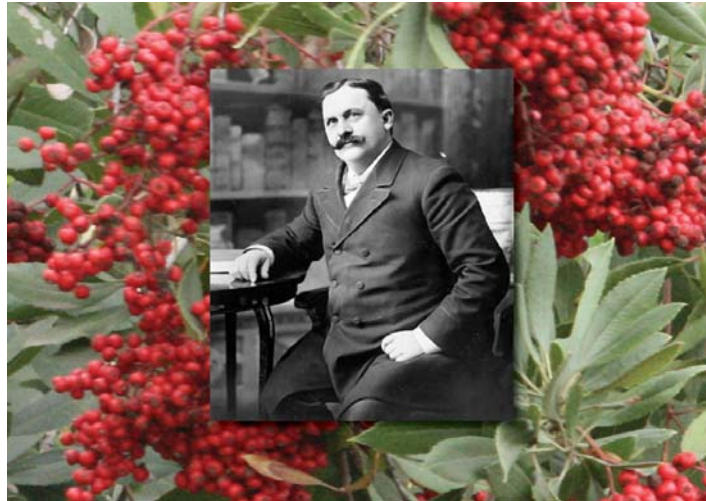




BETWEEN FRIENDS

news & updates from friends of griffith park / november 2011



Giving thanks.

Friends of Griffith Park has much to be grateful for this Thanksgiving. We are thankful to the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Griffith J. Griffith Charitable Trust for awarding us seed grants to advance the preservation of Fern Dell...to the National Park Service's Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance program for its trail grant for the Griffith Park de Anza Trail Project...to all the individuals, professionals and businesses who have contributed their time and in-kind donations to help with our mission...and, most of all, to our members and donors, whose steady support is helping to conserve and preserve the place we all love. It is almost impossible to imagine Los Angeles without Griffith Park, so when we come to the table on Thanksgiving Day, let's remember to give thanks to Colonel Griffith for giving our City its heart.





The Griffith Park Historic Fern Dell Preservation Project

Facilitated by generous grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Los Angeles County Preservation Fund and the Griffith J. Griffith Charitable Trust, Friends of Griffith Park is embarking on the first-ever Cultural Landscape Assessment of historic Fern Dell. Working with a seasoned team of professional landscape architects, botanists and historic preservation consultants, we are laying the groundwork for a long-range plan for the revitalization of this unique resource.

Fern Dell is the only public fern garden of its size and significance in California. A blend of natural and manmade features, it beckons visitors with a stream-fed ravine, meandering paths, shaded picnic glens and a richly layered history. In 2009, Fern Dell's significance contributed to the City of L.A.'s decision to designate Griffith Park as its largest Historic Cultural Monument. Griffith Park is now the largest municipal landmark in the United States.



Although signs of neglect can be seen throughout Fern Dell, people still daily use and enjoy this green retreat in Griffith Park.

In its heyday, Fern Dell was one of the Park's most celebrated features, but today it is a victim of neglect. The weight of decades has taken its toll. Surviving architectural elements are in need of stabilization. Details have been compromised by expedient fixes, and over the years, construction has drained its waters, placing its signature ferns and trees at risk. Recognizing the need to take action to save Fern Dell's historic fabric, Friends of Griffith Park is developing a first phase Cultural Landscape Assessment Plan that will set priorities in what will be a multi-tiered revitalization process.

Fern Dell's Layered History

Drawn by its year-round stream, L.A.'s pre-European Tongva/Gabrieleño peoples convened tribal meetings in a verdant canyon they called "Mococahuenga." By the early 20th Century, the ravine and its environs had become part of Griffith Park and its waters took on a new significance. California health-seekers ascribed curative powers to its spring which they called a "fountain of youth." At the very least, on a warm day a cool sip from its natural well was refreshing!

In 1914, Park Superintendent Frank Shearer, a noted plantsman, sensed that the area's micro-climate could support semi-tropical species and began adding ferns to the canyon. To encourage viewing, paths and benches were constructed and by the dawn of the 1920s the first of Fern Dell's terraced pools, bridges and *faux bois* elements were in place. Soon visitors to Los Angeles discovered Fern Dell. Guidebooks listed it as a must-see attraction and postcards captured its picturesque beauty for the folks back home.

Ironically, the Great Depression was a boon to Fern Dell. It was enlarged by laborers and craftsmen residing in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps in Griffith Park. Using the National Park Service handbook as their guide, they built additional water features, picnic grounds, terraced areas and railings in what architectural historians call "Park Style."

Post-War Fern Dell was a magnet for families, and many baby-boomers recall playing Tarzan and tag in its jungle-like recesses. Today, 21st Century Angelenos continue to find enjoyment there. On any given day, a microcosm of L.A. can be seen strolling, hiking, appreciating nature, or enjoying a picnic or a book.

For almost a century, Fern Dell has served as an urban oasis for Angelenos. Funding from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Griffith J. Griffith Charitable Trust, coupled with the support of Friends of Griffith Park members and cooperation from the City, will help Fern Dell reclaim its place as one of the most beautiful and singular places in Griffith Park.

Would you like to know more about historic Fern Dell? Saturday, December 17th, Friends of Griffith Park is celebrating Griffith Park's 115th Birthday with a Fern Dell History Tour and Hike for members. See back page for details and see you there!



At one time, Fern Dell was a must-see attraction, whose nooks and crannies were celebrated in picture postcards. Vintage views showing it at the height of its lushness, contribute to our understanding of how it looked and functioned in its heyday. If you have personal photos, ephemera or first-hand knowledge about Fern Dell that you would like to share, please contact us at friendsofgriffithpark.org

Q&A:

Miguel Ordenaña, ecologist and champion of urban wildlife

Miguel Ordenaña, MS Ecology, UC Davis, is a full-time wildlife biologist for the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station and is also assisting Paso Pacifico, a Nicaraguan NGO, with a jaguar conservation project in Nicaragua. A consultant to the Griffith Park Natural History Survey, he is studying wildlife corridors to and through Griffith Park. We caught up with Miguel to talk about urban wildlife conservation and the importance of exposing kids to nature. He has shared his knowledge of the wild with children who come to Griffith Park through Friends of Griffith Park's outdoor education programs.

Q. What first drew you to wildlife conservation?

During my early years, my mother worked full time and was also a full-time student at USC, which limited her free time. However, she knew I loved wildlife so she would take me across the street from USC to the Natural History Museum during her study breaks on weekends. Fortunately, I grew up near Griffith Park so urban nature was hard to miss. Although I appreciated the Park for its intrinsic beauty and for providing me with a place to escape from the stresses of the urban environment, I had no clue about its natural history. Outreach organizations such as Friends of Griffith Park were not around at that time so I had nobody to guide my interest through education about interesting features of nature and the importance of urban wildland areas. As a result, I drew more of a connection with zoos during my childhood due to the availability of educational outreach material and availability of docents who educated me and answered my naive questions about wildlife with extreme enthusiasm. I owe Griffith Park nature, urban wildlife, as well as the docents of the LA Zoo for inspiring me to pursue a career in wildlife conservation.

Q. How did you break into your field?

I got my feet wet in wildlife field research when I studied abroad in Kenya with the School for Field Studies. I interned for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) studying desert tortoises until I earned a full time position with the USGS. I later switched to working on a USGS project studying urban bobcat ecology in Irvine and urban carnivore conservation became a focus of my studies. Since graduate school I have studied forest raptors of northern California (U.S. Forest Service), human rodent conflict issues on levees (UC Davis), and bats and jaguars, and, currently, urban carnivores of Griffith Park. I am very happy to come full circle and to be in a position to give back to Griffith Park in my own way. In addition to continuing a career in wildlife research, I plan to continue work with organizations such as Friends of Griffith Park to push for more outreach into inner cities to connect the urban community with their local urban parks.



Miguel assists with the release of a bobcat while working for the USGS in Irvine. He is currently studying this carnivore in Griffith Park.

Q. What can individuals do - and refrain from doing - to sustain our city's remaining natural ecosystems?

Individuals can help in many ways. They can support propositions to fund government research and management of open spaces. They can refrain from littering, walking their dogs without a leash, hiking off the trail, speeding within parks or on the edge of parks, using rodenticide, planting non-native plants, and feeding wildlife. Feeding wildlife is illegal and habituates wildlife to human presence to the point where they lose their healthy fear of humans. Finally, simply getting the word out, volunteering with conservation NGOs/government institutions and donating to conservation research projects.

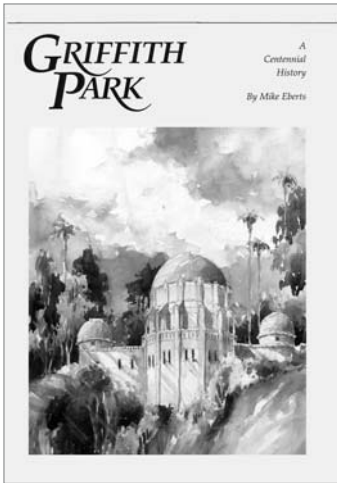
Q. When you look at Griffith Park, what do you see?

I view it as a valuable and unique urban oasis for current and future generations of Angelenos - a critical resource for recreation as well as the health of wildlife that rely on the park. However, I think it is also a fragile ecosystem in need of protection. There are signs of its vulnerability when I see new trails from hikers moving off the trail, dogs off leash, road kill of wildlife on park roads, bobcats with signs of rodenticide and mange, non-native species, and efforts to develop portions of the park. I also see it as a place of mystery since I am still continuing to learn more about it through research. For instance, the recent confirmation of bobcat occurrence in the park. Although we are finding that bobcats are facing a significant battle with rodenticide and mange, their mere presence offers a sign of hope that the park is a healthier and more functional ecosystem than previously thought. Unlike the more common coyotes, bobcats are a solitary and strictly carnivorous species, making them more vulnerable to urban development. Therefore, this animal is an excellent indicator for urban ecosystem health and connectivity. I spent a great deal of my childhood in this park and have a lot of great memories. I now proudly continue to share more experiences with my fiancée, family and with friends that I continue to introduce to the park.

BETWEEN FRIENDS

Authors and academics offer insights at 2011 Griffith Park Lecture Series

Thank you to the outstanding contributors to the 2011 Griffith Park Lecture Series. To Leo Brady, author of *The Hollywood Sign: Fantasy and Reality of an American Icon* for explaining the significance of the world-renowned landmark; Mike Eberts, author of *Griffith Park: A Centennial History*, for illuminating the link between Griffith Park and the Great Depression; Dan Cooper and Miguel Ordenaña of the Griffith Park Natural History Survey for sharing their findings on the Park's major mammals; Los Feliz Branch Librarian Pearl Yonezawa and her staff for hosting us; and Yuca's Restaurants, Los Feliz for donating refreshments. The series continues on December 15th with an illustrated talk on the new pictorial history *Griffith Park:*



Griffith Park:



Images of America. Thank you to all who attended our summer lectures and we look forward to seeing you at the next event!

Privately sponsored events help raise funds for Griffith Park projects

Friends of Griffith Park owes a debt of gratitude to these businesses for their generous support this fall.

In September, Silver Lake's Matrushka Construction Co. lent its walls to a benefit photography exhibit, *Griffith Park: The Wilderness Next Door*. The boutique mounted and promoted the show, hosted its opening and handled sales of the images, contributing the net proceeds to Friends of Griffith Park.

On November 12th, the more than 400 runners who turned out for the Griffith Park Trail Half Marathon were encouraged to join and/or donate to Friends of Griffith Park. A link from the event homepage to our web site made it easy to follow this advice.

Thank you to Matrushka Construction Co. and the Griffith Park Trail Half Marathon!



Nature education continues to delight urban kids

Working with the Sierra Club's Inner City Outing Committee, Friends of Griffith Park has exposed some 300 students from Los Angeles area urban schools to the natural history and outdoor fun found in Griffith Park. Since March 2011, we have variously underwritten bus transportation, provided lunch, supplied seasoned hike leaders to act as Park guides, and arranged for experts on the Park's flora and fauna to impart their knowledge and enthusiasm to the kids. Using the Park's trails as a path to learning, students have not only absorbed lessons about ecology and history, they have learned hiking skills and discovered the joy of outdoor exercise, healthy habits that we hope will last a lifetime. Thank you to the Sierra Club ICO Committee, committed teachers, and to everyone who has facilitated this program which we plan to continue and expand.



Pictured at the September 16th opening of Griffith Park: The Wilderness Next Door, are board members Gerry Hans, Laura Howe and Joe Young.

Find your favorite places on the Griffith Park Historic

The yellow dotted line represents the boundaries of Griffith Park.

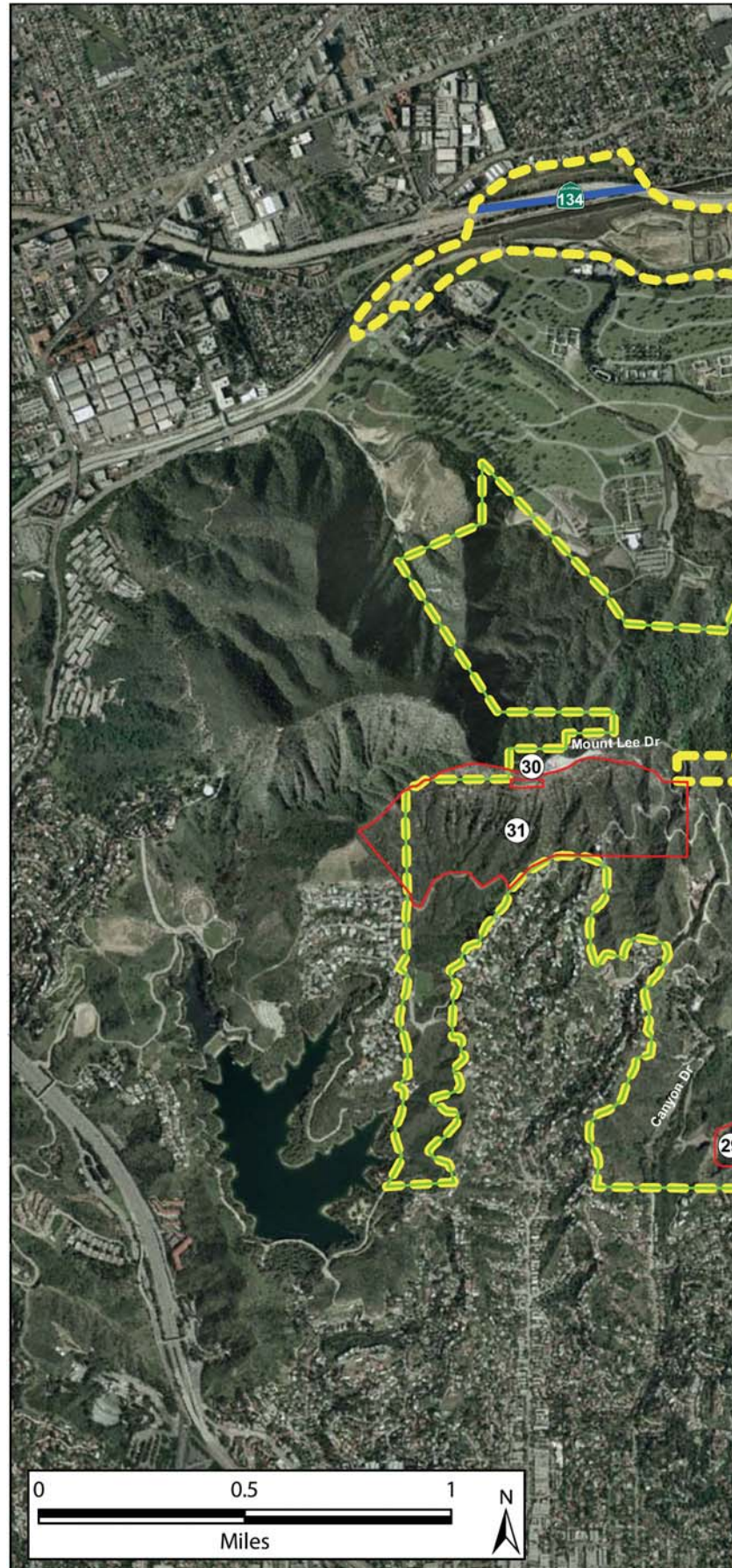
Since the map was completed, the Park has expanded west with the addition of the Cahuenga Peak parcel in 2011 and today, Griffith Park encompasses more than 4,300 acres. Even some longtime users are surprised to learn how large it is and that land east of the 5 and north of the 134 Freeways is within its borders. The Los Angeles Equestrian Center, Bette Davis Park, Headworks Spreading Grounds, North Atwater Park, Central Service Yard, Los Feliz Golf Course and Cafe and the L.A. River – including its bikeway and bridge – are all in Griffith Park. Discover them and enjoy!

Historically Sensitive Resources and Areas:

1. Former Costume Workshop and Surroundings/LA Shares Warehouse, 1961
 2. Ranger House, c.1938
 3. Municipal Plunge and Associated Buildings, 1927
 4. Pony Ride, 1947 & Train Ride, 1947, 1963
 5. 1920's era DWP Building (I)
 6. 1920's era DWP Building (II)
 7. Feliz Adobe, 1853, 1934 (City HCM No. 401)
 8. Sycamore Grove
 9. Riverside Drive Bridge, 1938
 10. L.A. Live Steamers, 1956
 11. Walt's Barn, 1950
 12. Travel Town Transportation Museum (Collection), 1952-1962
 13. "Little Nugget" Railcar, 1937 (City HCM No.474)
 14. Wilson & Harding Golf Courses, 1923, 1924
 15. Wilson & Harding Golf Clubhouse, 1937
 16. Old Zoo Buildings, 1914- c.1937
 17. Wilson Harding Turf Maintenance Facility, 1927
 18. Merry-Go-Round, 1926, installed 1937
 19. Los Feliz Cafe and Signage, 1948, 1956
 20. Central Service Yard Administration Building, 1958
 21. Former Cricket House, c.1933
 22. Vermont Tennis Courts, c.1927
 23. Nursery and Horticultural Center, 1927
 24. Greek Theatre, 1930
 25. Bird Sanctuary, 1922-c.1937
 26. Griffith Observatory, 1935 (City HCM No.168)
 27. Mt. Hollywood Tunnel, c.1927
 28. Fern Dell Nature Area, 1914 -c.1937/Gabrielino Indian Site (City HCM No.112)
 29. Bronson Caves, c.1909-1920
 30. Hollywood Sign, 1923, reconstructed 1978 (City HCM No.111)
 31. Hollywood Sign Viewshed
 32. 1930's era Stoppage Dam
 33. Cedar Grove
 34. Early Water Tower, c.1927
 35. Bee Rock
 36. Bee Rock Trail, 1903
- Griffith Park's Wilderness Area is a Historically Sensitive Resource

Non-Contributing or Altered Components:

37. L.A. Zoo, 1966, and Autry National Center, 1987
38. Freeways and All Associated Ramps, 1957
39. Toyon Landfill/ Reclamation Project, 1958
40. Marty Tregnan Golf Academy, 2000
41. Roosevelt Municipal Golf Course, 1966



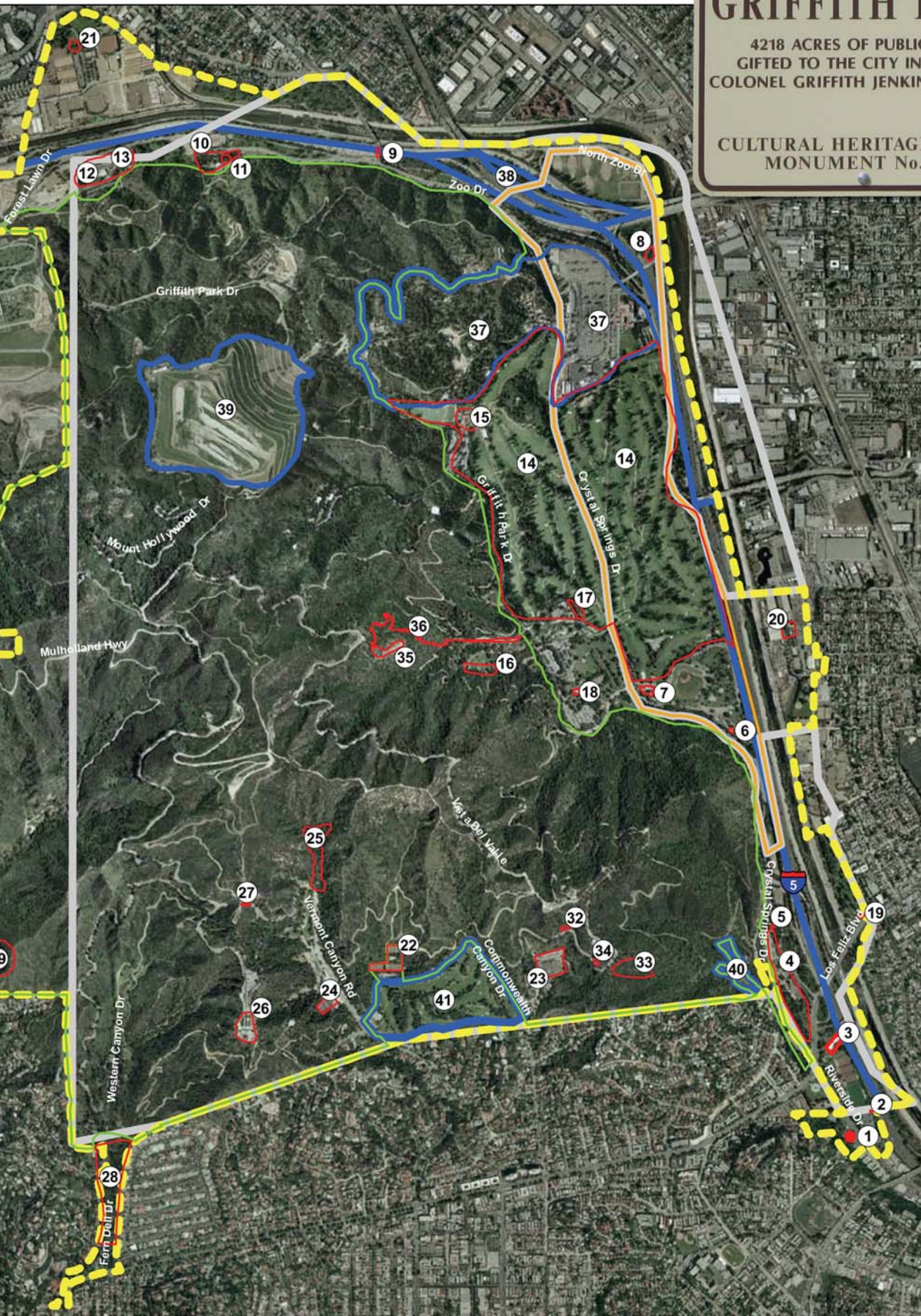
Resources Map



GRIFFITH PARK

4218 ACRES OF PUBLIC PARK
GIFTED TO THE CITY IN 1896 BY
COLONEL GRIFFITH JENKINS GRIFFITH

CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD
MONUMENT No. 942



Expect the unexpected in Griffith Park's Amir's Garden



Happy Birthday and congratulations to Amir's Garden! In addition to turning 40 this year, this unique destination won an *L.A. Weekly* "Best of Los Angeles Award" as the "Best Picnic Oasis Inside Griffith Park." In bestowing the honor, the *Weekly* wrote, "You can toss your picnic in a backpack and walk up the wide, easy fire road in no time...halfway up you'll pass Water Tank #73 – Amir's Garden is past the next curve. There are tables at the 'entrance' to this oasis, where you can picnic while enjoying the quiet and beauty. Or you can explore one of the trails cut down the hillside, winding through greenery planted by the late Amir and more recent volunteers."

In 1971, hiker Amir Dialameh decided to build an oasis in the Park on a spot above Mineral Wells Picnic Area that had been denuded by fire. These were the days before native plants were valued and the City blessed his idea. Amir worked tirelessly with pick and shovel to break ground for a shade grove on five blackened acres. He terraced its slopes, built staircases and planted trees. He added wooden benches for the hikers and equestrians who found their way to his oasis.

Amir died suddenly in 2003, but his garden continues to be cared for by volunteers. While its flora is not indigenous to the Park, it still attracts wildlife.

A volunteer's tale

For several months in 2009, a mature and seemingly, very pregnant rattlesnake frightened visitors to Amir's Garden. And no wonder – more than 4' long and 14-15 rattles, they don't

For the mutual protection of humans and wildlife, this large rattlesnake was moved to an area of the Park less frequented by visitors. If you encounter a rattlesnake in a busy area of the Park, note its location and contact the Park Rangers (Photo courtesy of Park Ranger Adam Dedeaux).

come much bigger in Griffith Park. As a preventive, Park Rangers decided to relocate the reptile but before they could, it dropped out of sight. The garden's volunteer caretaker, Kris Sabo, began to fear that the creature had met its demise. But it turned out that the snake had simply taken herself away. Rattlesnakes are territorial, and big ones maintain big territories.

Two years later, at the end of August 2011, the creature reappeared in Amir's Garden. Worried calls from visitors again summoned Park Rangers and this time they arrived in time to catch the wanderer. The Rangers carefully placed the snake in a travel container and moved her to her new home in the park.

Amir Garden's caretaker has asked us to point out that Griffith Park's snakes are not our enemies. Most of the species in the Park are non-poisonous and thanks to the early warning system at the end of its tail, rattlesnake bites are extremely rare and can be avoided.

Taming helicopter noise over Griffith Park

Have you noticed an increase in overhead engine noise? Does the chop-chop of copter blades seem to be following you? If so, you're not alone.

Friends of Griffith Park is supporting U.S. Representative Howard Berman's *Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2011, H.R. 2677*, addressing excessive helicopter noise over the City. If passed, it will extend FAA authority to setting flight paths and minimum altitudes for helicopters (except for emergency, law enforcement and military activities). Currently, altitude minimums are left to pilot discretion.

Recognizing that commercial helicopter traffic has increased, particularly flights by tour helicopters to the Observatory and Hollywood Sign, we alerted Berman that Griffith Park is designated by planning authorities as a *County of Los Angeles Significant Ecological Area (SEA)*, lending value and credibility toward support for the measure. We also advised Representative Adam Schiff and Assemblypersons Mike Feuer and Mike Gatto of its special status and all of them are on-board with support.

Friends of Griffith Park is also supporting a petition referred to as a *Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR)* to set a minimum 2,000 feet altitude for helicopters. The specified SFAR area includes Griffith Park, much of Los Feliz, Cahuenga Pass and a portion of the mountainous area just to the west of the Pass. Low flying helicopter traffic disturbs Griffith Park users seeking peaceful recreation and copter noise may be impacting some of its animal species, which in turn can damage the entire ecosystem. As we point out in our letter, "*The rapidly growing problem of human-produced noise has initiated much scientific research relating to its affects on wildlife over the last couple decades. There is universal agreement that noise can affect an animal's behavior and physiology over a wide variety of species.*"

The Bill is making its way through the House Transportation Committee's Aviation Subcommittee. Support messages can be sent to: howard.berman@mail.house.gov.

GOOD SIGN:

Park is decked out in winter-red Toyon



November and December are peak months for *Heteromeles arbutifolia*, commonly known as Toyon, a large perennial shrub native to California. Most of the year, this evergreen plant blends quietly into Griffith Park's chaparral and oak woodland communities. But come winter, its clusters of red berries roar forth and it dominates the landscape.

The Park's birds and squirrels feast on its berries. Scat tells us that coyotes also eat its fruit. Before the advent of Europeans, the Park's Native American peoples roasted, boiled and dried Toyon berries for use in recipes and made a tea from its bark for stomach ills.

Toyon's dependable December winter display has caused it to be called Christmas berry by some and California holly by others. In the 1920s, harvesting its branches for holiday decoration grew so popular in L.A. that the State passed a law forbidding its collection on public lands.

So if you see a Toyon poacher with clippers in hand, remind him or her that this beautiful shrub is legally protected, and also mention that its berries are an important food source for many resident animals of Griffith Park.



BAD SIGN:

Billboard lobby still working to blight parks

To date, at least 44 organized advocacy groups, residential associations, and neighborhood councils have registered their opposition to the changes to the municipal code that are proposed in the latest version of the City's Sign Ordinance 08-2020. The version was discussed by the City Council's Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUM) on October 18, 2011 in a hearing chamber crowded with concerned citizens and representatives of the billboard lobby. Eight board members of Friends of Griffith Park were also there.

In response to previous objections, the provision that would have allowed comprehensive sign programs (districts) in City parks has been taken off the table. But an "interior sign exception" that would allow advertising to proliferate in parks, recreation centers, and schools, and language allowing Sign Districts to abut parks, rec centers, and scenic highways remains. These loopholes were pointed out by Friends of Griffith Park and others who spoke.



Before the committee voted to send the ordinance back to the Planning Department for further refinement, PLUM member Jose Huizar stated that he wanted to ensure that no mechanism or loophole existed to allow advertising in parks.

That's an encouraging sign, but we're not out of the woods yet. In a letter to the PLUM Committee dated the day of the hearing, Councilmember Jan Perry urged her colleagues to adopt a sign ordinance provision that would permit signs, banners, and other forms of commercial advertising in City parks and other public facilities. Without such a provision, she wrote the City will be "missing a critical opportunity to create possible revenue through signage at city facilities..."

And the PLUM Committee, itself, may have created an inadvertent loophole by agreeing to recommend the establishment of a "Study Group" paid for by the billboard industry that would advise the Planning Department on such "off-the-table topics" as signs in City parks and on other City-owned property.

The next version of the ordinance will be released on November 18th and the final PLUM hearing on it will take place on December 6th. Friends of Griffith Park will be there and will continue to oppose commercial advertising in our City parks. More information on this issue can be found at friendsofgriffithpark.org

National Park Service RTCA Program awards trail grant to Friends of Griffith Park

IN OCTOBER 1775, 40 soldiers and 240 civilians under the command of Spanish military Captain Juan Bautista de Anza set out from the presidio at Tubac, Arizona to colonize present-day San Jose. In January 1776, they passed through the future pueblo of Los Angeles and camped at a bend in a river at a place called *El Portezuelo*. Later, one of the soldier-escorts, Corporal Jose Vicente Feliz, would receive a land grant of 6,647 acres that included *El Portezuelo*. The land would become known as Rancho Los Feliz. Today much of it is Griffith Park.

Although Griffith Park's historic significance has been recognized, the presence of the de Anza Trail within its borders is not generally known. Currently, only a small boulder-mounted plaque in the Pecan Grove Picnic area notes the expedition's 1776 presence in the Park.

But this is about to change. In October, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program awarded a technical assistance grant to Friends of

runners and walkers regularly use the route. In some places it passes through remnants of oak woodland communities and is shaded by heritage oaks and ancient sycamores. Elsewhere, it parallels picnic grounds and Wilson-Harding golf course affording vistas of Griffith Park's foothills and wildlife viewing opportunities.

The user experience is not always ideal, however, which is what prompted Friends for Griffith Park to apply for the NPS-RTCA grant. Significant portions of the trail need maintenance, fencing is piecemeal and in disrepair, and vegetation needs care. One segment of the trail passes through an area that intermittently supports heavy construction in the park. Other sections subject users to unabated noise from the adjacent Golden State Freeway (5) which in 1957 buried Griffith Park's extended banks of the Los Angeles River under concrete.

Beyond enhancing connectivity and making sorely needed repairs, contemplated improvements to the trail include



Griffith Park to improve and enhance the trail segment in Griffith Park. It will be one link in a well-defined Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail stretching from Nogales to the San Francisco Bay. Along the trail, the NPS envisions, *“the visitor can experience landscapes similar to those the expedition saw; learn the stories of the expedition, its members, and descendants; better understand the American Indian role in the expedition and the diversity of their cultures; and appreciate the extent of the accomplishments of Juan Bautista de Anza and his colonizers.”*

Griffith Park's 4-mile segment of the trail begins at the Park's northwest end opposite the Equestrian Center and travels southeast to the Pony and Train Ride concession near the Los Feliz entrance to the Park. Horseback riders, hikers,

adding interpretive signage to promote the trail's educational value and creating signage to call attention to its heritage trees and plants. The project team will explore adding noise mitigation measures along the trail's freeway-exposed segments and an interpretive connection to the nearby Los Feliz adobe.

The adobe presents a unique opportunity to reinforce the historic link between the de Anza expedition and the Park in the person of Jose Vicente Feliz. The Feliz family home in the courtyard of the Griffith Park Ranger Station and Visitors Center, is a tangible reminder of the pre-history of the Park through the de Anza lens – its native Tongva peoples, the Spanish rancho era, and the personal story of Corporal Feliz.

Friends of Griffith Park is grateful to the National Park Service-RTCA for its technical assistance grant and looks forward to serving as Project Cooperator for a primary planning team that includes the Department of Recreation and Parks and the NPS-RTCA.

Above left, a shady portion of the de Anza Trail near Griffith Park's Visitor Center. Right, the adobe built by the Feliz family during rancho days. Family patriarch, Jose Vicente Feliz, was a military escort to the de Anza expedition and the original owner of the land that became Griffith Park.

share your
love of
griffith park:
give a gift
membership



A holiday
card will be
sent with
your gift.

This season, choose a living gift. Every membership you give in Friends of Griffith Park, helps to:

- Preserve Griffith Park's landscape, ecosystems and Urban Wilderness features
- Safeguard Griffith Park's integrity as L.A.'s largest Historic-Cultural Landmark
- Preserve open space, free access and a commercial-free environment
- Promote knowledge about the Park's natural heritage and human history
- Provide grants and engage in fundraising for the Park's study and preservation

Members of Friends of Griffith Park receive newsletters and updates on issues and happenings in the Park., invitations to lectures, programs and special events, notification of volunteer opportunities, and the special joy of knowing that belonging helps to conserve and preserve Griffith Park.

To give a gift membership, complete and mail this form with payment to Friends of Griffith Park. For additional gifts, copy this form. To expedite holiday delivery, please respond before December 15, 2011. You can also arrange gift memberships online at friendsofgriffithpark.org

YES! I would like to give a gift membership in Friends of Griffith Park at the following level:

\$20 Friend \$50 Caretaker \$100 Guardian \$250 Steward \$500 Benefactor Above: \$ _____

Send membership to (please print):

RECIPIENT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL _____

Acknowledge membership as a gift from: _____

I am enclosing a check made out to Friends of Griffith Park in the amount of \$ _____

Please charge the amount of \$ _____ to my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

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PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL _____

Mail this form to Friends of Griffith Park P.O. Box 27573 Los Angeles, CA 90027-0573

Friends of Griffith Park is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit corporation. As such, your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

YOU ARE INVITED...

Saturday, December 10, 2011
Griffith Park Clean-Up & Graffiti Removal

Join us to help spruce up the heart of Griffith Park for the holidays. Please wear long pants and a hat, and bring gloves if you have them. We will provide water and a snack, trash bags and friendly encouragement. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

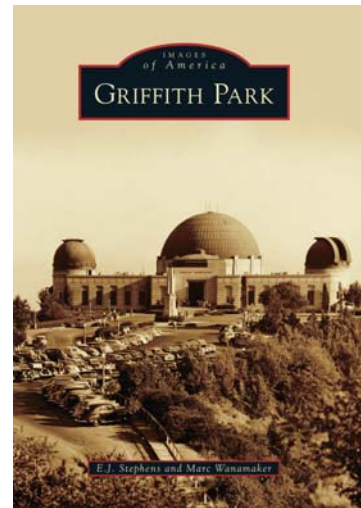
Meet at the Old Zoo Parking Lot
at 9:00 a.m. Clean-up until 11:00 a.m.



Griffith Park Lecture Series
Thursday, December 15, 2011
Griffith Park: Images of America

On the eve of the 115th Birthday of Colonel Griffith's gift to Los Angeles, E.J. Stephens and Marc Wanamaker present a pictorial history of Griffith Park. Their new book features pages of archival photos that capture the essence of the City's largest, most beloved landmark. Join us for a cake and refreshments honoring the Park's milestone. Skylight Books will have copies available after for purchase and signing.

A free public event at
Los Angeles Public Library Los Feliz Branch
1874 Hillhurst Avenue at Franklin Avenue
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Lecture begins at 6:45 p.m.



Saturday, December 17, 9:00 a.m.
**Fern Dell History Tour and Hike Celebrating
Griffith Park's 115th Birthday**

Colonel Griffith gave Griffith Park to the people on December 16, 1896. 115 years and one day later, we're celebrating his great green gift with a special member event. Meet us for coffee and morning pastries, then take a guided tour of historic Fern Dell. Afterwards, you can join us on an optional two-stage guided hike to work off feast-season calories. Stage one takes you from the base of Fern Dell to Griffith Observatory. Stage two, if you wish to go on, continues to the top of Mt. Hollywood for a panoramic view. Wear rugged footwear and bring a hat.

Meet just behind and above Trails Cafe at 9:00 a.m.
Park on the street or in Fern Dell's upper lot.

R.S.V.P. appreciated: gerry@friendsofgriffithpark.org
Please mention if you are bringing a guest or guests

MEMBERS
ONLY



Visit friendsofgriffithpark.org for more on these and other topics. If you're not a member, you'll also find information there on how to join Friends of Griffith Park.