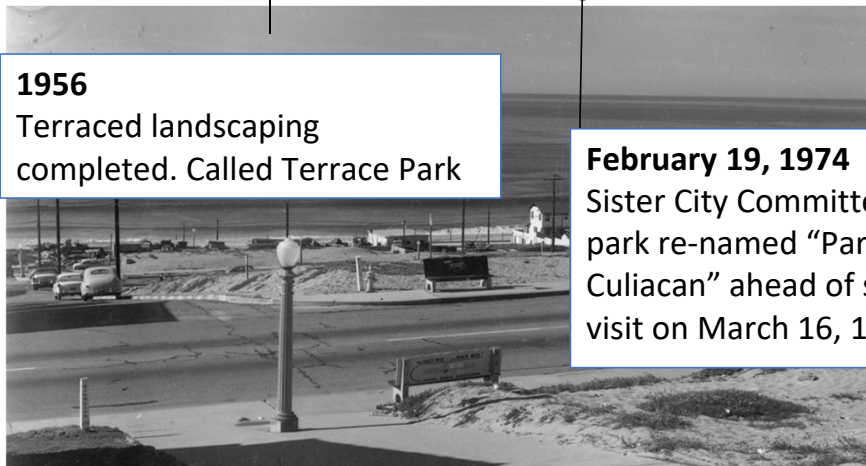
June 17, 1912
The Bruces open a portable stand, selling soda and lunches, bathing suit rentals, and providing two dressing tents with shower baths.

1921
George Lindsey approaches Trustees about African Americans in MB

Throughout 1920s
Harassment against the Bruces and their guests not definitively attributed to KKK, despite increased KKK activity locally.



1912
According to the LA Times article, \$1225 was "high price" for the lot compared to nearby properties.



1927-1954
Condemned property remains undeveloped. City Council discusses park plans

1962
Kiwanis club naming contest
Park named "Bayview Terrace Park"

1956
Terraced landscaping completed. Called Terrace Park

1988
Calucian, Mexico Mayor drops Manhattan Beach as sister city

February 19, 1974
Sister City Committee requests park re-named "Parque Culiacan" ahead of sister city visit on March 16, 1974.

2003
Leadership Manhattan Beach class conducts renaming contest. None of the suggested names approved. \$3600 donation for plaque. Plaque installed, but no name change

December, 2005
Patrick McBride proposes name change in honor of Rosa Parks passing and significant civil rights events that took place in MB

February 27, 2006
Parks and Rec hold meetings to discuss name change. Votes against Rosa Parks Park but agrees park should be named for historical events of the area.

May 22, 2006
Parks and Rec hold meeting to discuss possible names. Mr. McBride suggests Bruce's Beach. Commission votes to bring rec to council.

July 6, 2006
Council votes 3-2 to change name. Council meetings on Nov. 8 and Dec. 6 to vote on wording

Bruce's Beach: Misconceptions/Generalizations Versus Facts

Misconception

1. Bruce's Beach was a joyful escape for African Americans
2. The resort operated independently of Manhattan Beach
3. Bruces' resort stood on land where park is now
4. The Bruces were the only family impacted by condemnation
5. Peck bucked social norms to sell to African Americans
6. Pressure to leave was from a few
7. All African American residents left along with the Bruces

Fact

1. Although enjoyable, beachgoers faced prejudice and harassment
2. The Bruces collaborated with the city several times for improvements, and Willa was made a deputy marshal
3. The resort stood where the lifeguard station is now, with other Black residents up the hill
4. Many other families – African American and white – had land taken, but only black residents had structures on their land
5. No evidence found to support Peck's intentions
6. City's Board of Trustees dismissed those who objected and voted unanimously to pursue condemnation
7. The four other displaced African American families relocated within Manhattan Beach



BRUCE'S

PLAQUE

BEACH