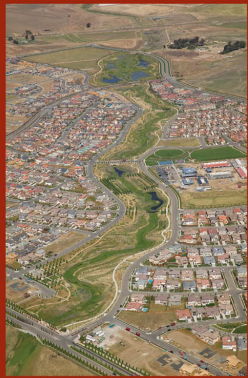


THE RESTORATION OF MOUNTAIN HOUSE CREEK



Mountain House Creek before its restoration served as an agricultural drainage system with little natural flora and fauna and no facilities for public recreation. Photograph circa 2000.



Before the creation of the Mountain House Community the land surrounding Mountain House Creek was agricultural and the creek itself was, in most places, nothing more than an agricultural drainage canal. The soil was compacted and eroded, the native vegetation replaced by non-native weeds, and the woodlands, grasslands, seasonal marshes, and wet meadows which once surrounded it, long gone.

An important part of the creation of the Mountain House Community was the restoration of the Creek corridor that runs through it. The Creek stands as a major community focal point and provides important habitat to native flora and fauna. Additionally, it treats stormwater, provides flood control, and offers walking and picnicking opportunities for the surrounding neighborhoods.

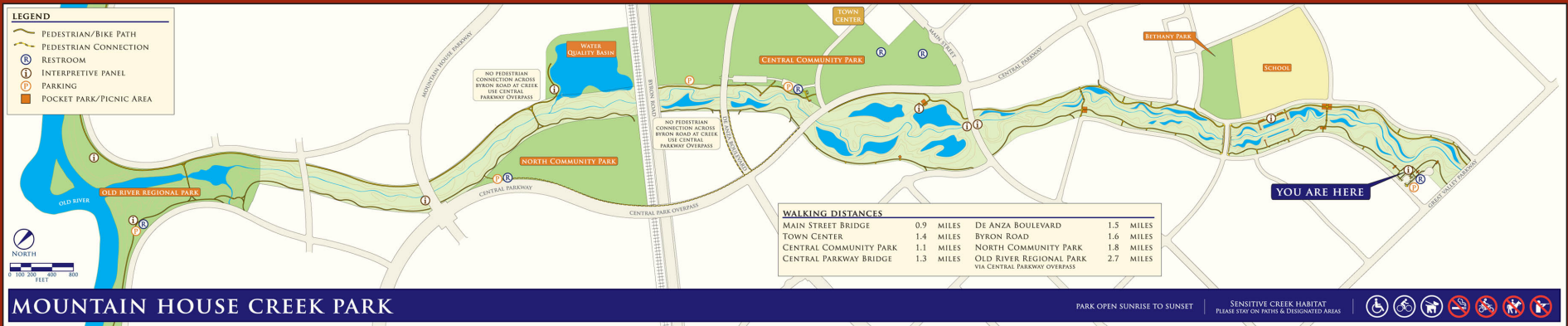
A view of the restored Mountain House Creek shortly after its completion, circa 2007. At the time of this photograph the many trees and large bushes planted along the creek had not yet grown to full size.

Restoration of the Creek started in 1993 with a series of studies to understand the past history of the creek and its future potential. Studies into hydrology, native species, soils, and recreational potential all helped chart the future path of the creek. Hydrologists, botanists, engineers, landscape architects, the developer, and many others worked together to create a creek corridor that restored habitat and natural creek functions while embracing the emerging town growing up around it.

Mountain House Creek is an outstanding example of restoration in a developed setting, addressing the needs of both urban growth and the preservation of nature. Look for additional interpretive panels along the creek corridor explaining the creek's flora and fauna, stormwater treatment, terraces and cultural history.



A view of the Main Street Bridge from the creek bottom shortly after its completion, circa 2007. At this stage the creek had been fully planted but the plants and trees were still young and not yet fully grown.



MOUNTAIN HOUSE CREEK PARK

PARK OPEN SUNRISE TO SUNSET

SENSITIVE CREEK HABITAT
PLEASE STAY ON PATHS & DESIGNATED AREAS

