Scripps founding director, William E. Ritter, initially taught students at the Hotel del Coronado Boathouse (1903-05), then in a small laboratory building near La Jolla Cove (1905-09). A commemorative marker identifies the spot now.

In 1907, newspaper tycoon E. W. Scripps selected an undeveloped parcel of San Diego city land, north of the village of La Jolla, to be the permanent home of the institution. E. W.’s sister, philanthropist Ellen Browning Scripps, donated the $1,000 paid for the 170 acres, and the first building was completed in 1910. A century later, more than 1,900 scientists, students, staff, and volunteers pursue Scripps’ mission in hundreds of research programs all over the world, in a wide range of scientific disciplines.

Please come along on a tour of the Scripps campus—rich in history and architectural interest—on the beautiful Pacific Ocean bluffs of La Jolla.

NOTE:
The tour begins at the southwestern end of Scripps, at the corner of El Paseo Grande and Kennel Way.

For more about the Scripps campus and its history, take a virtual tour at scripps.ucsd.edu/img/tour.

Visit Scripps on the Web:
Scripps Institution of Oceanography: scripps.ucsd.edu
Birch Aquarium at Scripps: aquarium.ucsd.edu

Thank you for visiting
Scripps Institution of
Oceanography

There can be no doubt that a laboratory capable of great things... might be built in San Diego.”
Professor William Ritter, 1903
Biological Grade

Biological Grade was built between 1910 and 1912, with funds from Ellen Browning Scripps, at a time when the Old Scripps building and its adjacent water tower were the only structures on campus. Because the institution was then known as the San Diego Marine Biological Laboratory, the new road was named Biological Grade. Traveling directly through the center of campus, this road became part of the main highway between San Diego and Los Angeles.

Hubbs Hall

Hubbs Hall was completed in 1977 and is named for Scripps Institution of Oceanography President Roger Revelle's parents. They were early benefactors of the institution.

Welcome to the campus of Scripps Institution of Oceanography

There seem to be countless stories surrounding the creation of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Some of the names of campus roadways harbor past tales of the institution.