

SCHRIEVER COURTYARD MONUMENTS - **The Rock**

In 1999, SMC began work on a cost-saving plan for acquiring new office buildings with seismological improvements. Land in the southwest part of the base (on the other side of El Segundo and Aviation Blvds) was traded to private developers for construction of new office buildings in the northeast part of the base. SMC moved into the new facilities in 2006 and named them the Schriever Space Complex.

There are three major monuments on Los Angeles AFB that commemorate different points in the history of SMC. All of them were commissioned and paid for by the Air Force Association, a non-governmental organization of Air Force supporters.

The first is known as the "WDD Rock," or sometimes just "The Rock." It's a memorial to the Western Development Division, established in 1954 by Gen Schriever. The Rock is a large, granite rock quarried from a Minuteman missile launch site on Vandenberg AFB. A brass plaque attached to it lists the names of the first 18 Air Force members who were assigned to WDD when it was created in August 1954. Gen Schriever and Gen Jimmy Doolittle (who was an unofficial advisor and a trustee of the Aerospace Corporation, across the street) unveiled the monument in 1964 to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of WDD. The Rock was moved from Area A, the old headquarters area across the street, to its present in April 2006. In fact, moving The Rock was considered the official date and event for moving the headquarters to its present location.