

Proposed bronze sculpture by
Georgia and Randy Gerber



Site Illustrative Plan



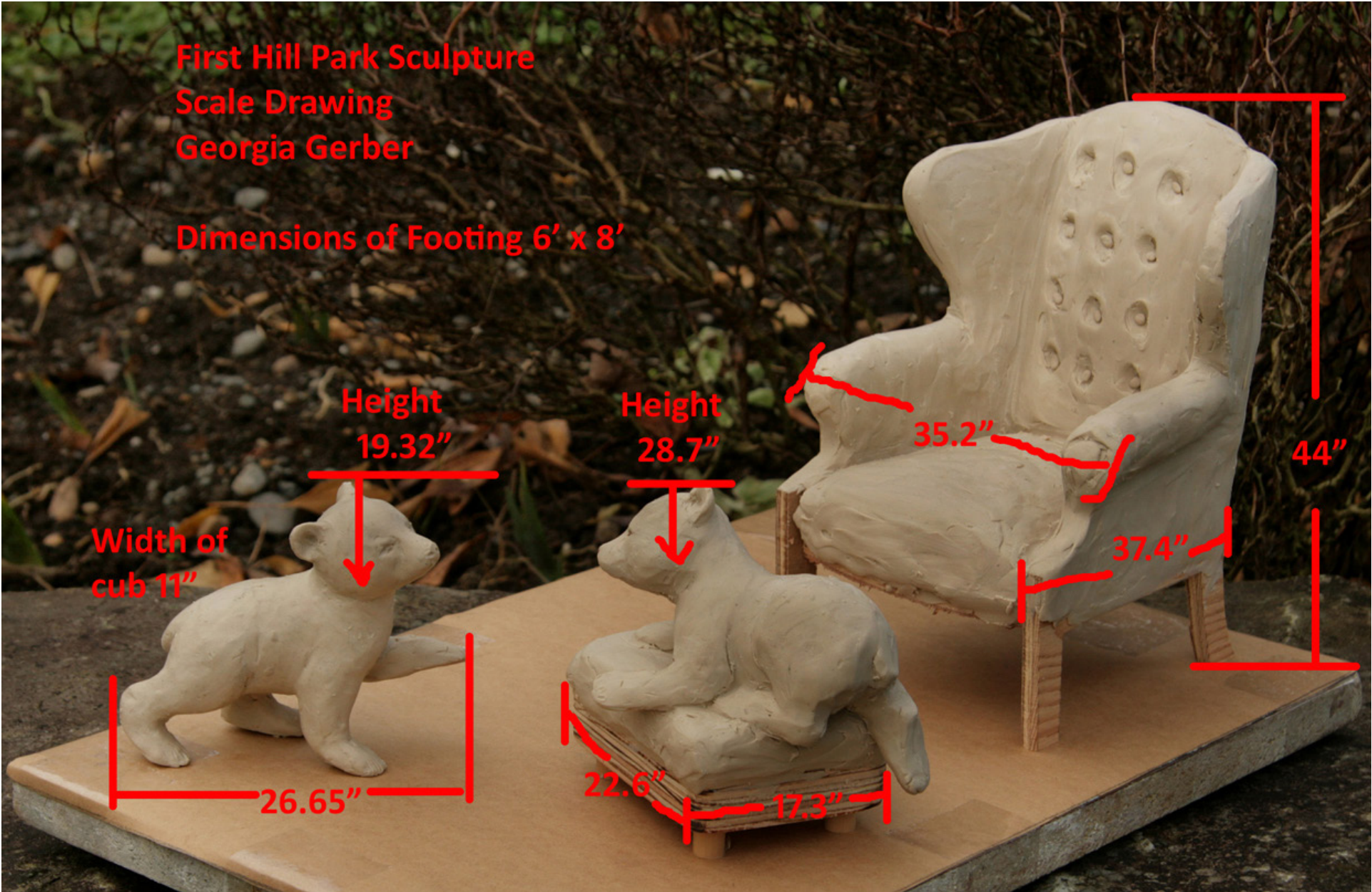
Site Plan



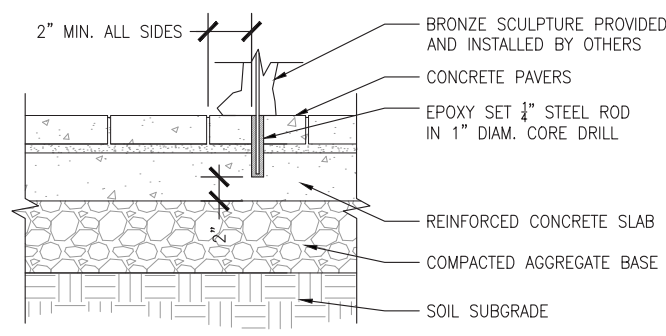
Proposed bronze sculpture (clay mock-ups)



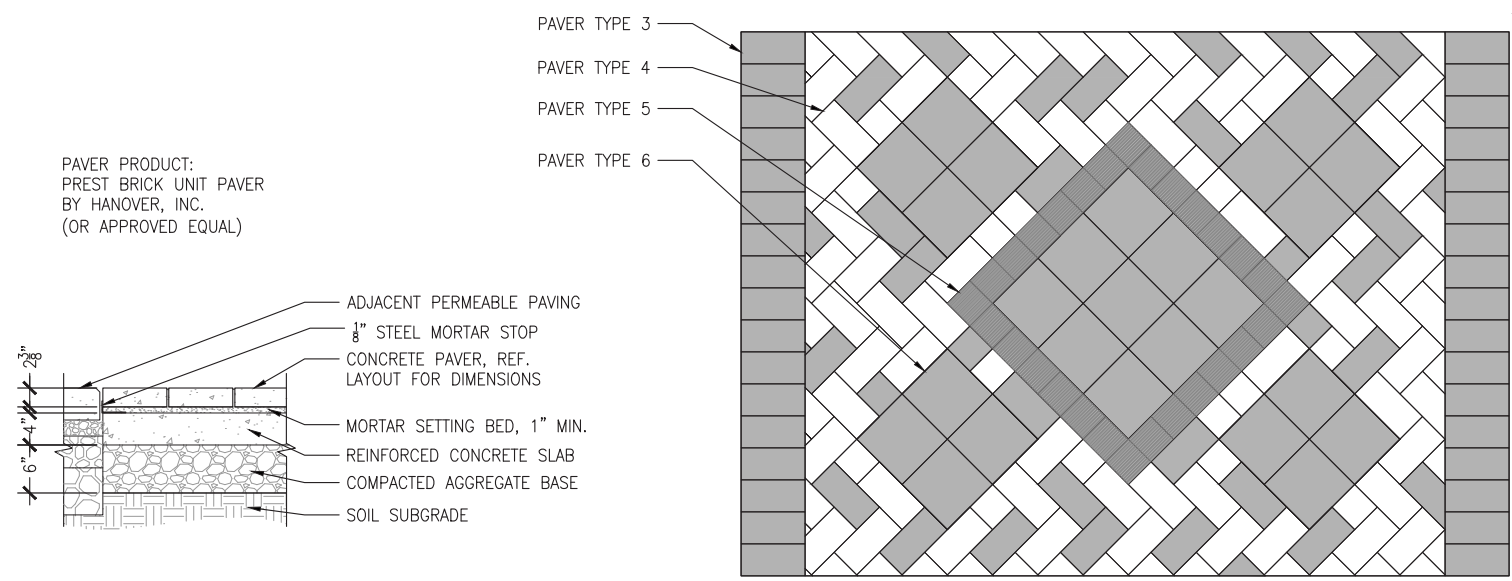
Sculpture Dimensions



Sculpture attachment and paving details



6 SCULPTURE ATTACHMENT DETAIL
SCALE: 1 1/2" = 1'-0" L3.2X DETAILS.DWG



5 UNIT PAVER - MORTAR SET
SCALE: 1" = 1'-0" L3.2X DETAILS.DWG

Precedents



Humpback whales at Seattle Center



Whale tail at Seattle Science Center



Cows at U-Village



Rachel the Pig at Pike Place Market

Narrative and Maintenance (from the artists)

Materiality and Maintenance Plan

There will be a total of three separate elements that comprise the sculpture: Wingback Chair, Ottoman with Bear Cub cast integrally with it, and a separate Standing Bear Cub.

All elements will be cast in Everdure Bronze with a wall thickness of approximately 3/16" to 1/4".

There will be 3/4" stainless steel nuts welded to the bottom plane of each element where ground contact is made, for a total of 11 contact points:

Chair: 4 points (each of 4 legs)

Ottoman: 4 points (each of four legs)

Standing Bear: 3 points (each of three paws)

Consideration will be given to encourage rainwater to naturally drain from the piece, but in any areas that may tend to hold any significant water small seep holes (3/32") will be created.

The bronze will be patinaed in reddish gold tonality and finish coated with Johnson's Paste wax.

Maintenance

Rain and sun will wear down the wax and cloud the patina over time. The more often the piece is cleaned and re-waxed the better protected and more attractive it will be. This re-waxing also helps resist anything from sticking to the piece and makes it easier to clean. It is recommended at least annually, while more often can be helpful. A brief bronze care guide is included that describes the process.

It is expected that there will be areas that become highlighted due to interaction with the public. It is the artist's view that this is an enhancement to the sculpture and not to be considered problematic.

If any seep holes are present and become clogged, they can be cleared with any stiff prod that can fit in the hole, such as a length of common metal coat hanger or heavy gauge wire.

Footing and Installation

To accommodate final positioning decisions of the three elements, the sculpture is recommended to have a single concrete footing 6' x 8' and at least 5" thick. Installation will be accomplished by core drilling 11 holes into the footing in the appropriate locations to secure each element. The holes will be at least 3.5" deep and depending on the type of adhesive used will be 1" to 1 1/2" diameter.

3/4" Stainless steel threaded rods will be threaded into the 11 nuts in the bottom of the sculpture so that they protrude at least 3" into the concrete footing holes when the sculptures are set in place. Either epoxy or anchoring cement will be used to secure the rods into the hole.

If there is brick on top of the concrete footing, the core holes will be made through the brick and then into the concrete as described above. The lengths of the rods will be adjusted to that they pass through the brick height and into the concrete at least 3".

Bronze Maintenance (from the artists)

Bronze Care

All of my bronzes have a patina and simple wax finish. There are many opinions on how to best care for these over the years. There are a couple books on bronze care I have seen in case you are interested in further detail, but in general the information is simple. It would be good if outdoor sculptures received at least a yearly washing and new wax application. Indoors, pieces may last many years without need of wax, though they can be enhanced at any time with new wax and buffing.

Bronze Sculptures can be cleaned with soft brushes and cloths, using water and perhaps a little dishwashing soap such as Ivory Liquid. A simple hose spray or very light pressure washing would be fine and a good way to get into undercuts and crevices. Paintbrushes also work well in crevices, but be careful since the metal ferrules can scratch the surface.

Make sure the sculpture is thoroughly dry, even down in all the crevices – a fan, hair dryer, compressed air, or the sun can speed things up. Apply a light coat of wax. We use Johnson's Floor Paste Wax, Trewax, or a similar product by Minnwax. These products are in the familiar squat round can and are generally available at hardware stores and even some grocery stores. Do not use car waxes, especially the creamy or liquid varieties, as they are meant for smooth painted surfaces only.

It is best, but not necessary, to do this waxing outside on a sunny day when the bronze is warm. Apply the wax with a brush, again being careful not to scratch the surface with the metal ferrule. Rub out the wax after only a few minutes – if you wait too long it can get amazingly hard and difficult to rub out. Though the wax applies best when the piece is warm, it may not cool enough to set for some time. If possible, you can move the sculpture to the shade. If not, you will need to wait until the piece cools enough to buff out the wax.

If the sculpture is so warm that the wax melts and runs, the wax can go on too thick and sometimes pool in crevices – so keep it light and remove any pools that may gather by dabbing with the brush. Sometimes thick areas of wax turn milky as they cool. Try re-heating these areas with a hair dryer or torch. As the wax quickly melts remove the excess with a brush or cloth.

Some conservators feel that it is ideal to do this twice a year on outdoor sculptures. However, the reality is that very few bronzes get such treatment and stand up pretty well - though a washing and waxing will always restore depth to the patina and help protect it.