

"The enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet exercises it; tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it; and thus, through the influence of the mind over the body gives the effect of refreshing rest and reinvigoration to the whole system." – Frederick Law Olmsted

INTRODUCTION

When I started DG1 with no formal drafting experience and saw Tongva Park for the first time, I was a bit terrified. The final examples were highly detailed and how would I get from where I was to there in 11 short weeks? I kept my hand to paper and stayed the course following David's guidelines week over week and somehow, in the end, I had a final in front of me that was not far off from those originally shown. I knew there were some mistakes but began learning to live with them for the sake of time and sanity. This would prove to be vital in the courses to follow.

Then came DG2 which was no less daunting when the final examples were viewed. For the first time we were asked to do a site analysis on the entire park which I did not realize was so big after focusing on one quadrant in DG1. It was a great learning experience seeing the park in a different light which was crucial to moving forward. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing the details that I missed the first time around and how they effected my experience of the park. Through Rebecca's guidance, a lot of trace, and practice, practice, practice, I was able to bring a final product I was proud of.

Now with DG3 we're in the digital realm just as I was finding my footing with hand drawing and drafting. Another hurdle to jump and finish line to cross but Laura's level of detail and care for our work has again pushed me through to a place I did not expect. Quality work that I can be proud of. Again knowing there will be mistakes but things I can live with and learn with moving forward. This book is the culmination of nine months of class, a handful of trips to Tongva and numerous late night sessions at my dining table. I would like to take a moment for a deep sigh of relief and to enjoy the fruits of my labor.



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PERSONAL BIO

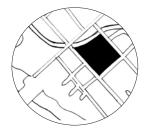
Growing up, I would sketch all of my favorite sneakers and that is where my love for design was born. It developed into a love of fashion then furniture, interior design and ultimately landscapes. The scope has grown larger over time but I always try and remember it is the small details that matter most.





Tongva Park is named in honor of the indigenous Tongva people who have lived in this region for thousands of years and are the original stewards of this land. The theme of "Arroyos" which were crucial to everyday Tongva life is visible throughout the pathways in the park. The play structures and overlooks are constructed in forms that seem to be modern interpretations of traditional Tongva dwellings.

LOCATION ______



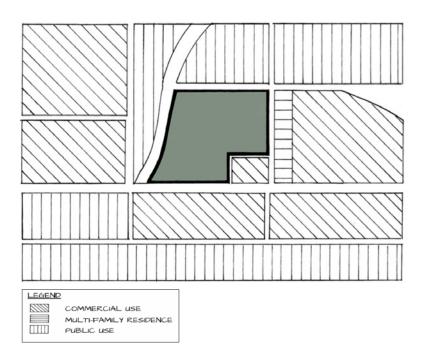


Santa Monica

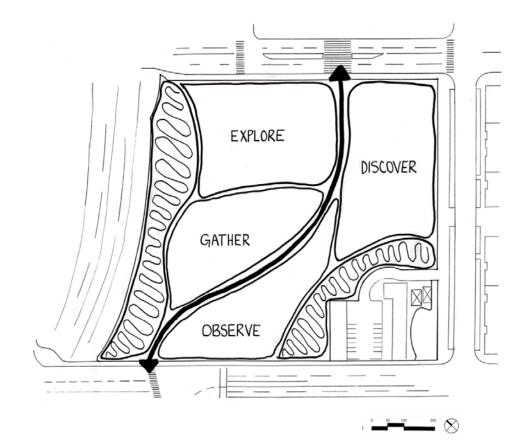
Los Angeles



Tongva Park is a community-sourced vision with the City of Santa Monica and James Corner Field. Located in the heart of the Santa Monica Civic Center, it is a short walk from the famous Santa Monica Pier and 3rd Street Promenade. The park is surrounded by City Hall to the East, the Pacific Ocean to the West, I-10 Freeway to the North and Multi-Family Residential to the South.



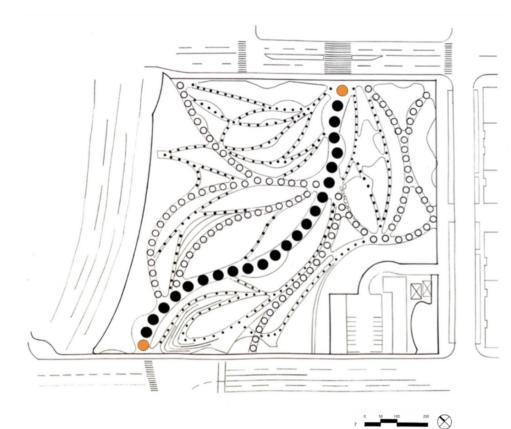
CONCEPT



Tongva Park is divided into four sections that surround the main pedestrian route from City Hall to Ocean Avenue. EXPLORE is an area where you can wander through meandering paths and beautiful blooms. DISCOVER is a hidden forest where you can emerge to find the children's play area. GATHER is an open air amphitheater and grassy mound for passive relaxation. OBSERVE has multiple viewing decks where you can gaze at the Pacific Ocean and catch a nice breeze. Plant buffers secure the northern and southwestern ends where sound can reverberate from vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

SITE ANALYSIS

PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



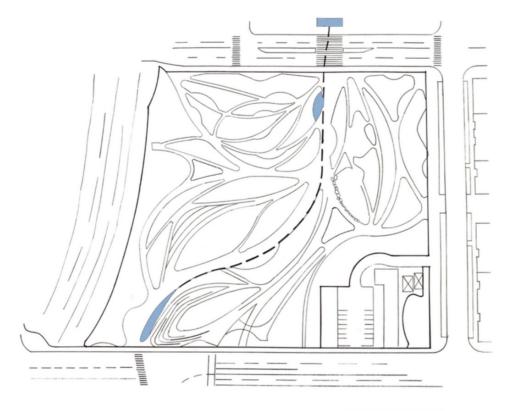




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SITE ANALYSIS

WATER FEATURES







SITE ANALYSIS

TREE CANOPY





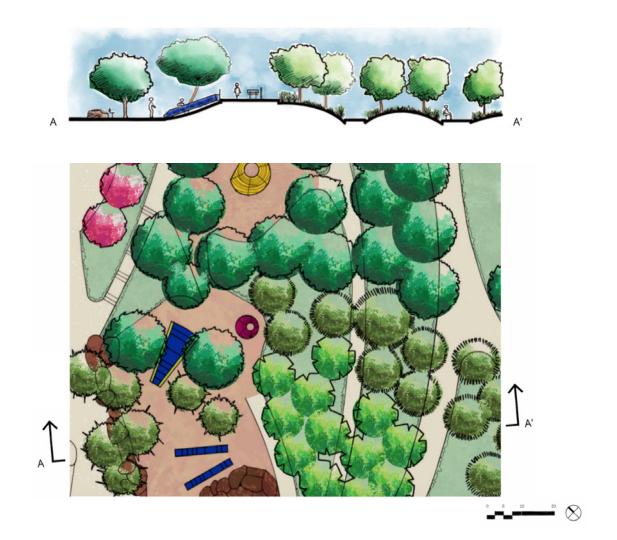


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ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN



SECTION / ENLARGEMENT



TOT LOT

EVERY PARK NEEDS A PLACE TO PLAY ...



Tongva Park Tot Lot features a resilient surfacing to break any fall from the various play structures and slides. There is a rock climbing wall adjacent to stacked boulders and a splash pad zone where children can cool down on a hot day. There are ample seating spaces where parents can comfortably watch their children run and play.





PLANT PALETTE

A BIT OF COLOR...



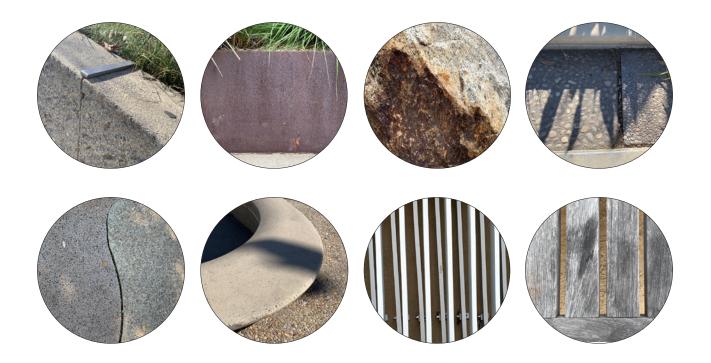
PLANT PALETTE

SHADES OF GREEN...



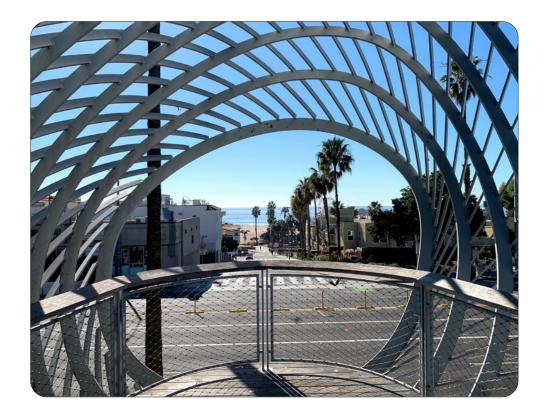
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

TEXTURED EARTH TONES...



OVERLOOKS

BORROWED VIEWS...







ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I have learned so many things over these first three quarters and to say they have flown by is an understatement. Tongva Park you will forever be tattooed in my brain no matter how hard I try and wipe you away :)

A few constants have helped me through the late nights, early mornings and long days...

Our WhatsApp group that is always good for a laugh even when we're at supreme stress levels. You guys are amazing and so supportive. There's no way I would get through this without you.

David, Rebecca and Laura. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Every one of you have been nothing short of amazing in the way that you challenge yet support along this journey. You have all been available whenever I needed and have instilled invaluable lessons that will keep pushing me forward.

Finally my wife and my sons for putting up with me when I am working long hours and probably not the most pleasant person to be around. Thank you for supporting me along my journey.

Photographic Sources:

https://gabrielinotribe.org/ https://www.timeout.com/los-angeles/things-to-do/tongva-park https://architizer.com/blog/inspiration/industry/james-corner-field-operations-tongva-park/