CHAPTER 7 WALLS, FENCES, AND GATES

7.1 **DEFINITION**

Many of the existing walls and gates of the Arroyo Seco have great traditional character that has contributed to the heritage of the City. As these defining elements are repaired and constructed throughout the greater park area, a new sense of unification with the traditions of the past can be solidified.

This chapter seeks to guide wall repair efforts as well as new fence and gate improvements throughout the Arroyo Seco. Gates in this chapter refer to pedestrian "walk-thru" gates. A separate discussion of gates used for traffic control is found in Section 9.

Organization of this chapter is as follows:

7.1 DEFINITION

7.2 GENERAL GUIDELINES

7.2.1 Walls

7.2.2 Fencing

7.2.3 Pedestrian Gates



Figure 7-1 The neighboring residential gates along the Arroyo Seco offer excellent examples of appropriate design.



Figure 7-2 The traditional use of arroyo stone throughout the park will be continued.

7.2 GENERAL GUIDELINES

7.2.1 Walls

- 1. Where appropriate, vines and/or shrubs can be located against walls in areas where vandalism (graffiti) is a problem.
- 2. The stone walls in the Arroyo are culturally significant and shall be preserved.
- 3. Wall improvements in the Arroyo Seco shall primarily consist of walls that are faced in arroyo stone.
- 4. Walls constructed of split-faced block may be allowed in appropriate situations as determined by the Design Commission..
- 5. Wall improvements shall use the historic masonry style of the Arroyo by using a variety of sizes of stone, with large stones and boulders at the base of the wall including dry-stack techniques.
- 6. See the Wall Restoration Standards in Appendix E for improvements being considered to an existing stone wall or the construction of a new arroyo stone wall.



Figure 7-3 This low, well maintained perimeter wall is multifunctional, setting an open, friendly border to the park and offering a sitting space for the park user.

- 7. Where an existing stone retaining wall is in need of repair and posing a threat to the further degradation of the wall or to the public, the wall will be improved to ensure structural stability. See Appendix E, Wall Restoration Standards.
- 8. Wall improvements will consider drainage patterns immediate to the wall and provide weep holes at regular intervals and/or the appropriate drainage solution to protect the longevity of the wall.
- 9. Improvements to arroyo stone walls will be made by a qualified craftsman in the masonry trade with demonstrable experience with similar work.
- 10. Low stone walls will be finished so that the top of the wall is smooth, flat, and comfortable enough to be used as seating.
- 11. A well-crafted and proportionately sized cantilevered concrete cap atop an arroyo stone wall or pilaster is an acceptable design.
- 12. All construction and repair of the arroyo stone walls and steps shall be done in accordance with the current City of Pasadena's "Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction" (popularly known as the "Greenbook")...
- 13. Arroyo stone walls along neighborhood trails shall be restored.



Figure 7-4 $\,\,\,\,\,\,\,\,\,$ The natural materials of the perimeter walls blend well with open space areas of the park.

7.2.2 Fences

- 1. All new fencing shall follow the standards below. In addition, all existing chain link fencing shall be evaluated as to whether fencing at that particular location is truly necessary or should be replaced with a more aesthetic alternative, such as:
 - a. A planted hedge
 - b. A well designed wrought iron fence
 - c. A low arroyo stone garden wall in combination with wrought iron panels painted forest green or black
 - d. Polyvinyl coated chain link (in black or forest green)
- 2. Where appropriate, vines and/or shrubs will be located against existing chain link fencing.
- 3. Fencing at special locations shall be creative and integrate an artistic element.



Figure 7-5 While functional, chain link fencing should eventually be removed and replaced by wrought iron or substituted with an arroyo stone wall design solution.



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Figure~7-6 & This type of low, arroyo stone interior wall is to be emulated in future park improvements. \end{tabular}$

7.2.3 Pedestrian Gates

- 1. All existing galvanized chain link gates shall be evaluated as to whether a gate at that particular location is truly necessary; if not, it shall be removed. If it is necessary, it will be replaced with material appropriate to the adjoining fence.
- 2. All pedestrian gates shall be designed to accommodate multiple locks.
- 3. All gate design should be durable, functional, consistent with the natural preservation theme of the Arroyo Seco, and consider ease of maintenance.
- 4. Gates that enclose park maintenance related facilities shall be solid and/or have screening to mitigate views of equipment, etc.
- 5. As much as possible, gates for similar purposes at multiple locations should be standardized to assist in unifying the Arroyo Seco.