CHAPTER 1 OVER-RIDING DESIGN PRINCIPLES

1.1 OVERVIEW

These Design Guidelines seek to ensure an ongoing effort to preserve the unique character of the Arroyo Seco by providing a unifying set of design principles for the three sub-areas that make up Pasadena's Arroyo Seco. The commonalities between the three sub-areas are the backbone of these design guidelines. Factors to be considered are:

- Restoration of the Arroyo Seco Stream Course and Environment;
- Habitat Restoration:
- Preservation of Cultural Resources;
- Enhancement of Appropriate Recreational Opportunities;
- Limitation of Man-made Objects in the Natural Environment;
- Flood Management in Balance with the Natural Environment;
- The Challenge of Integrating and Regulating Private Use within the Arroyo Seco;
- Water Conservation and Protection of Water Resources, and
- Public Safety and Accessibility

Each of the three sub-areas also have the following unique elements which contribute to the formulation of the design principles.

1.2 Hahamongna Watershed Park

 As the largest undeveloped, though altered, wild area in the City of Pasadena, and the gateway to the wilderness area of the National Forest to the north, its character should minimize man-made modifications. Any improvements should be done to

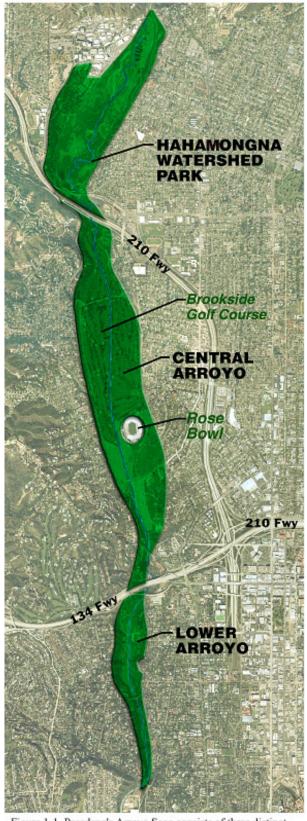


Figure 1-1 Pasadena's Arroyo Seco consists of three distinct but related sub-areas.

minimize their impact and dominance over any native plants or animals.

• The proximity to the San Gabriel Mountain range mandates close attention to flood and sediment management for the safety of downstream uses:

The rehabilitated Devils Gate Dam provides opportunities for the seasonal holding of water for water conservation and habitat restoration; and

• The area provides 40% of Pasadena's water supply.

1.3 Central Arroyo Seco

- The Rose Bowl is set in the midst of a natural preservation area and residential neighborhoods;
- This sub-area has:
 - The most developed park land and the greatest active recreational use;
 - The largest amount of paved parking;
 - The greatest amount of turf with the existence of Brookside Golf Course; and
 - Culturally significant structures, walls, and trails that need preservation.
 - Attention must be paid to traffic mitigation including public transportation.

1.4 Lower Arroyo Seco

- This area has been designated a cultural heritage landmark;
- This sub-area has:
 - The most confined area for competing recreational uses;
 - Culturally significant structures and walls that need preservation;
 - An experimental low-flow stream restoration project; and
 Residential neighborhoods in close proximity to natural preservation areas

1.5 General Guiding Principles for Design Guidelines

The chapters that follow set forth numerous guidelines to ensure a desirable result for future improvements in the Arroyo Seco. The following general guiding principles are at the core of each of the specific guidelines developed for the Arroyo Seco and its environment:

- Limit the creation of man-made objects and minimize any impact to the natural environment.
- Enrich and promote the unique natural character of the Arroyo Seco;
- Restore the Arroyo Seco stream course and its environment;
- Encourage simplicity of design and integrity of materials;
- Provide a safe and secure environment for people and animals within the limits of the natural environment;



 $Figure \ 1-2 \qquad La \ Casita \ in \ the \ Lower \ Arroyo \ embodies \ many \ of \ the \ general \ guiding \ principles.$

- Avoid use of colors that distract from the natural environment;
- Use appropriate scale to ensure harmony with surroundings and the human scale;
- Use natural materials;
- Provide accessibility for all where possible;
- Preserve natural resources;
- Ensure that improvements can be maintained; and
- Preserve historical and cultural elements.

CITY OF PASADENA / ARROYO SECO MASTER PLANS

Design Guidelines