

TONGVA PARK



“We need to reconsider humanity’s relationship with nature, moving away from a fear-based urban conditioning towards a recognition that humans are part of nature...”

*-Bob Ramirez
President, Gabrielino Tongva Springs Foundation*



TONGVA PARK
OCEAN AVE.
SANTA MONICA CA

INTERWEAVING HUMANITY AND NATURE



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TONGVA PARK
SOURCE: GOOGLE EARTH





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INTRODUCTION

SOME
LANDSCAPES STRONGLY
COMMUNICATE THEIR PURPOSE. SOME
TRANSPORT US TO AN OASIS IN THE MIDDLE
OF AN URBAN ENDRIONMENT. IT SEEMS THIS WAS
THE INTENTION OF THE TONGVA PARK: TO TRANSPORT AND
ESCAPE THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE LA MACROENBRIONMENT.



Illustration of Tongva village life is by Mary Leighton Thompson, used with permission of Friends of Ballona Wetlands
credit: treepeople.org

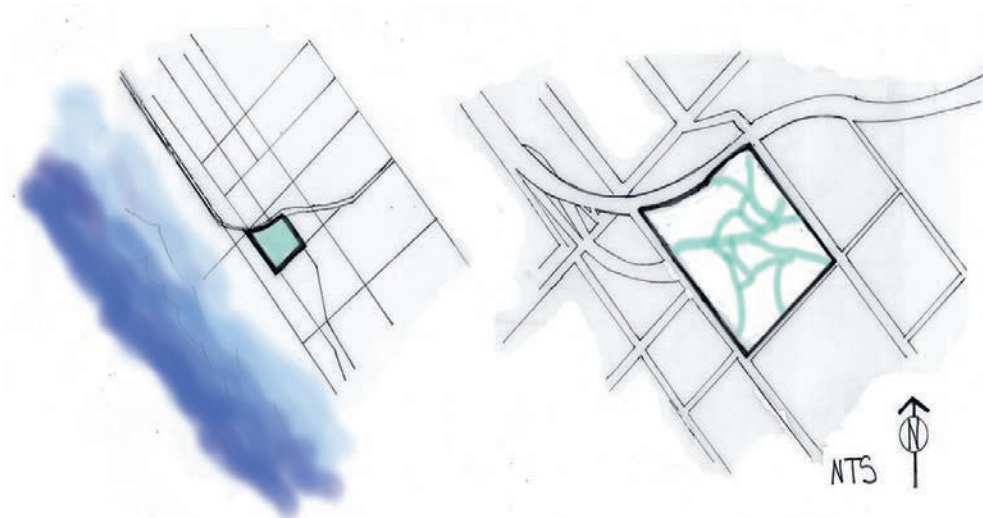
IN 2013.INSPIRED BY THE ARROYO LANDASCAPE.
JAMES CORNER FIELD OPERATIONS LLC. ENVISIONED
TRANSFORMING A PARKING LOT INTO A GARDEN WALK THAT
REDEFINES DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA.
FOR THE PAST 3 QUARTERS. DG1-3 HAS TAUGHT ME A
WIDE RANGE OF NEW SKILLS: FROM HAND SKETCHING.
TO COMMUNICATING GRAPHIC SKILLS EFFECTIVELY..
TO LEARNING 2 NEW SOFTWARE PROGRAMS. THIS
BOOKLET IS THE CULMINATION OF THOSE SKILLS.
TONGVA PARK WAS A CONDUIT FOR WHICH THOSE
SKILLS SHINE.

LOCATION AND CONTEXT

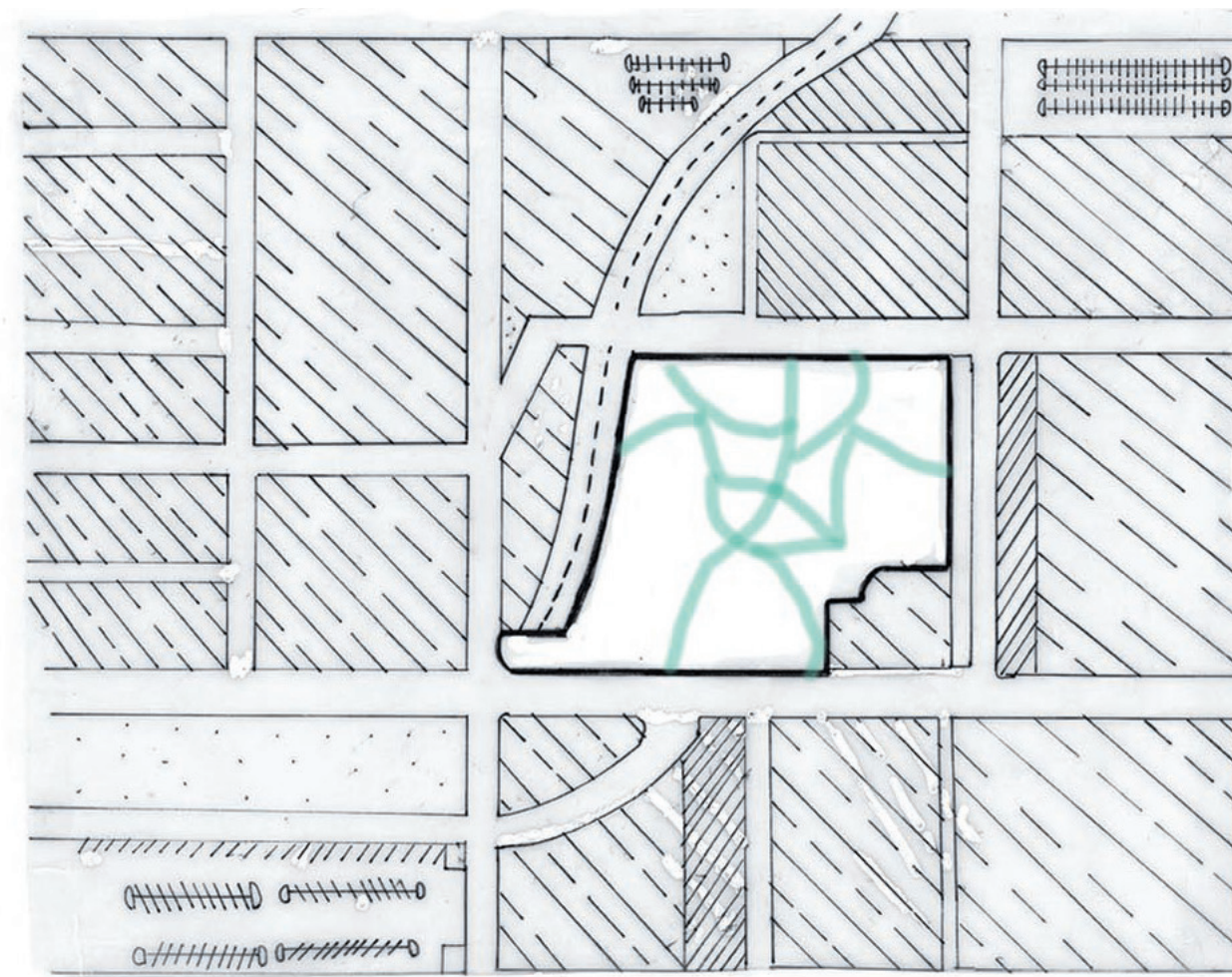
STEPS AWAY

FROM THE PACIFIC OCEAN AND THE SANTA MONICA

PIER. TONGVA PARK IS IN A PRIME LOCATION TO SERVE RESIDENTS IN NEARBY
APARTMENTS. TOURISTS. HOTEL GUESTS. AND LOCALS COMING OFF THE EXPO LINE. ITS
FULL AND LUSH 6.42ACRES IS UNEXPECTED BETWEEN CITY HALL. THE I-10
FREEWAY. AND OCEAN AVE.



SANTA MONICA. CA.

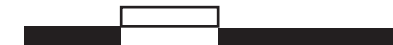


CONTEXT DIAGRAM

RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL MUNICIPAL PARK

1" = 640'-0"

0 320' 640' 1280'



CONCEPT DIAGRAM

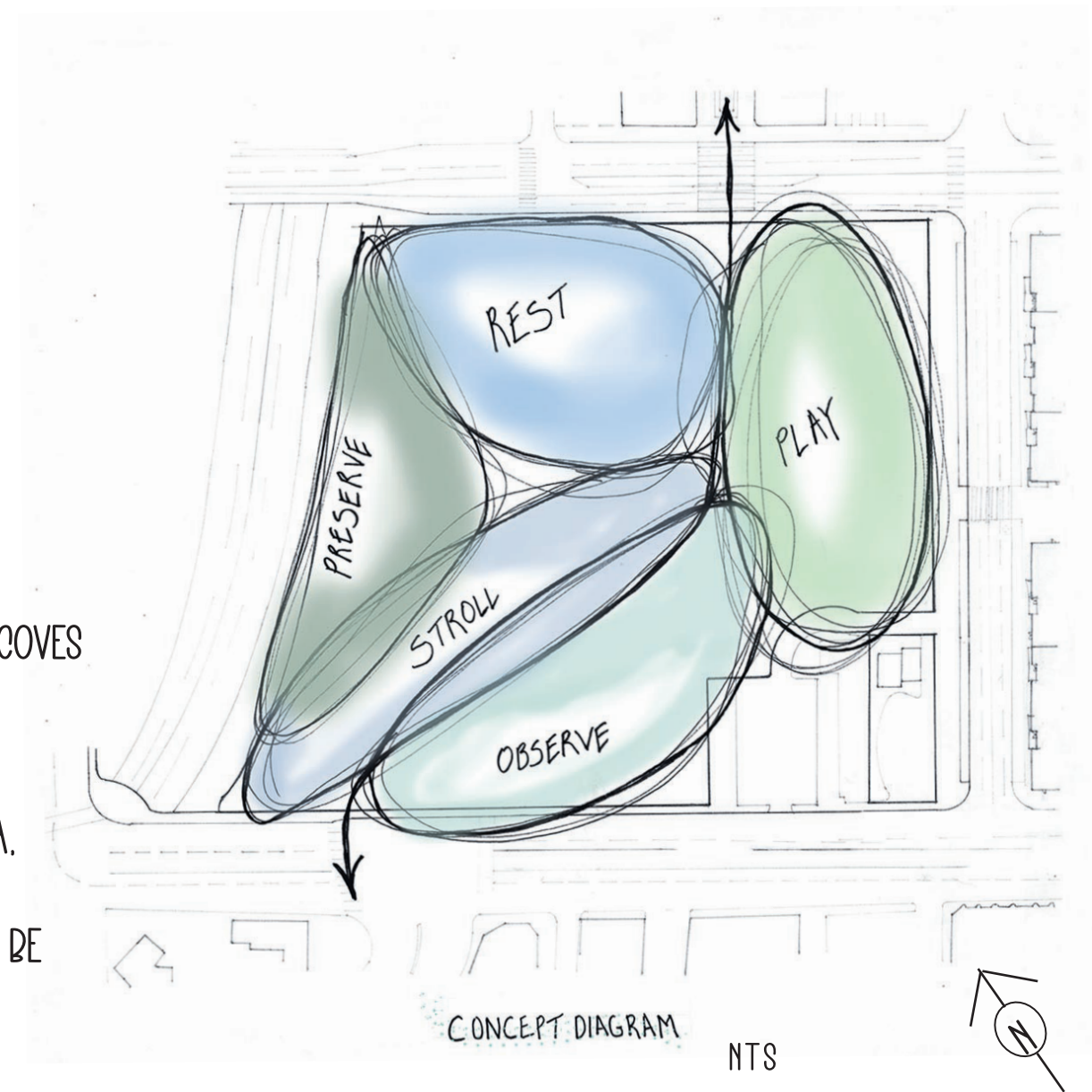
EACH
AREA OF THE PARK IS PROGRAMMED
FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE. AS REPRESENTED IN THE
CONCEPT OR "BUBBLE DIAGRAM", KEN GENSER SQUARE ON MAIN
STREET IS CONNECTED TO OCEAN AVE. AS REPRESENTED BY THE ARROW
TRAVERSING THROUGH THE SITE.

"REST" DENOTES THE GARDEN HILL PORTION WHICH THE ARCHITECTS BUILT ALCOVES
AMONGST GARDEN DISPLAYS OF NATIVE AND ADAPTED PLANTS.

"PLAY" DENOTES THE DISCOVERY HILL PORTION FOR CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA.

"OBSERVE" DENOTES OBSERVATION HILL WHERE VIEWS OF THE PACIFIC CAN BE
EXPERIENCED.

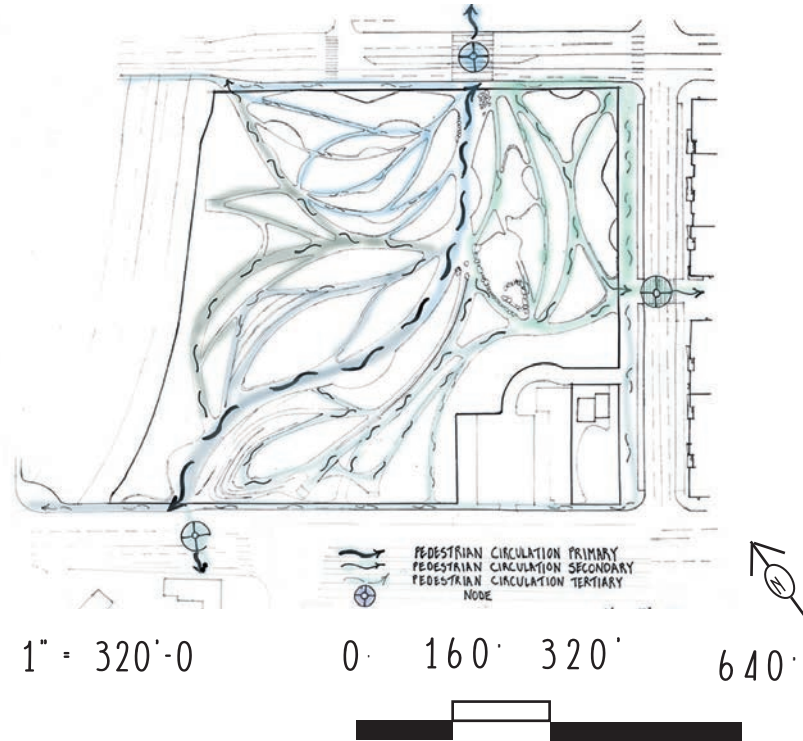
"PRESERVE" IS WHERE EXISTING TREES CAN BE ENJOYED AND "STROLL"
INCLUDES THE GATHERING HILL PORTION.



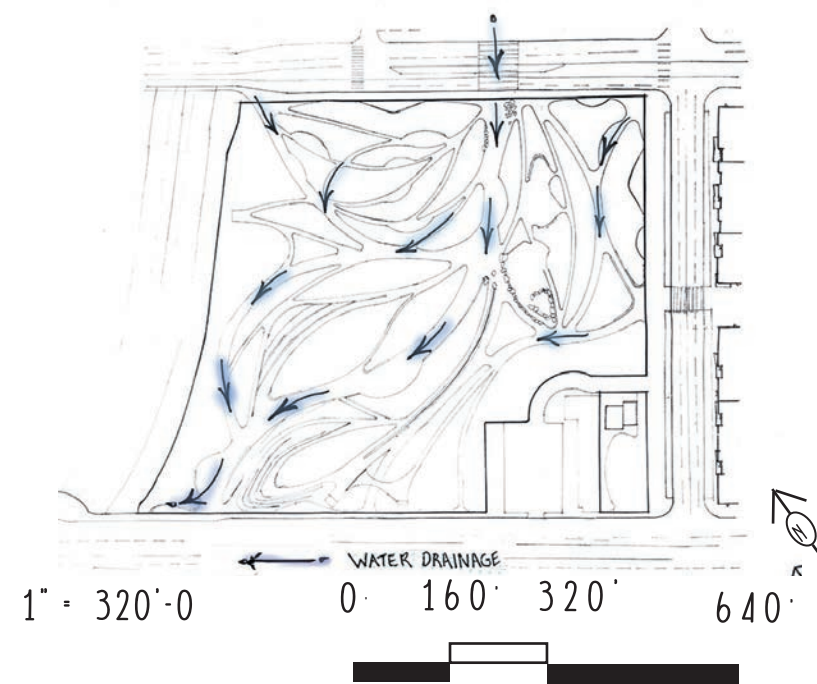
SITE ANALYSIS

THE SITE IS GRADUALLY SLOPED TOWARDS THE PACIFIC OCEAN. ANALYSIS REVEALS DRAINAGE THAT GOES TOWARDS A BASIN IN THE WESTERN MOST CORNER. CIRCULATION APPEARS COMPLEX BUT FOLLOWS A CURVED PATTERN. 3 WATER FEATURES ARE SPRINKLED THROUGHOUT THE PARK. AND THE LIMIT OF WORK DEFINES THE OUTLINE OF THE SITE WHICH PRESERVES THE HISTORICAL CHEZ JAY PROPERTY.

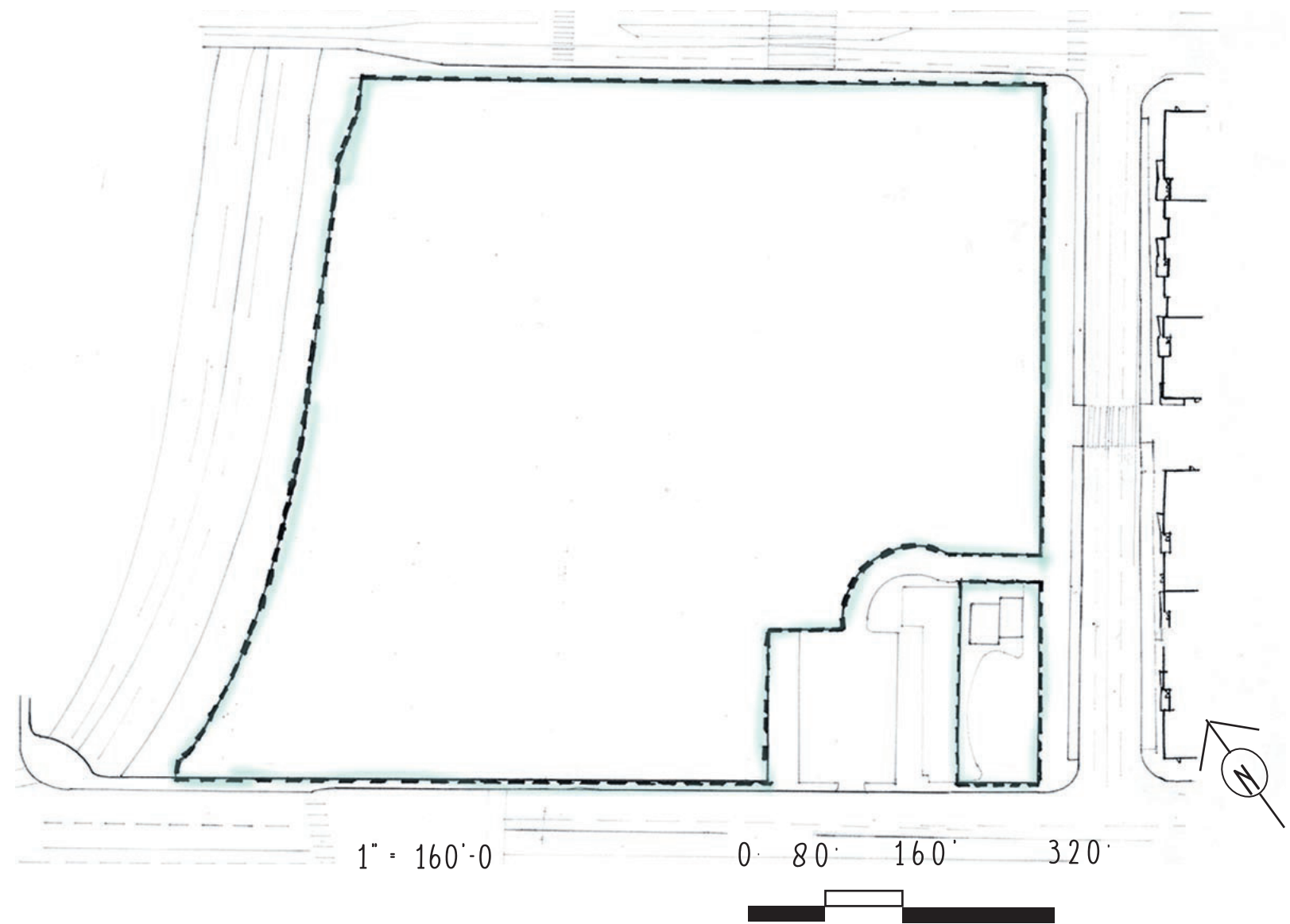
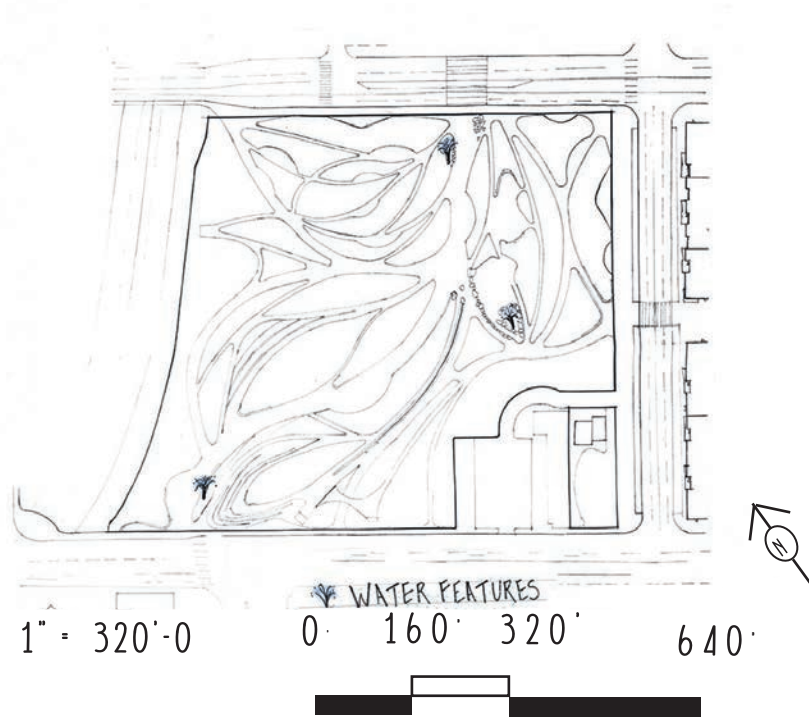
CIRCULATION



WATER DRAINAGE



WATER FEATURES



NORTH QUADRANT

THE

NORTH QUADRANT OF THE PARK.

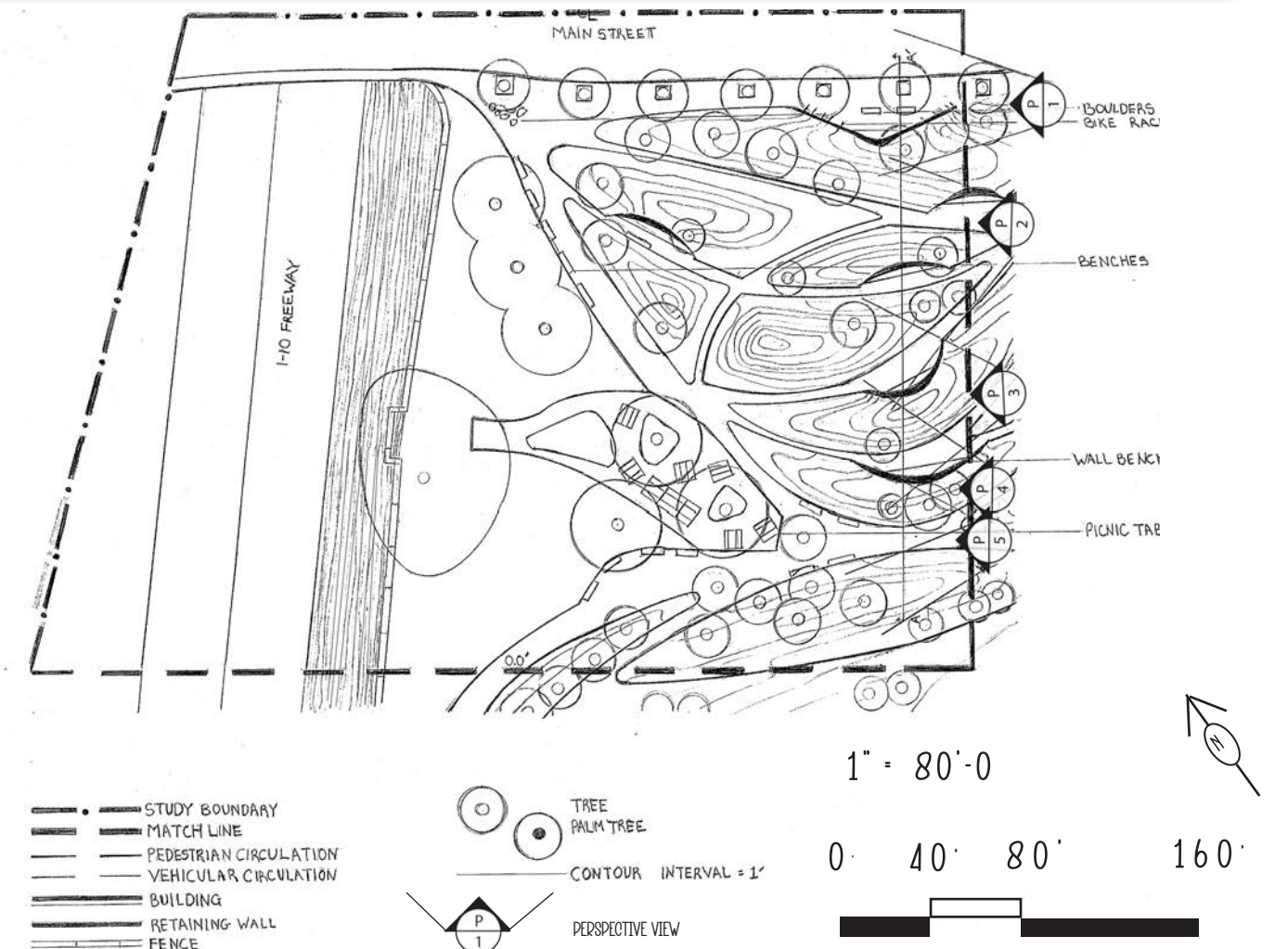
ALSO KNOWN AS GARDEN HILL. IS A LOVELY PLACE TO WANDER OR REST. PEACEFULLY SURROUNDED BY SUCCULENTS. TREES. AND NATIVE PLANTS. YOU CAN FOLLOW PATHWAYS THAT SLOPE ALONG THE GENTLE TOPOGRAPHY RESEMBLING THE ARROYO.



PERSPECTIVE SKETCH (P1) VIEW OF MAIN STREET LOOKING TOWARDS I-10 FREEWAY



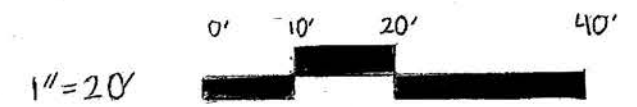
5 PHOTOS SHOWING PERSPECTIVES OF GARDEN HILL NORTH QUADRANT FROM NORTH TO SOUTH, P1) MAIN STREET VIEW. P2-P4) CURVED HARDSCAPE PATHS WITH RETAINING WALL BENCHES P5) SOUTHERNMOST CURVED PATH SHOWING CURVED LIGHTING STANDARD



SECTION ELEVATION



SECTION ELEVATION IN



INSPIRATION



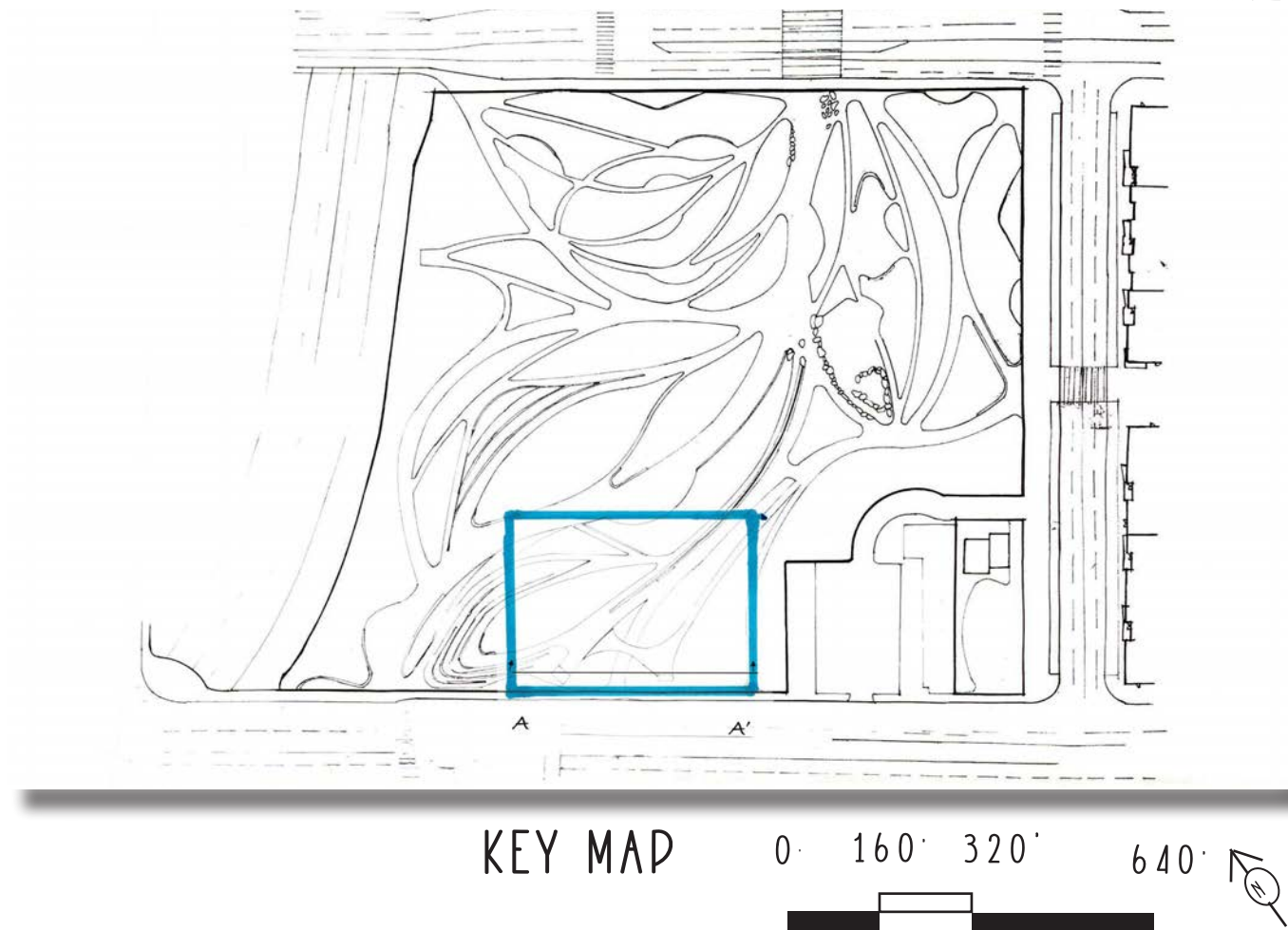
ILLUSTRATIVE LAYOUT PLAN

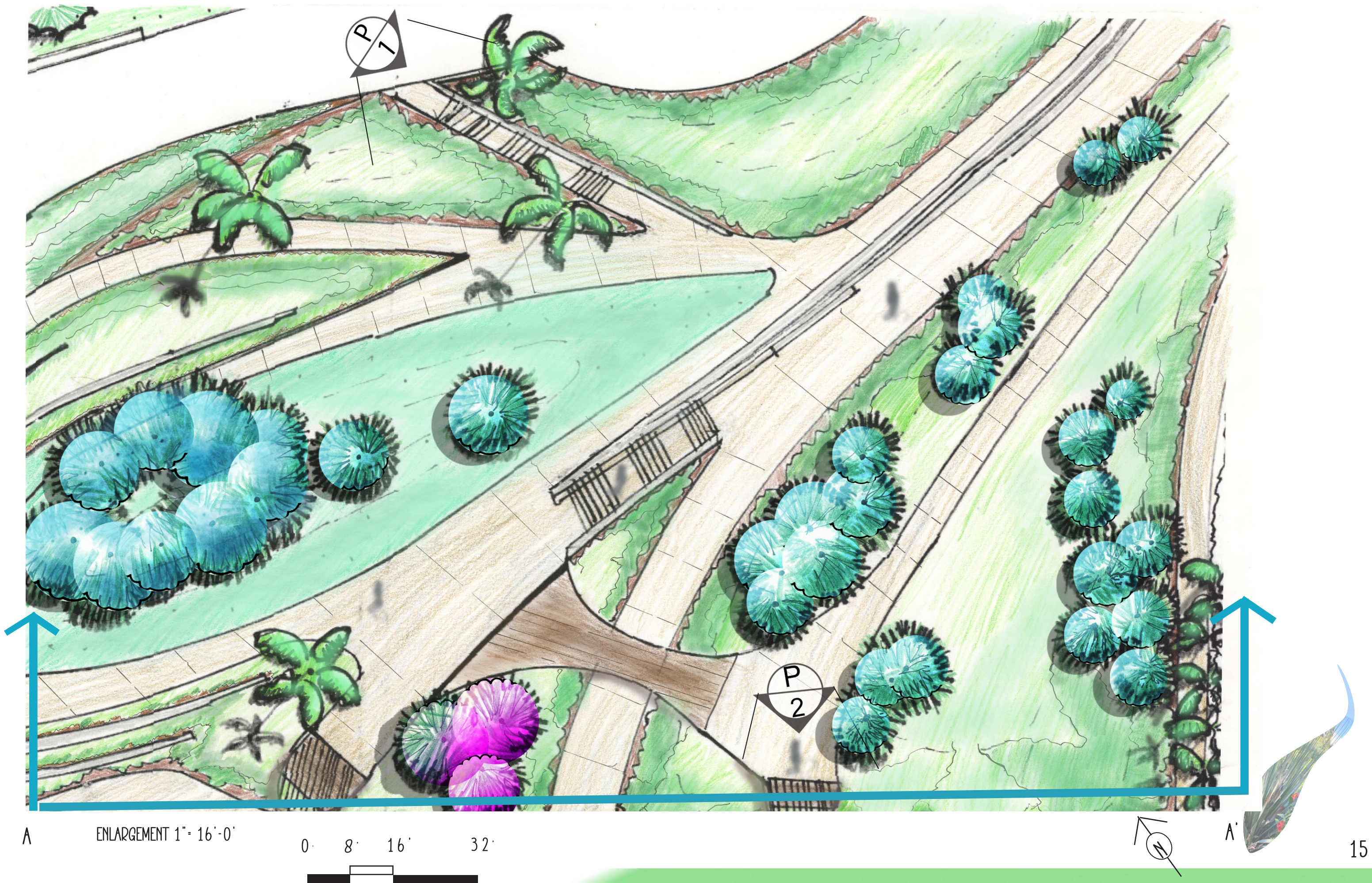


ENLARGEMENT

LET'S TAKE A CLOSER
LOOK AT THE SOUTH WEST AREA
OF THE PARK. THE KEY MAP SHOWS OUR
AREA OF INTEREST, ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE.

PERSPECTIVE VIEWS ARE MARKED "P1"
AND "P2". THE A-A' SECTION IS MARKED
ACCORDINGLY TO VIEW THE CUT LOOKING
TOWARDS THE NORTHEAST. HIGHLIGHTS IN
THIS AREA INCLUDE WOOD PLANKED BRIDGES.
GRASSY KNOLL WITH CONIFER COVERAGE. AND
BASKET FORMED OBSERVATION DECKS FOR
AN UNREMARKABLE VIEW OF THE PACIFIC
OCEAN.





A

ENLARGEMENT 1" = 16'-0"

0 8 16 32



A'

HONORING ANCIENT PRACTICES

AN ANCIENT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LIVING PRACTICE. THE TONGVA PEOPLE HAVE SKILLFULLY CRAFTED THE BASKETS (PICTURED HERE.) FOR 7.000 YEARTS TO CARRY FOOD. WATER. AND GATHER PLANTS. MADE FROM NATIVE PLANTS LIKE RUSH AND SUMAC. THESE BASKETS ARE SO TIGHTLY COILED. THEY ARE WATERTIGHT.

THE BASKET'S FORM IS HIGHLIGHTED IN THE SECTION ELEVATION VIEW (FACING PAGE) AS THE OVERHEAD STRUCTURE FOR THE OBSERVATION DECKS. THESE SEEM TO SERVE AS A PORTAL FOR CONNECTING PAST AND PRESENT: OCEAN AND LAND: NATURE AND HUMANITY.

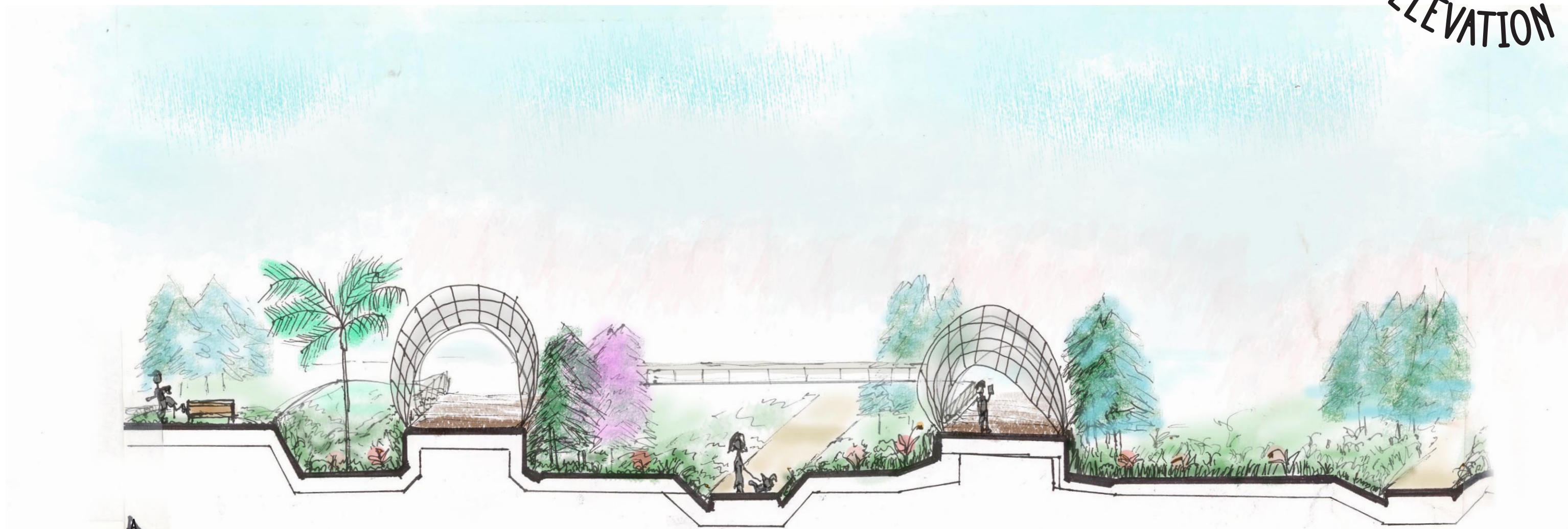


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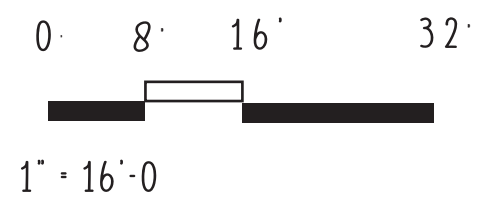
SECTION ELEVATION



A

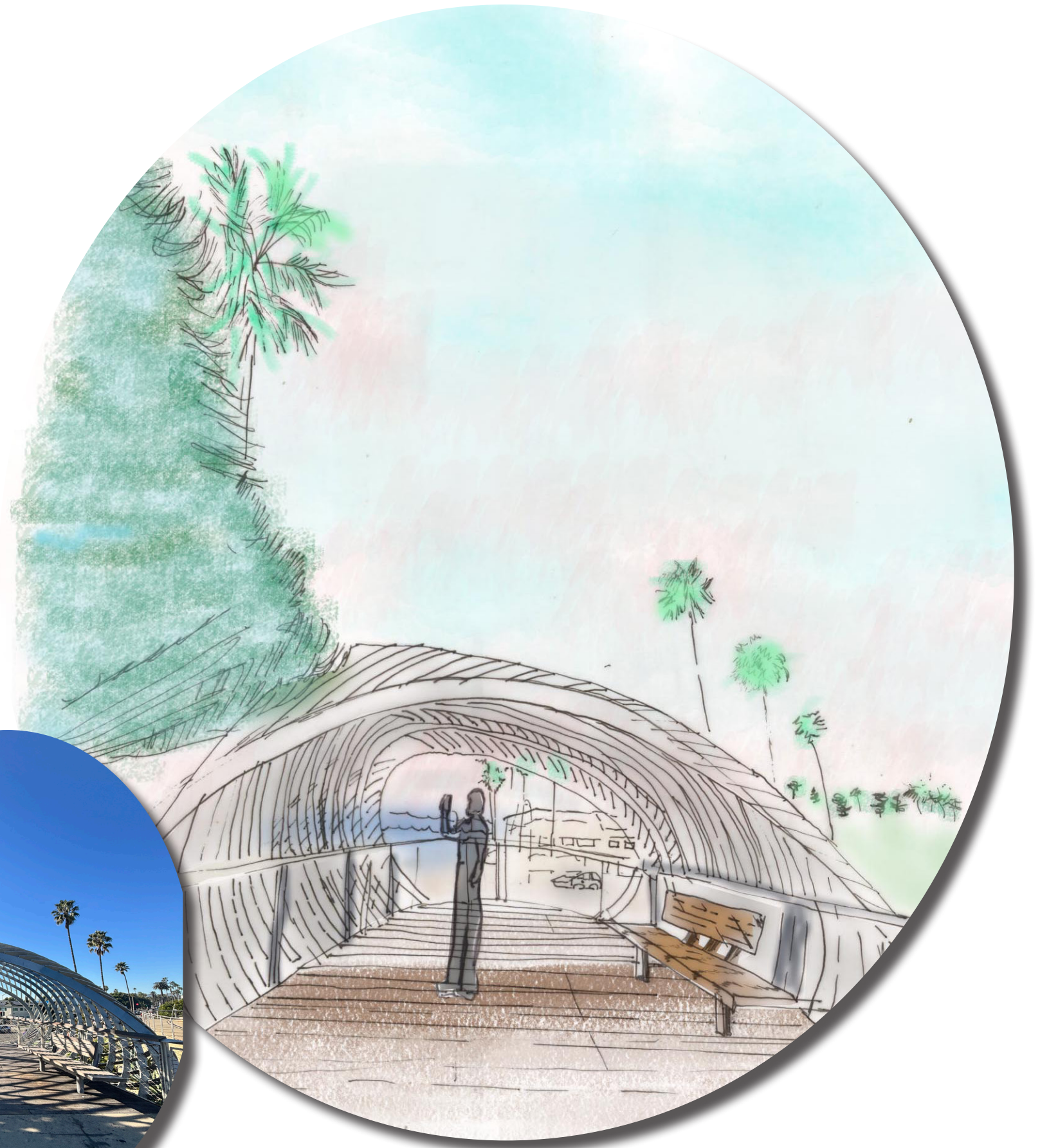
A'

SECTION ELEVATION A-A' LOOKING NORTH



PERSPECTIVE SKETCH P1

VIEW LOOKING WEST FROM ONE OF
THE TWO OBSERVATION DECKS. NOTICE
THE OVERHEAD STRUCTURE IS CONSTRUCTED
TO REPRESENT THE TONGVA WOVEN BASKETS
AND ALSO RESEMBLES AN OCEAN WAVE FORM,
OVERLOOKING OCEAN AVENUE. THE BASKET STRUCTURE
SERVES AS A PORTAL TO ALLOW THE PARK GUEST TO BE
TRANSPORTED TO VIEW THE VAST BLUE PACIFIC OCEAN.



PERSPECTIVE SKETCH V2

VIEW FROM BOTOM OF STAIRS LEADING TO THE
OBSERVATION DECKS, SANDWHICHED BETWEEN
SUCCULENTS, TREES, AND NATIVE PLANTS. THIS
STAIRWAY IS AN ENGAGING TRANSITIONAL AREA
THAT ALLOWS THE PARK GUEST TO OBSERVE THE
PARK AT MULTIPLE LEVELS FROM EACH LANDING.



MATERIALS | PLANT PALLETTE

SPRING
TIME IN THE
PARK FACILITATES A
DIVERSE PLANT PALLETTE.
THE SUCCEULENTS INFLORESCE
COLORFULLY. THE TREES
EXPRESS THEIR
CANOPIES FULLY.
GROUND COVER
SPREADS VIRALLY.
AND SHRUBS
THICKEN LUSHLY.



RED HOT POKER (KNIPHOFIA UVARIA)



YUCCA &
ASTROLMELIA



SPANISH DAGGER YUCCA SP.



ALOE SP.



MORTON BAY FIG (FICUS MACROPHYLLA)

AMENITIES: WATER FEATURES

AMENITIES
IN THE PARK
INCLUDE 3 WATER
FEATURES LOCATED
IN SEPARATE AREAS
OF THE PARK TO SERVE
SEPARATE FUNCTIONS.
THE SPLASH PAD IN THE
DISCOVERY TOT LOT
INVITES PLAY. WHERE
THE FOUNTAIN AT THE
GARDEN HILL ENTRANCE
WELCOMES GUESTS.
AND THE FOUNTAIN AT
GATHERING HILL ENLIVENS THE
SOUTHERN PORTION OF
THE PARK.



DISCOVERY HILL
SPLASH PAD



GARDEN HILL
FOUNTAIN



GATHERING HILL
FOUNTAIN



PROJECT SUMMARY

AT
FIRST GLANCE
TONGVA PARK MAY APPEAR
COMPLICATED AND MAYBE A LITTLE
OUT OF PLACE FOR LOS ANGELES.
HOWEVER, THE THOUGHT MANIFESTED INTO
THE LANDSCAPE BECOMES MORE EVIDENT
WITH CLOSER INSPECTION. CURVILENEAR FORMS
INSPIRED BY THE OCEAN WAVES BECOME SEATING.
LIGHTING. STRUCTURES. AND PATHWAYS. NATIVE
PLANTS HAPPILY MAKE THEIR PRESENCE KNOWN AND
EXISTING TREES CONTINUE TO THRIVE. WATER
FEATURES DANCE FOR CHILDREN AND INVITE
EVERYONE INTO THE PARK. ITS PURPOSE IS
BOLD. INTERWEAVING THE FABRIC OF LIFE.
A LITTLE CULTURE. AND TO CONNECT US
TO THE OCEAN.



AKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU!



LAURA RAZO
REBECCA SCHWANER
DAVID SQUIRES
DG1.2 & 3 CLASSMATES



BIOGRAPHY

ALWAYS IN LOVE
WITH NATURE. ARI AYCOCK-
WILLIAMS FEELS A CONNECTION WITH
ANIMALS AND PLANTS. SHE GREW UP IN
ANN ARBOR, MI, WHERE SHE EARNED HER BS IN
BIOPSYCHOLOGY AND THE COGNITIVE SCIENCES AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AND THEN HER DOCTOR IN
VETERINARY MEDICINE AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE. SINCE, SHE HAS HAS
ENJOYED A CARRER AS A LAB ANIMAL VETERINARIAN AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. SHE RESIDES IN LOS
ANGELES WITH HER DOG AND HUSBAND AND SPENDS HER FREE
TIME LEARNING. SHE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUING
TO EXPAND HER KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN THE PURSUIT
OF THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION.



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IMAGE/FIGURE CREDIT

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