

1839

Jose de Jesus Noe acquires a 4,443 acre land grant known as Rancho San Miguel. It includes present-day Glen Park, Diamond Heights, Twin Peaks, Noe Valley, Castro, West Portal and Forest Hill. The land was used primarily for cattle ranching, and would continue to be used by ranching and dairy operations throughout the remainder of the 19th century and into the 20th century.



1868

The Giant Powder Company leases land in Glen Canyon for the manufacture of dynamite. The factory begins production in March 1868. The area is then known variously as "Rock Canyon," "Rock House," or "Rock Gulch." The factory is reputed to have been located on or near the site of the current recreation center. An explosion at the mill the following year kills a chemist and teamster. The company then moves to 100 acres of sand dunes south of Golden Gate Park.



1880s

Alfred Clarke dams Islais Creek and constructs a wooden pump house with a power-generating boiler to pump water to a waterworks on Kite Hill in Eureka Valley. The location of the pump house is in the vicinity of today's baseball field.



1889

The Crocker Estate purchases Gum Tree Ranch and renames it the Glen Park Picnic Grounds.



Behrend Joost invests in real estate west of Glen Canyon in an area known as Sunnyside. To increase the value of his land, Joost and his brothers inaugurate the San Francisco and San Mateo Railway—San Francisco's first electric railway. The route ran from SOMA out Harrison, 14th, Guerrero, and then Chenery. At Chenery and Diamond, the line passed over a wooden trestle bridge spanning Islais Creek. The route then ran out San Jose Avenue to the Baden stockyards in San Mateo.

1898



To attract potential buyers of lots, the Crocker Estate opens a mini-amusement park and zoo, calling it the "Mission Park and Zoo." The Park also includes a miniature castle complete with Moat called Morrow Castle, which stood on the slopes of the canyon above the zoo and picnic grounds.

1934

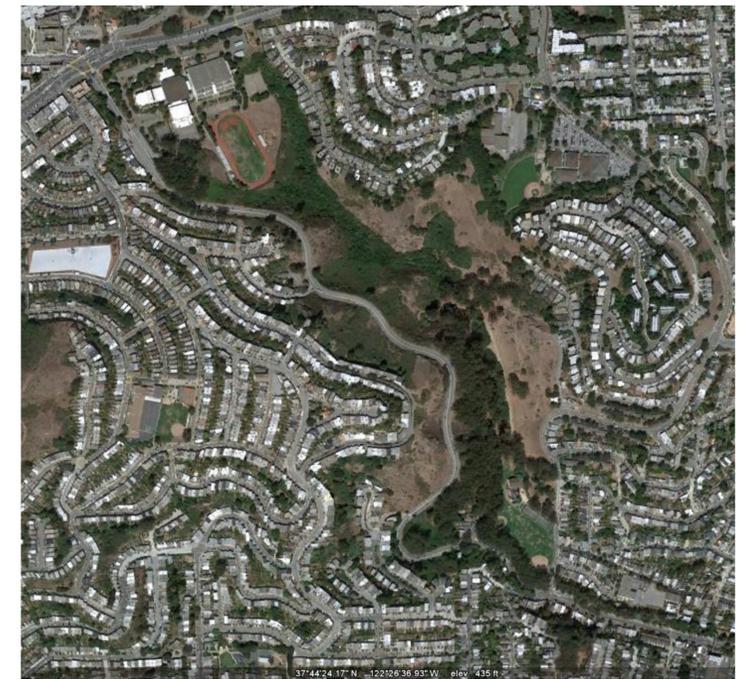
The architect William Gladstone Merchant is hired to design the Glen Park Recreation Center. Around this time the segment of Islais Creek adjacent to the Recreation Center is encased in a wooden box sewer. A portion of the west site of the building is designed to be located on fill located approximately 5 feet from the encased Islais Creek sewer.

1941

The grading and paving of O'Shaunessy Boulevard into the walls of Glen Canyon is completed (the project had begun in the late 1930s).



The Silver Tree Day Camp is founded in Glen Park to provide "San Francisco youngsters each year a taste of the strange ways of nature." Children between the ages of seven and twelve spend five days at the camp learning nature lore, cooking over fires, and other nature-based activities. Today the Silver Tree Day Camp is the oldest continuously operating day camp in San Francisco.



2001

Draft building assessments conducted by the SF Recreation & Park Department find that renovation of the Recreation Center would trigger ADA compliance upgrades and seismic strengthening. It recommends demolition and construction of a new center.

2008

The Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond earmarks \$5.8 million for the construction of the Park Improvement Plan at Glen Canyon Park. The Trails Bond commits another \$900,000 for the construction and improvement of the Glen Canyon park trails.

1825

1850

1850s

Circa 1850s, Adolph Sutro purchases 78 acres of Rancho San Miguel in what is now Glen Canyon Park. He plants blue-gum eucalyptus trees and names the area, "Blue Gum Ranch."

1864

The San Francisco and San Jose Railroad is completed. The right-of-way for the line passes immediately south of Glen Park, largely following the route of present-day Interstate 280. A railroad trestle is constructed at Bosworth near Castro Street to span Islais Creek.

1875

1873



The Bancroft Map shows that Rancho San Miguel as undeveloped, save for a toll road which crosses from today's Diamond Heights area to the Ocean Race Track, and a water flume owned by the Spring Valley Water Company which feeds the Laguna Honda.

1900

1906

Following the San Francisco Earthquake & Fire, hundreds of temporary shacks were built in Glen Canyon to house refugees.

1925

1922

The City of San Francisco purchases much of the former Picnic Grounds for a recreation area.

1910

Circa 1910, the City contemplates damming Islais Creek for a municipal water supply.



1950

1938

The Glen Park Recreation Center is completed at a cost of \$214,277. The architecture of the building is described as "stripped down French Eclectic."



1975

1960

The Silver Tree Day Camp Building is constructed at a cost of \$142,355. The building is designed in the "soft modernism" of the Second Bay Tradition, with details including unpainted wood cladding, exposed rafter tails, and unpainted masonry. The building is completed in 1960.



2000

2025

Event in Site History

Event in Building History

RECREATION CENTER



TIERED SEATING



BUILDING ENTRY



DETERIORATED ROOF



GYMNASIUM



AUDITORIUM



KITCHEN AREA

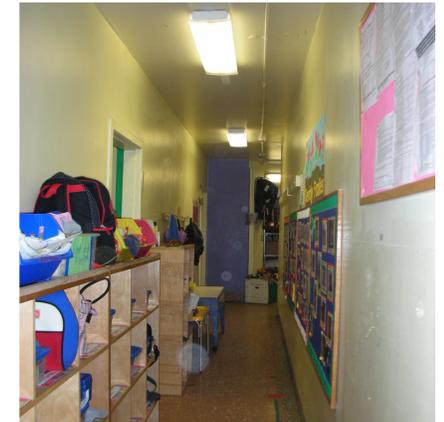
SILVER TREE



DRYROT AT RAFTERS



KITCHEN PASS-THROUGH



CORRIDOR STORAGE



STORAGE/RESTROOM



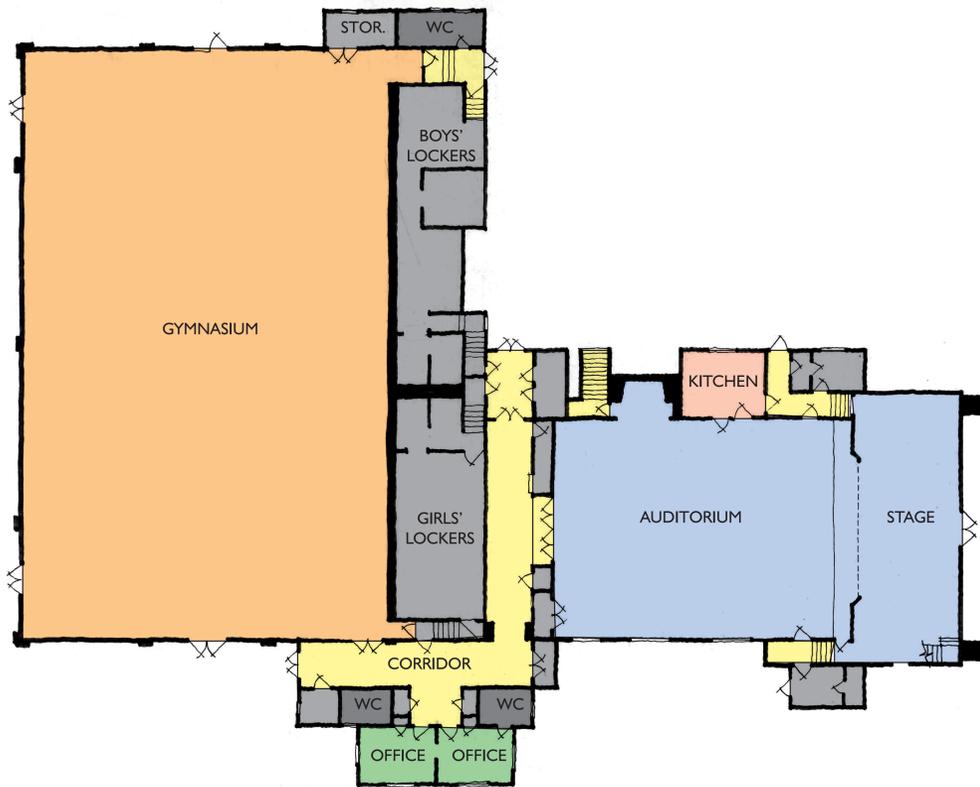
MORNING CLASSROOM



UNISEX RESTROOMS

BUILDING ASSESSMENT

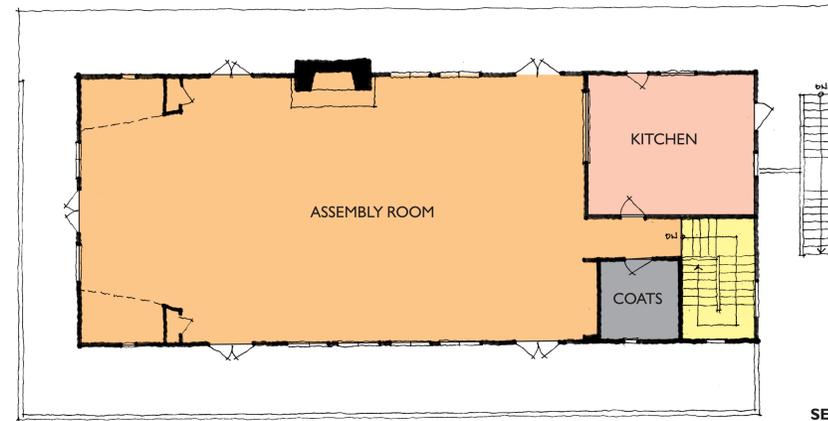
RECREATION CENTER



- LEGEND**
- GYMNASIUM
 - AUDITORIUM
 - CIRCULATION
 - OFFICE
 - KITCHEN
 - SERVICE/SUPPORT

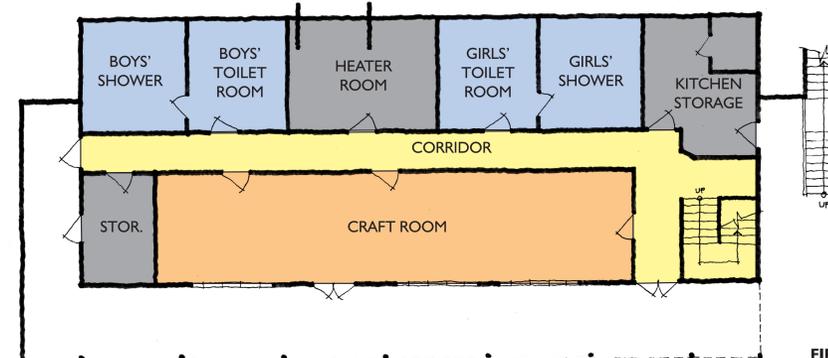
HISTORIC USES

SILVER TREE



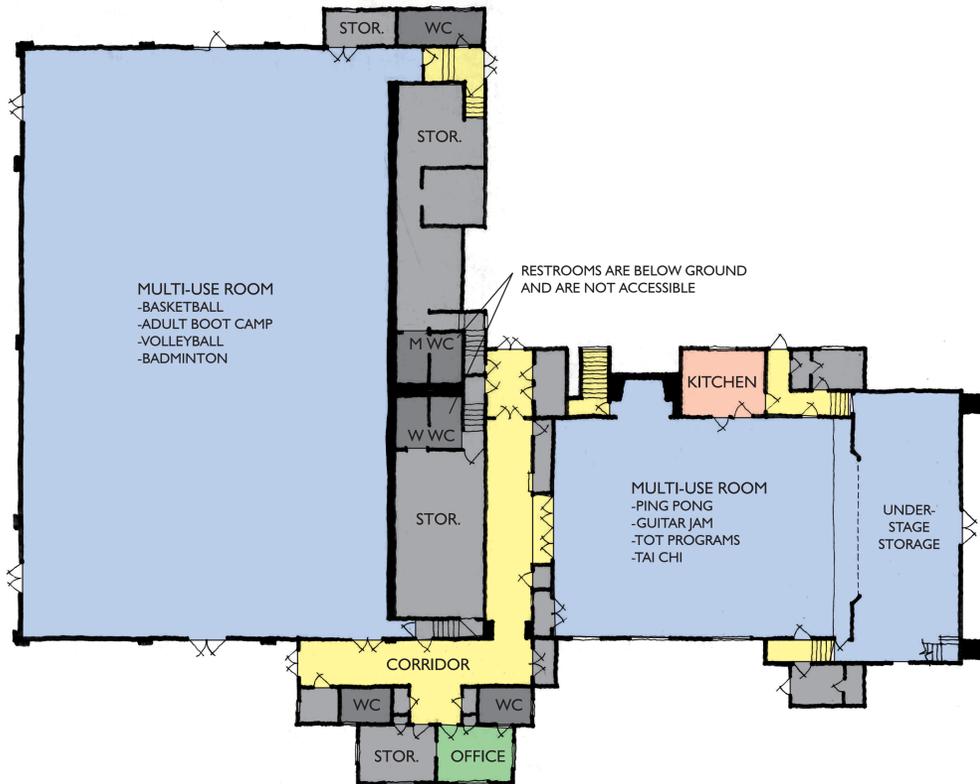
- LEGEND**
- FUNCTION ROOMS
 - KITCHEN
 - CIRCULATION
 - TOILETS/SHOWERS
 - SERVICE/SUPPORT

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



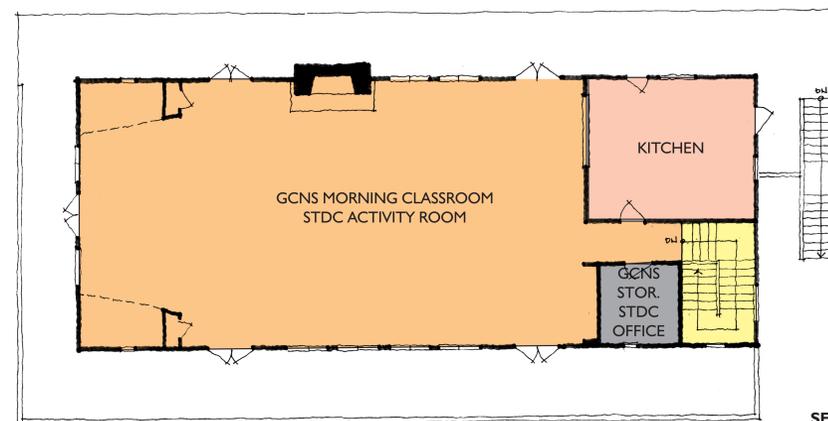
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

HISTORIC USES



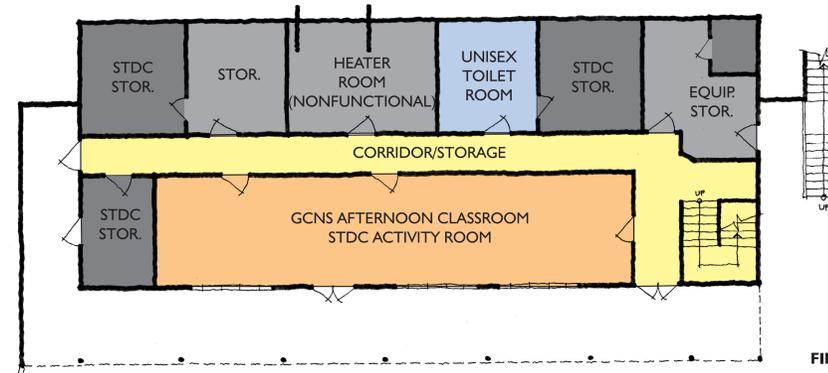
- LEGEND**
- MULTI-USE
 - CIRCULATION
 - OFFICE
 - KITCHEN
 - SERVICE/SUPPORT

CURRENT USES



- LEGEND**
- FUNCTION ROOMS
 - KITCHEN
 - CIRCULATION
 - TOILETS
 - SERVICE/SUPPORT

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

CURRENT USES