### Site and Building History

**1839**
Jesús de Jesús 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 "Robb Canyon," "Robb 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.

**1873**
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 Balboa Park near Castro Street to span Islais Creek.

**1875**
Circa 1875, 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."

**1880s**
Alfred Clarke damms Islais Creek and constructs a wooden pump house with a power-generating beater to pump water to a waterworks on Site 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.

**1898**
Behind Joost invests in real estate west of Glen Canyon in an area known as Sunnyvale. To increase the value of his land, Joost and his brothers incorporate the San Francisco and San Rafael 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.

To attract potential buyers of lots, the Crocker Estate opens a non-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.

**1906**
Following the San Francisco Earthquake & Fire, hundreds of temporary shelters were built in Glen Canyon to house refugees.

**1909**
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 southern boundary of the property and a water flume owned by the San Mateo Railway Company which feeds the Laguna Honda.

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

**1914**
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.

**1922**
The City of San Francisco purchases much of the former Picnic Grounds for a recreation area.

**1925**
The Silver Tree Day Camp Building is completed (the project had begun in the late 1910s).

**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.

**1938**
The Glen Park Picnic Grounds is completed at a cost of $214,277. The architecture of the building is described as "stripped down French Eclectic."

**1939**
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).

**1950**
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 1950.

**1960**
The Silver Tree Day Camp Building is completed at a cost of $142,355. The architecture of the building is described as "stripped down French Eclectic."

**2001**
The Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond earmarks $5.8 million for the construction and improvement of the Glen Canyon Park trails.

**2008**
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 1950.
Glen Canyon Park Improvement Plan
Community Meeting 2
January 13, 2011

BUILDING ASSESSMENT

RECREATION CENTER

SILVER TREE

TIERED SEATING
BUILDING ENTRY
DETERIORATED ROOF

DRYROT AT RAIDERS
KITCHEN PASS-THROUGH
CORRIDOR STORAGE

GYMNASIUM
AUDITORIUM
KITCHEN AREA

STORAGE/RESTROOM
MORNING CLASSROOM
UNISEX RESTROOMS
HISTORIC AND CURRENT USE PLANS

Glen Canyon Park Improvement Plan
Community Meeting 2
January 13, 2011