

Fallen Journalists Memorial
SITE SELECTION PUBLIC SCOPING

October 16, 2024

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion,
or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or ***abridging the freedom of***
speech, or of the press; *or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,*
and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

-U.S. Constitution Amendment I

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation may establish a
commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and
its environs ***to commemorate America's commitment to a free press*** *by*
honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.

-Public Law 116-253

Agenda

Welcome and Purpose of Meeting

- National Park Service (NPS)

Project Background

- Vince Randazzo, Project Director, Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation

NEPA and Section 106 Process and Issues

- Claire Sale, AECOM

Project Description

- Claire Sale, AECOM

Memorial Design

- John Ronan, John Ronan Architects

Questions and Answers

WELCOME AND PURPOSE OF MEETING

National Park Service

Welcome and Purpose of Meeting

- Second of two public scoping/initial Section 106 meetings
- Process involves selecting a site and then a design for the memorial
- Receive public feedback on memorial design

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Vince Randazzo, Project Director, Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation

Project Background

- Congress authorized establishment of the Fallen Journalists Memorial in Public Law 116-253 on Federal land in the District of Columbia
- This memorial is anticipated to be known as the Fallen Journalists Memorial
- Congress authorized the location of the commemorative work in Public law 117-328 within Area I as defined under the Commemorative Works Act
- Memorial must be consistent with the Commemorative Works Act
- Construction of the memorial will be sponsored and funded by the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation
- The memorial will be maintained by the NPS
- The site selected is bound by Independence Ave, Maryland Ave, and 3rd St
- The Foundation chose John Ronan Architects as the memorial designer



NEPA AND SECTION 106 PROCESS AND ISSUES

Claire Sale, AECOM

Purpose and Need

Purpose of the Memorial

- To commemorate America’s commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause

Need for the Memorial

- To carry out Public Law 116-253 and address the current lack of a formal place for a memorial that honors fallen journalists and educates current and future generations about the critical role of the free press as a pillar of a vibrant democracy

PUBLIC LAW 116–253—DEC. 23, 2020

134 STAT. 1135

Public Law 116–253
116th Congress

An Act

To authorize the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

Dec. 23, 2020
[H.R. 9465]

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Fallen Journalists Memorial Act”.

Fallen
Journalists
Memorial Act,
40 USC 8903
note.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate America’s commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.

(b) **COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.**—The establishment of the commemorative work under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

(c) **PROHIBITION ON USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(2) **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FALLEN JOURNALISTS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION.**—The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(d) **DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If upon payment of all expenses for the establishment of the commemorative work (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

(2) **ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.**—If upon expiration of the authority for the commemorative work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation shall transmit the amount of the balance to a separate account

Organizations

Project Sponsor



Agencies

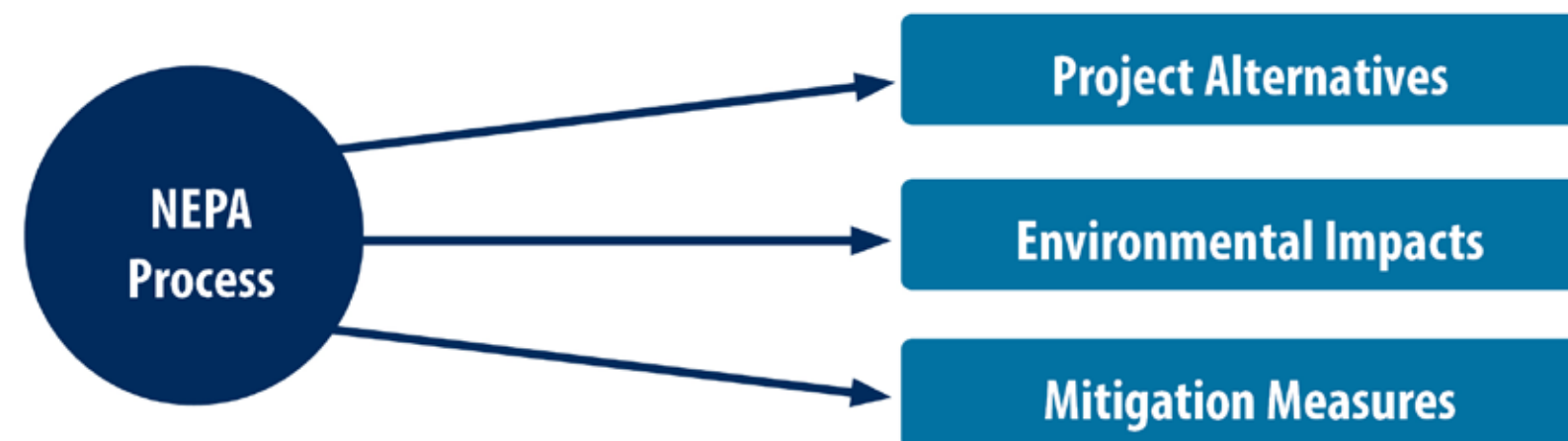


What is NEPA?

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

(NEPA; Public Law 91-190; 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)

- Established a national policy for protecting the environment and requires evaluation of alternative actions
- Goal is to ensure informed decision-making
- Can conclude with an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD)

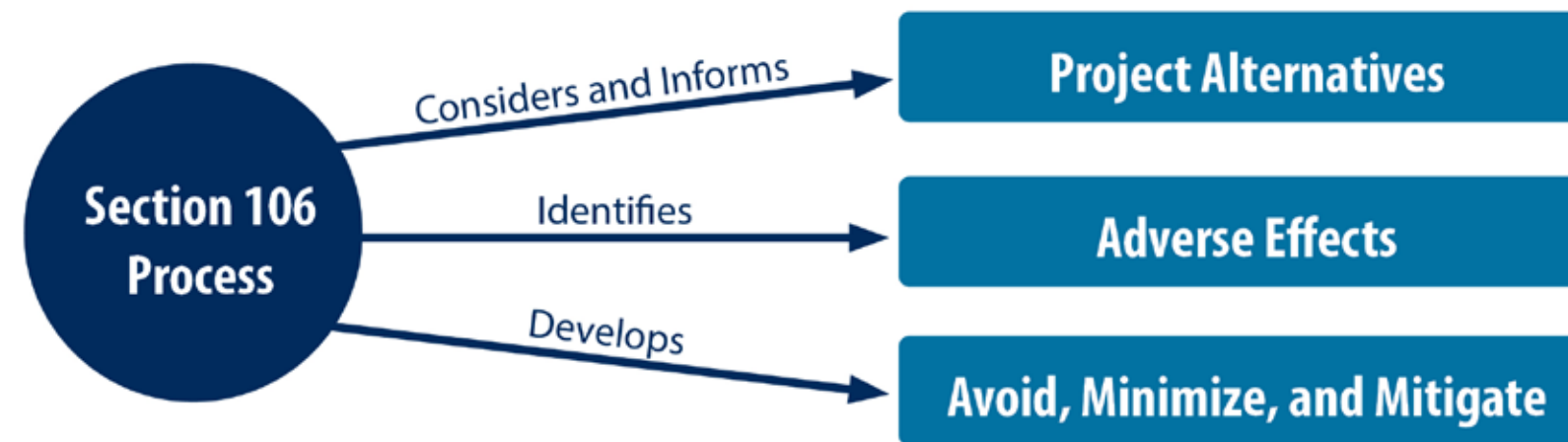


What is Section 106?

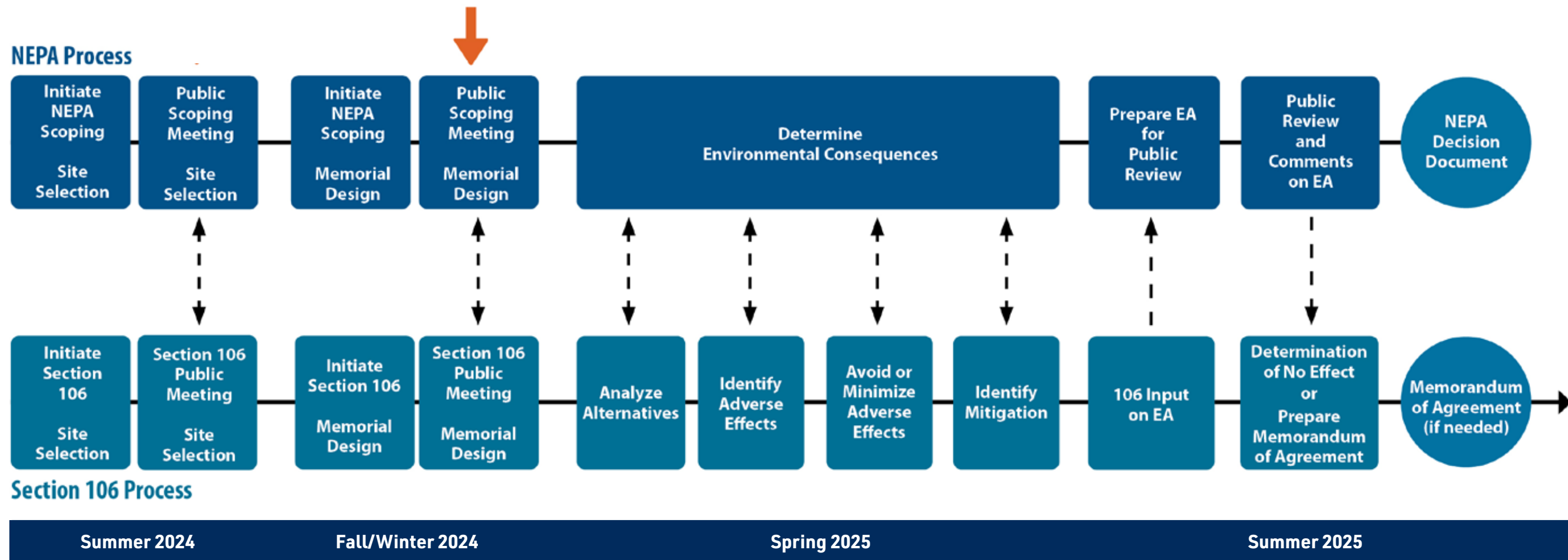
Component of National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

(NHPA; Public Law 89-665; 16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

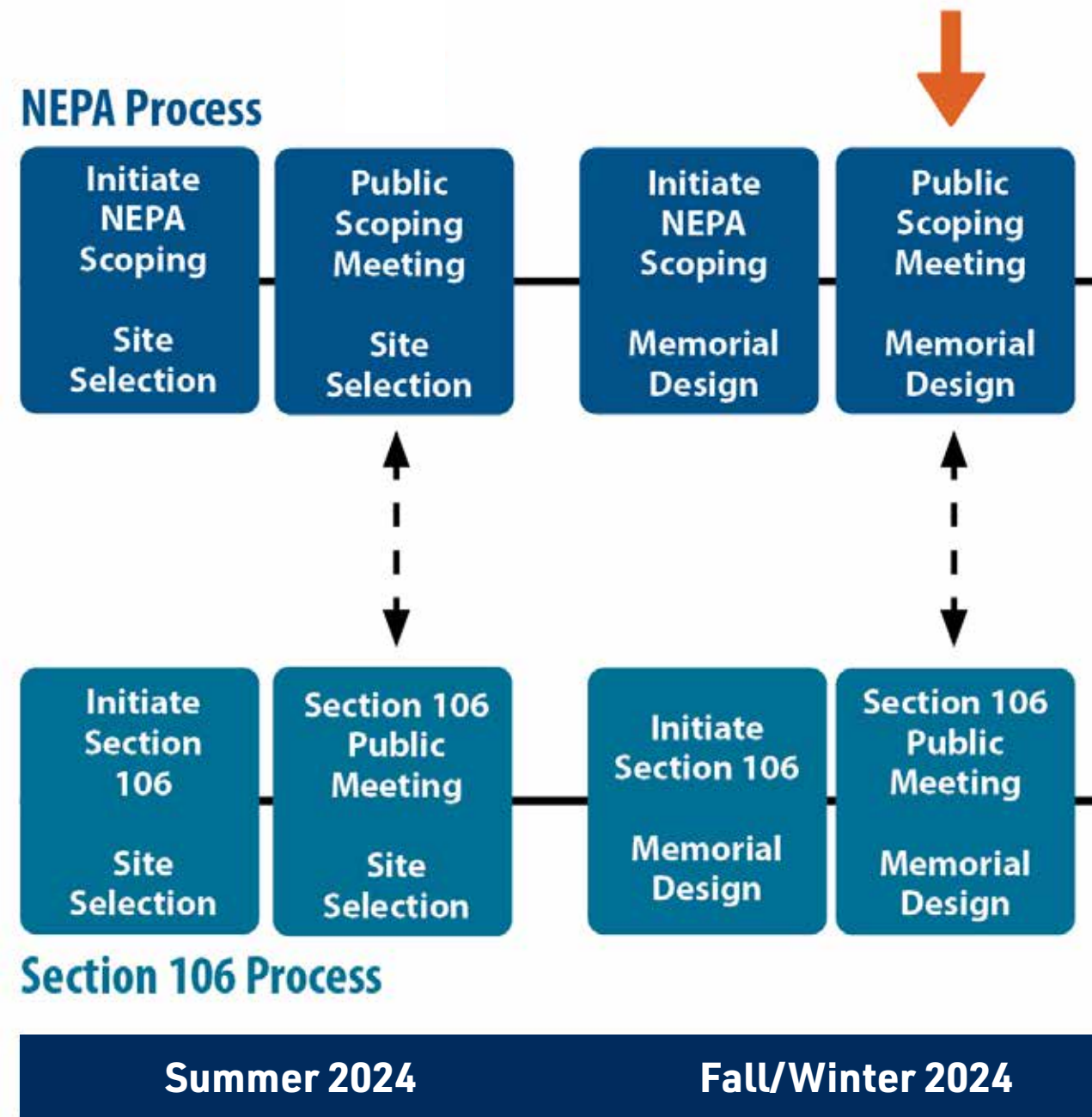
- Established a process to protect resources listed on, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, and requires the consideration of alternatives if effects on historic resources are anticipated
- Goal is to minimize potential harm and damage to historic properties
- Can conclude in a Determination of No Adverse Effect or a Memorandum of Agreement with Consulting Parties



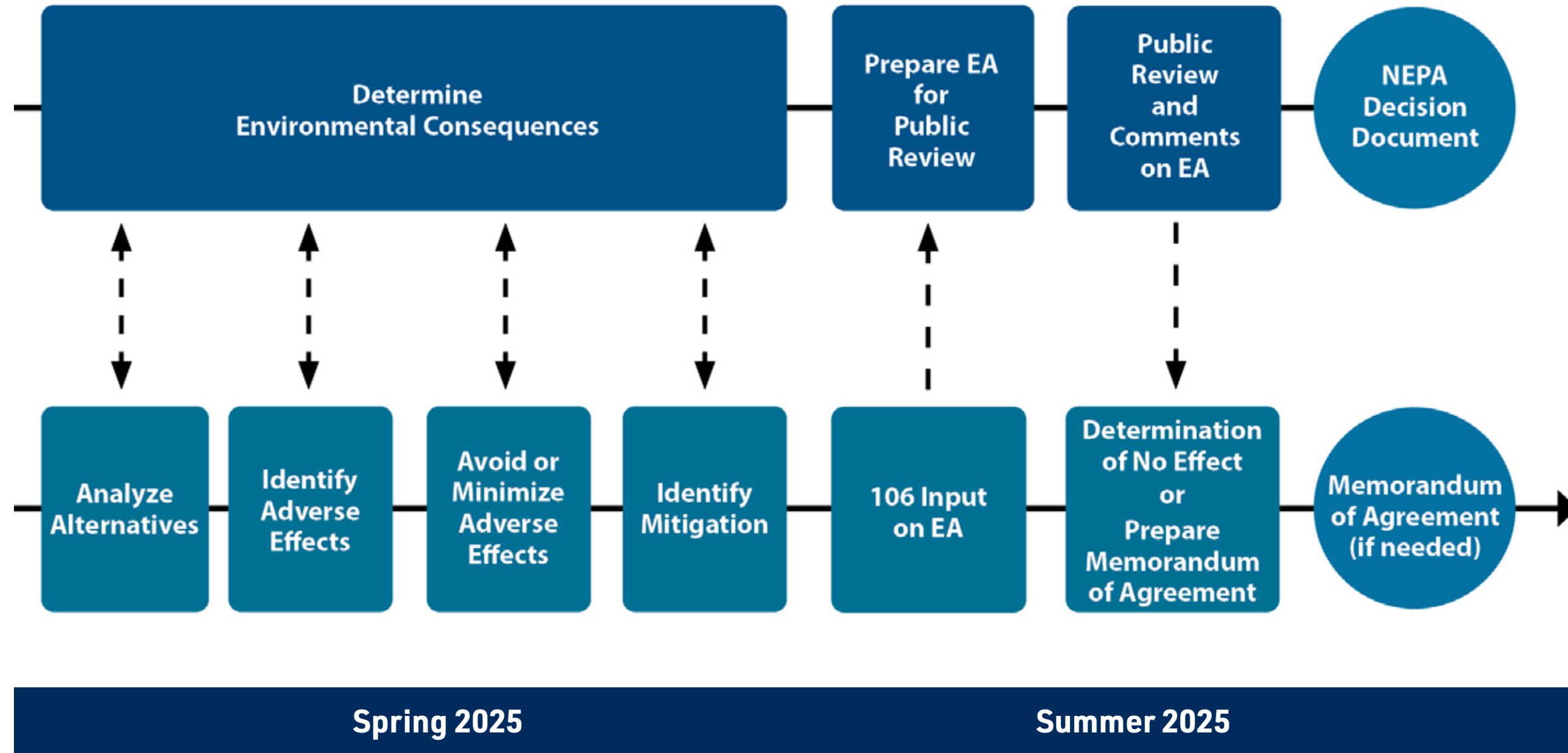
NEPA and Section 106: A Coordinated Approach



NEPA and Section 106 - Summer 2024



NEPA and Section 106



Site Location Map



○ Memorial Site - - - Area I The Reserve

What Issues Will the EA Address?

Cultural Resources

- Historic Resources
- Cultural Landscapes
- Archeology

Other Issues

- Utilities
- Visitor Use and Experience

Transportation

- Traffic Operations
- Parking
- Pedestrian Circulation

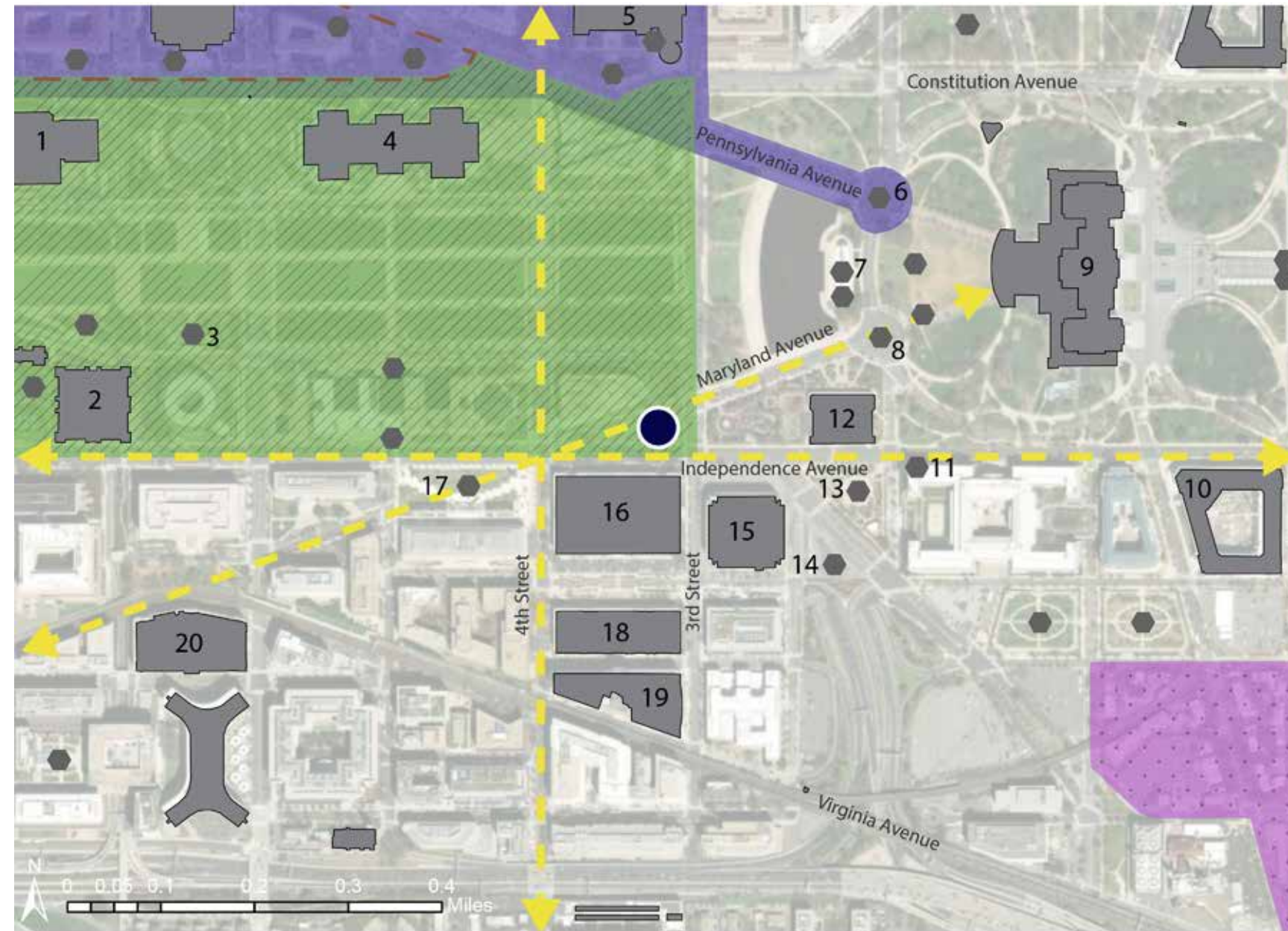
Natural and Physical Resources

- Soils
- Vegetation
- Water Resources
- Floodplains

Section 106 Participants

- District of Columbia and Virginia State Historic Preservation Offices
- National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- National Capital Planning Commission
- U.S. Commission of Fine Arts
- Preservation Organizations and Other Interested Parties
- General Public
- Tribes
 - ◇ Pamunkey Indian Tribe
 - ◇ Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe
 - ◇ Rappahannock Tribe
 - ◇ Nansemond Indian Nation
 - ◇ Chickahominy Indian Tribe
 - ◇ Chickahominy Tribe Eastern Division
 - ◇ Monocan Indian Nation
 - ◇ Catawba Indian Nation
 - ◇ Delaware Nation
 - ◇ Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
 - ◇ Shawnee Tribe

Historic Resources: Site 0 (Maryland and Independence Avenues)



- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| ● Potential Site for the Fallen Journalists Memorial | 1 Natural History Building, Smithsonian Institution | 11 James Madison Statue |
| ■ Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site | 2 Arts & Industries Building, Smithsonian Institution | 12 United States Botanic Garden |
| □ Federal Triangle Historic District | 3 Hirshorn Sculpture Garden | 13 Bartholdi Fountain |
| ■ National Mall Historic District | 4 National Gallery of Art | 14 American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial |
| ■ Capitol Hill Historic District | 5 US Courthouse for the District of Columbia | 15 Hubert H. Humphrey Building (HHS Headquarters) |
| ↔ L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington Views | 6 Peace Monument | 16 Social Security Administration (Wilbur J. Cohen Building) |
| ● Memorials | 7 Ulysses S. Grant Memorial | 17 Eisenhower Memorial |
| # Historic Resources near Potential Site | 8 James Garfield Statue | 18 Railroad Retirement Board (Mary Switzer Building) |
| | 9 United States Capitol | 19 Terminal Refrigerating & Warehouse Company |
| | 10 Cannon House Office Building | 20 GSA Regional Office Building |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Claire Sale, AECOM

Memorial Goals

Commemoration

- Recognize and honor **journalists' heroism and lives sacrificed** in service to democracy.
- Convey the dangers journalists face in **protecting and documenting the truth** enabled by freedom of the press.
- Provide a place for **reflection and intimate contemplation** for the public and serve as a focal point for those personally connected to fallen journalists.

Inspiration

- Serve as a **beacon for freedom of the press** and emphasize that a free and **independent press is a worthy cause in the past, present, and future.**
- Showcase **America's commitment to a free press** as a world-wide example and source of aspiration.
- **Inspire young memorial visitors** to consider a career in journalism.

Education

- Raise awareness and educate visitors about **risks to a free press and the contributions of journalism as a pillar of democracy** (i.e., the Fourth Estate).
- Illustrate journalists' role in witnessing, recording, and documenting historic events and seminal moments from **diverse backgrounds and perspectives.**
- Convey the breadth and depth of the various forms of journalism **protected by free press principles.**

Memorial Program

The desired site would accommodate a modestly sized, non-intrusive memorial without names or definitions that represents the full breadth of the news media – past, present and future. The program includes the following:

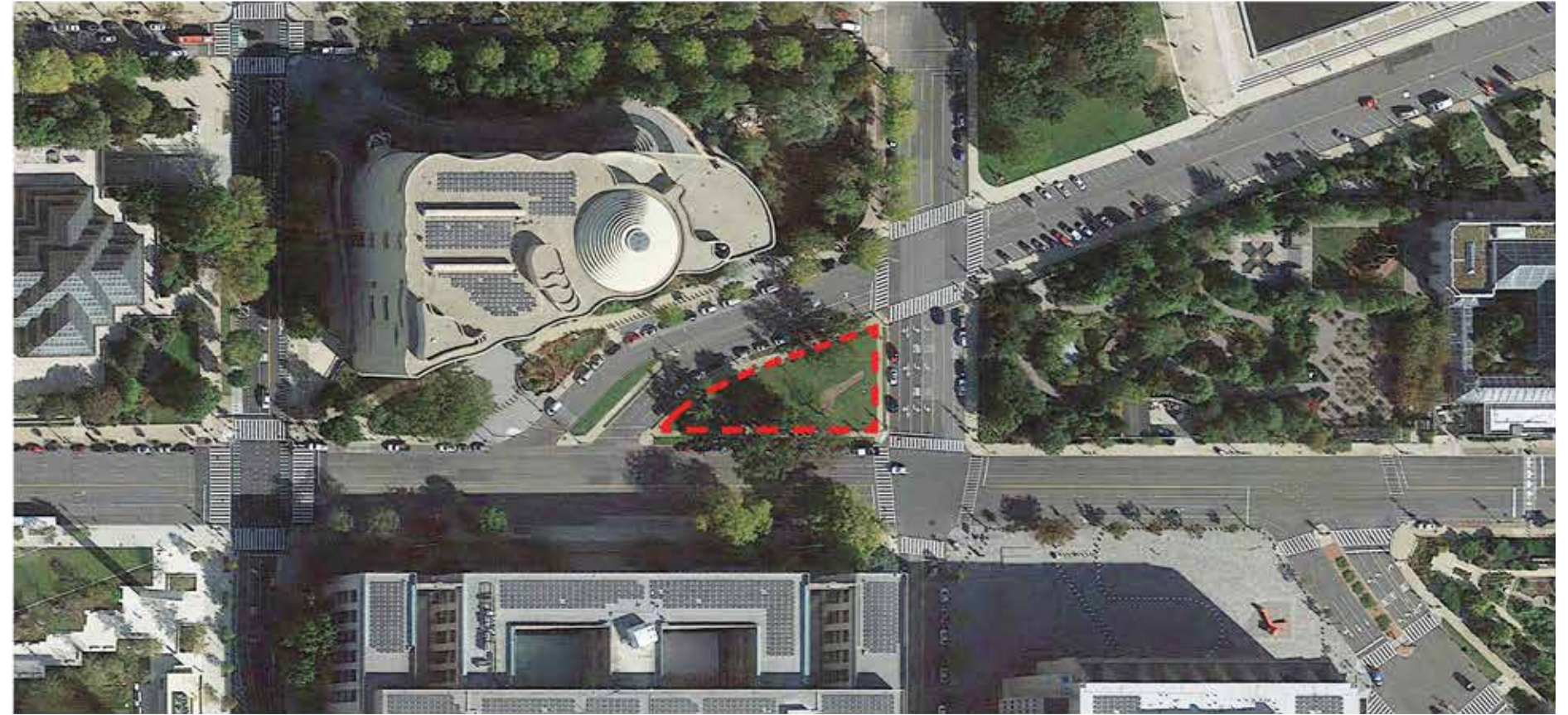
- A daily place of reflection to inspire respect for the sacrifice made by journalists in the cause of seeking truth to preserve our freedoms, and for family and friends to remember those journalists who have given their lives
- A focal point for understanding the First Amendment and how it has enabled the work of journalism in seeking truth to advance democracy and maintain freedom
- A convening place for commemorative events to honor journalists and to study the future of journalism in an evolving world
- An attraction that stimulates visitors to the Nation's Capital to access online educational programming to learn more about the importance of a free press to a functioning democracy

Viable Site 0: Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW



Site Location: Southwest **Site Size:** ~0.31 acres **Area I Location:** Yes

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings; possible closure of Maryland Avenue for events
Thematic Nexus	Across Independence Avenue SW from Voice of America Headquarters and two blocks from U.S. Capitol; clear view of U.S. Capitol dome from site
Universal Accessibility	Two blocks from Metrorail station. Offers locations for those covering U.S. government and legislative process
Site Prominence and Visibility	Adjacent to U.S. Capitol Grounds and National Museum of the American Indian; one block from National Mall, Eisenhower and American Veterans Disabled for Live Memorials
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 4-minute walk from the Federal Center SW, a 7-minute walk from the L'Enfant Plaza, and a 16-minute walk from the Archives Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy Independence Avenue SW and less busy Maryland Avenue
Infrastructure	No known conflicts are present



1: View northeast

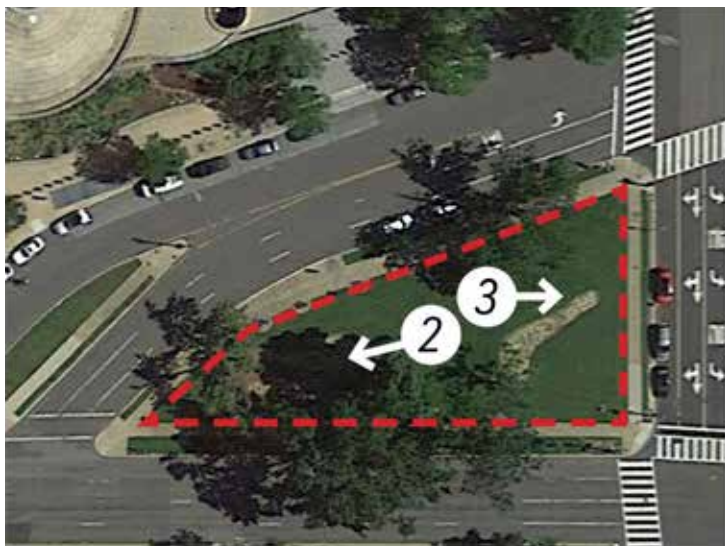
Viable Site 0: Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW



2: View southwest (AECOM, 5/2021)









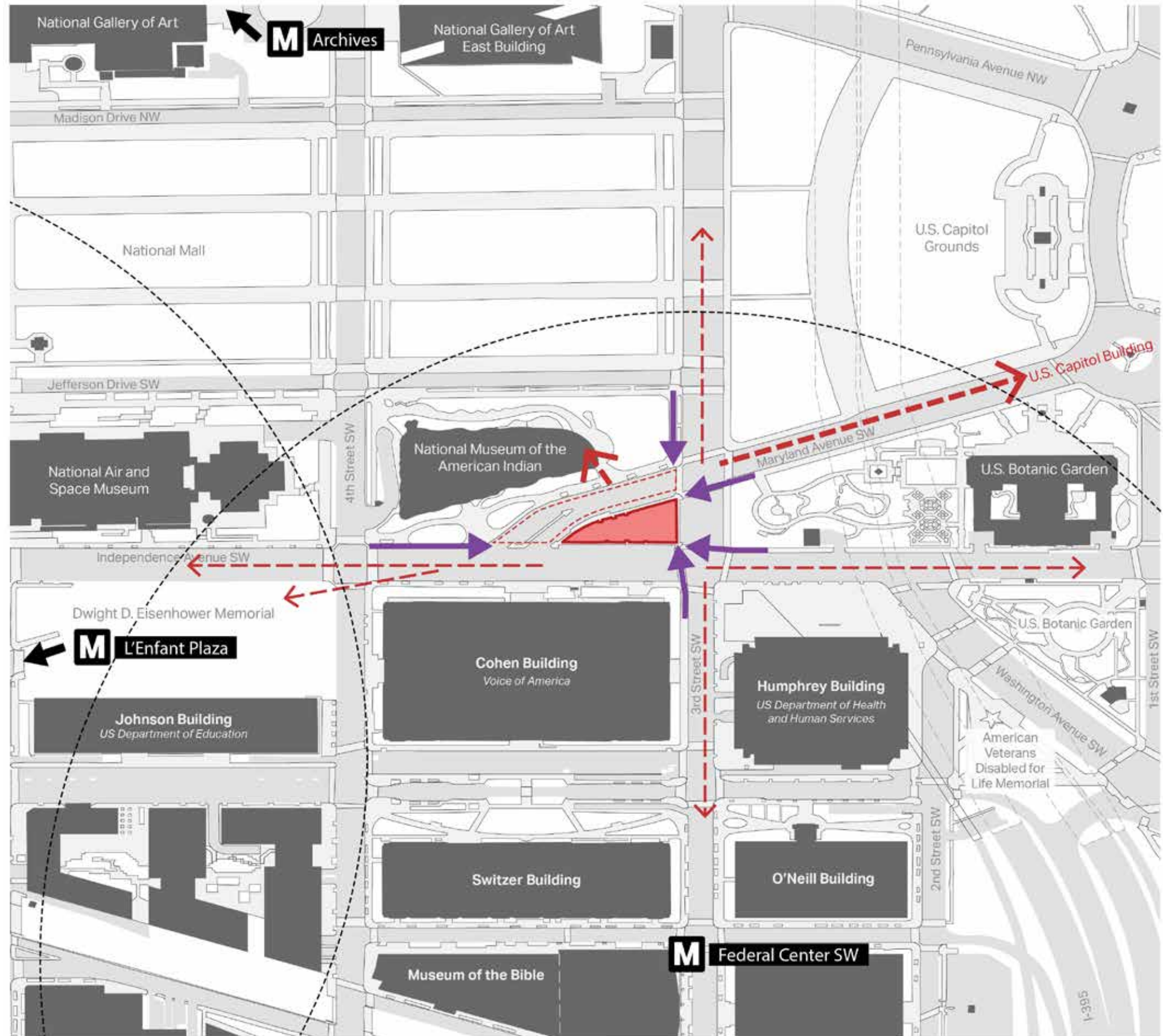
3: View east (AECOM, 5/2021)



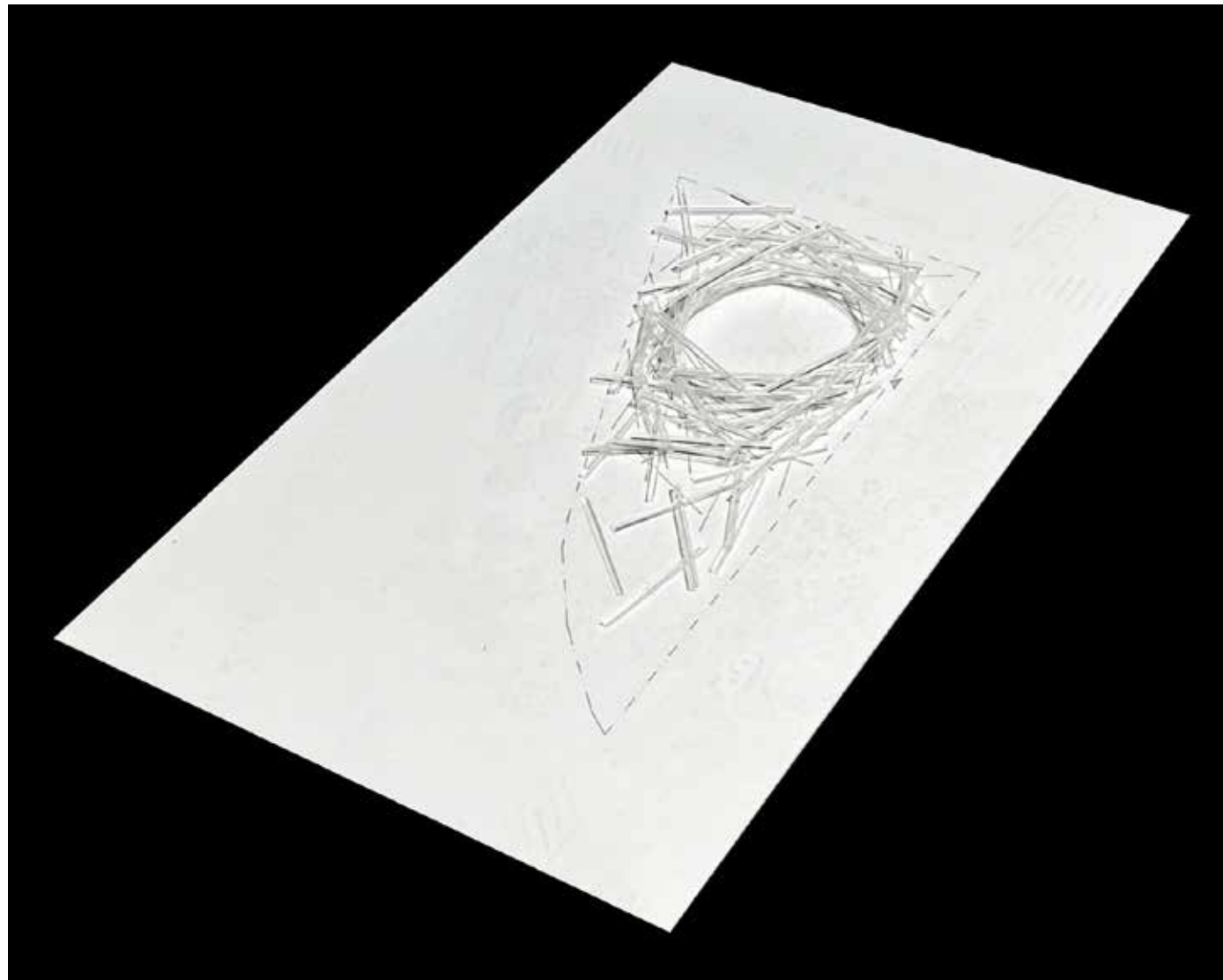
Site Analysis: Site 0

Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd St SW

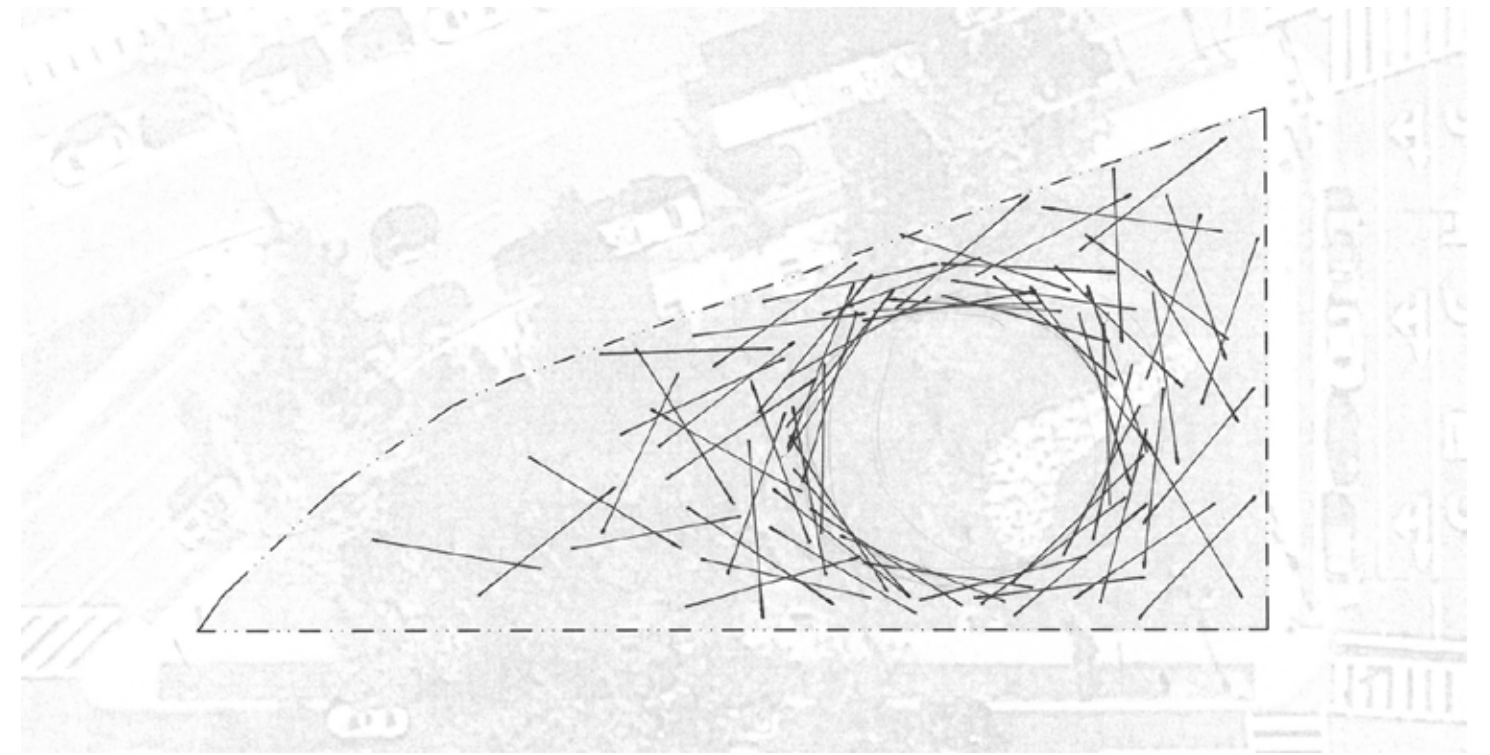
-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station



MEMORIAL DESIGN



concept model



Memorial as Story

The memorial design consists of a collection of transparent, solid glass elements arranged on the site in a seemingly accidental manner which aggregate to form a pure cylindrical space at the heart of the site, suggesting the way ostensibly disconnected facts coalesce to form a journalist's story.

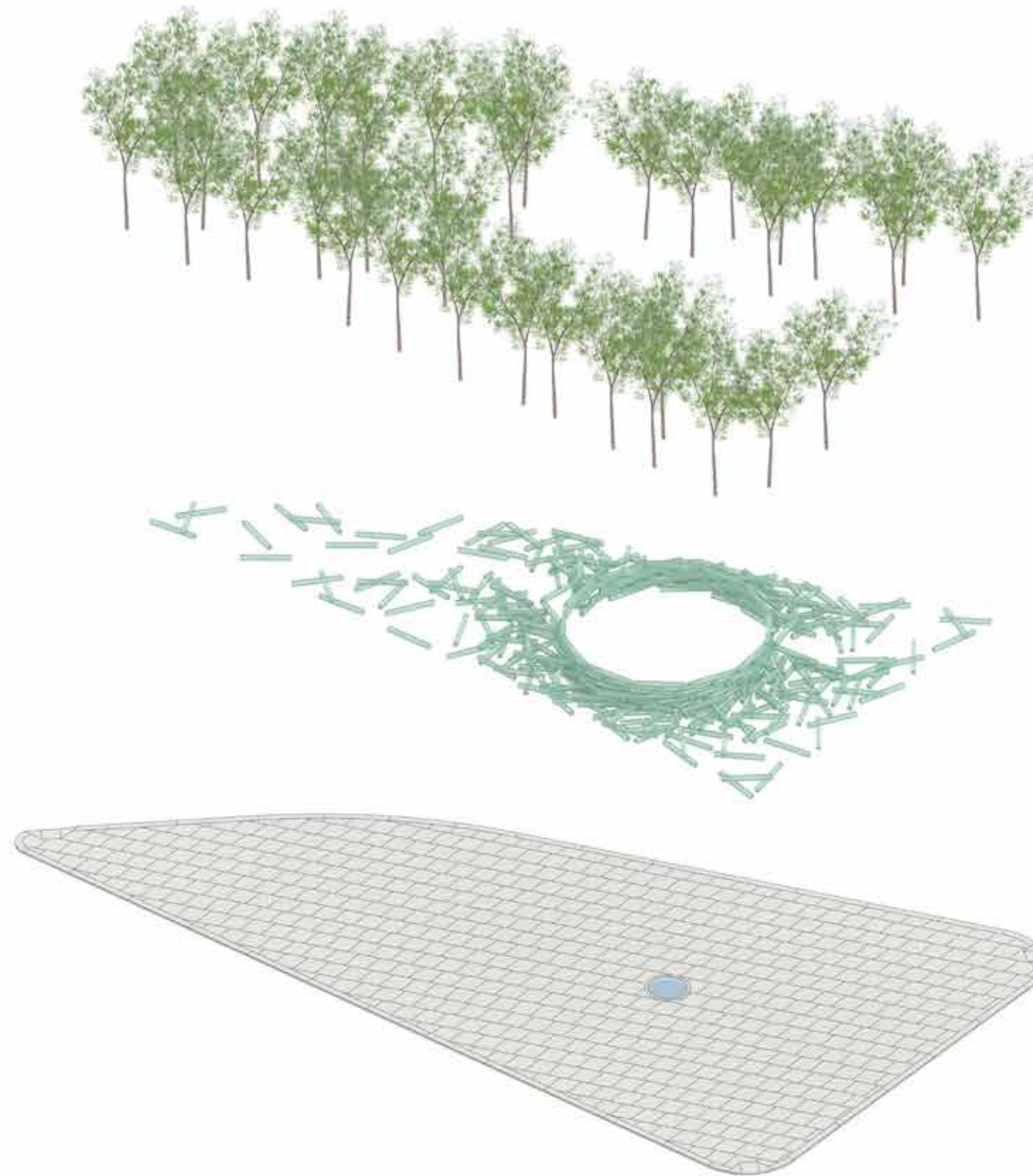
Experiencing the memorial is a journey of discovery that unfolds slowly, space by space like a story, and casts the visitor in the role of investigative journalist pursuing truth wherever it leads.



The memorial can be entered from multiple sides with all paths leading to the circular Remembrance Hall, suggesting that there are many paths to the truth, none of which are linear.

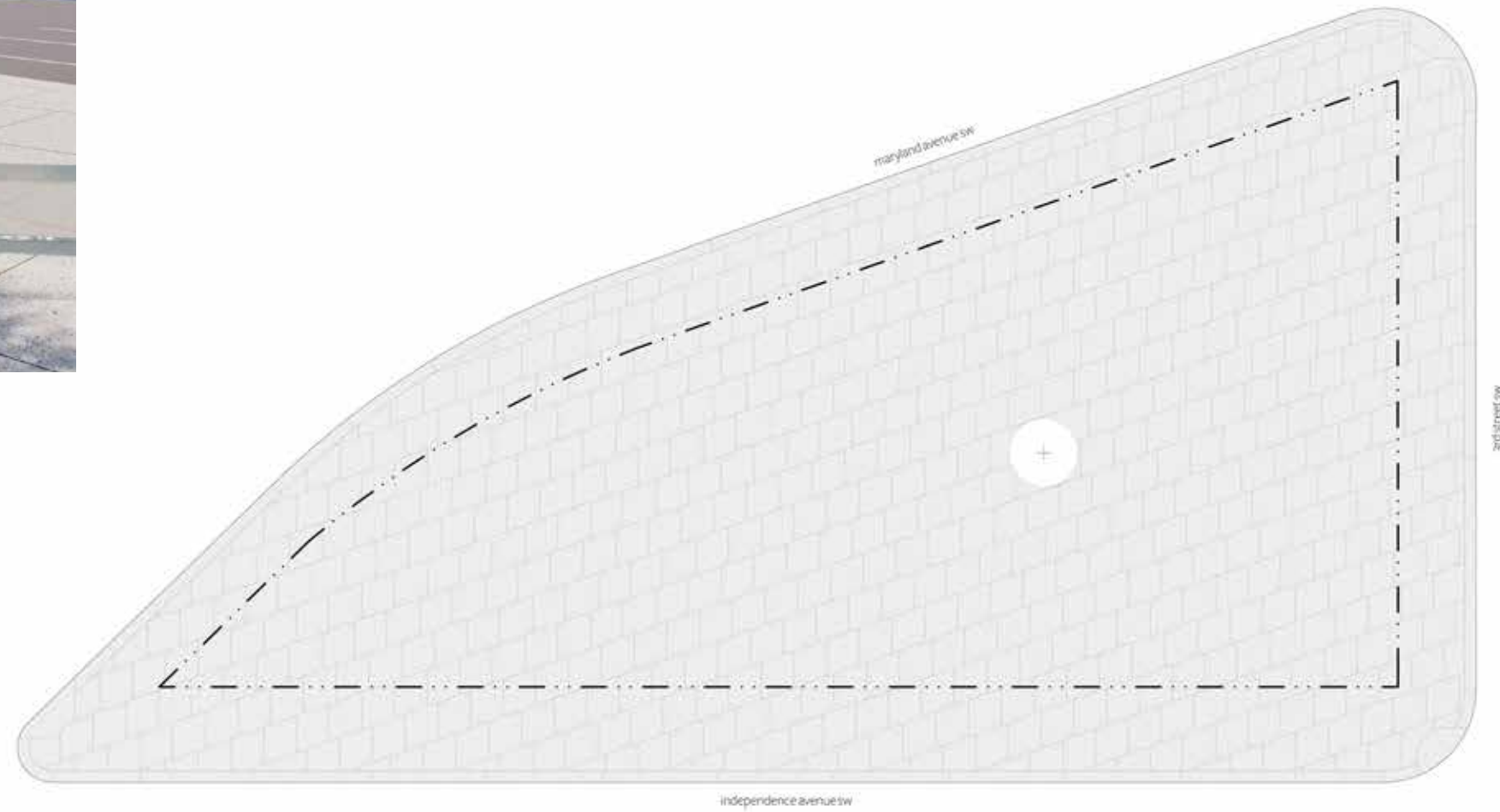
aerial view day

The memorial design consists of the interplay of three superimposed design elements – a hardscape stone plaza overlaid with a grove of trees that sidestep the array of cast glass elements which aggregate to form the memorial’s circular Remembrance Hall at the heart of the site.



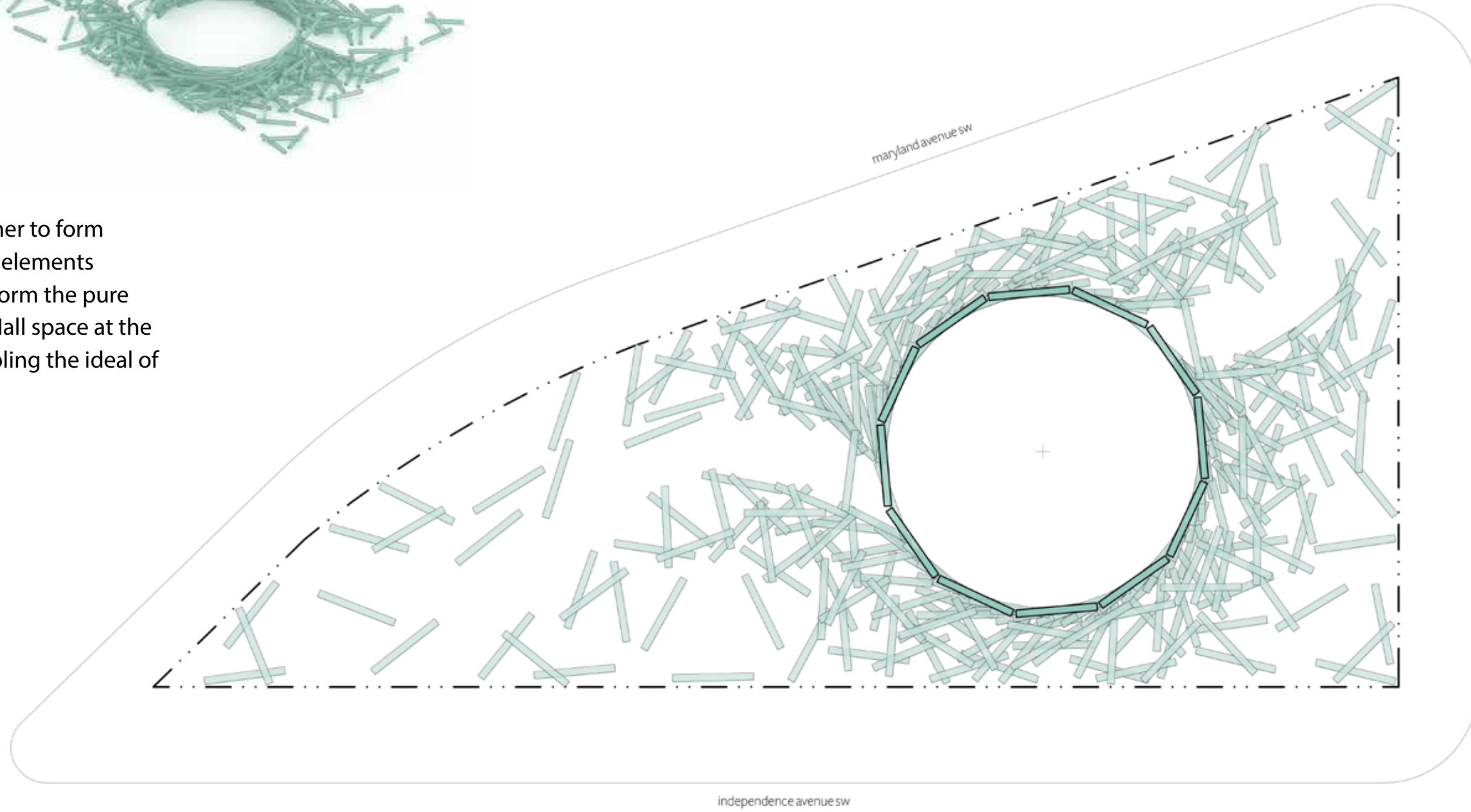


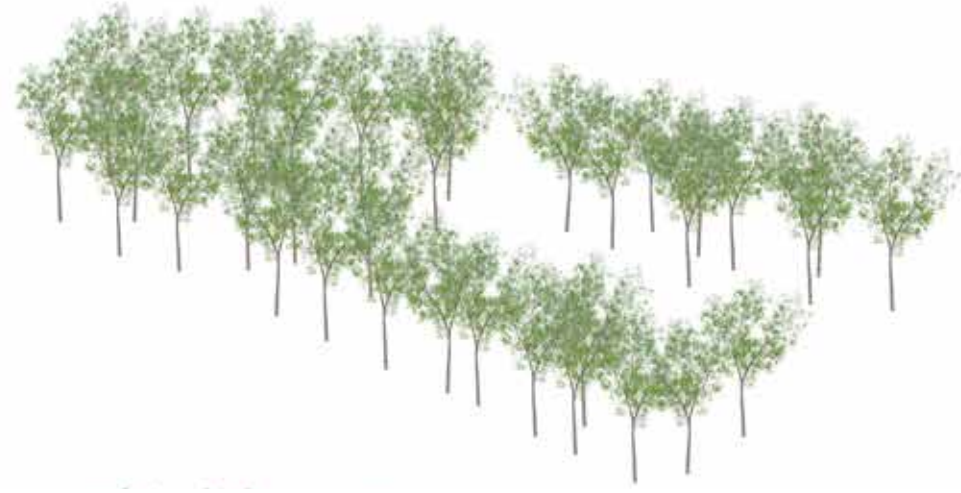
The memorial site's granite-paved hardscape is flat and accessible throughout. Glass elements are raised slightly off the ground to allow stormwater flowthrough and to facilitate routine maintenance. Sunlight activates the glass elements, casting their shadow on the light-colored stone to add another dimension to an experience that is more than the sum of its parts.



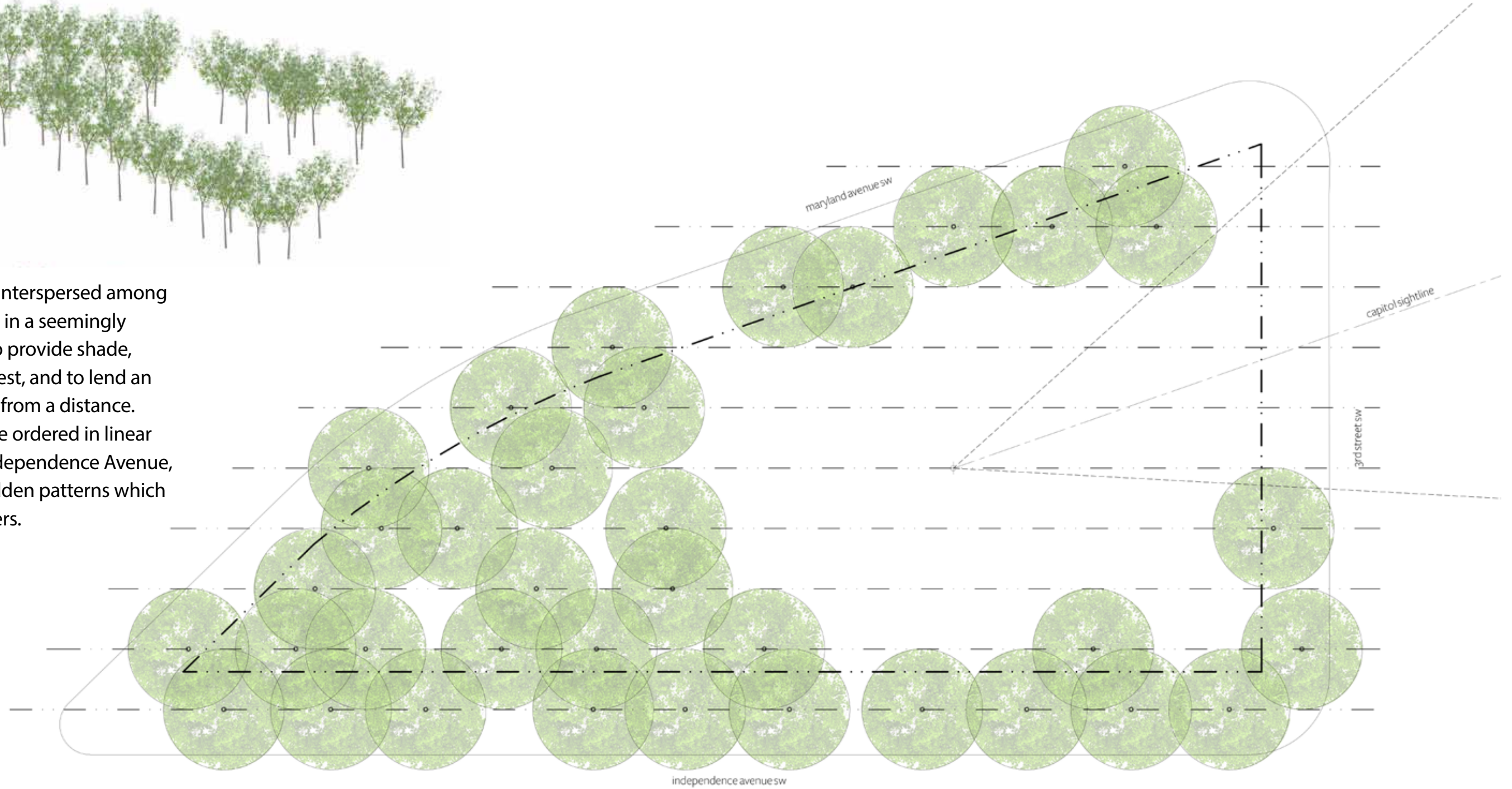


Like facts coming together to form a journalist's story, glass elements aggregate gradually to form the pure circular Remembrance Hall space at the center of the site, symboling the ideal of truth.



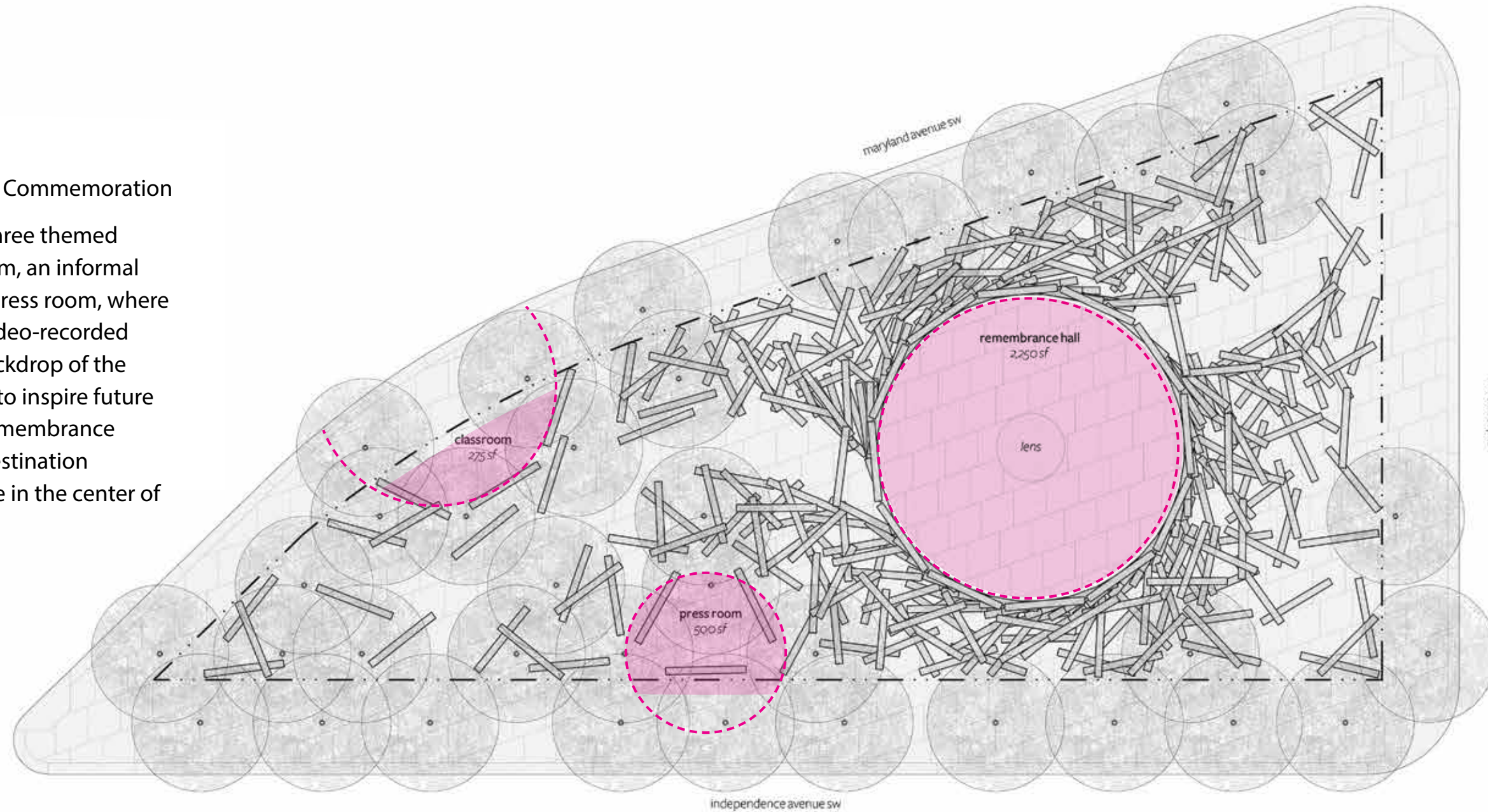


A grove of trees is interspersed among the glass elements in a seemingly random manner to provide shade, add seasonal interest, and to lend an identity to the site from a distance. In fact, the trees are ordered in linear rows parallel to Independence Avenue, suggesting the hidden patterns which a journalist uncovers.



Education, Inspiration, Commemoration

The project includes three themed “rooms” -- the classroom, an informal education space; the press room, where journalists conduct video-recorded reports against the backdrop of the memorial and Capitol to inspire future journalists; and the Remembrance Hall, the memorial’s destination commemoration space in the center of the site.

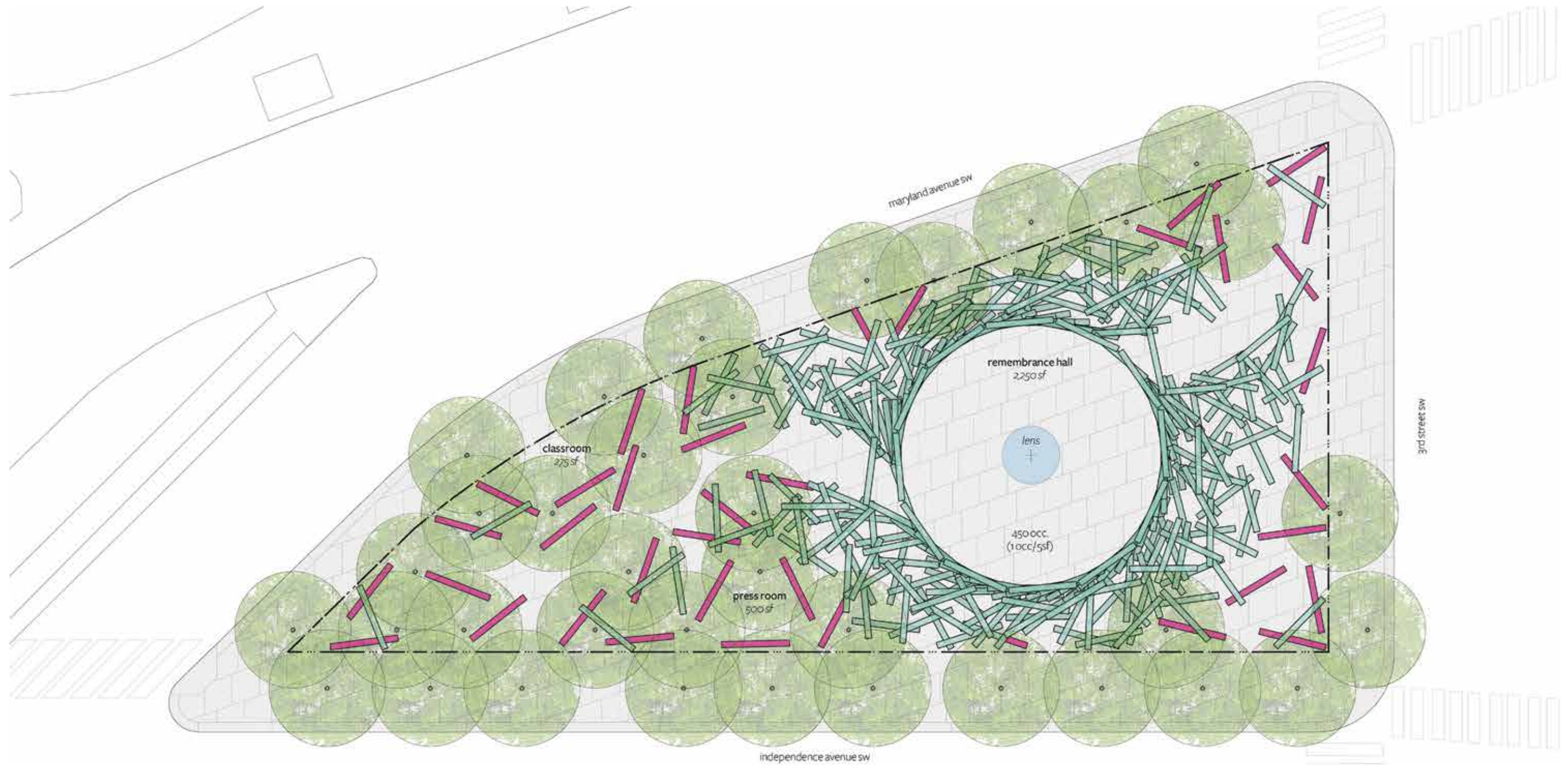




classroom and pressroom



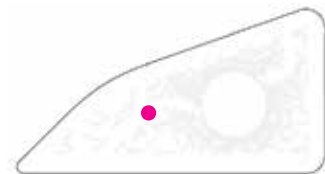
Bench-height glass elements are arranged to create an informal classroom (page left) where teachers can introduce the memorial to inspire the next generation of journalists. On the south side of the site is a clearing known as the press room (page right) which provides an area for journalists to conduct live reports with the memorial and Capitol building as backdrop.



Seating is located throughout the tree-shaded areas of the site, where visitors can pause and reflect



path night



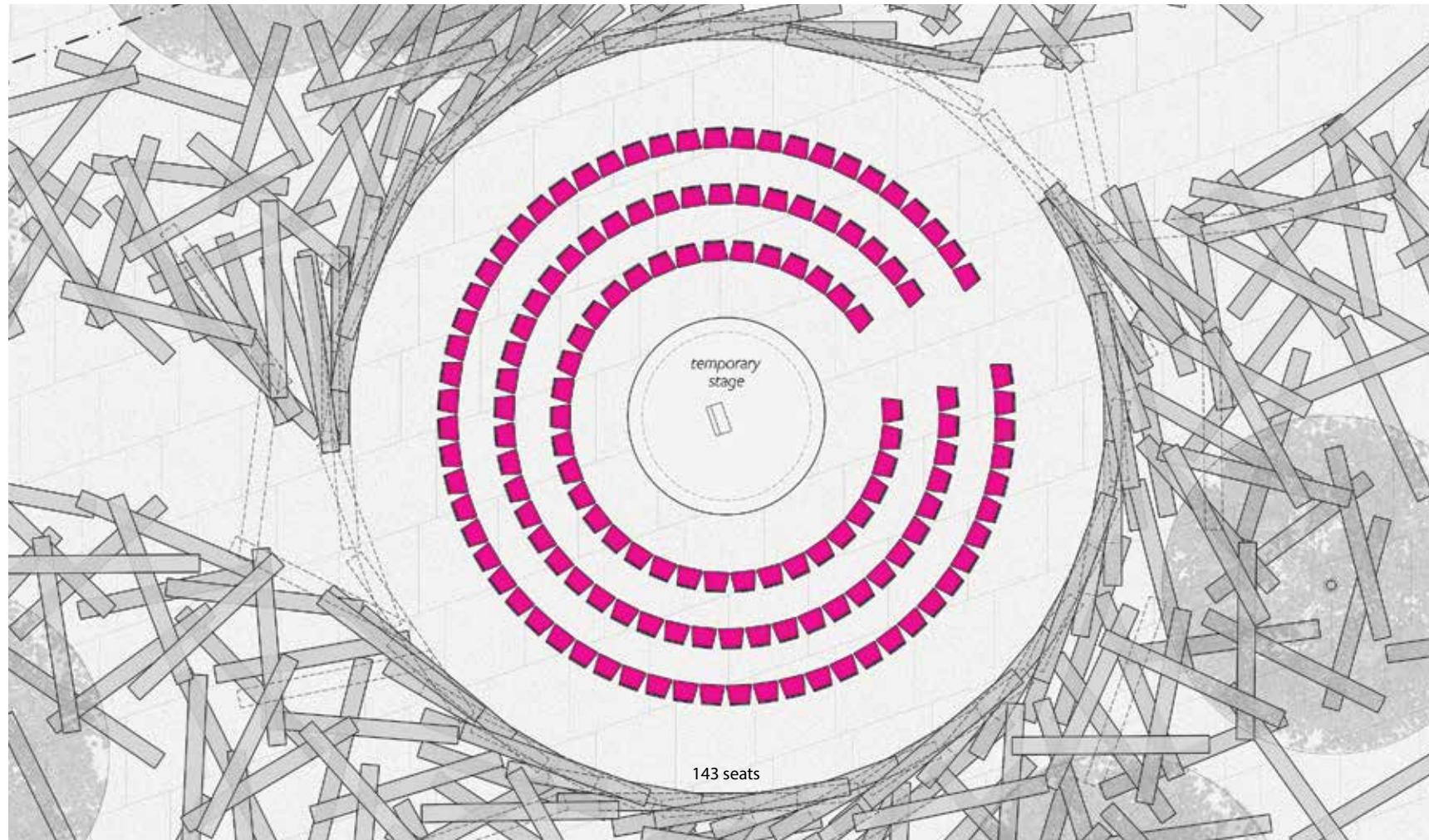
At night, uplit glass elements light the pathway leading to the circular Remembrance Hall.



remembrance hall day



The circular Remembrance Hall is the memorial's "home for truth." Upon entering it, disorder yields to order, and things fall into place. The Capitol dome comes into view, signifying the watchdog role that journalists play in a democracy, and visitors are drawn to a circular glass "lens" in the center of the space bearing an important message: the text of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.



event test fit

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation plans to support and supplement the physical memorial by:

- hosting ceremonies and events commemorating fallen journalists and annual days of awareness (i.e., World Press Freedom Day, International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists)
- developing long-term programming and digital content
- developing curricula for high school students
- organizing volunteers to provide on-site docents during peak visitor times
- providing a space for reporting news
- arranging professional cleaning and general upkeep of the memorial

programming



classroom

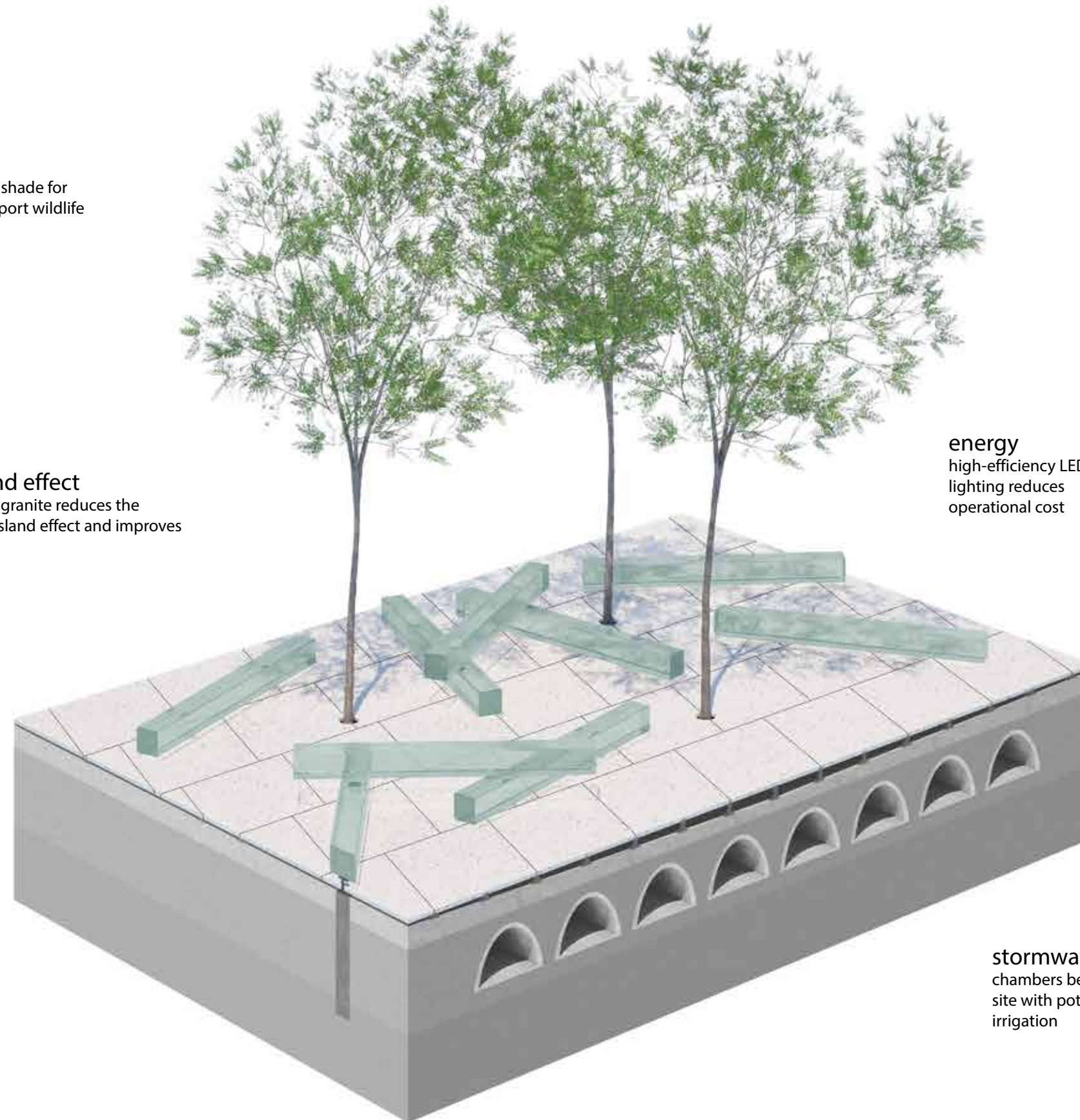


press room

trees
deciduous trees provide shade for human comfort and support wildlife habitat

heat-island effect
light colored granite reduces the urban heat-island effect and improves microclimate

embodied energy
concrete pier foundations use recycled aggregate and fly-ash to reduce embodied energy



energy
high-efficiency LED lighting reduces operational cost

recycled material
glass elements include recycled material

stormwater management
chambers below paving detain water on site with potential to reuse water for site irrigation

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Can You Submit Comments?

After This Meeting

- Online: Submit comments by **October 30, 2024** at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/fjm>

- Written Comments can be mailed to:

Laurel Hammig
Attn: Fallen Journalists Memorial
National Park Service
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Dr. SW
Washington, DC 20242

- Mailed comments must be postmarked by **October 30, 2024** to receive consideration