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**“Serendipity” in Action:
Hana Ginzburg and the Crusade
to Save Armand Bayou, 1970-1975**

BY ALEX J. BORGER

Once a land of tall-grass prairies and an interconnecting system of coastal bayous, the Houston area and the Texas Gulf Coast are now dominated by an extensive sprawl of unchecked residential, commercial, and industrial development. Up against such a formidable human enterprise, wild nature has had little opportunity to thrive. The few natural areas that have managed to survive in the region—usually small patches of quasi-wilderness, nestled between chemical plants, office buildings, shopping centers or subdivisions—are an invaluable resource for recreation and eco-education. Some are also havens for a number of critical flora and fauna that have suffered years of habitat destruction from development or pollution. Often taken for granted are not only these preserves and parks themselves, but the stories behind their rescue or restoration.

One such story revolves around a twelve-mile waterway twenty miles south of Houston and just north of the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center. Armand Bayou (formerly Middle Bayou) is part of a 2,500-acre urban wilderness preserve, one of the largest of its kind in the United States.¹ Under the guardianship of the Armand Bayou Nature Center, the waterway and its surrounding wilderness play critical roles in the ecosystem of the Texas Gulf Coast. Estuaries like Armand Bayou are rare transition zones between river and sea environments.

Water flows into the preserve from both the gulf and the watershed, combining to create an environment extremely high in nutrients. Its shallow estuarine marshes provide shelter and spawning grounds for a number of economically important marine organisms including gulf shrimp, blue crab, spotted trout, and black drum.² The preserve is also a critical breeding area and habitat for more than 370 species of birds,

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reptiles, amphibians, and mammals.³

Preserved as a wilderness, Armand Bayou offers invaluable services to the people of the Clear Lake area. A 1975 interpretive tour guide offered a quantified monetary value for Armand Bayou. Using a formula developed by ecological economist H.T. Odum, bayou preservationists projected that Armand Bayou provided \$10,000 per acre per year in services to the surrounding community.⁴ Factor in inflation and it becomes obvious; economically speaking, Armand Bayou delivers. Despite the well-documented ecological and economic value of wild estuaries, Houston's bayous are rare or endangered. Armand Bayou is one out of only four Texas Coastal Preserves, and one of the few bayous in the area not channelized.⁵ Those who enjoy the benefits—knowingly or not—of Armand Bayou, are indebted to the activists and concerned citizens who worked tirelessly for preservation. Spearheading the movement in the early-1970s was Hana Ginzburg.

The story of Hana Ginzburg's early life is one of personal triumph and good fortune in the face of ominous global forces. Born in Prague in 1925 to Otto and Zdenka Sommer, Hana was thirteen when the Nazis invaded Czechoslovakia in 1938. She and her eleven-year-old brother narrowly escaped. Fortunately, their mother's friend, a British journalist, connected them with a group of English Quakers embarking on a mission to rescue Jewish children from Czechoslovakia. Hana and her brother waited at the train station day after day as trains filled with children and left before them. Luckily, they caught the final transport and made it to England. Their mother joined them several weeks later, but their father did not make it out. Hana and her brother lived in foster homes while they attended school in Newcastle until 1943, when they got visas to emigrate to the United States. After earning a bachelor's degree in two years at Vassar College in New York, Hana enrolled in the chemistry master's program at Smith College in Massachusetts. Following completion of her master's, higher ambitions led her westward to pursue a doctorate in chemistry at Purdue University.⁶

While at Purdue, Hana met fellow graduate student and European refugee Arthur Ginzburg. The couple eventually married and moved to Houston in 1949, following a job offer for Arthur. As a chemistry teacher and mother in the booming coastal prairie city, Hana Ginzburg hoped to find a place to hike with her family. In an interview with the Texas Legacy Project, she recalled thinking her son Steven was "such an underprivileged child, he [didn't] have any hills to climb." Though

nothing close to the mountains of her home country, where she often retreated growing up, the slopes and ravines of Brays Bayou helped the Ginzburgs find refuge from the rapidly developing city. On one trip to the area, she was shocked to discover the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) had bulldozed trees and dug up the banks along the waterway to enhance its drainage capacity, thereby limiting its recreational use. Eager to find another hiking area, the Ginzburgs started visiting Houston's premier natural feature, Buffalo Bayou.⁷

At Buffalo Bayou, Hana's interests in outdoor recreation intersected with the concerns of Houston's environmental activists. In the mid-1960s, the Corps contracted with the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) on an unannounced order to rectify and reroute upper sections of Buffalo Bayou. Witnessing the forested banks razed along the water near Chimney Rock Road prompted homeowners in Houston's Memorial subdivision to investigate. When they learned of the plans to reroute the upper sections of the bayou, local advocates formed a coalition called the Buffalo Bayou Preservation Association (BBPA) to voice their concern. The most visible and outspoken member of the BBPA was memorial resident Theresa Tarleton Hershey. With her "Save Buffalo Bayou" campaign, Hershey worked tirelessly to bring her neighborhood issue to a larger band of Houston environmental advocates.⁸

Among the many individuals touched by the BBPA's extensive crusade was Hana Ginzburg. After seeing Terry Tarleton Hershey speak out on television for Save Buffalo Bayou, Ginzburg joined the organization. In service to the movement, she established a post in Houston's Memorial Park every weekend where she obtained several thousand signatures on a petition to oppose the bayou's destruction.⁹ After her initiation into conservation working for the Save Buffalo Bayou campaign, Ginzburg began to turn her attention to a wider range of environmental concerns. She once reflected on her personal development as an activist, noting, "The projects that I get involved in don't happen by planning. They just happen by serendipity. . . it's like evolution. It's a matter of chance events, plus natural selection—a combination of the two."¹⁰ Eventually, such chance events led her to the small out-of-town estuary that would become the focus of her life for several years.

By 1970, Ginzburg established herself in Houston's environmentalist networks through volunteer work with several organizations. In January 1970, the Bayou Preservation Association (BPA, formerly BBPA) asked her to photograph the destruction of a wetland around Buffalo Bayou

that occurred during construction of what she called "a road to nowhere." Her documentation work led her to a patch of "beautiful land...out in the woods" west of the proposed road, which she felt would be perfect for a park. The person to help make that happen, Ginzburg thought, would be Armand Yramategui with whom she had opposed the Texas Water Plan in 1969.¹¹

Yramategui was "Mr. Conservationist. . .[and] he knew how to do things," Ginzburg later recalled.¹² Born of Basque and Mexican parents, Yramategui was a native Houstonian with a love for learning. As a passionate autodidactic, he never limited himself to one vocation. An engineer by training, he was also an astronomer, a curator at the Burke-Baker Planetarium, and an avid naturalist. By January 1970, when Ginzburg approached him for help with her vision of a new park on Buffalo Bayou, Yramategui had gained a reputation as a formidable Texas conservationist. Through the 1960s, he headed up a number of programs in the Gulf Coast area and eventually served as president of the Texas Conservation Council.¹³

On January 27, 1970, Yramategui suggested that Ginzburg attend the Houston City Council budget meeting the following morning to make a statement about her park idea. While getting ready to leave for the city council meeting the morning of January 28, she heard on the news that Yramategui had been tragically murdered.¹⁴ After his conversation with Hana, Yramategui set out away from the city lights for a better view of the Tago-Sato-Kosako comet. When he stopped to change a flat tire on US 59 at the edge of the city, three teenagers approached to offer their help, then senselessly robbed him and then fatally shot him.¹⁵ With tears in her eyes, Hana pressed on and attended the city council meeting to make her statement.¹⁶ At city hall and then later that evening at a meeting of the local Audubon Society, of which Yramategui was president, discussions broke out about the possibility of dedicating a memorial to the revered naturalist. The members insisted on continuing his efforts for conservation. Ginzburg and another Houston environmental advocate and engineer, Frank Kokesh, volunteered to speak for the slain activist at the Harris County Commissioners Court, where he had been scheduled to make a presentation the following night.¹⁷

Kokesh delivered a passionate speech on behalf of Yramategui to save Middle Bayou, an endangered estuary in a booming suburban area south of Houston, which he saw as the "best preserved piece of wilderness in Harris County."¹⁸ "We will not let you gentlemen rest," he warned,

“until something substantial is done to save the Middle Bayou area, and perhaps someday it will be known as Armand’s Bayou.”¹⁹ Yramategui’s supporters left the meeting enraged, feeling the commission had only given “polite attention” to their requests.²⁰ Afterward, Ginzburg obtained a tape recording of the Middle Bayou speech, which she transcribed and handed out at Yramategui’s funeral, requesting support to preserve the land as his memorial.²¹

While in contrast to the sprawling metropolis of Houston, Middle Bayou must have seemed like a pristine wilderness, but before 1970, the area had a long history of human occupation. Later archeological investigations in the area indicated “various Indian tribes” inhabited the area “for several thousand years,” although an earlier documented history of Middle Bayou began with European settlement in the nineteenth century. As it noted, about a dozen families established farms and a small community in the 1870s along the bayou’s eastern banks. Settlers like Jimmy Martyn, who lived in the area from 1894 until his death in 1964, lived mostly subsistence lifestyles, raising a few cattle and some produce, and logging cedar along the banks of the river.²² Before such settlers arrived, the watershed was largely a tall-grass prairie hosting vegetation such as big bluestem and Indian grass; the banks along the bayou were lined with coastal forests breaking up the open landscape. Native buffalo, and later free-range Spanish horses and cattle, grazed the prairie at a low intensity.²³ By the 1930s, much of the land surrounding Middle Bayou had been incorporated into Jim West’s 30,000-acre cattle ranch and game preserve. Other than West’s opulent 45-room mansion and complex of amenities, much of the ranch stayed undeveloped pasture for cattle and game.²⁴ In 1938, the Humble Oil and Refining Company (later Exxon USA) purchased the entire ranch to exploit its mineral resources.²⁵

Humble Oil left the land around Middle Bayou mostly undeveloped until the early 1960s, when approached with a unique opportunity. In 1961, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Rice University, George R. Brown, and Texas Congressman Albert Thomas approached company president Morgan Davis requesting a donation of 1,000 acres to Rice University, which would then donate the land to the federal government for the National Aeronautic and Space Administration’s new Manned Space Flight Center. The company did not ask for compensation from Rice University with the understanding that a new federal installment would cause a surge in land values and create profitable business opportunities in the area. Likewise, Brown understood Rice University’s

connection with the center would bring the school funding and research opportunities.²⁶

In January 1962, Humble Oil entered into a joint venture with a development company to create a new firm that would develop the rest of their West Ranch property, including the waterfront land surrounding Middle Bayou. The new company, Friendswood Development Company, planned residential and commercial development of 15,000 acres on both sides of the bayou and 7,250 acres for heavy industrial development on its northeast end.²⁷ At that time, the land surrounding Middle Bayou was under the jurisdiction of Harris County, which meant the development company was virtually unrestricted in its plans to alter the landscape. But by the middle of 1964, in what Ginzburg would later identify as another "serendipity idea," the City of Pasadena annexed a strip along the bayou down to Clear Lake in a move to prevent the City of Houston's advancements to surround the suburb.²⁸

In March 1970, two months following Yramategui's death, a friend invited Ginzburg on a boating trip out to Middle Bayou. She had never been on a natural river and she later recalled: "It was a beautiful day . . . with the Spanish moss hanging down. . . and birds. . . no sign of civilization anywhere, just wilderness."²⁹ It was a pivotal moment in Ginzburg's evolution as an activist. As a chemist who had read Rachel Carson's revolutionary *Silent Spring*, Ginzburg understood the scientific arguments for conservation better than many of her peers, and as a lover of the outdoors, she appreciated the beauty of nature. However, her advocacy took on a new dynamic when she experienced for herself Yramategui's "last wilderness." Ginzburg remembered, before going out on Middle Bayou, "it was just a theoretical thing and now [afterward] it was something emotional."³⁰ In 1990, *Texas Shores* magazine quoted her in reflection on the moment: "My first thought was 'this is something special.' We can't ruin it. This can never be recreated for future generations."³¹

After the canoe trip in the early spring of 1970, Ginzburg mounted a fortuitous campaign to save Middle Bayou. She and other BPA members actively researched the impact of such development on the watershed and unleashed their lobbying efforts on local government. By the fall of 1970, Ginzburg began discussing plans with Frank Kokesh, the Audubon Society member who spoke out for Yramategui at the January commissioners court meeting, to rename the river as a memorial to the beloved naturalist.³² The City of Pasadena eventually agreed to rename the bayou after Yramategui's first name, Armand. Kokesh

organized a ceremony on the bayou in November and invited dozens of environmentalists and Houstonians, including Pasadena public officials and Friendswood executives.³³

At the ceremony, some wondered what Humble Oil subsidiary planned to do with the land surrounding the bayou. With part of it then under the jurisdiction of Pasadena, the company had to submit plans to the city's Planning and Zoning Commission before they could build anything.³⁴ Following the renaming service, Ginzburg called the Pasadena commission to request a copy of the company's plans. "It was awful," she recounted "Every inch was development and there were streets all the way down to the bayou. I mean, everything was developed."³⁵ Drawing on her experience with the BPA, she next educated Pasadena city officials on the workings of the Federal Insurance Administration (FIA), a new federal program that insured building owners in flood-prone areas. As a prerequisite to the program, municipalities were required to implement floodplain management plans, which among other measures, restricted building within the fifty-year and hundred-year floodplains.³⁶

Representing the BPA and the Audubon Society, Ginzburg convinced the City of Pasadena, whose residents had long dealt with flooding problems, to consider adopting a flood management plan and apply for the federal program.³⁷ Seeing how close to the bayou Friendswood planned to build, Ginzburg felt compelled to request from the Corps the maps Pasadena planned to use in its flood management ordinances. In a footnote in the preliminary plans, she discovered that the elevation regulations had been set to a 1955 contour map, which ignored fifteen years of land subsidence. In their research, Ginzburg and other conservationists found that the industrial centers along the Houston Ship Channel were withdrawing 600 million gallons of groundwater per day, causing the Clear Lake area to sink slowly over time. She urged the USGS to re-level (update the elevation) and issue new elevation maps. When the agency denied her request, she turned to the FIA itself, warning that unless USGS issued a re-level, it would end up insuring houses within the hundred-year flood plain. After receiving the message, the FIA agreed to meet half the cost of the \$200,000 survey. Fortunately, Frank Kokesh was able to persuade the American Society of Civil Engineers of Houston (of which he was member) to donate the other \$100,000 for the survey.³⁸ The study showed that the area surrounding Armand Bayou had, in fact, subsided an average of 1.5 feet since 1955 reducing the acreage available for Friendswood's planned waterfront lots.³⁹ Ginzburg urged the Pasadena City Council to

pass an ordinance as part of its floodplain plan to restrict homebuilding to thirteen feet above sea level, forcing the company to withdraw its original development plan.⁴⁰

In total, the changes to the flood control maps and adoption of flood management by the City of Pasadena rendered 800 acres along Armand Bayou legally unfit for development.⁴¹ Ginzburg and her supporters hoped the new restrictions on development and a resulting drop in land value would prompt Friendswood to donate the acreage as a public wilderness park. But the development company had other plans; on April 2 Friendswood revealed to Armand Bayou conservationists that they instead planned to keep the 800 acres along the bayou underdeveloped as a private greenbelt for neighborhood residents. They would not allow public regulation of how the area was used, leaving open the possibility for various "planned recreational uses," including the possibility of a golf course.⁴² As an alternative, Friendswood offered to sell the land to the City of Pasadena at the firm price of an average \$6,000 per acre.⁴³ From that point forward, the Armand Bayou campaign focused heavily on fundraising efforts.

Hana Ginzburg and her supporters, which included a variety of local organizations and individuals, waged a vocal and multifaceted operation.⁴⁴ Outreach efforts included mass mailings; speeches at conservation societies, universities clubs, and other public gatherings; and organized canoe trips with the public, politicians, and members of the local news media. Ginzburg led the movement without falter, herself writing dozens of letters to state and federal officials for potential funding programs and actively pursuing the aid of other conservationists.⁴⁵ Within a year, the movement to save a small out-of-town bayou grew from a handful of committed Houston-area conservationists to hundreds in and out of Harris County.⁴⁶ By the end of 1971, the grassroots campaign entered a new phase of legitimacy. On December 21, Pasadena Mayor Clyde Doyal and the city council established the Committee for the Preservation of Armand Bayou consisting of 37 citizens.⁴⁷

Despite the growing support, the campaign and its mission did not sit well with all of the area's local residents. In April 1971, Ginzburg received a letter from the nearby Cresthaven Estates Civic Club, Inc. claiming to offer the "more realistic viewpoint," which was to rectify the bayou for flood control. The club gathered more than 1,000 signatures to petition the Harris County Commissioners Court to modify the bayou.⁴⁸ Likewise, that same year Ginzburg and other advocates met

with doubt as they promoted the park idea to people of the Clear Lake Forest subdivision. Some reacted with astonishment, asking, "What do you want to save this for? It's a mosquito-ridden swamp."⁴⁹ Confident that education could shift the attitudes of residents in their favor, the Armand Bayou advocates responded to skepticism and full-on counter-campaigns by residents with opportunities to learn about the significance and value of coastal wilderness preserves. The premier education tools for Armand Bayou were group hikes and boating trips often led by scientists, professors, and occasionally, astronauts. In lieu of a service fee, the Preservation Committee asked that visitors (often over a hundred in a day) send a letter to a government official or Friendswood executive in support of preservation.⁵⁰ Such events got the attention of local media such that Armand Bayou was a "continual story" in regional papers.⁵¹

Throughout the campaign, Ginzburg stayed perpetually alert to opportunities and worked tirelessly to pursue anything she thought would help see her vision, and that of Armand Yramategui, come to life. In May 1971, Hana read a newspaper story about a new federal program, announced by Pres. Richard Nixon, to fund park development in urban areas.⁵² The Legacy of Parks program, administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), offered to match 75 percent of the funds raised by local communities for open space park projects that met certain criteria. Armand Bayou fell under each of the program categories: "scenic vistas, protection of wetlands, small forests, ecological laboratories, general watershed protection areas, and wildlife sanctuaries and habitats."⁵³ Immediately after hearing about the program, Ginzburg invited officials at the HUD regional office in Fort Worth to visit Armand Bayou. The visitors were impressed by what they saw and spoke positively of its potential as a large park. The same day, Ginzburg hosted several people from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to persuade them to consider making Armand Bayou and its surrounding wilderness a state park.⁵⁴ After his visit to Armand Bayou, TPWD executive director James Cross showed significant interest in acquiring the land for the state system, but like the City of Pasadena, his department would wait as more developed on the Legacy of Parks grant.⁵⁵

In the summer of 1971, just as the campaign began to focus its fundraising goals, Congress cut appropriations for the Legacy of Parks program in half from \$200 million to \$100 million and lowered the top grant awarded from a 75 percent match to fifty percent.⁵⁶ Behind the scenes, Ginzburg sent letters urging Houston-area Congressman

Bob Casey, a member of the House Appropriates Committee, and other Congressmen, as well as President Nixon, urging them to restore the original program appropriations and subsidy.⁵⁷ Furthermore, by February 1972, the TPWD decided that due to lack of funds and other "uncertainties," the commission could not accept such a "gigantic task."⁵⁸ Meanwhile, Ginzburg worked with the Preservation of Armand Bayou Committee to raise funds for the City of Pasadena to apply for the grant. In December 1971, the municipality, whose officials had long supported the park idea to complement the industrial working-class city, borrowed more than a million dollars from bankers in the form of certificates of obligation. The effort paid off, and by summer the following year, HUD matched the city's funds with a grant of \$1.04 million.⁵⁹

In October 1972, Pasadena purchased the first 956 acres—all six tracts along the waterway—of Armand Bayou Nature Center from Friendswood, opening a path to the realization of Armand Yramategui's wish.⁶⁰ Citizens, environmentalists, businesspeople, and office holders gathered soon after to dedicate the Armand Bayou Nature Center at Bay Area Park. At the ceremony, U.S. Senator John Tower recognized the tenacity of the campaign's citizen leader, noting, "When you turn her loose on a project it's almost like watering a lawn with a fire hose. I'll tell you she gets it done. I think we can all think ourselves better because we belong to a society that produces unselfish and dedicated people like Hana Ginzburg."⁶¹ Her story of leadership and perseverance reached a national scale when the *New York Times* News Service picked up the story the several months later. Headlines like "Housewife wins Fight to Save Small River," appeared in newspapers as far away as Florida.⁶²

The first 956 acres accounted for only a portion of the Armand Bayou Nature Center's eventual landholdings. Before the ceremony that Fall, the City of Pasadena moved swiftly to apply for a second HUD matching grant, looking to beat the Legacy of Parks program deadline in December. Ginzburg and the Preservation of Armand Bayou Committee remained devoted to the cause of preserving a substantial section of wilderness in the suburban area.⁶³ Their public outreach-oriented fundraising efforts reached their zenith, when supporters commissioned a full-page ad that ran in several national magazines headlined, "We Urgently Need Money to Build Absolutely Nothing Here."⁶⁴ The park's first in-depth interpretive guide, issued in 1975, clearly articulated the ambitions of the campaign: "The movement to preserve Armand Bayou and to create a 3,000-acre park is gaining momentum." With funds

from private citizens, the City of Pasadena, Harris County, and federal programs through HUD and the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, the park had grown an additional 1,200 acres, bringing the total to more than 2,100 acres by 1975 (see Figure 1).⁶⁵

Despite the efforts of those who joined in Ginzburg's vision, the park continued to face dangers from encroaching development and pollution in the decades following the establishment of the Armand Bayou Nature Center 1974.⁶⁶ While the presence of bulldozers and the imminent threat of development in the surrounding area are prime leads for headlines, often the harshest threats are invisible or unnoticed, coming from the multitudes of chemicals dumped daily into the watershed by ordinary well-meaning people. With every heavy downpour, dangerous levels of nonpoint source pollutants make their way to Houston's bayous from lawn fertilizer, automobile fluids, and industrial waste.⁶⁷ Even with the ongoing challenges it faces, Armand Bayou remains healthier than many waterways around Texas's largest city. What's more, as a wilderness enclosed on all sides by suburban and industrial development, Armand Bayou serves as a reminder of the fragile balance held between nature and human civilization.

The story behind Armand Bayou's rescue shows the power of citizen-led democratic action. Though she later attributed her involvement in conservation-related causes to "serendipity" and "chance events," Hana Ginzburg operated with vigilant determination when she felt called to act.⁶⁸ With the movement such a success, she continued to publicly advocate for stricter protection of the Armand Bayou watershed and other environmental concerns throughout her life.⁶⁹ In 1979, she and her husband helped found an outdoor science education center called the Hana and Arthur Ginzburg Nature Discovery Center. In the ensuing years, and well into the next century, she selflessly continued to devote her time to ensuring that residents of the surrounding urban and suburban areas, as well as tourists from well beyond, had opportunities to experience and learn about the natural world. Her crusade, though, came to an end on October 22, 2013, when she passed away, leaving behind legions of admirers and an impressive legacy of places still enjoyed by residents and tourists alike more than four decades after her work began.⁷⁰ The rescue of Armand Bayou's "urban wilderness," with the sustenance it gives to coastal wildlife, and the wonder and curiosity it has inspired in thousands of visitors is and will always be a legacy of Hana Ginzburg.

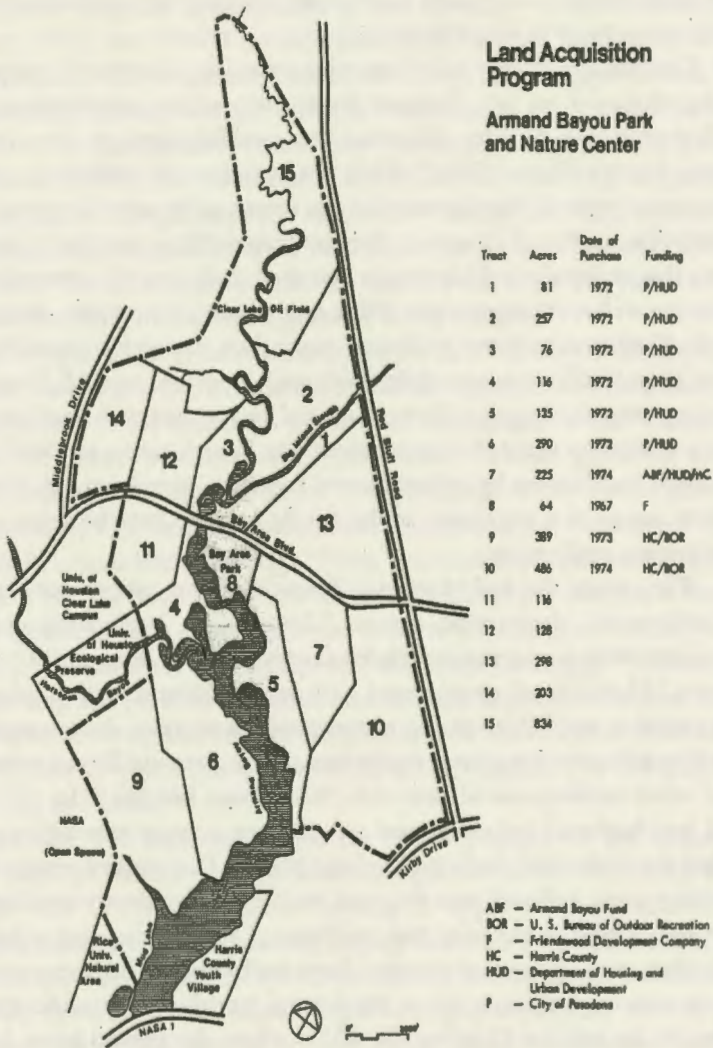


Figure 1: "Land Acquisition Program" (March 1974) Hana Ginzburg Papers. Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

ENDNOTES

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- 45 Hana Ginzburg's correspondence files include letters to local, state, and federal officials, as well as local and national conservation organizations. Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.
- 46 Ginzburg, interview, Texas Legacy Project. According to the interviewee, the hikes hosted up to 400 visitors at a time.
- 47 Russell L. Drake to Hana Ginzburg, December 28, 1971, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.
- 48 Creshaven Civic Club to Hana Ginzburg, April 23, 1971, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.
- 49 Ginzburg, interview, Texas Legacy Project.
- 50 Ginzburg, "How Armand Bayou Park and Nature Center Came to Be."
- 51 Ginzburg, interview, Texas Legacy Project.
- 52 Ibid.
- 53 Ginzburg, "The 'Hoped-For Park on Armand Bayou," (Undated),

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Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

54 Ginzburg, interview, Texas Legacy Project; Hana Ginzburg to Ron Jones, June 8, 1971, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

55 James U. Cross to Hana N. Ginzburg, November 19, 1971, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

56 "Federal Cutbacks Could Endanger Proposed Park," *The News Citizen*, July 4, 1971.

57 See correspondence between Hana Ginzburg and Congressmen Bob Casey, Bill Archer, Henry B. Gonzales, and also President Richard Nixon regarding appropriations for the Legacy of Parks program, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

58 James Cross to Hana Ginzburg, February 3, 1972, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

59 Ginzburg, interview, Texas Legacy Project; "How Armand Bayou Park and Nature Center Came to Be."

60 Pasadena Mayor's Office, Ordinance 72-342, "An ordinance authorizing the purchase of 955 acres of land from the Friendswood Development Company..." (December 7, 1972) Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

61 "Armand Bayou Park Dedication" (Transcript), October 4, 1972, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

62 "Housewife Wins Battle to Save Small River," *New York Times News Service*. *The Miami News*, February, 28, 1973.

63 "Doyal, Sanchez sign Armand agreement," *News Citizen*, October 5, 1972.

64 "We Urgently Need Money to Build Absolutely Nothing Here." *Time*, November 13, 1972. The ad also ran in "Newsweek, U.S. News and World Report, Sports Illustrated and 40 local papers." See "Armand Bayou Committee Report," December 4, 1972, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

65 B I G Handbook, p. 32. For more on these final acquisitions, see "Recreation Grant Approved for Texas Bayou Acquisition," News Release, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Recreation, November 20, 1974; "Armand Bayou Status Report," April 12, 1974; and "Status-Armand Bayou," May 10, 1974, Hana Ginzburg Papers, Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX.

66 Hana Ginzburg, "Armand Bayou needs to be saved," Letters to the Editor, *The Daily Pasadena Citizen*, December 3, 1988. According to Ginzburg's letter to the editor in 1988, Friendswood began bulldozing the last 1,000 acres of the "Hoped-For" park. Although HUD had approved a second grant to buy a section of this land in 1972, Friendswood refused to sell unless the City of Pasadena purchased a larger undevelopable section first. By 1988, with no more funds for Armand Bayou, the city and advocates had run out of time. Hundreds of acres of wetlands were destroyed, and to make matters worse, the City of Pasadena had approved a donation of a 180-foot wide strip of land through the park for a road. Following these developments she revived her efforts to "Save Armand Bayou Again."

67 Martin V. Melosi and Joseph A. Pratt, ed. *Energy Metropolis: An Environmental History of Houston and the Gulf Coast*, (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2007), p. 7.

68 The notion of "Serendipity, Like Evolution..." as an explanation for the movement is repeated in, Ginzburg, interview, Texas Legacy Project, and several of Ginzburg's papers titled "Armand Bayou Chronology and History," (Undated), Hana Ginzburg Papers.

69 Pamela Casteel, "Armand Bayou: A Tender Spot of Wilderness Amid Sprawling Suburbia," *Texas Shores* 23, no. 2

70 "Hana Ginzburg (1925-2013): Obituary," *Houston Chronicle*, October 22, 2013, accessed September 28, 2013, <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/houstonchronicle/obituary.aspx?pid=167647699>.