

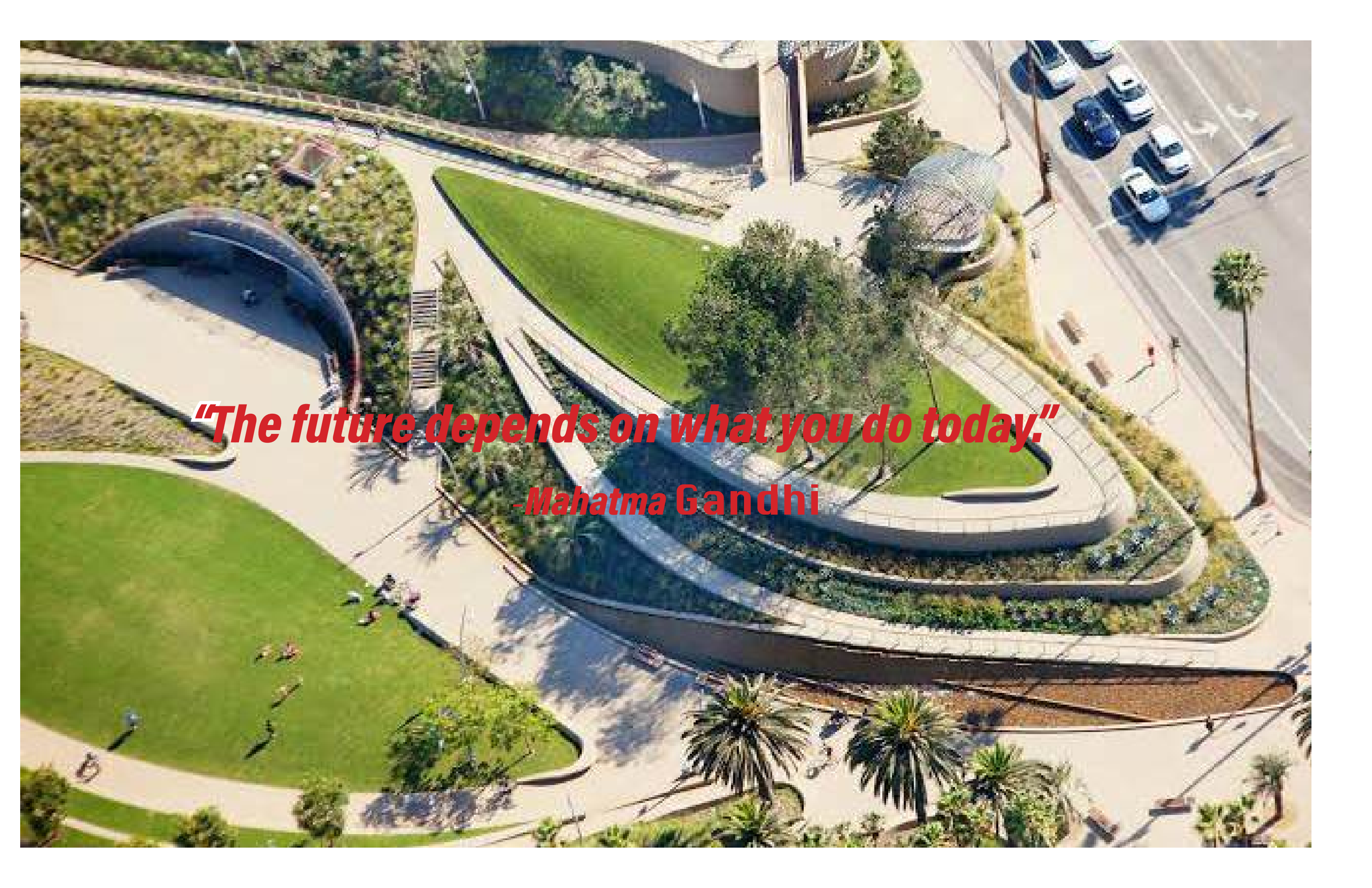


TONGVA PARK

Design Graphics 3 | Spring2026|

Instructor: Laura Razo

By: Javier Flores

An aerial photograph of a modern park or urban development. The park features several green spaces, including a large rectangular lawn in the center and a circular lawn on the left. A winding path or road cuts through the park, bordered by low concrete walls. To the right, a paved road with several parked cars is visible. The overall scene is bright and sunny, with shadows cast by the trees and buildings.

"The future depends on what you do today."

-Mahatma Gandhi

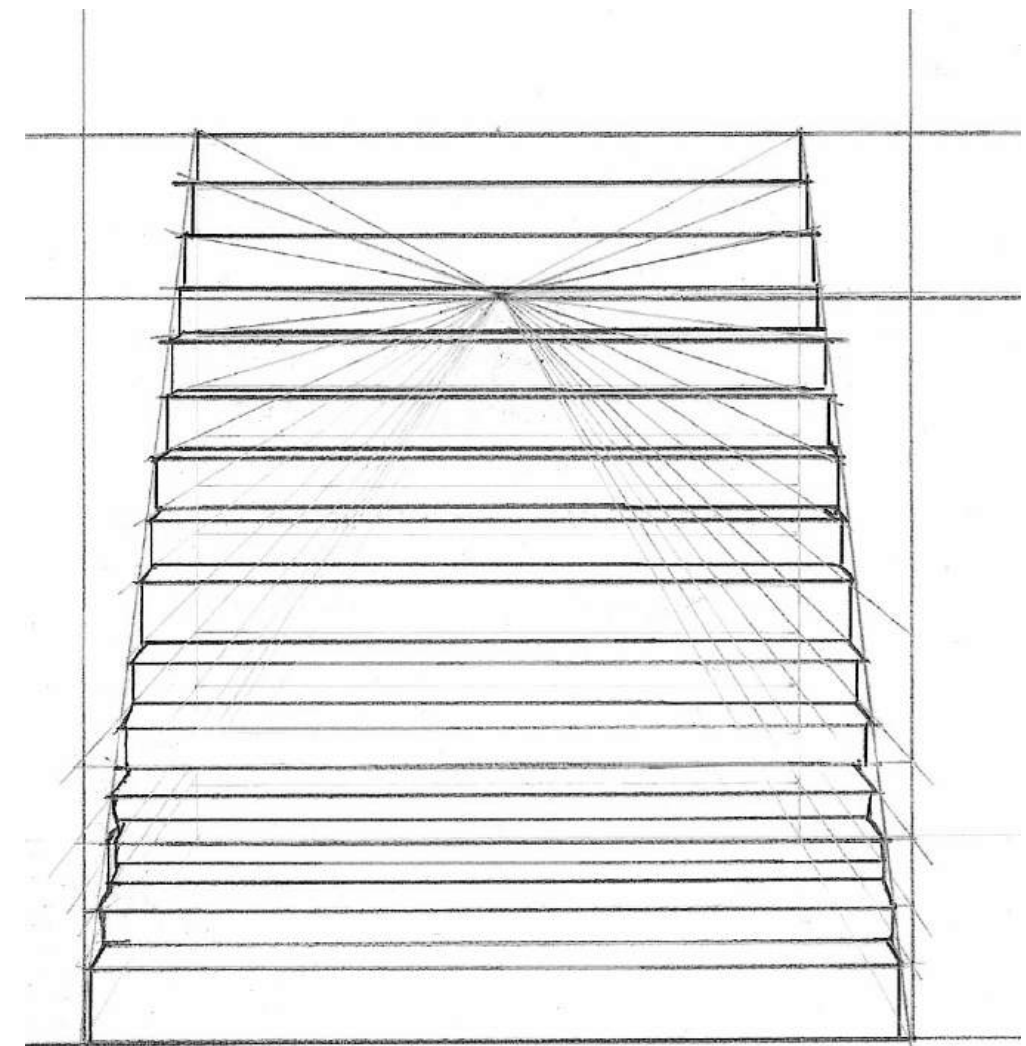
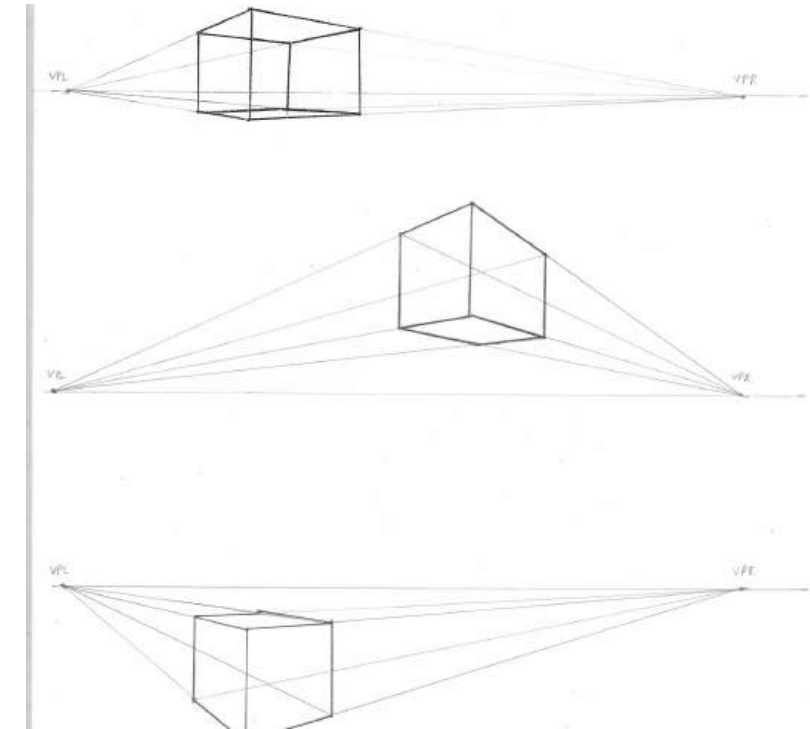
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I first learned about Tongva Park during Design Graphics 1 (DG1) with instructor David Squires. I was assigned a quadrant of the park, where I was first taught how to hand sketch a site plan. In this course, I completed a quadrant site plan, multiple perspective sketches of different locations, and an elevation sketch. DG1 introduced me to many of the critical tools used in landscape architecture, including French curves, drafting tables, templates, and lead holders. This course was challenging for me because it was my first design class and I did not know what to expect. However, it was a great learning experience and an important first step in my journey toward becoming a landscape architect.

During Design Graphics 2 (DG2) with Rebecca Schwaner, we continued working with Tongva Park, but instead of focusing on a single quadrant, we analyzed the entire site. I was asked to hand sketch the complete site plan in black and white and create a site analysis for the park. This assignment was a valuable experience because it allowed me to practice and improve my hand sketching skills. Our final site plan had to be completed in pen, which meant there was very little room for mistakes. Instructor Schwaner also had us complete additional perspective drawings and site elevations, helping us further develop our hand graphics skills. One of my favorite parts of the course was learning how to add color to our drawings. During an in-person class, Instructor Schwaner demonstrated techniques and shared tips for properly coloring site plans and perspective drawings. The biggest benefit I gained from this course was becoming more comfortable and confident with my hand sketching abilities while also learning how to properly conduct a site analysis.

Design Graphics 3 (DG3) with Laura Razo focused on revising and refining the work we completed in DG1 and DG2. In this course, I learned how to use programs such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe InDesign. I was asked to enhance my previous work by strengthening details, correcting errors from earlier courses, and digitally adding color to a site plan and perspective drawing. For the final project, we created this booklet that combines and showcases our work from DG1, DG2, and DG3. This booklet is the result of that process. This booklet reflects my growth throughout the Design Graphics sequence and demonstrates the development of both my hand graphics and digital design skills.



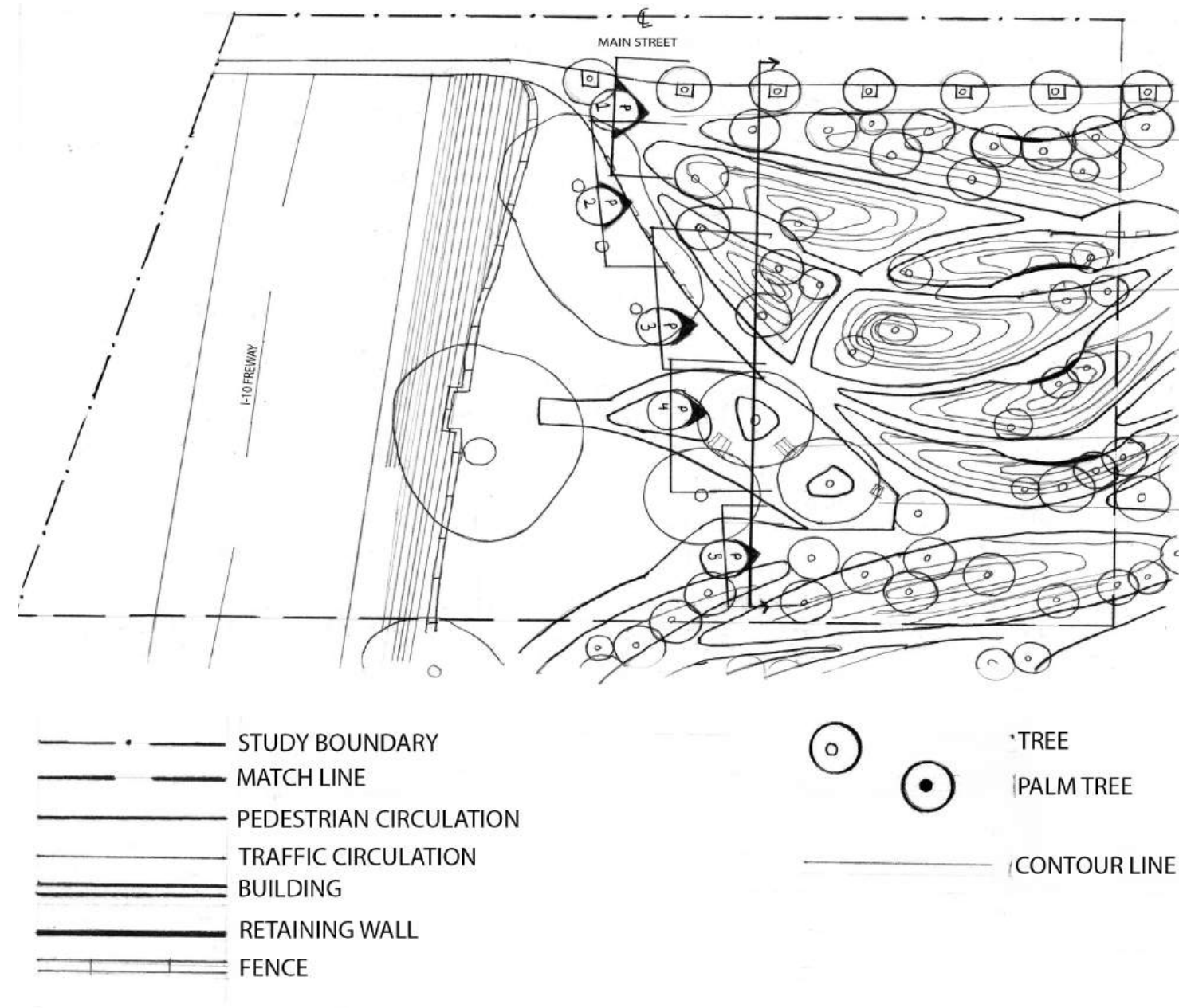
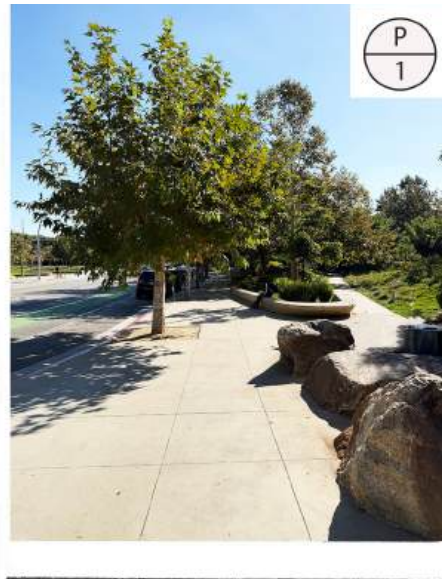


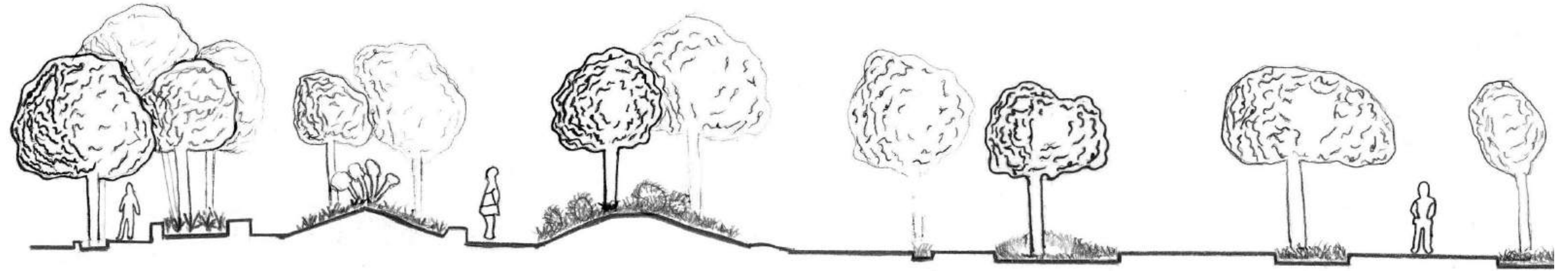


Tongva Park is located in beautiful Santa Monica, California, directly across from City Hall. The park officially opened in 2013 and has since become a popular destination.

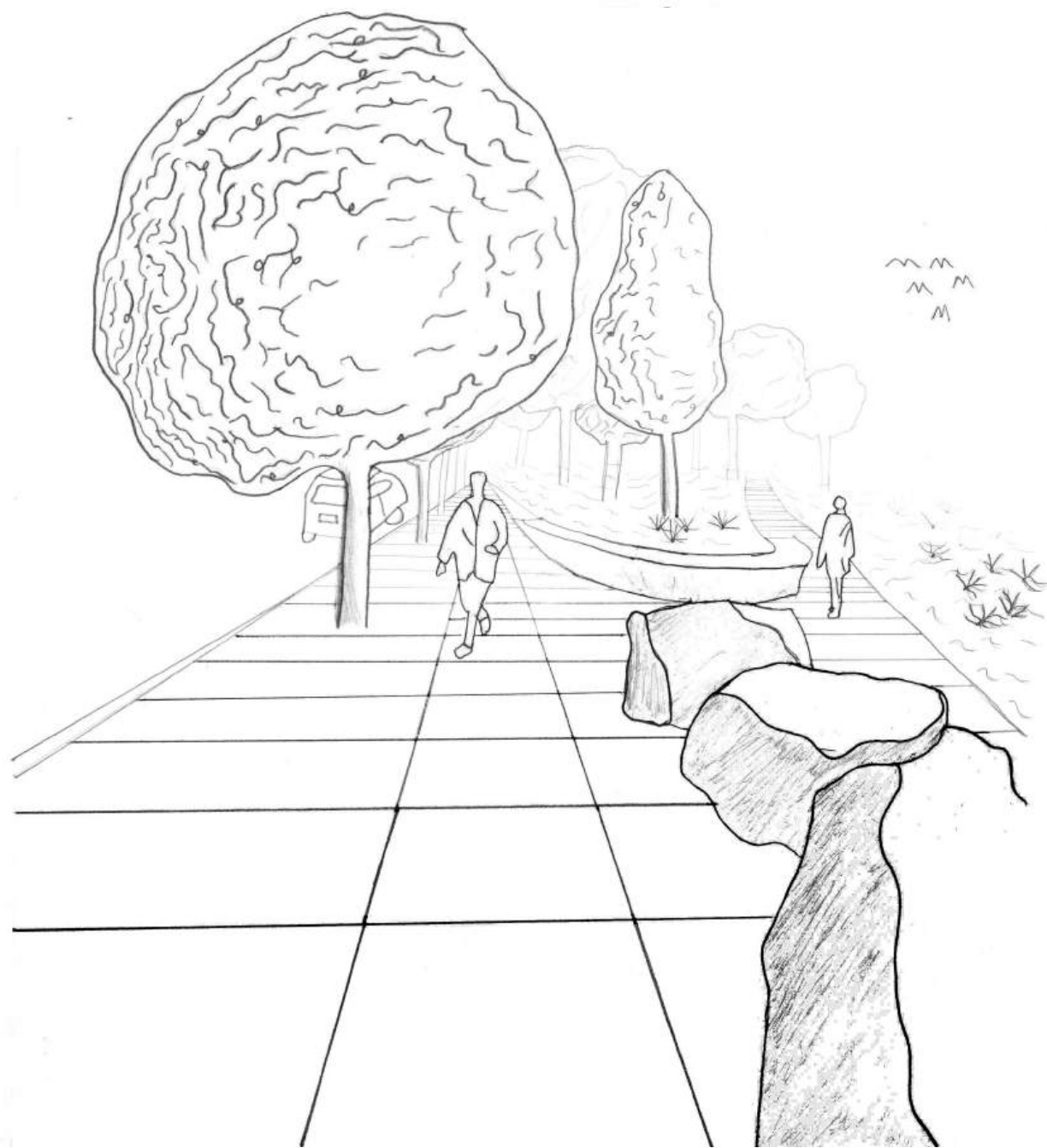
The City of Santa Monica wanted to create a central public space that would connect the beach with the Civic Center area. To bring this vision to life, the city hired landscape architect James Corner and his team to design a space where the community could gather, relax, and enjoy the outdoors.

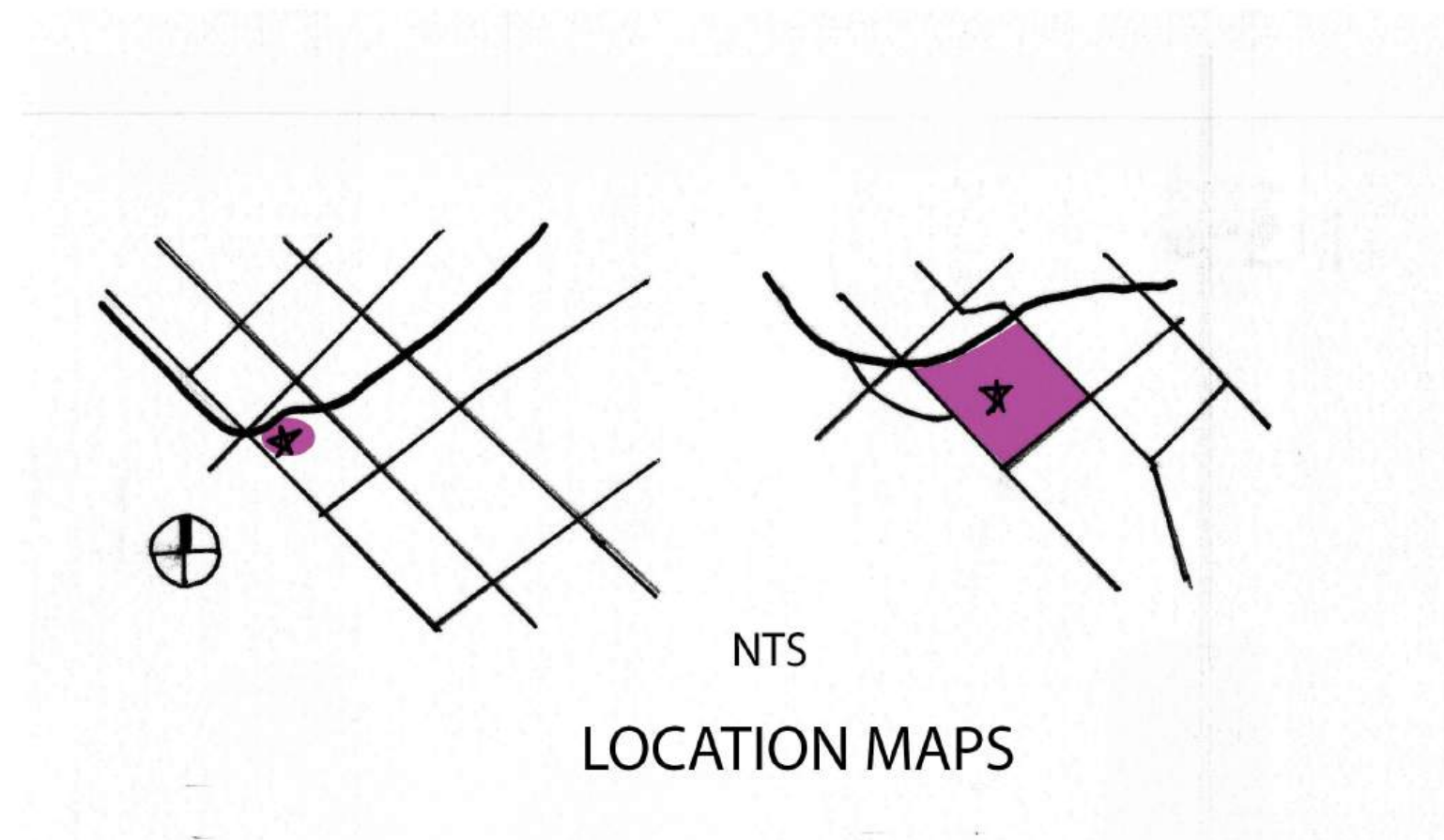
The designer incorporated winding pathways, public art installations, and water features throughout the site. Tongva Park is also home to more than 300 trees and plant species, providing shade and a unique design scheme.





1"=20'-0" 0 10 20 40



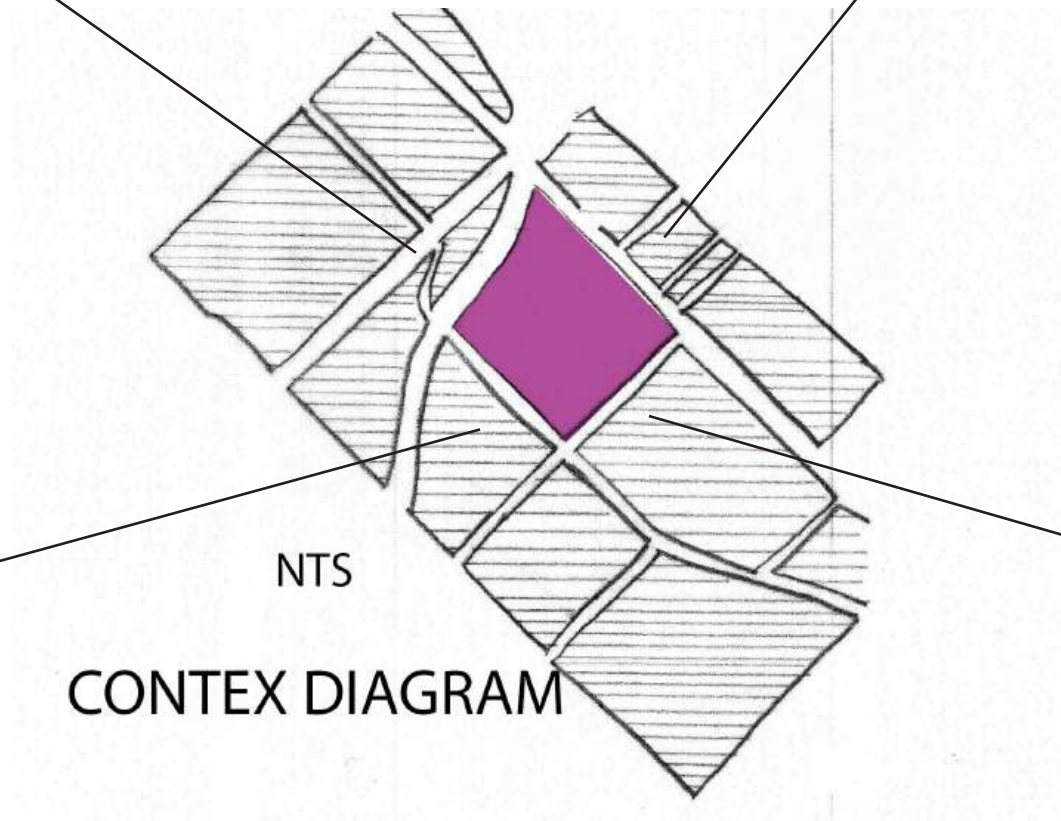




I -10 Freeway



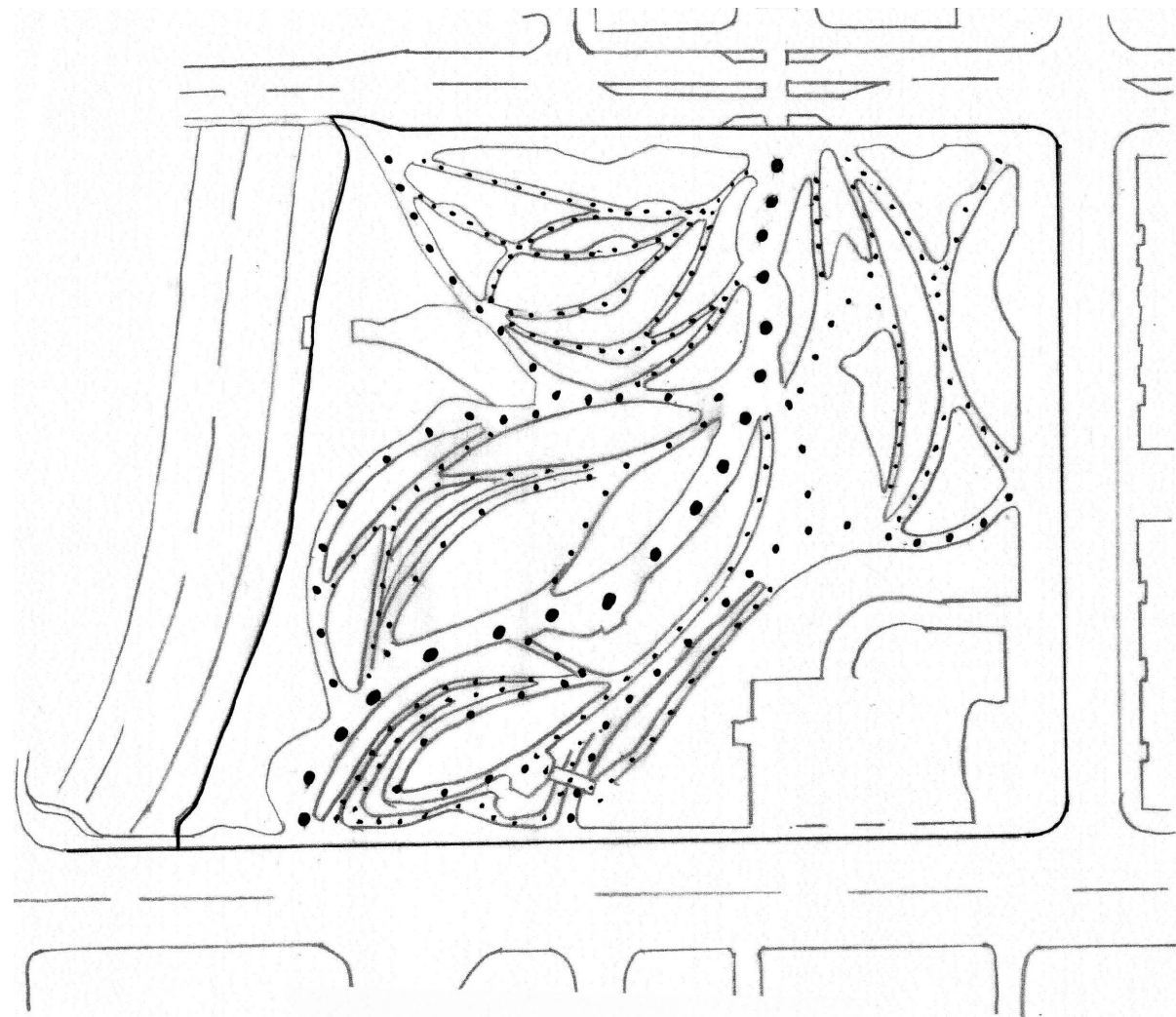
Santa Monica City Hall



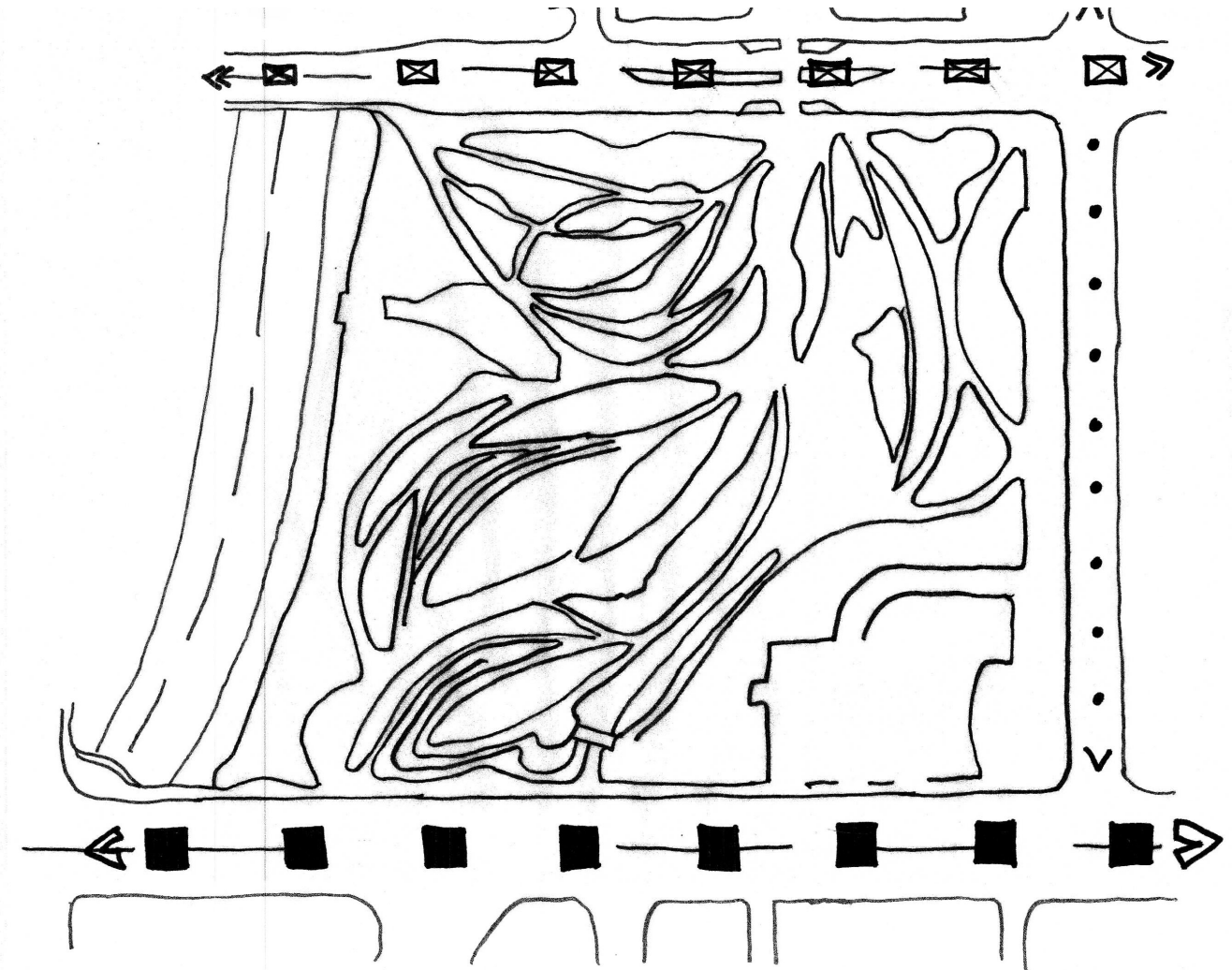
Sea Blue Hotel



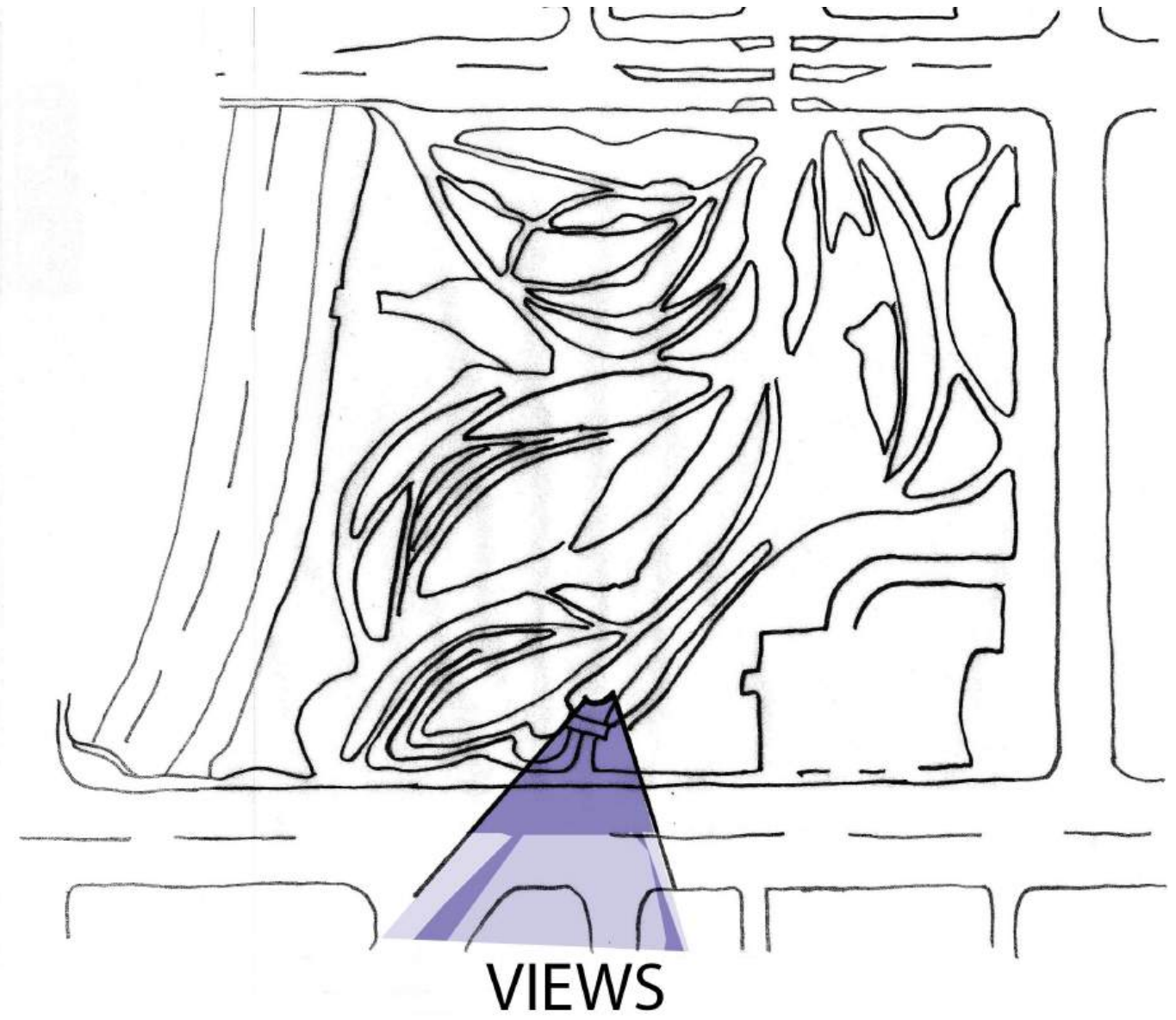
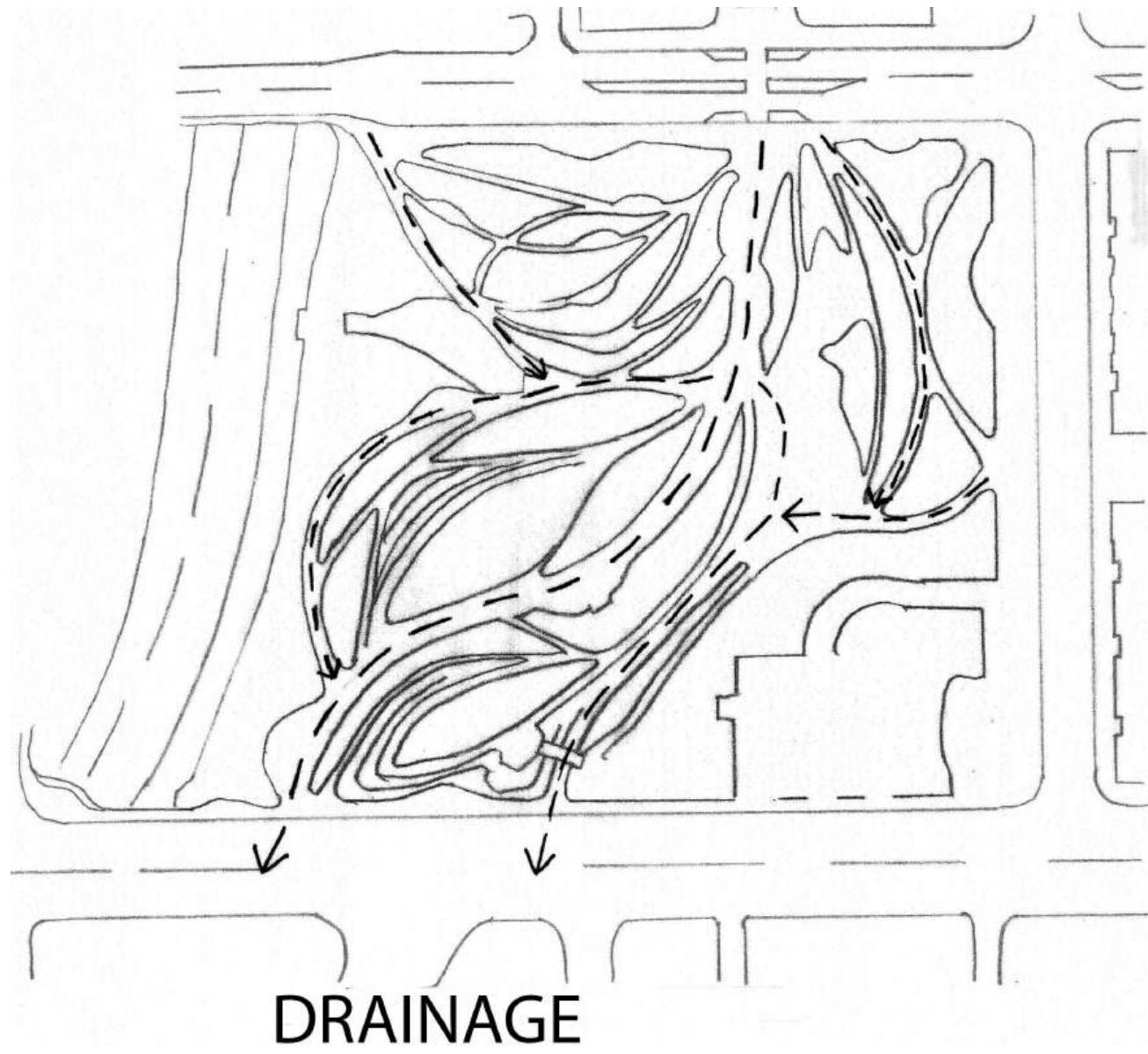
The Waverly Condos



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

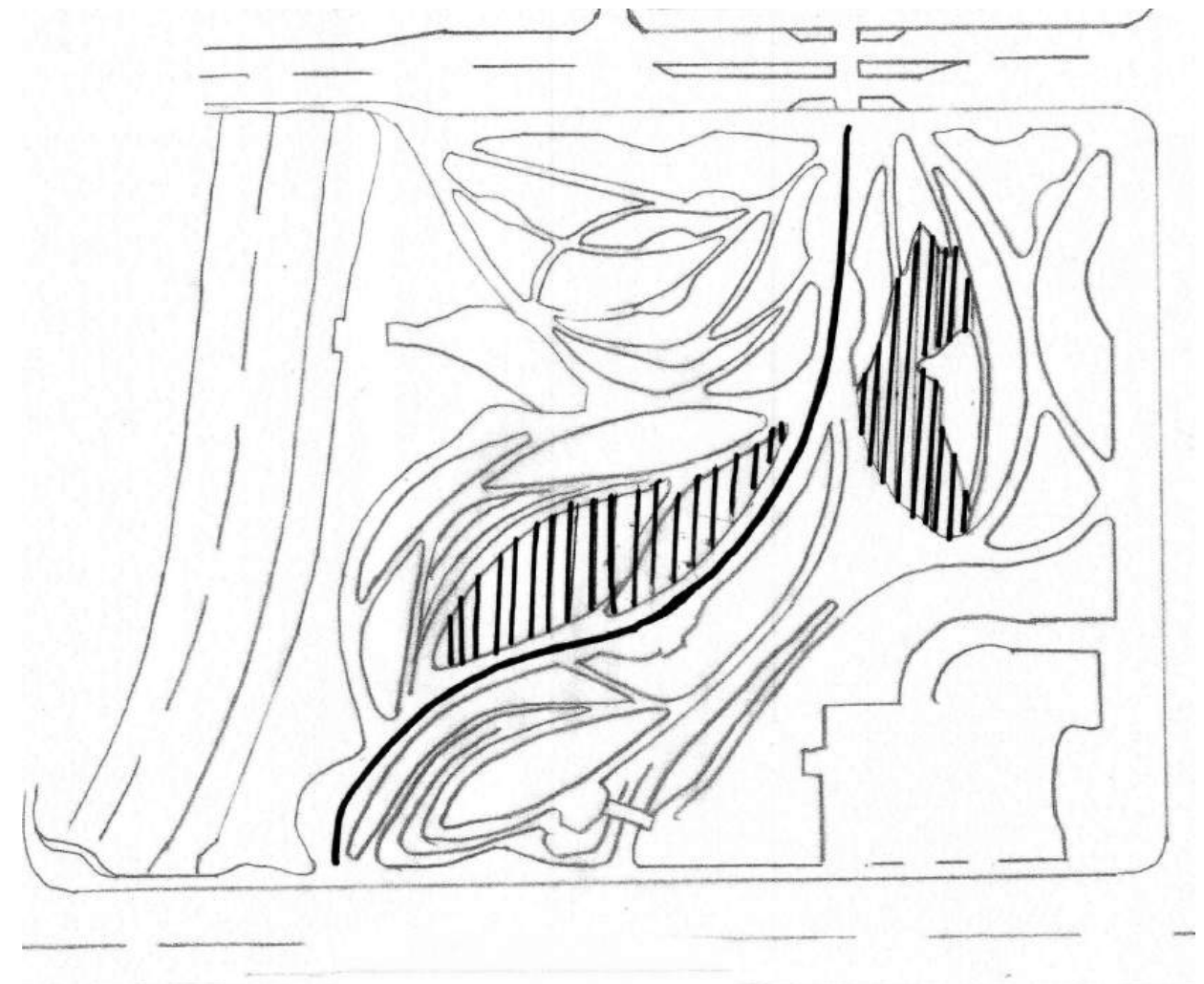


VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

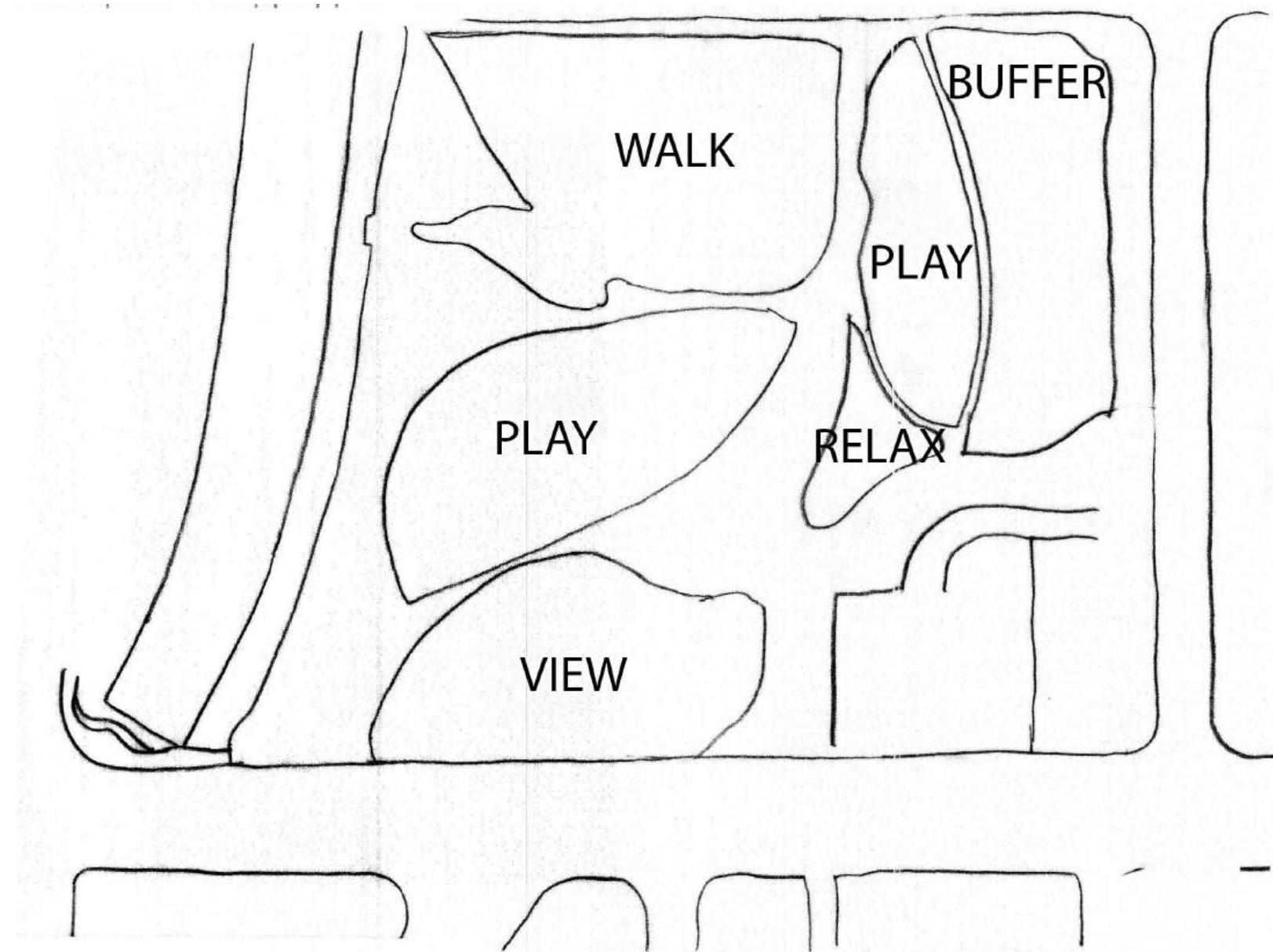




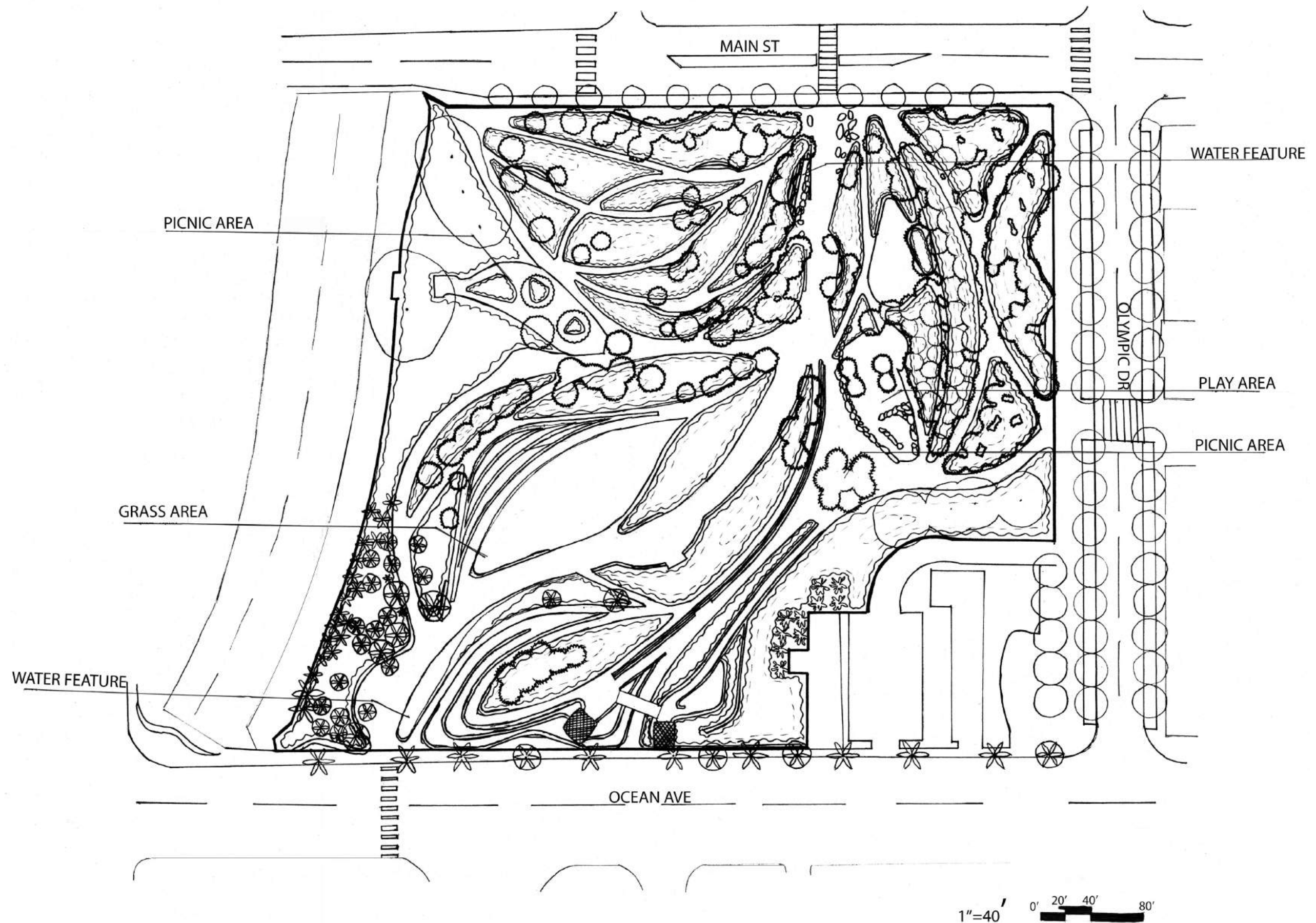
EXISTING TREES



ACTIVE ZONE

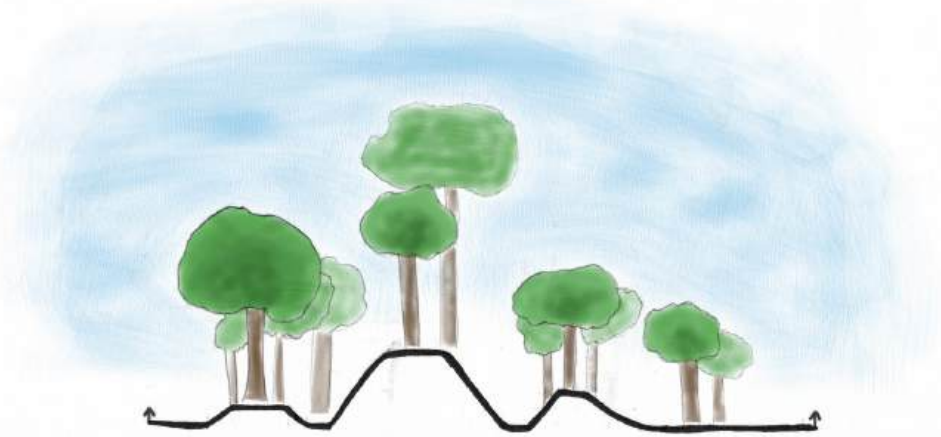
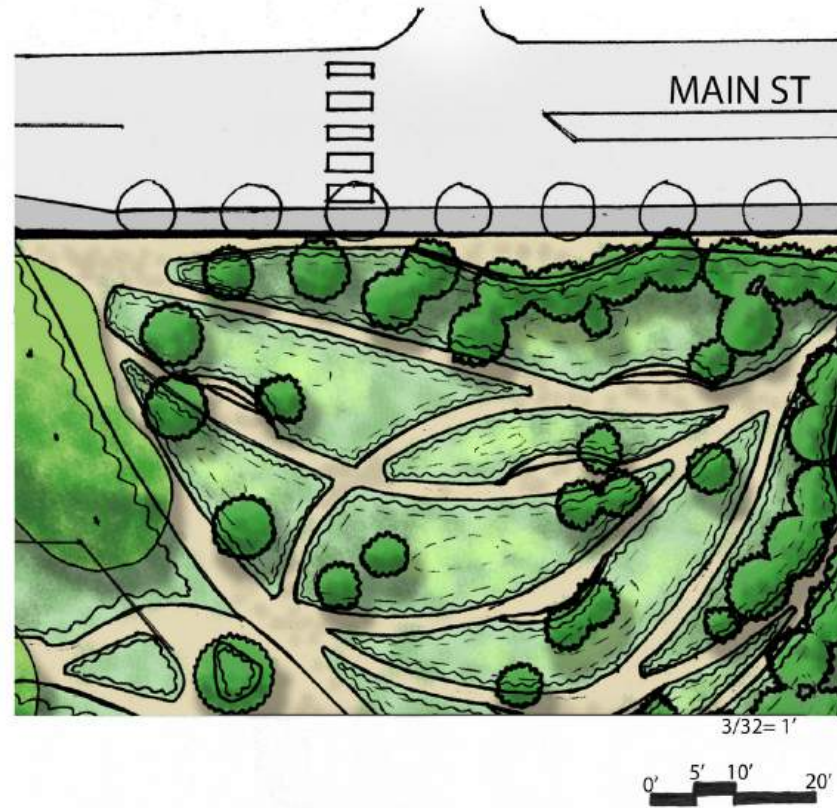


CONCEPT DIAGRAM

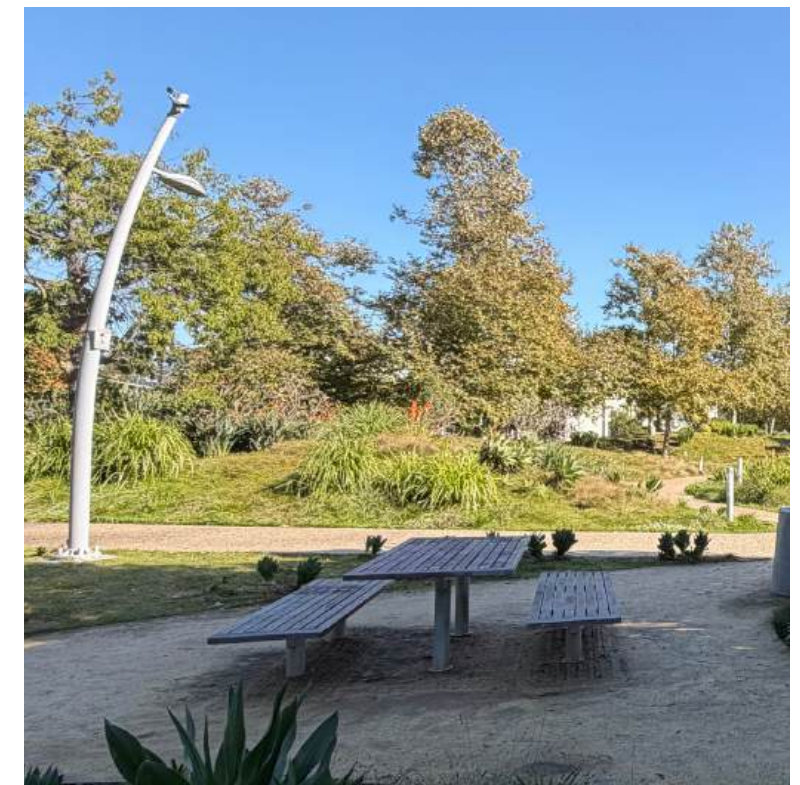
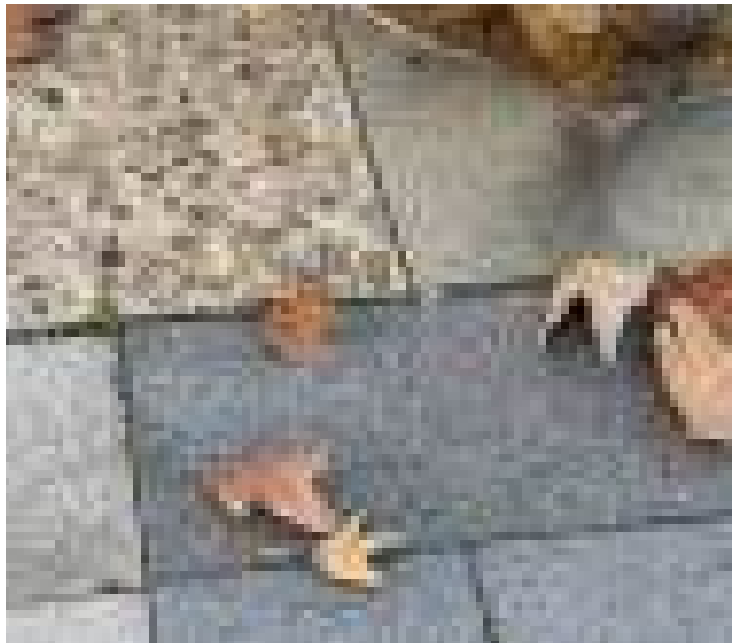




1"=40'
0' 20' 40' 80'



Park Attractions & Features





Biography & Acknowledgements

A little about me: I am currently 24 years old and was born and raised in beautiful Santa Barbara, California. I currently work in the landscape industry as a landscape contractor and foreman for my grandfather's landscaping company. I was fortunate to be introduced to this industry at a young age. My grandfather would often take me to job sites, client meetings, and site visits with landscape designers and landscape architects, giving me firsthand exposure to the profession.

As a young landscape contractor, I have always been inspired by the landscape designers and architects who worked closely with my grandfather. Seeing their creativity and the impact of their work motivated me to pursue a career in this field. My goal is to complete this program, pass the state licensing exams, and become a licensed landscape architect. In the future, I hope to open my own design studio while combining it with my family's landscape business.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my instructors, David Squires, Rebecca Schwaner, and Laura Razo, for their patience, guidance, and dedication throughout the Design Graphics sequence. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and teaching me the skills needed to succeed in the field of landscape architecture. I deeply appreciate everything you have done for us and for helping me grow both personally and professionally throughout this program.



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