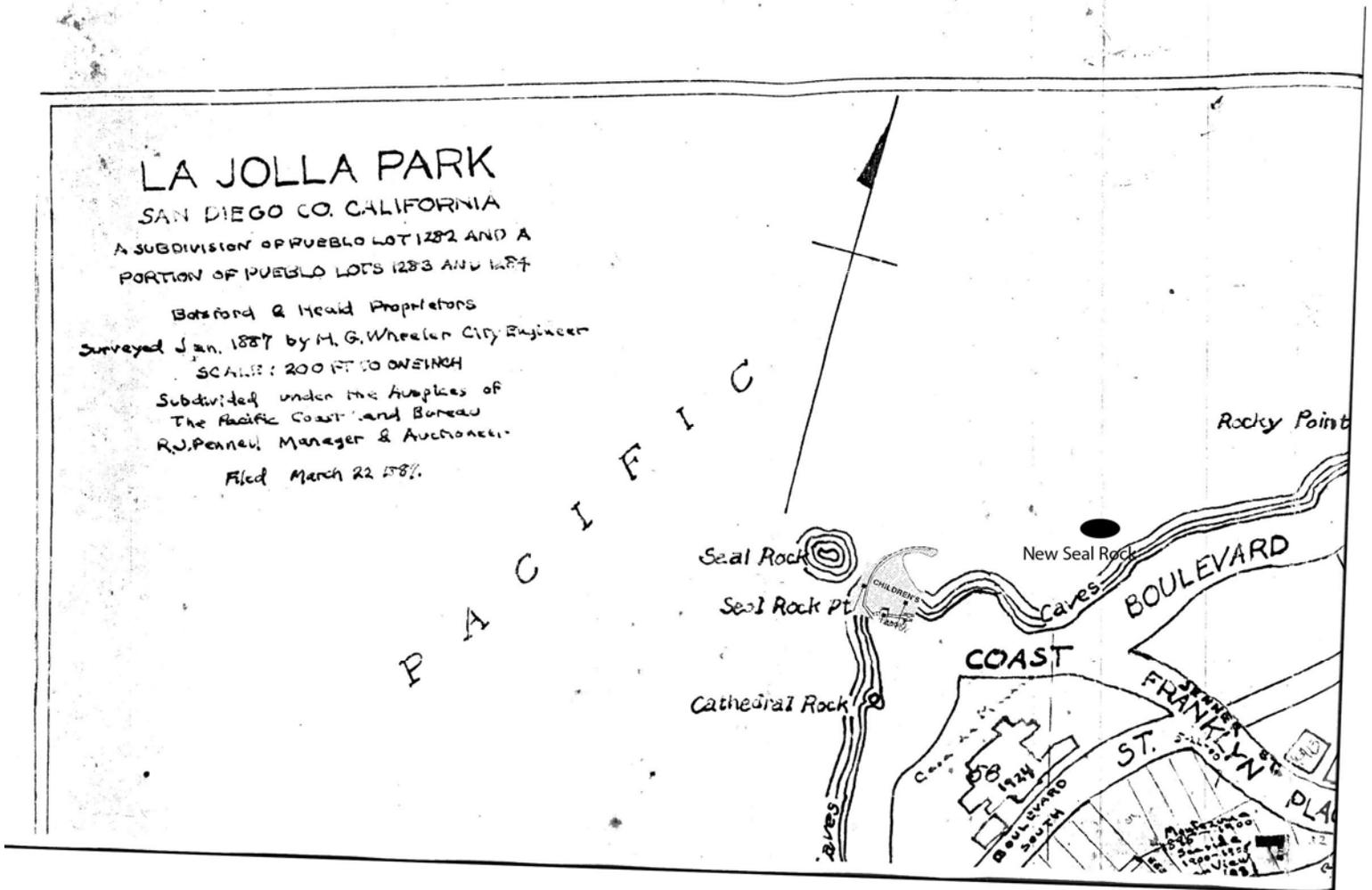


# The Myth of Seal Rock

To illustrate the difficulty separating truth from urban myth at Children's Pool, we cite the claim that the Children's Pool sea wall was built over an ancient seal habitat called "Seal Rock" and the seals have come home from their diaspora. Below is the 1982 geodetic map from the La Jolla Historical Society museum, with an insert from a 1989 City map. Note when the sea wall is shown to scale, this old Seal Rock is way outside the Children's Pool, but where was it?

Divers know – the end of the reef behind the sea wall is high at its westmost point, and anyone can see surf break out there at low tide. 100 years ago it was above the surface.



Back then it was mentioned the locals could hear seals barking all the way to shore. Harbor seals don't bark. Those were sea lions.