A century ago Marina Bay was a land that dissolved into tidal marsh at the edge of the great estuary we call San Francisco Bay. One could find shell mounds left by the Huchtian tribe of native Ohlone and watch sailing vessels ply the bay with passengers and cargo. The arrival of Standard Oil and the Santa Fe Railroad at the beginning of the 20th century sparked a transformation of this landscape that continues today. The Marina Bay segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail offers us new opportunities to explore the history, wildlife, and scenery of Richmond's dynamic southeastern shore.

**Ford Assembly Building**
- Built in 1939, the Richmond Ford Motor Co. Plant was the largest assembly plant on the West Coast. During WWII, it switched to the assembly of combat vehicles. A rare example of architect Albert Kahn’s distinctive 20th-century industrial architecture, the building has been renovated for mixed uses.

**Barbara & Jay Vincent Park**
- Panoramic playground, off-road fishing, and shipyard stories, make this park a favorite for all ages.

**Shimada Peace Park**
- A local artist’s installation in this small waterfront park commemorates friendship with Richmond’s sister city in Japan. Water activities are popular from this location.

**Sheridan Point**
- Visit all 8 historical interpretive markers and learn about the World War II Home Front.

**Must see, must do ...**
- Walk the timeline through the Rosie the Riveter Memorial to the water’s edge.
- Visit all 8 historical interpretive markers and learn about the World War II Home Front.
- Fish at high tide with the locals (and remember your fishing license).
- Visit the S.S. Red Oak Victory ship in Shipyard 43 and see a ship’s restoration first hand. Call 510-237-2303 or visit www.redoakvictory.org.
- Be a bird watcher; bring binoculars.

**MERRICK TIDAL CREEK** goes through coastal salt marsh, one of the most productive ecosystems on earth. Bay and brackish water provide a nurturing home for invertebrate and micro-organisms that process plant material into detritus, the foundation of the food web. The creeks upper reaches are home to Grey Fox, Barn Owl, Western Garter Snake, Northern Alligator Lizard, Pacific Treefrog, butterflies and skinks. Neatly the Bay, Marshp, Godwit, sandpipers and Long-billed Curlews probe the mudflats with bills specially suited to find invertebrates hidden beneath the surface. Look for Mallards, American Wigeons and Green-winged Teals bobbing in inland pools.

**BROOKS ISLAND REGIONAL PRESERVE** is a 375-acre island inhabited by the Ohlone Indians some 2,500 years ago. European settlers used the island for grazing and quarrying. Now managed by the East Bay Regional Park District, Brooks Island is a protected site for nesting Caspian terns and California gulls, as well as preserved Indian shell mounds and burial sites. Visitation by permit only. For information call East Bay Regional Park District at 1-888-237-2377.

**RICHMOND MARINA BAY TRAIL**
- A 1.5 mile trail winds through historic shipyard and waterfront landmarks, under a canopy of madrona trees.

** материали посвящены истории и событиям Второй мировой войны.**

**INKMOND RICHMOND BAY TRAIL**
**Timeline | Richmond’s Southeastern Shore**

**2000 B.C.**
Native American Ohlones (Huchiun) establish near permanent settlements along Richmond’s shore, leaving many shellmounds as evidence of their presence. The largest mound was located northwest of the present-day marina, at a place called Ellis Landing.

**1859 A.D.**
Captain George Ellis inaugurates Richmond’s first port facility, along a dough to the north and east of present-day Harbour Way and Hall Avenue.

**1900**
The Standard Oil Company and the Santa Fe Railroad begin operations in the marshlands to the north of the small settlement of Point Richmond. Within a few years, these wetlands, navigable at high tide, are completely filled in. Roads and rails now meander where once Captain Ellis sailed his vessels Sienna and Mystery west across the tidal sloughs directly into San Pablo Bay (past the “island” of Pt. Richmond).

**1915**
Richmond’s first substantial port facility (Terminal #1) is constructed on fill just to the west of Brickyard Cove. The shoreline is further altered with the construction of a seawall west from Brooks Island.

**1918**
Work begins on Richmond’s inner harbor, with dredging and filling along both the west and east sides of the Santa Fe Channel. The old shoreline is completely altered as new land is created south of Ellis Landing. In the late 1920s, two new port terminals are built along the western shore of this new land. By 1930, the configuration of the new shoreline is completed with the construction of two new industrial facilities, the Filice and Perrelli Cannery and the Ford assembly plant.

**1940**
Work begins on the first of four shipyards, under the direction of Henry J. Kaiser, leading to further dramatic changes in Richmond’s southern shore. Shipyard #2 takes shape to the east of the arm of created land on which the Ford building stands. In a matter of months, a deep-water basin is created, suitable for launching the hundreds of cargo vessels (Liberty and Victory ships) that will be built here. With the filling-in of the bay to the east and south of the new basin, creating a protective “arm,” the outline of Richmond’s southeastern shore is complete.

**1979**
Work begins on Richmond’s new marina, site of Kaiser Shipyard #2. Completed in 1981, the marina development has only a minor impact on the shoreline, but creates a major impetus to residential development near the water, changing forever the industrial character of this area of Richmond.

**2000**
Legislation passes to create Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park. Bay Trail expands access to the Richmond shoreline.

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**Marina Bay Trail Guide**

This guide produced with support from Trails for Richmond Action Committee (TRAC); Richmond Convention & Visitors Bureau; Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park; Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service; Richmond Museum of History; City of Richmond.

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**Trail Etiquette**

As more of us enjoy the Bay Trail - walkers, joggers, bicyclists, skaters, wheelchair users, and families with strollers - please show courtesy and be safe by following these few simple guidelines.

Keep to the right of the trail and save the left side for passing.

Observe posted bike speeds. Call out or ring your bell when approaching other trail users.

Respect the privacy of adjacent residents and stay on the trail.

Please don’t litter.

Enjoy watching wildlife from a respectful distance, and please don’t feed the wild animals.

Keep your dog on a leash and pick up after your pet – rainwater washes waste into the Bay.

Follow park use and parking rules – dawn to dusk.

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**Directions to Marina Bay**

- **From SF/Oakland:** Hwy 580 West; Exit Marina Bay Pkwy; Left on Marina Bay Pkwy; Right on Regatta Blvd. The parking lot for Marina Bay Park is the first left at Melville Sq. Dr.
- **From Marin:** Hwy 580 East over Richmond/San Rafael Bridge; Exit Marina Bay Pkwy/S S 23rd St; Right on Marina Bay Pkwy; Right on Regatta Blvd. Continue as above.
- **From Sacramento/Vallejo:** Hwy 80 West; Exit Central Ave.; Right onto Central; Right onto Hwy 580 West; Exit Marina Bay Pkwy; Left on Marina Bay Pkwy; Right on Regatta Blvd. Continue as above.
- **From BART:** Richmond BART/Amtrak Station; Exit to south toward Macdonald Ave.; Board AC Transit Bus #74/Orinda Mall; Get off at Regatta and Sea Drift Dr. (Return via AC Transit Bus #74/Drift from Regatta and Melville Sq. Dr.)

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**Ohlone Song**

On the rim of the world I am dancing!

See! I am dancing!

—Ohlone Song

**Image:** Ohlone Song collected from Coast Miwok by Arthur Kroeber (1876-1960) U.S. Geological Survey map sections from the U C Berkeley Library

**Source:** Richmond Trail Guide U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service Richmond Museum of History City of Richmond.