

***Battle* Film Location Notes**

January 17, 1975. 8:00 p.m. CBS

TV Guide listing:

MOVIE – Science Fiction “Battle for the Planet of the Apes”

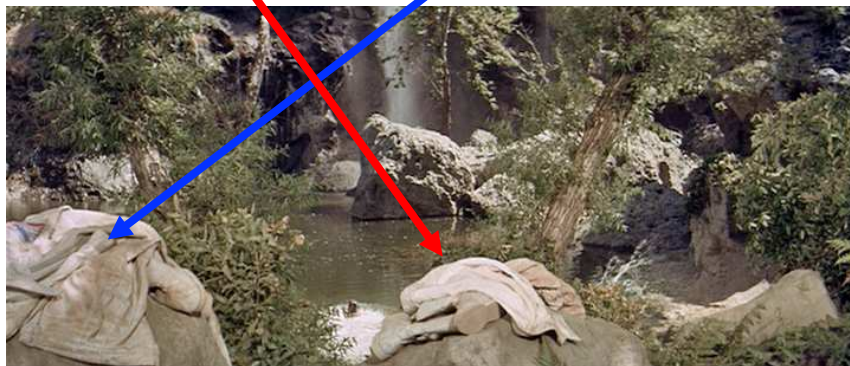
The fifth and closing chapter in the popular sci-fi series finds the simians of the future battling radiation-scarred mutants.

Battle’s television premiere was scheduled as a double feature with the 1971 movie, *Shaft*. Both movies were cut to fit within a 3-hour time slot – with TV commercials.

At the **ape council meeting site**, I did not see the large rocks at the foreground of the scene; and similarly, at the **rock pool**, I did not see the large rocks that were draped with the astronauts’ ANSA uniforms...

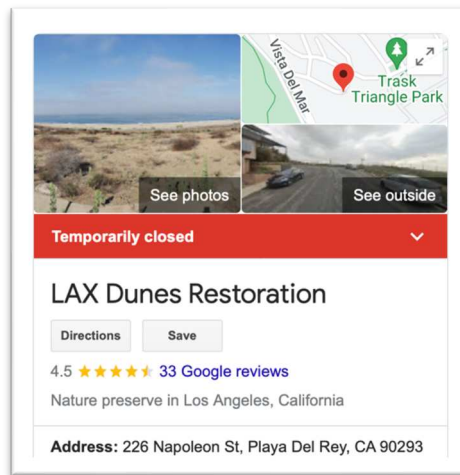
Could they be the SAME rock props that were inserted to the scenes??

***Battle*’s Ape Council Meeting**



***Planet*’s Rock Pool**

The fan-created *Planet of the Apes* Wiki site states that the desert scenes where Caesar, MacDonald, and Virgil trek enroute to the film archives are at the LAX Dunes Preserve.



It's temporarily closed to prevent a visit, but it would be difficult to pin down any film locations anyway, due to lack of definitive land features.



Approximately two miles south of the LAX Dunes Preserve is the Hyperion Water Treatment Plant where the underground mutant city was filmed, as indicated in this Call Sheet excerpt.

1st DAY OF SHOOTING		START PRODUCTION		663-3171 Film Lot D	
SHOOTING CALL 8:00a		TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX FILM CORPORATION		Tuesday	
CALL SHEET		DATE		January 2, 1973	
PICT. BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES		NO. G-95		DIR. J. Lee Thompson	
SET	D/N	PG.	CAST	SCS.	LOC.
SET	INT. ARCH AREA	D	3/8 1-2-4	SCS. F90-G-90	LOC. Hyperion Plant
SET	INT. ARCH RM	D	4 7/8 1-2-4	SCS. A92 THRU E92, 93	LOC. Hyperion Plant
SET				SCS. THRU A95A, 96, 97	LOC.
SET	INT. CORR & STAIRS D	1/8	1-2-4	SCS. 100	LOC. Hyperion Plant
SET				SCS.	LOC.
SET		5 3/8		SCS.	LOC.
SET				SCS.	LOC.
SET				SCS.	LOC.

CAST AND DAY PLAYERS	PART OF	MAKEUP	SET CALL	REMARKS
1 Roddy McDowall *	CAESAR	4:00 a	8:00 a	Report to studio m/u
2 William Marshall *	MacDONALD	7:00 a	8:00 a	" " " "
4 Paul Williams *	VIRGIL	4:00 a	8:00 a	" " " "
* Breakfast furnished				
leave studio 7:00 a.m. for Hyperion Plant				
HAPPY NEW YEAR				
ATMOSPHERE AND STANDINS		THRU GATE		
3 standins			6:30 a	Report to Hyperion Plr
3 mutants			9:00 a	" " " "

The Hyperion Plant is a sewage treatment facility operated by the city of Los Angeles. It is interesting to note that the Call Sheet listed William Marshall as the character, MacDonald. *I wonder if he was the original actor, or if it is a typo.*

You might remember William Marshall's role as Dr. Daystrom in the episode, "The Ultimate Computer", in the original *Star Trek* TV series.

The Caesar statue (*replica?*) can be seen at the Motion Picture and Television Fund (MPTF) in the Roddy McDowall Rose Garden at Woodland Hills, California.



MPTF's Mission Statement:

MPTF supports our entertainment community in living and aging well, with dignity and purpose, and in helping each other in times of need.

Oscar-winning makeup artist, John Chambers, and Roddy's sister, Virginia, lived at this retirement community.

Although the grounds are closed to the public, one could contact MPTF via their website to request a visit. When I attended their first-ever Open House in celebration of their 100th anniversary in 2019 (their one-and-only Open House, so far, at least since covid) to see Roddy's garden, the MPTF community representative said that they welcome visitors.

<https://mptf.com/100presskit/>

More pics of Roddy's garden are on *Hunter's Planet of the Apes Archives*:

<https://pota.goatley.com/roddys-rose-garden.html>

Tip for FREE parking when visiting location sites:

Check out a "California State Library Parks Pass" using a valid library card for Malibu Creek State Park, otherwise it's \$12.

Photos for this "Then and Now" Battle montage were taken between June 2019 and December 2023.

Notable *Battle* Trivia:

A film clip of *Battle for the Planet of the Apes* appeared in the movie, *Argo*, which dramatized the 1980 rescue of six American embassy workers during the Iran hostage crisis. The rescue was carried out by the CIA and Canadian partners.

John Chambers was a contractor with the CIA (to provide disguise kits, though not for this 1980 rescue mission) and was part of the team that created a ruse film project to smuggle the hostages from Iran. The operation was successful and Chambers was awarded the Intelligence Medal of Merit, but the honor was not made public for 17 years until after records were declassified in 1997.

Argo won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 2013.



John Chambers was portrayed by John Goodman.



The movie storyline depicted *Battle for the Planet of the Apes* as the inspiration for the ruse film project: a sci-fi movie titled *Argo*.



A scene in John Chambers' makeup trailer displayed a gorilla mask.
 (Note that John is shown in the upper left corner, as he enters the trailer.)

To bring credibility to the “film project” deception, announcements and articles were published in *Variety* and *The Hollywood Reporter*. Here's one sample:

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER, JANUARY 25, 1980

Two makeup artists turn to producing with sci-fi 'Argo'

By FRANK BARRON

Two noted Hollywood makeup artists — one an Oscar winner — have turned producers, their first motion picture being “Argo,” a science fantasy fiction, from a story by Teresa Harris. Principal photography will start in March, according to John Chambers and Robert Sidell, headquartered at Sunset Gower Studios.

The picture will be presented as a Studio Six production, Sidell noted, with filming to be done 100% overseas, backed entirely by foreign financing.

Studio Six is an overseas production company which was going to produce “Argo” itself. “They first approached us to do the research and development work on the makeup — which is very big and important in the film. But they soon realized that we were in the best position to produce the picture, so we took over,” Sidell said.

Official credits will state “Robert Sidell and Associates present a Studio Six production.”

Sidell has been a makeup artist in Hollywood for more than 20 years, while Chambers won a special Oscar for his makeup work on “Planet of the Apes” while at 20th Century-Fox.

The award was in a special category. “We gave them (Studio Six) a budget for makeup,” Sidell explained, “which will be an important part of the film, and then eventually we took over production. Most of the show has been (story) boarded by us.”

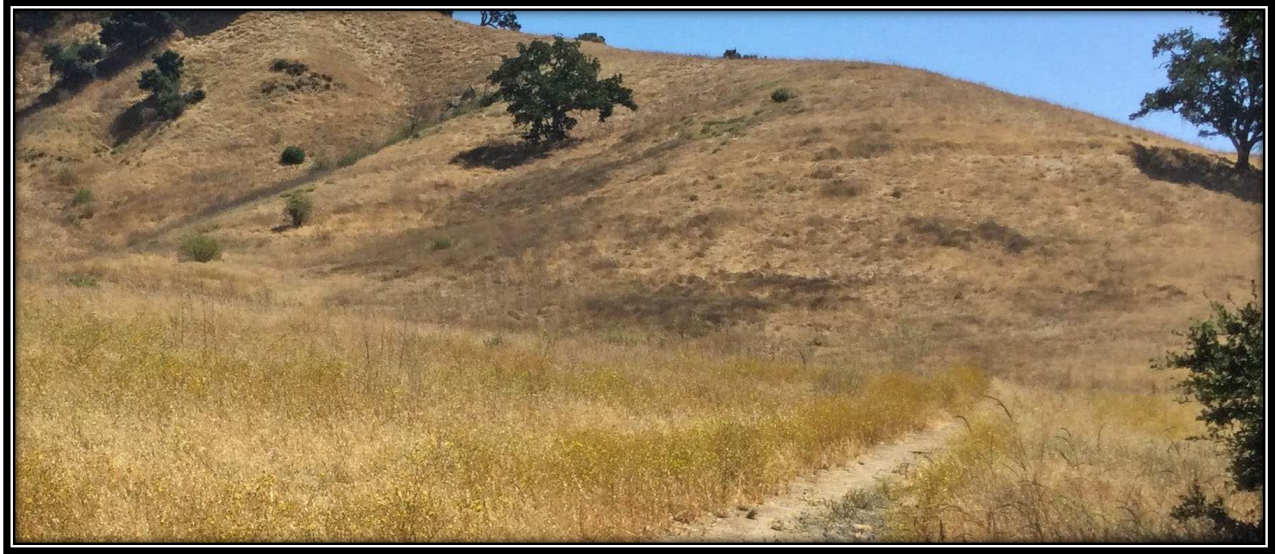
Shooting will begin in the south of France, then move to the Mideast and Southeast Asia, depending on the political climate. “We will have to shoot depending on what it's like politically in the Mideast, obviously,” Sidell pointed out. “There will be an international cast, and we will use substantial names. At the moment we are sworn to secrecy on the names.”

Sidell and Chambers are also in the process of putting together a comedy-documentary for network TV, to be a 90-minute special.

There are no immediate plans for a feature follow-up to “Argo,” he added.

BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES

Film Location Photos by Lori













Scenes of the underground mutant city were filmed at the Hyperion Water Treatment Plant.

Since tours were suspended due to covid, sample screenshots are from their virtual tour online.















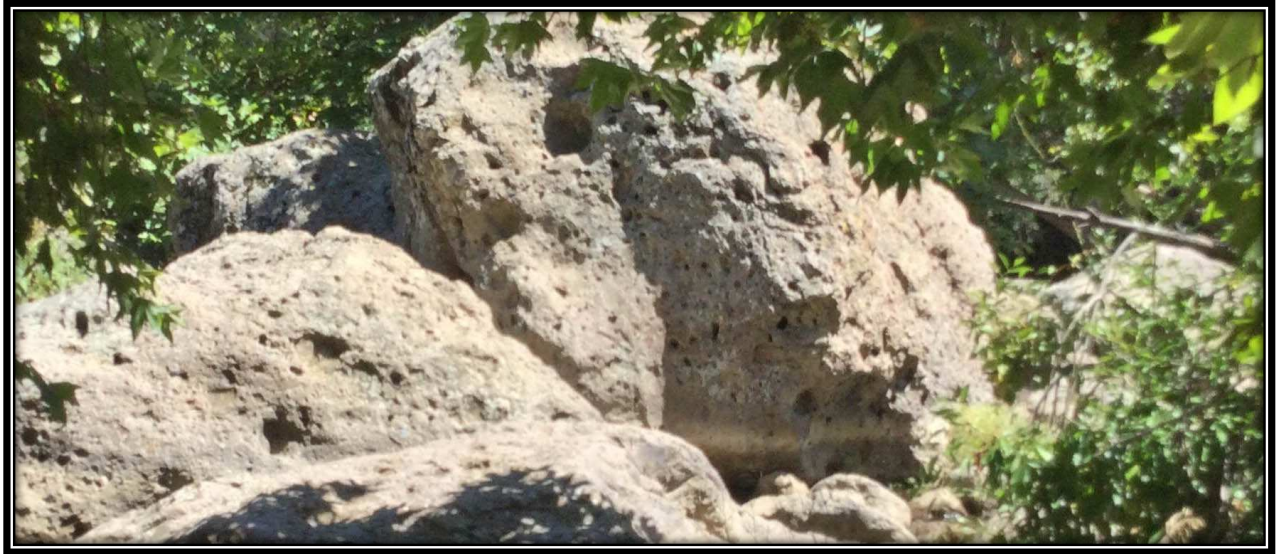




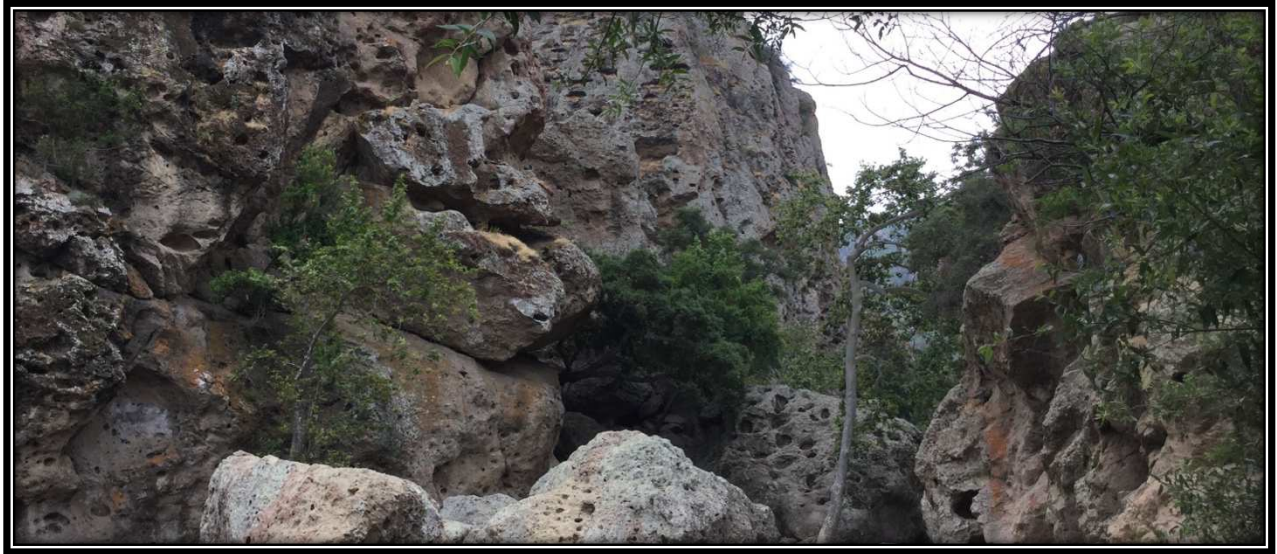
Battle scenes were filmed on the former cornfields of *Planet of the Apes*.











***Battle for the Planet of the Apes* Film Locations**
GPS Coordinates

Pages 1-2	34.097057, -118.719862
Page 3	34.099741, -118.721740
Page 4	34.091893, -118.712863
Page 5	34.091520, -118.712718
Page 6	33.927338, -118.431854
Pages 7,15	34.091633, -118.714378
Pages 8-9	34.097386, -118.729162
Pages 10-12,14	34.091935, -118.713870
Page 13	34.091331, -118.712607
Pages 16-17	34.096760, -118.729561
Page 18	34.096311, -118.729932