



A Redefined Vantage Point for Reconciliation and Restoration

Chinese Reconciliation Park
协力和園



CHINESE RECONCILIATION
PROJECT FOUNDATION



CITY OF TACOMA



CHINESE RECONCILIATION
PROJECT FOUNDATION

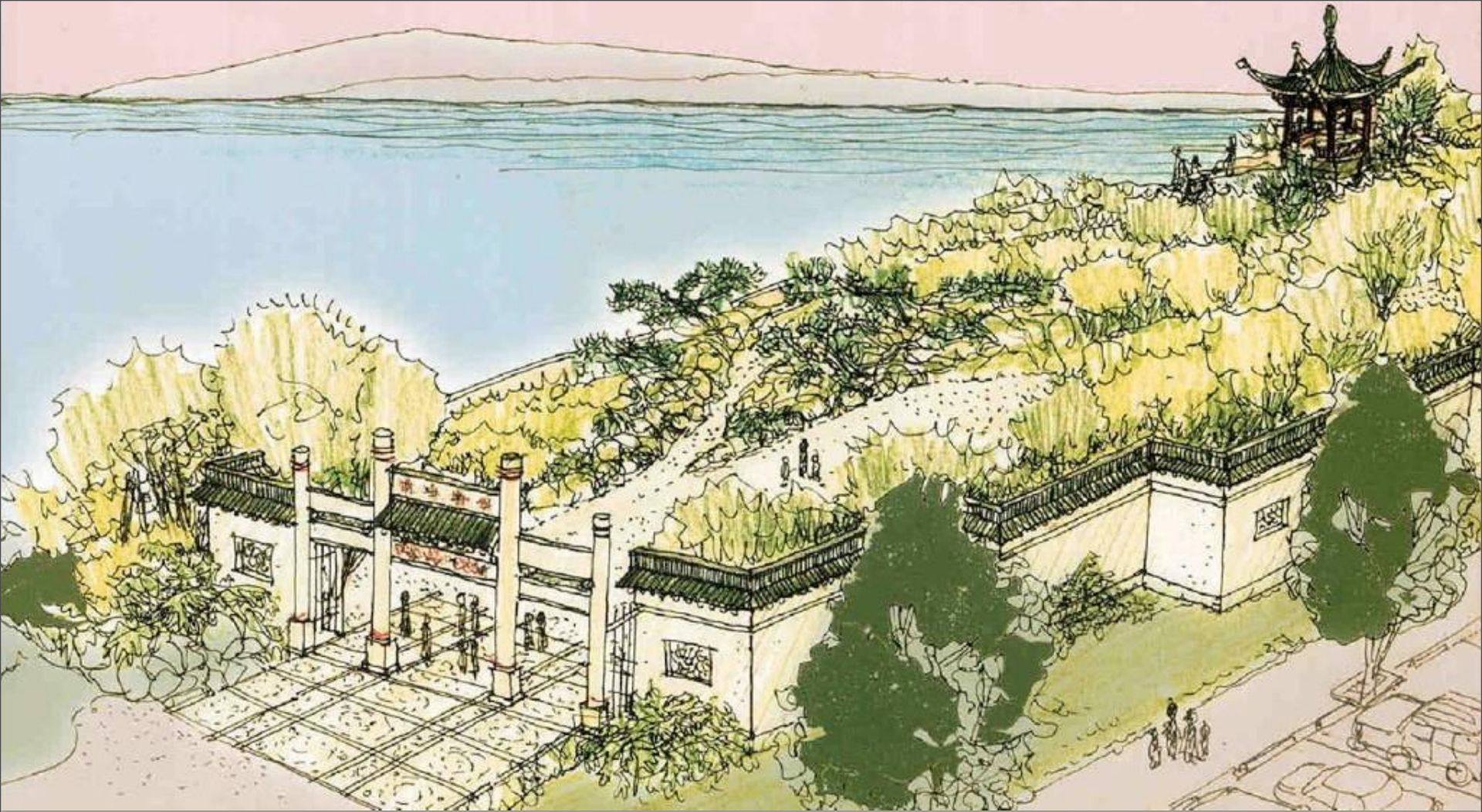
Chinese
Reconciliation
Park
和園



CITY OF TACOMA

The Tacoma Chinese Reconciliation Park is a collaboration of the Chinese Reconciliation Project Foundation and the City of Tacoma.

J.A. Brennan Associates | Landscape Architecture
Tangram | Interpretive Design
Joe Y. Wai Architect, Inc. | Architecture
Rolluda Architects | Architecture
Moffatt & Nichol | Shoreline Engineers
Lin & Associates | Structural, Civil Engineers
HWA Geosciences Inc. | Geotechnical Engineers
Parametrix, Inc. | Biological Assessment
URS Corporation | Stormwater Plan
JB Iringan Construction | Cost Estimating



Chinese Reconciliation Park Mission

- To establish a historical memory of the tragic expulsion of Tacoma's Chinese community in 1885
- Promote peace, harmony and understanding in Tacoma's multi-cultural community
- Serve as an example of reconciliation for other communities that have endured similar events



HISTORY

History of the Expulsion

there is gold just

"Not planning to stay in the new country as colonizers, they thought of themselves as "sojourners" - far from home for an indefinite time, but eager to return to their families and the familiar lifestyle of the Chinese village."

STRAW HATS, SANDALS AND STEEL, LORRAINE HILDEBRAND



Journey to Gold Mountain

- U.S. Gold Rush circles the globe
- Life was hard in southeast China in the early 1800s
- Chinese follow their dreams of striking it rich



The 1885 Chinese Expulsion

"Because they were too industrious and too efficient, and they took what jobs were most available, they made themselves unwelcome. Further, since the Chinese denied themselves recreations and lived so frugally, most Caucasians decided they were a people with few wants or desires."

STRAW HATS, SANDALS AND STEEL.

LORRAINE HILDEBRAND



Life of the Early Chinese American

- Arriving at "Gold Mountain," Chinese immigrants are welcomed
- Chinese work by any means available to save money
- U.S. Gold Rush diminishes, economy declines, wages drop and jobs become scarce
- Chinese who came for opportunity become targets of discrimination and disrespect

Filthy in food as birds of prey,
Or beastly dens in which they lay,
Selfish and careless of their kind,
In morals famed for vulgar mind,
Their sole ambition wealth to earn,
Then to their native land return,
And in that Flowery Kingdom find
The graves of those they left behind.
Tacoma fiercely drove them forth,
To them the terror of the North;
For 'velly well' those heathen know,
'Me sabe' Chinaman must go."

BREWERTON

Climate of Exclusion

- Widespread economic depression fuels anti-Chinese sentiment
- Chinese immigrants become scapegoats
- Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 encourages intolerance
- Tacoma's anti-Chinese sentiment boils over in March of 1884, townspeople demand "The Chinese Must Go!"

THE
Chinese Must Go!

Mayor Weisbach

Has called a **MASS MEETING** for
this (Saturday) evening at
7:30 o'clock

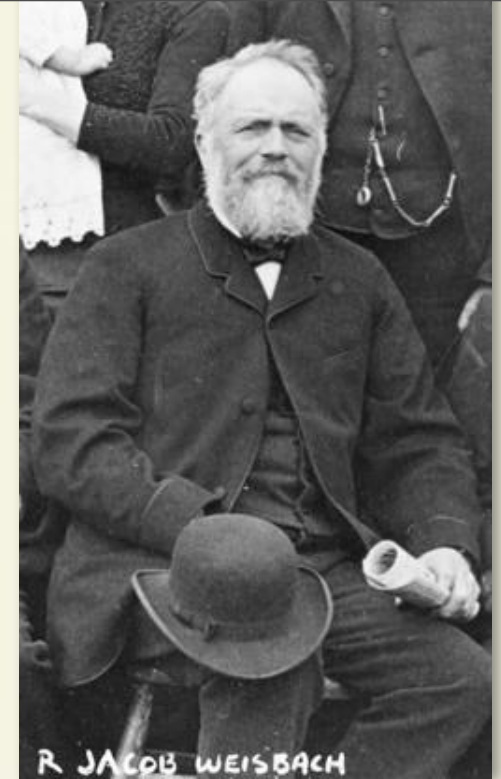
AT ALPHA OPERA HOUSE.

To consider the Chinese question.

TURN OUT.

"Where the doors were locked they broke forcibly into the houses smashing in doors and breaking in windows. Some of the crowd was armed with pistols, some with clubs. They acted in a rude boisterous and threatening manner, dragging and kicking the Chinese out of their houses."

LUM MAY



Planning of the Expulsion

- October 3, 1885 a committee of 15 is appointed to notify the Chinese they must leave on or before November first
- Many Chinese leave before the deadline but 200 others remain
- November 3, 1885 mob led by the mayor of Tacoma forcibly evicts Chinese from their homes and marches them to the train station where they are expelled from the City
- After the Chinese depart, their settlements are burnt to the ground

of Washington, that
destruction and com-
to enforce by the
Seattle and other
and endangered and,
the judgment of the
requires, under the
press domestic vio-
mand and carrying

evil area
marked



**"...short of firing upon the flag of
our country no greater outrage was
ever committed against the laws and
government of these United States."**

W.H. WHITE, U.S. ATTORNEY, IN A TELEGRAM
TO ATTORNEY GENERAL A.H. GARLAND
NOVEMBER 13, 1886

Planning of the Expulsion

- Tacoma Chinese try to seek justice in court; 27 indictments are issued on charges of conspiracy and insurrection
- Indictments issued in late 1885 were overturned, reinstated, and then overturned again in 1886
- A new grand jury convenes in 1887 but jurors refuse to reissue indictments. The 27 men are never held accountable.
- The Chinese expulsion along with ongoing discouragement of resettlement earn Tacoma an inhospitable reputation. Chinese are not seen in the city again until the 1920s.

TACOMA'S

- 15. Geo. D. Lawson
- 16. O. J. Anderson
- 17. W. A. Stevens
- 18. E. G. Bacon
- 19. H. E. Patrick
- 20. Frank McCall
- 21. John Forbes

and Child.

"The Chinese Reconciliation [Park] is an important step toward healing the wounds to the entire community... This [park] is a significant opportunity to create a living memorial where we can begin to redeem past wrongs and learn from history so that nothing like this ever happens again."

CHINESE RECONCILIATION FOUNDATION

"What they did not deserve was to be forcibly expelled from our city, to have their settlements burned to the ground, to be robbed of their dignity by Tacoma's leaders..."

Tacoma Mayor
Bill Baarsma at the
ground-breaking
ceremony
of the Chinese
Reconciliation Park

Journey to Reconciliation

- In 1982 Dr. David and Mrs. Signy Murdoch move to Tacoma and learn of the expulsion
- Coordinating with city, state officials, and community activists, a process of reconciliation is initiated
- Efforts evolve into the creation of the Chinese Reconciliation Project Foundation
- Foundation is dedicated to promoting peace, harmony and understanding in Tacoma's multi-cultural community

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Tacoma desires to foster community healing and reconciliation of the tragic 1885 expulsion of the Chinese community from Tacoma; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tacoma also desires to enhance the international relationships with the Peoples Republic of China and the Peoples Congress of Sichuan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tacoma will join friends from the Far East this week to break ground for the Chinese Reconciliation Park; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Chinese Reconciliation Park illustrates the City's commitment to the prosperity, not disparity, of all our citizens and we want to recognize the past suffering of many of this community's pioneers and prevent such an atrocity from ever happening again,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BILL BAARSMAN, Mayor of the City of Tacoma, in Washington, on behalf of the City Council, hereby proclaim August 19, 2005 as

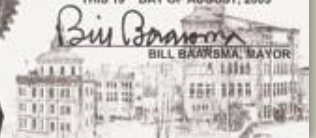
CHINESE RECONCILIATION DAY

in Tacoma, and I encourage all citizens to join with us in our effort to correct the mistakes of the past and help future generations never forget what happened in 1885.



WITNESS, THEREFORE, MY HAND
AND THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE
CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON,
THIS 19TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2005

Bill Baarsman
BILL BAARSMAN, MAYOR





TELLING A STORY:
CHINESE GARDEN DESIGN



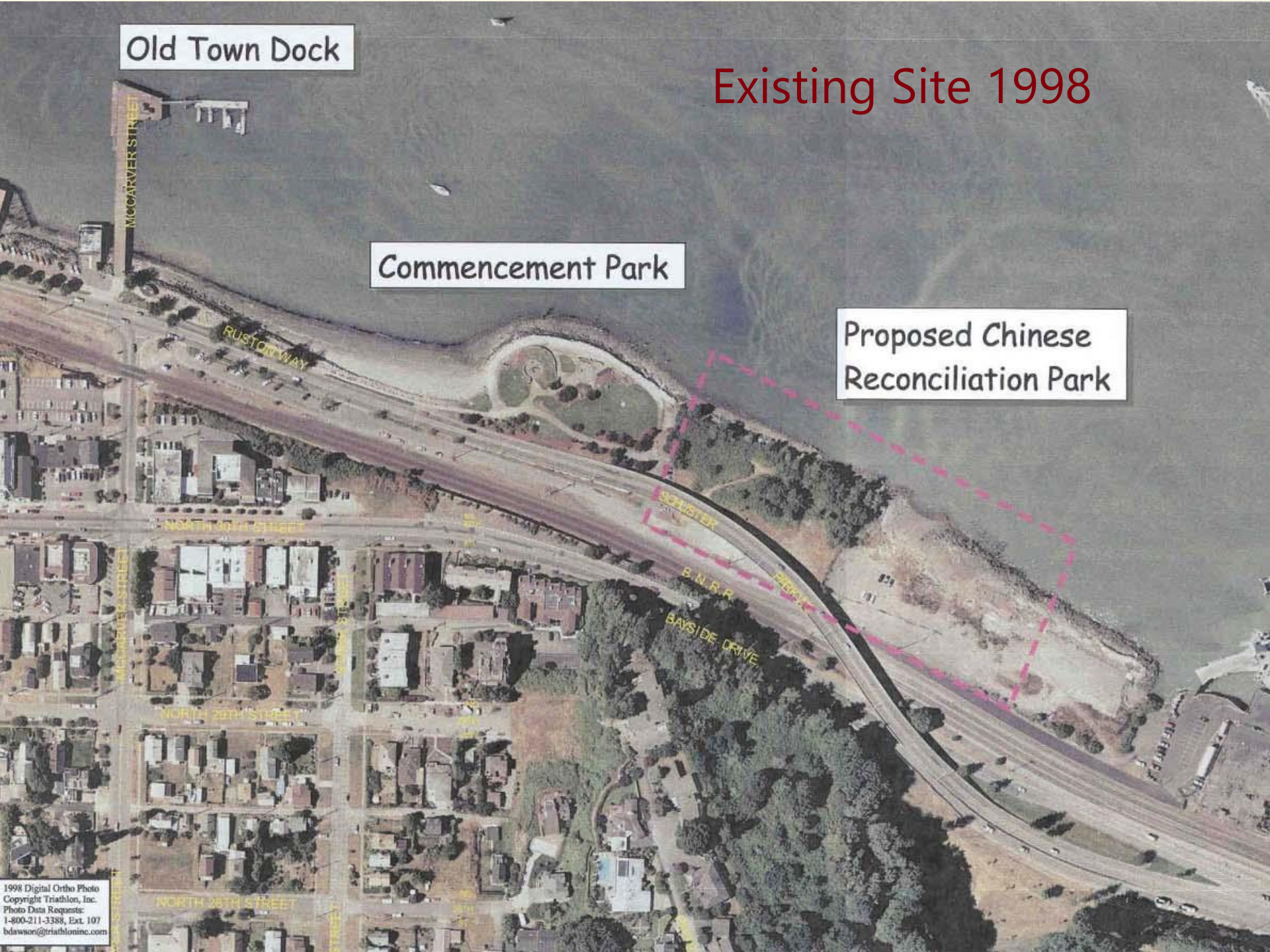
Chinese Garden Architecture

Old Town Dock

Existing Site 1998

Commencement Park

Proposed Chinese Reconciliation Park

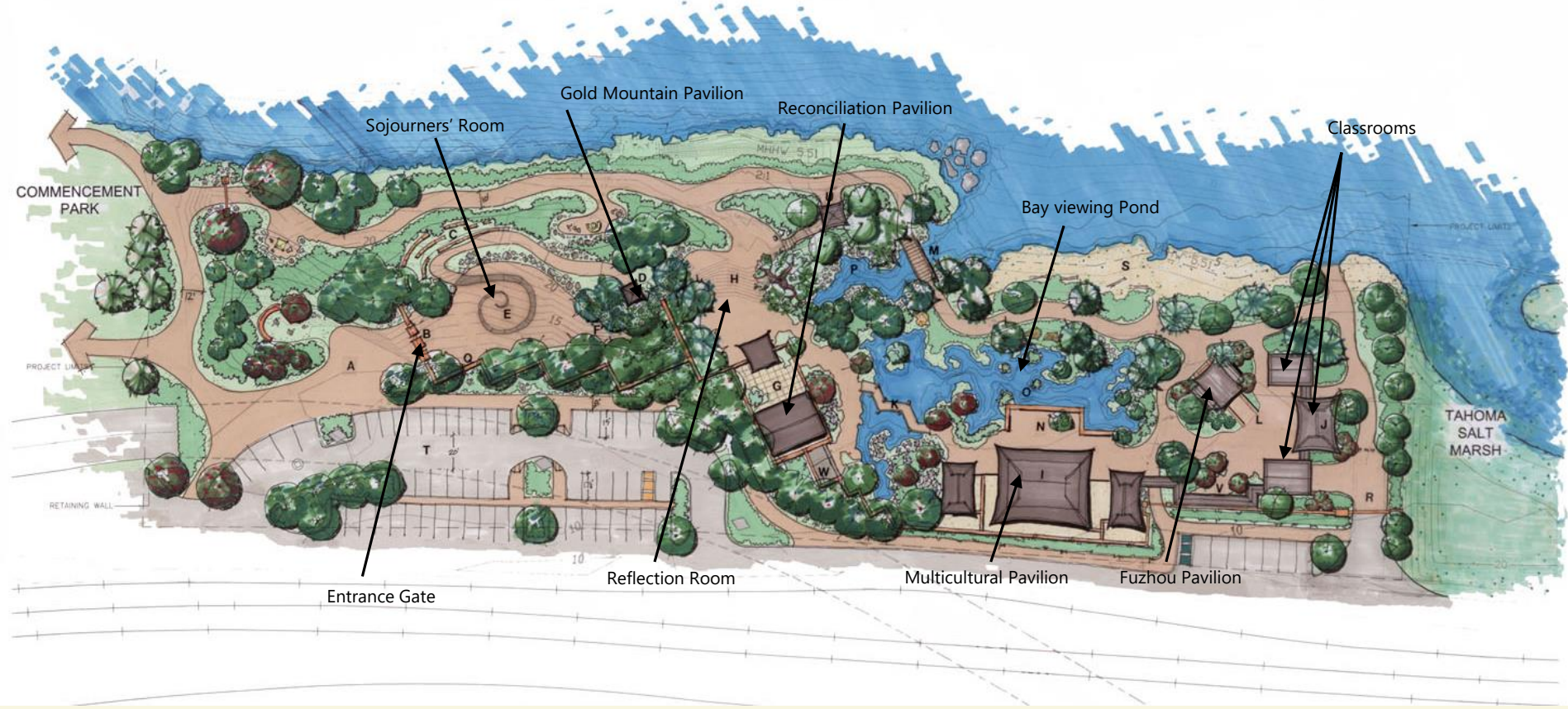


Existing Site Conditions



Existing Site Conditions 1998



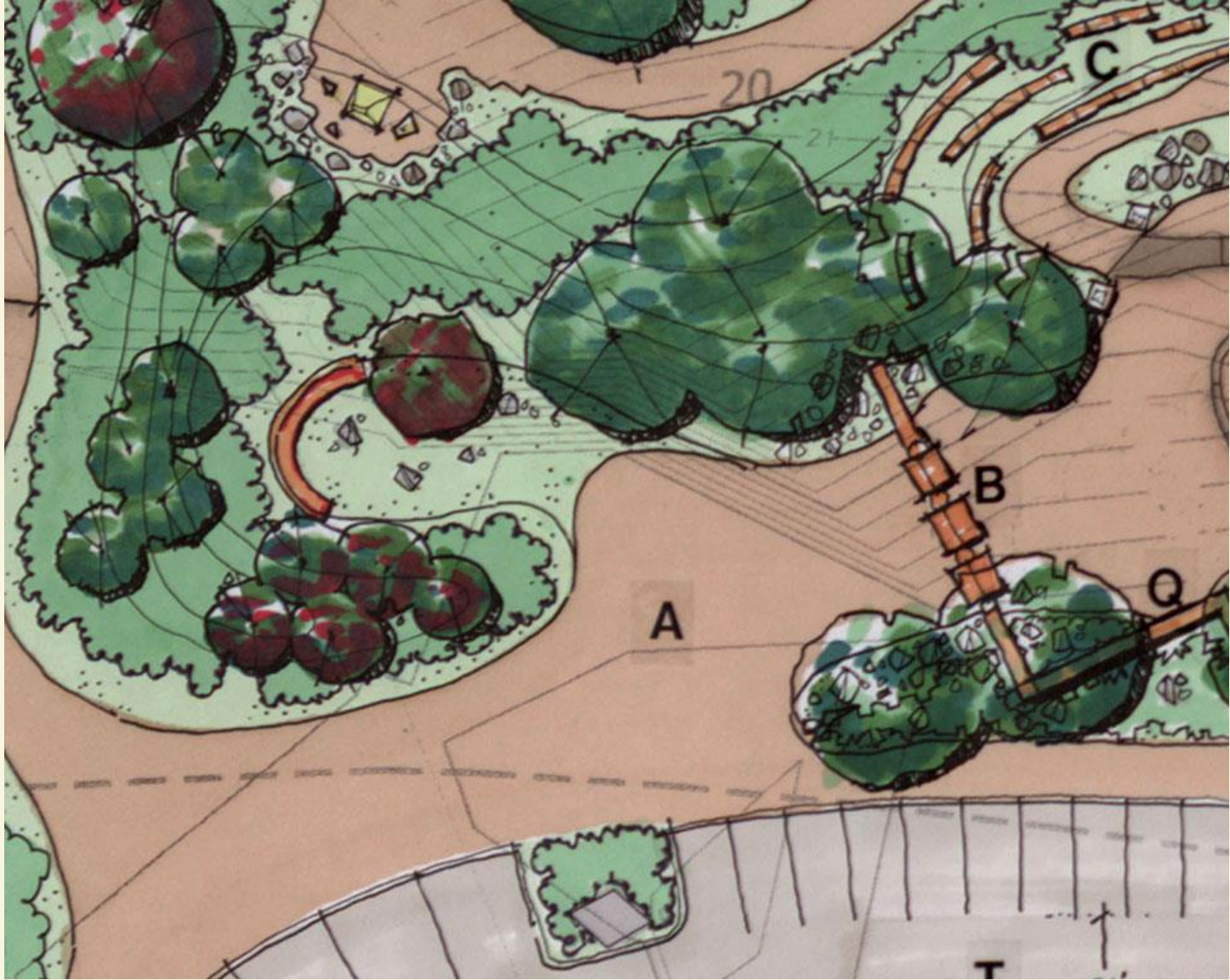


Master Plan 2001



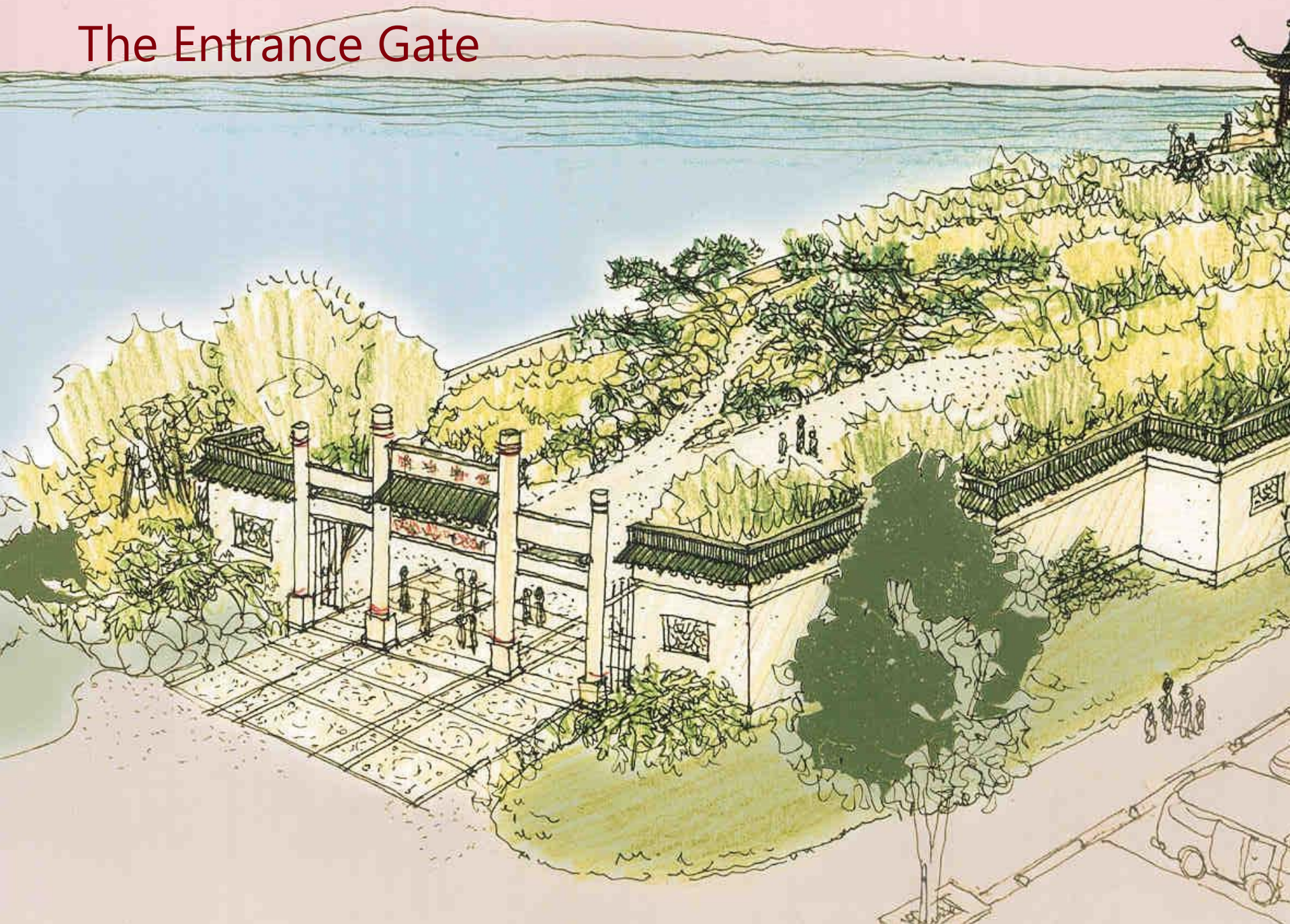
Garden Rooms

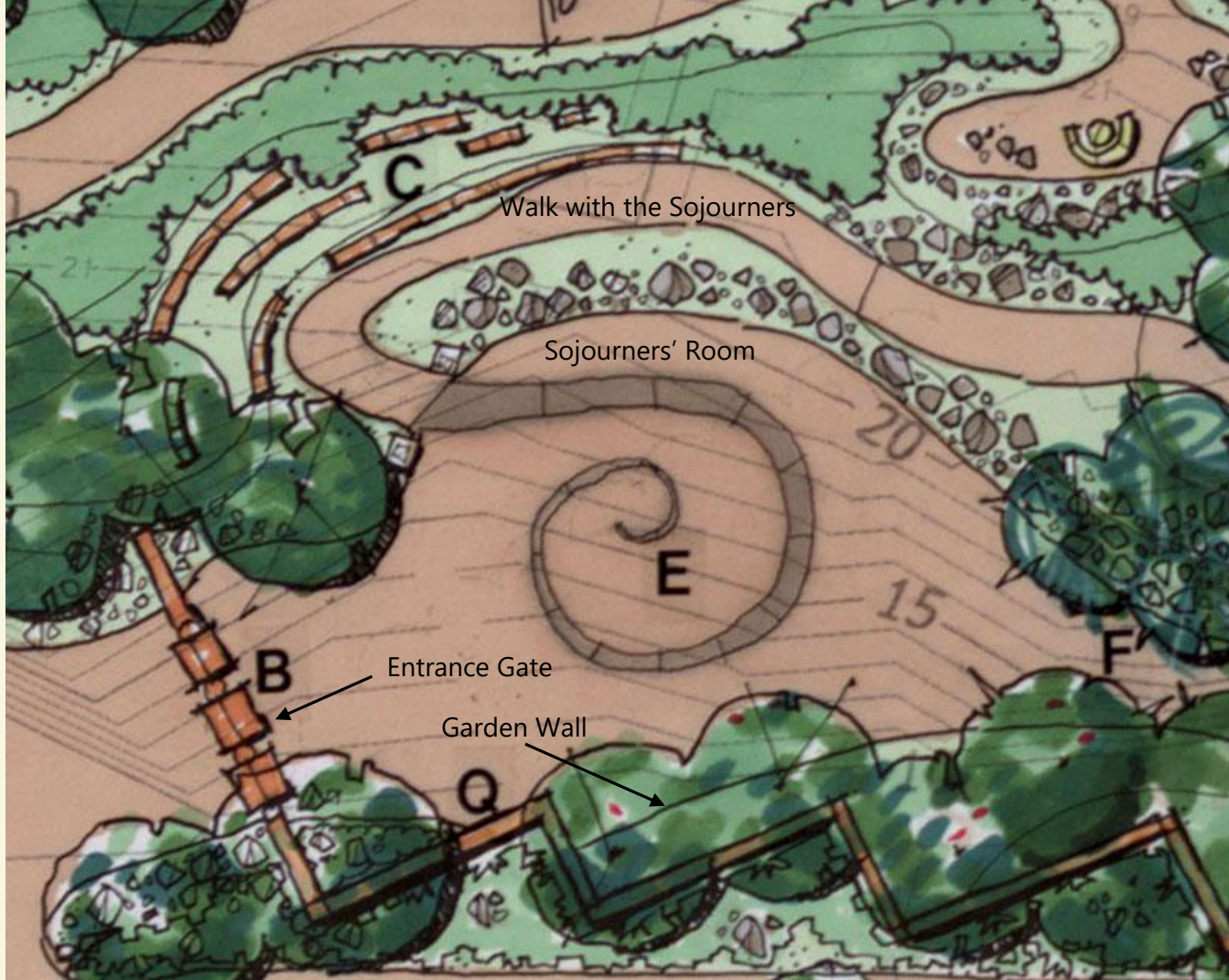
- Traditional Chinese garden has a variety of transitional spaces or garden rooms
- Garden rooms are organized around a special theme
- Park uses the Chinese garden experience to tell the story
- Landscape developed to provide interpretive pathways that allow visitors to experience the historical event of the expulsion
- Designed as a place of healing and harmony



Entry Room

The Entrance Gate





Walk with the Sojourners

Journey to Gold Mountain

- Gold Mountain developed in a spiral fashion to create a sense of movement and journey
- Interpretive signage plaque is etched with the story of the historical journey and hardships of the sojourners
- Grinding stone reflects the cultural heritage of early Chinese immigrants

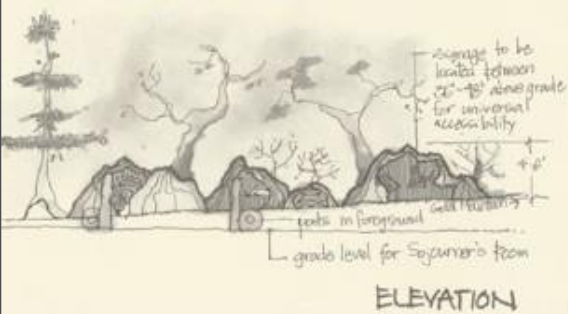


Gold Mountain Pavilion



Interpretive Signage

- Porcelain enamel, interpretive signage panels
- Reflect the look and feel of historical newspapers, flyers and other documents that were researched for this project
- Mounting the signs to the rocks represents the visual of how newspapers and flyers were strewn or blown about the streets of Tacoma in 1885
- Integrated panels into the natural rock of the landscape



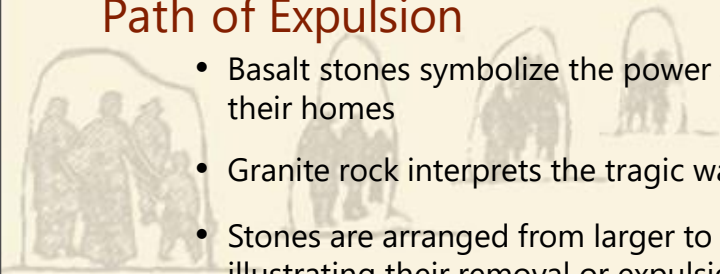


Through the Path of the Expulsion

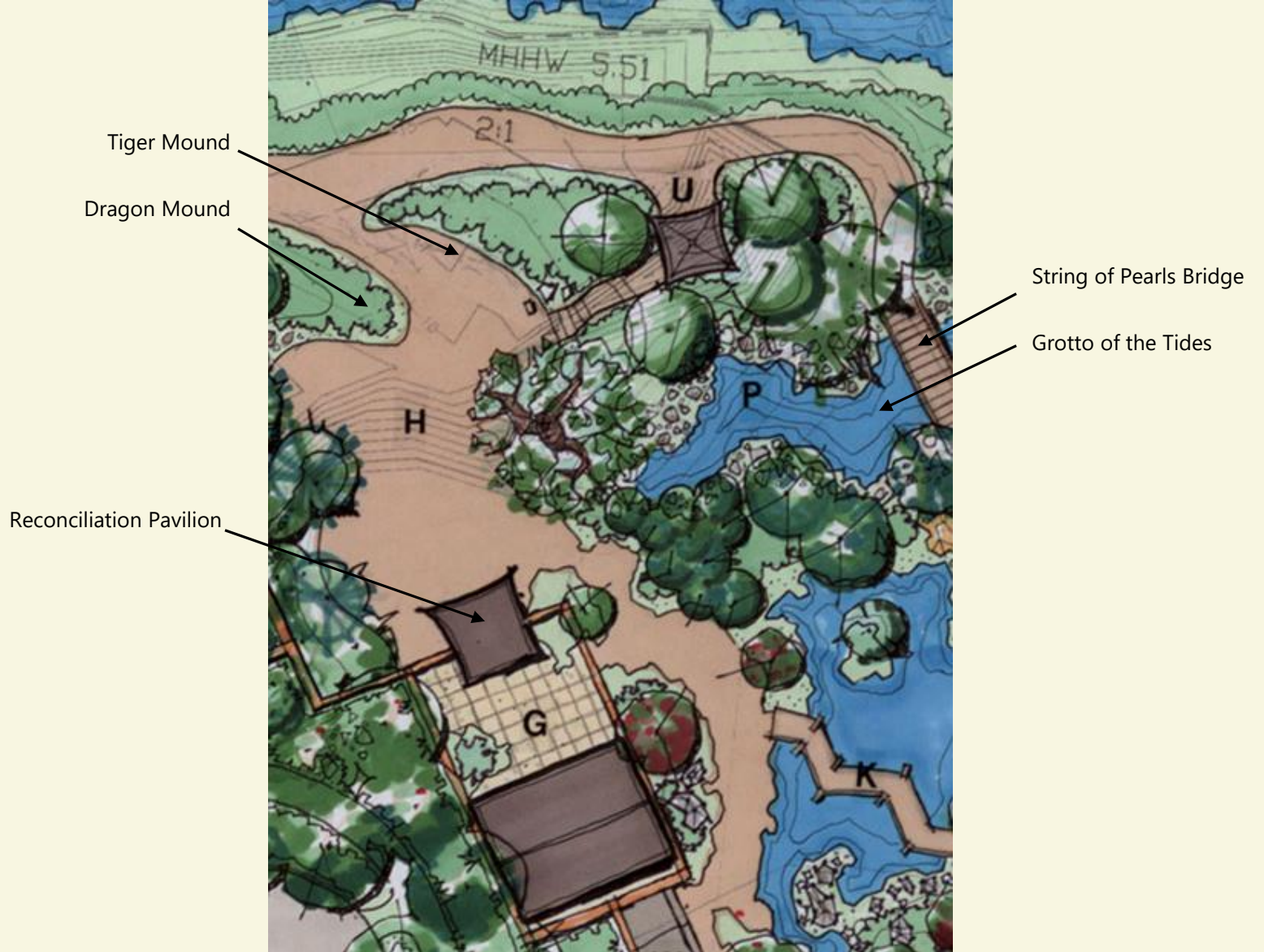


Path of Expulsion

- Basalt stones symbolize the power and forcefulness of the Tacoma citizens who expelled the Chinese from their homes
- Granite rock interprets the tragic walk of the Chinese immigrants as they were marched out of town
- Stones are arranged from larger to smaller, as they descend in size they descend in number of people, illustrating their removal or expulsion from the City







Reflection Room

Reconciliation Pavilion



Grotto of the Tides



String of Pearls Bridge



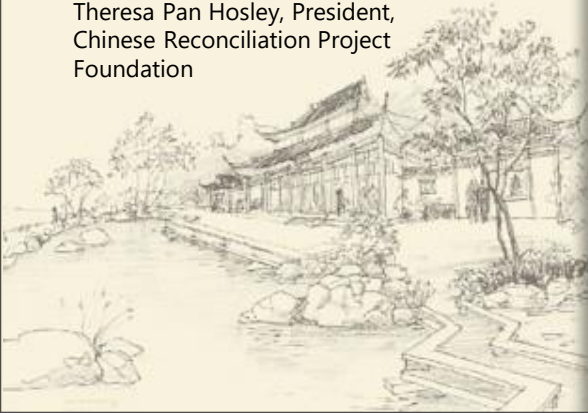


Cultural Celebration Room

Reconciliation

"For a city to publicly acknowledge the wrongdoing, I think it shows sincerity of making amends...And in the Chinese culture, we always emphasize forgiving and moving on...The project is [certainly] not just about sharing of culture, but it is a healing of the heart. It is a reminder of how we should interact with each other. We need to be more tolerant, understanding... between family members... and between people of different cultures"

Theresa Pan Hosley, President,
Chinese Reconciliation Project
Foundation



Multicultural Pavilion



Fuzhou Ting





COMMUNITY

Ground Breaking

"On a sunny August 19, by the comforting waters of Commencement Bay, about 150 people, both Asians and non-Asians, gathered to witness the groundbreaking of the Chinese Reconciliation Park. The ceremony marked the beginning of the healing..."

"Believe me I've had dreams about this moment many times and thought about what I wanted to say for so long," said an emotional [Theresa] Hosley in her reflection speech at the ceremony... You know, I think I have a really strong sense of relief, and it's exciting. It's like watching your child take its first step. I feel a sense of justice has been expressed."

Excerpt from Christina Twu's article *Tacoma's Healing Begins with Groundbreaking*, for the Northwest Asian Weekly



WALK FOR Reconciliation

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30TH, 2010

FROM **TACOMA UNION STATION** TO **THE CHINESE RECONCILIATION PARK**
WALK BEGINS HERE AT TEN AM EVENTS BEGIN HERE AT NOON

125TH ANNIVERSARY
TACOMA CHINESE EXPULSION

BY ORDER OF THE
CHINESE RECONCILIATION PROJECT FOUNDATION

REGISTER AT CRPTACOMA.ORG OR CALL 253-221-0520 FOR MORE INFO



Walk for Reconciliation



TACOMA CHINESE RECONCILIATION PARK
1741 North Schuster Parkway, Tacoma, WA
SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 | 1:00-7:00 PM



Moon Festival



Celebrations



Community Education

"The greatest part about the docent program is it opens up a conversation in the community."

– ZOE FUQUA '20 UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

A scenic view of a waterfront area. In the foreground, there is a rocky shore with large, smooth stones and some driftwood. The water is calm and reflects the sky. In the middle ground, a traditional Chinese pavilion with a red roof and white pillars stands on a grassy area. Behind the pavilion, there are lush green trees and a residential area with houses on a hillside. To the left, a large white ship is docked at a pier. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

ECOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Habitat Bench Construction



Habitat Bench



Ecological Enhancement



Beach Restoration



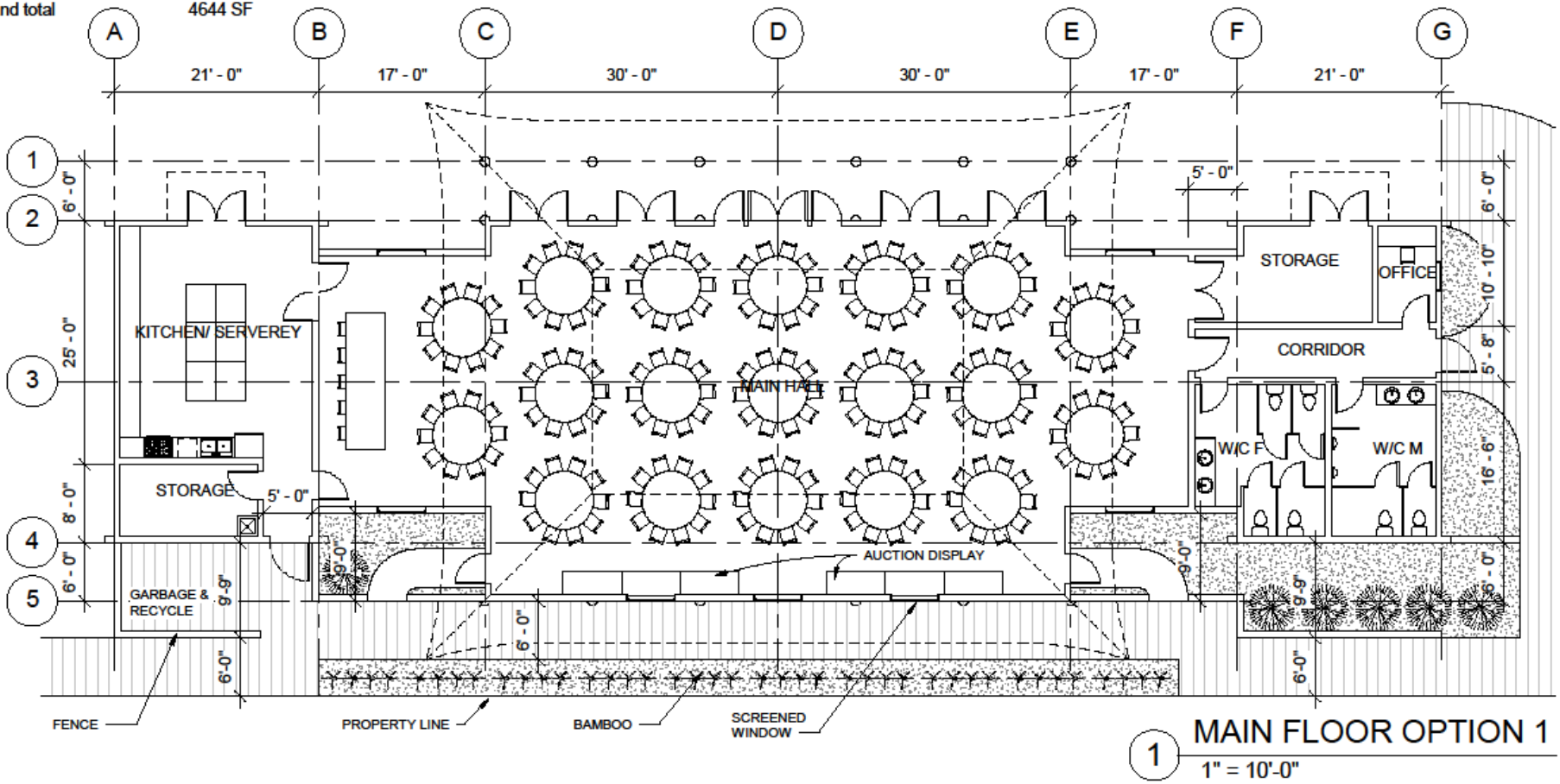
A photograph of a traditional Chinese interior space, likely a museum or gallery. The room features a dark wooden ceiling with exposed beams and a tiled floor. Large red lanterns with gold Chinese characters are suspended from the ceiling. Red scrolls hang from the ceiling. In the foreground, several red wooden tables and chairs are arranged. A red banner with the text "CURRENT PHASE IV" is overlaid on the image. In the background, there is a white wall with a door, a display case, and a large red Chinese knot. A red lion dance head is visible on the left side. A white crane sculpture is on the right side. A sign with the Chinese characters "春天" (Spring) is visible on the right side.

CURRENT PHASE IV

Inspiration



Area Schedule (Gross Building)		
Number	Name	Area
1	MAIN HALL	3140.72 SF
2	KITCHEN	684.14 SF
3	OFFICE	73.97 SF
4	W/C F	216.98 SF
5	W/C M	192.59 SF
6	CORRIDOR	145.47 SF
7	STORAGE	190.13 SF
Grand total		4644 SF



Multicultural Pavilion

"Forgiving does not erase the bitter past. A healed memory is not a deleted memory. Instead, forgiving what we cannot forget creates a new way to remember. We change the memory of our past into a hope for our future."

Lewis B. Smedes



Lessons Learned



- Healing takes time
- Process is as important as the park design and implementation
- Look toward the future
- Connect message with other communities
- Celebrate diverse cultures
- A place for self-reflection to elevate ourselves to a better way of being with community
- Contamination and shoreline site cost
- Science-guided design maximizes ecological benefit



Thank you

Jim Brennan, ASLA – J.A. Brennan Associates Landscape Architect

George Lim, SEGD – Tangram Design, LLC, Tacoma Chinese Reconciliation Project Foundation

Angela Serravo, SEGD – Tangram Design, LLC