

FREEWAY PARK

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Schematic Design Presentation
Seattle Design Commission April 2, 2020



Seattle
Parks & Recreation
healthy people healthy environment strong communities



WALKER | MACY

OVERVIEW



5.2 acres

\$6M construction budget

Repair and restore, potential enhancements

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places (December 2019)

Design proposals will require review and approval by the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

This project will honor the original design intent for the park.

Freeway Park is a tranquil place with an adventurous spirit.
It should connect the city and bring people together.



GOALS

Make the park more welcoming.

Bring people back to the park.

Restore its role and reputation as a centerpiece of Seattle's park system and icon of landscape architecture.

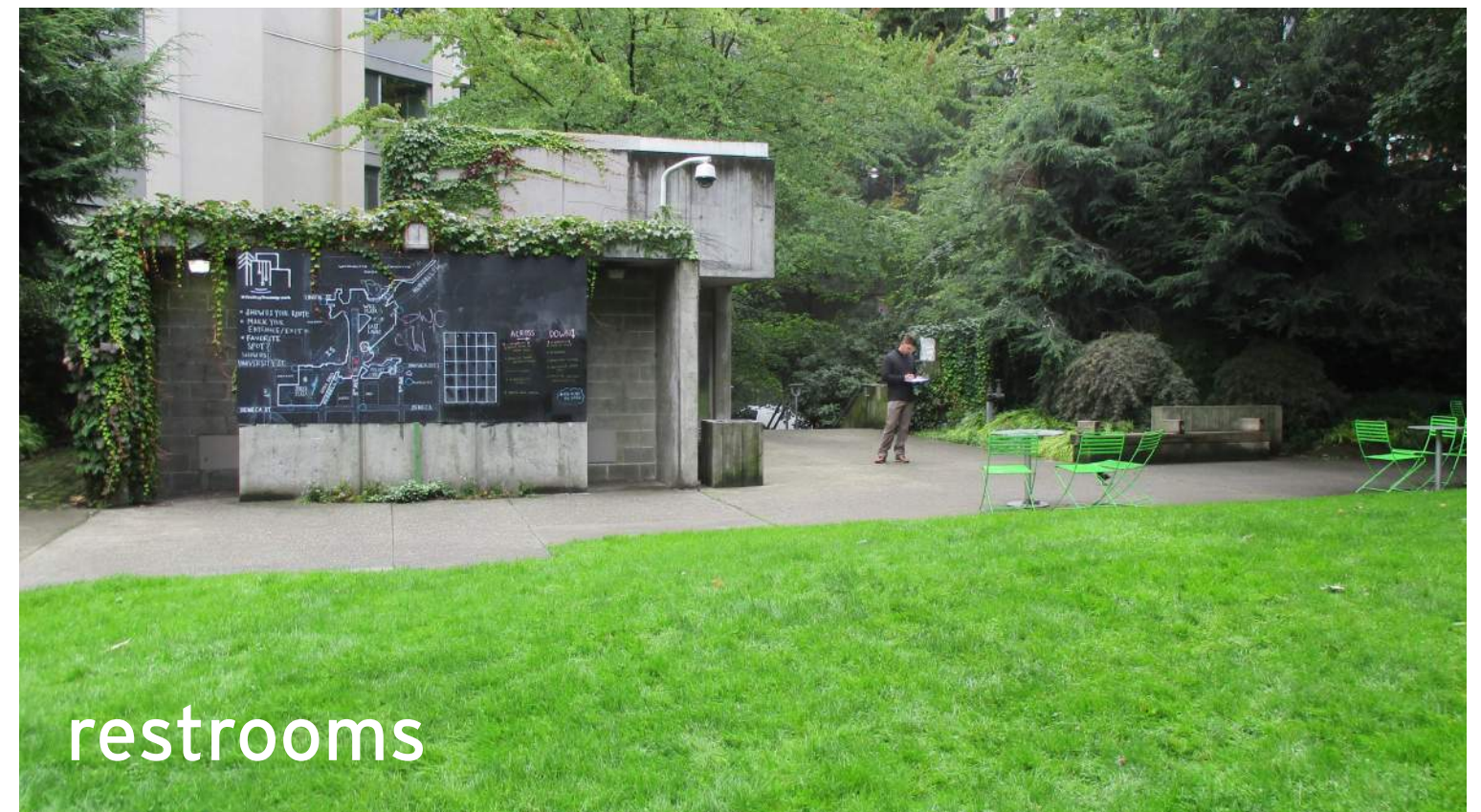


PRESERVE & RESTORE



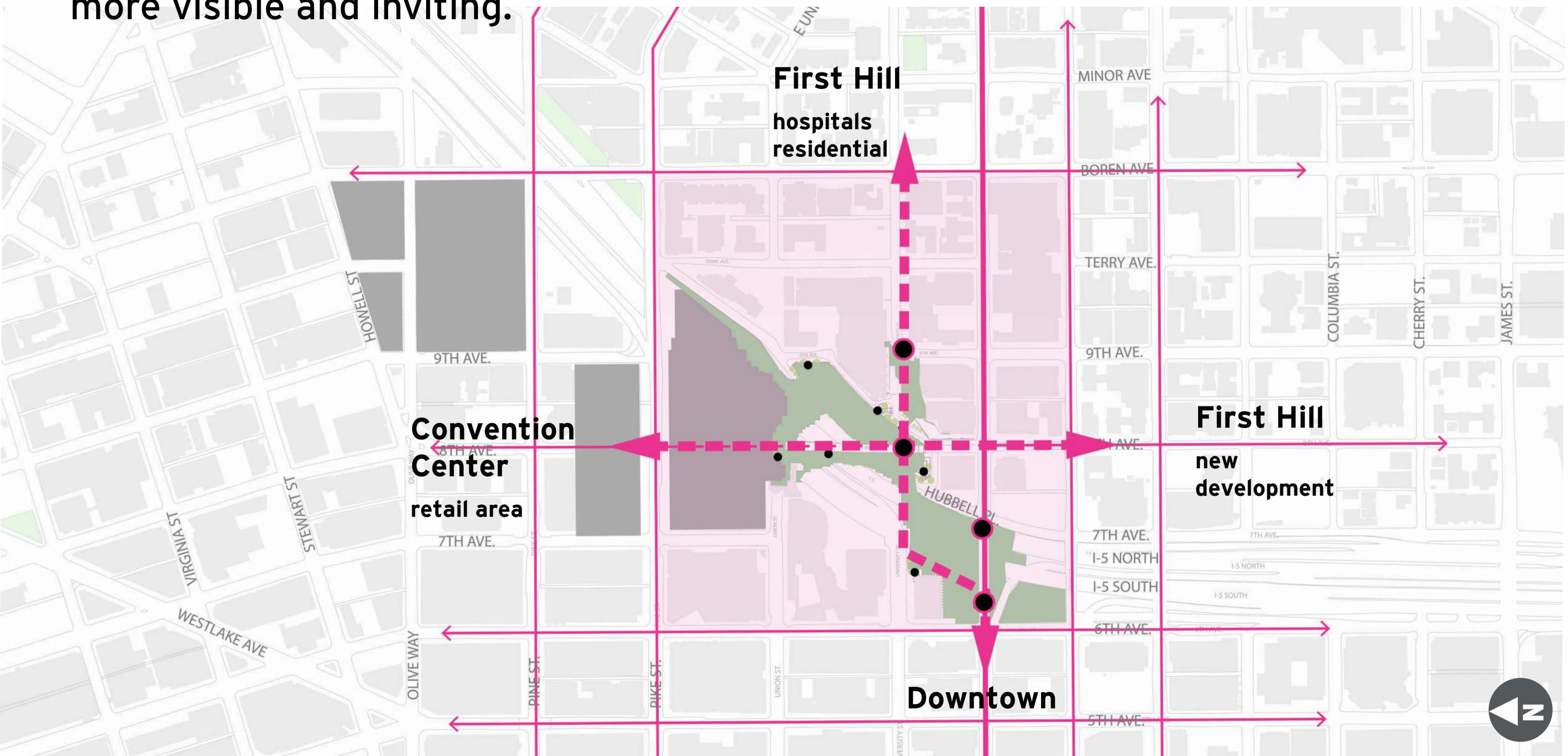
Make adjustments to meet current code/ standards.
Remove features that detract from the original design

REPAIR OR RECONSTRUCT



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: ENTRANCES

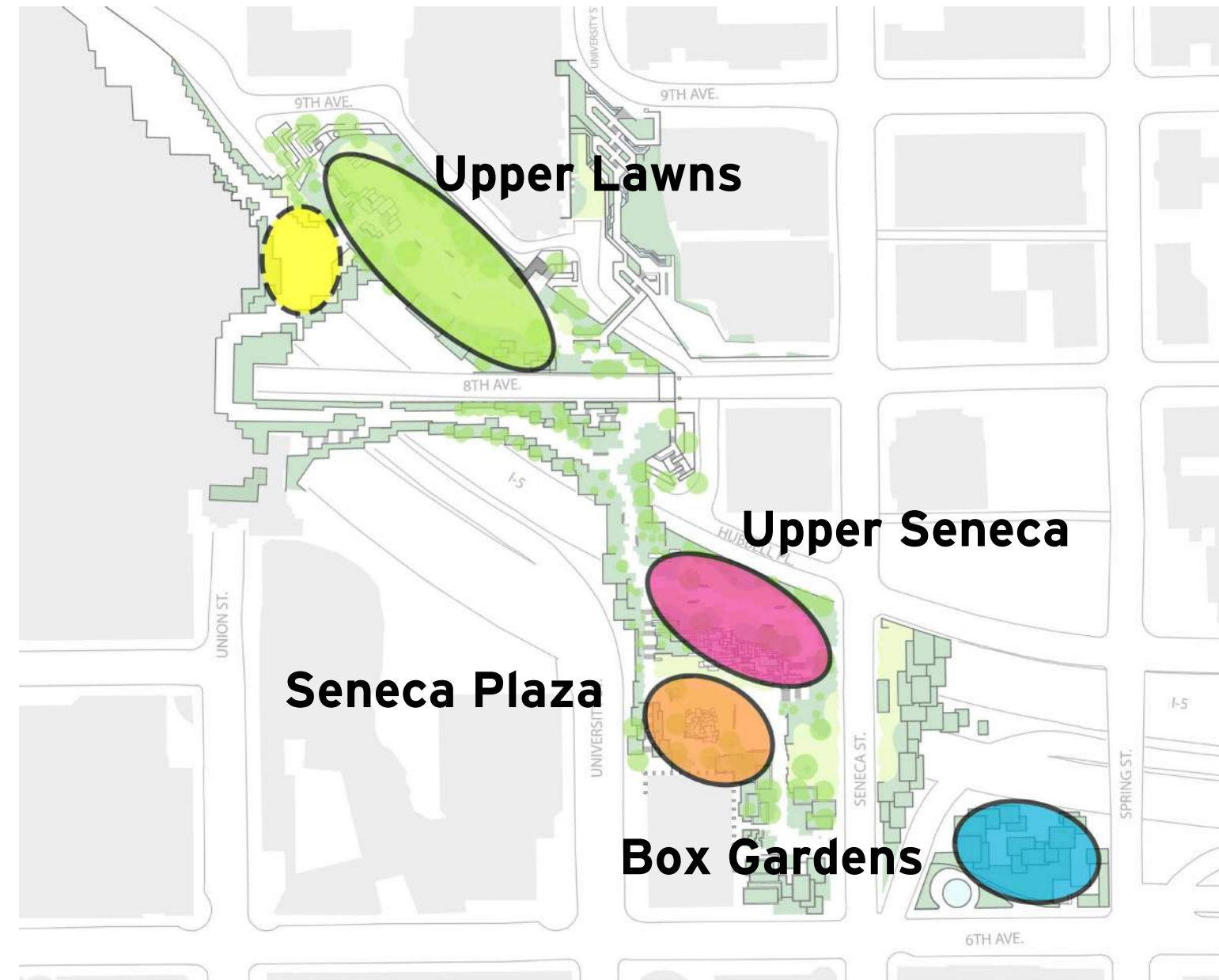
Strengthen the park entrances that have the most potential, based on their location in the city. Make them more visible and inviting.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: IDENTITY

Clarify and promote the park's prime areas by enhancing their distinctive features, uses, and character.

Support new uses in areas that currently have no park function.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: PROGRAMMING

Create larger, more flexible spaces in the Upper Lawns and Seneca Plaza.

Provide buildings at the Upper Lawns and Seneca Plaza, with enclosed concierge space, storage, and comfort stations, to support daily programming and events.



PARK-WIDE IMPROVEMENTS

Lighting

Wayfinding

Planting

Irrigation

Drainage

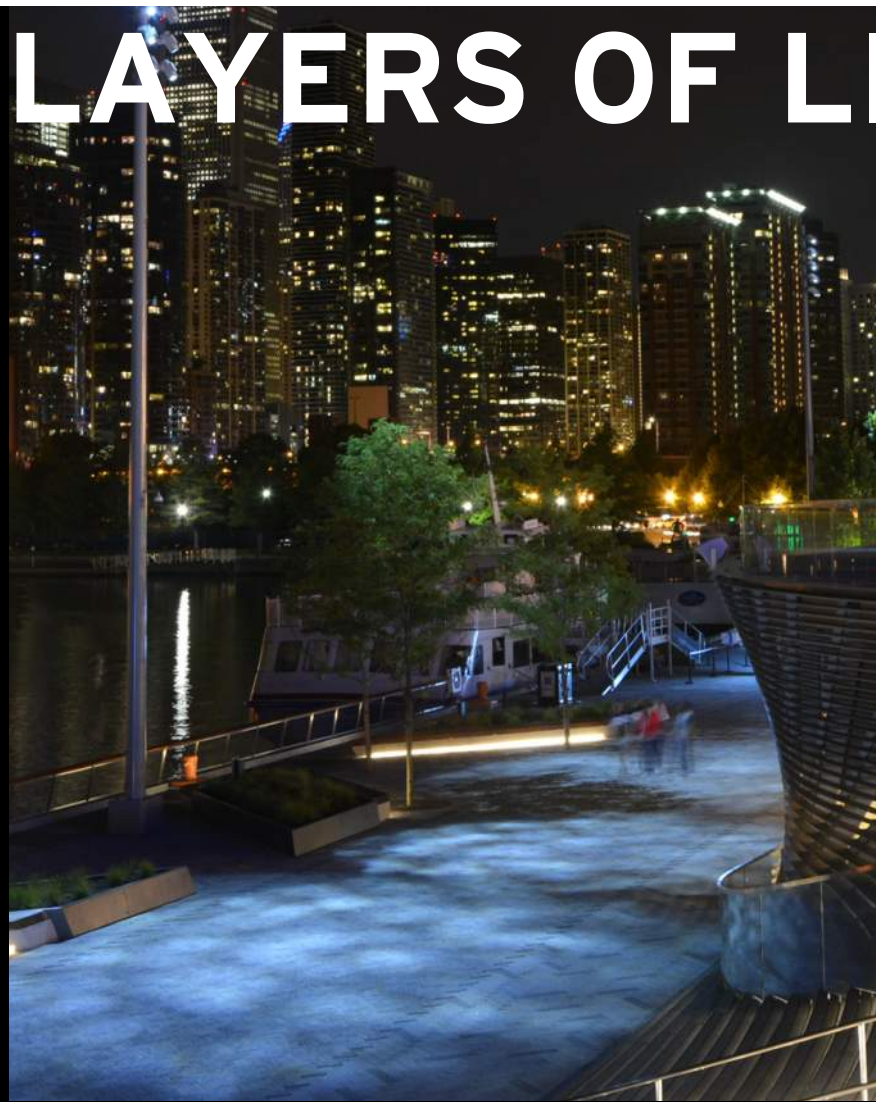
Power Supply



PARK LIGHTING



LAYERS OF LIGHT



moonlighting



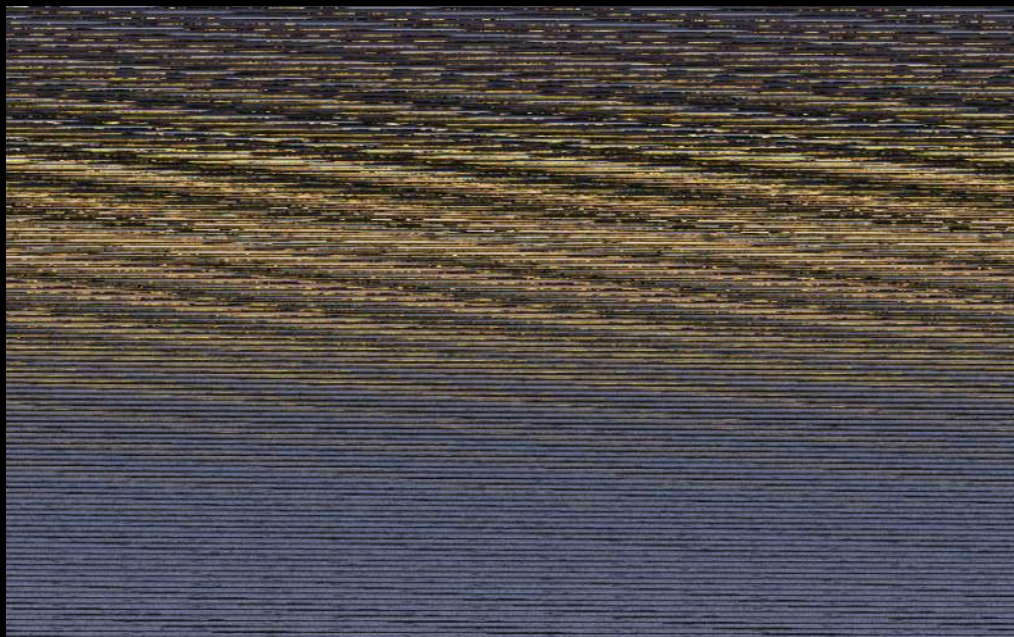
primary circulation



accent



landscape



edges

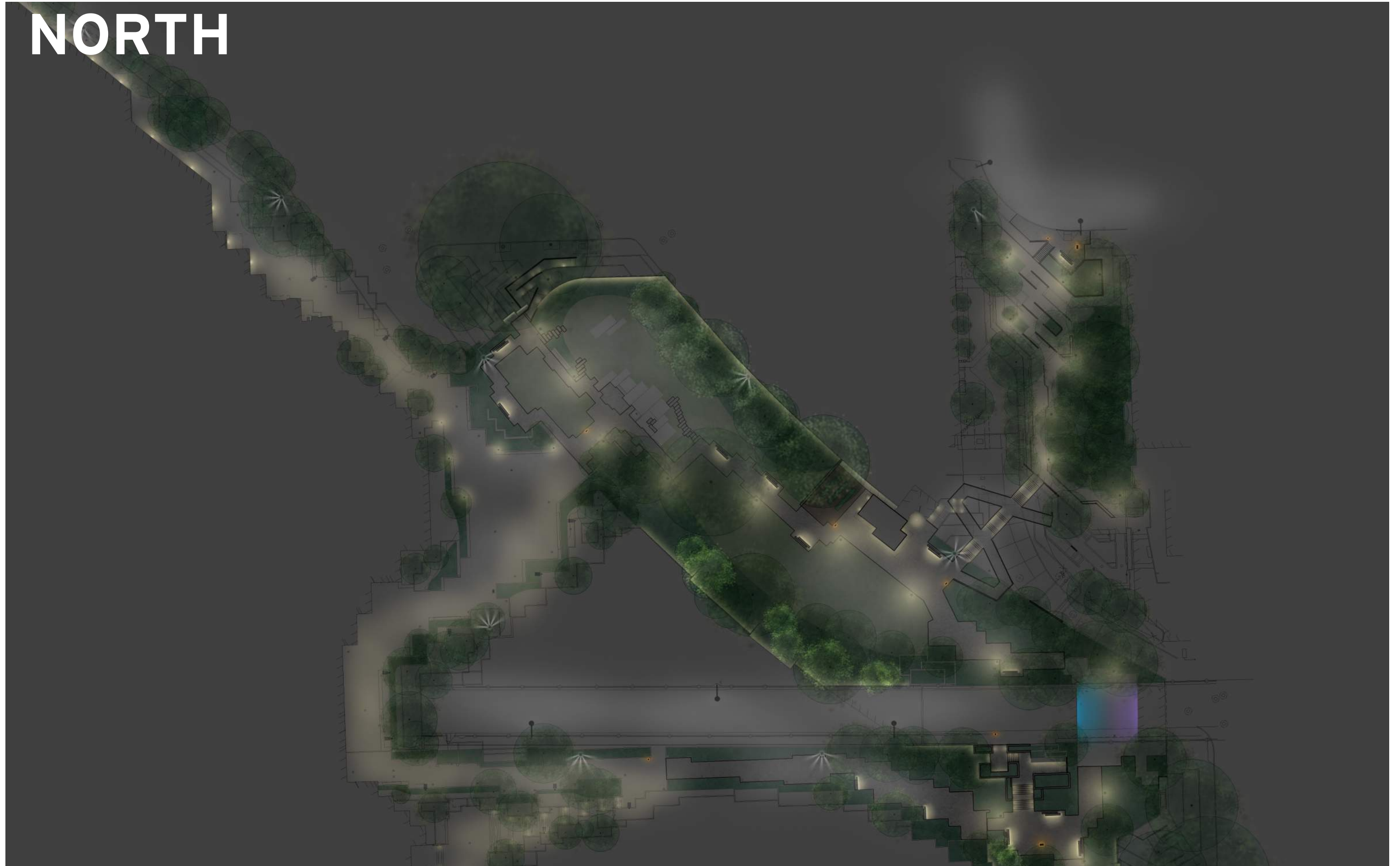


water

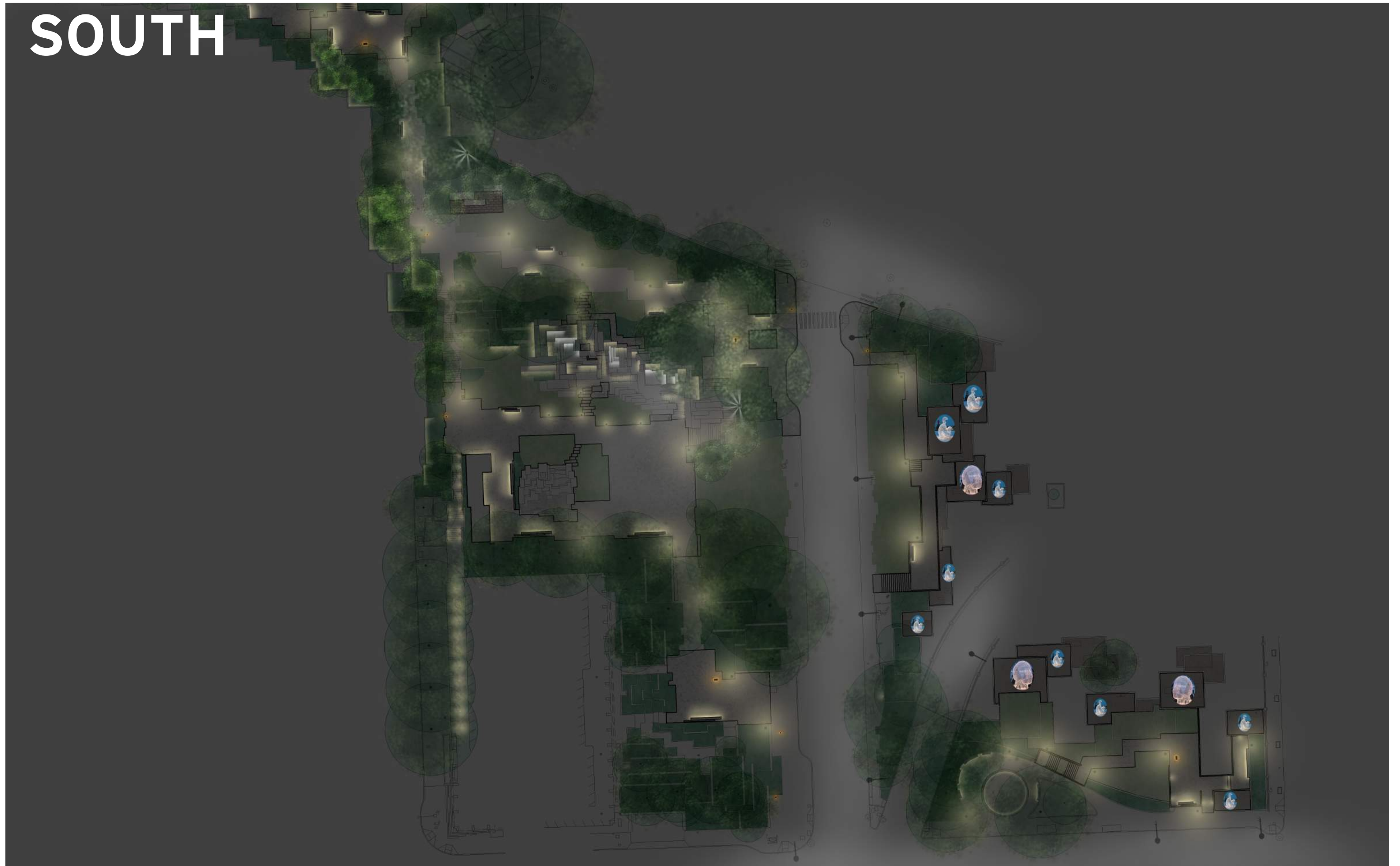


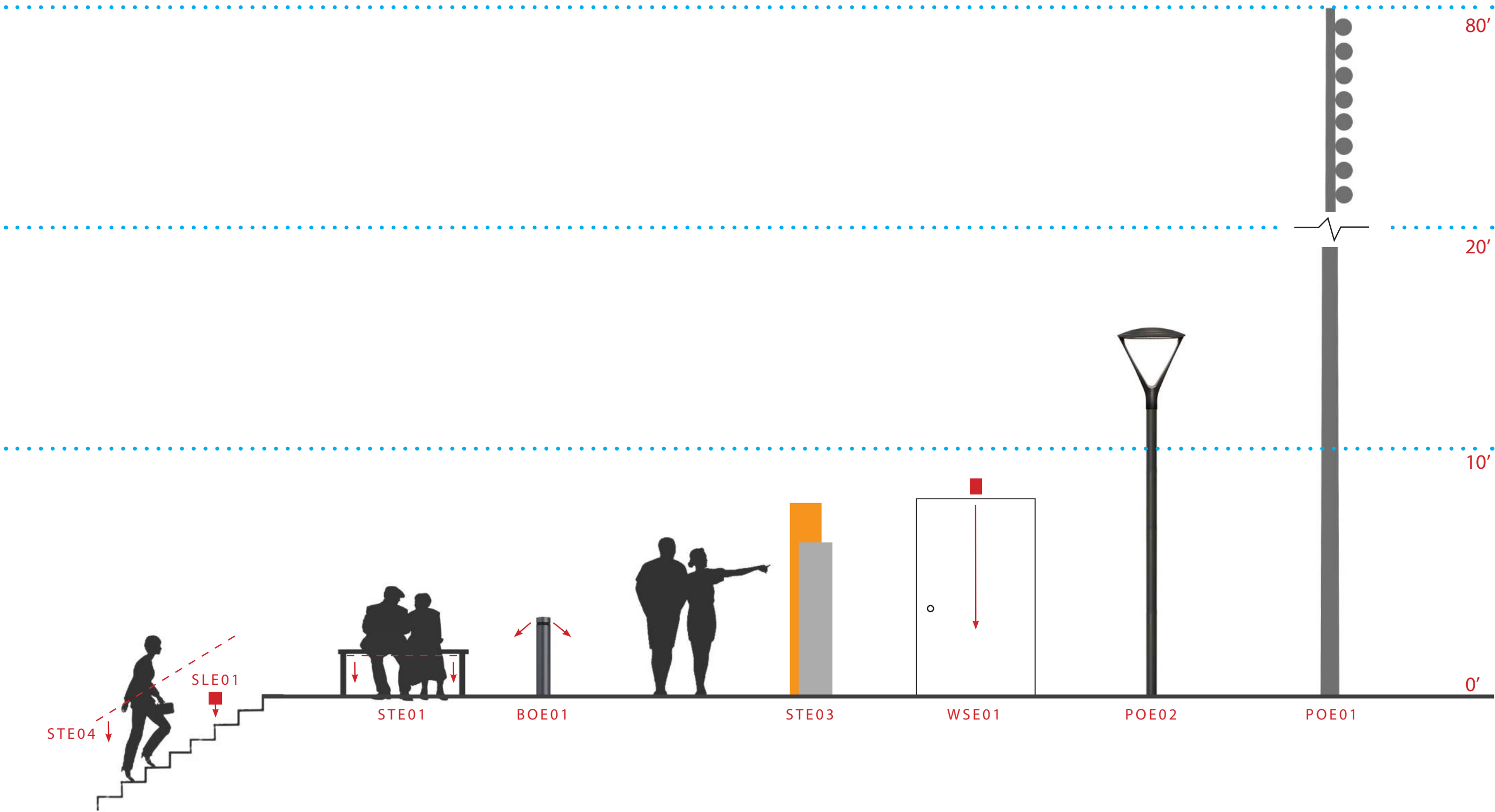
underpasses

NORTH

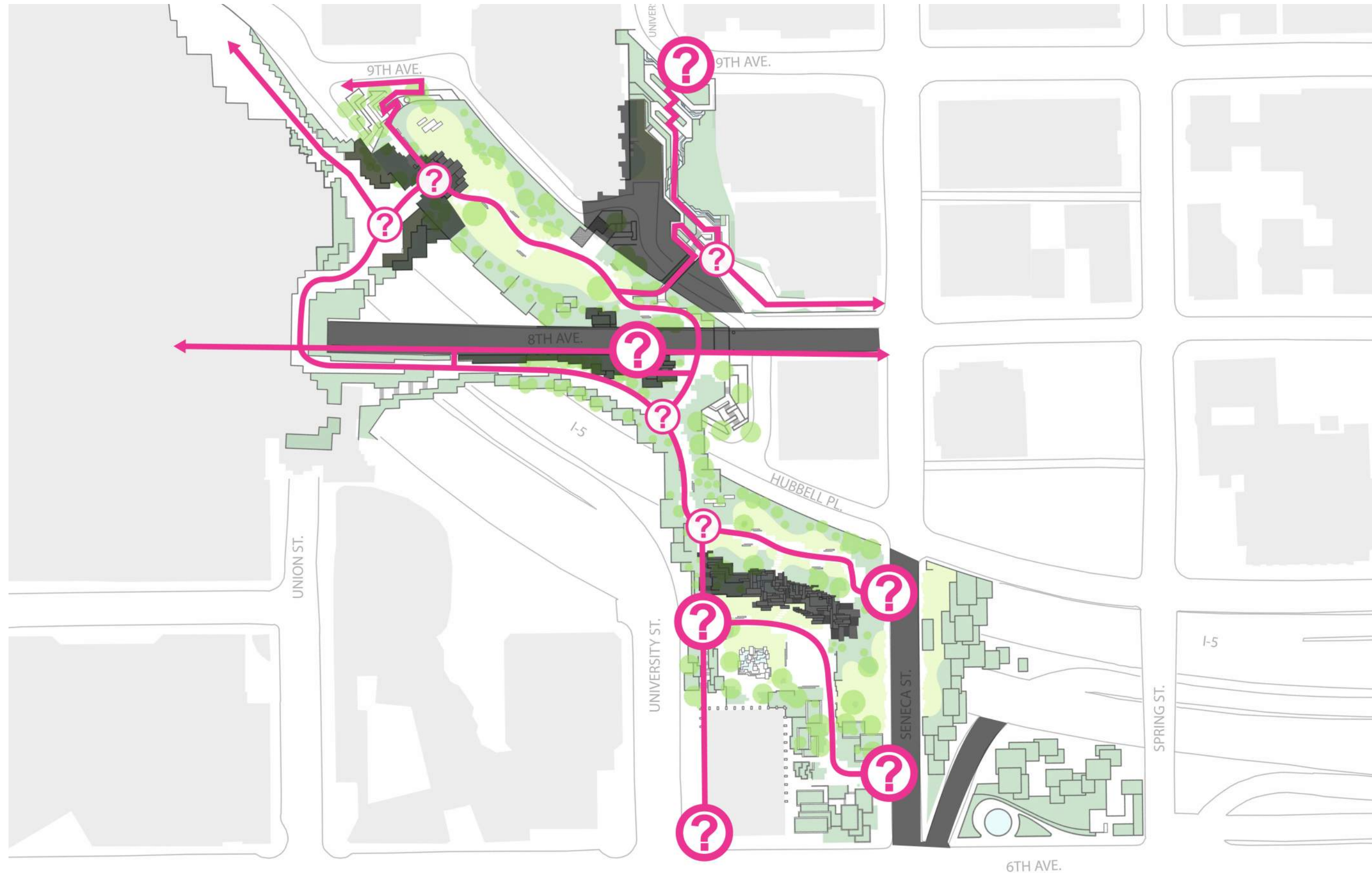


SOUTH





WAYFINDING



WAYFINDING: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS



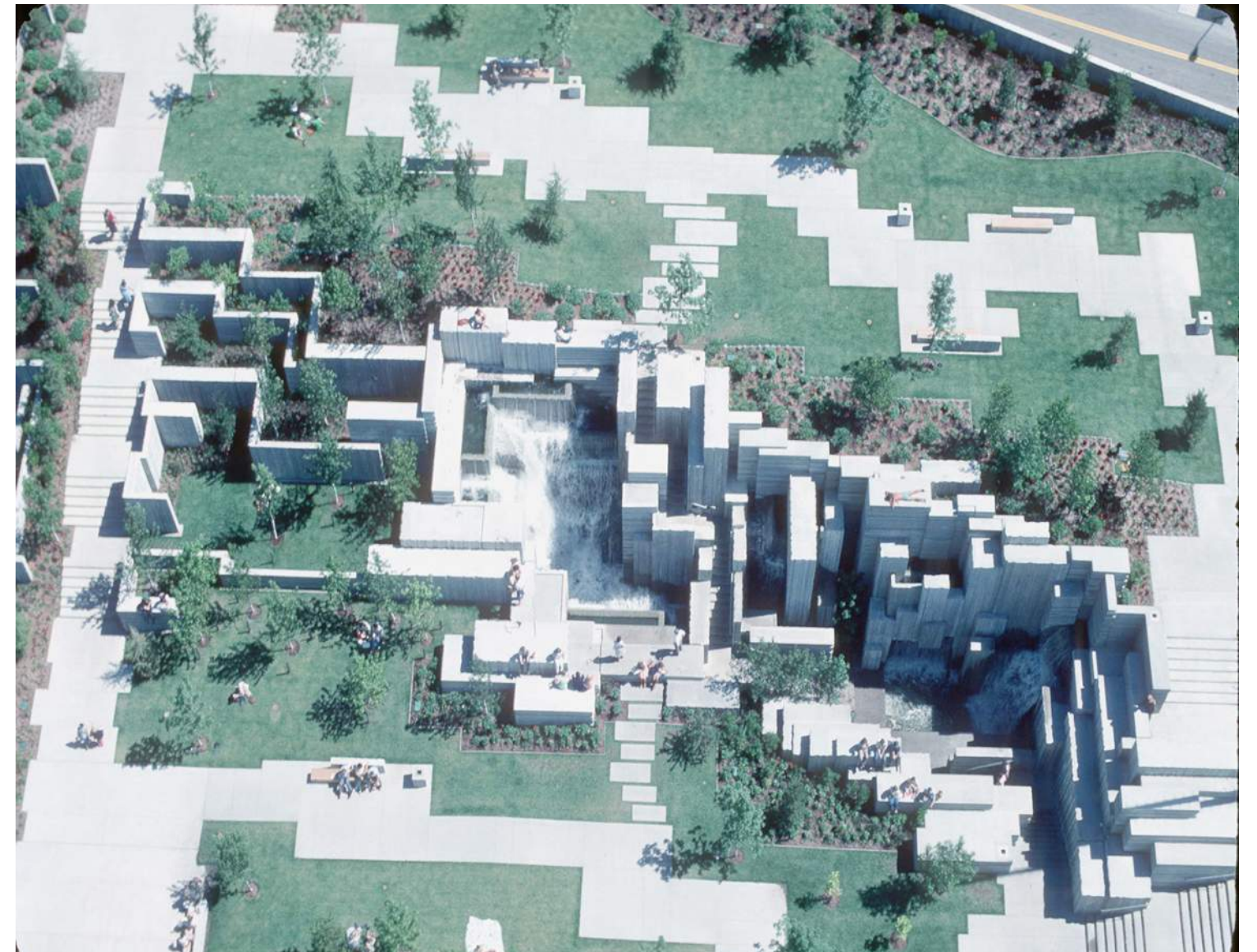
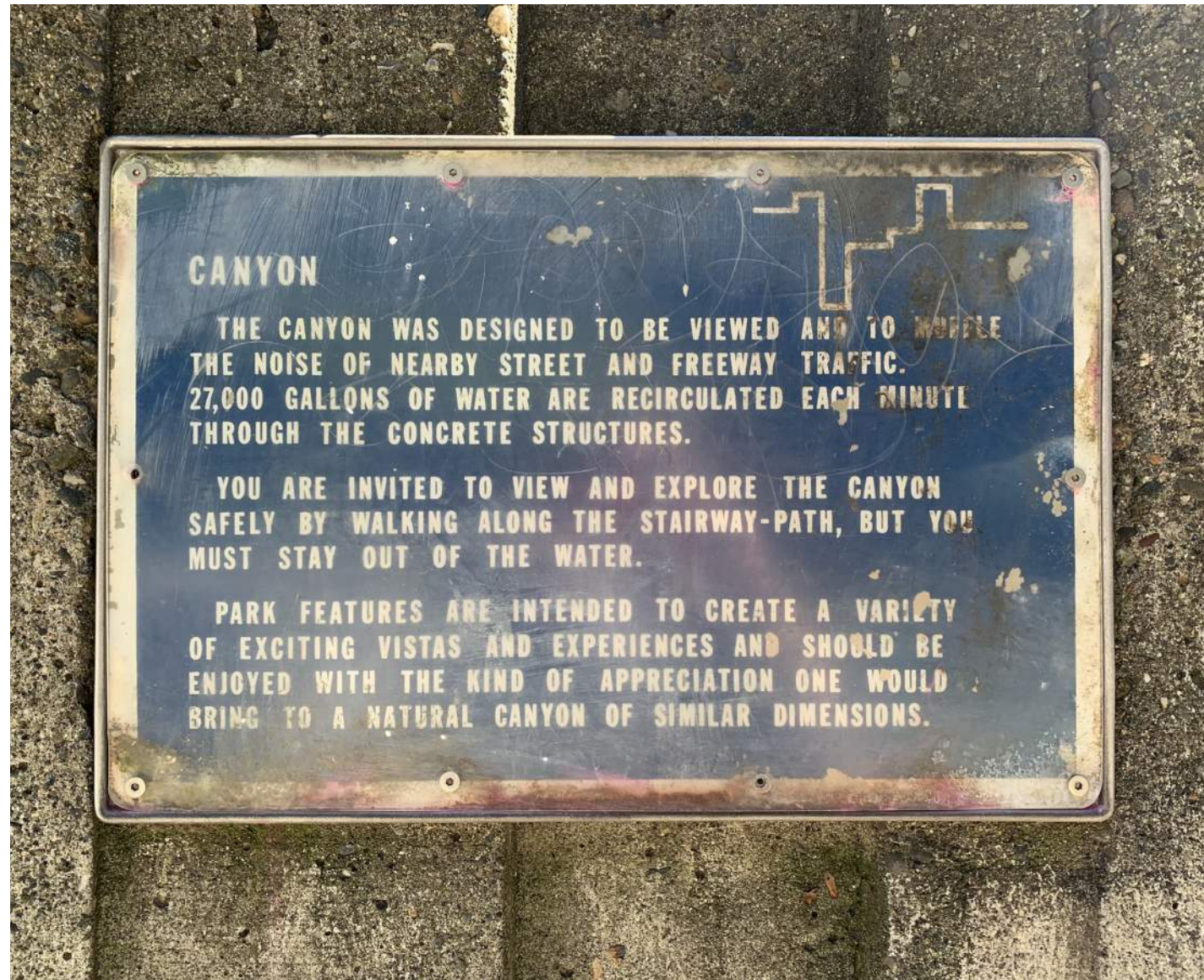
1976



Photo: Scott Bonjukian

2019

ORIGINAL INTENT: A PLACE OF EXPLORATION



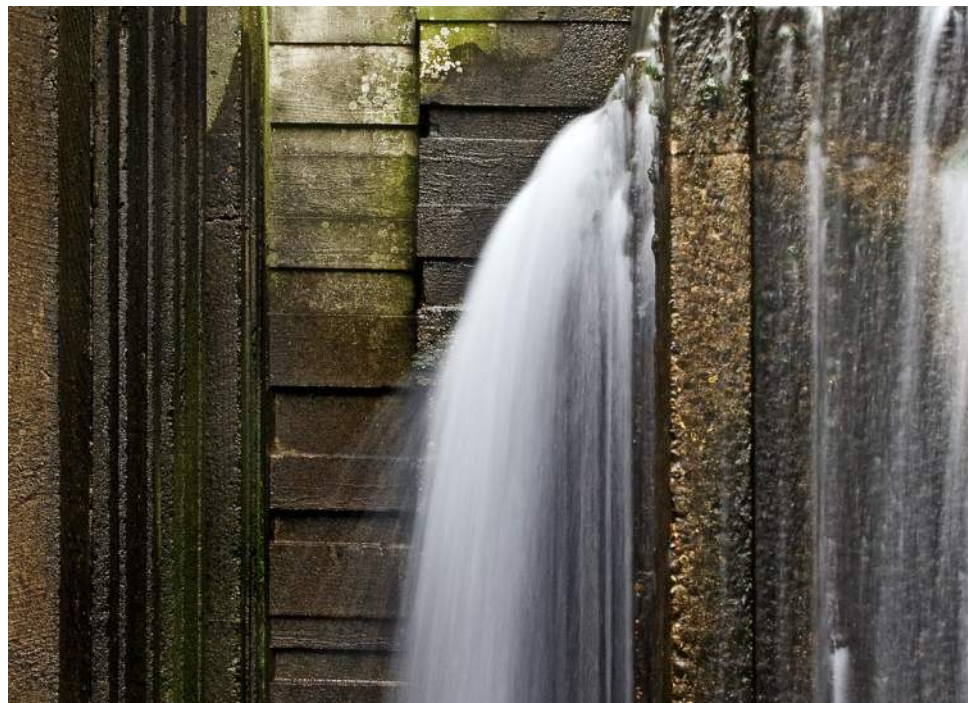
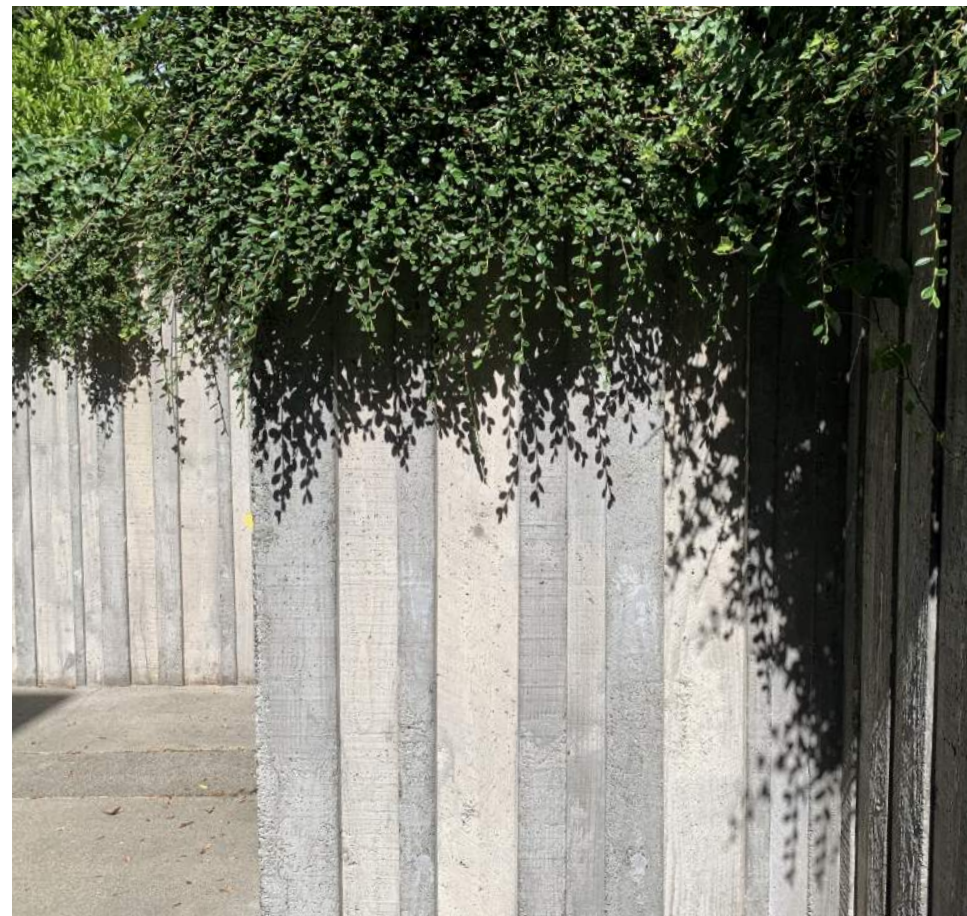
CURRENT SITE



CURRENT SITE



PARK MATERIAL PALETTE



SIGN FAMILY: OVERVIEW



Primary Park
Entrance Marker

Park Entrance
Map Monolith
(Interpretation
on reverse)

Park Interior
Map Monolith

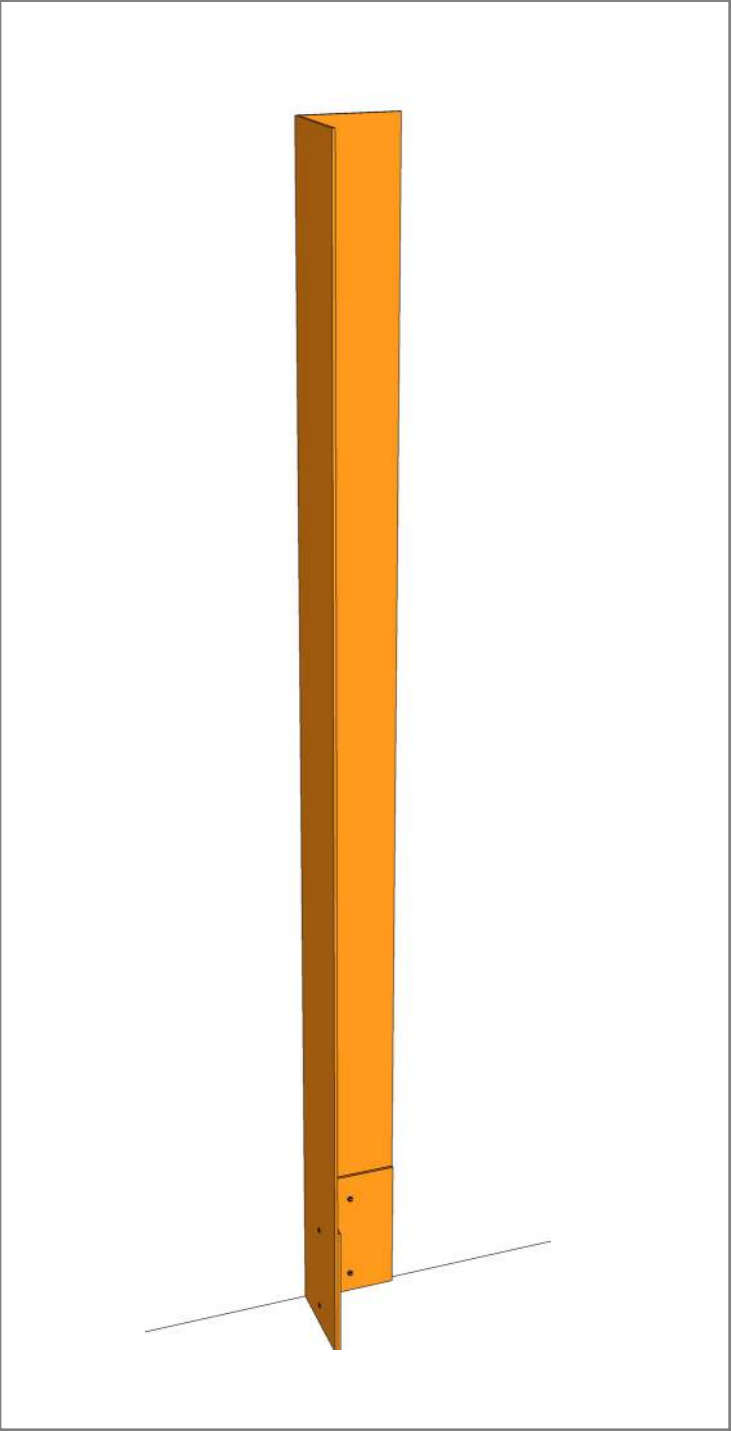
Secondary Wayfinding

Interpretation

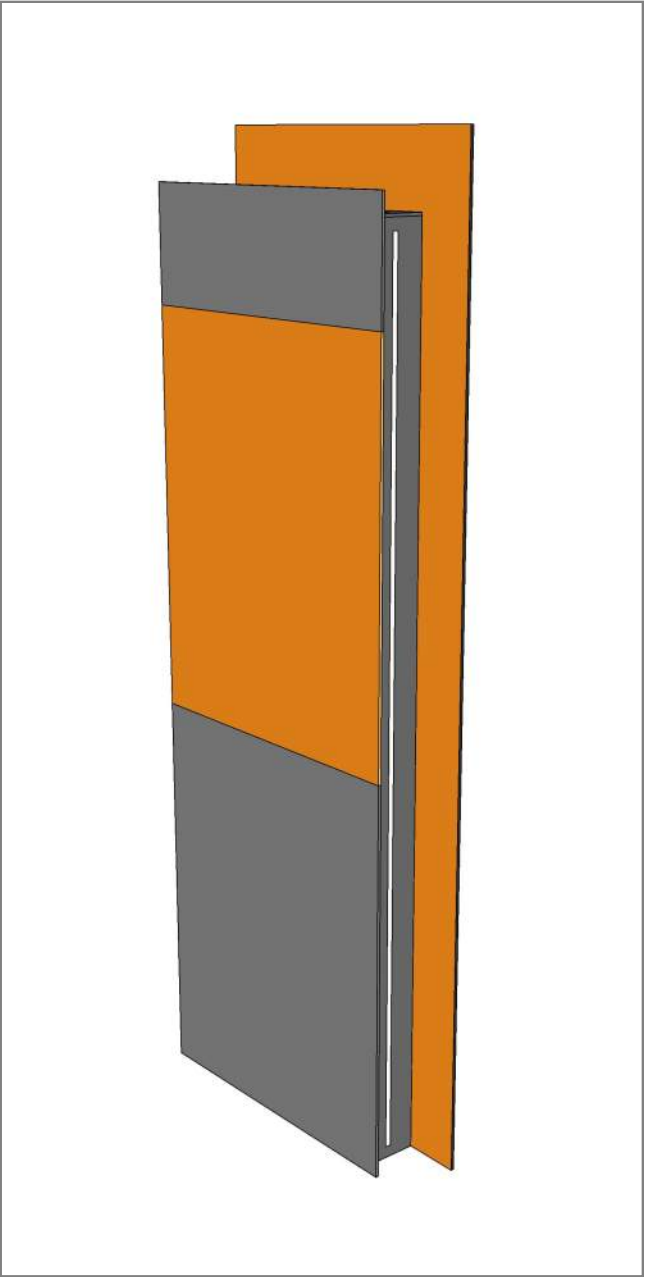
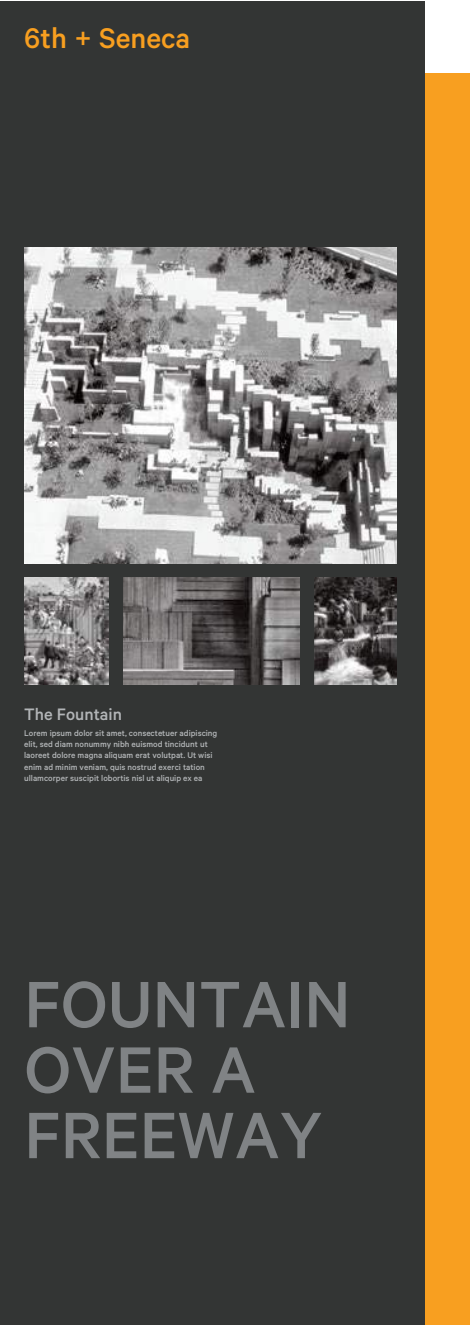
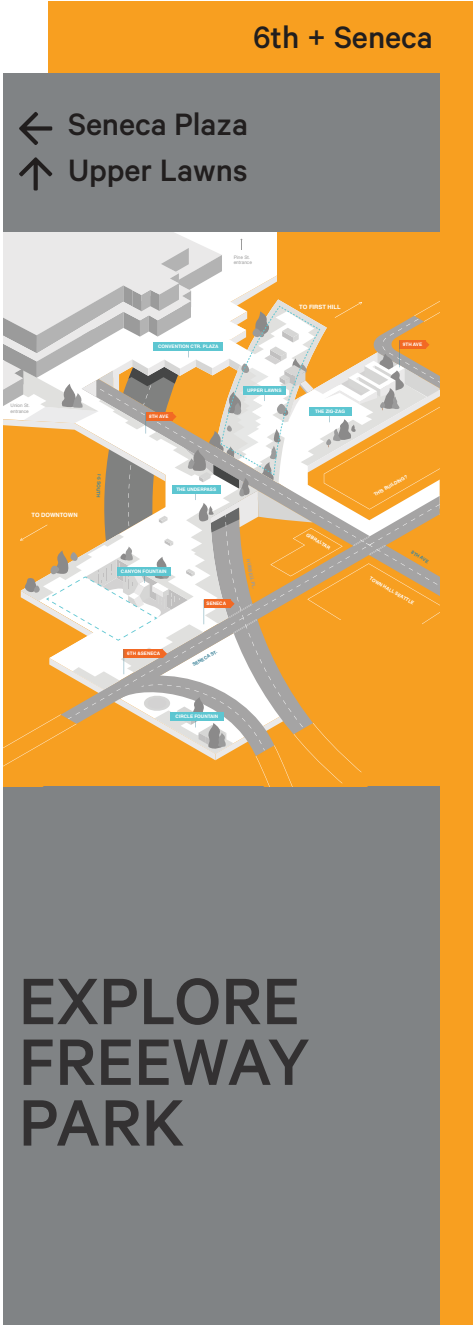
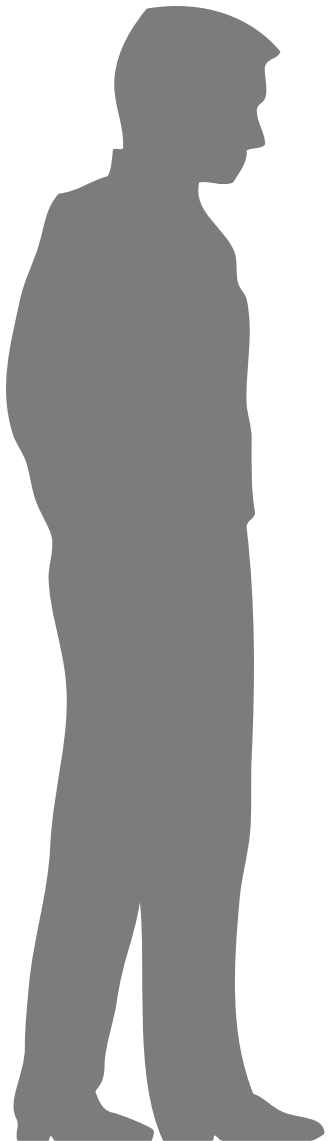
SIGN FAMILY



Primary Park Entrance Marker



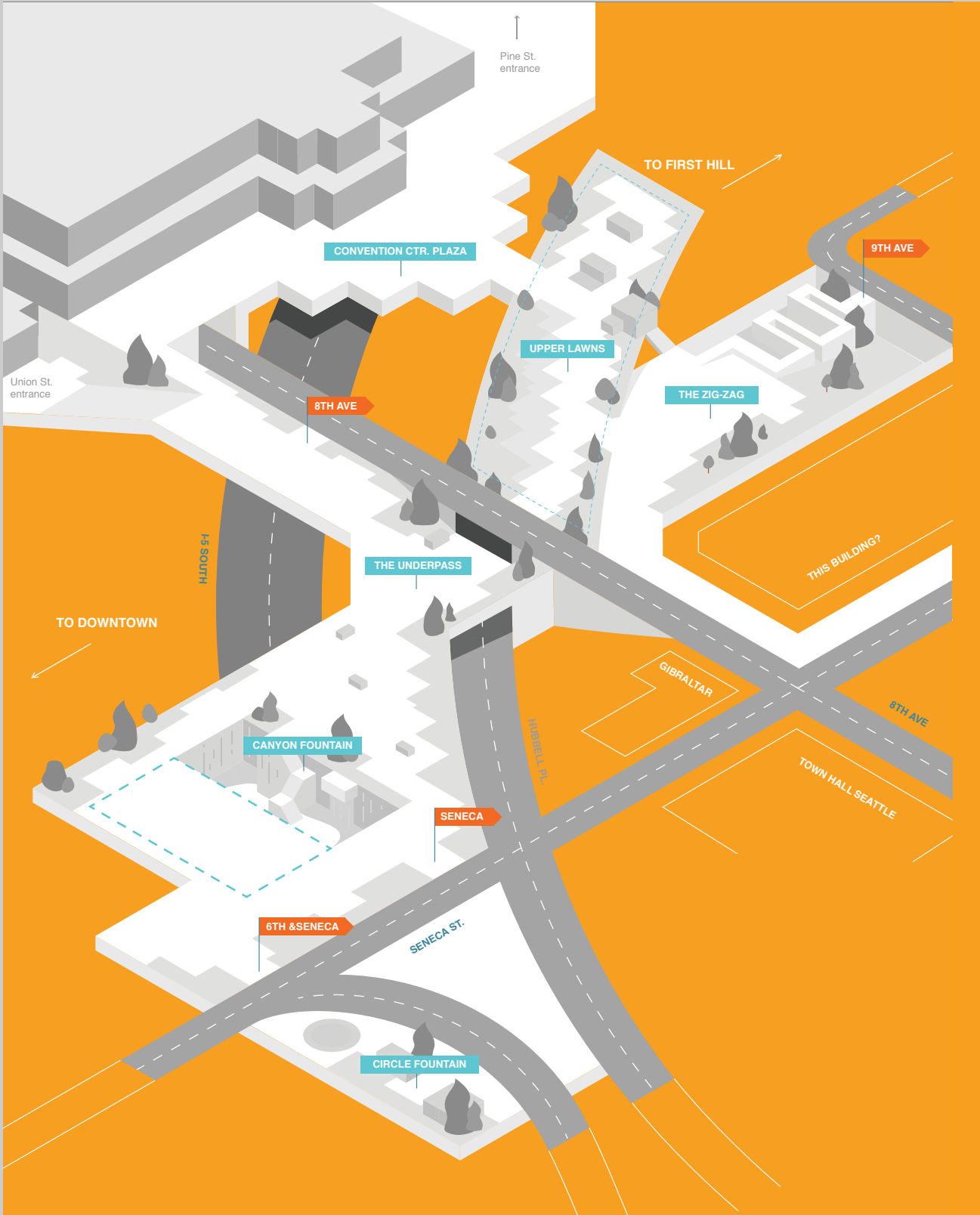
SIGN FAMILY



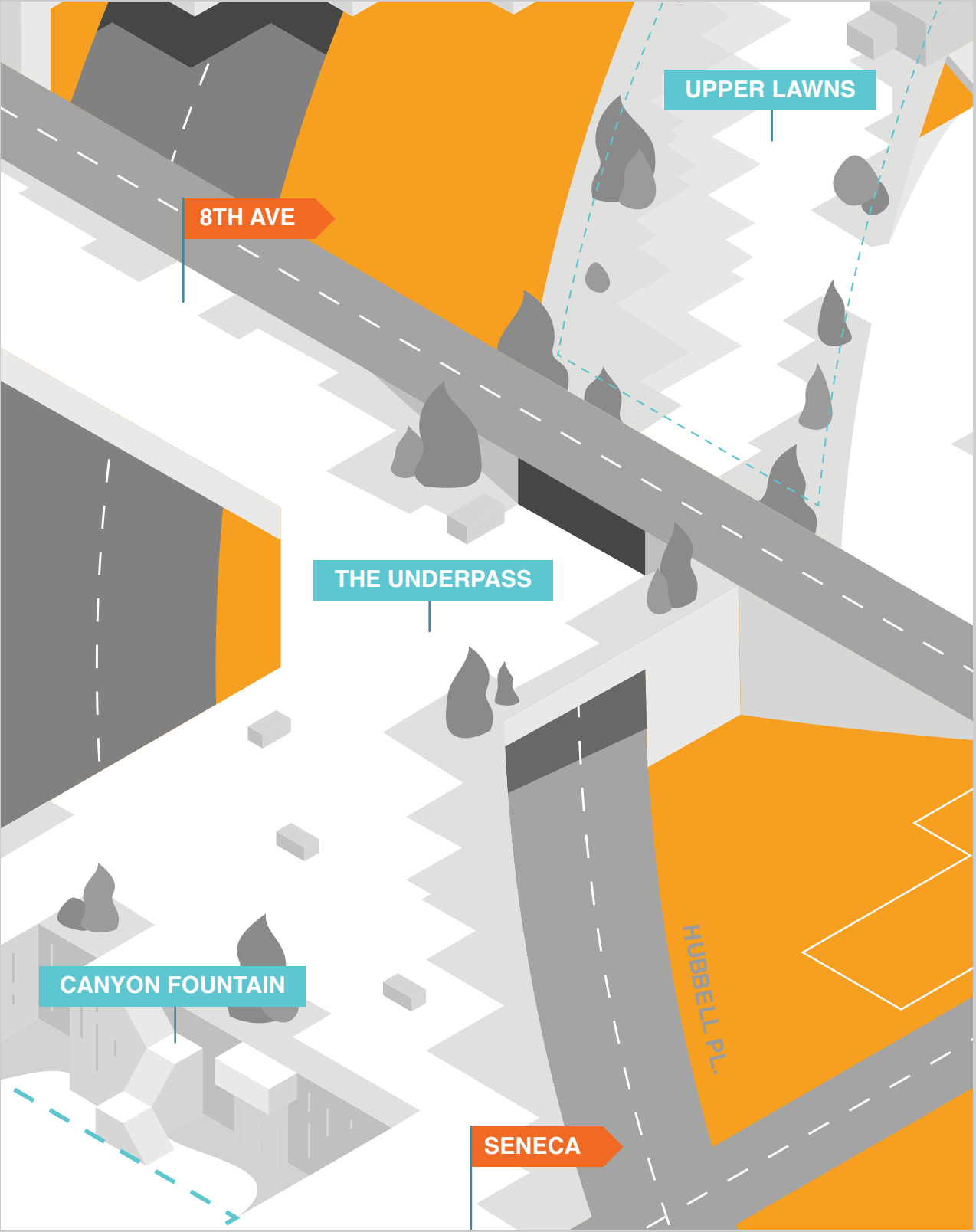
Park Entrance Map Monolith (front)

(reverse side)

MAP DESIGN EXPLORATION

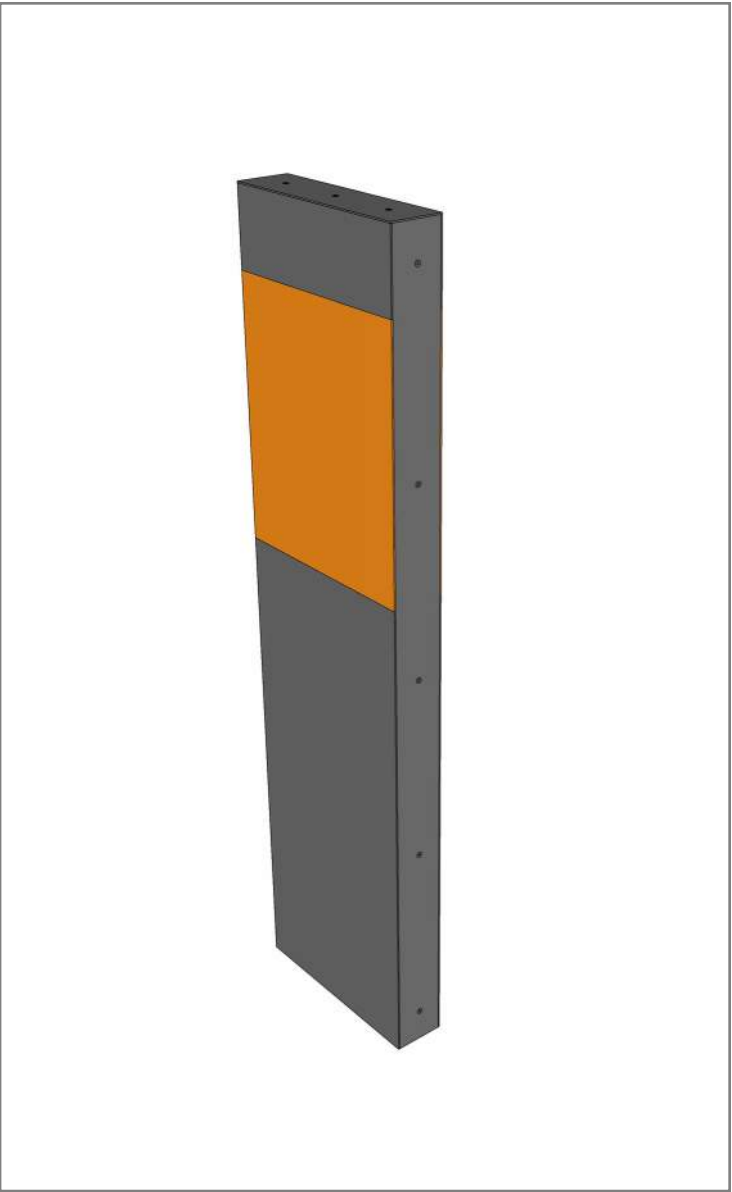
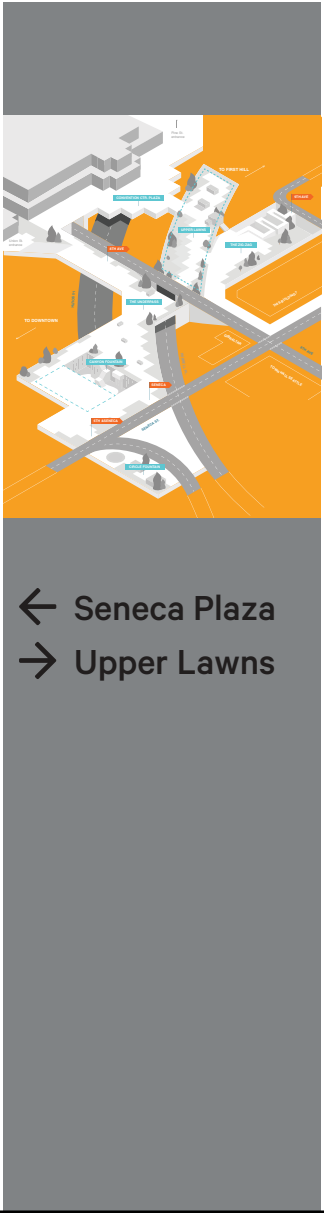
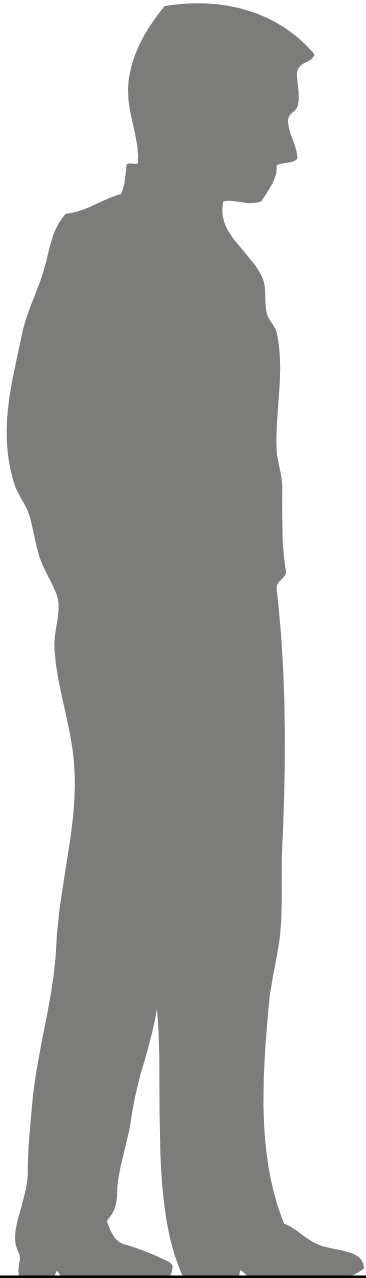


Map Design



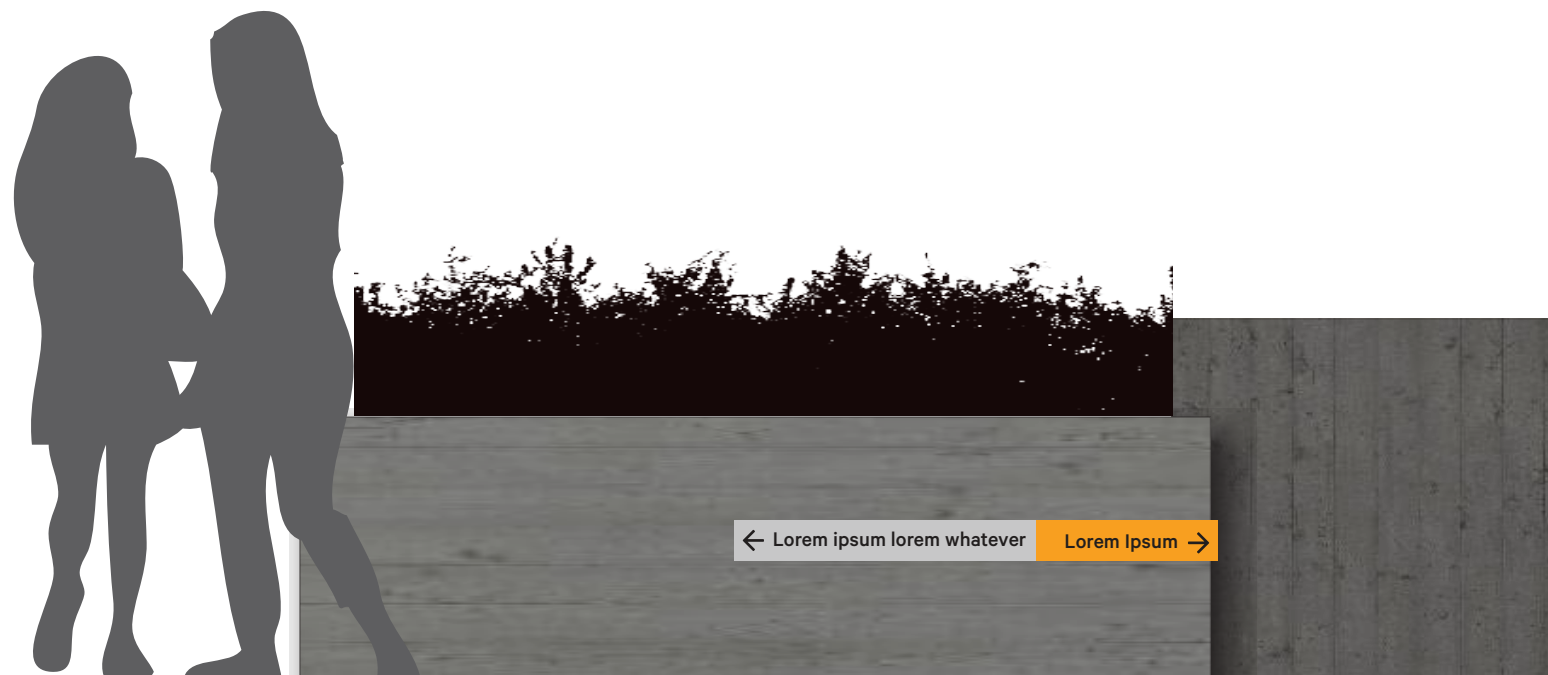
Detail

SIGN FAMILY



Park Interior Map Monolith

SIGN FAMILY



Wayfinding Short Panel



Wayfinding Long Panel

SIGN FAMILY



Interpretation panel, wraps corner

Upper Lawns

Pigott Corridor*

Convention Center*

8th Avenue Entrance
(Park Center)

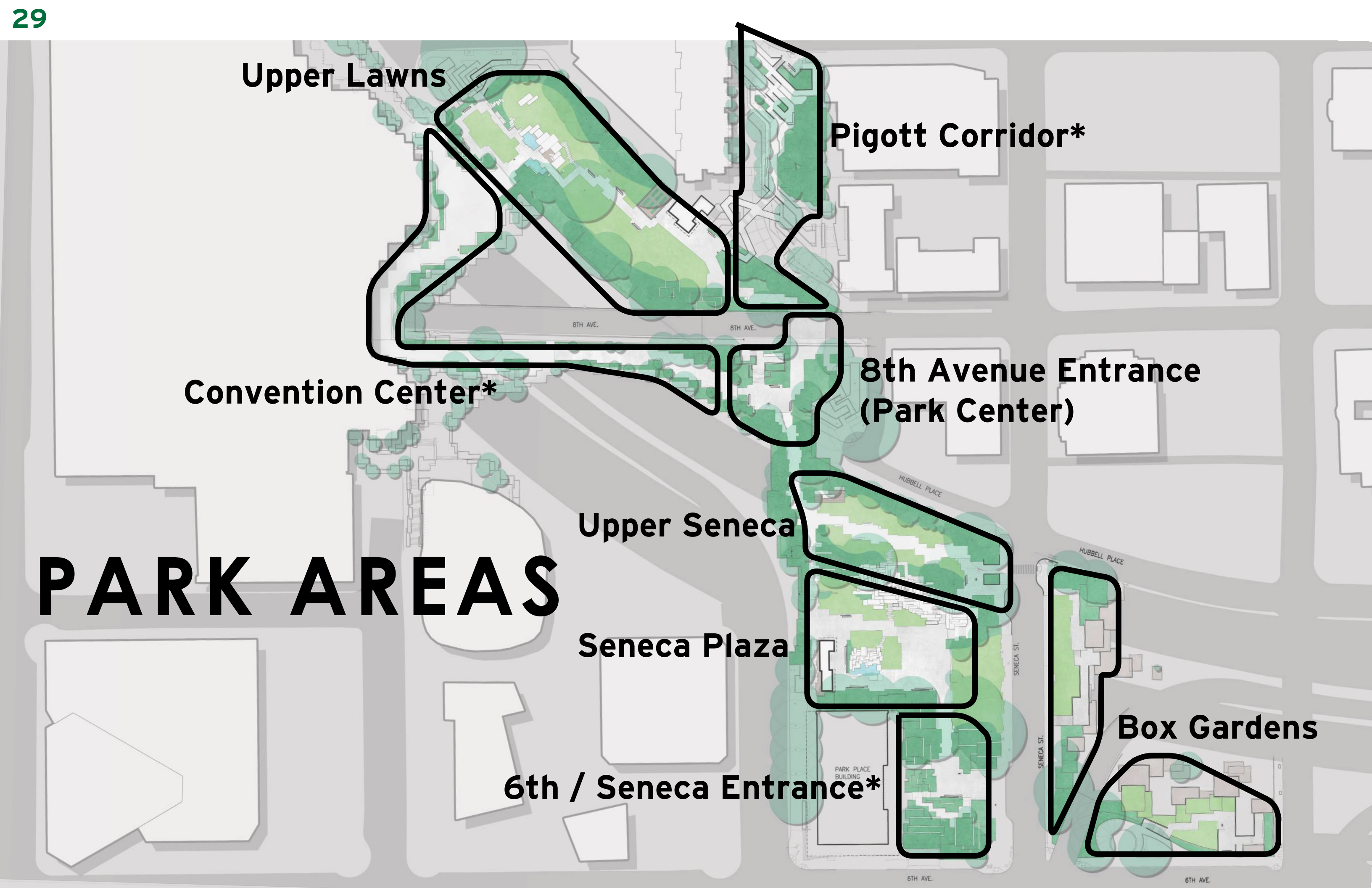
PARK AREAS

Upper Seneca

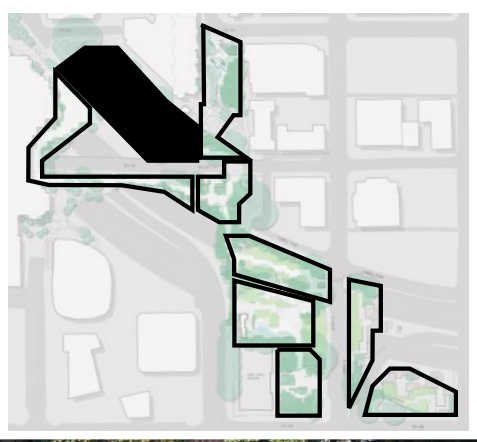
Seneca Plaza

6th / Seneca Entrance*

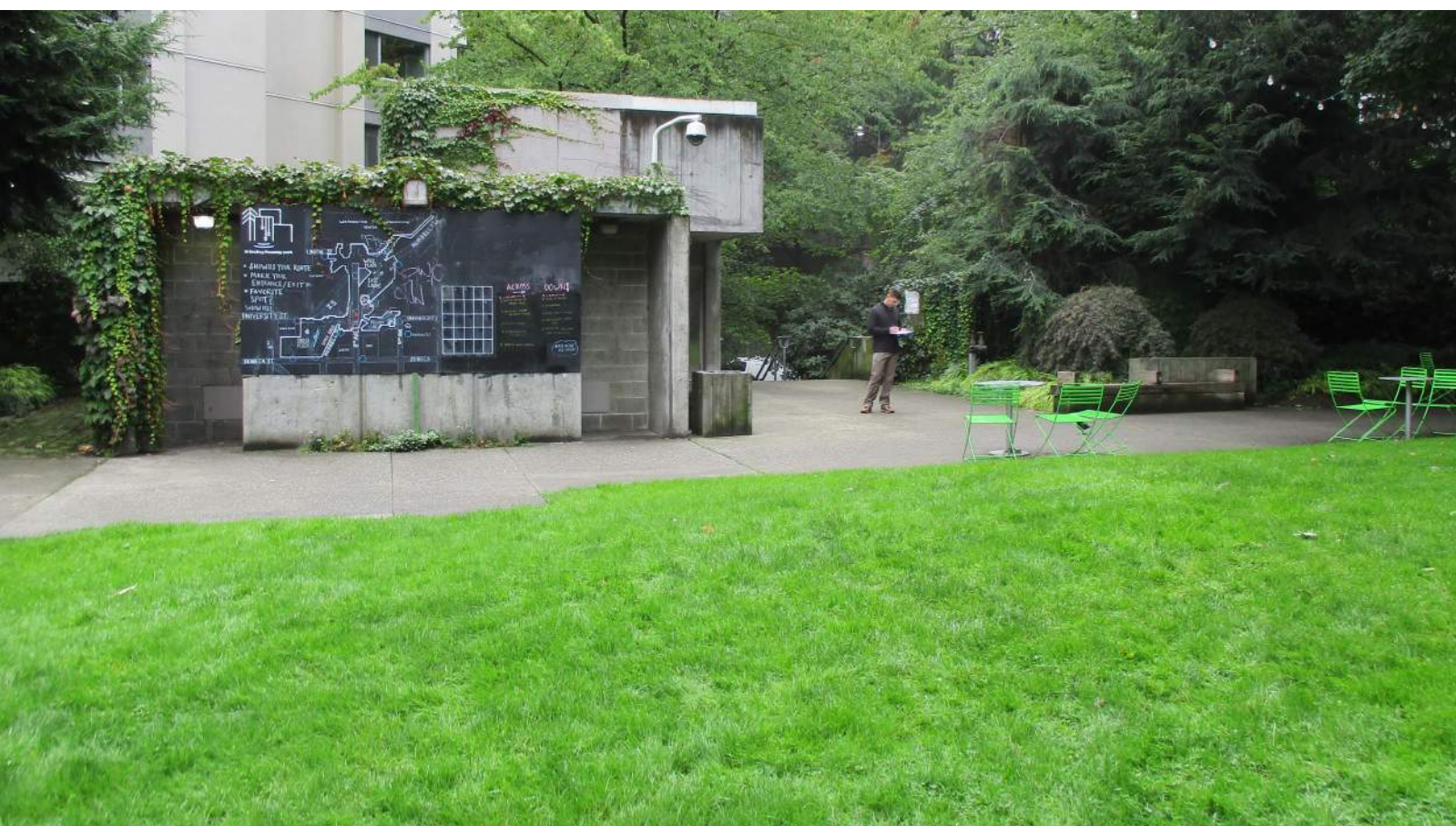
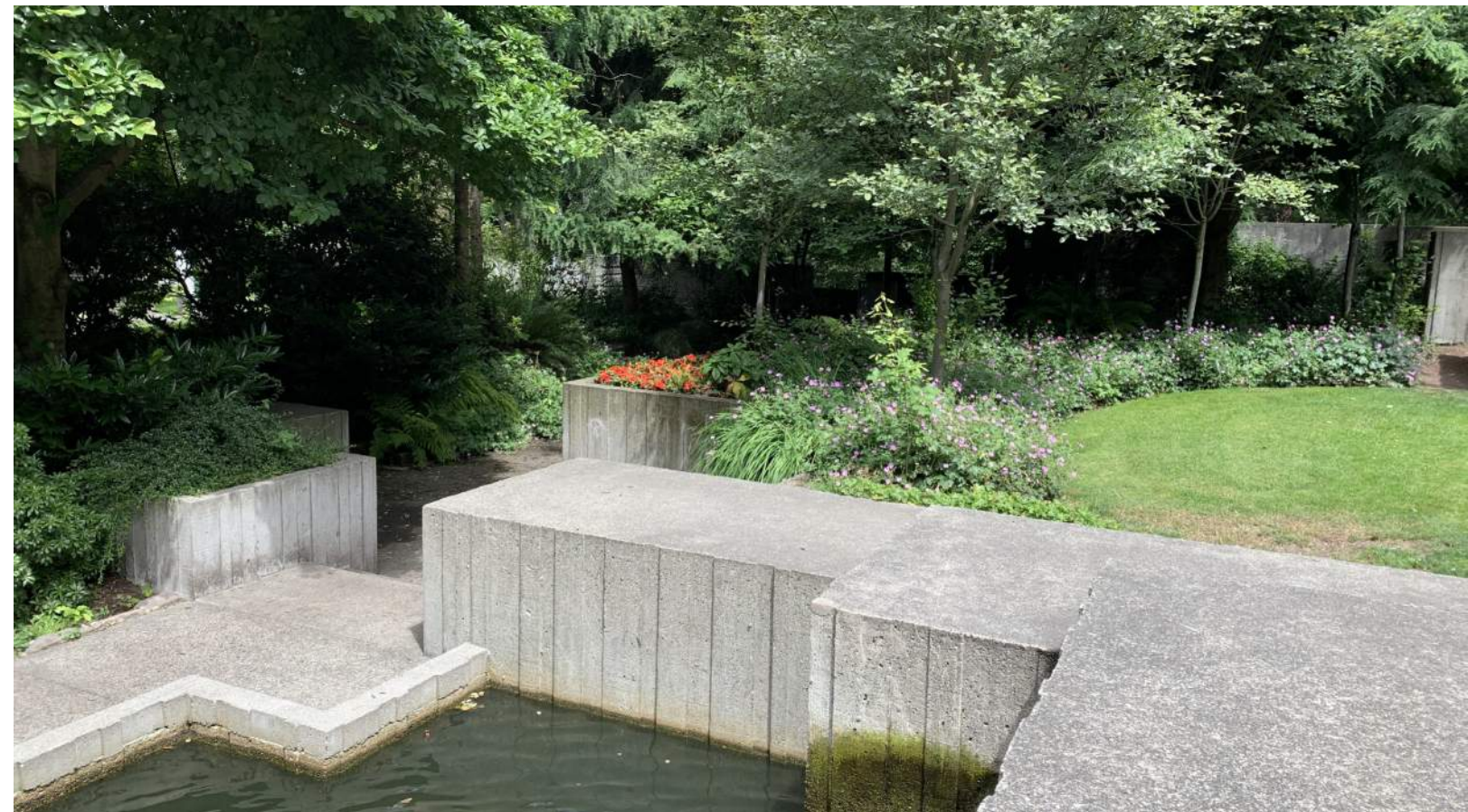
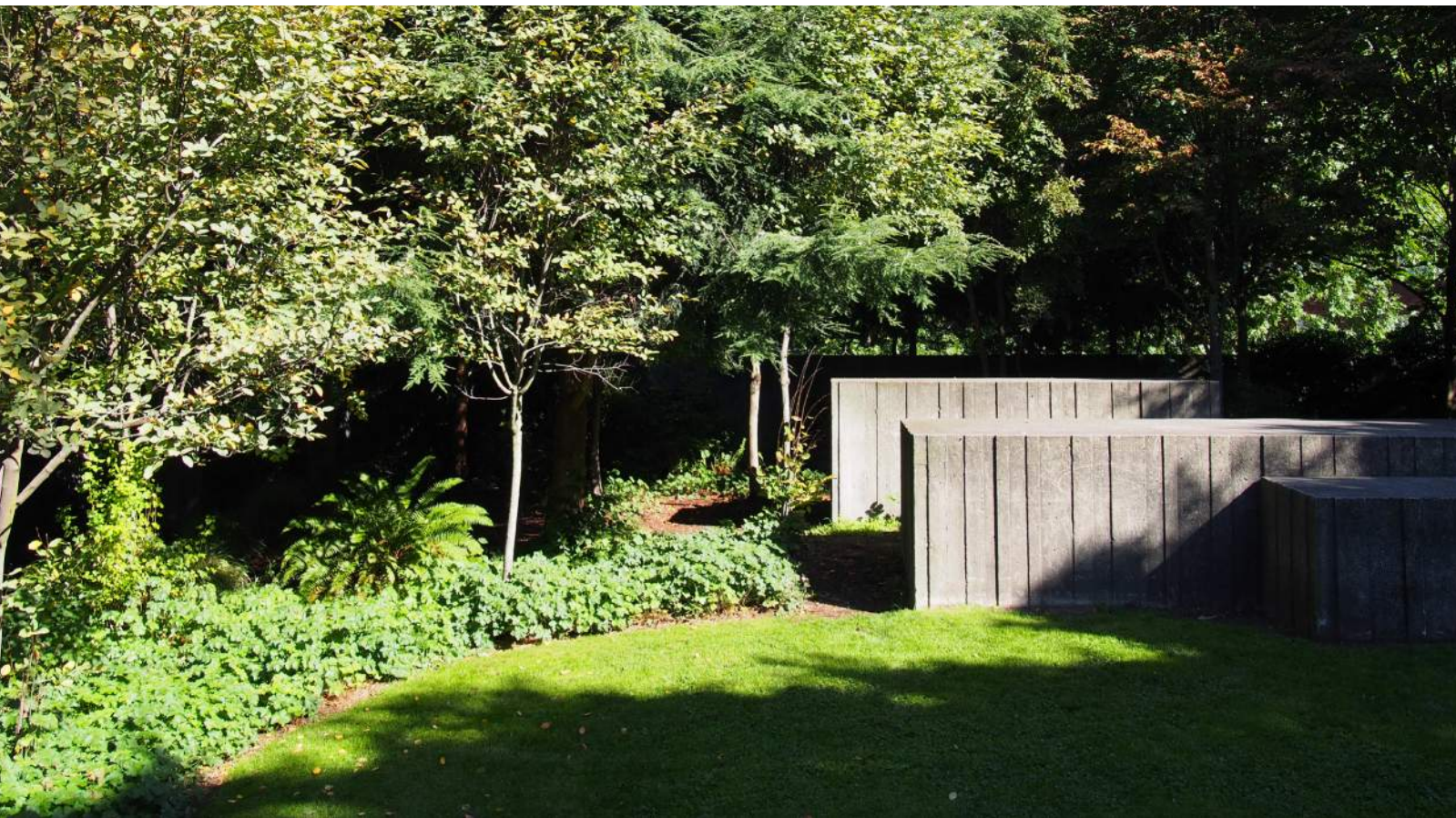
Box Gardens



UPPER LAWNS



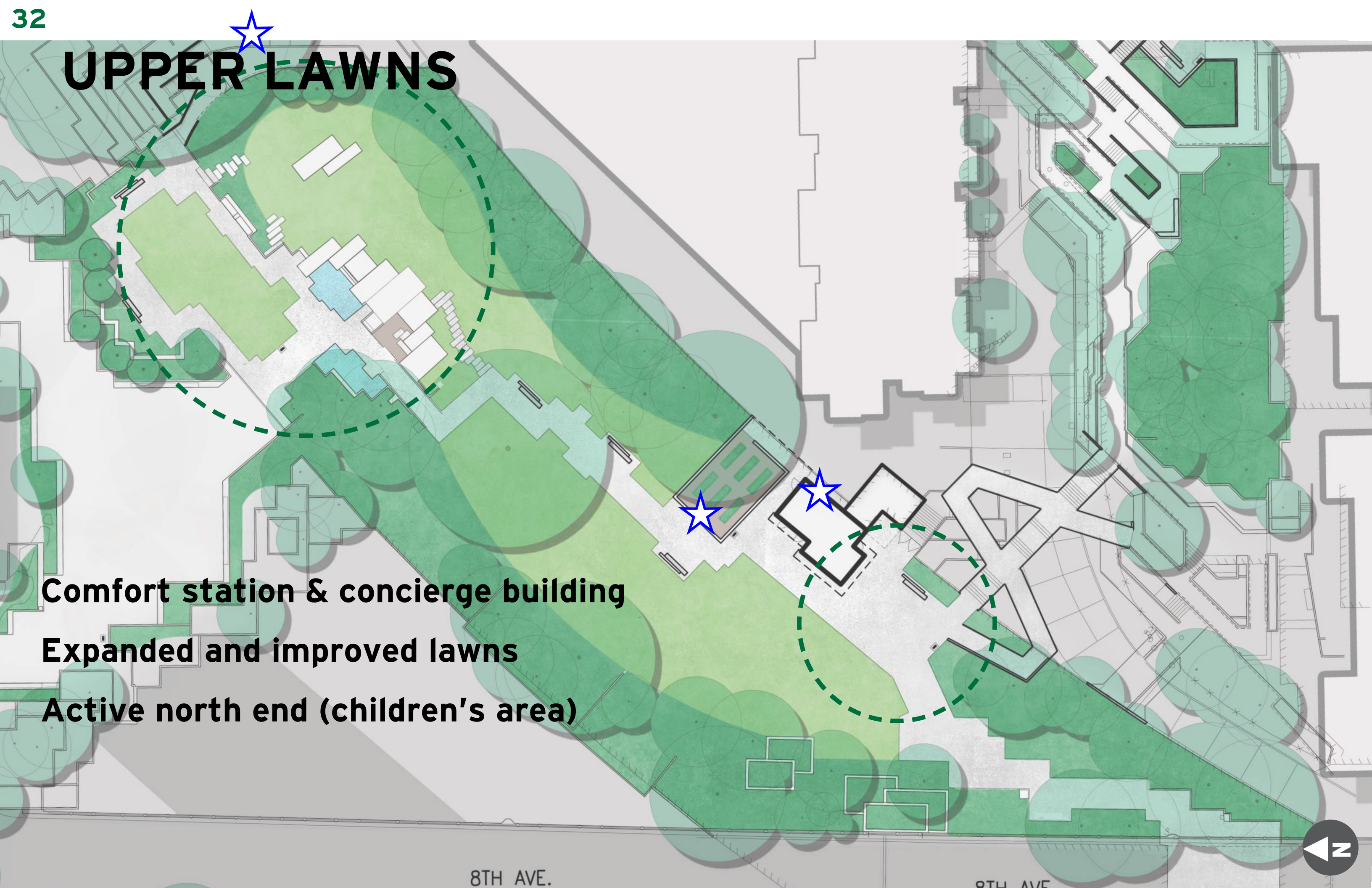
UPPER LAWNS





UPPER LAWNS

Comfort station & concierge building
Expanded and improved lawns
Active north end (children's area)



8TH AVE.

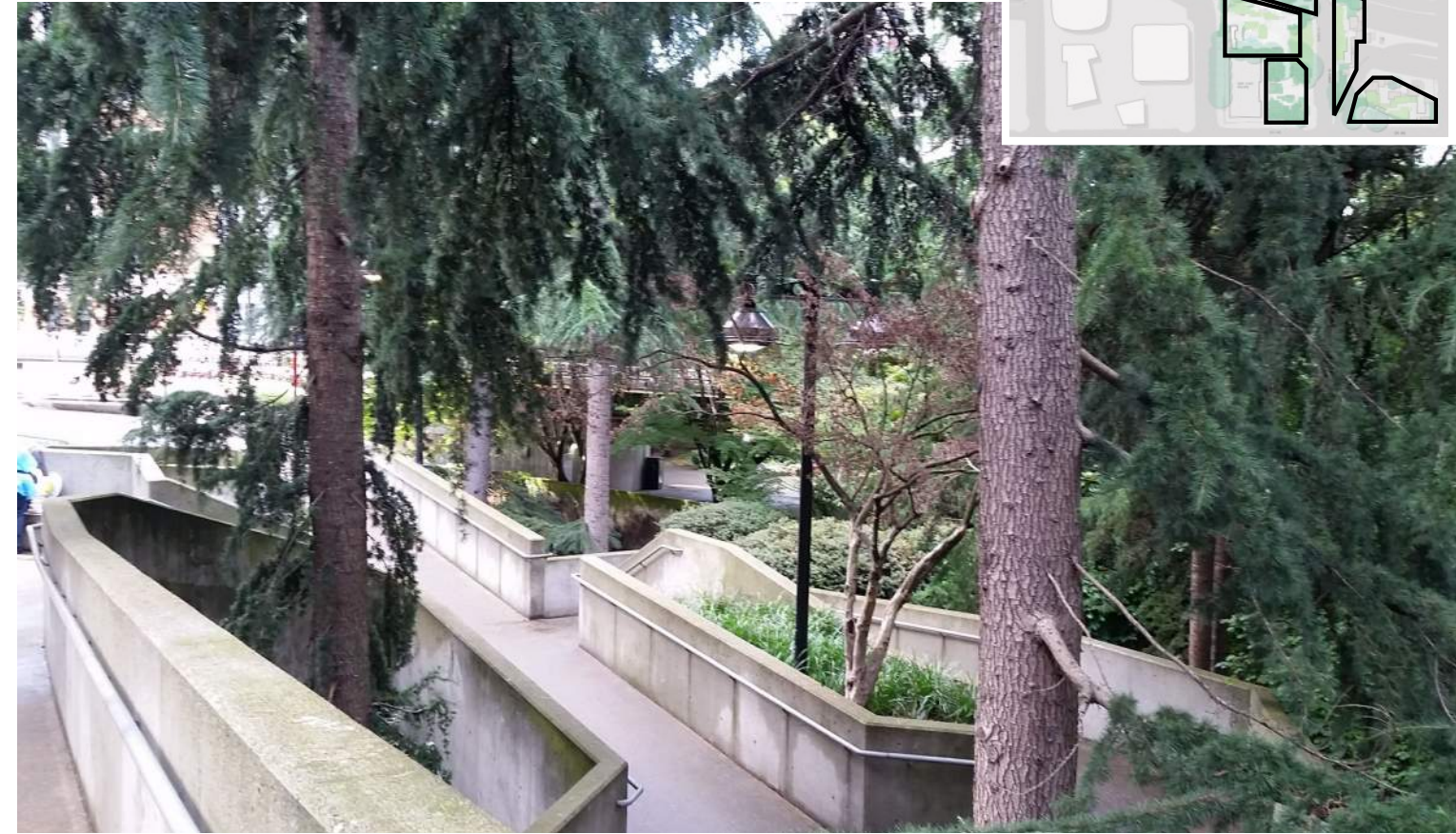
8TH AVE.



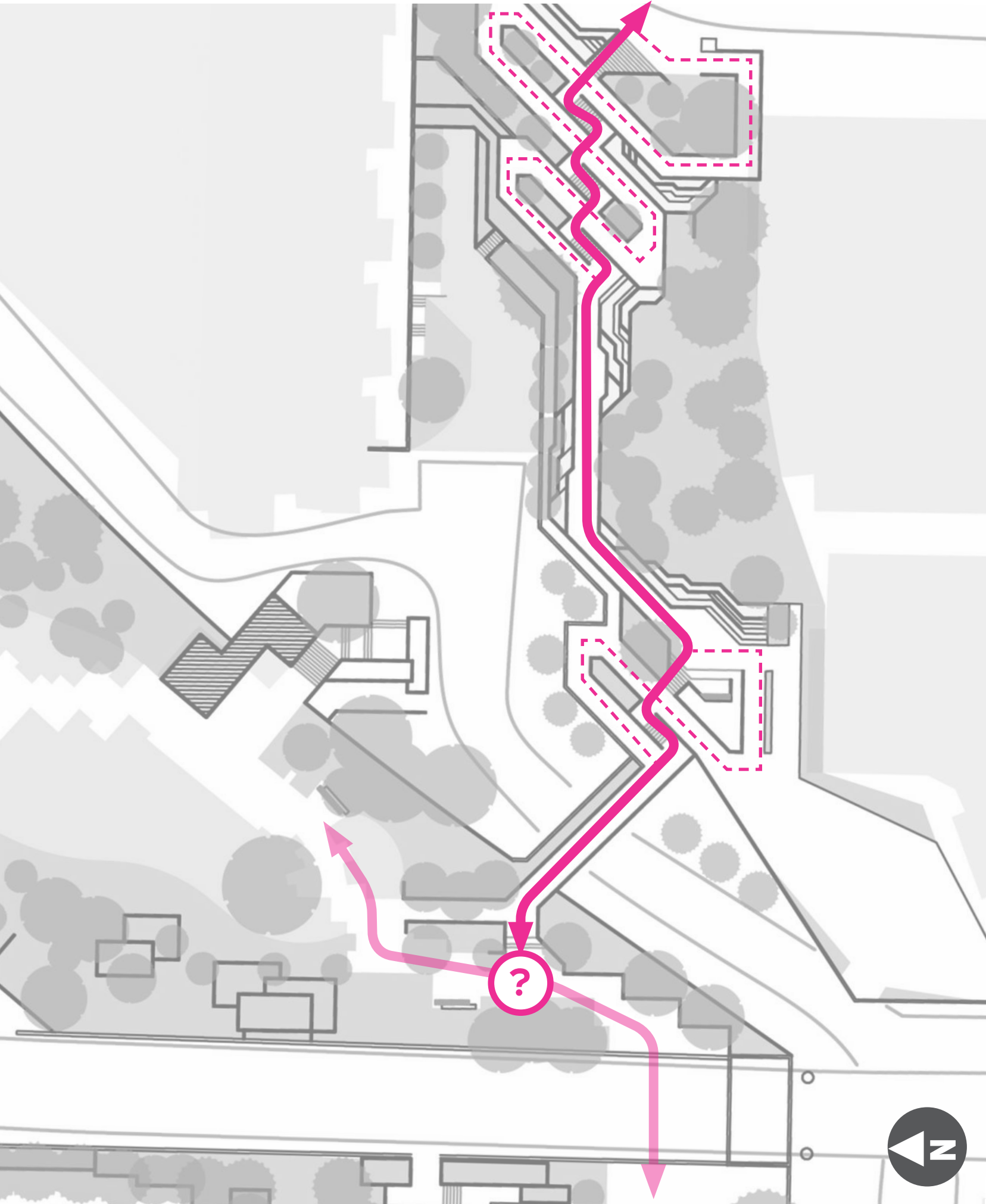
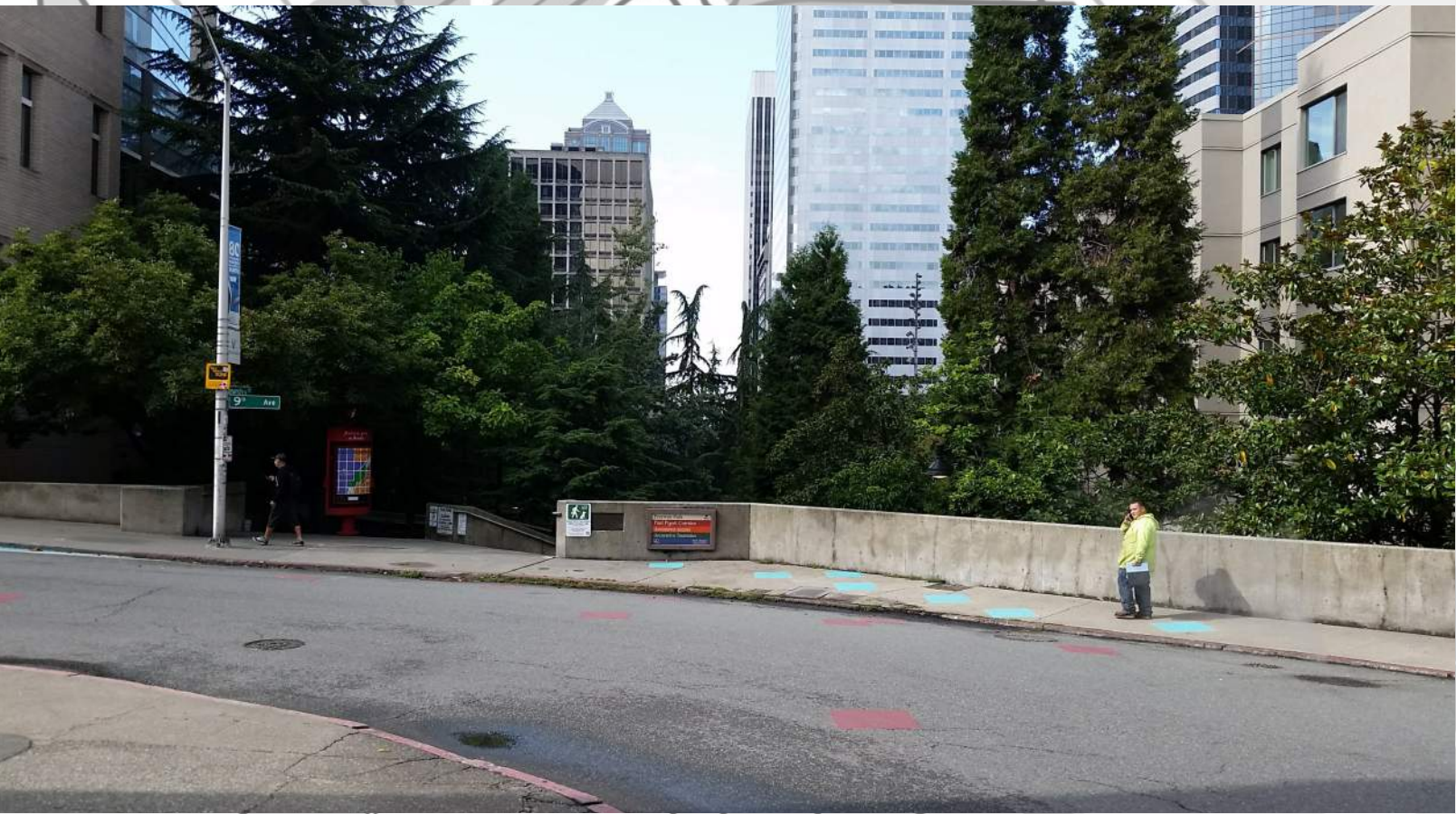
UPPER LAWNS



PIGOTT CORRIDOR



EXISTING



PIGOTT CORRIDOR

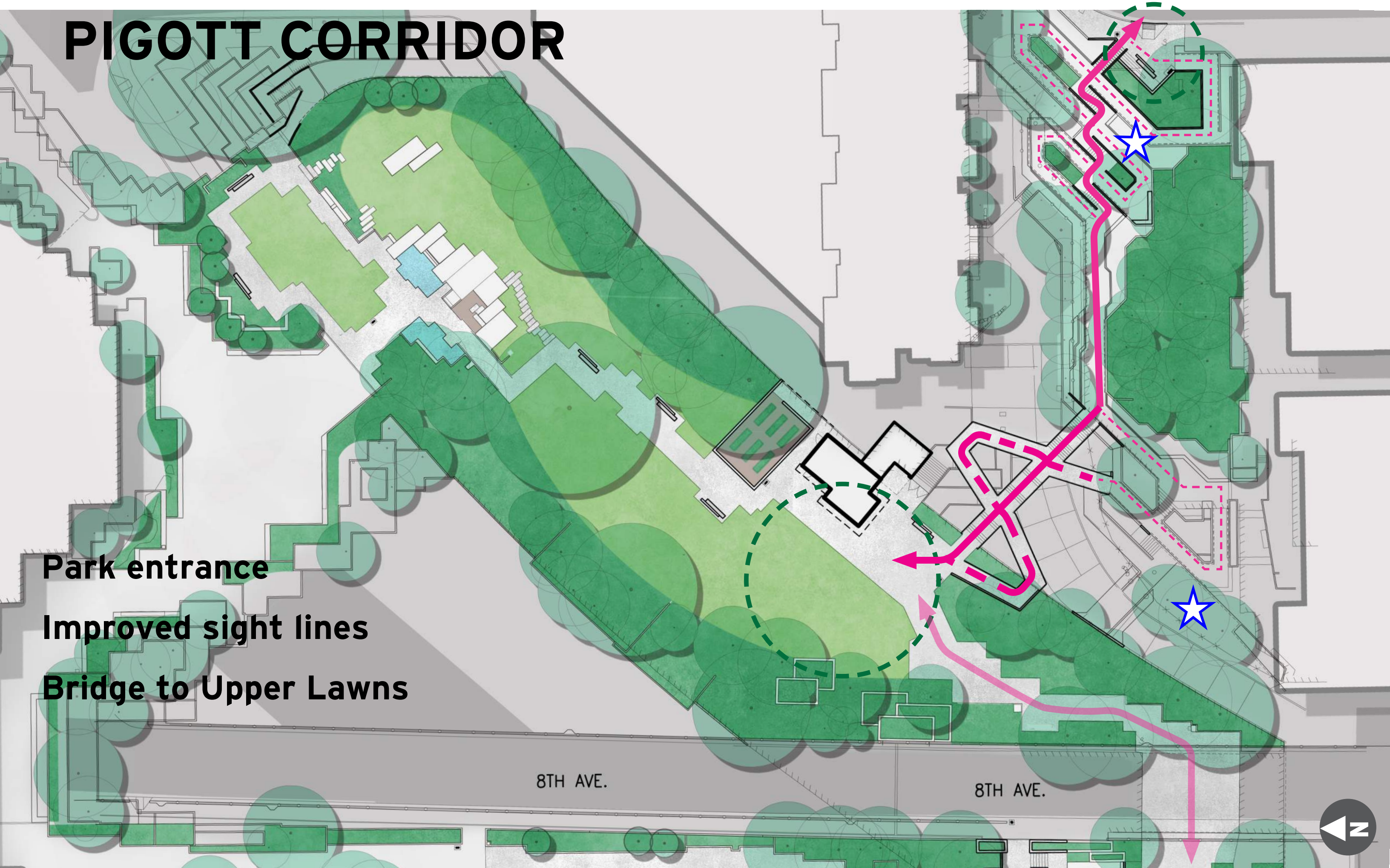
Park entrance

Improved sight lines

Bridge to Upper Lawns

8TH AVE.

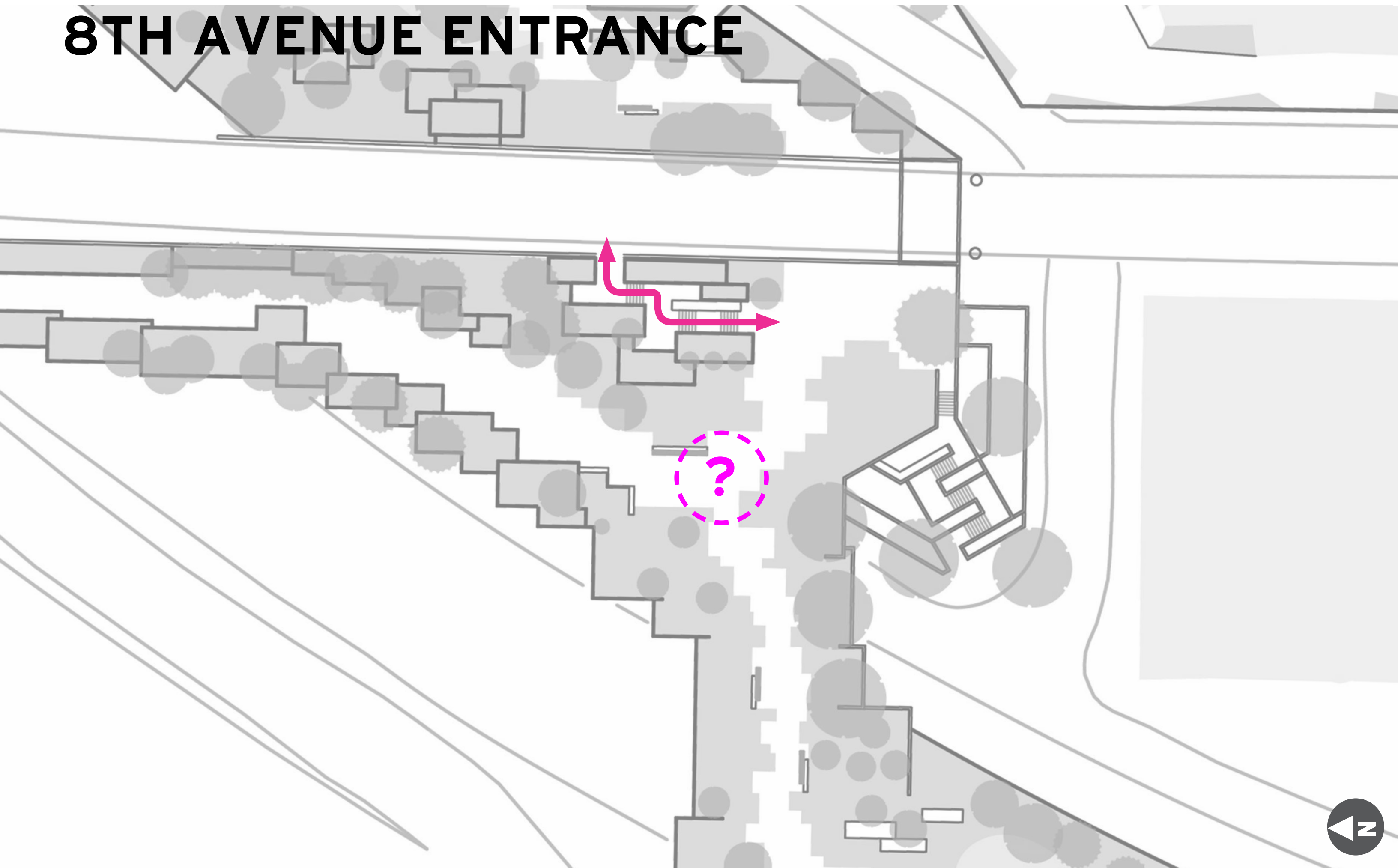
8TH AVE.



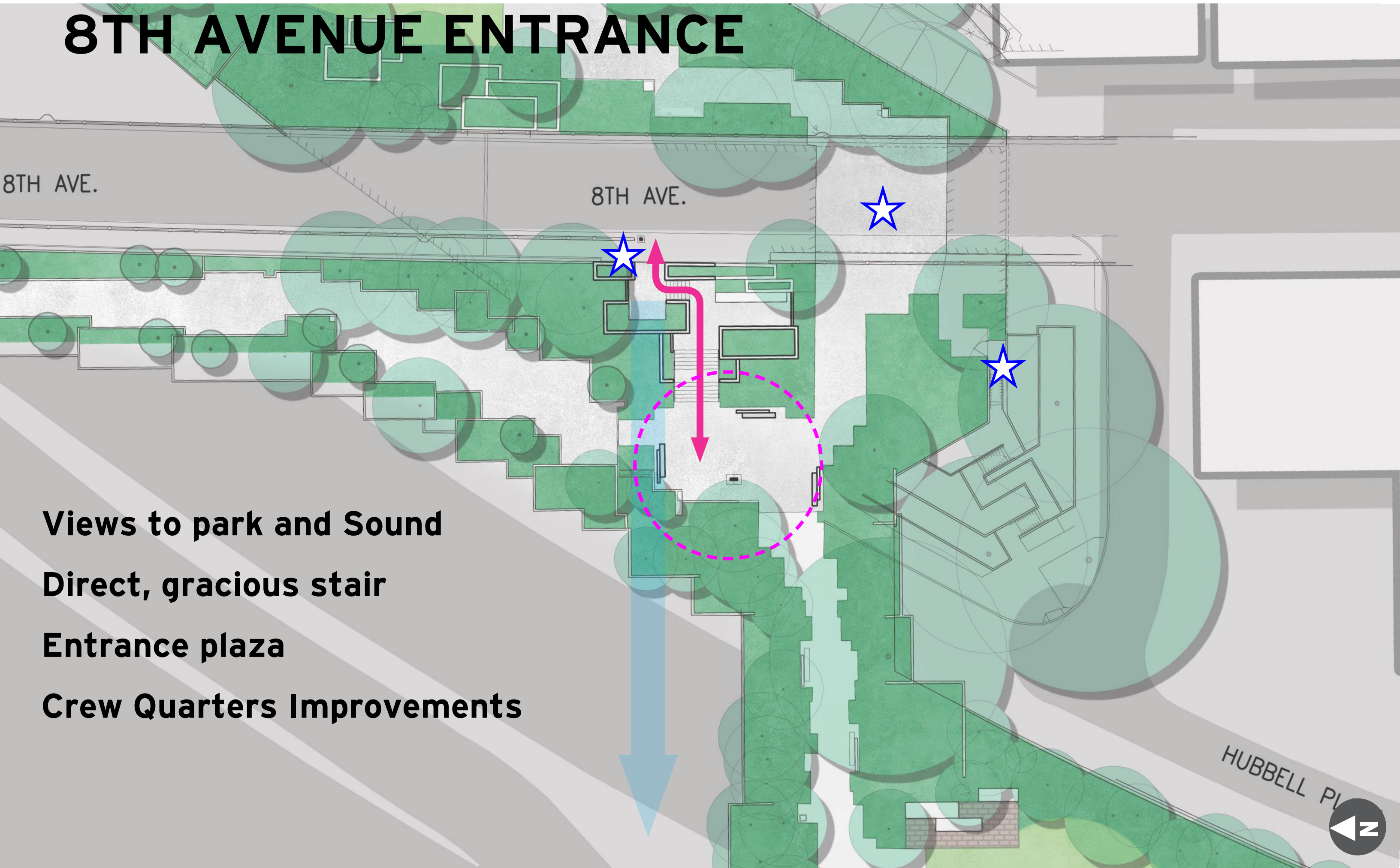
8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



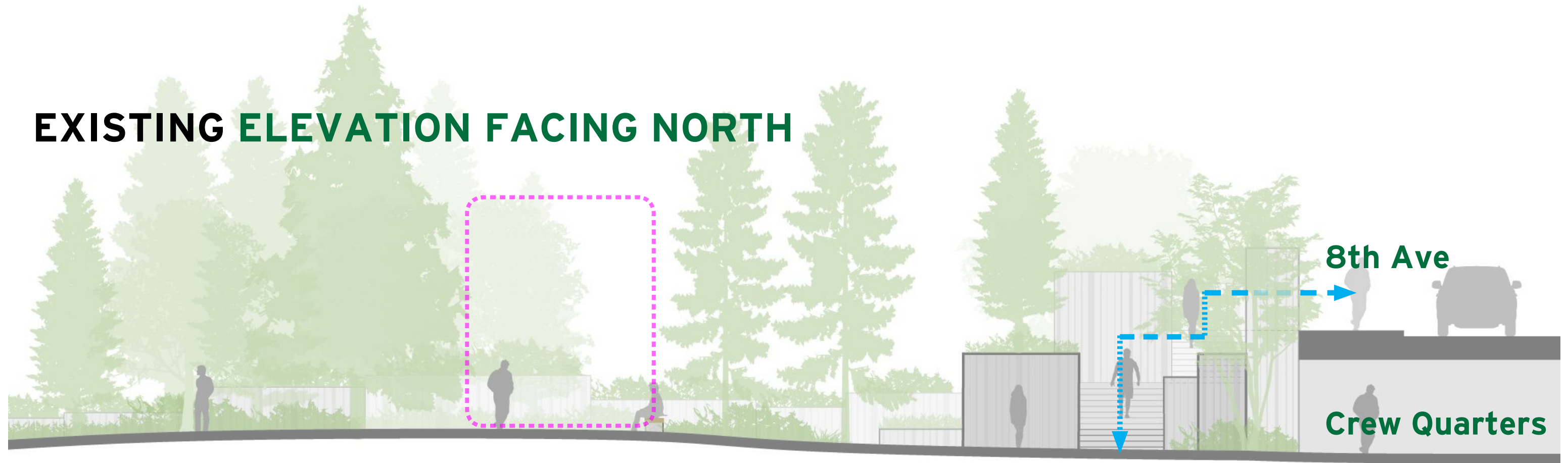
8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



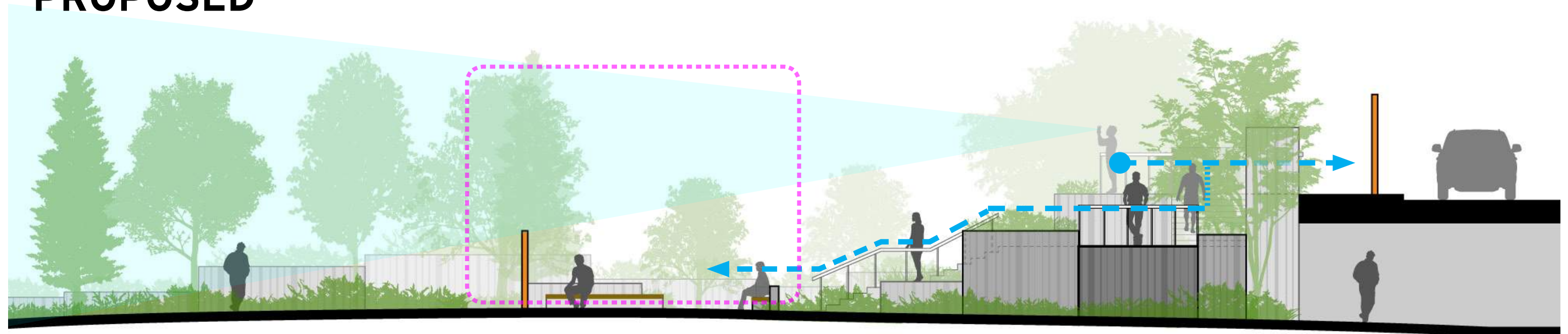
- Views to park and Sound**
- Direct, gracious stair**
- Entrance plaza**
- Crew Quarters Improvements**



EXISTING ELEVATION FACING NORTH



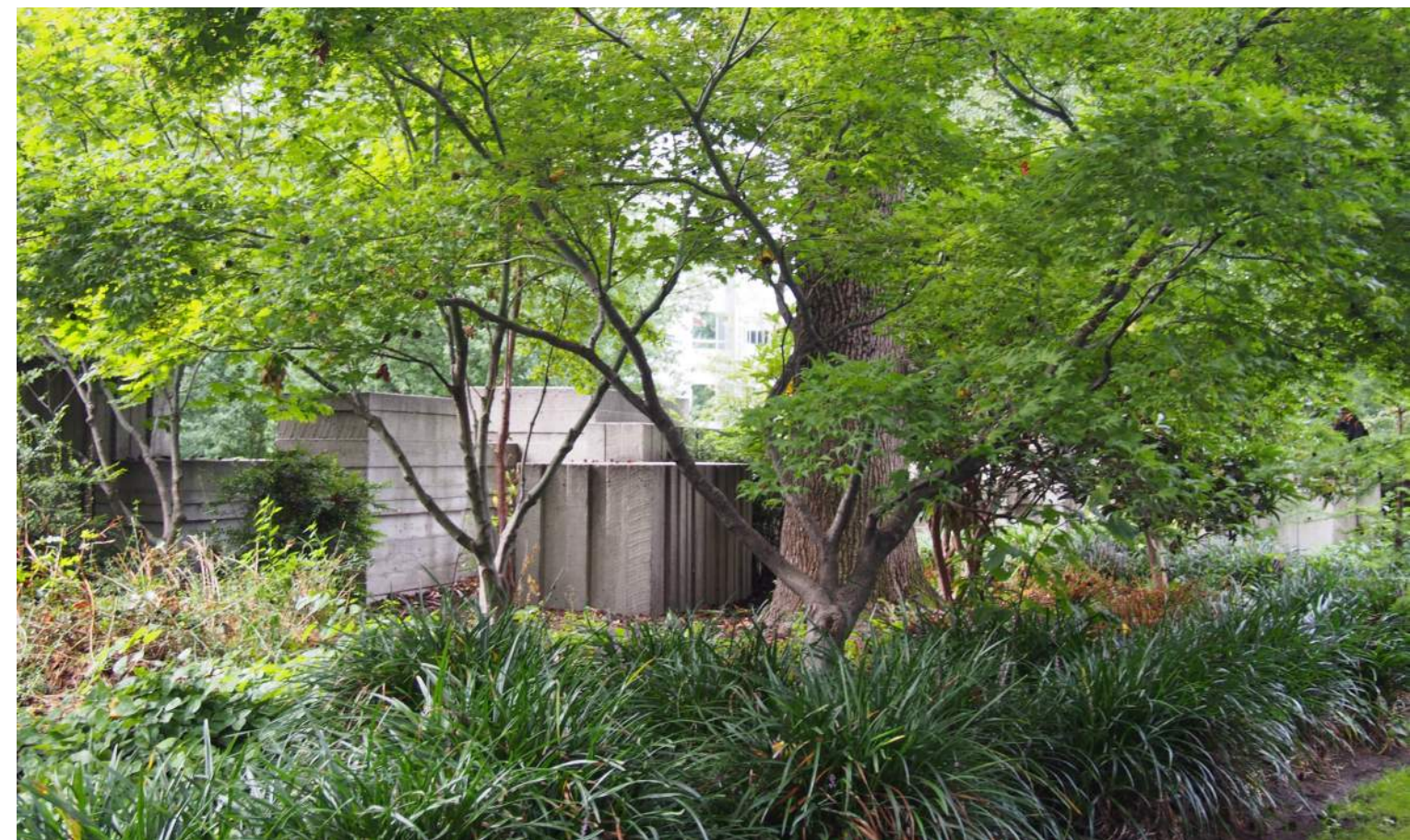
PROPOSED



UPPER SENECA



forest walk



UPPER SENECA

Improved entrance

Upper Canyon view points

Vehicle access

Loading stall



SENECA PLAZA



SENECA PLAZA



SENECA PLAZA



EXISTING



SENECA PLAZA

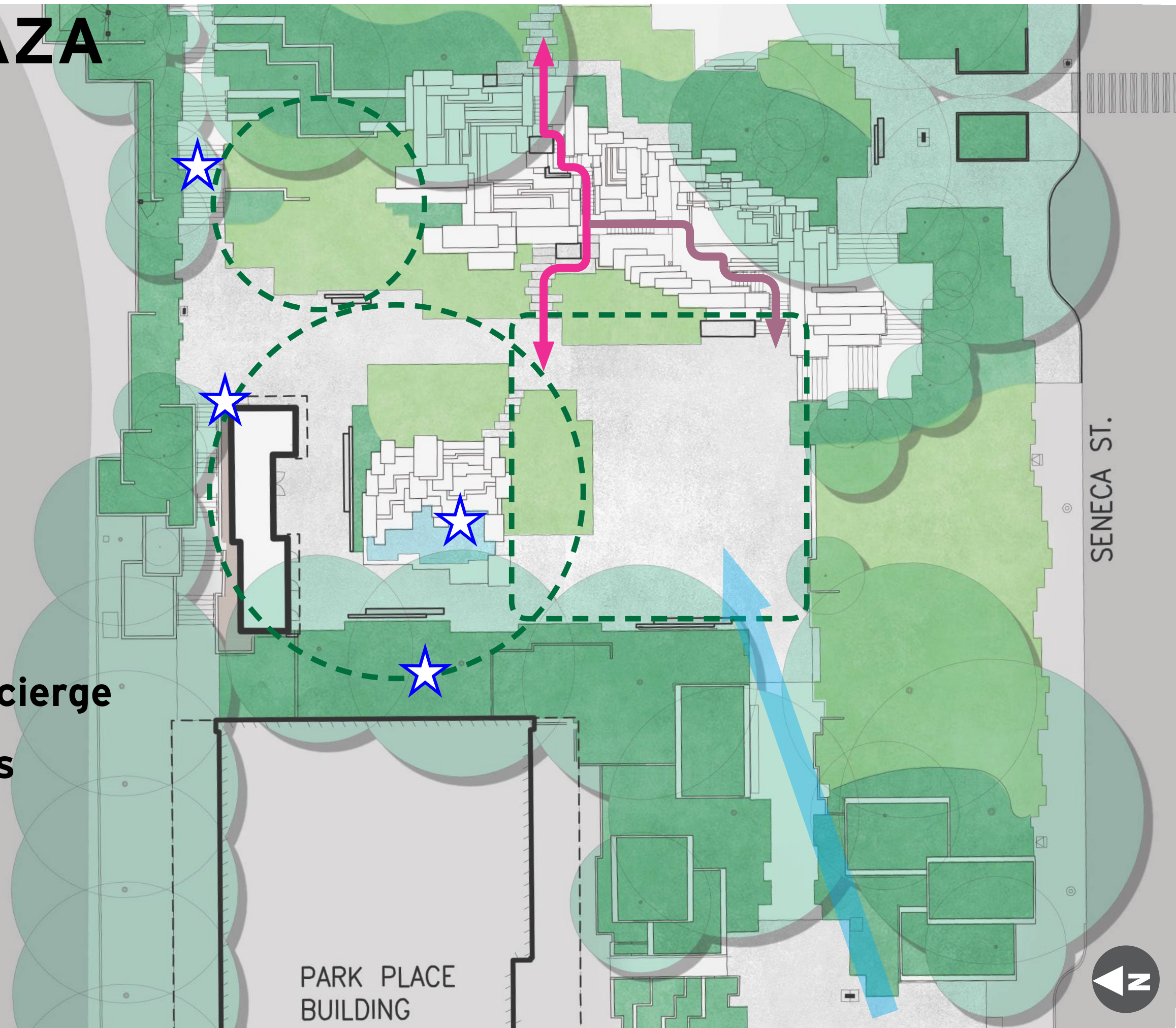
Open plaza

Comfort station & concierge

Cascade improvements

Canyon access & lawn

Sight lines



PARK PLACE
BUILDING

SENECA ST.



SENECA PLAZA



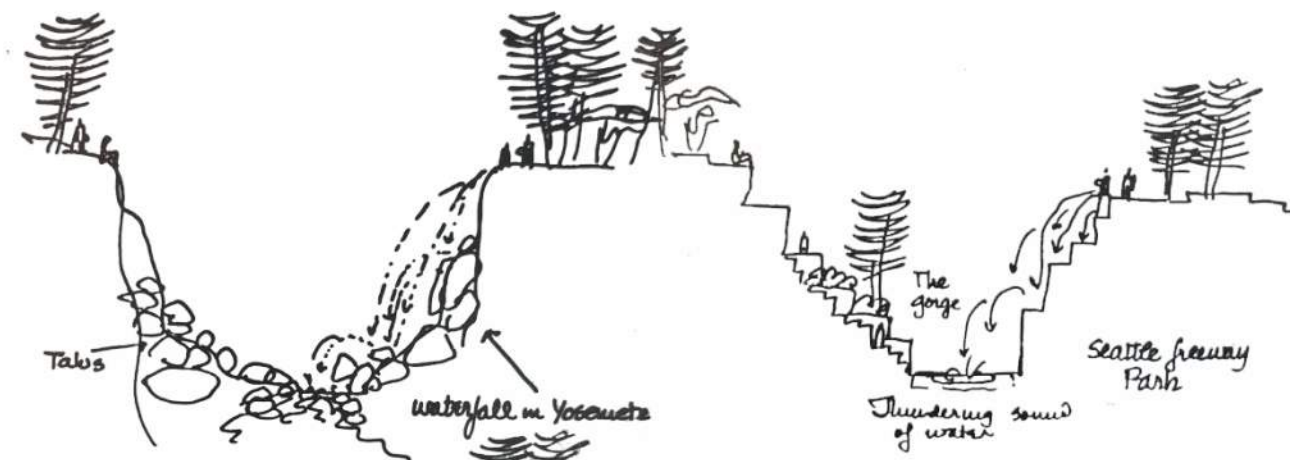
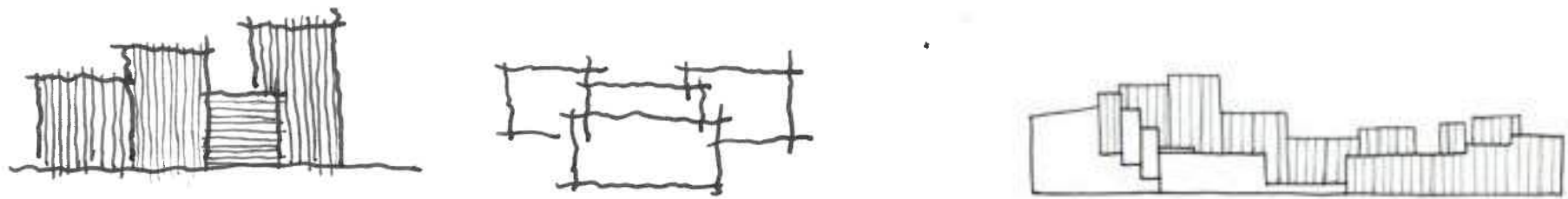
SENECA PLAZA



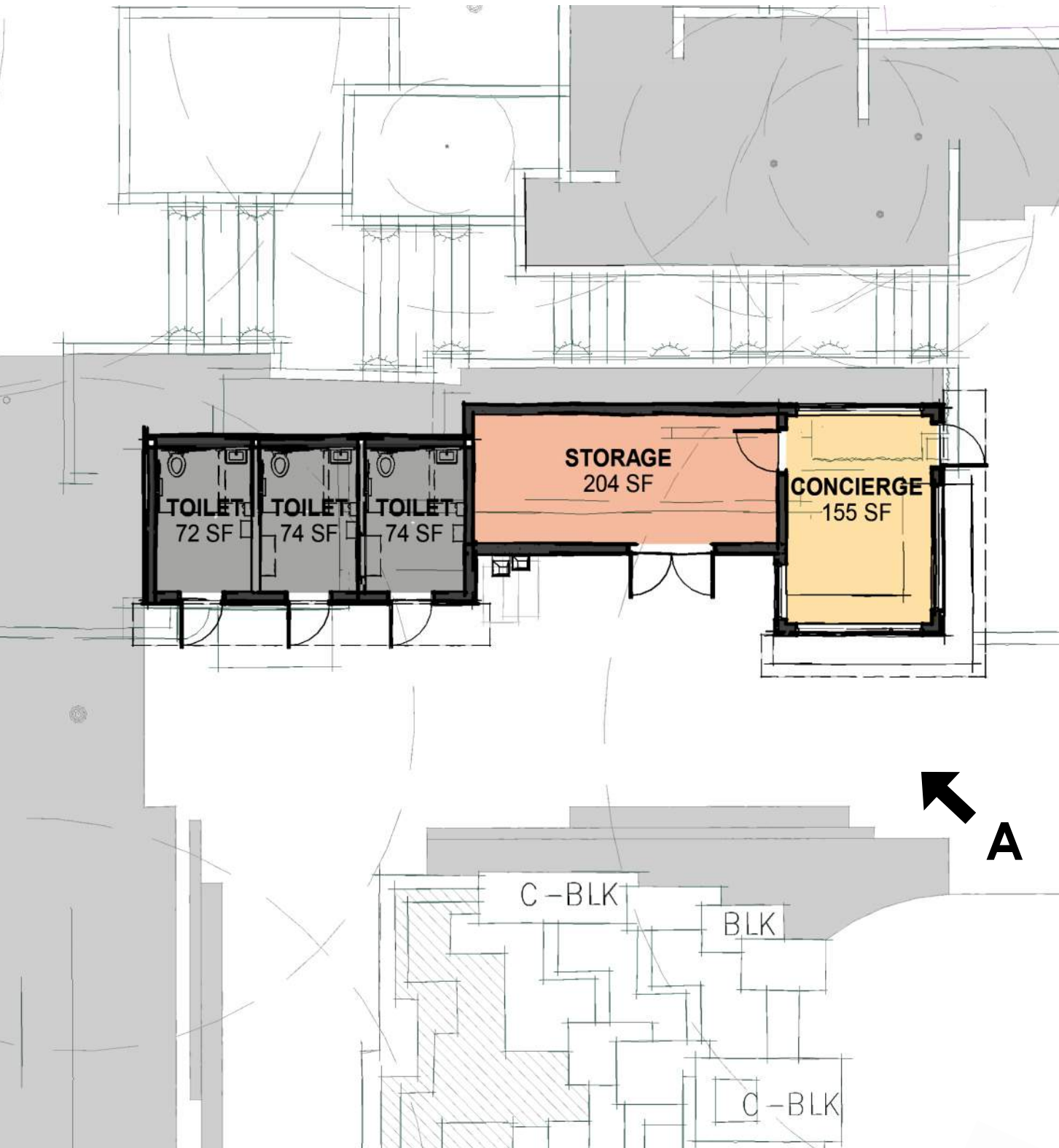
BUILDINGS



INSPIRATION



DESIGN / SENECA PLAZA OPTION 1



FIRST FLOOR PLAN @ SENECA PLAZA OPTION 1
1'=10'-0"



BOARD FORM CONCRETE

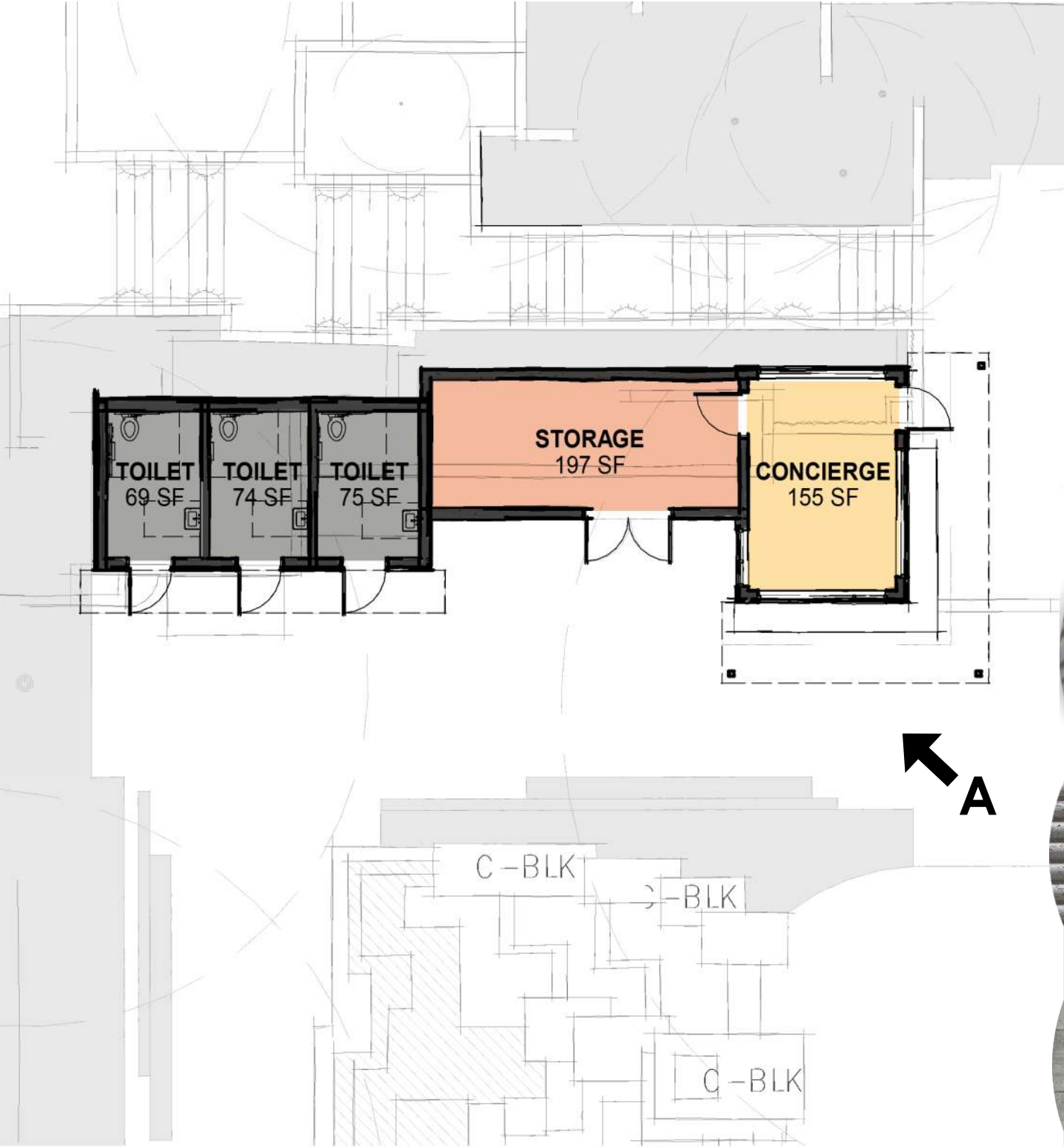


METAL PANEL

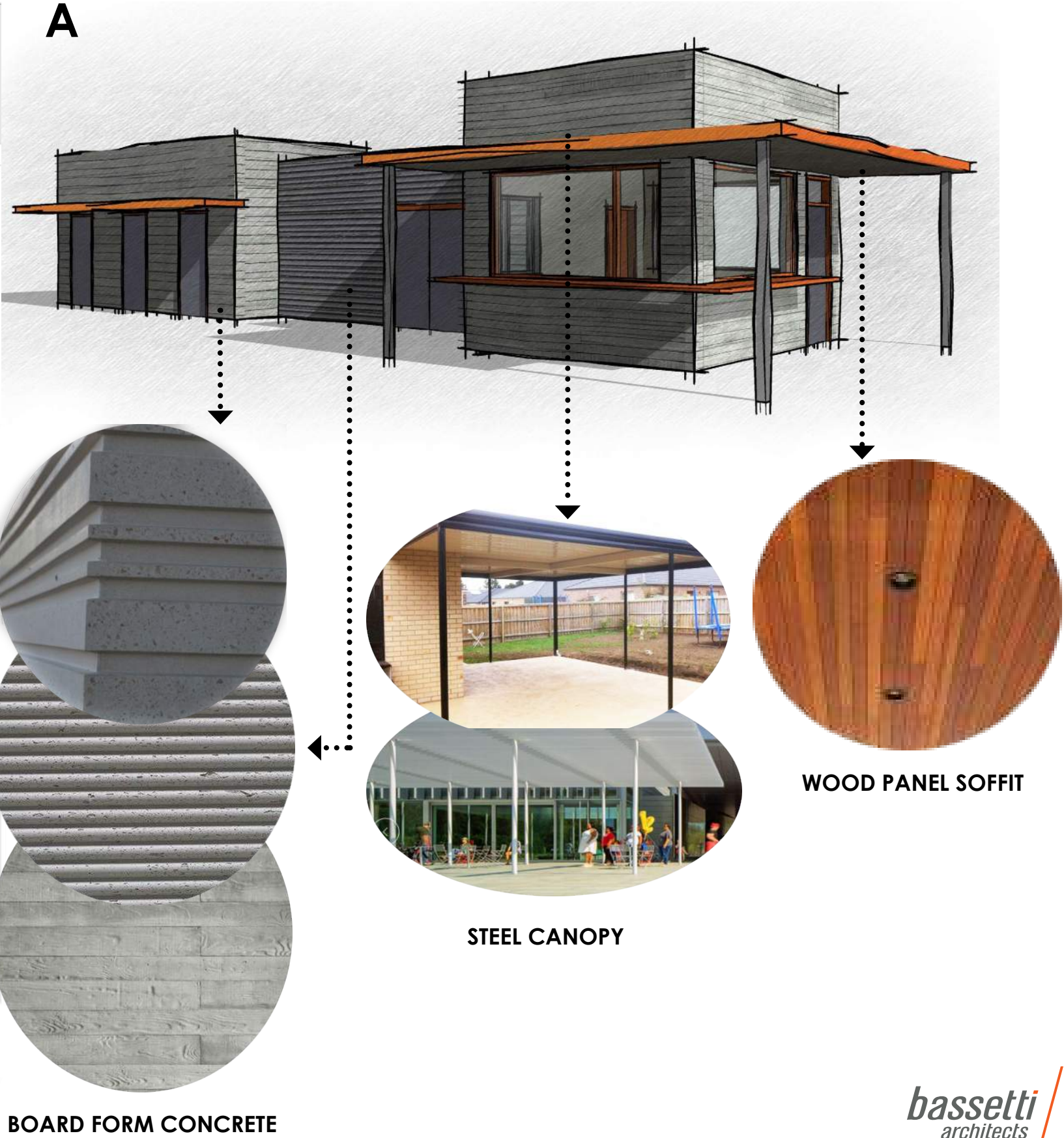


STEEL CANOPY

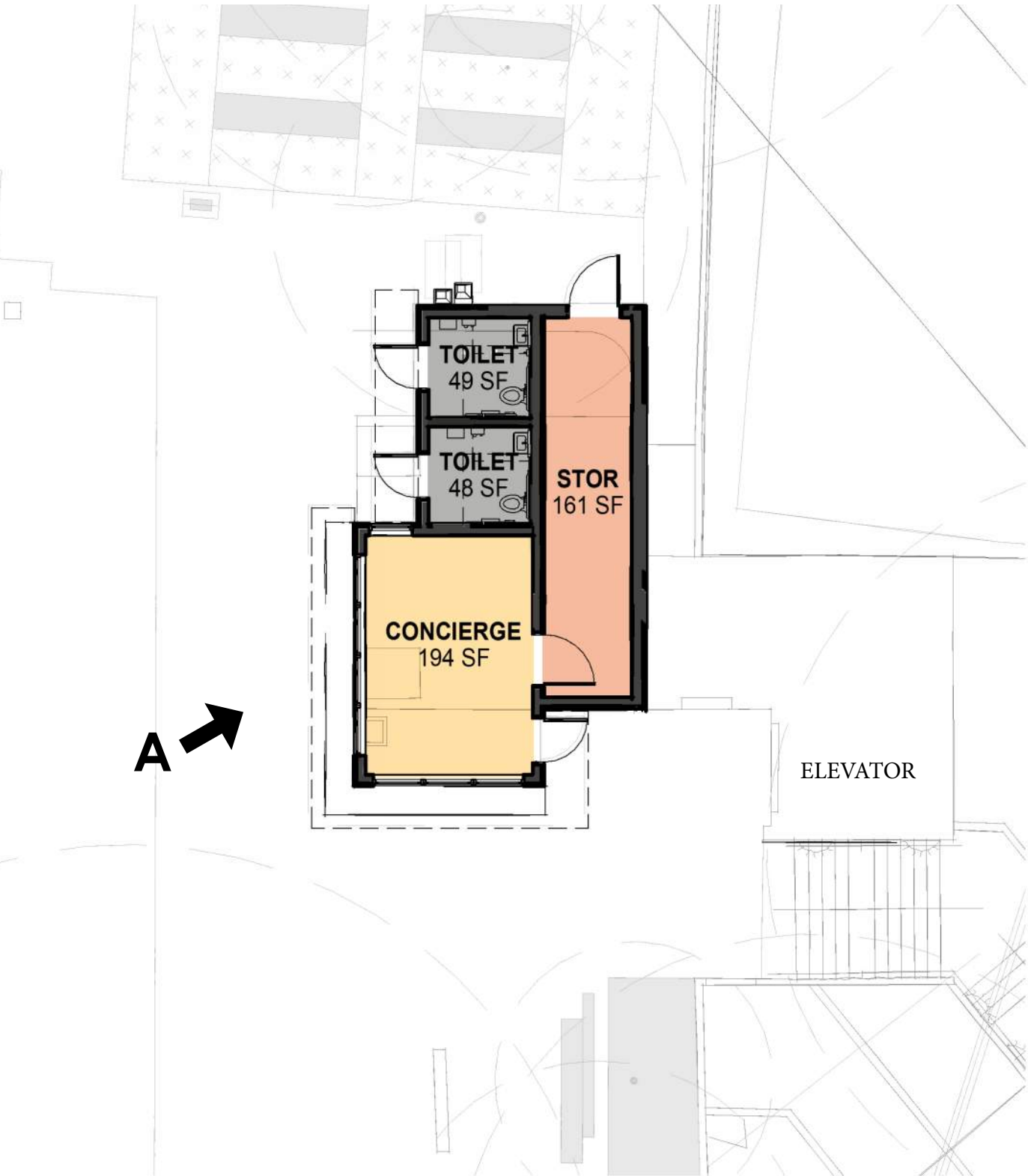
DESIGN / SENECA PLAZA OPTION 2



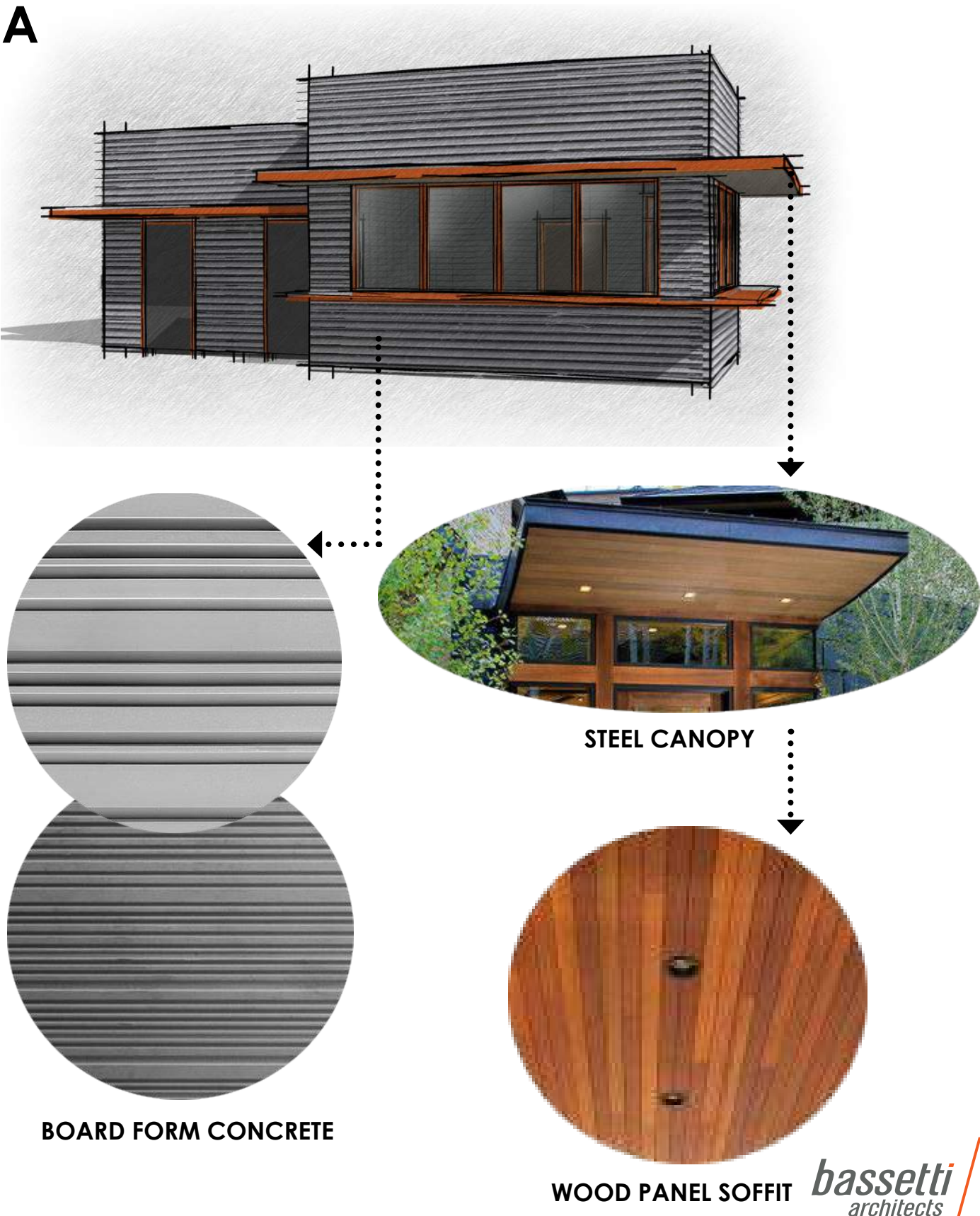
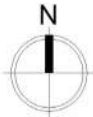
FIRST FLOOR PLAN @ SENECA PLAZA OPTION 2
1'=10'-0"



DESIGN / EAST PLAZA



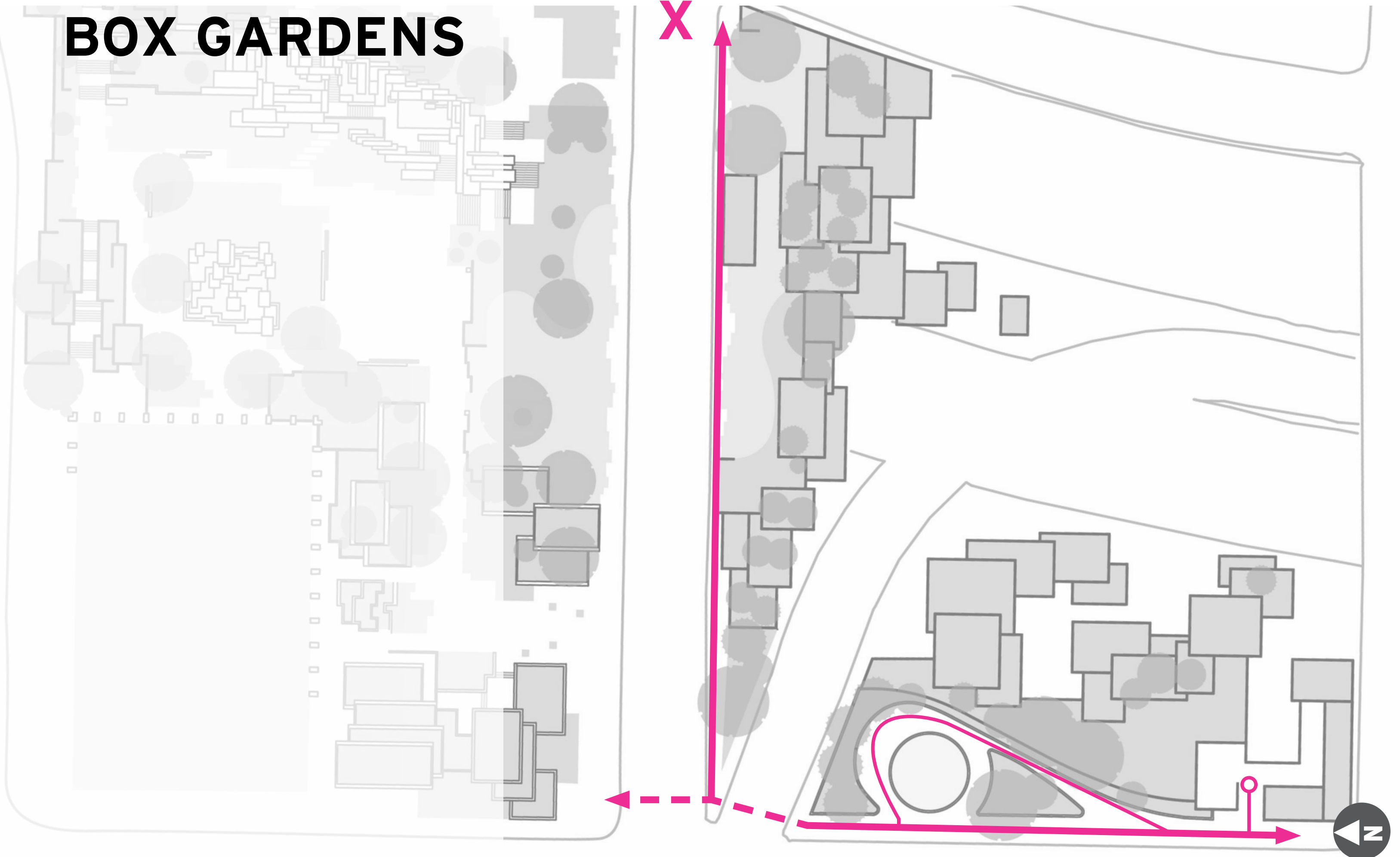
FIRST FLOOR PLAN @ EAST PLAZA
1'=10'-0"



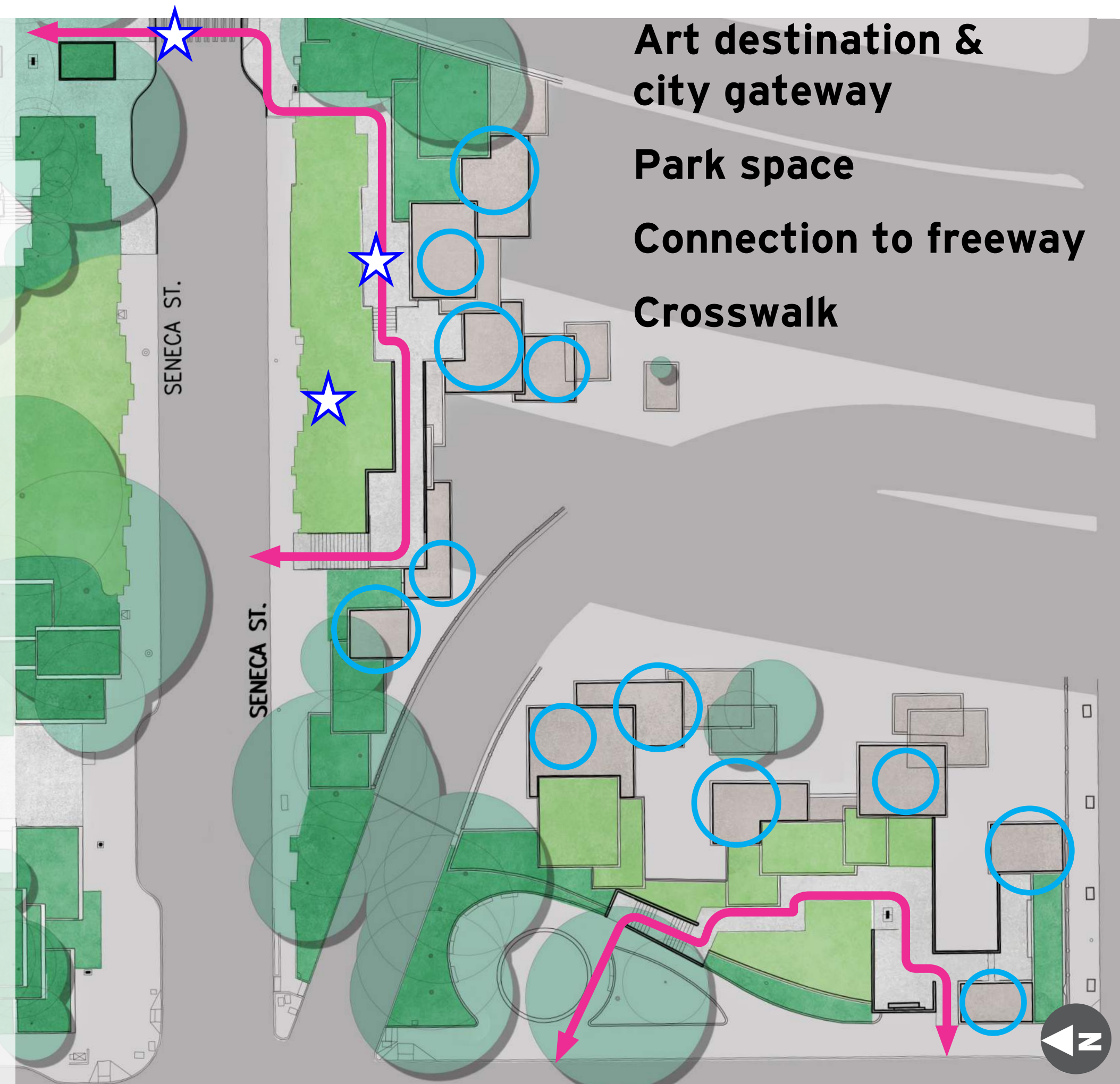
BOX GARDENS



BOX GARDENS

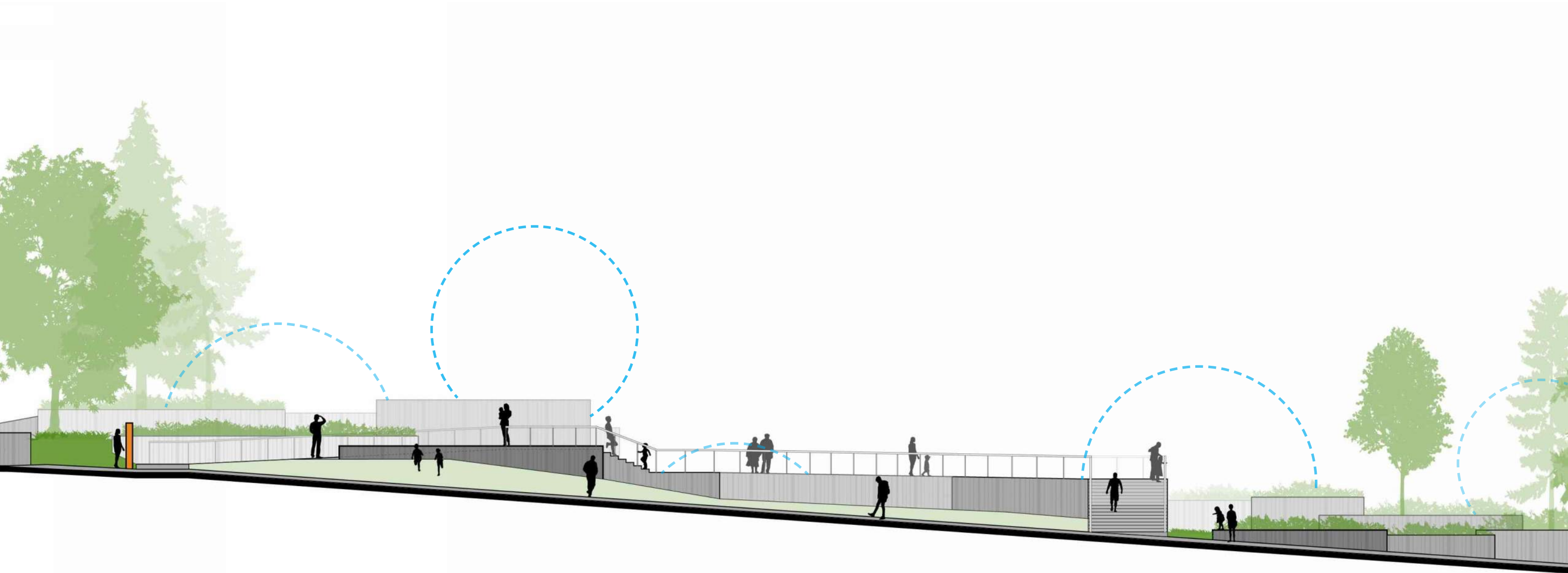


BOX GARDENS ART WALK



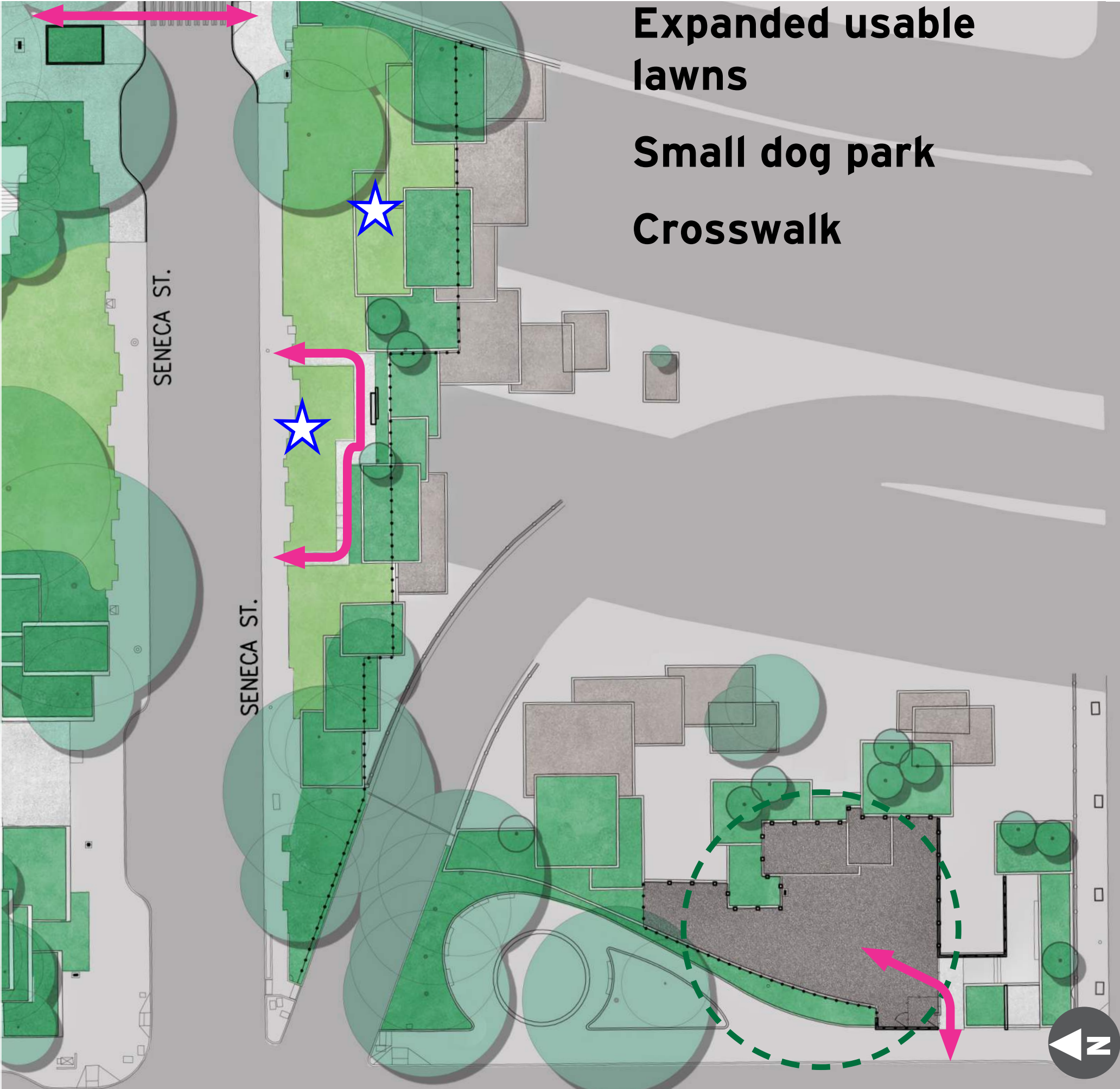


SENECA STREET ELEVATION FACING SOUTH



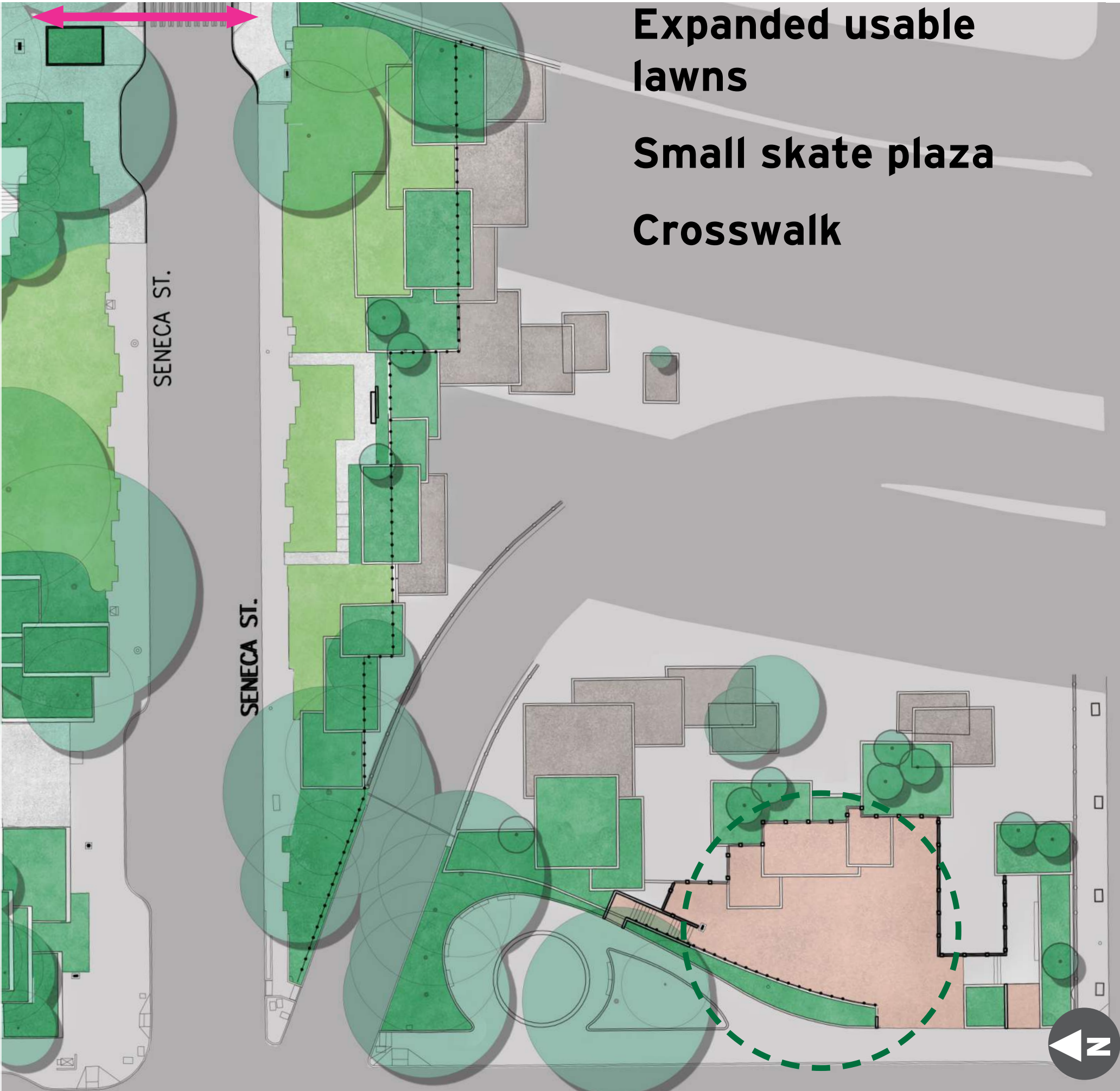
BOX GARDENS

DOG PARK



BOX GARDENS

SKATE PLAZA



Expanded usable
lawns

Small skate plaza

Crosswalk

PRIORITIES

COST REPORT SUMMARY

PARK-WIDE IMPROVEMENTS

\$ 4,896,000

Lighting	\$ 2,222,000
Wayfinding	\$ 410,000
Irrigation	\$ 981,000
Drainage	\$ 1,014,000
Graffiti & clean	\$ 269,000
Art	\$ by owner

SITE DEVELOPMENT

\$ 17,684,000

Upper Lawns	\$ 2,296,000
Convention Center	\$ 625,000
Pigott Corridor	\$ 7,826,000
8th Ave Entrance	\$ 1,108,000
Upper Seneca	\$ 1,108,000
Seneca Plaza	\$ 2,132,000
6th / Seneca	\$ 552,000
Box Gardens (art)	\$ 1,429,000

FOUNTAIN IMPROVEMENTS

\$ 841,000

American Legion (Upper Lawns)	\$ 282,000
Canyon Fountain	\$ 363,000
Cascade Fountain	\$ 467,000

SD Total: \$23M

Budget: \$6M

At least \$5M must be spent on SPR-owned property.

CONSIDERATIONS

“Expert Panelist” Perspectives (Public Open House October 28, 2019)

Charles Birnbaum, *FASLA, FAAR, President & CEO, The Cultural Landscape Foundation:*
Restore fountains to their intent.

Randy Gragg, *Executive Director, Portland Parks Foundation:*
Preserve high level of craftsmanship.

Alison Hirsch, *Director of Landscape Architecture and Urbanism at USC School of Architecture:*
Restore stronger connection to Freeway, restore planting.

Kenny Helphand, *FASLA, Professor Emeritus in Landscape Architecture, University of Oregon:*
Restore sense of discovery.

Iain Robertson, *Associate Professor in Landscape Architecture, University of Washington:*
Refresh plantings.

CONSIDERATIONS

Highlights from public input on Design Concepts (Public Open House & Survey, November 2019)

Where would improvements be most valuable? Park Entrances (29%) and Seneca Plaza (23%)

Upper Lawns priorities: restore restroom (67%) and sunny kid area (62%)

Seneca Plaza priorities: no consensus, slightly weighted toward building, improved stair, Cascade Fountain. (50 – 59% each)

Pigott Corridor priorities: clear entrance (79%)

Box Gardens preferred concept: Art / lighting concept (69%)

Other ideas: lighting (78%), enhanced plantings (61%)

Levels of change: focus on *Repair and Maintenance* (70%) and *Design changes in areas that are not well used* (63%). *Primary park areas* lower priority (35%)

DISCUSSION

Park-wide Improvements vs. Project Areas

Which improvements?

Which areas?