

WEB

The Web represents in many ways the fundamental values of Silicon Valley: innovation, technology, circuits, networking, digital platforms, interaction, communication, immateriality. This project takes that concept to materialize a new type of icon, a three-dimensional framework on top of the confluence of Los Gatos Creek and the Guadalupe River in San José California. Therefore, rather than relying on massive elements, this project is based on a thin complex matrix forming an extensive wooden bridge spanning the two available footprint sites. Stairs operate as structural elements to create big scale trusses over the creek and river.

As in technology and digital platforms, the Web allows for serendipity and unexpected encounters throughout its manifold inner bridges and resting zones. They all create a unique icon that partially shows views towards and from the city and park, and filters sunlight and night illumination as never static but in flux. The Web is the icon for the unpredictable photo and the non linear visit. It is the abstraction of both a computer chip and an immaterial digital network. Therefore, we foresee a landmark that is also changing, evolving as the Web is. In other words, a XXI century Cedric Price's reinvention of the Fun Palace, where cranes could be relentlessly rebuilding the icon in time, a landmark that is never the same if you come back to Silicon Valley years apart. Bridges would be added, turned, eliminated to create an iconic art installation that could always offer a new route, density and complexity. As technology is always evolving in Silicon Valley, The Web would always be the icon of change and rediscovery.

This changing project will integrate PV panels in all its south sides of the several levels of bridges. As sunlight enters through all dimensions this will enable to produce sufficient energy to lit it at night and power the four elevators strategically located to make it fully accessible. Built from sustainable timber, its carbon footprint would also be small despite of its sheer extension and presence. The Web is the icon of More with Less.