

For Reference

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REFERENCE

PAMPHLET

H.B.--History

News Clippings

Huntington Beach: It's on shaky ground

The Orange County Register

O.C. Register - 6-3-90
In Huntington Beach, keeping your feet on the ground may not always provide the kind of security you usually expect from terra firma.

Earthquake faults, sinking caused by oil production, spongy soils, peat, ocean-caused erosion, and a high water table add up to an unreliable place for solid objects — such as building foundations.

Among geological problems that the city is facing:

■ The city sits astride the Newport-Inglewood fault zone that stretches from the Santa Monica Mountains at least as far south as

offshore Laguna Beach.

■ Because of the high-water table beneath much of the city, a strong earthquake could turn some of its soils into mush.

■ Since oil producers began pumping oil and water from beneath the city in the 1920s, land, particularly along the coast, has been sinking slowly into the gaps left behind.

■ Expansive clays — soils that expand when wet and contract when they dry — can cause serious damage to pavements, driveways and small structures. The deposits with the greatest potential for causing damage lie inland in the northern half of the city.

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