



Education Center at the Wall

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS MAY 21, 2015 | ENNEAD ARCHITECTS



## **REGULATORY OVERVIEW**

### **I. CFA**

- a. 09/2005 - SITE APPROVAL
- b. 09/2007 - CONCEPT
- c. 04/2009 - REVISED CONCEPT
- d. 02/2012 - REVISED CONCEPT
- e. 04/2014 - REVISED CONCEPT
- f. 07/2014 - REVISED CONCEPT

### **II. NCPC**

- a. 07/2006 - SITE APPROVAL
- b. 11/2007 - CONCEPT
- c. 06/2009 - REVISED CONCEPT
- d. 07/2012 - PRELIMINARY

### **III. NCMAC**

- a. 03/2005 - SITE APPROVAL
- b. 03/2012 - CONCEPT

# 2003 - Authorizing Legislation

117 STAT. 1348

PUBLIC LAW 108-126—NOV. 17, 2003

Public Law 108-126  
108th Congress

An Act

Nov. 17, 2003  
[H.R. 1442]

To authorize the design and construction of a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

District of  
Columbia.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of  
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## TITLE I—VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER

### SEC. 101. VISITOR CENTER.

Public Law 96-297 (16 U.S.C. 431 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### “SEC. 6. VISITOR CENTER.

“(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., is authorized to construct a visitor center at or near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia, or its environs, subject to the provisions of this section, in order to better inform and educate the public about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Vietnam War.

“(2) LOCATION.—The visitor center shall be located underground.

“(3) CONSULTATION ON DESIGN PHASE.—The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., shall consult with educators, veterans groups, and the National Park Service in developing the proposed design of the visitor center.

“(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—Chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code, shall apply, including provisions related to the siting, design, construction, and maintenance of the visitor center, and the visitor center shall be considered a commemorative work for the purposes of that Act, except that—

“(1) final approval of the visitor center shall not be withheld;

“(2) the provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of section 8908 of title 40, United States Code, requiring further approval by law for the location of a commemorative work within Area I and prohibiting the siting of a visitor center within the Reserve shall not apply;

“(3) the size of the visitor center shall be limited to the minimum necessary—

...construct a visitor center...in order to better inform and educate the public about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Vietnam War.

...shall be located underground.

...shall be constructed and landscaped in a manner harmonious with the site of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, consistent with the special nature and sanctity of the Mall.

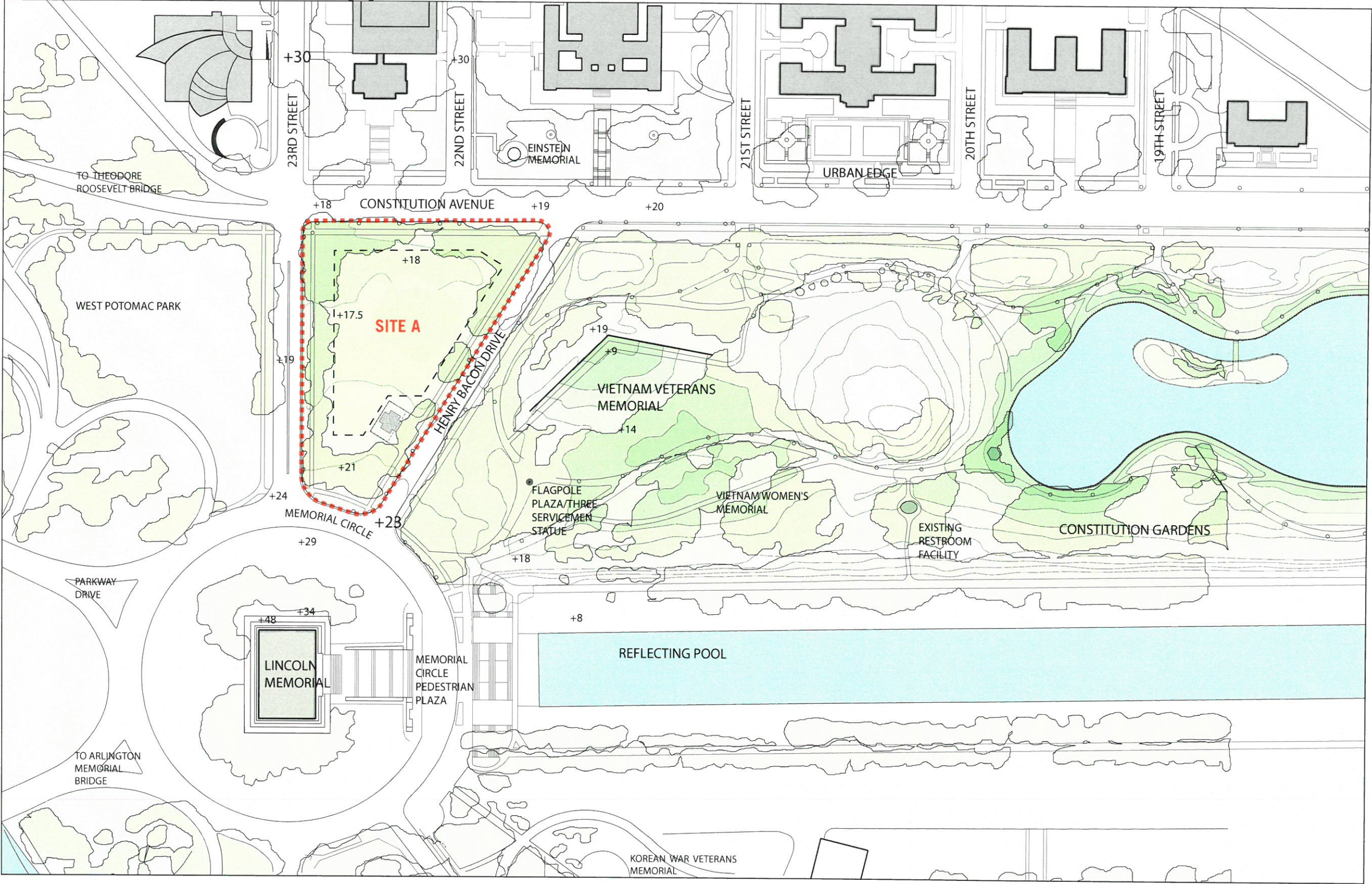
...shall not interfere or encroach on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and shall protect open space and visual sightlines on the Mall.

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2005/2006 - Site "A" Approved



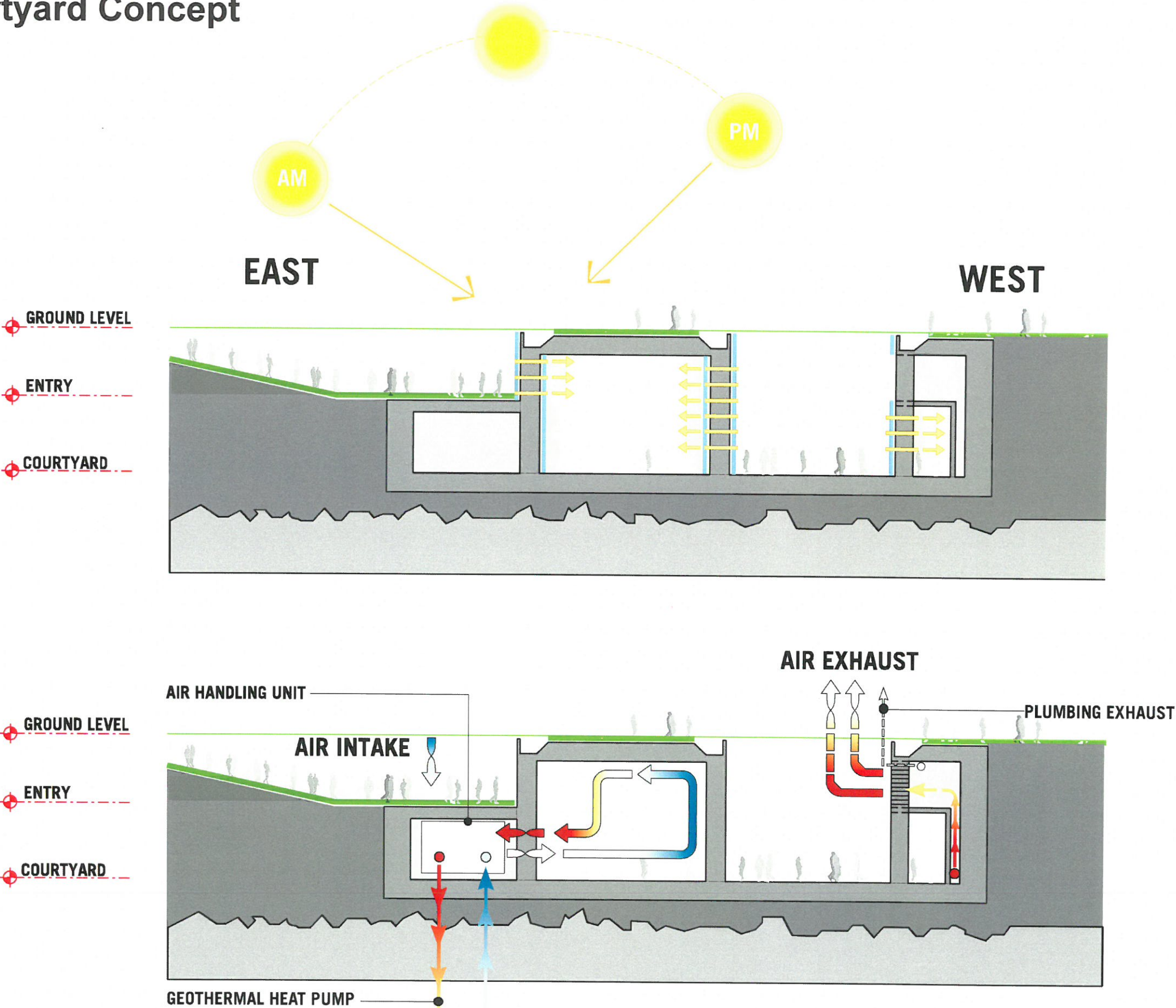


# July 2006 - Joint CFA/NCPC Design Guidelines

1. The Visitor Center will be constructed underground as required by the authorizing legislation for the project with no portion of the building or related building elements visible from any portion of the Lincoln Memorial steps and podium, from Constitution Avenue, and from within the axial viewsheds of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, N.W. and Henry Bacon Drive, N.W.
2. The Visitor Center's entrance will be only minimally visible from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to satisfy the project's purpose and need, but in accordance with the authorizing legislation will not interfere with or encroach upon the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
3. To maintain the character of the historic landscape, the Visitor Center's design will maintain the existing grade as much as possible, and any new slopes will be gradual. The project will raise the existing site grade only minimally to allow for an accessible entry ramp.
4. The Visitor Center will be designed such that light emanating from the Center's interior will not be visible from any portion of the Lincoln Memorial, from Constitution Avenue, and from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial so as not to interfere with or encroach upon the Lincoln Memorial or the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
5. The Visitor Center will not intrude into the landscape. No protrusions, such as skylights, monitors, light wells, or sunken areaways, will be visible from the sidewalk surrounding the site.
6. The Visitor Center's site lighting for public safety will not interfere with or encroach upon views to and from the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
7. The Visitor Center's design will provide only the paved area reasonably necessary for visitors to enter and exit the building and to provide service access, and will not include additional paved area for gathering space or queuing.
8. The project will not include new vehicle parking areas.
9. The Visitor Center will have a single entrance for both visitors and service.
10. The Visitor Center's associated pedestrian street crossing points will be designed to address traffic impacts effectively and to protect pedestrian safety.
11. The Visitor Center will be constructed only on the portion of the site that lies outside of the critical root zone of existing elm trees. The applicant will develop a tree protection plan to protect and preserve the trees both during and after construction in accordance with standard design and construction procedures.
12. The project will place new landscaping on the site in accordance with the National Park Service's Cultural Landscape Report for the Lincoln Memorial referenced in the Environmental Assessment and will maintain the open grass panel on the site surrounded at the site's perimeter by elm trees.
13. The Visitor Center design will not impede the use of the site for multi-purpose recreation on the site.
14. The Visitor Center will be designed without guardrails or perimeter security elements.

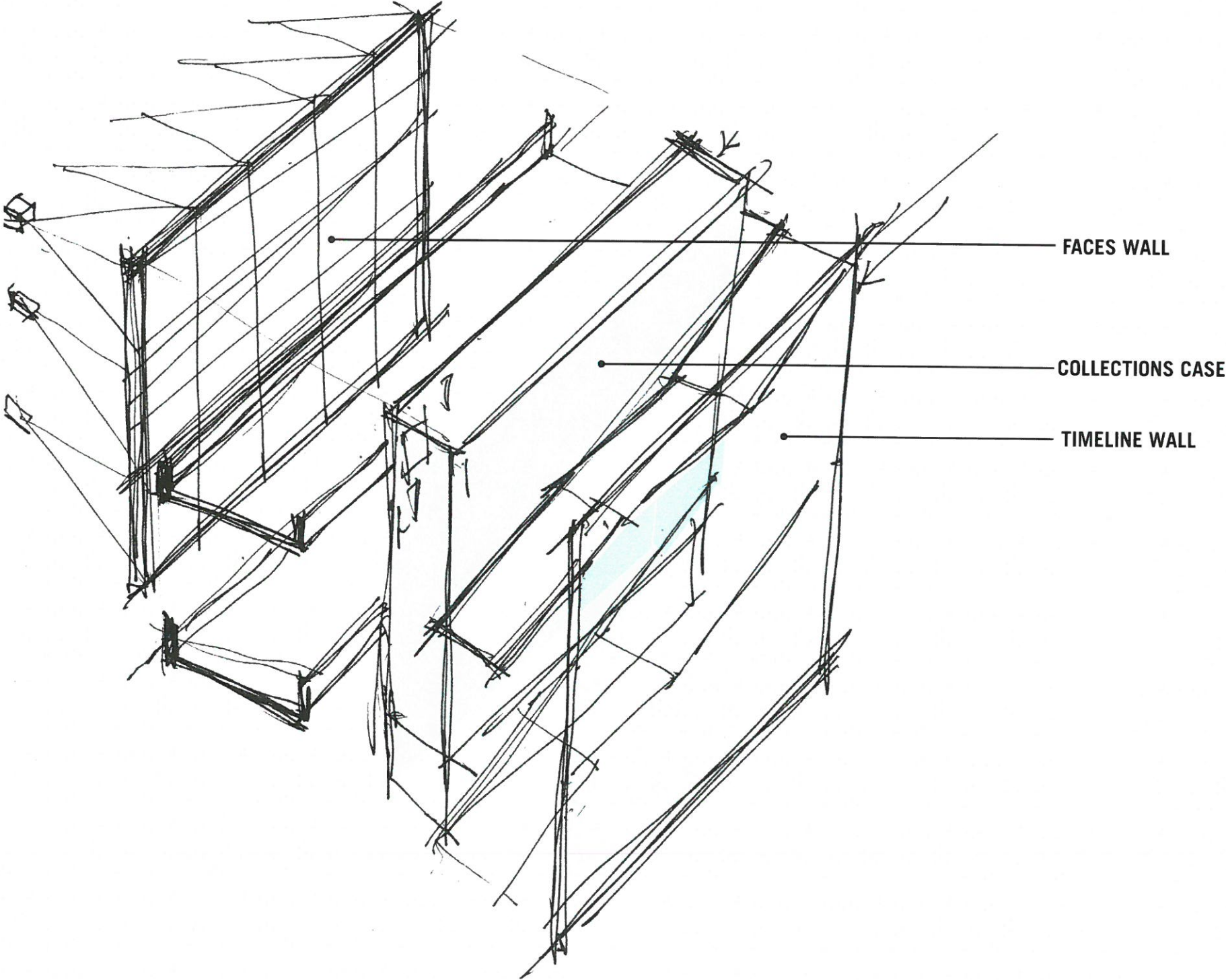


# Courtyard Concept



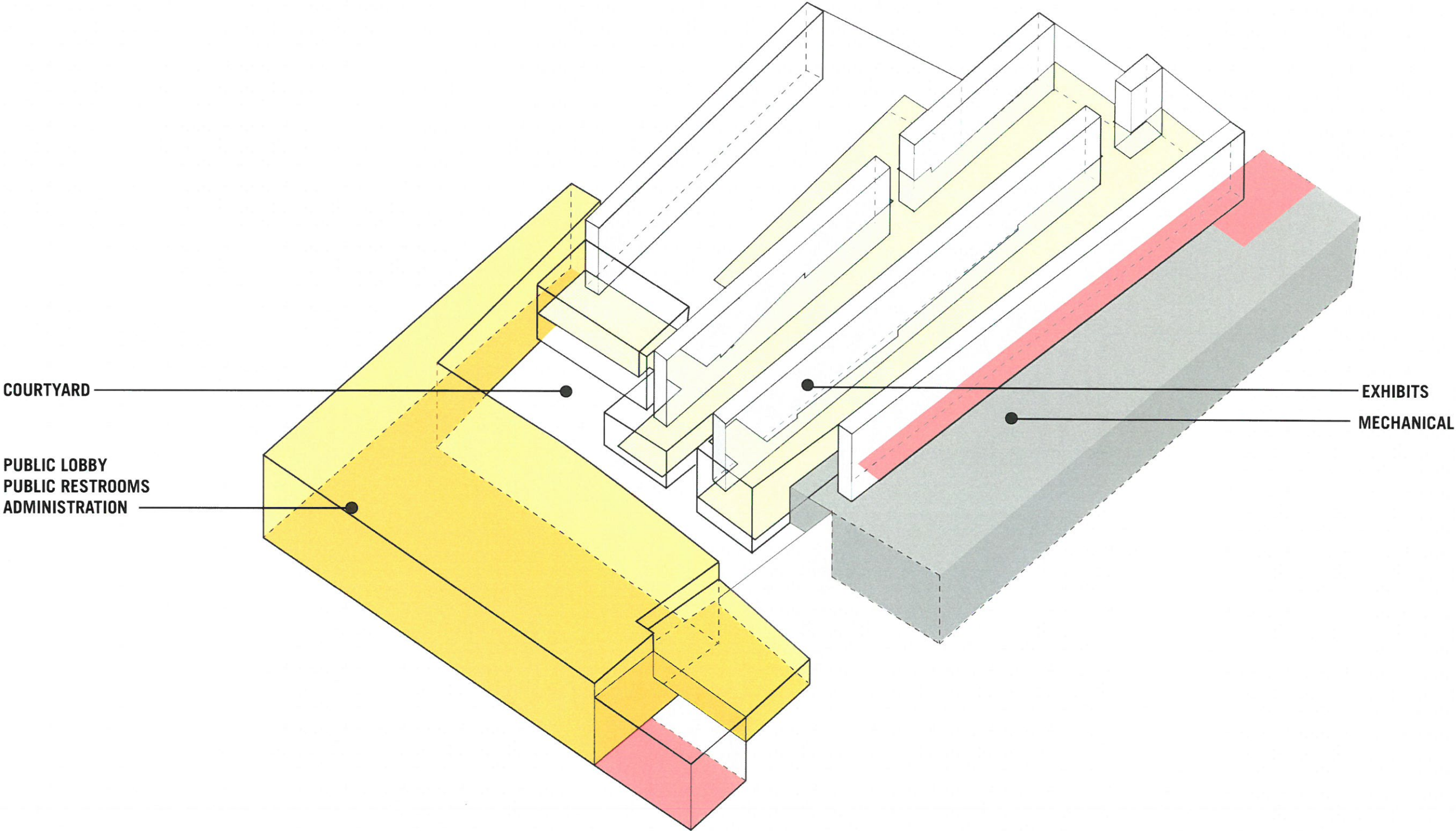


# Exhibit Concept



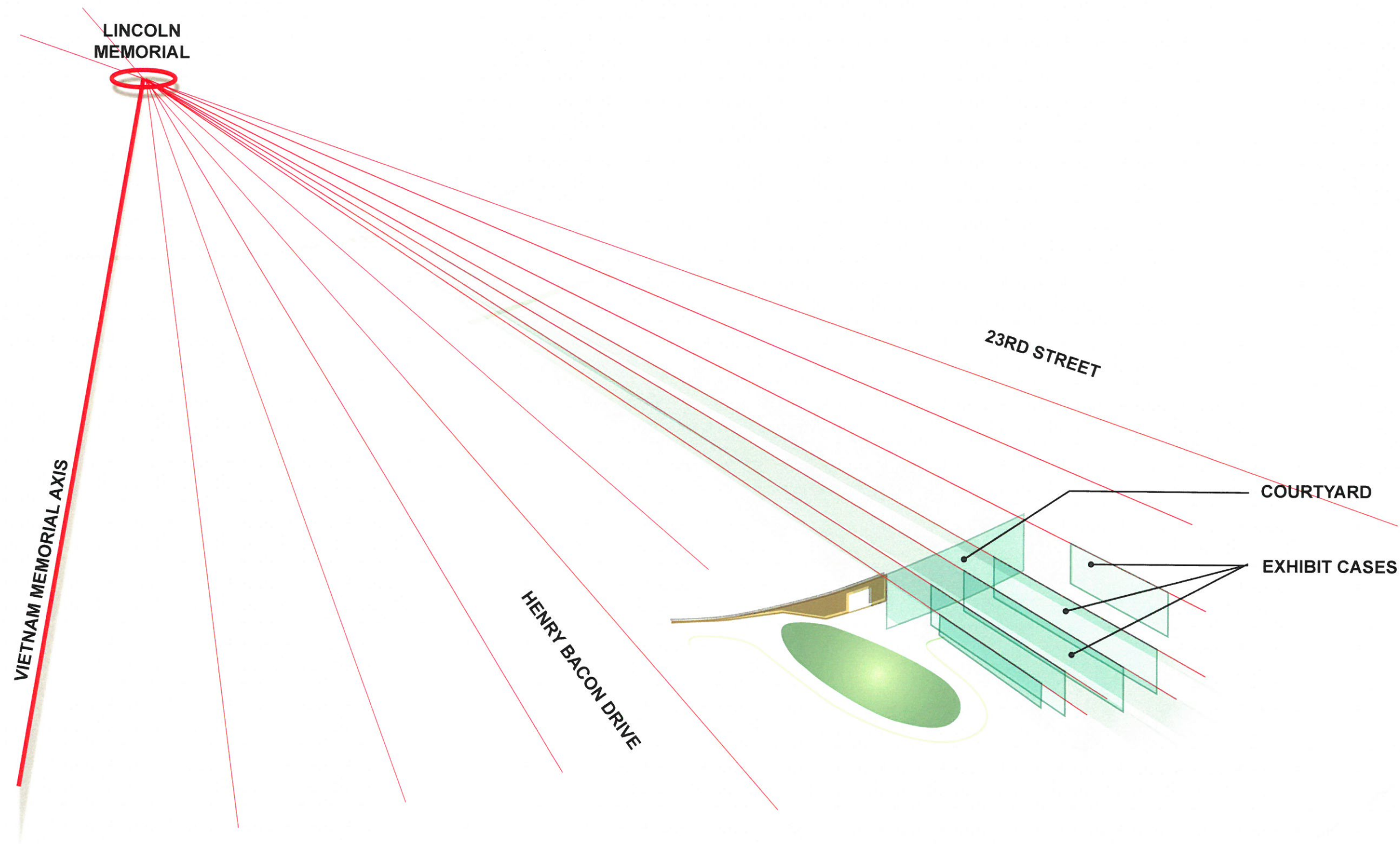


# Building “Parti”





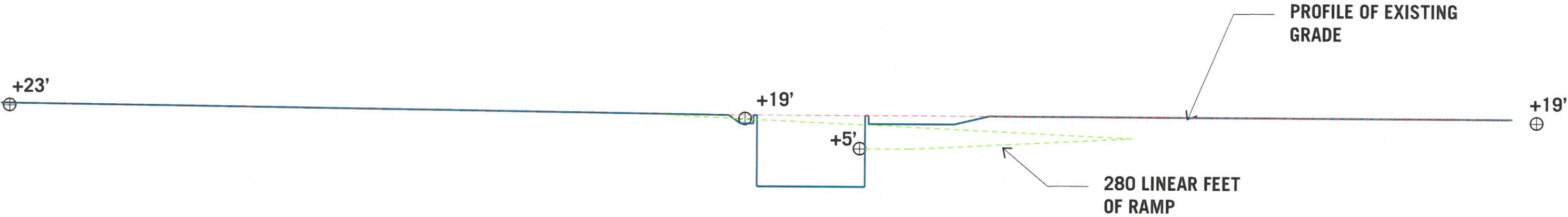
# Radial Layers Diagram



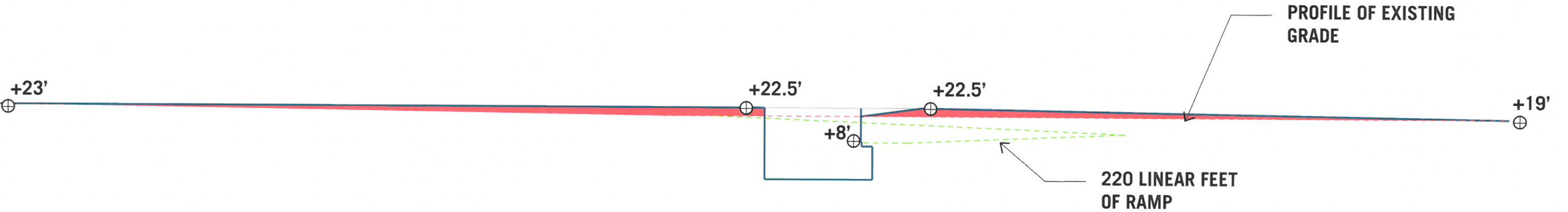


# Concept Design - Site Section Diagrams

2007

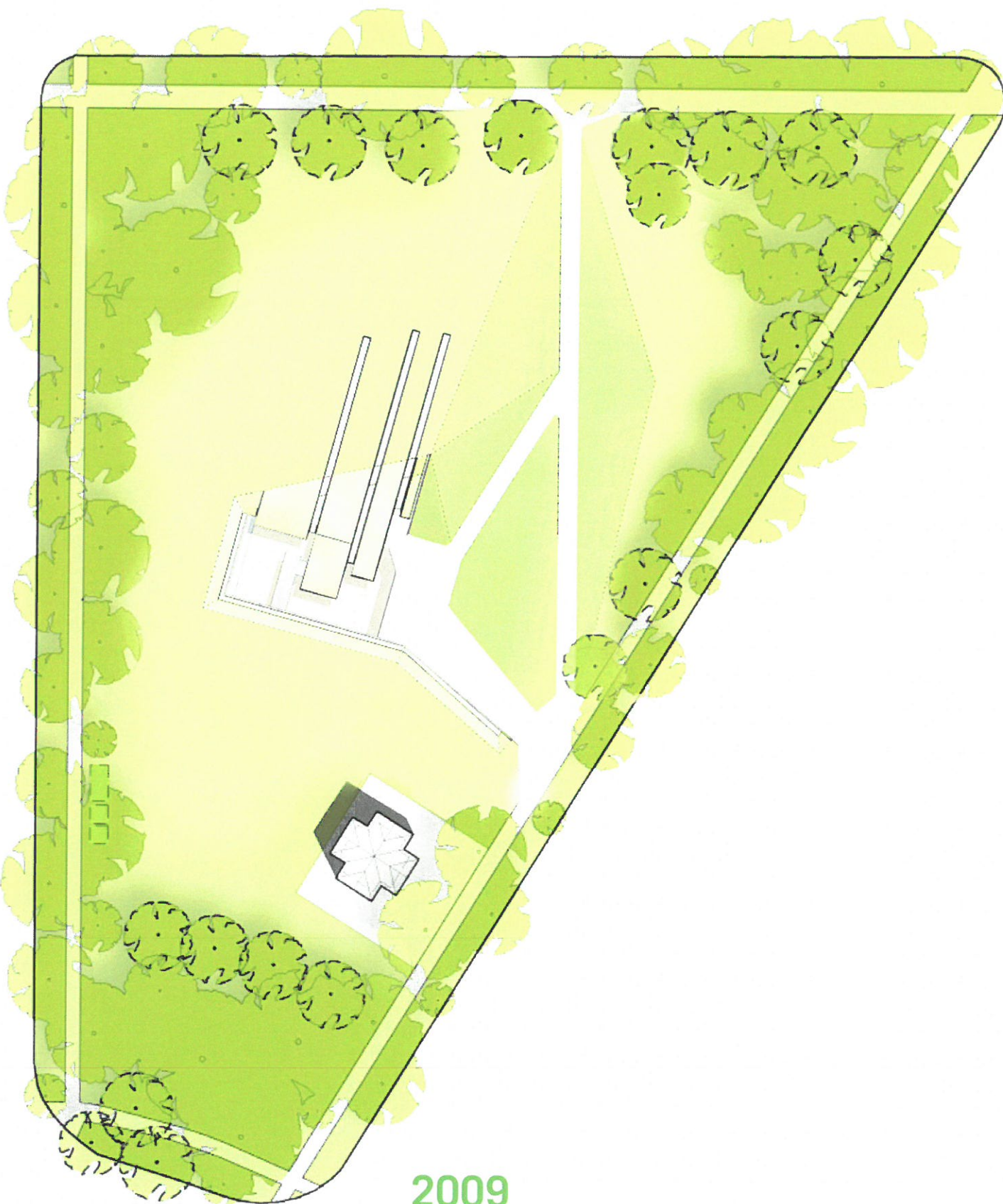
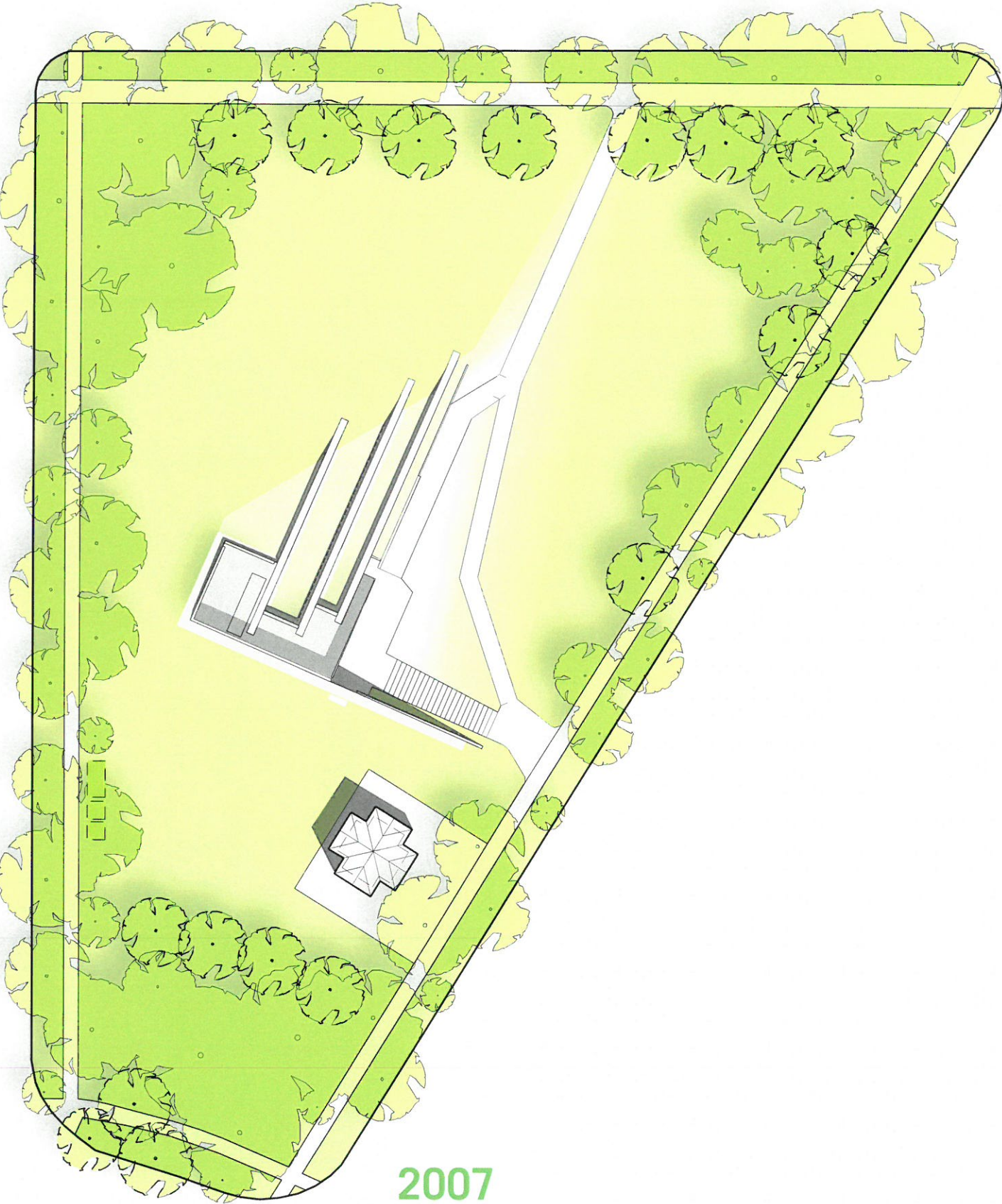


2009



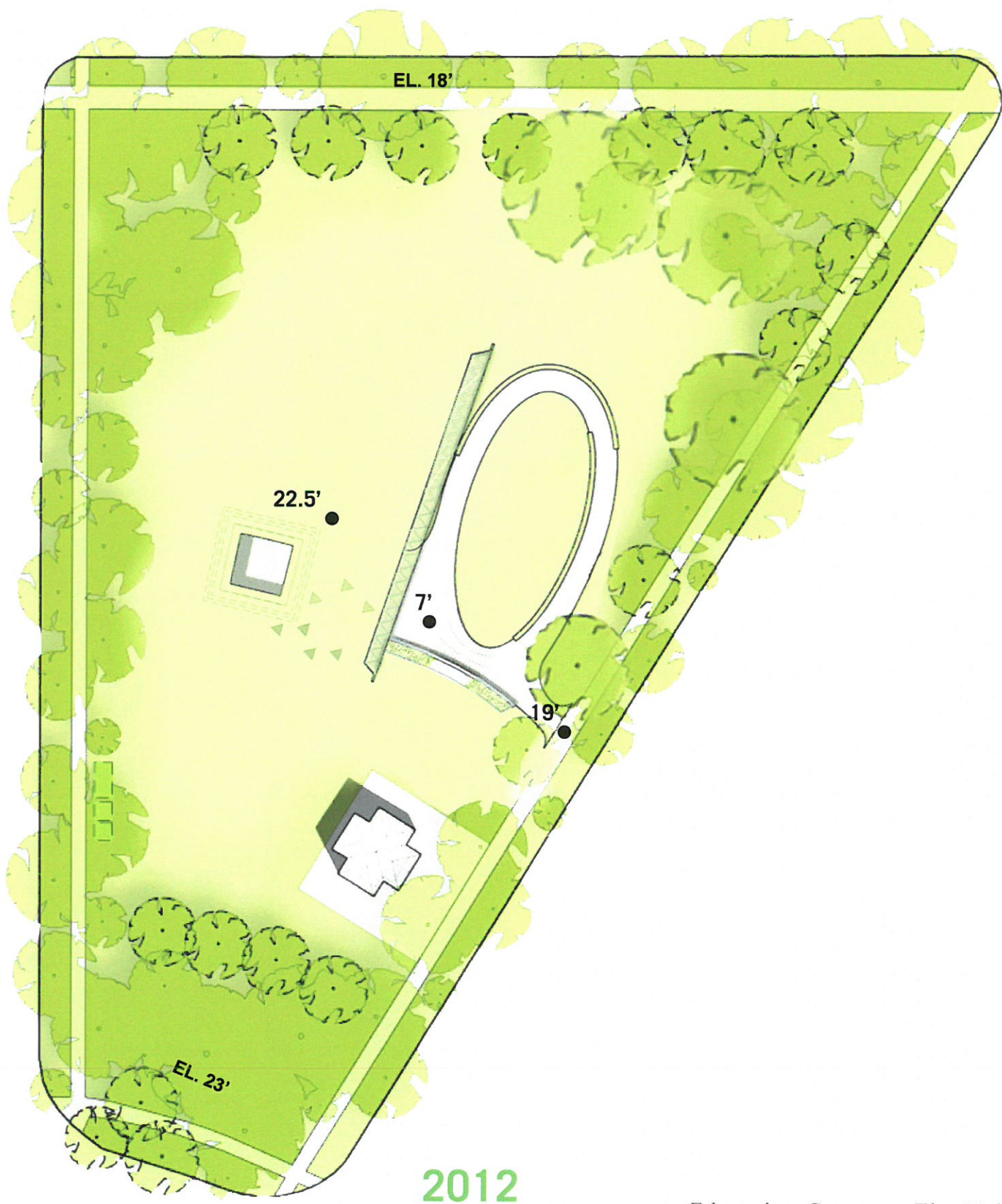
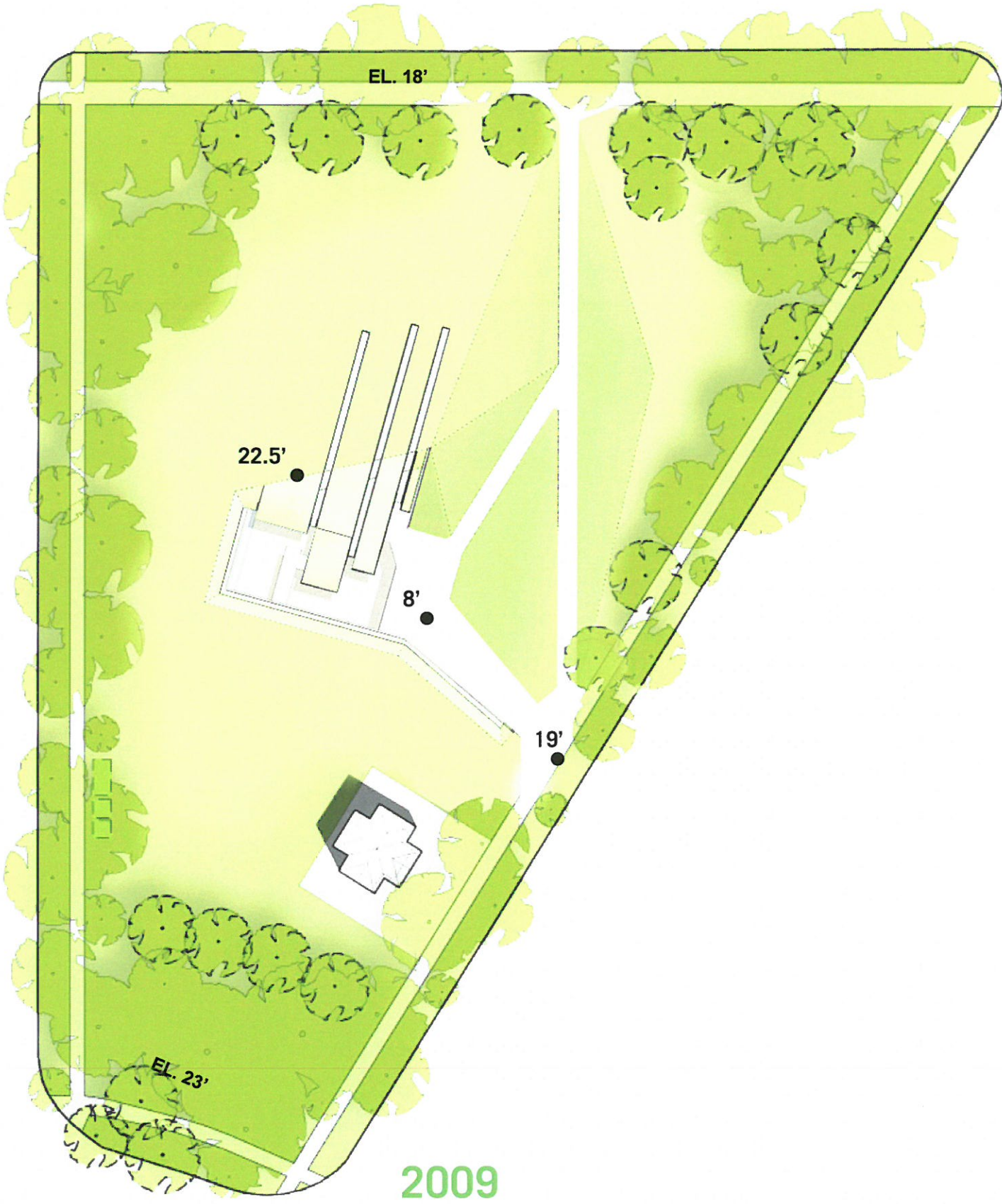


Concept Design: Previous Site Plan Options



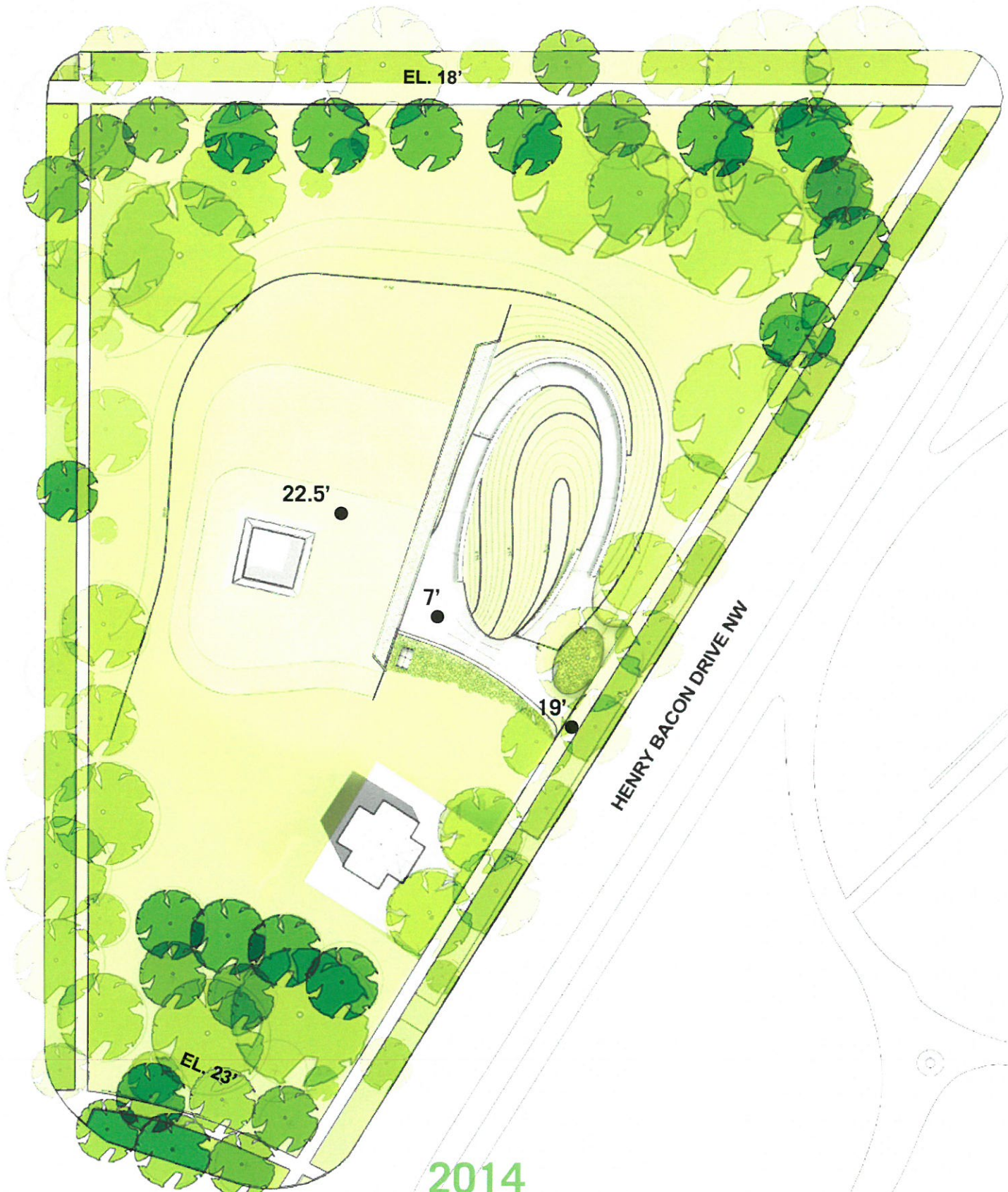
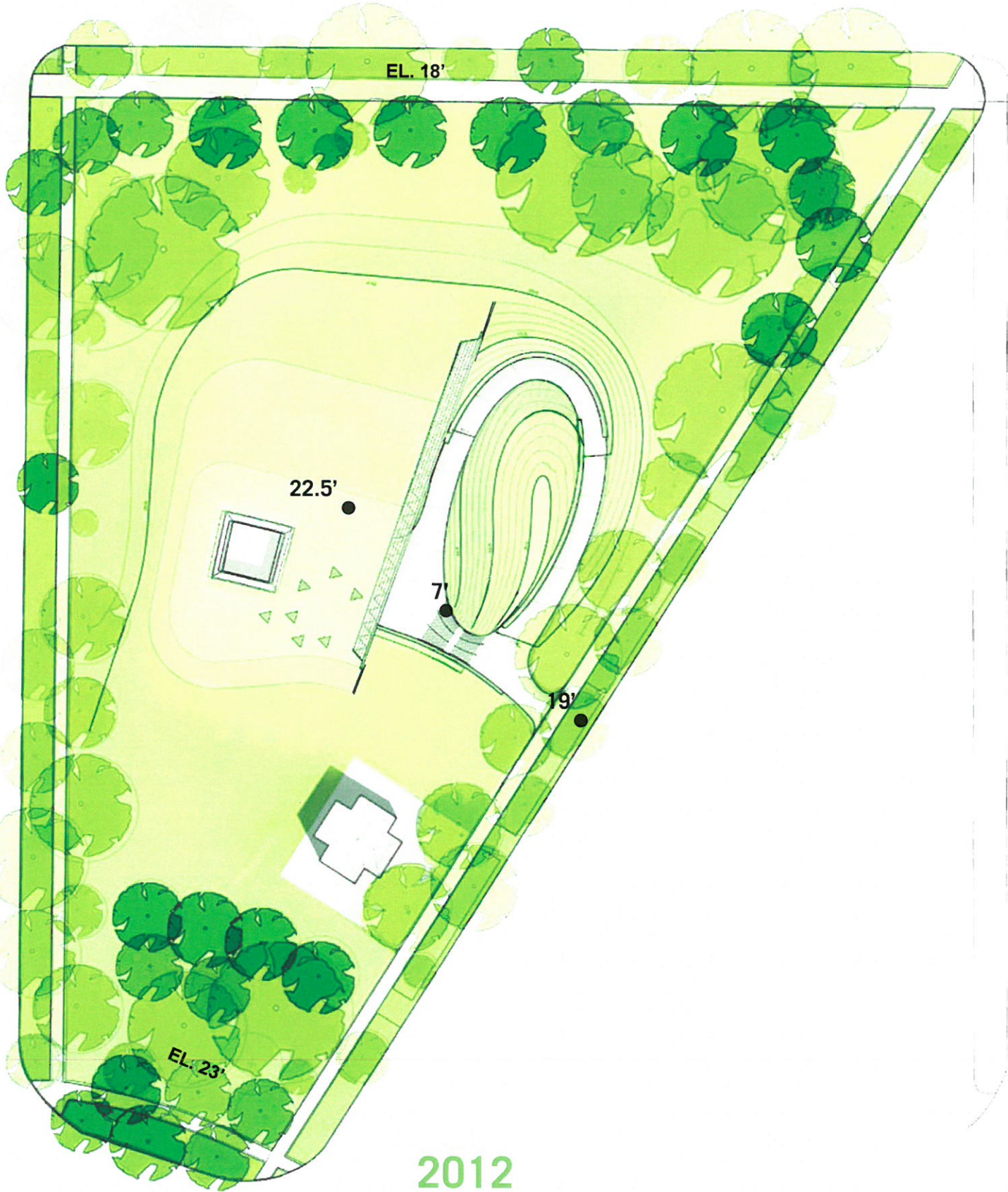


Design Development: Comparative Site Plans





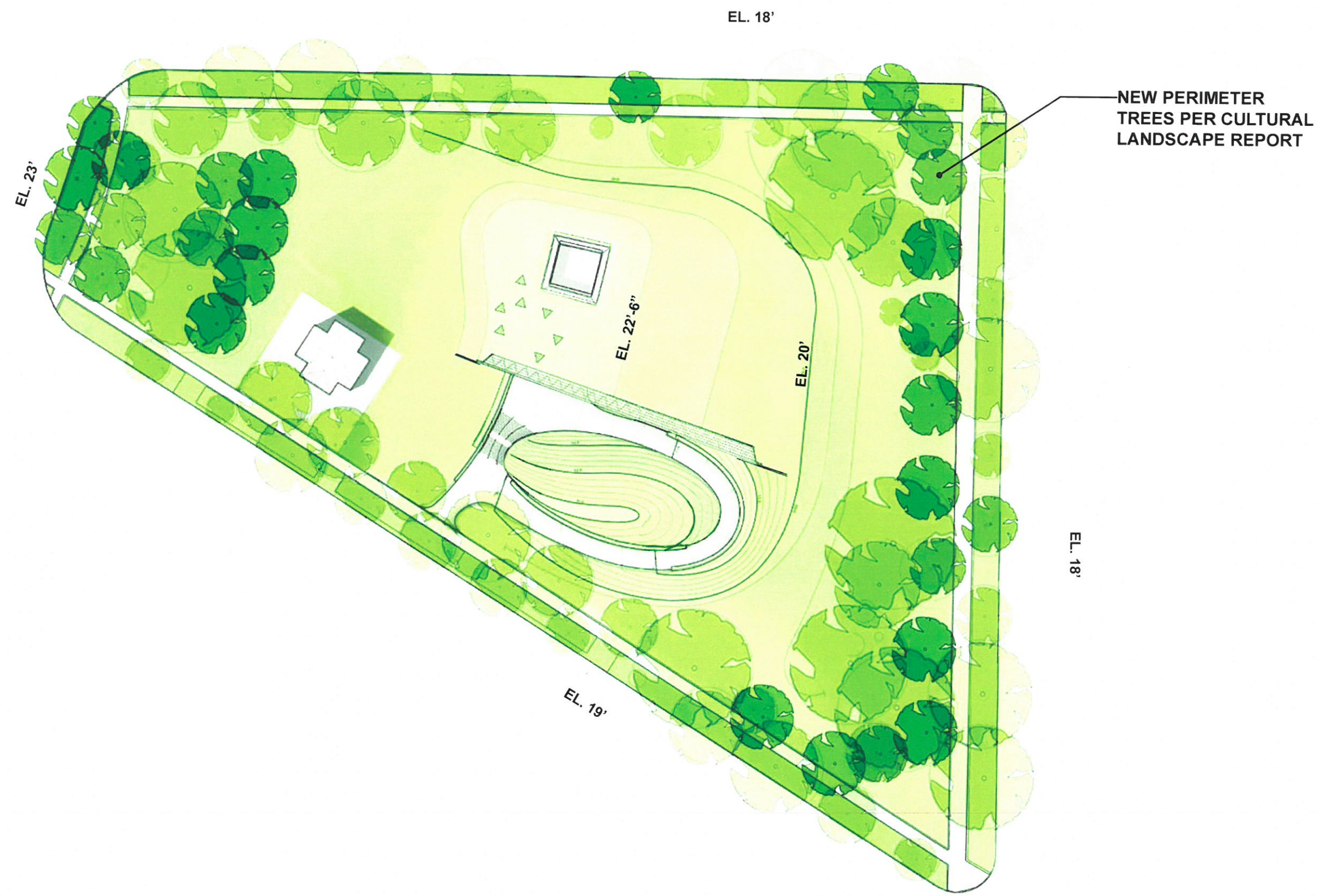
# Construction Documents: Comparative Site Plans



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2014  
Landscape Grading & Planting



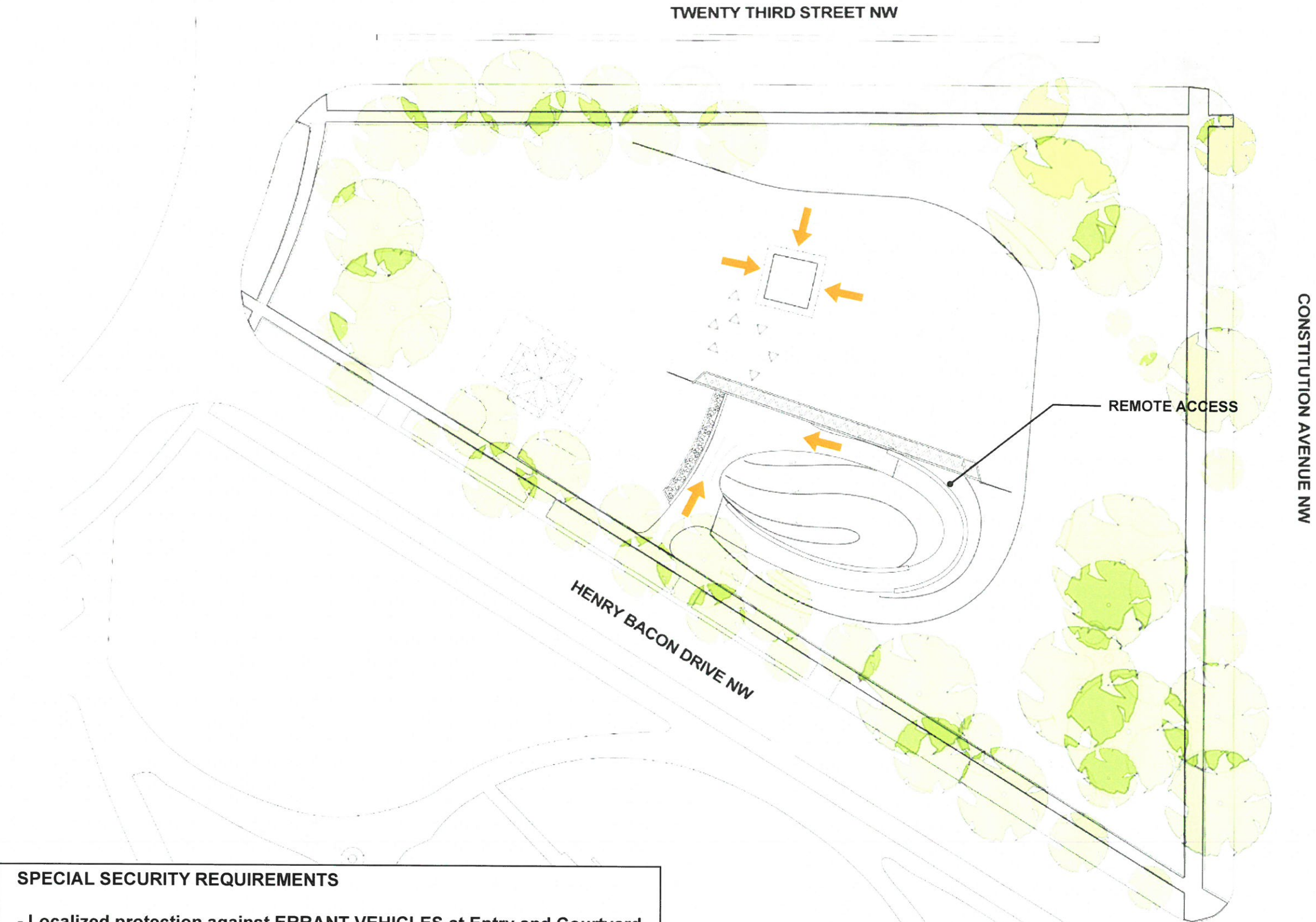


2014  
Grading for Protection from Urban Ponding





2014  
Site Security Diagram - US Park Police



- SPECIAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS**
- Localized protection against ERRANT VEHICLES at Entry and Courtyard
  - REMOTE ACCESS/EXIT for special emergencies
  - Option to implement VISITOR SCREENING at Lobby



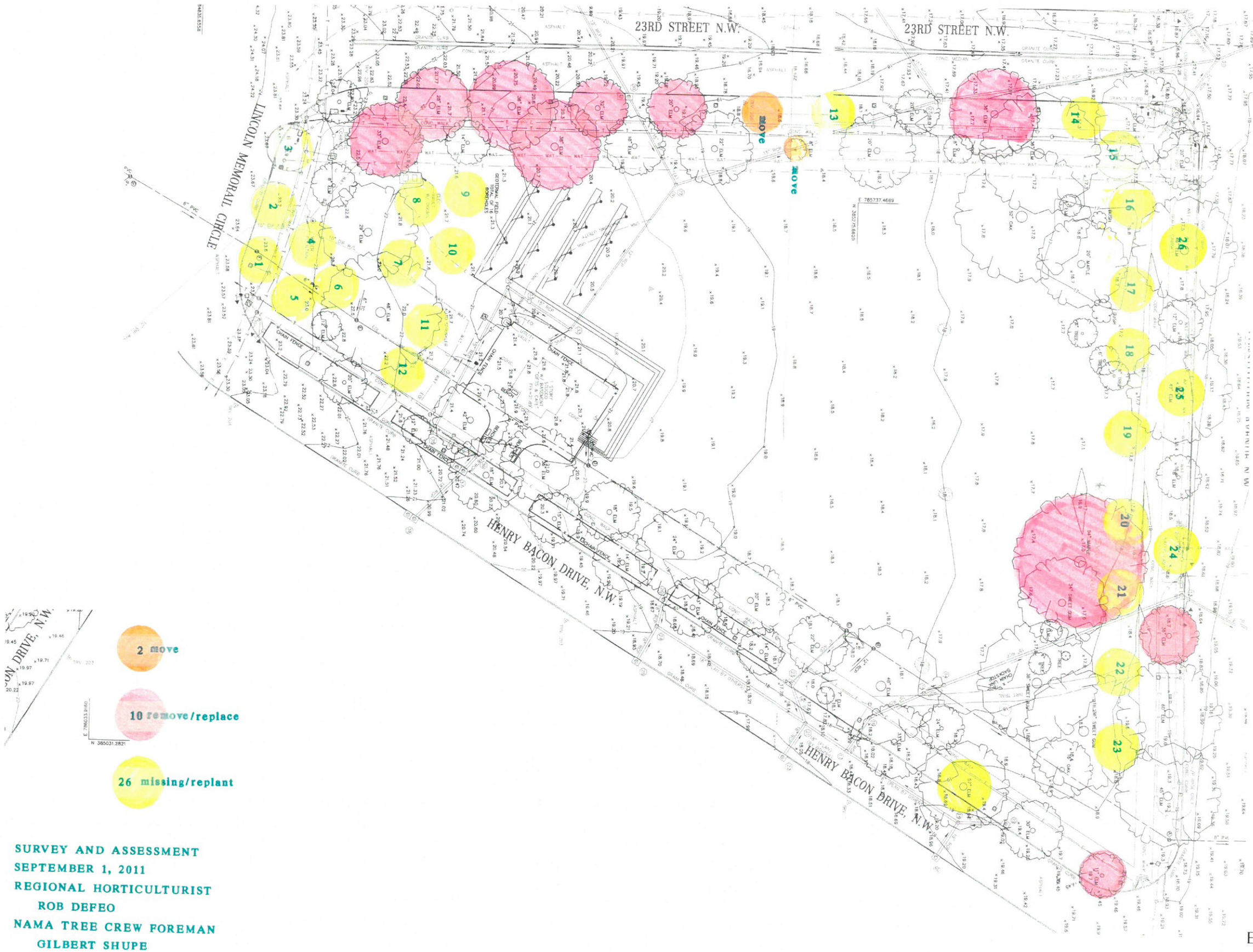
2014

# Tree Root Protection and Geothermal Well Field



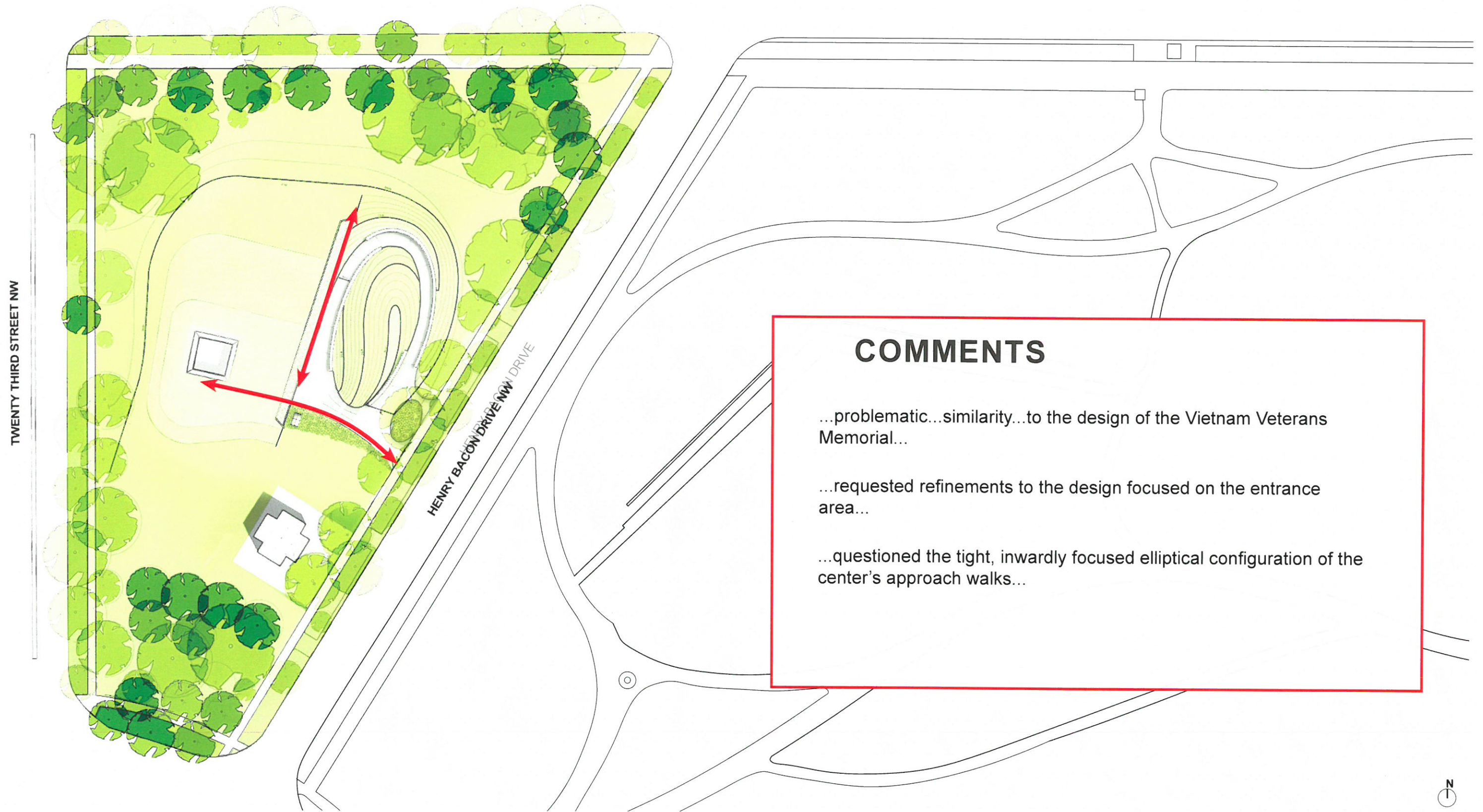


2011  
NPS Horticulturalist Tree Survey and Assessment





APRIL 2014  
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS - COMMENTS

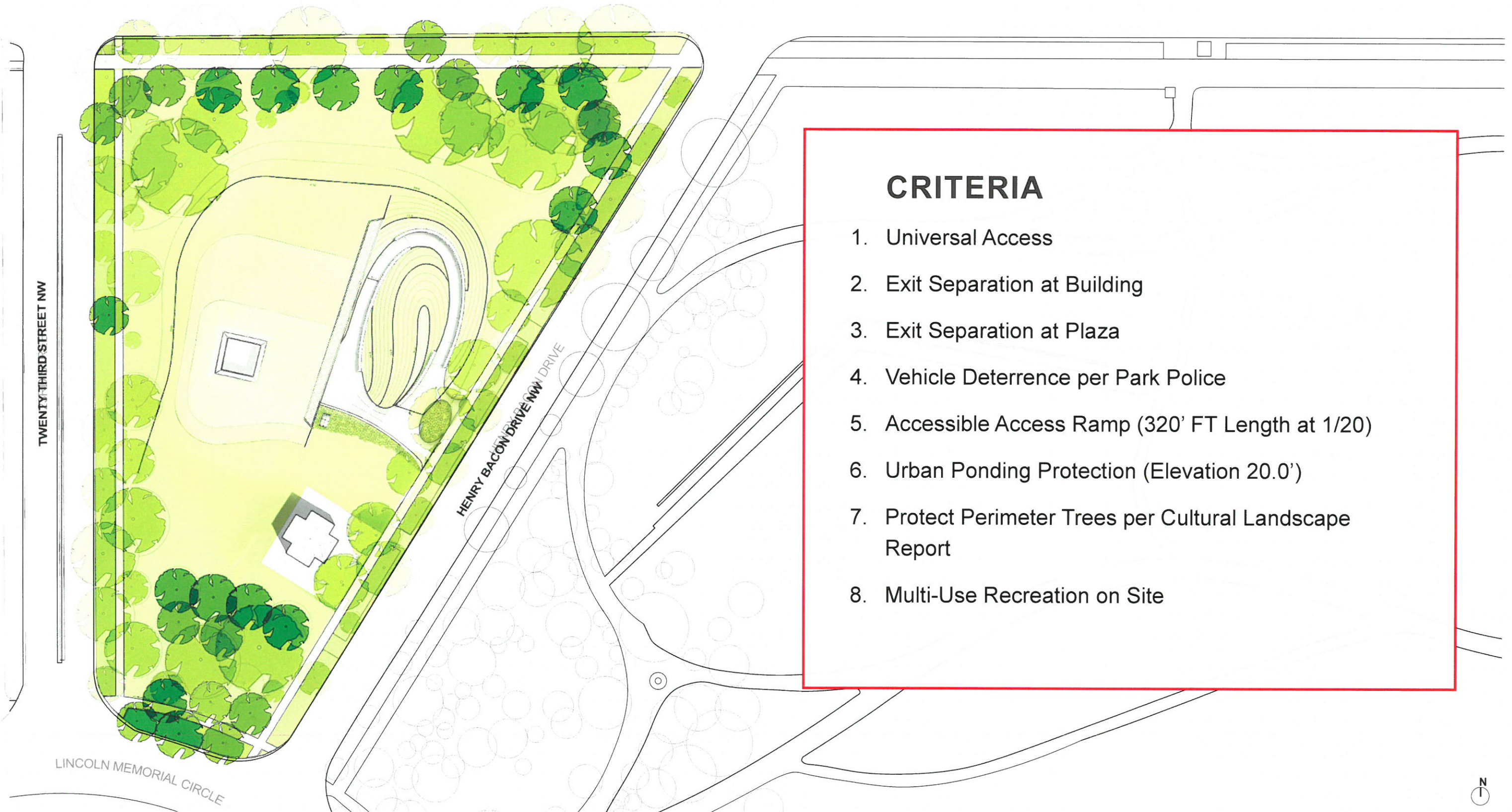




APRIL 2014

## COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS - COMMENTS

CONSTITUTION AVENUE



### CRITERIA

1. Universal Access
2. Exit Separation at Building
3. Exit Separation at Plaza
4. Vehicle Deterrence per Park Police
5. Accessible Access Ramp (320' FT Length at 1/20)
6. Urban Ponding Protection (Elevation 20.0')
7. Protect Perimeter Trees per Cultural Landscape Report
8. Multi-Use Recreation on Site

LINCOLN MEMORIAL CIRCLE



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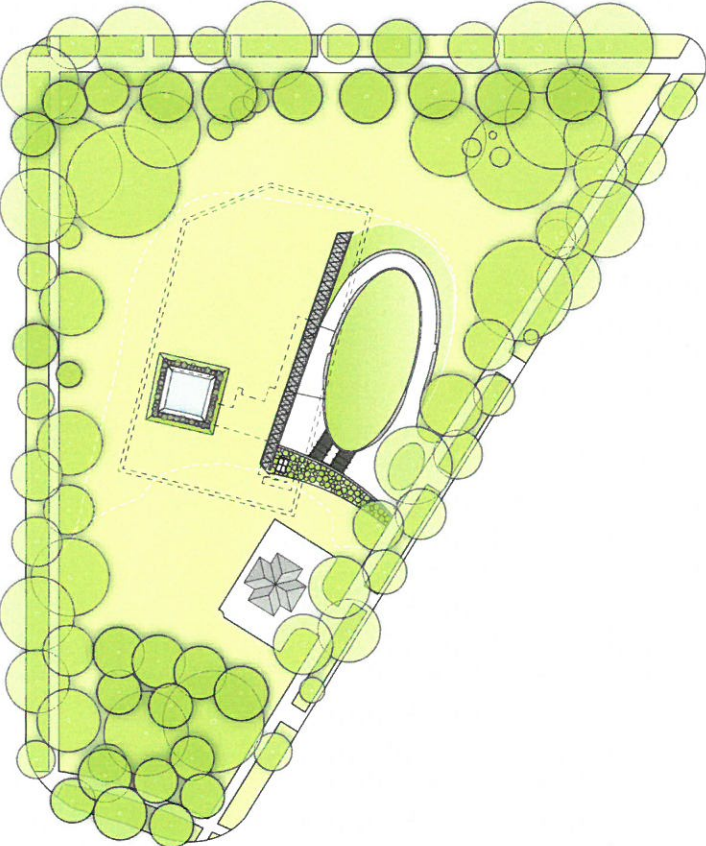


APRIL 2014

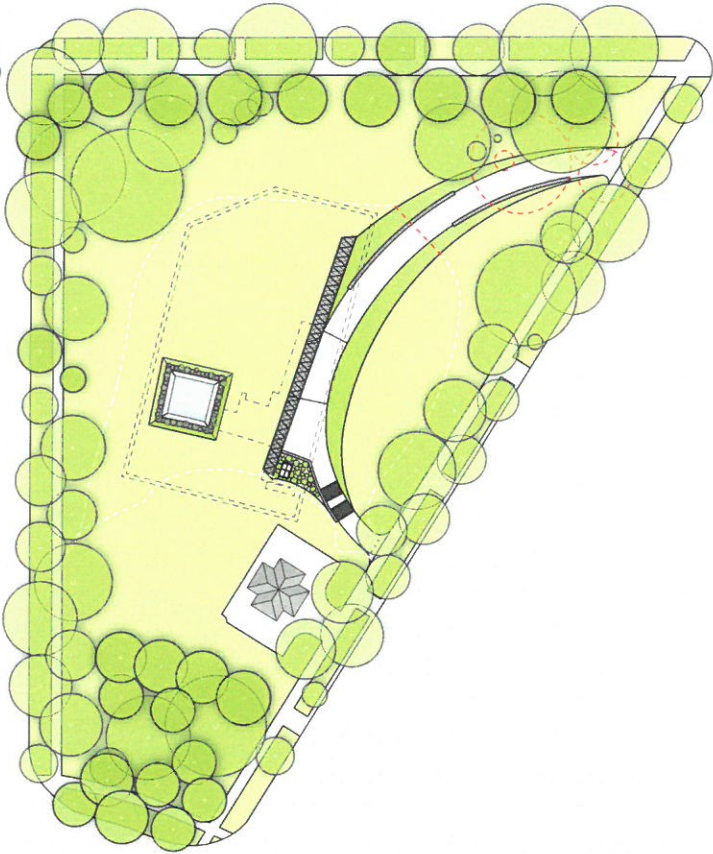
## View from Bottom of Entry Ramp



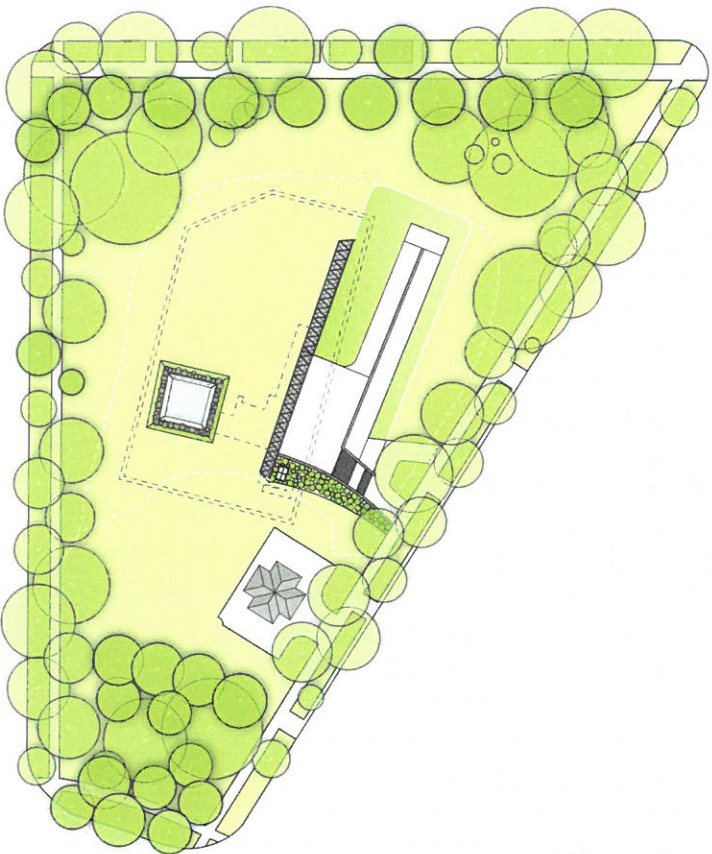




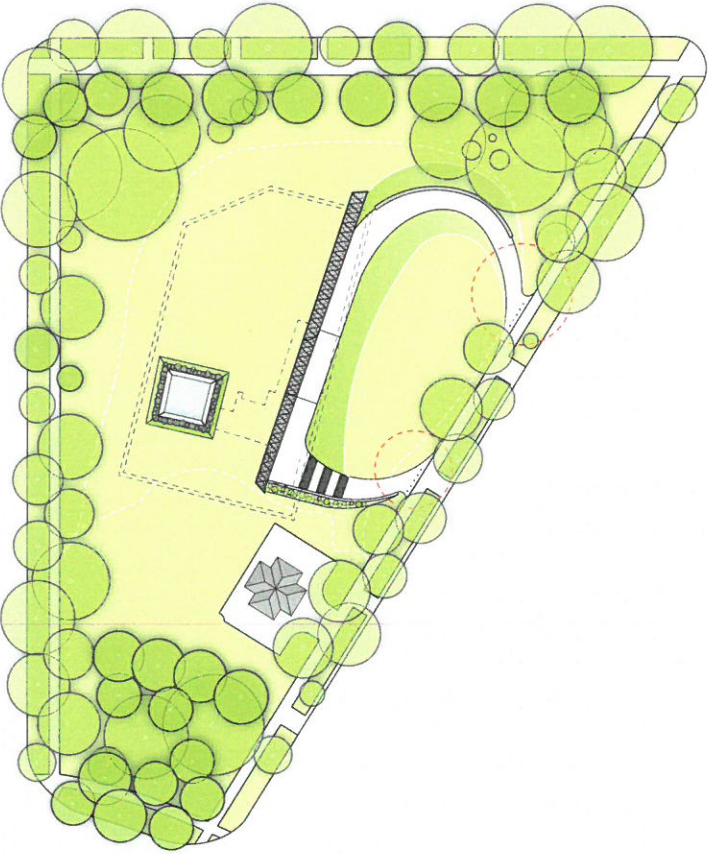
CURRENT DESIGN: Ellipse



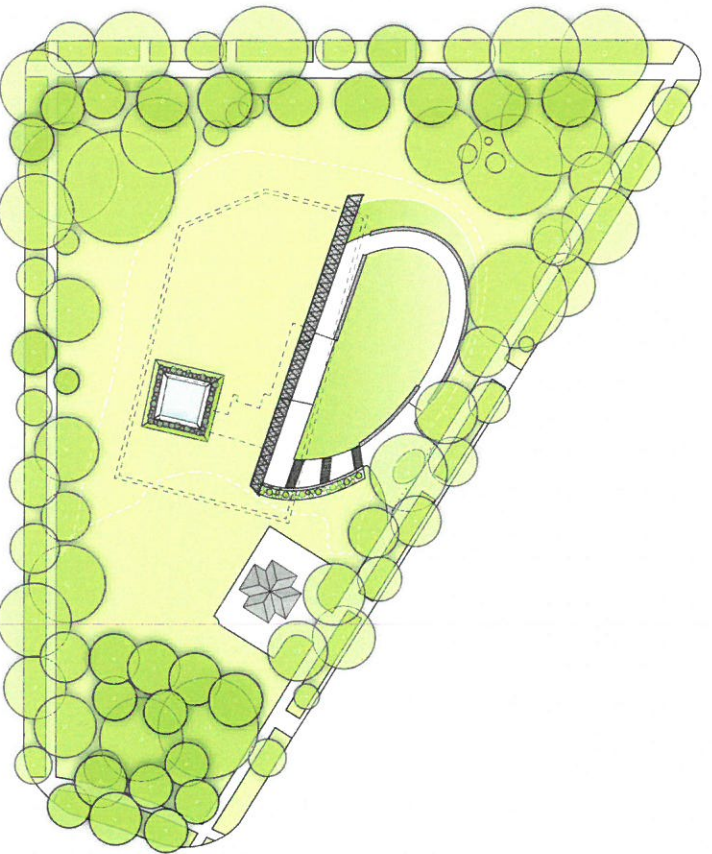
OPTION A: Arc



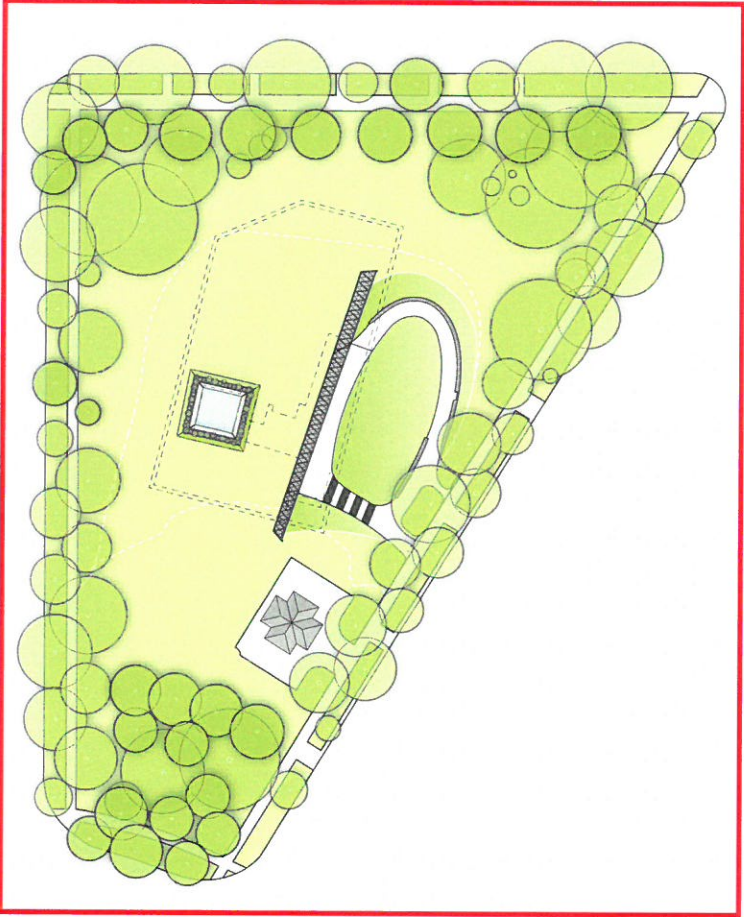
OPTION B: Switchback



OPTION C: Sidewalk



OPTION D: Semi-Ellipse



RECONSIDERED DESIGN



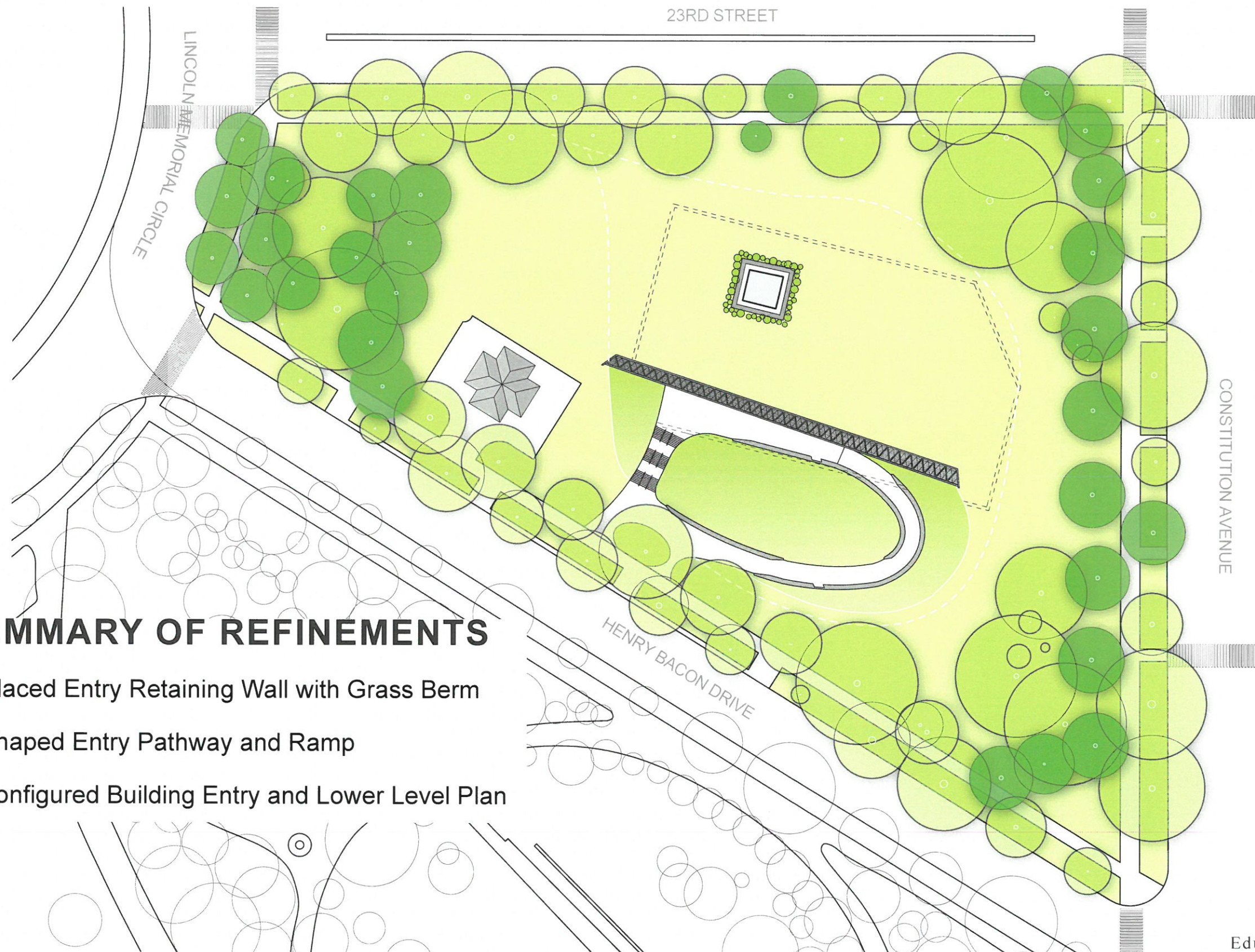
2015  
Site Context Plan



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# 2015 Site Plan

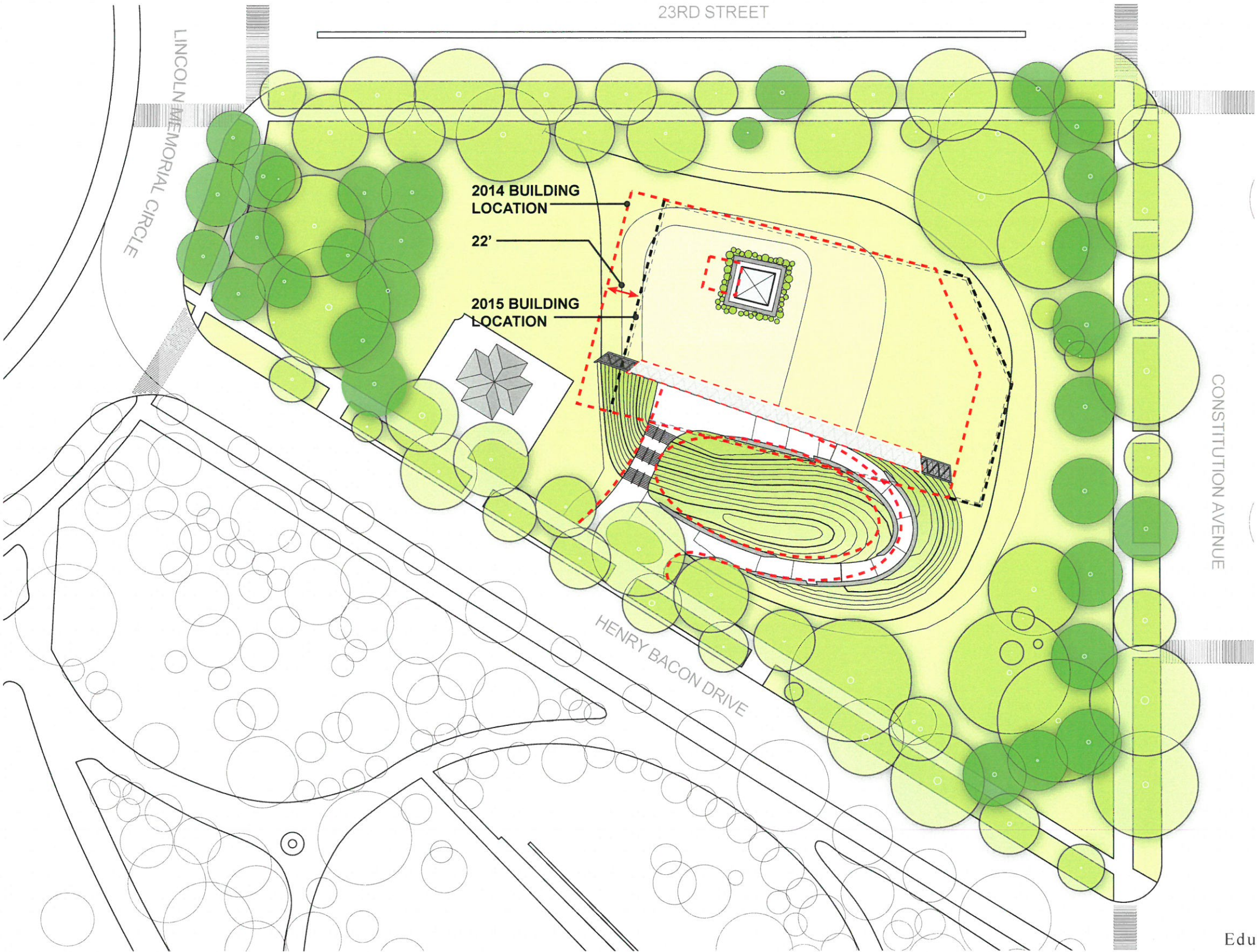


## SUMMARY OF REFINEMENTS

1. Replaced Entry Retaining Wall with Grass Berm
2. Reshaped Entry Pathway and Ramp
3. Reconfigured Building Entry and Lower Level Plan

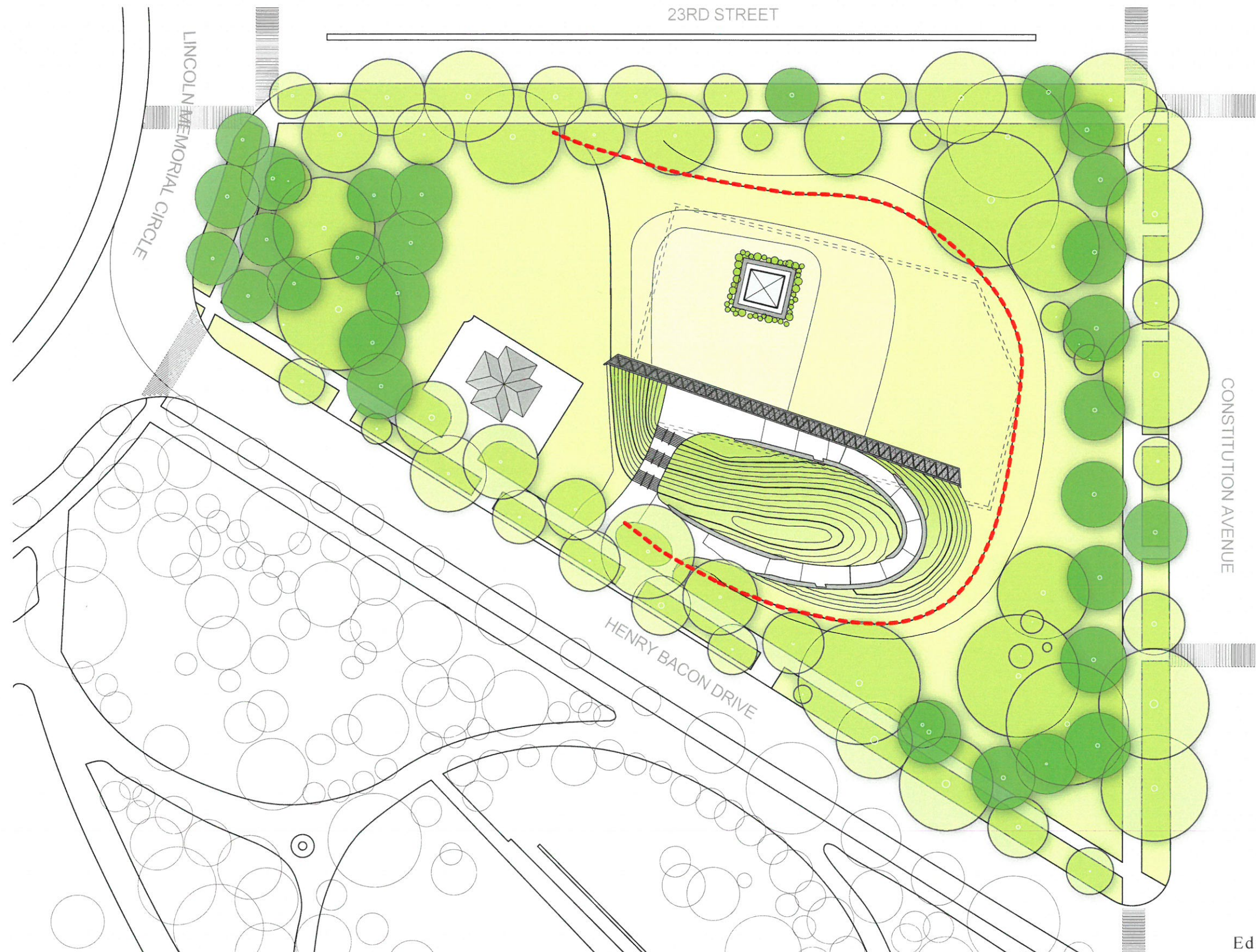


2015  
Site Plan Comparison





# 2015 Grading for Protection from Urban Ponding

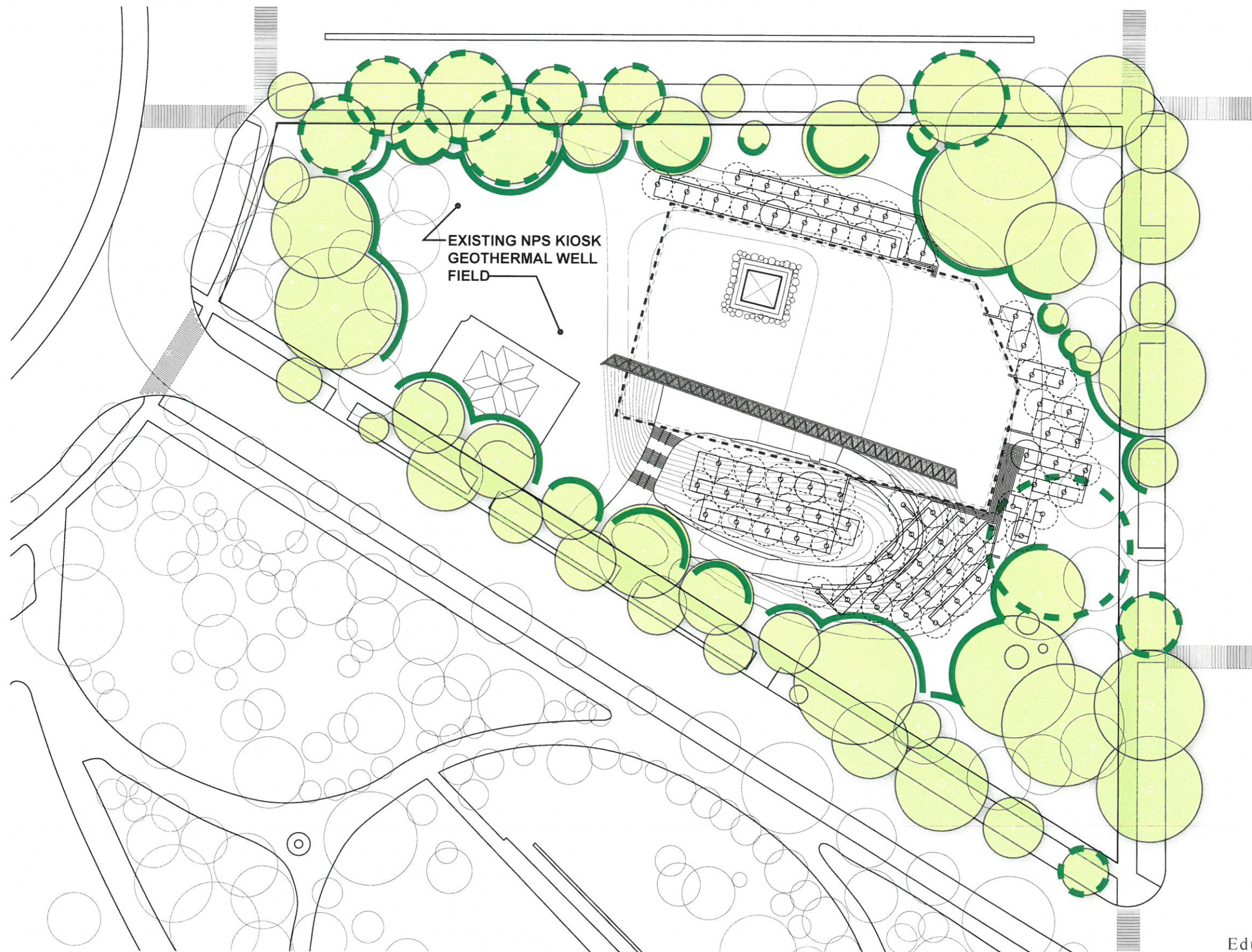


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2015

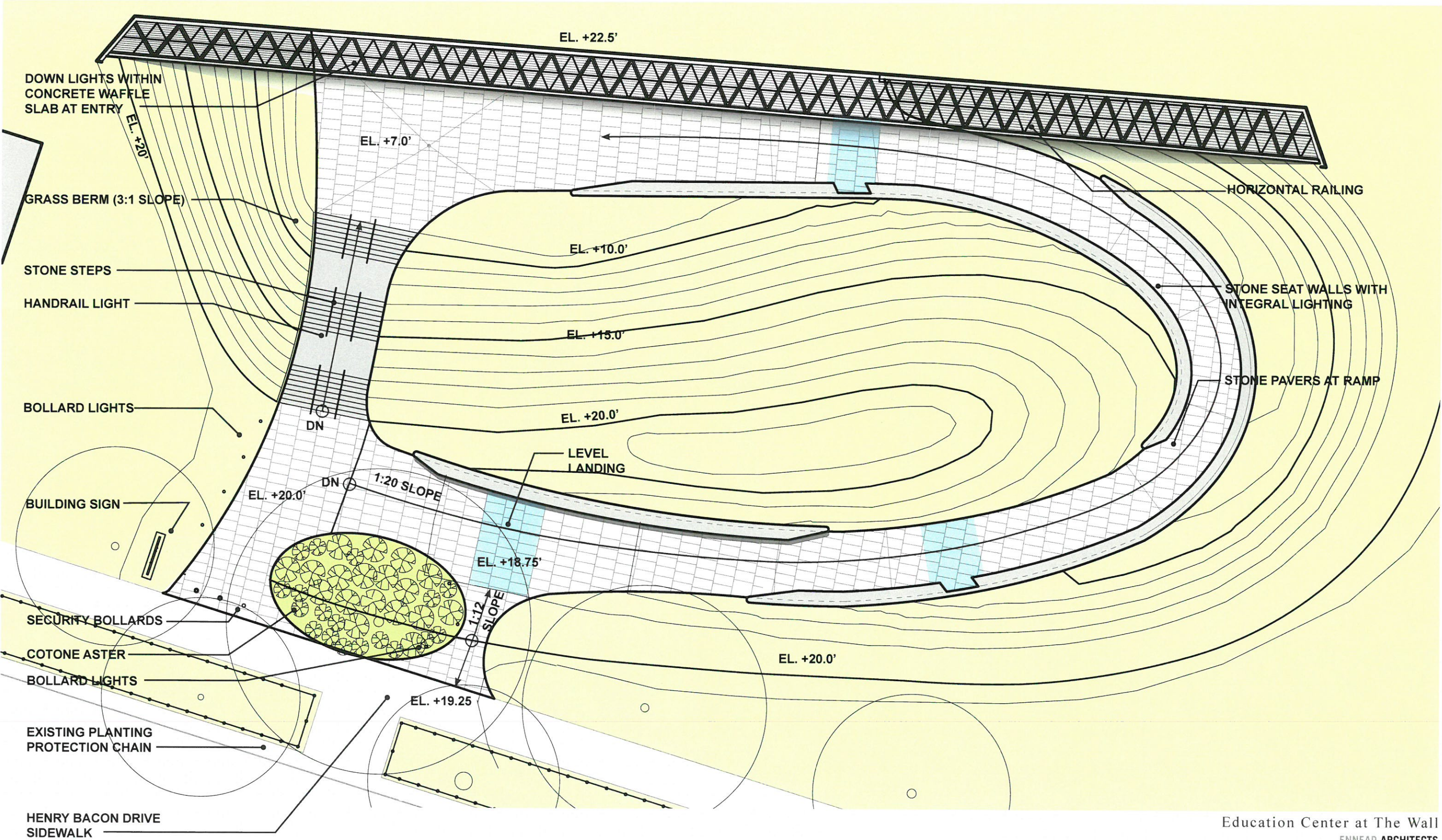
## Tree Root Protection and Geothermal Well Field



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Partial Site Plan at Approach





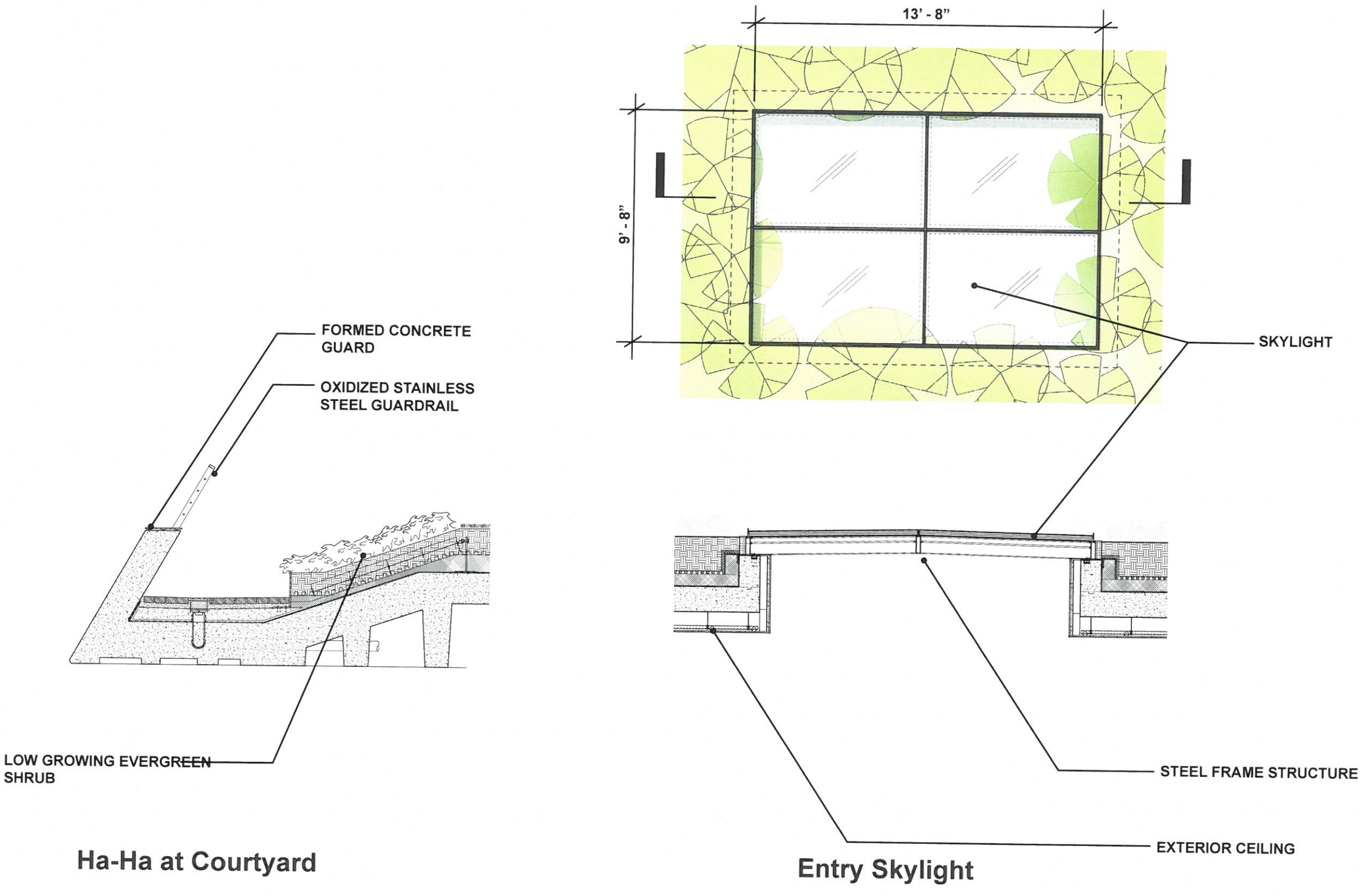
2014

## Partial Site Plan at Courtyard Opening/Planted Roof



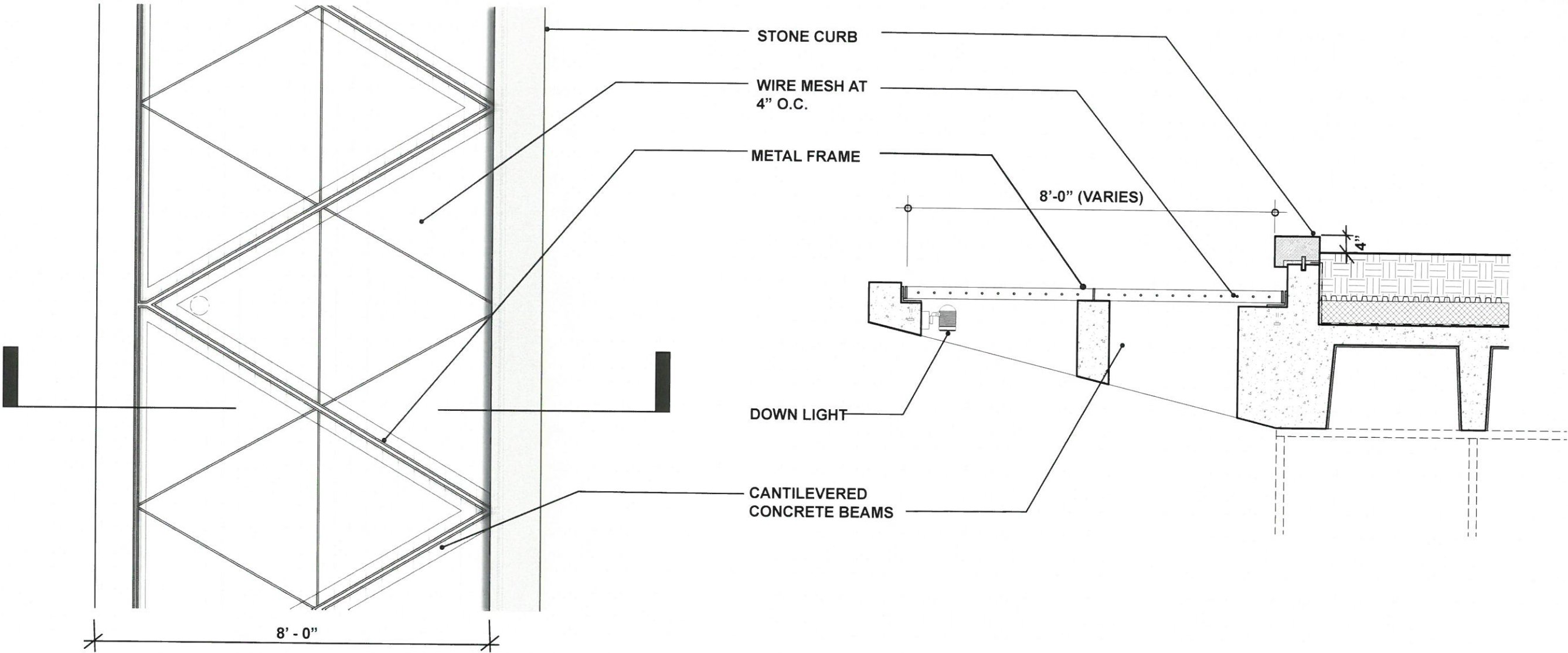
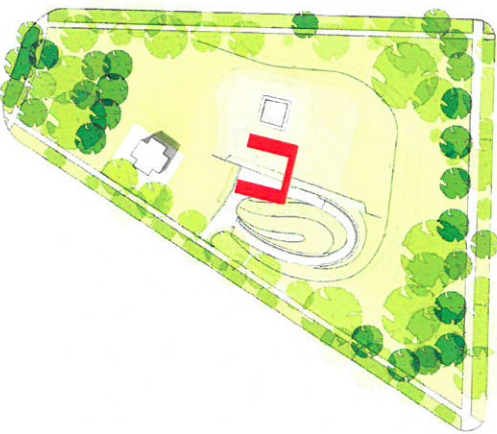


2014  
Roof/Ground Plane Details





Horizontal Rail at Waffle Slab



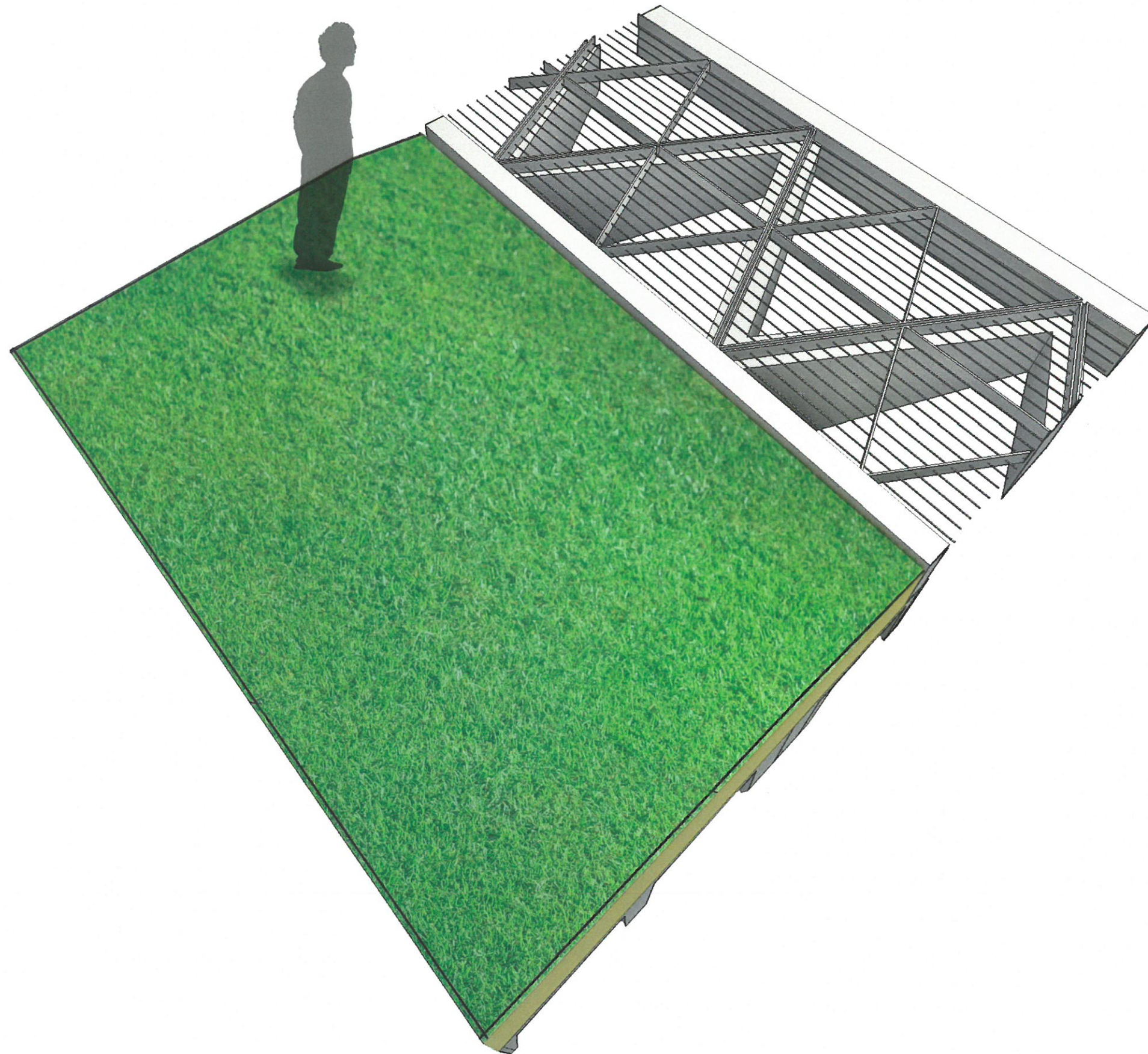
PLAN

SECTION



2014

## Horizontal Rail View from Planted Roof





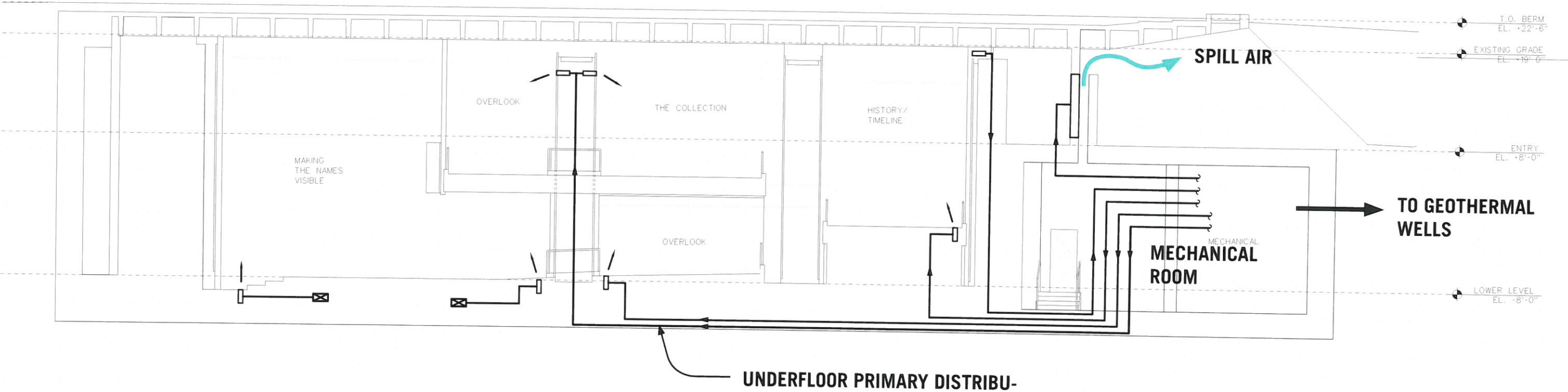
2014

## Horizontal Rail View from Entry Plaza





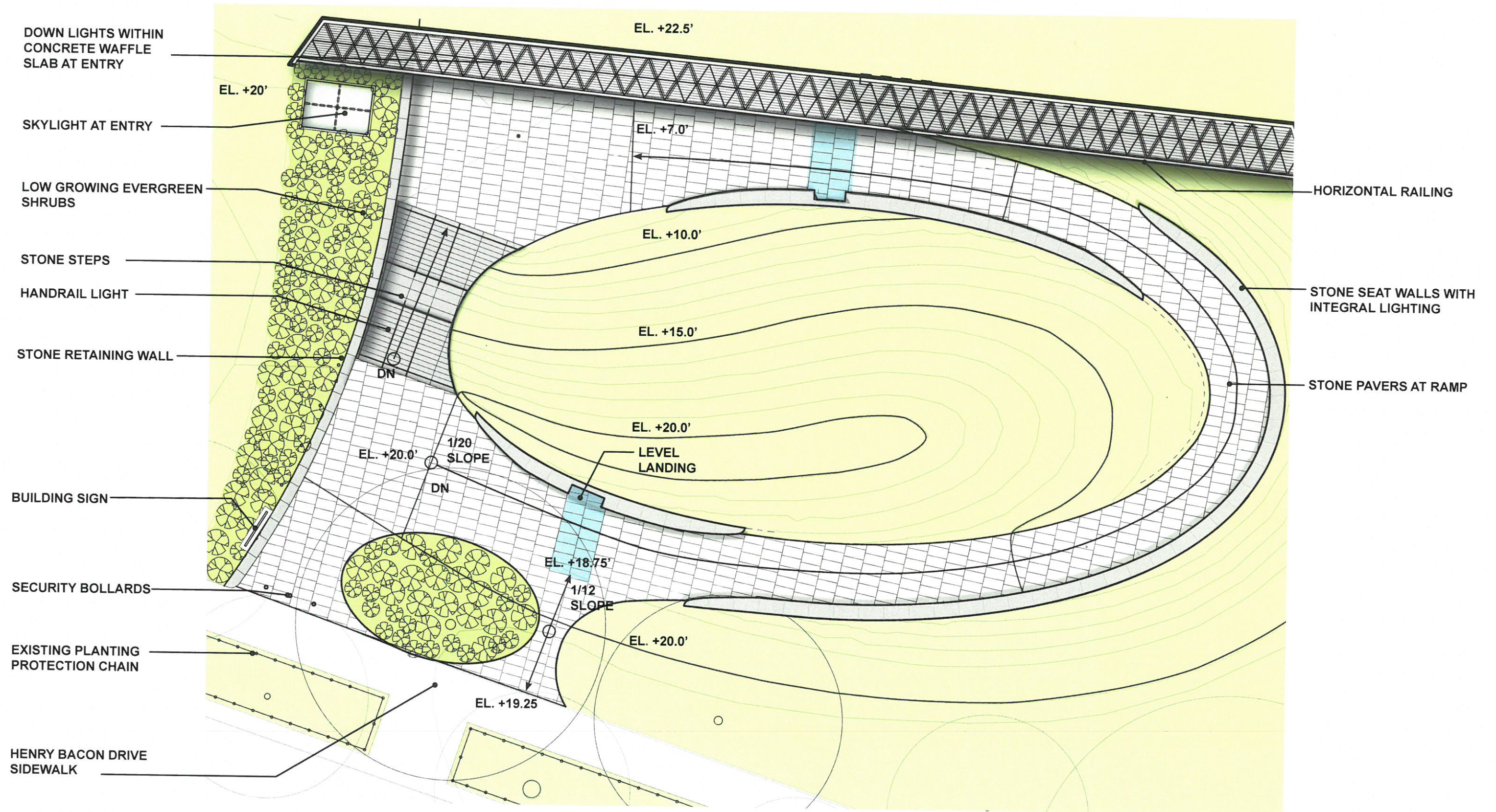
East/West Section at Entry - Mechanical Systems



- OUTSIDE AIR INTAKE AT COURTYARD
- EMERGENCY POWER - BATTERY INVERTERS
- CLOSED LOOP GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM WITH HEAT PUMPS

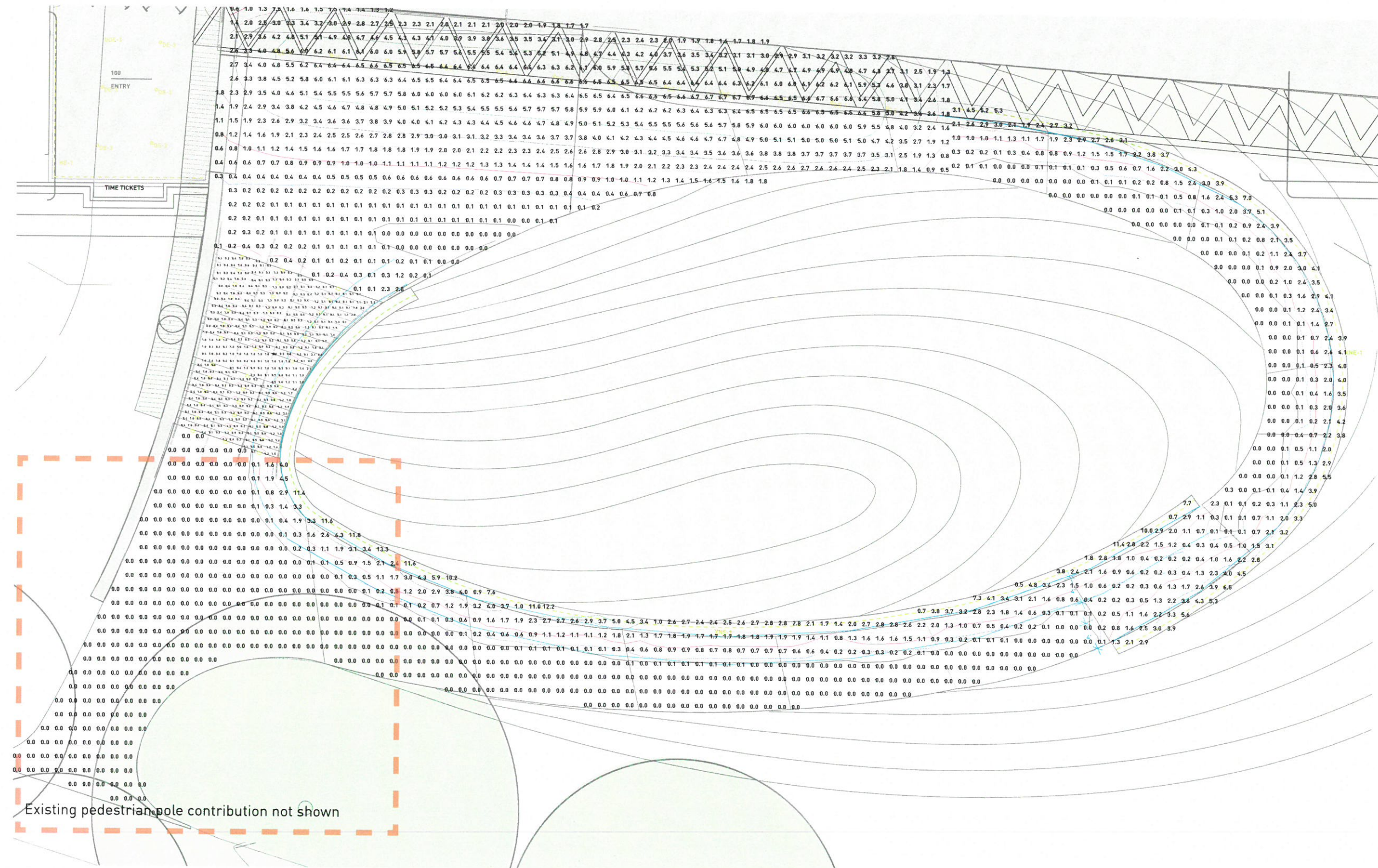


# 2014 Partial Site Plan at Approach





2012  
Luminance Analysis at Entry Plaza



LANDSCAPE PLAN - Illuminance Values Unit: foot candelas (fc)



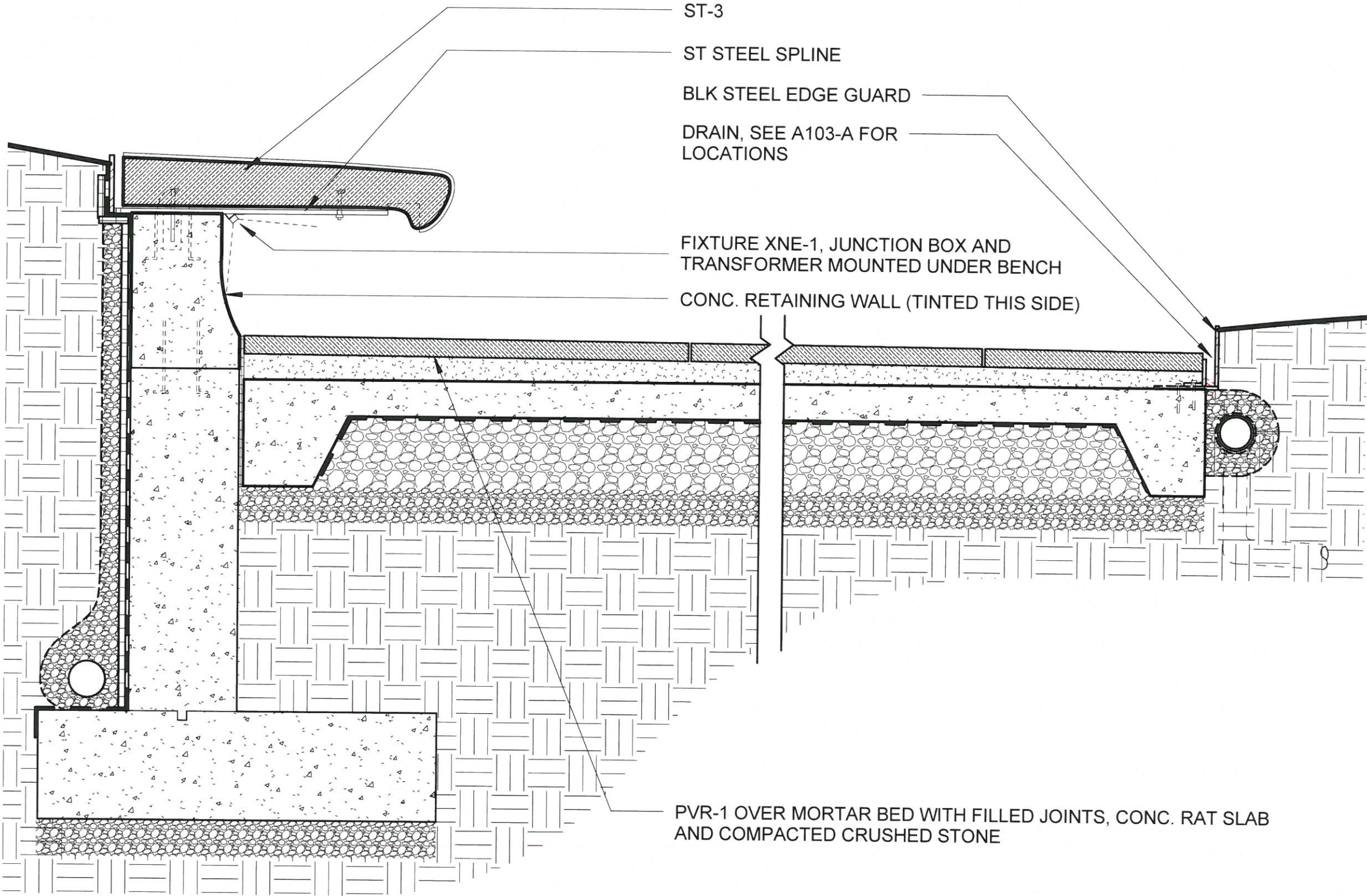
AVERAGE 1FC OF ILLUMINATION  
REQUIRED AT EXIT PASSAGEWAY

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Nighttime Illuminance Study

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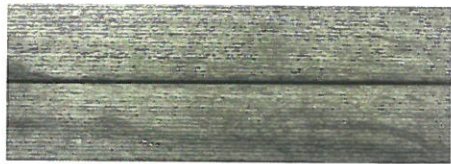


Section Detail at Exterior Site Bench





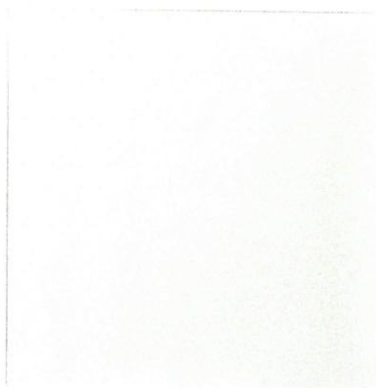
2014  
Material Palette



STONE TYPE 1: SLATE



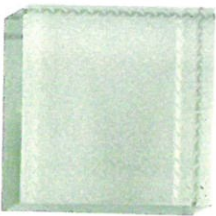
STONE TYPE 2: GRANITE



GLASS TYPE 3: LOW IRON  
ACID ETCHED GLASS WITH A  
MIRRORED BACK PAN



ACID ETCHED MIRROR  
BACKED GLASS



LAMINATED SKYLIGHT  
GLASS



GLASS TYPE 1: LOW IRON  
INSULATED GLASS UNIT



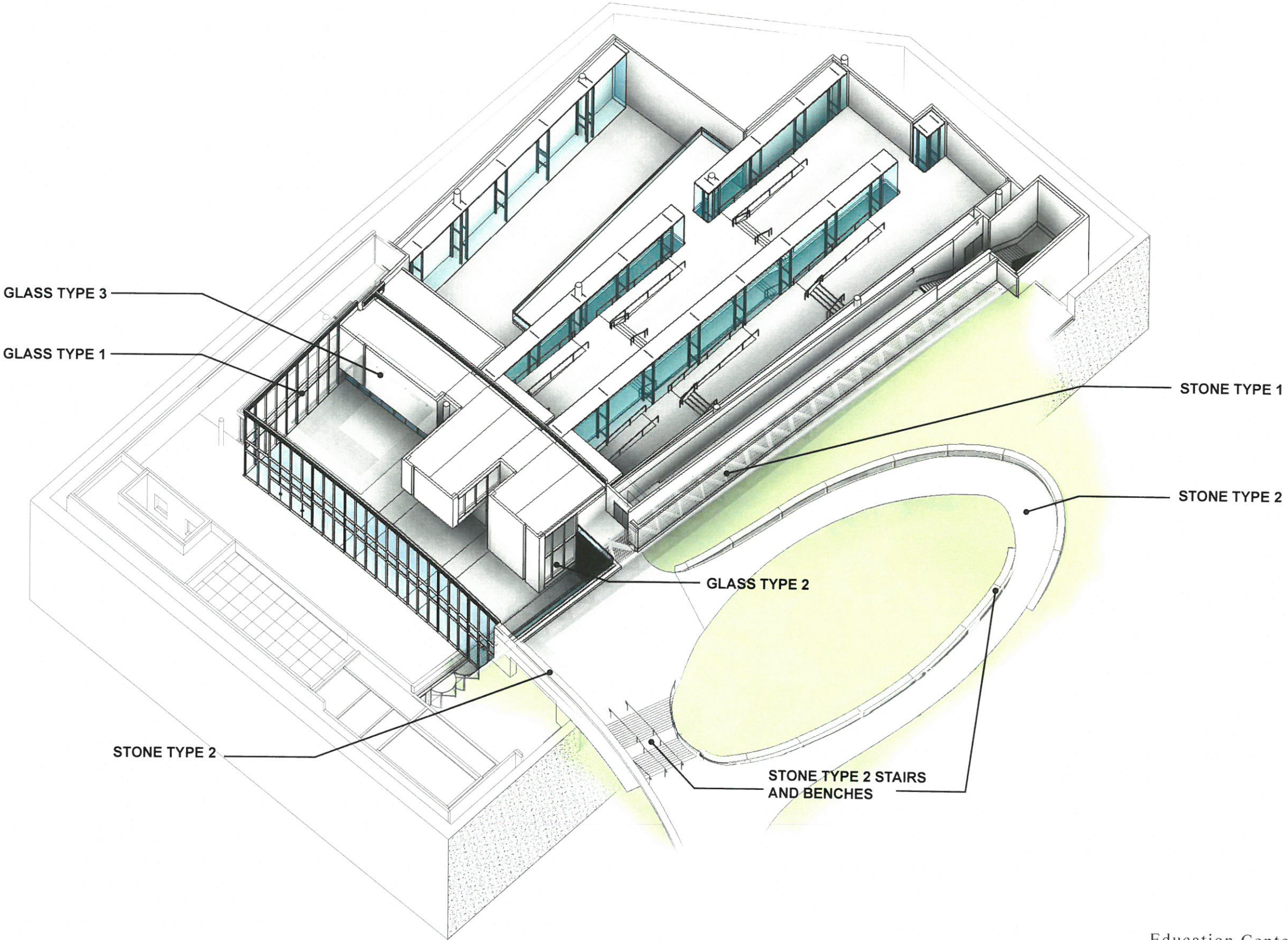
GLASS TYPE 2: LOW IRON  
INSULATED GLASS UNIT  
WITH CERAMIC FRIT



OXIDIZED STAINLESS STEEL



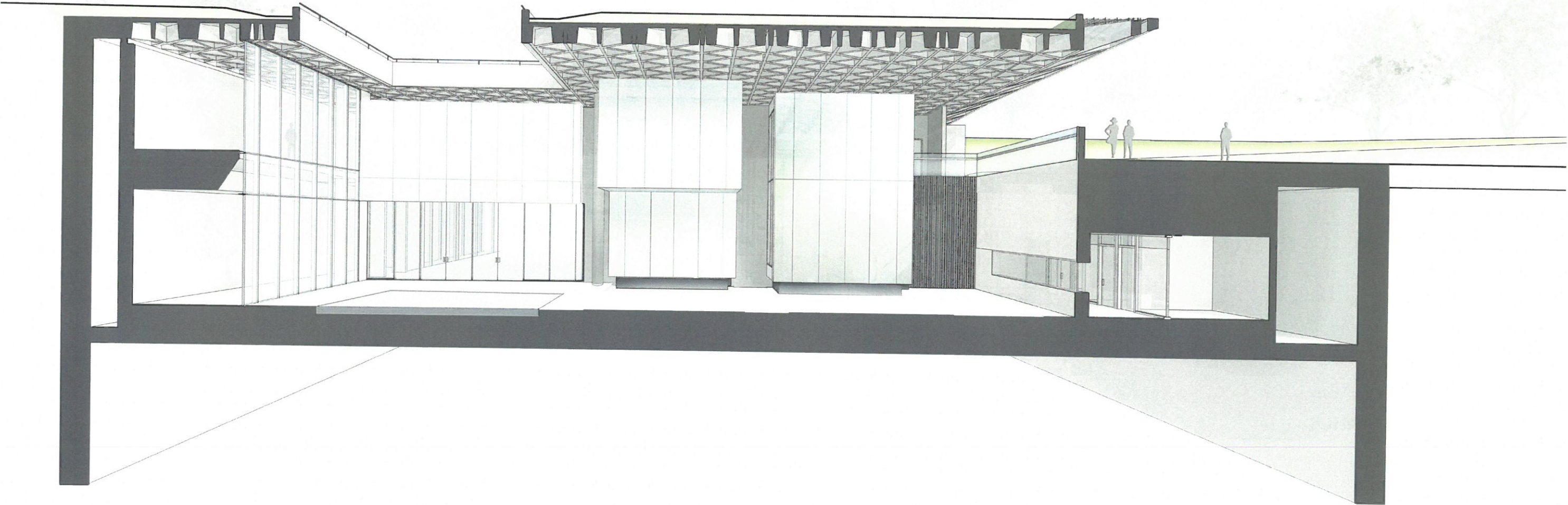
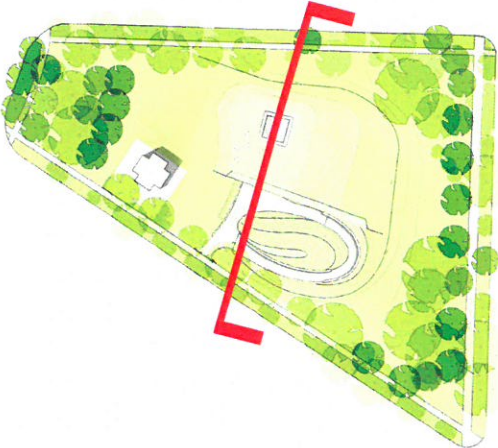
2014  
Exterior Materials





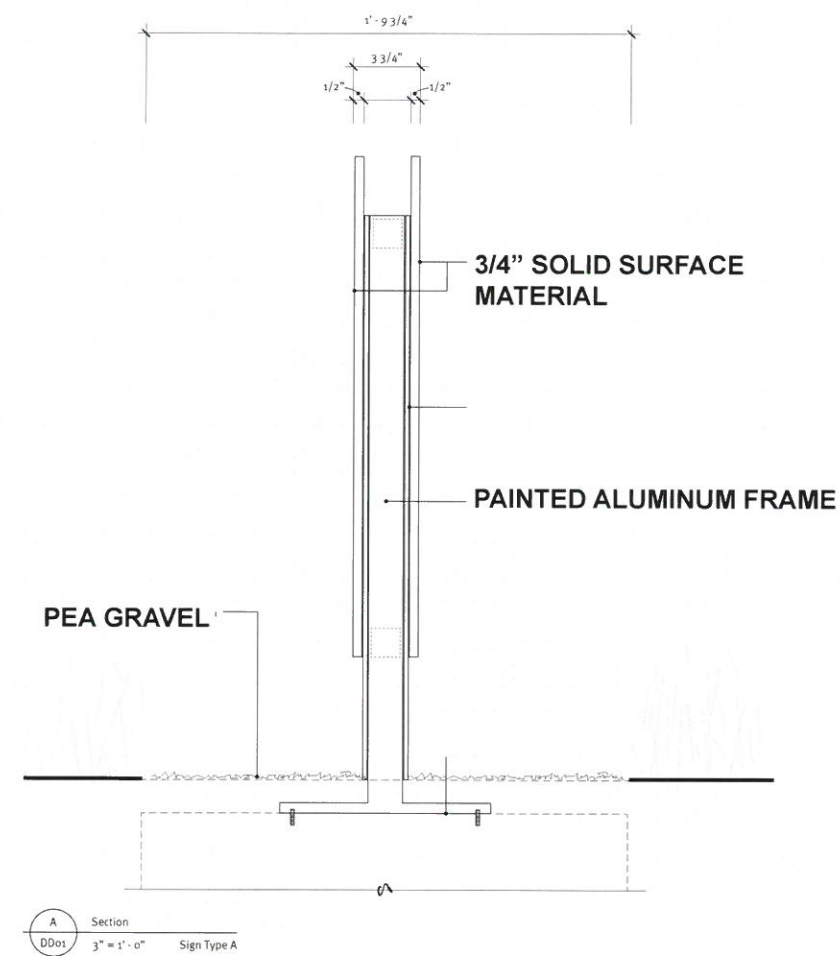
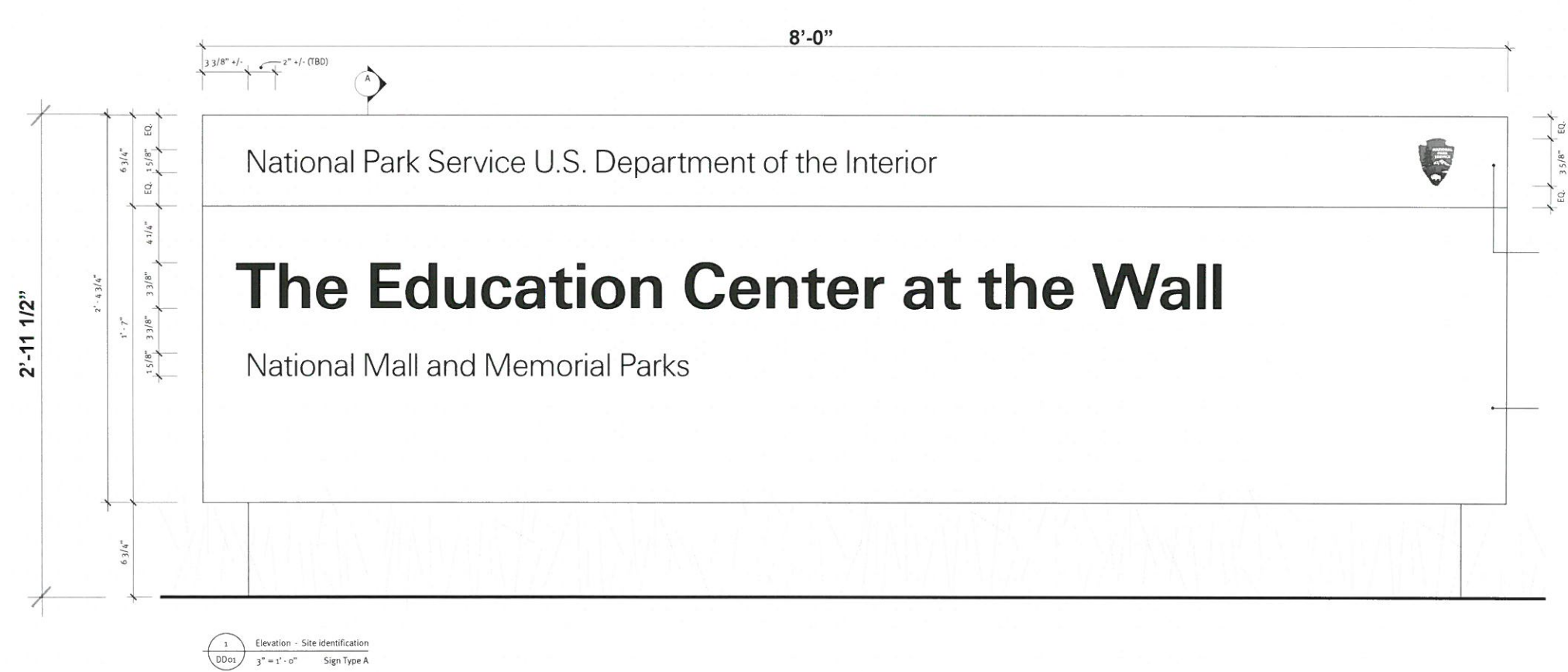
2014

Section Perspective at Courtyard



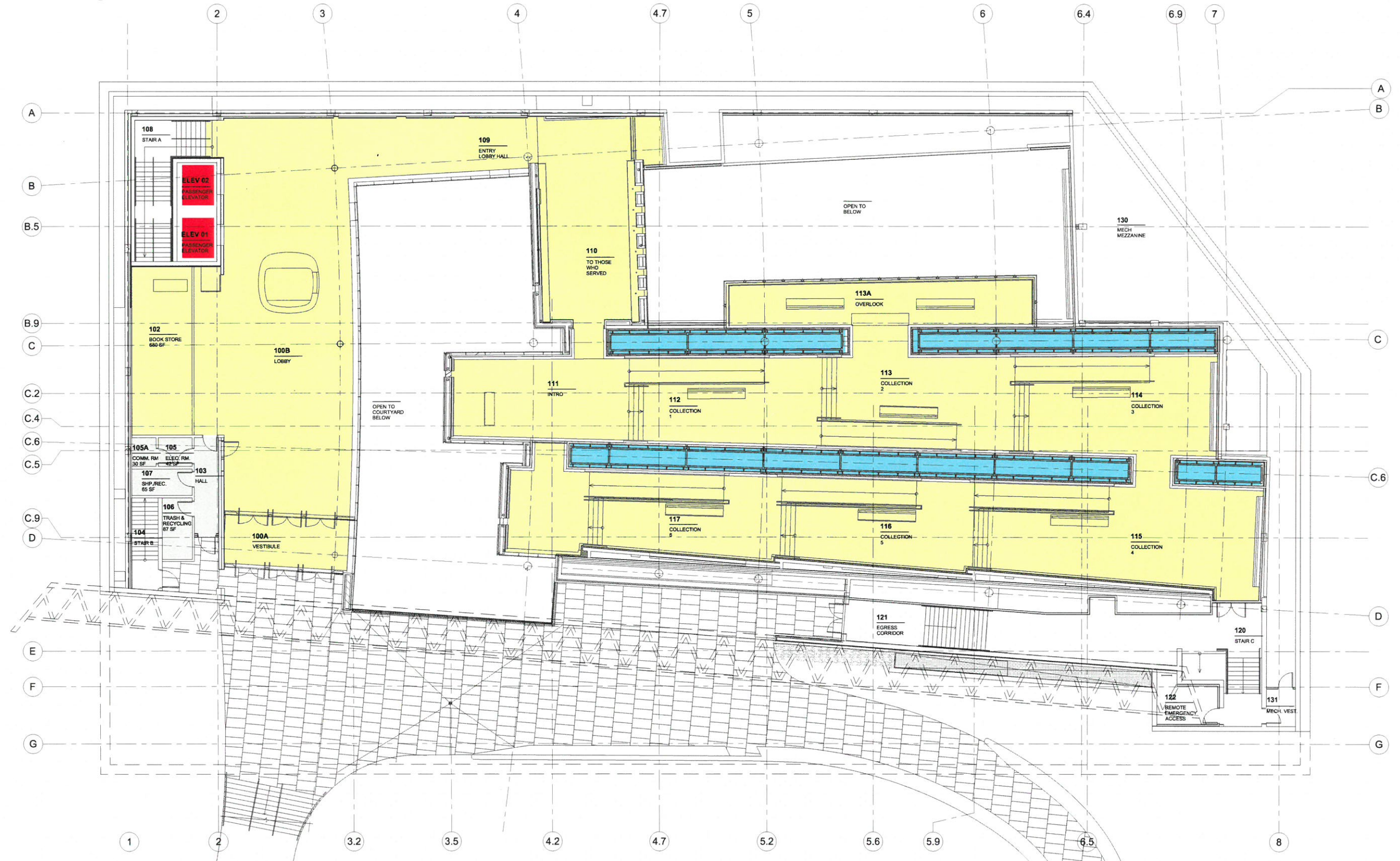


2015  
Building Signage



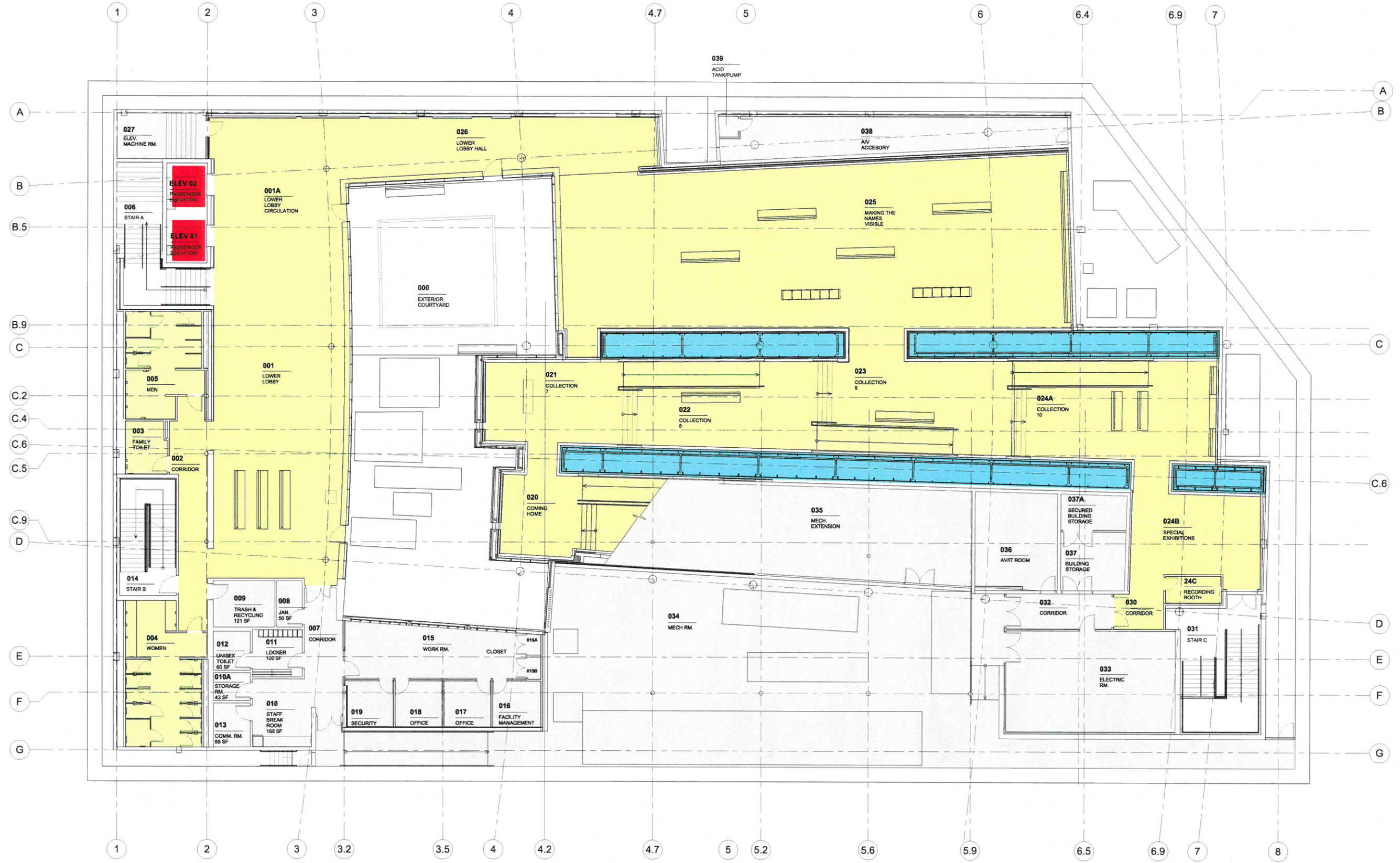


# 2015 Entry Level Plan



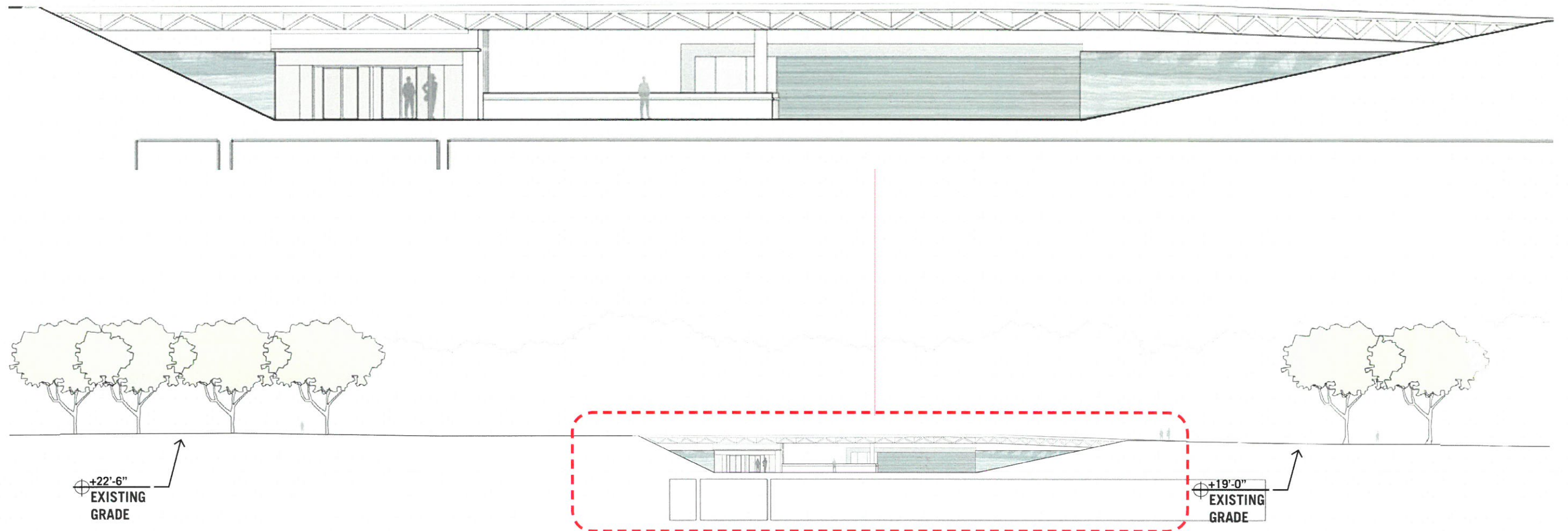
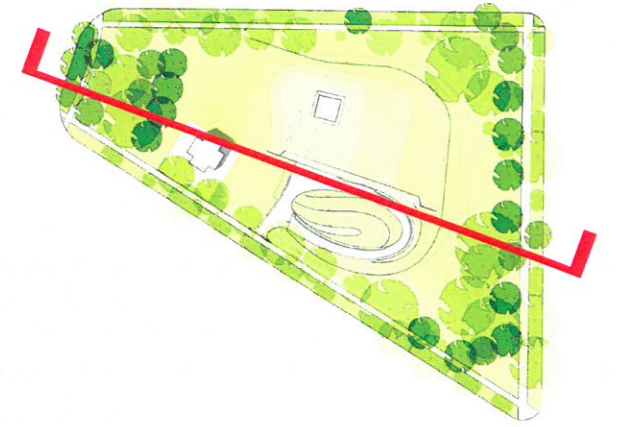


# 2015 Lower Level Plan





2015  
North / South Section at Entry





2015

## Aerial View from North East



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## View from Henry Bacon Drive Sidewalk



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## View from Bottom of Entry Ramp



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# 2015 View Simulations



VIEW SIMULATIONS

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2015

## View A - View From Constitution & 23rd St Looking South





2015

## View D - View From Crosswalk At 22nd Street And Constitution Avenue





2015

## View F - Henry Bacon Drive Looking South





2015  
View G - Vietnam Memorial Path Looking West





2015

## View L - From Base Of Lincoln Memorial Looking North





2015

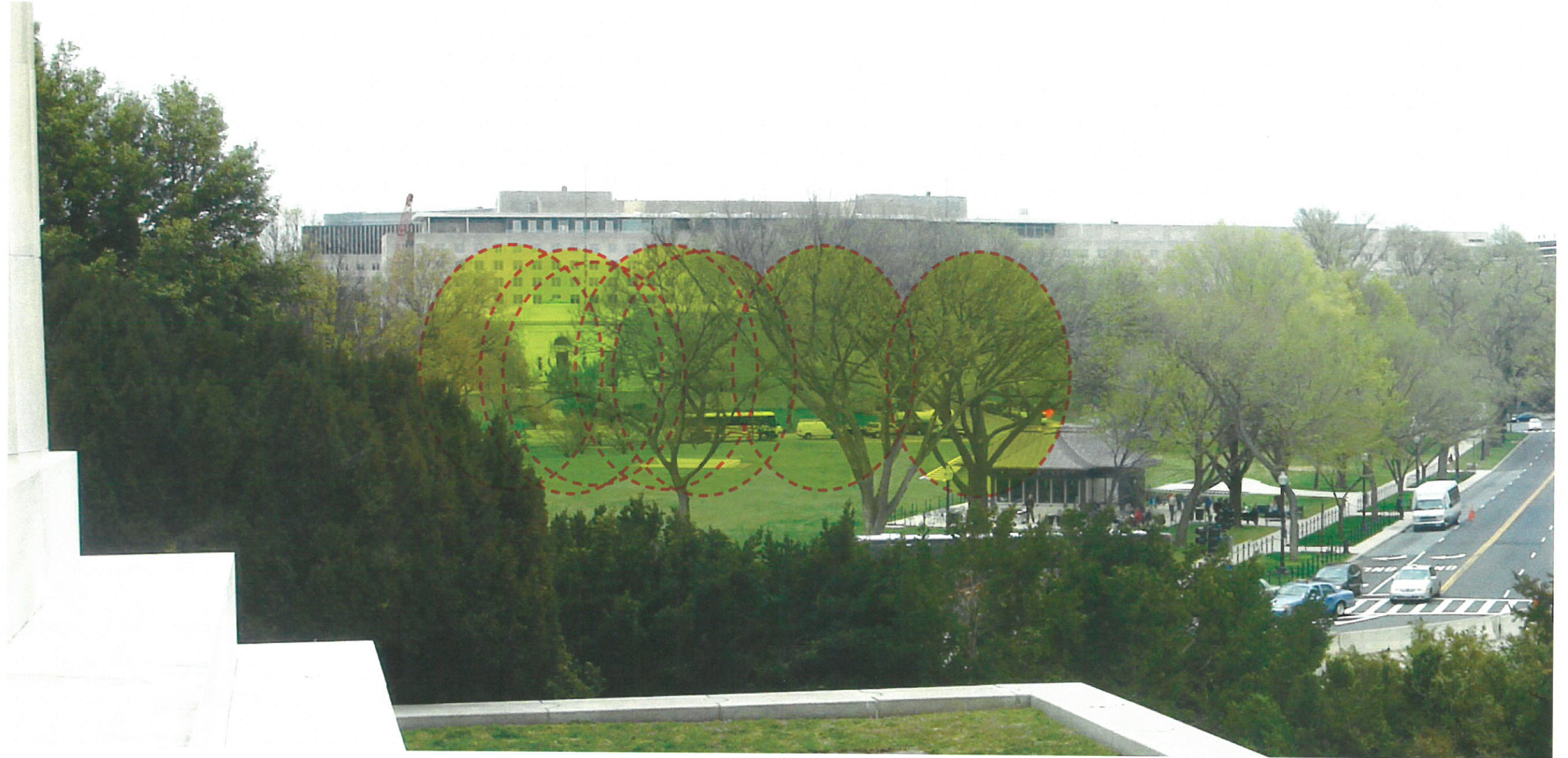
## View L - From Base Of Lincoln Memorial Looking North





2015

## View J - View From The Top Stair Of The Lincoln Memorial Looking North





2015

## View J - View From The Top Stair Of The Lincoln Memorial Looking North

