

# TONGVAPARK



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Design Graphics Three  
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Nemoy

“ALWAYS TRY TO THINK  
IN CURVES.”

GREG LYNN, architect<sup>1</sup>



“Creating a new heart for **Santa Monica.**”

In the heart of Downtown Santa Monica lies Tongva Park, a 6-acre community park that provides a place for visitor to relax amongst the urban chaos of the city. Previously a dull, flat parking lot, James Corner Field Operations saw an opportunity to transform the site into “a new destination and gathering place of great social, ecological, and symbolic value.”<sup>2</sup> Completed in 2013, the design of the public space was largely influenced by community input, with the hopes of producing a park that aligns with the city’s culture and ultimately “creating a new heart of Santa Monica.”<sup>3</sup>

# Hello!

Kira is an aspiring landscape architect who has a love for design, art, and the great outdoors. Throughout her lifetime, she has constantly explored ways to express herself and learn through creativity and design, whether it be photography, artwork, cooking, or dancing!



## CONTENTS

1

### Background

Location, History, Site Context,  
Concept Diagram

8

### Drawings & Sketches

Illustrative Plan with Callouts,  
Enlargement, Section-Elevation,  
Perspective Sketches

4

### Analysis

Figure-Ground, Pedestrian Circulation,  
Tree Canopy, Water Features

11

### Park Features

Scenic Views & Curved Paths, Art,  
Plant Materials, Design Details

Background





## location maps

### 1615 Ocean Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Tongva Park is located in the heart of Santa Monica, a beachfront city on the Westside of Los Angeles. The State Route 1, also known as Pacific Coast Highway, runs north-south along the coast, and connects to the



east-west running Interstate-10 highway. Tongva Park is situated between City Hall, the Interstate-10 highway, and Ocean Avenue.



## santa monica history

### Pearl of the Pacific

Throughout history, Santa Monica has been known for its delightful climate, beach views, rolling hills, making it an enjoyable and in-demand destination.

The Gabrielino and Chumash Indians, also known as the Tongva people, seemed to think so too, as they dwelt in the area for quite some time until Spanish Conquistadors

came across the area in the 16th-century. Later in 1769, while Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portola and his party were on a California expedition, they discovered two water arroyos in what would later be known as the Santa Monica mountains. The springs reminded them of St. Monica and the tears she shed while facing hardships over her son, so they decided to name the city after her.<sup>4</sup>

While designing Tongva Park, it's clear that James Corner was thinking about how he could incorporate the history and surrounding landscape of Santa Monica into the site. His landscape solution utilizes form and vegetation reminiscent of the Santa Monica arroyos and the woven huts and baskets of the Tongva people, paying homage to the roots of the city.

Advertisement for first land sale in Santa Monica, 1875.

**SHAUGHRAUN!**

**SANTA MONICA.**  
 That the Southern California has had a wonderful city. Los Angeles has been more than any other place, and it is the only place in California that has been so long a city. The Santa Monica Land Company has secured the best of the Santa Monica Bay, and the Santa Monica Land Company has secured the best of the Santa Monica Bay, and the Santa Monica Land Company has secured the best of the Santa Monica Bay.

**ABOUT ONE-THIRD THE SITE OF SANTA MONICA, INCLUDING BUSINESS LOTS, RESIDENCE LOTS, AND VEGETABLE FARMS, WILL BE OFFERED AT PUBLIC AUCTION, ON THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1875.**

**SANTA MONICA**  
 offers a new building opportunity.

The San Francisco Office of the Santa Monica Land Company, 330 Pine St., Room 8.

Sketch of Santa Monica, 1875.



Photograph of a Tongva woman filling a granary with acorns, ca.1898



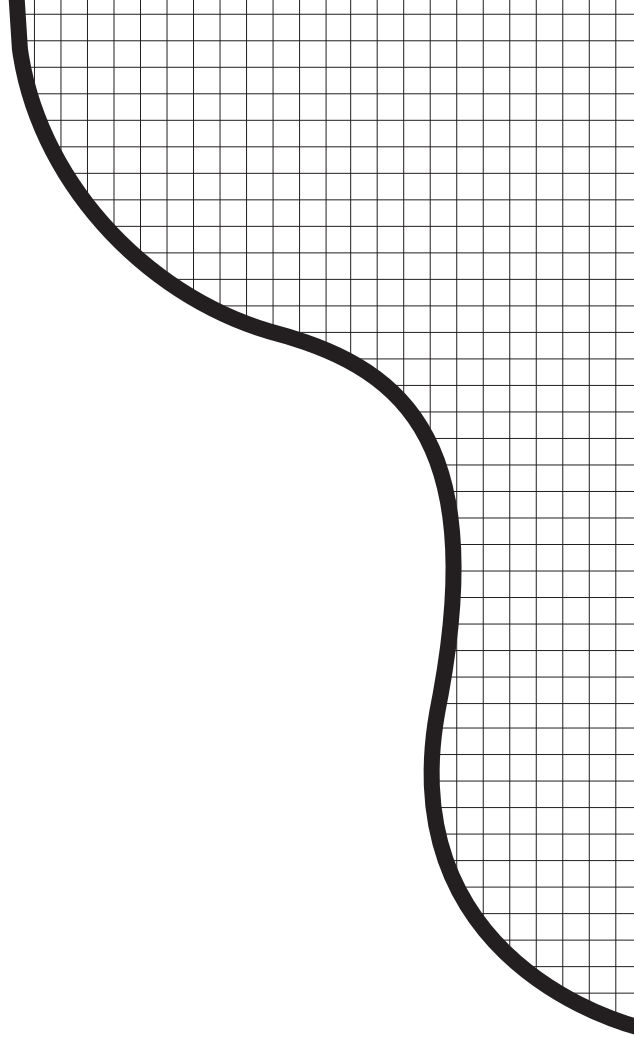
An early Santa Monica Pier, 1877

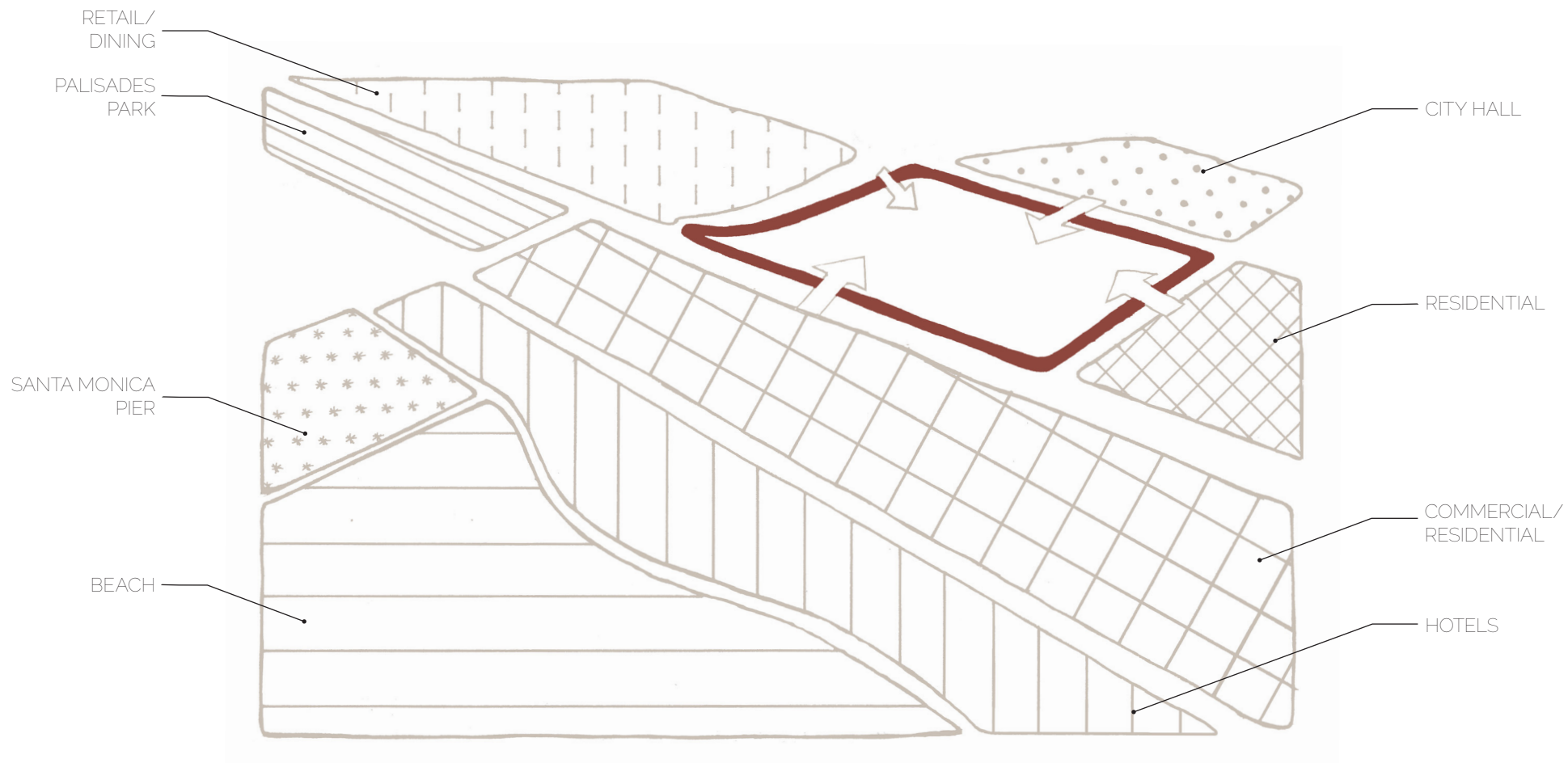


Businesses on Third Street, between Utah and Oregon (now Third Street Promenade).

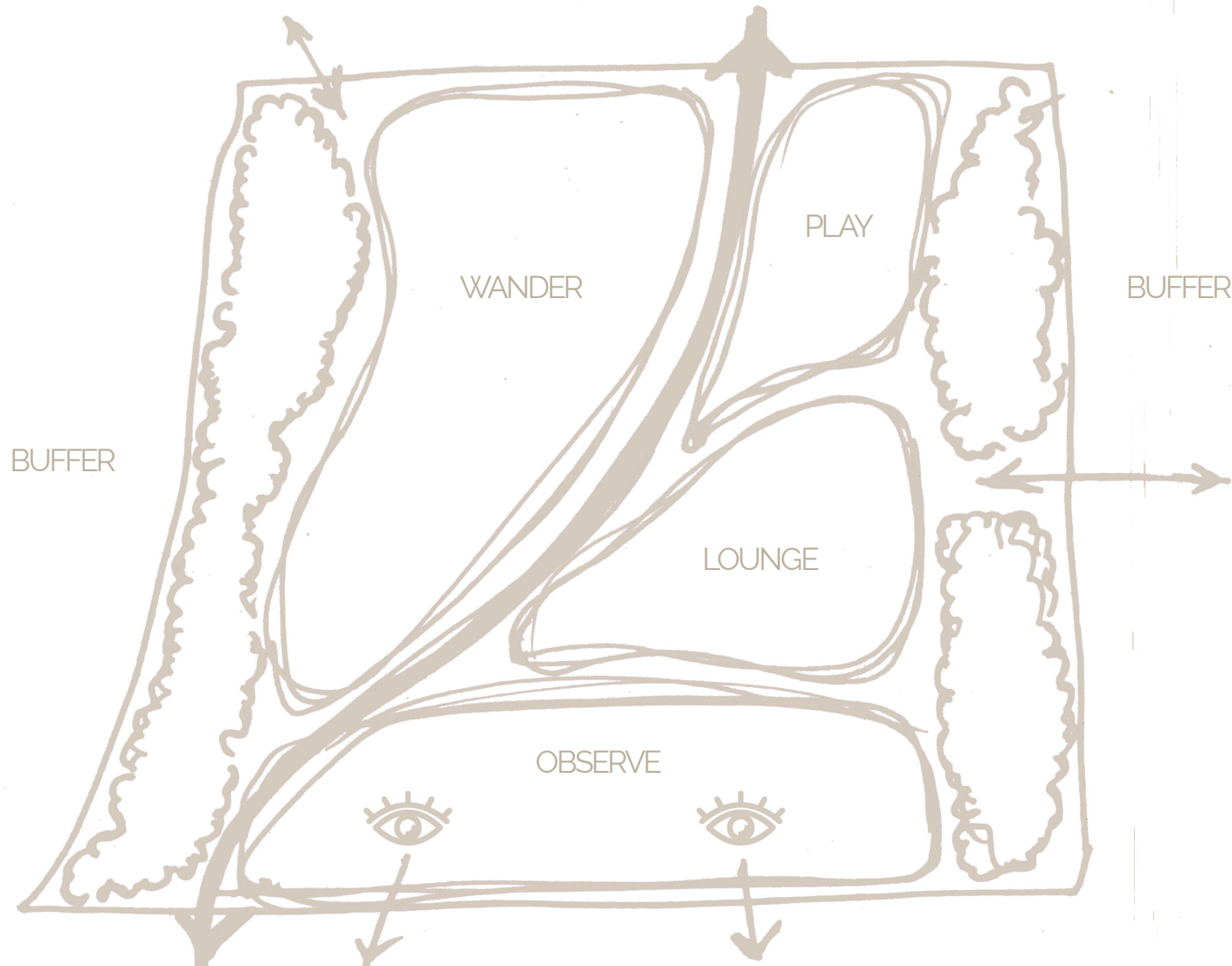


# Analysis





context diagram

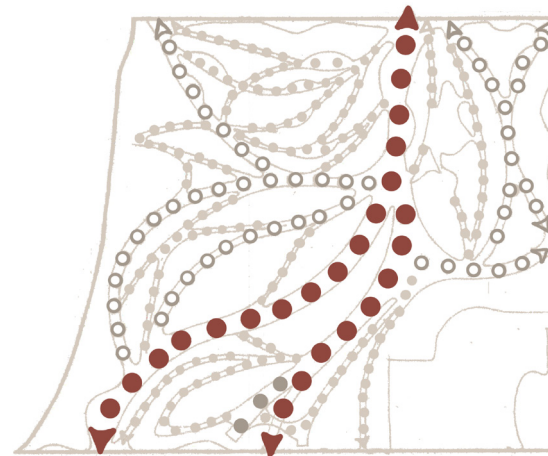


concept diagram



FIGURE-GROUND

PATHS



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

PRIMARY

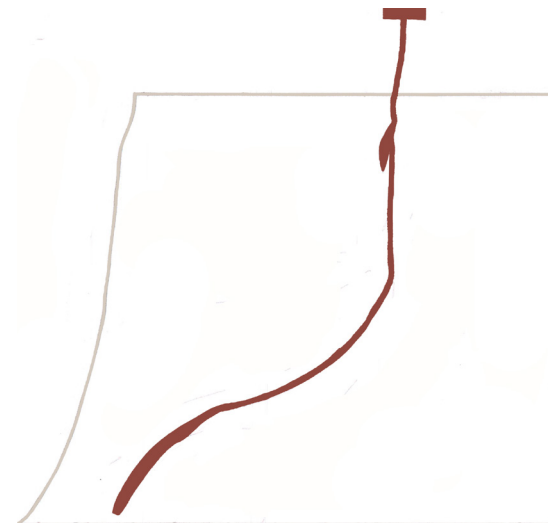
SECONDARY

PRIMARY



TREE CANOPY

TREE CANOPY



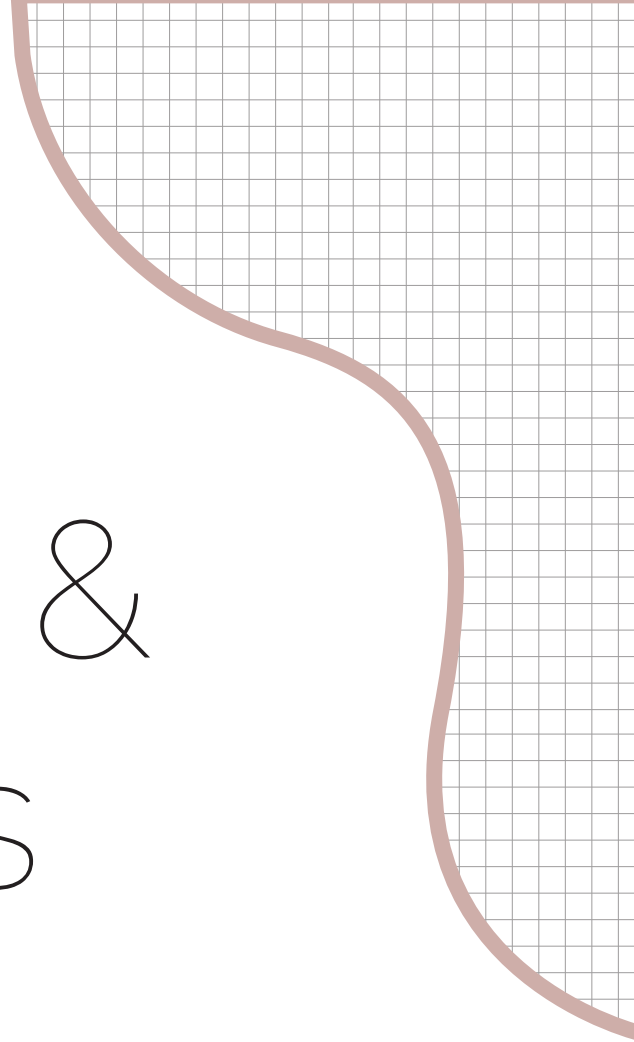
WATER FEATURES

WATER FEATURES

site analysis diagrams



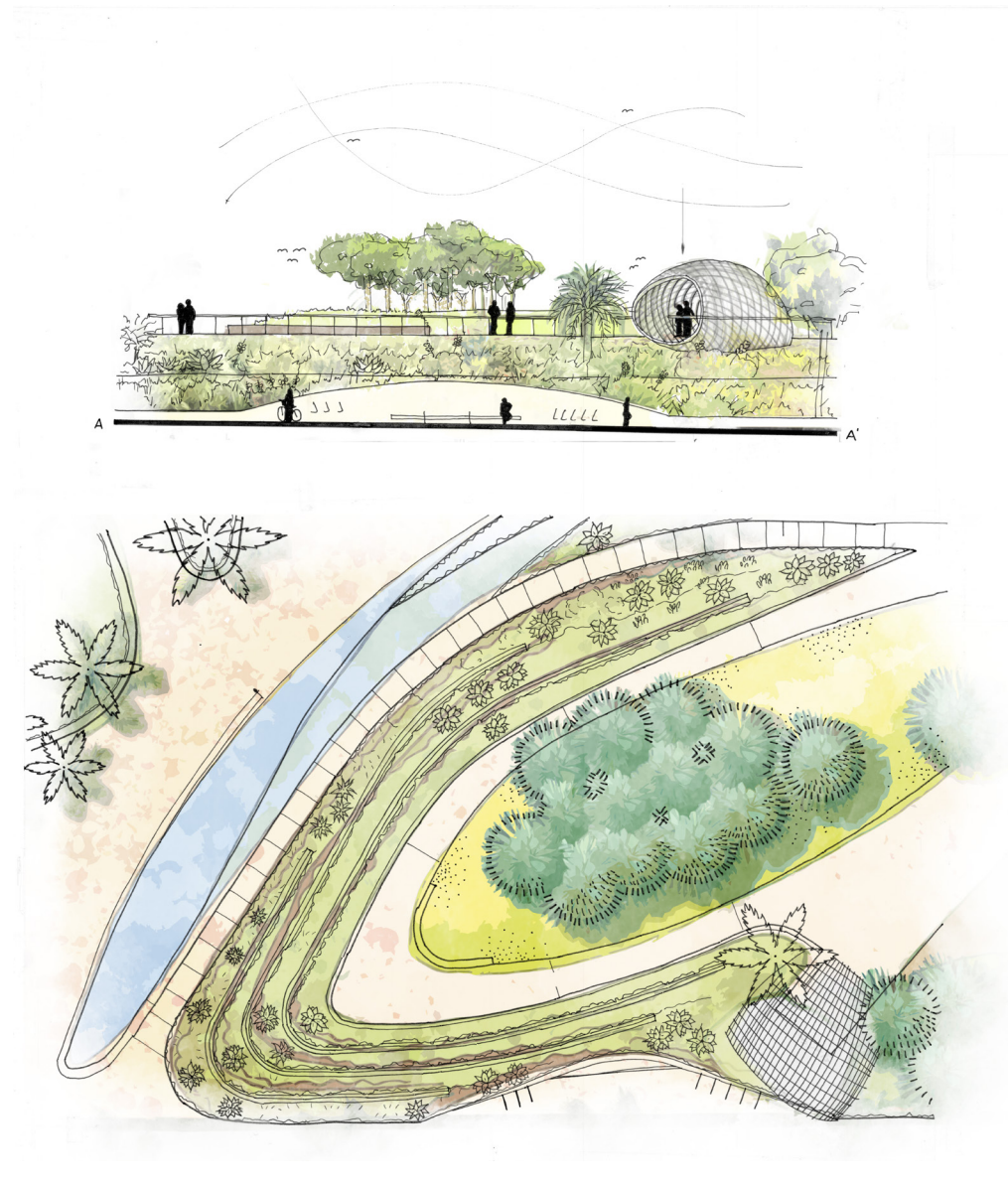
# Drawings & Sketches





site plan





section-elevation & enlargement







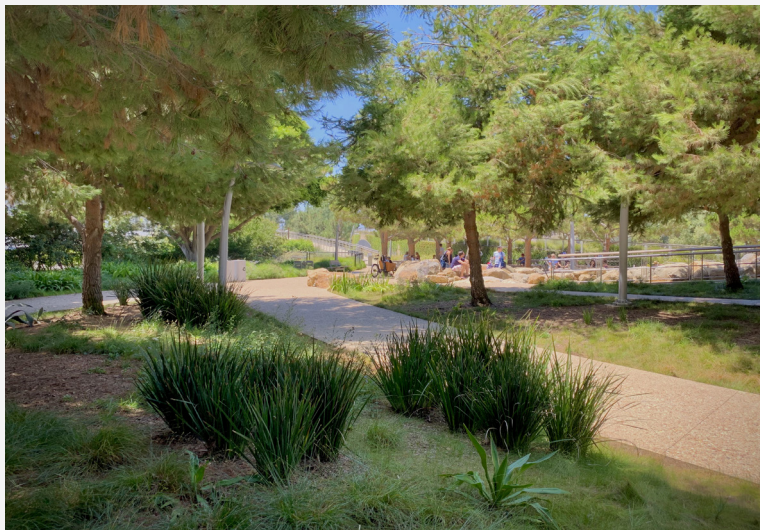


perspective study sketches



# Park elements

# scenic views & curved paths



artistic  
elements



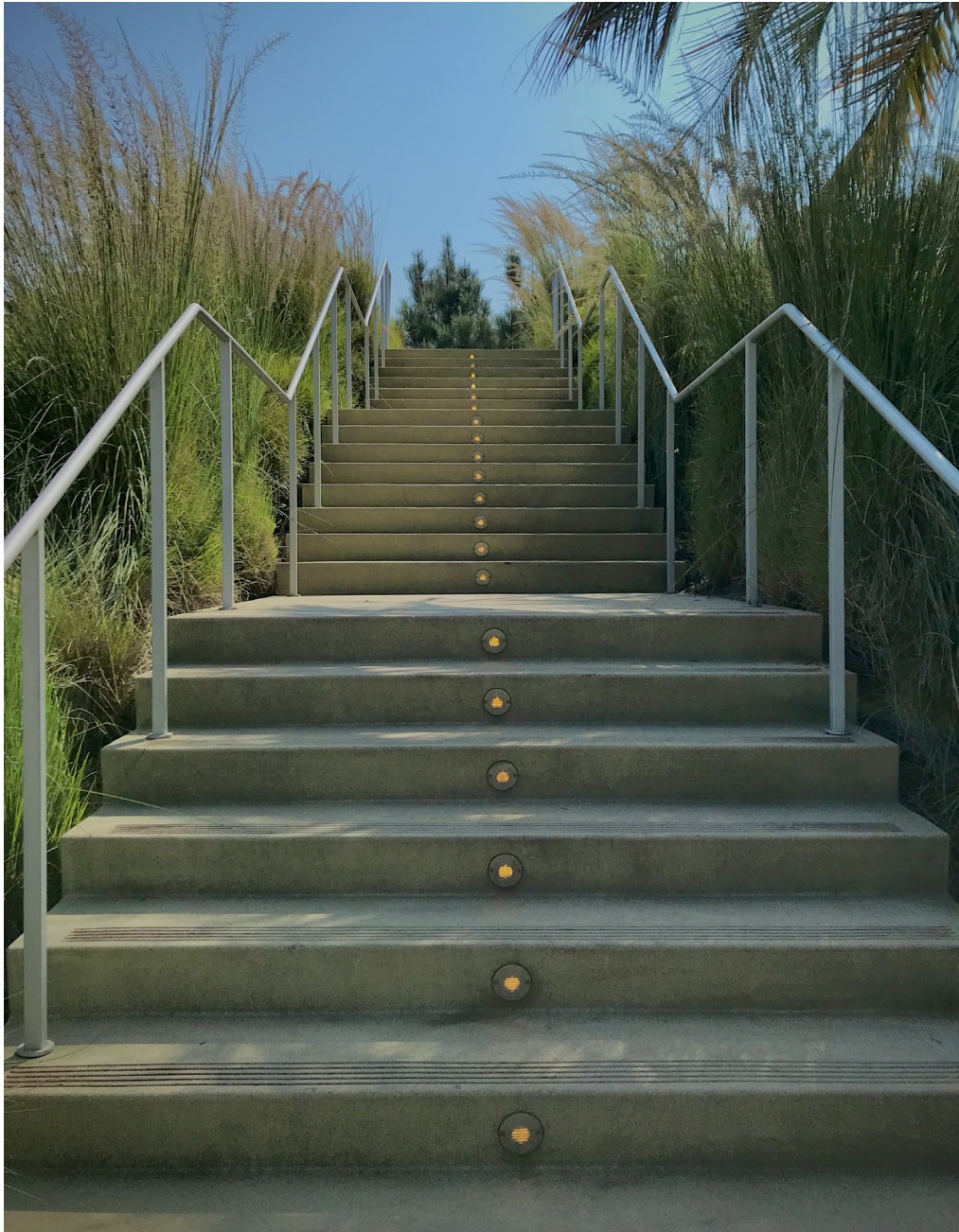


# plant palette

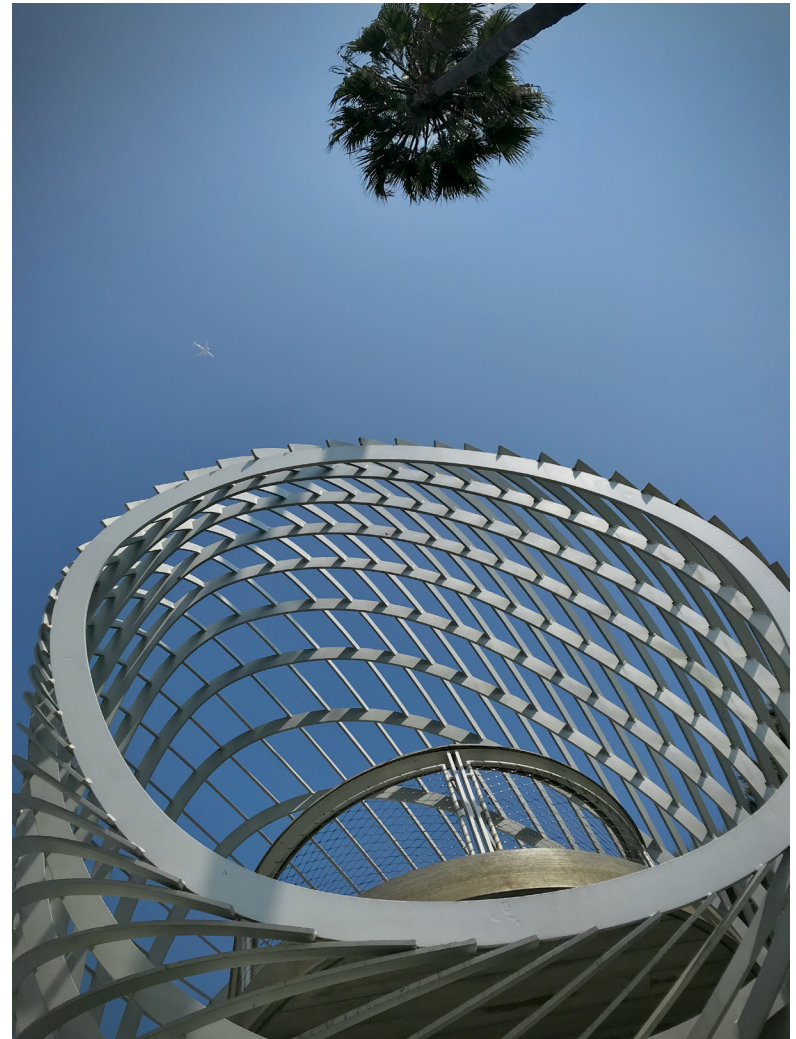


## PARK ELEMENTS





materials &





# detailed design elements



## acknowledgements

1. Greg Lynn quote - [azquotes.com](http://azquotes.com)
- 2,3. James Corner quotes - LA Curbed. "Tour Tongva Park, Santa Monica's Gorgeous New Green Space." by Neal Broverman
4. Santa Monica historical information - [santamonicahistory.org](http://santamonicahistory.org)



I'd like to end with a huge shout out to our wonderful professor **Sheldon Nemoj!** Thank you for sharing your wealth of knowledge with our class! :)

