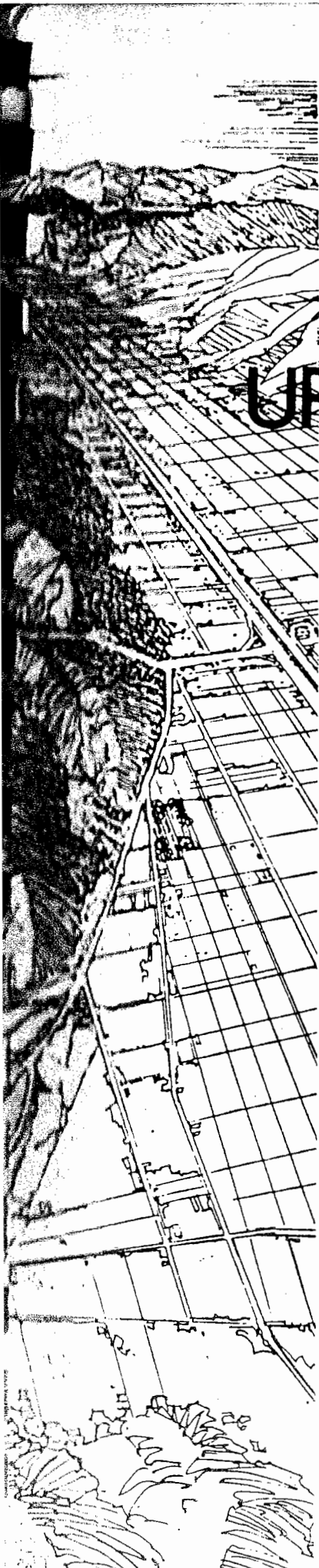




Verdugo
San Rafael

URBAN MOUNTAIN PARK



VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL

URBAN MOUNTAIN PARK

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VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL CHAPTER

SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION

JULY, 1976

REVISED MARCH, 1977

ALICE CUGLEY--APRIL, 1979 REVISION

Copies of this proposal are available from
the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small
Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP)
1020 Alcade Way, Glendale, Ca. 91207 ---
at a cost of \$6 per copy.

THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL AFFECTS
FIVE CITIES WITHIN THE VERDUGO-
SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAIN COMPLEX.

THE PROPOSAL, BASED ON EXISTING
OPEN SPACE PLANS ALREADY ADOPTED,
ENVISIONS LONG-TERM ACQUISITION
OF APPROXIMATELY 6,000 ACRES IN
THE VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS
AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,000
PER ACRE, THE EXACT BOUNDARIES TO
BE DEFINED BY SUITABLE PUBLIC
BODIES.

THE MOUNTAINOUS LAND ACQUIRED
FOR THE PUBLIC WILL BECOME AN
URBAN MOUNTAIN PARK FOR OUR
OWN AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This proposal was initiated with the knowledge and encouragement of Mrs. Emily Polk.

The completion of this work was possible because many individuals gave generously of their time, effort and special knowledge. It is impossible to mention them all. Special thanks are extended to Mrs. Sophie Stamos, Joseph Keefe, Jim Glaser, Chuck Bremberg, Gene Knight, Cecelia Coleman, Howard Finn, Peggy Edens, and Kay Franklin.

The cover was adapted with permission by Jane Conway from the cover of the Verdugo Mountain Scenic Parkway Design Report, published by the Planning Division, City of Glendale.

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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

INTRODUCTION

Six-thousand acres in the undeveloped portions of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains remain to be either developed for urban housing or to be left as a mountain inspiration to the hundreds of thousands of people encircling it (see text pages 53-55.) The mountains are a prime opportunity for a first and unique urban mountain park, a mountain island in the midst of metropolitan Los Angeles urban sprawl, teeming with wildlife and plant life and containing some rare and endangered species (see text pages 18-43.) The recreational potential of these mountains includes campgrounds and extensive trails which would be an integral part of a rim-of-the-San Fernando-Valley trail system (see text pages 56-60.) A car is not necessary to reach the area. It is surrounded by freeways, city streets, and an established bus network (see text pages 64-65.) Parks already exist which could serve as staging areas (page 64.)

The surrounding jurisdictions of Los Angeles, Glendale, La Canada-Flintridge, Pasadena, and Burbank are in agreement over the broad concept of an urban mountain park (pages 48-51, xxvi.) Many organizations as well, favor this concept (pages 51-52, xxvii-lvi.) In addition, recreational facilities in the ten-mile radius surrounding the mountains are not adequate (pages 5-12.) However, the pace at which development is encroaching up the slopes of these mountains indicates the need for immediate action if the park is to become a reality (pages 44-45.) Although twelve million dollars could probably purchase the land now, each year of waiting will increase the cost (pages 68-77.)

S.W.A.P PROPOSAL

The Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP) proposal envisions this mountain complex as an URBAN MOUNTAIN PARK

to be secured for the public in perpetuity by the various means available to public agencies. Through the concerted effort of individuals, local governing bodies, and state agencies, agreement could be reached on which remaining privately-owned lands shall be purchased for the park, and a comprehensive funding program can be planned to accomplish this purpose. Private citizens, organizations and businesses will need to donate money toward purchase of private land. Considerable local, state and federal funds will also be necessary. Lands publically owned would be combined with privately-owned undeveloped land which would be purchased for the public. This would link the already existing park land and complete one segment of a mountain park rim around the San Fernando Valley.

S.W.A.P. proposes that the undeveloped land in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain complex become an URBAN MOUNTAIN PARK, a mountain . highly accessible by public and private transportations, which will combine recreational areas for the people with both scenic and conservation areas. A park whose terrain offers a variety of trails: For the young or old, inexperienced as well as more rugged outdoorsman. A mountain park surrounded by development, but nevertheless a refuge and habitat for wildlife and extensively varied plant life. The following pages will document this need.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals for the Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park Proposal are proposed as basic guiding principles. To secure as an urban mountain park for the public domain we propose that individuals, along with their local governing bodies and state agencies, work in an orderly manner to:

GOAL: Agree on the boundaries of land to be purchased and land to be developed in the public interest.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Include for acquisition those areas selected for open space and/or conservation in the Glendale, La Canada-Flintridge, Los Angeles and Pasadena land use plans.

2. Include for acquisition the major and secondary ridges of the mountain ranges.
3. Evaluate areas which may be suitable for development within the scenic, conservation and recreational framework.

GOAL: Define areas of compatible recreational use, educational use and scenic reserves.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Plan recreational facilities adjacent to parking and staging areas for access to the mountain area.
2. Plan a sensitively devised trails system coordinated with locally proposed trail systems, the Gabrielino National Recreational Trail, and the Pacific Crest Trail.
3. Designate areas for day-use only, separate from primitive overnight campsites.
4. Set aside areas for educational purposes such as biological and zoological laboratories, archeological research and interpretive nature areas.
5. Maintain the scenic reserves which form the urban backdrop.

GOAL: Include land to be set aside for conservation purposes.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Preserve intermittent stream beds, springs and water table percolation resource areas.
2. Control and prevent stream and water pollution.
3. Conserve areas for wildlife refuge.
4. Preserve watershed areas and groves of oak and sycamore trees.
5. Protect rare and endangered plants and animals.
6. Preserve the mountains as a non-polluting area.

GOAL: Plan a comprehensive funding program including local, State, Federal and philanthropic sources.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Generate local enthusiasm and monetary support.
2. Gain local government financial support for purchase of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains.
3. Encourage the acquisition of state land adjacent to interstate highways for inclusion in the mountain park.
4. Obtain state and/or federal funds for purchase of land, planning and maintenance of a mountain park.
5. Encourage acquisition by gift or partial property rights.

SECTION II

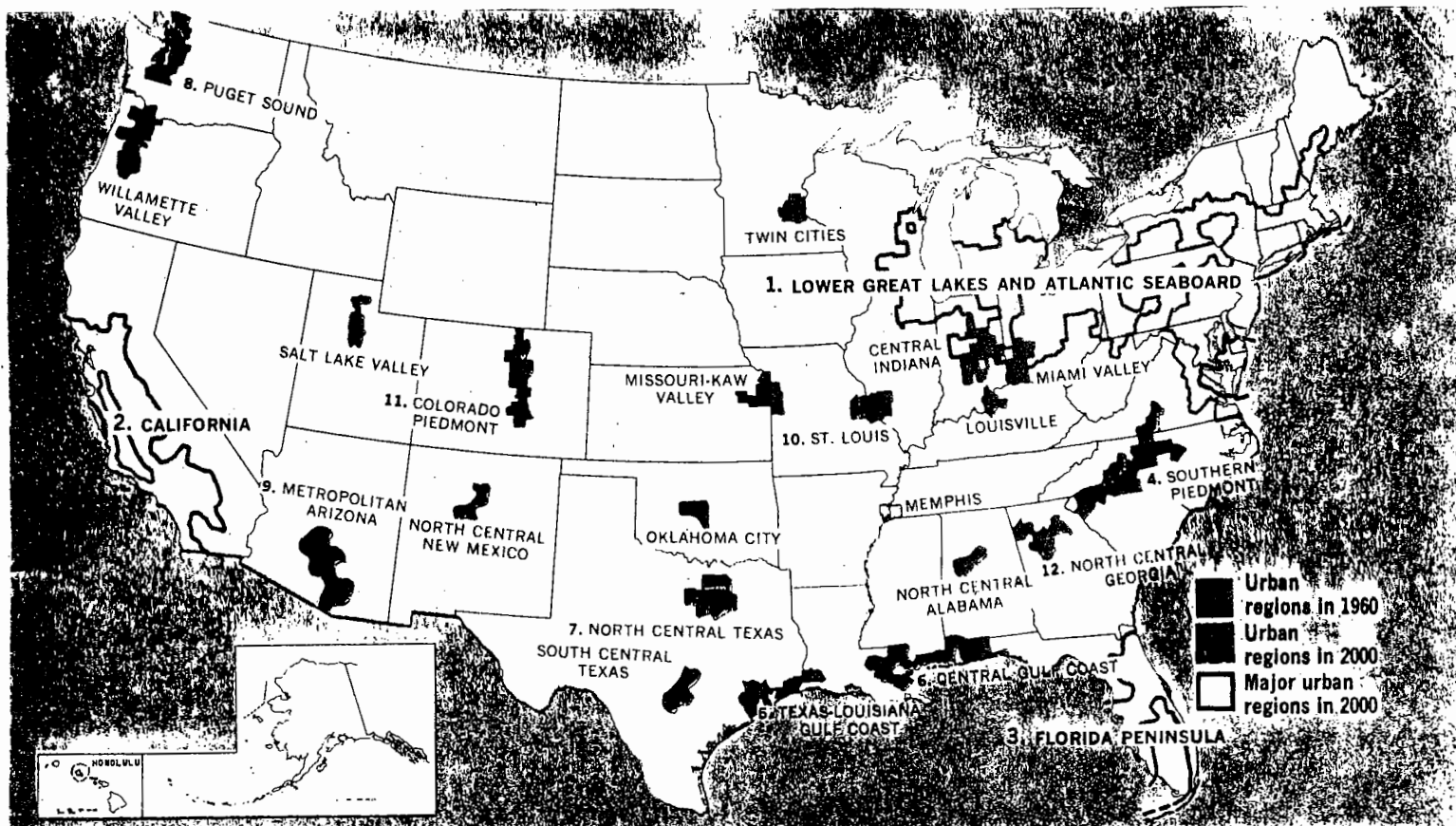
SURVEY OF OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL NEED
WITHIN A 10-MILE RADIUS OF THE
VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS

by NANCY CARSON
JANE CONWAY
ALICE CUGLEY

DEMAND PROJECTIONS

The apparent leveling-off of population growth in the greater Los Angeles area does not indicate a parallel leveling-off of open space demands. Long range national trends show a continuous shift of populations to the sunny temperate zone. Map 1 projects western California to become one of the three major urban areas in the U.S. by the year 2000.

U. S. MAJOR URBAN REGIONS IN 1960 AND 2000



Map compares the extent and location of U. S. major urban regions in 1960 and 2000 based on current population projections. The 12 largest urban regions, which are projected to absorb 85% of the nation's population growth over the next 30 years, are numbered in order of population size. Urban areas within the three major urban regions are omitted for simplicity. The map originally appeared in *Dimensions of Metropolitanism* by Jerome P. Pickard and published by Urban Land Institute. Pickard, former ULI research director, is now with the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development,

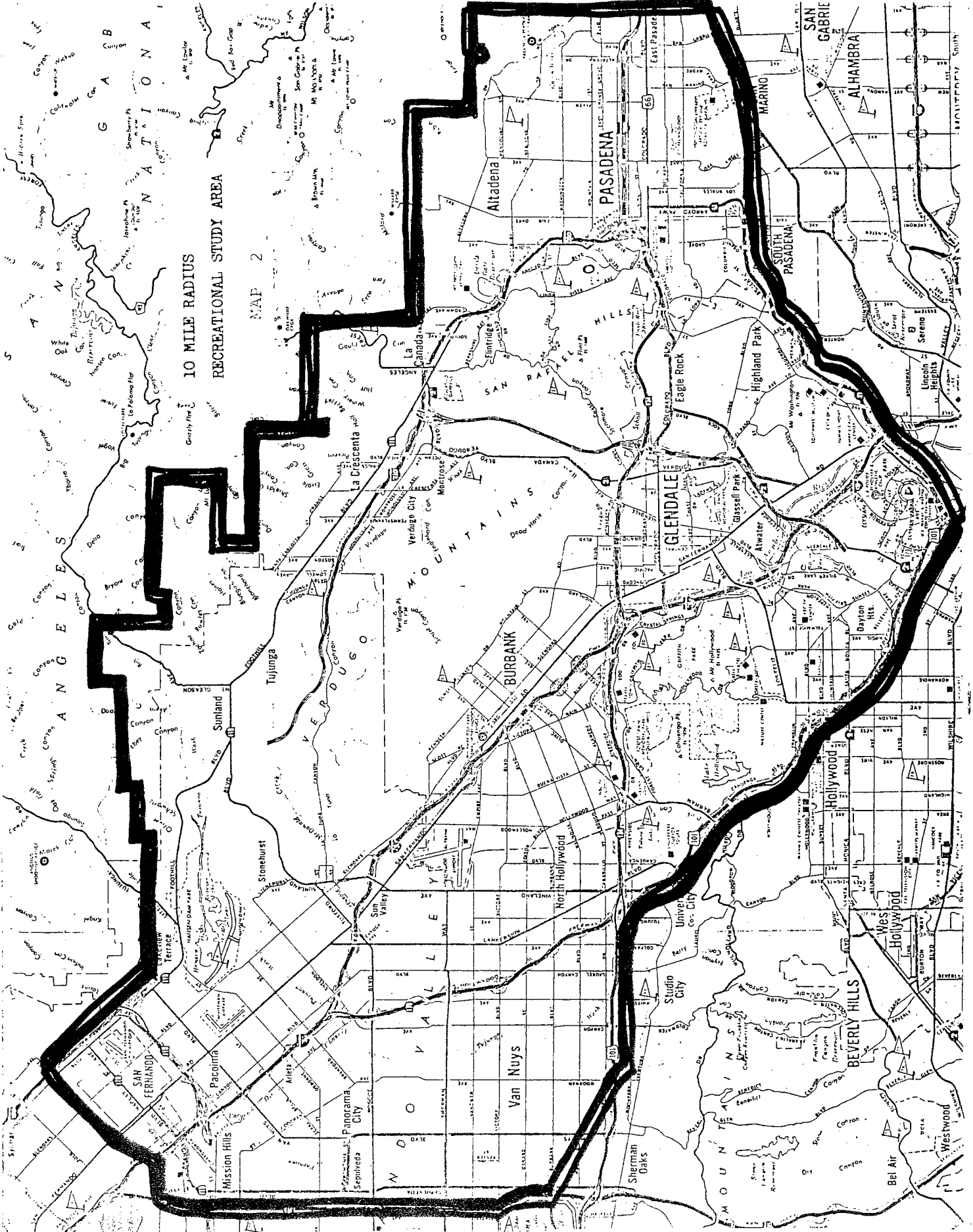
MAP 1

SAVINGS AND LOAN NEWS, June 1970

The more urbanized the western half of California becomes, the more critical will be our need for open space. Under Article 1, Section 5622 of Chapter 3.2 added in May, 1976, to Chapter 5 of the Public Resources Code, and which relates to the California Urban Open-Space and Recreation Program, is the following statement: "(a) the demand for recreation areas, facilities and programs in California is far greater than the present supply, with the number of people who cannot be accommodated at the area of their choice or any comparable area increasing rapidly, and (b) the demand for recreation areas, facilities, and programs in the urban areas of our state are even greater: over 90 per cent of the present population of California reside in urban areas; there continues to be approximately a 30 per cent deficiency in open space and recreation areas in the metropolitan areas of the state; less urban land is available, costs are escalating, and competition for land is increasing, and ... (d) by 1980, the need for local recreation areas, facilities and programs will be nearly twice as great as presently required, and (e) by 1980, unless the lands and waters that hold recreation potential today are acquired or reserved for recreation as soon as possible, there will be a marked shortage of recreation lands and waters on a local and regional basis."

RECREATIONAL NEED

The metropolitan Los Angeles area exemplifies the regional shortage of recreational facilities. Outdoor Recreation Plan, 1972, showed a shortage of regional park facilities in all sections of Los Angeles County except within the boundaries of the Angeles National Forest and in the area surrounding Griffith Park. The latter area, although judged adequate in developed regional facilities, is considered to have only 40 per cent of the required amount of natural open space.



10 MILE RADIUS
RECREATIONAL STUDY AREA

MAP 2

Although little of Angeles National Forest lies within ten miles of the Verdugo-San Rafael Range, Angeles Crest Highway, Big Tujunga Canyon Road and Little Tujunga Road provide convenient access for persons living in the foothills. The forest offers challenging trails for experienced hikers and riders, but the ruggedness of the terrain, the danger of becoming lost and the extreme fluctuations between day and night-time temperatures are hazardous for the inexperienced.

Within a ten-mile radius of the Verdugo Complex are seven existing or developing major recreation facilities totaling about 8,150 acres, of which about 6,000 acres are improved. Most of these parks emphasize active recreation, and little is done to encourage use for open space recreation. Los Angeles County facilities serve some 4,000,000 people a year; Glendale 1,500,000; Burbank more than 2,000,000. This intensive use even now is seriously straining the capacity and quality of the facilities. The present open space areas that depend on natural charm are being damaged. And recreational demands can only grow. There are approximately 6,000 horses within the ten-mile area, but few equestrian trails. The most extensive trails, 53 miles, are maintained in Griffith Park and about 1,500 people use those trails each weekend. Overuse of active recreational facilities would be eased by accommodating those who prefer undeveloped recreation areas. The obvious and overdue choice of prime recreational land, a larger twin of the intensively used Griffith Park, is the Verdugo-San Rafael Range.

MAJOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WITHIN A 10 MILE RADIUS

MAJOR RECREATION FACILITIES EXISTING IN THE VERDUGO MOUNTAINS:

BRAND PARK, operated by the Glendale Parks and Recreation Division, contains approximately 660 acres, only 60 of which are improved. Facilities provided are a play mall, picnic area,

art center and library. A short pathway north of Brand Library is the only official hiking trail in Glendale. No equestrian trails exist; however, routes have been proposed, mostly along already established fire roads.

STOUGH PARK, WILDWOOD CANYON and DEBELL GOLF COURSE, operated by the Burbank Parks and Recreation Department, contain over 700 acres. Stough Park (103 acres) has a 1-1/2 acre developed park with picnic areas and playlot, day camp area, Boy Scout camp, Starlight Bowl Outdoor Amphitheatre with seating for 6,000 persons providing a stage for everything from family movies to rock concerts, scenic vista parking area providing views of the San Fernando Valley and downtown Los Angeles. Facilities in Wildwood Canyon (500 acres) include hiking trail system, picnic areas, overnight group camping by permit. Debell Golf Course (113 acres) includes an 18-hole par 72 golf course, 9-hole par 3 golf course, driving range, clubhouse with restaurant, bar and pro shop.

CAMP MAX STRAUS (Private), owned by Jewish Big Brothers is 112 acres and is the only major camping facility in the Verdugo Complex. It has a capacity of 150 children. The camp is used exclusively by Jewish Big Brothers during school vacations to provide camping experience for children, mostly County Welfare cases. The camp is open to youth groups at other times of the year.

MAJOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES EXISTING IN THE SAN RAFAEL HILLS:

SCHOLL CANYON PARK, operated by the Glendale Parks and Recreation Division, contains 440 acres, of which 37 acres are improved. Existing facilities include picnic area, play area, overnight campsite, ball fields. Golf course, driving range and tennis courts are planned. The City intends this park to become the major active recreational facility in Glendale.

BROOKSIDE PARK, operated by the Pasadena Parks Department, contains over 500 acres. Facilities include golf courses, tennis courts, multiple participant sports facilities and

picnic grounds. The Rose Bowl is located here.

DESCANSO GARDENS (Specialized Facility), operated by the Los Angeles County Arboreta and Botanic Gardens Department, contains 165 acres of botanic gardens.

MAJOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES EXISTING WITHIN TEN MILES OF THE VERDUGO COMPLEX:

GRIFFITH PARK, containing over 4,000 acres, is operated by the Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department.

Facilities include museums, boys' campground, girls' campground, children's arts and crafts center and theater, golf courses, Greek Theater, observatory and planetarium, picnic grounds, zoo, recreation park, tennis courts and 53 miles of equestrian and hiking trails. It is estimated that 1,500 people use the equestrian trails on an average weekend.

ELYSIAN PARK, approximately 575 acres, is operated by the Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department. Facilities include picnic grounds, tennis courts, ball fields and multiple participant sports facilities. Dodger Stadium adjoins the park.

HANSEN DAM RECREATION AREA, partially developed, includes over 1,400 acres leased by the City of Los Angeles from the Federal Government. Facilities provide for water sports and include picnic areas, golf course and 15 miles of equestrian and hiking trails.

ARROYO SECO-SYCAMORE GROVE PARKS, approximately 300 acres, are operated by the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department. Facilities include picnic grounds, tennis courts, bowling green, soapbox derby roadway, equestrian trails and bicycle trails.

EATON CANYON PARK, about 180 acres, is operated by the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department. Facilities include picnic grounds, nature center, equestrian and hiking trails and golf course.

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST, containing 693,000 acres, is operated by the U.S. Forest Service. This vast area of the San Gabriel Mountains provides numerous and diverse recreational facilities; however, few exist within ten miles of the Verdugo Complex.

SEPULVEDA DAM RECREATION AREA lies outside but adjacent to the 10-mile radius recreational study area. The City of Los Angeles leases over 1,600 acres from the Federal Government for recreational purposes. Less than half of this is improved. Facilities include golf courses, an 80-acre major sports field containing tennis courts and multiple participant sports facilities and a 20-acre picnic area.

POPULATION FIGURES

Within a ten-mile radius of the Verdugo Complex is a population of approximately 1,080,000 persons. Population declined in Los Angeles after 1972, but 1976 city, county and state estimates indicate a sudden upswing. Statistics of the Glendale Planning Division show an increase of just under 7,000 since the 1970 census, while the Burbank Planning Department estimates a loss of about 1,000 during the same period. Pasadena Planning Dept. does not have figures for the same period, but State figures show an increase.

The approximate boundaries of populated areas within 10 miles of the Verdugo Complex are shown on Map 2. The area includes the cities and communities shown on Figure 1.

POPULATION COMPLEX OF CITIES AND COMMUNITIES WITHIN A 10-MILE RADIUS

FIGURE 1

	Total Population	Blacks	Spanish American	Median Family Income	Over Age 65 Population	Over Age 65 Perce Population
Altadena	42,349	11,486	6.4%	\$12,043	4,968	11.6
Burbank	88,894	*	10.6%	11,501	9,277	10.44
Glendale	132,774	*	10.3%	11,651	20,744	15.6
LaCañada- Flintridge	20,822	*	5.2%	20,302	1,337	6.4
LaCrescenta- Montrose	19,585	*	6.2%	12,775	1,746	8.9
Pasadena	113,254	18,352	11.5%	10,817	19,391	17.1
San Fernando	16,523	*	49.0%	8,803	1,894	11.4

The following geographic divisions of Los Angeles:

Hollywood	**79,788	**1,731	14.0%	9,935	29,027	24.1
Mission Hills- Panorama City- Sepulveda	***69,550	*	14.0%	12,306	5,562	7.8
N.E. Los Angeles	**91,926	** 737	49.0%	9,191	19,981	21.5
N. Los Angeles	90,068	*	11.0%	10,526	10,298	11.4
Pacoima- Sun Valley	100,071	14,401	30.0%	10,380	4,671	4.6
Silver Lake- Echo Park	66,557	900	42.0%	8,757	8,006	12.0
Sunland- Tujunga- Shadow Hills- Lakeview Terr.	37,682	726	11.0%	11,702	2,945	7.7
Van Nuys	****94,889	*	10.0%	11,376	8,854	9.2
Verdugo Mts.	15,895	*	8.0%	12,348	1,223	7.6

* Black population of less than 400.

** The region indicated by map 2 of study area, does not, in some cases, coincide with the geographic divisions used by the Los Angeles Department of City Planning. Roughly 50% of the Hollywood and Northeast Los Angeles divisions lie within the region. In both cases, population figures were arbitrarily reduced by 50%.

*** Roughly 2/3 of the Mission Hills-Panorama City-Sepulveda division lies within the region, and in this case the population figures were reduced by 1/3.

**** A small portion of the Van Nuys division is outside the region, but population figures were not adjusted.

SECTION III.

OVERVIEW OF VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS

LOCATION AND OUTSTANDING FEATURES

The Verdugo and San Rafael Mountains constitute a thirteen-mile long, isolated foothill range of the San Gabriel Mountains. This range tends northwest to southeast separating San Fernando Valley on the western margin from La Crescenta Valley to the north and San Gabriel Valley to the east. The smaller Verdugo Valley separates the Verdugo Mountains on the northwest from the San Rafaels at the southeast.

The valleys which surround the complex show a gradual decreased elevation in feet above sea level as measurement moves from north to south. Therefore, the maximum relief between the base elevation and the southern mountain peaks is greater and visually more pronounced than the northern peaks. Overall, the total range has a very rugged topography with many steep canyons. The canyon bottoms are moderately sloped for most of their length, but are very steep as they abut the main ridge. The ridge lines are also moderately sloped for most of their length; but at their outer extremities, where they reach out into the valleys, they drop suddenly.

The San Rafael Hills, at the southeastern tip of the range, are a little less than one-half the length of the total range. The main ridge runs north-south. Three lesser ridges run east-west. These hills have two long east-west canyon systems. Although the terrain is not as precipitous as the Verdugo Mountains, 46.6% of the land has a slope of 50% or greater, whereas 60% of the Verdugos has this slope. The southern base has an elevation of 720 feet, the northern base is 1280 feet. Flint Peak (1,889 feet) is the highest point. The stream bed of the Arroyo Seco along the eastern border has a northern base of 1080 feet and slopes to a base of 720 feet at the southeastern tip of the San Rafaels. The San Rafael Range is 4-1/2 miles wide while the Verdugo range is 3-1/2 miles wide.

The principal feature of the Verdugo Mountains is the ridgetop extending the length of the mountains. The southern base of the Verdugos is 600 feet, ascending northerly to Mt. Thom (2,482 feet) and then Mt. Verdugo (3,126 feet). Farther north the mountains are bisected by the long, east-west La Tuna Canyon (1,400 feet elevation). North of this canyon the maximum height reached is 1881 feet, until at Sunland Boulevard the elevation is 1440 feet. The visual relief of the variations in elevation of the ridge is accentuated by twelve steep primary canyon systems which flank the main ridge and are roughly at right angles to the main ridge.

Within the canyons of the Verdugo-San Rafael mountain complex, most of the minor drainage courses and tributary streams flow only during the winter rainy season and for a short time after. Springs at elevations of up to 2000 feet are a major source of water feeding the permanent canyon streams. An additional water supply for perennial streams has a more circuitous route. The generally fractured condition of the bedrock allows for percolation and transmission of great quantities of water. Permeable surface material also becomes saturated leaving relatively small amounts of water for surface runoff. Water within the fractured rock is slowly released in the deep canyon bottoms supplying perennial springs. Much of the runoff is absorbed by the soil, contributing to the growth and density of the vegetation. Water from the canyons of the Verdugo watershed contributes to the San Fernando Valley and La Crescenta-Verdugo drainage basins. The San Rafael watershed contributes to the La Canada-Verdugo Valleys and Arroyo Seco drainage basins.

The south-facing slopes which are warmer and drier support spotty clumps of vegetation interspersed with rocky outcroppings. The vegetation helps prevent soil erosion and mudslides.

In spite of the beneficial effects of the vegetation, erosion occurs at a rather rapid rate due to repeated uplift of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains, the height and steepness of the slopes, the fractured and weathered state of the rock, the high intensity of rainfall during winter storms, and the loss of a protective cover of vegetation for a short period after a fire.

EARLY CALIFORNIA HISTORY OF THE MOUNTAIN COMPLEX

Past generations have also loved these mountains, which originally were not known as the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains. The old indian name for the land near the mountain complex was Hahamongna. No translation is available. The present names are derived from one of the oldest Spanish land grants in California, Rancho de Los Verdugo. The Mexican governor gave the grazing rights to Jose Maria Berdugo, pronounced Verdugo, October 20, 1784. These rights enabled him to keep horses and cattle on 36,400-acres west of the Arroyo Hondo and midway between Mission San Gabriel and Mission San Fernando. When Berdugo was later given title to the land in 1798, its official name became Rancho San Rafael. Within this rancho is the Verdugo-San Rafael mountain complex. The larger western mountain range is now called the Verdugo Mountains and the southeastern portion is called the San Rafael Mountains. The San Rafaels are separated from the Verdugos by the long north-south canyon (the Verdugo Canyon) which bisects the mountain complex. Perhaps this canyon was the inspiration for the nickname Berdugo gave his ranch, La Zanja (the ditch). On his rancho, Berdugo had little village enclosures for the Gabrielino Indians who worked on the ranch, calling it Haleameupet.

Berdugo's Rancho San Rafael is of interest to all Californians because of its contribution to the Cahuenga Treaty. Prior to the treaty signed at Cahuenga Pass where the Spanish-speaking

settlers of California surrendered to the invading American forces, there was a very important pre-surrender conference at Rancho San Rafael under a particular oak tree. Here a leader of the armed resistance against the Americans, Jesus Pico, played an important role. He had been ordered hanged but was freed by Lt. Col. Fremont of the American forces. On January 11, 1847, at the Oak of Peace in Verdugo Canyon, Jesus Pico was able to convince two leaders of the Californios (his brother, General Andres Pico and Governor Flores) that resistance to Fremont's large army would be futile. A few days later the peace treaty was signed at Cahuenga. The "Oak of Peace", "Surrender Oak", or "Pico Oak" in the Verdugo Canyon was designated a state historical marker in 1958. Both the oak and the adjacent Verdugo Adobe were named to the National Register of Historical Places in 1976.

Since early in California history the Indians had been inhabitants of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains. Food supplies would have been adequate, i.e. oak acorns, wildlife, and water in the north facing canyons. There has not been an archeological survey of the mountains although arrowheads and acorn grinding rocks have been found. One Indian village was on a small hill near the present day Oakmont Country Club in Glendale. Of course, the Indians probably knew the whole mountain complex. At the southern extreme of the mountain range complex, the name the Indians gave to a large rock has survived to the present. This 150 foot rock at the southeastern tip of the San Rafael Mountains they called "Eagle Rock" because of its distinguishing feature, the figure of an eagle. Eagle Rock is a Los Angeles City historical marker.

At the other extreme of the mountain complex, Indians were

cultivating land by the year 1795. This northern tip of the Verdugo mountain area was known by an indian name "Tejunga" of which the southern Paiute translation is "Mountain Range". It is appropriate to mention the Tujunga area in this history because a small portion of the Verdugo Mountains spilled outside of the northern border of Rancho San Rafael and into the southern most part of Rancho Tejunga. Rancho Tejunga was granted to Francisco and Pedro Lopez by the Mexican governor Alvarado on December 5, 1840. The grant contained approximately one and one-half square Mexican leagues or 6,660.71 acres. Pedro Lopez had for many years been the mayordomo of the Mission San Fernando which had been broken up a few years earlier by the government. In May 1845 Francisco and Pedro Lopez traded Rancho Tejunga to Miguel Triunfo (Triunfo) in exchange for Rancho Cahuenga. Triunfo, a captain of the guard at the San Fernando Mission and former mission indian, sold the Rancho five years later, after it had become U.S. territory.²

Ownership of both the Verdugo and San Rafael Mountains changed many times. At one time mining was done in the Verdugos. Mainly the long canyons were settled, but the rest of the mountains, because of the terrain, was left undisturbed. Wildlife flourished, including the larger animals. Verification of this is the fact the last native Grizzly Bear (*Ursus Californius*) was shot in Big Tujunga Canyon in 1916. Forty years ago bobcats were still common in the mountains. In 1978, however, the closest verified sighting of a bobcat was north of the San Gabriel Mountains and the nearest mountain lion was found just to the north of Santa Barbara. Probably the freeways have prevented their journeys out of the San Gabriels.

BIOLOGICAL INTRODUCTION

By Bonnie Koploy

Plant Communities -- The following plant communities exist within the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains: 1) Valley Grassland, 2) Coastal Sage Scrub, 3) Chaparral, 4) Southern Oak Woodland, 5) Riparian (streamside) Woodland and 6) Dry Rocky Slopes.

- 1) Valley Grassland. This community was dominant in past years on the floor of the San Fernando Valley. Due to urbanization, it has become extinct in that area and now exists only in a few small areas on the western and southwestern slopes of the Verdugos. Disturbed grasslands may be found along the various fire roads.

The original dominant of this area was Needle Grass (*Stipa pulchra*). Since the Spanish days, however, this perennial bunchgrass has largely been replaced by weedy Mediterranean dominants such as Wild Oats (*Avena*), Brome Grass (*Bromus*) and Filaree (*Erodium*). This community contains many species of spring-flowering wild flowers and in years of favorable rainfall presents spectacular floral displays. These flowers include Lupine (*Lupinus*), Forget-me-not (*Cryptantha*), Wild Canterbury Bells (*Phacelia*), and California Poppy (*Escholtzia*).

- 2) Coastal Sage Scrub. Coastal Sage Scrub occurs on the lower slopes of the southern and western Verdugo. This community penetrates the chaparral and often blends with it. It is an open scrub of soft-fragrant shrubs averaging 3 feet in height. The spring-flowering dominants include California Sage Brush (*Artemesia*), Sage (*Salvia* spp.) and California Buckwheat (*Eriogonum*). In the late winter there are

spectacular displays of Goldenbush (Happlopappus). The aromatic oils and resins of many of the coastal sage plants, particularly the mints and sagebrush, give this community a pleasant odor, especially after rainfall.

- 3) Chaparral. Chaparral is largely composed of tall shrubs and short trees that often form an impenetrable "elfin forest". Most of the plants are evergreen, bearing small, thick leathery leaves that resist evaporation. The chaparral is the largest and most diverse community within the study area, and during thousands of years of evolution has evolved characteristics to survive the environment. The plants thrive on the rocky soils of steep slopes, from the mid-slope to the ridge tops, adapting to the harsh climate, meager soils, occasional strong winds and fire. They have the advantage of long root systems that can reach down to water sources trapped deep in fractured bedrock. The roots give structural support to the soil which allows for more water absorption and less surface runoff. Dominant plants include: Sumac (*Rhus* spp.), Chamise (*Adenostoma*), Mountain Lilac (*Ceanothus*), Elderberry (*Sambucus*), Toyon or California Holly (*Heteromeles*) and Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus*).

- 4) Oak Woodland Communities. Oak Woodland Communities require more water than the other three communities. Oak Woodland is typically found on the lower slopes to the north and east of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains. These plants prefer moist canyon bottoms where there is a build-up of alluvial materials. The dominant plants here are: California Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and Poison Oak (*Rhus diversiloba*).

An understory of shrubs is associated with this community. A number of chaparral plants with larger leaves and a greener appearance are found within the South Oak Woodland Community.

Much of this community has been lost to development. The California Live Oak is particularly sensitive to smog, earth disturbances and oak-rotting fungi caused by overwatering which kills the tree.

Acorns produced by these trees were a primary staple food of the local Indians in pre-Spanish days. They continue to be a significant source of food for such wildlife as woodrats, deer, woodpeckers and squirrels. Archeological sites may be found in this community.

- 5) Riparian Woodland. This community occurs along the bottom of the Verdugo wash and extends up into the mountains along the major ravines and canyons of the north-facing slopes, where there is permanent standing or running water. Again, most of this community can no longer be found in its native state. Some modified remnants exist in the area of La Crescenta Park, Henderson Canyon, Engleheard Canyon and some canyons feeding into La Tuna Canyon. The dominant plants include several species of large deciduous trees such as Sycamore (Platanus), Alder (Alnus), and Willow (Salix). In addition there are many herbaceous species along the water course: e.g. Cattails (Typha) and Water-Cress (Rorippa). These species increase for several years, then the canyons are scoured clean by floods when rainfall is heavier than normal. This natural clean-out and renewal of the Riparian Woodland has been eliminated along the Verdugo Wash due to the channelization of the stream bed.

Riparian Woodland communities are particularly significant and very rare in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains. They are the most important perennial source of water for wildlife. Every attempt must be made to conserve these habitats. Human structures or activity around these areas discourages wildlife from obtaining the water it vitally needs.

- 6) Dry Rocky Slopes. Talus slopes of small rocks and rock faces with crevices for plant growth provide a variety of habitats for plant life, especially on the south-facing slopes.

Most of the plants of the above-mentioned communities endure in spite of low rainfall. Some thrive in spite of forest fires. Fire vaporizes certain growth-inhibiting substances that are normally released into the soil from certain shrubs such as the chamise. These substances in more normal times give competing species a better chance to become established. Plants having seeds which will only germinate if touched by fire include the mountain lilac, sugar bush, and some of the manzanitas. Some plants are able to sprout from buds on the root crowns which are protected below ground. These plants include the toyon, mountain mahogany, manzanita, chamise, and scrub oak. Seeds of fire annuals can remain viable in the soil for as long as a hundred years or more.

RARE AND ENDANGERED PLANTS

Since no complete botanical surveys exist for these mountains, it is impossible to state how many rare or endangered plant species are present. Certain isolated canyons do possess such unique species as the Tiger Lily

(*Lilium humboldtii*), which is rare in the Los Angeles area. The presence of this species certainly indicates that other rare species may be present in the area. Soft-stemmed Lupine (*Lupinus mollisifolius*), a member of the coastal sage community and rare wildflowers; Nevin's Barberry (*Barberis nevinni*), Plum Mariposa Lily (*Calochortum plummerae*), and Slender-horned Chorizanthe (*Chorizanthe leptoceras*) probably exist in this area and have been declared very rare and endangered by the California Native Plant Society. The presence of the Bur Chervil (*Anthriscus scandicina*) has been verified and is important because it is not considered a southern California plant. This location is an unexpected extension of its range.

The following list is drawn from botanical surveys made of selected areas of the mountains and should not be considered complete.

PLANTS OF THE VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS

The plants included were observed by the following authorities:

GH - George Hale, Biology consultant and Professor of Botany (retired),
Los Angeles Valley College.

BK - Bonnie Koploy, former Assistant Professor of Biology, Glendale
College.

JK - Joseph Keefe, Instructor of Botany, Glendale College.

WW - Walt Wright, PhD., Professor of Botany, Pomona College

Rare - Rare or endangered species

Range - Range extention, not previously recorded from Southern California
Ext.

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
BK, JK	<u>Acer macrophyllum</u>	Big leaf maple
GH, BK, JK	<u>Adenostoma fasciculatum</u>	Chamise
BK, JK	<u>Adiantum jordani</u>	Maidenhair fern
JK	<u>Agoseris sp.</u>	Goat chicory
BK	<u>Alnus rhombifolia</u>	White alder
GH, BK	<u>Amaranthus albus</u>	Tumble weed
JK	<u>Ambrosia acanthicarpa</u>	Sandbur
BK, JK	<u>Amorpha californica</u>	False indigo
BK, JK	<u>Anagallis arvensis</u>	Scarlet pimpernel
GH, BK, JK	<u>Ageratina adenophorum</u>	Eupatorium

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Anaphalis margaritacea</u>	Pearly everlasting
Range Ext. JK	<u>Anthriscus scandicina</u>	Bur chervil
GH	<u>Arctostaphylos glanclulosa</u> <u>ssp. mollis</u>	Eastwood Manzanita
BK, JK	<u>Artemesia Californica</u>	California sagebrush
GH, BK, JK	<u>Artemisia douglasiana</u>	Mugwort
JK	<u>Arundo donax</u>	Giant cane
BK, JK	<u>Avena fatua</u>	Wild oats
BK, JK	<u>Baccharis glutinosa</u>	Mule fat
BK, JK	<u>Berberis dictoyota</u>	Barberry
Rare BK, JK	<u>Berberis nevinii</u>	Nevin's Barberry (Cultivated at Descanso Gardens)
BK	<u>Bloomeria crocea</u>	Golden Stars
BK, JK	<u>Brassica campestris</u>	Mustard
BK	<u>Brassica geniculata</u>	Mustard
BK, GH	<u>Brassica nigra</u>	Black mustard
GH, JK	<u>Brickellia californica</u>	California brickel bush
BK, JK	<u>Brodiaea pulchella</u>	Blue disks
JK, WW	<u>Bromus carinatus</u>	California brome grass
GH, JK, WW	<u>Bromus diandrus</u>	Ripgut grass
GH	<u>Bromus madritensis</u>	Foxtail chess
JK, WW	<u>Bromus marginatus</u>	Margined brome
JK	<u>Bromus mollis</u>	Soft Brome Grass
GH	<u>Bromus pseudolaevipes</u>	Woodland brome
GH, JK	<u>Bromus rubens</u>	Red Brome grass (foxtail chess)

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
GH	<u>Calandrinia ciliata var. menziesii</u>	Red maids
Rare	<u>Calochortus plummerae</u>	Plume mariposa lily
JK	<u>Camissonia californica</u>	California evening primrose
JK	<u>Camissonia intermedia</u>	Evening primrose
JK	<u>Camissonia micrantha?</u>	Small flowered evening primrose
GH	<u>Carex alma?</u>	Sedge
JK, WW	<u>Carex nebraskensis ?</u>	Nebraska sedge
GH, BK, JK	<u>Ceanothus crassifolius</u>	Hoary - leaved ceanothus
BK, JK	<u>Ceanothus megacarpus</u>	Large-fruited ceanothus
BK, JK	<u>Ceanothus oliganthus</u>	Green leaf ceanothus
GH, JK	<u>Centaurea melitensis</u>	Tocalote star thistle
GH, JK	<u>Centaureum venustum</u>	Canchalagua
GH, BK, JK	<u>Cercocarpus betuloides</u>	Mountain mahogany
GH	<u>Chaenactis artemisaefolia</u>	Artemisia - leaved chaenactis
JK	<u>Chaenactis glabruescula</u> <u>var. curta</u>	Chaenactus
JK	<u>Chenopodium spp.</u>	Goose foot
GH	<u>Chenopodium album</u>	Lamb's quarter
BK, JK	<u>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</u>	Soap plant
Rare	<u>Chorizanthe leptoceras</u>	Slender - horned Chorizanthe
JK	<u>Clarkia pupurea var. quadrivulnera</u>	Clarkia
BK, JK	<u>Clarkia unguiculata</u>	Elegant clarkia
BK, JK	<u>Clematis sp.</u>	Virgin's bower
BK, JK	<u>Cirsium californicum</u>	California thistle
GH, BK	<u>Cirsium occidentale</u>	Western thistle
JK	<u>Cistus sp.</u>	Rockrose (European native, a Caltrans planting)

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
GH	<u>Collinsia heterophylla</u>	Chinese houses
JK	<u>Conium maculatum</u>	Poison hemlock
JK	<u>Conyza canadensis</u>	Horse weed
GH, BK, JK	<u>Corethrogyne filaginifolia</u>	Brush style aster
JK	<u>Cortaderia atacamensis</u>	Pampas grass
JK	<u>Cotula sp.</u>	Brass buttons
JK	<u>Crassula erecta</u>	Pigmy crassula
BK	<u>Cryptantha intermedia</u>	White forget-me-not
GH	<u>Cryptantha microstachys</u>	Tejon cryptantha
GH, JK	<u>Cryptantha muricata</u>	Prickley Cryptantha
JK, BK	<u>Cryptantha sp.</u>	Popcorn flower
BK, JK	<u>Cupressus sp.</u>	Cypress (introduced)
GH, BK	<u>Cuscuta ceanothi</u>	Canyon dodder
JK	<u>Cynodon dactylon</u>	Bermuda grass
JK	<u>Cytisus scoparius</u>	Scotch broom
GH, JK	<u>Datisca glomerata</u>	Datisca
BK, JK	<u>Datura metaloides</u>	Jimson weed
BK, JK	<u>Delphinium cardinale</u>	Scarlet larkspur
BK, JK	<u>Dendromecon rigida</u>	Tree poppy
GH, JK	<u>Dryopteris arguta</u>	Coastal wood fern
BK, JK	<u>Dudleya edulis</u>	Live forever
GH, BK, JK	<u>Elymus condensatus</u>	Giant wild rye grass
GH	<u>Emmenanthe penduliflora</u>	Whispering bells
JK	<u>Eremocarpus setigerus</u>	Dove weed
JK	<u>Eriastrum saphirinum</u>	Eriastrum

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Erigeron foliosa</u>	Lavender aster
JK	<u>Eriodictyon crassifolium</u>	Yerba santa
JK	<u>Eriogonum elongatum</u>	Elongate buck-wheat
GH, BK, JK	<u>Eriogonum fasciculatum</u>	Wild california buckwheat
GH, BK, JK	<u>Eriophyllum confertiflorum</u>	Golden yarrow
GH, BK, JK	<u>Erodium cicutarium</u>	Red-stemmed filaree
JK	<u>Erysimum capitatum</u>	Wall flower
BK, JK	<u>Eschscholtzia californica</u>	California poppy
GH, JK	<u>Eucrypta chrysanthemifolia</u>	Hide-Flower
JK	<u>Euphorbia melanadenia</u>	Euphorbia
JK	<u>Euphorbia peplus</u>	Petty spurge
GH	<u>Festuca megalura</u>	Foxtail fescue
JK	<u>Festuca sp.</u>	Festuca grass
JK	<u>Filago gallica</u>	Thread plant
GH, JK	<u>Galium angustifolium</u>	Narrow-leaved Bedstraw
GH, JK	<u>Galium aparine</u>	Bedstraw
GH	<u>Garrya veatchii</u>	Silk-tassel Bush
JK	<u>Gilia capitata</u>	Gilia
GH, BK	<u>Gnaphalium californicum</u>	California everlasting
GH	<u>Gnaphalium microcephalum</u>	White Everlasting
GH, JK	<u>Gnaphalium peregrinum</u>	Wandering everlasting
GH, JK	<u>Haplopappus squarrosus</u>	Goldenbush
GH	<u>Helianthemum scoparium</u>	Rock Rose

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
GH	<u>Helianthus gracilentus</u>	Slender sunflower
GH, BK, JK	<u>Heteromeles arbutifolia</u>	Toyon, California holly
JK	<u>Heterotheca grandiflora</u>	Telegraph weed
GH	<u>Hordeum glaucum</u>	Wild barley
JK	<u>Horedum leporium</u>	Foxtail grass
JK	<u>Hordeum vulgare</u>	Foxtail grass
GH, BK, JK	<u>Keckiella cordifolius</u>	Heart-leaf penstemon
GH, BK, JK	<u>Lathyrus laetiflorus</u>	Wild sweet pea
JK	<u>Lepidospartum squamatum</u>	Broom-scale
GH, BK, JK	<u>Leptodactylon californicum</u>	Prickly phlox
GH, BK, JK	<u>Lilium humboldtii var. ocellatum</u>	Humboldt tiger lily
GH	<u>Lithophragma heterophylla</u>	Woodland star
JK	<u>Lolium sp.</u>	Perennial Rye Grass
JK	<u>Lonicera interrupta</u>	Honeysuckle
GH, JK	<u>Lonicera subspicata var. johnstonii</u>	Southern honeysuckle
GH, BK, JK.	<u>Lotus scoparius</u>	Deerweed
JK	<u>Lotus purshianus</u>	Pink lotus
JK	<u>Lotus strigosus</u>	Hairy lotus
JK	<u>Lupinus longifolius</u>	Tall-leaved
JK	<u>Lupinus sparsiflorus</u>	Few-flowered lupine
JK	<u>Lupinus truncatus</u>	Truncated lupine
JK	<u>Luzula sp.</u>	Luzula grass
GH	<u>Malacothannus fasciculatus</u>	False Mallow

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
GH, JK	<u>Malacothrix saxalilis var. tenuifolia</u>	Chaparral dandelion
BK, JK	<u>Marah macrocarpa</u>	Wild cucumber
BK, JK	<u>Marchantia sp.</u>	Liverwort
GH, BK, JK	<u>Marrubium vulgare</u>	Horehound
JK	<u>Melica sp.</u>	Melic grass
GH, JK, WW	<u>Melica imperfecta</u>	Melic grass
BK, JK	<u>Melilotus indicus</u>	Sweet clover
JK	<u>Microseris heterocarpa</u>	Small grassland dandelion
JK	<u>Mimulus sp.</u>	Monkey flower
GH, BK, JK	<u>Mimulus cardinalis</u>	Scarlet monkey flower
JK	<u>Mimulus guttatus</u>	Stream monkey flower
JK	<u>Mimulus floribundus</u>	Many-flowered monkey flower
GH, BK, JK	<u>Mimulus longiflorus</u>	Sticky monkey flower
JK	<u>Mirabilis laevis</u>	Four-o'clock
GH	<u>Navarretia atractyloides</u>	Thistle Navarretia
JK	<u>Navarretia hamata</u>	Spiny polemon
BK, JK	<u>Nemophila menziesii</u>	Baby-blue eyes
BK, JK	<u>Nicotiana glauca</u>	Tree tobacco
BK, JK	<u>Olea europea</u>	Olive (introduced)
JK	<u>Opuntia lihoralis var. vasseyi</u>	Plate cactus
JK, WW	<u>Oryzosis miliacea</u>	Rice grass
JK	<u>Paeonia californica</u>	Western peony
JK	<u>Parietaria floridana</u>	Pelitory

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Pectocarya sp.</u>	Combnut
JK	<u>Pellaea sp.</u>	Cliff brake fern
BK, JK	<u>Penstemon spectabilis</u>	Lavender penstemon
JK	<u>Perezia microcephala</u>	Sacapellote
GH	<u>Phacelia cicutaria var. hispida</u>	Caterpillar phacelia
JK	<u>Phacelia distans</u>	Phacelia
GH, JK	<u>Phacelia minor</u>	Wild caterbury bells
GH	<u>Phacelia vicida</u>	Sticky phacelia
JK	<u>Pinus sp.</u>	Mondel pine (planted)
GH, BK, JK	<u>Pityrogramma triangularis</u>	Gold fern (goldenback fern)
JK	<u>Plagiobothrys sp.</u>	Popcorn flower
GH, BK, JK	<u>Platanus racemosa</u>	Western Sycamore
JK, WW	<u>Poa annua</u>	Annual blue-grass, winter grass
JK	<u>Polygonum aviculare</u>	Wire weed
GH, JK	<u>Polypodium californicum</u>	Many foot fern
BK, JK	<u>Prunus illicifolius</u>	Holly-leaf cherry
JK	<u>Psilocarphus brevissimus</u>	Dwarf wolly-head
GH, BK, JK	<u>Pteridium aquilinum var. pubescens</u>	Bracken fern
JK	<u>Pterostegia drymarioides</u>	Wing-bract
GH, BK, JK	<u>Quercus agrifolia</u>	California live oak
GH, BK, JK	<u>Quercus dumosa</u>	Scrub oak
GH, BK, JK	<u>Rafinesquia californica</u>	California chicory
GH, BK, JK	<u>Rhamnus californica</u>	Coffeeberry
GH, JK	<u>Rhamnus illicifolia</u>	Redberry

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Rhus integrifolia</u>	Lemonadeberry
GH, BK, JK	<u>Rhus laurina</u>	Laurel sumac
GH, BK, JK	<u>Rhus ovata</u>	Sugar bush
JK	<u>Rhus trilobata pilosissima</u>	Squaw bush
GH, BK, JK	<u>Ribes aureum var. gracillimum</u>	Golden currant
GH	<u>Ribes indecorum</u>	White-flowered currant
BK, JK	<u>Ribes malvaceum</u>	Chaparral current
BK, JK	<u>Ribes speciosum</u>	Fuschia flowered gooseberry
GH, JK	<u>Ricinus communis</u>	Dastor bean
JK	<u>Rorippa nasturtium</u>	Water cress
BK, JK	<u>Rosa californica</u>	Wild rose
GH, BK, JK	<u>Rubus urcinus</u>	California Blackberry
GH, JK	<u>Salix lasiolepis</u>	Arroyo willow
JK	<u>Salsola sp.</u>	Russian thistle tumbleweed
GH, BK, JK	<u>Salvia apiana</u>	Bee sage
JK	<u>Salvia columbariae</u>	Chia sage
BK, JK	<u>Salvia leucophylla</u>	Purple sage
GH, BK, JK	<u>Salvia mellifera</u>	Black Sage
GH, BK, JK	<u>Sambucus mexicana</u>	Mexican elderberry
JK	<u>Schismus barbatus</u>	Split grass
JK	<u>Scirpus sp.</u>	Bullrush
JK	<u>Scrophularia californica</u>	Figwort
JK	<u>Selaginella bigelovii</u>	Selagenella
GH, JK	<u>Senecio douglasii</u>	Old man-aster
JK	<u>Senecio mikanoides</u>	German Ivy

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Senecio vulgaris</u>	Groundsel
JK	<u>Selene sp.</u>	Champion
JK	<u>Sisymbrium irio</u>	London Rocket
JK	<u>Sisyrinchium bellum</u>	Blue-eyed grass
GH, BK, JK	<u>Solanum douglassii</u>	White nightshade
BK, JK	<u>Solanum xanti</u>	Purple nightshade
JK.	<u>Solidago sp.</u>	Goldenrod
GH, BK, JK	<u>Sonchus oleraceus</u>	Common sow-thistle
JK	<u>Sorghum sp.</u>	Sorghum grass
BK, JK	<u>Spartium junceum</u>	Spanish broom
JK, WW	<u>Stachys albens</u>	Hedge nettle
GH, JK	<u>Stellaria media</u>	Common chickweed
JK	<u>Stephanomeria virgata</u>	Milk aster
GH, JK, WW	<u>Stipa lepida</u>	Foothill needle grass
JK	<u>Stipa pulchra</u>	Needle grass
JK	<u>Scrophularia californica</u>	Coast figwort
BK, JK	<u>Symphoricarpos mollis</u>	Snow-berry
JK	<u>Tetradymia comosa</u>	Four-flower
JK	<u>Thalictrum polycarpum</u>	Meadow Rue
JK	<u>Thysanocarpus curvipes</u> var. <u>crenatus</u>	Lace pod
GH, BK, JK	<u>Toxicodendron deversilobum</u>	Poison oak
JK	<u>Tribulus terrestris</u>	Puncture vine
GH, BK	<u>Trichostema lanatum</u>	Woolly bluecurls
JK	<u>Typha latifolia</u>	Cattail

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
GH, BK, JK	<u>Umbellularia californica</u>	California bay
JK	<u>Urtica holosericea</u>	Horse nettle
BK, JK	<u>Urtica urens</u>	Dwarf nettle
GH	<u>Verbascum blattaria</u>	Moth mullein
JK	<u>Verbena lasiostachys</u>	Verbena
JK	<u>Vicia americana</u>	Veatch
GH	<u>Woodwardia fimbriata</u>	Chain fern
GH, BK, JK	<u>Yucca whipplei</u>	Our Lord's candle (yucca)
JK	<u>Zauschneria californica</u>	California fuchsia

See footnote 3 for sources.

ZOOLOGICAL INTRODUCTION

by Bonnie Koploy

The wildlife of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains is restricted due to past and present development and the proliferation of the freeways which act as barriers. However, there is still an astounding array of wildlife present in these mountains. Studies of their needs and interactions with the environment are desperately needed. Further encroachment on their home ranges will lead directly to their loss and displacement.

So-called "fringe areas," which are already disturbed and where vegetation and wildlife are less diverse, are usually said to be suitable for further development. However, these areas are an important part of the home range of much of the wildlife and should be considered buffer zones between urban areas and wild areas.

The perennial source of water for the animals is found in the rare Riparian Woodland communities. Where this community reaches into the canyons is found the most significant source of food for much of the wildlife, the acorns of the California Live Oak.

The incomplete zoological survey so far made of the mountains includes toads, frogs, salamanders, lizards, snakes, bats, rabbits, squirrels, mice, rats, gophers, opossums, coyotes, raccoons, foxes, skunks, mule deer, weasels, and possibly the bobcats. There are six species of amphibians, 23 reptiles, 28 mammals, and butterflies and birds.

RARE AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS

Verified sightings of rare and endangered animals include the legless lizard, (*Anniella pulchra*), red-shouldered

hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), and the California dog face butterfly (*Zerene erydica*), the official California State Insect.

The following list is drawn from zoological surveys made of selected areas of the mountains and should not be considered complete.

Animals of the Verdugo - San Rafael Mountains

The animals included were observed by the following authorities:

AS - Members of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society

BK - Bonnie Koploy, former Assistant Professor of Biology, Glendale Community College, Glendale, California

JK - Joseph Keefe, Chairman, Department of Biology, Glendale Community College Glendale, California

SK - Sol Karlin, Chairman of Biology Department, Pierce College, Woodland Hills, Los Angeles, California

BH - Barbara Hopper, Professor of Entomology, Pierce College, Los Angeles, California

Rare- Rare and/or endangered species

AMPHIBIANS

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Batrachoseps attenuatus</u>	Slender salamander
SK	<u>Bufo boreas</u>	California Toad
	<u>Ensatina eschscholtzi</u>	Monterey salamander
	<u>Hyla cadaverina</u>	California tree toad
JK	<u>Hyla Regilla</u>	Pacific tree frog

REPTILES

Rare; BK	<u>Anniella pulchra</u>	legless lizard
	<u>Arizona elegans</u>	Glossy snake
BK, SK	<u>Cnemidophorus tigris</u>	Western whiptail
	<u>Coleonyx variegatus</u>	Banded gecko
	<u>Coluber constrictor</u>	Western yellow bellied racer
JK	<u>Crotalus Viridis</u>	Western rattlesnake

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Diadephus punctatus</u>	Ring necked snake
	<u>Eumeces skiltonianus</u>	Western skink
BK, JK, SK	<u>Gerrhonotus multicarinatus</u>	Southern alligator lizard
	<u>Hypsiglena terquata</u>	Spotted night snake
JK	<u>Lampropeltis getulus</u>	Common King snake
	<u>Lampropeltis humilis</u>	Western blind snake
	<u>Lichanura trivirgata</u>	Rosy boa
BK	<u>Masticephis flagellum</u>	Red racer
BK	<u>Masticephis lateralis</u>	Stripped racer
BK	<u>Phrynosoma coronatum</u>	Coast horned lizard
BK, JK	<u>Pituophis melanoleucas</u>	Gopher snake
	<u>Rhinocheilus lecontei</u>	Long nosed snake
	<u>Salvadera hexalepis</u>	Western patch-nosed snake
BK, JK, SK	<u>Sceloporus occidentalis</u>	Western fence lizard
	<u>Tantilla planiceps</u>	Western black headed snake
	<u>Trimorphoden vandenburghi</u>	California lyre snake
BK, SK	<u>Uta stansburiana</u>	Side blotched lizard
<u>MAMMALS</u>		
Rare	<u>Bassariscus astutus</u>	Ringtain Fox?
BK, JK, SK	<u>Canis latrans</u>	Coyote
BK, JK	<u>Didelphis virginiana</u>	Common opossum
	<u>Dipodomys agillis</u>	Pacific Kangaroo rat
	<u>Lynx rufus</u>	Bobcat
	<u>Mephitis mephitis</u>	Stripped skunk
BK, SK	<u>Microtus californicus</u>	California meadow mouse
	<u>Mus Musculus</u>	House mouse
BK	<u>Mustela frenata</u>	Long tailed weasel

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
BK	<u>Myotis sp.</u>	Little brown bats
BK, JK, SK	<u>Neotoma fuscipes</u>	Dusky footed wood rat
BK, JK, SK	<u>Odocoileus hemionus</u>	Mule deer
BK, JK, SK	<u>Otospermophilis beecheyi</u>	Beechey ground squirrel
BK	<u>Peregnathus californicus</u>	California pocket mouse
	<u>Peromyscus beylii</u>	Brush mouse
BK, JK	<u>Peromyscus californicus</u>	California mouse (Field mouse)
	<u>Peromyscus eremicus</u>	Cactus mouse
BK	<u>Peromyscus maniculatus</u>	Deer mouse
	<u>Pipistrellus hesperus</u>	Western pipistrelle
	<u>Procyon loter</u>	Raccoon
	<u>Rattus rattus</u>	Black rat
		Norway rat
	<u>Reithrodontemys megalotis</u>	- Western harvest mouse
	<u>Spilogale putorius</u>	Spotted skunk
BK, JK	<u>Sylvilagus bachmani</u>	Brush rabbit
BK, JK	<u>Thomomys bottae</u>	Botto pocket gopher
BK	<u>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</u>	Gray fox
<u>BIRDS OF PREY (Raptors)</u>		
AS	<u>Accipter cooperii</u>	Cooper's Hawk
Rare, AS, BK, SK	<u>Accipter striatus</u>	Sharp-shinned Hawk
	<u>Aguila chrysaetas</u>	Golden Eagle
AS, BK, JK	<u>Bube virginianus</u>	Great horned Owl
AS, BK, JK, SK	<u>Buteo jamaicensis</u>	Red-tailed Hawk
Rare	<u>Buteo lineatus</u>	Red-shouldered Hawk
AS, BK	<u>Cathartes aura</u>	Turkey Vulture
	<u>Chordeiles acutipennis</u>	Lesser Nighthawk

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
AS	<u>Falco columbarius</u>	Pigeon Hawk
AS	<u>Falco sparverius</u>	American Kestrel
	<u>Otus asio</u>	Screech Owl
BK	<u>Tyto alba</u>	Barn Owl
 <u>BIRDS: Smaller Land Birds</u>		
	<u>Aeronautes saxatalis</u>	White-throated Swift
	<u>Aimophila ruficeps</u>	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
	<u>Amphispiza belli</u>	Sage Sparrow
AS, BK, JK, SK	<u>Apelocema coerulescens</u>	Scrub jay
AS	<u>Archilochus alexandri</u>	Black-chinned hummingbird
AS	<u>Bombycilla cedrorum</u>	Cedar waxwing
AS, BK, JK, SK	<u>Calypte anna</u>	Anna's Hummingbird
AS	<u>Calypte costae</u>	Costa's hummingbird
AS, BK	<u>Carpodacus mexicanus</u>	House finch
AS	<u>Carpodacus purpureus</u>	Purple finch
AS	<u>Catharus ustulatus</u>	Swainson's thrush
AS	<u>Certhia familiaris</u>	Brown creeper
AS, BK	<u>Cervus brachyrhynchus</u>	Common crow
AS	<u>Cervus corax</u>	Common raven
AS, JK, SK	<u>Chamaea fasciata</u>	Wrentit
	<u>Chondestes grammacus</u>	Lark sparrow
AS, JK	<u>Colaptes auratus</u>	Common flicker
AS	<u>Columba fasciata</u>	Band-tailed pigeon
AS	<u>Columba livia</u>	Rock dove
AS	<u>Contopus sordidulus</u>	Western wood peewee
AS	<u>Dendrocopos albolarvatus</u>	White headed woodpecker
AS, JK	<u>Dendrocopos nuttallii</u>	Nuttall's woodpecker

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
AS	<u>Dendrocopos pubescens</u>	Downy woodpecker
AS	<u>Dendrocopos villosus</u>	Hairy woodpecker
AS	<u>Dendroica coronata</u>	Yellow rumped warbler
AS	<u>Dendroica nigrescens</u>	Black-throated gray
	<u>Dendroica occidentalis</u>	Hermit warbler
AS	<u>Dendroica petechia</u>	Yellow warbler
AS, JK	<u>Euphugus cyauocephalus</u>	Brewer's blackbird
AS	<u>Geothlypis trichas</u>	Yellowthroat
AS	<u>Hylocichla guttata</u>	Hermit thrush
AS	<u>Icterus cucullatus</u>	Hooded oriole
AS	<u>Icterus galbula</u>	Northern oriole
AS	<u>Ixoreus naevius</u>	Varied thrush
AS	<u>Junco oreganus</u>	Oregon junco
AS, BK, SK	<u>Lanius ludovicianus</u>	Loggerhead shrike
AS, BK, JK, SK	<u>Lophortyx californicus</u>	California quail
AS, BK, SK	<u>Melanerpes formicivorus</u>	Acorn woodpecker
AS	<u>Melospiza melodia</u>	Song sparrow
AS, BK, JK, SK	<u>Mimus polyglottos</u>	Mockingbird
AS	<u>Mniotiltaonaria</u>	Black and white warbler
AS	<u>Molothrus ater</u>	Brown headed cowbird
AS	<u>Myiarchus cinerascens</u>	Ash-throated flycatcher
AS	<u>Nuttallornis borealis</u>	Olive-sided flycatcher
AS	<u>Oporornis tolmiei</u>	MacGillivary's warbler
AS	<u>Parus gambeli</u>	Mountain chickadee
AS, BK, SK	<u>Parus inornatus</u>	Plain titmouse
AS, JK, SK	<u>Passer domesticus</u>	House sparrow
AS	<u>Petrocheliden pyrrhoneta</u>	Cliff swallow
AS	<u>Pelioptila caerulea</u>	Blue-gray gnatcatcher

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
AS	<u>Phainopepla nitens</u>	Phainopepla
AS	<u>Pheucticus melanocephalus</u>	Black headed grosbeak
AS	<u>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</u>	Rufous-sided towhee
AS, BK, SK	<u>Pipilo fuscus</u>	Brown towhee
AS, BK	<u>Piranga ludoviciana</u>	Western tanager
AS, BK, SK	<u>Psaltriparus minimus</u>	Bushtit
AS	<u>Regulus calendula</u>	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
AS	<u>Regulus satrapa</u>	Golden-crowned kinglet
AS, BK, SK	<u>Salpinctes obsoletus</u>	Rock wren
AS	<u>Sayornis nigricans</u>	Black Phoebe
AS	<u>Sayornis saya</u>	Say's Phoebe
AS, BK	<u>Selasphorus rufus</u>	Rufus hummingbird
AS	<u>Selasphorus sasin</u>	Allen's hummingbird
AS, JK	<u>Sialia mexicana</u>	Western Bluebird
AS	<u>Sitta canadensis</u>	Red-breasted Nuthatch
AS	<u>Sitta carolinensis</u>	White-breasted nuthatch
AS	<u>Sitta pygmaea</u>	Pygmy nuthatch
AS	<u>Sphyrapicus varius</u>	Yellow-bellied sapsucker
	<u>Spinus Lawrencei</u>	Lawrence's goldfinch
AS	<u>Spinus pinus</u>	Pine siskin
AS, BK, SK	<u>Spinus psaltria</u>	Lesser goldfinch
AS	<u>Spinus Tristis</u>	American goldfinch
AS	<u>Spizella passerina</u>	Chipping Sparrow
AS, BK	<u>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</u>	Rough-winged swallow
AS, BK, SK	<u>Streptopelia chinensis</u>	Spotted dove
AS	<u>Streptopelia Risoria</u>	Ringed Turtle Dove
AS, BK, JK	<u>Sturnus vulgaris</u>	Starling

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
AS	<u>Tachycinetta thalassina</u>	Violet-green swallow
AS, BK, SK	<u>Thryomanes bewickii</u>	Bewick's wren
AS, JK, SK, BK	<u>Toxostoma redivivum</u>	California thrasher
AS	<u>Troglodytes aedon</u>	House wren
AS, JR	<u>Turdus migratorius</u>	American robin
AS	<u>Tyrannus verticalis</u>	Western Kingbird
AS	<u>Vermivora celata</u>	Orange-crowned Warbler
AS	<u>Vermivora peregrina</u>	Townsend's Warbler
AS	<u>Vireo bellii</u>	Bell's Vireo
	<u>Vireo gilvus</u>	Warbling Vireo
AS	<u>Vireo huttoni</u>	Hutton's Vireo
AS	<u>Vireo solitarius</u>	Solitary Vireo
AS	<u>Wilsonia pusilla</u>	Wilson's Warbler
AS, BK, JK, SK	<u>Zenaida macroura</u>	Mourning Dove
AS	<u>Zonotrichia atricapilla</u>	Golden-crowned Sparrow
AS, JK, BK	<u>Zonotrichia leucephrys</u>	White-crowned Sparrow

BUTTERFLIES

<u>CODE</u>	<u>GENUS AND SPECIES</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
JK	<u>Anthocharis sara</u>	Sara orange tip
JK	<u>Basilarchia lorquini</u>	Lorquin's admiral
JK	<u>Danus archippus</u>	Monarch
BH, JK	<u>Euphydryas chaicedona</u>	Chalcedon checker-spot
BH, JK	<u>Heterochroa californica</u>	California sister
JK	<u>Ochlodes nemorum</u>	Forest skipper
JK	<u>Papilis danus</u>	Danus swallowtail
JK	<u>Papilio zelicaon</u>	Anise swallowtail
BH, JK	<u>Pieris rapae</u>	Cabbage white
BH, JK	<u>Plebejus acmon</u>	Acmon blue
JK	<u>Strymon melinus</u>	Hair streak
BH, JK	<u>Vanessa cardui</u>	Painted lady
Rare BH, JK	<u>Zerene erydice</u>	California dog face (official California state insect)

See footnotes 3 and 4 for sources.

SECTION IV

NEED FOR ACTION AND PUBLIC SUPPORT

NEED FOR CITIZEN ACTION

For many years the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains basically remained unaltered because of their ruggedness, except for the firebreaks. The situation gradually changed and by the 1960's citizens tried via homeowner organizations, governmental planning departments, the League of Women Voters, the Sierra Club, a Claremont College's study and various action groups, to initiate action to prevent man's encroachment from both destroying this natural habitat for wildlife and native vegetation, and from irreversibly altering the ridges and canyons of these mountains. (See appendix: "Public Action to Preserve the Verdugos and San Rafaels up to 1976").

The longer land is privately held, the more likely it is to be developed. Year by year more of the land is being subdivided. Much of the northern Verdugos has been unaltered as they are less accessible. However, when the 210 Freeway is completed, the situation will probably change. Already the completion of the Glendale Freeway has stimulated more mountainous development within the jurisdiction of Glendale. For example, in 1973 only 34 acres were approved for subdivision within the Verdugo Mountains, and in 1975, 40 acres. In these years no approvals were given in the San Rafaels. The freeway, although scheduled to open in 1976, actually opened early in 1977. In 1976, over 22 acres were approved for subdivision in the San Rafaels and about 66 acres in the Verdugos. In 1977, a total of 111 acres were approved for subdivision in the Verdugos. In 1978, 324 acres were approved in the San Rafaels. In 1979, there are 133 acres pending approval for subdivision in the San Rafaels and 519 acres pending approval in the Verdugos.

PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT OF PRIVATELY-OWNED LAND
IN MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN OF THE VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS
WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF GLENDALE

Yr. Approved for Subdiv.	Verdugo Mountains	San Rafael Mountains	Tract Numbers
1973	34 Acres		Henry Tract #31369 (Cielito)
1975	40.7 Acres		Henry Tract #31888 (Cielito)
1976		10.8 Acres	Flintridge Terr. Tract #31772 (Emerald Isle)
		11.5 Acres	Flintridge Terr. Tract #25410 (Emerald Isle)
		Total 22.3 Acres	
		26.55 Acres	Gregg-Gangi Tract #28678 (Above Oakmont)
		39.14 Acres	Gregg-Gangi Tract #28765
		Total 65.69 Acres	
1977			West Lind Tract #32720 (Moorside Dr.)
		24.8 Acres	
		86.8 Acres	Calmark Tract #32786 (Old Philips Road)
	Total 111.6 Acres		
1978		2.7 Acres	Dorian-Mamian Tract #32854 (Montecito)
		28 Acres	Maniscaishi et al Tract #32069 (Off Calafia)
		294 Acres	Hensler-McDonald Tract #532844 (In litigation)
		Total 324.7 Acres	
Pending 1979	16.3 Acres		Khachatoorian Tract #36814 (Off El Lado)
	3.09 Acres		Stoneglan Invest. Tract #35701 (Honolulu & Boston)
	82 Acres		Jamco Tract #34444 (Henderson Canyon - City negotiating to buy)
	397 Acres		Jamco Tract #34423 (Henderson Canyon - City negotiating to buy)
	21.36 Acres		Fargo Financial Corp. Tract #35610 (Canyon east of Brand Park entrance)
	Total 519.48 Acres		
		133 Acres	Baldwin Tracts #29870 and #31690 (Off Linda Vista and Figueroa)

THE FORMATION OF S.W.A.P.

In 1976 the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of the Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP) was formed. SWAP is a national (founded in 1970), non-profit, tax-exempt, charitable foundation which assists grassroots groups in preserving unique areas for the benefit of present and future generations. The Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter seeks to bring about the formation of a Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain Park in the midst of urban sprawl. Some land is already in public ownership. The main focus of the group's work has been on: increasing public knowledge of the issues so a consensus can be reached; facilitating the purchase of privately owned undeveloped land in the mountain complex; and completing an initial biological and zoological survey of the area. Since the mountain complex lies in the jurisdiction of five communities, the cities of Los Angeles, Glendale, Burbank, La Cañada-Flintridge and Pasadena, a task force was formed which is composed of all of the above-mentioned cities as well as the County of Los Angeles. The task force has been working to establish priorities of acquisition, assisted by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, international firm of architects, engineers and planners.

PROPOSAL COMPATIBLE WITH LAND USE PLANS

Homeowner groups and special interest organizations of all the jurisdictions involved, as well as SWAP, have contributed information reflected in various local, county, and federal land use plans. The goal of an urban mountain park in the Verdugo-San Rafael mountains is compatible with these plans.

The September, 1977, National Urban Recreation Study of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation includes the Verdugo-San Rafael

mountain complex. Highest priority in the study was proximity to population centers. The Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills are designated potential recreational resources within the Western Hills area (the complex of mountains north and west of the city of Los Angeles: Santa Monica Mountains, Simi Hills, Santa Susanna Mountains, Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills.) The Western Hills are listed as a group because of their proximity to one another, general similarity of character and potential for connecting open space. The study states that the primary recreational value of the mountain complex is for natural activities and discusses a "Rim of the Valley" trail around the entire San Fernando Valley, as well as environmental reasons for the preservation of a significant part of this complex of mountains.

The February, 1974, California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan published by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, recognizes that within California the largest recreational deficiencies occur in metropolitan areas with their concentrated population. About half of the state's population is in Planning District 8, which includes Los Angeles County. Page 28 of the Resources Plan of 1974 states that "Planning District 8 has the greatest deficiencies in local and regional park acreages [and] accounts for 39 per cent of the camping deficiency, 30 per cent of the picnic deficiency, 25 per cent of the boat access deficiency and 43 per cent of the deficiency in riding and hiking trails in California." The large 43 per cent deficiency in riding and hiking trails could be mitigated by the proposed trail system in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains.

The Los Angeles County Regional Recreation Area Plan for 1985 classified the Verdugo Mountains as a reservation, and, as such, would protect natural resources and complement nearby recreational facilities.⁵

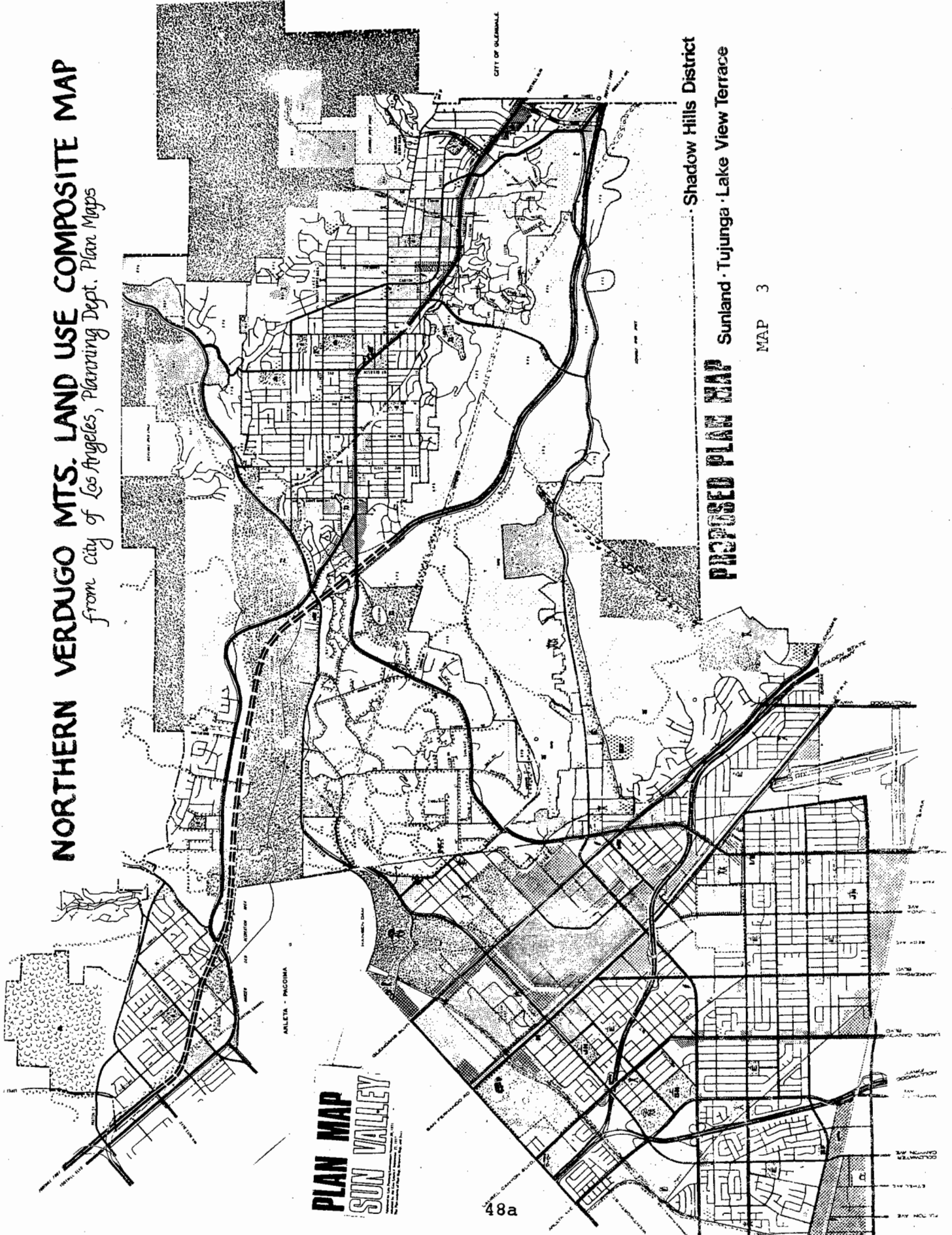
One of the objectives of the Conservation and Open Space Element of the Los Angeles County Proposed General Plan of 1979 is the preservation and protection of significant ecological areas. The Verdugo Mountains, among 59 county areas, have been classified as a significant ecological area, important for: "Scientific study, genetic interchange between otherwise isolated populations, and recreation to urban residents." The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has endorsed the inclusion of the Verdugo Mountains as a significant ecological area within the Los Angeles County.

The northern portion of the Verdugo Mountains is in the jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles. Within the General Plan of the City of Los Angeles, the Sunland-Tujunga-Lake View Terrace-Shadow Hills District Proposed Plan, on page 9 states under staff recommendations:

"The 1968 Community Plan features a major open space and recreational system extending throughout the community which would link the open spaces in these adjacent areas [Angeles Nat. Forest and Verdugo Mt. areas of Glendale and Burbank]. The system could feature principally Tujunga Wash, Hansen Dam Park, and a recreational network traversing the Verdugo Mountains. No amendment is proposed to these features. The major portion of the open space system should be disturbed as little as possible. It should be utilized mainly for riding, hiking and bicycle trails, camping sites, and nature study areas. Other portions could be more extensively developed with such facilities as golf courses, equestrian centers, and picnic grounds. In portions closest to urban development, playgrounds and athletic fields would be appropriate."

NORTHERN VERDUGO MTS. LAND USE COMPOSITE MAP

from City of Los Angeles, Planning Dept. Plan Maps



PLAN MAP
SUN VALLEY

48a

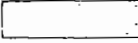

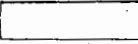



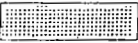
PROPOSED PLAN MAP

Shadow Hills District
Sunland · Tujunga · Lake View Terrace







MAP 3



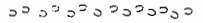


KEY TO CITY OF LOS ANGELES DISTRICT MAPS

LAND USE HOUSING

-  MINIMUM
-  VERY LOW
-  LOW
-  LOW MEDIUM I
-  LOW MEDIUM II
-  MEDIUM
-  HIGH MEDIUM






CIRCULATION

-  FREEWAY
-  PROPOSED FREEWAY
-  DIVIDED MAJOR HIGHWAY
-  MAJOR HIGHWAY
-  SECONDARY HIGHWAY
-  COLLECTOR STREET


-  LOCAL STREET
-  BIKEWAY
-  EQUESTRIAN TRAIL
-  RAILROAD
-  RAPID TRANSIT LINE AND STATION

SERVICE SYSTEMS

SCHOOLS

-  ELEMENTARY
-  JUNIOR HIGH
-  SENIOR HIGH
-  PRIVATE
-  SPECIAL SCHOOL FACILITY



RECREATION SITES

-  NEIGHBORHOOD
-  COMMUNITY
-  REGIONAL
-  GOLF COURSE - PUBLIC



LIBRARY

-  COMMUNITY
-  REGIONAL

FIRE PROTECTION

-  FIRE STATION
-  SUPPLY & MAINTENANCE

RESERVOIR TANK POWER SYSTEM

-  RECEIVING STATION
-  DISTRIBUTING STATION

LAND FILL SITE HELIPORT



HEALTH CENTER



REFUSE COLLECTION



MAINTENANCE YARD



CULTURAL & HISTORICAL SITES






MUNICIPAL OFFICE SITE

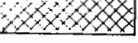





POLICE STATION

COMMERCE

-  HIGHWAY ORIENTED & LIMITED
-  NEIGHBORHOOD & OFFICE
-  COMMUNITY


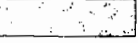
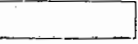
INDUSTRY

-  COMMERCIAL MANUFACTURING®
-  LIMITED
-  LIGHT
-  HEAVY

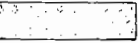
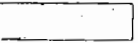
PARKING

-  PARKING (BUFFERS & SPECIAL CASES ONLY)

OPEN SPACE

-  PUBLICLY OWNED 1
(RECREATION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OR SCHOOL SITE)
-  PUBLICLY OWNED 2
(FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN RECREATION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OR SCHOOL SITE)
-  PRIVATELY OWNED

OTHER PUBLIC & QUASI-PUBLIC

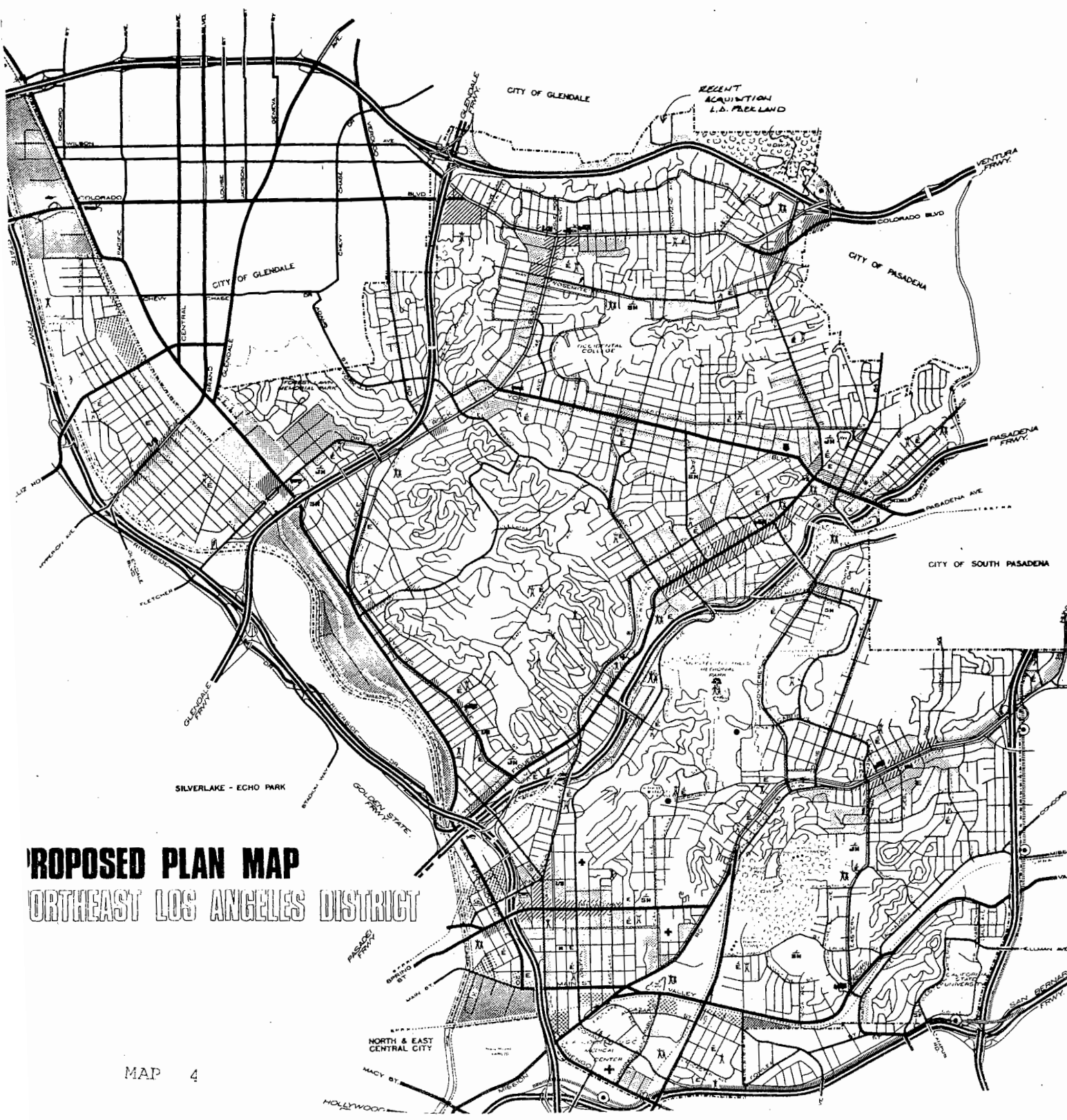
-  QUASI-PUBLIC
(PRIVATE SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, ETC.)
-  PUBLIC
(MAINTENANCE YARD, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER, ETC.)

The Mountair extension south over undeveloped land to the freeway and LaTuna Canyon is a proposed extension in case of development.

The Sun Valley District Plan of the City of Los Angeles General Plan covers the land surrounding the western portion of LaTuna Canyon and was adopted by the City Council in September, 1977. In both this district and the districts mentioned above, much of the undeveloped land in the Verdugos is zoned for minimum density (0.5 - 1 DU's/Acre), in effect an agricultural zone. Both these district plans are meant to amend the 1968 General Plan and be a guide for the next twenty years. Both Los Angeles district plan maps for the northern Verdugos show an interconnecting trail system.

As part of the City of Los Angeles General Plan, the Northeast Los Angeles District Proposed Plan of 1974 is now (in 1979) before the City Council for approval. Within the plan, the south slope of the San Rafael ridge commonly called the Eagle Rock Ridge, is designated for open space, including public and privately owned land. (Ten acres of this ridge were purchased by the City of Los Angeles in January of 1979.) Page 2 of the proposed district plan states: "Much of the northeast Los Angeles district is hillside and mountainous terrain and as much of the remaining undeveloped lands as feasible is to be preserved for open space and recreational uses." In addition, page 8 states: "The City should explore...the possibility of utilizing Federal funds to acquire a scenic easement along the crest of the San Rafael Hills in Eagle Rock above the easterly extension of the Ventura Freeway."

The city of La Cañada-Flintridge has an extensive equestrian trail system in the San Rafael Hills which connects with



PROPOSED PLAN MAP
NORTHEAST LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

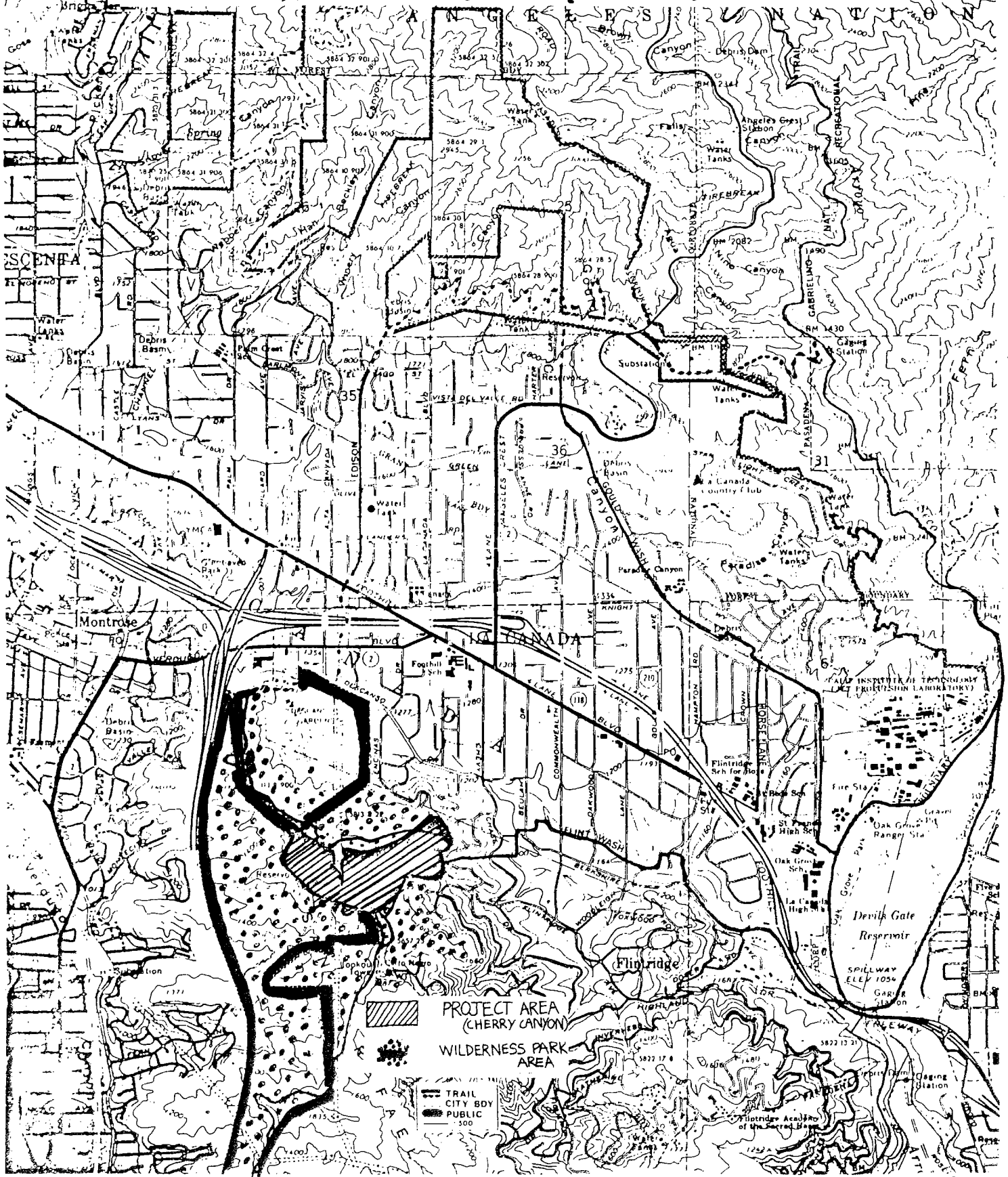
MAP 4

Glendale and the Arroyo Seco trails in Pasadena. In June, 1978, the La Canada-Flintridge Open Space Conservation Committee Recommendations to the City Council were approved. These recommendations designate the Cherry Canyon area in the San Rafael Hills for future acquisition for open space and recreation purposes. Equestrian trails through the project area would augment the La Canada-Flintridge Loop System.

The 1973 Open Space Element of Pasadena on page 16 does not propose specific land in the San Rafael Hills for open space, but does state that, 1) significant areas of privately owned open space lie in the undeveloped areas of these hills, 2) acquisition by the City of these hills as permanent open space should be predicated on its value to the City. It gives as an example the fact that Glendale has declared that the ridge lines of the San Rafael Hills in its jurisdiction will be preserved through acquisition and restriction of development, 3) acquisition should also be predicated on the potential hazards of development.

Although the San Rafael Hills area in Pasadena is zoned for the lowest residential density (1-8 DU/met. ac.), an open space program on page 83 of the current Comprehensive General Plan of the City of Pasadena includes the development of low-intensity, natural parks in city watershed areas with hiking, cycling, and equestrian trails. The map of the urban design features plan on Page 40 clarifies the fact that Pasadena's main contribution to a Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park is the open space in the Arroyo Seco at the extreme eastern border of the San Rafael Hills. This canyon stream bed is a vital link to the San Rafael Hills as it extends southward through Pasadena and many Los Angeles communities.

CHERRY CANYON, LA CAÑADA-FLINTRIDGE AND ADJOINING WILDERNESS AREA









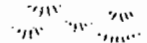
GLENDALE ALPHA MOTORWAY (TRAIL)

TRAILS TO PASADENA, S. PASADENA

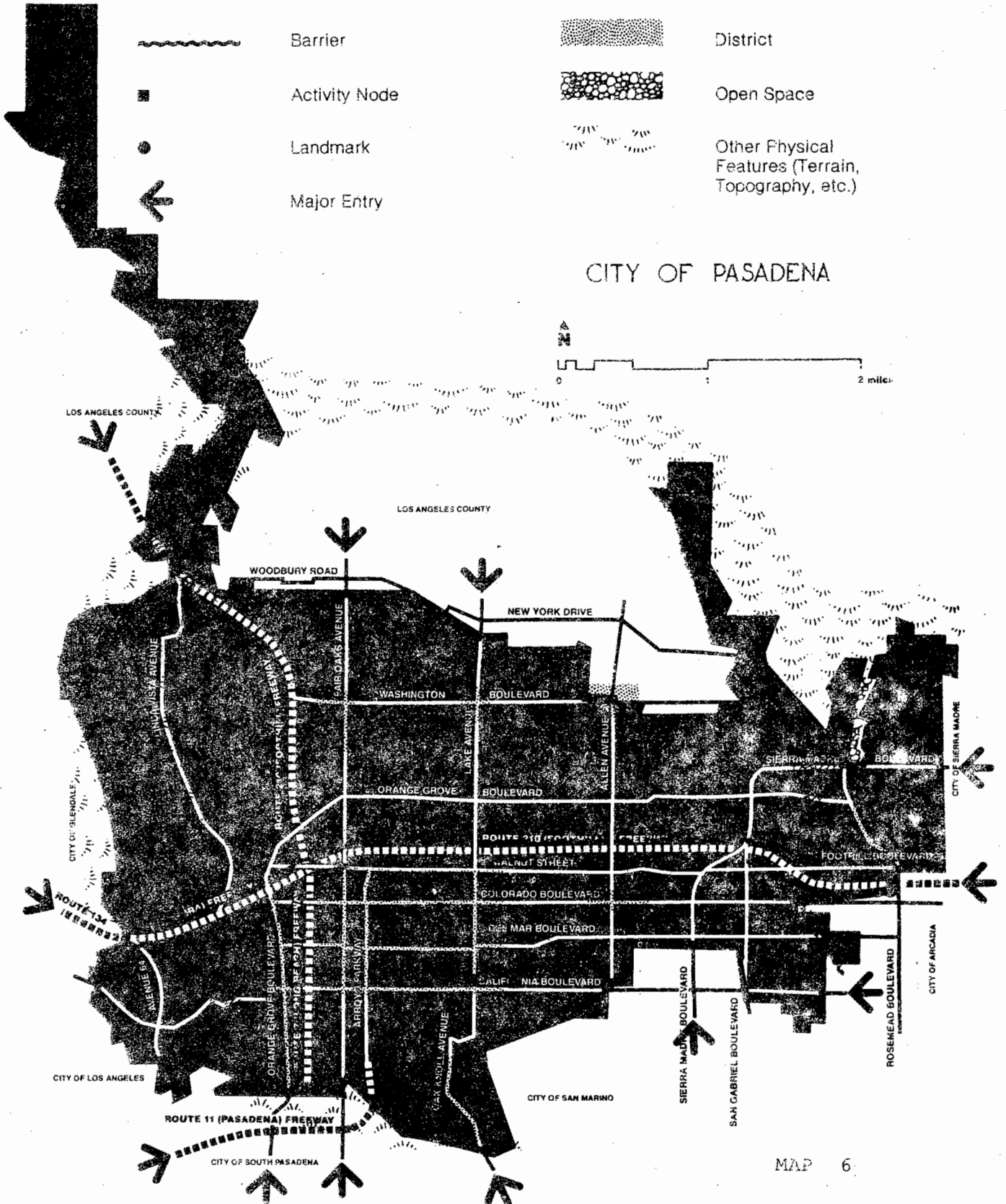
City of Pasadena Comprehensive General Plan

URBAN DESIGN FEATURES

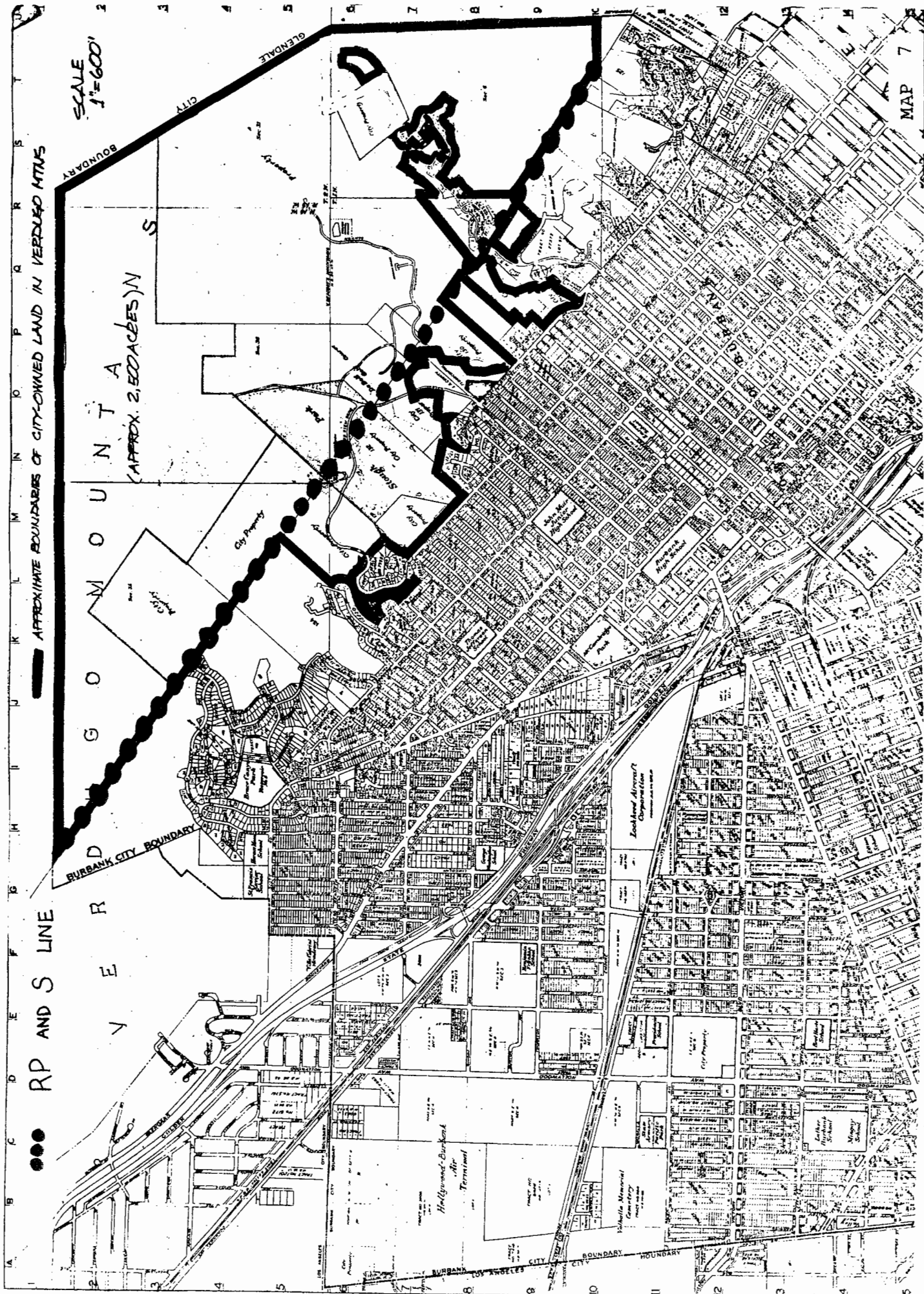
LEGEND

-  Barrier
-  Activity Node
-  Landmark
-  Major Entry
-  District
-  Open Space
-  Other Physical Features (Terrain, Topography, etc.)

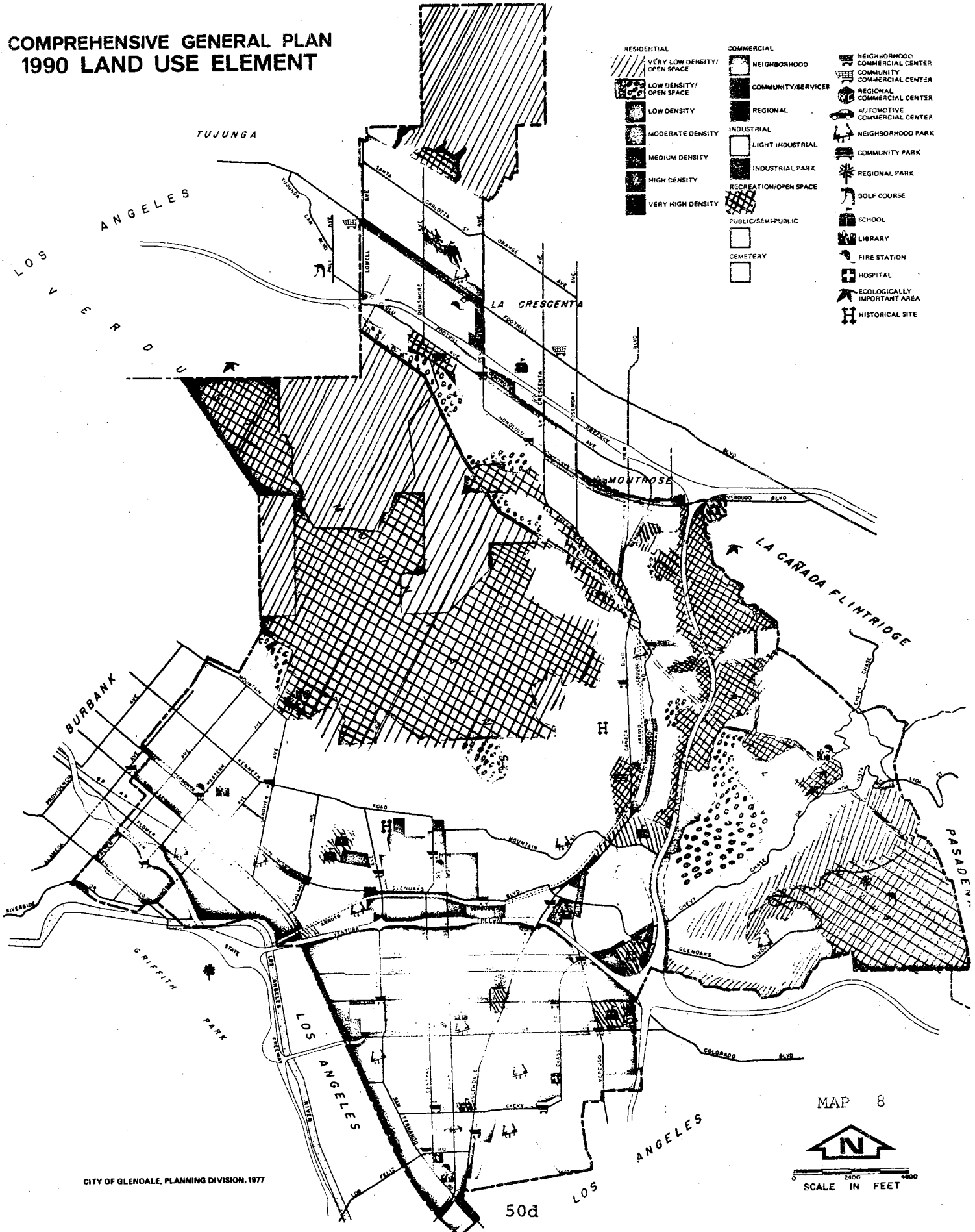
CITY OF PASADENA



BURBANK PUBLIC LAND IN THE VERDUGOS



COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL PLAN 1990 LAND USE ELEMENT



CITY OF GLENDALE, PLANNING DIVISION, 1977

MAP 8



50d

The City of Burbank Land Use Plan, which is being revised, will maintain the position held in the previous land use plan: that hillsides will be preserved as open space above the Rancho Providencia and Scott Tracts. This is referred to as the RP and S Line. Since 1976 the city of Burbank has bought 295 acres of land in Burbank and 148 acres of Verdugo Mountain land within the jurisdiction of Glendale, both adjacent to publically owned open space lands in Burbank.

The Glendale 1990 Open Space, Recreation and Conservation Element as well as its 1990 Land Use Element adopted in 1977, recommend the acquisition, regulation or preservation of major ridgelines and intermittent stream beds in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains and in addition propose a network of hiking and equestrian trails. The Land Use Element also proposes zoning classifications for 2,747 acres of undeveloped land in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains which allow for very low density development or open space, and 649 acres for low density development or open space. Public lands are already zoned for recreation/open space.

PROPOSAL HAS WIDE PUBLIC SUPPORT

The goal of a Verdugo-San Rafael urban mountain park has wide public support as evidenced by letters of support that S.W.A.P. has received, (see appendix.)

On October 23, 1976, the Sierra Club Council Executive Committee authorized affiliation of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter with the Small Wilderness Area Preservation, Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter. The Sierra Club Angeles Chapter in its list of conservation goals for 1979-1980, has as its local goal: "Protection of Verdugo Hills/San Rafael Mountains." Within the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter one

of its regional groups, the Verdugo Hills Group, has formed a task force to introduce people to the easier hiking trails in the Verdugo and San Rafael mountains.

The Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee in the fall of 1978 passed a resolution supporting the S.W.A.P. proposal for an urban mountain park.

The proposal has also received support from the Western Regional Office of the National Audubon Society. Members of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society have contributed to the zoological surveys made in selected areas of the mountains by compiling extensive lists of birds sighted.

Many groups and individuals have sent letters of support to S.W.A.P. including the San Fernando Valley and Sierra Madre Girl Scout Councils, Stamp Out Smog, The Ecology Center of Southern California, Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education, Stop Attacks on the Verdugo Mountains, the League of Women Voters (of Glendale, Pasadena, Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County), the Glendale Hills Coordinating Council, Jewish Big Brothers, Camp Max Strauss, many homeowner associations, the Biology Department of Glendale Community College, the American Association of University Women in Glendale, Friends of the Earth, Theodore Payne Foundation, Improvement Association of Sunland-Tujunga, and The National Organization of Equestrian Trails, Inc.

Early in 1979 the cities of Los Angeles, Glendale, Burbank, La Cañada-Flintridge and Pasadena adopted resolutions supporting the concept of a Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain Park and endorsing the goals of S.W.A.P. (see letters of support in the appendix.)

SECTION V

RECREATIONAL POTENTIAL
OF THE
VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS

POTENTIAL ACREAGE OF AN URBAN MOUNTAIN PARK

Over the years some lands were donated to public agencies and some purchased by the cities. In this manner public and quasi-public lands acquired amounts to 5,626± acres in the Verdugo Mountains and 1,417± acres in the San Rafael Mountains. Of this total public land, 2,795± acres are in Burbank, 610± acres in Los Angeles, 3,708± acres in Glendale, 165± acres in La Cañada-Flintridge, and 60± acres in Pasadena. In addition, Pasadena owns 491 acres in the Arroyo Seco. Public-quasi-public land within the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains now totals approximately 7,338 acres. If the purchase of Hendersen Canyon by the city of Glendale is completed, the amount of acreage in public ownership will increase by 479 acres to a total of 7,817± public acres.

Private undeveloped land in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains totals 7,289± acres. And of this amount, 655± acres are in Burbank, 3,050± acres in Los Angeles, 500± acres in Pasadena, 2,984± acres in Glendale, and 100± acres in La Canada-Flintridge. Private undeveloped land includes some recreational facilities such as Camp Max Strauss on 112 acres and a riding center on 10 acres. It also includes any land under negotiation for purchase by a public body. If the city of Glendale is able to purchase 479 acres of Hendersen Canyon, the amount of privately owned land in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains will decrease to approximately 6,810 acres and public land will increase to 7,817± acres. The 112 acres of Camp Max Strauss is zoned for special recreation/open space. Practically speaking, these 112 acres could also be deleted from the private undeveloped land. This would bring the total acreage in private ownership to be considered for purchase to 6,698 acres. Another 332 acres or more may be subdivided. Thus, the adjusted public and private acreages could be practically stated as 6,698± private acreage, and

7,817[±] public acreage. With the expectation that some land would be developed, S.W.A.P. estimates a maximum of 6,000 acres would need to be purchased.

The possible acquisition of this remaining 6,000 acres of private undeveloped land for the public is the focus of the Small Wilderness Area Preservation, Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter (S.W.A.P.) The remaining undeveloped land needs to be studied by an impartial but knowledgeable group of citizens, preferably sanctioned by local and state government. After this group has determined what lands shall be preserved from development, a plan should be drawn up for acquisition, followed by a master plan for recreation and conservation.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OWNERSHIP ACREAGE
IN THE VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS

JURISDICTION	VERDUGO MOUNTAINS		SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS		TOTAL PRIVATE	TOTAL PUBLIC
	PRIVATE UNDEVEL.	PUBLIC LAND	PRIVATE UNDEVEL.	PUBLIC LAND	VERDUGO-SAN RAF.	VERDUGO-SAN RAF.
City of Burbank	655 ac.	2,795 ac.				
City of Los Angeles	3000± ac. rough est.	550± ac. rough estimate	50± ac.	60± ac.		
City of Pasadena			500± ac.	60± ac. (Excludes 491 ac. in Arroyo Seco)		
City of La Canada-Flintridge			100± ac.	165± ac.		
City of Glendale	1,970± acres	2,576± ac.	1,014± ac.	1,132± ac.		
TOTALS	5,625 acres		1,664 acres		7,289± acres	
TOTALS		5,921 acres		1,417± acres		7,338± acres

The potential recreational value of an urban wilderness park in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain complex can be seen by examining four uses now exemplified in these mountains: trails, a riding center, a private camp, and a native plant nursery.

POTENTIAL TRAIL SYSTEM

Already there is an extensive trail system that is used by the public. Some of this system is existing fire roads and firebreaks, some is neighborhood trails, and some equestrian trails. In the Los Angeles area of the northern Verdugos, there is an interconnecting equestrian trail system north and south of La Tuna Canyon, extending northerly into Tujunga Canyon, Hansen Dam and southerly abutting Burbank and Glendale. This trail system and the trails in the Santa Suzannas and Santa Monicas has been mapped by the local inhabitants and the information given to the City of Los Angeles Planning Department as a map. This citizen proposed network of trails in the mountains surrounding the entire San Fernando Valley is a potential Rim-of-the-Valley trail system which is truly impressive. Of course, the Verdugo Mountains are an integral link in this Rim-of-the-Valley system. Much of the trail system is in the city of Los Angeles. To be complete the system would need a right-of-way trail system through the undeveloped mountainous land of Glendale and Burbank. Most of the trail system in Burbank is on public land. The trail system in Glendale is on both private and public land. The Rim-of-the-Valley Park was one of the official bicentennial projects of the City of Los Angeles. The Rim-of-the-Valley Park concept may have sparked enthusiasm for the San Fernando Valley trail system. Trails through Burbank and Glendale need to be added to the valley trail system map.

POTENTIAL TRAIL SYSTEM OF VERDUGO — SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS

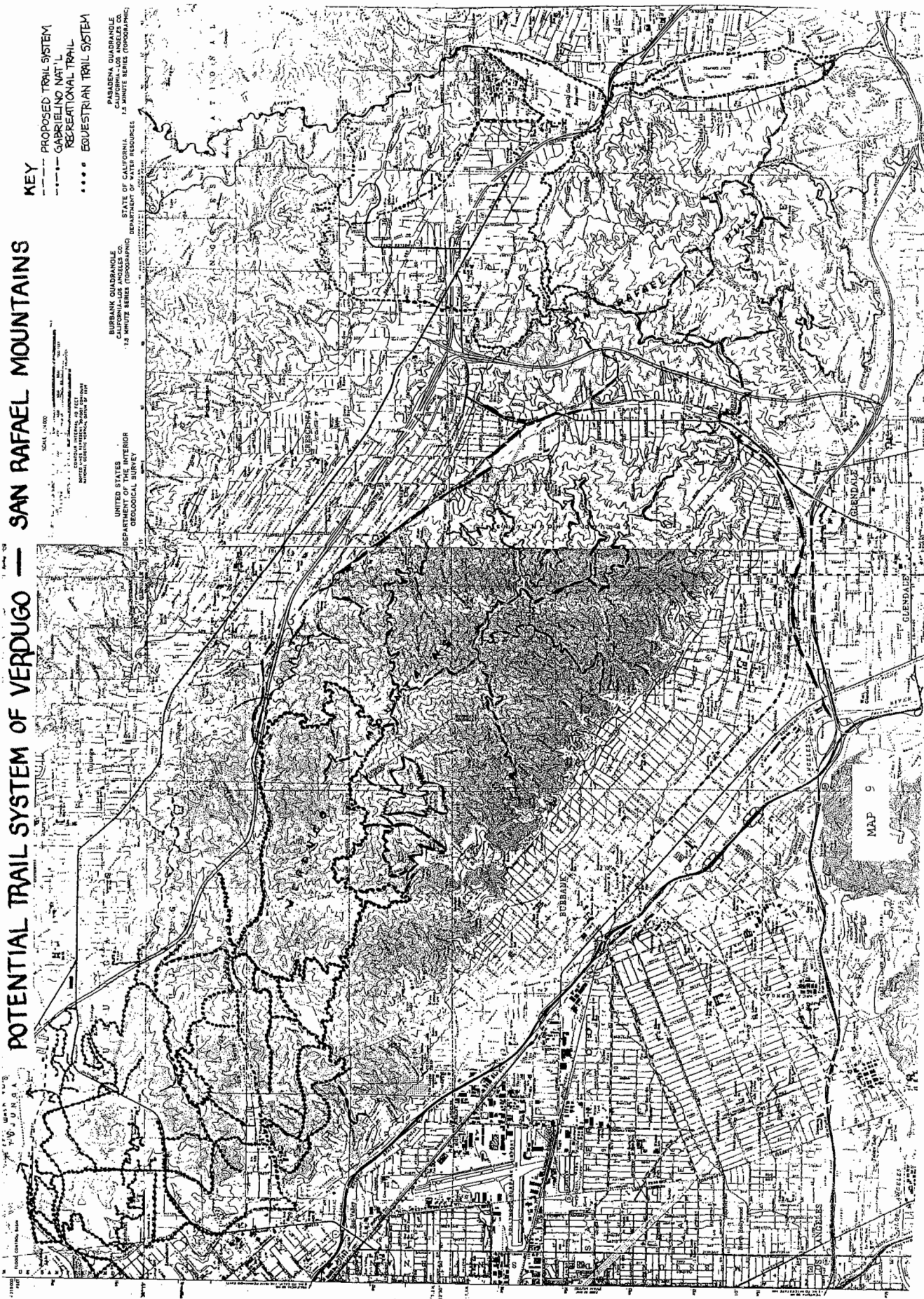
KEY

- PROPOSED TRAIL SYSTEM
- - - GABRIELINO NAT'L RECREATIONAL TRAIL
- EQUESTRIAN TRAIL SYSTEM

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

BURBANK QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA—LOS ANGELES CO.
1:25,000 SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

PASADENA QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA—LOS ANGELES CO.
1:25,000 SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



MAP 9



RIM OF THE VALLEY PARKS

FLOOD CONTROL CHANNEL RIGHTS-OF-WAY

POWER LINE RIGHTS-OF-WAY

FREWAYS & PROMINENT SURFACE STREETS

1. TUJUNGA WASH/HANSEN DAM

2. VERDUGO MOUNTAINS

3. GRIFFITH - ELYSIAN PARKS

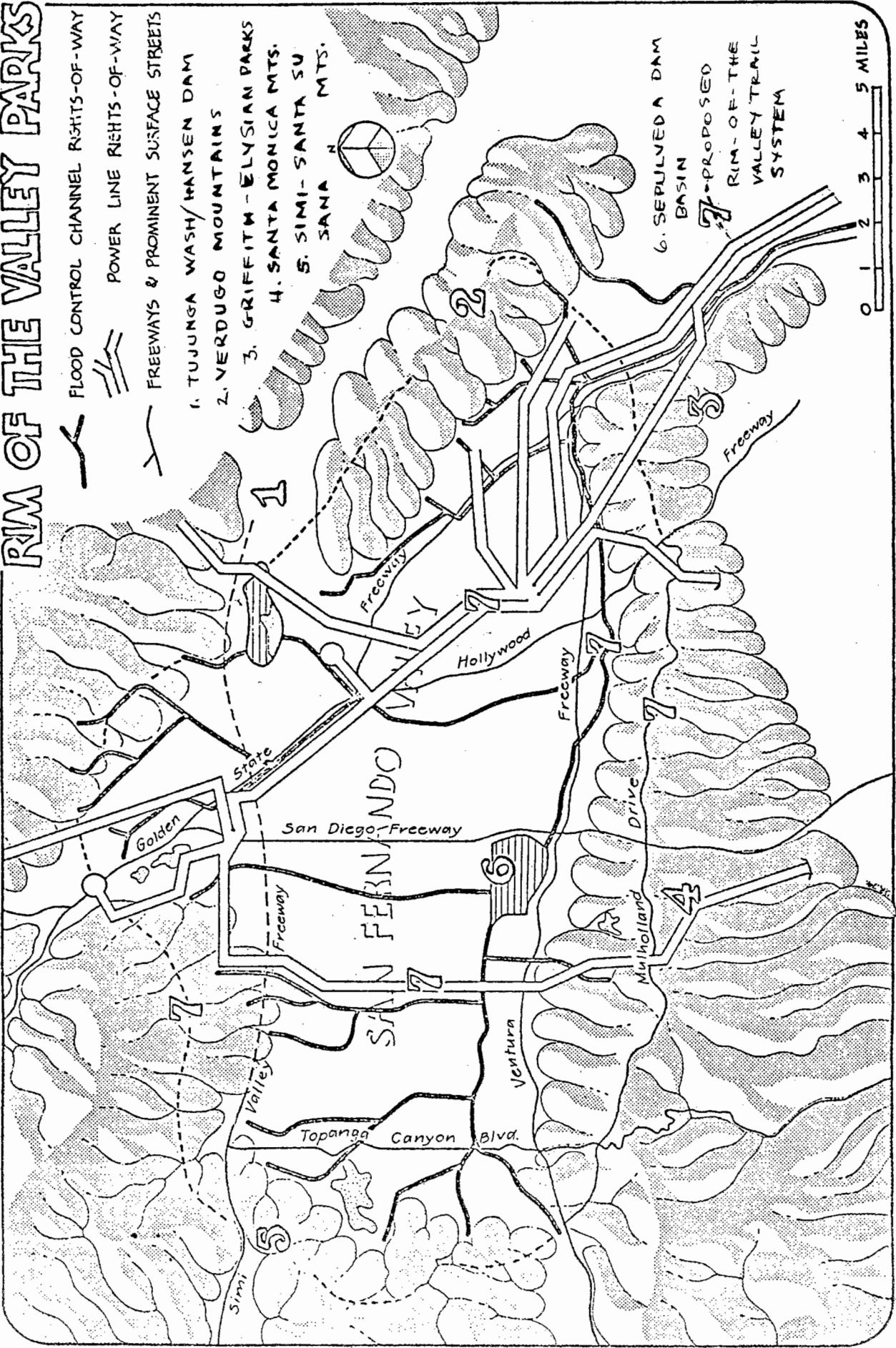
4. SANTA MONICA MTS.

5. SIMI - SANTA SU

SANA N MTS.

6. SEPULVEDA DAM BASIN

7. PROPOSED RIM-OF-THE-VALLEY TRAIL SYSTEM



© MARJORIE FERRELL 1964

MAP 10

In the San Rafael Mountains there is a good beginning equestrian trail system which the city of La Cañada-Flintridge hopes to augment some day by purchase of the Cherry Canyon area. The trail leads along the main ridge south into Glendale.

In the north the trail leads northeast into the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena, Trails from the Arroyo Seco connect with the Gabrielino National Recreational Trail and eventually can link with the Pacific Crest Trail System that traverses the San Gabriel Mountains to the north. The southern portion of the San Rafael Mountains also has a trail system but does not have as many connecting trails.

In the La Cañada-Flintridge area of the San Rafaels, corral #2 of the organization Equestrian Trails Inc., estimates that there are approximately 100 rides a month year round into the San Rafaels. From May to September the organization sponsors monthly moonlight rides. The hunt and endurance equestrians use the San Rafael trails year round for condition and consider it the best quick-conditioning ride in the area. The existing trail is not as long as it previously was because of development that has occurred.

The Proposed Northeast Los Angeles District Plan on page 6 states that: "Specifically, equestrian trails should be provided to link equestrian facilities in the Griffith Park area with the park system along the Arroyo Seco and to the north into Pasadena. A program of phased right-of-way acquisition should be started utilizing federal funds, if available. Maximum use should be made of vacated railroad rights-of-way and the banks of the Arroyo Seco Flood Control Channel."

This same utilization of flood control channels should be investigated to see if a direct link between the Verdugos

and San Rafaeles could be achieved through Glendale via the Arroyo Verdugo Flood Control Channel and utilizing the rights-of-way acquired by California Edison. Another possible connection between the Verdugos and Griffith Park is via the Los Angeles River and the Arroyo Verdugo Flood Control Channel.

A different equestrian use of the mountains is a 10-acre riding center in La Tuna Canyon in the Verdugo Mountains. This privately owned Los Angeles Children's Riding Center is located at 9211 Del Arroyo Drive. Strictly an instructional facility, approximately 4 acres are used for comprehensive riding instructions including jumping and vaulting, as well as instruction in complete care of horses. It is geared for children and is used by La Crescenta Camp Fire Council, La Cañada Girl Scouts and Sun Valley Girl Scouts. One riding club receives 100 hours of instruction per week. The Burbank Camp Fire Council receives 40 hours of instruction per week. This center is one of two facilities in Southern California that is State vendored for therapeutic-handicapped riding. Many of the handicapped are recommended by physicians and have conditions which include cerebral palsy and mental retardation. Some live as far away as Palos Verdes. Private equestrians do cross through the center's land on trails winding through the Verdugos.

It can thus be seen that the potential trail system of the mountain complex is impressive. The Verdugo Hills Group of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter has formed a task force to introduce people to the easier hiking trails in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains. A minimum of two hikes a month is planned, approximately two hours long, and led by a qualified outing leader of the Angeles Chapter. Local people also use the trails all of the time for hiking and sports conditioning. For example, hiking one afternoon up Hostetter fire trail off La Tuna Canyon, a 2, 5 and 7 year

old and their parents were overtaken by three hiking groups. Other individuals and family groups were seen exploring the streambed area where it emerges from the canyon. The mountains generally are not hazardous terrain, promising enjoyment to inexperienced hikers. The many areas of gradual elevation as well as the scenic canyon areas could be enjoyed by senior citizens as they would not require strenuous exertion.

The existing trail system needs to be dedicated to the public. In the most recent edition of The California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan of February, 1974, standards are set for outdoor recreation activities on page 23. The plan recommends a hiking standard of 20 persons per mile and a horseback riding standard of one horse per mile. Thus, the one million persons within a 10-mile radius of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains need many miles of hiking trails.

ORGANIZED CAMPGROUND POTENTIAL

Another private facility is a camp for disadvantaged boys in Engleheard Canyon in the Verdugo Mountains of Glendale. Located on 112 acres of land, Camp Max Strauss of the Jewish Big Brothers Association has four to five camp sessions in the summer, with an average of 2,146 camper days per session. A camper day is defined as: One person being in camp for the majority of one 24-hour day. In addition, the facility is used year round by many diverse groups (see appendix). In 1978 the camp had a total use of 19,813 camper days.

There are many places in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains where smaller overnight campgrounds could be located. Wider canyons, such as at the west end of La Tuna Canyon, have potential for larger campgrounds, as do also the park areas

of Scholl Park, Brand Park, and La Crescenta Park. More developed recreation as well as campgrounds could be located north of the 210 Freeway in the northern Verdugos. It is hoped an overpass or underpass for trails will be constructed near Sunland Boulevard when the northern part of the freeway is built. There are already campgrounds in Wildwood Canyon in Burbank. Some provisions should be given to a priority system or special sites in overnight campgrounds for backpackers on the "Rim of the Valley" trail system.

POTENTIAL FOR INTERPRETIVE NATURE AREAS AND SPECIAL STUDY AREAS

The Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants at 10459 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley, is located on 22 acres of canyon bottom and hillsides north of La Tuna Canyon in the Verdugos. Over 200 species of native California plants are cultivated here and available to the public, as well as seeds of many native plants. Some of these plants are extinct in the wild. From a group picnic area, a nature trail leads through the hills.

The 165-acre gardens at Los Angeles County-owned Descanso Gardens in the San Rafaels also contains some native species in addition to many other plants.

The beauty of a mountain park is that multiple self-interpretive nature trails could be established near day-use areas. In addition to wild plant life study, the park would offer simultaneous opportunities for deepening appreciation of geology, zoology, hydrology, and the delicate ecological balance of nature. More formal research might be done by serious students of the various scientific fields. Also the park would preserve the ecology so that archeological surveys could be made.



The proximity of the mountains to schools offers further opportunities. Glendale Community College already uses the mountains for biology and astronomy classes. Other potential users include Pasadena City College, Occidental College, the surrounding elementary and junior and senior high schools. U.C.L.A. already uses Big Tujunga Canyon immediately north of the Verdugos.

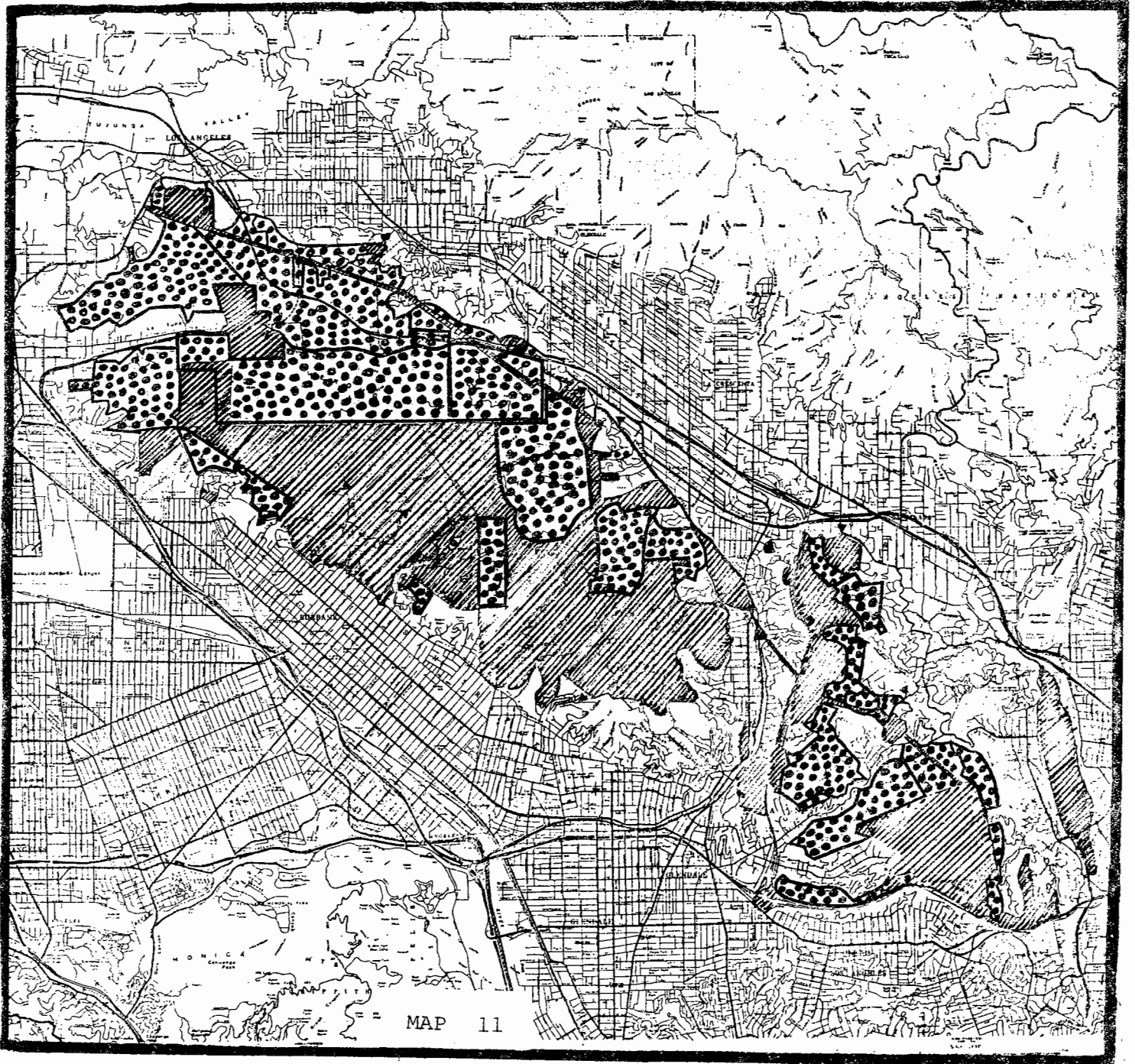
POTENTIAL LINKAGE WITH MAJOR RECREATIONAL AREAS

Of the major public recreational facilities in the Verdugo Mountains: Brand Park in Glendale and Stough Park, Wildwood Park and DeBell Golf Course in Burbank, are already linked by publically-owned land. The county-owned La Crescenta Park in Glendale needs to be linked to these facilities. Although not a major recreational facility, publically-owned McGroarty Park in Tujunga (approximately 16 acres and containing L.A. Historical Marker #63, the McGroarty Home) should be joined to the other areas. All of the above-mentioned parks could serve as staging areas into the mountain park. In the northern Verdugos, the flood control land along La Tuna Canyon Road as well as adjacent public land extending southward, should be linked with other public lands north and south of La Tuna Canyon. Along busy La Tuna Canyon Road a special right-of-way should be acquired for equestrians and hikers.

Of the major public recreational facilities in the San Rafael Mountains, Scholl Canyon Park needs to be linked to both Eagle Rock, a historical landmark, as well as to the Eagle Rock Recreational Center at the base of the mountain on Figueroa Street. Both the park and the center could serve as a staging area into the San Rafaels. Scholl Park should also be linked to the ridge trail along the main north-south ridge of the San Rafaels which links with the

VERDUGO - SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS PRIVATE, PUBLIC, QUASI-PUBLIC OPEN SPACE (ROUGH BOUNDARIES)

KEY:  - PUBLIC, QUASI-PUBLIC
OPEN SPACE
 - PRIVATE OPEN SPACE



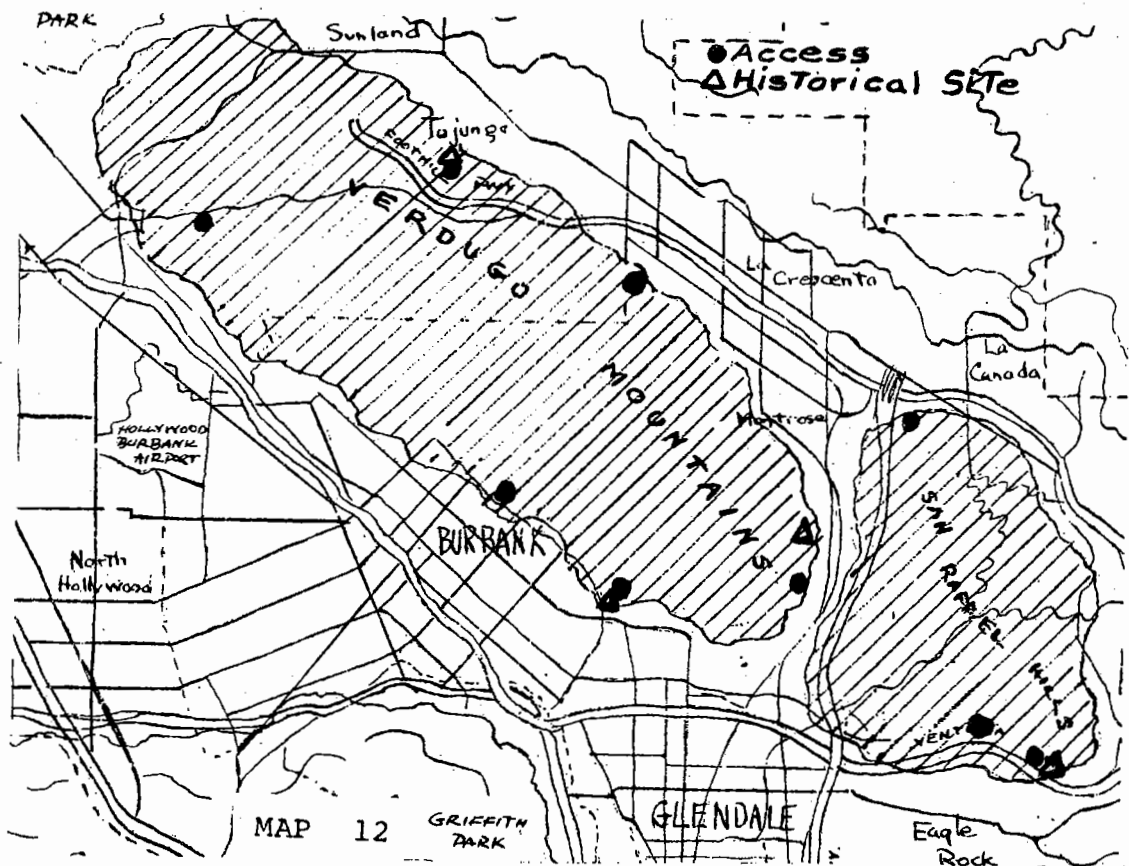
County-owned Descanso Gardens. Brookside Park in the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena is already linked by trail to Descanso Gardens.

A Verdugo-San Rafael urban mountain park would also be a link to recreational areas beyond the mountain complex. The San Rafael Mountains can be linked to Griffith Park via the Arroyo Seco and via an equestrian trail system along the Los Angeles River. The city of Los Angeles' tentative route for this linkage is in very early planning stages. The existing trail linkage in the northern Verdugo Mountains between Hansen Dam and the Tujunga Wash should be secured for the public. The possibility of a link between the Verdugo Mountains and Griffith Park via the Los Angeles River and Verdugo Wash should also be investigated.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ENTRANCES

This mountain complex is accessible to all ages and economic levels. It is capable of being enjoyed as a park and mountain area by more than a million people within a 10-mile radius. It is accessible without a car and offers appeal to all age groups. The entire mountain complex is closely surrounded by the Southern California Rapid Transit District network of bus routes (see map). Alternate routes could easily be developed from existing routes to reach access areas into the park with little or no increase in cost to the taxpayer and little increase in energy consumption or smog.

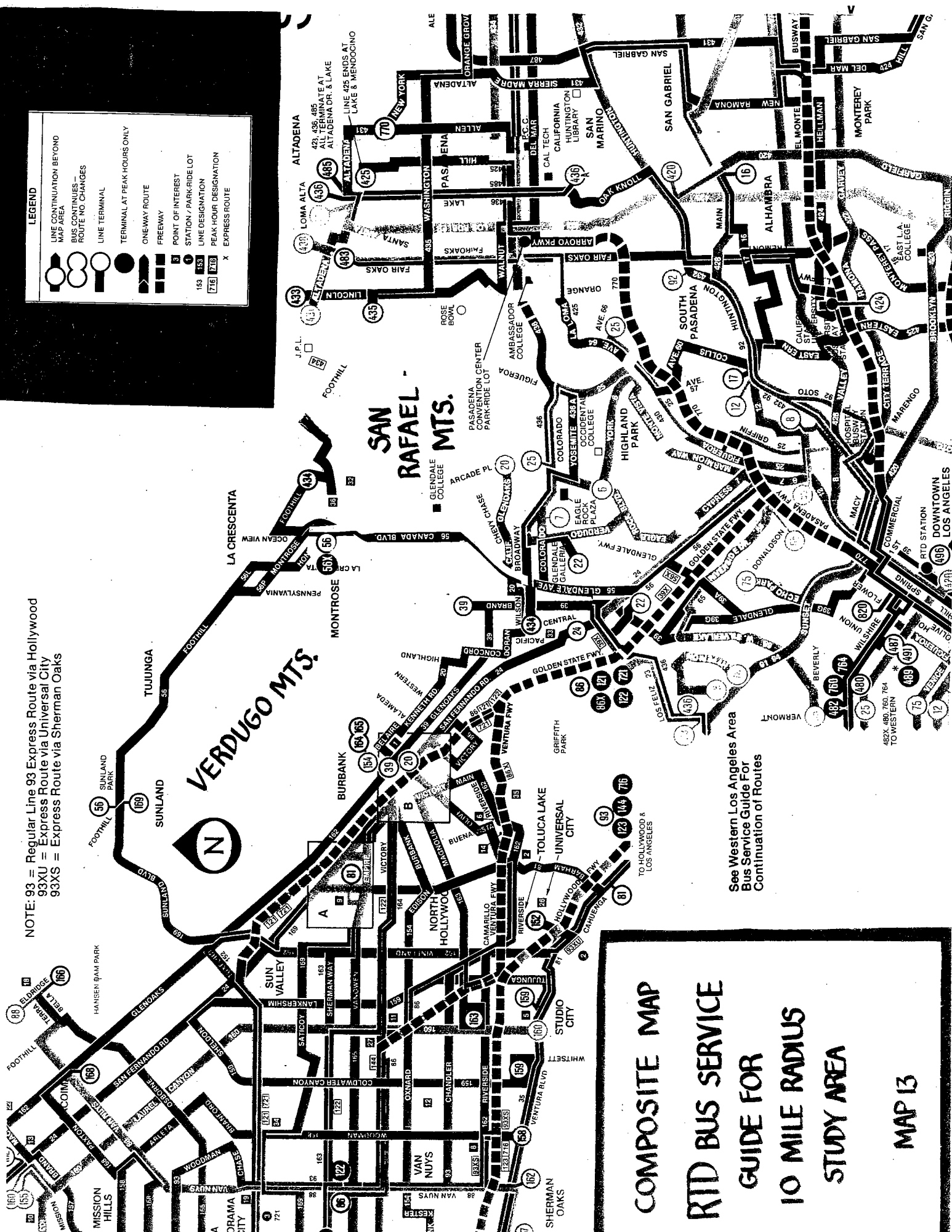
The already established entrances at Brand Park, Descanso Gardens, La Crescenta Park, Stough Park and Scholl Park are accessible by public transportation. Other controlled entrances could be located at the west end of La Tuna Canyon, the junction of Sunland Boulevard and the 210 Freeway, McGroarty Park and at the end of Figueroa Street in Los Angeles.



NOTE: 93 = Regular Line Express Route via Hollywood
 93XU = Express Route via Universal City
 93XS = Express Route via Sherman Oaks

LEGEND

- LINE CONTINUATION BEYOND MAP AREA
- BUS CONTINUES - ROUTE NO. CHANGES
- LINE TERMINAL
- TERMINAL AT PEAK HOURS ONLY
- ONEWAY ROUTE
- ▬ FREEWAY
- ③ POINT OF INTEREST
- ① STATION / PARK-RIDE LOT
- ② LINE DESIGNATION
- ④ PEAK HOUR DESIGNATION
- ⑤ EXPRESS ROUTE



See Western Los Angeles Area Bus Service Guide For Continuation of Routes

COMPOSITE MAP
RTD BUS SERVICE
GUIDE FOR
10 MILE RADIUS
STUDY AREA
MAP 13

If a Rim of the Valley Park concept becomes a reality, more distant staging areas would be Griffith Park, Hansen Dam, and the Montecito Hills Regional Park in the southern Arroyo Seco.

SECTION VI

ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The same criteria used to give class 7 distinction to the Verdugo Mountains as a significant ecological area in the Los Angeles County Conservation and Open Space Element are criteria one could use to show that the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains would make a good urban mountain park. These criteria are: "a) were completely or nearly undisturbed, b) had a diversity of habitats, c) were large enough to support a representative sample of the native fauna, and d) were more-or-less isolated from outside impacts, such as a self-contained watershed or an isolated mountain peak." Additional evidence of the significance of this mountain complex as an ecological preserve is the support the proposal has received from the National Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, Theodore Payne Foundation, Ecology Center of Southern California, Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education, as well as individual biologists and zoologists.

A limited biological and zoological survey resulted in an extensive list of plants and animals within the mountain complex. Also found in the mountains are the unique Tiger lily (*lilium humboldti*), an unexpected range extension of the bur chervil (*anthriscus scandicina*) and rare and endangered animals such as the legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra*), sharp-skinned hawk (*Accipter striatus*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), and California dog face butterfly (*Zerene errydice*) the official California state insect. This evidence supports the statement made on E49 in the England and Nelson study which states that "the [Verdugo Mountain] area serves as an island refuge, providing what remains of a link between plant and animal populations found in the Santa Monica and San Gabriel Mountains. Genetic interchange by way of this linkage is important in

perpetuating the genetic variability in isolated populations and consequently the maintenance of healthy ecosystems."

This ecological preserve is non-polluting just as it exists. Because of the proximity of the mountain complex to one million people within a ten-mile radius and its nearness to public transportation which surrounds the mountains, a recreational round-trip by a patron will generate less pollutants into the air and utilize less energy per transportation vehicle than usual trips to mountain areas which are normally found at great distances from urban areas.

The beauty of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains preserved for the public domain would not only serve the people, but nature as well. Rare and endangered plant species and animal life would be protected. The delicate ecological balance of the geological structure, plant communities and many varied animals would be preserved. The beneficial effects of the vegetative cover in reducing smog, soil erosion and mud-slides can be maintained. Archeological sites may be found in the Oak Woodland Communities and would not be irreplaceably lost.

SECTION VII

FINANCIAL ASPECTS

FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Approximately 7,817 acres of undeveloped land in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains is in public or quasi-public ownership. Approximately 6,000 acres is in private ownership. Depending on how much of this land will be considered for inclusion in a mountain park, considerable money will need to be raised to purchase the land for the public.

At the most, 6,000 acres may be purchased. At an estimate of \$2,000 per acre, the purchase figure approaches 12 million. Each year of delay may raise the purchase price. The obvious question is, "Where will this amount come from"? Private citizens, organizations, and businesses will need to donate money toward the purchase of private land. Considerable local, state and federal funds also will be necessary. State and federal grant programs already in existence have funds allocated for purchase of park land. Also to be considered are operating costs. However, operating costs can be offset by revenue from fees for use. The following section will discuss purchase costs to the public, operating costs, cost-benefit relationships, full or partial property rights and funding sources.

COSTS TO THE TAXPAYER

Purchase of undeveloped land may range from \$500/acre to \$1,500/acre. The average lower figure indicates land which has not had any money for development expended vs. land in which there has been some outlay of funds on the part of the developers in the initial planning stages. An average cost of \$1,000/acre would be a prudent expectation.

If hillside lands are residentially developed, the public cost initially per house has been estimated from \$1,800 to \$3,000 for initial municipal services. If development occurs at a relatively low density of 2 houses/acre, the public costs could be conservatively estimated at \$3,000/acre.

Initial Outlay of Public Funds

\$3000 per acre public costs if developed
- \$1000 per acre public costs if land is
——— acquired for park
\$2000 Savings to public

It is difficult to compare the operating costs of a mountain park vs. public costs for services to residential areas which are not covered by taxes and fees. There are only two state wilderness areas: Mount San Jacinto S.W. and Santa Rosa Mountains S.W. In the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Statistical Report, 1976-77 Fiscal Year, p. 4, Mount San Jacinto S.W. is statistically analyzed with Mount San Jacinto State Park which has 83 camp sites, 13 family picnic sites, and 38 miles of trails. Operating cost averaged out to \$13/acre in 1976-77. Operating cost includes most basic costs such as salaries, wages, pro rata costs of District Headquarters, Division Chief Headquarters, and minor maintenance. It does not include major improvements and capital development.

In the same report, on page 5, the Santa Rosa Mountain S.W. is statistically analyzed as part of the Anza-Borrego Desert S.P. which also includes Sheep Canyon N.P. The

The Anza-Borrego has 359 camp sites, 16 family picnic sites and 49 miles of trails. Operating costs averaged to \$1/acre in 1976-77.

Since the per cent of revenue to operating costs per acre in state parks is determined not only by operating costs but by revenue as well, which includes fees for day use, overnight camping and special tours, it is reasonable to assume that an urban mountain park with one million people within 10 miles would generate more revenue than the above parks which are distant from urban areas. It is also reasonable to assume that public services for residential housing in steep terrain might cost the public more than \$1 to \$13 per acre above the taxes collected from occupants. It was impossible to get any cost-benefit figures for residential housing but an opinion does exist that mountainous development does not pay its own way. An additional source of park revenue besides camping and tour fees was found in San Diego County by enacting an ordinance requiring the annual licensing of trail horses. Supported by horse clubs in San Diego County to remedy funding shortages resulting from Proposition 13, horses not used for riding or restricted to private property are exempt from the \$10 fee.

ACQUISITION AND FUNDING

Acquisition need not increase taxes. A mountain park would need assistance at the state or federal level to become an actuality and there are funds available for allocation. Also, the state can legally dedicate excess state land adjacent to interstate highways to the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain Park.

With the generation of local enthusiasm and monetary support, it should be possible in some cases to acquire the title of fee simple by purchase or gift, with assistance from

knowledgeable attorneys. Variations of the fee simple title by gift may include gift with life tenancy reserved, gift on installment plan and gift with clause providing for reversion of title in the event the receiver fails to abide by any special conditions of the gift agreement. Gifts to a non-profit corporation, i.e., S.W.A.P., can reduce taxes. Testamentary gifts can reduce estate taxes.

Another possibility is acquisition of partial rights only. Acquisition of partial property rights or the acquisition of a conservation or scenic easement allows the owner to enjoy his land, but prevents further development. If a landowner gives such an easement, he can deduct its value on his income tax and is entitled to some reduction in property tax assessment.

When the title of fee simple must be purchased, federal funding assistance is available under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, administered through the California State Department of Parks and Recreation. Money allocated may be used for statewide planning and for acquiring and developing outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The plan is authorized for 25 years, until 1990. Application must be made by the county, a city, or recreation and park district with authority to acquire, develop, operate and maintain public park and recreation areas. This is a reimbursement program. The applicant finances 100 per cent of the project. Fifty per cent of the actual expenditure and no more than the authorized monetary grant is refunded when the project is completed. Property acquired or developed under the program must be retained in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation use.⁶

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) specializes in acquiring open space land throughout the nation by gift or purchase

and transferring it to the public, generally at prices well below market value. Some properties have been conveyed into public ownership at 54 per cent less than original appraisal. In the four years preceeding the 1977 Annual Report, the TPL conveyed into public ownership 10,867 acres of open space land for use as parks, community gardens, recreation areas, wilderness areas, and nature preserves. The TPL accepts gifts of land and risks funds to hold land until public funds can be allocated. When TPL receives a gift of land, or purchases land for less than its true value, the difference between the market value of the land and the price paid by TPL becomes a charitable donation from the landowner. TPL retains a portion of the grant to fund its non-profit operations, and then passes a portion of the grant on to the public by selling the land to public agencies at a price less than fair market value. In this manner lands bought by public agencies from the TPL averaged⁷ out at 22 per cent below fair market value over four years.

Through the Nejedly-Hart State, Urban and Coastal Park Bond Act of 1976, \$24,993,815 is available to Los Angeles County. Funds allocated to local agencies are based on population and may be used for the acquisition, development or restoration of real property for park, beach, recreational and historical resources preservation purposes. The funds are administered by the State Department of Parks and Recreation. The project must provide or support public recreation and be compatible with a county priority plan of June 30, 1978. Application deadline is September 15 yearly to September 15, 1982. After this date any money remaining may be redistributed in the state. The local agencies' project must be consistent with the park and recreation plan of the applicants jurisdiction and accompanied by a resolution of the governing body. The

minimum grant request is \$10,000 for an individual project application. Ten per cent of the total grant is withheld until the project is completed.⁸

Also administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the Urban Open Space and Recreation Program Act of 1976 is an annual \$25-million grant program providing grants to counties, park and recreation districts, and cities in existence prior to May 1976. The state allocates the funds for acquisition and development of park and recreation areas within urbanized areas (69 per cent), and within heavily urbanized areas (14 per cent) such as a county or regional park district with a 1 million population minimum or a city with a minimum population of 300,000. Projects must conform to both the recreation element of the jurisdiction and to a resolution of the governing body. Requirements state the project must be within or immediately adjacent to the most heavily populated areas of each jurisdiction and that factors indicating need include: population density, number of persons per household, income rate, juvenile delinquency rate, unemployment rate, relationship of youth and senior citizens to total population served, and deficiency in recreation facilities and programs. The ratio of funding sources is 75 per cent state and 25 per cent matching funds from a non-state source by the applicant.⁹

The State Beach Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act of 1974 allocated \$25,728,355 to Los Angeles County to be distributed to jurisdictions according to a specific priority list drawn up by June, 1975, for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation and historical areas. This financial assistance program is administered through the California State Department of Parks and Recreation.

On July 1, 1980, the balance of the bond funding will be totaled, and a program to appropriate this balance will be submitted in the budget for the 1981-82 fiscal year. These funds will be reappropriated for grants to local jurisdictions only.¹⁰

SECTION VIII

SUMMARY AND IMPLEMENTATION

SUMMARY AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain Park should become a reality because it is:

Publically supported.

- compatible with governmental studies and plans
- endorsed by many organizations
- communities are already acquiring mountain park land

Recreationally sound

- an urban park in six jurisdictions
- highly accessible by bike, auto, bus or walking
- terrain suitable for all ages and the inexperienced hiker
- one segment of a potential Rim of the Valley park and trail system serving the entire San Fernando Valley and beyond
- expands the recreational possibilities of the Arroyo Seco area population
- provides for future generations

Environmentally sound

- energy efficient
- non-polluting
- an ecological preserve
- a highly visible landmark

Financially sound

- land acquisition costs less than development cost to the taxpayer
- revenue could offset maintenance costs
- funding programs are available

Governmental and political support

- favorable resolutions adopted in 1979 by all jurisdictions involved
- resolution adopting proposal adopted in 1978 by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee

The best use of the remaining undeveloped portion of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains would be an urban mountain park. Certain activities are compatible with this concept:

- Nature and pleasure hikes and equestrian rides along trails. A continuous trail network could be developed within the mountains as well as linking the mountain complex with the Big Tujunga Canyon-Hansen Dam area and Griffith Park.
- Nature study centers and tours for all age groups.
- Overnight camping.
- Picnicking.
- Bird and animal observation.
- Photography.
- Biological, zoological, geological and archeological research.

The reality of a Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain Park starts with a workable program. A workable program could begin by suitable public bodies:

- Studying the remaining 6,000 acres of undeveloped privately-owned land to reach agreement on the land to be purchased and the land to be developed in the public interests.
- Initiating a comprehensive funding program beginning with local support and ranging through appropriate state, federal and philanthropic sources.
- Defining areas of compatible use: scenic backdrop landscapes and conservation/preservation areas with both self-explaining tours and conducted planned programs, and developed recreation facilities adjacent to new road accesses and combined with parking and staging areas for ingress into the mountain lands.

A workable program will open the eyes of the present to the potentials of a future Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain Park. A mountain park encompassing the entire land form of the Verdugo-San Rafael Range will benefit not just our generation, but future generations as well.

A P P E N D I C E S

APPENDIX I

PUBLIC ACTION THROUGH 1976 TO PRESERVE THE MOUNTAINS

The terrain and ownership pattern of the mountains have reflected change. In 1930 the CCC cleared firebreaks on the Verdugo-San Rafael ridges. Over the years some lands were donated to public agencies for tax purposes and some were purchased by the cities. By 1976 the City of Glendale had acquired 2,279 mountain acres as public and quasi-public lands, and Burbank 2,500 acres. Much of the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena was publically owned. The city of La Cañada-Flintridge did not exist as yet. About 600 acres of public land was in the jurisdiction of Los Angeles, flood control channels, reservoirs and similar properties.

ACTION PERTAINING TO THE VERDUGOS

As long ago as 1928 the national organization of the American Green Cross had its first chapter in Glendale. The organization was dedicated to saving trees and to the dissemination of information on the importance of forests, emphasizing reforestration and conservation activities. The Junior Green Cross enrolled 8,000 school children.¹¹

In 1967 the Verdugos became the focus of citizen concern in Glendale. A petition signed by 14.4 per cent of the voters urged preservation of the Verdugo Mountains by public ownership.¹²

In January, 1969, while the City of Los Angeles was considering options for a land use plan of the Verdugo Mountain area within the city, an association of property owners' organizations and conservation groups from the Verdugo area of Los Angeles protested that the plan allowed

too much development. These citizens hired a planning consultant and proposed to Los Angeles a slope density formula to regulate density in relationship to the steepness of the terrain.¹³

In 1970 the Mayor of Burbank approached L.A. County Supervisor Warren Dorn with the idea of a regional park in the Verdugos. Acting on this suggestion, the Board of Supervisors directed the L.A. County Department of Regional Planning to form a Land Use Coordinating Committee to direct this effort. The Committee worked from October, 1970, to September, 1971. It made recommendations to the cities to use methods such as a joint powers agreement to apply for funds, to agree on which lands should be acquired for acquisition, etc. Although the cities could not agree and the committee dissolved, the City of Burbank acted on some of the recommendations, applying for and receiving funds. Bonds which had been approved by Burbank voters in 1968 were subsequently matched by HUD funds, enabling Burbank to purchase most of its open mountain land.

The Sierra Club also showed its concern for the Verdugo Mountains on August 6, 1971, when the Los Angeles chapter and Verdugo Hills group of the Sierra Club sent a resolution to the Los Angeles City Council: opposing Glendale's plan for a scenic parkway along the ridge crest, opposing the development of a mountaintop community, and favoring the preservation of the undeveloped land as a contrast with surrounding urbanization.¹⁴

In June, 1971, a group of citizens in Glendale and Burbank united to "Stop Attacks on the Verdugo Environment." Thus, the organization SAVE was born and eventually incorporated. The catalyst for the formation of this group was a scenic highway proposed in the Victor Gruen report on the Verdugo Mountains. Within two years this group was able to: 1) gain monetary support from a wide base, 2) generate a strong petition drive to place on the 1975 ballot a measure calling

for an open space plan for the Verdugos, deletion of any highway above 1,600 feet elevation, and prohibiting subdivision development above 1,600 feet, and 3) gain endorsement of the initiative petition from the United Homeowners of Burbank, the Sierra Club, the Glendale Hills Coordinating Council comprised of homeowners groups in Glendale, the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, and many individual homeowner groups. It is difficult to determine the will of the people from the outcome of the election, which resulted in defeat of the SAVE proposition, since the issue of land preservation was complicated by economic fears, questions of constitutionality, and access restriction. A companion bond issue for 12 million dollars, placed on the ballot by the city to acquire the undeveloped land in the Verdugos was also defeated.

Land use planning difficulties concerning the Verdugos were analyzed in 1972 in one of the public policy studies of the Claremont Colleges entitled "Verdugo Mountains: Planning in Conflict." The student-faculty research team chose initially to investigate the scenic parkway proposed by Glendale for the Verdugo ridge top, but the study eventually evolved into an exploration of the difficulties of inter-jurisdictional planning and conflicts between development and preservation of open space. This study recommended a unified regional plan for the Verdugos supported by parallel referendums in the involved cities and funding support at the state and federal level for open space and acquisition.¹⁵

In 1973 the League of Women Voters, whose membership encompasses the communities of Glendale, Burbank and La Crescenta, chose the following topic for local study, "Land Use Planning: a study encompassing governmental policies and jurisdictions, concentrating on preservation and

development of the mountains."¹⁶ After completion of this study, the consensus reached by the League supported a regional plan for the Verdugo Mountains which would preserve them as open space and be accomplished by public acquisition of private lands. In view of this consensus, the League voted to support the SAVE petition in circulation at that time.¹⁷

The communities encircling the Verdugo Mountains have open-space plans. In 1972, a State-mandated Conservation Element was included in the Glendale General Plan that listed the Verdugo Range lands as a priority. In March, 1976, the Glendale City Council, in approving the State-mandated Circulation Element, omitted any mention of the city-designated scenic highways which had for many years been in the highway plans of the city; their future status is now in limbo. Meanwhile, Burbank progressed with HUD programs for urban open space, and in March, 1976, completed the purchase of 2,500 acres. The Los Angeles County Regional Recreational Area Plan for 1985 classified the Verdugo Mountains as a reservation and, as such, would protect natural resources and complement nearby recreational facilities.¹⁸

The Verdugo mountain range is also included in the proposed Rim of the Valley Park, a major project in which the mountainous potential parkland encircling the San Fernando Valley would be linked by a Rim of the Valley Trail. This trail system is being actively promoted by a citizen's group. It was one of the official bicentennial projects of the City of Los Angeles and would be part of the State's planned trail system throughout California. The Verdugo Mountains are in this system.

ACTION PERTAINING TO THE SAN RAFAELS

By Gertrude Day

In the 1950's homeowners in Glendale objected to the city's plan for a land fill in Scholl Canyon. The large canyon would be filled with refuse from Glendale and other cities who contracted for the privilege. The land fill would be covered nightly with dirt from nearby ridges, eventually leveling the ridges. Similar fills exist in the Santa Monica Mountains. Such fills generate a lot of revenue and hold the promise of a future park. The land fill project was approved. A special road was constructed into the hills. The constant parade of trucks is hidden behind Eagle Rock Ridge. The surrounding ridges are being leveled. Residents of Scholl Canyon have found the land fill to have many adverse effects, among these are odors, hazards from methane gas and loss of natural terrain. And the night lighting of a high level park in an area where the surrounding ridges have been leveled is visible from 10 to 20 miles, disrupting the mountain silhouette.

In the same decade, Glendale residents of the San Rafaels did support "use" permits for radio facilities, flood control, fire, F.B.I. and other protective measures. They also encouraged control of blasting connected with developments. Also, during the 1950's, bow-and-arrow shooting of wildlife in the San Rafael Hills was halted by concerned citizens, although it is still permitted in the Verdugos.

In 1963 Chevy Chase Estates Association, Inc., of the San Rafael Hills, through a petition action, achieved a zone change of the golf club area. The "special recreation zone" was desired to prevent subdividing of the area which had been threatened over the years. This achievement was

a decided open space asset to the San Rafael Hills. Members of the Chevy Chase Estates Association, Inc., also worked with the State Division of Highways to choose the best route for the Glendale Freeway through the San Rafael Mountains.

In 1968 a Glendale land use plan for the San Rafael Hills was completed by a city council appointed citizen's committee, and in 1971 amended the General Plan. In the late 1960's, early 1970's, plans proposed townhouses and multiple dwellings on more than 304 acres straddling the main ridge of the San Rafael Hills. The contours of this ridge would have been drastically altered, including a 470 yard cut in the ridge for a road. The San Rafael Hills Citizens' Committee wrote a report opposing the development, and the Chevy Chase Association, Inc., obtained notarized signatures from 20 per cent of the people on the periphery of the development area to stop a zone change to higher density. In addition, 4,000 signatures were collected from all over the city and the development was denied.

In the early 1970's, after the route of the Glendale Freeway through the San Rafael Hills had long been planned, a developer obtained permission to haul away excess dirt from cuts for the freeway and to fill a large canyon of the San Rafael Hills. No environmental impact report was filed. Citizens of the San Rafael Hills filed suit to prevent the fill and won.

ACTION PERTAINING TO THE VERDUGO AND SAN RAFAEL MOUNTAINS

The City of Glendale is the only jurisdiction with thousands of acres in both the Verdugo and San Rafael Mountains. Citizens speak of "the mountains" meaning the entire complex. In 1968 the city of Glendale sent out a questionnaire in

every utility bill concerning the citizens' desires for future development of the hills. The citizen response showed that 84 per cent of the people wanted the ridges protected from development, 84 per cent wanted to limit the cuts and fills made by developments, and 61 per cent would pay to plant trees and reforest the hills.

APPENDIX II

GEOLOGY

Extracted by Bonnie Kopley from Report of Geologic and Soil Investigation Verdugo Mountains Development and Conservation Study by Frankian and Associates, 1968, Section III, IV, V and VI.

The Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain range is composed of a series of upward-thrusted composite fault blocks. Although distinct fault planes are difficult to trace because of the alluvial and soil cover, a large fault is inferred at the south side of the range to account for the uplift of this large fault block. This fault is probably the same one that is exposed in the southeast section of the San Rafael Hills. There is evidence of fault activity within fairly recent geologic time. There are so many small faults and shear planes in the basement rock that it is not practical to map them all. Within the fault zones, much of the basement rock is closely jointed or fractured. These secondary faults have produced crushed and broken rock and have offset contacts between the major rock formations.

The oldest rocks in the range (pre-late cretaceous) are a series of metamorphosed sedimentary rocks consisting of gneisses and schists with lenses of crystalline limestone called the Placerita formation. Foliation is a prominent feature in the Placerita formation. The Placerita formation occurs in discontinuous masses which have been separated by younger plutonic rocks, quartz diorite and granodiorite.

At some locations the granodiorite is so closely fractured or pulverized that it has the character of a friable sand rather than a coherent crystalline rock. Numerous dikes, composed of hard rock such as aplite, intrude into the bedrock materials forming bold outcrops. A few small

isolated areas support thin dikes of basalt.

Remnants of old alluvial soils, quarternary terrace deposits, have been uplifted with the mountain mass and are generally distributed around the lower slopes of the mountains with smaller patches occurring on some ridge tops and high protected slopes.

Alluvial material consisting of unconsolidated silty sand, clean sand and gravel have been eroded by running water from the mountains and deposited in the lower portion of the valleys.

The geological history of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains began with the deposition of sediments comprising the Placerita formation upon an ancient ocean floor. Probably during mid-cretaceous, these shales and other sedimentary rocks were dynamically metamorphosed into schists, gneisses, quartzites and marbles, and in places, granitized.

The area of the San Gabriel Mountains and Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains was probably formed into a mountain range as a result of mid-cretaceous orogeny. Next a long period of erosion probably reduced this area to a plain, lying beneath the sea once again through middle Miocene and lower Pliocene times. The evidence for this is the occurrence of marine sediments of this age at the north end of the Verdugo Mountains. In middle Pliocene the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains were elevated above sea level and this uplift has continued to the present time. Intermittent movement along the large fault on the southern flank of the Verdugo Mountain area has caused this area to be thrust up to form the present mountain range.

The landforms are presently at a stage of geomorphic development referred to as "late youth," characterized

by the forming of dendritic drainage patterns and deeply incised V-shaped valleys. Oversteepening of the lower canyon walls indicates recent rejuvenation of the erosion cycle.

APPENDIX III

CAMP MAX STRAUSS

Camper Days

By Walt Parker

January 1, 1978 to December 31, 1978

JANUARY 1978

January 7	BB/LB/LS Picnic	110	Camper Days
January 7	Bill Scarf, Jack Mason, Boy Scouts of America	2	Camper Days
January 14&			
January 15	Mothers of Little Brothers Retreat	12	Camper Days
January 21	Big Brother and Little Brother Outing	2	Camper Days
January 27	Lincoln Elem. Child Care Center-Outdoor Education Program	15	Camper Days
January 27	Boy Scouts on hike	2	Camper Days

FEBRUARY 1978

February 1	Boy Scout Slide Presentation	6	Camper Days
February 2	S.W.A.P. - State Park Proposal	10	Camper Days
February 4	YMCA-Indian Guide: 8 Fathers-9 Sons. Leatherworking	17	Camper Days
February 4	Girl Scout Troop #303	30	Camper Days
February 5	Two Big and Little Brother Teams	4	Camper Days
February 8	Sierra Club Hike	30	Camper Days
February 17	So. Calif. Assn. of Human Relations Directors	25	Camper Days
February 18	Girl Scout Troop #331 - Hike	10	Camper Days
February 20	Family Hike	5	Camper Days
February 25	La Crescenta L.D.S. Youth Conference	125	Camper Days
February 25	YMCA-Indian Guide: 8 Fathers-9 Sons	17	Camper Days
February 26	J.B.B. Camp Committee Meeting - Including Guests	17	Camper Days

MARCH 1978

March 4	Girl Scouts	62	Camper Days
March 11	Brownie/Daddy Hike	60	Camper Days
March 11	YWCA Women's Resource Center Steering Committee	18	Camper Days
March 12	B/B/LB (Combined Family Picnic)	8	Camper Days
March 14	Mountain Ave. School Nature Program	35	Camper Days
March 16	Mountain Ave. School Environmental Education Program	35	Camper Days
March 23	Lincoln Elementary Child Care Center, Outdoor Education Program	17	Camper Days
March 29	3rd Grade Class, Outdoor Education Program - Mountain Avenue	27	Camper Days
March 30	Jewish Big Brothers - Staff Retreat	20	Camper Days

APRIL 1978

April 2	Big Brother Leadership Training Seminar	30	Camper Days
April 7, 8&9	UCLA Student Coordinating Committee	81	Camper Days
April 8	YMCA-Indian Guide: 7 Fathers-8 Sons - Leatherworking	15	Camper Days
April 8	Boy Scout Troop - 15 Scouts - 3 Adults	18	Camper Days
April 8	Woodman Avenue Child Care Center - Handicapped	30	Camper Days
April 11	Growing Years School: Outdoor Educ. Field Trip	19	Camper Days
April 11	Cub Scouts on assignment to Ranch	6	Camper Days
April 14	4th/5th Graders from Mountain Ave. Elementary - Outdoor Educational Field Trip	30	Camper Days
April 15, 16	BB/LB/LS - Overnight	94	Camper Days
April 16	Cub Pack #113 and Families on a hike	35	Camper Days
April 21, 22, 23	Girl Scout Spring Encampment	472	Camper Days
April 22	Handicapped Scouting Seminar	50	Camper Days
April 26	S.W.A.P. (State Parks Personnel tour of area)	10	Camper Days
April 27, 30	Campfire Girls Encampment & Guests 4/30	545	Camper Days
April 29, 30	Eagle Scout Project - Renovation of Archery Range	26	Camper Days

MAY 1978

May 6, 7	Catholic Big and Little Brothers - Overnight	100	Camper Days
May 11	Glenoaks Elementary School - 5th Grade - Outdoor Education	30	Camper Days
May 11	United Way Luncheon/Presentation	30	Camper Days
May 12, 13	Sunland Ward LDS Youth - Overnight	60	Camper Days
May 15	Horace Mann Elem. School - 3rd Grade - Outdoor Education	30	Camper Days
May 16	Glenoaks Elementary School - 5th Grade - Outdoor Education	30	Camper Days
May 18, 19	John Muir Elem. School - 6th Grade - Overnight Outdoor Education	140	Camper Days
May 19, 20	Boy Scouts Troop I - Leadership Training Course	100	Camper Days
May 21	Family of a Little Brother for Family Picnic	50	Camper Days
May 23, 24	Field Elementary School - 6th Grade - Overnight Outdoor Education	140	Camper Days
May 25	Glenoaks Elementary School - 5th Grade - Outdoor Education	30	Camper Days
May 25, 26	American Camping Association Camp Visitors Training	34	Camper Days
May 25, 26	Brownie Troop 538 - Overnight	38	Camper Days
May 30	La Crescenta Elementary School - 3rd Grade - Outdoor Education	30	Camper Days
May 31	R.D.White Elementary - 2 Special Education Classes - Outdoor Education	28	Camper Days

JUNE 1978

June 4	La Crescenta Methodist Church - Father & Son Outing	150 Camper Days
June 7	Montrose Elementary School - two 6th Grades - Outdoor Education	60 Camper Days
June 8	Montrose Elementary school - two 6th Grades - Outdoor Education	60 Camper Days
June 9,10	Brownie Fly-Up to Sr. Scouts; Overnight for New Scouts	64 Camper Days
June 12	Mountain Avenue Elementary School - 6th Grade Picnic	90 Camper Days
June 13	Lowell Elementary School - 6th Grade Picnic	90 Camper Days
June 14	Fremont Elementary School - 6th Grade Picnic	90 Camper Days
June 16,17,18	Cub Scout Outing - Tent Camping	300 Camper Days
June 26-30	Summer Camp "In-Service" Training & Girls Session	350 Camper Days

JULY 1978

3-14	Summer Camp-Session 1	2160 Camper Days
17-28	Summer Camp-Session 2	2148 Camper Days
20-25	Filming "The Little Dragon"	240 Camper Days
31	Summer Camp-Session 3	180 Camper Days

AUGUST 1978

1-11	Summer Camp-Session 3	1980 Camper Days
1 & 2	Filming "Rainbow"	120 Camper Days
11 & 12	Father/son Overnight	350 Camper Days
14-25	Summer Camp-Session 4	2152 Camper Days
28-31	Summer Camp-Session 5	720 Camper Days
30	Women's Conference-Valley Section	12 Camper Days
31	United Way Visit	16 Camper Days

SEPTEMBER 1978

1-8	Summer Camp-Session 5	1392 Camper Days
14	Glendale Schools PTA	167 Camper Days
23	Eagle Court of Honor-BSA	175 Camper Days
27	Troop 1-BSA Staff Training	18 Camper Days

OCTOBER 1978

4	Troop 1 BSA	18 Camper Days
12	ACA Board Meeting	72 Camper Days
18	Troop 1 BSA	35 Camper Days
25	Troop 1 BSA	37 Camper Days
26	Cub Scout #303	90 Camper Days
27	Troop 1 BSA	18 Camper Days
28	Troop 1 BSA	37 Camper Days

NOVEMBER 1978

1	Troop 1 BSA Training	37 Camper Days
4, 5	Big Brothers, Little Brothers, Little Sisters Overnight	196 Camper Days
6	Glendale City School Multi-Media Representatives	2 Camper Days
14, 15	Girl Scout Troop 507	26 Camper Days
15	Glendale Schools Elementary Learning Assistants Program	50 Camper Days
17 - 19	Girl Scout Troop 76	60 Camper Days
21	Glendale City Schools Outdoor Education Committee	10 Camper Days
24	Catholic Big Brothers	25 Camper Days

DECEMBER 1978 - Projected

1 - 3	Sierra Madre Girl Scouts	225 Camper Days
2, 3	UCLA Training Institute	60 Camper Days
9	Verdugo Hills BSA Den Chief Training	50 Camper Days
16	Troop 1 BSA	30 Camper Days
16	Glendale Schools Staff Party	60 Camper Days
26 - 29	Hanukkah Camp	540 Camper Days

Grand Total Camper Days
January 1, 1978 through December 31, 1978 19,813 Camper Days

APPENDIX IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, increasing urban development has led to expansion of residential areas into mountainous areas; and

WHEREAS, open space and scenic quality are irretrievable resources; and

WHEREAS, the adopted Los Angeles Open Space Plan designates the Verdugo Mountains as an ecologically significant area and desirable open space to assure development which will not destroy its unique topographical features and open space character; and

WHEREAS, the overuse of active recreational facilities would be eased by accommodating those who prefer undeveloped recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills are easily accessible to the large central city population; and

WHEREAS, most of the terrain is not hazardous and could provide enjoyment for inexperienced hikers and senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills represent significant open space resources; and

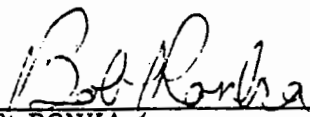
WHEREAS, future energy shortages may require City residents to rely on nearby open space recreational areas; and

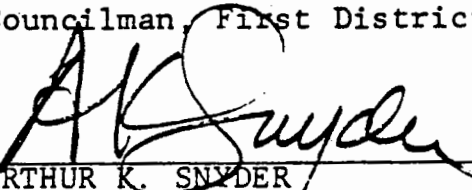
WHEREAS, the proposal by Small Wilderness Area Preservation for a wilderness park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills has been endorsed by the affected cities of Glendale, Burbank, Pasadena and La Canada-Flintridge; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation has completed a task force study of the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills area along with representatives of Burbank, Glendale, La Canada-Flintridge, Los Angeles City, Los Angeles County, and Pasadena.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Los Angeles join with other local governments to actively pursue the enactment of legislation to realize a Verdugo Mountains Wilderness Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Los Angeles recognize the efforts of the Verdugo Mountains-San Rafael Hills Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation to preserve the unique open space character of the area and support its efforts to utilize programs specifically tailored by the federal and state governments to assist local communities acquire lands for such use.

Presented by 
BOB RONKA
Councilman, First District

Seconded by 
ARTHUR K. SNYDER
Councilman, Fourteenth District

February 2, 1979

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE VERDUGO MOUNTAINS -
SAN RAFAEL HILLS WILDERNESS PARK

WHEREAS, increasing urban development has led to expansion of residential areas into mountainous areas; and

WHEREAS, open space and scenic quality are irreplaceable resources; and

WHEREAS, the Southern California Association of Government's Conservation Plan designates the San Rafael Hills an "important ecological area for chapparal habitat"; and

WHEREAS, the San Rafael Hills and the Verdugo Mountains provide a significant portion of the City's residential and wilderness areas which contribute to the quality of life of the community; and

WHEREAS, the overuse of active recreational facilities would be eased by accommodating those who prefer undeveloped recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills are easily accessible to the large central city population; and

WHEREAS, most of the terrain is not hazardous and could provide enjoyment for inexperienced hikers and senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills represent significant open space resources; and

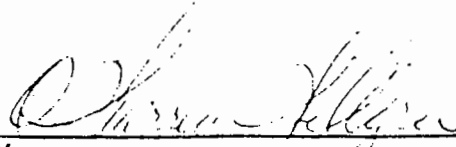
WHEREAS, future energy shortages may require City residents to rely on nearby open space recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation has completed a task force study of the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills area along with representatives of Burbank, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Los Angeles City, Los Angeles County and Pasadena,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of La Canada Flintridge join with other local governments to actively pursue the enactment of legislation to realize a Verdugo Mountains - San Rafael Hills Wilderness Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of La Canada Flintridge recognize the efforts of the Verdugo Mountains - San Rafael Hills Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation to preserve the unique open space character of the area and support its efforts to utilize programs specifically tailored by the federal and state governments to assist local communities acquire lands for such use.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of March, 1979.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

1985

RESOLUTION NO. 18,670

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURBANK RECOGNIZING THE NATURAL RESOURCE POTENTIAL OF THE VERDUGO MOUNTAINS AND THE SAN RAFAEL HILLS, AND THE EFFORTS OF THE VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL CHAPTER OF SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION IN THE PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE IN THESE MOUNTAINS.

WHEREAS, increasing urban development has led to expansion of residential areas into mountainous areas; and

WHEREAS, open space and scenic quality are irretrievable resources; and

WHEREAS, the adopted Open Space and Conservation elements of Burbank's General Plan recognize the natural resources of the Verdugo Mountains and recommend acquisition or regulation of ecologically and visually significant areas to ensure development which will not destroy their unique topographical features and open space character; and

WHEREAS, the adopted General Plan has encompassed objectives in the formulation of policies for the preservation of open space; and

WHEREAS, the overuse of active recreational facilities would be eased by accommodating those who prefer undeveloped recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills are easily accessible, and most of the terrain is suitable for the enjoyment of inexperienced hikers both young and old; and

WHEREAS, future energy shortages may require city residents to rely on nearby open space recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposal by Small Wilderness Area Preservation for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills has been acknowledged by the affected cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Pasadena, La Canada-Flintridge and Glendale; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation has coordinated a task force study of the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills area along with representatives of Glendale, Burbank, La Canada-Flintridge, Pasadena, Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURBANK that the City of Burbank join with other local governments to actively pursue the enactment of legislation to realize a Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Burbank recognize the efforts of the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation to preserve the unique open space character of the area and support its efforts to utilize programs specifically tailored by the Federal and State governments to assist local communities to acquire lands for such use.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 27th day of February, 1979.

s/Byron E. Cook
Byron E. Cook
Mayor of the City of Burbank

Attest:

s/Evelyn L. Haley
Evelyn L. Haley, City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS.
CITY OF BURBANK)

I, Evelyn L. Haley, City Clerk of the City of Burbank, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Burbank at its regular meeting held on the 27th day of February 1979, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmen Gibson, Remy, Richman and Cook.

NOES: Councilmen None.

ABSENT: Councilman Ayers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3712
March 6, 1979
Introduced by Director Mortimer Matthews

WHEREAS, increasing urban development has led to the expansion of residential areas into mountain areas; and

WHEREAS, open space and scenic quality are irretrievable resources; and

WHEREAS, the adopted Open Space Element of the Pasadena General Plan encourages the development of additional open space and the pursuit of opportunities to meet the recreational needs of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the adopted General Plan has encompassed objectives in the formulation of policies for the preservation of open space; and

WHEREAS, the over-use of active recreational facilities would be eased by accommodating those who prefer undeveloped recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills are easily accessible, and most of the terrain is suitable for the enjoyment of the inexperienced hikers, both young and old; and

WHEREAS, future energy shortages may require city residents to rely on nearby open space recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposal by Small Wilderness Area Preservation for a wilderness park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills has been acknowledged by the affected cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of the Small Wilderness Area Preservation has coordinated a task force study of the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael area, along with representatives of Glendale, Burbank, La Canada Flintridge, Los Angeles, Pasadena and Los Angeles County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the City of Pasadena that the City of Pasadena joins with other local governments to pursue actively the enactment of legislation to realize a Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Pasadena recognizes the efforts of the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation to preserve the unique open space character of the area and supports its efforts to utilize programs specifically tailored by the Federal and State governments to assist local communities to acquire lands for such use.

Adopted by the said Board of Directors by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Bogaard, Fisher, Glickman, Heckman,
Jones, Matthews, Yokaitis
Noes: None

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
GLENDALE RECOGNIZING THE NATURAL RESOURCE
POTENTIAL OF THE VERDUGO MOUNTAINS AND
THE SAN RAFAEL HILLS, AND THE EFFORTS OF THE
VERDUGO-SAN RAFAEL CHAPTER OF SMALL WILDERNESS
AREA PRESERVATION IN THE PRESERVATION OF OPEN
SPACE IN THESE MOUNTAINS.

WHEREAS, increasing urban development has led to expansion
of residential areas into mountainous areas; and

WHEREAS, open space and scenic quality are irretrievable
resources; and

WHEREAS, the adopted 1990 Open Space, Conservation and
Recreational elements of the General Plan recognize the natural
resources of the Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills and
recommend acquisition or regulation of ecologically and visually
significant areas to ensure development which will not destroy
their unique topographical features and open space character; and

WHEREAS, the adopted General Plan has encompassed
objectives in the formulation of policies for the preservation of
open space: and

WHEREAS, the overuse of active recreational facilities
would be eased by accommodating those who prefer undeveloped
recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills are
easily accessible, and most of the terrain is suitable for the
enjoyment of inexperienced hikers both young and old; and

WHEREAS, future energy shortages may require city residents
to rely on nearby open space recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposal by Small Wilderness Area Preservation

for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills has been acknowledged by the affected cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Pasadena, La Canada-Flintridge and Glendale; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation has coordinated a task force study of the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills area along with representatives of Glendale, Burbank, La Canada-Flintridge, Pasadena, Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE:

That the City of Glendale join with other local governments to actively pursue the enactment of legislation to realize a Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City of Glendale recognize the efforts of the Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation to preserve the unique open space character of the area and support its efforts to utilize programs specifically tailored by the Federal and State governments to assist local communities to acquire lands for such use.

ATTEST:

Merle H. Hagemeyer
City Clerk

Richard W. Aron
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM
[Signature]
CITY ATTORNEY
DATE 2-9-79

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS.

I, MERLE H. HAGEMeyer, City Clerk of the City of Glendale, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by The Council of the City of Glendale, California, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 1979, and that the same was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:

Merle H. Hagemeyer
City Clerk

RESOLUTION

of

Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills are located at the east end of the San Fernando Valley and at the west end of the San Gabriel Valley, with the Tajunga Wash - San Gabriel Mountains at the northern tip and with Glendale and Eagle Rock at the southern tip; and

WHEREAS, this mountain complex lies in the jurisdiction of five communities: Glendale, Burbank, Pasadena, La Canada-Flintridge, and Los Angeles; and a Task Force made up of professional planners from all of the above-mentioned cities as well as the County of Los Angeles has been working on an open space network which would include recreation of an informal type (hiking, riding trails, nature walks, etc.), protection for wildlife, and suitable development; and

WHEREAS, a recent Los Angeles County Regional Planning study favors preservation of the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills because of the ecological significance of the area and because of the biological research value of the area; and

WHEREAS, the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills are included in the June 1977 National Park Services' Urban Recreation Study of the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and are designated potential recreational resources within the Western Hills area (the complex of mountains north and west of the City of Los Angeles: Santa Monica Mountains, Simi Hills, Santa Susanna Mountains, Verdugo Mountains, and San Rafael Hills); and

WHEREAS, the Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP), founded in 1970 and headquartered in Los Osos, California, is a national, non-profit, tax-exempt, charitable foundation which assists grassroots groups in preserving unique areas for the benefit of present and future generations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee endorses the Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP), Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter proposal for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills

Adopted this 7 day of October, 1978

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Nation's Largest Regularly Meeting
Democratic County Committee
Representing Over 2 Million
Registered Democrats

5371 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 216
Los Angeles, California 90036
Telephone 937-2218
Ed Burke, Chairman

October 25, 1978

Jane Conway
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Dr.
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Ms. Conway,

At its October meeting the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee unanimously approved a resolution expressing our support for the formation of a wilderness area in the Verdugo Hills.

As you know, this issue was very close to our late member, Mr. Dick Horne. We all hope that his efforts in this area will be continued.

Best of luck in the struggle you are pursuing. We hope our support will help you see it through to a successful conclusion.

Sincerely,



Ed Burke, Chairman

Bill Kessler, First Vice-Chair • E. M. "Pat" Eastman, Second Vice-Chair • Regina (Jean) Spizman, Secretary • Thomas W. Garrett, Assistant Secretary • Lorry B. Cude, Treasurer • Thomas J. Montgomery, Asst. Treasurer • Ed Feldman, Region I Vice-Chair • Ray Loftus, Region II Vice-Chair • Alan Gershman, Region III Vice-Chair • Dr. Charles Greene, Region IV Vice-Chair • Bill Groves, Region V Vice-Chair • Gonzalo (Corky) Perez, Region VI Vice-Chair • Ronald W. Nelson, Region VII Vice-Chair

APPENDIX V

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Angeles National Forest
150 South Los Robles Avenue, Suite 300
Pasadena, California 91101



1600

April 26, 1978

Mrs. Jane Conway
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Mrs. Conway:

The proposal of the Small Wilderness Area Preservation Organization to set aside the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills as a scenic and recreation preserve is commendable. The expanding nearby urban populations need outdoor recreation and the esthetic benefits that can come only from unspoiled landscape. The Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park would provide these very real benefits to all of us today and would assure their availability for the generations to come.

I am happy to endorse your wilderness area preservation program.

Sincerely yours,

William T. Dresser
Supervisor
Angeles National Forest

ALAN CRANSTON
CALIFORNIA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 22, 1976

Ms. Jane Conway, Secretary
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Ms. Conway,

Many thanks for your letter of August 30 and the copy of the Small Wilderness Area Preservation's proposal for a Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park.

I agree that there is a critical need for recreational areas and open space in the Los Angeles area. I'm most interested in your efforts to protect the remaining natural wilderness areas. I'll be eager to hear the results of your meeting with representatives of Los Angeles, Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena.

Please continue to keep me informed and let me know if there are specific ways in which my office might be able to help.

Sincerely,


Alan Cranston



NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

555 AUDUBON PLACE (Fulton near Fair Oaks), SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95825 (916) 481-5332

January 19, 1977

Ms. Jane Conway, Secretary
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

We at the Western Regional office of the National Audubon Society are very excited about the S.W.A.P. proposal for a wilderness park in the San Rafael-Verdugo mountains. For such a large segment of the urban population to have public transportation access to wilderness and outdoor recreational values, is indeed exciting.

The urban population represents the great majority of the decision-makers through their impact at the ballot box. It is important that they have exposure to natural areas if we ever hope to create a more environmentally-aware public. The S.W.A.P. mountain wilderness park proposal encourages such environmental experiences as well as a natural backdrop to the vistas of many, many people.

We encourage you in your efforts to secure the park.

Sincerely,

PAUL HOWARD
Representative

PH/sl



IN REPLY REFER TO:

7300

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

BOX 36062

450 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102

September 14, 1976

Ms. Jane Conway, Secretary
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

Thank you for your letter to Howard Levitt of our staff, enclosing a copy of your proposal for the Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park. We are indeed interested in the goals and activities of your chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation, and we share your concern with the protection of the remaining natural areas of the Verdugos and San Rafael's.

Our Technical Assistance Division is anxious to work with groups such as yours in exploring the recreational use of open space areas. If our attendance at the planning meeting in late September would be helpful to your group, a note or phone call to us would accomplish this (telephone 415-556-8710).

Thank you again for informing us of your proposal and plans for the Verdugos and San Rafael's. We look forward to hearing from you regarding the joint planning meeting.

Sincerely yours,

acting for
Frank E. Sylvester
Frank E. Sylvester
Regional Director



XXX

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

155 West Washington Boulevard - Room 1200
Los Angeles, California 90015 (213) 749-6941

Ralph S. Cryder.....Director



CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR
JOSEPH W. HALPER

DEPUTY DIRECTORS

Administration
ERIC BOURDON

Parks
RAY DORTCH

Planning
JAMES SCHUMANN

Recreation
MORRI LUBARSKY

COMMISSION: J. MARIANO CASTILLO, PATRICIA A. DELANEY, VERNON FAY, GLORIA HEER, CHESTER WASHINGTON

June 13, 1978

Ms. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael SWAP
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

As requested, we have reviewed the proposal for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills submitted to us May 1, 1978. The Department generally supports the proposal forwarded by the Small Wilderness Preservation group because it advocates preserving this mountain complex for scenic, ecologic and recreation purposes.

However, we find it difficult to evaluate the proposal submitted because of its lack of specificity. While quite interesting as a background document, it lacks concrete proposals for action and falls short of indicating the degree of coordination being developed between the Cities of Burbank, Glendale, Los Angeles and La Canada-Flintridge. As such, it is lacking an implementation strategy which would be helpful to us in our review. It is our understanding that such a strategy is being developed by a consulting firm and that it will be completed in the near future. We would appreciate the opportunity to review such a document when it becomes available.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Mr. Michael Kriste on extension 153.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph S. Cryder
Director

By

James F. Schumann
Deputy Director, Planning

CKJ:kv

xxxi

cc: Ron Mayhew, Regional Planning

NORMAN MURDOCH
Planning Director
EDGAR T. IRVINE
Acting Chief Deputy
ROBERT W. CHAVE
Deputy Director
JOSEPH K. KENNEDY
Deputy Director
WAYNE L. STEWART
Deputy Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012
Telephone: 974-6401

COMMISSIONERS
OWEN H. LEWIS
Chairman
ARTHUR J. BAUM
SADIE B. CLARK
CAROLYN P. LLEWELLYN
LUCILLA BARTHEL
Secretary to the Commission

September 13, 1976

Mrs. Jane Conway, Secretary
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter, S.W.A.P.
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Mrs. Conway:

Thank you for the invitation sent Mr. Chave and myself to attend the S.W.A.P. meeting on the Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park Project.

The relatively undisturbed nature of the Verdugo Mountains and their geographic location close to the heart of the urbanized center of the metropolitan area appears to provide an excellent laboratory for the coordinative approach your letter suggests. This area is of particular interest to us because of our current work in updating and revising the County-wide General Plan.

I hope to attend the meeting myself, but in any event, I will be sure to have a representative of the department there to hear about the project in more detail.

Again, thank you for your kind invitation. It is because of the untiring efforts of groups such as yours that we sometimes do see plans turned into reality.

Very truly yours,

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING



Norman Murdoch, Planning Director

NM:RWC:mae



LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
PROJECT PLANNING DIVISION

P. O. BOX 2418, TERMINAL ANNEX
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90051

TELEPHONE 226-4321

December 9, 1977

A. E. BRUINGTON
CHIEF ENGINEER

HOWARD H. HAILE
CHIEF DEPUTY ENGINEER

CHARLES J. WILT
DIVISION ENGINEER

HAROLD A. VANCE
ASSISTANT DIVISION ENGINEER

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NO. 1.21

All Streams and Projects
Verdugo-San Rafael
Wilderness Park

Reply to Letter Dated
November 7, 1977

Mrs. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Mrs. Conway:

Thank you for the report on the Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park. I am impressed by the "grass roots" effort this plan represents.

You are correct to observe that the fire and flood hazard of the Verdugo Hills should be a determining factor in land-use decisions. Some of the most serious flood and debris problems remaining in the County are where development has pushed up into the steep foothill area we call the fire-flood fringe.

It is the interface that causes the problem. If the hills are completely developed with properly designed grading, streets, and storm drains, they present no problem from a flood control standpoint. The worst case is where development presses part way into the mountains with large steep, fire-prone drainage areas immediately above them. It is almost impossible to protect some of the houses along the fringe area against debris flows after a fire.

We would be glad to see a wilderness park in the Verdugo Hills if it extended down to the existing development assuring no further urban encroachment. If the park does not cover the entire undeveloped mountain area, it would be most sensible from a flood control standpoint to plan the development of the mountains on a drainage area basis, aiming for either complete development or complete wilderness in a given drainage area.

Yours very truly,

C. J. Wilt
Division Engineer

HAV:mic

xxxiii

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

155 West Washington Boulevard . Room 1200
Los Angeles, California 90015 (213) 749-6941
Seymour Greben Director



Chief Deputy
JOSEPH W. HALPER
DEPUTY DIRECTORS
Eric Bourdon
Administration
Ray Dorch
Parks
James Schumann
Planning
Morri Lubarsky
Recreation

COMMISSIONERS: Gloria Hear, Chester Washington, Jose Mariano Castillo, Vernon Fay, Patricia Delaney

April 27, 1977

Ms. Jane Conway, Secretary
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 1, 1977, regarding possible funding for acquisition of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains. We are sorry for the delay in replying to your letter; however, we have been in the midst of budget preparations and wanted to be able to provide you with the most current information available. We share your concern that these mountains be made available for recreational, educational, and scenic purposes for the residents of Los Angeles County. The organization of the task force is certainly a significant step toward realization of that goal.

In your letter, you made specific reference to possible funding from Proposition 2 and SB 174. As of this date, no specific projects within the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains have been identified for funding from either of these two sources. While we have not identified funding for a project in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains, it is not because we do not support the concept of preserving this area as a significant open space. We simply do not believe that we are in a position to identify defensible projects based on the results of studies to date.

The land use study of the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains is still in an early stage of development. Our hope is that the study will result in some easily identifiable acquisition projects which can justify public involvement by way of acquisition and development funding.

Ms. Jane Conway
Page Two

Realistically, this entire mountain complex cannot be purchased outright for park and recreation purposes. Such an acquisition could not be justified on a cost-benefit basis and would probably not receive broad public support because of the withdrawal of this significant acreage from the tax rolls. A far better approach to planning this area could be achieved by encouraging hillside management zones, low density zoning, planned unit development, and other such planning tools to ensure rational use of this area while preserving large open spaces.

At the same time, an effort should be made to identify those key areas of special recreational interest which could justify public involvement in their preservation, possible development, and eventual management. Once identified, these areas could be prioritized and systematically acquired as funding became available. Projects of local interest could be established as part of the local park agencies capital improvements program, and projects with regional potential would be considered during the development of our long-range acquisition and development program. Obviously, any project identified as having regional potential would be prioritized according to its ranking among all potential regional park projects in the County.

Until the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain study has sufficiently progressed in order to allow identification of specific acquisition priorities as they relate to surrounding land uses, we cannot determine the extent to which we can contribute financially to this project. We support your efforts to preserve this important natural landscape through proper planning and await specific proposals for acquisition based on data supportive of the immediate need for public involvement.

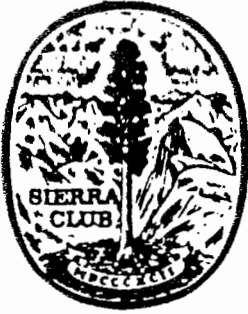
Very truly yours,



Seymour Greben, Director
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

CKJ:lab

cc: Mr. Norm Murdoch, Regional Planning



SIERRA CLUB — ANGELES CHAPTER

2410 WEST BEVERLY BLVD., LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90057

Phone (213) 387-4287

Walter Fey, Chairman
Verdugo Hills Group
Sierra Club

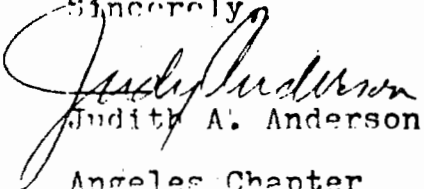
Re: SWAP Affiliation

Dear Walter,

This is to officially notify you that on October 23, 1976, the Sierra Club Council Executive Committee authorized affiliation with the Verdugo Hills San Rafael Small Wilderness Area Preservation Foundation.

On behalf of the Angeles Chapter may I wish you success in your joint project.

Sincerely,


Judith A. Anderson, Chm
Angeles Chapter



Equestrian Trails, Inc.

10723 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
P.O. BOX 2086
NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. 91602
(213) 769-2988

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
Dedicated to Equine Legislation, Good Horse-
manship, the Acquisition and Preservation
of Trails

12 January 1979

Mrs. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

Thank you for sending the proposal for the Verdugo- San Rafael Wilderness Park. I read it with a great deal of interest.

As an organization dedicated to the acquisition and preservation of trails, such a proposal is of great interest to us. Many of our members live in the general area of the proposed park; and with the constantly increasing cost of operating their trucks and horse trailers, even those of our members from more widespread areas of the Los Angeles metropolitan area would be very interested in seeing this area preserved. We feel that horses are compatible with all other trail users except motorized vehicles, and I feel sure that many of our members in La Tuna Canyon, the foothill communities and Pasadena will be happy to lend whatever assistance they can.

I completely concur with your organization's feeling that we must preserve what open space we have left, and a Wilderness Park such as you propose would be of enormous benefit to the entire population of the Los Angeles Basin. If Equestrian Trails, Inc. can be of help to you, please call on us.

Sincerely,

Glenn Haschenburger
President

GH:kd

xxxvii

President
GLENN HASCHENBURGER

First Vice President
PENO DWINGER

Second Vice President
STAN HOULBERG

Secretary
DOROTHY M. MURPHY

Trails Consultant
FREDERICK W. LANE

Office Secretary
KAY DEVINE



3424 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90019 (213) 731-9327

July 11, 1976

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Verdugo - San Rafael Mountains, one of the few open spaces in Glendale, should be preserved as a valuable air shed.

Almost daily, health smog alerts are called in this area. The increasing use of valuable land for freeways and industrial complexes necessitates that consideration be given to make use of this land as a small wilderness park.

Any deterioration of air quality in the Los Angeles metropolitan area is considered significant by the Environmental Protection Agency. A major purpose of the Clean Air Act of 1970 is to protect and enhance the quality of air so as to promote the public's health and welfare. Therefore, we recommend that the Verdugo-San Rafael mountains be preserved for a Small Wilderness Park.

STAMP OUT SMOG

Carol M. Hamcke
Carol Hamcke, Vice Chairman



The Theodore Payne Foundation

for wild flowers and native plants, Inc.

10459 Tuxford Street Sun Valley, California 91352 Area [213] 768-1802

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Mrs. Evelyn Errett
President
Mrs. Jane Evans
Vice-President
Mrs. Shirley Docter
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Miss Louise Spetnagel
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Bill Davies
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Harry Kennedy
Donald Procter
Miriam Turner

August 8, 1978

Jane Conway, President
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Jane,

We at the Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants understand the need for the preservation of native California plants and animals, especially those in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains.

Advisory Council

Mark Anthony
Dr. Samuel Ayres, Jr.
Dr. Elmer Belt
Mrs. Roderick Black
Fred Boutin
Mrs. Ralph Cornell
Mrs. Norman Day
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David Verity
Dr. Sherwin Wood
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Jack Zaninovich

These slopes of the Verdugo San Rafael Mountains are filled with a native flora that has adapted well to the Southern California wet-dry cycle. The steep southern escarpment is sparsely settled by plants except for ravines and canyons which host growth of oak and occasional sycamore. The northern sunshaded slopes are gentler in manner and support a lush "forest" of heavy chaparral and oak with a generous growth of riparian plants in the larger stream-filled canyons. It has been this way for thousands of years.

We are now at the most important stage of its development: will it go on for another thousand years, or will it be destroyed forever? We are optimistic at this time that this relatively undisturbed environment unique to our highly urbanized setting will be preserved for future generations because of efforts such as yours.

We applaud your efforts and fully support the plan for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountain and San Rafael Hills.

With best wishes for success.

Sincerely,

David Duron
Theodore Payne Foundation

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

124 SPEAR SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 94105

(415) 495-4770

July 27, 1978

Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael SWAP
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, Ca. 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

The California office of Friends of the Earth is pleased to support the Small Wilderness Area Preservation's efforts to preserve land in the San Rafael hills for recreational open space.

There is certainly a great need to preserve natural land near and within cities. Nowhere is this need more urgent than in the Los Angeles area. SWAP's efforts are vital in accomplishing this purpose.

A member of our staff, David Chatfield, lived adjacent to this mountain area for seven years. He would like to add a personal note:

"The role of the San Rafael mountains in breaking up the endless flow of city is very significant for local residents. The tops of the mountains above the smog are often the only reminder that within this once fertile region there still remains deer, racoon, birds, and other wild things.

"The mountains are accessible too. They offer walking and jogging and nature study opportunities in short supply in the area. The developers' bulldozers make ugly scars on mountain land that I and others familiar with that area know too well."

We wish you the best of luck in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Connie Parrish

Connie Parrish
California Representative



san fernando valley girl scout council

18700 Sherman Way, P.O. Box 1249, Reseda, California 91335
(213) 345-8200 980-1250

May 2, 1978

Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael SWAP
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207


Dear Ms. Conway:

I have reviewed the copy of the proposal on the Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park which you sent to us. I have also shared it with our Program-Camping staff. We are very interested in the project and appreciate how meaningful it would be to the girls and adults in the Girl Scout program.

It is exciting to know that there are organizations such as SWAP who are concerned about the preservation of natural wilderness areas and have the vision to make the facility both attractive and functional while preserving the natural beauty.

Please keep us informed of your progress and thank you for sharing your project with us.

Sincerely,


Helen O. Yeoman
President

hkv

cc: Roberta E. Peck, Exec. Dir.
Ursula Hedges, Program Services Admn.

xxxxi



SIERRA MADRES *Girl Scout*
COUNCIL

1608 Huntington Dr.
SOUTH PASADENA
CALIFORNIA 91030
213 441-1181 • 682-3375

Serving the communities of

February 21, 1978

Alhambra

Altadena

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City of Commerce

Duarte

El Monte

East Los Angeles

Glendale

La Canada

La Crescenta

Monrovia

Montebello

Monterey Park

Montrose

Pasadena

Rosemead

San Gabriel

San Marino

Sierra Madre

South Pasadena

South El Monte

Temple City

Verdugo City

Ms. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

Thank you for the copy of the Verdugo San Rafael Wilderness
Park proposal.

A member of our Board of Directors has read the proposal.
The officers of Sierra Madres Girl Scout Council share
your enthusiasm for the project. We will support it in
any way that we can.

We have placed a copy of the proposal in our library. We
will encourage other Board and committee members to read
it.

Sincerely,

Miss Rose E. Sherman
Executive Director

RS/hw

May 18, 1978

Mrs. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael S.W.A.P.
1524 Ridgeview Dr.
Glendale, California 91207

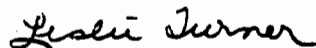
Dear Mrs. Conway:

The Board of Directors of the Glendale YWCA supports the concept of the need for preservation of open space. The YWCA encourages programs to conserve the beauty of our natural resources, including the public acquisition of accessible recreational areas, the preservation of wilderness areas for educational and inspirational values, and the protection from disfigurement of our public places.

Sincerely,



June Sweetnam
President, Board of Directors



Leslie Turner
Executive Director

NC:mt

xxxxiii

YWCA of GLENDALE

735 East Lexington Drive, Glendale, California 91206 • 242-4155

LEONARD GOLDMAN
President
ABNER PARKER
Chairman Emeritus
DONALD SCHWARZ
Chairman

CAMP MAX STRAUS

Operated by the JEWISH BIG BROTHERS ASSOCIATION of Los Angeles

MILTON L. GOLDBERG
Executive Director
WALT PARKER, Director
Camping & Administrative Services
8505 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 417
Los Angeles, Calif. 90048
Telephone 852-1234



November 15, 1977



Mrs. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Mrs. Conway:

Thank you for the copy of the proposal for a wilderness park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills.

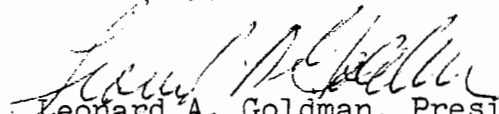
As President of the Jewish Big Brothers Association and Camp Max Straus, I am familiar with not only your organization, but its efforts to develop a wilderness park in the areas surrounding Camp Max Straus.

The Board of Directors of the Jewish Big Brothers Association and Camp Max Straus have devoted over 40 years of dedicated service and millions of dollars to develop Camp Max Straus as a nonsectarian camp for emotionally and physically handicapped children from throughout the entire County of Los Angeles. Last year, almost 20,000 camper nights were recorded at the camp, providing an outdoor experience dealing with group-living and recreation in a specialized camp setting.

We have watched, with considerable concern, the encroachment of housing developments in the mountains surrounding camp and lend our full endorsement to your efforts to develop a wilderness park.

You can count on our continued support of your efforts.

Sincerely,


Leonard A. Goldman, President
Jewish Big Brothers Association
and Camp Max Straus

LAG/jo

cc: Donald Schwarz, Chairman, Camp Max Straus Committee
Milton L. Goldberg, Executive Director, Jewish Big Brothers Assoc.
Walt Parker, Director, Camping & Administrative Services

xxxxiv

HEALTH • CHARACTER • CITIZENSHIP

50 Years of Service to Our Community — 1927-1977

May 5, 1978

**GLENDALE
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**

BURTIS E. TAYLOR
Superintendent

JOHN A. GRANDE
President

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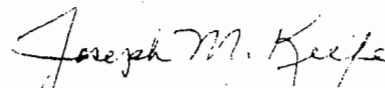
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear S.W.A.P.,

It is the unanimous consensus of the Biology Division faculty at Glendale College that there should be a preserved area in the local mountains as outlined in your proposal "Wilderness Park: Verdugo-San Rafael" of March 1977.

The teaching of Biology necessitates a supply of living organisms for demonstrations, as well as local areas for field trips. At present the Verdugo and San Rafael Mountains are the only remaining native areas in Glendale. The majority of the local areas have already been built on, and it would be a disaster to lose this last remaining wilderness for the future generations of school children.

Most sincerely yours,



Joseph M. Keefe
Chairman, Division of Biology

Donald Coleman
Kindra Girard
Patricia Frye
James Bouey
Lane McDonald

XXXXV

Association for
ENVIRONMENTAL & OUTDOOR EDUCATION

575 South Santa Anita Avenue
San Marino, California
February 14, 1978

Ms. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207


Dear Ms. Conway:

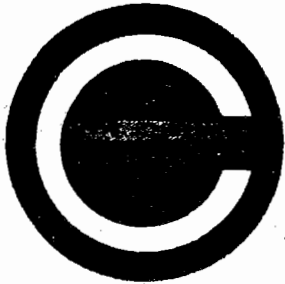
At a recent meeting of the Board of A. E. O. E., Southern Section, your proposal for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills was discussed.

The Board approves the concept and has requested me to send you this letter of endorsement.

We sincerely hope that you are successful with your proposal.

Sincerely yours,


DOROTHY A. POOL
Past Chairman A. E. O. E.,
Southern Section



ECOLOGY CENTER OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

project of Educational Communications, Inc.

2315 WESTWOOD BOULEVARD • SUITE E • LOS ANGELES CA 90064 • (213) 475-1619

MAILING ADDRESS

POST OFFICE BOX 24388

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

January 10, 1978

Ms. Jane Conway
President
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, CA 91207

Dear Ms. Conway,

The members of the Ecology Center of Southern California wish to extend to you their congratulations on your proposal for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills near the cities of Los Angeles, Glendale and Pasadena. We strongly support all efforts to establish wilderness areas within urban cities as a respite from the hustle-bustle of everyday urban living, as a reminder that the beauty of nature should never be forgotten and as habitat for otherliving creatures.

We support the main goals summarized below and the objectives outlined in the plan for the establishment of the Wilderness Area by acquiring up to 10,000 acres.

1. An agreement on the boundaries of lands to be purchased and lands to be developed in the public interest
2. A clear definition of the areas of compatible recreational use, educational use and scenic reserves (and interpretive nature sites)
3. The designation for inclusion in the project, lands to be set aside for conservation purposes to encourage multiple use of open space land compatible with recreational use (especially preservation of intermittent stream beds)
4. The planning of a comprehensive funding program beginning with local support and ranging through appropriate state, federal, and philanthropic sources.

The wilderness area is capable of being enjoyed by over ten million people within an hour's drive or by easy access by the Southern California Rapid Transit District network of buses. Hopefully, as proposed, "alternate routes could easily be designated from existing routes to link with access into the park with little or no increase in cost to the taxpayer and little increase in energy consumption or smog density."

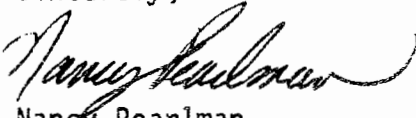
The preservation of rare and endangered plant species and animal life could also be enhanced along with saving an area for wildlife in general.

The importance of establishing such a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and

San Rafael Hills is not limited to the present. The more urbanized California becomes, the more the citizens of the state will desire wilderness areas. The time to start planning and creating such areas is now.

If the Ecology Center of Southern California can provide any further assistance in such worthwhile endeavors please let me know.

Sincerely,



Nancy Pearlman
Executive Director

NP:ez

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Cathy Sullivan, President
619 12th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90402
(213) 393-8594

Dorothy Larson, Treasurer
6359 North Barela Avenue
Temple City, CA 91780
(213) 286-4784

October 30, 1978

Ms. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County voted unanimously to support the proposal for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills. The concept is very well-conceived and a fine example of citizen efforts.

The LWV Los Angeles County Land Use Position supports the acquisition of additional permanent open space in Los Angeles County. The expanded position includes:

- Provide open space in congested areas and insure an adequate distribution of park lands throughout the County.
- Natural open space must be protected.
- Park lands should be acquired prior to increases in density.

Preservation of open space and significant ecological areas in the Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills would fulfill all of these objectives. The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County is delighted to support these efforts.

Please accept my apologies for the delay in your receiving this letter. If there is anything which we can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to call.

Yours very truly,

Kathleen Gordon, Director, Natural Resources/Land Use

xxxxvii

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GLENDALE

GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA



April 26, 1978

Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

Dear Members:

The League of Women Voters heartily endorses the concept of the Verdugo-San Rafael Wilderness Park, and approves the goals and objectives of your organization. We find them to be in agreement with the position of the Glendale League, reached by study and consensus in 1973. The statement of our position then made publicly follows:

- Support of
- (1) A regional plan for the Verdugo Mountains;
 - (2) Preservation of the mountains as Open Space;
 - (3) Public acquisition of Verdugo Mountain lands now privately held.

In 1977 we updated this position to include the San Rafael Hills as part of the mountain complex.

We wish you success in your efforts to preserve the remaining open space in the mountain lands in Glendale for the public domain.

Sincerely,

Ginger Bremberg
President
League of Women Voters
Glendale

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Pasadena area

November 8, 1978

Jane Conway, President
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

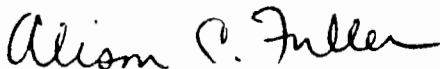
Dear Mrs. Conway:

The League of Women Voters of Pasadena has considered SWAP's proposal for a Wilderness Park in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountain complex. We approve of the concept as outlined.

While the Pasadena League has not made a specific study of the San Rafael Hills and have therefore not arrived at a position as to the importance of their preservation to this community, we do concur with the County League consensus regarding open space. This position calls for provision of open space in congested areas with park lands adequately distributed throughout the county, protection of natural open space, and acquisition of park lands prior to increase in density.

Because the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains are surrounded by dense urban areas which do not have adequate park facilities for present or anticipated populations, and because they are easily accessible to people of all economic levels from several freeways, the Pasadena League agrees that they should be acquired for open space and recreation.

Sincerely,



Alison Fuller, President
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
PASADENA AREA

Mrs. Evelyn Wynne, Pres. SAVE
3575 El Lado Drive
Glendale, Calif., 91208

Mrs. Jane Conway, President
Verdugo - San Rafael Chapter SWAP
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale Calif., 91207

Dear Mrs. Conway:

The Board of Stop Attacks on the Verdugo Environment Inc. (S.A.V.E.) has been working for many years to preserve the present environment of the Verdugo Mountains. We are happy another grassroots organization is also concerned. We would welcome a wilderness park in the Verdugo - San Rafael Mountains and strongly support the efforts of S.W.A.P. to accomplish this purpose.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Wynne

Evelyn Wynne, President

1200 membership

Received April 1978

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN
GLENDALE BRANCH
GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA

Mrs. Jane Conway, President
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207


Dear Mrs. Conway:


The members of the Board of Directors of the Glendale Branch of the American Association of University Women are excited about the Small Wilderness Area Preservation proposal for a large wilderness park in the Verdugo-San Rafael Mountains that form the back drop for our city.

We endorse the idea of keeping our remaining undeveloped mountain land in open space for recreational values and for research by the students of nearby high schools and colleges.

Such a large regional park would serve as a protection for the habitats of rare and common wildlife species found in this wilderness. Further, the park would be an air-shed to protect and enhance the air quality, demonstrably, of the surrounding area.

Sincerely,


Jean Aitchison, President


Milada Gabel, Recording Secretary

April 7, 1978



Shadow Hills Property Owners Association, Inc.

January 23, 1978

Ms. Jane Conway, Secretary
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, Ca 91207

Dear Ms. Conway:

The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association wholeheartedly endorses the principles which your organization represents. We encourage you in all your endeavors and wish to express our continuing admiration for what you have already achieved in creating a more environmentally-aware public.

We support your efforts to preserve the Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills as open space and wish to offer our fullest co-operation in helping you achieve these goals.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Bryan
Corresponding Secretary
Shadow Hills
Property Owners Assoc.



Improvement Association of Sunland-Tujunga

P.O. Box 374
Tujunga, California 91042

December 7, 1978

Ms. Jane Conway, Secretary
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
Small Wilderness Area Preservation
1524 Ridgeview Drive
Glendale, California 91207

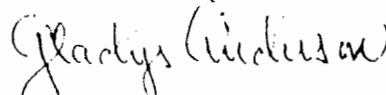
Dear Ms. Conway,

The Board of Directors of the Improvement Association of Sunland-Tujunga has reviewed your literature on the proposed Verdugo-San Rafael's Wilderness Park, and would like to take this opportunity to announce our complete support in your efforts.

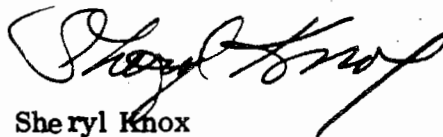
As residents of this valley, we have always been very proud of the beauty surrounding us and feel that the efforts of S. W. A. P. in trying to preserve this are very worthwhile.

The mountains surrounding us have much to offer our residents and all who wish to enjoy them. With this thought, we wish you the best of luck on your project.

Very truly yours,



Gladys Anderson
President



Sheryl Knox
Corresponding Secretary

CC: Councilman Bob Ronka, First District
Mayor Tom Bradley, Mayor City of Los Angeles
Senator Newton R. Russell

Glendale Hills Coordinating Council

3330 Emerald Isle Dr.
Glendale, Ca.
91206.

June 18, 1976.

S.W.A.P.
Verdugo-San Rafael Chapter
1560 Colina Drive
Glendale, Ca.
91208.

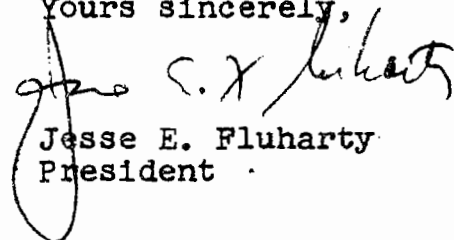
Gentlepersons:

At the May meeting of the Glendale Hills Coordinating Council, the council voted unanimously to endorse your efforts to preserve wilderness areas in California.

The council specifically voted to endorse your efforts toward the setting aside of portions of the Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills as small wilderness area preserves.

We applaud your efforts and stand ready to help in your endeavors.

Yours sincerely,



Jesse E. Fluharty
President

FOOTNOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

FOOTNOTES

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