

SOUTHEASTERLY EXTENSION OF TOWNLOT AREA

Jack Crawford is generally credited with the discovery of the Southwesterly extension of the Townlot area, however, A. L. Hunter, W. C. Bradford and D. R. Allen state that it was Clark C. Peterson's redrilling of the abandoned well "Brower" No. 1 in August 1953, near the corner of Huntington Avenue and Chicago Street, which initiated the latest drilling flurry in the Huntington Beach Field.

This well flowed at an initial rate of 500 barrels of gravity oil per day for 3 days, but production declined rapidly leading to the eventual abandonment of the well. The activity following completion of this well resulted in Jack Crawford, et al, drilling "Huntington" No. 1 at the northeast corner of Atlanta Street and Huntington Avenue. "Huntington" No. 1 was completed on March 8, 1954 with an initial production of 200 barrels of 25.8 gravity crude per day.

The latest flurry within the Huntington Beach Field was beginning! Encouraged by this success, Huntington Syndicate drilled and completed wells "Huntington Syndicate" No. 2 and No. 3 to the west in the same Main Zone, each producing at the rate of 150 barrels of 26 gravity oil per day.

Jack Crawford, et al, next drilled and completed the first Jones sand producer in this area. The well, "Huntington" No. 5 was drilled in the vicinity of First and Olive Streets and started flowing January 1, 1955, at an initial rate of 736 barrels per day of 20.8 gravity oil. Now the boom was on in earnest!

In rapid succession, 216 wells were drilled, of which only 6 were non-productive. However, because of the close spacing and rapid withdrawal of the oil and gas, production per well declined from approximately 500 barrels per day to 15 barrels per day in less than a year.

(1) Hazenbush and Allen, "Huntington Beach Oil Field, History, California Oil Fields," Vol. 44, No. 1 (1958)

(2) Ibid

(3) Murray-Aaron, Eugene "Tideland Pools of Huntington Beach" Division of Oil and Gas "Summary of Operations - California Oil Fields," Vol. 33, No. 1 (1947)

(4) Ibid

(5) Frame, Ralph G., "California Offshore Petroleum Development, California Oil Fields," Vol. 46, No. 2 (1960)

(6) A.L. Hunter, W.C. Bradford and D.R. Allen—"Huntington Beach Oil Field, Southeast Extension of Townlot Area California Oil Fields," Vol. 41, No. 1 (1955)

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Reference: My 60 Years in California
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