

An aerial photograph of Lafayette Park in Washington, D.C. The park is a large green space with many trees, a circular fountain in the upper left, and a baseball field in the lower center. It is surrounded by various buildings, including the White House to the north and several large, multi-story buildings to the east and south. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

Lafayette Park Security Modifications

Section 106

Consulting Parties Meeting

August 12, 2026

Agenda

1. Introduction and Background (5 minutes)
2. Representative Conditions (5 minutes)
3. Security Considerations (5 minutes)
4. History (5 minutes)
5. Historic Properties (5 minutes)
6. Alternatives and Discussion (30 minutes)
7. Fence Character and Discussion (10 minutes)
8. Initial Assessment of Effects (10 minutes)
9. Discussion (35 minutes)
10. Next Steps (5 minutes)



1. Introduction and Background

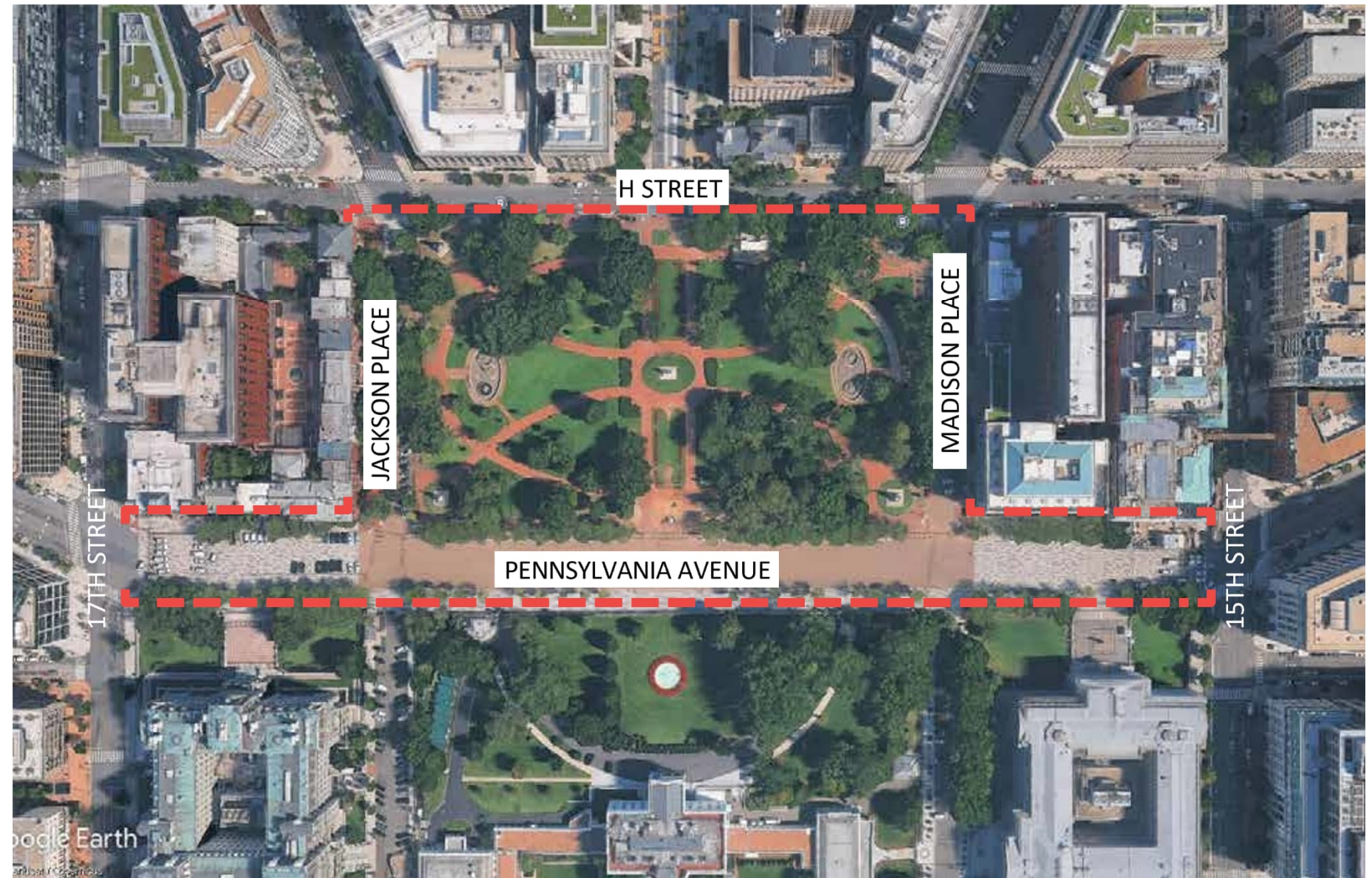
Introduction

The USSS and EOP, in coordination with DOI and NPS, propose to implement security and access improvements for Lafayette Park and its surrounding streets in northwest Washington, DC. This project would enhance long-term safety, protect park resources, strengthen the park's identity as a significant NPS landscape, and support continued public use of this nationally symbolic space.

Lafayette Park occupies an 8-acre block in Lafayette Square directly north of the White House, bounded by H Street NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Madison Place NW, and Jackson Place NW. The project area also includes adjacent access corridors along Jackson and Madison Places and Pennsylvania Avenue between 15th and 17th Streets NW.

The USSS, EOP, DOI, and NPS have developed a concept approach for permanent security upgrades that may include fencing, monitoring systems, and alarms. These improvements build on ongoing interagency planning efforts and are intended to preserve the park's openness while providing the flexibility to implement temporary closures when required for situational security needs.

It is anticipated that a comprehensive perimeter security plan for the White House and President's Park will be developed for the future. As noted above, project area also includes Pennsylvania Avenue NW between 15th and 17th Streets NW. The treatment of these entry points will be considered and submitted for review in a second phase of the project.



Site Map, Google Earth

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Security Need: Permanently Anchored Pedestrian Barrier Solution

During times of civil unrest, demonstrations, and National Special Security Events (NSSEs), the areas surrounding the White House Complex are routinely a focal point for the general public.

Many demonstrations result in the peaceful public gathering in Lafayette Park and on Pennsylvania Avenue where attendees follow the law and express their views on many topics. There are however several examples of assemblies that elevate into non-peaceful demonstration which have resulted in violence towards law enforcement officers maintaining the necessary stand-off from restricted areas and vandalism to NPS resources throughout Lafayette Park.

A well-designed permanent fence would assist the USSS with its unique security requirements associated with protecting the White House Complex, allow for the protection of NPS resources during times of civil unrest and general enhance public safety for visitor in the area . and ensure safety crowds gathering to demonstrate in view of the White House.

In the future, the project will continue to evaluate visitor experience and safety, including access and egress.



Purpose and Need Statement

The proposed fence would provide necessary perimeter security while also helping to preserve and protect Lafayette Park's historic landscape and associated park resources during periods when public activity has previously resulted in damage. By establishing a defined and managed perimeter, the fence would help reduce opportunities for vandalism, trampling, unauthorized encampments, damage to vegetation and turf, and other impacts that have occurred during demonstrations, large gatherings, or periods of heightened public activity. The fence would support the continued protection of the park's cultural landscape while allowing the NPS and its partners to better manage access, visitor circulation, and security needs in a manner consistent with the preservation of President's Park.

The purpose of the proposed action is to ensure a secure environment, including Lafayette Park and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, for Executive Residence functions in a manner that:

- Can be **readily employed** when needed, including in dynamic situations
- **Enhances visitor use and experience** at Lafayette Park and Pennsylvania Avenue NW through security features that are compatible with the historic character of the project site and reduce ad-hoc security measures
- Offers a **comprehensive approach** that works seamlessly with existing security measures

Security additions for Lafayette Park are needed to address the following issues:

- Lafayette Park **cannot easily prohibit public access** during times of heightened security
- Existing temporary security structures **do not reflect the historic character** of the site and confuse visitors, thereby degrading the visitor use and experience of the historic site
- The current approach lacks a holistic security solution and instead **uses piecemeal, temporary methods** to secure necessary areas
- Existing pavers are easily dislodged and used as projectiles during periods of civil unrest

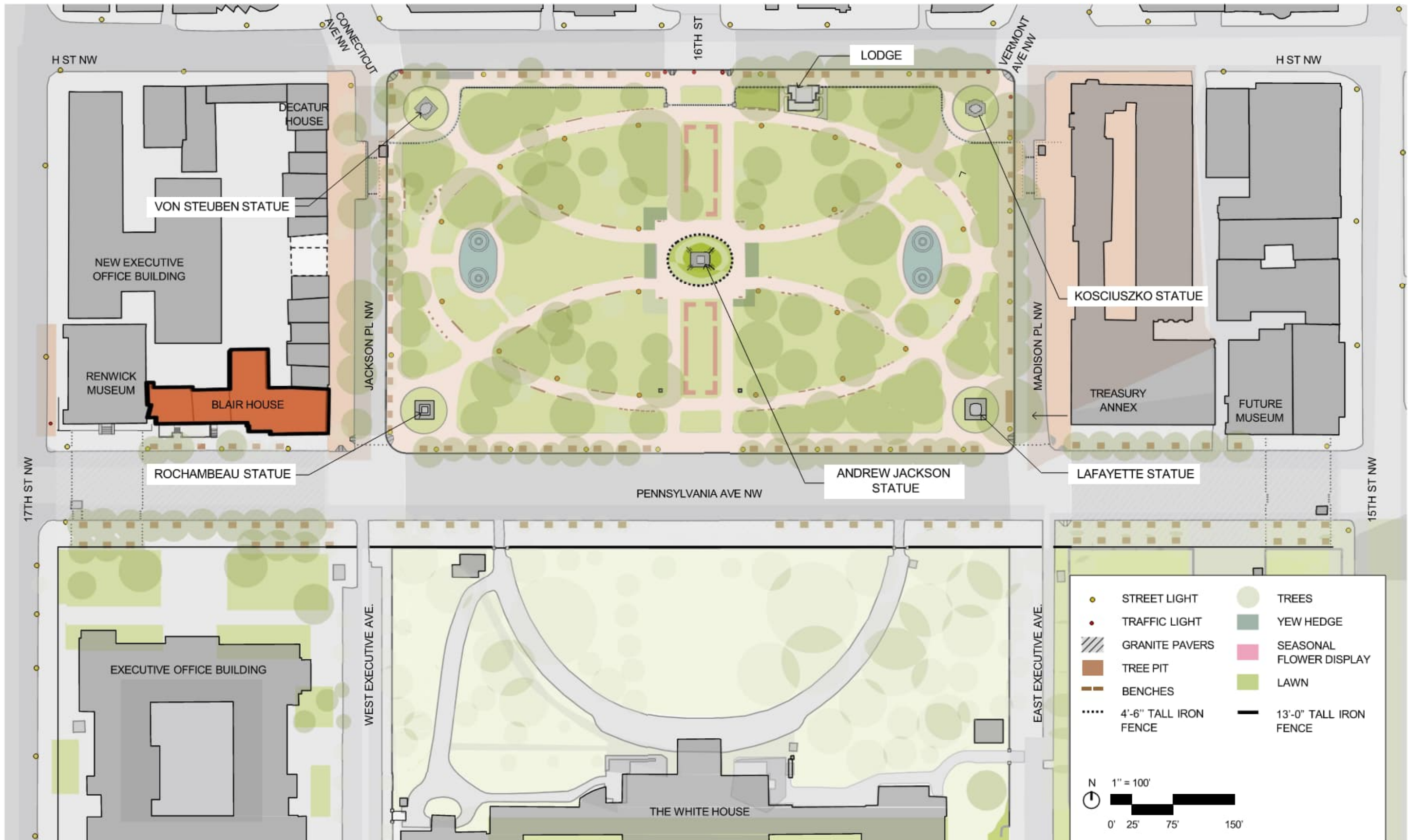


Site Visit Photo

2. Representative Conditions

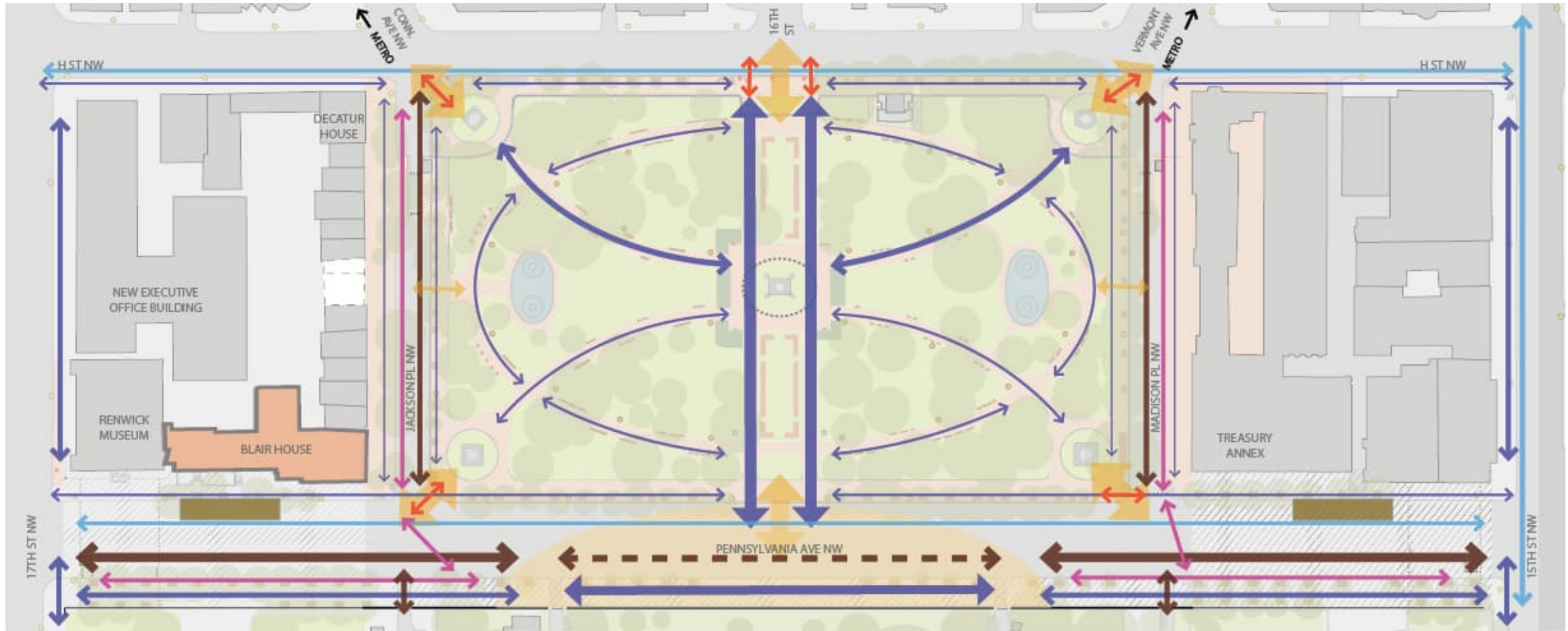
Site Plan

The 8-acre Lafayette Park project site comprises the entire block bounded by H Street NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Madison Place NW, and Jackson Place NW.

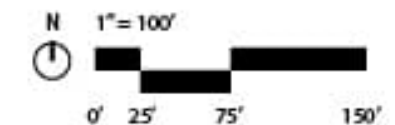


Site Plan: Circulation

Lafayette Park currently allows vehicular, pedestrian, and bike traffic on H Street. Pedestrian and bike traffic are allowed on Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Madison Place NW, and Jackson Place NW. Sally port entrances are located on the northern end of Jackson Place NW and Madison Place NW.



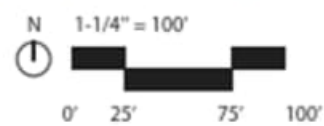
- PRIMARY DESTINATION
- VEHICLE PARKING
- VEHICLE TRAVEL PATHS
- PRIMARY ENTRANCES
- PEDESTRIAN TRAVEL PATHS
- STAFF PATH
- BIKE PATH (designated)
- CURB CUT (ADA)



REPRESENTATIVE CONDITIONS

North/South Axis Section

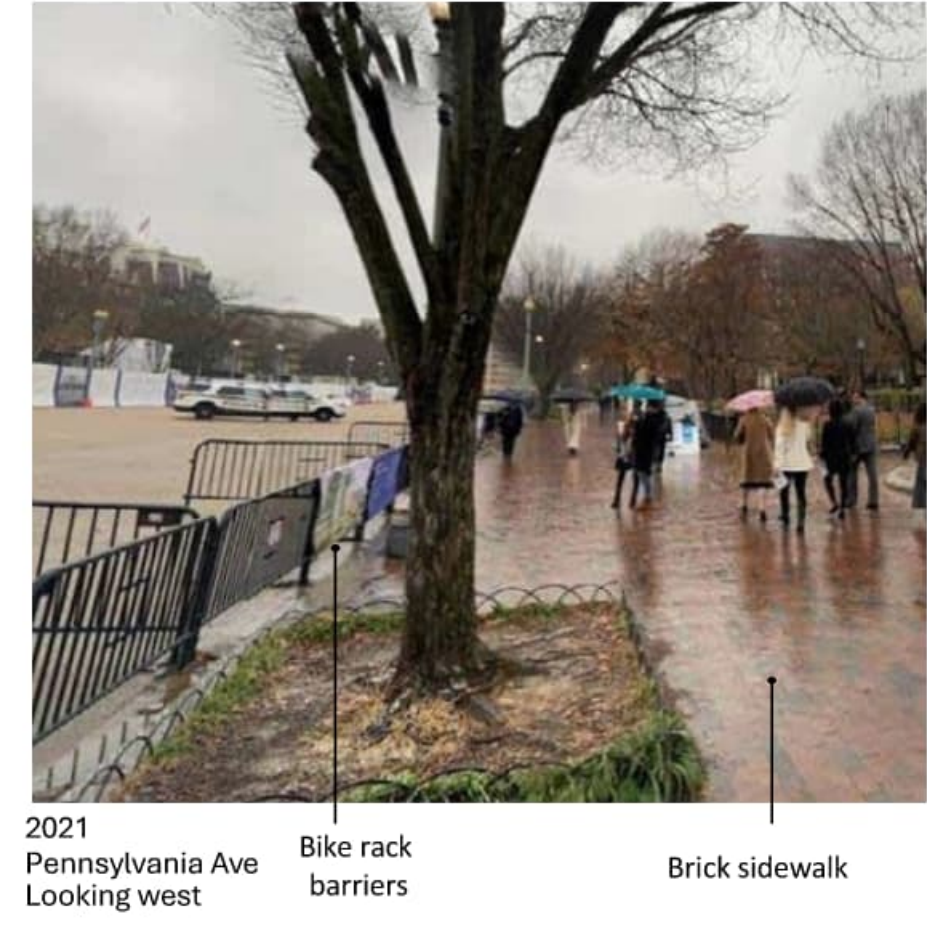
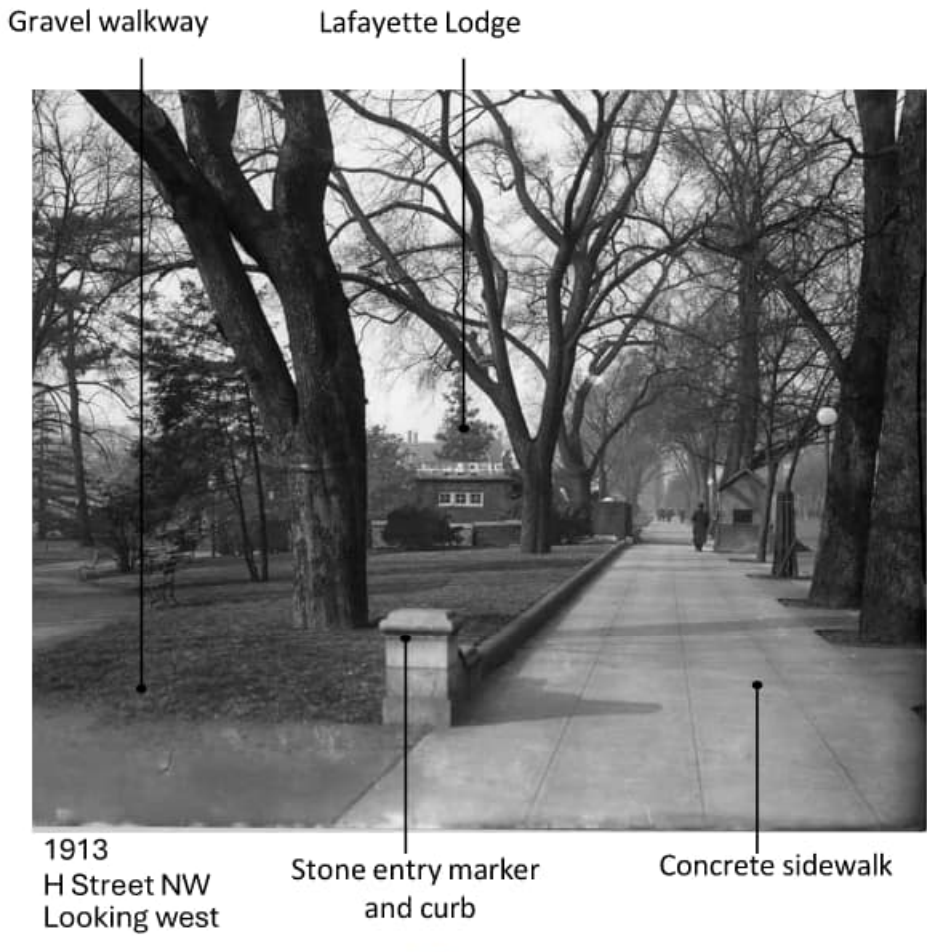
Elevation of the park is highest at the White House and H Street NW at 63 feet and 65 feet respectively, with a decline to 55 feet of elevation at Pennsylvania Avenue NW.



REPRESENTATIVE CONDITIONS

H Street NW and Pennsylvania Avenue NW Corridors

The northern boundary of Lafayette Park , which runs along H Street NW, offers a direct view of the park’s landscape and historic surroundings. The following images show how different boundary treatments over time have affected the view into the park, including changing bollards and curb heights.



REPRESENTATIVE CONDITIONS

Lafayette Park Pathways and Von Steuben Statue



1933-1936
Gravel paths with metal edging



1990
Brick paths



2020
Temporary security fencing
Brick paths with brick pads under benches



1924
Concrete sidewalk



2018
Brick sidewalk
Bike rack barriers



2026
Bike rack barriers
Temporary fencing

REPRESENTATIVE CONDITIONS

Jackson and Madison Places NW

Jackson Place NW



2024
Looking south from H Street NW



2024
Looking north

Madison Place NW



2024
Looking south from H Street NW

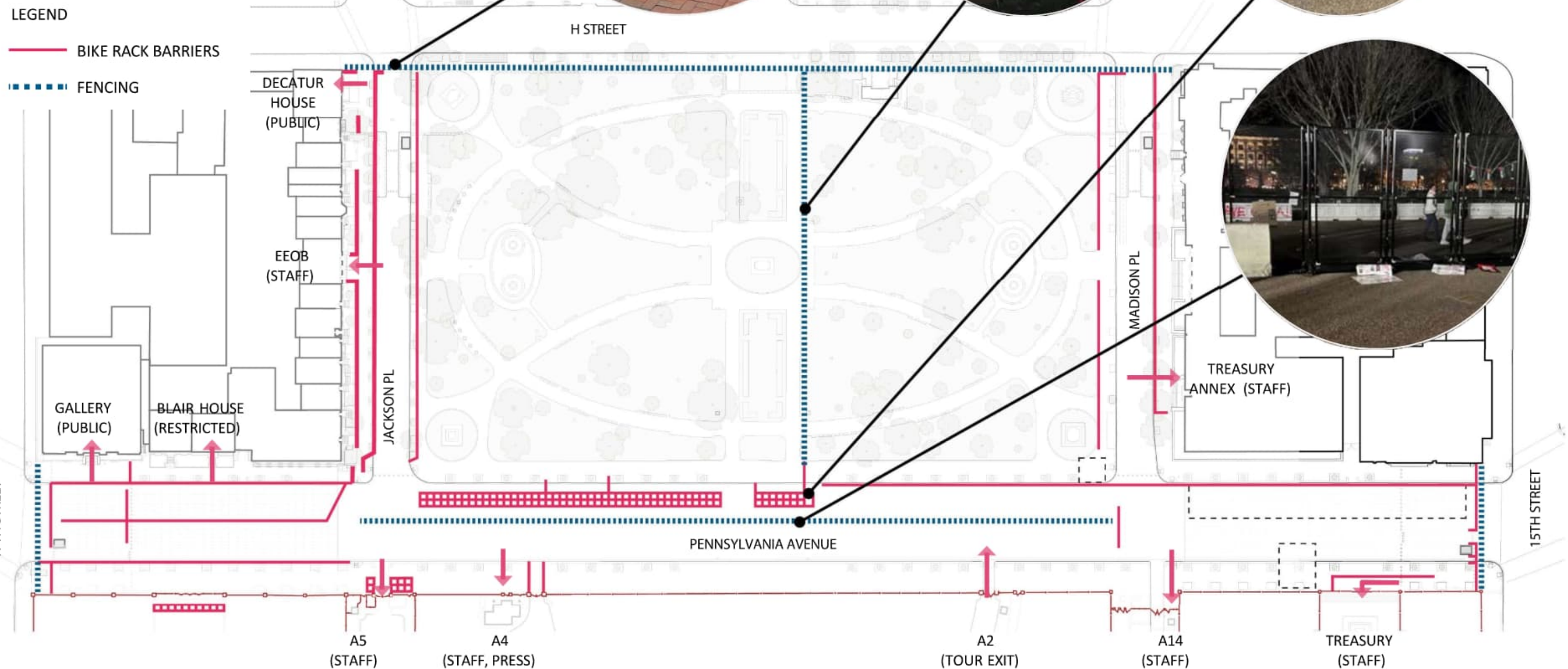


2024
Looking north

3. Security Considerations

Temporary Barriers

Temporary fencing as of April 2026 included formal White House fencing, temporary bike rack barriers, and temporary large-scale fencing. Barrier considerations include horizontal alignment, accounting for various security scenarios, adequate vertical dimensions, layers of fencing, and appropriate typologies.



Existing Conditions: Temporary Barriers

Many types of barriers are currently in use within and around Lafayette Park. Below is a description of the temporary barriers and their locations.



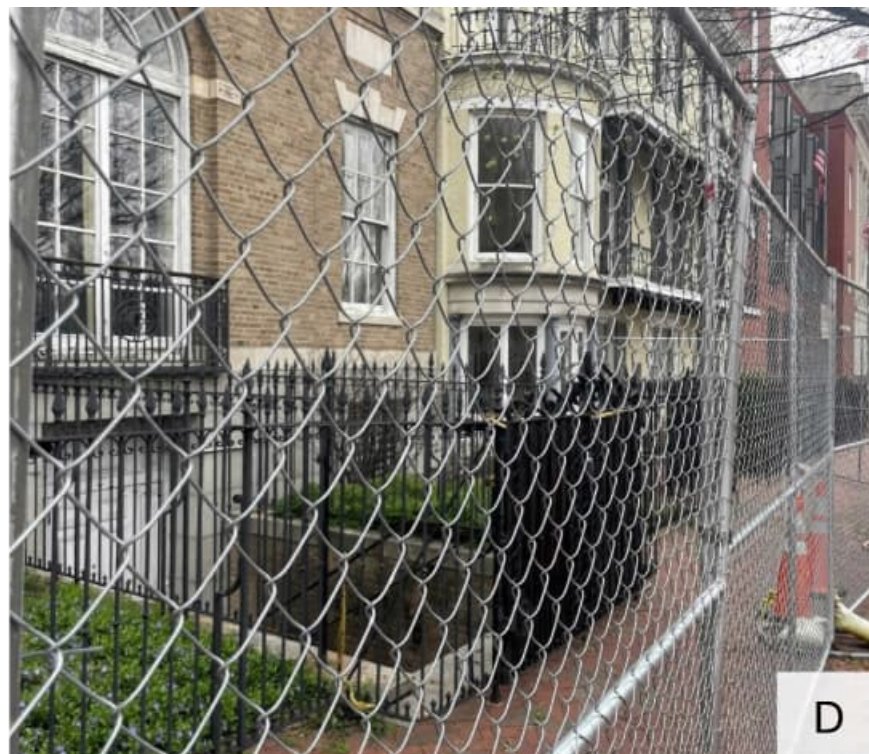
Anti-scale fencing on H Street NW, June 2026



Anti-scale fencing and concrete barriers at H Street and 16th Street NW, June 2026



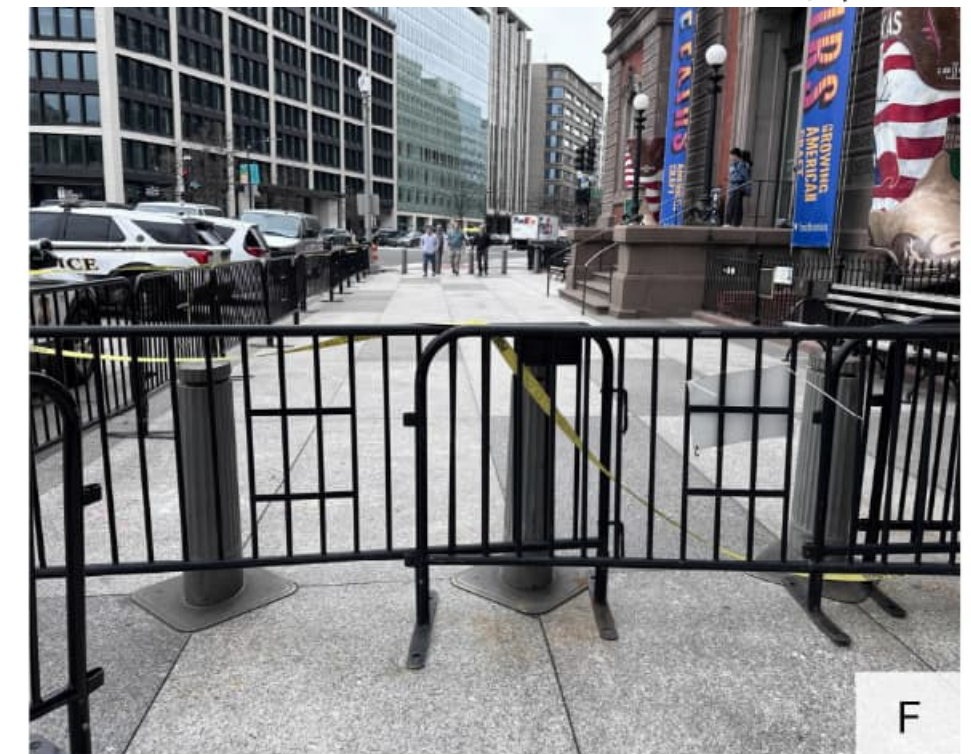
Bike rack barriers on Pennsylvania Avenue NW near the White House, April 2026



Chain link fencing on Jackson Place NW, April 2026



Bike rack barriers on Pennsylvania Avenue and 15th Street NW, April 2026



Bike rack barriers on Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street NW, April 2026

Existing Conditions: Temporary Barriers - 2026

Currently, Lafayette Park has temporary fencing enclosing the park. Pictures below show temporary fencing surrounding the park, with fence heights ranging from 4’ bike racks and concrete barriers to 10’ temporary fencing. Personnel is required to transport temporary barriers to the park, set up the fencing, and secure the panels to each other to ensure their stability. The set up of temporary fencing can take as long as 72 hours, and dismantling the barriers can take equally as long. The added personnel needed to implement this measure, along with the unappealing aesthetics of this fencing, led to the dismissal of this solution.



2026



2026

Park Materials and Security Risks

The current brick paver assemblies at Lafayette Park are too thin and inadequately embedded, which increases their susceptibility to uplift and dislodgement. This condition not only poses tripping hazards for park visitors but also raises safety concerns, particularly during heightened security periods when bricks could potentially be removed and used as projectiles.

To address these issues, it is essential to secure the pavers, either through the thickness of the pavers or enhancing the depth of placement, to ensure a more stable installation. This will not only mitigate safety risks but also preserve the park's historic appearance, maintaining its integrity while enhancing overall functionality and safety for all users.



Site Visit Photos, 2026

4. History

HISTORY

President's Park and Reservation 1 History Timeline

The siting and symbolic configuration of the landscape of the White House and President's Park as a centerpiece for the new federal city of Washington, D.C., were first articulated in plans prepared by Pierre Charles L'Enfant in **1791** and led to federal government acquisition of the necessary land, which became known first as Appropriation 1, and later Reservation 1. (p. I-1)

The construction of terraces to the east and west of the President's House, conceived by Jefferson, and partially constructed before his term ended in **1809**, served to provide additional privacy for the occupants while allowing the public grounds to the north to be separated from the more private grounds to the south.

President's Park becomes known as Lafayette Square

Excavation of the foundation of the State, War and Navy Building, which began in **1871**, provided the fill needed to correct problems associated with low-lying swampy conditions to the south that allowed for the establishment of the public park within the Ellipse.

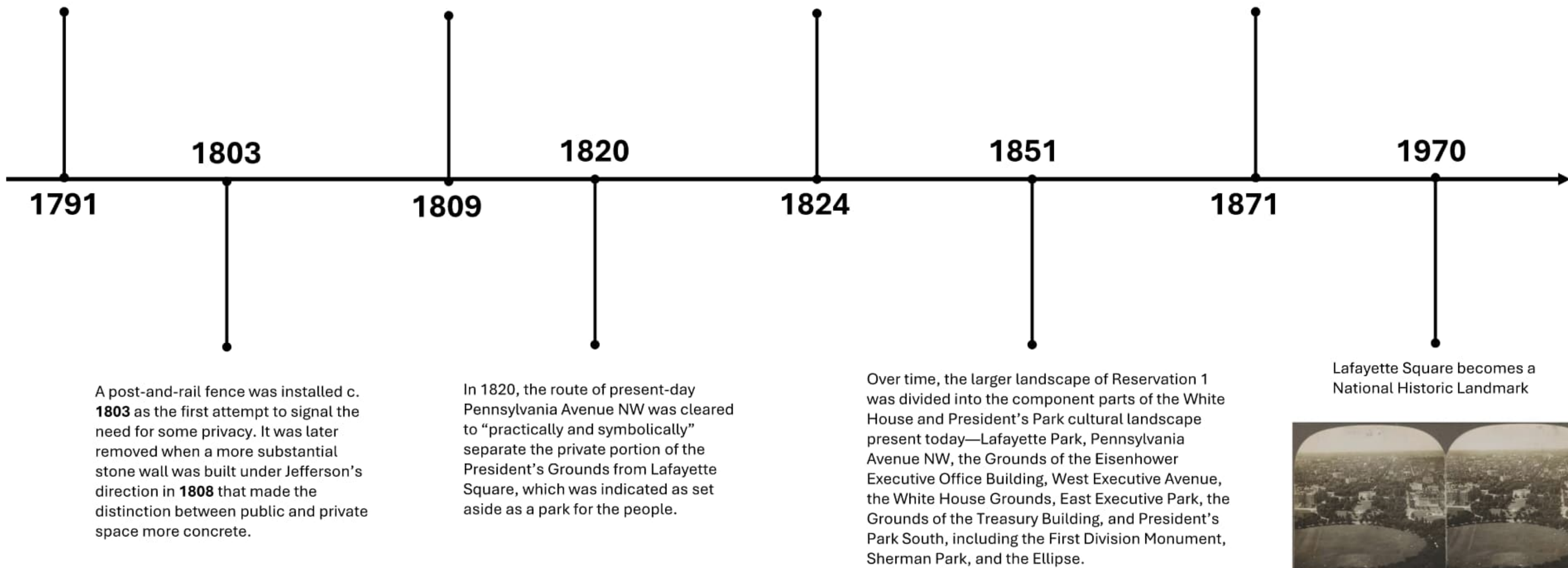


Figure 2-93. A c. 1906 view of President's Park. (Source: Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/resource/stereo.1s06306/>, accessed January 2, 2024)

HISTORY

Lafayette Park Timeline

The siting and symbolic configuration of the landscape of the White House and President's Park as a centerpiece for the new federal city of Washington, D.C., were first articulated in plans prepared by Pierre Charles L'Enfant in **1791** and led to federal government acquisition of the necessary land, which became known first as Appropriation 1, and later Reservation 1.



LOC, 1857

President Thomas Jefferson authorizes separation of President's Park from White House Grounds

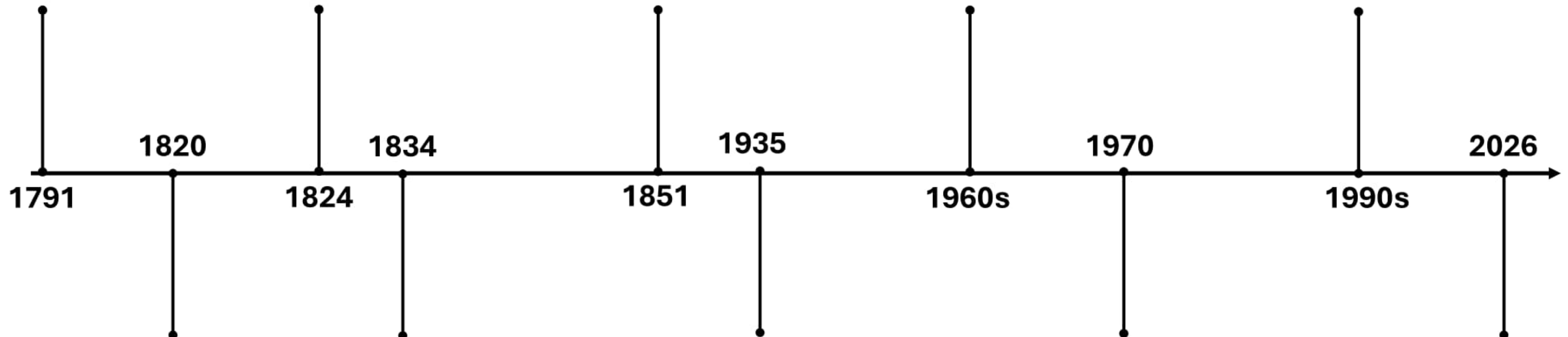
Architect Andrew Jackson Downing hired to design park grounds



John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Boston

President Kennedy implements additional security measures at the park

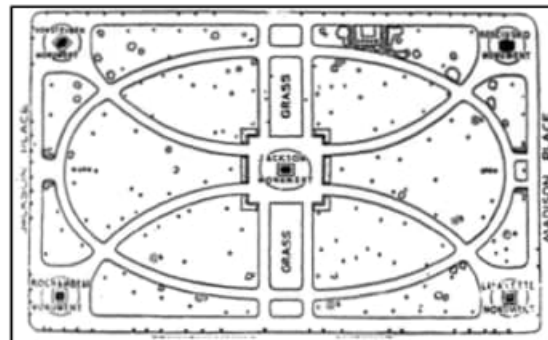
Pennsylvania Avenue NW closed to vehicular traffic following the Oklahoma City Bombing



In 1820, the route of present-day Pennsylvania Avenue NW was cleared to "practically and symbolically" separate the private portion of the President's Grounds from Lafayette Square, which was indicated as set aside as a park for the people.

President's Park becomes known as Lafayette Square

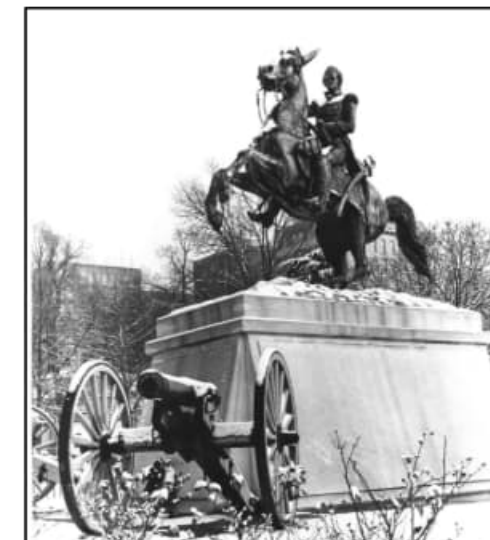
Olmsted Management Plan re-emphasizes importance of L'Enfant vistas to the south and north and calls for plant modifications to complement this concept (Diagram from 1937 reconditioning)



NPS PRPA Lafayette Park, 2021

Lafayette Square becomes a National Historic Landmark

America's 250th Anniversary



HISTORY

Past Fencing Alignment

According to *Cultural Landscape Report: Site History and Evaluation, 1791-1994, The White House and President's Park*, Lafayette Park (Lafayette Square) was first enclosed with a wood fence by 1826. In 1845 a program was initiated to improve many of the "streets, avenues, and public reservations" in the city of Washington. The reservations designated were Lafayette Square, President's Park South, Fountain Square, the National Mall, and the vacant ground adjoining the U.S. Capitol. As part of this program, an estimate was given to enclose "Lafayette Square" with posts and wood railings "of the best materials," possibly to replace the enclosure that existed in 1826. In 1853, the old wood fence was replaced with an iron fence, and gaslights were installed in the park. From 1888-1889, the iron fence around Lafayette Park was removed and sent to the Gettysburg Memorial Association to be used at the National Cemetery. This removal was attributed to pressure from nearby residents. In 1889, as a replacement to the fencing, funding for granite curbs was requested on behalf of the NPS.



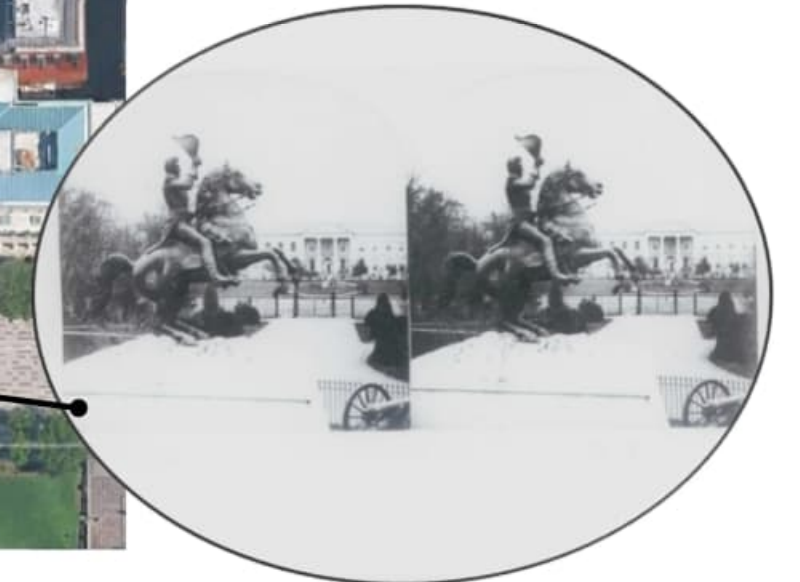
Lafayette Park from H Street, CFA 1885



Finial on Original Lafayette Park Fence, 2009



Original Lafayette Park Iron Fence, Located in Gettysburg Cemetery, 2009



Lafayette Park Fence Gate, 1853-1889



1853 Iron Fence Perimeter



1853 Iron Fence Gate

5. Historic Properties

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

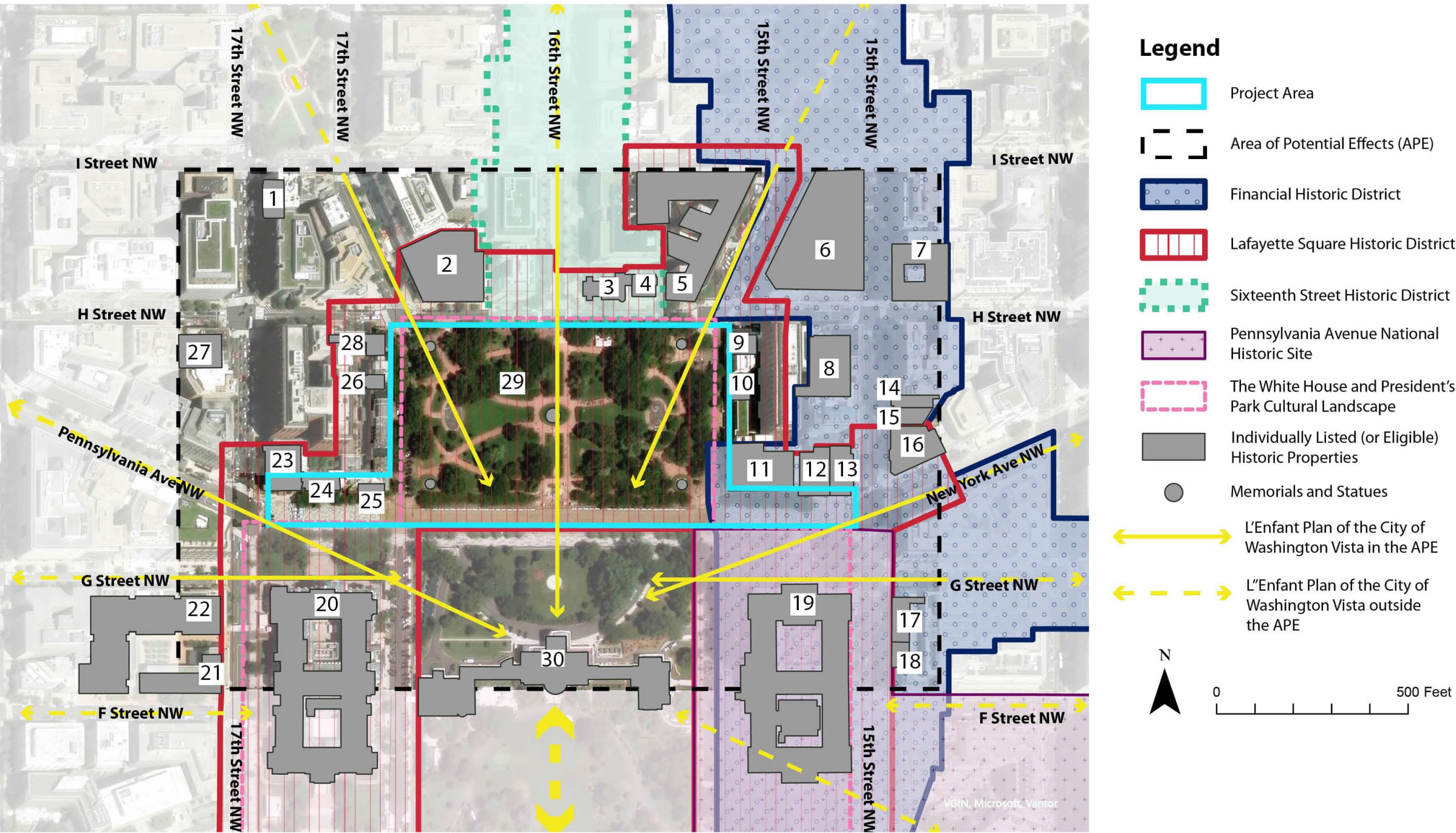
The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) establishes a national preservation program and a system of procedural protections, which encourage both the identification and protection of historic resources, including archeological resources.

- Section 106
 - Requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their projects on historic properties either listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- Section 110
 - Delineates broad historic preservation responsibilities for federal agencies to ensure that historic preservation is fully integrated into their ongoing programs
 - Requires the agency, "to the maximum extent possible," undertake planning and actions as may be necessary to minimize harm to any National Historic Landmark (NHL) that may be directly or indirectly affected by an undertaking.
 - Should consider all prudent and feasible alternatives to avoid an adverse effect on the NHL



Proposed APE Map

The proposed APE includes multiple historic properties and four Historic Districts and Sites, as well as the White House and President’s Park Cultural Landscape.



Individually Listed (or Eligible) Historic Properties

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| 1. Hill Building | 9. Cutts-Madison House | 16. National Savings Trust Building | 24. Blair House |
| 2. US Chamber of Commerce | 10. Benjamin Ogle Tayloe House | 17. Riggs Building (Albee Building) | 25. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace |
| 3. St. John’s Church | 11. Treasury Annex | 18. National Metropolitan Bank | 26. American Peace Society (Charles Glover House) |
| 4. Ashburton House (St. John’s Parish House) | 12. Riggs National Bank | 19. US Department of the Treasury | 27. Metropolitan Club |
| 5. Bureau of War Risk Insurance | 13. American Security and Trust Building | 20. State, War and Navy Building (Eisenhower Executive Office Building) | 28. Stephen Decatur House |
| 6. Lafayette Building | 14. Swartzell, Rheem & Hensey Building | 21. Winder Building | 29. Lafayette Square |
| 7. Southern Building | 15. Hibbs Building (Folger Building) | 22. Federal Home Loan Bank | 30. The White House |
| 8. Union Trust Company | | 23. Renwick Galley | |

Historic Properties Within the Project Area

Lafayette Square Historic District (LSHD)

- NRHP: 1970; NHL: 1970
- 7 contributing structures
- 17 contributing objects
- 35 contributing buildings include:
 - Decatur House
 - Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Headquarters
 - Benjamin Ogle Tayloe House,
 - American Security and Trust Company Building

The White House and President's Park Cultural Landscape

- Potential contributing elements include:
 - Views and Vistas
 - Small-Scale Building Features
 - Constructed Water Features
 - Spatial Organization
 - Buildings and Structures



Lafayette Statue, 2026



Lafayette Lodge, 2026



East Water Feature, 2026

Historic Properties Within the Project Area (continued)

L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington

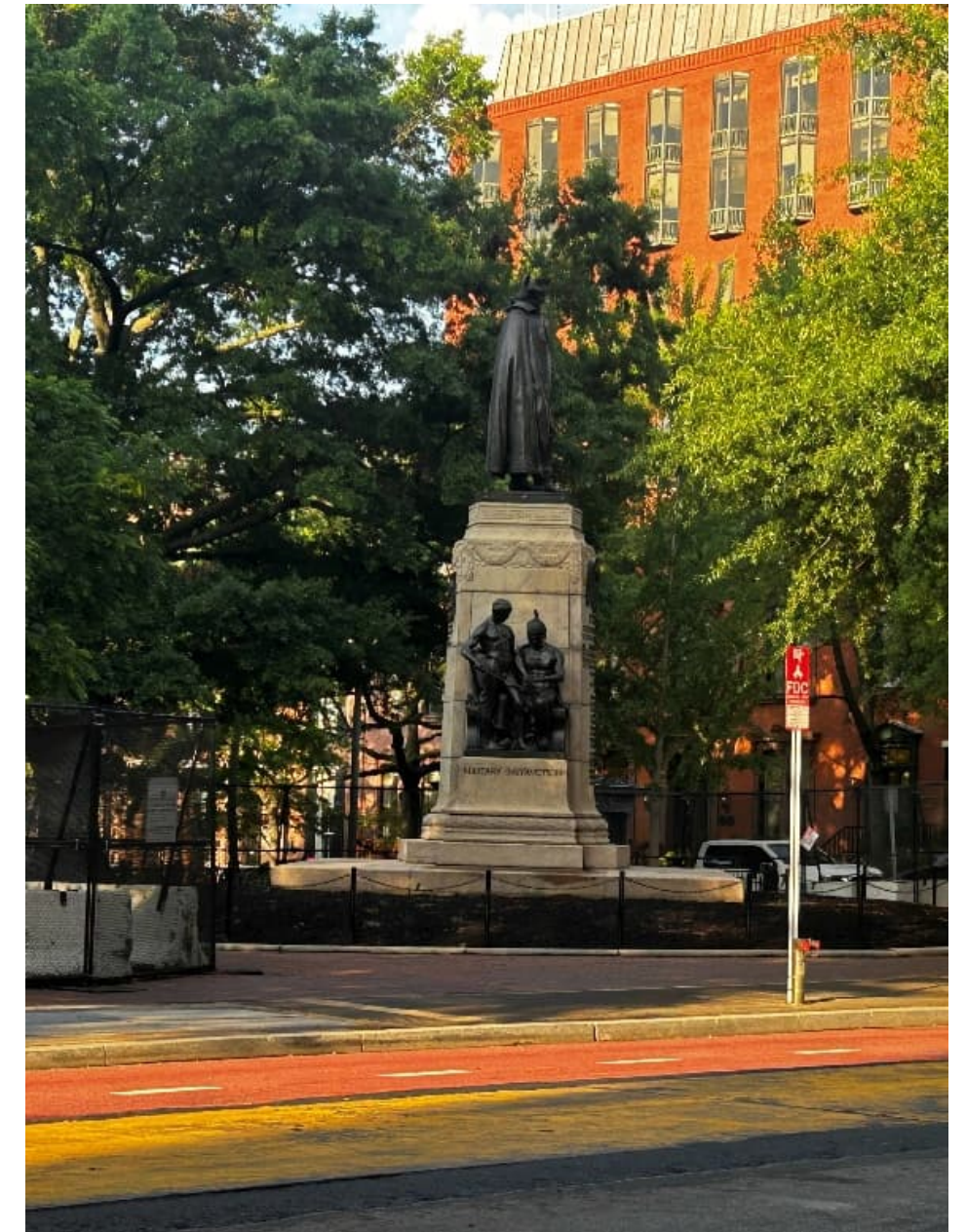
- Period of Significance: 1790 to 1942
- Contributing features include:
 - Reservation No. 1: Presidents Park
 - Reservation No. 10: Lafayette Square [President's Square]
 - Pennsylvania Avenue
 - Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, and Vermont Avenues (White House Precinct) Vistas
 - 16th Street NW (White House) Vista

American Revolutionary Statuary

- 14 bronze statues of Revolutionary War figures
- Statues within Project Area include:
 - General Marquis de Lafayette
 - General Comte de Rochambeau
 - General Baron von Steuben
 - General Thaddeus Kosciuszko



Kosciuszko Statue, 2026



Von Steuben Statue, 2026

Historic Properties Within the APE

Sixteenth Street Historic District

- NRHP: 1978; Amended in 2007
- Period of Significance: 1875 to 1930

Financial Historic District

- NRHP: 2006; Amended in 2016
- Period of Significance: 1836 to 1950
- 36 contributing resources throughout the historic district

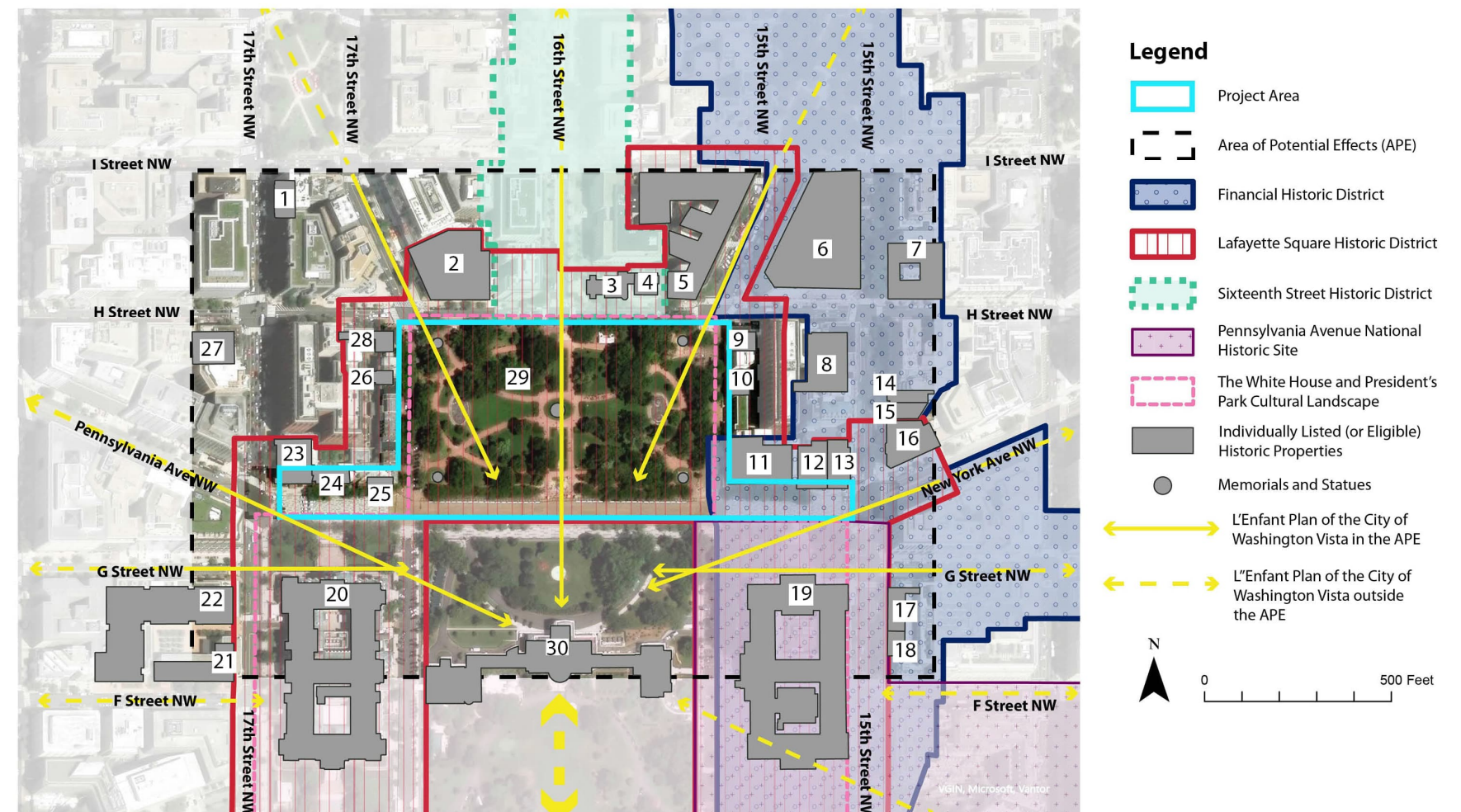
Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site & Cultural Landscape

- NRHP: 1966; Amended in 2007

Individual Resources

Additionally, 24 individual resources located in the APE are eligible or listed in the National Register of Historic Properties (NRHP).

- Individual resources include the following:
 - American Peace Society
 - Renwick Gallery
 - U.S. Chamber of Commerce
 - Saint John's Parish House
 - Stephen Decatur House
 - Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Headquarters
 - Benjamin Ogle Tayloe House
 - American Security and Trust Company Building



Individually Listed (or Eligible) Historic Properties

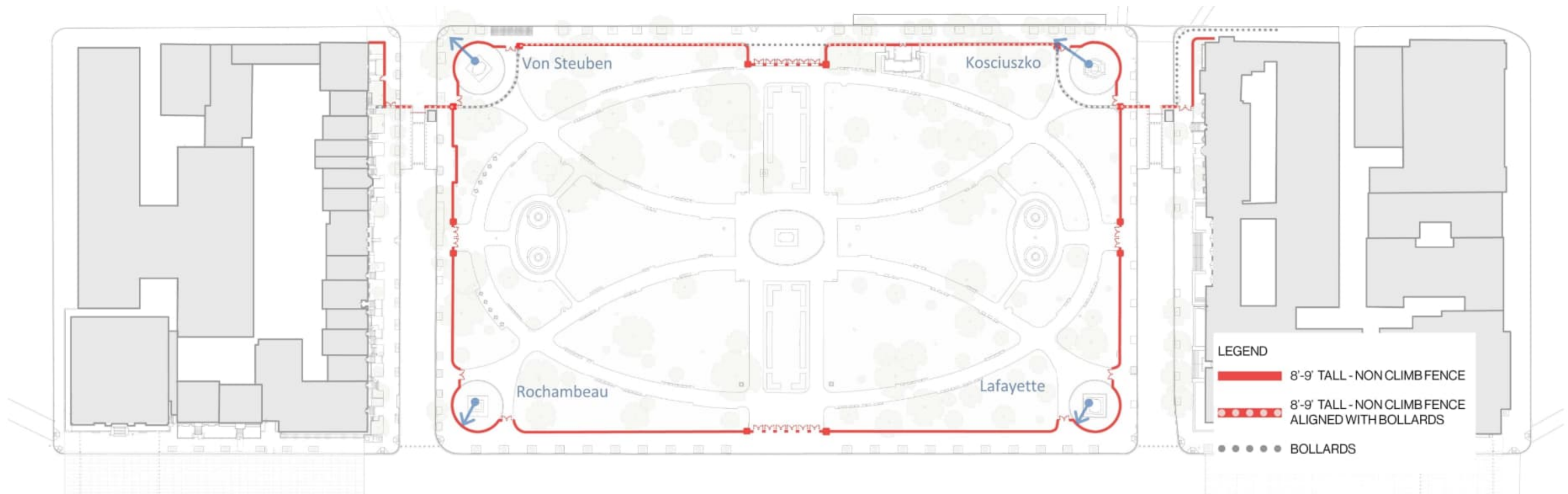
- | | | | |
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| 7. Southern Building | 15. Hibbs Building (Folger Building) | 22. Federal Home Loan Bank | 30. The White House |
| 8. Union Trust Company | | 23. Renwick Gallery | |

6. Alternatives and Discussion

ALTERNATIVES

Alignment 1: Lafayette Park Preferred Alignment

The preferred alignment places the fence along the perimeter of Lafayette Park. The alignment allows flexibility in the North Center Entry gates' placement and style to allow for wider openings. It also provides for a larger hardscape plaza at H Street NW, which will allow for First Amendment gathering activities when the park is closed. Overall, this combination provides a more open visitor experience along H Street while still maintaining security standards needed to secure the park during key moments.



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility in North Center Entry gates placement and style to allow for wider openings because it is no longer aligned with bollards
- Enables hardscape plaza at H and 16th Streets NW, which allows gathering for First Amendment activities when park is closed
- Retains existing park bench locations
- Offers access to statues during Pennsylvania Avenue NW closure

Positives for Operations:

- Swings gates out of the Park towards H Street NW, in the direction of egress
- Accommodates Inauguration stands
- Establishes multiple gates to facilitate egress

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Adds additional barrier line due to moved bollards to entrance along H Street NW at 16th Street NW
- Emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing directly along H Street NW, except at North Center Entry
- Limits viewing area when Pennsylvania Avenue is closed

Negatives for Operations:

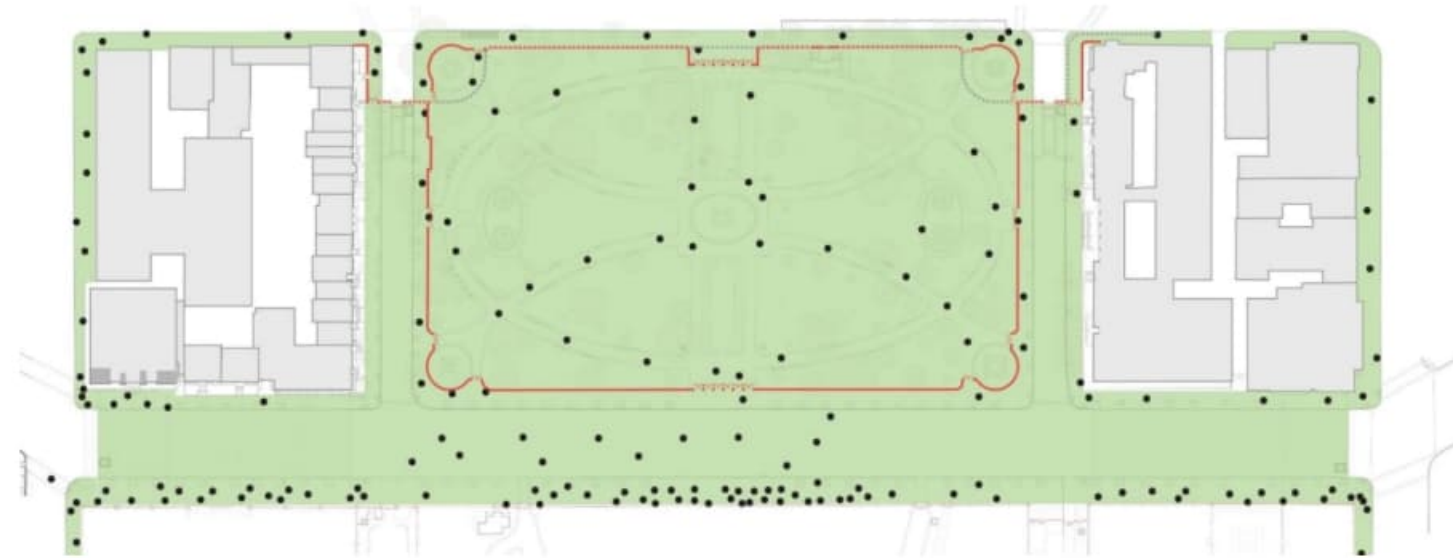
- None identified

ALTERNATIVES

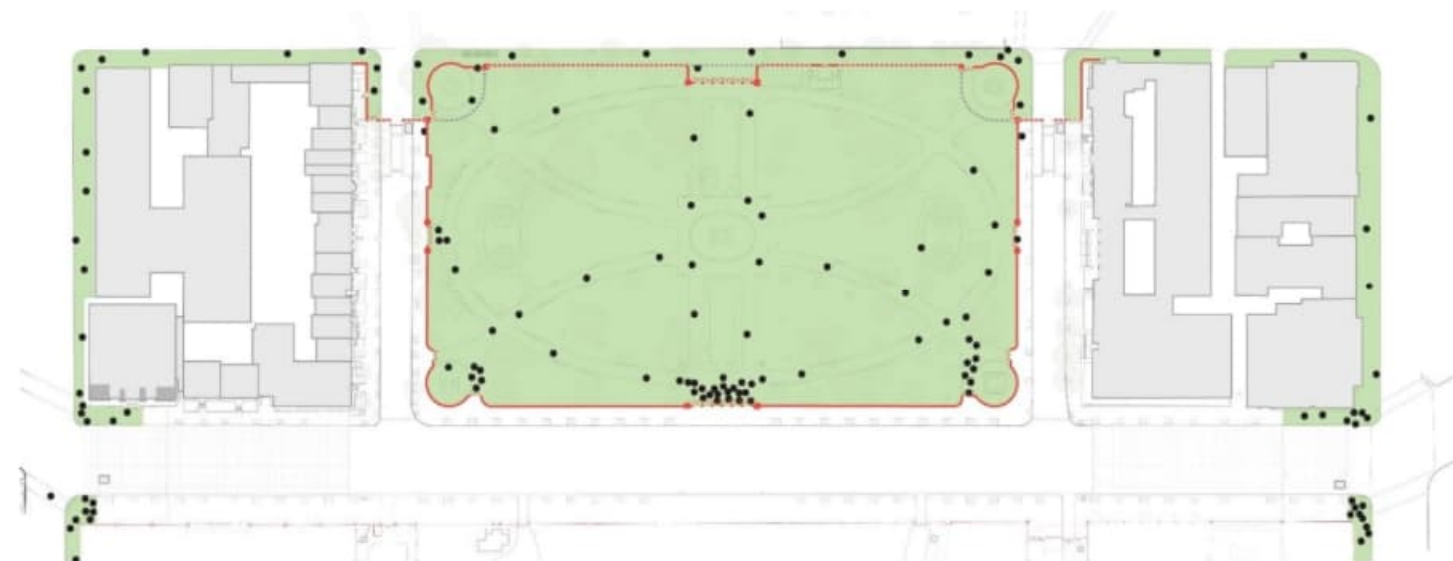
Lafayette Park Security Scenarios: Preferred Alignment 1

The below graphics show Lafayette Park with the preferred alignment implemented and how access to the park would be affected in different security scenarios. Green areas symbolize spaces where the public could access in each scenario, with the black dots representing members of the public. It is anticipated that future submissions will provide data on park closures.

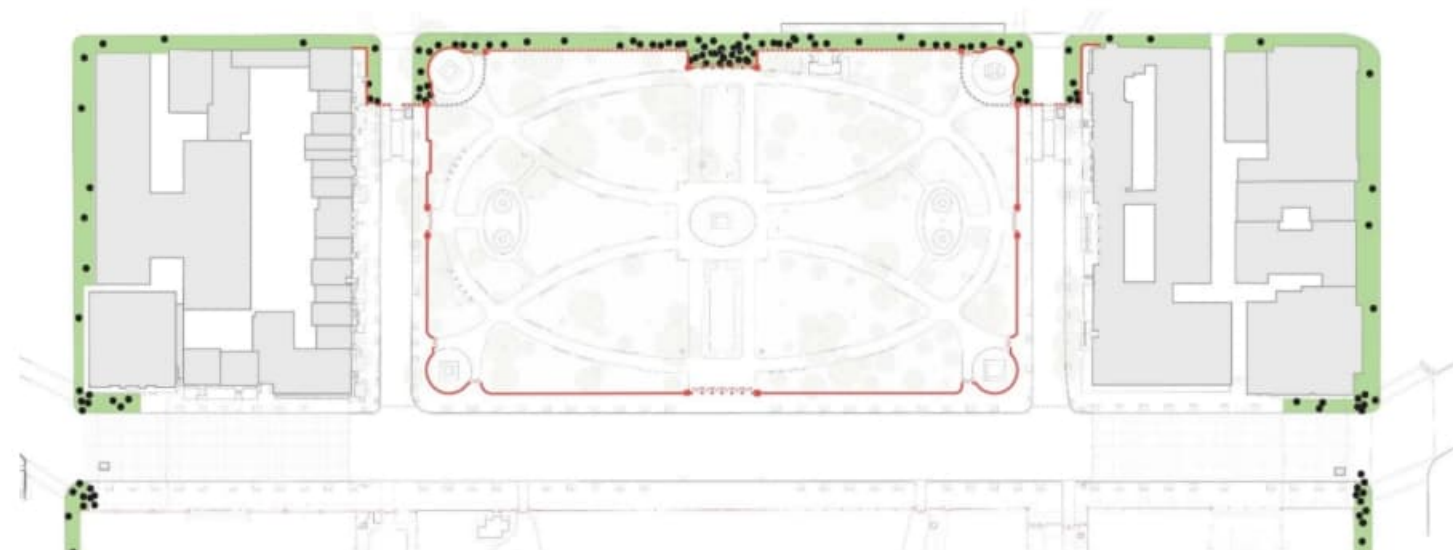
TYPICAL CONDITION



TEMPORARY PARTIAL CLOSURE



TEMPORARY FULL CLOSURE



ALTERNATIVES

H Street looking South: Alignment 1

This rendering shows the preferred fence alignment, Alignment 1, with piers on either side of the northern fence gates on 16th Street NW and H Street NW. The gates allow visitors to move freely in and out of the park when open. The below configuration also allows for a sizable viewing area of the park on H Street NW when the gates are closed.



ALTERNATIVES

H Street looking South at Eye Level: Alignment 1

This rendering shows the preferred fence alignment, Alignment 1, with piers on either side of the northern fence gates on 16th Street NW and H Street NW. The below configuration also allows for a sizable viewing area of the park on H Street NW when the gates are closed. This view is shown at eye level across the street from Lafayette Park.



ALTERNATIVES

H Street looking South: Alignment 1A

This rendering shows the preferred fence alignment with an altered gate configuration, referred to as Alignment 1A. Two sets of gates open beside the center fencing panel. Piers are present on either side of the gates on 16th Street NW and H Street NW, and the middle fencing panel lines up with the Andrew Jackson statue and the White House. This positioning would provide a clearer viewing area for patrons of the park.



ALTERNATIVES

H Street looking South: Alignment 1B

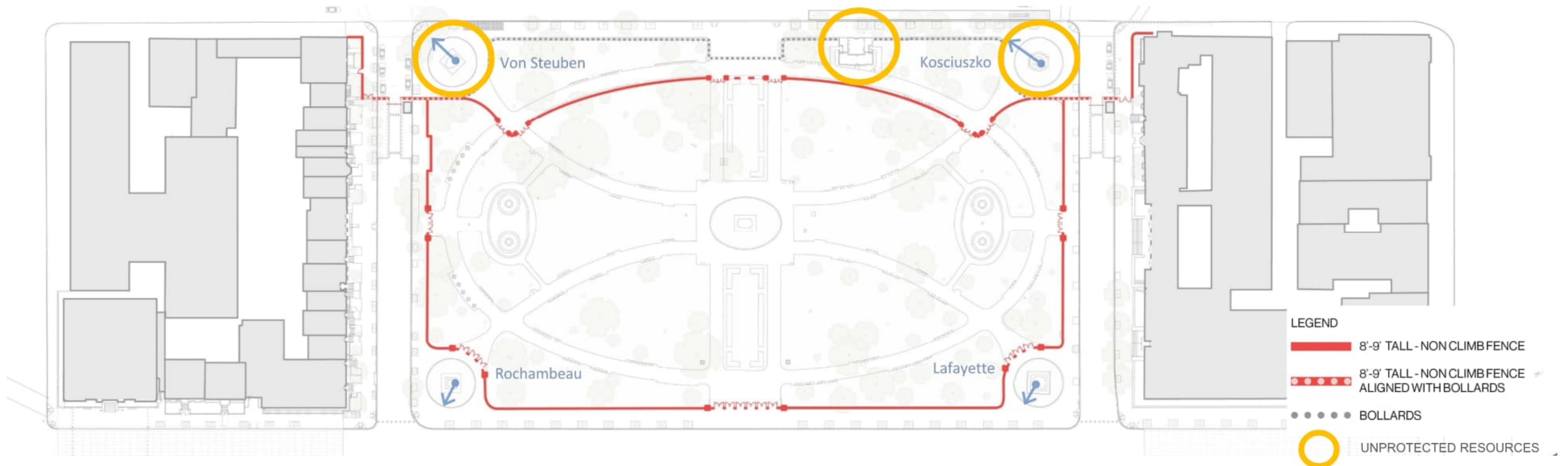
This rendering shows the preferred fence alignment with an altered gate configuration, referred to as Alignment 1B. Two sets of gates open beside the center fencing panel. Piers are present on either side of the gate openings on 16th Street NW and H Street NW. The middle set of gates has 11 gate openings, which allows the middle gate to line up with the Andrew Jackson statue to provide a clearer view for patrons of the park.



ALTERNATIVES

Alignment 2: Lafayette Park Alignment

The alignment of Alignment 2 allows flexibility in the North Center Entry gates style to allow for wider openings. The fencing is placed so that statues remain open to the public at all corners of the park. It also allows a larger hardscape plaza at H Street NW, which will allow for First Amendment gathering activities when the park is closed. Lafayette Lodge will be enclosed with this fence line as well, providing additional security to the structure. Overall, this combination allows the park's statues to remain open to the public regardless of closures, and the perimeter allows for the maintenance of security standards needed to secure the park during key moments.



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Enables larger hardscape plaza at H and 16th Streets NW, which allows gathering for First Amendment activities when park is closed
- Enables more access to park north of fence line along H Street NW, including northern corners, during Park closures
- Provides more open visitor experience along H Street NW
- Appears less imposing due to curvature of fence line
- Allows circulation within southern elliptical walkway during Pennsylvania Avenue NW closure
- Maintains statues open to Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Positives for Operations:

- Swings gates from Pennsylvania Avenue NW into the Park, in the direction of egress
- Accommodates Inauguration stands
- Establishes multiple gates to facilitate egress

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Adds additional barrier line due to fence relocated inboard of entrance along H Street NW at 16th Street NW
- Potentially requires existing benches to be relocated
- Constrains potential gate locations at north center entry
- Limits viewing area when Pennsylvania Avenue is closed

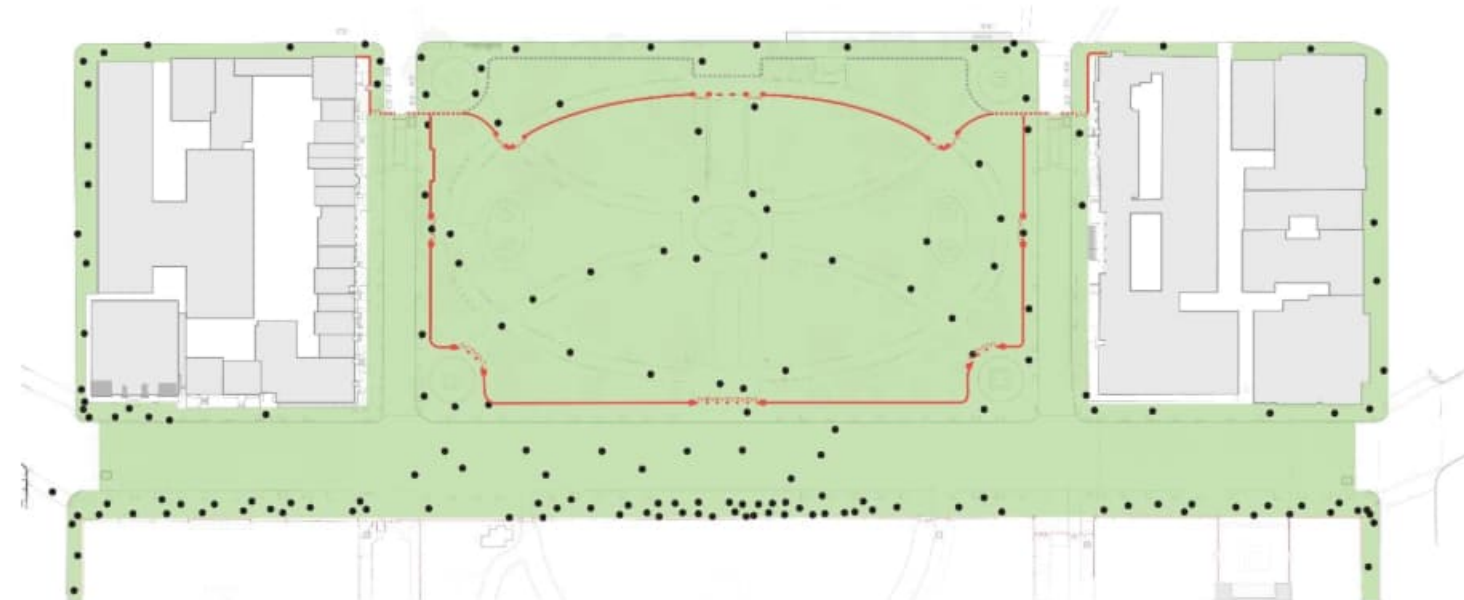
Negatives for Operations:

- Places Lafayette Lodge outside the fence line
- Exposes two statues on H Street NW to potential to vandalism
- Swings East and West gates swing into the Park, against the direction of egress
- Swings north side gates in against the direction of egress from the Park

Lafayette Park Security Scenarios: Alignment 2

The below graphics show Lafayette Park with the preferred alignment implemented and how access to the park would be affected in different security scenarios. Green areas symbolize spaces where the public could be present in each scenario, with the black dots representing members of the public.

TYPICAL CONDITION



TEMPORARY PARTIAL CLOSURE



TEMPORARY FULL CLOSURE



ALTERNATIVES

H Street looking South: Alignment 2

This rendering shows Alignment 2 with two sets of gate openings on either side of a center fencing panel. The middle fencing panel lines up with the Andrew Jackson statue and the White House. This positioning will provide a clearer viewing area for patrons of the park. This configuration also permits a sizable viewing area of the park on H Street NW and the northern path of the park when the gates are closed.



ALTERNATIVES

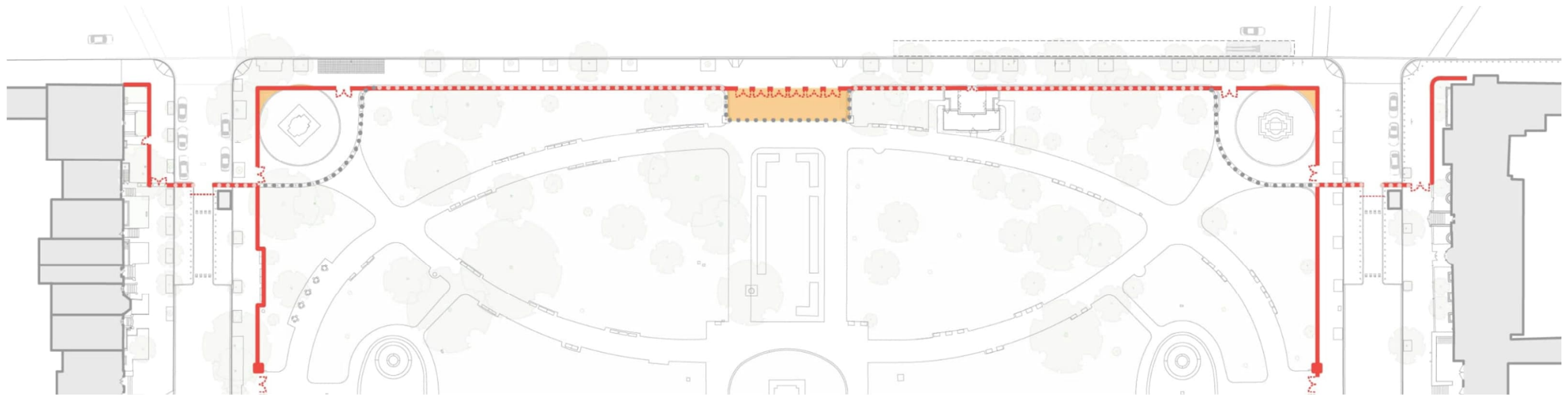
H Street looking South at Eye Level: Alignment 2

This rendering shows Alignment 2 with two sets of gate openings on either side of a center fencing panel. When closed, this positioning will provide a clearer viewing area for patrons of the park. This configuration also permits a sizable viewing area of the park on H Street NW and the northern path of the park when the gates are closed. This view is shown at eye level across the street from Lafayette Park.



Alignment 3: North Alignment Exploration

Another alignment along the northern portion of Lafayette Park explored installing a fence straight along H Street NW. This alignment allows flexibility in the North Center Entry gates' placement and style to enable wider openings. It does not provide a plaza at H Street NW for First Amendment gathering activities when the park is closed. Overall, this combination provides a secure perimeter along H Street that maintains security standards needed to secure the park during key moments. This exploration does not currently include assessments of a southern alignment.



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility in North Center Entry gates placement and style to allow for wider openings because it is no longer aligned with bollards
- Retains existing park bench locations

Positives for Operations:

- Protects the Lafayette Lodge and statues

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing directly along H Street NW
- Limits viewing area when the park is closed
- Closes northern corners of the Park, limiting access during Park closures
- Conflicts with plinths around statues
- Limits access to statues

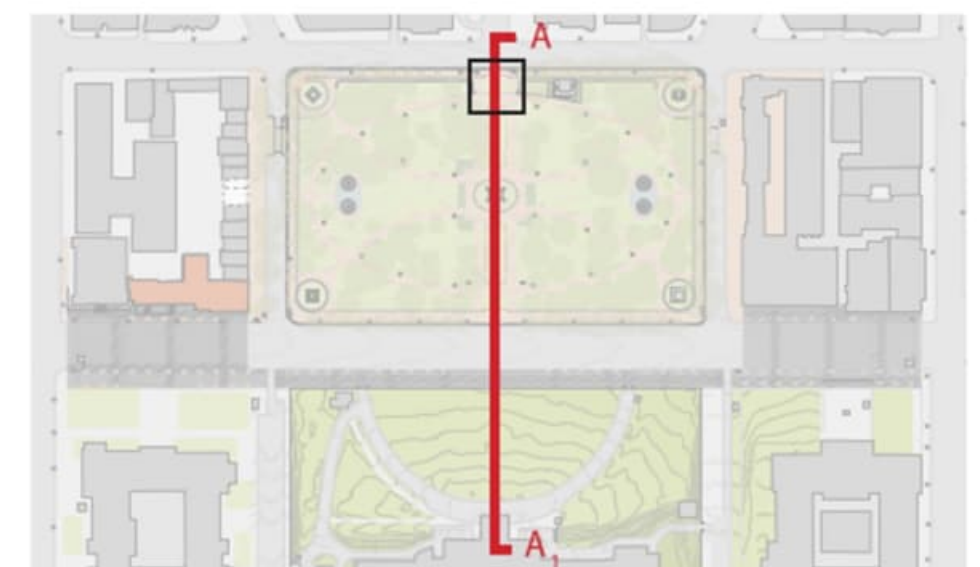
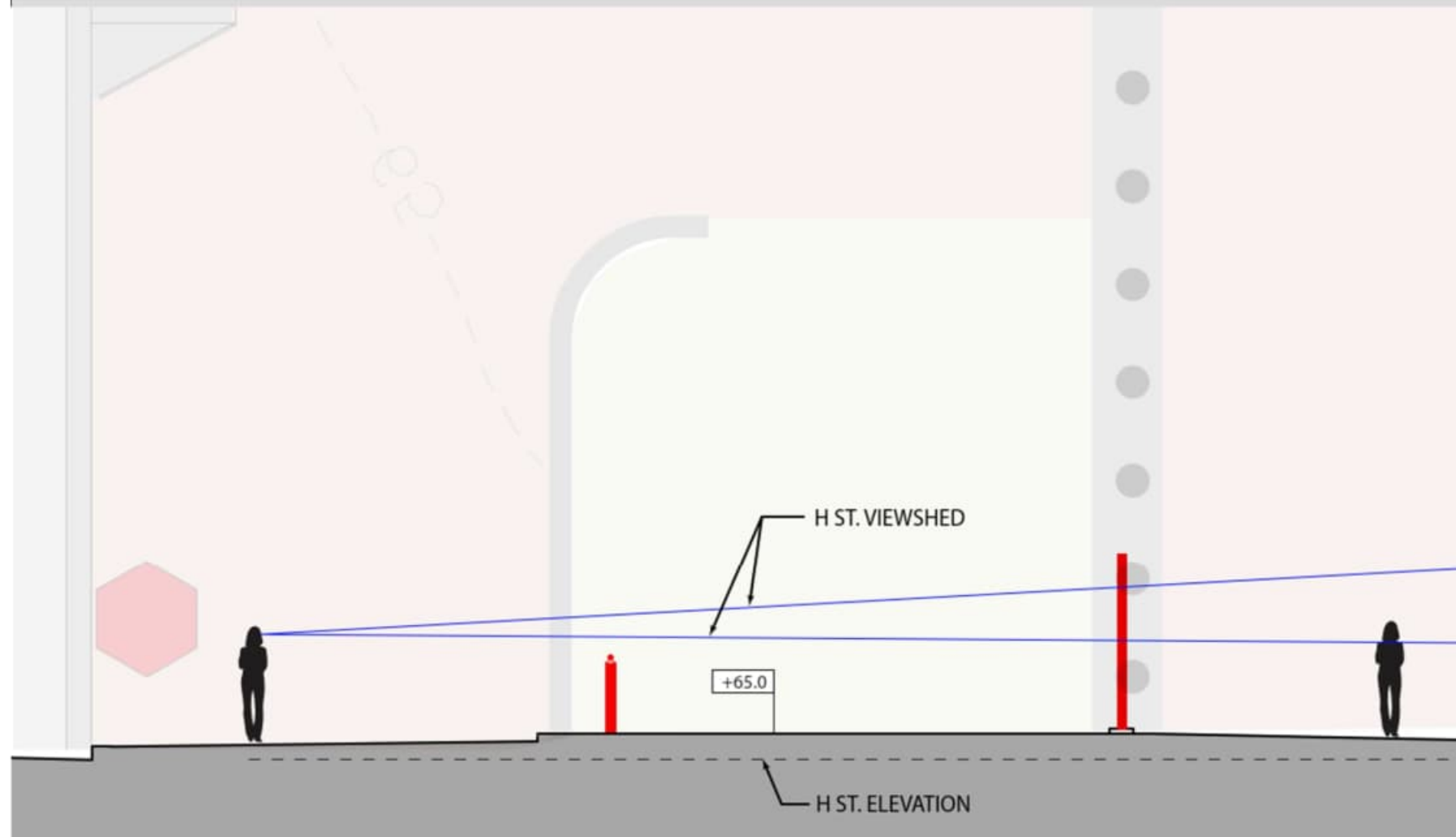
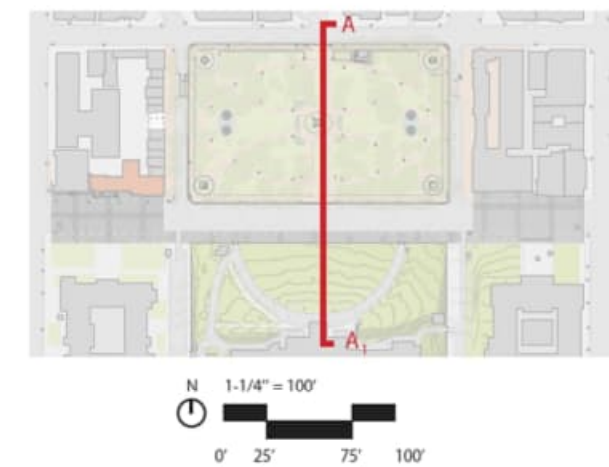
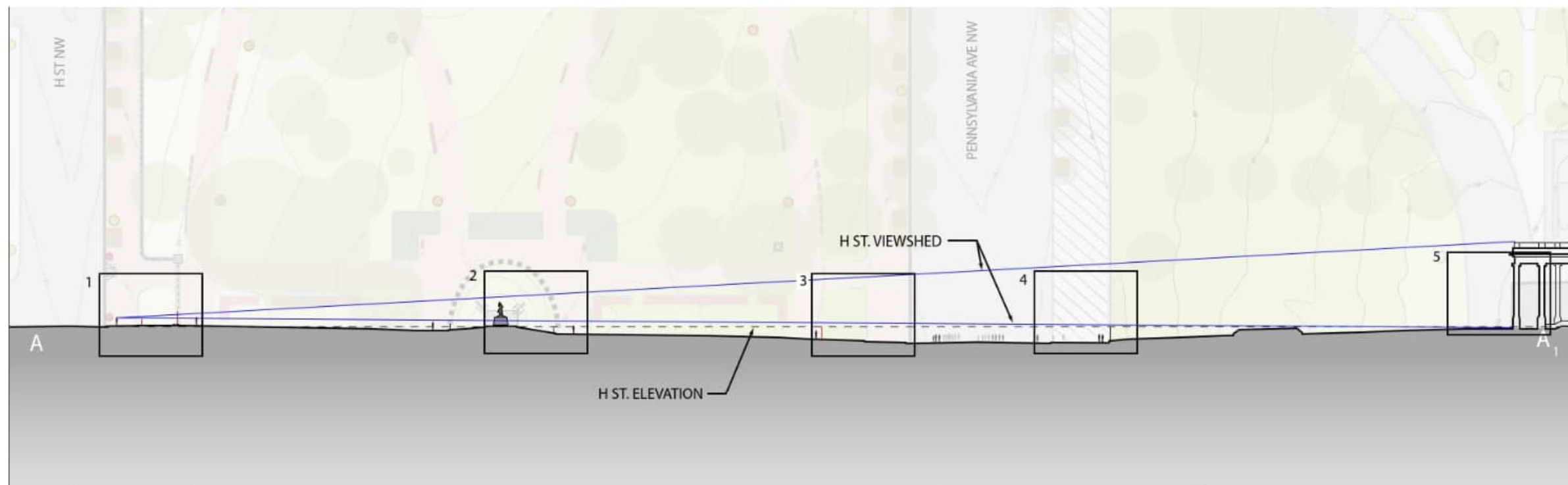
Negatives for Operations:

- Swings north side gates into the Park, against the direction of egress
- Exposes pedestrian gates at 16th and H Streets NW to potential vehicle intrusions

ALTERNATIVES

North/South Axis Overview & Section 1

The North/ South Axis section shown below illustrates the elevation and sightlines of key points within Lafayette Park. Section 1 of the site's North and South Axis section show the elevation and lines of sight from northern edge of the park. However, statue views are interrupted when standing outside of the proposed fencing or looking through a closed gate as shown through the sightline below.

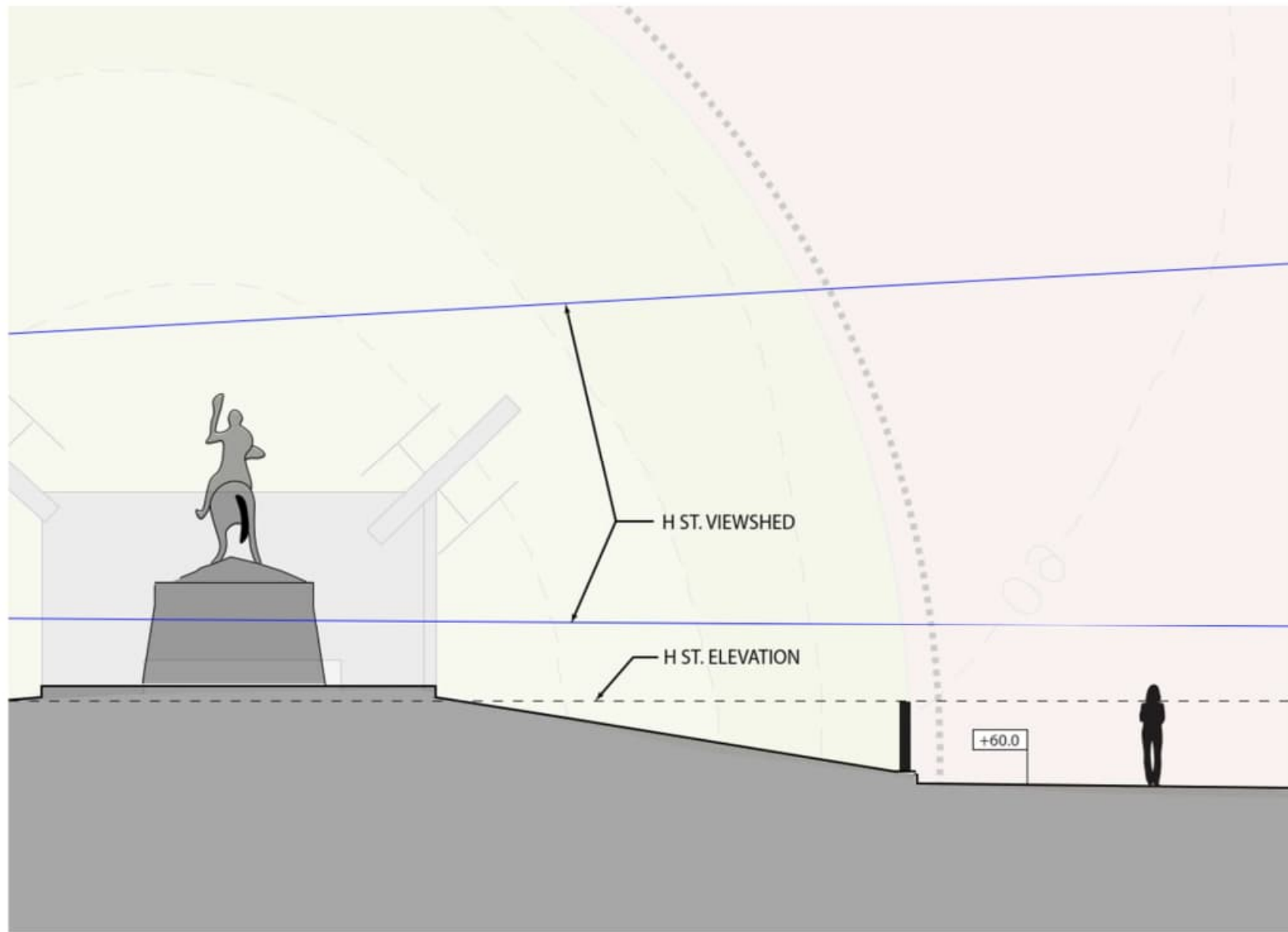


Section 1

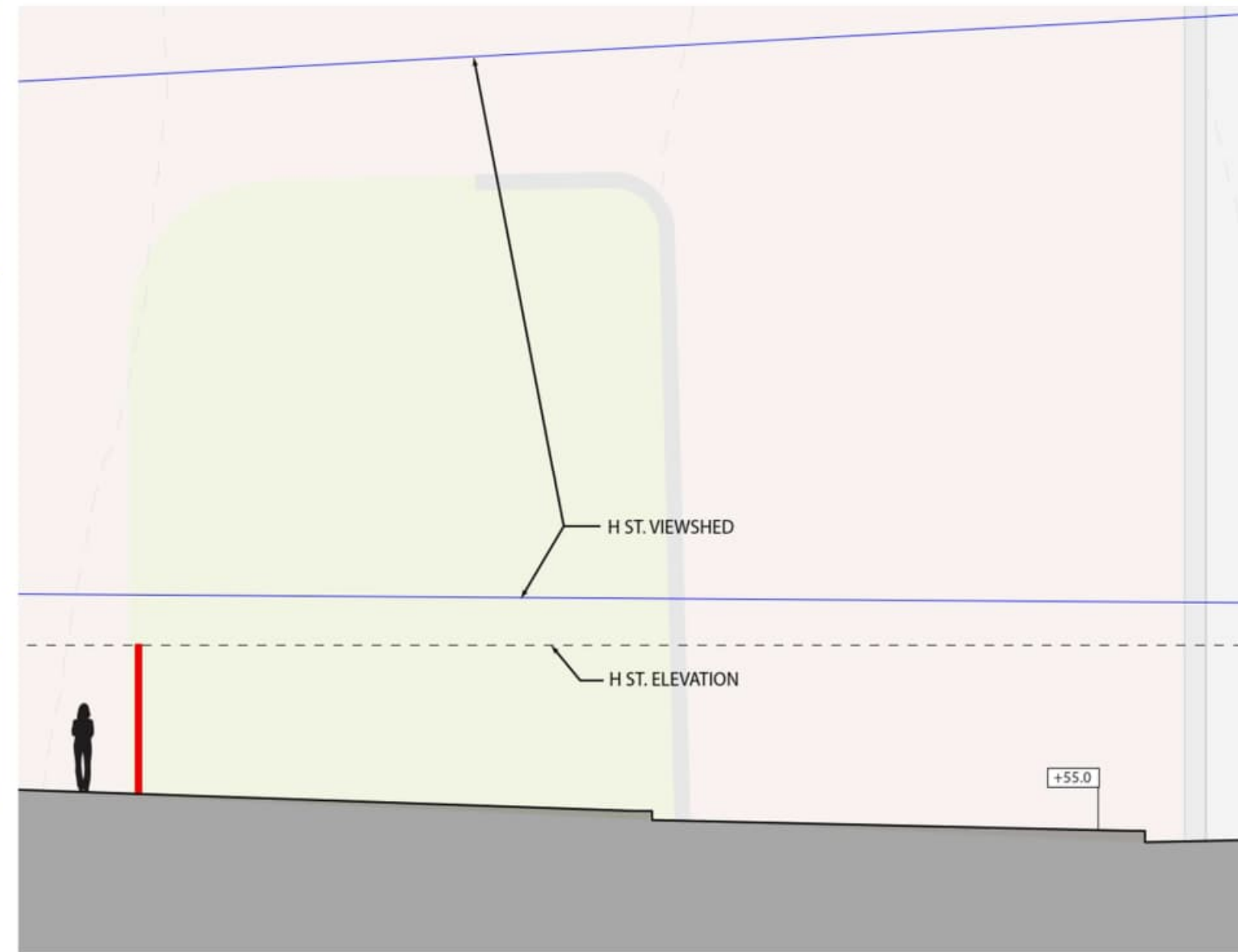
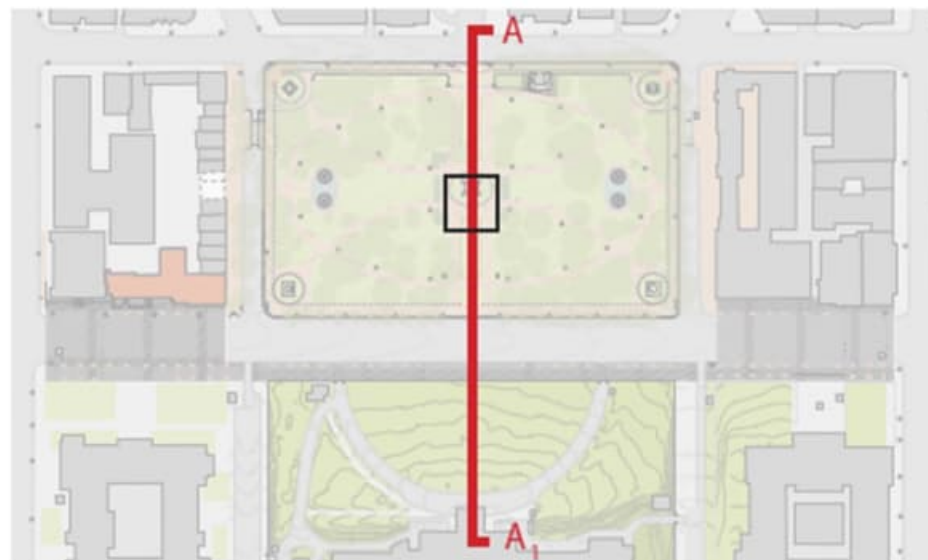
ALTERNATIVES

North/South Axis Sections 2 & 3

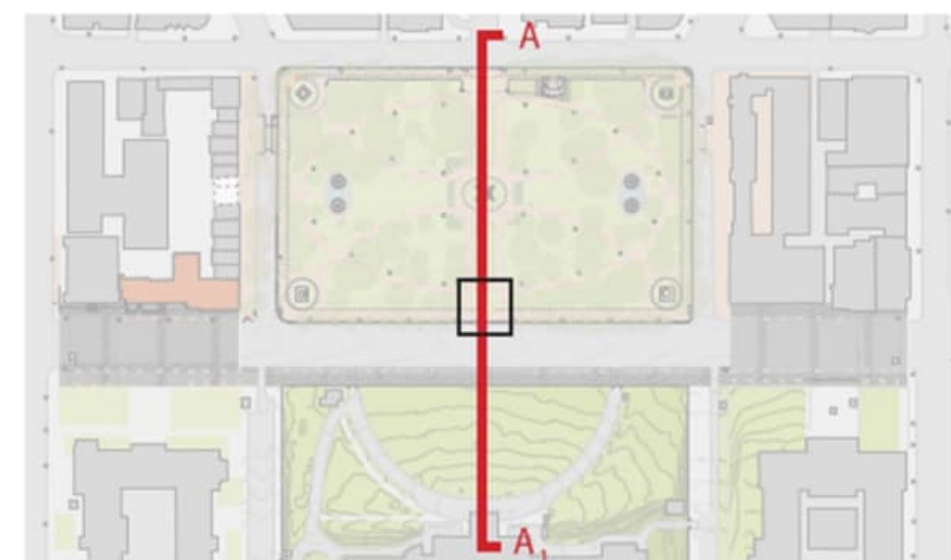
Section 2 and 3 of the site's North and South Axis section show the elevation and lines of sight from the middle of the park. Once past the proposed fencing or looking through a gate, the historic Andrew Jackson statue is visible and views are minimally interrupted. Based on the blue sight lines, a visitor standing at the northern side of Lafayette Park would be able to see over the White House fence and be able to view the structure unobstructed by the White House fence.



Section 2



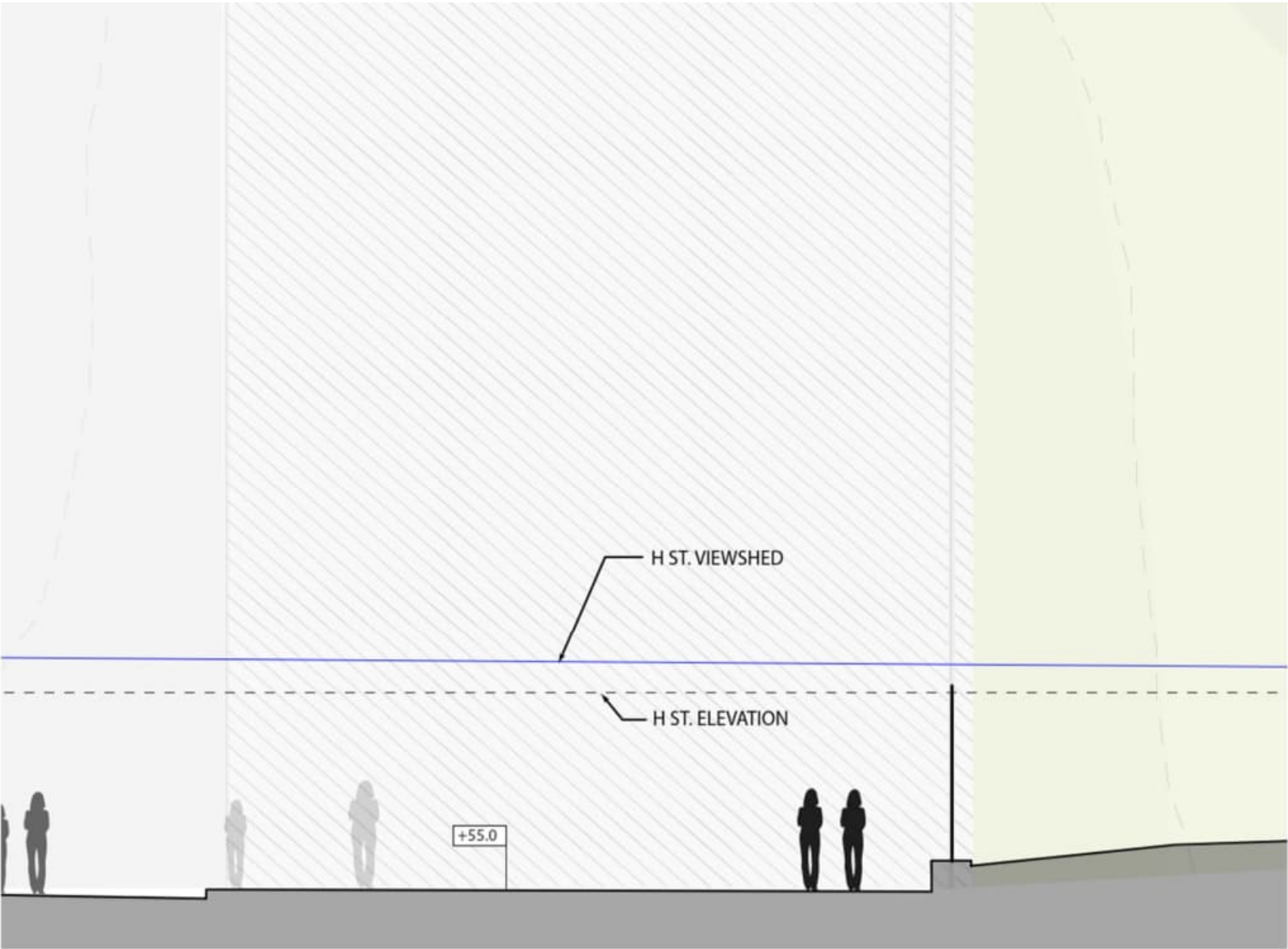
Section 3



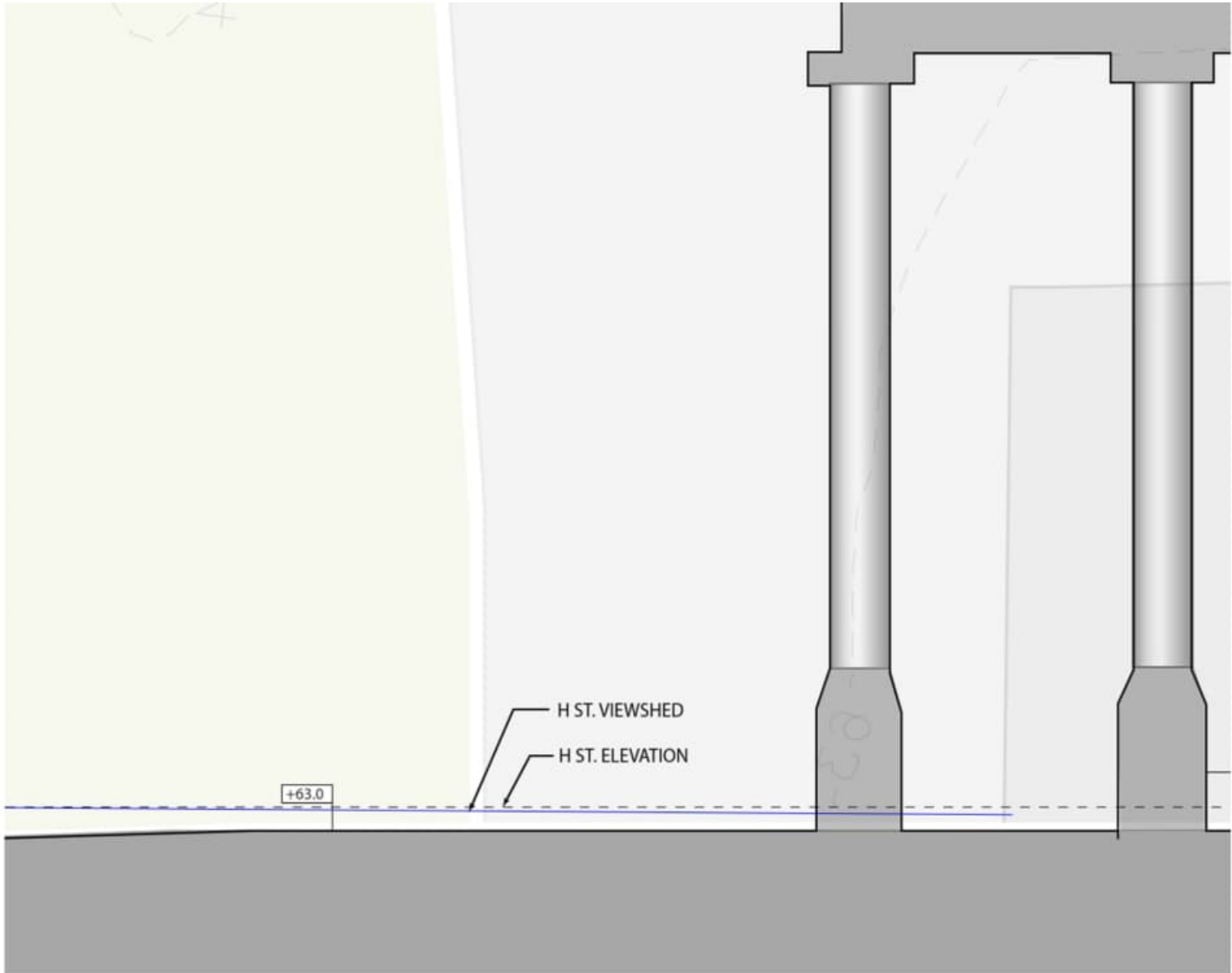
ALTERNATIVES

North/South Axis Sections 4 & 5

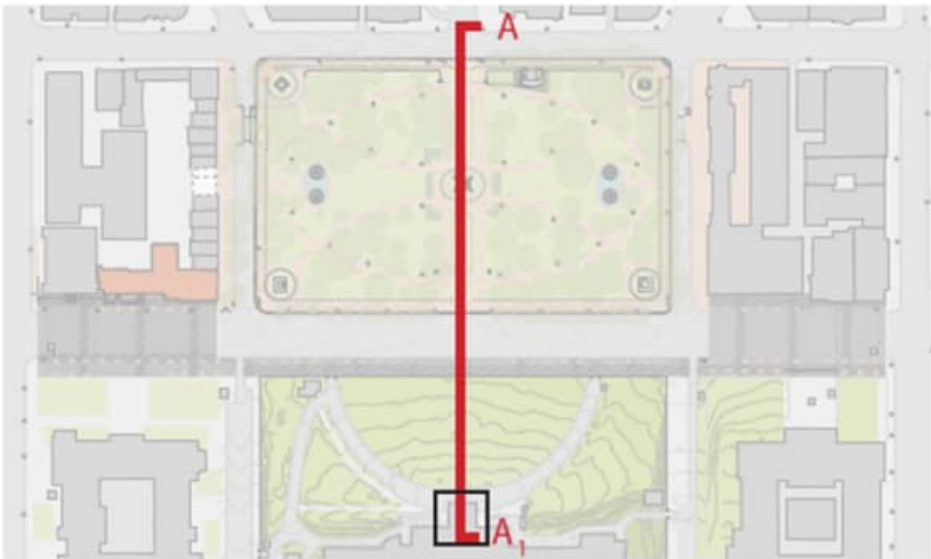
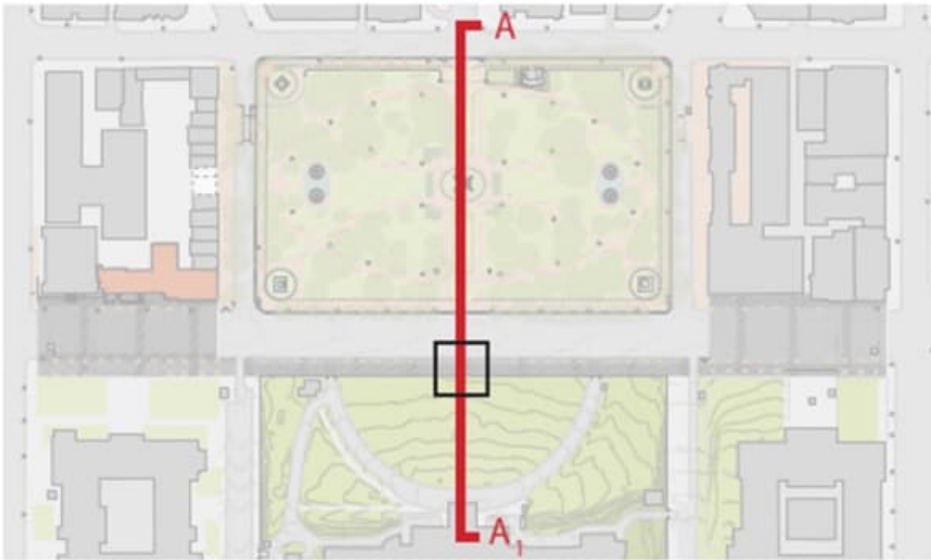
Sections 4 and 5 of the site's North and South Axis section show the elevation and lines of sight from the southern edge of Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Based on the blue sight lines, a visitor standing at the northern side of Lafayette Park would be able to see over the White House fence and be able to view the structure unobstructed by the White House fence. Section 5 of the site's North and South Axis section shows the elevation and lines of sight from the southern side of the White House complex. Based on the blue sight lines, a visitor standing at the southern side of the area would be able to see the White House fence based on the similar elevations of 63 feet at the White House and 65 feet at the northern edge of Lafayette Park.



Section 4



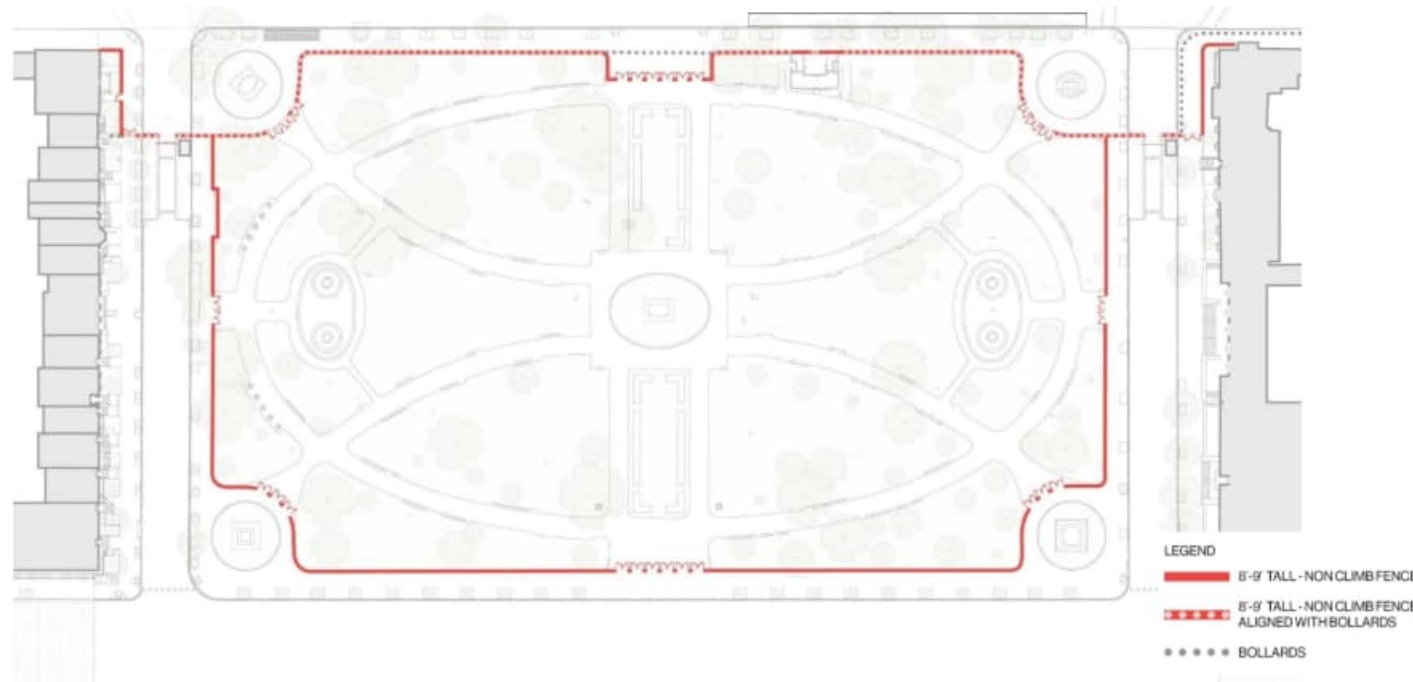
Section 5



ALTERNATIVES

Alignments Considered

These alignments were considered during the design process and were not advanced in the process due to a variety of reasons. The alignment on the left does not protect the statues surrounding the park due to the fencing curving around each of the four statues, and it creates additional maintenance requirements for NPS to manage and clean the statues from potential vandalism. Furthermore, the alignment on the left emphasizes the closed feeling of the park due to the continuous fencing of south of the elliptical walkway, required the coordination of fencing with existing bench locations.



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility in North Center Entry gates placement and style to allow for wider openings
- Allows circulation within southern elliptical walkway during Pennsylvania Avenue NW closure
- Maintains statues open to Pennsylvania Avenue NW
- Enables hardscape plaza at H and 16th Streets NW, which allows gathering for First Amendment activities when park is closed
- Retains existing park bench locations
- Aligns with historic fence location

Positives for Operations:

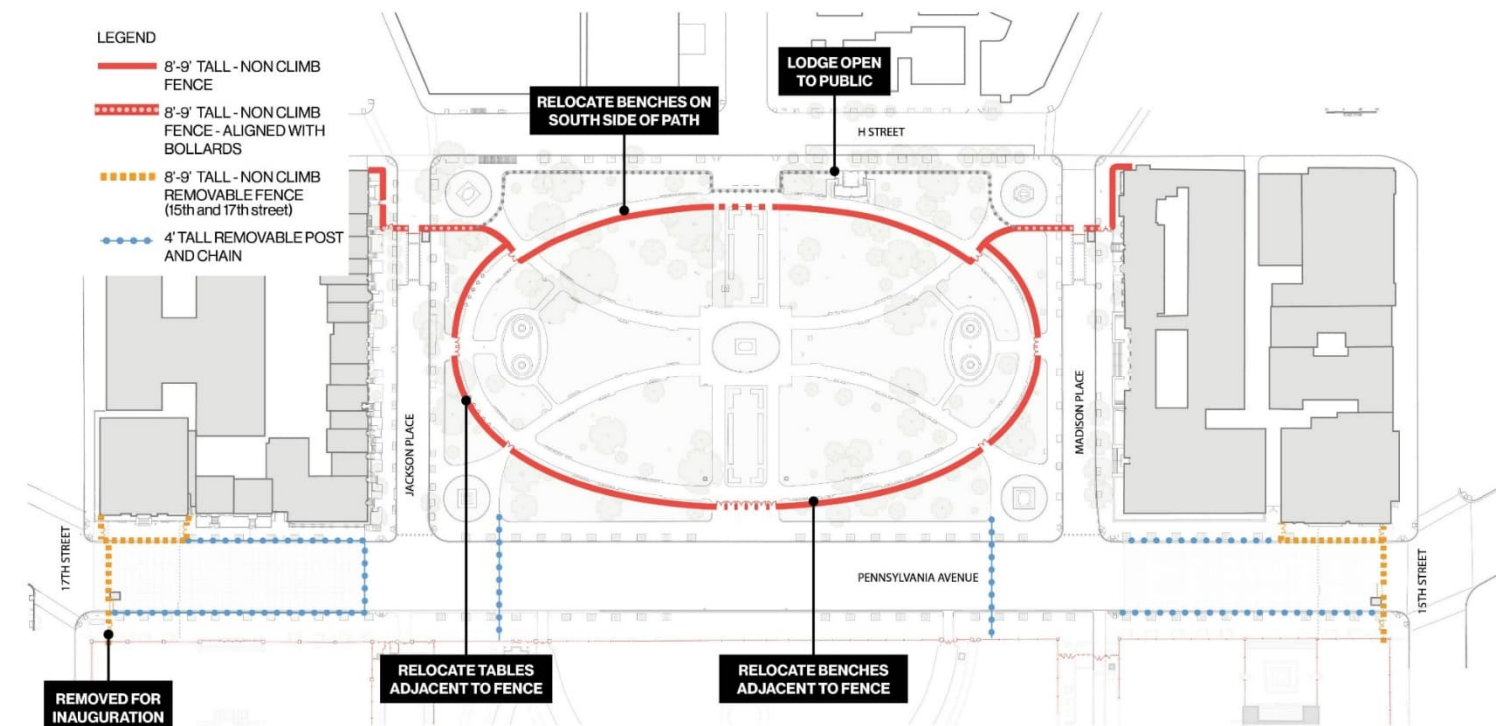
- Swings north side gates out in the direction of egress from the Park; Swings gates from Pennsylvania Avenue NW into the Park, in the direction of egress
- Places Lafayette Lodge within the fence line
- Accommodates Inauguration stands
- Establishes multiple gates to facilitate egress

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Adds additional barrier line due to moved bollards to entrance along H Street NW at 16th Street NW
- Emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing directly along H Street NW, except at North Center Entry
- Limits fence design due to bollard placement
- Limits viewing area when Pennsylvania Avenue is closed

Negatives for Operations:

- Leaves statues outside of the fence line



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility in North Center Entry gates placement and style to allow for wider openings
- Allows circulation within southern elliptical walkway during Pennsylvania Avenue NW closure
- Offers more open fence design opportunities because it is no longer aligned with bollards
- Enables larger hardscape plaza at H and 16th Streets NW, which allows gathering for First Amendment activities when park is closed
- Enables more access to park north of fence line along H Street NW, including northern corners, during Park closures; provides more open visitor experience along H Street NW
- Appears less imposing due to curvature of fence line

Positives for Operations:

- Swings north side gates out in the direction of egress from the Park
- Swings gates from Pennsylvania Avenue NW into the Park, in the direction of egress
- Accommodates Inauguration stands

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Potentially requires existing benches to be relocated
- Requires coordination of fence with existing park bench locations
- Limits viewing area when Pennsylvania Avenue is closed
- Emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing along the elliptical walkway, rather than Pennsylvania Avenue NW

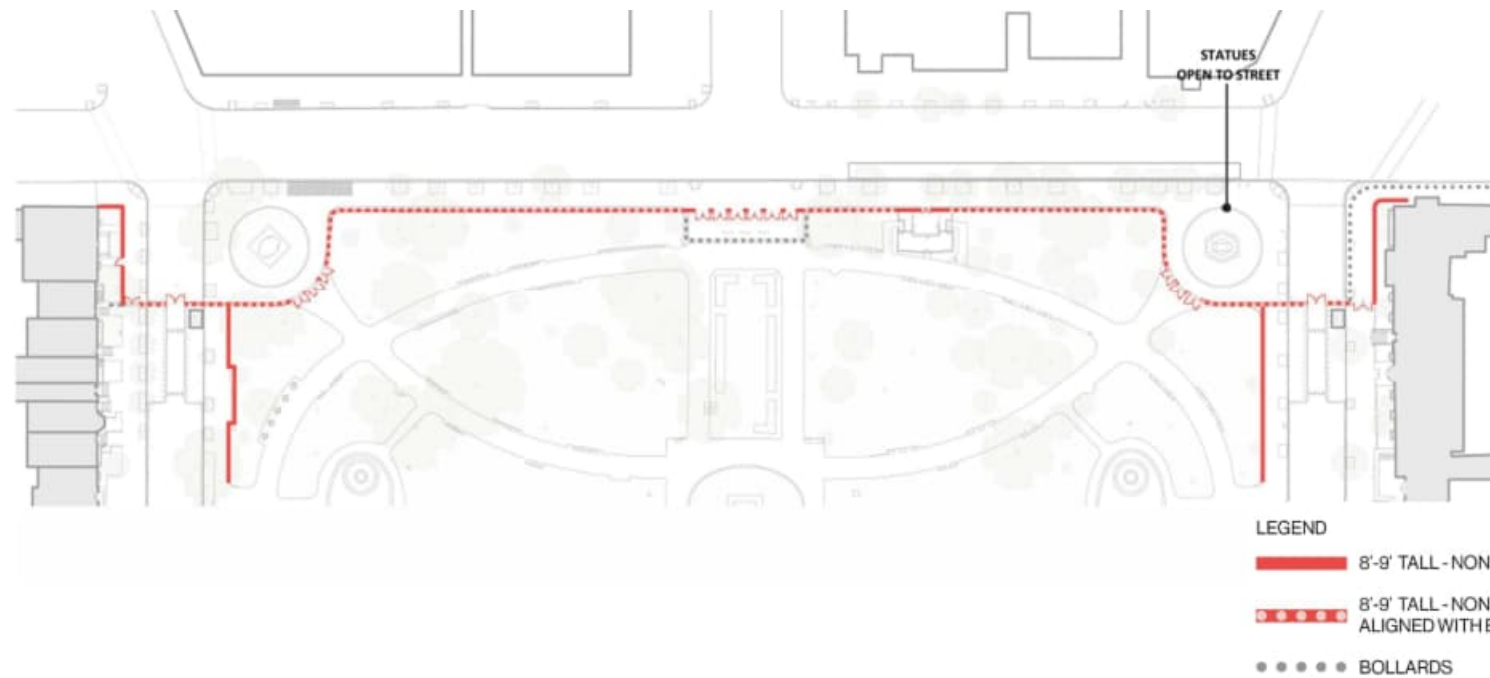
Negatives for Operations:

- Places Lafayette Lodge outside of fence line
- Places statues outside of fence line

ALTERNATIVES

Alignments Considered

These alignments were considered during the design process and were not advanced in the process due to a variety of reasons. The alignment on the left shows the gates in line with the park fence, creating a closed-off area and prevents a viewing space for visitors on H Street NW. Also, it does not protect the statues surrounding the park due to the fencing curving around each of the four statues, and it creates additional maintenance requirements for NPS to manage and clean the statues from potential vandalism. Furthermore, the alignment on the right emphasizes the closed feeling of the park due to the gate being in line with the continuous fencing around the park and sharp corners at the statues. These sharp corners limit the public's access to the statues outside of the fencing.



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility at H and 16th Streets NW gates placement and style to allow for wider openings
- Maximizes the feeling of openness within the park
- Places northern corners of the park outside of the fence, ensuring that area is open to the public at all times
- Retains existing park bench locations

Positives for Operations:

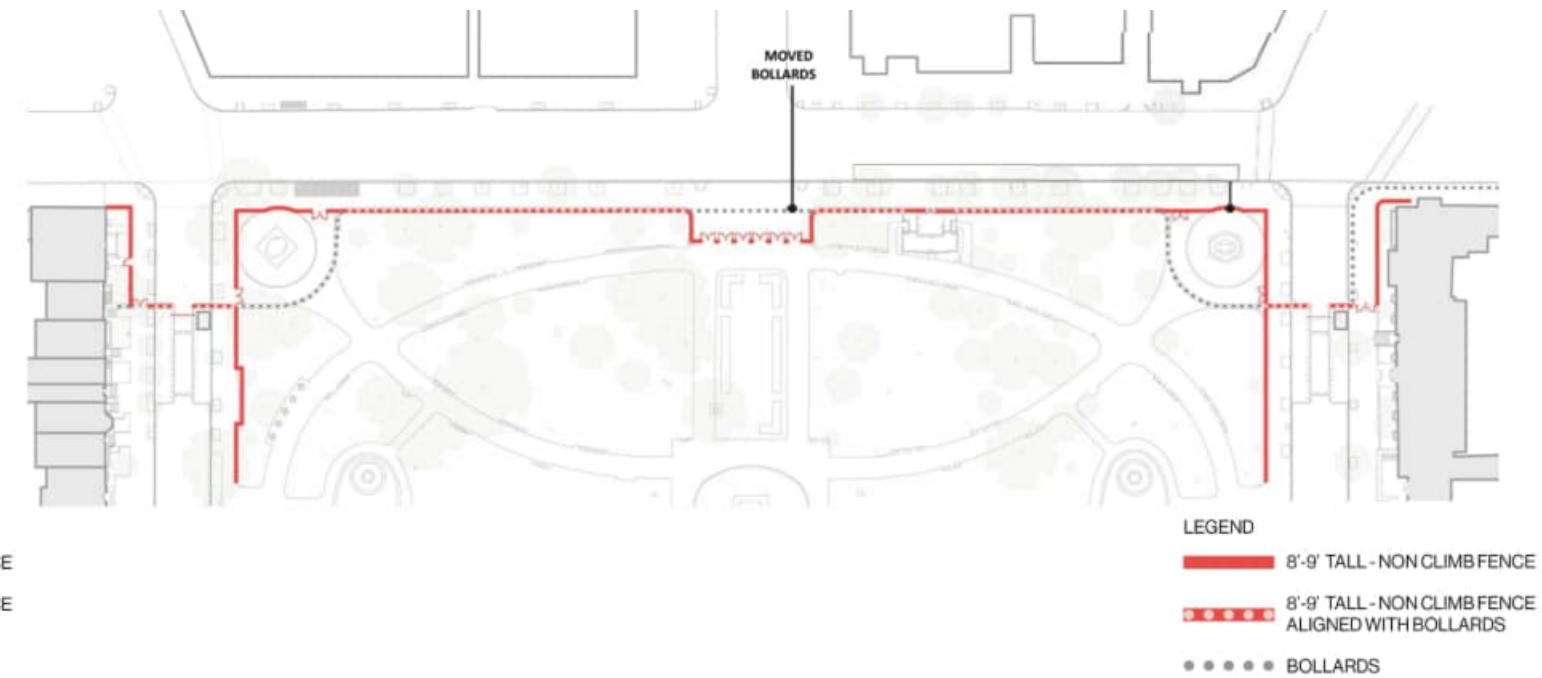
- Places Lafayette Lodge within the fence line
- Retains existing north bollard line

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Does not provide gathering space at 16th Street NW during closures
- Emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing directly along H Street NW, except at corners
- Closes northern corners of the Park, limiting access during Park closures
- Limits fence design due to bollard placement

Negatives for Operations:

- Exposes two statues on H Street NW to potential to vandalism
- Swings north side gates into the Park, against the direction of egress
- Exposes center fence to potential vehicle intrusions



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility in North Center Entry gates placement and style to allow for wider openings
- Enables hardscape plaza at H and 16th Streets NW, which allows gathering for First Amendment activities when park is closed
- Retains existing park bench locations
- Aligns with historic fence location

Positives for Operations:

- Swings north side gates out in the direction of egress from the Park
- Places Lafayette Lodge within the fence line
- Places statues within fence line

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Adds additional barrier line due to moved bollards to entrance along H Street NW at 16th Street NW
- Emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing directly along H Street NW, except at North Center Entry
- Limits fence design (likely decreasing visibility) due to bollard placement
- Closes northern corners of the Park, limiting access during Park closures
- Limits access to statues

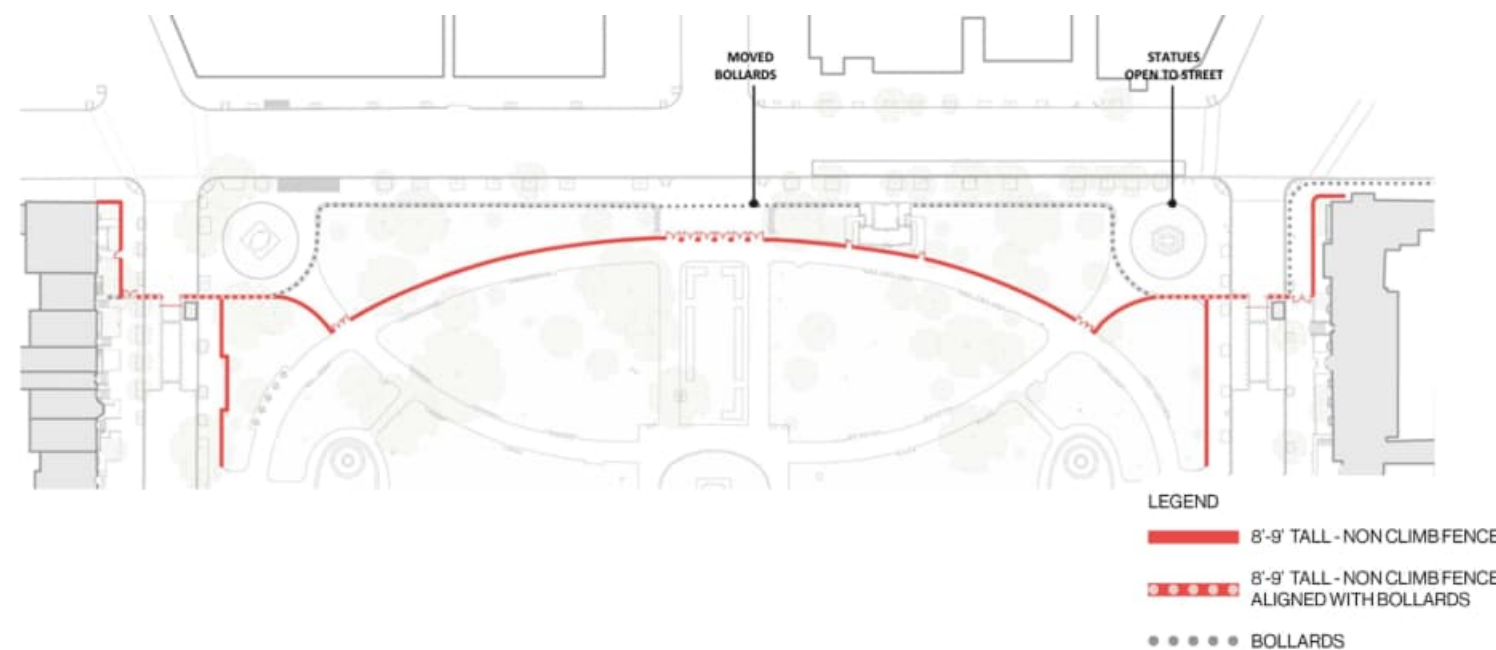
Negatives for Operations:

- None identified

ALTERNATIVES

Alignments Considered

These alignments were considered during the design process and were not advanced in the process due to a variety of reasons. Both alignments do not protect the statues surrounding the park due to the fencing curving around each of the four statues, and it creates additional maintenance requirements for NPS to manage and clean the statues from potential vandalism. Furthermore, both alignments emphasize the closed feeling of the park due to the continuous fencing of north of the elliptical walkway, required the coordination of fencing with existing bench locations.



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility in North Center Entry gates placement and style to allow for wider openings
- Offers more open fence design opportunities because it is no longer aligned with bollards
- Enables larger hardscape plaza at H and 16th Streets NW, which allows gathering for First Amendment activities when park is closed
- Enables more access to park north of fence line along H Street NW, including northern corners, during Park closures
- Provides more open visitor experience along H Street NW
- Appears less imposing due to curvature of fence line

Positives for Operations:

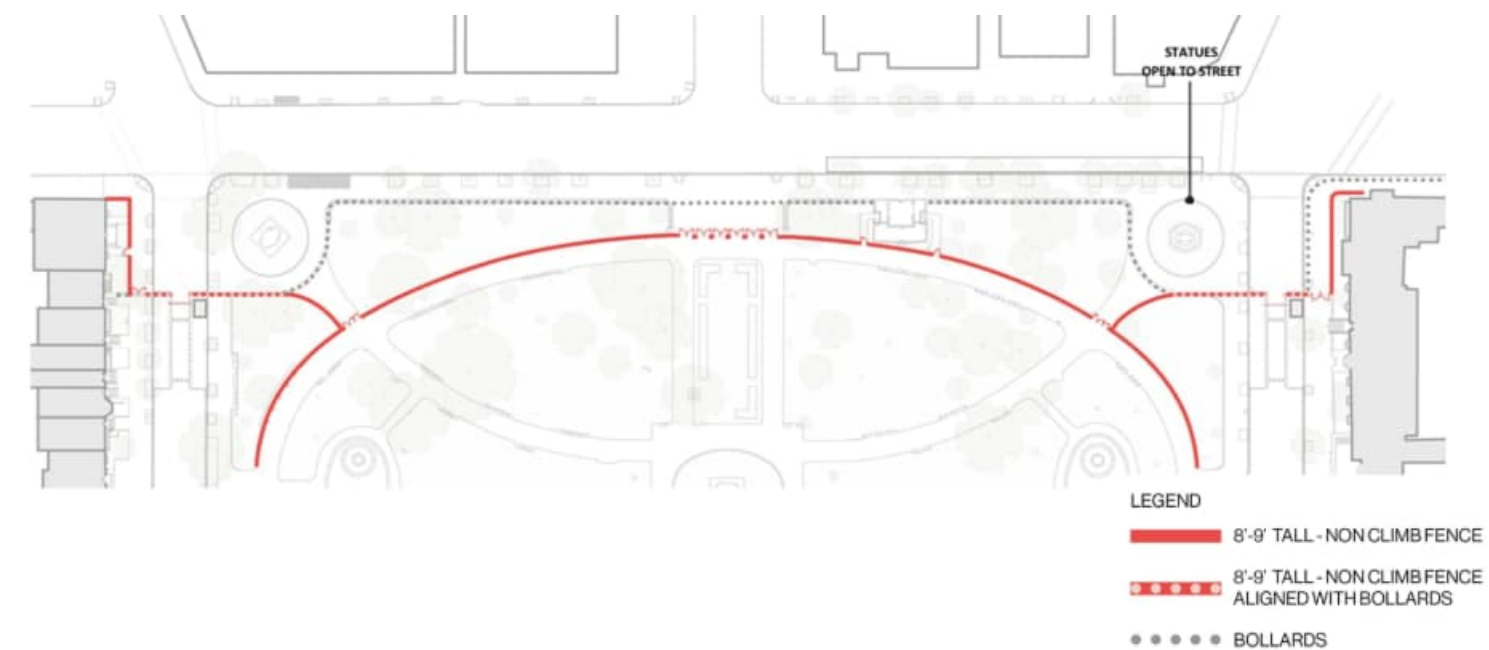
- Swings north side gates out in the direction of egress from the Park
- Sets fence line south of H Street NW, which would minimize vehicular intrusions

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Adds additional barrier line due to moved bollards to entrance along H Street NW at 16th Street NW
- Potentially requires existing benches to be relocated
- Prevents access to most paths within the park during closure

Negatives for Operations:

- Places Lafayette Lodge outside the fence line
- Exposes two statues on H Street NW to potential to vandalism



Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows flexibility in North Center Entry gates placement and style to allow for wider openings
- Offers more open fence design opportunities because it is no longer aligned with bollards
- Enables larger hardscape plaza at H and 16th Streets NW, which allows gathering for First Amendment activities when park is closed
- Enables more access to park north of fence line along H Street NW, including northern corners, during Park closures
- Provides more open visitor experience along H Street NW
- Appears less imposing due to curvature of fence line

Positives for Operations:

- Swings north side gates out in the direction of egress from the Park
- Sets fence line south of H Street NW, which would minimize vehicular intrusions

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Adds additional barrier line due to moved bollards to entrance along H Street NW at 16th Street NW
- Potentially requires existing benches to be relocated
- Prevents access to most paths within the park during closure
- Reduces publicly accessible park area
- Reduces feeling of corridors along Madison and Jackson Places

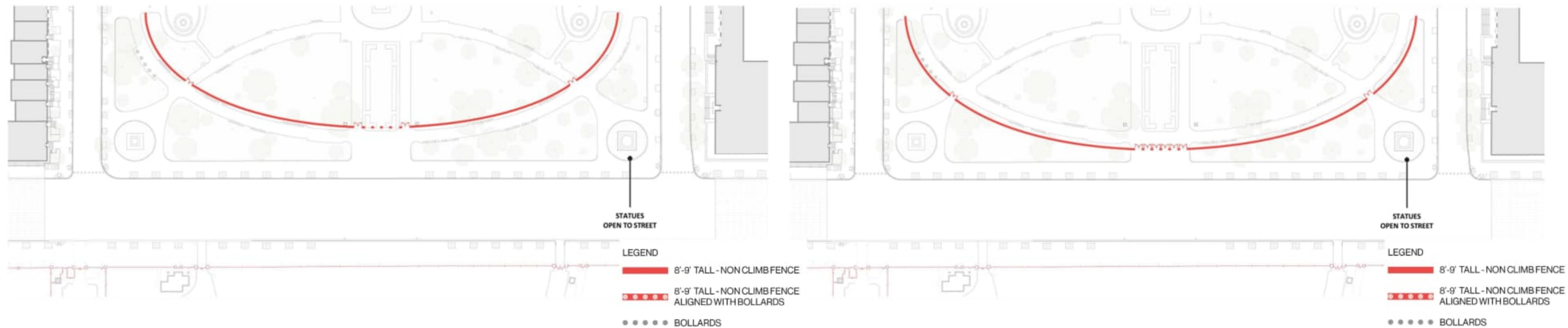
Negatives for Operations:

- Places Lafayette Lodge outside the fence line
- Exposes two statues on H Street NW to potential to vandalism

ALTERNATIVES

Alignments Considered

These alignments were considered during the design process and were not advanced in the process due to a variety of reasons. Both alignments do not protect the statues on the southern edge of the park due to the fencing curving around the pathways, and it creates additional maintenance requirements for NPS to manage and clean the statues from potential vandalism. Furthermore, both alignments require the coordination of fencing with existing bench locations, and they emphasize the closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing north of the elliptical walkway, rather than Pennsylvania Avenue NW



Positives for Visitor Use:

- None Identified

Positives for Operations:

- Swings gates from Pennsylvania Avenue NW into the Park, in the direction of egress
- Accommodates Inauguration stands

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Greatly limits viewing area when Pennsylvania Avenue is closed
- Requires coordination of fence with existing park bench locations
- Greatly emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing north of the elliptical walkway, rather than Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Negatives for Operations:

- Limits available placement of gates at pathways

Positives for Visitor Use:

- Allows circulation within southern elliptical walkway during Pennsylvania Avenue NW closure

Positives for Operations:

- Swings gates from Pennsylvania Avenue NW into the Park, in the direction of egress
- Accommodates Inauguration stands

Negatives for Visitor Use:

- Limits viewing area when Pennsylvania Avenue is closed
- Requires coordination of fence with existing park bench locations
- Emphasizes closed feeling of the park due to continuous fencing north of the elliptical walkway, rather than Pennsylvania Avenue NW

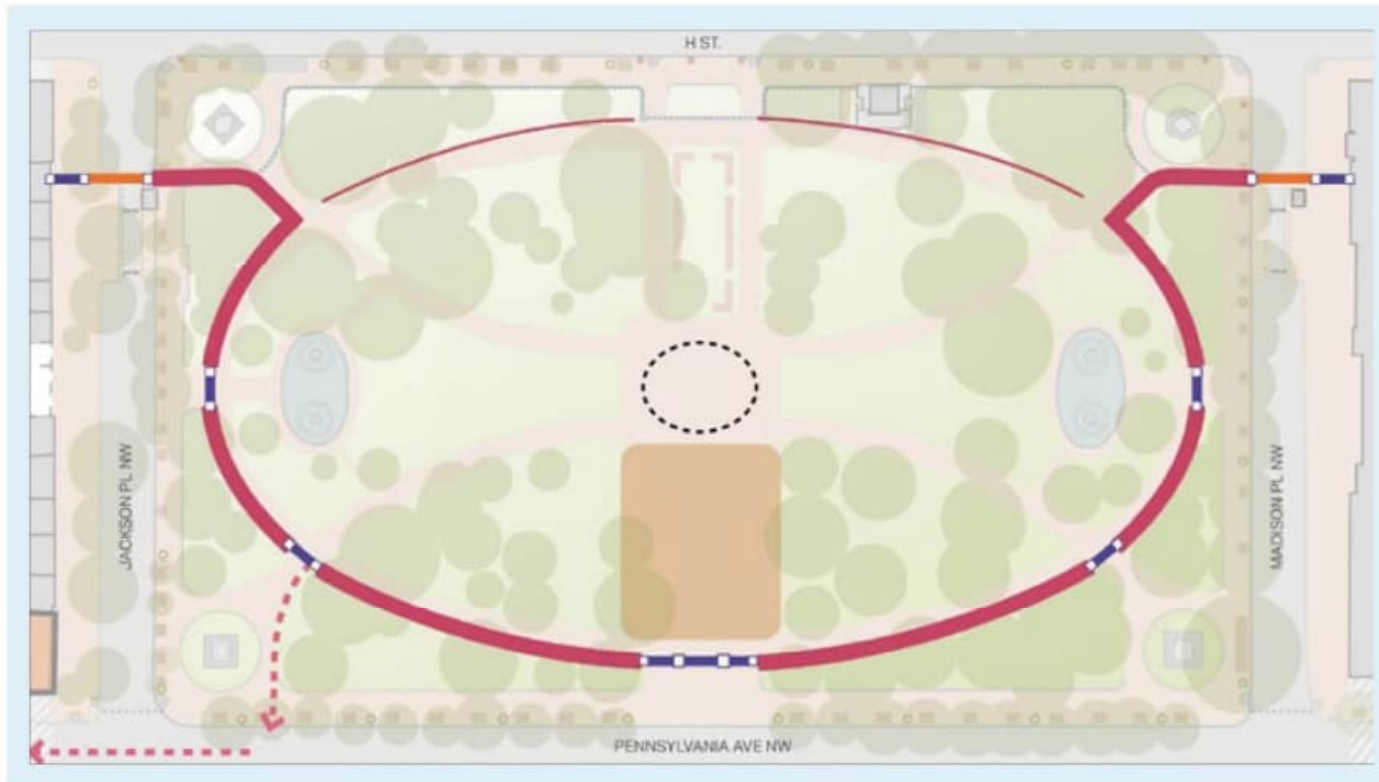
Negatives for Operations:

- None identified

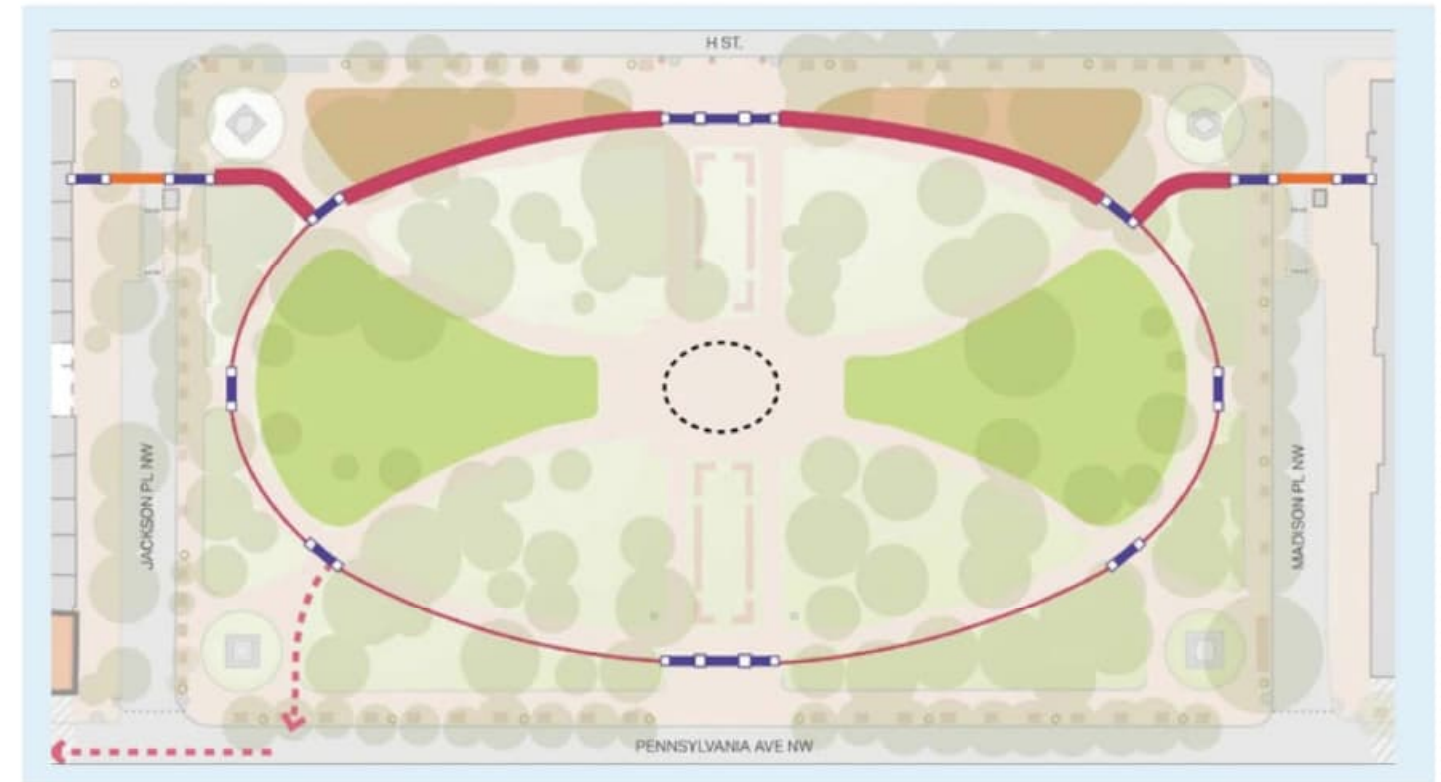
ALTERNATIVES

Legacy Alignments Considered but Dismissed (2020)

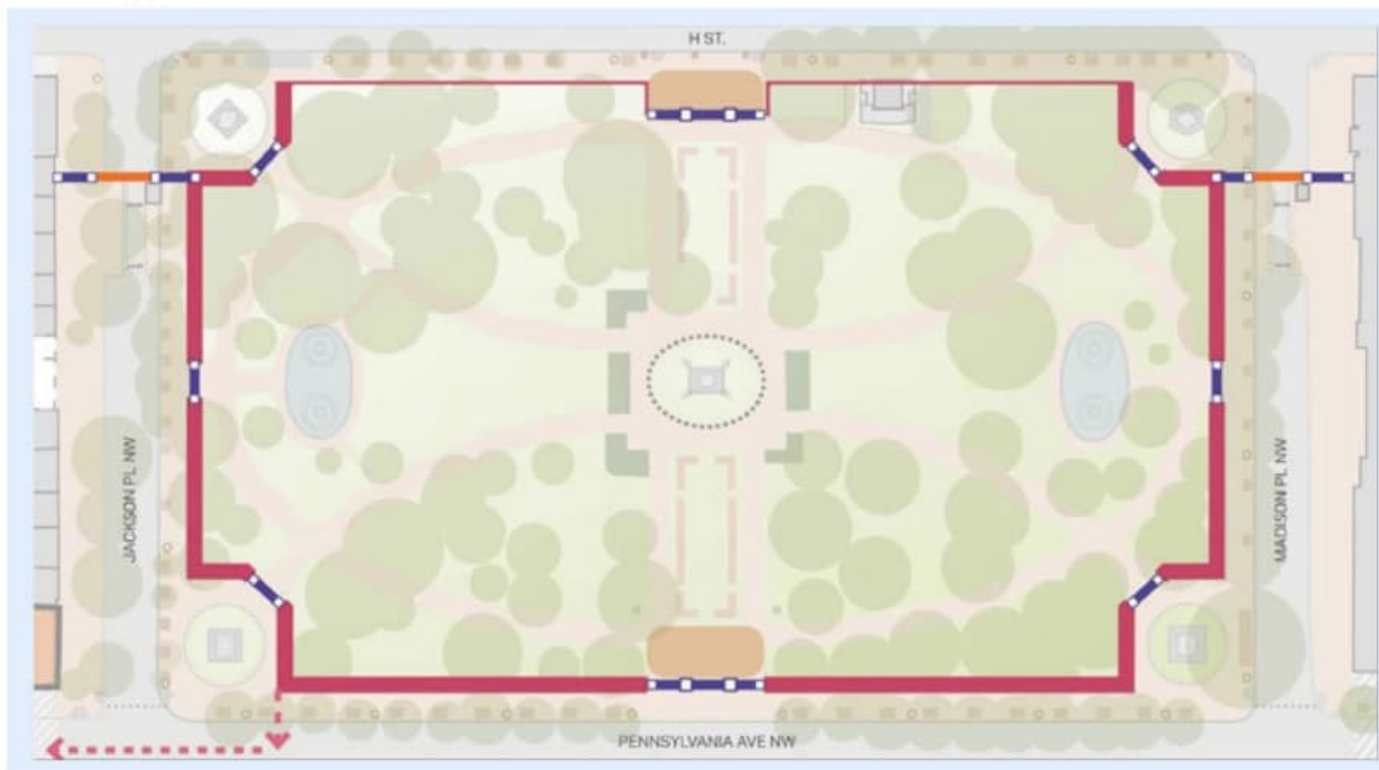
Additional fence alignments were considered in 2020, but were ultimately determined that they did not adequately address security concerns. Reasons for dismissal are addressed in the following:



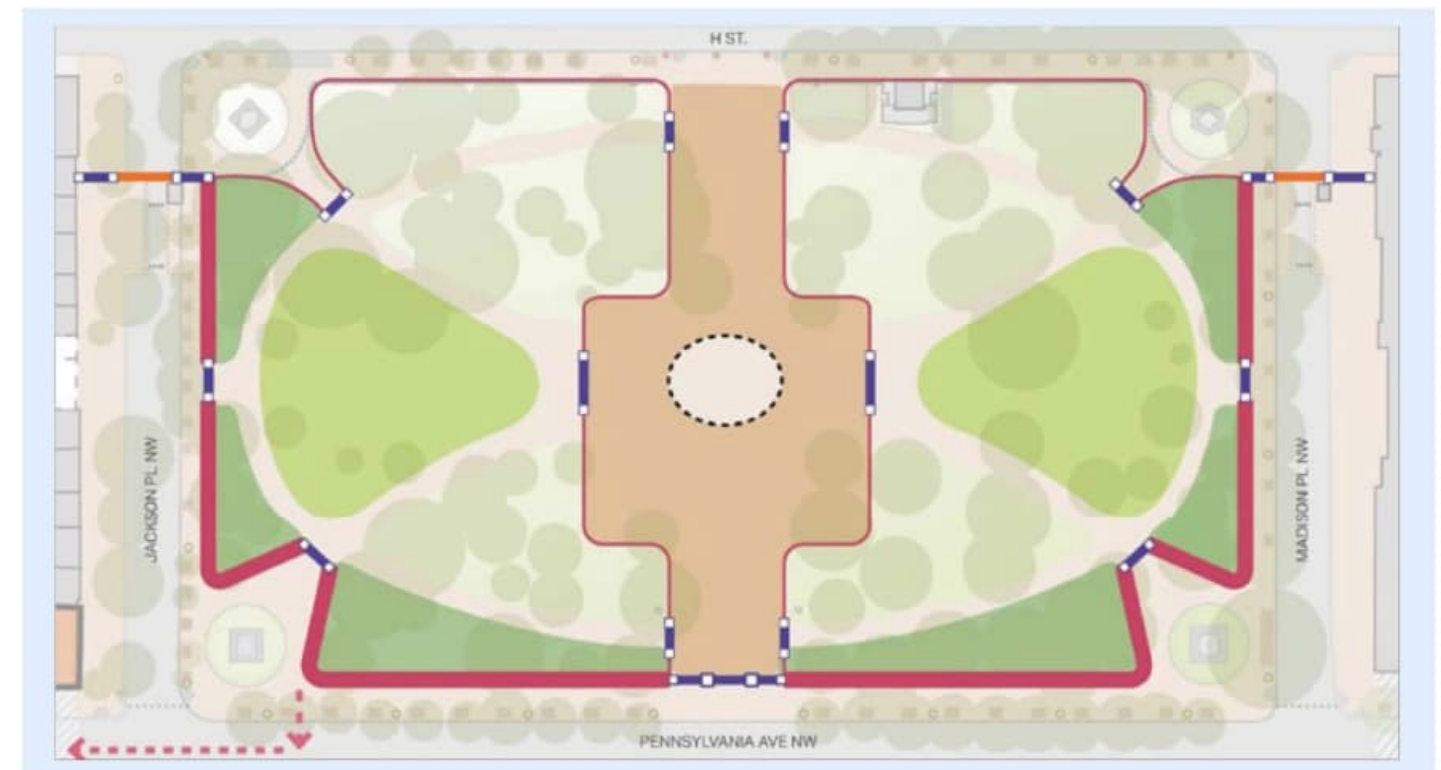
Not adequate space between the park, Blair House, and White House during partial or full street closures



Too much of the park would be inaccessible to visitors during partial and full street closures



Not adequate space between the park, Blair House, and White House during partial or full street closures

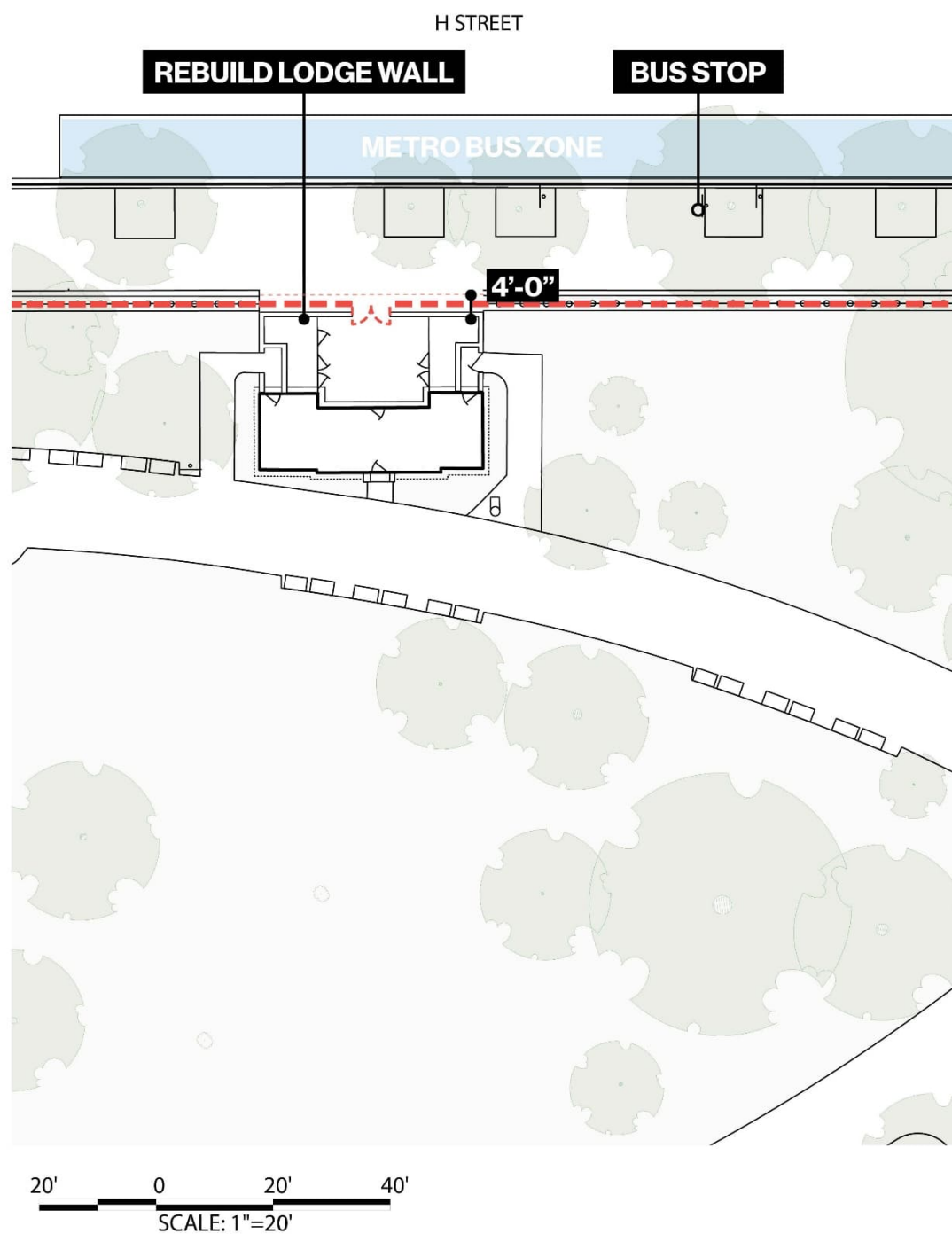


Not enough space between the park, Blair House, and White House during partial or full street closures

ALTERNATIVES

Recommended Lafayette Lodge Treatment: Alignment 1

Fence alignment at the Lafayette Lodge offers multiple approaches that would maintain the secure boundary while discouraging potential climbing onto the lodge. This treatment would remove a portion of the rear wall of the Lodge.

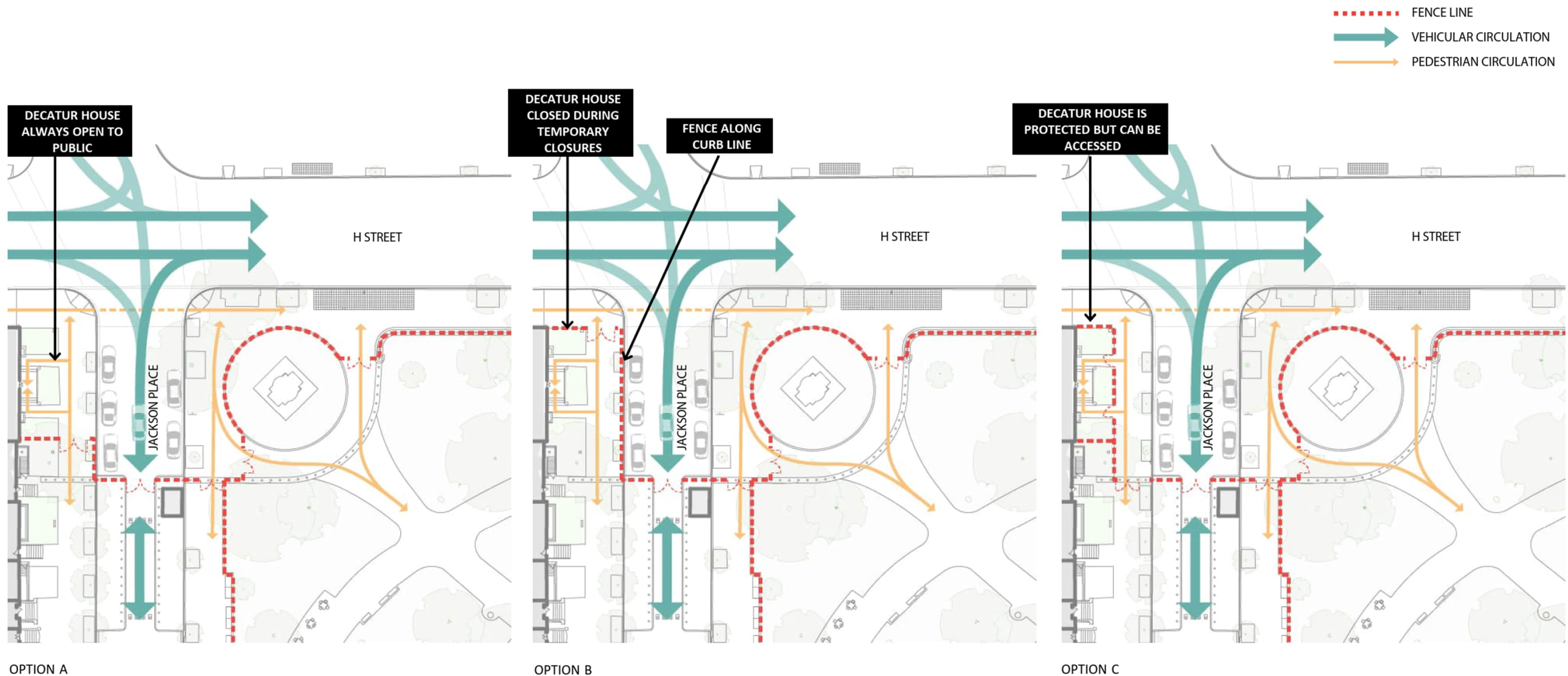


OPTION D
Rebuild Lodge wall behind fence



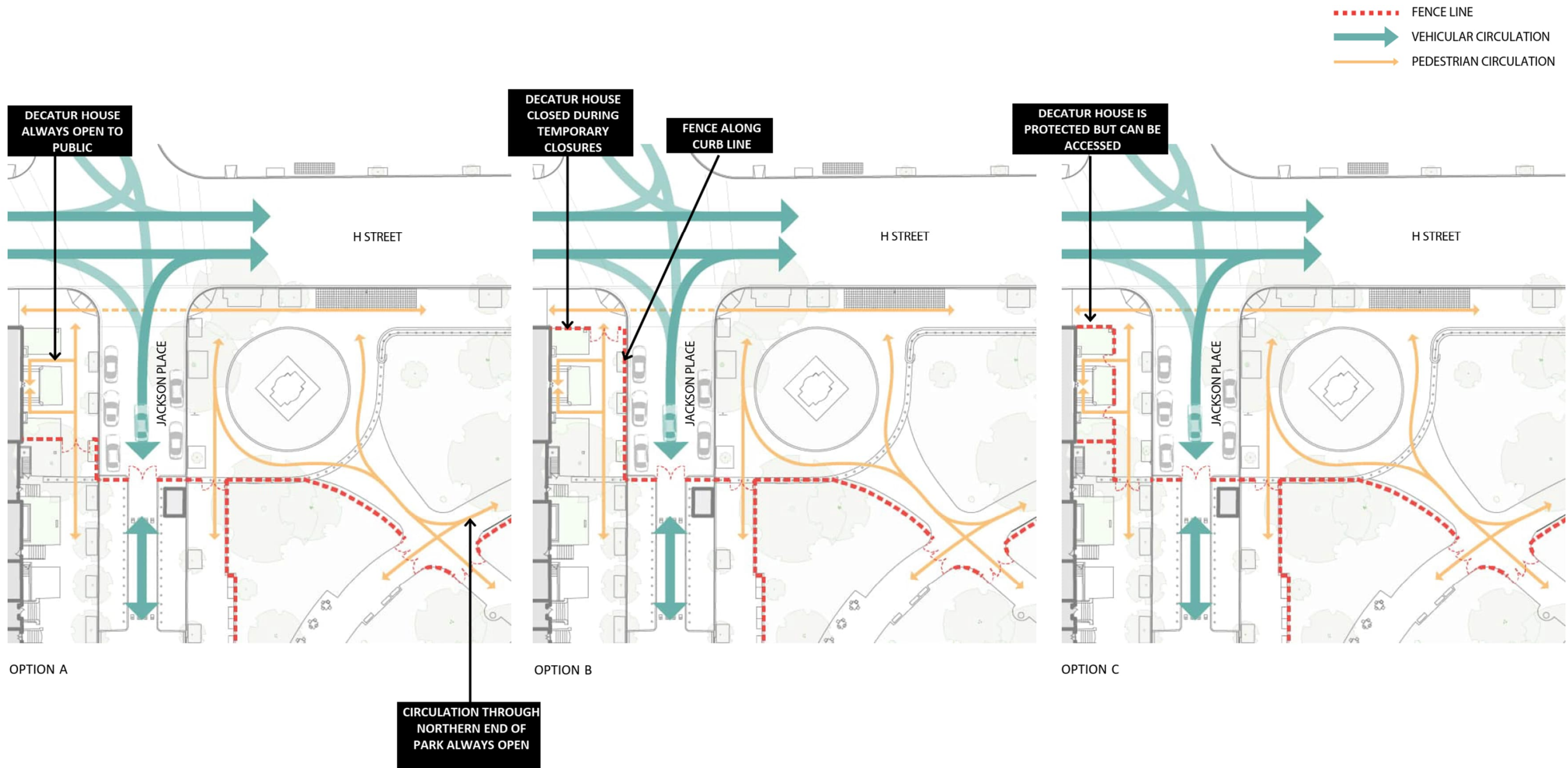
Alignment 1: Jackson Place Options

Multiple fence alignments at the White House Historical Society (Decatur House) could address security requirements and circulation patterns with a fence along H Street NW.



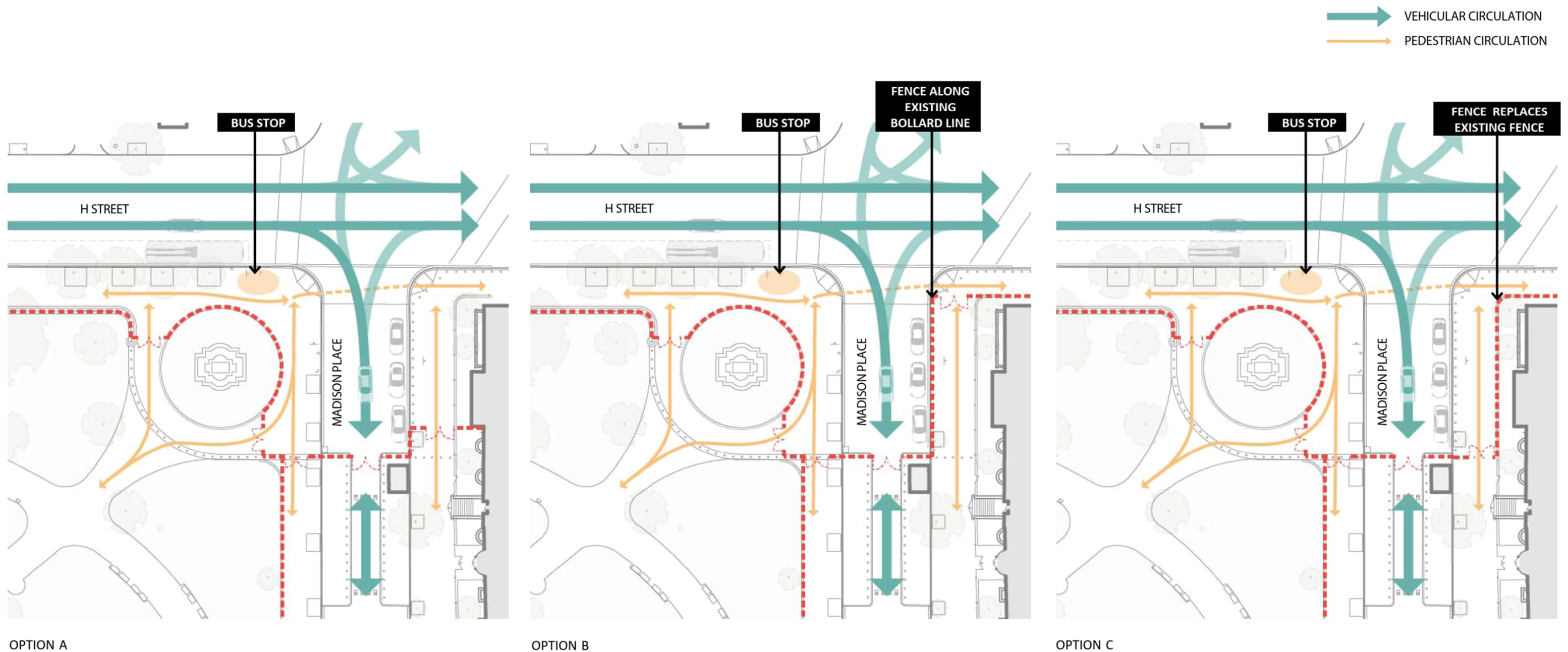
Alignment 2: Jackson Place Options

Multiple fence alignments at the White House Historical Society (Decatur House) could address security requirements and circulation patterns with a fence along the northern elliptical paths.



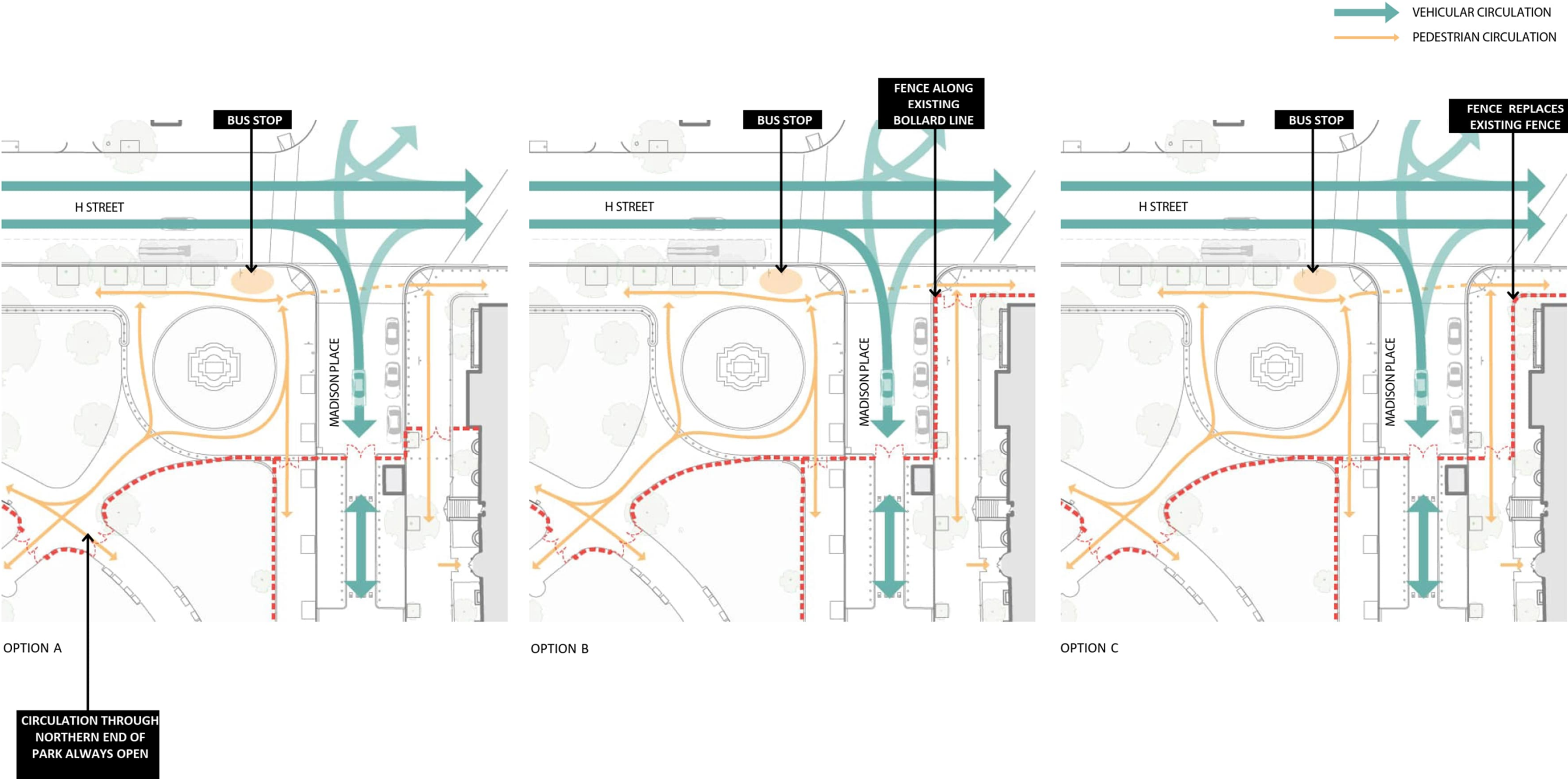
Alignment 1: Madison Place Options

Multiple fence alignments at the Cutts-Madison House could address security requirements and circulation patterns with a fence along H Street NW.



Alignment 2: Madison Place Options

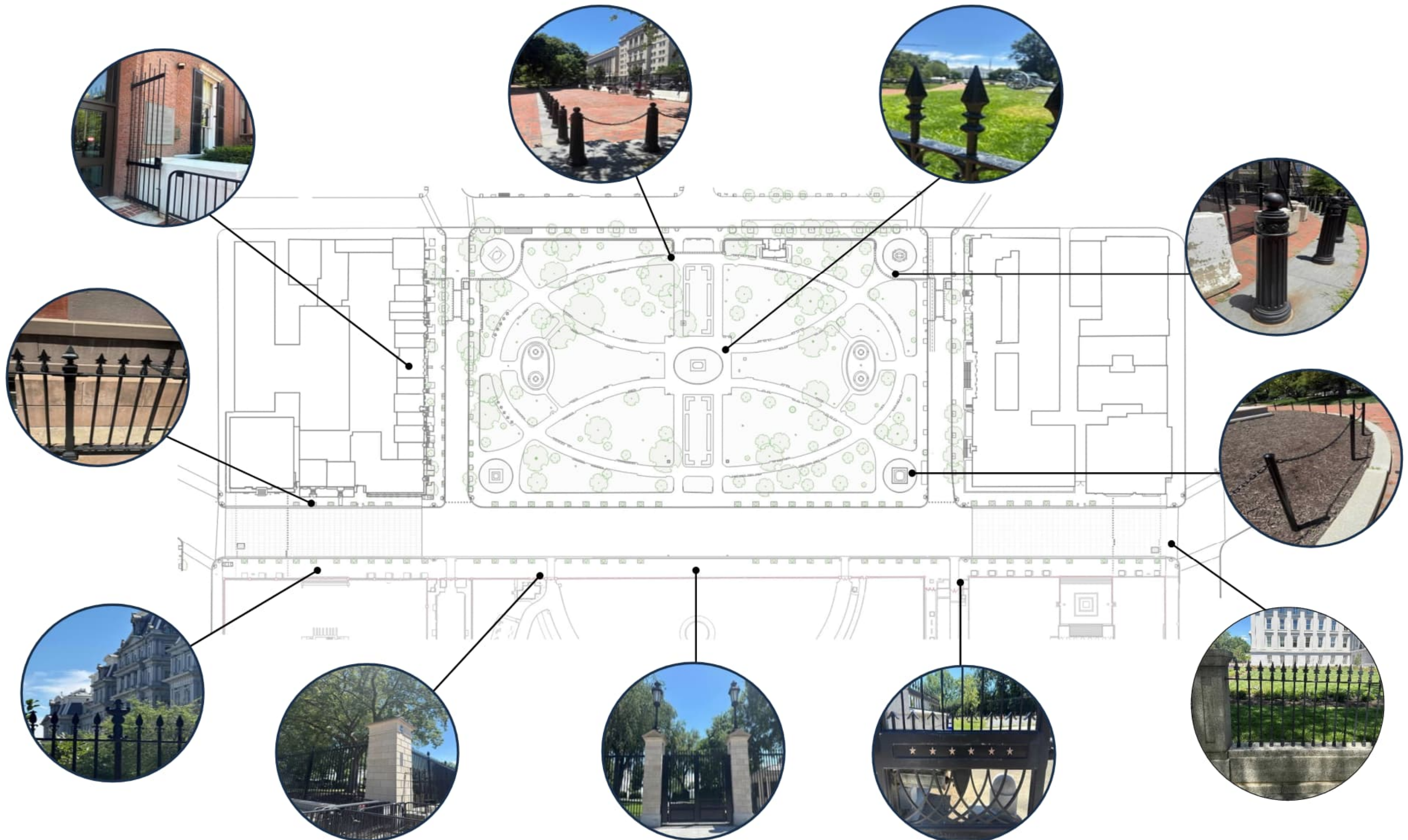
Multiple fence alignments at the Cutts-Madison House could address security requirements and circulation patterns with a fence along the northern elliptical path.



7. Fence Character and Discussion

Fence Character Plan

The project area includes historic Lafayette Park and intersections with Pennsylvania Avenue NW, which has had more recent interventions that are more contemporary in character.

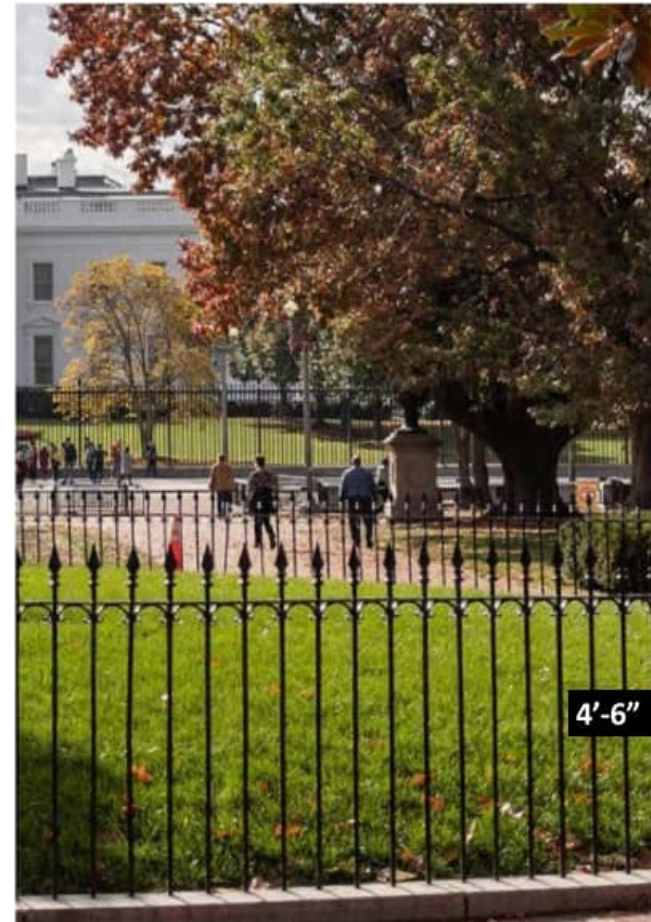


Current and Historic Fences

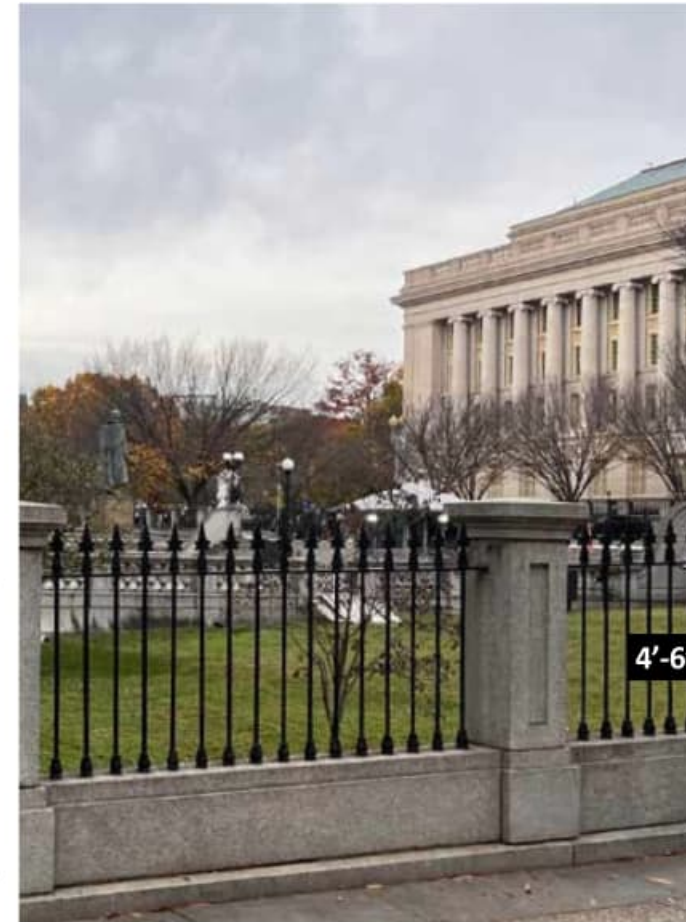
The project area has had multiple fencing types over time.



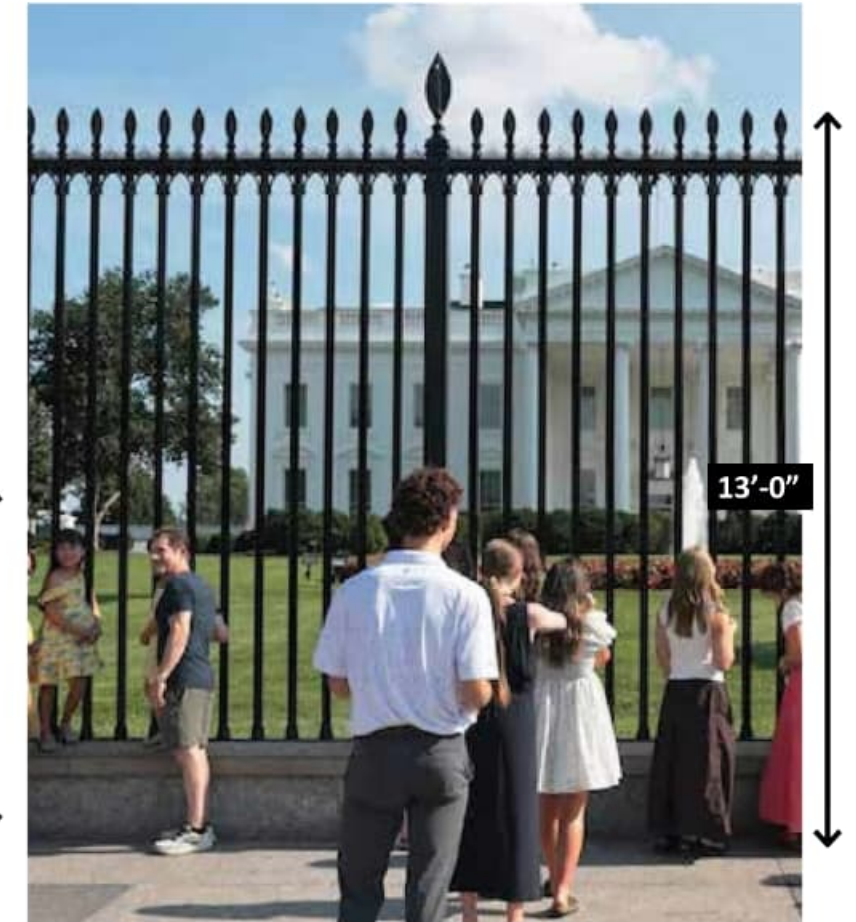
TREASURY BUILDING



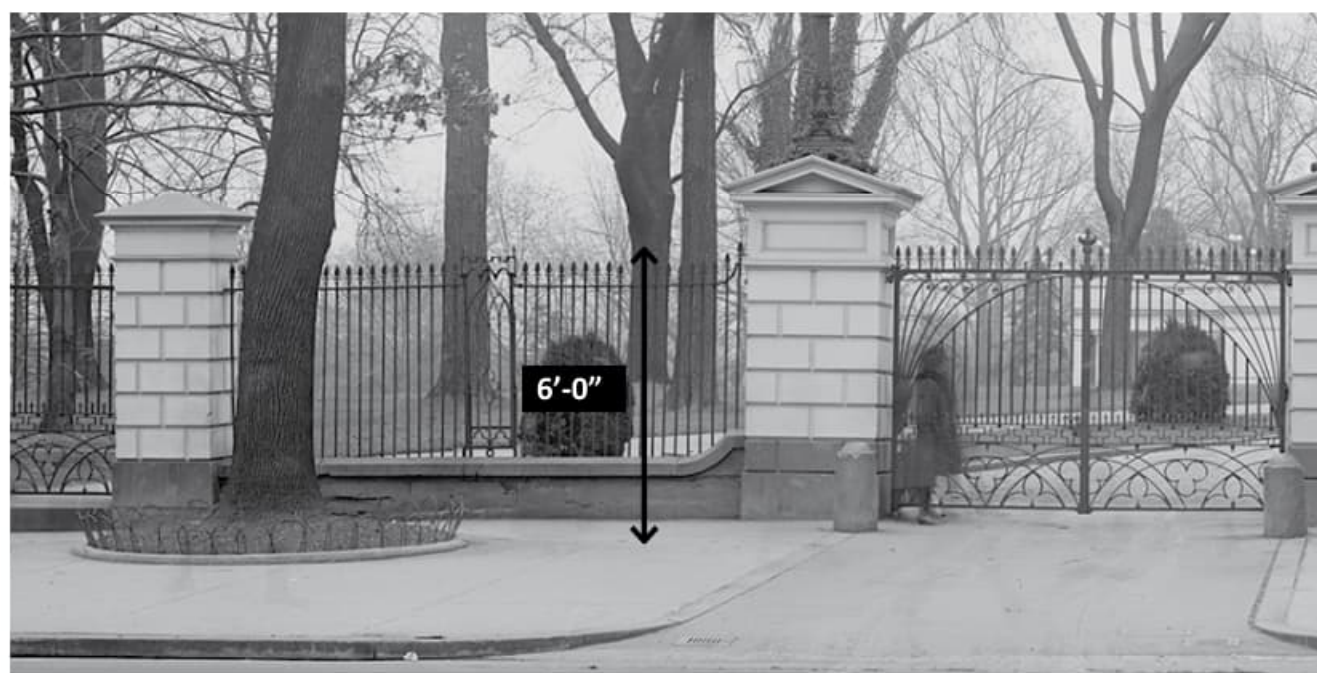
ANDREW JACKSON STATUE



EISENHOWER EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING



WHITE HOUSE FENCE



HISTORIC WHITE HOUSE FENCE



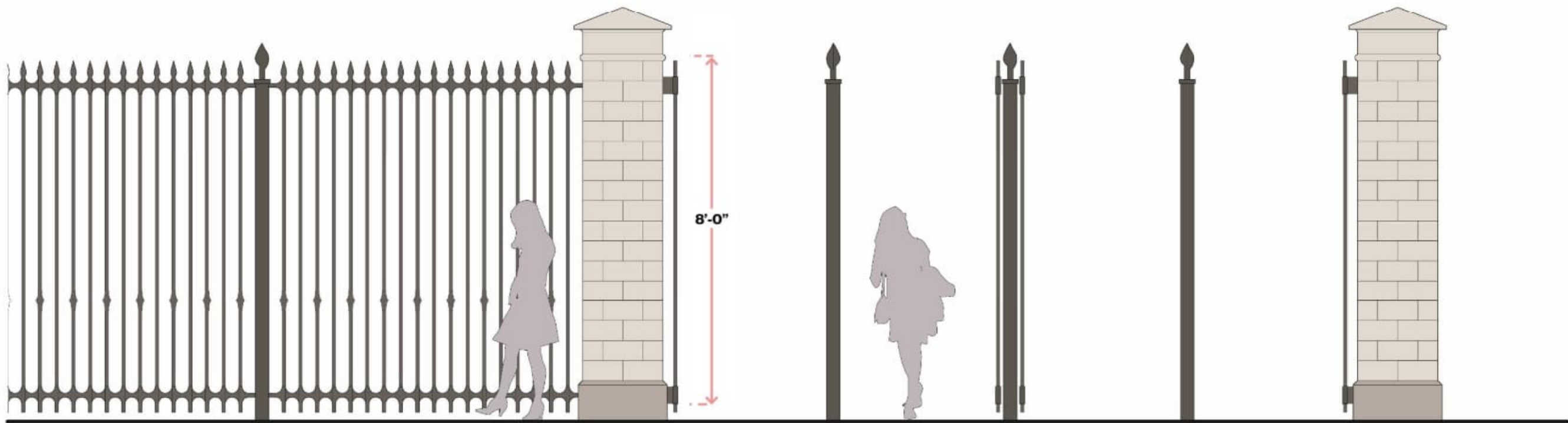
HISTORIC LAFAYETTE PARK FENCE



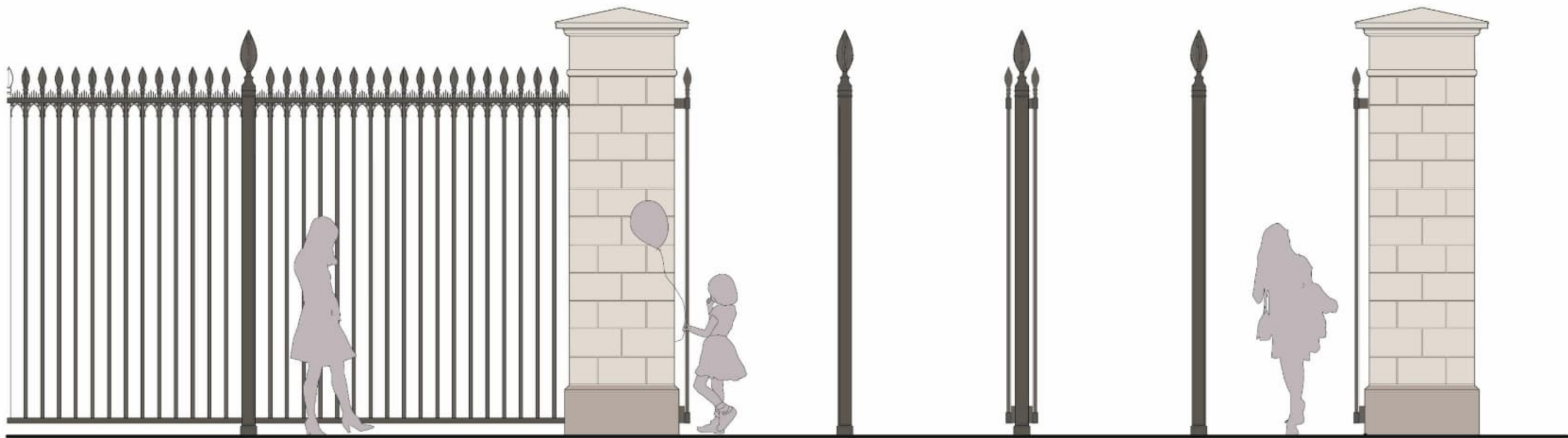
HISTORIC LAFAYETTE PARK FENCE
(Current location at Gettysburg National Cemetery)

Exploration: Incorporation of White House Fence Character

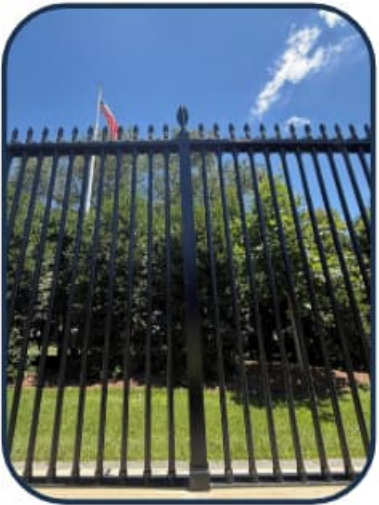
Various piers positioned throughout Lafayette Square and President's Park are displayed to the right. Below are some potential options for piers which will align with the character of the park as well as security standards. The top option is the proposed fencing character for Lafayette Park with added piers, and the bottom option is a scaled representation of the White House fence transposed into the dimensions and specifications of a potential Lafayette Park fence. To the right, images of the current White House piers and fence are shown.



Proposed Fencing Character with Piers



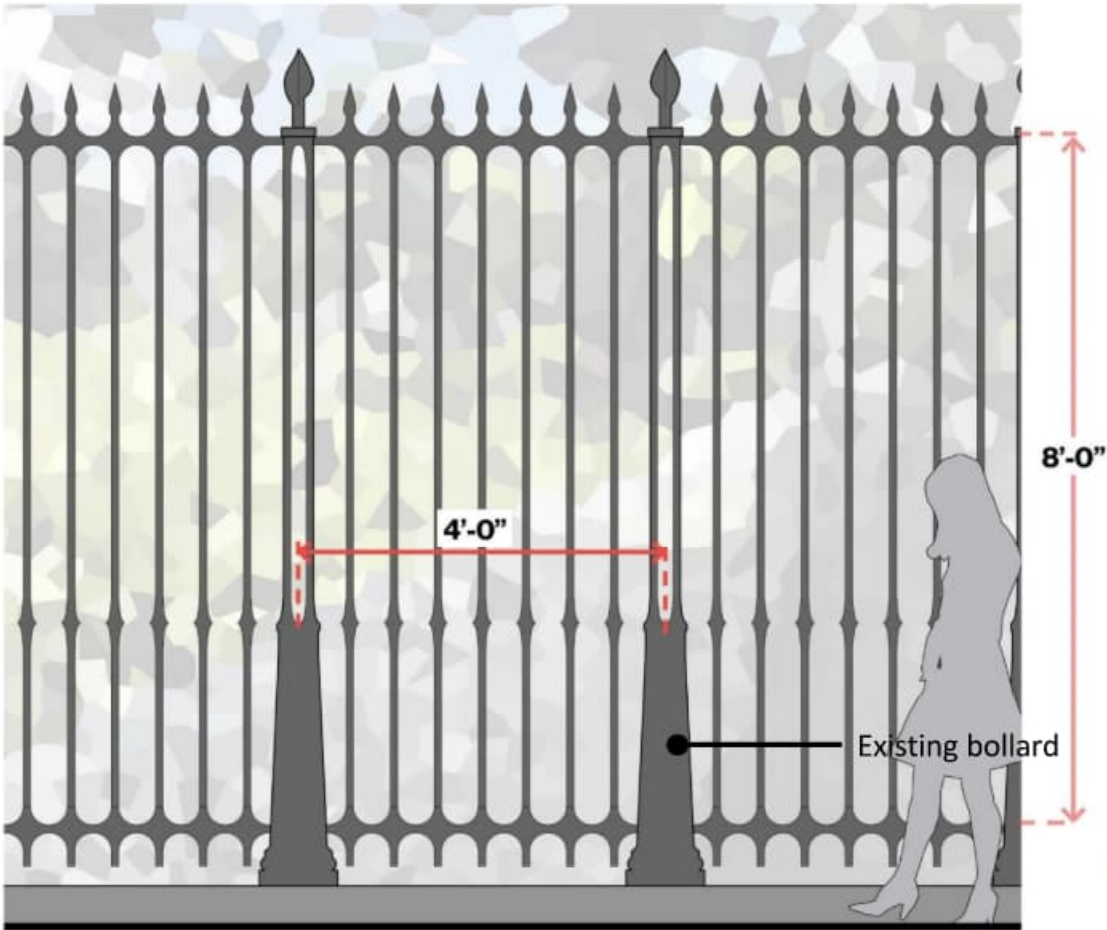
Adaptation White House Fence Scaled with Piers



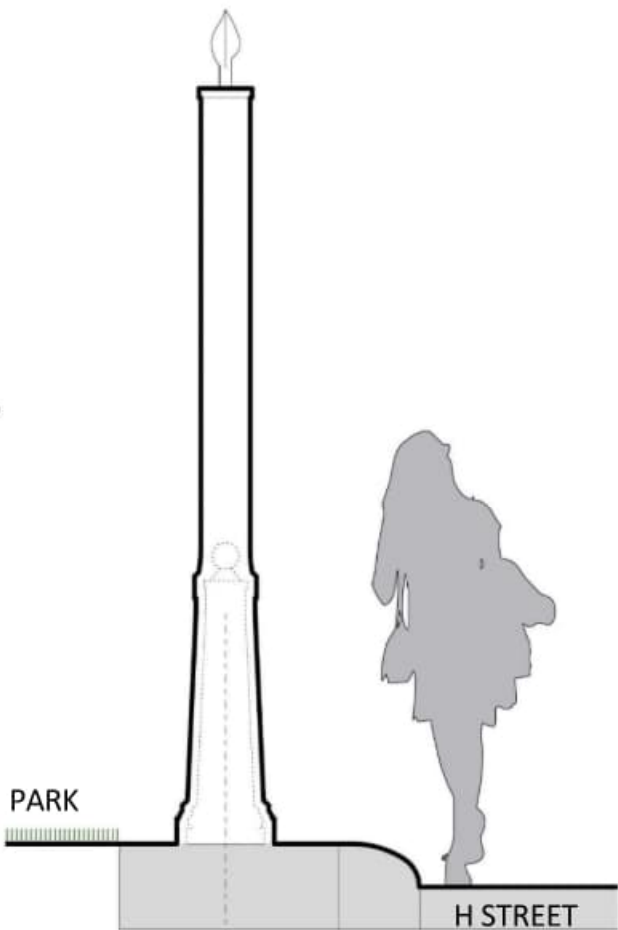
FENCE CHARACTER

H Street Integrated Bollard and Standard Fence

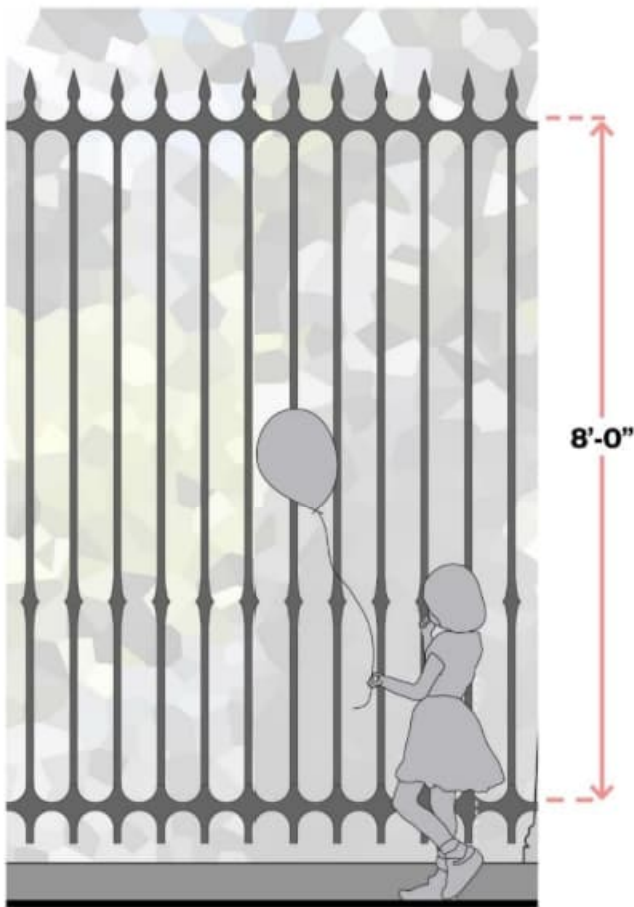
The left side of this page illustrates the recommended approach for Lafayette Park along H Street NW, which includes 4" spacing and incorporation of existing bollards tapering towards the top of the fence, except at the gates; this option is the recommended alternative, should the alignment follow the existing bollards. The right side of the page illustrates the standard fence along Madison Place NW, Jackson Place NW, and Pennsylvania Avenue NW where bollards are not present.



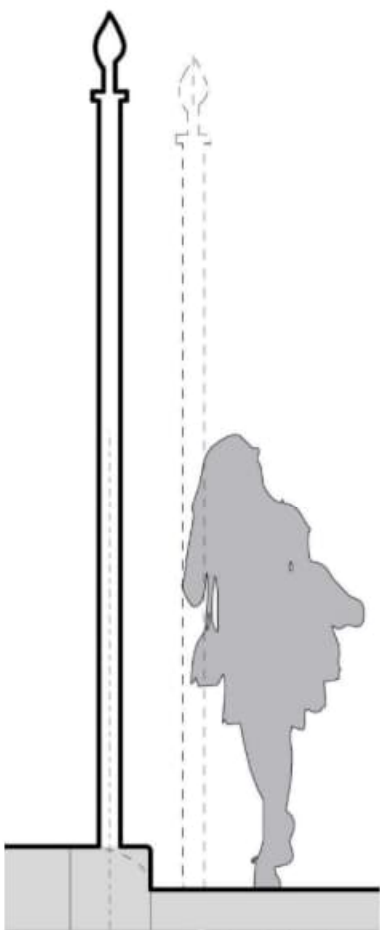
FENCE ELEVATION AT H STREET



FENCE SECTION



STANDARD FENCE ELEVATION



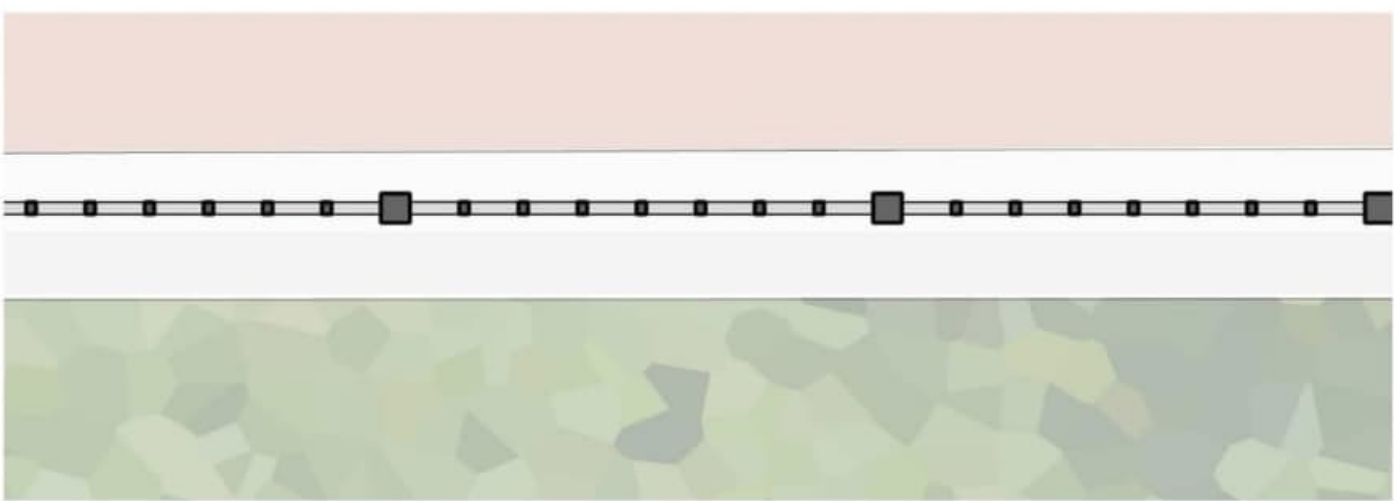
STANDARD FENCE SECTION



FENCE PLAN



PAINTED STEEL



FENCE PLAN

8. Initial Assessment of Effects

Initial Effects Analysis

Lafayette Square Historic District/ The White House and President's Park Cultural Landscape

Potential adverse effect would occur because of the following:

- Diminishment of design and setting due to the formal enclosure of the district's centerpiece (Lafayette Park) with an incompatible tall fence
- Alteration of historic appearance and spatial orientation of the park
- Disruption of formal boundary and openness of the park
- Alteration of views, vistas, and relationships of the landscape to the surrounding buildings
- Alteration to Lafayette Lodge, which is a contributing resource

Plan of the City of Washington (L'Enfant Plan)

Potential adverse effect would occur because of the following:

- Proposed fence would alter the historically open vistas toward Lafayette Park, diminishing its integrity of design and setting

The following principal views would be adversely affected:

- View along 16th Street, which terminates at Lafayette Park, and features the on-axis view toward the north lawn and north façade of the White House
- Views along the major radiating streets of Connecticut Avenue, NW and Vermont Avenue, NW that terminate at Lafayette Park
- Views toward the park from significant residences along Jackson Place and Madison Place



Library of Congress, Survey of The White House and President's Park

Initial Effects Analysis

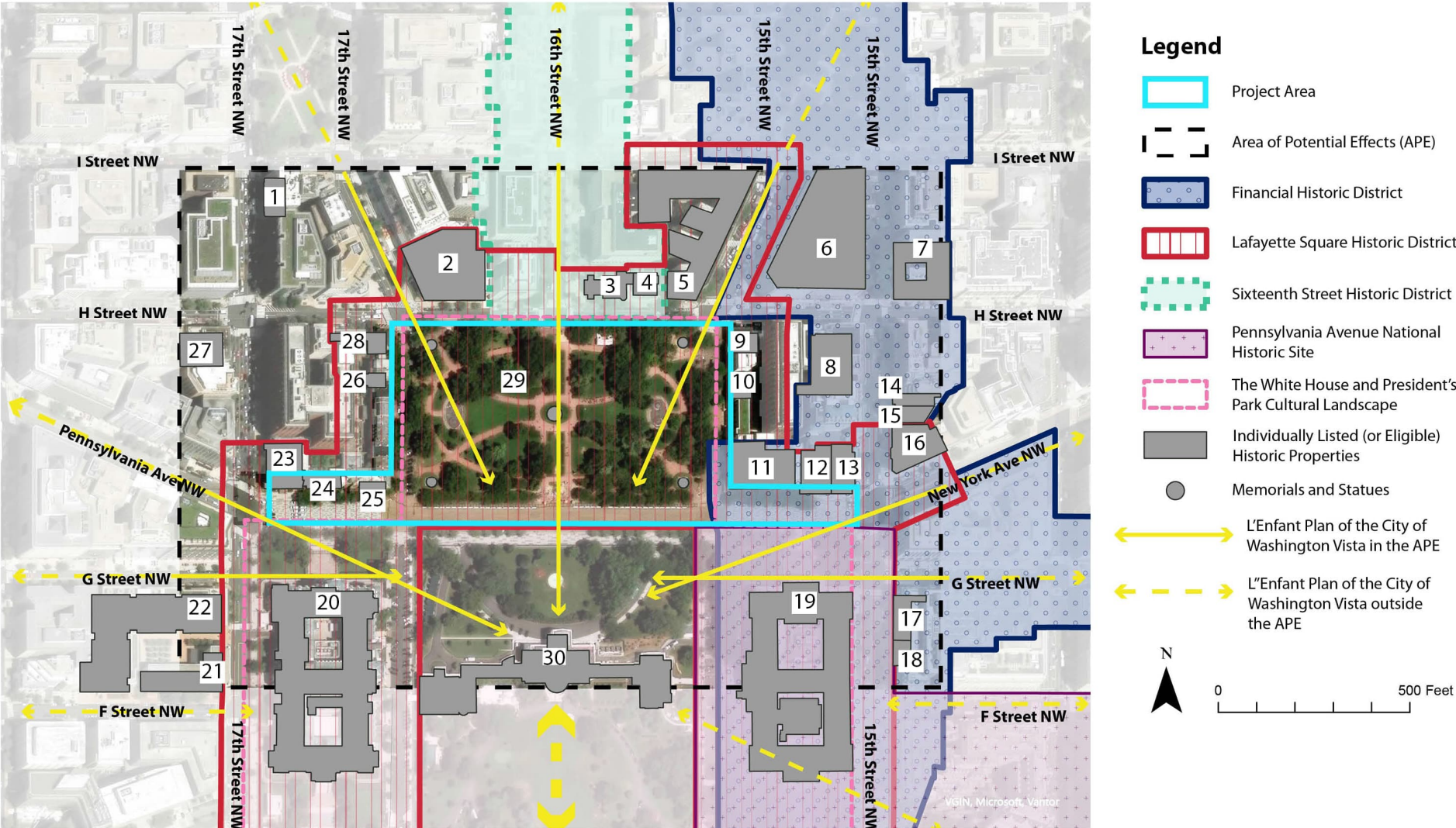
Individual Resources

The proposed plan would have a **potential adverse effect** on the following properties within the APE due to the introduction of an incompatibly tall and permanent fence in its primary viewshed, impacting its integrity of setting. These include:

- American Peace Society
- Benjamin Ogle Tayloe House
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Headquarters
- Saint John’s Parish House
- Stephen Decatur House
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Other Historic Properties Within the APE

The installation of fencing would have **no adverse effect** on the remaining listed historic properties in the APE as their key viewsheds would not be substantially impacted and their integrity of setting, feeling, nor their association, would not be diminished.



Individually Listed (or Eligible) Historic Properties

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| 1. Hill Building | 9. Cutts-Madison House | 16. National Savings Trust Building | 24. Blair House |
| 2. US Chamber of Commerce | 10. Benjamin Ogle Tayloe House | 17. Riggs Building (Albee Building) | 25. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace |
| 3. St. John's Church | 11. Treasury Annex | 18. National Metropolitan Bank | 26. American Peace Society (Charles Glover House) |
| 4. Ashburton House (St. John's Parish House) | 12. Riggs National Bank | 19. US Department of the Treasury | 27. Metropolitan Club |
| 5. Bureau of War Risk Insurance | 13. American Security and Trust Building | 20. State, War and Navy Building (Eisenhower Executive Office Building) | 28. Stephen Decatur House |
| 6. Lafayette Building | 14. Swartzell, Rheem & Hensley Building | 21. Winder Building | 29. Lafayette Square |
| 7. Southern Building | 15. Hibbs Building (Folger Building) | 22. Federal Home Loan Bank | 30. The White House |
| 8. Union Trust Company | | 23. Renwick Galley | |

Effects Analysis: No Action Alternative

The continuation of existing conditions would result in the same **temporary adverse effects** to historic properties as the proposed action.

Existing practices on the project site would continue, including:

- Continuation of long-term, temporary, and ad-hoc placement of tall, incompatible security fencing, bike racks, and Jersey barriers
- Continuation of park closures to the visiting public during times of heightened security.
- Retention of the current use of incohesive and incompatible fencing and barriers
- Continuation of impacts to the historic character of the surrounding area and significant views and vistas



2006

Efforts to Avoid and Minimize Adverse Effects

Adverse effects to historic properties, while still present, have been **minimized** through the following proposed measures:

- Removal of temporary bike rack barriers and large-scale temporary fencing, which present an inconsistent and generally incompatible appearance
- Design and material of the fence
- Alignment that largely follows the historic alignment of the 19th century iron fence
- Addition of operable gates at the central north-south axis to allow for open and unobscured vistas toward the White House
- Setback of the H Street NW gates that honors and allows for the continued use of the space as a plaza/gathering place/area for First Amendment activities when the park is closed



Lafayette Park North Entrance, 2026

9. Discussion

10. Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

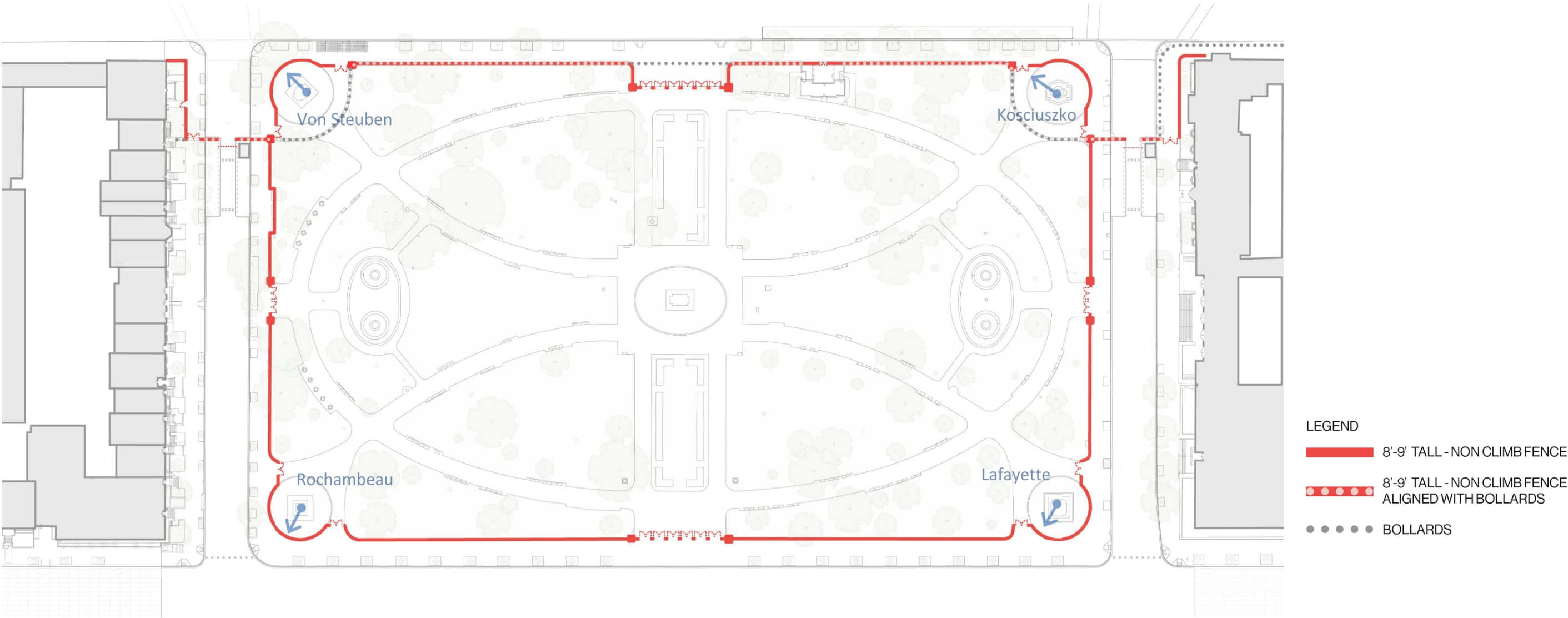
- Receive Consulting Parties comments from August 12 meeting
- Receive NCPC comments
- Refine alternatives
- Identify mitigation measures
- Distribute Assessment of Effects and Environmental Assessment for comment
- Continue consultation with Consulting Parties



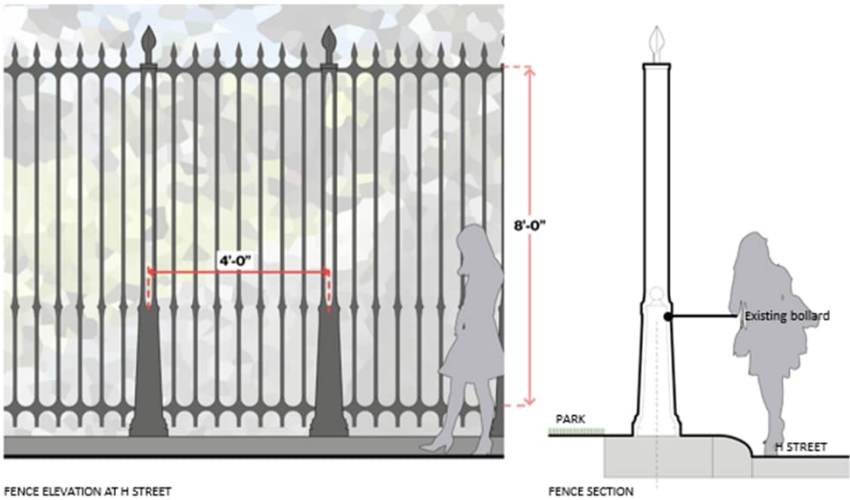
Lafayette Square (Once the White House Overlooked a Residential Neighborhood, 1902) by Peter Waddell

Appendix

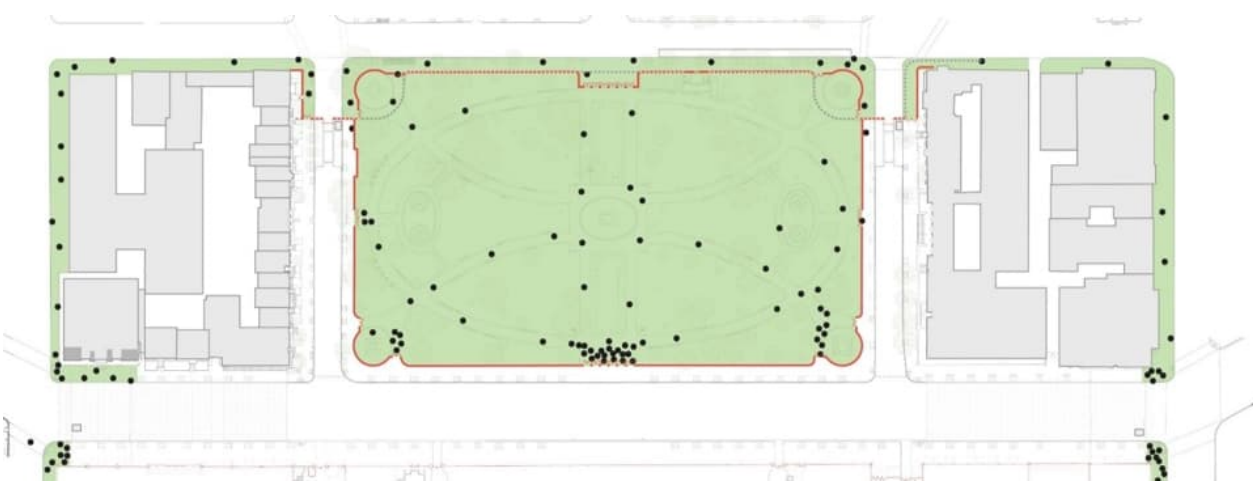
Composite: Alignment 1



Entrance at 16th and H Streets NW

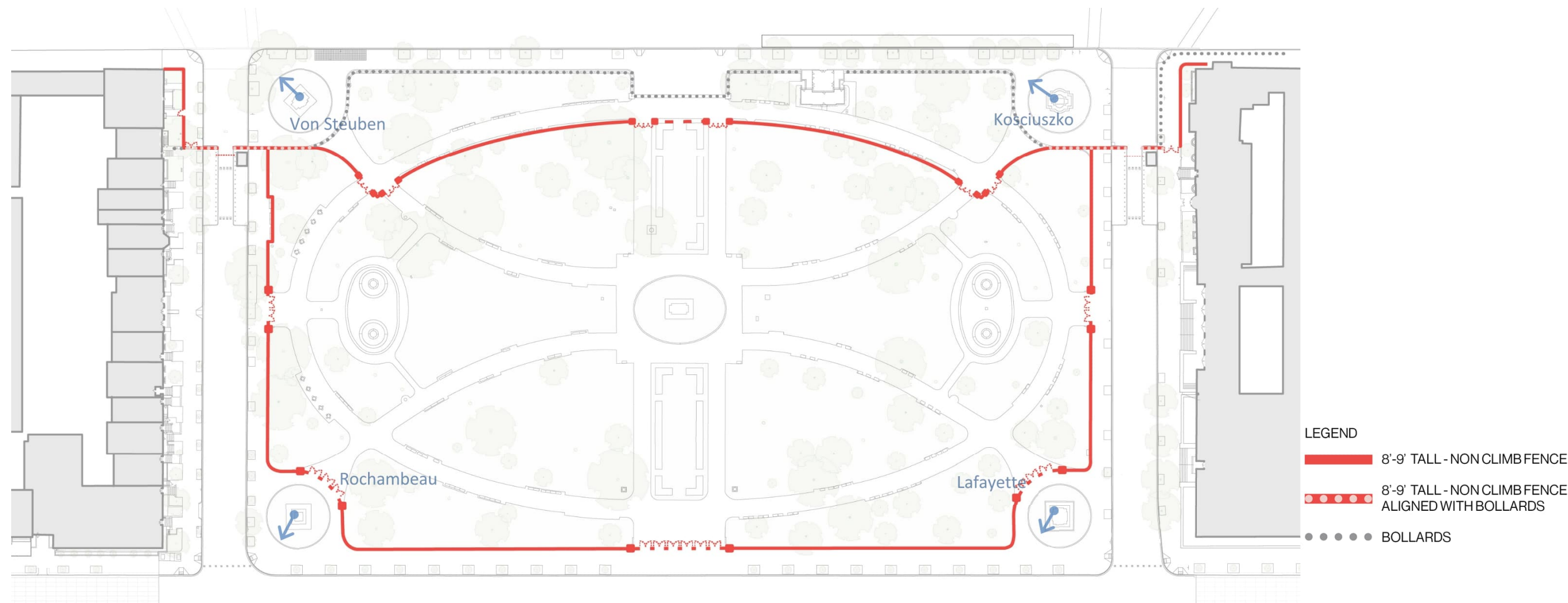


Fence alignment with bollards requires narrower picket spacing at those locations

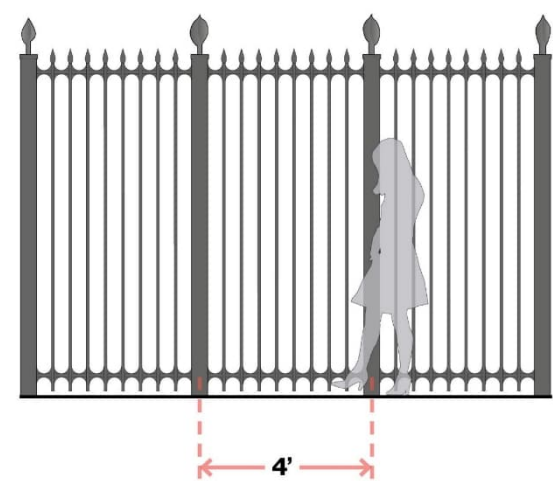


Access to park when south gates are closed

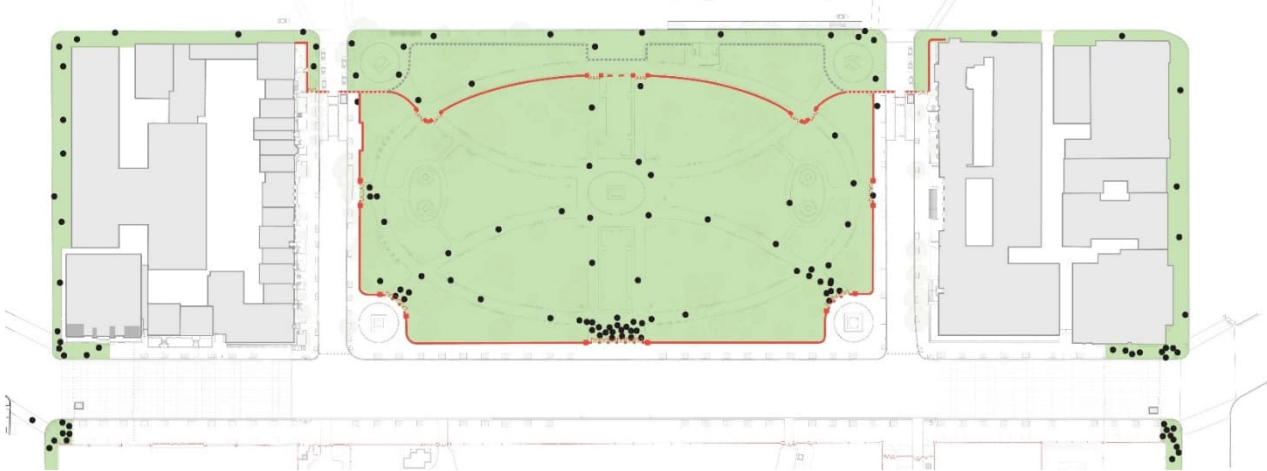
Composite: Alignment 2



Entrance at 16th and H Streets NW



Fence alignment falls behind bollards; post spacing can be wider and consistent throughout the fence



Access to park when south gates are closed

Character Exploration: Bollard-Fence Integration

Below is a rendering of the Lafayette Park fence shown with different integrated bollard treatments. The top option features a rounded bollard cover, and the bottom option features a square bollard cover.



Rounded Bollard Cover



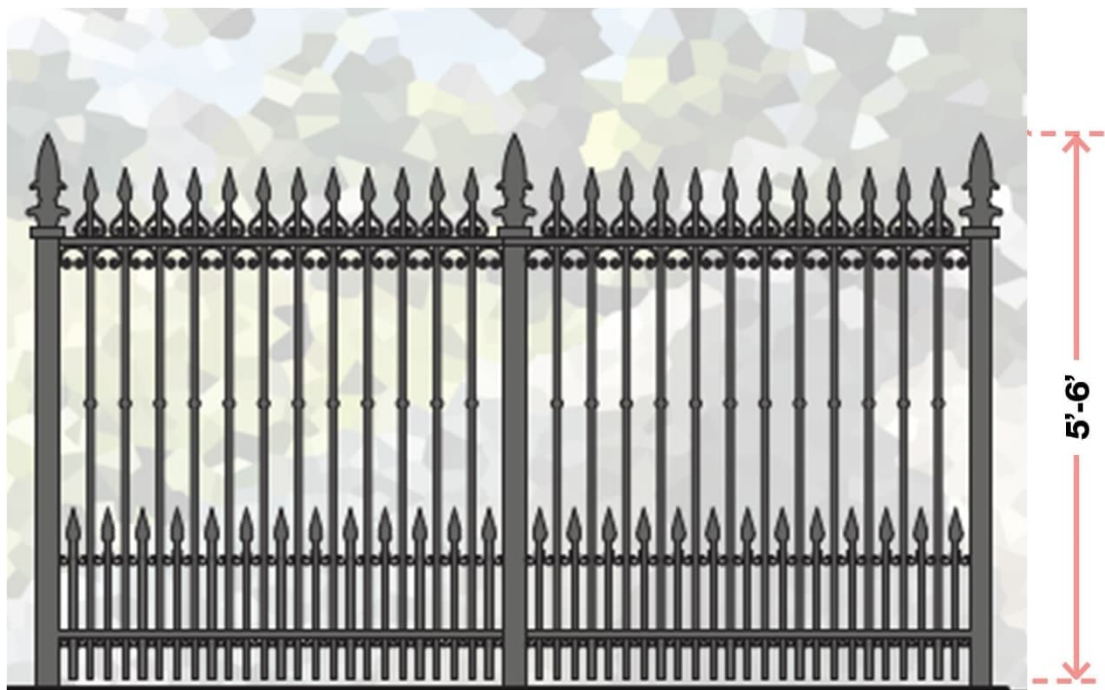
Squared Bollard Cover

Historic Fence: Lafayette Park Fence Heights and Elements

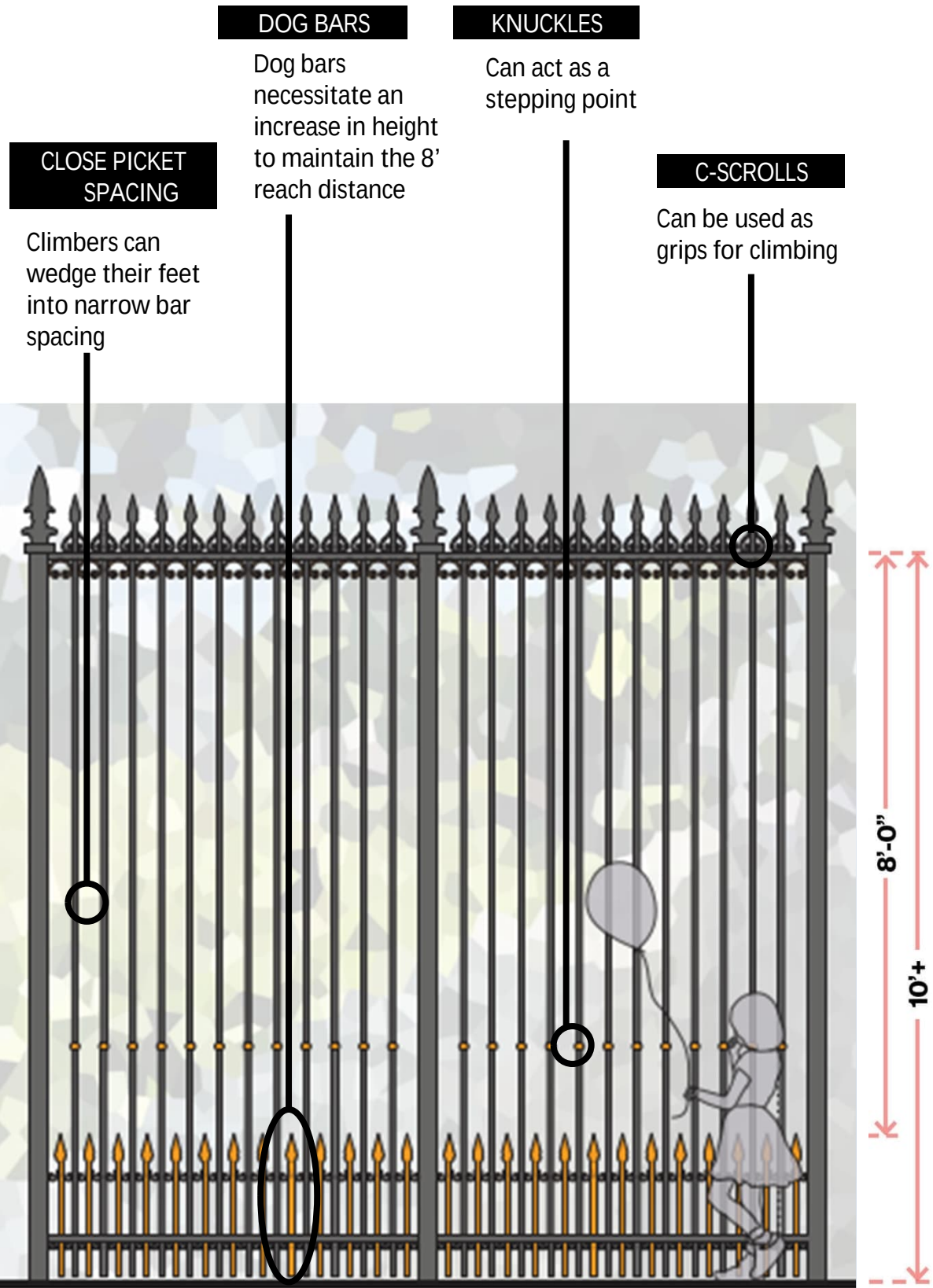
In the past, Lafayette Park had a 5’-6’ fence enclosing the park. Below is an image of the original historical fence, currently located at Gettysburg National Cemetery. An illustration below that image shows the original dimensions of the historical fence. Due to present day security needs, the proposed Lafayette Park fence would need to be 8’ to 10’. The graphic on the right-hand side shows the fence dimensions if the historic fence was raised to the fence height appropriate for present-day security concerns.



HISTORIC LAFAYETTE PARK FENCE
(Current location at Gettysburg National Cemetery)



Historic Fence



Historic Fence - At Required Height

Picket Spacing: Lafayette Park

The suggested approach to picket spacing would meet security requirements while still appearing porous and allowing views.

 Recommended Alternative



3" SPACING BETWEEN PICKETS

Narrow spacing
obstructs views



4" SPACING BETWEEN PICKETS

4" maximum to prevent
passing of a child through
opening

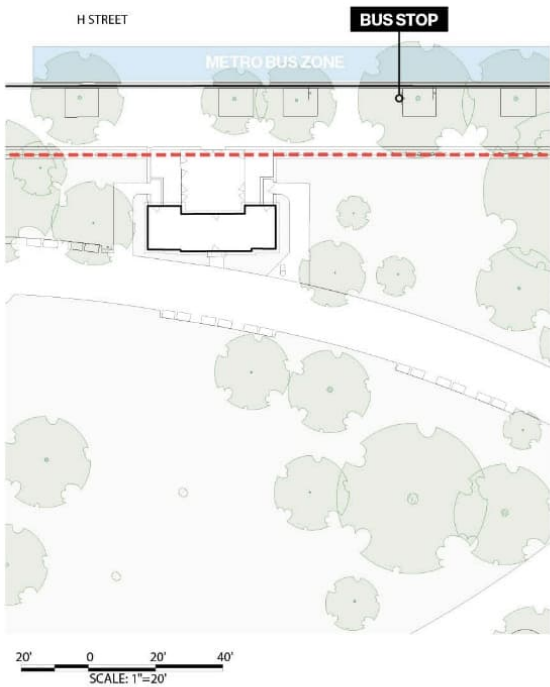


5" SPACING BETWEEN PICKETS

Spacing is too wide to
create a secure fence

Lafayette Lodge Options Considered but Dismissed

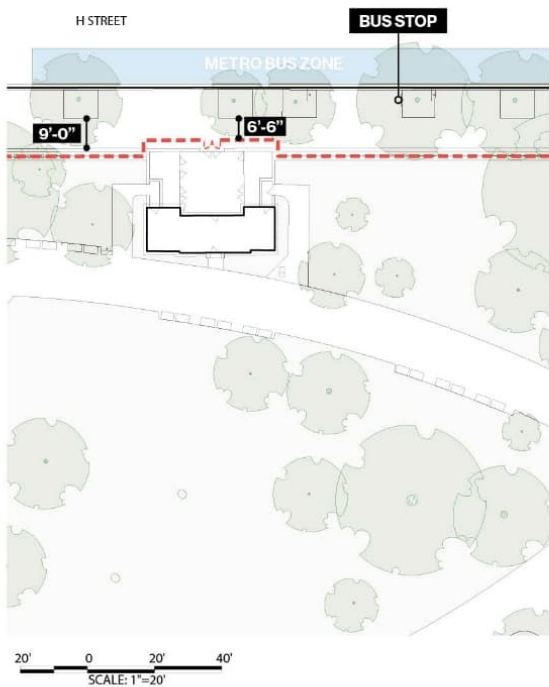
Fence alignment at the Lafayette Lodge offers multiple approaches that would maintain the secure boundary while discouraging potential climbing onto the lodge. Below, these options are discussed and reasons for their dismissal are provided.



OPTION A
Extend wall height



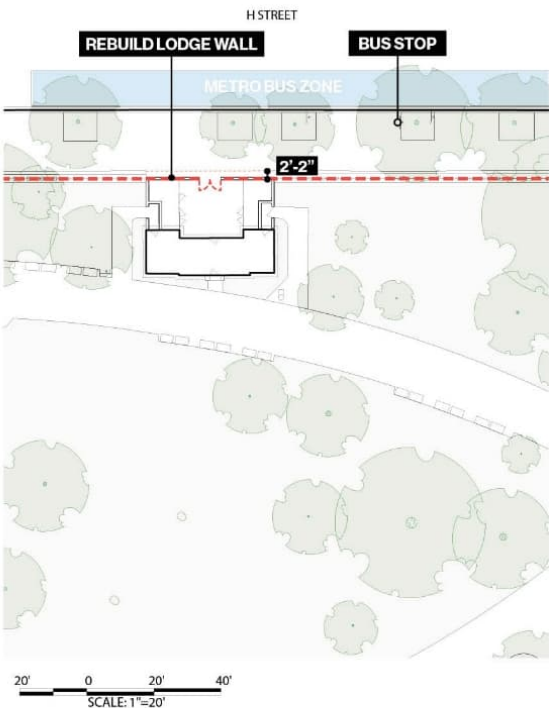
In this option, the lodge fencing would still be climbable. This could pose a security risk.



OPTION B
Fence extends into sidewalk



This fence alignment would be unappealing aesthetically and not sufficient practically for pedestrians as it would intersect portions of the sidewalk.



OPTION C
Rebuild Lodge wall to 8'

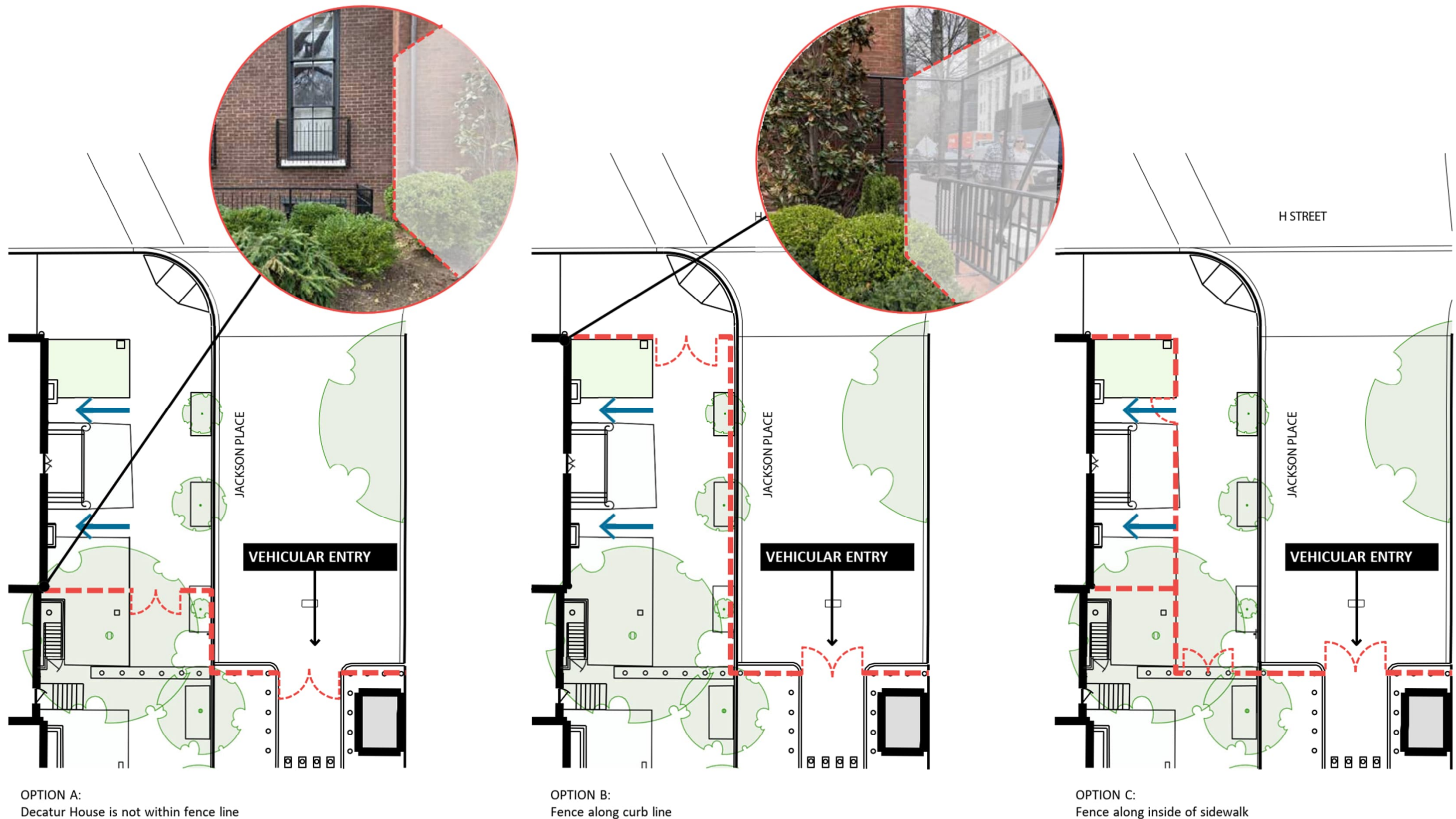


This fence alignment would be unappealing aesthetically and not sufficient practically. Furthermore, rebuilding the lodge wall would risk the historic character of the wall.

ALTERNATIVES

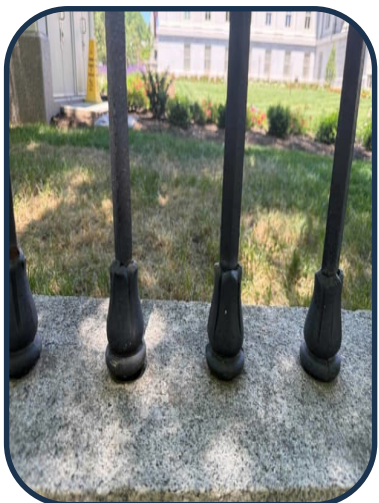
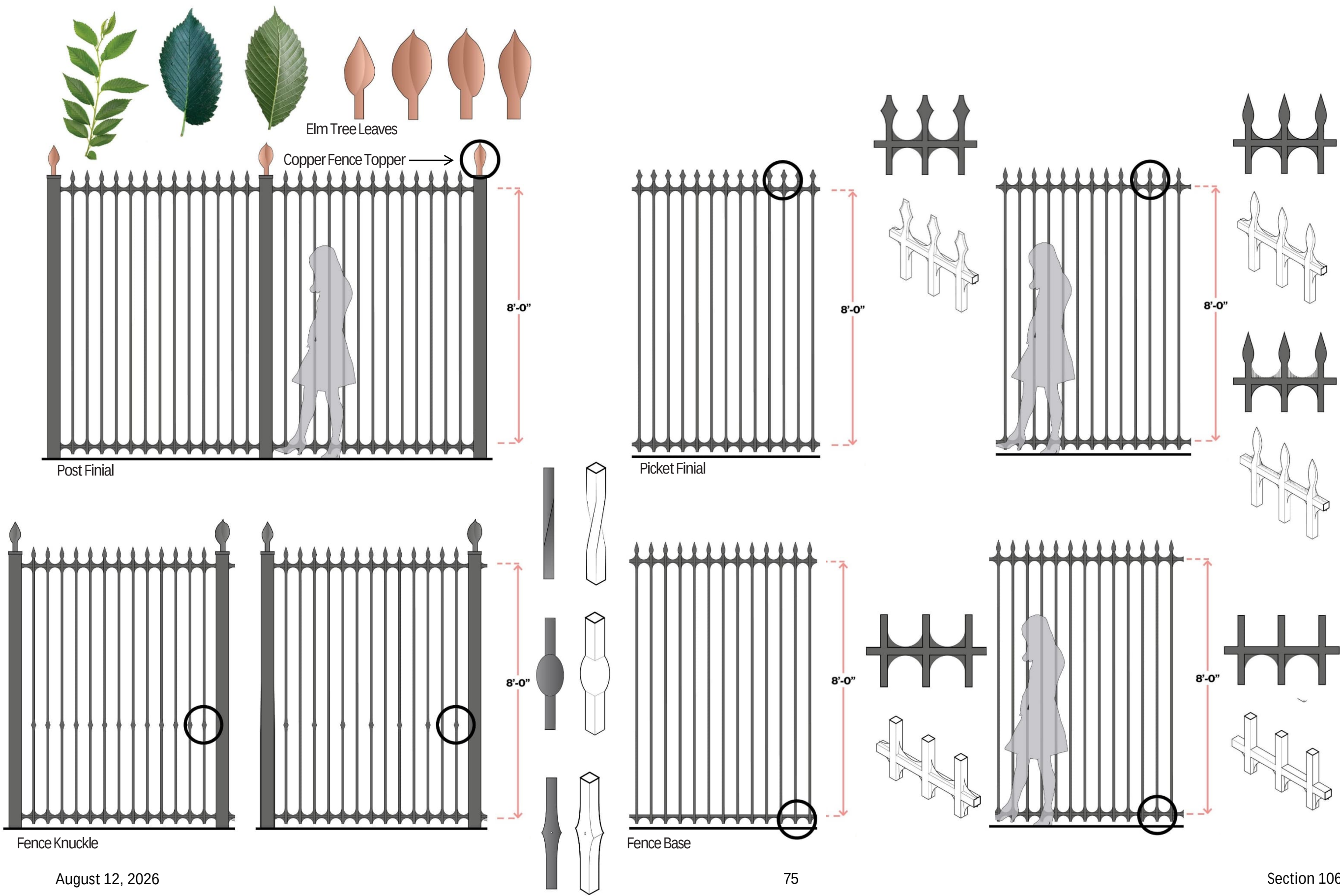
White House Historical Society Options

Multiple fence alignments at the White House Historical Society could address security requirements.



Character Exploration: Lafayette Park Design Elements

Displayed to the right, various post finials, picket finials, and picket elements including fence bases and knuckles, are positioned throughout Lafayette Square and President’s Park. Below are some potential options for these design elements which will align with the character of the park as well as security standards.



Visualization: Sierra White



Visualization: Lac Du Bonnet



Visualization: Red Granite



Paving History Timeline

Work began on the paving of **Pennsylvania Avenue NW** between Seventeenth and Twenty-second Streets NW, including sidewalks. The grounds of the President’s House also **received grading in preparation for the laying out of walks.**

In **1851**, work was done on the grounds of the President’s House, as well as on the Mall. In **1851** Easby reported that the stables had been repaired, a new cow barn built, and new drains and **paving installed** around the stables and stable yard. Also completed in **1851** was a new watch house built, new iron gates installed at the northeast and northwest entrances, and **roads paved and repaired.**

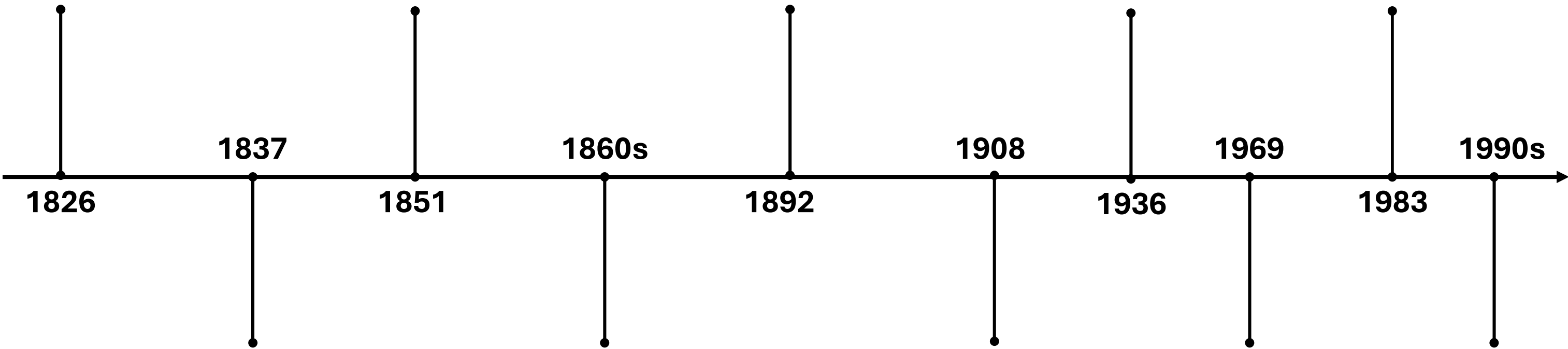
The report for fiscal year **1892** identified **repairs to the asphalt paving on the grounds north of the President’s House.** It recommended that the mounds to the south be graded and shaped, that the **gravel walks be removed and replaced** with artificial or granolithic stone.

Figure 2-54. An 1865 image of the south facade of the Treasury Building following Lincoln’s assassination. (Source: Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2017645157/>, accessed January 2, 2024)



The brick walks were first introduced into Lafayette Park in **1936.**

Brick Walks in Lafayette Park were repaired in **1983.**



Martin Van Buren became president.... The lawns were regularly rolled and watered, and **paths were graveled.** Cast-iron benches and settees were also purchased, including circular benches around some of the trees.

Other photographs from the **1860s** show the area before the regrading and paving of Seventeenth Street NW in 1870, as well as some venerable elm trees that were removed in **1879** with the public reacting in protest.

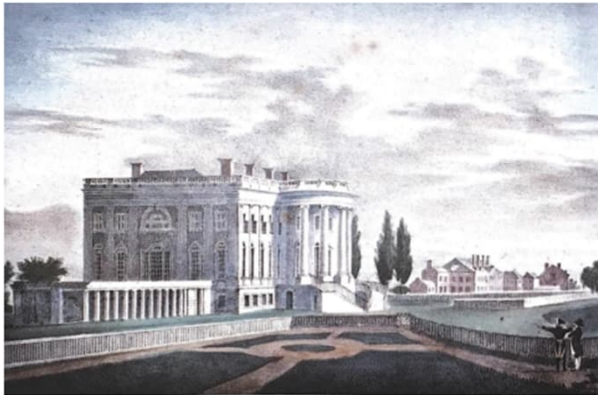


Figure 2-25. A c. 1827–33 engraving of the South Grounds of the President’s house, depicting fences and formal gardens. (Source: Machen collection, Historical Society of Washington, D.C. need number)

The resurfacing of the Ellipse roadway was completed in **1907**, while the asphalt paving on West Executive Avenue was repaired around the same time... In **1908** the surface of the main roadway on the north side was recoated.

Brick walks in Lafayette Park were replaced in **1969.**

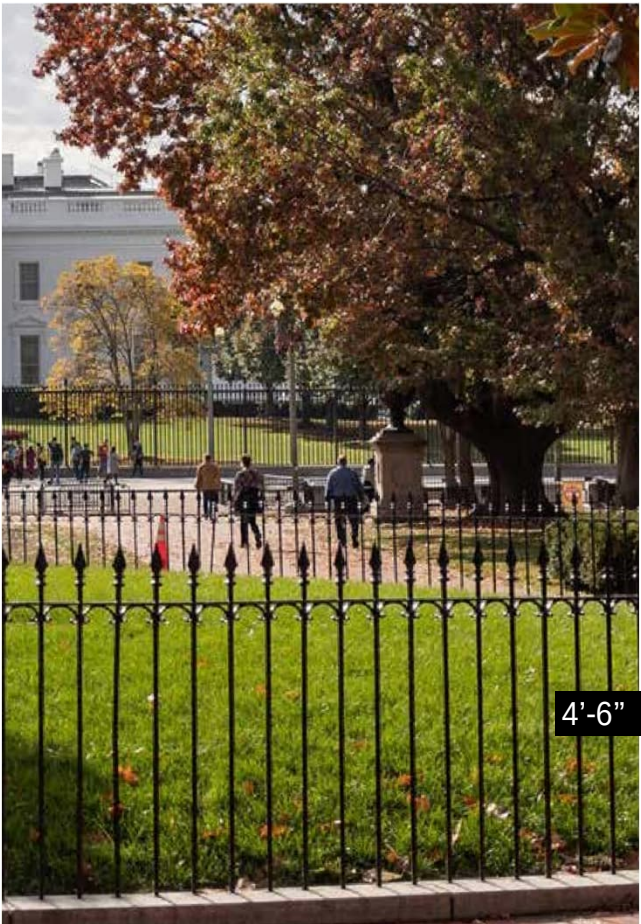
Precast concrete pavers inset with granite pavers and edging materials used for walks along Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Seventeenth Street NW, Fifteenth Street NW, and Constitution Avenue NW postdate the period of significance and are different in color, finish, and texture than historic stone paving. The paving used for Pennsylvania Avenue NW since the **1990s** also differs to a great degree from historic paving materials.

Current and Historic Fences

The project area has had multiple fencing types over time.



TREASURY BUILDING



ANDREW JACKSON STATUE



EISENHOWER EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING



WHITE HOUSE FENCE



HISTORIC WHITE HOUSE FENCE



HISTORIC LAFAYETTE PARK FENCE



HISTORIC LAFAYETTE PARK FENCE
(Current location at Gettysburg National Cemetery)

Local Barrier Precedents

LAFAYETTE PARK BARRIERS - TEMPORARY



Anti-Climb Fence

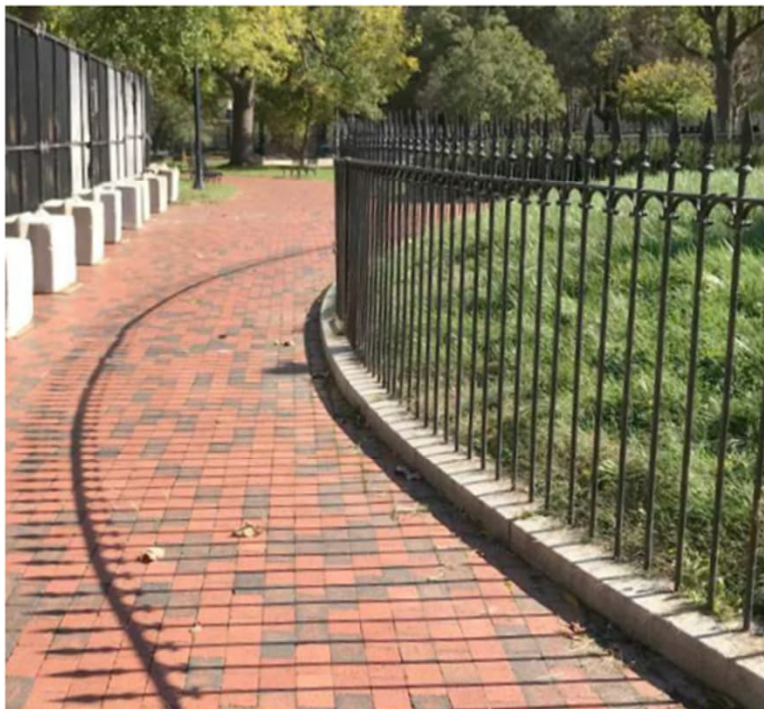
- 8' tall
- Temporary
- Visual Porosity: Low
- Visual Aesthetic: Not appropriate
- Operations: Requires significant staff numbers, assembly time and machinery to deploy



Bike Barrier

- 42" tall, 6 - 8' wide
- Temporary
- Visual Porosity: High
- Visual Aesthetic: Not appropriate - associated with police security, No historic reference
- Operations: requires significant staff numbers to deploy

PARK BARRIERS - PERMANENT



Jackson Statue

- 5' tall
- Permanent
- Visual Porosity: Medium
- Visual Aesthetic: Historically appropriate
- Operations: Minimal



McPherson Square Post and Chain

- ~3.5' tall
- Permanent
- Visual Porosity: High
- Visual Aesthetic: Historically appropriate
- Operations: Minimal

Local Barrier Precedents

ADJACENT BARRIERS - PERMANENT



White House Fence

- 13' tall
- Permanent
- Visual Porosity: Medium
- Visual Aesthetic: Historically appropriate
- Operations: Minimal



Treasury Department Fence

- 5' tall
- Permanent
- Visual Porosity: Medium
- Visual Aesthetic: Historically appropriate
- Operations: Minimal



Renwick Fence

- 4' tall
- Permanent
- Visual Porosity: High
- Visual Aesthetic: Historically appropriate
- Operations: Minimal

Fence Representative Character

LAFAYETTE PARK- HISTORICAL CHARACTER



15th & 17th STREET NW- CONTEMPORARY CHARACTER



Timeline

Pre-Lafayette Park

1824 President Thomas Jefferson authorizes separation of President's Park from White House Grounds

1826 Park levelled and enclosed with wooden fence

1834 President's Park becomes known as Lafayette Square

Lafayette Park

1851 Andrew Jackson Downing hired to design park grounds

	Pathways	Fence / Furnishing	Lighting	Planting	Building / Monuments
1850s	Wide gravel paths	Iron fence and four entrance gates to be surmounted by eagles		English Romantic tradition of planting	(1853) Jackson Statue
1860s	Civil War delays park investments				
1870s	Corps of Engineers interprets Downing's plan. (Downing passes away in 1852)				
	(1872) Brick traps for drainage		(8) Light posts, (2) of which were combined with drinking fountains	(1872) Water pipes for irrigation installed	(1872) Bronze urns (1872) Lodge
1880s	Gravel paths replaced with asphalt	(1887) 172 settees in inventory (1889) Iron fence removed			
1890s	(1890) Brick pavement laid out at 16th and H St. entrances as new brick aprons were constructed on each side of the asphalt walk		(1892) Ornamental lamp posts and gas lamps erected at each pier	City Beautiful Movement	(1891) Lafayette Statue
1900s	(1892) Dressed granite placed around the square. (16) terminal piers placed at park entrances with exception of southeast corner, where two granite-block piers with wing walls were constructed.		(1897) Electric lamp posts installed		(1902) Rochambeau Statue
1910s				(1914) Vines planted over lodge lattice	(1910) Kosciuszko and von Steuben Statues (1914) New Lodge

Lafayette Park Site Inventory | 7

Lafayette Park

	Pathways	Fence / Furnishing	Lighting	Planting	Building / Monuments
1935	Olmsted Management Plan re-emphasizes importance of L'Enfant vistas to the South and North and calls for plant modifications to complement this concept				
1936 - 1937	Work conducted by National Capital Parks via Works Progress Administration for the relief of unemployment after the Great Depression. Downing's plan is simplified.				
	Outer and inner paths are made equal width. Serpentine paths removed.	Urns relocated to existing location		North grass panel installed	
1960 - 1970	Park redesign by architectural firm John Carle Warnecke & Associates in association with Mrs Paul Mellon and National Park Service				
	(1970) Lafayette Square becomes a National Historic Landmark District				
	Concrete sidewalks replaced with brick to look more like 19th Century walkways	Chess tables installed			(1960) Baruch Bench Two new pools with fountains installed
1980s	Pennsylvania Avenue repaved with brick				Lodge renovated Statues restored
1990s	(1995) Pennsylvania Avenue closed to vehicular traffic following the Oklahoma City Bombing				
2000s	MVVA Redesign of Pennsylvania Avenue				

Sources

Comprehensive Design Plan: The White House & President's Park. National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 2000.
 President's Park. The Cultural Landscape Foundation. online.
 Olszewski, George J. *Lafayette Park.* National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1964.