

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE CAPSTONE

REWOVEN

FIRE, WATER, AND PEOPLE
AT RUNYON CANYON

After the Tongva coiled basket



FROM DESTRUCTIVE PRESSURE
TO REGENERATIVE RESILIENCE.

PRESENTED BY

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UCLA EXTENSION | 2026

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PROJECT STATEMENT

REWOVEN

FIRE, WATER, AND PEOPLE AT RUNYON CANYON

From destructive pressure to regenerative resilience.

Runyon Canyon faces overlapping pressures from wildfire, erosion, drought, and nearly two million visitors a year. REWOVEN proposes a climate-adaptive master plan that reconnects ecological health with public experience across this heavily used urban wilderness.

Grounded in Holling's (1973) ecological resilience and McHarg's (1969) suitability overlay, and inspired by the Tongva coiled basket, the design weaves three interdependent forces — Fire, Water, and People — into one structure that holds. Defensible landscapes and native planting reduce fuel continuity; water-sensitive landforms slow and hold runoff; gathering spaces and reciprocal stewardship make visitors part of the canyon's renewal.

It matters to me because Runyon is where I find quiet in the city I have called home for almost twenty years. It matters to the profession because it designs fire, water, and access as one system instead of three. And it matters to Los Angeles because caring for the canyon becomes part of visiting it.



FIRE

*Resilient landscapes for
a safer tomorrow.*



WATER

*Healthy watersheds for
a thriving canyon.*



PEOPLE

*Deeper connections for a
more cared-for canyon.*

RUNYON CANYON, LOS ANGELES

*A more resilient canyon
weaves people, place,
and future together.*

DESIGN THESIS QUESTION

*How can Runyon Canyon be reimagined so that
wildfire resilience, water-sensitive design, and public experience
reinforce rather than compete with ecological health?*

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A canyon, a city, and a more resilient tomorrow.

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ACT I

THE CANYON UNDER PRESSURE

Fire, water, and people place increasing pressure on a fragile urban landscape.

WHY RUNYON?

RUNYON CANYON, LOS ANGELES

LOVED BY NEARLY TWO MILLION PEOPLE A YEAR.

And that love comes with pressure.

FIRE • WATER • PEOPLE

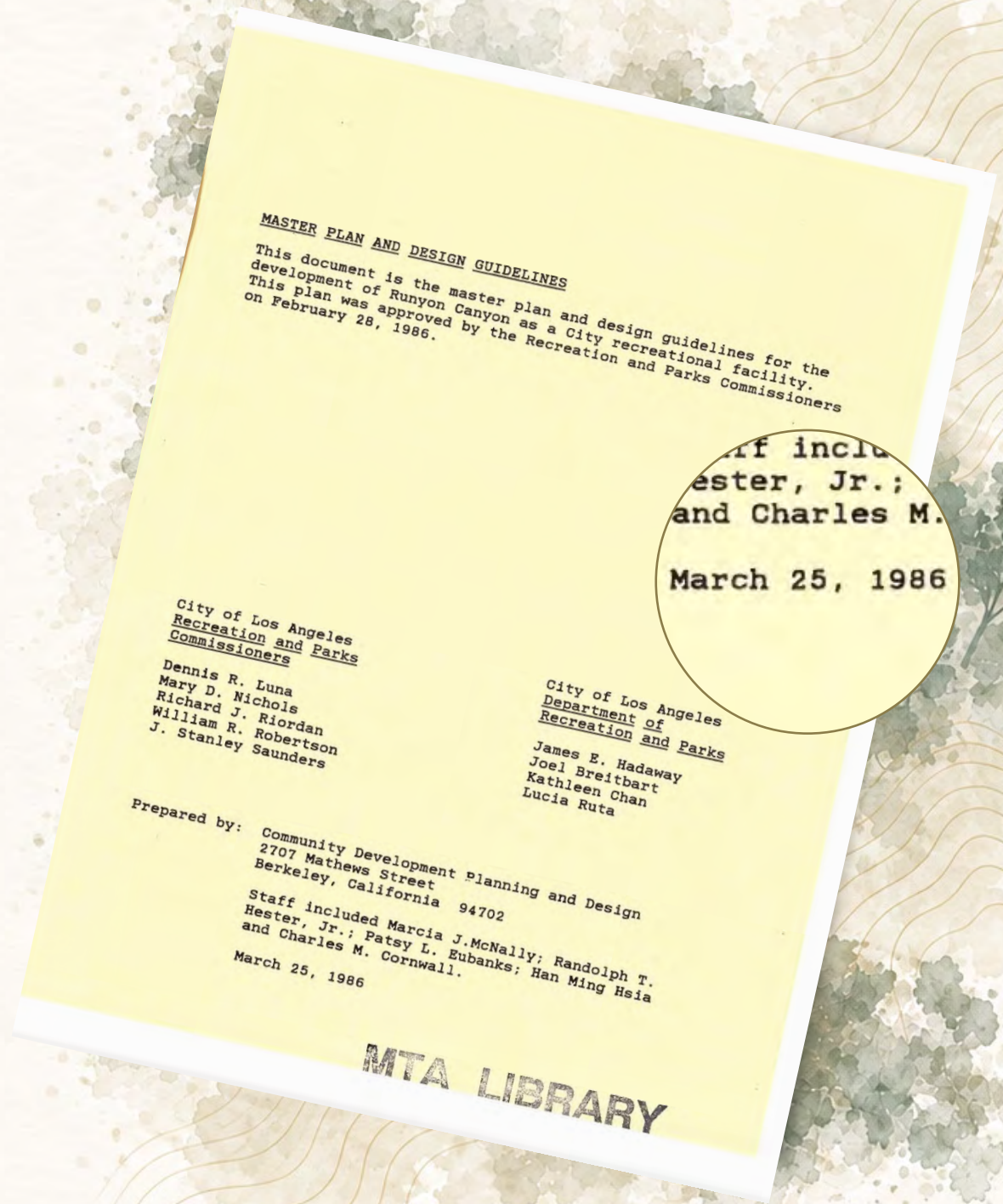
Runyon Canyon is a beloved urban wilderness at the edge of Los Angeles, but its popularity intensifies wildfire risk, erosion, and ecological stress.

WHY NOW?

THE PLAN GUARDING RUNYON WAS WRITTEN IN 1986.

*The problem is not age.
The problem is changed
conditions.*

Runyon Canyon still operates under a master plan approved in 1986—decades before the canyon began receiving nearly two million visitors a year. The problem is not that the document is old; it is that the conditions it governs have changed. Wildfire risk has intensified, visitation has surged, erosion has deepened, and the climate has grown more extreme. A plan written for a different canyon cannot hold this one. A renewed landscape vision is needed now.



URGENCY

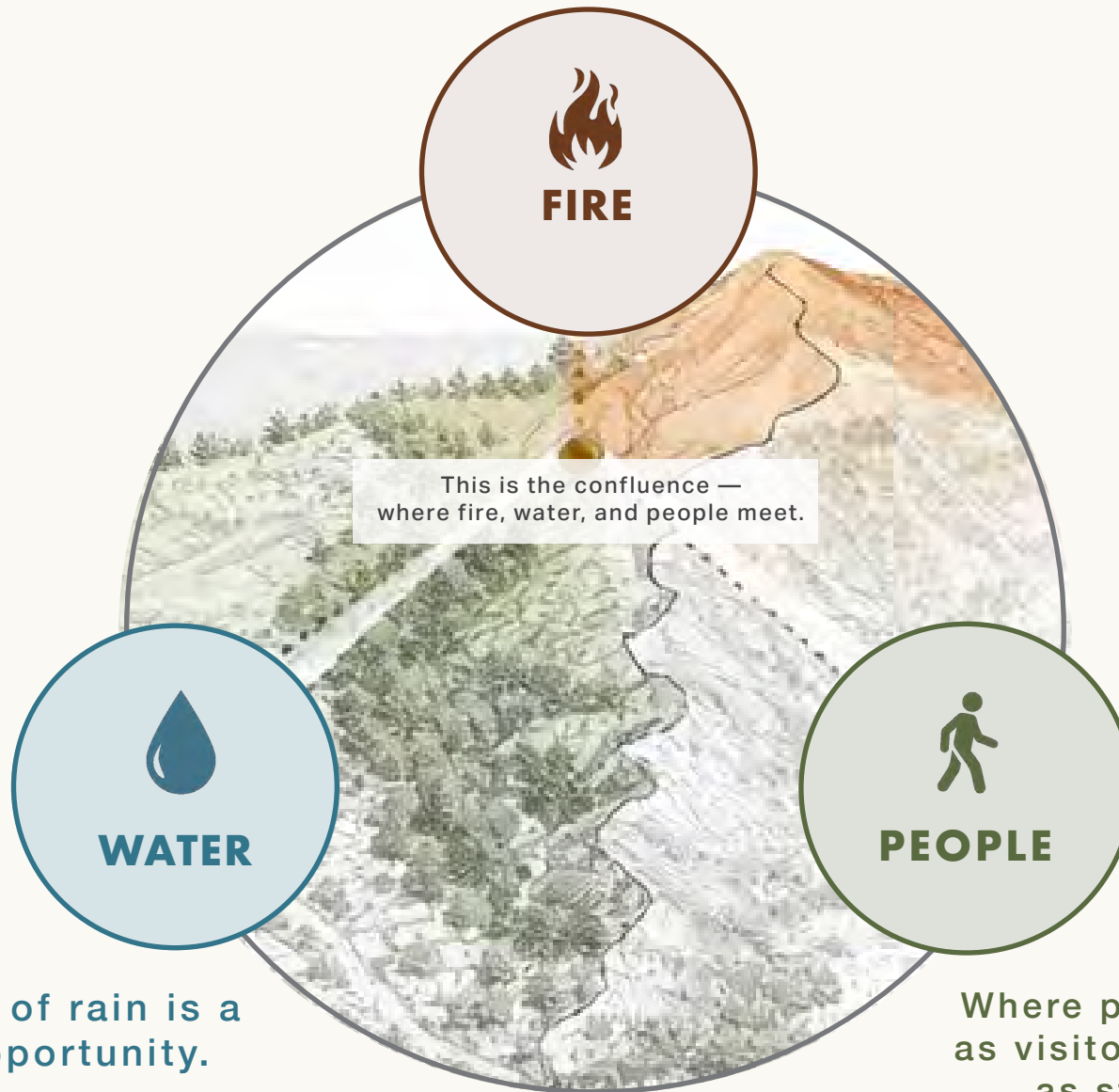
IN 2025, THE HILLS AROUND US BURNED.

Runyon cannot be next.



MY FIRST THOUGHTS

Fire is not the enemy — unmanaged fuel is.

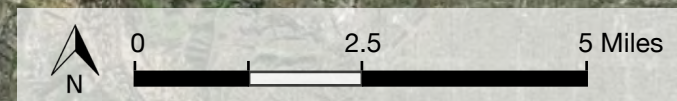
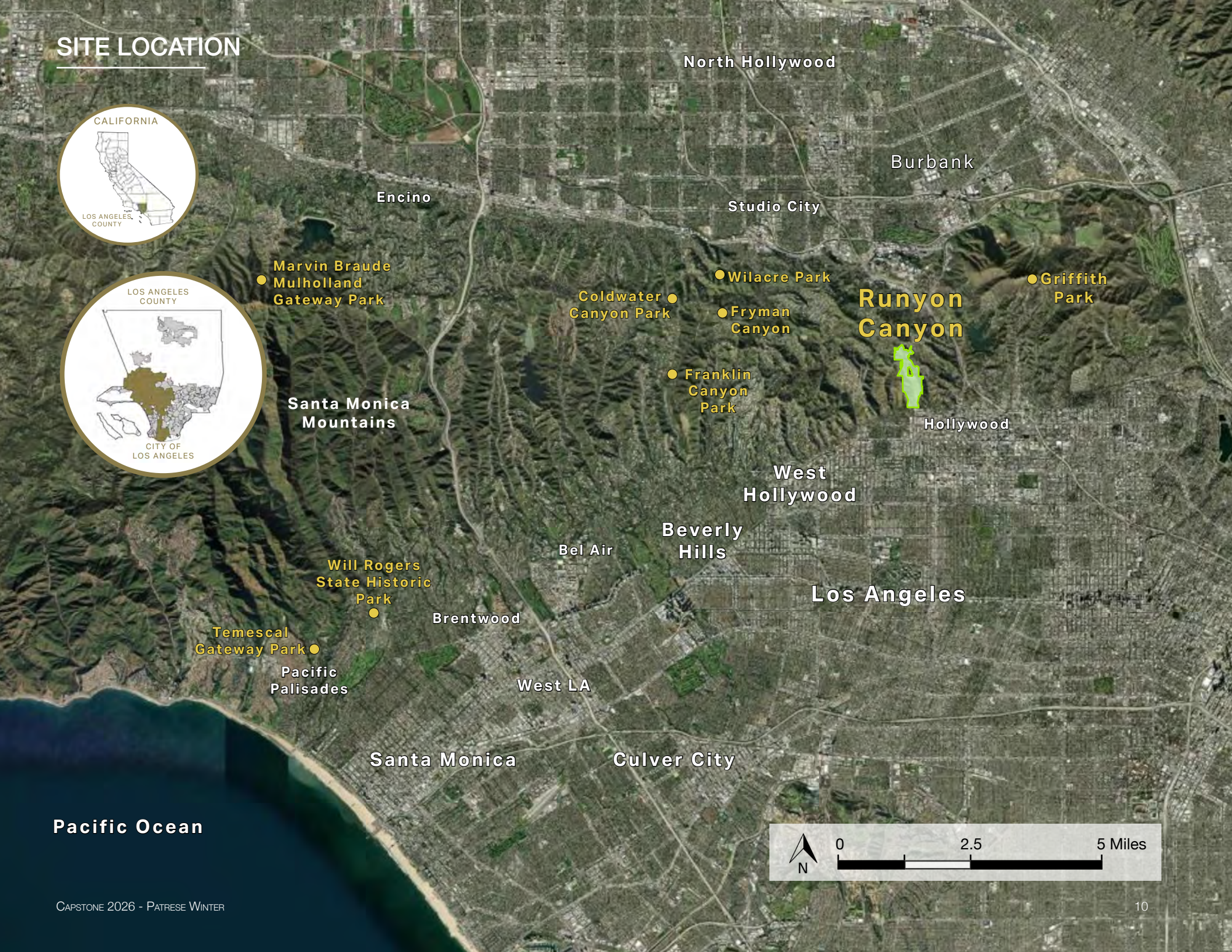
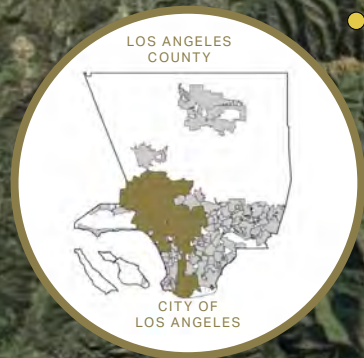


ACT II

READING THE CANYON

You cannot reweave what you have not read.

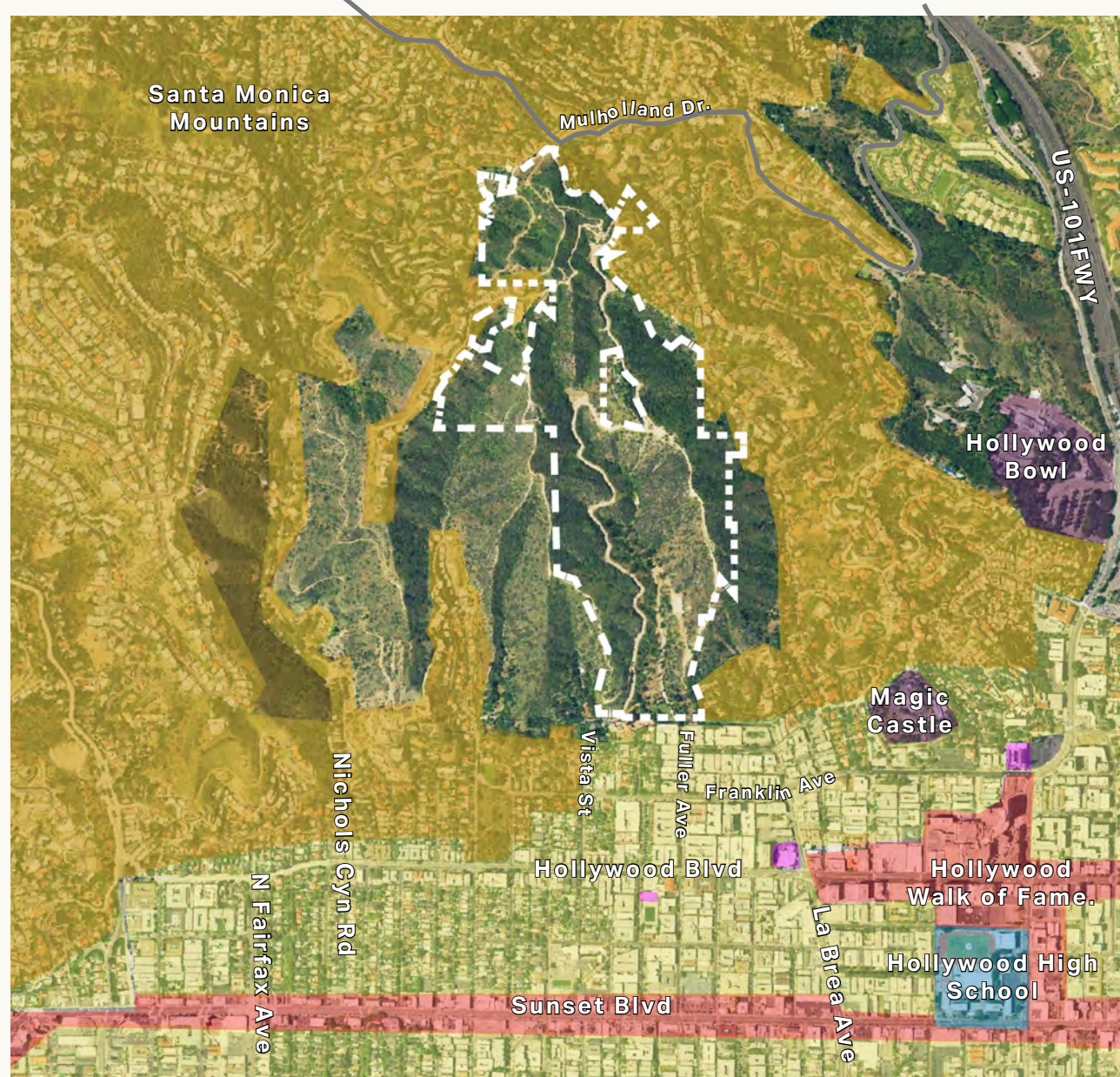
SITE LOCATION



SITE CONTEXT

Site Uses + Adjacencies

Runyon Canyon sits between dense residential neighborhoods, major cultural destinations, and the Santa Monica Mountains.



RUNYON CANYON, LOS ANGELES

LAND USE

	RESIDENCIAL <i>Single-Family</i>
	RESIDENCIAL <i>Multi-Family</i>
	COMMERCIAL <i>Retail, dining, hotel, office</i>
	ENTERTAINMENT <i>Cultural and visitor destinations</i>
	EDUCATIONAL <i>Schools and institutions</i>
	RELIGIOUS <i>Places of worship</i>
	TRANSPORTATION <i>Transit Corridors</i>
	OPEN SPACE <i>Runyon Canyon Park and surrounding parkland</i>

KEY ADJACENCIES

HOLLYWOOD BLVD + LA BREA	0.4 Miles
SUNSET BLVD	0.5 Miles
HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME	0.5 Miles
HOLLYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL	0.9 Miles
MULHOLLAND DRIVE	NORTH BOUNDARY



A canyon of many stories—Indigenous care, outlaws, retreat, stardom, ambitious plans, community activism, and public park stewardship. Runyon Canyon’s layered history lives on in the land today.



7,000 BCE - 1867
Tongva / Gabrielino
INDIGENOUS LAND

1867
"Creek George" Solano
THE CAMEL SOLDIER +
THE BANDIT

1919 - 1930
Carman Runyon
THE COAL MERCHANT'S
RETREAT

1930 - 1942
John McCormack
THE IRISH TENOR •
HOLLYWOOD'S
GOLDEN AGE

1942 - 1964
**Hartford +
Frank Lloyd Wright**
THE VISION THAT NEVER
WAS

1964 - 1978
157 Luxury Homes
NEAR DESTRUCTION •
SAVED BY ONE
ACTIVIST

1984 - PRESENT
**The People's
Canyon**
PUBLIC PARK • AND A
NEW CRISIS

For thousands of years, the Tongva/Gabrielino people cared for this land - gathering, living, and traveling through a canyon central to their world.

George Carpillano ("Creek George" Solano) used the canyon as a hideout after deserting the U.S. Army. A skilled horseman and complex figure, he became both a local legend and an outlaw.

Carman Runyon purchased 160 acres for his retreat. His vision began Runyon Canyon's modern chapter, keeping the land largely undeveloped for decades.

Irish tenor John McCormack leased the estate in 1929. He used the income to build his San Patrizio mansion, where many Hollywood figures became guests.

Developers Hartford and Frank Lloyd Wright received the canyon as a gift. Wright planned a dramatic residential development, but it never materialized.

A proposal for 157 luxury homes threatened to destroy the canyon. Activist Jules Berman led a grassroots fight that stopped the project and helped secure its future.

In 1984, Runyon Canyon became a public park. It remains a beloved space, but today faces a new crisis - growing visitation, erosion, and habitat loss in a changing climate.

SITE PHOTOS

The canyon begins at the edge.

Runyon's experience begins before the trail. Three entrances receive visitors with uneven levels of orientation, shade, seating, and support. Gates, picnic areas, and informal stopping places reveal a landscape that is heavily used but only lightly structured. These existing conditions show where the journey begins—and where arrival can do more.

KEY MAP



1. South arrival at Fuller Avenue



4. Fire-road access gate



2. Vista Street neighborhood entrance



5. Shaded picnic gathering area



3. North arrival at Mulholland Drive



6. Yoga lawn and informal gathering

SITE PHOTOS

Pressure follows the climb.

Moving through the canyon, activity concentrates along lawns, trails, overlooks, and the summit. The landscape offers extraordinary views, but comfort and stewardship infrastructure remain inconsistent: shade is limited, paths carry heavy use, and popular viewpoints absorb repeated pressure. These photographs reveal where people move, pause, gather, and leave their mark.

KEY MAP



7. Exposed city-view overlook



10. Mid-canyon city-view pause



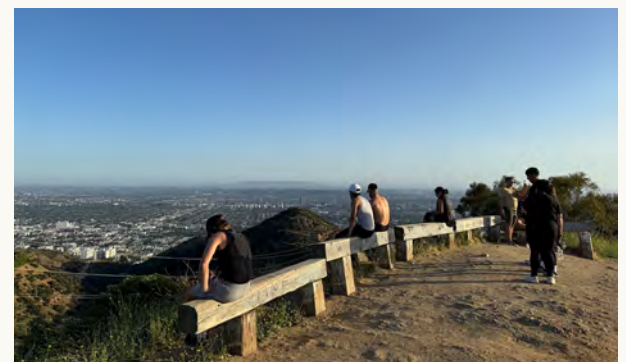
8. Love-lock fence along trail



11. Fire road movement spine

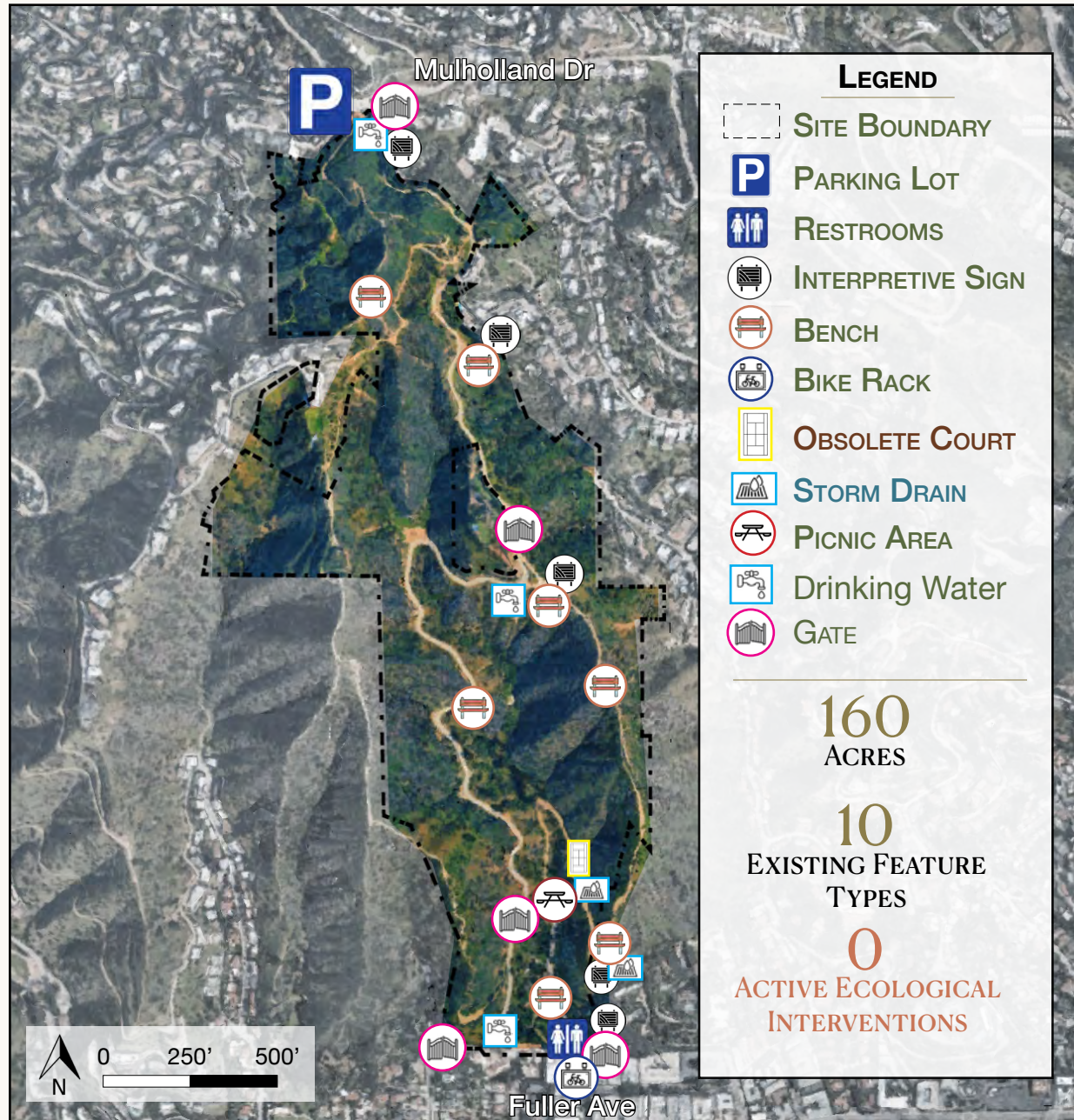


9. Sunset viewpoint under heavy use



12. Summit gathering and overlook

What the canyon has — and what it lacks.



Abandoned Tennis Court



Storm Drain



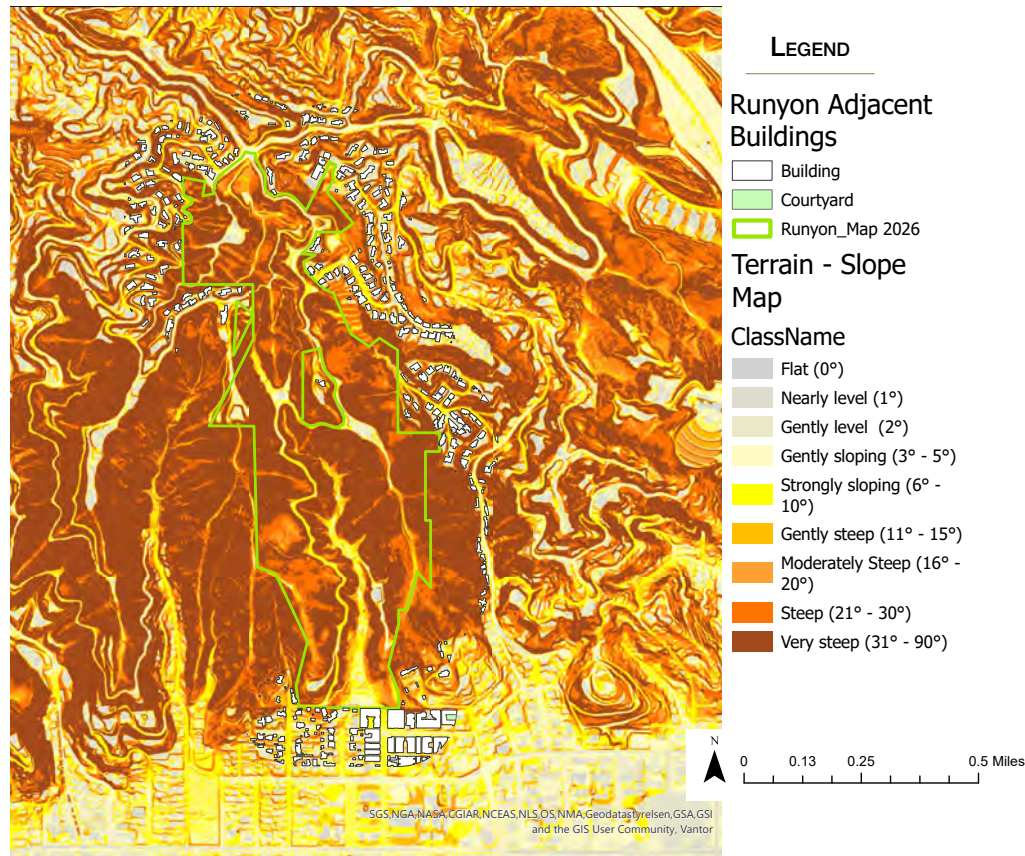
Restrooms

Fire Risk: Where conditions converge.

Runyon Canyon sits in a very high fire hazard zone, with steep, exposed slopes, a dense urban edge, and limited access.

SLOPE ANALYSIS

Steep terrain increases fire risk and limits access.



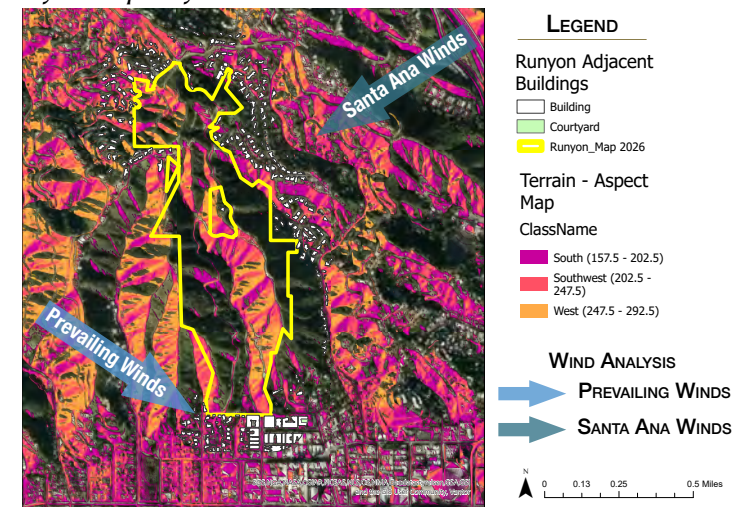
FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES

Runyon Canyon is entirely within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.



ASPECT ANALYSIS

South- and west-facing slopes receive greater solar exposure and dry more quickly.

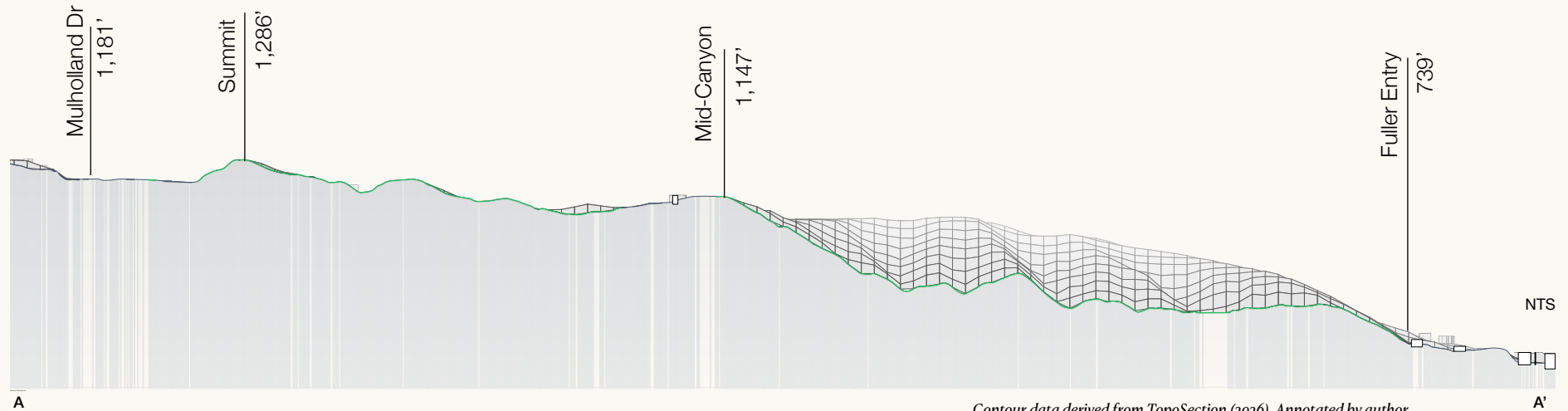
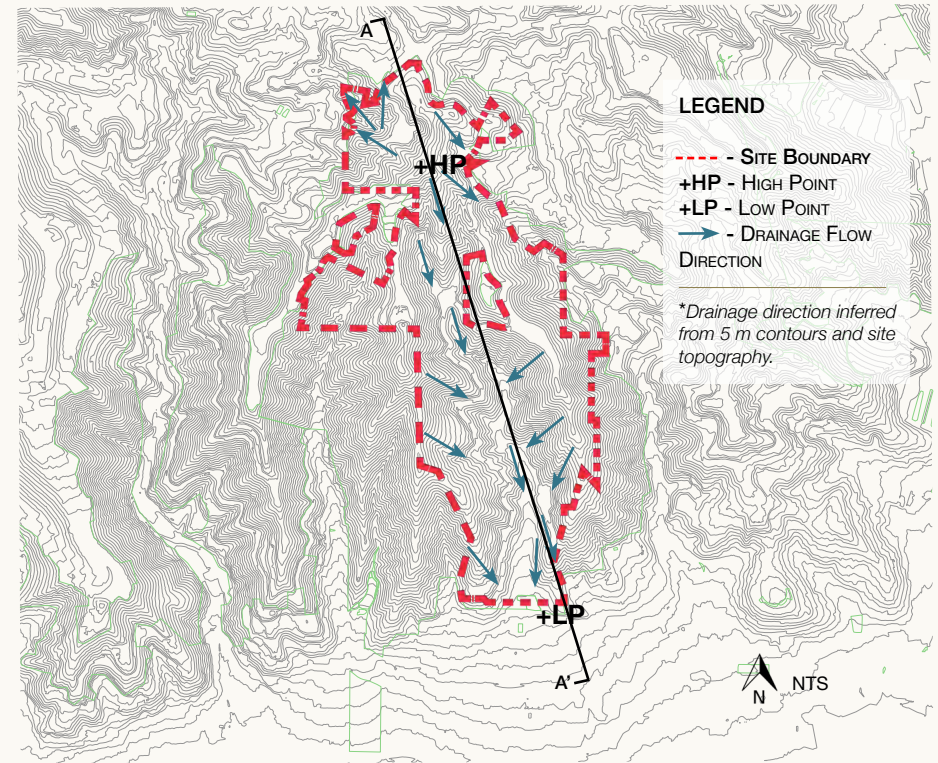


Where these conditions overlap, fire resilience becomes a landscape-management strategy—not a single intervention.

Water: Terrain drives the flow.

Steep slopes and highly dissected topography shed water rapidly through the canyon, concentrating runoff along natural low points and disturbed trail corridors.

547ft | TOTAL ELEVATION CHANGE



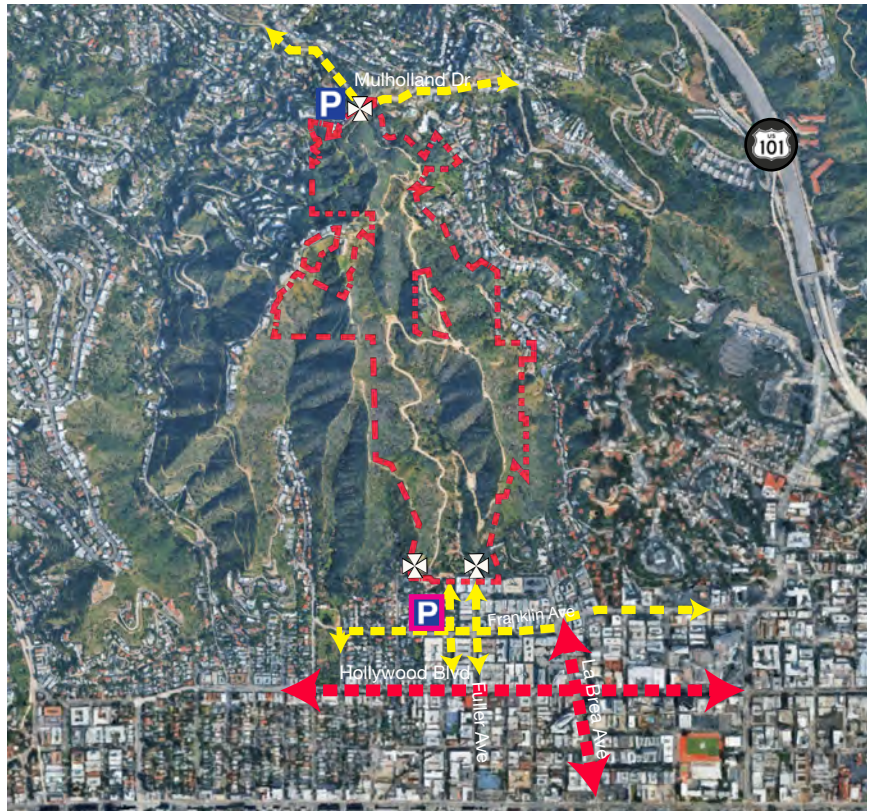
Contour data derived from TopoSection (2026). Annotated by author.

People: Access begins before the trail.

How visitors reach the canyon, where they funnel, and why arrival must become infrastructure.

VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

Primary and secondary access routes to Fuller Ave entrance

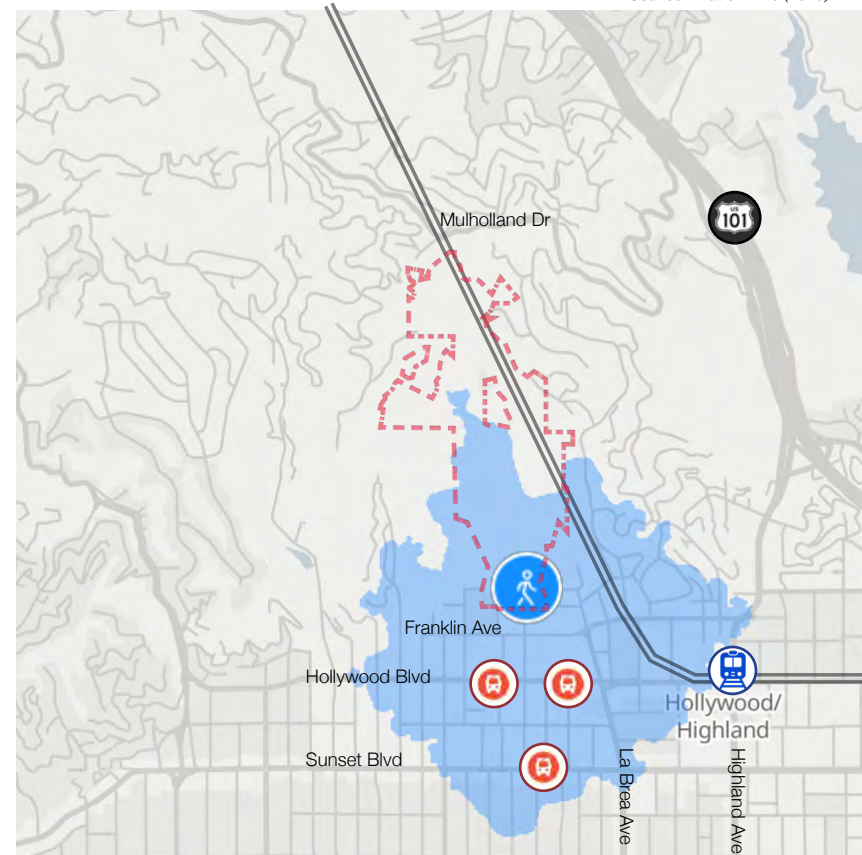


- Site Boundary
- ✕ Park entrance
- ← - - - → Primary (Hollywood Blvd / La Brea)
- ← - - - → Secondary (Fuller Ave / Vista St / Mulholland Dr)
- P Parking
- P Street Parking

WALK TIMES TO TRANSIT

Nearby transit within 5–17 min walk · approach is uphill · return is downhill

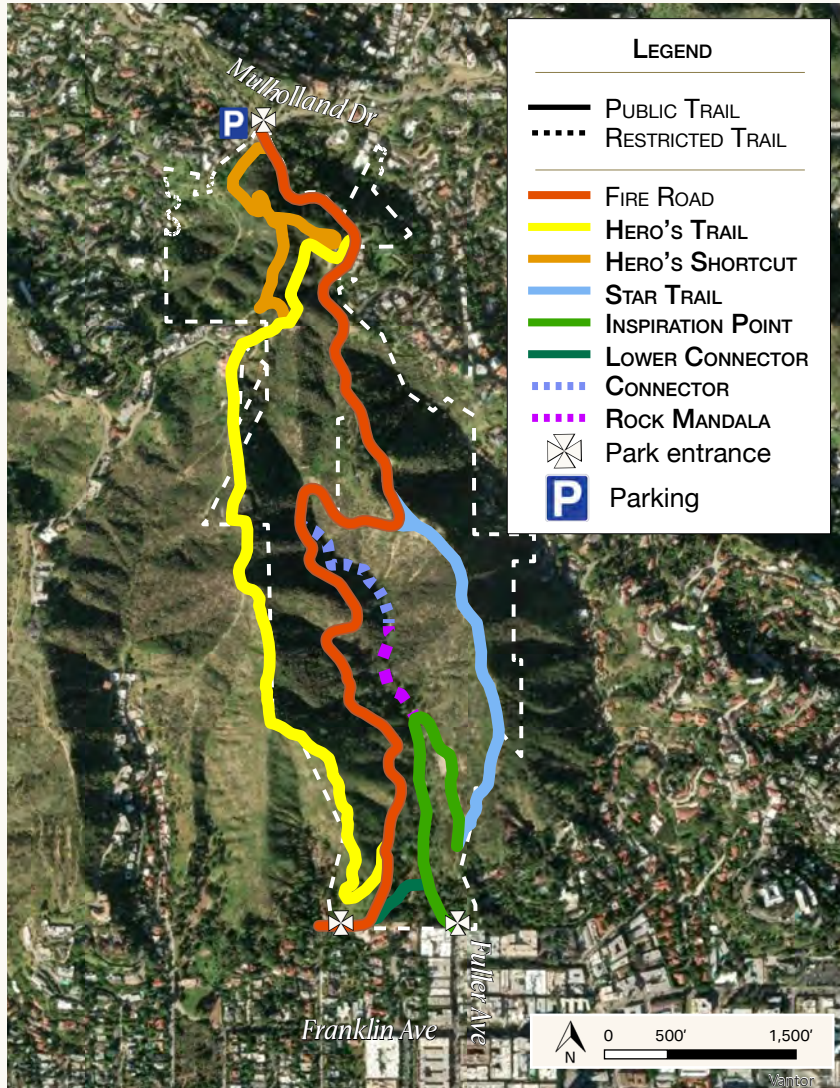
*Source: TravelTime (2026).



- 15 min walk from the Fuller Entrance
- Site Boundary
- Metro Line Underground
- 🚶 Metro Rail Station
- 🚌 Bus Stop

Connected by trails

Runyon Canyon's trail network offers a range of experiences—from moderate city-view hikes to steep, challenging climbs—all organized around the fire road, the canyon's most direct and manageable route.



FIRE ROAD

The canyon's primary north-south spine, connecting the Fuller and Mulholland entrances. Its paved surface provides the most direct and manageable route through Runyon and supports maintenance and emergency access.



HERO'S TRAIL

A steep west-side climb from the lower canyon toward Mulholland Drive. Its sustained grades and exposed terrain create one of Runyon's more challenging trail experiences.



INSPIRATION POINT

A shorter, more gradual route leading toward Inspiration Point and expansive city views. The broad dirt trail provides a more moderate experience within the lower canyon.



STAR TRAIL

A steep, stepped connection between Inspiration Point and Runyon Road. The trail negotiates the slope directly, creating a short but physically demanding climb.

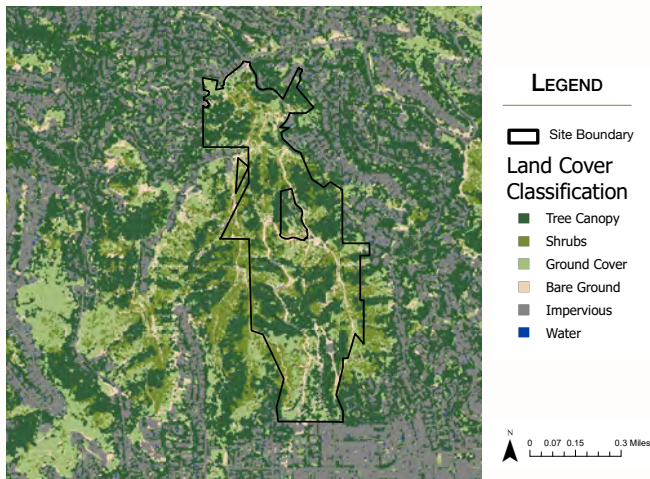


Ecological conditions

A resilient chaparral landscape that supports a rich web of life - and faces increasing pressure.

LAND COVER + HABITAT STRUCTURE

Tree canopy, shrub cover, ground cover, bare soil, and impervious surfaces reveal the canyon's habitat structure and patterns of disturbance.



*Source: Los Angeles County Land Cover.

FLORA - Native plants build a resilient canyon.



Basket Sumac
Rhus trilobata

Fire-adapted shrub that resprouts after burn and helps slow fire spread.



Deergrass
Muhlenbergia rigens

Stabilizes slopes, holds soil, and forms the structural backbone of chaparral.



California Fuchsia
Epilobium canum

Provides seasonal color and nectar for pollinators.



Manzanita
Arctostaphylos glauca

Deep roots, fire resilience, and important habitat for wildlife.



Coast Live Oak
Quercus agrifolia

Provides shade, acorns, and critical habitat in a fire-adapted landscape.

FAUNA - A home for wildlife in the urban-wildland interface.



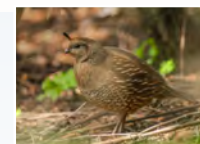
Coyote
Canis latrans

A key species in a healthy ecosystem.



Western Fence Lizard
S. occidentalis

Common throughout the park, helping control insects.



California Quail
Callipepla californica

A familiar sight on trails and in native shrublands.



California Towhee
Melozone crissalis

Forages on the ground, helping with seed dispersal.



Monarch Butterfly
Danaus plexippus

Relies on native flowering plants for nectar and breeding habitat.

Healthy habitats make a stronger tomorrow.

User typologies

Different users share the same canyon—and place different needs and pressures on it.

DAILY LOCALS



+ PROFILE

Nearby residents, regular hikers, runners, dog walkers, and early-morning users who return several times a week.

◇ NEED

Reliable trails, shade, water, dog-friendly circulation, and comfortable places to pause.

⚠ PRESSURE

Daily wear, off-leash conflicts, trail widening, and repeated use of the same routes.

CASUAL VISITORS



+ PROFILE

Tourists, first-time hikers, weekend visitors, influencers, celebrities, and social-media-driven visitors seeking views and the Runyon experience.

◇ NEED

Clear orientation, restrooms, water, shade, memorable viewpoints, and easy-to-understand routes.

⚠ PRESSURE

Peak-hour crowding, parking spillover, photo-stop congestion, and concentrated use at iconic viewpoints.

NATURE OBSERVERS



+ PROFILE

Birders, photographers, students, educators, and visitors drawn to native plants, wildlife, and the canyon landscape.

◇ NEED

Quiet habitat areas, interpretation, wildlife viewing opportunities, and access that does not disturb sensitive areas.

⚠ PRESSURE

Human presence near habitat corridors, informal trail use, and disturbance during wildlife activity.

MAINTENANCE CREW



+ PROFILE

City staff, park maintenance teams, fire crews, rangers, and emergency responders responsible for keeping the canyon safe and functional.

◇ NEED

Reliable service access, clear staging areas, open fire-road circulation, water access, and maintainable landscapes.

⚠ PRESSURE

Recreation and emergency operations share limited corridors, while steep terrain complicates maintenance and response.

URBAN WILDLIFE



🐾 PROFILE

Coyotes, raptors, songbirds, pollinators, reptiles, and other species using Runyon as habitat within the wildland-urban interface.

◇ NEED

Connected habitat, native vegetation, refuge areas, safe crossings, water, and reduced disturbance.

⚠ PRESSURE

Habitat fragmentation, dogs, lighting, noise, invasive vegetation, and concentrated human activity.

Four landscapes. Relevant lessons for Runyon.

VISTA HERMOSA LOS ANGELES, CA

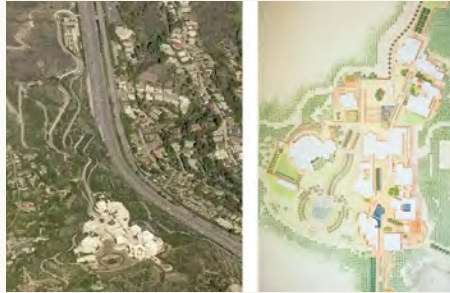


Studio-MLA · Los Angeles, CA · 2008
· ASLA Landmark Award 2023 · LAF
Landscape Performance Series

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- *Sculpted topography directs all runoff into a 100,000-gallon rainwater basin — 95% retained on-site.*
- *Chaparral natives organized by slope aspect and microclimate.*
- *0.4-mile permeable trail system reduces erosion.*
- *Low water dependency with native plant palette.*

GETTY CENTER LOS ANGELES, CA



OLIN with Emmet L. Wemple & Associates and the Office of Dan Kiley · Richard Meier, architecture · 1997 · ASLA Landmark Award 2017

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- *Irrigated, maintained planting reduces fuel near buildings.*
- *Travertine plazas + fire-resistant materials create low-fuel buffers.*
- *Brush management extends into the surrounding wildland.*
- *A 1-million-gallon water reserve + emergency access support fire response.*

BREAKNECK RIDGE Hudson Highlands, NY



SCAPE Landscape Architecture · 2023–ongoing · Breakneck Connector + Bridge, pilot phase

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- *Overcrowding addressed through realigned “social trails” and durable design.*
- *430 native trees + 2,080 shrubs restore habitat and stabilize slopes.*
- *Stormwater managed on-site through trail-edge systems.*
- *A fully ADA-accessible entry with a protected rest + gathering area.*

BALDWIN HILLS LOS ANGELES, CA



WRT · Safdie Rabines Architects · California State Parks · 2009 · ASLA San Diego Merit Award 2009 · LAF Landscape Performance Series

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- *Restored degraded site with native planting and erosion control.*
- *Clear trail discipline on decomposed-granite paths.*
- *Destination overlook with sweeping views — the recovery story anchors the site.*
- *Demonstrates how a damaged landscape can be reborn as a public asset.*

Comparable precedents in resilience

Built public landscapes that respond to water, overuse, erosion, and ecological disturbance on difficult terrain - each demonstrating a methodology Runyon can adapt.



VISTA HERMOSA
LOS ANGELES, CA

“Water”

Hold stormwater on the slope — capture and infiltrate it rather than shedding it downhill.



GETTY CENTER
Los Angeles, CA

“Fire · WUI Resilience”

Design the fire edge as a managed system — reduce fuel, maintain access, support response.



BREAKNECK RIDGE
Hudson Highlands, NY

“Trails / Erosion / Recreation”

Rebuild an overused trail — concentrate use on a hardened trail while slopes recover.



BALDWIN HILLS
LOS ANGELES, CA

“Overlook Regeneration - People”

Stage an intensity gradient — accessible front, quiet recovery toward the summit.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS — WHAT EACH PRECEDENT PROVES

- PRIMARY FEATURE
- ◐ SECONDARY FEATURE
- NOT APPLICABLE

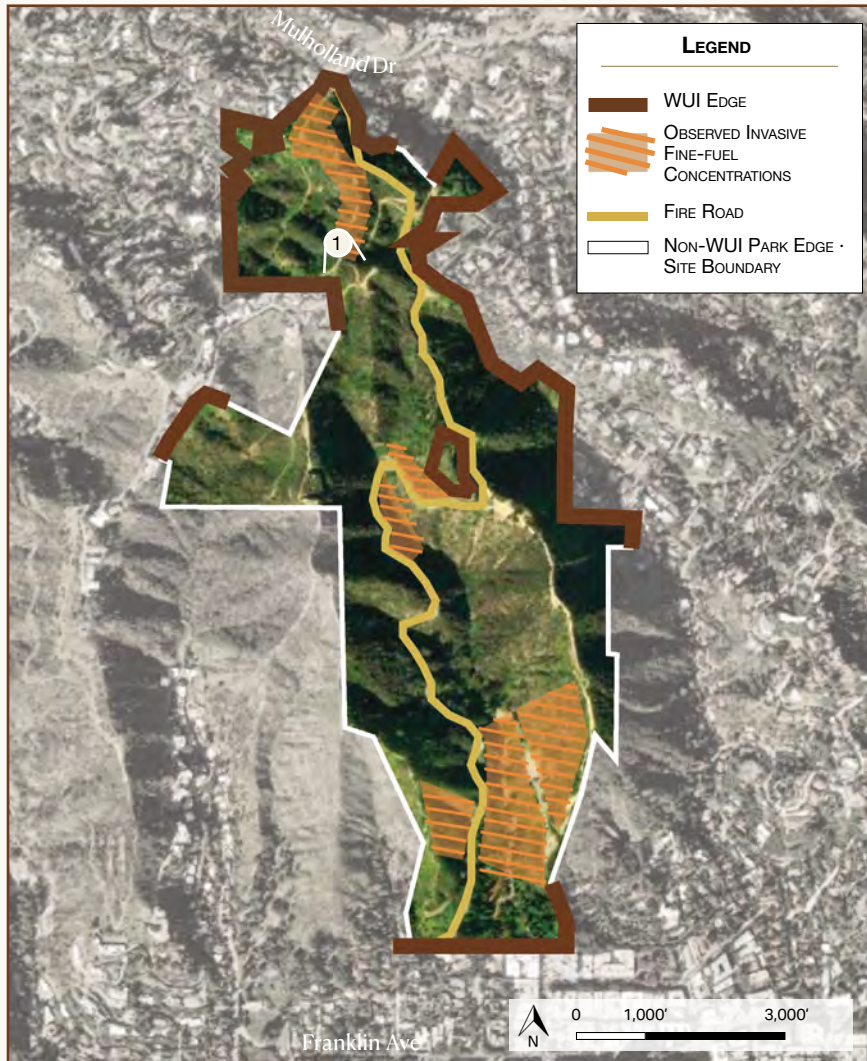
METHODOLOGY ↓	VISTA HERMOSA	GETTY CENTER	BREAKNECK RIDGE	BALDWIN HILLS
MCHARG SUITABILITY OVERLAY <i>Analysis</i>	●	●	◐	◐
WATER-SENSITIVE DESIGN <i>Water · LID / GSI</i>	●	○	●	●
RECREATION ECOLOGY <i>People</i>	◐	○	●	●
DESIGNING IN SECTION <i>Technique</i>	○	◐	●	◐
ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE <i>Disturbance · Recovery</i>	●	●	●	●

Fire: Break + Tend.

A maintained edge, native restoration, and clear access turn fire constraints into design priorities.

MAPPED CONSTRAINTS

*WUI - Wildland-Urban Interface



**Diagrammatic mapping based on field observations and site photography, June 2026.*

FIELD EVIDENCE



1. Vegetated canyon slopes meet homes along the WUI edge.

1

RESIDENTIAL EDGE - Homes meet canyon vegetation with no defensible transition

OPPORTUNITY: Create a maintained, defensible transition between homes and canyon vegetation.

2

INVASIVE FINE FUELS - Observed mustard and invasive grasses form connected fine-fuel cover.

OPPORTUNITY: Remove invasive fine fuels and restore native chaparral mosaics.

3

EXPOSED RIDGELINES - Dry, exposed ridgelines require ongoing landscape management.

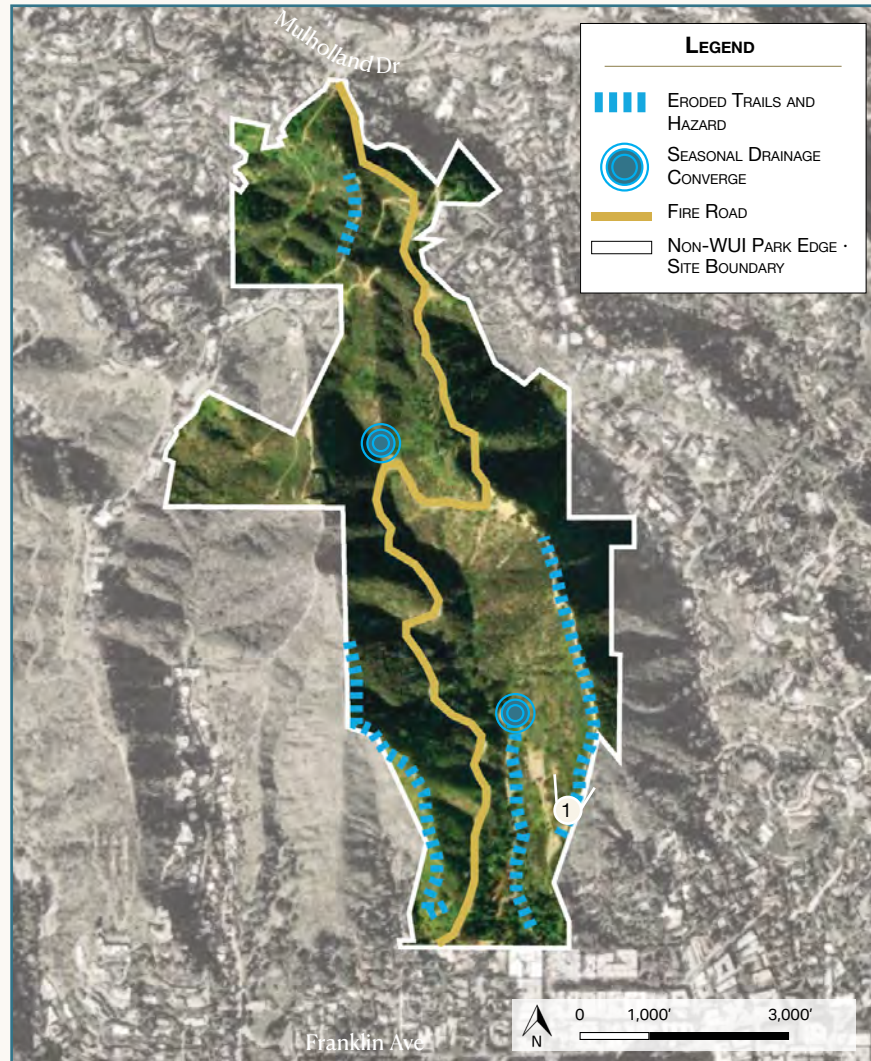
OPPORTUNITY: Manage ridge edges and maintain fuel breaks and access along the fire road.

DESIGN DIRECTION: Reduce invasive fuels. Restore native cover. Maintain access.

Water: Slow + Hold.

Eroded trails and drainage convergence reveal where repair can also create room for water.

MAPPED CONSTRAINTS



**Diagrammatic mapping based on field observations and site photography, June 2026.*

FIELD EVIDENCE



1. Erosion cuts around steps along the existing trail.

1

ERODED TRAILS - Compacted trails channel runoff around failing steps.

OPPORTUNITY: Repair eroded trails and use grade reversals to redirect and slow runoff.

2

DRAINAGE CONVERGENCE - Seasonal runoff collects at mapped low points.

OPPORTUNITY: Build swales and seasonal basins at the low points to slow water, infiltrate, and create habitat.

3

DRAINAGE FAILURES - Existing drains, outlets, and informal runoff paths concentrate water and worsen erosion.

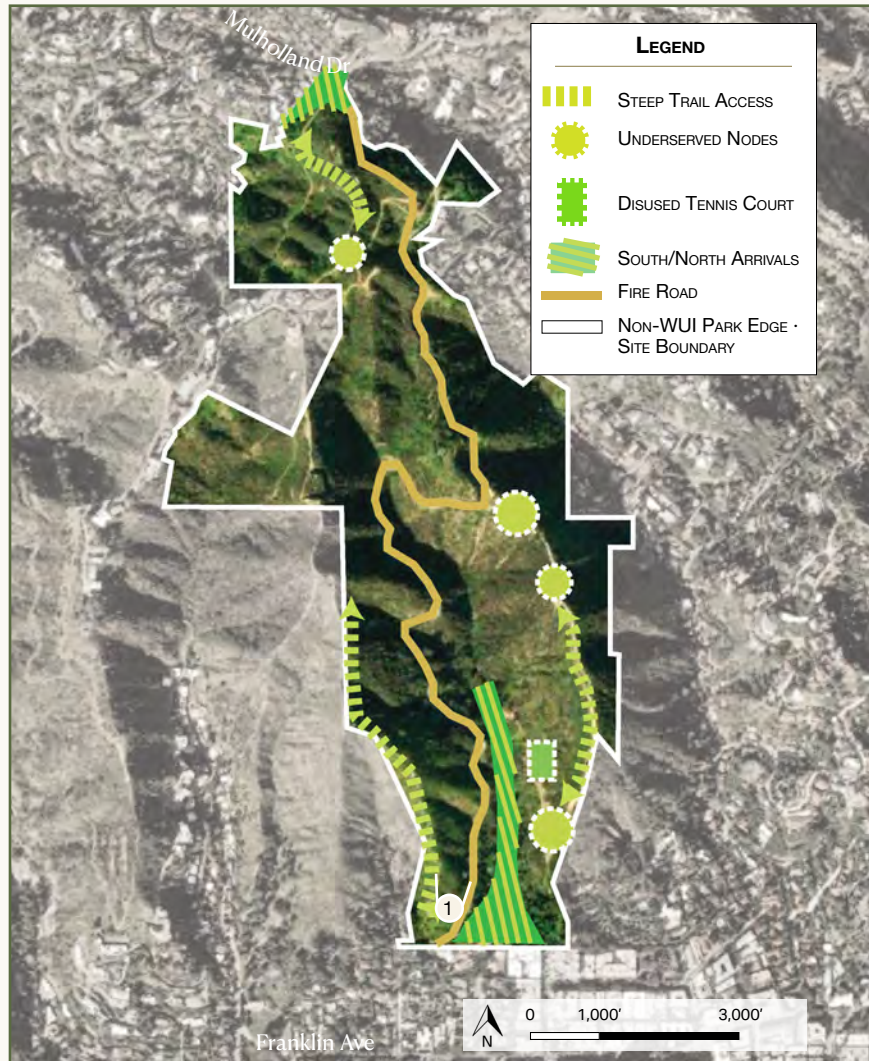
OPPORTUNITY: Repair and redesign drainage infrastructure to slow, spread, and safely direct runoff into swales, basins, and infiltration areas.

DESIGN DIRECTION: Repair erosion. Slow runoff. Hold water in the canyon.

People: Receive + Support.

Fragmented arrivals and pressured overlooks can become places to orient, rest, and learn.

MAPPED CONSTRAINTS



**Diagrammatic mapping based on field observations and site photography, June 2026.*

FIELD EVIDENCE



1. The south arrival: informal gathering and limited visitor support.

FRAGMENTED ARRIVALS - Entries provide limited orientation and visitor support.

1

OPPORTUNITY: Create clear north and south arrivals with shade, seating, restrooms, and wayfinding.

UNDERSERVED OVERLOOKS - Popular stopping points have limited shade and seating.

2

OPPORTUNITY: Provide places to pause, gather, and learn at existing high-use nodes.

DISUSED TENNIS COURT - Rare level ground remains underused.

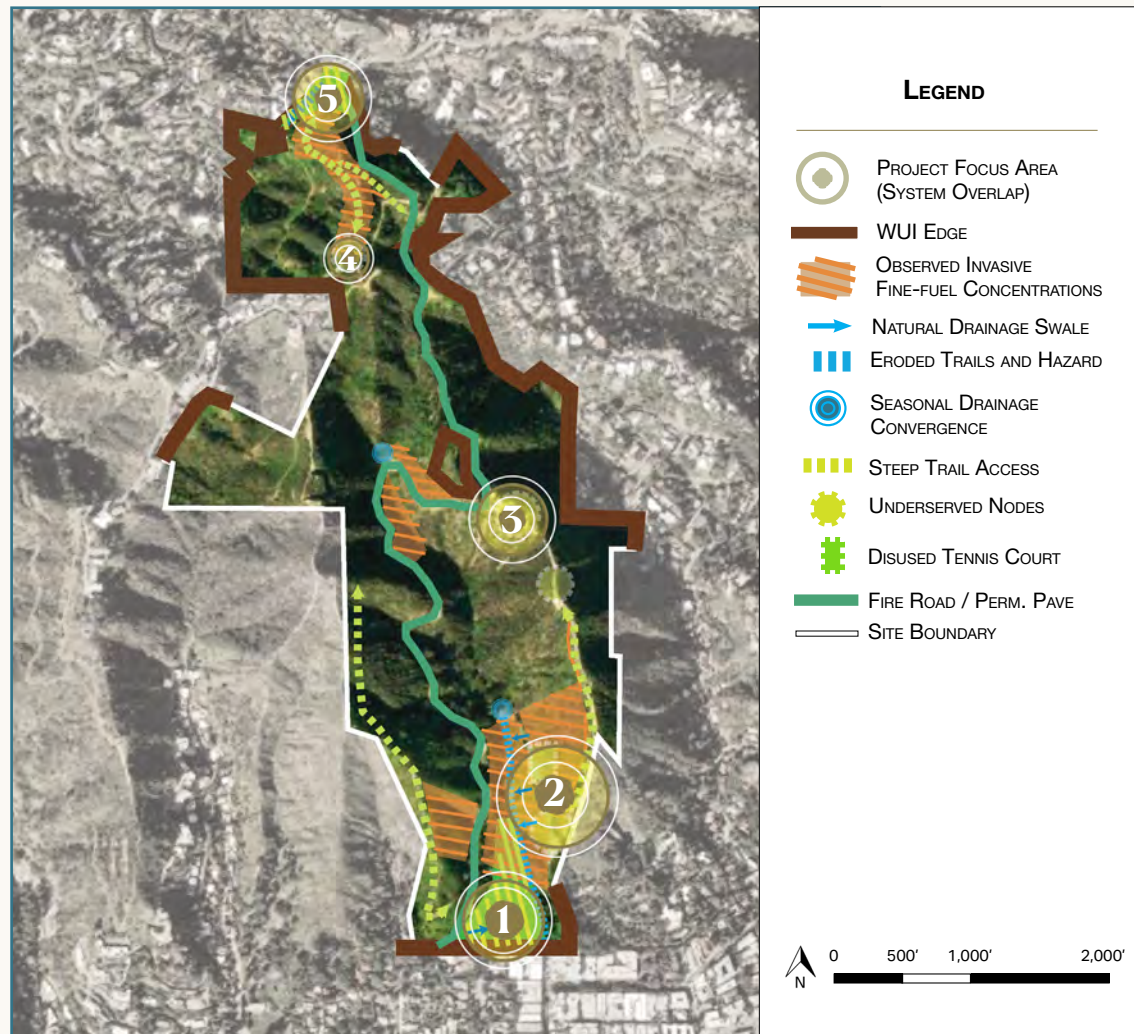
3

OPPORTUNITY: Adapt the existing footprint for gathering, learning, play, and wellness.

DESIGN DIRECTION: *Concentrate support at high-use nodes; protect and regenerate the slopes between.*

Where they meet.

Fire, water, and people overlap at key points along the canyon journey. These intersections reveal where one intervention can perform more than one job.



WHERE THE FORCES MEET

- 1 SOUTH ARRIVAL - RECEIVE**
City meets canyon; all three pressures enter here.
- 2 CITY VIEW - SLOW**
Runoff concentrates; visitors pause along the climb.
- 3 SUNSET OVERLOOK - SLOW**
A steep climb converges with concentrated visitor use.
- 4 SUMMIT - RELEASE**
An exposed ridge where the journey opens to expansive views.
- 5 NORTH ARRIVAL - RECEIVE**
The northern threshold meets residential edges and fire pressure.

DESIGN DIRECTION: Where the pressures overlap, one move can hold all three.

FIRE: BREAK + TEND • WATER: SLOW + HOLD • PEOPLE: RECEIVE + SUPPORT

Reweave **fire**, **water**, and **people** into a landscape that holds.

Nine objectives answer nine site constraints. Each works across at least two forces.

EACH OBJECTIVE WORKS ACROSS: FIRE ● / WATER ● / PEOPLE ●



FIRE

Restore a fire-resilient landscape

- 1. Establish defensible transitions** ● ○ ●
along WUI edges and at high-use nodes.
WUI • NODES 1+5
- 2. Remove invasive fine fuels** ● ● ○
and rebuild a spaced native chaparral mosaic.
RECOVERY SLOPES • WUI EDGE
- 3. Keep the ridgeline fire-safe** ● ○ ●
manage the exposed crest as low-fuel native cover and keep summit elements noncombustible.
NODE 4 • RIDGELINE



WATER

Hold water, rebuild soil

- 1. Repair erosion** ○ ● ●
by rebuilding damaged trails with crowned treads, check dams, and planted troughs.
TRAIL B
- 2. Capture runoff where it collects** ● ● ○
in bioswales, rain gardens, and seasonal basins that infiltrate and support habitat.
MAPPED LOW POINTS • NODES 1+2+3+5
- 3. Slow runoff along the spine** ● ● ●
with permeable paving, bioswales, and grade reversals before water concentrates downslope.
SPINE A



PEOPLE

Guide access, protect the wild

- 1. Design two arrivals** ● ● ●
with shade, restrooms, orientation, and sustainable transit connections.
NODES 1+5
- 2. Sequence the climb through two pauses and a summit** ● ● ●
places to rest, gather, learn, and take in the canyon.
NODES 2+3+4
- 3. Concentrate use at the nodes** ● ● ●
and allow the slopes between them to regenerate.
WHOLE CANYON

*{ One bioswale slows **water**, greens the slope, resists **fire**, and cools the trail people walk }*

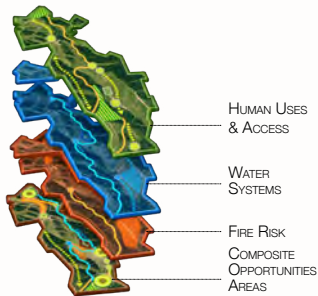
ONE MOVE — THREE FORCES, WOVEN.

Five methods. A more resilient Runyon.

Proven landscape methodologies guide a site-specific, regenerative design — where fire, water, and people work together.

McHARG SUITABILITY OVERLAY

McHarg, Design with Nature, 1969



Analyze key site systems—fire, water, habitat, and human use— individually, then overlay them to identify where pressures converge and where design interventions can have the greatest positive impact.

REWOVEN OUTPUT

- Five intervention nodes
- Continuous systems
- Informed, site-specific decisions

WATER-SENSITIVE DESIGN

U.S. EPA, Low Impact Development / Green Infrastructure



Work with the canyon's natural topography to slow, spread, infiltrate, and capture runoff rather than shed it downhill. Use nature-based systems to restore hydrologic function and reduce erosion.

REWOVEN OUTPUT

- Bioswales and rain gardens
- Permeable surfaces
- Grade reversals
- Seasonal basins
- Healthier watersheds

RECREATION ECOLOGY

Manning, Parks and Carrying Capacity, 2007



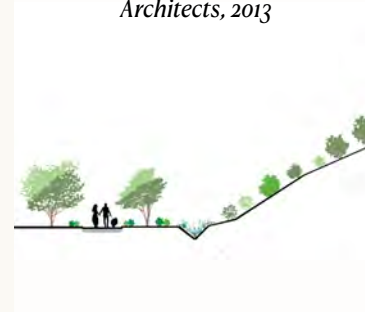
Concentrate durable use where people already gather, improve the experience at key nodes, and allow disturbed slopes and habitat between trails to recover. Design for education, stewardship, and a more caring public.

REWOVEN OUTPUT

- Arrivals and overlooks
- Defined trails and access
- Decommissioned shortcuts
- Interpretation and education
- Habitat protection

DESIGNING IN SECTION

Strom, Nathan & Woland, Site Engineering for Landscape Architects, 2013



Use section to understand and integrate grade, drainage, accessibility, planting, fire exposure, and the spatial relationship between trail and slope. Sections test how the design works with the terrain ecologically and experientially.

REWOVEN OUTPUT

- Regenerative stair trail
- Drainage and grading solutions
- Accessible routes
- Fire/water relationships
- Spatial clarity and experience

ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE

Holling, Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics, 1973



Design for adaptation and long-term recovery. Remove invasive species, restore native plant communities, and create landscapes that regenerate after wildfire, drought, and disturbance through ongoing stewardship.

REWOVEN OUTPUT

- Invasive species removal
- Chaparral recovery
- Native plant communities
- Biodiversity and habitat connectivity
- Long-term ecosystem resilience



APPLIED FIRE-RESILIENCE STANDARD

CAL FIRE / Board of Forestry, Defensible Space Zones 0-1-2 (PRC §4291) · LAFD Brush Clearance Requirements

Incorporate current fire-resilience guidelines for the wildland-urban interface, including low-fuel transitions, maintained native cover, noncombustible materials at key locations, clear emergency access, and education about fire-wise landscapes.

What the canyon needs to hold.

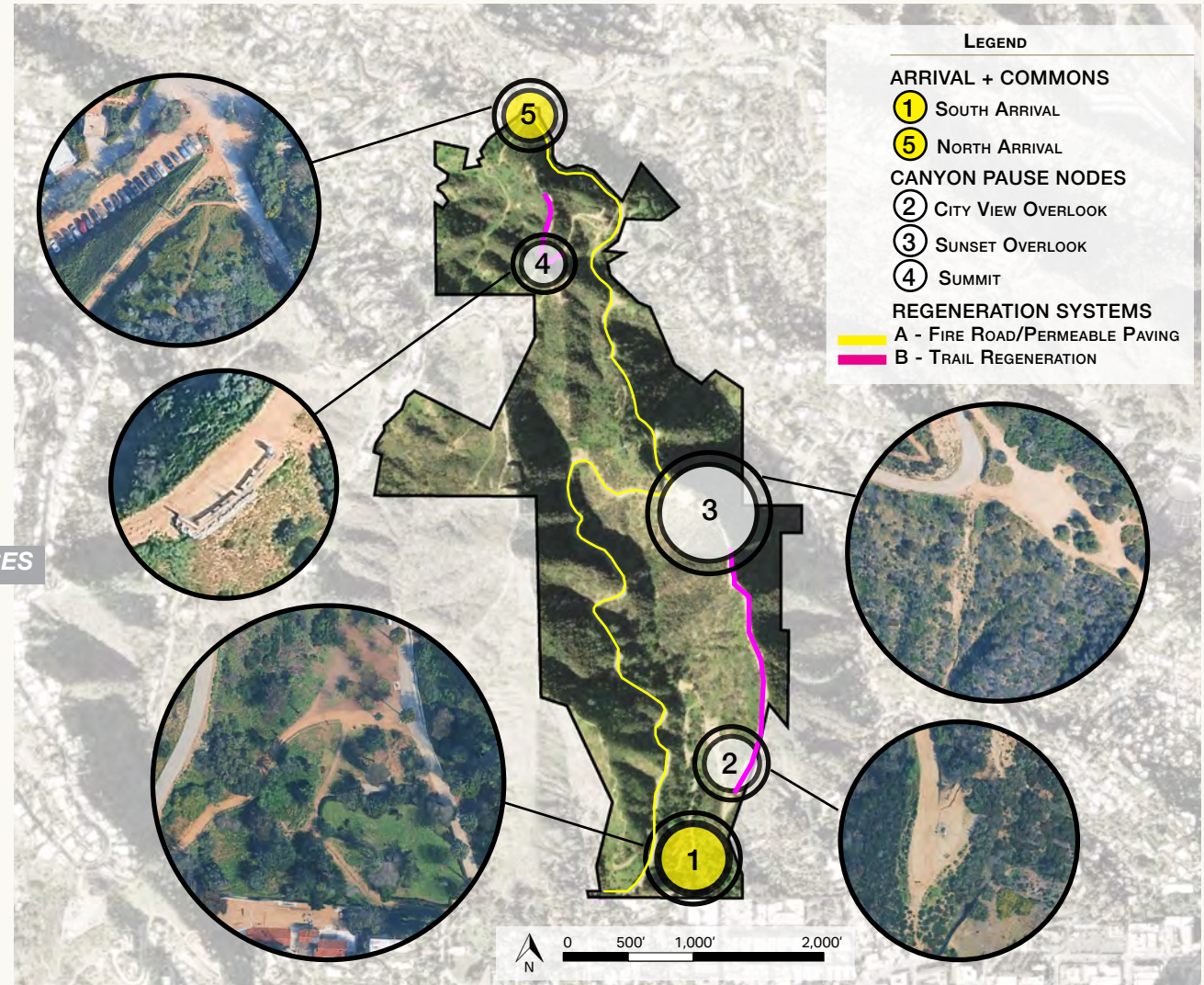
The two arrivals *RECEIVE* visitors; the fire-road spine and pause nodes *SLOW* the journey; the summit *RELEASES* into rest, reflection, and expansive views.

DESIGN NODES

- 1 South Arrival Commons** - 3-5 AC
Basket commons plaza - lawn • amphitheater • kiosk • restrooms • nature play • fitness • native garden • picnic - bioswale **RECEIVES**
- 2 City View Overlook** - 1/4 AC
Shade • seating • interpretation • trail-edge repair **SLOWS**
- 3 Sunset Overlook** - 1/2 AC
Rest node • views • small gathering area • native planting **SLOWS**
- 4 Summit** - 1/8 AC
Views • stewardship node - chaparral restoration • fire-safe design **RELEASES**
- 5 North Arrival** - 1/2 AC
Orientation • wayfinding • shade • water • fire signage - parking • restrooms **RECEIVES**

CONTINUOUS SYSTEMS

- A - Fire Road Spine** - 1.5 Miles
Permeable paving • bioswale • infiltration - fuel break - crew access
- B - Trail Regeneration** - 0.5 Mile
Erosion repair • regrade • steps • decommission shortcut scars



DESIGN DIRECTION: Concentrate support at the nodes; protect and regenerate the slopes between.

RECEIVE • SLOW • RELEASE

ACT III

THE TURN

The canyon has been read. Now the weave begins.

Three forces. But what holds them together?

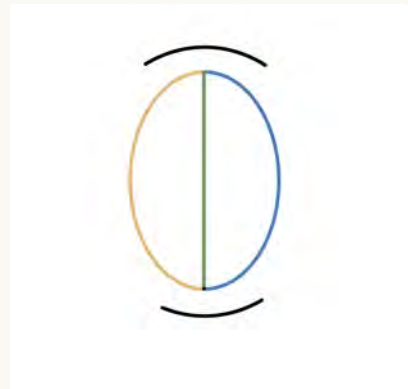
*I began with fire, water, and people. After the analysis,
I searched for an idea that could connect them.*

At portfolio review, professors Pamela Brief and Jim Smith challenged me to find the AHA Moment —not just the themes. For two sleepless nights, I kept thinking about pressure.

THE CROSSING *to meet*



THE THREEFOLD CORD *to bind*



THE CHOICE

THE WEAVE *to interlace*



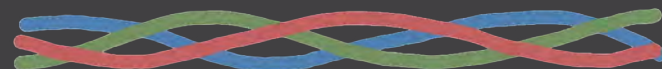
What if pressure was the starting point?

Thinking about tension led me to a basket—plants woven into a structure that holds.

RELIEVE IT



WEAVE IT



A photograph. A conversation. A turning point.

I asked to use a basket image. Kelly Leah Stewart shared a way of understanding the land.



*Basket by Kelly Leah Stewart.
Image courtesy of the artist; used with permission.*

Her emails replies introduced basket sumac alongside juncus and deergrass—and connected the plants to seasons, tending, and renewal.



Kelly Leah Stewart

Tongva (Gabrieliño)/Payómkawish (Luiseño), descendant.

*Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of Education, UCLA.*

*“like a basket itself,
each plant contributes differently.”*

“Deergrass anchors the landscape with deep fibrous roots, juncus binds soil and drainage channels through fibrous roots and rhizomes, and sumac (the additional plant I mentioned) strengthens the system with woody roots that readily regenerate after fire or harvesting.”

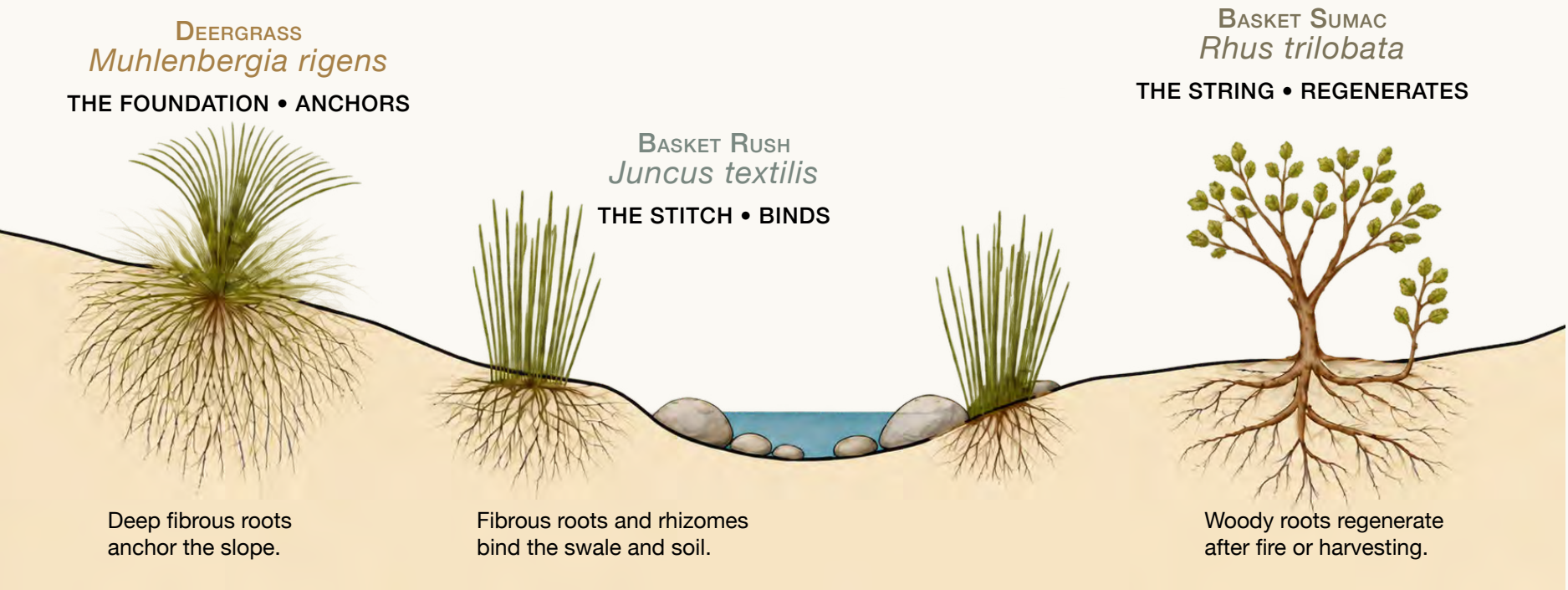
*Kelly Leah Stewart · Personal correspondence, August 4, 2026.
Quoted with permission.*

The basket became more than a form. It became a way to care for a place.

Three plants. One living structure.

The same three plants that coil the basket line the swale, hold the slope, and bind the fire edge.

Not a metaphor—a bill of materials.



* Basket materials vary: deergrass bundles or three juncus rods form foundations. Root relationships are schematic; NTS.

THE GATHERING YEAR

“it can take a whole year to gather material to make a single basket.”

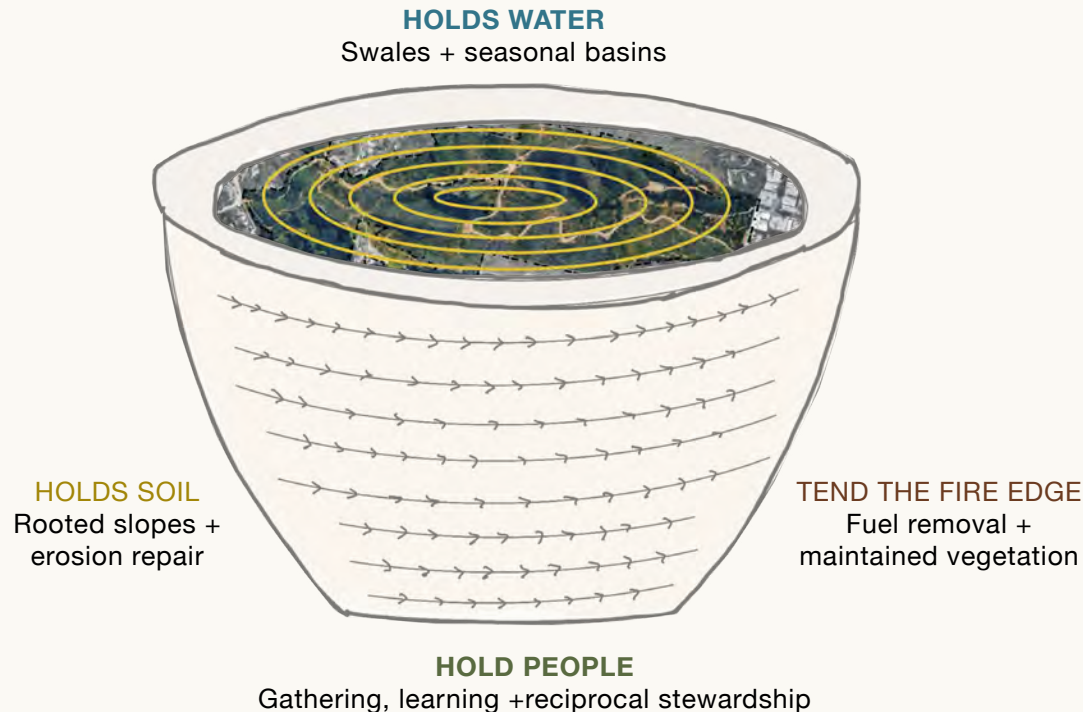
Kelly Leah Stewart
Personal correspondence, 2026

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
SUMAC								TENDING + REGENERATION				
JUNCUS												
DEERGRASS												

The canyon is a basket.

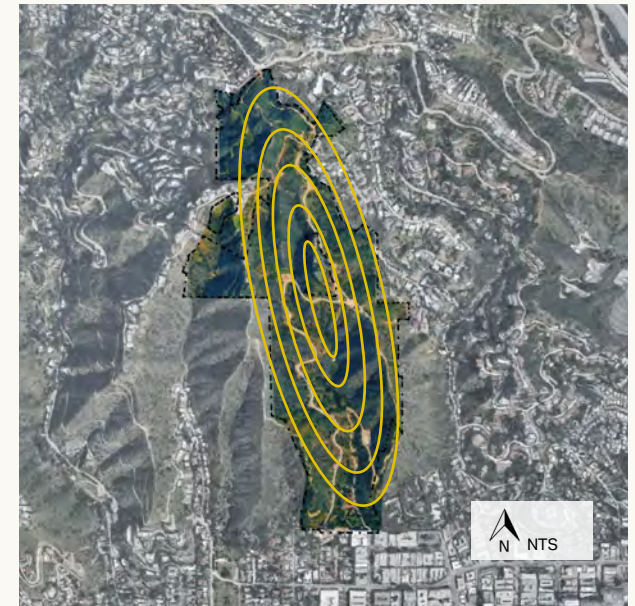
Not just a form. A living relationship.

REWOVEN translates Tongva coiled basketry into a landscape of rooted slopes, water-sensitive landforms, tended fire edges, and gathering places.



* CONCEPTUAL LANDSCAPE INTERPRETATION

RUNYON, READ AS A COIL



A coiled structure becomes an organizing idea—not a shape to copy.

“Who participates in that ongoing relationship?”

KELLY LEAH STEWART · PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE, AUGUST 4, 2026

Proposed Indigenous access, gathering, and stewardship—beginning with formal tribal consultation and partnership.

The canyon holds us. Care holds the canyon.

ACT IV

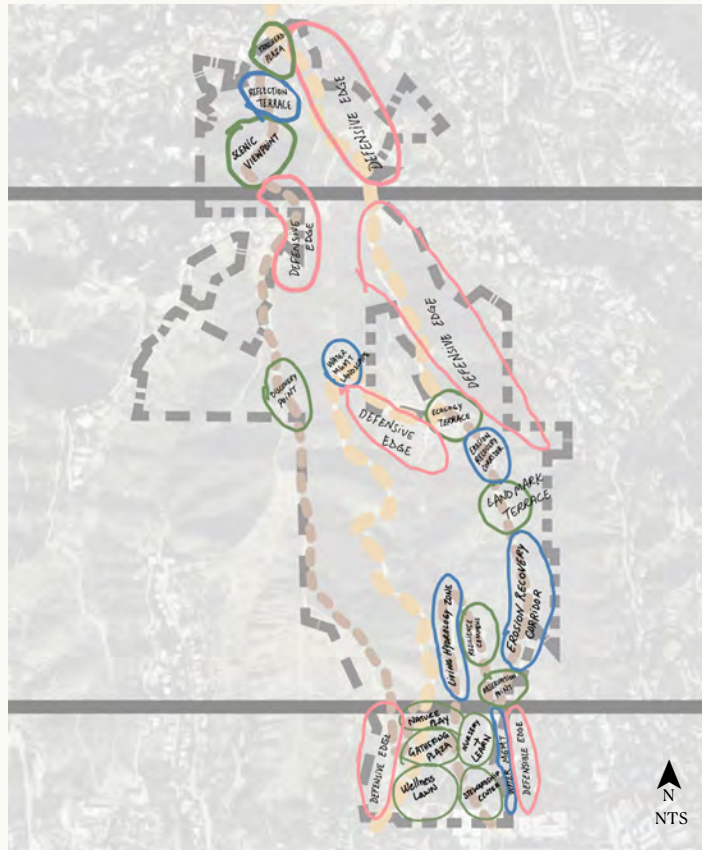
THE BASKET TAKES SHAPE

From a living relationship to a landscape.

From basket to ground.

The basket was the organizing idea. I tested how it could gather people, connect places, and follow the canyon.

CANYON-WIDE RELATIONSHIPS



Original bubble study · diagrammatic

SOUTH ARRIVAL · THE TESTING GROUND



Original bubble study · diagrammatic

USE + RESTORATION

Place activity beside areas intended for recovery.

MOVEMENT + WATER

Study their relationship along the canyon.

GATHERING + LEARNING

Bring related activities together.

METHOD IN ACTION: MCHARG SUITABILITY OVERLAY

The site tells me where to intervene. The basket guides how the parts work together.

The canyon defended.

Testing the relationship between planted slopes, maintained edges, and access.

THE BUILT EDGE

Homes meet a managed transition.

REDUCE FUEL CONTINUITY

Remove invasive fine fuels; tend the planted edge.

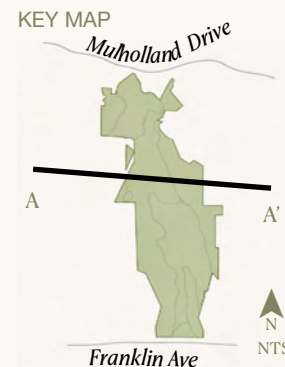
MANAGED NATIVE MOSAIC

Test planting arrangement and ongoing care.

EXISTING FIRE ROAD

Preserve crew access; study the proposed paving upgrade.

Tended planting and maintained edges form part of the canyon's living structure.



FIRE-RESILIENT NATIVE PLANTING STRATEGY



Toyon
(*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)
Widely spaced structural shrub · upper and middle slope



Sugar Bush
(*Rhus ovata*)
Slope stabilization · separated shrub clusters



Deergrass
(*Muhlenbergia rigens*)
Middle and lower contour bands · erosion control · dry material maintained



Basket Sumac
(*Rhus trilobata*)
Spreading native shrub · soil stabilization · planted with deergrass and chaparral shrubs

A

Conceptual transverse section A-A' · NTS · Terrain simplified

A'

METHOD IN ACTION: Designing in section + Ecological Resilience

Test the built edge, planting, and access together across the slope.

The canyon that holds.

A bowl that holds—the rim slows runoff, the terraces spread it, and the base stores it.

STABILIZED RIM

Deep-rooted native shrubs intercept runoff and hold the upper slope.

WATER, RUNOFF, SLOWED + SPREAD

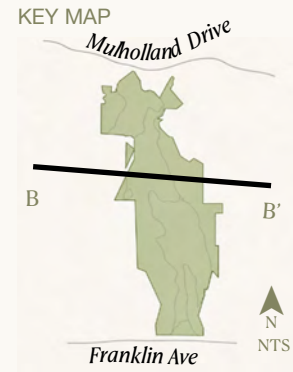
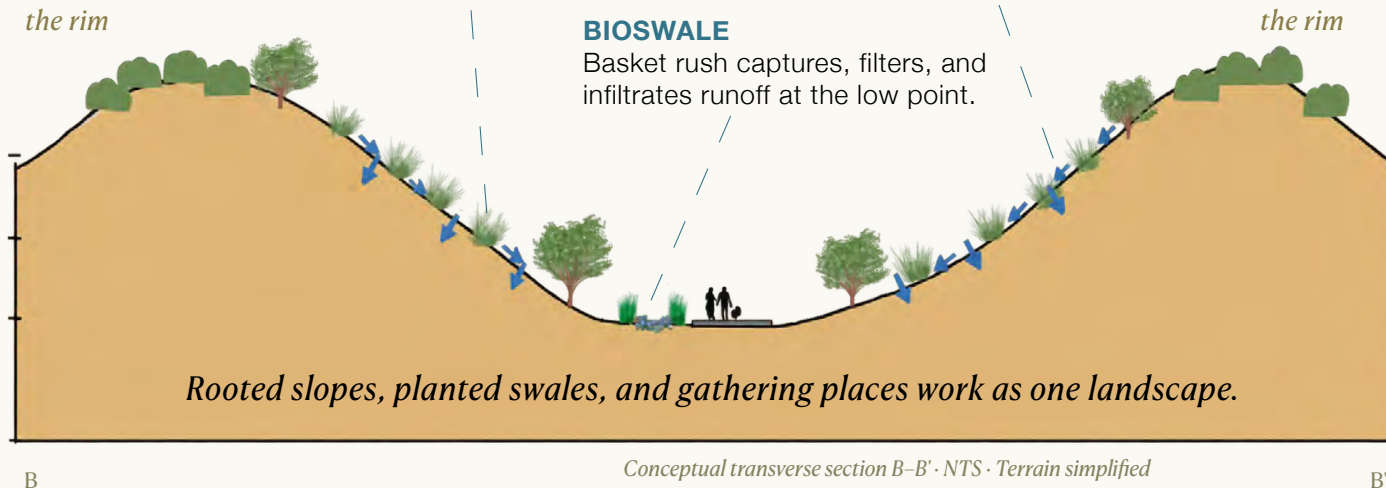
Grade reversals redirect water sideways before it concentrates downhill.

TERRACED NATIVE SLOPE

Deergrass + yarrow stabilize soil and slow runoff along the contours.

BIOSWALE

Basket rush captures, filters, and infiltrates runoff at the low point.



WATER-SENSITIVE NATIVE PLANTING



Basket Rush (*Juncus textilis*)

Swale bottom · binds soil · periodically moist



Deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*)

Contour terraces · runoff slowing · erosion control



Mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*)

Swale bank · riparian shrub · stabilizes wet edges



California Wildrose (*Rosa californica*)

Moist shoulder · spreading shrub · habitat value

METHOD IN ACTION: Designing in section + Water-Sensitive Design

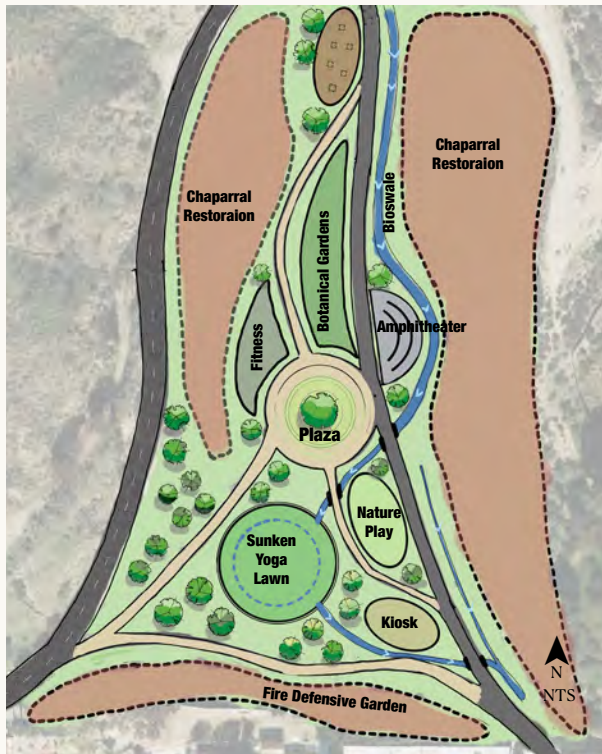
Integrate runoff management with terrain, planting, and circulation.

One site. Three ways to weave.

At South Arrival, I tested gathering, connection, and continuity within the same program.

COIL — GATHER

How can a shared center bring people together?



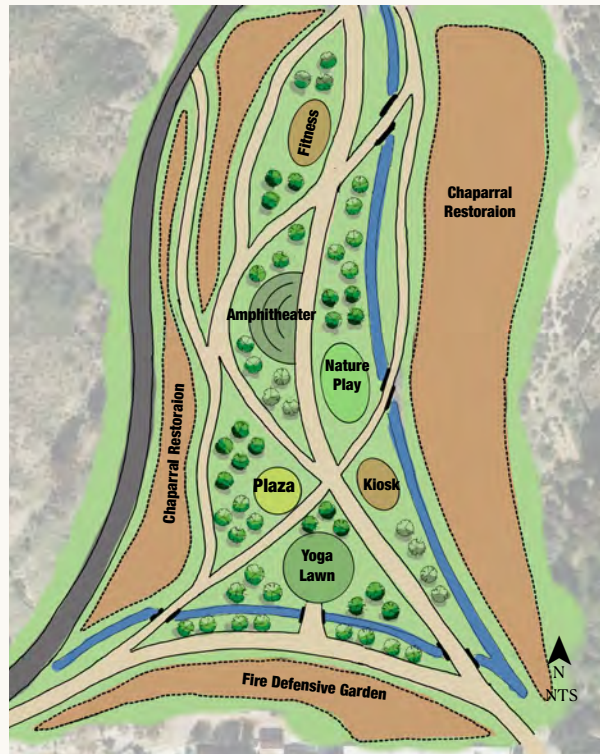
A central commons organizes the surrounding activities.

Recreation Ecology

Concentrate use at a gathering heart.

STITCH — CONNECT

How can routes bind places and planted systems?



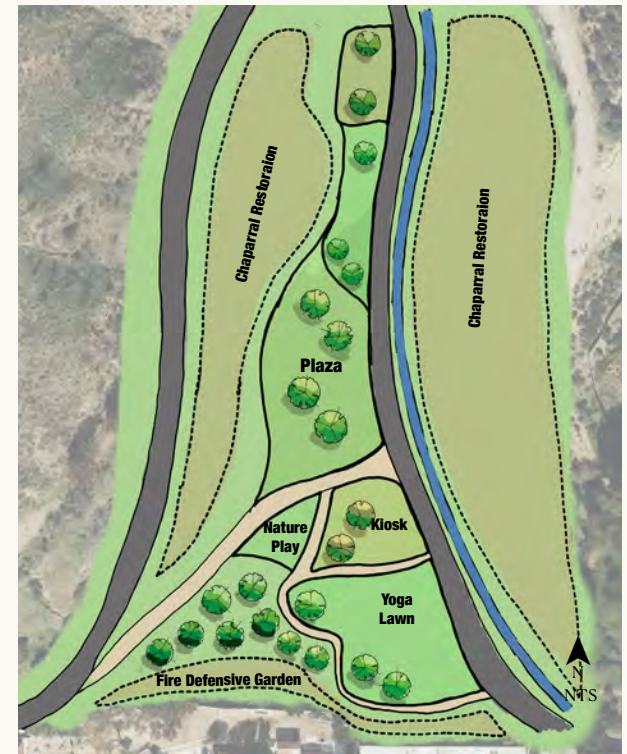
Interlaced routes make crossings and connected outdoor rooms.

Water-Sensitive Design

Connect planted drainage and movement.

THREAD — FOLLOW

How can the design follow the existing canyon?



A restrained arrangement follows the existing site structure.

Ecological Resilience

Limit disturbance; make room for recovery.

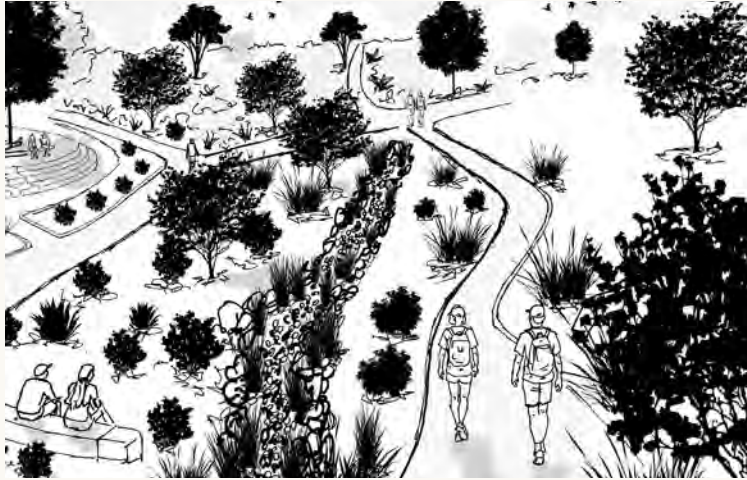
STITCH developed from the earlier BRAID study.

Spatial interpretations for REWOVEN · original South Arrival studies · diagrammatic / NTS

How the basket is experienced.

Gathering, connection, and continuity tested through sketches and section.

STITCH · CONNECTING WATER + MOVEMENT



WATER-SENSITIVE DESIGN

The swale connects water, planting, and movement.

THREAD · FOLLOWING THE CANYON

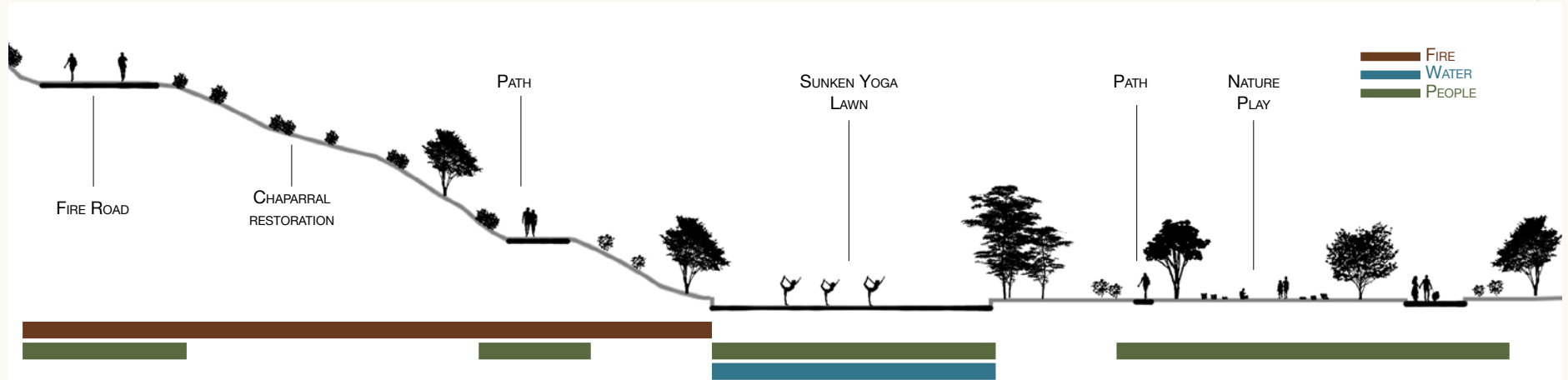


RECREATION ECOLOGY

A defined route links smaller places to pause along the way.

COIL · GATHERING AROUND A SHARED SPACE

DESIGNING IN SECTION · Recreation Ecology



One basket. Different expressions.

Coil to gather. Stitch to connect. Thread to follow the canyon.

CONCEPT → PLACE

COIL · STOP 1



A shared gathering heart organizes South Arrival. Coiled pauses also recur at Sunset Overlook.

STITCH · SUNSET OVERLOOK



Connections bind the route, gathering places, and planted edges.

THREAD · STOPS 2 · 4 · 5



City View, Summit, and North Arrival follow existing terrain and footprints with restraint.

TESTED FIRST AT SOUTH ARRIVAL



SOUTH ARRIVAL · CONCEPTUAL SYNTHESIS STAGE

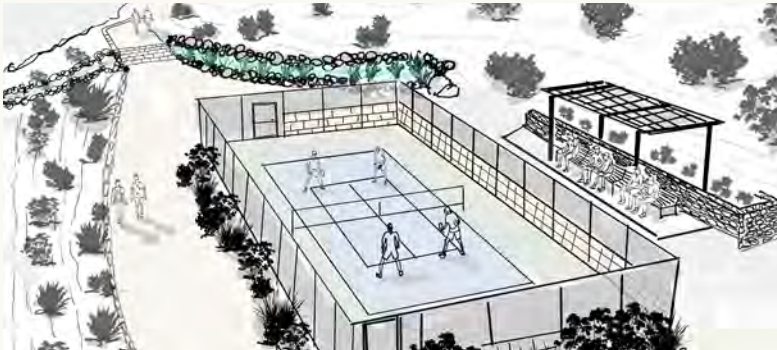
METHOD IN ACTION: McHarg Suitability Overlay · Recreation Ecology · Ecological Resilience

The basket remains the idea; its spatial expression changes with the ground.

One idea. Different places.

The same basket logic adapts to each stop's terrain, use, and existing footprint.

RECLAIMED COURT · CONCEPT STUDY



RECREATION ECOLOGY

Reuse the existing footprint for recreation, shade, and drainage.

** Concept study; not included in the final 3D model.*

STOP 2 · CITY VIEW OVERLOOK · THREAD



WATER-SENSITIVE DESIGN

Organize the resting place around seating and existing drainage.

STOP 3 · SUNSET OVERLOOK · STITCH



RECREATION ECOLOGY

Connect the route with defined gathering places and planted edges.

STOP 5 · NORTH ARRIVAL · THREAD



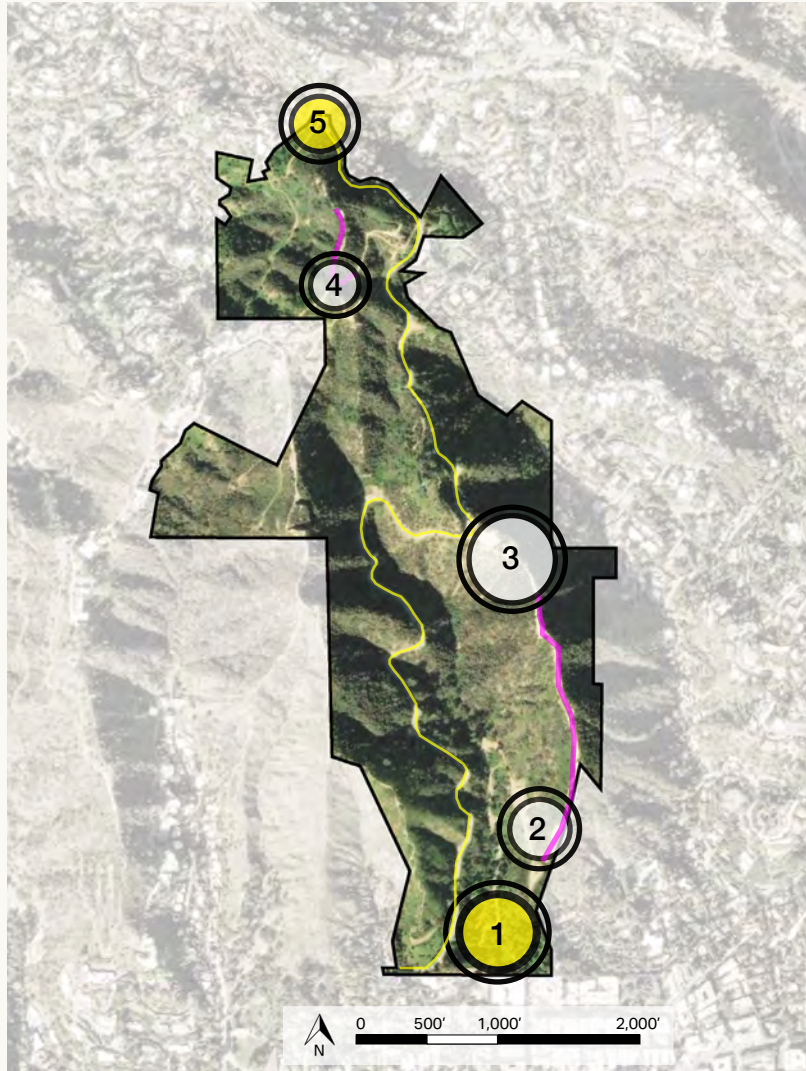
McHARG SUITABILITY OVERLAY

Coordinate parking, the WUI edge, amenities, and fire-road access.

One living basket—different expressions, connected through planting, movement, and care.

One canyon. One living basket.

Five stops connected by movement, water, planting, and care.



FIVE STOPS · PRIMARY SPATIAL LOGIC

- 1 South Arrival Commons**
Gathering, orientation, and a shared heart.
- 2 City View Overlook**
A defined pause for shade, views, and learning.
- 3 Sunset Overlook**
Connections bind the route, planting, and gathering.
- 4 Summit**
Restraint, reflection, and the existing ridgeline.
- 5 North Arrival**
A gateway shaped by parking, access, and the canyon edge.

COIL

THREAD

STITCH

THREAD

THREAD

CONTINUOUS SYSTEMS

- A - Fire Road Spine**
Retained access; proposed permeable paving.
- B - Trail Regeneration**
Erosion repair, steps, and route refinement.

METHOD IN ACTION: McHarg Suitability Overlay · Recreation Ecology

The basket becomes a landscape. Now walk the canyon, rewoven.

ACT V

THE HIKE

Now walk the canyon, rewoven.

The journey begins before the trail.

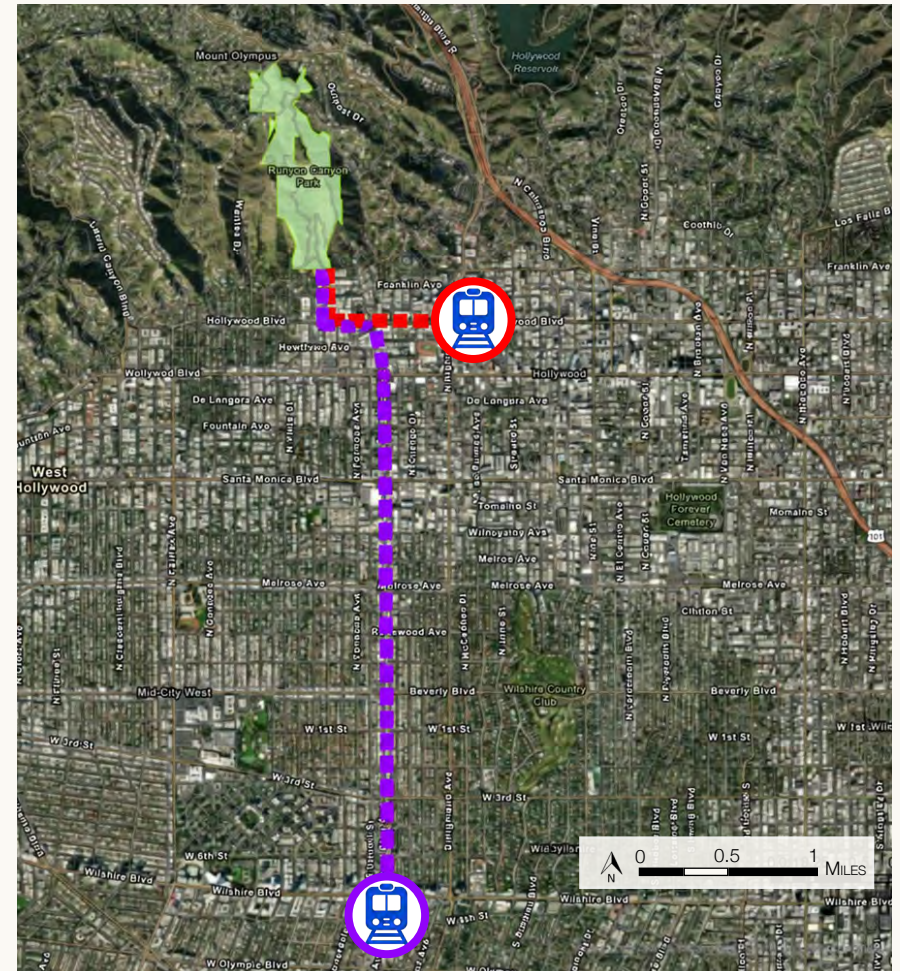
A proposed electric shuttle connects the city approach with South Arrival.

REWOVEN E-SHUTTLE



The approach becomes part of the park experience.

A future-ready arrival brings people to the canyon—not more cars to the neighborhood.



Red Line to Hollywood Blvd/Highland Ave Metro Station - Approx. 5 min

Purple Line to Wilshire Blvd/La Brea Ave Metro Station - Approx. 14 min

Our walk begins here.

Enter at Fuller Avenue, where the city meets the canyon.

BEGIN: SOUTH ARRIVAL

A shared threshold introduces gathering, planting, and the proposed shuttle arrival.

1 SOUTH ARRIVAL

2 CITY VIEW OVERLOOK

3 SUNSET OVERLOOK

4 SUMMIT

5 NORTH ARRIVAL

EXISTING CONDITION • SOUTH ARRIVAL



A place to arrive and belong.

South Arrival brings visitor support, gathering, water, and planting into one gateway.



KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A) Arrival Court / Shuttle Loading
- (B) Firewise Demonstration Garden
- (C) Yoga Lawn
- (D) Café / Restroom Pavilion
- (E) Nature Play
- (F) Bioswale
- (G) Fire Road (Permeable Pave)
- (H) Main Basket Plaza
- (I) Maintenance Road
- (J) Amphitheater/Classroom
- (K) Chaparral Recovery Zone
- Existing Tree
- + New Tree



Our walk begins here.

Enter at Fuller Avenue, where the city meets the canyon.

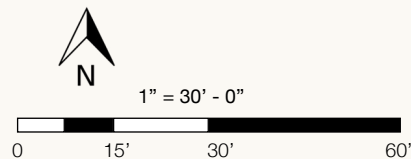


KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A) Firewise Demonstration Garden
- (B) Arrival Court / Shuttle Loading
- (C) E-Shuttle
- (D) Solar Tree
- (E) Interpretive Signage
- (F) Yoga Lawn

DEFENSIBLE SPACE ZONES

- (0) Zone 0 - 0-5' Ember-Resistant Zone
- (1) Zone 1 - 5-30' Fuel Reduction
- (2) Zone 2 - 30-100' Reduced-Fuel Zone



SOUTH ARRIVAL • PERSPECTIVE 1

Gateway to the canyon.

Shaded gathering, native planting, Firewise demonstration garden, and proposed shuttle access introduce the arrival.



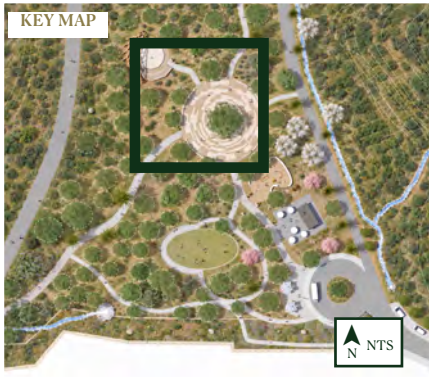
A place to pause.

An open wellness lawn supports movement, rest, and everyday gathering.



The shared center.

Main Basket Plaza connects the gathering heart with the outdoor classroom.



KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A) Main Basket Plaza
- (B) Outdoor classroom / Amphitheater
- (C) Dry-Stack Stone Seating Wall
- (D) Interpretive signage
- (E) Path to City Overlook Node

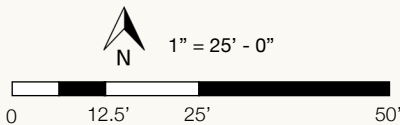
MATERIALS



Reclaimed Stone Seating Wall + Low-Carbon Concrete Cap
Durable • Noncombustible
• Reduced Concrete
Repairable + Long-Lived

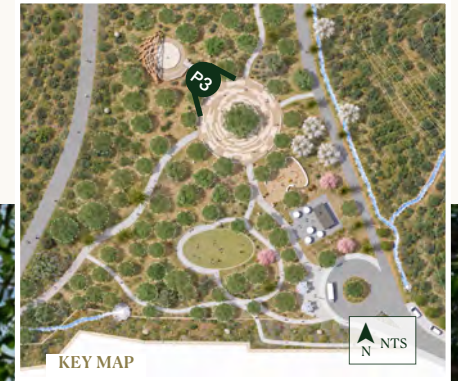


High-Recycled-Content Steel Basket Canopy
Durable • Noncombustible
Designed for Disassembly + Reuse



Where the basket gathers.

Paths, shade, and seating converge around a shared center.



SOUTH ARRIVAL • THREE EXPERIENCES

Arrive. Explore. Gather.

Shaded arrival, rainwater stewardship, and outdoor learning weave people into the life of the canyon.



Arrival & Café - Perspective 4

A shaded gateway brings together café seating, native planting, and trail information—welcoming visitors before their journey into the canyon.



Trail & Bioswale - Perspective 5

Beside the trail, a planted bioswale captures, slows, and filters stormwater, supporting infiltration and making the canyon's water cycle visible.



Outdoor Amphitheater - Perspective 6

Proposed reclaimed dry-stack stone seating walls and a recycled-content steel basket canopy create a shaded setting for learning, conversation, and community gathering.

Next: City View Overlook.

We leave the commons and follow the route toward our first pause.

SOUTH ARRIVAL → CITY VIEW

The next stop opens the journey toward shade, seating, and the city view.

- 1 SOUTH ARRIVAL
- 2 CITY VIEW OVERLOOK
- 3 SUNSET OVERLOOK
- 4 SUMMIT
- 5 NORTH ARRIVAL

EXISTING CONDITION • CITY VIEW OVERLOOK



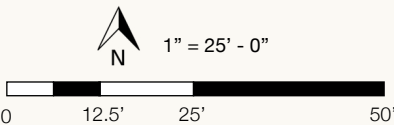
The first pause.

Locate City View on the route, then read the gathering space at a closer scale.



KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A) Chaparral Recovery Zone
- (B) City View Overlook
- (C) Woven Shade Pavilion
- (D) Oak Grove
- (E) Storm Drain
- (F) Regenerative Star Trail
- (G) Bioswale



A pause between canyon and city.

Native planting weaves around boulders and stone seating, framing a shaded gathering area surfaced with locally sourced, stabilized decomposed granite—a place to pause along the trail and take in the city.



The city opens. The pace slows.

Two views of the same stop: one frames the city; the other reveals the gathering space.



Next: Sunset Overlook.

The regenerative Star Trail connects the first pause with Sunset.

CITY VIEW → SUNSET

The existing eroded steps introduce the repair proposed along this leg of the climb.

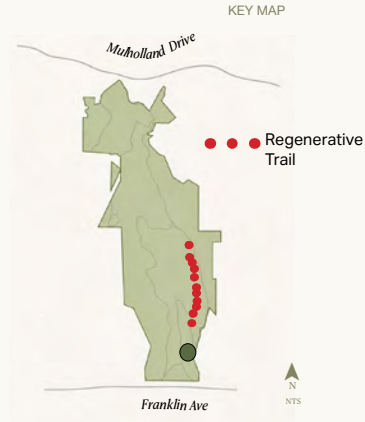
- 1 SOUTH ARRIVAL
- 2 CITY VIEW OVERLOOK
- 3 **SUNSET OVERLOOK**
- 4 SUMMIT
- 5 NORTH ARRIVAL

EXISTING CONDITION • STAR TRAIL

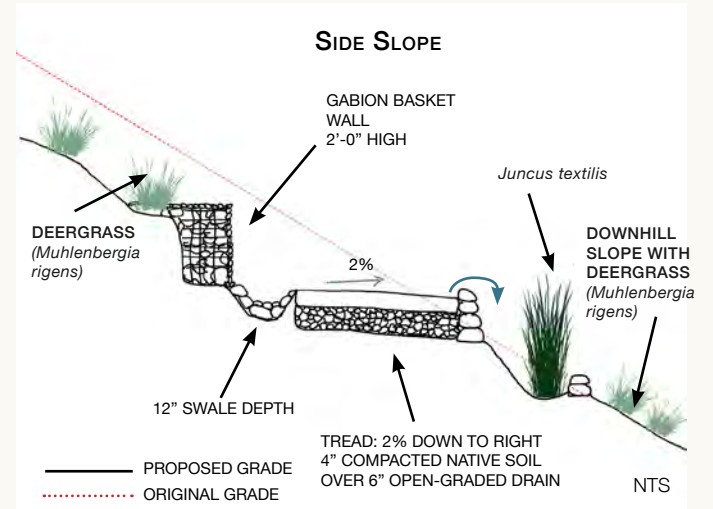
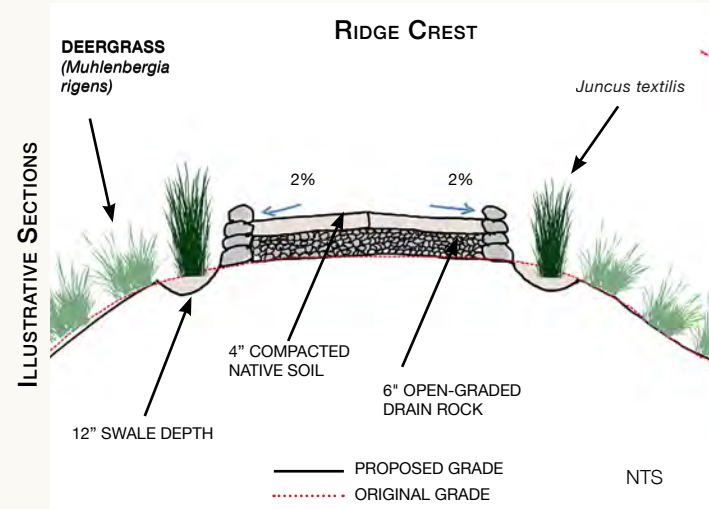
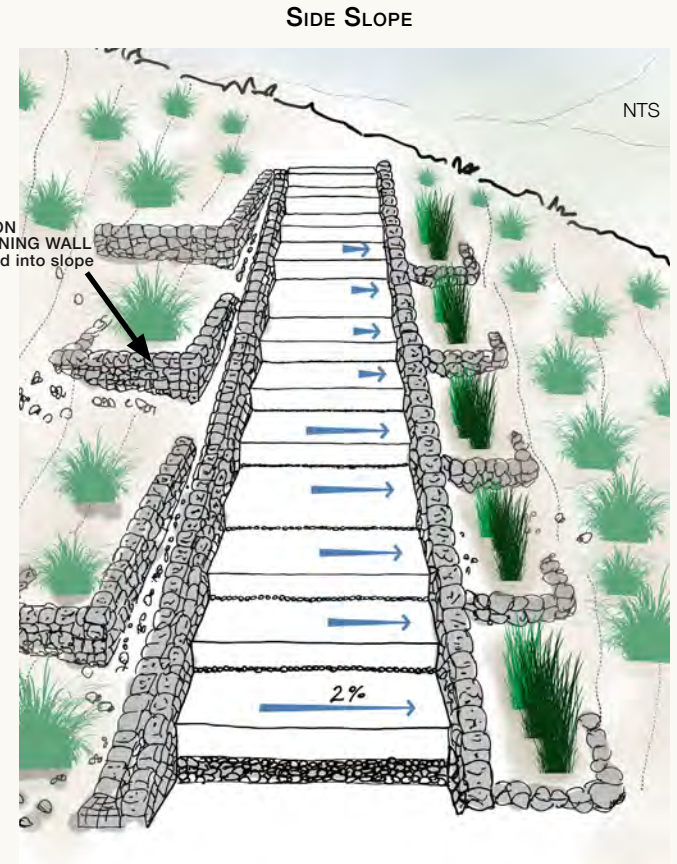
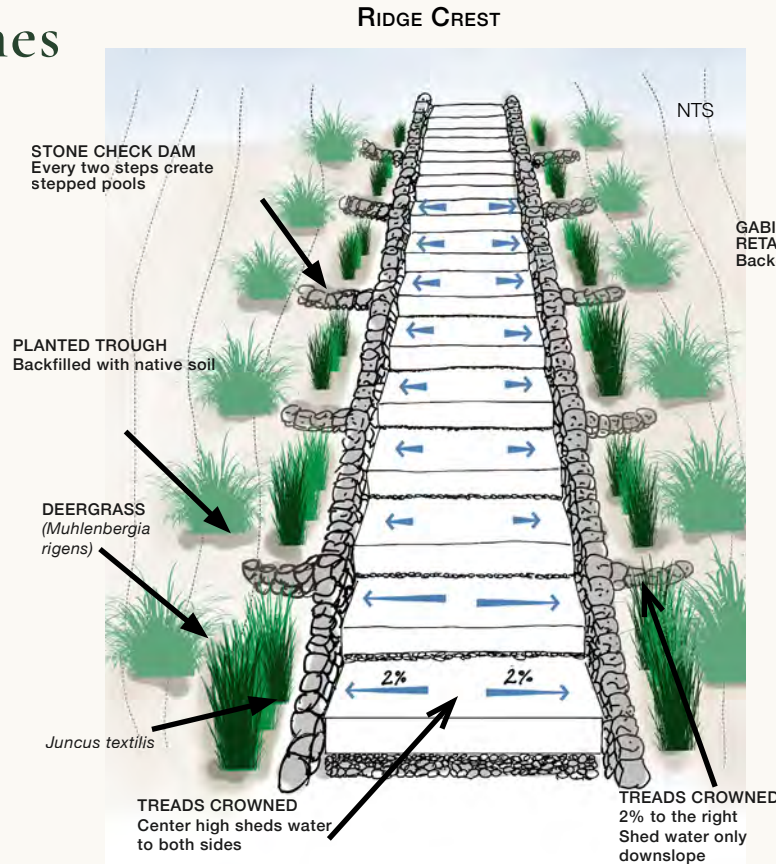


REGENERATIVE STAR TRAIL

The repair becomes the path.



INSPIRATION
Baldwin Steps Culver City



THE HIKE · BETWEEN STOPS 2 + 3

Walking through repair.

Terraced steps, planted edges, and drainage form the proposed regenerative Star Trail.



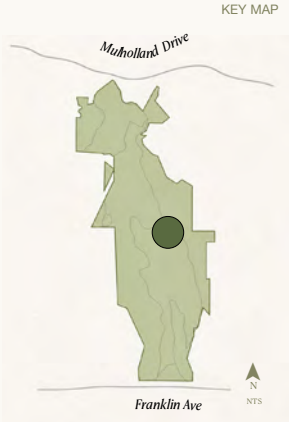
Juncus

Deergrass

SUNSET OVERLOOK

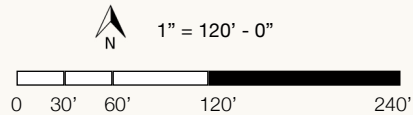
The path becomes a place.

Sunset Overlook connects the climb with a sequence of gathering places and views.



KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A) Regenerative Star Trail
- (B) Sunset Overlook
- (C) Basket Gathering Plaza
- (D) Hollywood Sign Viewpoint
- (E) Peace Labyrinth
- (F) Bioswale
- (G) Fire Road



A threshold along the climb.

Seating, interpretation, and the planted edge.

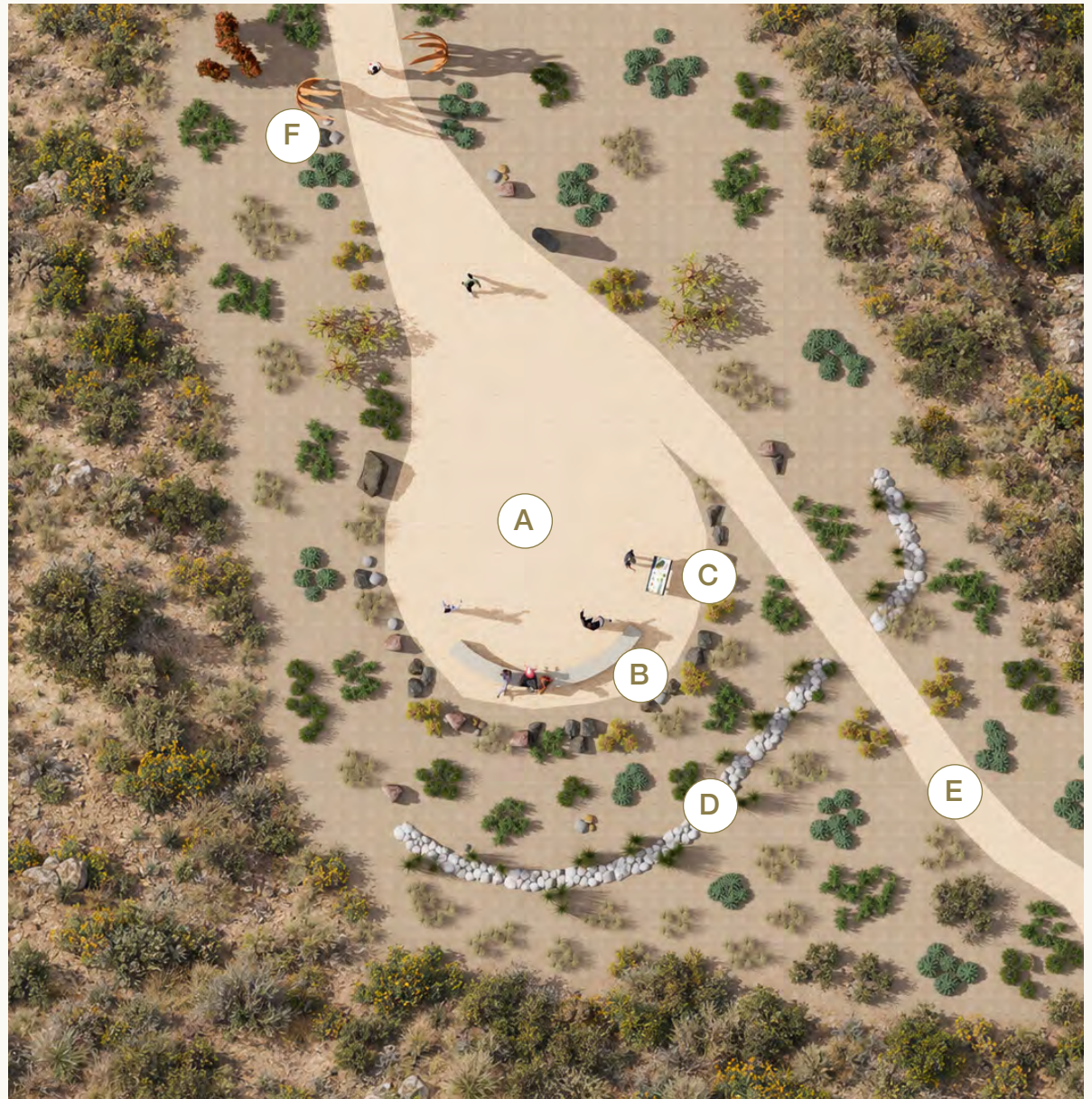
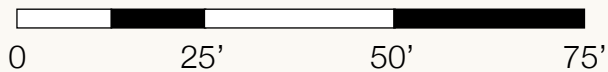


KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A) Sunset Overlook
- (B) Dry-Stack Stone Seating Wall
- (C) Educational Sign
- (D) Bioswale
- (E) Regenerative Star Trail
- (F) Threshold Basket Sculpture



1" = 25' - 0"



SUNSET OVERLOOK • PERSPECTIVE 10

Pause along the climb.

Seating, native planting, and a bioswale make room to rest and reconnect with the trail.



Framing the sunset.

An evening view of the woven threshold and the overlook beyond.



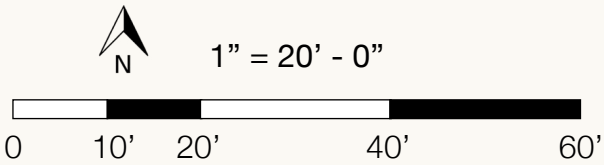
Within the basket.

Sunset Basket Plaza, seating, and planted margins.



KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- A** Basket Plaza
- B** Basket Sculpture
- C** Educational Sign
- D** Hollywood Sign View
- E** Oak Tree
- F** Dry-Stack Stone Seating Wall



SUNSET OVERLOOK • PERSPECTIVE 12

A shared place in the canyon.

Basket-inspired thresholds frame gathering, resting, and connection.



A quiet moment above Hollywood.

Seating among native planting offers a peaceful place to rest, with views toward the Hollywood Sign and surrounding hillside neighborhoods.



Next: The summit.

From Sunset, the journey continues toward the quieter ridge.

SUNSET → SUMMIT

The gathering spaces give way to a more restrained place for rest and reflection.

- 1 SOUTH ARRIVAL
- 2 CITY VIEW OVERLOOK
- 3 SUNSET OVERLOOK
- 4 **SUMMIT**
- 5 NORTH ARRIVAL

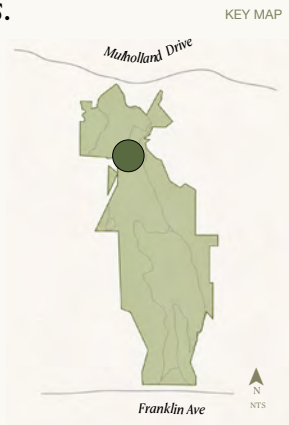
EXISTING CONDITION · SUMMIT



THE SUMMIT

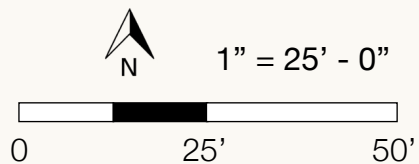
At the summit, the canyon leads.

Locate the summit, then read the seating, interpretation, and trail connections.



KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A) The Summit
- (B) Dry-Stack Stone Seating Wall
- (C) Educational Sign
- (D) Regenerative Trail
- (E) Chaparral Recovery Zone



Room for reflection.

The climb opens to a place of rest, orientation, and expansive city views.



Next: North Arrival.

The final leg reaches Mulholland and another canyon threshold.

SUMMIT → NORTH ARRIVAL

An arrival for some, a departure for others: The route meets parking, shade, and visitor support.

- 1 SOUTH ARRIVAL
- 2 CITY VIEW OVERLOOK
- 3 SUNSET OVERLOOK
- 4 SUMMIT
- 5 NORTH ARRIVAL

EXISTING CONDITION · NORTH ARRIVAL



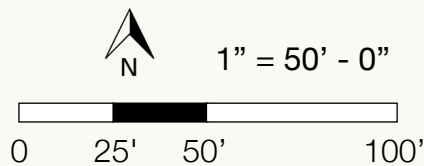
Another entrance. The same invitation.

Locate North Arrival, then read the entry hub and planted edge at a closer scale.



KEY PLAN ELEMENTS

- (A)** Parking / Permeable Pave
- (B)** Solar Tree
- (C)** Chaparral Recovery Zone
- (D)** Bioswale
- (E)** Oak Plaza
- (F)** Chaparral Recovery Zone
- (G)** Fire Road



From parking to the canyon.

Permeable pavers help manage stormwater, while native planting and solar shade canopies create a welcoming connection between the parking area and canyon trails.



The journey reaches another threshold.

Permeable paving, native planting, and shaded stone seating create a welcoming connection between the North Arrival plaza and canyon trails.



What the basket is made of.

A responsible material palette for Fire, Water + People.

PROPOSED SPECIFICATIONS • LOCAL SOURCING • REUSE • WATER • DURABILITY



STABILIZED DECOMPOSED GRANITE

Main trails + gathering areas Prioritize local aggregate; verify stabilizer permeability.



PERMEABLE UNIT PAVERS

Arrival plazas + high-use nodes Prioritize reclaimed units with permeable joints and a drainage base.



RECLAIMED STONE SEATING

Rest stops + gathering edges Reuse salvaged stone; source regionally where feasible.



LOCAL STONE + BOULDERS

Seating + erosion control Prioritize existing site stone and minimize new extraction.



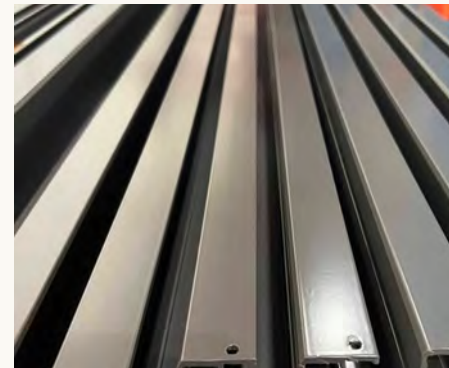
CRUSHED STONE / GRAVEL

Drainage + noncombustible edges Use local or suitable recycled aggregate.



WEATHERING STEEL

Edging + interpretive elements Specify recycled content and details that support reuse.



POWDER-COATED STEEL

Shade structures + railings Specify recycled content and repairable components.



SOLAR SHADE CANOPY

North Arrival + renewable energy Pair public shade with on-site clean-energy generation.

Through local sourcing, reuse, permeable surfaces, and solar shade, REWOVEN aims to conserve resources, manage runoff, and support public comfort. Aligned with OurLA2040's vision for climate-smart open space and green infrastructure.

Planning reference: Los Angeles City Planning, OurLA2040 Open Space Working Group Summary (2017).

Material images are illustrative; final sourcing and performance to be verified.

What brings the basket to life.

A native planting palette for Fire, Water + People.

WOODLAND • CHAPARRAL • SEASONAL WET ZONES • BASKETRY



COAST LIVE OAK

Quercus agrifolia

Tree • shade + wildlife habitat
Gathering areas + oak woodland



CALIFORNIA BLACK WALNUT

Juglans californica

Tree • canyon identity + habitat
Woodland restoration + seasonal shade



DEERGRASS

Muhlenbergia rigens

Bunchgrass • soil + basketry
Contour planting + trail edges



BASKET RUSH

Juncus textilis

Rush • wet zones + basketry
Moist bioswale edges + low points



BASKET SUMAC

Rhus trilobata

Shrub • habitat + basketry
Slope planting + cultural learning



TOYON

Heteromeles arbutifolia

Evergreen shrub • bird habitat
Chaparral edges + seasonal berries



BIGBERRY MANZANITA

Arctostaphylos glauca

Evergreen shrub • chaparral habitat
Dry, well-drained slopes



CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA

Epilobium canum

Perennial • hummingbird habitat
Sunny edges + late-season flowers

Native planting reconnects habitat, soil, water, and people — giving REWOVEN a living structure rooted in the canyon.

Supporting OurLA2040's vision for connected, climate-smart open space.

Selected palette • Match planting to slope, soil, seasonal moisture, and stewardship needs.

ACT VI

REWOVEN

The hike ends. The relationship continues.

CONCLUSION

RUNYON CANYON, LOS ANGELES

One canyon. One living system.

*Guided by Tongva coiled basketry, the proposal connects fire, water, and people.
The constraint becomes the design — and care keeps the relationships alive.*



FIRE

Restore a fire-resilient landscape

INVASIVE FUEL REMOVED

Fine-fuel concentrations replaced by a spaced native mosaic — fire loses its ladder.

DEFENSIBLE EDGES ESTABLISHED

WUI edge and ridgelines managed; vertical separation kept at every tree.

CHAPARRAL REBUILT

Sumac regenerates the fire edge; the fire road doubles as a fuel break and crew access.



WATER

Hold water, rebuild soil

RUNOFF SLOWED

Grade reversals and terraces spread water sideways before it concentrates.

EROSION REPAIRED

Crowned treads, check dams, and gabion edges repair incised trail scars while slowing and redirecting runoff.

WATER CAPTURED

Bioswales with juncus at the moist edge filter and infiltrate at every low point.



PEOPLE

Guide access, protect the wild

ARRIVAL DESIGNED

Commons, the shuttle link, and the north gateway receive visitors from the city where grades allow full access.

REST + LEARNING WOVEN IN

Coil nodes, amphitheater, and reclaimed court pace the climb and teach the weave.

ACCESS BALANCED WITH HABITAT

Durable nodes concentrate use; the wild slopes between them are left to regenerate.

The weave continues through care.

PROPOSED STEWARDSHIP

Park teams and visitors would share in care and learning. Indigenous access, gathering, and tending would be developed through formal tribal consultation and partnership.

CONCLUSION

A landscape under pressure.

A landscape coming unwoven.

A landscape that can be woven again.

Pressure, woven, holds.

REWOVEN • RUNYON CANYON • LOS ANGELES

The people who helped me grow.

This journey was never mine alone.

First, to UCLA Extension: thank you for creating a Landscape Architecture program that has changed the way I see the world. Three years ago, I could not have imagined how deeply this experience would shape me. Learning about native plants, the histories of the people of this land, and the environmental, social, and political challenges we face has given my creativity a deeper purpose. I leave with a desire to create places that mean something to others—and with lessons I will carry for the rest of my life.

To every professor who helped me grow—David Squires, Steve Lang, Jim Pickel, Steven Chavez, Rebecca Schwaner, Laura Razo, Jim Smith, Valerie Wong, Nicholas Decker, Francisco Behr, Nicole Volpe, Victor Corona, Emily Gabel-Luddy, Wai Kin Soo, Tom Rau, Pamela Brief, Mina Roades, Anna Mendiola, Eileen Alduenda, Meg Coffee, and Jessie Corea—thank you for sharing your knowledge, challenging my ideas, and helping me find my voice. Something of each of you will remain in the work I do.

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The love that carried me.

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And most of all, to my mom: you always told me that education saves lives, and you made sure I had the chance to learn. Long before this project had a name, your belief in education was helping make it possible. This achievement belongs to you, too.

You taught me that education saves lives. This journey has changed mine.

Patrese Winter

October 2026

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Maps, data, and production tools

Map authorship remains with Patrese Winter. The sources below identify the underlying imagery, data, or software, where known.

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- Page 21 Author photographs 1 and 5. second photo is Adobe Stock 2nd - fit african american woman taking selfies at runyon canyon with los angeles in background. By Joshua Resnick https://stock.adobe.com/Library/urn:aaid:sc:US:806af1ed-2f71-482c-835d-fcc64b58f3a2?asset_id=199060216 (3rd - https://stock.adobe.com/Library/urn:aaid:sc:US:806af1ed-2f71-482c-835d-fcc64b58f3a2?asset_id=199060216). 4th image is park security guard. (4th picture park security guard. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-05-27/runyon-canyon-reopens-for-hiking-with-new-coronavirus-safety-measures-in-place>) . Bottom image edited in Photoshop and finalized with ChatGPT.
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- Page 23 · Getty Center Aerial photograph: The J. Paul Getty Trust, via Smithsonian Magazine. This supplied source matches page 23, rather than page 22.
- Page 22 · Breakneck Ridge Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail plans/renderings: SCAPE Landscape Architecture, via The Architect's Newspaper (2024), as supplied. Exact selected image files to confirm.
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- Page 22 · Baldwin Hills Site plan via Landscape Architecture Foundation; landscape design by WRT. Individual plan artist not established. Bottom runner photograph: source to confirm.
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Plant and wildlife credits continued

- Manzanita · pages 20, 72 PlantMaster, plant record 245757. Individual photographer and date not established. <https://plantmaster.com/plants/eplant.php?plantnum=245757>
- Coast live oak · page 20 *Quercus agrifolia*. Oregon State University, Landscape Plants, “*Quercus agrifolia*” (n.d.). Selected-photo photographer to confirm. Intended page 72 credit applies after replacing the current gravel image. <https://landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu/plants/quercus-agrifolia>
- Coyote · page 20 Image source: Alta Journal, “Backyard Beasts of Prey,” by Jason G. Goldman (2018). Article authorship does not establish photograph authorship; photographer to confirm. <https://www.altaonline.com/dispatches/a3502/backyard-beasts/>
- California quail · page 20 *Callipepla californica*. Photograph: Rauri Bowie, via California Conservation Genomics Project (n.d.). <https://www.ccgproject.org/species/callipepla-californica-california-quail>
- California towhee · page 20 *Melospiza crissalis*. eBird / Macaulay Library, Cornell Lab of Ornithology (n.d.). Photographer and media asset ID to confirm. <https://ebird.org/species/caltow>
- Monarch butterfly · page 20 *Danaus plexippus*. Source supplied: Wikipedia, “Monarch butterfly.” Exact Commons photograph, photographer, and license to confirm. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monarch_butterfly
- Sources still needed: California fuchsia (pages 20, 72); toyon (pages 38, 72); sugar bush (page 38); the different sumac photograph on page 38; and western fence lizard (page 20).

Material photographs

Printed page 71. Source images illustrate material appearance; their credits do not establish environmental performance or local sourcing.

- 1 · Decomposed granite Marcelo. (n.d.). DG Gold Fines [Photograph]. Adobe Stock asset 293482469. <https://stock.adobe.com/images/dg-gold-fines/293482469>
- 2 · Concrete pavers Alex_Kalin / Adobe Stock, as supplied in the earlier credit page. Exact asset title and ID to confirm. The image alone does not establish permeability.
- 3 · Carved stone chair The Platinum Group. (n.d.). Carved Stone Chair [Product photograph]. <https://www.platinumsdgroup.com/new-products-1/hare-wood-table>
- 4 · Boulders Suburban Landscape Supply. (n.d.). Michigan Fieldstone Boulders [Product photograph]. Illustrative image; this source does not establish local Los Angeles procurement. <https://suburbanlandscapesupply.com/product/michigan-fieldstone/>
- 5 · Gravel Original photograph and creator to confirm. Earlier supplied credit: Zairon / Wikimedia Commons, via Treehugger;
- 6 · Weathering steel Andrew Henkelman. (2022, December 27). Rust-AH-2022.jpg [Photograph]. Wikimedia Commons. CC BY-SA 4.0; cropped. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rust-AH-2022.jpg> License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>
- 7 · Powder-coated framing Aldora. (2022, July). Benefits of custom powder coating for windows and doors [Article and image source]. The selected photograph depicts powder-coated aluminum framing. Photograph capture date not established. <https://aldoraglass.com/2022/07/benefits-of-custom-powder-coating-for-windows-and-doors/>
- 8 · Solar tree Dr. Avishai Teicher / PikiWiki Israel. (2019, February 19). The solar tree in Ramat Gan [Photograph]. Wikimedia Commons. CC BY 2.5; cropped. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:PikiWiki_Israel_53451_the_solar_tree_in_ramat_gan.jpg License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/>
- The solar-tree photograph is credited to Dr. Avishai Teicher, replacing the earlier Zairon attribution. If the proposed framing material remains steel, replace the aluminum photograph with a steel example.

Historical collage credits

Page 12. Historical subject identification and original photograph provenance are separate. Only traced source elements are assigned below.

- Collage authorship Patrese Winter (2026). Author mountain photography and historical source imagery composed and edited in Adobe Photoshop; finalized with ChatGPT-assisted image editing.
- Historical map Kirkman, G. W., & Harriman, W. R. (1938). Pictorial and Historical Map of Old Los Angeles County [Map]. David Rumsey Historical Map Collection, catalog 15917.002. High-confidence visual match. <https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~358937~90125719:Pictorial-and-Historical-Map-of-Old>
- Alternate scan: Los Angeles Public Library, <https://tessa2.lapl.org/digital/collection/maps/id/29/>. Its catalog includes a 1937 date; the Rumsey record is dated 1938.
- Greek George portrait Lummis, C. F. (1903). Yiorgos (“Greek George”) Caralambo [Photograph]. Courtesy Autry National Center; reproduced by PBS SoCal. Strong visual match, mirrored and transformed in the collage. <https://www.pbssocal.org/history-society/portraits-of-el-alisal-visitors-by-charles-fletcher-lummis>
- Huntington Hartford portrait Bettmann Archive / Getty Images. (1966, September 12). Huntington Hartford at a New York Film Festival party [Photograph]. Editorial image 515349738. Cropped and AI-edited. <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/news-photo/huntington-hartford-shown-attending-a-party-at-the-new-york-news-photo/515349738>

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