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Pasadena Arroyo Parks & Recreation District
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Central Arroyo	Pioneers Bridge	1		Structure
Central Arroyo	Colorado Street Bridge		1	Structure
Central Arroyo	Holly Street Bridge		1	Structure
Central Arroyo	Mayberry Parker Bridge		1	Structure
Lower Arroyo	Lower Arroyo Seco Park		1	Site
Lower Arroyo	La Casita del Arroyo		1	Building
Lower Arroyo	Bird Sanctuary		1	Structure
Lower Arroyo	Casting Club Pond	1		Structure
Lower Arroyo	Casting Club Clubhouse	1		Building
Lower Arroyo	La Loma Bridge		1	Structure
Lower Arroyo	San Rafael Bridge		1	Structure
Central and Lower	Los Angeles County Flood Control Channel	1		Structure
TOTAL		45	24	

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Summary: The Pasadena Arroyo Parks and Recreation District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. It is significant in the context of parks and recreation at the local level. The Arroyo Seco is on the western edge of the City of Pasadena and serves as a major tributary to the Los Angeles River. This deeply cut canyon links the San Gabriel Mountains to the Los Angeles River. As the Arroyo Seco stream flows through Pasadena, it passes through three distinct geographical areas: the Upper Arroyo, the Central Arroyo, and the Lower Arroyo. The Arroyo has been used for hiking, hunting, fishing, and picnicking since the late nineteenth century. The importance of the Arroyo in the history of the Pasadena cannot be overstated. The District played a crucial role in the development of Pasadena as a recreational mecca and its natural beauty inspired the so-called Arroyo Culture that formed on its banks. The period of significance for the District begins in 1909 when the City of Pasadena first started to acquire land in the Arroyo to create a public park. The period of significance ends in 1939 when most of the important features were completed. In 1918, a plan for the Arroyo recommended that the Lower Arroyo be preserved as a natural park, while the Central Arroyo be developed with active recreational uses. That plan continues to shape the Lower and Central Arroyo to this day. The Lower Arroyo includes all of the Lower Arroyo Seco Park, which was designated a City Cultural Landmark in 1977. The Central Arroyo includes the Brookside Golf Club, the Rose Bowl Stadium, and Brookside Park. The District possesses a significant concentration of man-made linkages including trails, roads, and retaining walls, which are all united by the natural features shaped by the Arroyo Seco. The Upper Arroyo is mostly occupied by the Hahamongna Watershed Park, which was created in 1992. It is not included in the District. While it is a natural continuation of the Arroyo and is open space, for most of its history it functioned as a catch basin.

Parks Movement: The significance of the District can be understood in the broader context of the parks movement in the United States, and more specifically the movements related to the preservation of scenic places and the creation of playgrounds and recreation centers. The parks movement in the United States was an outgrowth of the Progressive Era. During the nineteenth century, American cities experienced rapid industrialization, urbanization, and immigration; consequently, they were plagued by physical chaos, social pathologies, and political corruption. Many members of the upper and middle classes chose to deal with these urban problems by escaping to the suburbs, those who chose to stay and reform the city were a part of a popular movement that swept the country from 1877 to 1920, later referred to as the Progressive Era.

Initially, reformers grappled with urban problems by attempting to correct the moral character of impoverished individuals living in the slums. Younger participants of reform organizations came to realize that tactics, which focused solely on the individual, were ineffective, and sought a different approach. Although subsequent reformers were motivated by a similar moral sensibility and sense of middle class righteousness, they sought to improve city life by improving the quality of the

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environment. At the outset, reformers focused on improving housing and sanitation. Reasoning that the poor could not flee to the countryside for relief, they then began advocating for public open space.

In the 1840s, Andrew Jackson Downing, an architecture critic, horticulturalist, and writer and William Cullen Bryant, a poet, and editor for the *New York Evening Post*, began advocating for a public park in New York City. On July 11, 1851, the First Park Act was passed, authorizing the City of New York to purchase a large tract of land for use as a public park. Downing, Bryant, and others quickly realized that a larger area was required, and buoyed by their success, campaigned for the Amended Park Act, which passed in 1853.

In 1858, Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux won the commission to plan the park. In describing his role as designer and superintendent of Central Park, he conceived the title landscape architect and then led the creation of an entirely new profession. Olmsted and Vaux strove to create patterns in the park, which excluded the geometry of the city. They discovered the alternative in nature and began to lay out roads, walks, and water features in loose organizational systems. Sweeping lawns and meadows appeared. Man-made elements would be designed around existing land formations, and plants would be allowed to exhibit their natural forms. The development of the park occurred slowly, and was hampered by the outbreak of the Civil War in April of 1861.

Scenic Preservation Movement: The man who was involved with the creation of the first public park in America was also involved in the creation of the first state park as well. By this time, Olmsted's reputation had grown and his land planning skills were sought by other cities. Constant political interference in the design and construction of Central Park forced Olmsted to resign several times. On one of these occasions, the Mariposa Mining Company of California offered him the position of manager of their extensive gold mining properties. Worn out by Central Park, Olmsted accepted the offer and arrived at the Bear Valley headquarters in 1863. The following year, Yosemite Valley and the adjoining Mariposa Grove of Big Trees were ceded to California, becoming the first state park and first scenic area in the country reserved for public use. The Governor of California appointed Olmsted to the Yosemite Commission. Writing a report on behalf of the Commission, presented in 1865, he laid out a philosophy for the conservation of great scenic areas.

Olmsted, of course went on to design many public parks, including Prospect Park in Brooklyn. He also conceived the idea that municipalities should link a series of parks into a working complex, thereby evolving the concept of the park system. His influence in this regard is still evident in such cities as New York, Boston, Buffalo, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C. Olmsted died in 1903. His stepsons and nephews the Olmsted Brothers, his former partner Charles Elliot, and others including John Nolan and Horace Cleveland carried on the concept creating public parks, parks systems, and parkways throughout the country.

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Playground and Recreation Movement: While Olmsted's concept of a park was a rural retreat in the middle of the city during the later part of the nineteenth century physical education enthusiasts proclaimed that recreational pleasures could also come from planned exercise and competition. Municipal reformers settlement house workers, and progressive educators urged cities to construct playgrounds where youth could play under supervised and safe conditions. During the early part of the twentieth century they expanded their calls into a broader recreation movement aimed a providing spaces for adult activities such as swimming pools, baseball diamonds, and tennis courts. At this point naturalists and recreationists formed different camps. Many cities formed playground and recreation departments separate and apart from parks departments. Parks became defined as naturalized passive retreats and recreation areas became defined as active sports-oriented facilities. This continued to be the case until after World War II when the population grew as a result of the baby boom, recreational activities evolved, and land available for new parks declined. Consequently, many of the early large parks were adapted to meet the changing values and needs of the community.

History of Arroyo: When the Spanish explorer, Gaspar de Portola passed through what is now Los Angeles County in 1770, he estimated that 20,000 Indians were living in the area. The Indians came to be called the Gabrielenos, after San Gabriel Mission. According to the missionaries, the Indians were gathered in twenty-seven or more villages, several of which were in and about Pasadena. All of the villages were located near springs or streams of running water. The Hahamog-na tribe was settled along the Arroyo Seco from Garvanza (between present-day South Pasadena and Los Angeles) northward to the San Gabriel Mountains.

Pasadena's beginning dates to 1873 when a group of settlers from Indiana formed the San Gabriel Orange Grove Association, and purchased land in the area of the old Rancho San Pasqual. As surveyed in 1874, the Association lands were bounded by the Arroyo Seco to the west, Wilson Avenue to the east, Villa Street to the north, and Mission Street to the south. Orange Grove and Fair Oaks Avenues were the major north-south streets. The earliest settlers came to the new colony to enjoy the climate and develop the land. Many saw the potential for farming enterprises; others came to speculate in land. By 1875, the colony was named Pasadena, more than forty houses were built, and a commercial center was developing along Fair Oaks and Colorado Avenues.

With the coming of the railroad and the real estate boom of the 1880s, the new community attracted the attention of wealthy easterners and mid-westerners who had began vacationing in the area to escape harsh winters. By 1890, Pasadena had grown from a sparsely populated agricultural village into a major resort town with a well-established reputation as a center of wealth and culture. Grand hotels were built to accommodate the seasonal visitors. The Arroyo Vista Guest House was one of many hotels. Its location on the rim of the Arroyo's canyon attracted many customers. This guesthouse was the

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beginning of the elegant Vista del Arroyo Hotel, which graces the edge of the canyon today.¹ The wealthy built mansions along South Orange Grove Avenue (now Boulevard), which became known as "Millionaires Row."

By this time, Pasadena was considered a recreational mecca; however, it did not possess a single public park. This can be attributed to the fact that the Arroyo informally functioned as a public park, having become part of a trail system leading up to a famous retreat in the mountains known as "Switzer-land." It was commonly referred to as Switzer Camp. During this period, the Arroyo was used for a variety of recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, and picnicking, although it was privately owned. The Valley Hunt Club hunted fox and rabbits in the Arroyo and started the world-renowned Tournament of Roses on New Years Day in 1890.

The first real threat to the natural beauty of the Arroyo was the construction in the late 1880s of the Scoville Dam, Bridge, and water works built in the area now spanned by the Colorado Street Bridge. The project was, in part, James W. Scoville's personal war on poverty. A bust followed the land boom of 1886. While Scoville survived the depression, unemployment was rampant. Between 1887 and 1893, the Scoville family hired workers to construct a stone dam with a wood truss bridge over it. The number of days a man was allowed to work was dependent upon his need. For example, a man with a large family to support could work everyday, whereas a single man could only work one or two days a week. While the dam allowed Scoville to irrigate the family orange groves on the surrounding hills, it disrupted the natural vegetation and wildlife down stream. Alas, it was destroyed by storm waters within a few years of its completion. The bridge remained, however, until the construction of the Colorado Street Bridge in 1913.

In the early 1900s the San Gabriel Land and Water Company is reputed to have granted to a man named Richardson the right to log off the Arroyo. It is also known that the original subdivision of the area along Arroyo Boulevard (then Drive) north of La Loma Bridge included in the deed to each lot the right to log the adjacent area in the Arroyo, referred to as the Arroyo Seco Wood Lots.

Although the Arroyo was in decline, some people recognized its unique value. In 1898, Charles Lummis started a battle for the preservation of the Arroyo and became the first president of the Arroyo Seco Foundation. This was the first time a group banded together to promote preservation of the Arroyo. Lummis was a close friend of Theodore Roosevelt. When President Roosevelt was being driven over the Arroyo to South Pasadena on March 23, 1911, after having spoken at Occidental College, he turned suddenly to one of his companions and remarked, "The Arroyo would make one of the greatest parks in the world."²

¹ It is now occupied by the U.S. Court of Appeals.

² Sheid, Ann, *Pasadena Crown of the Valley*, page 106.

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The idea of making the Arroyo a public park quickly gained steam. The Lower Arroyo became the focus of the early plans that developed around 1903. Groups such as the Arroyo Park Association formed. Dr. Rudolph Schiffmann, who also sat on the Board of City Commissioners, was elected the first president. In 1909, he purchased a two and one-half acre wooded lot at the end of Bradford Street and donated it to the City for use as a public park. This was the first step in realizing the dream of creating a larger park in the Arroyo. In 1911, a bond issue was passed by the citizens of Pasadena, authorizing the purchase of private land in the Arroyo. The City bought the first parcel of thirty acres for \$4,500. By 1912, the City held or had options on two hundred acres. A syndicate of wealthy citizens bought up most of the remaining options and held them until the City could purchase the parcels.

A park was developed in the Arroyo in 1914 in what is now Brookside Park. It included a playground, picnic area, and sports facilities. The next year a municipal plunge (swimming pool) was donated by Mrs. E. W. Brooks and the park was renamed Brookside Park in her honor. Tennis courts and a baseball diamond were added shortly afterwards, and plans were made for an outdoor theater. These facilities reflected the growth of competitive sports and the changing recreational tastes and needs of the population. In recognition of those trends, the Pasadena Garden Club brought landscape architect, Emanuel Tillman Mische (1875-1934) to Pasadena to develop a comprehensive plan for the Arroyo. Between 1917 and 1918, Mische developed a plan for the Arroyo that encompassed the entire area from the South Pasadena city limits to the mountains north of Devil's Gate Gorge.

Mische started his career as a landscape architect under the tutelage of the Olmsted Brothers. While working for the firm, he was involved in the design of the George W. Vanderbilt estate in Ashville, North Carolina. Before moving to Boston, Mische worked at Kew Gardens in England. In 1906, he was hired as the first Park Superintendent for Madison, Wisconsin, based upon the recommendation of John Olmsted. After two years on the job, Mische moved to Portland, Oregon to take a similar position. He served as the Superintendent of Parks (1908-1914) and developed the system of parks and scenic drives that remain today. Mische was familiar with Portland, having assisted with the 1903 Park Plan while working for the Olmsted Brothers. His designs for Laurelhurst Park and Peninsula Park display a large scale and formal organization reminiscent of more sophisticated, big city parks. After leaving Portland in 1914, he went on to work as a consultant to a variety of public and private clients, wrote extensively, and involved himself in the forest preservation movement.³

The other individual who played a key role in the design of the Arroyo was Myron Hunt (1868-1952). Hunt was the chairman of the local committee that oversaw the development of the plan and played a key role in surveying the Arroyo with Mische. In an address to the Pasadena Civic Federation, Hunt

³ Guzowski, Ken, unpublished biography of Emanuel Mische, June 14, 2007.

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summed up the committee's vision of the Arroyo. "What we must do in developing this park," Hunt stated "is to preserve the natural features. We want to restore the lost growth taken out by the cutting of wood, the waste places made by floors and sand hauling, and remove the tin can dumps. We want the natural foliage restored and we want to preserve what is left. We want to replant the things that formerly grew in the Arroyo. There are other lawns and parks in the city where palms and exotic's can be grown."⁴

Hunt was born in Massachusetts in 1868, and was unusually well educated and traveled compared with other southern Californian architects of the time. After graduating from MIT in 1893, he and his wife studied European architecture on a two-year tour around the continent. He then moved to Chicago, and practiced there for eight years. While in Chicago, Hunt worked for some of the largest and most prestigious firms in the city.

Hunt moved with his family to Pasadena in 1903 in an attempt to treat his wife's tuberculosis. Within a few months he set up an office in downtown Los Angeles and quickly developed a loyal clientele. Within a decade he had designed several buildings for the Throop Polytechnic Institute (later renamed the California Institute of Technology), a grand home and library for railroad magnate Henry Huntington, much of Occidental College, and numerous other private residences and public buildings. Hunt designed several buildings and structures in the Arroyo including the Alta San Rafael Bridge (aka Mayberry & Parker Bridge, 1914), Rose Bowl Stadium (1922, 1928), Brookside Park Baseball Field (aka Jackie Robinson Memorial Field, 1932), and La Casita del Arroyo (1932).

The 1918 Arroyo Seco Park Plan combined both passive and active recreational uses. At this time the Lower Arroyo was still densely wooded in places. As it was so narrow and deep, bridle paths were considered more appropriate than automobile roads. It was recommended that landscaping be confined to the replacement of native plants and that exotics be avoided. Two practical matters dictated using the Central Arroyo for sports and recreational facilities: Brookside Park already existed, and it was the widest, flattest land in the canyon. The notion of putting a municipal golf course in the park, as the 1918 Plan recommended, was forward thinking. The first municipal golf course in the United States was created in Griffith Park in 1900; however, it was a sand course built mostly by volunteers. The first municipal grass golf course opened in 1923. It was relocated in 1958 to make way for a new zoo.⁵ The 1918 Plan was implemented to the extent that the Lower and Central Arroyo were developed with passive and active recreational uses, respectively. The present-day circulation system, landscaping, and golf course are also remnants of the plan. The Rose Bowl Stadium, which dominates the Central Arroyo; however, was not anticipated. The area is undefined open space in the plan. Completed in 1922, the

⁴ *Pasadena Star News*, February 16, 1917.

⁵ It was relocated in 1958 to make way for a new zoo.

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Rose Bowl Stadium is the long-term site of the oldest and most renowned post-season college football game, the Rose Bowl.

During the same period the 1918 Plan was being developed, a community of artists, architects, craftsmen, and writers lived on the edge of the Arroyo. The neighborhood they formed is one of the distinctive legacies of the American Arts and Crafts movement. The Arroyo Culture as it was later called by scholars included artists Hanson Puthoff, Benjamin Chamber Brown, William Lees Judson, Jean Mannheim, and Elmer and Marion Wachtel; tile designer Ernest Batchelder; writers Charles Fletcher Lummis, Robinson Jeffers, and Mary Austin; landscape architect Paul Theine; and architect Louis Easton. Their lifestyle was based on community and simplicity, emphasizing harmony with their neighbors and their surroundings. Much of their artistic inspiration was derived from the Arroyo, which symbolized wild California. Wealthy patrons living nearby eagerly supported their work.

The Arts and Crafts movement originated in England in response to a growing disillusionment with industrialization and its concomitant social conditions. In the late nineteenth century, the English Arts and Crafts movement began with William Morris who adopted and lived his life based on the philosophies set forth by John Ruskin and Thomas Carlyle. Morris' concern for beauty and quality led him to form a community of artisans who produced design objects that were crafted based on the system of medieval values and design. The American Arts and Crafts movement, like the parks movement grew out of Progressive Era ideals. The guiding principle was simplicity and a move away from conspicuous consumption. The movement revered nature and drew upon natural elements and form to inspire decorative motifs. While none of the buildings or structures in the District could be described as Craftsman, the extensive use of Arroyo stone in retaining walls, drinking fountains, and particularly Jackie Robinson Memorial Field is extremely evocative of the style.

For all its natural beauty and wealth, Pasadena was not untouched by the Great Depression. According to the 1930 census, the domestic servants comprised the city's largest segment of the labor force. As the wealthy were hit by the crash of the stock market, domestic servants were let go. As such, they ended up constituting the largest group of unemployed workers in Pasadena. In 1933, President Roosevelt created federally funded work programs such as the Works Progress Administration (WPA). In Pasadena, the WPA put the unemployed to work on several projects in the Arroyo. During the Depression, 2,000 unemployed workers planted more than 5,000 flowering plants, 50 trees, and 666 shrubs; graded the hillside under Holly Street Bridge and constructed a rock wall on the south side to improve an existing bridle trail; constructed a community building called La Casita del Arroyo; completed new trails from La Casita del Arroyo to Colorado Street; placed the utility lines underground; improved the main baseball diamond (now called Jackie Robinson Memorial Field); altered the Rose Bowl Stadium; constructed the Number Two Course at the Brookside Golf Club; cleared 1,000 feet of bridle trails; and erected arroyo stone retaining walls.

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Parks in Pasadena: The Arroyo has figured prominently in the history of the Pasadena area from its founding to its subsequent development. Totalling approximately 700 acres, the Arroyo Parks and Recreation District is the largest space in the city devoted to parks and recreational uses, actually including two municipal parks, a municipal golf course, and the Rose Bowl. It is significant in the history of parks and recreation in Pasadena in that it illustrates the city's effort to preserve the scenic beauty of the Arroyo as well as provide recreational facilities such as playgrounds, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, and swimming pools for the benefit of the public. In this regard the District reflects two important aspects of the parks movement: the scenic preservation movement and the recreation and playground movement.

The first municipal parks in Pasadena were not established until 1902, relatively late in the history of the parks movement but not in the history of the city. Not long after the Pasadena was incorporated in 1882, the City formed a committee to consider the acquisition of land for the purposes of creating public parks. There was little sense of urgency; however, considering the fact that the city was verdant with orange groves, lushly planted private estates, and resort hotels with extensively landscaped grounds. The most famous of these private gardens was Carmelita, the estate of author Jeanne Carr and her husband Dr. Ezra Carr. Planted in the 1880s, it was the most extensive private garden in Pasadena filled with plants from all over the world, many being planted by the donors themselves, including botanist John Muir who was a friend and former student of Dr. Carr. Although greatly reduced in size, it became a public park in 1922 in agreement with a private group called "The Carmelita Trustees". During the Depression the property was turned over to the Pasadena Art Institute, which occupied the mansion and maintained the gardens. The size of the park was reduced in size again by the eastern approach of the Pioneers Bridge in 1952. Today the property is owned by the City of Pasadena and leased by the Norton Simon Museum of Art.

Busch Gardens secured Pasadena's reputation as a city of gardens. Adolphus Busch purchased a large tract of land on the west side of Orange Grove Boulevard in 1903 on which he had constructed a winter retreat. He commissioned landscape architect Robert Fraser to create a garden, which eventually included nearly forty acres of land, fourteen miles of paths, and a hundred thousand plants. The garden helped establish the tradition of the privately maintained garden open to the public. From 1905 to 1920 the gardens were opened to the public free of charge. In 1920 an admission fee was charged, but the proceeds were donated to charity. With the death of Lilly Busch in 1928, the gardens were closed. In 1937, the property was offered to the City for use as a public park. It was subdivided as home lots in 1938, as the City rejected the offer, probably out of concern about the high cost of its maintenance.

The first public parks in Pasadena were modest land acquisitions that had dual purposes. Library Park, now Memorial Park, on North Raymond Avenue is a five-acre park that embraced the city's first library,

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which was subsequently demolished. It is included in the Pasadena Civic Center National Register District. Central Park is a ten-acre park formal in design that mostly benefited the guests of the Hotel Green, located just to the north. In deed in his history of Pasadena, Hiram Reid referred to it as Hotel Green Park.⁶ It is included in the Old Pasadena National Register District. With the creation of these two parks, the City formed a new Department of Public Parks and Buildings. This might seem like an odd combination of purposes, but at the time, the City was preparing to build a civic center. Although the population was only around 10,000, it was deeply influenced by the City Beautiful movement that advocated the beautification of cities to counteract the perceived moral decay of urban environments. Of course, Pasadena was hardly urban and the residents not exactly poor. But in the minds of Pasadenans, public parks and buildings went hand in hand. The first city hall was completed in 1903; however, a much larger civic center was being planned. A firm was not selected to develop a plan until 1922. By then the population was over 45,000, and a civic center had real merit. Completed in 1927, the existing City Hall opened in 1927 and dominates the civic center that also includes a library and auditorium.

Jacob Albrect was the first Park Superintendent in the City of Pasadena. He was born in Kiva, Russia in 1870 and brought to America by his parents as a baby. The family moved to Pasadena in 1891, from Newton, Kansas. He held a number of gardening positions at private estates before becoming the head gardener at the Hotel Raymond where he laid out the grounds as well as one of the first golf courses in the region. From there he became the foreman of Library Park and helped layout the grounds. Two years later he was named Park Superintendent. He eventually received a degree in civil engineering. During his tenure, he supervised the development of Tournament Park (1909), Brookside Park (1914), La Pintoresca Park (1915), Defenders Parkway (1919), McDonald Park (1920), Washington Park (1921), and Carmelita Park (1922). He retired in 1923 before he could achieve his greatest ambition, to lay out a municipal golf course in the Arroyo.

Albrecht was replaced by Gilbert Skutt who also played an important role in the history of parks and recreation in Pasadena. Before moving to Pasadena, Skutt worked in Princeton, New Jersey and Tacoma and Walla Walla, Washington. Under Skutt's tenure the Pasadena park system expanded to include Singer Park (1923) and Lamanda Park (1925). By 1930, Pasadena boasted over 1,000 acres of parkland for its 76,086 residents. As the population of the city grew dramatically during the 1920s and 30s, parks and recreation centers became less of a luxury and more of a necessity. There were more residents with more leisure time as houses were replaced by apartment buildings and with the institution of the forty-hour workweek. Skutt oversaw the redesign and improvement of several of the older parks including Central Park, Memorial Park, Brookside Park, Lower Arroyo Seco Park, and La Pintoresca Park.

⁶ Reid, Hiram, *History of Pasadena*, page 302.

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Skutt's most ambitious plan was the development of a large scenic public park in Eaton Canyon, similar to the one in the Arroyo. He sought to correct the imbalance in the distribution of park space in Pasadena, which favored the west side of town. During the Depression, however, the City could not afford to purchase the land. Slowly, the City obtained approximately twenty-four acres of land through small donations, while the City Water Department separately acquired two hundred acres in the upper portion the canyon. In 1932, the City began working in cooperation with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the Los Angeles County Planning Commission for the development of the Eaton Canyon Regional Park. Eventually the entire project was taken over by the County of Los Angeles and now includes a natural park and a golf course. Skutt resigned in 1936 to become the head of the Los Angeles Park Department.

The early public parks in Pasadena represent an eclectic mix of acquisitions and donations of land. Tournament Park and Carmelita Park no longer exist. Defender's Parkway is more of a ceremonial entrance to the Colorado Street Bridge, than an actual park. The original design of Washington Park has been compromised by the addition of sports and recreation facilities. Only Central Park, Memorial Park (formerly Library Park), La Pintoresca Park, and Singer Park reflect their designs from the 1920s and 1930s.

The Tournament of Roses Association acquired (1902) and presented Tournament Park to the City in 1909. It essentially functioned as the city's earliest recreation center. Prior to the construction of the Rose Bowl, the New Year's Day football game was held there. In addition to the football field, it included tennis courts, baseball diamonds, a running track around the football field, and a grandstand for spectators. In 1931, it was sold to the California Institute of Technology for use as an athletic field as Brookside Park superseded it as the primary sports venue in the city.

Defender's Parkway at the eastern entrance to the Colorado Street Bridge was landscaped through generous donations from the neighborhood residents, a project spearheaded by Arthur Fleming. The nearly two-acre site was purchased by the City in 1919. The site is significant in the history of Pasadena as the general location of the first store. With the completion of the Colorado Street Bridge in 1913, residents began discussing the need to beautify the approach from Orange Grove Boulevard. It was dubbed Defender's Parkway in honor of the city's soldiers, sailors, marines, nurses, and war workers. A memorial flagstaff was designed by Bertram Goodhue in 1920, dedicated in 1927, and moved to its present location in 1948.

One of the most controversial acquisitions of land for public park purposes was Washington Park in northeast Pasadena. The City spent nearly a year trying to negotiate a price with the owner, Abraham Shapiro, although some members of the community didn't think it was suitable for park purposes or thought the surrounding residents should have to contribute to the purchase. The five-acre park was

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dedicated in 1921 and laid out by Theodore Payne and Ralph Cornell in 1922. The design of the park was partially dictated by the storm drain that ran diagonally through the middle thereby creating a natural ravine. Two concrete tennis courts were constructed at the northeast corner, virtually the only level area of the park. Winding paths, rustic structures, lawns, and groves of trees occupied the remaining portion of the park. Eventually a softball diamond, volleyball court, basketball court, two handball courts, and restroom buildings were added.

La Pintoresca Park occupies the site of the La Pintoresca Hotel, which was destroyed by fire in 1912. Originally called the Painter Hotel, the name was changed the previous year to give it a Spanish flavor. The three-acre site was purchased by the City in 1915. The trees that were planted by the hotel in the late 1880s were incorporated into the park. Plans were almost immediately laid for the construction of a library at the northwest corner of the park. Nearby two tennis courts and a roque court were installed. In 1924 the park was redesigned by Theodore Payne and Ralph Cornell, two of southern California's most noted landscape architects. Their scheme preserved the library site at the corner, replaced the tennis courts in their original location, created a new pergola, and provided for a substation for the Water Department at the other corner. The remaining portion of the park to the south was redesigned with a large open lawn in the center, additional plantings at the boundaries, and curving paths leading through groves of trees and flowerbeds. In 1930 a library was finally constructed on the site. Later the north end of the park was redesigned again to include only one tennis court, two basketball half courts, and a restroom building.

McDonald Park was dedicated in 1920 in honor of Judge Robert W. McDonald, a prominent Pasadena judge who succumbed to the 1918 influenza epidemic. Originally the park was only a narrow strip on the south side of the Wilson Reservoir. A pergola was sited atop a grassy south-facing slope at the edge of the reservoir, which was screened with tall pine trees. The abandonment of the reservoir in 1977 led to the idea of creating a park on the rest of the block. In creating the park, the reservoir as well as most of the pine trees were removed. A red tiled roofed pump station at the southwest corner of the block and a few pine trees on the northeast corner are all that remain from the original design. The park serves as a community recreation center, with handball courts, swings and slides, grassy areas, and picnic tables.

In 1923 Emma Singer bequeathed her three-acre property to the City for use as a public park, along with a trust fund to be used for its care. Some of the original plantings around the home, which was demolished, were incorporated into the design by Thomas Chisholm. Singer Park includes a playground with modern apparatus, a pergola, a lawn area, and rose garden.

Conclusion: While the Pasadena Arroyo Parks and Recreation District contains several individually significant features, it was conceived, planned, and viewed as a single creation. The Arroyo Seco and the San Gabriel Mountains were the two major natural features that drew the early settlers to the area – for their dramatic beauty, natural resources, and climatic influence. The Indiana Colony chose the east bank

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of the Arroyo or its settlement for these reasons and embraced the Arroyo as a valuable and challenging part of its existence. For decades, the Arroyo provided the natural western boundary of the community. Spring flooding posed significant dangers and curtailed growth of the community to the west, thereby dictating that Pasadena would grow eastward.

While it was not properly cared for at the turn of the century, it had been used for recreational purposes since the City was founded. During the early years, those activities consisted of hiking, picnicking, hunting, fishing, and camping. The period of significance, 1909 through 1939, was the time of greatest change for the Arroyo, during which more organized recreational uses replaced, in part, the natural environment. By 1909, the City started to acquire land in the Arroyo for the purposes of establishing a public park. Brookside Park was created in the Central Arroyo in 1914 and quickly grew to include a municipal plunge, tennis courts, and a baseball diamond. These facilities reflected the growth of competitive sports and the changing recreational tastes and needs of the population.

By 1917, the City had acquired enough land to begin planning for a larger park. It was recommended that the Lower Arroyo be preserved as a natural park, while the Central Arroyo be developed with recreational facilities. The changes and additions to the District have occurred within the framework of the 1918 Plan. The construction of Rose Bowl Stadium, Jackie Robinson Memorial Field, and La Casita del Arroyo complement the parks and recreation themes. All of the buildings and structures in the District were consciously designed to protect, at least to some degree, the Arroyo's natural beauty. The Municipal Plunge was demolished and replaced by the Rose Bowl Aquatics Center. While the facility is obviously new, its purpose as a community sports facility continues. The only major change to the District after the period of significance was the construction of the flood control channel; however, it is not particularly intrusive as it is below grade. In addition, there have been discussions for years on its removal and the naturalization of the Arroyo Seco. This may come to pass in the future. The fairly recent development of the Hahamonga Watershed Park in the Upper Arroyo is also consistent with the 1918 Plan; however, it was not included in the District as most of the improvements are less than fifty years of age.

Although Pasadena did not begin to develop its park system until the early 1900s, it boasted over one thousand acres of parkland by 1930. The parks and recreation facilities in the District are by far the largest and most important in the City of Pasadena and reflect national movements to protect scenic places and provide respite for urbanization. This great public open space, with its breathtaking views, remains Pasadena's most prized and enviable recreational and natural resources.

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Verbal Boundary Description: See the attached USGS map.

Boundary Justification: The boundary of the District corresponds to the area designated as park space on the City of Pasadena's zoning map. This is the existing and historical boundary of the park space during the period of significance. All of the bridges spanning the boundary are considered within the District, as they are prominent visual features.

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Photographs: The following is the same for all of the photographs:

City: Pasadena

County: Los Angeles

State: CA

Photographer: Teresa Grimes

Date: March 2005

Location of Negatives: 4211 Glenalbyn Drive, LA, CA 90065

1. Hahamonga Watershed Park, Upper Arroyo, looking north from the Devil's Gate Dam
2. Devil's Gate Dam, looking east
3. Brookside Golf Club, looking northeast from the neighborhood of Linda Vista
4. Brookside Golf Club, clubhouse, looking southeast from the course
5. Rose Bowl Stadium, looking north
6. Light fixture near the intersection of Seco Street and West Drive
7. Trash receptacle near the Rose Bowl
8. Drinking fountain near the Rose Bowl
9. Jackie Robinson Memorial Field, bleachers, looking north
10. Rosemont Pavilion, looking northeast from Jackie Robinson Memorial Field
11. Fannie Morrison Horticultural Center, looking north
12. Rose Bowl Aquatic Center, looking northeast
13. Bandshell, Brookside Park, looking south
14. Tennis Courts, Brookside Park, looking west
15. Main Picnic Area, Brookside Park, looking north
16. Rockery, Brookside Park, looking east
17. Pergola, Brookside Park, looking north
18. Restroom Building, Brookside Park, looking northeast
19. Amphitheater, Brookside Park, looking south
20. Trail, Brookside Park, looking south
21. Arroyo Seco Flood Control Channel, near San Pasqual Bridge, looking northwest
22. Holly Street Bridge, looking north from Arroyo Boulevard
23. Pioneers Bridge, looking northwest from Arroyo Boulevard
24. Colorado Street Bridge, looking northwest from La Casita del Arroyo
25. La Casita del Arroyo, Lower Arroyo, looking west toward the main entrance
26. Bird Sanctuary, Lower Arroyo, looking north
27. Casting Club, clubhouse, Lower Arroyo, looking north
28. Casting Club, pool, looking south from the clubhouse

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29. Arroyo stone tree wells and drinking fountain, Lower Arroyo, near Arroyo Boulevard, looking south
30. Arroyo stone retaining wall, Lower Arroyo, along Arroyo Boulevard, looking north
31. Concrete steps with arroyo stone walls, Lower Arroyo, near La Loma Bridge, looking north
32. La Loma Bridge, looking north from Arroyo Boulevard
33. San Rafael Bridge, looking south from Arroyo Boulevard