



# LIBERTY STATION

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

## FACT SHEET | 2019

### HISTORY IN THE MAKING | A NAVAL BASE TURNED NEIGHBORHOOD

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- Dedicated: October 27, 1923
- Liberty Station was the first permanent Naval Training Center on the West Coast
- Operating Dates: 1923 – 1997
- City of San Diego Ownership: 1997 - present
- The Corky McMillin Companies Master Developer: 2000 – present
- Liberty Station’s Non-Profit NTC Foundation founded in: 2000
- ARTS DISTRICT first building open: 2006

### ABOUT LIBERTY STATION

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Located in San Diego, Calif., Liberty Station was built upon naval roots and was originally the Naval Training Station (NTS) that opened in 1923. NTS became the Naval Training Center with the addition of the Command Schools in the 1940s. With the base closure in 1997, NTC transitioned into Liberty Station and became a cultural hub of art, leisure and history—creating a timeless destination. Today, Liberty Station is San Diego’s signature neighborhood, inviting residents, the community and visitors to connect through events and experiences while discovering and exploring all of Liberty Station’s offerings. The neighborhood features an array of boutiques and shops, and dozens of delectable dining spots. Built by design, Liberty Station creates an authentic experience—encompassing beautifully landscaped promenades, restored historic buildings that have been preserved for today’s commerce, storied corridors, historic landmarks, and spacious promenades. The historic San Diego destination is managed by the Liberty Station Community Association (LSCA), which works to maintain, beautify, promote, and develop the neighborhood.

### HISTORY IN THE DETAILS | REVIVAL-STYLE ARCHITECTURE

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- Liberty Station’s 1920s architecture was inspired heavily by the Spanish Colonial Revival-style that dominated the era.
- Originally built in 1923 from designs by architect Lincoln Rogers, who was influenced by Bertram G. Goodhue’s designs for the 1915 Panama Exhibition in Balboa Park, with original landscaping designed by the park’s superintendent of the time.
- 52 buildings designated as a Historic District on the *National Register of Historic Places*.

### BY THE NUMBERS

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#### Space:

- Liberty Station Total Acreage: 361
- Total Parkland Acres: 48

## Business Breakdown:

- Shopping & Retail: Approx. 28
- Restaurant & Dining: Approx. 36
- Galleries, Museums & Visual and Performing Artist Studios: Approx. 70
- Health & Fitness: Approx. 32
- Hotels: 4
- Event Spaces: Approx. 11

## HISTORIC NAVAL PRESENCE

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- **52 U.S. Submarine Memorial at NTC Liberty Station**— 52 U.S. Navy submarines were lost at sea during World War II. 3,505 submariners lost their lives. At NTC Liberty Station, the 52 Boats Memorial remembers the sacrifice of these men. The unique memorial runs along two beautiful walkways, and consists of 52 American Liberty Elm trees, 52 flags and 52 black granite markers. The history of each submarine and the names of lost crew members are recounted for future generations to remember.
  - **Life of an NTC Recruit | Dick Laub NTC Command Center**— An exhibit that tells the story of the life of an NTC recruit from the time they stepped off the bus to graduation from bootcamp 12 weeks later.
  - **VADM James B Stockdale and Sybil Stockdale Tribute**— Unmatched love and heroism during the Vietnam war, Vice Admiral Stockdale was the highest ranking Prisoner of War at the Hanoi Hilton during the Vietnam War. On the home front, his wife Sybil was not only raising their four sons, but changed government policy about our POWs and worked covertly with Naval Intelligence to get information back and forth from Jim. Their story is told in the book *In Love and War* and this exhibit is a tribute to their remarkable lives.
  - **Sybil Stockdale Rose Garden**— This intimate courtyard displays a central fountain, features intertwining pathways, and lies between two lawns. It was donated as a gift to honor Navy wives, and each vibrant rosebush located here has been thoughtfully selected and dedicated to loved ones. Set below our Point Loma Nazarene University Friendship Terrace and just outside our Dick Laub NTC Command Center, the Rose Garden is named after Sybil Stockdale, the wife of Vice Admiral James Stockdale.
  - **USS Recruit | “The Building That Looks Like a Ship”**— More than 50,000 recruits learned basic naval procedure every year on this two-thirds-scale model of a destroyer escort, a land-bound ship afloat on a sea of concrete. Commissioned on July 27, 1949, the Recruit was the Navy’s only commissioned ship that never touched the water, and it was playfully nicknamed “USS Neversail” by recruits. Here, recruits learned how to follow orders and how to maneuver around a ship. The Recruit was outfitted with standard naval rigging and even had a 3-inch gun. It was the first of three training structures built by the Navy after World War II, and it is the only one that remains. In 1982, the Recruit was reconditioned as a training guided-missile frigate. As California Registered Historical Landmark No. 1042, its plaque was placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with the Corky McMillin Companies, the Redevelopment Agency of San Diego, and the Squibob Chapter of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus on August 13, 2005.
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## **More information and helpful links**

[www.LibertyStation.com](http://www.LibertyStation.com)

Instagram: [@libertystation](https://www.instagram.com/libertystation)

Twitter: [@Liberty\\_Station](https://twitter.com/Liberty_Station)

Facebook: [@LibertyStation](https://www.facebook.com/LibertyStation)

[www.artsdistrictlibertystation.com](http://www.artsdistrictlibertystation.com)

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