

Country / City Canada/Calgary

University / School University of Calgary/Faculty of Environmental Design

Academic year 2017/2018

Title of the project A cross-scalar landscape approach to urban infrastructure in Inglewood & Ramsay: LIMINAL PARK COMMONS

Authors Gordon Skilling





# PERFORMATIVE NATURE

## **Barcelona International Landscape Architecture Biennial**

September 2018 Barcelona SCHOOL PRIZE

# **X International Landscape Architecture Biennial**

Máster d'Arquitectura del Paisatge -DUOT - UPC
ETSAB- Escola Tècnica Superior
d'Arquitectura de Barcelona
Avenida Diagonal, 649 piso 5
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## **TECHNICAL DOSSIER**

Title of the project A cross-scalar landscape approach to urban infrastructure in Inglewood & Ramsay: LIMINAL PARK COMMONS
Authors Gordon Skilling
Title of the course Landscape Architecture studio.II
Academic year 2017/2018
Teaching Staff Enrica Dall'Ara
Department/Section/Program of belonging Master of Landscape Architecture

University/School University of Calgary/Faculty of Environmental Design

#### Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

Liminal space can be defined as space on the threshold -a space of entry or beginning, but also one of ending -a space between what was, and what will be. Liminal Park Commons, which transitions from the gritty urban fabric of the surrounding community to the natural riparian ecology of the river is one of those spaces.

A historical understanding of the surrounding area and its significance to the cultural genesis of the city was paramount to informing a design strategy. The idea that the two communities were a convergence of three central themes, -the Bow river, history and industry helped to further articulate a sense of where and how a landscape architectural scale intervention could help to facilitate a strengthening of its unique identity.

Mobility infrastructure was also an important component to the specific site design. Utilizing and enhancing the existing parking lot as a design opportunity helped to fully integrate it's performative aspects with that of a unifying aesthetic, through the combination of both formal planting strategies (tree river axis) and more naturalized ecological succession (riparian zone).

The park transitions from the built form of seniors residences through a neighborhood scale, tree lined parking lot, towards community gardens, which create permeability between surrounding urban fabric and the park. The community garden extends into flexible and open recreational park space, gently descending by way of terraced basalt benches through aspen, birch and poplar trees, before touching down onto the rock beach and the water of the Bow river.

For further information

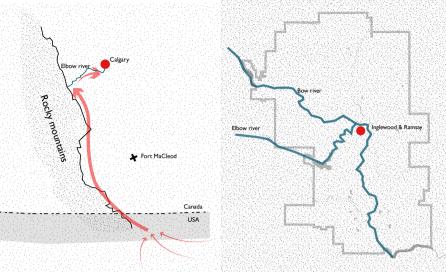
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An Ancient Path.

Going back ten thousand years, the Old North Trail (Yukon to New Mexico) brought early first nations settlements to the area which they called



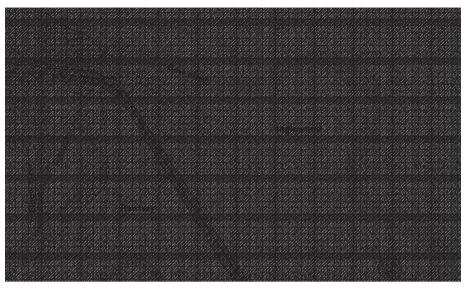
#### How the (wild) West was Won.

The placement of the North West Mounted Police's Fort Calgary (1875) at the confluence of the Elbow and Bow rivers, was to stop the incursion of American whiskey traders.



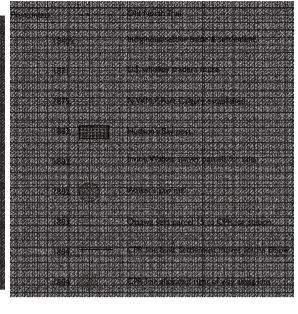
Birth of a city.

The city began in what would become the comminties of Inglewood and



Land = Money

Early surveys of Inglewood and Ramsay for the new North West Mounted Police land owners subdivision and thier bout with the mighty Candian Pacific Railway, set the stage for development patterns that persist to the repsent day.



**HISTORY** 



Historical/cultural amenity



historical park

City parks

Bow & Elbow rivers

CPR yards

River pathway network

Low use road

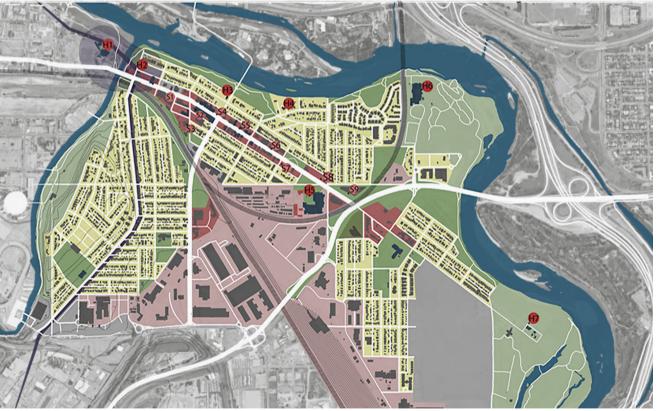
Major road

Historical building

||||||||||||| Canadian pacific line

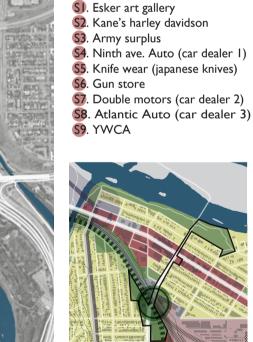
Old north trail

Mohkinsstis



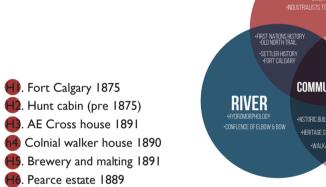
Unique blend of Character

Both local business and culture and neighborhoods from blue collar working class to prime riverfront real estate have helped maintain a community with a uniquly gritty character



Crossing Scales

Idetifying areas with the most interfaces.



#### **Communities of Convergence**



Corridor connection Transecting urban fabric.

1910. Colonial walker house



## Site selection

Connecting the urban fabric to the Bow river.



**INDUSTRY** 

