



Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve Redwood City, California

Telling the Stories, Sustaining the Land

The Acorn Group is a specialist in helping clients protect the precious places that harbor our cultural and natural heritage. In 2001 – 2002, The Acorn Group, together with Ron Yeo, FAIA Architect, developed an interpretive master plan and architectural package for a new interpretive center at Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve, a site of significant historical and environmental sensitivity surrounded by high-density development in the crowded San Francisco Bay Area. Coordinating the interests of eight key stakeholder interests, the team developed an environmentally-sustainable building design, identified thematic messages for interpretation park-wide, and developed an intriguing and powerful exhibit design scheme for interior exhibits and trailside panels. To support the development of future generations of park users, an education prospectus—an Acorn Group specialty product that helps sites make the most of school programs by matching the needs of area schools to site themes and goals—was developed as well.

Subsequent to the initial planning process, the client retained our services to design and fabricate trailside panels for the preserve; design and conduct interpretive skills training for all San Mateo County Parks interpreters; and create a new park-wide environmental education program for the Park Foundation.