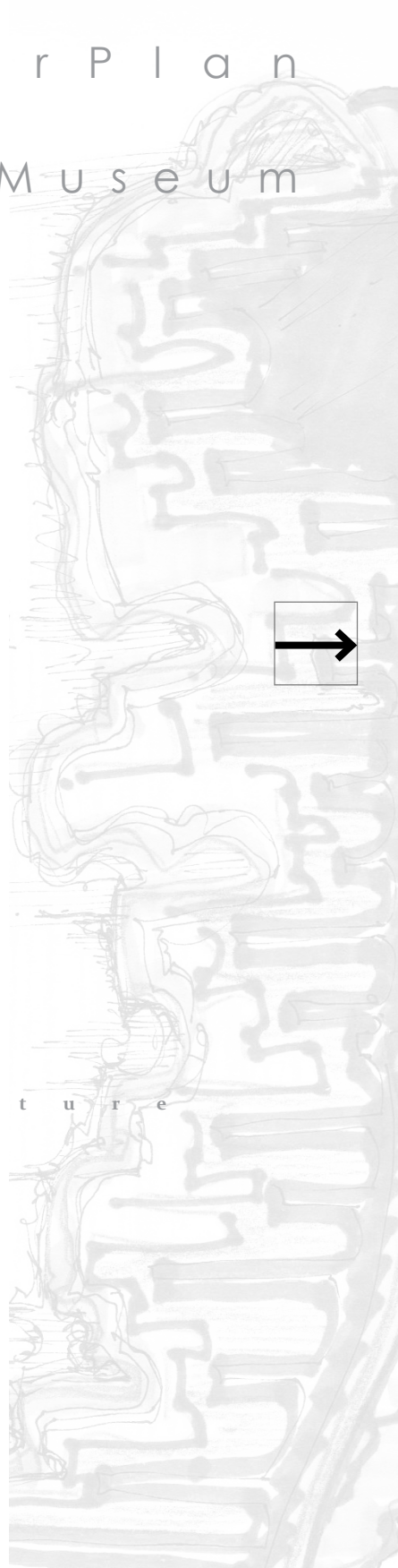


A n d e r s o n M a r s h

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l a n d s c a p e a r c h i t e c t u r e



S e n i o r P r o j e c t

A SENIOR PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE U.C.
DAVIS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM, IN FULFILL-
MENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF BACH-
ELORS OF SCIENCE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Nick Burke, June 13 2008

Faculty Committee Member, Dave Cubberly

Faculty Committee Member, Catherine Wei

Faculty Committee Member, Steve Mcneil

P R E F A C E

A M I A

Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association is a group of volunteers that formed in 1984 to support the sustainability and well being of Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. Their hard, free labors have built an enlightened understanding of the history that exists within the parks borders. To fund their endeavors, the association hosts a Bluegrass festival each September, among other smaller annual events. Sponsorships and support also come from individuals, businesses, tribal communities, and other environmental groups and organizations. Through various programs based on their volunteered hours, they have established tours, presentations, group organizations, as well as economic resources to help better the visitor's experience. Their work has been the means behind the parks establishment and success, and will be essential in its continued preservation.

This project began when I was asked by the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association (AMIA) to render a proposed museum and discovery center that would accompany the current park headquarters. This rendering became the basis for my senior project (this project) where I intended to create a tutorial on how I made the picture. The building was supposed to look like it fit with the rest of the park, my orders being something along the lines of "make it look like a barn." Using the existing structures as inspiration, I did my best to compile a building that mimicked the historic barn at the park, with a rusted tin roof, large wooden beams, truces, and knee braces acting both as the aesthetic and the function. The Ranch House, currently the main visitors center, has a style built mostly in Greek Revival architecture, which was incorporated into the rendering with a large gabled roof covering the three sections of the museum. It was while I was deciding on how to design this building that I realized the potential of expanding the idea of this new museum beyond the walls, and out into the open space. I was not the only one who thought this. After some discussion, the AMIA group encouraged me to explore the creation of an outdoor portion of the museum. In short, I realized the space had the potential to hold real meaning, inspiring visitors to explore further into the seemingly endless history of Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. This potential to present information through a new medium was what kicked my original senior project to the side, and marked the beginning of my new endeavor; the outdoor space for Anderson Marsh Museum and Discover Center.



Fig.1 Render of Anderson Marsh Museum and Discovery Center



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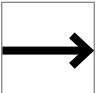
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Introduction

This project is a conceptual design proposal for the outdoor space of Anderson Marsh Museum and Discover Center. The proposed building is in the early stages of funding. The building will be in Anderson Marsh Historic Park, located in Lower Lake California, and will act as a visitor center, museum, and educational hub to expose visitors to the parks history, and establish a steady flow of annual guests. The plan that is proposed presents a *functional, informational, and interpretive* design to compliment the existing parks program and proposed development. At the same time this plan celebrates and incorporates the creation, culture, and establishment of previous existence. This concept presents information in a unique manner, promoting adventure and exploration while establishing a basic understanding of the park. The space acts as a medium between development and nature, and is presented to attract people to the park, and generate a need for one to explore further.

m a p



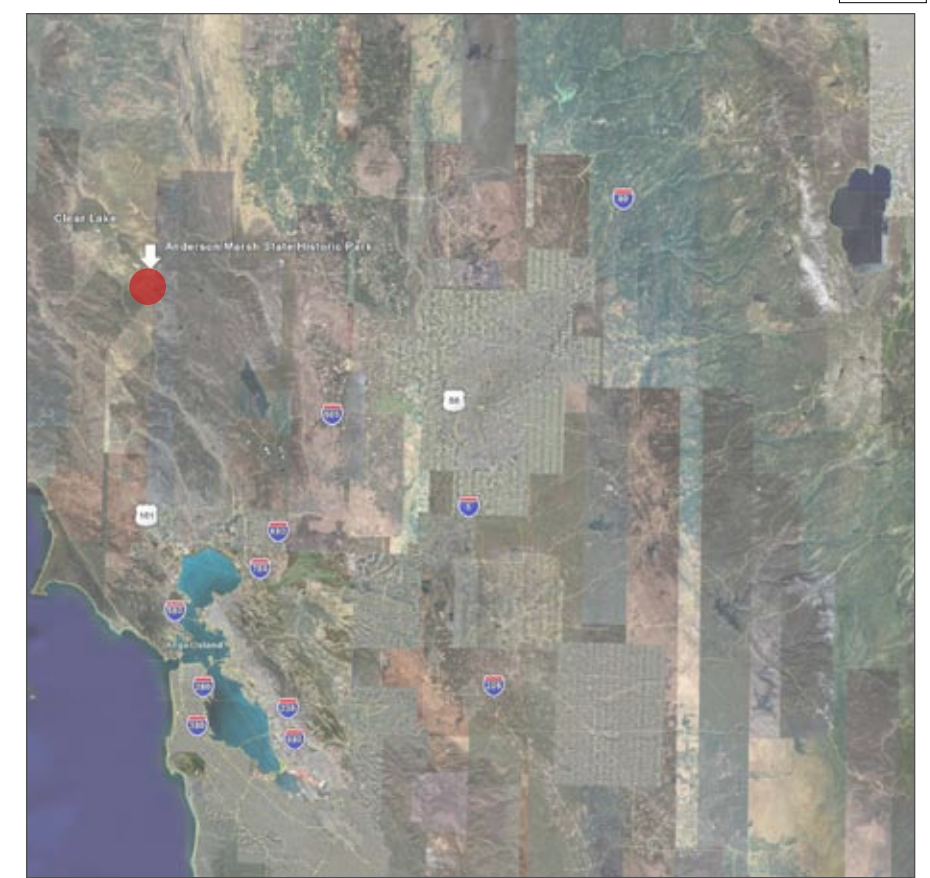
L o c a t i o n

The park is located in Lower Lake, in Lake County California, between main highways 29 and 53 which make a right angle, where the park resides. Lake County is bordered by Colusa County to the East, Sonoma County to the West, and Napa and Yolo Counties to the North and Northeast. The surrounding landscape is rural, only dotted with development and has an extensive agricultural past. Recent years have brought about significant changes in areas such as Clear Lake and Lower Lake, whose populations have dramatically increased. Also, production is beginning to transition into viticulture, with many wineries and vineyards replacing previous agricultural endeavors.

Location Maps

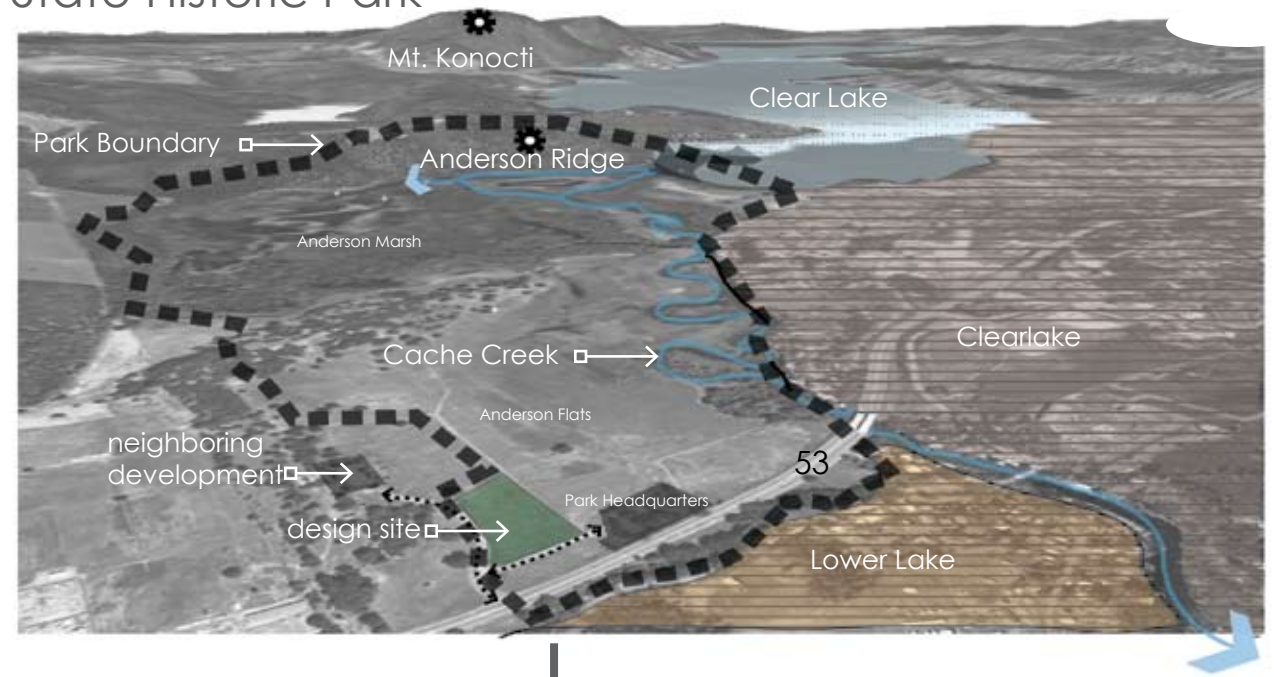


Clear Lake Regional Map



California Regional Map

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park



Local Vicinity Map



looking west toward Mt. Konocti



P A R K h i s t o r y





various means from other areas of Clear Lake onto the parks site.

Dramatic topographic changes exist in the Anderson Marsh region, due to various geologic activity from the formation of the California Coast Ranges, and subsequent faulting. While most of the park is relatively flat, with lake level elevation is 1,320 feet, surrounding mountains and peaks can reach over 4,000 feet, including nearby Mount Konocti. Lewis Ridge, or Anderson Ridge, contain the steeper slopes of the site, ranging from 3 to 8 percent (Parks, 1989).

The parks stands in a mediterranean climate, with cool, wet winters, and hot dry summers, similar to that of the Sacramento Valley. Winter temperatures can drop to slightly below freezing, while summers have been recorded at 110 degrees F. The annual precipitation is around 22 inches, in which 60 percent occurs during winter. Spring accounts for 20 percent precipitation and extend vegetative growth into mid summer. July, August, and September are usually dry. Towards late September through November, twenty percent of the annual precipitation begin the soil recharge process and marks the beginning of new vegetative growth(Scavone, 1999).

The habitats of the park have been broken down into four types. Riparian, which includes the Valley oak forest and Cottonwood-willow woodland cover 4.5% of the park. Freshwater, such as the Tule prairie covers 19% while the Sedge-rush prairie marshland account for 42% of the park. The Blue oak woodland covers 3% and the Valley oak woodland covers 4%. Finally the grasslands at Anderson Flats, which is non native, covers 11% of the park (Parks, 1989).

R e c r e a t i o n

The park has four main trails which represent individual plant environments. Cache Creek Trail runs about a mile and moves through a riparian area, and consists of valley

oaks and cottonwood forests that are a habitat to migratory birds among many other species. The Anderson Flats Trail moves through the grasslands section of the park, and consists of mostly non native grasses; a product of past grazing and cultivation. The trail is just short of a mile, where various wildflowers and other seed-bearing plants can be experienced. The Ridge Trail is 1.5 miles and runs along Anderson Ridge, which consists of blue oak woodlands that are home to various mammals including the black-tailed deer, California ground squirrel, and the western grey squirrel. The woodlands are also a habitat for many birds including the great horned owl, cooper's hawk, woodpeckers, and other varieties of cavity-nesters. The Marsh trail is the longest trail at the park, around 1.6 miles long, and travels through the freshwater marsh habitat. This area acts as a habitat for two endangered and one threatened species of bird. Both the bald eagle and American peregrine falcon are federally listed as endangered and the yellow-billed cuckoo is stated listed in California as threatened. Bald eagle sitings are significant during the winter, when they feed on live fish and carrion. These rare species are only a sample of the special wildlife that frequent the area, making Anderson Marsh unique for educational and observational purposes (Parks, 1989).

The park is used for a variety of daytime and overnight activities. Some popular ones include bird watching, hiking, painting or drawing, observation, research, swimming, kayaking, and fishing. Also, popular annual events are held, including the Bluegrass Festival, which can bring thousands of visitors in a single day. The park offers a scenic, undeveloped, and naturally thriving environment, who's undisturbed look and feel make it a rare commodity.



S t a t e A q u i s i t i o n

In 1976, an extensive archeological survey done by researchers from Sonoma State University uncovered evidence of habitation at Anderson Marsh dating back 10,000 years. Their findings also suggested that the area was the most densely populated area in California in prehistoric times, at around fifteen people per square mile. Anderson Marsh was classified as an Archaeological District and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977. Around that time, laws were passed in the United States to make it mandatory to identify and protect archeological resources in California, making these recent findings significant for preservation. The Anderson Marsh area was acquired by the State of California in 1982, making it a State Historic Park.(Parks, 1989).

L a n d s c a p e O v e r v i e w

The park is environmentally rich, containing habitats for a wealth of visiting wildlife. A 560 acre wetland habitat represents over one half of the remaining Tule marsh habitat at Clear Lake and is the largest fish and wildlife production area in the Clear Lake Basin. Anderson Flats, which sits slightly higher and eastward of Anderson Marsh, is a non native grassland, holding introduced species from European settlement including slender wild oat, Italian ryegrass, and foxtail. Historic oak woodlands are an important habitat and provide food sources and roosting, nesting, and escape cover for terrestrial species. Within these woodland areas are predominately valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*) and blue oak (*Quercus douglassii*) which have shown regenerative signs, something that has become rare in California. The Anderson Marsh contains many exotic species that have been dispersed and spread through



Creation to Inhabitation:

Inspiration of Interpretation

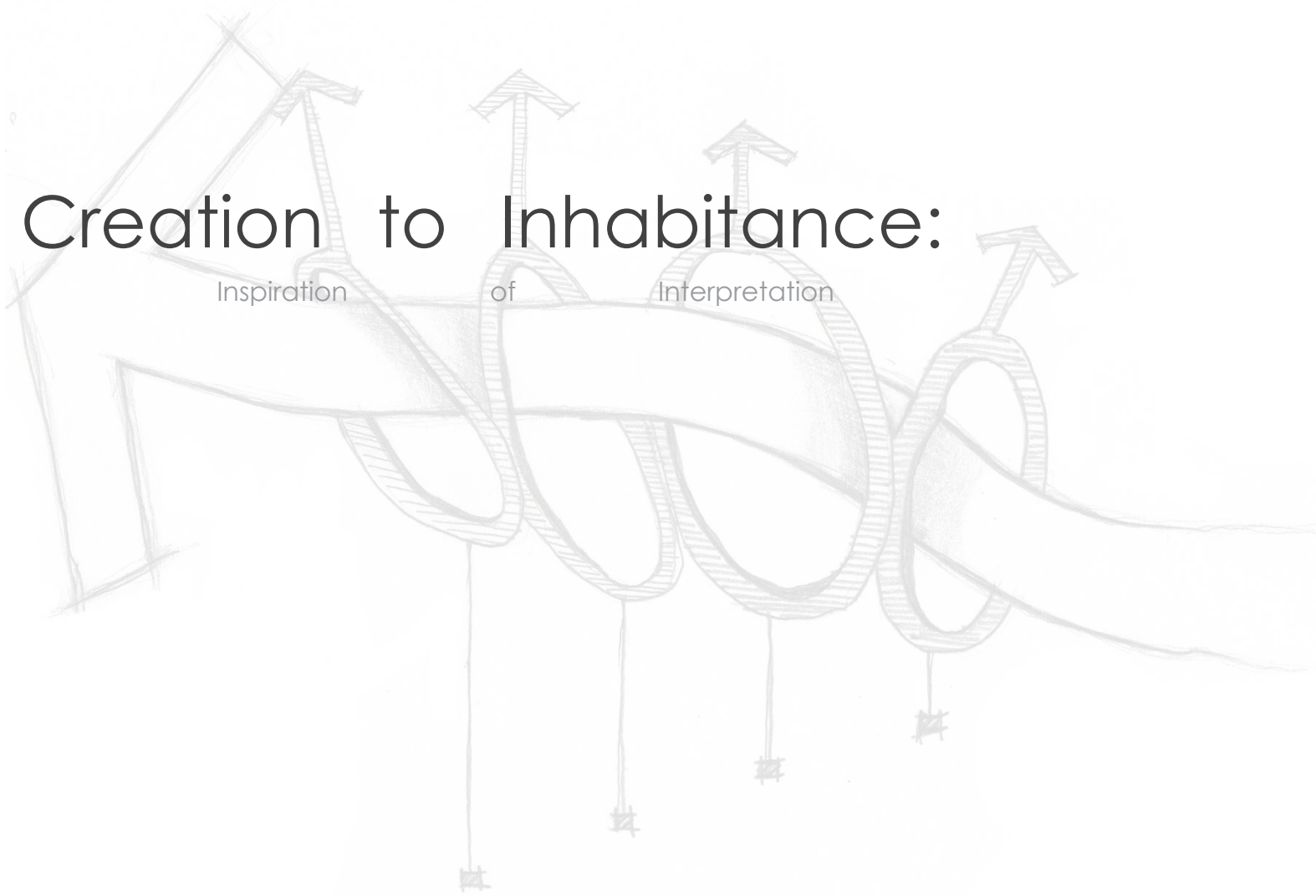
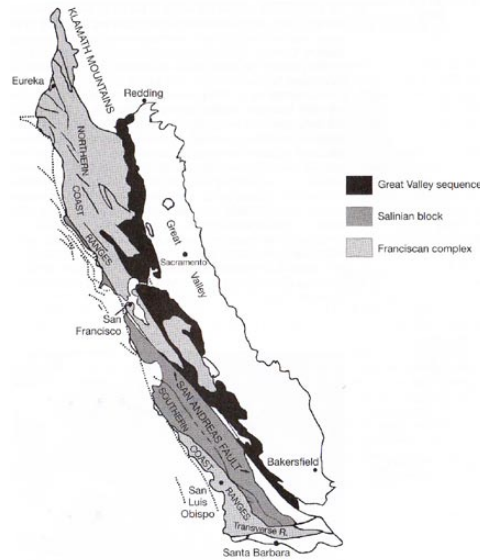


fig. 2 Geology of Pacific Coast Range

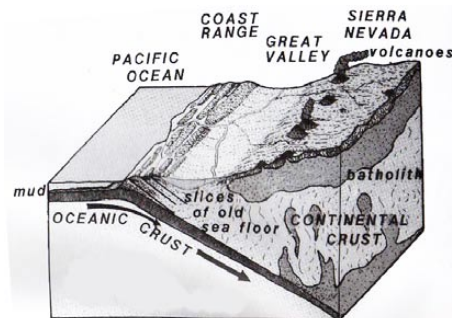


Geologic History

Anderson Marsh lies within the Clear Lake Volcanics field, in the northern part of the Pacific Coast Range. About 150 m.y.a. the area that is the central valley was being formed under deep ocean water, known as the Great Valley Sequence, referring to rocks that were deposited mainly from the western Ancestral Sierra Nevada into a marine basin during the Mesozoic/early Cenozoic eras. The rocks that were deposited in deep ocean environments consisted of sandstone, shale, and conglomerate. The oldest rock in the G.V.S. are 150 m.y. old, noted because of marine fossils that were found in the rocks. This deposition took place in a deep marine basin that was essentially dammed by the ancestral Sierra Nevada to the west, and a wedge of deformed sediment to the east, the future Coast Ranges. The Range is mainly dominated by the rocks of the Franciscan Assemblage, formed during the Mesozoic to early Cenozoic time period (65-100 m.y.a.). Although the rocks that make the Pacific Coast Range were accumulated around 100 m.y.a., from a geological perspective the form the take today happened recently, around 4-5 million years ago. The mountains, ridges and valleys of the Coast Ranges formed in response to motion along the San Andreas fault, where tens of thousands of earthquakes took place, contributing to its constant evolution and uprise out of the ocean (Harden, 2004).

Clear Lake is a basin that was formed through a combination of tectonic and volcanic processes, including faulting related to the San Andreas system and other faulting related to volcanic processes in the area. The Anderson Marsh area lays on rocks of the Franciscan Assemblage and the Great Valley Sequence, with lake and stream deposits of Clear Lake and Cache Creek (Harden, 2004).

fig. 4 Coast Range Geologic Uplift

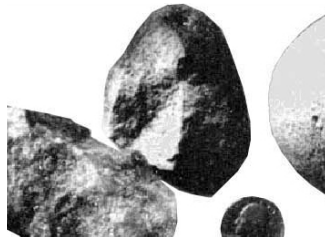
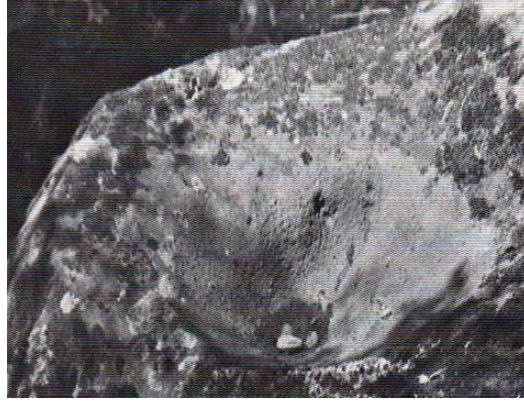
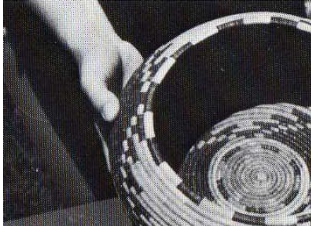


Sequence of Geologic Activity

fig. 3 Mt. Konocti



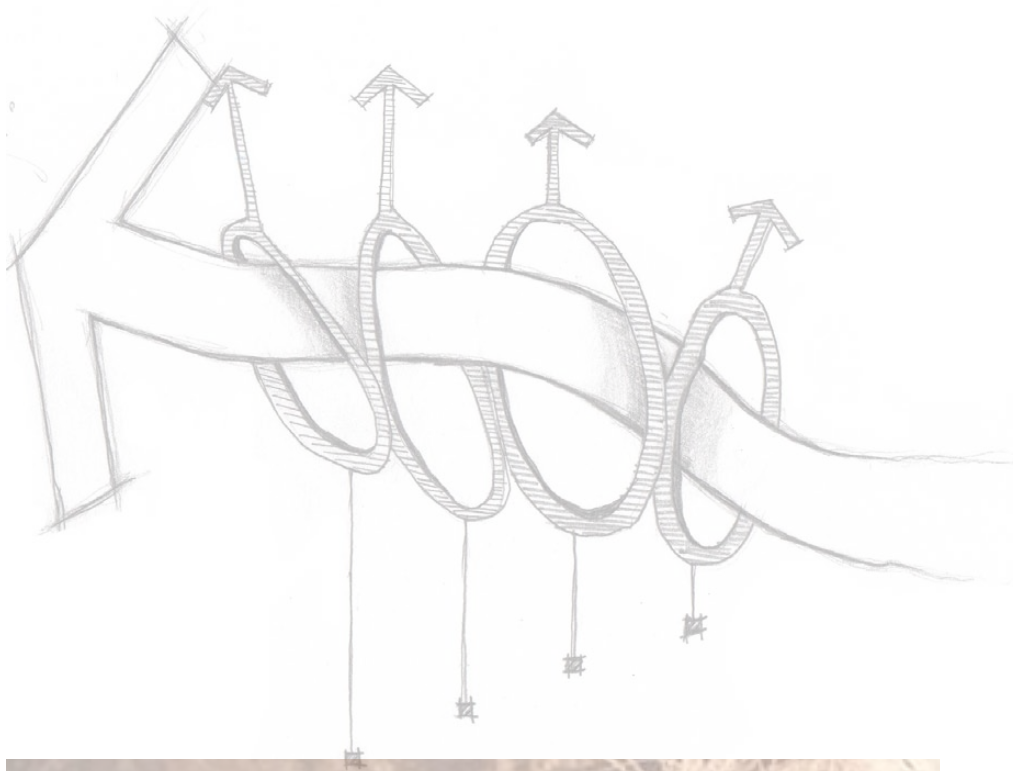
- Great Valley Sequence
- Franciscan Complex
- Block Faulting (San Andreas Fault System)
- Clear Lake Volcanics, deposition, eruption and flows
- Uplift and deposition of the Lower Lake formation
- Eruption of Roundtop Mountain
- Erosion and deposition of lake and stream deposits due to glacial melting
- Wetter climates increasing runoff and lake levels
- Faulting and other seismic activity that still continues
- Potential continued volcanic activity



A r c h e o l o g y

Twenty seven archeological sites exist at the park, exhibiting a 10,000 year history of inhabitation. They are listed as the Anderson Marsh Archeological District in the National Register of Historic Places. The sites are broken up into categories: special use sites, habitation sites, and village sites.

Special uses sites have small amounts of cultural debris, mostly obsidian and basalt chipping residue from weapon and tool making, hunting and collecting stations, or milling stations. Habitation sites are characterized by a midden deposit exhibiting tools, broken tools, and organic debris from shell, bone and charcoal. These sites were either occupied year round by a small group, or seasonally over a number of years. Village sites were complex, exhibiting house depressions, ceremonial house depressions, and midden deposits reaching ten feet deep and spanning up to an acre of land. These vast findings represent one of the most densely populated areas in prehistoric California (Parks, 1989).



ARCHEOLOGICALTIMELINE

John Park and Dr. David Fredrickson, of California State University-Sonoma, were responsible for placing Anderson Marsh State Historic Park on the National Register. They developed a timeline of 10,000 years of inhabitation for the North Coast Ranges, including Anderson Marsh.

The Paleo Indian Period dated from 10,000-6,000 years ago. These people developed skilled hunting patterns and also utilized the lakeside environment. Readings of archeological remnants, such as obsidian, have been dated back to this time. The next period is Archaic, and is divided into lower, middle and upper time frames. The lower is 6,000-3,000 years ago; the middle is 3,000-500A.D.; and the upper is 500 B.C. to 500 A.D. The people of the Archaic period had an economy that collected and processed various seeds, and also relied on hunting. During the lower and middle Archaic periods, flat

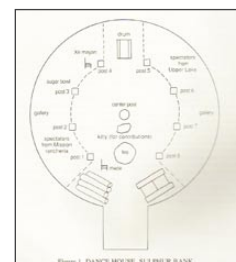
milling slabs were introduced. The upper period used stone bowl mortars, showing the importance of processing acorns, along with other economic endeavors. The Emergent period runs from 500 A.D. to 1800 A.D., which was the time of European contact. The Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is largely represented in this period. The native inhabitants are known as the southeastern Pomo, specifically the community of Koi, whose major village was located on Indian Island. Hunting, acorn collecting, slab mortars with basket hoppers and the bow and arrow were some of the technological and economic elements of the community. Their living and sustenance reflected the lakeside environment, with a diet of fish, shellfish, and acorns, as well as waterfowl, deer and other small game. Flora that was abundant around the site was also used. Additional food sources included clover, pine nuts, tule shoot and root, various bulbs, fruits and berries.

The year was broken up into three seasons, or the seasonal cycle, for the southeastern Pomo. The rainy season, or Winter, is October through April.

The time when things bloomed, or spring, was May through June, and the hot, dry period of July through September. The spring and summer months brought a large amount of economic activity such as gathering wild oats, which were collected by the women in small baskets and later transferred to larger ones, which were carried to camp by the men. Bulb and root digging, tule gathering and eventually a coastal trip for pine nut harvests summarized their economic production for April through September. Little could be gathered or harvested during the Winter months, so the women would grind acorns, cook and make baskets, while the men hunted and trapped various game, fished and fixed obsidian points (Parks, 1989).

The structures built by the southeastern Pomo were seasonal, with winter dwellings that were large multifamily housing, and built with tied, bent poles and an overlay of tule mats, and ranged up to thirty feet in length. Summer housing was brush piled over bent poles and usually sized for a single family. Sweathouses were constructed, around three feet below ground, 15-20 feet in diameter, with a center post 12-15 feet high. Several poles were laid upon this post, and the structure was covered in dirt and grass. The door faced south, with a fire between the door and center post, with the smoke hole above it. Men would sweat in the morning and evening time, taking part in competitive sweating, where two groups, one to the north, one to the east, would make two fires, fan the flames with deer hide, and would sweat until someone ran out, deciding the victor. The sweat would then end and they would all swim in the lake. The ceremonial structure was subterranean, around 50 feet in diameter. A center pole with eight smaller poles evenly spaced surrounding the center. Like the sweat house, the fire lay between the center pole and south facing entrance tunnel, with a drum opposite the tunnel. The smoke hole was also used as an entrance for special ceremonies (Halpern, 1988).

fig. 5 Southeastern Pomo Dancehouse





Settlement

fig. 6 North Barn Rafters



fig. 7 North Barn



fig. 8 Ranch House



fig. 9 North Barn Rafters



Euroamerican exploration of the Clear Lake basin took place by hunters and trappers in the late 1820's. The area was surveyed by the U.S. government in 1855 and noted that a homestead existed in the area. The Grigsby's, a Tennessee family, settled the land, raising livestock, practicing agriculture, and building the central part of the ranch house and north barn, the two predominant structures at the homestead. In 1870 the Grigsby sold his land to the Clear Lake Water Works Company and its agent, L.P. Nichols. The title was then transferred in 1882 to the California Agricultural Improvement Association, who developed vineyards and fruit orchards, and raised hay. In 1885 the company sold the land to John Still Anderson, a Scottish immigrant, who holds the namesake of the Park. Anderson operated a cattle ranch with his wife Sarah and six children. This European settlement between 1855 and 1930 produced the historically significant structures that still exist on the site, which now act as the park headquarters. The complex consists of the aforementioned ranch house and north barn, south barn, outhouse,

garage, smokehouse, shed, and windmill (Scavone, 1999). Among these, the ranch house and north barn are most historically significant, listed on the National Register of Historic Places (Parks, 1989).

RANCH ARCHITECTURE

According to the parks general plan, there are seven structures at the Ranch complex, however only two are of historic interest; The Anderson Ranch house and the North barn.

Building Inventory

* - Historical Significance

- Anderson Ranch*
- North barn*
- South barn
- Garage
- Smokehouse
- Shed
- Windmill

The Anderson Ranch House is built in mostly a Greek Revival style (McAlester, 2005) broken down into three sections, the central, west, and east. The central section dates from approximately 1860, the west from the mid 1880's, and the east from the 1920's. The kitchen, in the east wing, shows elements of craftsman bungalow style common for that time period. The house contains many historically significant elements such as handcrafted interior and exterior elements that have been preserved. The house is one of only a few ranch homes in the county that remains intact from this time period, the majority being destroyed or extensively altered (Parks, 1989).

The Second historically significant structure is the north barn. The building consists of wide planked siding and a gabled roof, with hand-hewn mortise and tenon interior structural elements. The hand-hewn beams and mortise and tenon joinings, signify building dates to the 1860's (Parks, 1989).

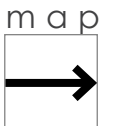


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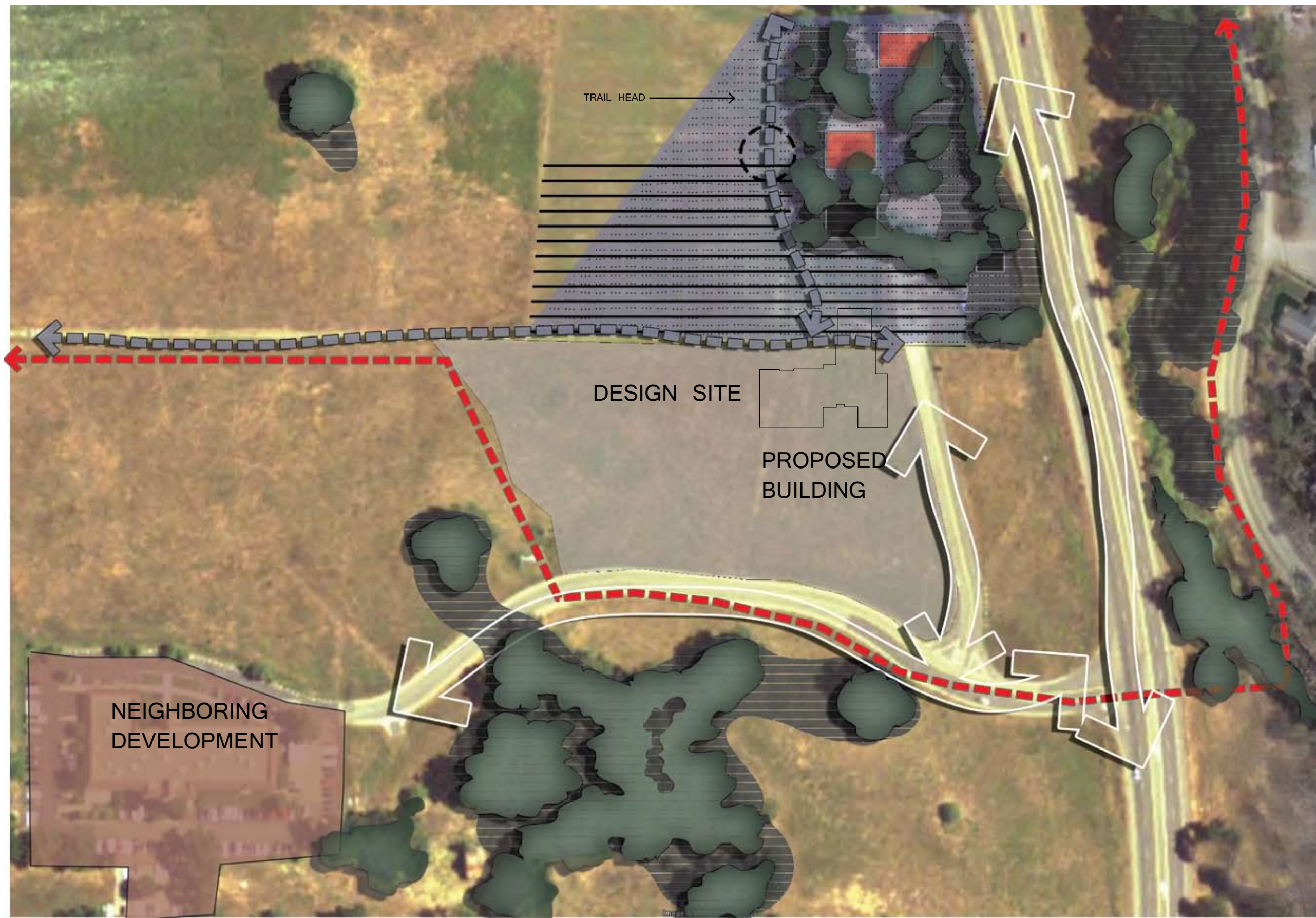
L a n d U s e s
O p p o r t u n i t i e s
C o n s t r a i n t s

Site For Design

The site that has been proposed to hold the new museum is a recent addition to the park and site just South of the trail that borders the park and eventually connects to both Anderson Flats and Marsh Trail courses. Aquired in 1984, the ten acre site is unlike the majority of the historic park, being categorized as an opportunity for higher use intensity with a lower rate of natural and cultural sensitivity. The opportunity for development is limited in that any changes must minimize any earth movement and development in order to keep the current undisturbed, natural ambiance of the park. By focusing the design in this area, increased traffic and use impact from tourism will be minimized where the park area is more sensitive to such changes. The position of the parcel also offers opportunities as a significant park entrance and interpretive space that easily connects to the parks current offerings.



Site Inventory



LEGEND

CULTURAL/NATURAL QUALITIES		CULTURAL RESOURCE
		NATURAL RESOURCE
		RIPARIAN/WOODLAND
		PARKING 1
CIRCULATION		TRAILS
		PARK BOUNDARY
		VEHICLE CIRCULATION
STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS		HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT ²
		EXISTING STRUCTURE

¹STANDARD PARKING AREA- 30 SPACES
²OVERFLOW/EVENT PARKING APPROX. 300 SPACES

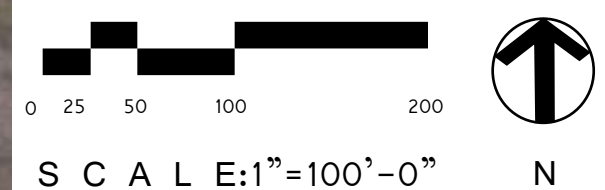
³RANCH HOUSE AND NORTH BARN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT, 19TH CENTURY ARCHITECTURE

NEIGHBORING DEVELOPMENT

TRAIL HEAD

DESIGN SITE

PROPOSED BUILDING



L a n d U s e

The following is a summary of land use and resource sensitivities according to the State Park and Recreation Commission's general plan for Anderson Marsh State Historic Park (Parks, 1989).

Park Natural Resource Sensitivity

The resource sensitivity is based on possible disturbance that could occur due to visitor use. The park is broken up into ecological units, each unit having a value based on its ecosystem. Generally, high sensitivity refers to those systems suffering severe limitations from reduction and conversion of the unit, and also the dependency of that unit to wildlife species. It can also refer to a wildlife species that is rare or endangered and depends on that unit for survival. The park contains various units covering all levels of natural resource sensitivity. The highest sensitivity is found mostly in the marsh areas of both the Tule and Sedge/Rush marshes, the woodlands found along the park's western border, and the riparian corridor bordering the Cache Creek outlet. Moderately sensitive areas include the Anderson Ridge area, and the riparian corridor found along the eastern side of the ranch complex. Lower sensitivity areas include the Ranch complex and the Eastern portion of Anderson Marsh.

P a r k L a n d U s e I n t e n s i t i e s

Land use intensities range from very low to high, based on ecological sensitivity, and the allowable uses are determined by the Parks Department according to these ratings. The higher the ecological sensitivity, the lower the use intensity can be. Some included low intensity uses are hiking, nature study, birdwatching, scenic observation, picnicking, guided tours, swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking. Moderately intense uses include camping at two sites per acre, picnicking at two sites per acre, group camping at 100 people per 40 acres, hiking in groups, sailing, and bicycling.

High intensity uses include camping at three sites or more per acre, picnicking at three sites or more per acre, group camping with 100-200 people per 40 acres, and campfire programs.

Anderson Flats, Lewis Ridge, and Slater Island are examples of low intensity usability. Moderate intensity exists in a portion of the North Flats, and Anderson Ranch, the area just east of Anderson Flats. High intensity uses include the Ranch complex, which includes vehicle parking, trail heads, picnic benches, rest rooms, and generally higher pedestrian circulation.

S i t e L a n d U s e

Land Use

The land use capability is high, with a low ecological sensitivity, allowing for vehicle accommodations, as well as recreational areas that produce high usages that are otherwise limited throughout the rest of the park. The earth movement must be minimal to remain in context with the historic park. Earth that has been cut can be moved and used as topographic changes in the interpretive area, balancing the soil movement (cut and fill) on site.

Natural Resources

The Site for the proposed building and outdoor space rests in a low natural resource sensitivity area, harboring no extensive habitat or need to keep undisturbed.

O p p o r t u n i t i e s

This design will primarily focus on creating an interpretive space that promotes the cultural, environmental, and evolutionary significance of the park. There will also be attention to enhancing the entry way so it can be understood from Highway 53, the main highway upon park entry. Currently, the turn off from 53 onto Anderson Ranch Parkway has a minimal signal of entrance with a wooden sign and park logo. The Discovery Center site will be the first building that is seen and its grounds must communicate the entrance of the park. Access must be visible from highway 53 to visitors, where circulation can be controlled and directed accordingly. The ground closest to Anderson Ranch Parkway, which would be south of the new building, will be the first thing seen from the road. Appropriate signage to inform various types of circulation should be implemented so people know where to go depending on need.

The Discovery Center will bring new employment, act as a visitor center, educational hub, and has the possibility of acting as a ranger station and employee housing area. The overflow parking that is used for special events holds about 300 cars and can be used as a main parking area for the new site. The headquarters parking current-

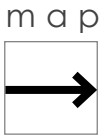
ly holds 30 car spaces. The most traffic at the park lands on special event days, where they can get as many as 2000 visitors. However, the total visitors per year averages 11,000 people, with most traffic being on weekends (Parks, 1989). By utilizing the current overflow parking, normally used on special event days, more space can be used as interpretive areas and recreation, and minimize impervious development by focusing the cars towards the back of the new building, the front has the opportunity as a focal point, viewable from the highway, and surrounding roads. The educational aspect of the site is a primary goal, and therefore buses from local and regional schools need to be considered. A turnaround or drop area for bus passengers is necessary for easy, separate traffic flow between buses and cars.

The outdoor space for the proposed Discovery Center can be utilized as an outdoor educational walk, turning standard museum information into an interactive experience. The park contains history that can take a lifetime to absorb, so this space must act as an introduction, creating a curiosity to explore further into the park. The space can connect to the park by the Anderson Flats Trail and the Ridge trail, as well as the current park headquarters. The interpretive experience should show a sample of the major themes existing in the park.

The focus will be archeological, geological, and environmental, showing visitors how the space was created, who called it home, and what they used to survive. This experience is shown as a timeline, beginning at the proposed building and extending outward in space, and backwards in time to 10,000 years ago for inhabitation, and millions of years ago for geological evolution. By placing a major interpretive space at the site, impact on park space that is more culturally and environmentally sensitive will be minimized.

G o a l s

- Interpret cultural significance
- Enhance pedestrian circulation/connectivity
- Recreational space
- Education Hub/Outdoor Classroom
- Bus turnaround/parking
- Sense of Entry
- Site Visibility



C o n s t r a i n t s

The Proposed Discovery Center is in the beginning stages, with no actual plans in the works. Therefore, information on building uses, needs, circulation, traffic impact, utilities, etc. is not available. The design for the outdoor space can only guess at what is needed based on the parks current state. This design will attempt to suggest a building site, traffic considerations, and utilities required for visitor use. However the main emphasis will be on the interpretive outdoor space, whose elements can be moved later according to any new information regarding the project.

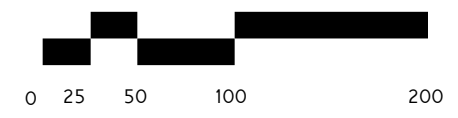
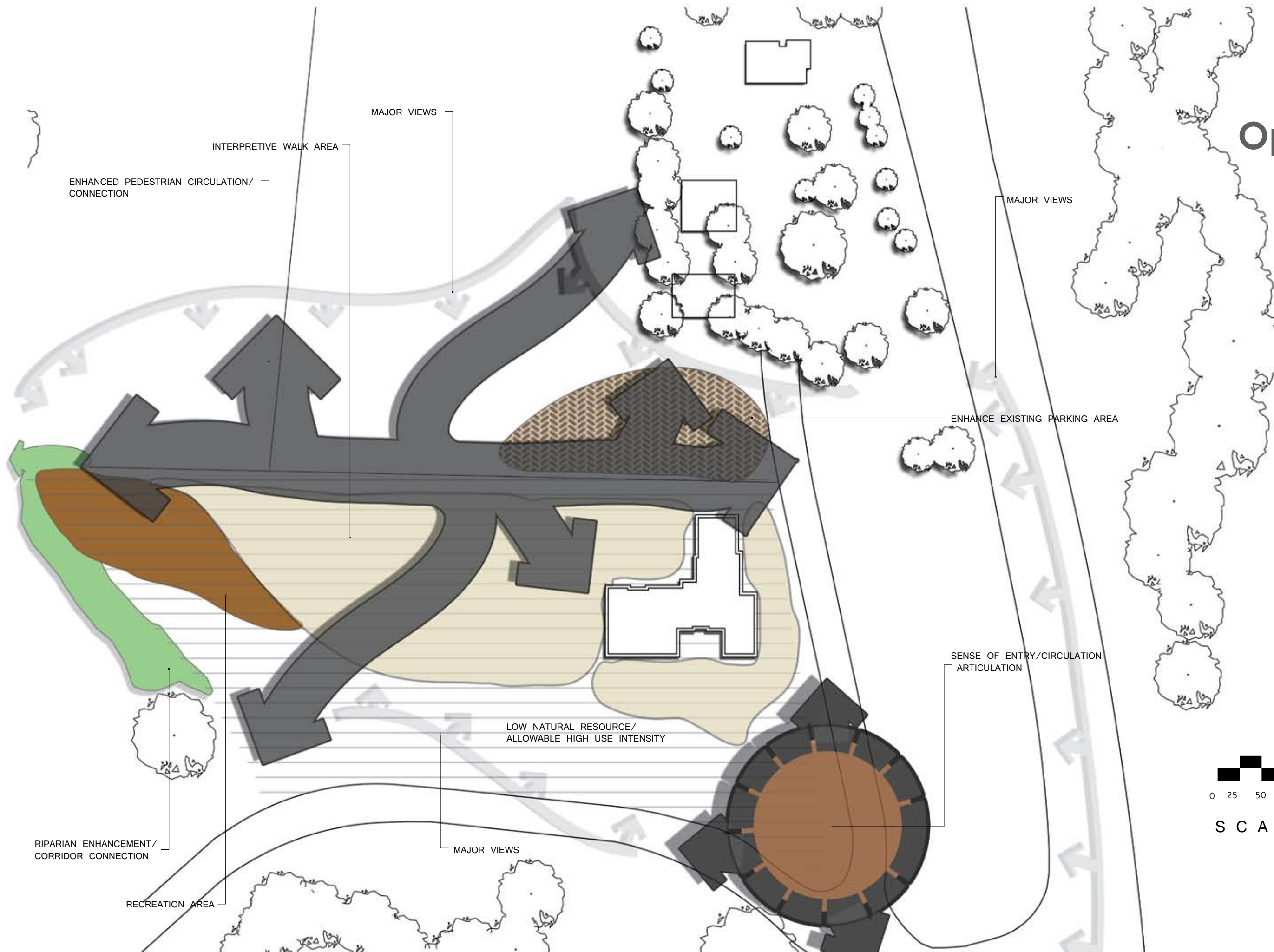
- Beginning stages of building proposal
- Utilities, power water placement, usages unknown
- ADA accessibility
- Highway noise
- Highway traffic
- Narrow/short entry (Lee Court to Anderson Ranch Pkwy approx. 150 ft)
- Maintain underdeveloped value of the land, no significant earth movement or changes
- Pedestrian recreational impact

OpportunitiesandConstraintsConclusion

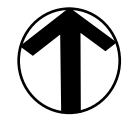
The opportunities presented for design are most significant as a special and physical introduction to the park and its history. In addition, the site location presents a strong option to improve the site identity and signification as a place of interest to the public. Constraints rest in the uncertainty of what building development will actually take place and when. This will determine utility needs and placement, which can only be assumed for this project. With regards to the entrance, there has been some discussion between Caltrans and the Parks Department about widening highway 53, and making adjustments to the parks exit (Parks, 1989). This would effect the entrance design, but for this project it is assumed that highway 53 and the park exit will remain intact.



Opportunities



SCALE: 1"=100'-0"



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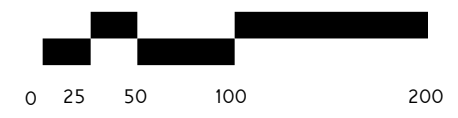
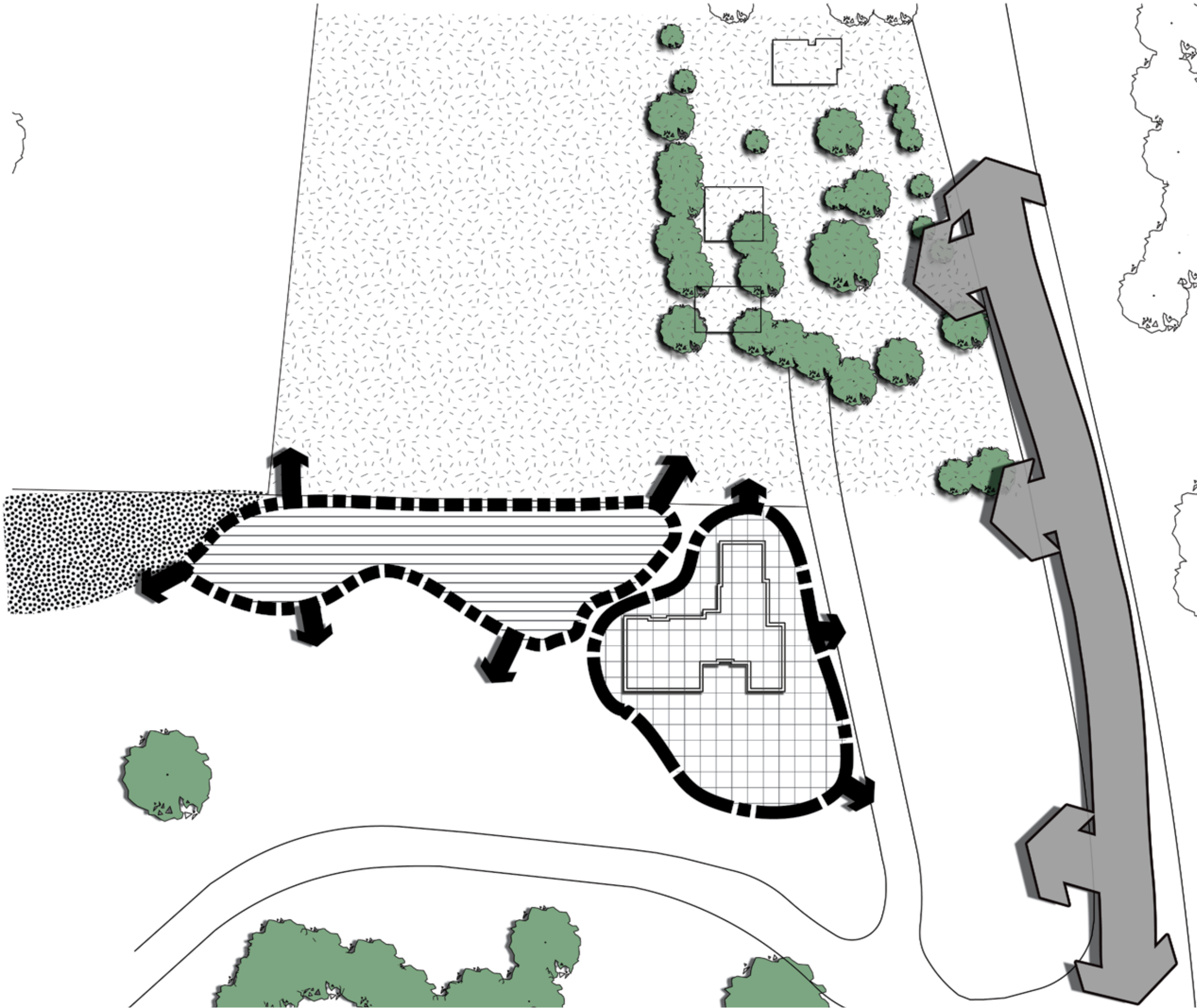


Constraints

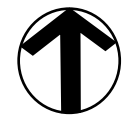
LEGEND

DESIGN CONSTRAINTS

- MINIMAL INCREASED TRAFFIC/IMPACT ALLOWABLE
- EXTENSIVE EARTH MOVEMENT
- MODERATE LAND USE INTENSITY
- HIGH CULTURAL SENSITIVITY
- HABITAT SENSITIVITY



SCALE: 1" = 100'-0"



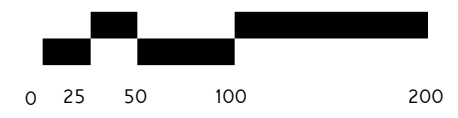
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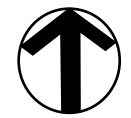
Concept Diagram

LEGEND

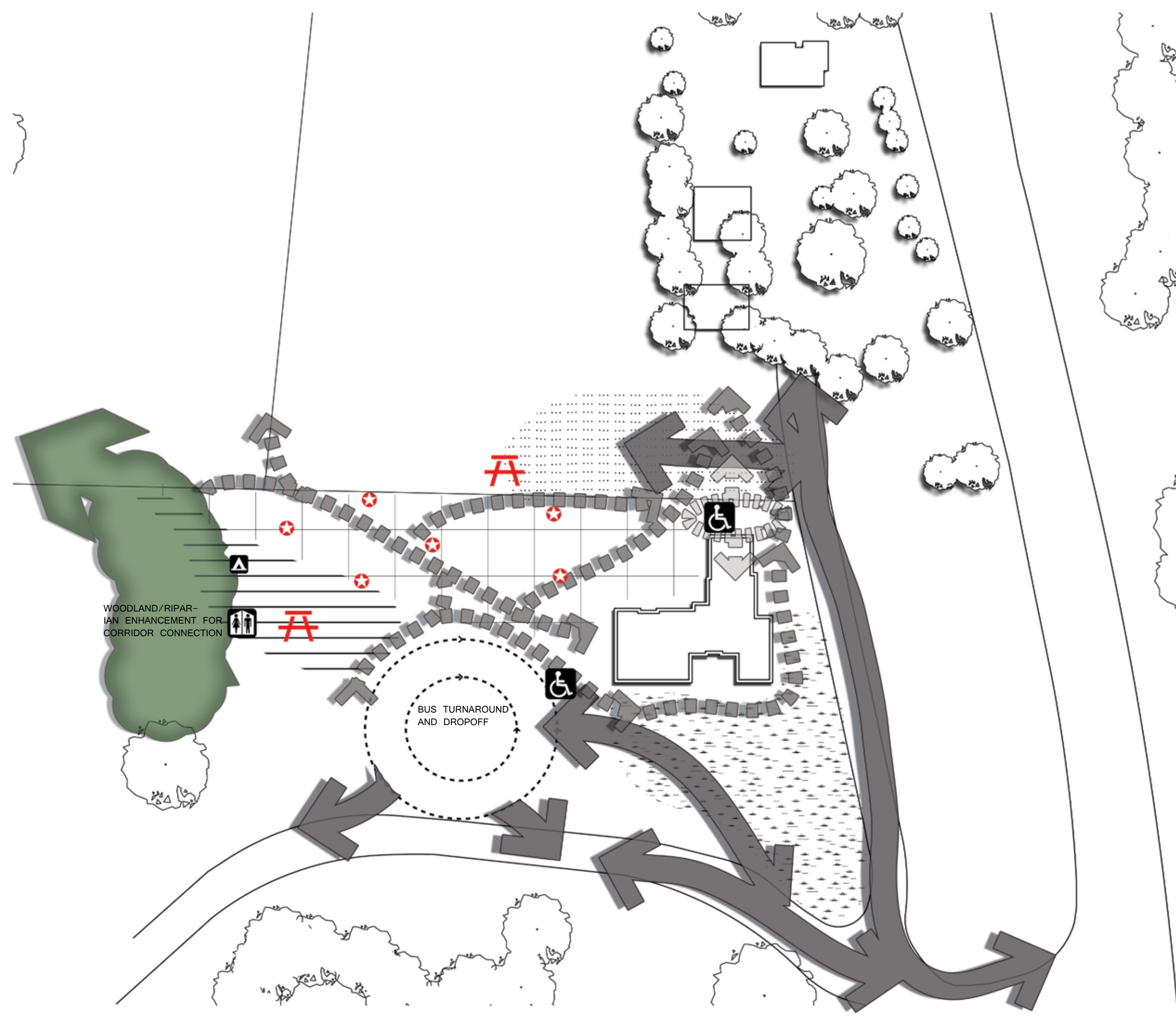
FACILITIES		ADA ACCESSABILITY
		PICNICE AREA
		RESTROOM STRUCTURE
		CAMPING
CIRCULATION		PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
		VEHICLE CIRCULATION
SPACE DESIGNATIONS		INTERPRETIVE WALK
		EXISTING PARKING ENHANCEMENT
		CAMPING/OUTDOOR RECREATION
		ENTRY ENHANCEMENT
		DESIGN FOCAL



SCALE: 1" = 100'-0"



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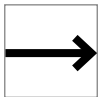


WOODLAND/RIPARIAN ENHANCEMENT FOR CORRIDOR CONNECTION

BUS TURNAROUND AND DROPOFF

The Design

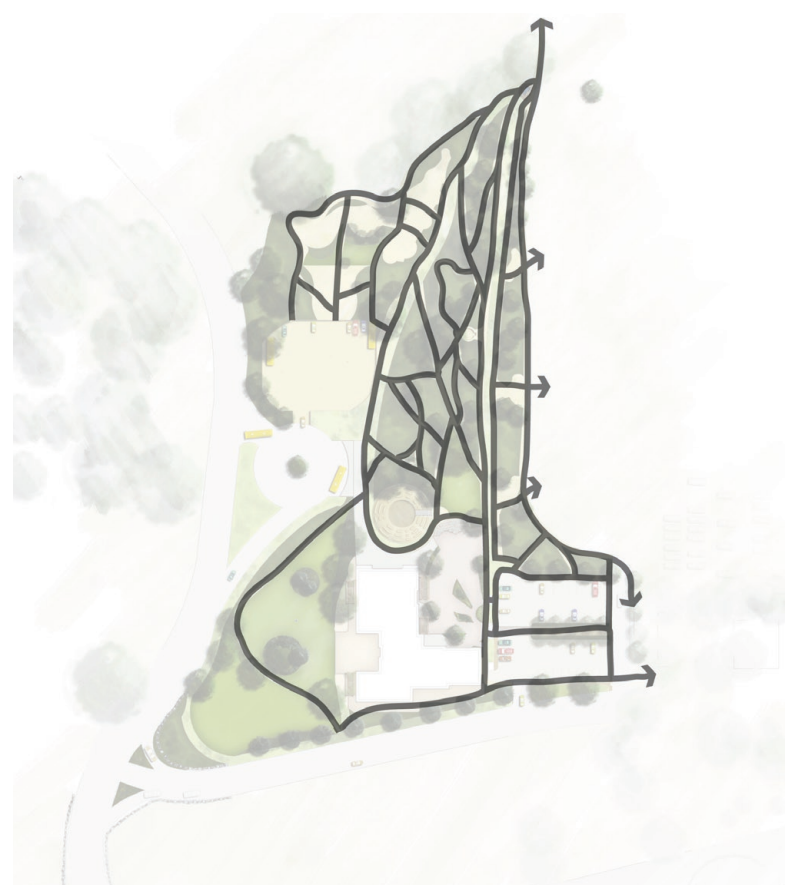
map



This design proposal can be separated into two categories: Function and Interpretation. The first focuses on how the site works regarding environmental impact, connection to the existing park, pedestrian and vehicle circulation, directional signage, utilities, and large amenities including parking, restrooms, and designated camping and picnic areas. The interpretive space is thought of as a medium for presenting historical elements and events that occurred at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. The design focal points are rationed and integrated within a naturalistic environment, not bombarding visitors with information, but allowing for self paced interactivity, guiding people out towards the rest of the park. This design proposal offers a solution for minimal development and functionality, while acknowledging the parks historical and cultural significance and a need for an educational experience.



Land Use



Pedestrian Circulation



Vehicle Circulation



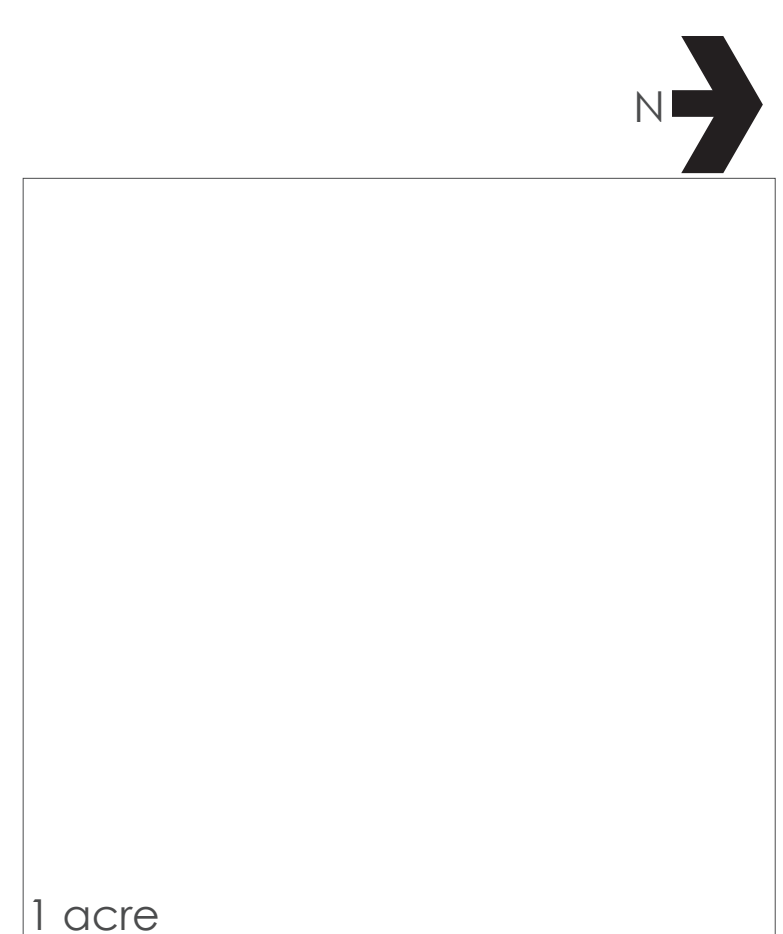
Bioswale

- Interpretive
- Parking
- Courtyard
- Camp/Recreation



- Camping/Recreation Area
- Camp/Bus Parking
- Bus Turnaround
- Camp/Bus Entry
- Front Open Space/
European Interpretive Area
- Entry Planters/Circulation Signage

- Clear Lake Geologic Model
- 3D-Relief Interpretive Signage Space
- Ceremonial Dance House Model
- 3D-Relief Interpretive Signage Space
- Event Parking
- Outdoor Classroom
- Courtyard
- Event Parking Entry
- Museum Parking
- Discovery Center/Museum



Discovery Center Conceptual Master Plan

scale: 1"=50'-0" 0 25 50 100 200

The Function

Bioswale: The Exposed Infrastructure

The site has been flattened, sloping slightly towards a swale running in the middle, north-south, to a culvert that runs under Lee Court. The current condition does not contain any other significant drainage infrastructure that cannot be altered, leading to greater possibilities for improvement. The bioswale element is an opportunity for progressive water management that can naturally treat the runoff of the new development before entering the water table. The gently sloping channel is vegetated to treat the runoff water by filtering before it enters the ground. The site can utilize this storm water management practice, which requires sunny, dry conditions. The swales run along the camp site, trails, building, and parking lots to catch the drainage of the more impervious surfaces. This environmental approach to drainage also fits esthetically to the park setting, which is predominately undisturbed. The bioswale acts not only as a drainage solution but a natural attraction, creating more space for native plant species which can support life and maintains the natural honesty of the park. Rather than hiding, the surface water is emphasized and utilized, furthering the natural ability of the design and its relationship to the surrounding setting.

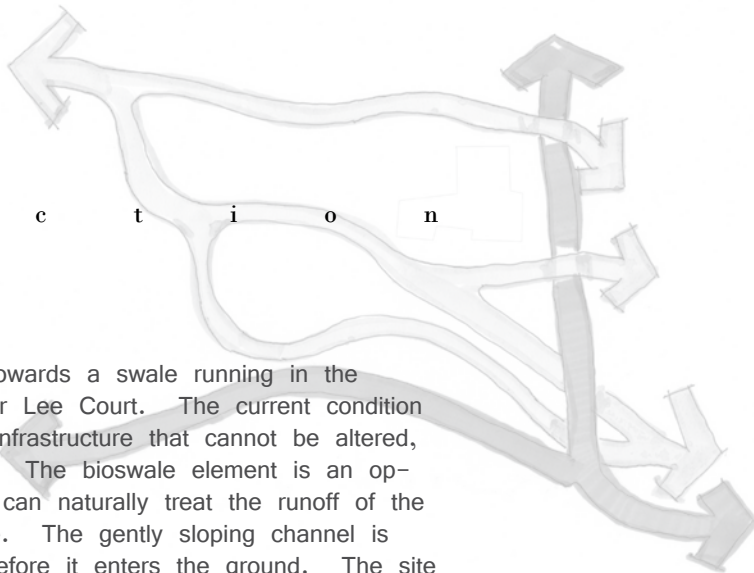
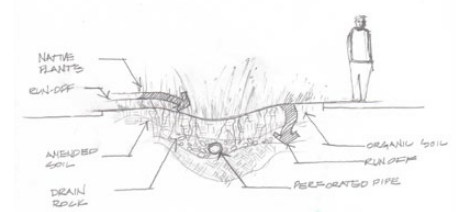


Fig.10 Bioswale

Fig.11 Bioswale Section Sketch





O v e r v i e w

The main entry to Anderson Marsh State Historic Park begins directly off of Highway 53, a four lane highway with a speed limit of fifty-five mph. The turn empties onto Lee Court, a forty foot wide road that ends at a social services building approximately a quarter mile away. Anderson Ranch Parkway, the entry road to the park headquarters, begins about 150 feet into Lee Ct, and runs north to the parks headquarters. The abrupt turn off of the fast moving highway onto a narrow, short road before reaching Anderson Ranch Pkwy creates a short time frame for visitors to safely navigate their turn. With the proposed development, additional vehicle circulation and parking is being incorporated to separate visitors based on their park use, and also to separate standard vehicles from larger transportation including school and public buses. This makes it more important to slow the entrance time from the highway exit to Anderson Ranch Pkwy and also clearly state the directional options so patrons can take the correct route comfortably.

V i s u a l A n a l y s i s

Looking west from the intersection of Lee Court and Highway 53, mountain peaks poke out over Rolling hills that are swathed with oak woodlands and enclose the naturalistic landscape of the park. From the entry, these mountains and hills offer the most visually intriguing features that can be seen from a distance. The entry must be functionally efficient, servicing the various traffic safely, while adhering to the aesthetic focal point the park is framed in. Any modifications that are too large can distract from the natural backdrop, alter the initial sense of an undisturbed landscape, and block or impair key views(Lagro, 2001). Traffic calming elements should be incorporated to slow the traffic along the 150 foot stretch to Anderson Ranch Parkway, and also respect views and natural surroundings in terms of scale.



Fig.12 Design Site



Fig.13 Front Entry



E l e m e n t s

Giving the entry way a sense of enclosure can reduce traffic speed and enhance the sense of entering into a significant setting. Appropriate signage must be added to articulate traffic types for both the park and the adjacent social services building. Rock walls at seven-eight feet high are added to the north and south sides of Lee Court upon the entry from highway fifty three. The wall on the north side of Lee Court wraps around to the east side of Anderson Ranch Parkway and extends 100 feet upward, towards the headquarters. This is matched with 100 foot wall on the west side of the road, edging the design site. To soften these structures, planting space on the wall tops are added, as well as small planting spaces within extruded rocks along the faces of the wall. Also, framed rectangular holes are spaced sporadically throughout the wall to break the monotony of continuous rock and allowing framed views into other spaces. These walls run the length of the entry from highway 53 to the beginning of Anderson Ranch Parkway. Currently, at the intersection of Lee Court and Anderson Ranch Pkwy are two spaces in the road, somewhat triangle in shape, marked off in paint, with an area of approximately 240 square feet. These spaces have been mounded with soil, which is framed in with unfinished wooden beams around 3 feet highway and contain grasses and wildflowers. This acts as a base for a rustic art piece; I have shown a large rusted metal cut out of a heron, which is a feature of the Anderson Marsh logo. These mounded planting areas will soften the parks approach and streetscape, while respecting the backdrop of the hillsides and woodlands.

S i g n a g e

Signage should be used throughout the site to communicate trails, plant species names, both scientific and common, rock types, and other interpretive elements that can be utilized. Semi permanent signs displaying this information should maintain the existing natural and undisturbed feel of the site, and not take away from any environmental or ecological processes. Moderate scale and moveable forms to present information can enhance the sites educational value and not threaten or harm its present condition.

Fig.14 Existing Kiosk



T h e F u n c t i o n

Fig.15 Some Signage Examples



Circulation

The new circulation separates vehicle traffic to the Discovery Center, organizing standard vehicles from buses and other public transportation. The bus circulation utilizes a new road that runs below the building site for around two hundred feet to a turn around circle and drop off point, allowing visitors to exit the bus and be directly on the site, free of oncoming traffic. The turnaround then leads traffic to the new unpaved camp parking area and eventually back out to Lee Court. Standard vehicles visiting the Discovery Center can use the existing circulation pattern leading to the proposed parking space, between the park headquarters and new building. The new camp space parking utilizes the bus traffic route, where standard vehicles will park for overnight stays or recreational day use specifically in the camping area.

Parking-Discovery Center

Parking for the new Discovery Center uses part of the existing space for overflow/event parking. By locating the parking to the north of the Discovery center, The vehicles are screened from the park entrance view. The space accommodates approximately fifty vehicles, which is additional space to the existing thirty spaces at park headquarters. The new parking connects directly to overflow parking as needed. The lot drains to the biofiltration swale, located on the south side, between the lot and Discovery Center. This swale will catch the additional runoff caused by the paved surface. Shade trees and dense native plantings will enclose the parking area, buffering it from the building and partially screening the view. To connect the parking lot to the new building, small wooden bridges are used to cross the bio-swale and enter the Discovery Center courtyard.

Parking-Bus & Camp Area

An unpaved space for bus parking and camping visitors is situated between the bus turnaround and the recreational area. Differing from the Discovery Center parking, this surface is unpaved, either gravel or semi compacted earth, to minimize impervious surfaces of the new site and compliments the camp ground esthetics. Features include large log and boulder boundary lines, dirt path connections, and tree canopy shading. This space can be easily seen from the camping grounds for overnight vehicle security and can be used for additional overflow parking.

Pedestrian Circulation

The idea of the proposed circulation is to connect to the existing trails, as well as meander through the interpretive area, while also providing an efficient transition to parking lots, recreation areas, and buildings.

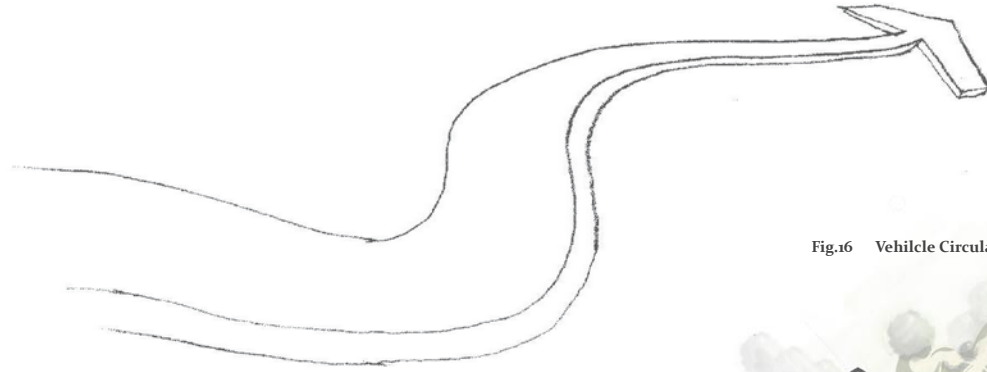


Fig.16 Vehicle Circulation

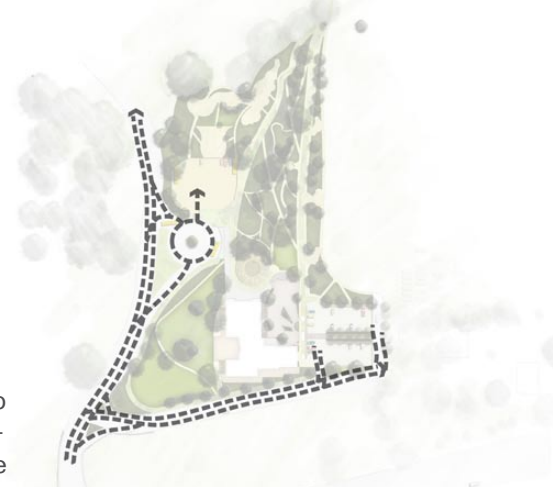


Fig.17 Parking



Fig.18 Pedestrian Circulation



Outdoor Classroom

An outdoor classroom sits below grade, west of the Discovery Center. The circular depression expands outward up from the base, with sloped walls for bench seating surrounding the bottom stage. The depression and materials mimic the ceremonial dance house that is reconstructed in the interpretive area, only differing in modifications for daily use such as hand rails and permanent seating.



Fig.19 Outdoor Classroom



Fig.20 Outdoor Classroom

Courtyard

The entry courtyard to the Discovery Center is relieved of the historical timeline that organizes the rest of the outdoor space. At around 1,000 square feet, this area focuses on connecting the new Discovery Center to the rest of the parks features and as a formal area for smaller events. The path system connects to the interpretive space, parking area, bus turnaround and outdoor seating area in front of the Discovery Center building. The courtyard space is broken up with planting areas focusing on native species and a variety of paving stones. It is enclosed to the west with a large collection of connected rocks with planed seating areas and planting spaces within the structure. To the west of the rockwall seating is a small open turf space for recreation and connection to additional trails.

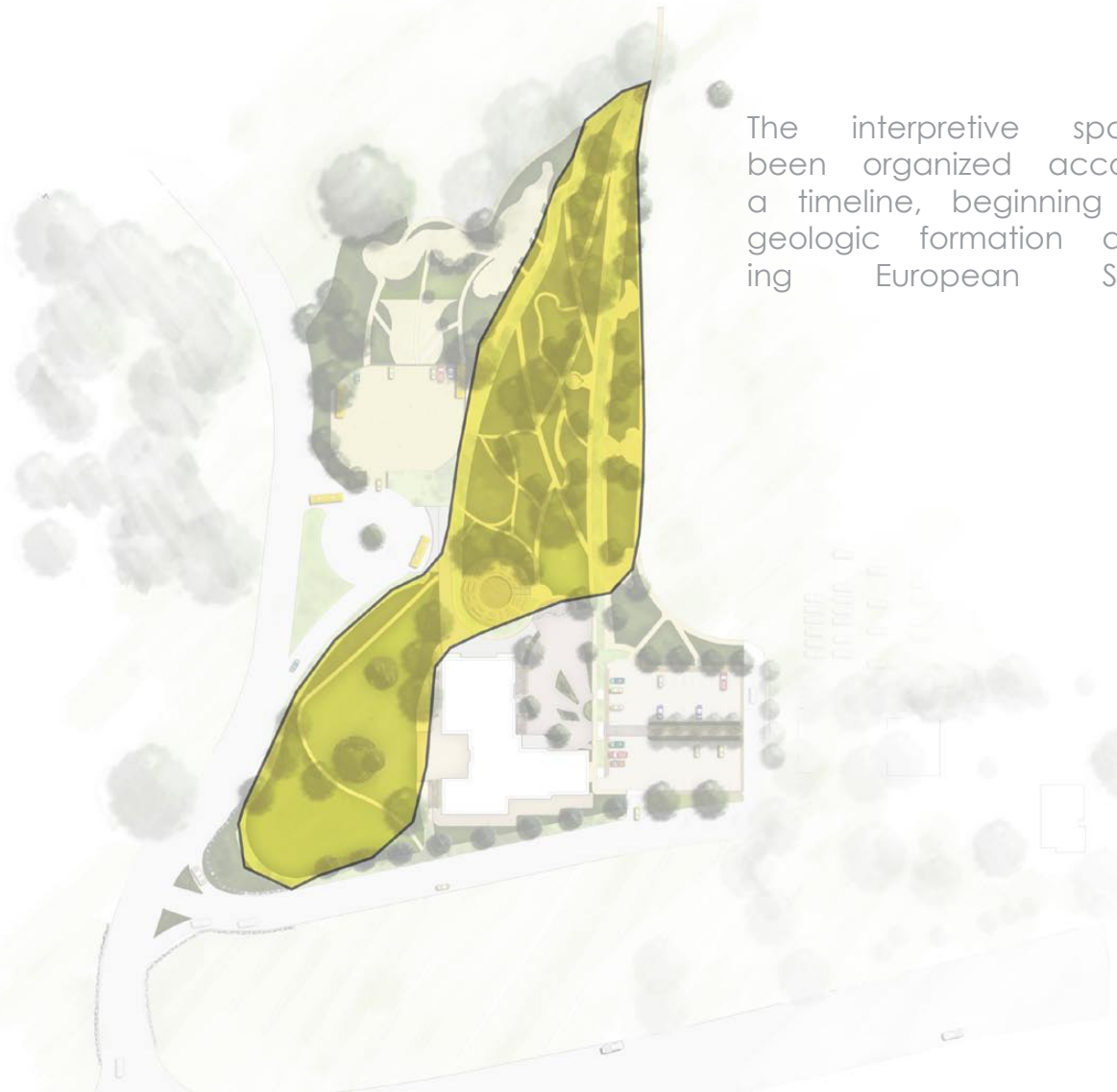
Fig.21 Courtyard



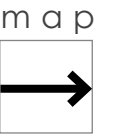
Fig.22 Courtyard

I n t e r p r e t i v e

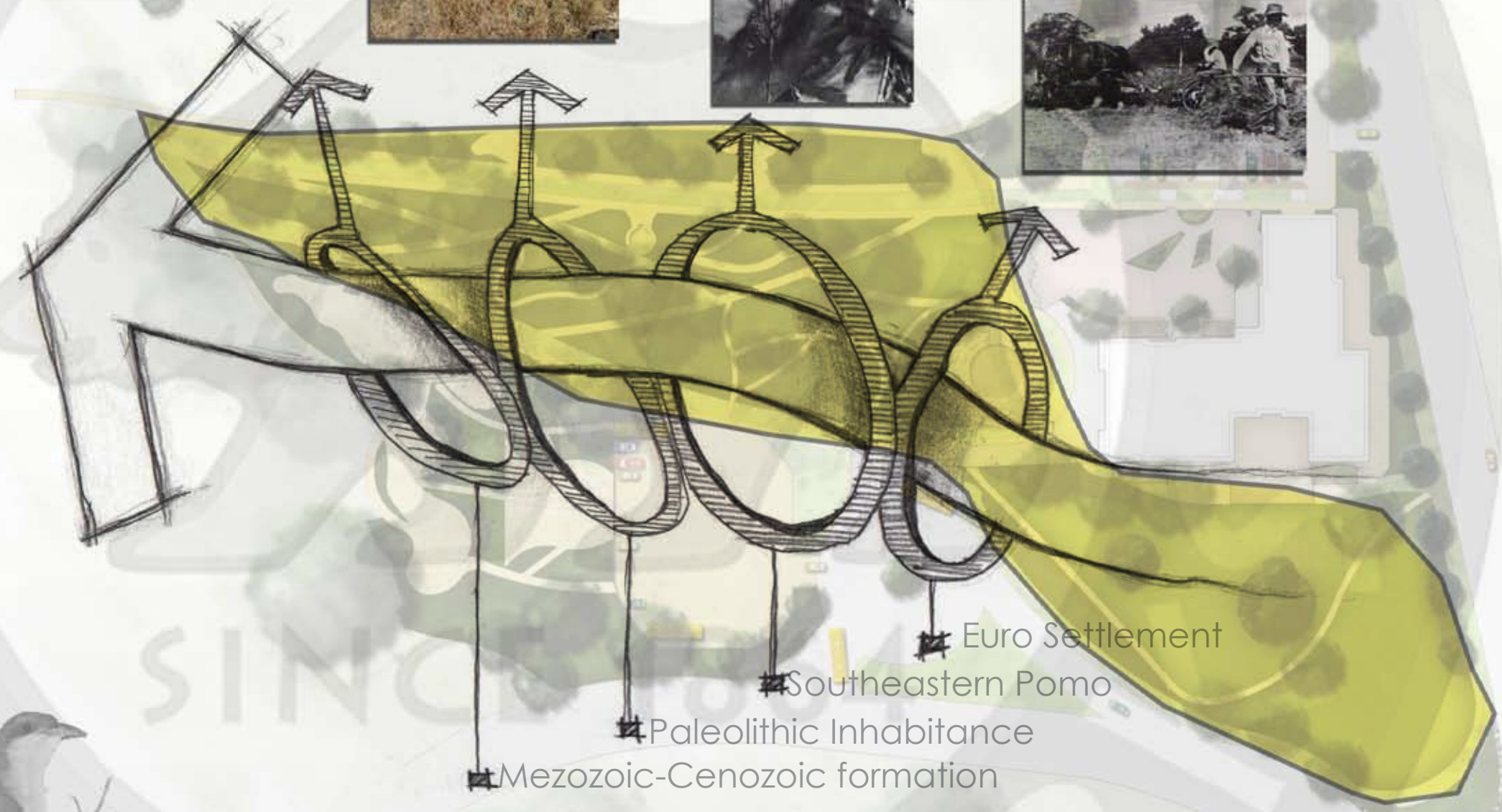
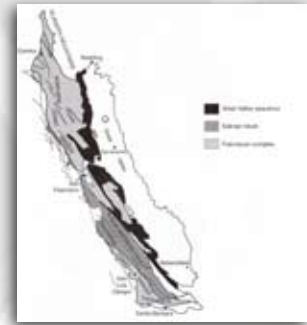
D e s i g n



The interpretive space has been organized according to a timeline, beginning with the geologic formation and ending European Settlement.



Historic Timeline



- Mezozoic-Cenozoic formation
- Paleolithic Inhabitation
- Southeastern Pomo
- Euro Settlement



E x i s t i n g E l e m e n t s

The ranch house complex houses a variety of implements from both the native American inhabitants and European settlers. The ranch house holds historic photos, cooking implements, and miscellaneous natural resource elements. Scattered outside of the home, and throughout the barns are old farming equipment, tools, and examples of various rock types that can be found throughout the park. Also, there is a kiosk at the Ranch House's entrance displaying a trails map. Native American artifacts such as birthing stones, evidence from tool and weapon making, and ground depressions from village homes and ceremonial sites are some of the evidence of native inhabitation.

Fig.24 19th Century Tools

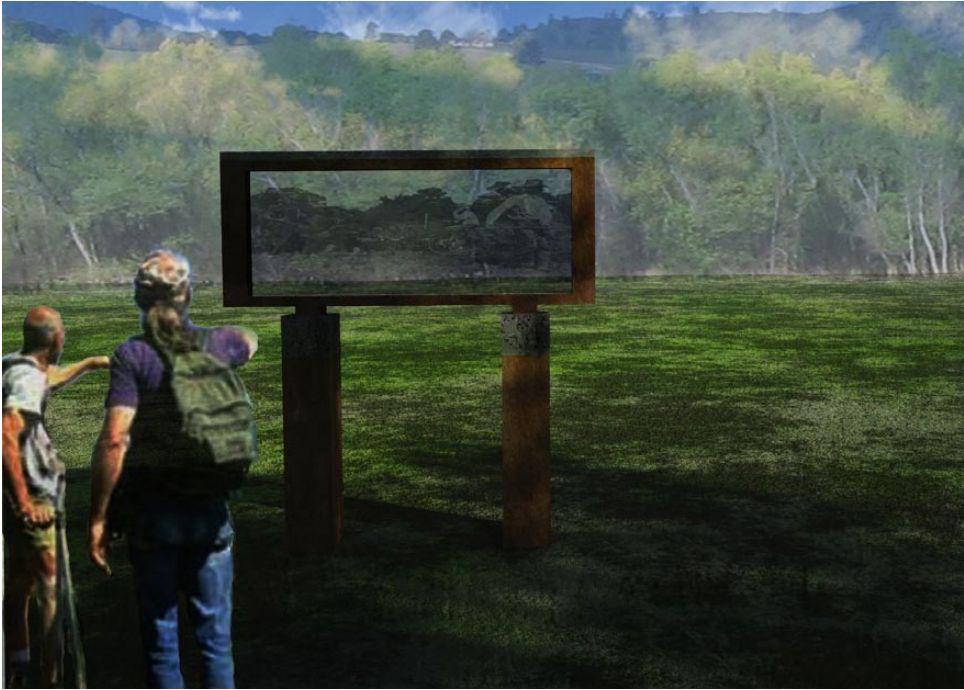


Fig.23 Anderson Wheelbarrow



ThreeDimensionalRelief:InterpretiveSignage

Fig.25 Interpretive Sign



The naturalistic landscapes that cover the park have been used by different cultures in different ways for thousands of years. For some cultures, the landscape looked similar to what it is today, predominately undisturbed with subtle signs of existence. For others, the landscape was more significantly altered for their survival. The different approaches and techniques have the chance to be seen as they were practiced on the land through glass relief technology. Placed along the interpretive trails, these signs can be observed as a looking glass, pointed out towards the parks grounds, and intertwining the existing landscape and images of how they were historically utilized.

Geological Model

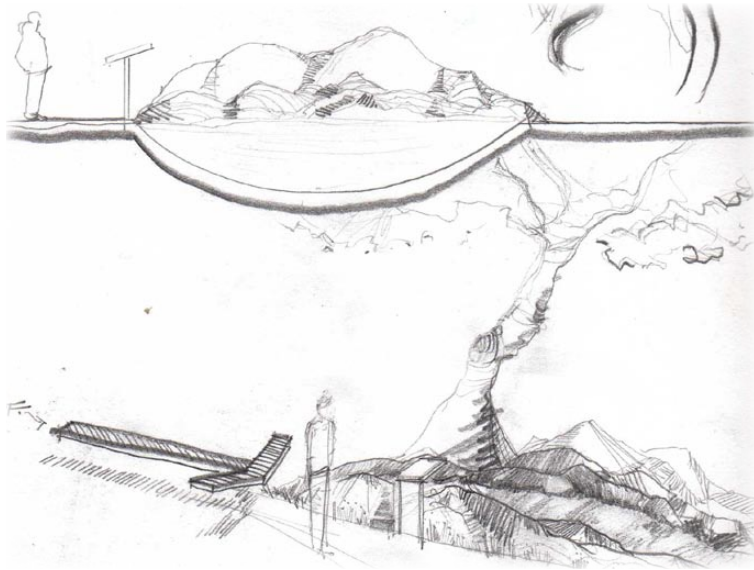


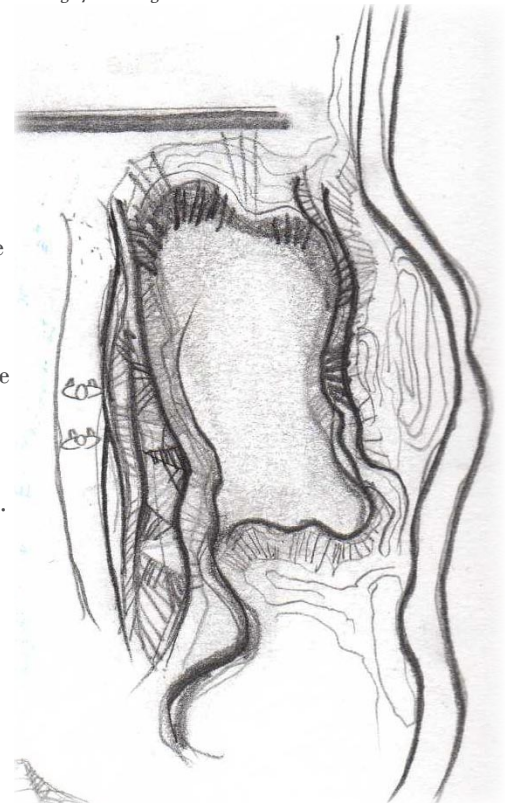
Fig.26 Geologic Model Perspective

The geological history of Anderson Marsh is a key element for the interpretation of visitors. The changes in the landscape over millions of years were the catalyst for the rich, varied habitats that now exist. The geological design element will represent the oldest era in the historical timeline, exhibiting the park regions formation that occurred between five million and ten thousand years ago. By modeling the local ranges, basins, and bodies of water, an overview of the different landscapes and their interactions can be seen at once. Clear Lake as a giant body of water that may seem infinite to younger eyes can now be absorbed as a whole, along with its relationship to adjoining mountains and streams. By breaking down this seemingly larger than life process, a greater understanding of the landscape that is experienced at human scale can be made.

Fig.27 Geologic Model Plan

Geological Model

A large scale model of the Clear Lake basin and surrounding ranges sits along one of the interpretive areas meandering trails. The water of Clear Lake and its outflow of cache creek are incorporated into the existing drainage design of the bio swale, with the swale connecting to the Northern tip of Clear Lake and then returning at the models eastern tip of Cache Creek. Interpretive signs can be placed at landmarks including the Anderson Marsh, local towns, Mountain peaks (Mount Konocti) and other bodies of water. The scale for the conceptual plan is shown around thirty feet in length, from the northern tip of Clear Lake to the Cache Creek outflow, and fifteen feet in width, from East to West. With the basin below the grade of the trail, the mountain ridge can become interactive, with a couple stairs leading to a flat standing plank, allowing for an overview of the entire design. The rock creating the formation is a similar type found at the park, complimenting the surroundings. Conceptually it is situated within the bioswale, and slopes accordingly for drainage.



Dancehouse

Fig.28 Ceremonial Structure Perspective



A circular depression, four feet deep with an eight foot radius is dug out as the dance house foundation. Eight wooden posts from twelve to fifteen feet high were evenly spaced around the perimeter and then leaned against a center post. Similar to the sweathouses, the fire was between the post and the door, with a smoke hole for ventilation above it. The structure was then covered in earth along with various grasses and vegetation. The ceremonial structure is the main element in the interpretive area that represents the Southeastern Pomo who lived at the park before European settlement. This will be a compliment to the various artifacts that also support the theory of Native American existence, but are much smaller in scale and more intricate to interpret. The accurate sizing of the structure and appropriate material will make a setting that allows visitors to absorb and explore the Native American spirituality and their connection to nature. A 3-D relief sign is placed upon the eastern side of the structure, illustrating a Native American dance being performed around a fire, an image that is consistent with the uses of such structures during their existence.

Ceremonial Structure

Dances of the Southeastern Pomo, were separated according to the seasonal cycle. Typically, when the village had the least amount of economic responsibilities to attend to, the greatest ceremonies were performed. The spring months, which the Pomo referred to as Xəqol cakic, or when things bloomed, brought about extensive ceremonial activities that took place in a structure built specifically for such events. Dances performed related to the health, sustainability and economic success of the tribe. For example the New Tobacco Rite opened the spring season, before the tobacco that was planted on the hillsides by the lakes shore, and was performed as a spiritual coaxing for luscious growth (Halpern, 1988). These structures housed some of the practices that exemplified the spirit of Native Americans, and their primal, instinctual connection to the landscape they lived within. The expression of such commitment shows a deep understanding and appreciation of the environment that sustained them, a respect from humans that seems less abundant in modern times.

Recreating the ceremonial structure will bring to life a space that was once used by people to understand, relate, and communicate with the environment around them. The building techniques, spatial arrangement, and functionality show the significant thought process and sophistication of the designers who existed before the luxury of modern technology. By recreating the ceremonial housing, the stories and practices of the Southeastern Pomo can now be brought to life and experienced where they originated.

EntryOpenSpace

The space that introduces visitors to the building represents the time of European settlement, and its transition from a rural to working landscape. A.J. Downing, a 19th century authority of landscape design and architecture emphasized the idea of creating a naturalistic landscape within the development of increasingly industrial setting. People needed isolation from their daily lives that were embedded in long laborious days(Rogers, 2001). Reflecting this need, the front area is an open spaces, spotted with trees and designated planting spaces, laced with meandering paths holding no purpose other than to wander. Within the area rests focal points including artifacts of the time period such as farm equipment and tools that were used during settlement and homestead establishment. It also offers an opportunity to display special plant species and information on how they were historicall used. The open grass area offers a space for recreation to visitors and neighbors, a less demanding area that emphasizes relaxation.

Fig.29 Entry Open Space



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