



#### Barnyard Animals

Today the ranch continues Hart's legacy of love and care for animals. The ranch is home to ducks, chickens,

turkeys, rabbits, goats, pigs, sheep, cow, deer, donkey, and horses.

#### Fritz's Grave

Fritz was a trick pinto pony used for Hart's movies and his most beloved animal companion. In lieu of a "big salary raise" Hart was given Fritz by the movie studio. Fritz's popularity rivaled that of his owner. He had his own secretary to open his mail and even wrote a book, Told Under A White Oak Tree.



#### Ranch House

Built in 1910, the Ranch House was sometimes used as a location for Hart's films. Now the Ranch House showcases original furnishings, memorabilia, and riding equipment used in his movies. From 1921 to 1924, before La Loma de Los Vientos was completed, Hart and his sister, Mary Ellen, sometimes stayed at the Ranch House. Take a self-guided tour during regular museum hours.

#### Dog Cemetery

Hart loved his animals and gave them special care. The family pets are buried here. Especially dear to Hart were Gall and Prince, his two Harlequin Great Danes, who actually had their own bedroom in his home.

#### Bunk House

This building was built at the same time as the main house and is built in the same Spanish colonial revival style. The Bunk House was used as a guesthouse and home for ranch workers; it



was also used as storage for Mr. Hart's movie and personal mementos. Mr. Hart's game room, now in the Ranch House, was originally located here.

# American Bison

In the early 1800's the number of bison reached 60 million, but by the early 1900's there were only 229 bison left in North America. European settlers mass slaughtered bison almost into extinction for sport and their tongues, thought of as a delicacy. Today, their numbers are in the 200,000s thanks to wildlife preserves. The bison on the ranch are descendants from the original herd donated to the park by Walt Disney.

#### Bison Trail

This trail leads to the bottom of the 20-acre Bison enclosure. Along the trail are scenic views of Santa Clarita Valley and park wilderness. This is your chance to see the Bison up close along with the



flora and fauna of Wm. S. Hart Park. The trail ends at the senior citizen center a block and a half from the park. To return, take a right on Market, another right on Newhall, which leads to the picnic area of Wm. S. Hart Park,



#### The Equestrian Trail

The equestrian trail leads to the campgrounds and is available for both hikers and horseback riders.

#### La Loma de los Vientos

La Loma de Los Vientos was built in

1927 in the Spanish Colonial Revival style as Hart's retirement home. The land had been the location for some of his western movies. The free guided tours of La Loma de Los Vientos detail the interesting life of Mr. Hart as a movie star and art collector, his deep ties to Native Americans, and much more. The house contains all of its original furnishings, western art, Native American textiles and artifacts, personal and movie memorabilia.

## Major Artists Represented in the Houses:

Charles Russell Frederic Remington Gene Hoback Dee Flagg

Charles Schreyvogel Joe De Yong Charles Christadoro lames Montgomery

### Heritage Junction

The Santa Clarita Historical Society's Heritage Junction contains many historical buildings from local history. Tours and museum access are available on weekends only.

#### Trading Post

Located next to the barnyard animals. The gift shop carries western themed items and bags of animal food. Open Wed. Sun. during museum hours.

Here at William S. Hart Park there is a wide variety of native and non-native species of plants and animals. Below is a short guide to some of the most common plants and animals found in the park. As you explore the park take special notice of your natural surroundings and use this guide to help you identify some of these easily recognizable plants and animals. Use this checklist to keep track of what you find.

## Animal Life

- Cottontail Rabbit Cottontail rabbits have light brown thick furry coats with short white tails. While you might see them during the day the best times to spot them are at dawn, dusk, or at night when they are most active. Look for them in open grassy areas or even in your backyard.
- Lizard Lizards are cold-blooded animals that are most commonly found in warm climates. You can always find lizards sunbathing along the trail to the museum. Although they are fast, try to look for their camouflaged dry, scaly, skin and clawed toes.
- Red Tailed Hawk This bird is usually seen soaring or another good place to spot a Red Tailed Hawk is perching in the treetops. Three things to look for are the transparent red tail that looks pink on the

underside, dark brown belly band, and a black bar on the fore edge of the wing.

Scrub Jay - The Scrub Jay is often mistakenly called a Blue Jay



because of its vibrant blue color. Besides its blue color a good way to indicate a Scrub Jay is by its white throat, outlined by blue, and olivegray back. The best place to spot a Scrub Jay is in the park's oak trees.

☐ Turkey Vulture - These scavengers are easy to spot, Look for a black body, red head, and grayish feathers on the underside of

the wings. They are usually seen soaring in wide circles, with their wings spread into the shape of a broad V. The trails behind the museum are an excellent site to spot these birds.



## Plant Life

Cactus - The succulent nature of this cactus attracts birds, which feed on the ripe fruit. Native Americans and settlers alike ate the sweet fruit and the new pads. Some places to spot cactus are around the Dog Cemetery and along to trail to the museum



Coast Live Oak-These trees can live to be more than 250 years old. Look for a broad-topped evergreen tree with



crooked, ascending branches. The dark green oval leaves are leathery and spiny toothed. Acorns from

this tree are brown, long, and thin. Acorns were a major source of food for Native Americans, used to make bread and gruel.

- Foothill Yucca A single flowering stalk, 4-8"ft. tall rises from the center of a dark green long spiny leaves. The white flowers bloom in the spring. Each stalk grows and blooms only once; then the plant dies.
- Pine A grove of non-native pine is located south east of the bison viewing area and many are scattered throughout the park. The bed of pine needles that have dropped to the ground prevent

native plants from growing. Like oak trees, pines were a source of food and medicine for local Native Americans.

Cypress - These trees have interesting seed cones that resemble soccer balls when unopened. The cones are usually clustered



together on branches with light green leave sprays. Bark from this tree is easy to recognize. It is reddish brown and looks like it is peeling in thin strips.

Volunteer opportunities at the Hart Museum www.hart-friends.org

Heritage Junction Historical Park (661) 254-1275 www.scvhs.org



William

Welcome to William S. Hart Park and V Museum! This park is the historical home of William Surrey Hart, a silent western film star of the early 1900's. The park contains 265 acres of land and 160 acres have been set aside as wilderness area. Hart's home, La Loma de Los Vientos, The Hill of the Winds, was willed to the county of Los Angeles and is now a museum. The museum includes all of its original furnishings and artwork. The park is dedicated to you, for your enjoyment by Hart, so hike the trails, feed the farm animals,

Park 7:00 a.m. - 54NSET For information on the rental of Hart Hall, Hart's Kids Camp, and Campground Reservations call: (661) 259 - 0855

look at the American Bison, and take a free guided

tour of his beautiful historic home.

William S. Hart Museum September- mid June: Wednesday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Saturday - Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mid June - Labor Day: Wednesday - Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (661) 254 - 4584 www.hartmuseum.org

Museum access by guided tours only.



Please return this guide to Hart Park for others to enjoy!