



SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS | ONE ROOF FOUNDATION  
GENERATOR STUDIO | SWIFT COMPANY TEAM



**MEMORIAL STADIUM RENOVATION**  
LANDMARKS PRESERVATION BOARD  
NOVEMBER 27, 2024

1. BUILDING HISTORY + EXISTING CONDITIONS

2. LANDMARK + PROJECT OBJECTIVES

3. PRELIMINARY DESIGN PROPOSAL + OBSERVATIONS

- CONTEXTUAL CHANGES
- STRUCTURAL + SYSTEM INTERVENTIONS
- SITE DESIGN + ACCESSIBILITY

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## BUILDING HISTORY + EXISTING CONDITIONS





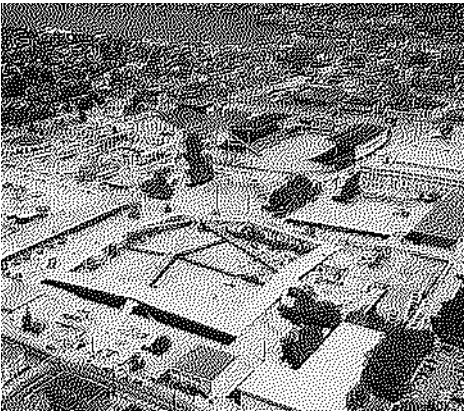
**CIVIC FIELD TO SCHOOL STADIUM:**  
Community pressure helped to select the final home of the school district’s new stadium.



**MEMORIAL STADIUM CONSTRUCTION**  
The new stadium held its first event, the Seattle High School Football Jamboree, on September 26, 1947.



**MEMORIAL WALL ADDITION**  
The memorial was built to honor Seattle and King County students who died during WWII.



**SEATTLE’S CIVIC CENTER:**  
The area around Memorial Stadium was selected as the site for the Century 21 Exposition and as a future civic center.



1946

The city land between Harrison and Republican streets holding Civic Field and the Civic Ice Arena was transferred to the Seattle School District as the site for their future athletic stadium.

1947

Designed by Seattle architect George W. Stoddard and built by the Puget Sound Bridge and Dredging Company. The stadium was designed to be built in stages, with a final horse-shoe shaped stand to the west that was never built. The Memorial Wall, was an addition built several years after the completion of the stadium.

1951



**MARIANNE HANSON:**  
Designed the war memorial while a senior at Garfield High school. Marianne went on to have several successful careers including graphic design, illustration, sculpture, theater costume design, and editorial and fiction writing.

1956

Several of the parcels surrounding the Memorial Stadium had already been acquired by the city such as McCaw Hall, then a Civic Auditorium, the National Guard Armory, and Mercer Playground (the future International fountain). The rest of the parcels were assembled through condemnation of “blighted” properties. What had been separate parcels connected by a street grid would start to become the civic center we know today, with its series of community spaces bound together by a network of green pedestrian promenades.





**THE WORLD’S FAIR :**  
The event was the catalyst for creating the park-like city center we know today.



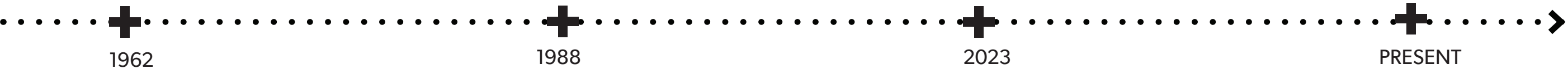
**MEMORIAL NO MORE?**  
Disney’s Imagineering made an offer to buy Seattle Center.



**LANDMARK DESIGNATION:**  
In October 4, 2023, the Memorial Wall was added to the city’s list of Landmark sites.



**A LASTING MEMORIAL:**  
The reconstruction of Memorial Stadium brings an opportunity for a re-connection to the Memorial Wall.



**1962**  
The Memorial Stadium held the opening and closing ceremonies during the fair. The stadium field was transformed into an aquadrome which held water-skiing shows throughout the fair.

**1988**  
In 1989, local veteran and activist Guy Gallipeau led a demonstration to City Hall to oppose the demolition of the War Memorial Wall. The city and school board turned down the offer which would have led to the demolishing of the Seattle Center and Memorial Stadium.

**2023**  
The features of the memorial to be preserved included the memorial wall with associated steps, fountains, all structural walls and foundations that support the wall in situ, and the site area on which the memorial resides, including 20’ of space on all sides of the wall.

**PRESENT**  
With the reconstruction of the stadium at its back, there is an opportunity to undertake needed updates to the appearance of the memorial, re-imagine the relationship between the wall and the community through better access, and increase opportunities to gather and reflect on the service and sacrifice made by those serving in WWII.





Marianne Hanson - 1952, Seattle  
Courtesy of Simons Family

Marianne Hanson (1932-2015) was born and raised in Seattle to Swedish immigrant parents. She was a high school senior ,at Garfield High School, when she entered the design competition for the Memorial Wall. Hers was one of five finalists selected for review from 61 entries.

An interesting aspect of Hanson’s design is its similarity to the primary facade of the Seattle Art Museum in Volunteer Park, designed by architect Carl F. Gould and built in 1932. The museum and the memorial wall designs share a tall, stepped wall with fluted end wall sections that partially surround fountain basins. Both designs, while based on classical forms, embody characteristics of the Art Deco and Modern styles. No specific references to the museum have been discovered, but as an art student it is likely that Hanson had seen the building from repeated visits.

After her graduation in 1950, she attended the Burnley Art School on a national art scholarship. It was during this time that she met her husband, Milton Simons (1923-1973) and Hanson left school in order to support her family. In 1953, they had their first child, Serge Simons. She later attended the University of Washington, where she graduated with a bachelor’s degree, magnum cum laude, from the School of Art.

Hanson had multiple careers in graphic design, illustration, sculpture, theater costume design, and as an editorial and fiction writer. She also opened art galleries in several states. One of these was the Milann Gallery in Seattle, which Marianne founded with her husband, Milt Simons, in August 1959. Milt Simons was one of only a

few Black artists showing work, playing music and directing his own gallery during that era. The 800 square foot Milann Gallery operated as a co-op, and the space also served as an art studio as well a venue for music, including performances for their jazz ensemble, The Puget Sounds, with which Hanson played piano. The gallery, which closed in 1961, occupied a former bakery space on 34th Avenue in Madrona neighborhood, one of the city’s first racially integrated neighborhoods. Later, in 1968, the same space became the Black Panther Party’s local headquarters. In late 1970s the Simons opened another gallery, the Origin Arts Originals, at 321 E Pine Street, which showed Milt Simons work until 1973. He died in November of that year.

From 2008-2014, Marianne Hanson wrote as an independent historian for the editorial website Blackpast.org, a site dedicated to providing comprehensive, reliable, and accurate information concerning the history of African Americans in the US and around the globe.

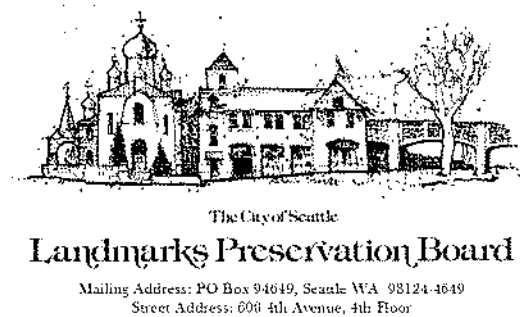
Hanson unveiled the Memorial Wall at its dedication on May 29th, 1951.



Memorial Wall Sketch by Marianne Hanson  
Courtesy of SPS

Sources: LPB 351/23 Memorial Wall Report on Designation, <https://blackartslegacies.crosscut.com/articles/milt-simons>, <https://www.historylink.org/file/20854>, <https://archive.seattletimes.com/archive/?date=19990726&slug=2973820>





LPB 351/23

REPORT ON DESIGNATION

Name and Address of Property: **Memorial Wall (on Memorial Stadium property)**  
**401 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue N**

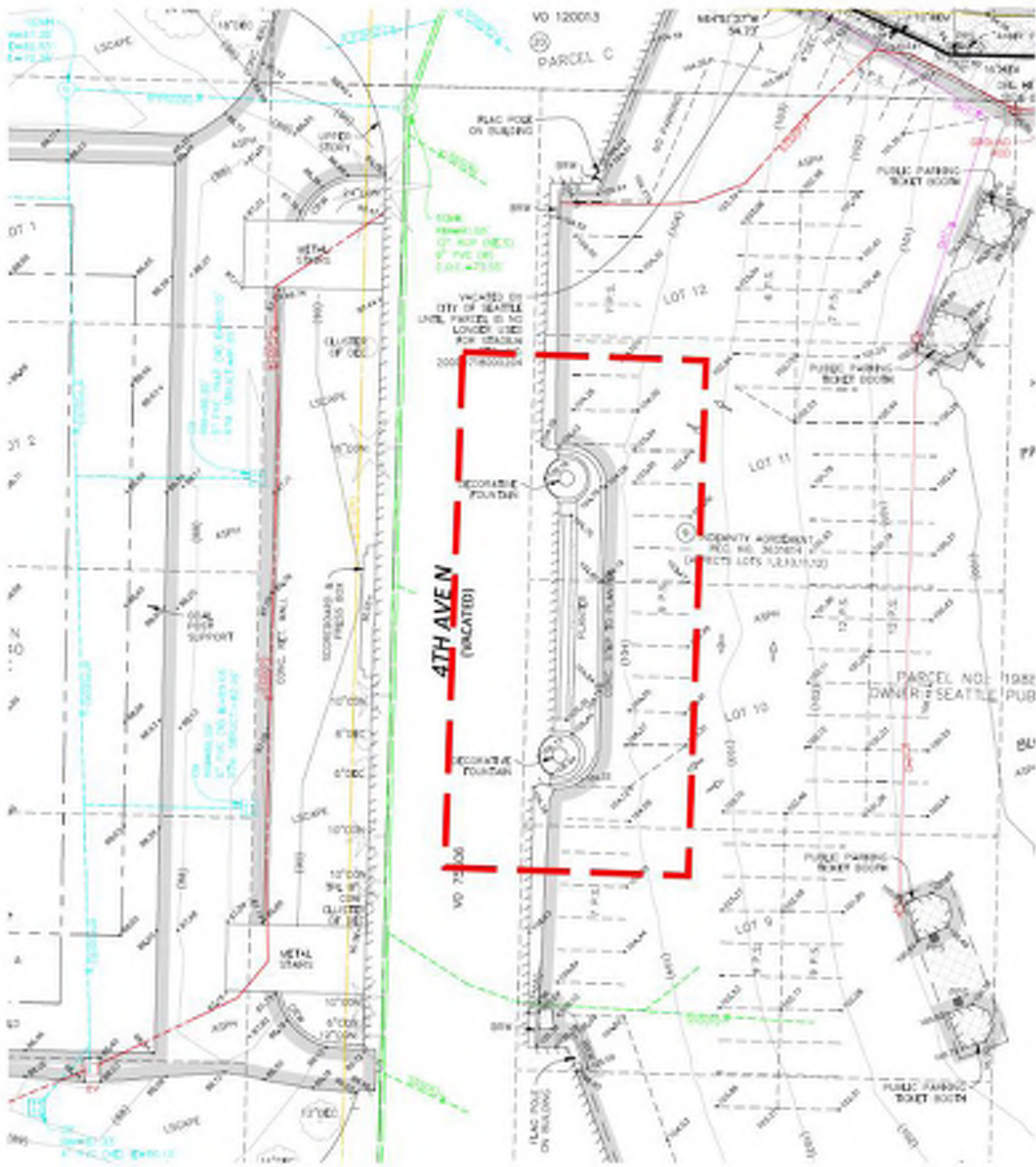
Legal Description: *Specific parcel where designated Memorial Wall features and site reside:*

Parcel B: (198820-0775)  
Lots 1 through 12, Block 55, D. T. Denny's Home Addition, according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 3 of Plats, page 115, records of King County, Washington; Together with the vacated alley within said block and vacated streets adjacent; Less that portion of vacated road as described in deed to the City of Seattle recorded under Recording No. 20000718000203.

At the public meeting held on October 4, 2023 the City of Seattle's Landmarks Preservation Board voted to approve designation of the Memorial Wall at 401 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue N as a Seattle Landmark based upon satisfaction of the following standard for designation of SMC 25.12.350:

- A. *It is the location of, or is associated in a significant way with, an historic event with a significant effect upon the community, City, state, or nation.*
- C. *It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, City, state or nation.*
- D. *It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or of a method of construction.*
- E. *It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder.*

Administered by The Historic Preservation Program  
The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods  
"Printed on Recycled Paper"



Drawing not to scale. Showing relative scale of 20' offset from memorial landmark features (dashed red line), based on confirmation of the following assumptions:

- 1) That dash-dot line vicinity of green line is center line of vacated right-of-way.
- 2) That dash-dot line vicinity of green line is division between Parcels A & B.
- 3) That 4<sup>th</sup> Ave N right-of-way is 66' wide, therefore half is 33'.

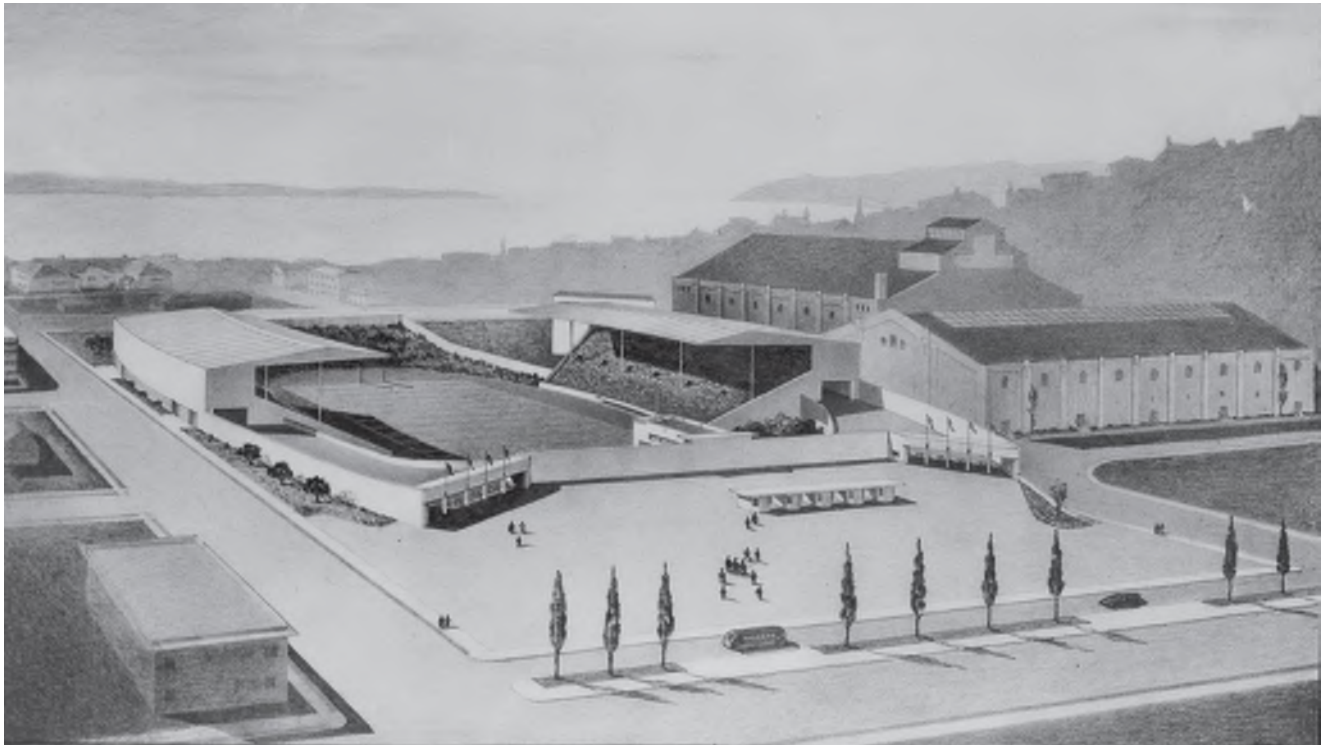
Memorial Landmark Features Site Plan with 20 Foot Offset  
Part of the Report on Designation Documentation Package



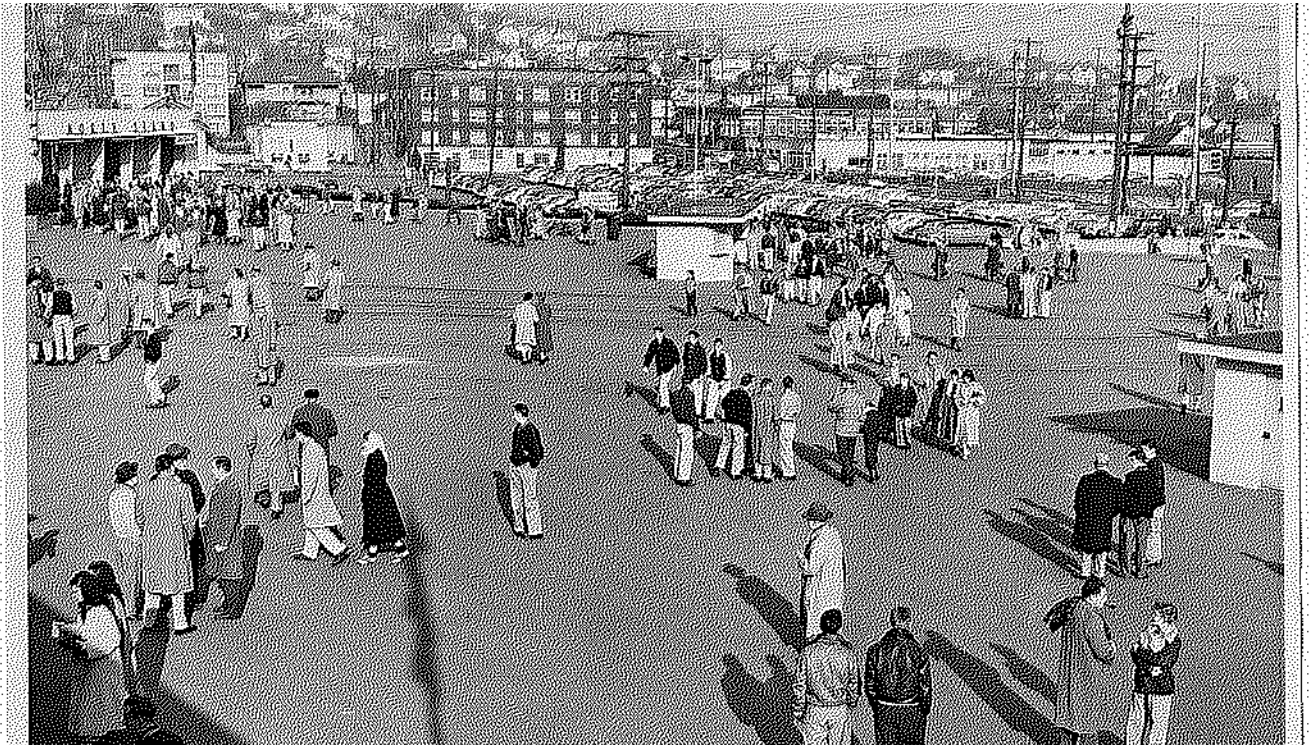


Memorial Wall with Original Planting, 1950s  
Courtesy of Paul Dorpat, Seattle Times

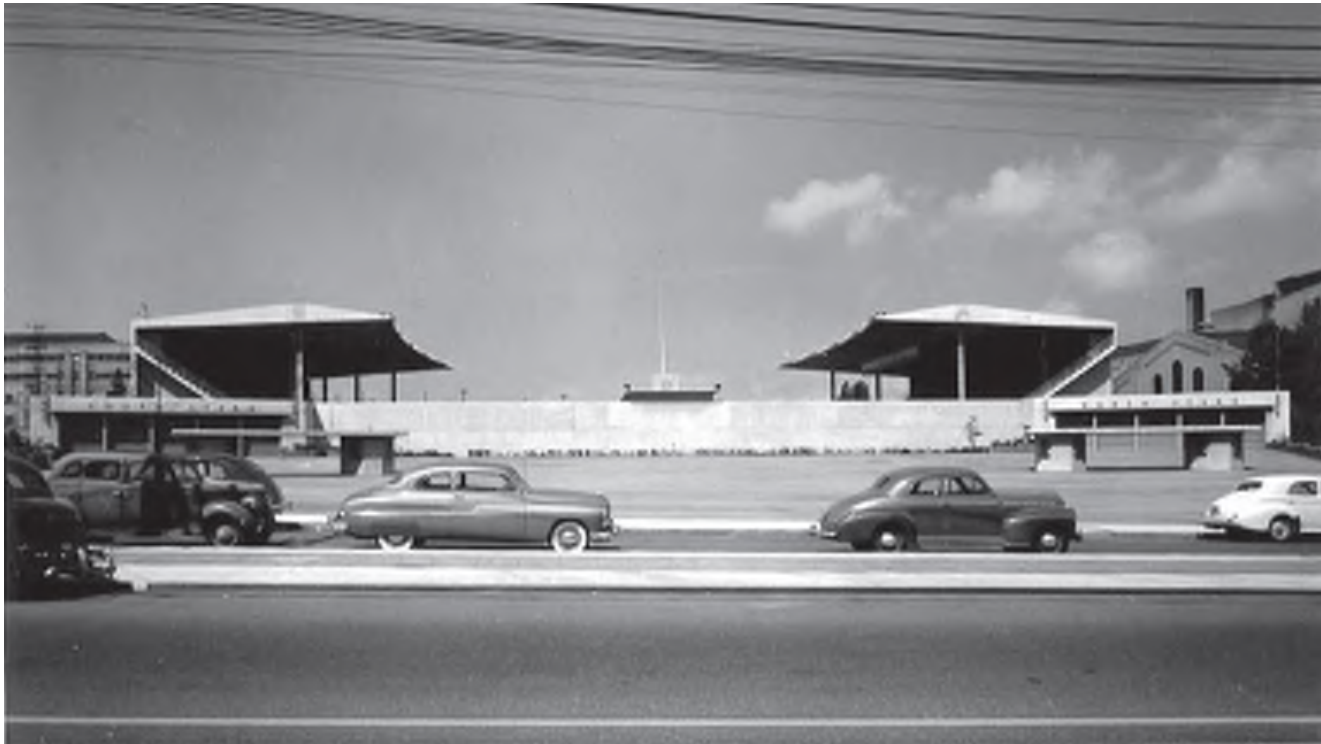




Architectural Drawing of Proposed Stadium by Architect George W. Stoddard, ca 1946  
Courtesy of SPS Archives



East Entry Plaza and Ticket Kiosks, ca 1950  
Courtesy of SPS Archives



Dearborn-Massar Photograph of the Eastern Facade of Memorial Stadium, ca 1948  
Courtesy of UW Special Collections



View of the Memorial Wall and Stadium Looking NW, 1957  
Courtesy of Seattle Public Library





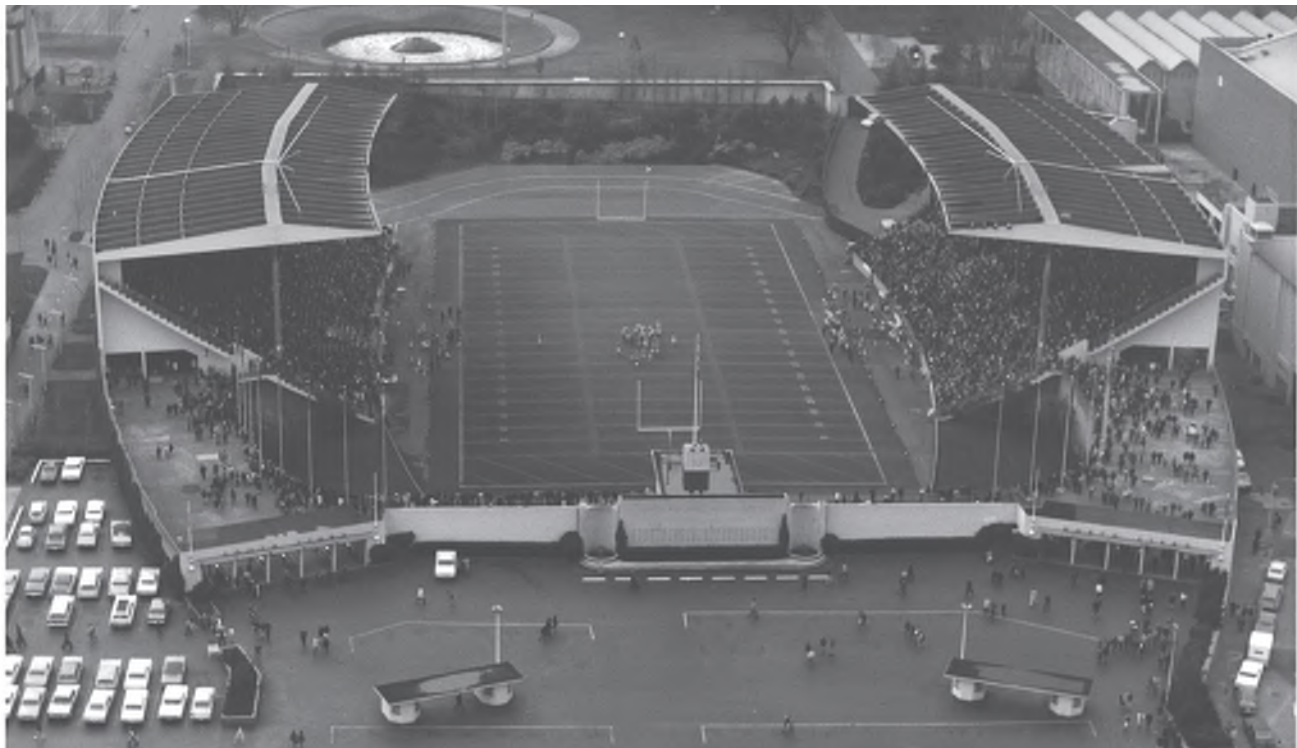
Memorial Stadium Water Ski Show Looking East at Seattle World's Fair, 1962  
Courtesy of MOHAI archives



Paul Dorpat Photograph of Ceremony at the Memorial Wall, ca 1960s  
Courtesy of Seattle Times

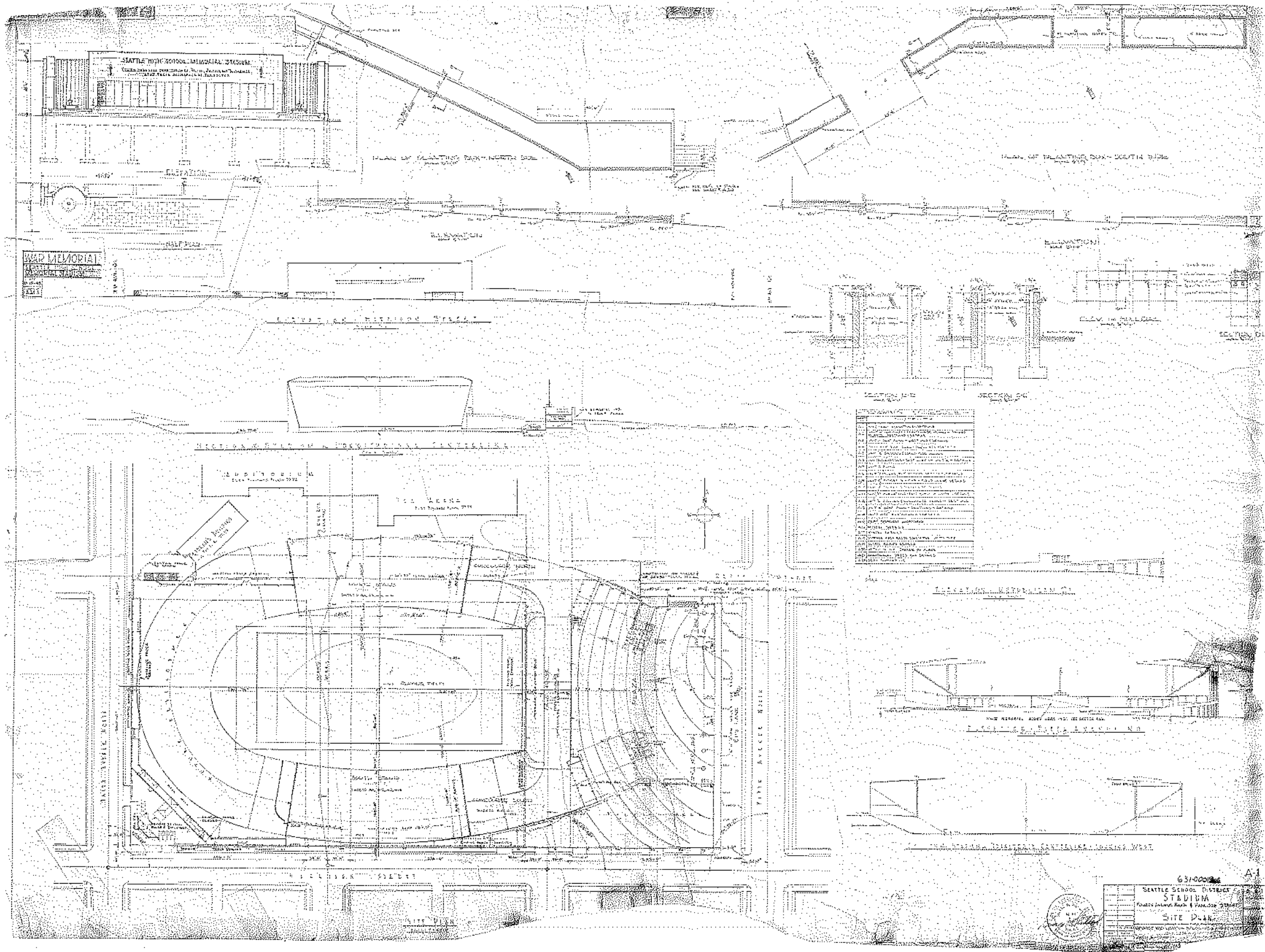


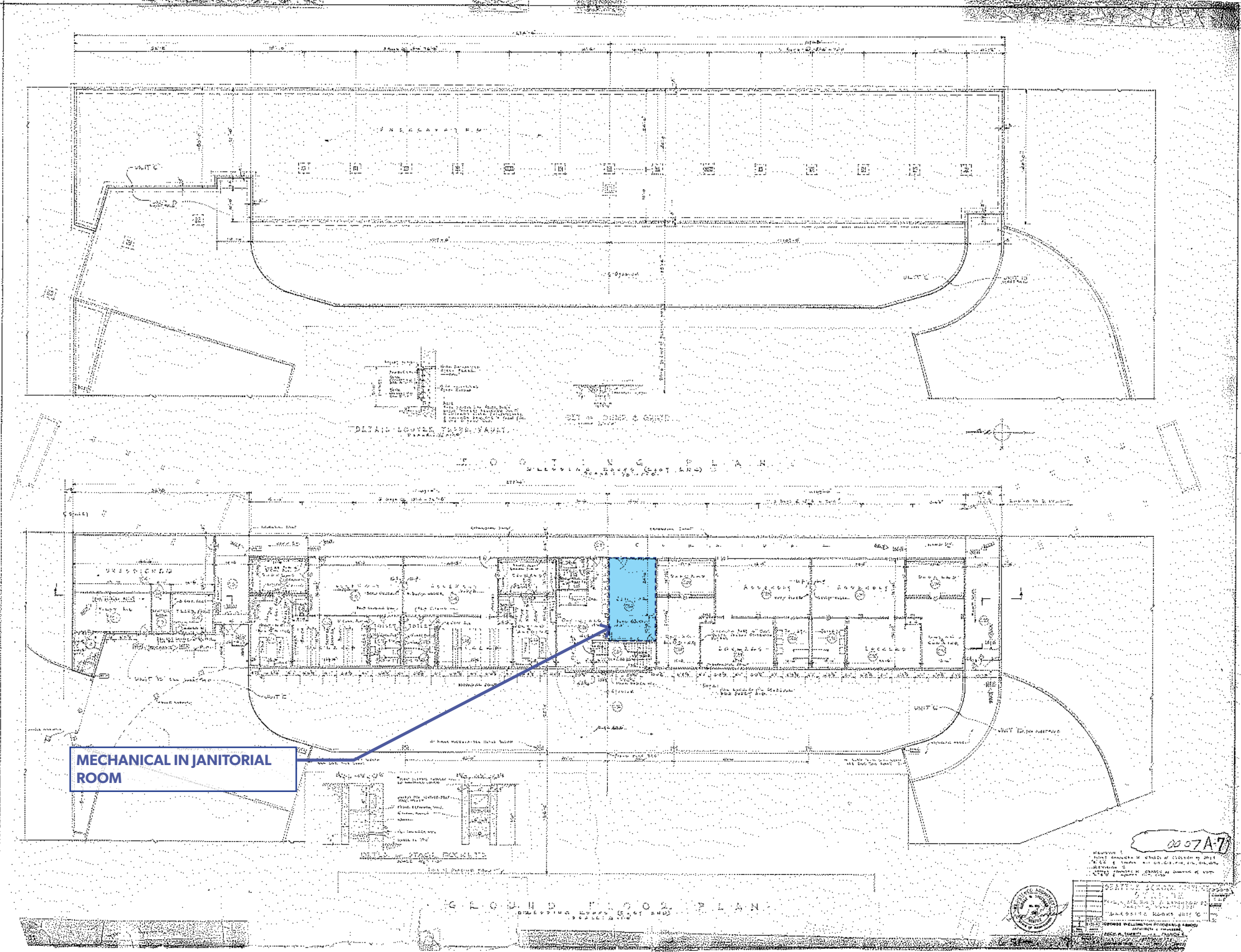
Memorial Wall Behind the Hawaii Pavilion and Gardens at Seattle World's Fair, 1962  
Image Posted on Tiki Central Website



Aerial view of Stadium Looking West, ca 1967  
Courtesy of SPS Archives (Photo documentation post 1960s not available from SPS.)





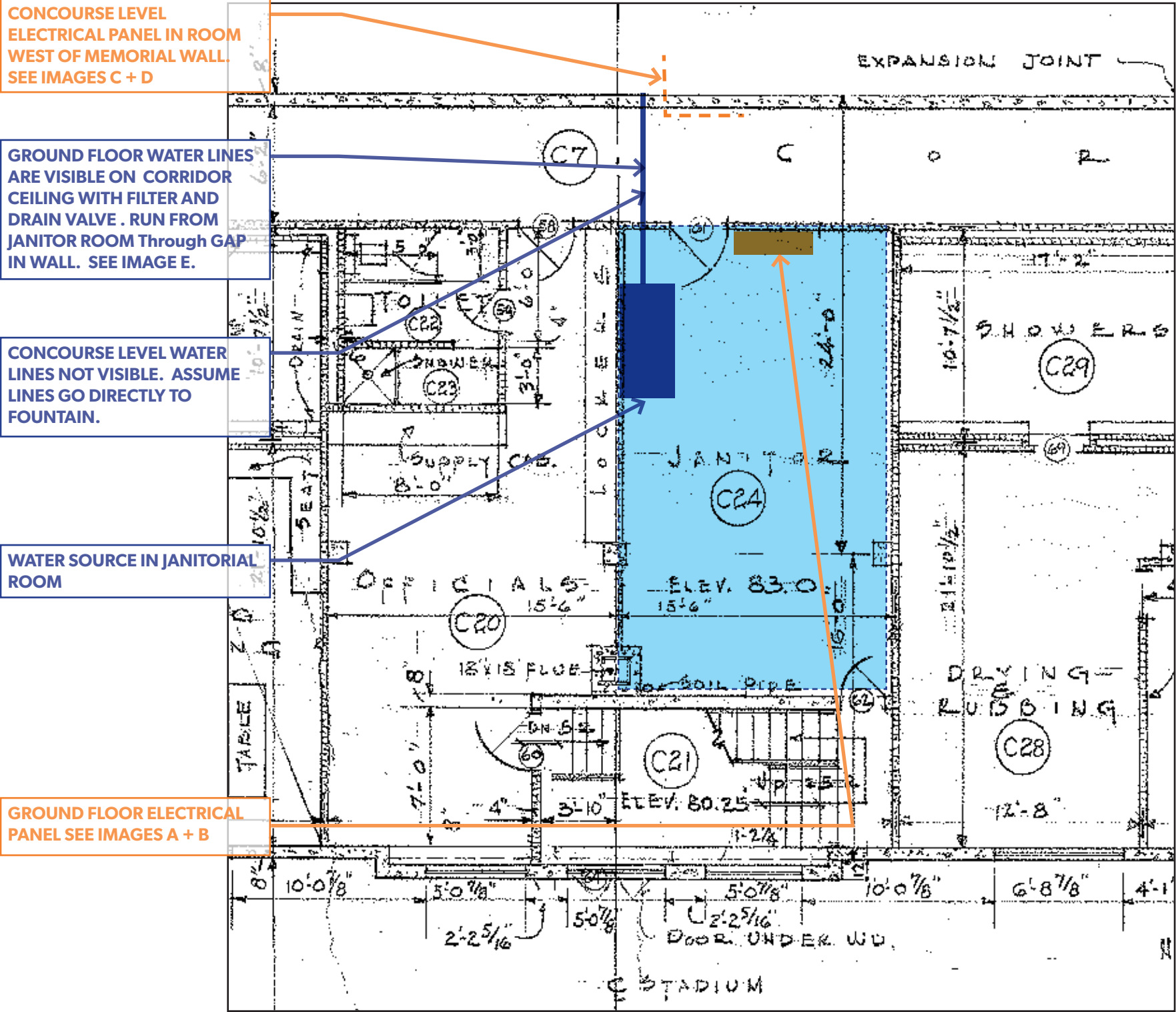




# BUILDING HISTORY + EXISTING CONDITIONS | Original Drawings (2/21/1947) - Mechanical Room

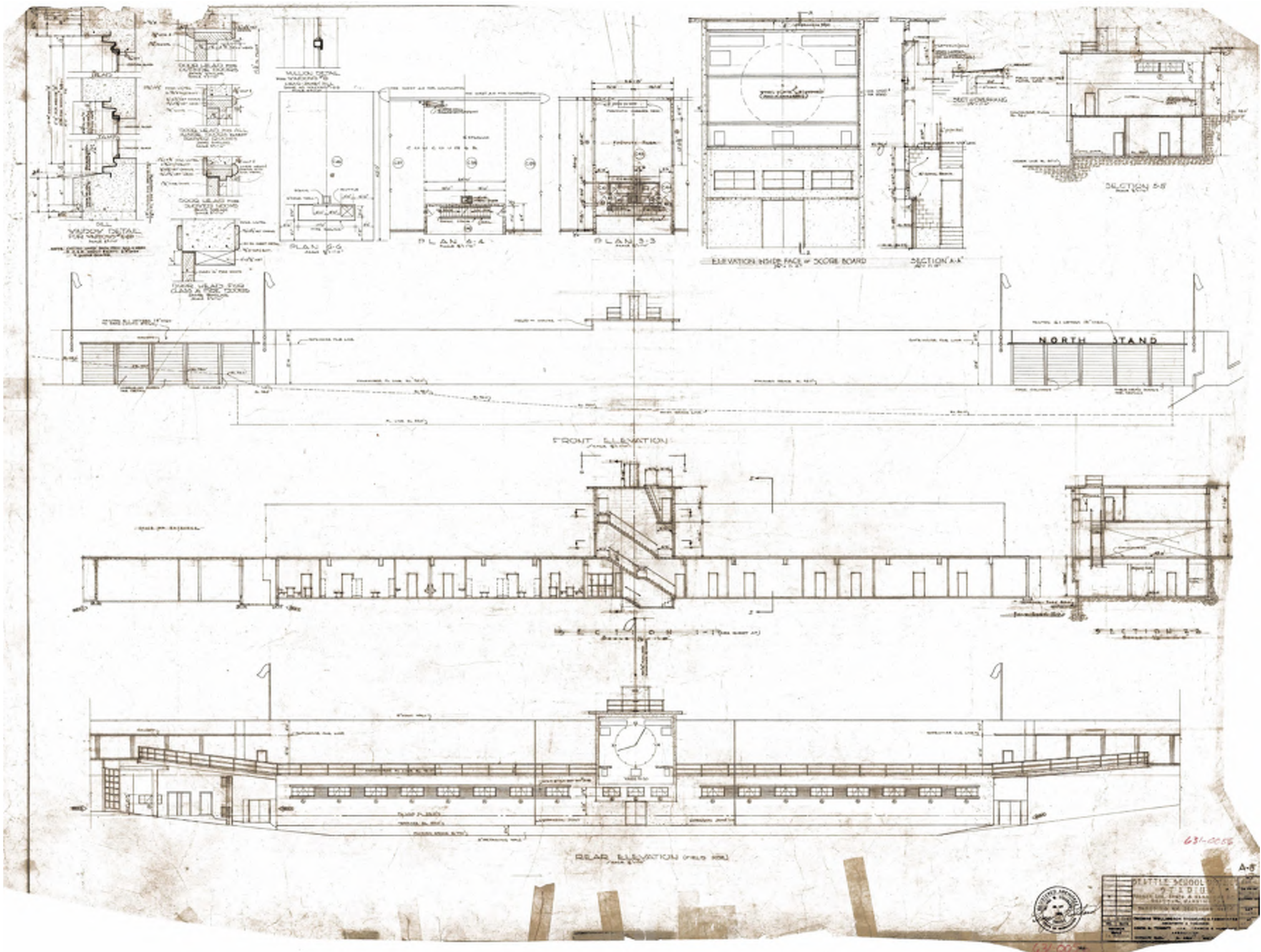
GENERAL NOTES:

NOTES REFLECT PRELIMINARY ON-SITE  
FOUNTAIN SYSTEM OBSERVATIONS

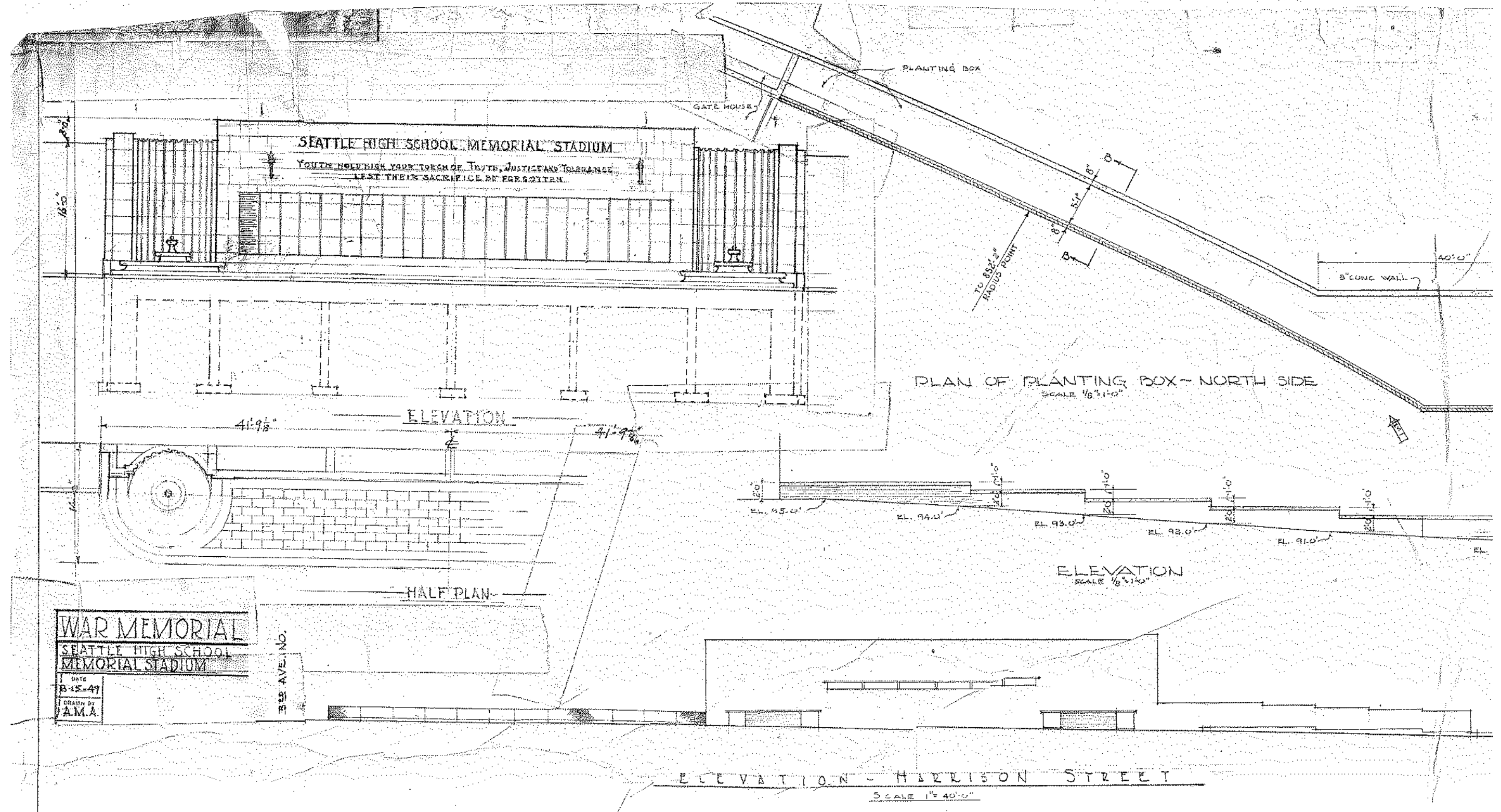




BUILDING HISTORY + EXISTING CONDITIONS | Original Drawings (2/21/1947) - East Stadium Elevations

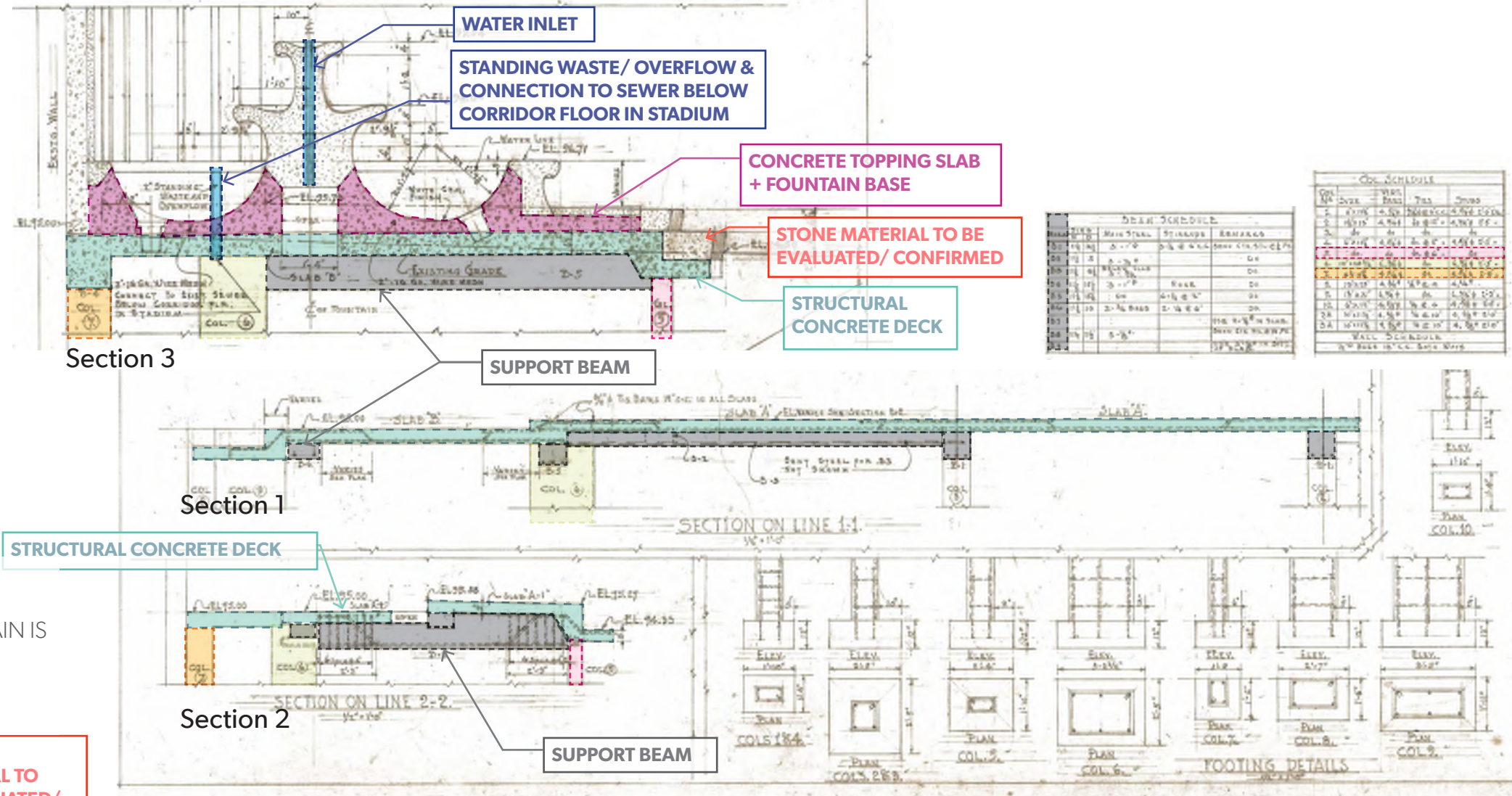
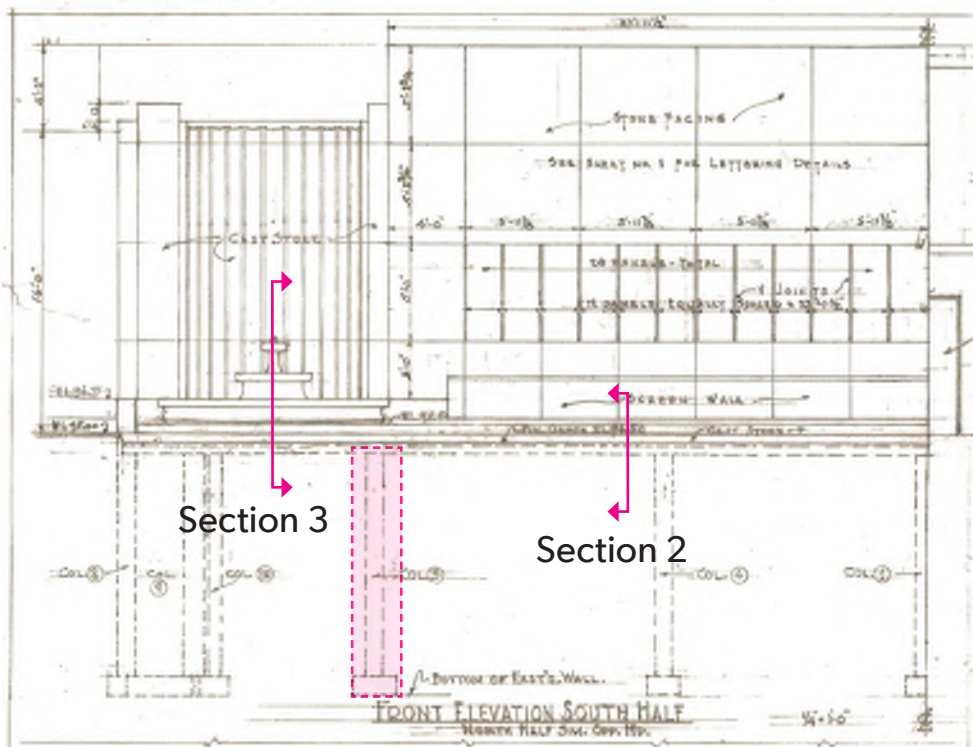






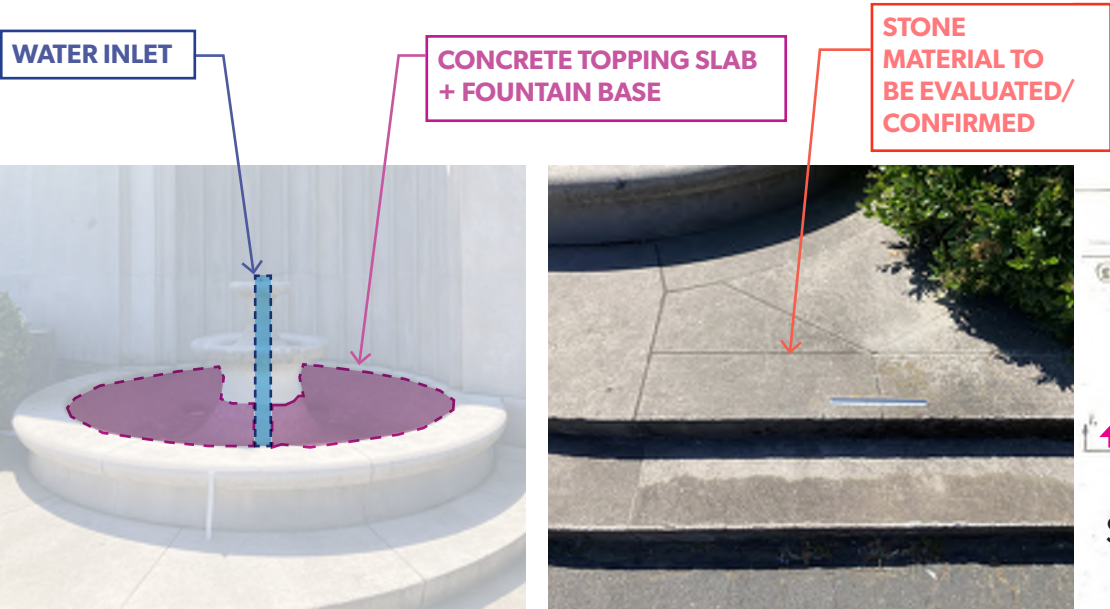


BUILDING HISTORY + EXISTING CONDITIONS | Original Drawings (12/21/1949) - Memorial Wall + Fountain Structural Details

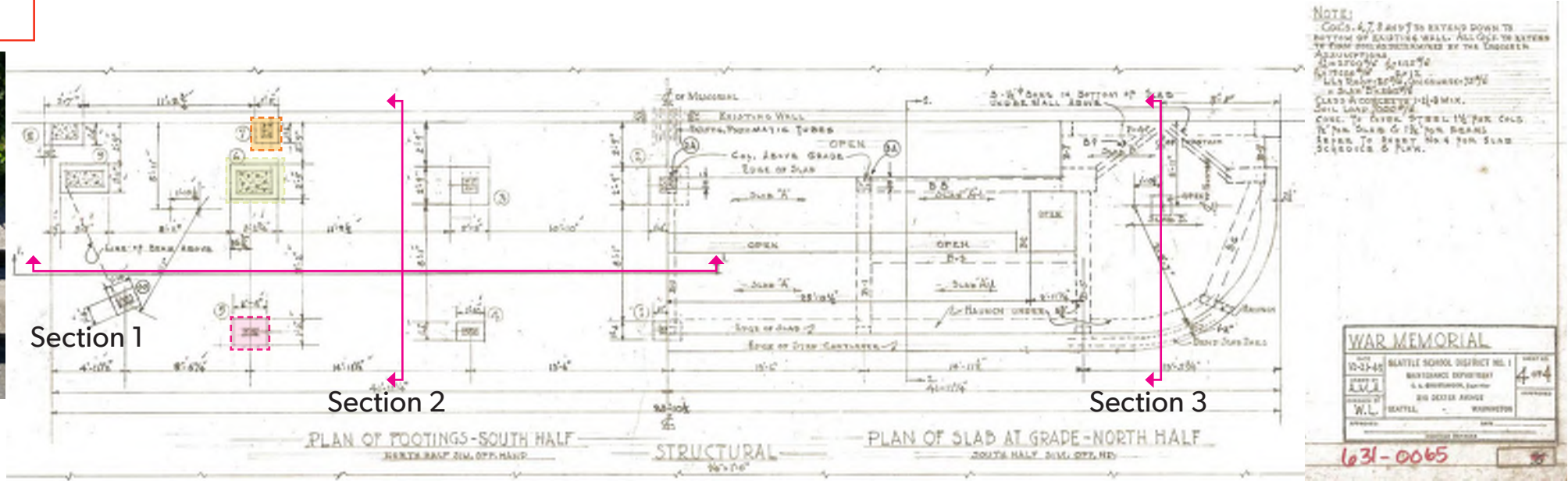


GENERAL SYSTEM NOTES:

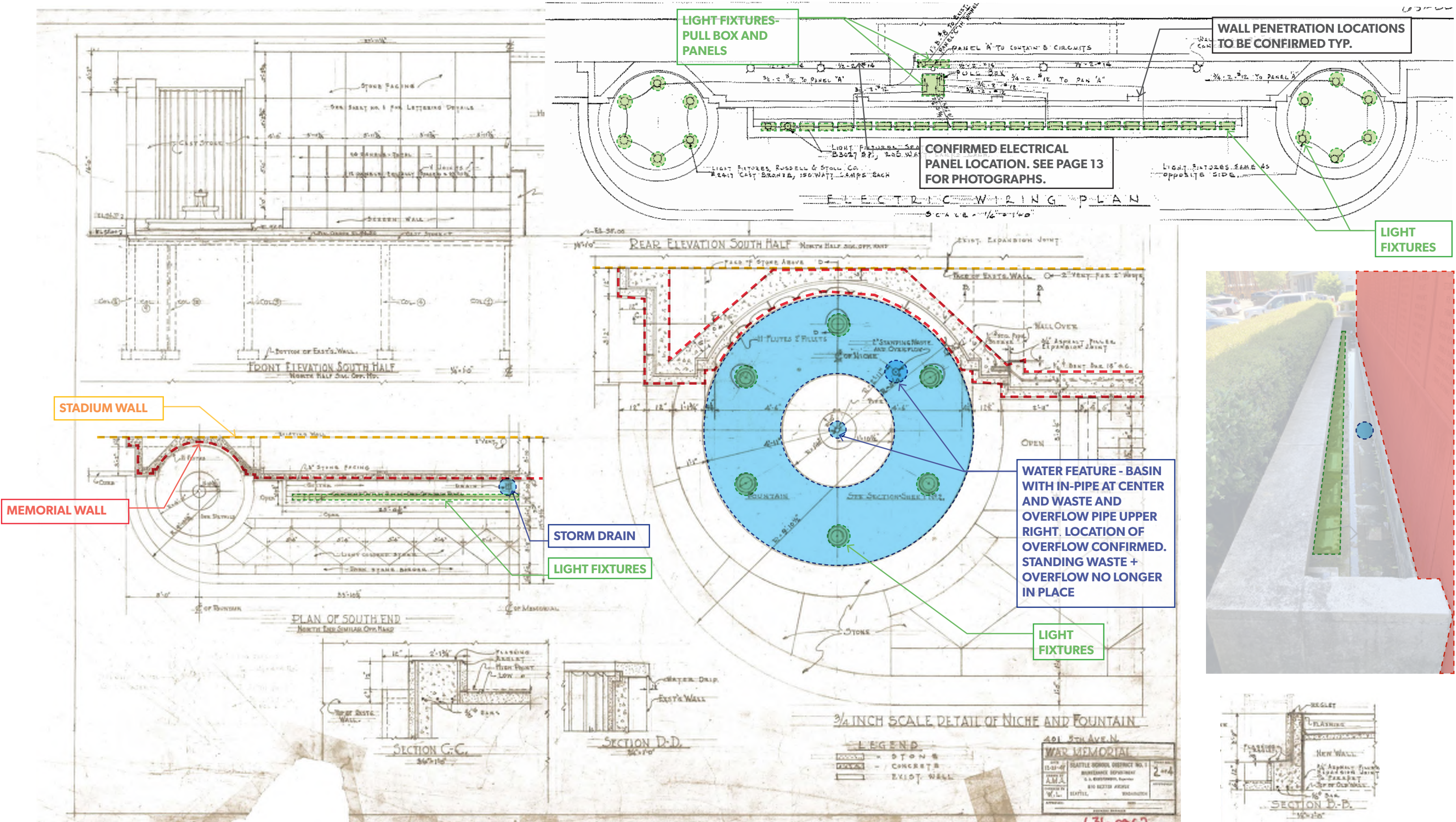
- 1. CURRENT FUNCTIONALITY OF WATER FEATURE SOURCE PIPE AND DRAIN IS UNKNOWN.
- 2. CURRENT FUNCTIONALITY OF FEATURE LIGHTING AND ELECTRICAL WIRING IS UNKNOWN.



Fountain Basin and Steps - Symetrical Surface and Structure





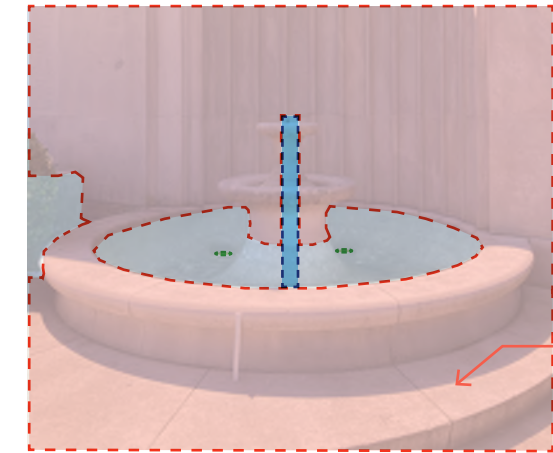
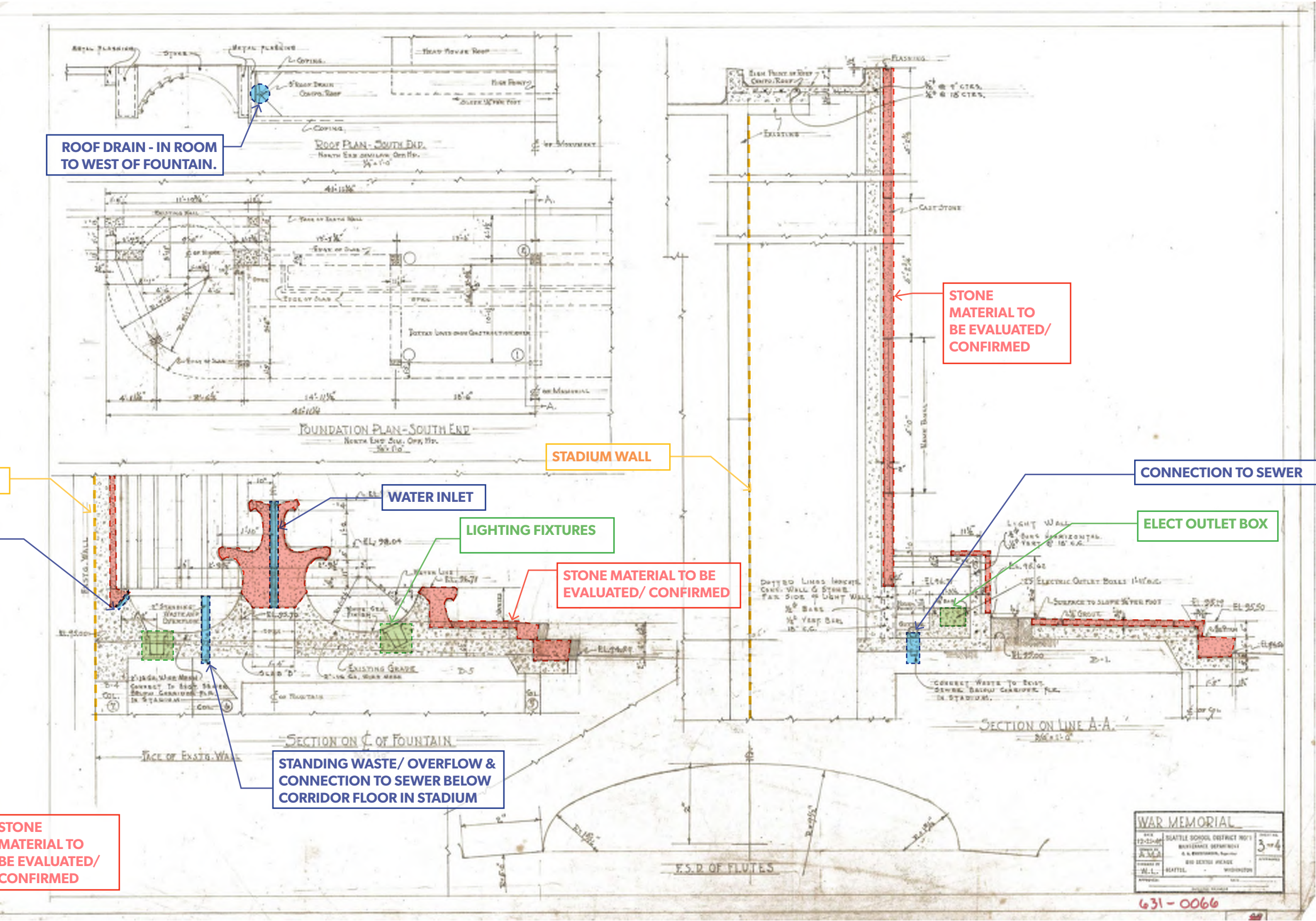




# BUILDING HISTORY + EXISTING CONDITIONS | Original Drawings (12/21/1949) - Memorial Wall And Water Feature

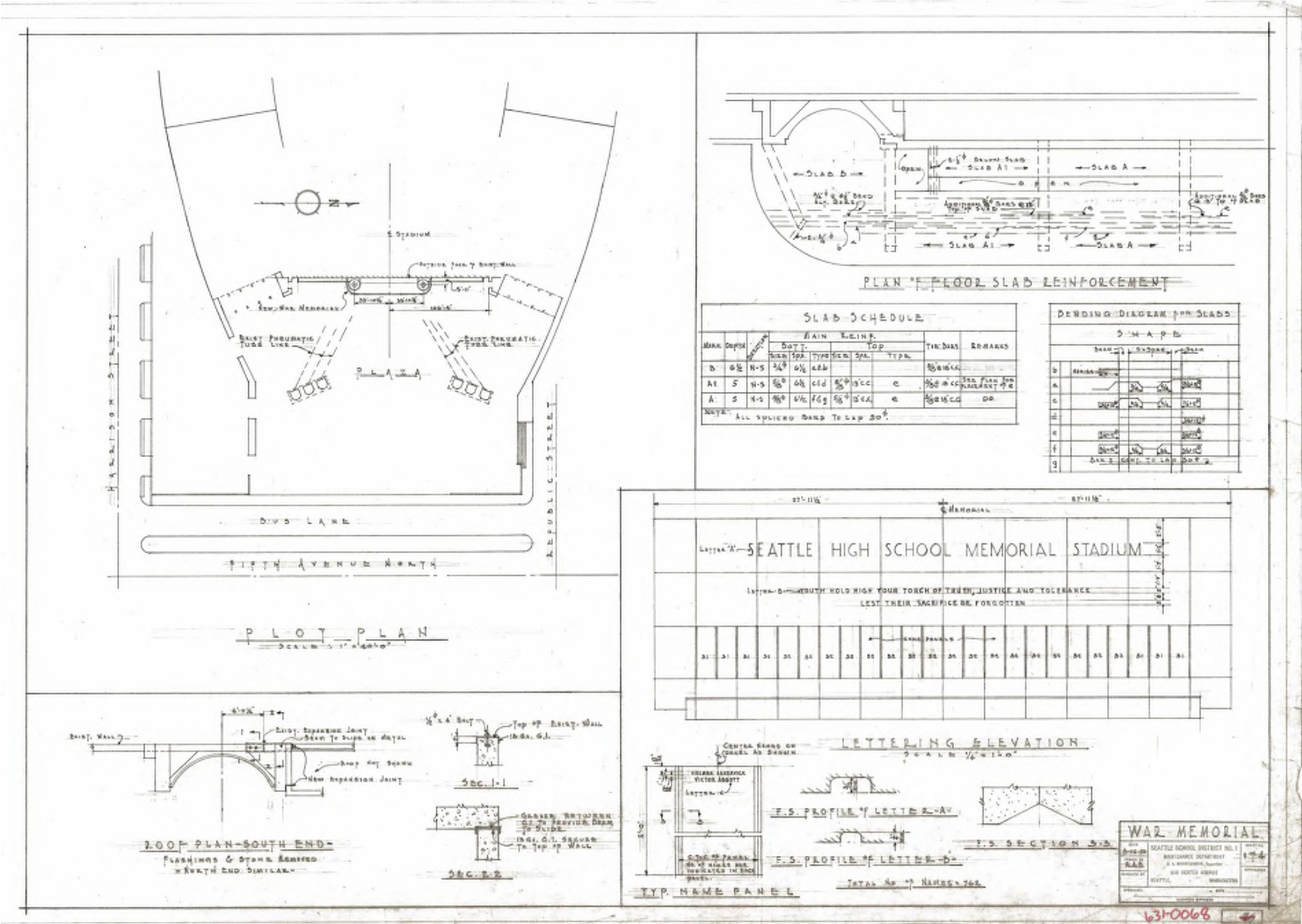
GENERAL NOTES:

- 1. FOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF CURRENT DECORATIVE FOUNTAIN CONDITIONS SEE PAGES 22-24
- 2. FOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF CURRENT LIGHT FIXTURES SEE PAGE 28.
- 3. FOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF CURRENT WATER INLETS AND OVERFLOW SEE PAGE 29.



Fountain Basin and Steps









Eastern Stadium Facade Looking North

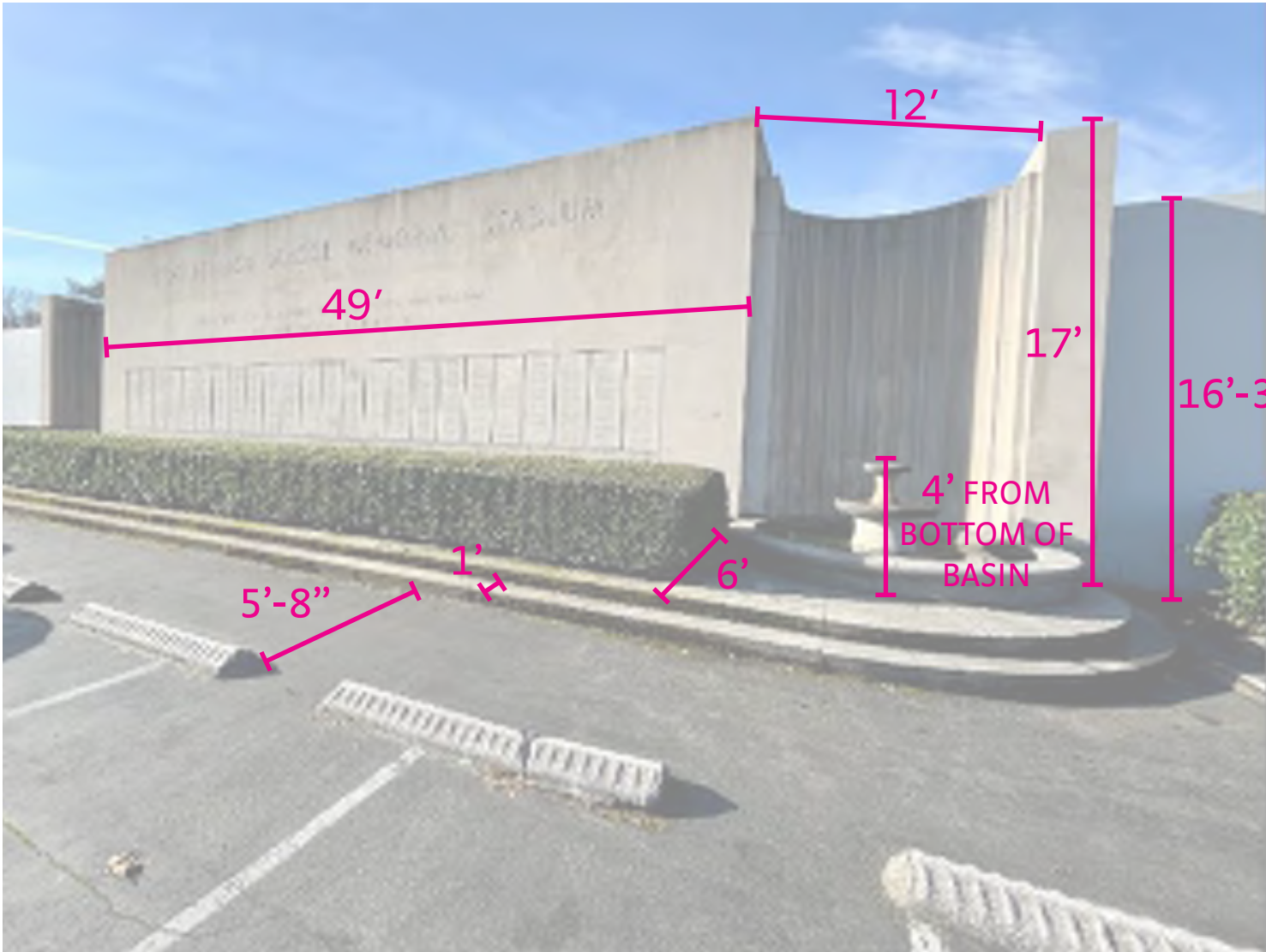


Memorial Wall View From Parking Lot





Memorial Wall Looking Southwest

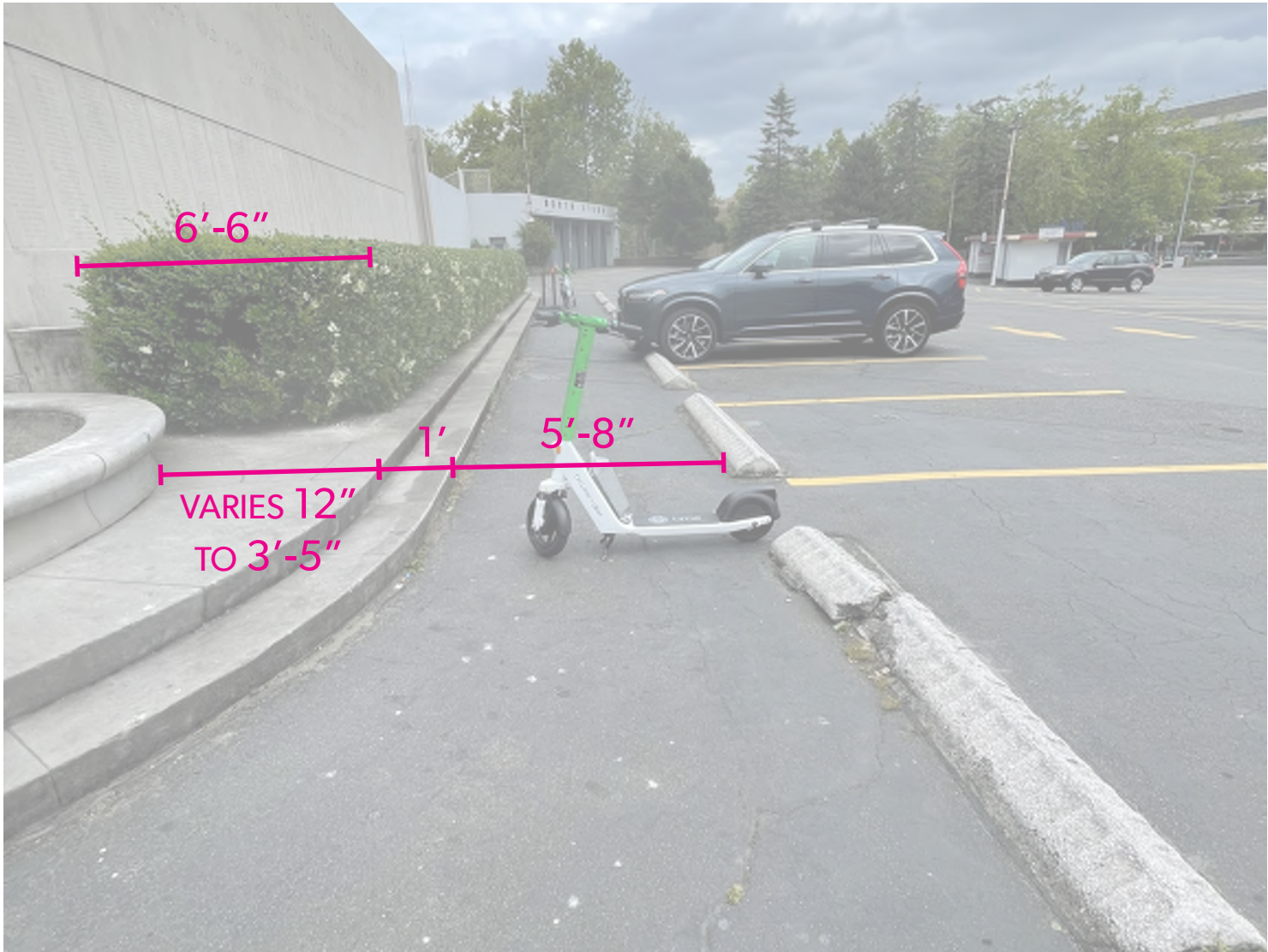


Spatial Analysis





Looking North From Memorial Wall

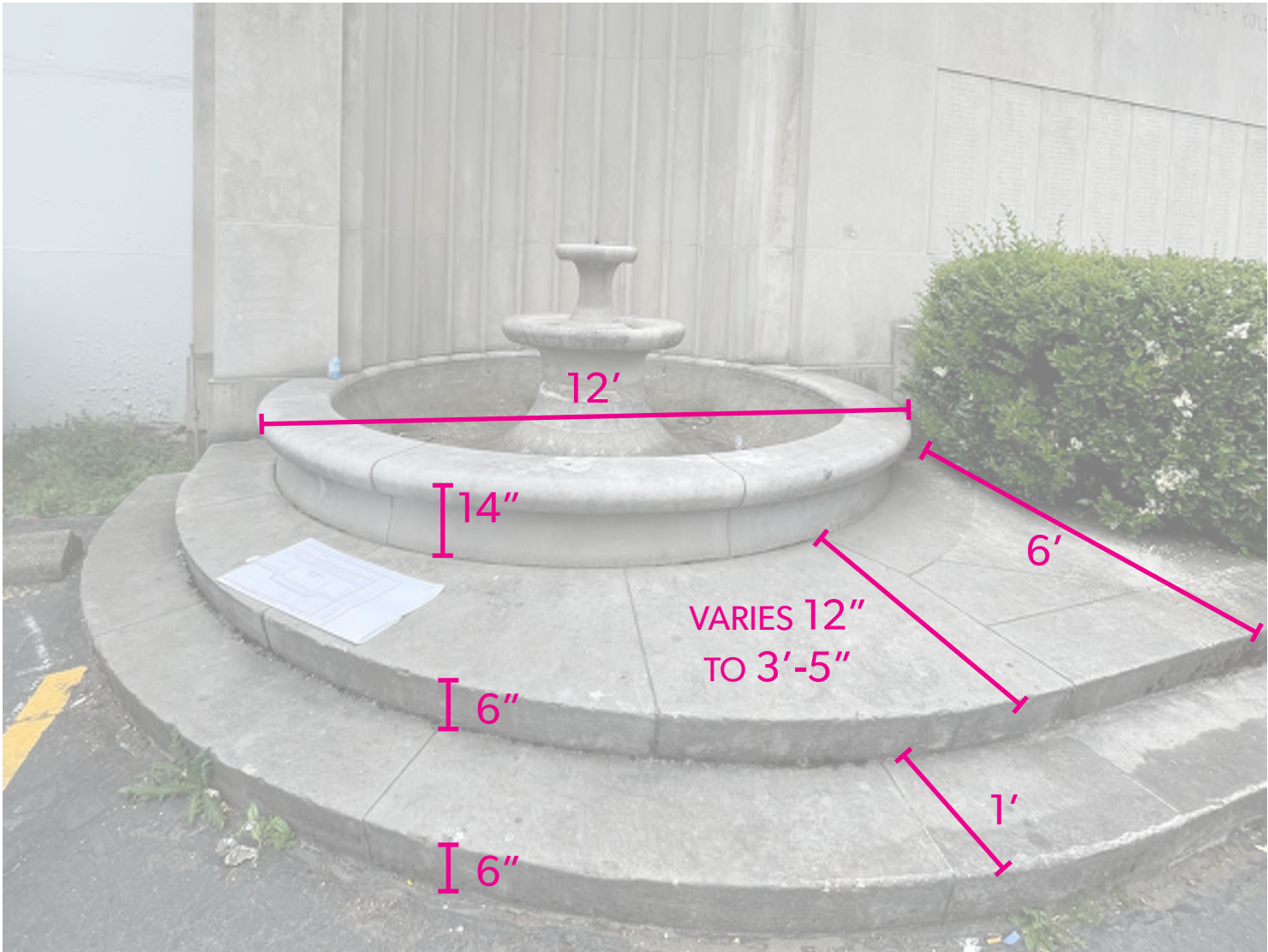


Spatial Analysis





Southern Memorial Fountain

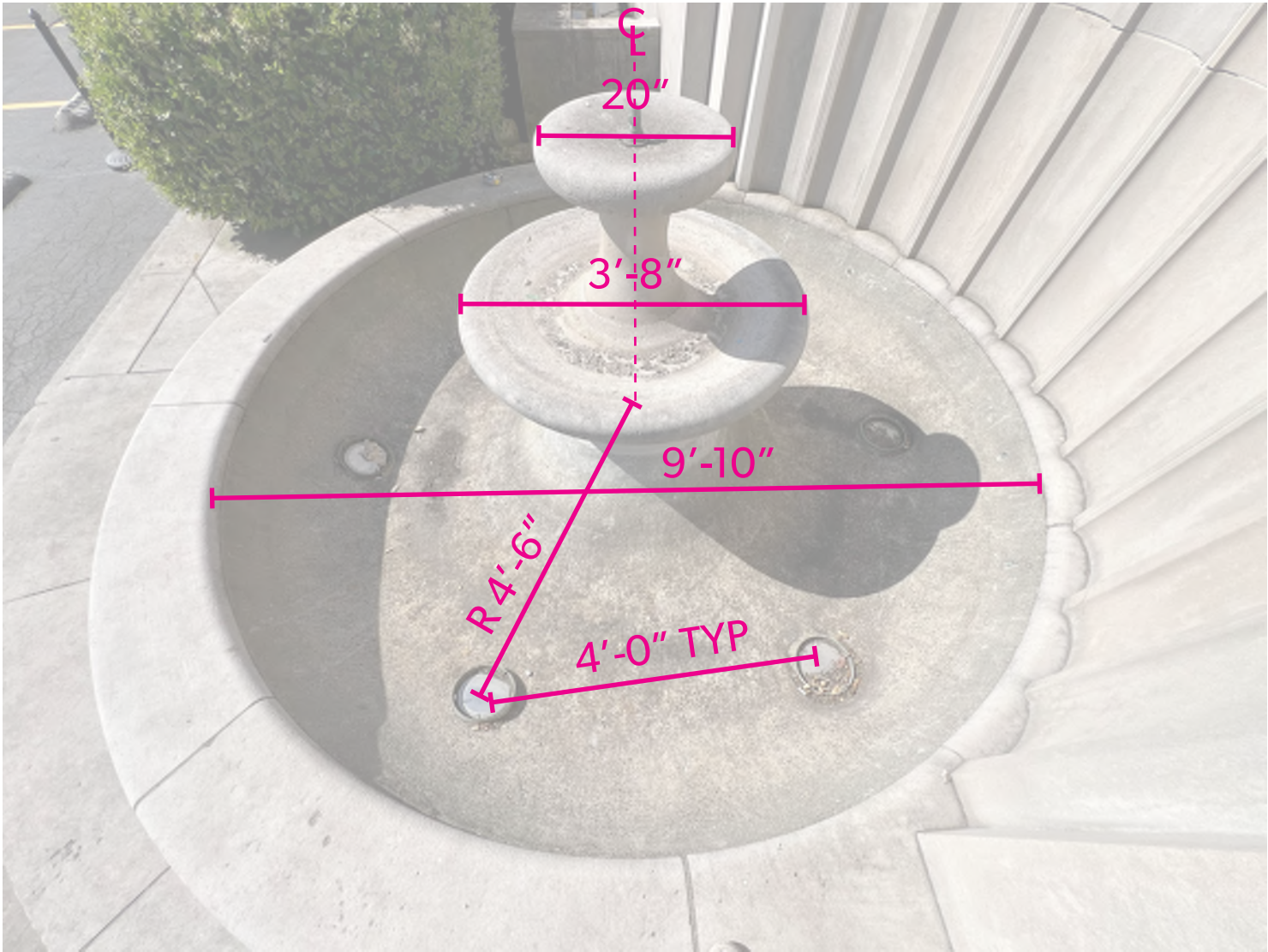


Spatial Analysis





Northern Memorial Fountain Birds Eye

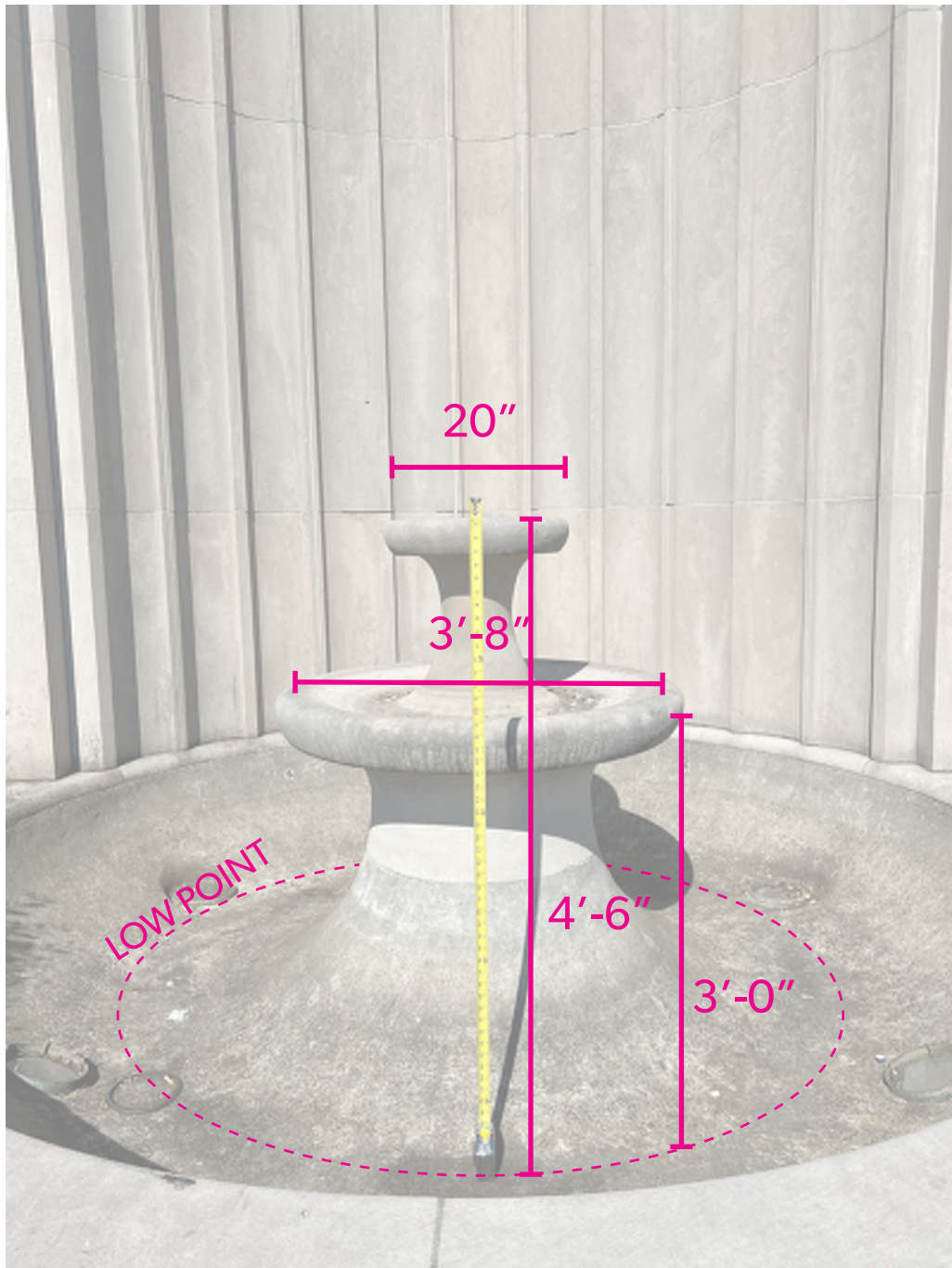


Spatial Analysis





Northern Memorial Fountain Elevation

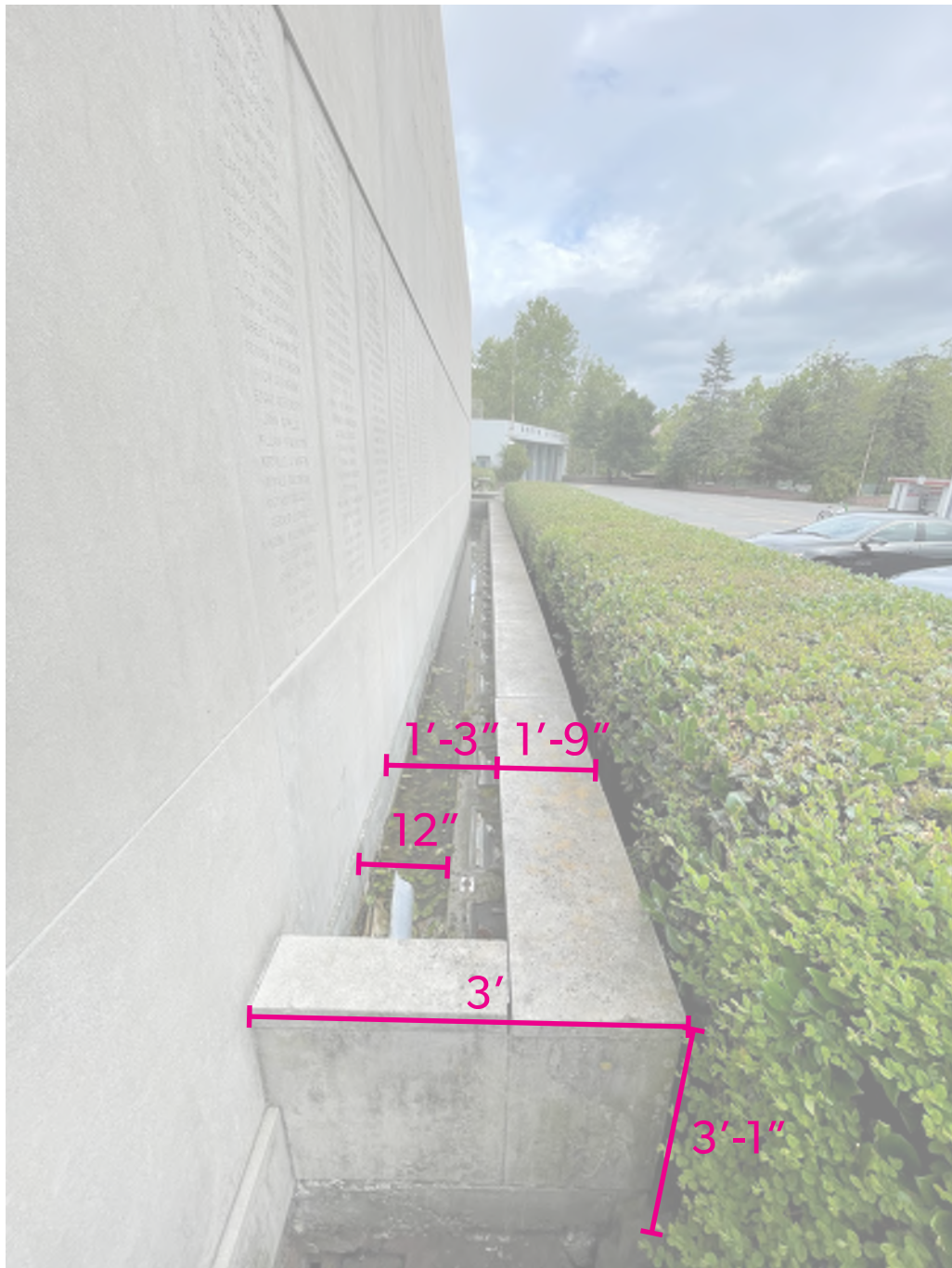


Spatial Analysis





Memorial Wall Up-Lighting Channel



Spatial Analysis

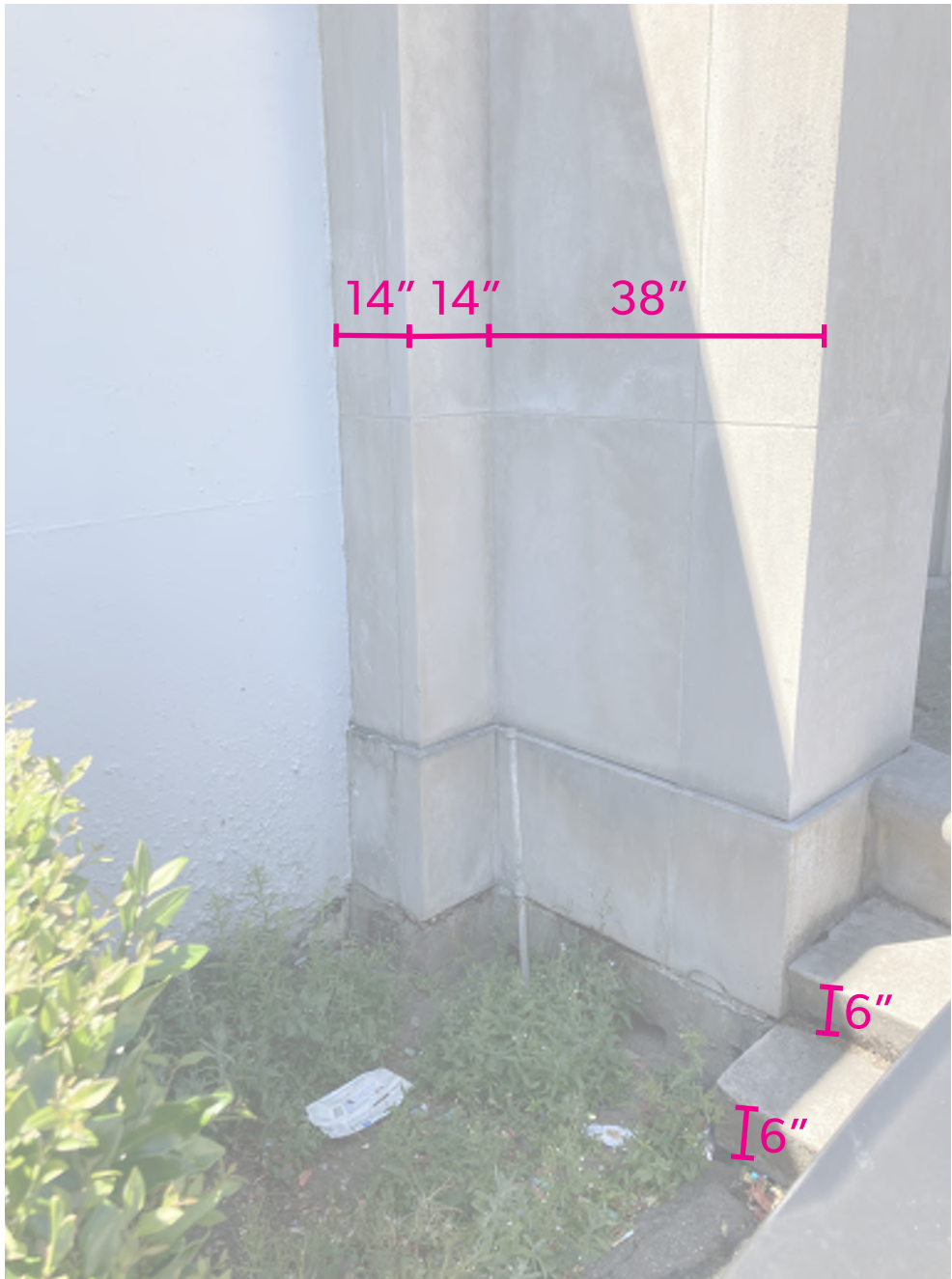




North Memorial Stone Wall and Stadium Concrete Wall at Top of Walls - Stone Chips at Jointing



North Memorial Stone Wall and Stadium Concrete Wall at Grade - Chipping at Exposed Slab and Corner



South Memorial Stone Wall and Stadium Concrete Wall at Grade - Chipping at Exposed Slab and Corner





South Basin Steps - Nosing Chips and Discoloration



North Fountain Steps - Nosing Chips



Memorial Steps - Stone Joint, Discoloration, and Moss





South Fountain Basin Tower - Stone Markings and Discoloration



South Fountain Basin Edge - Stone Deterioration



Fountain Backdrop Fluting - Jointing and Stone Condition





North Fountain Basin - Cloudy Lenses and Debris



North Fountain Basin Lights - Fixture Hardware Condition



Memorial Wall Light - Fixture Housing and Wiring Condition



Memorial Wall Lighting Trench - Fixture Condition + Standing Water





North Fountain Basin - Water Inlet and Outlet Locations



Water Overflow Pipes at Rim



Water Outlet at Basin Low Point



Water Inlet at Pedestal Top



Diameter - TBD

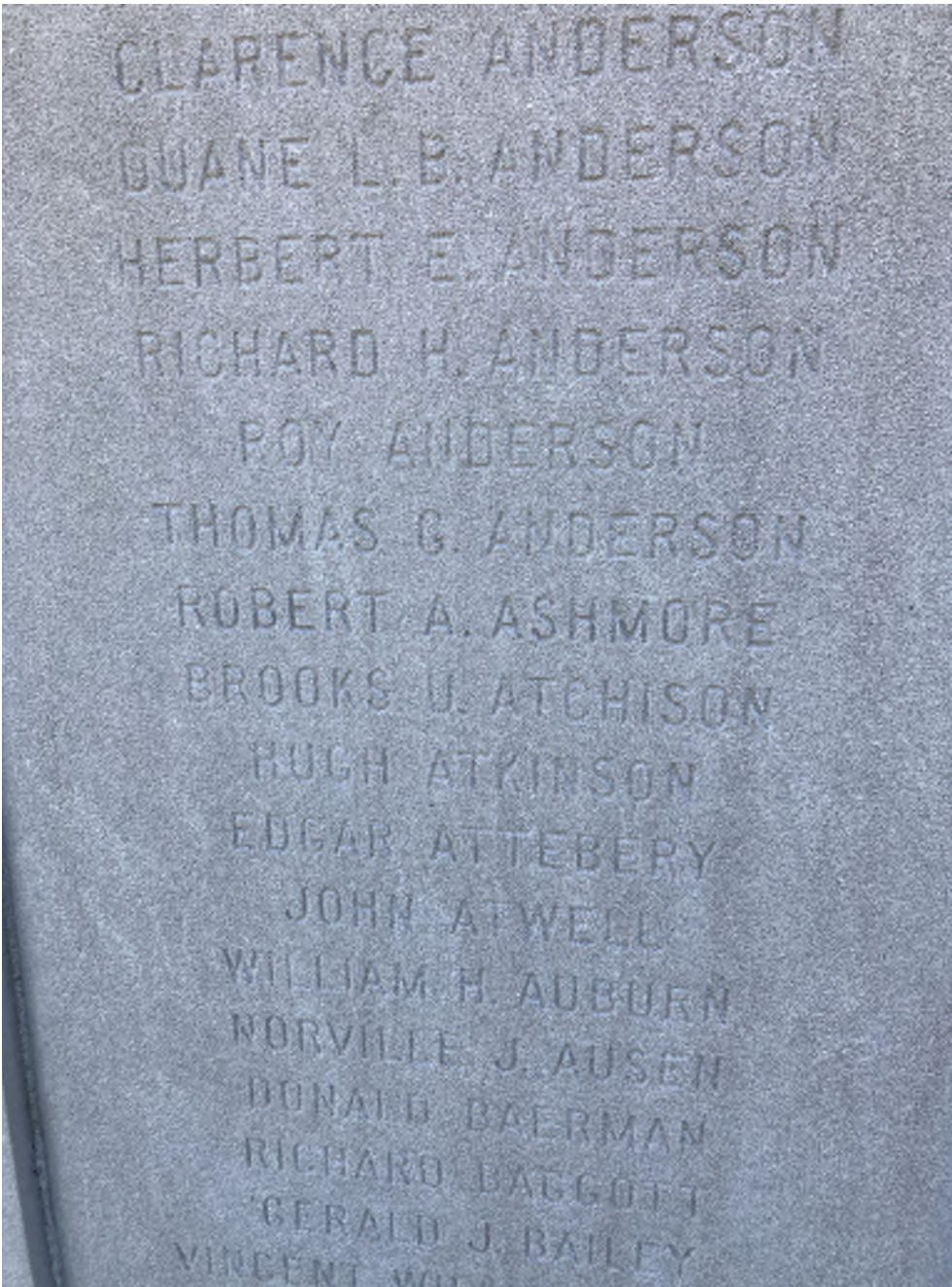


Diameter - TBD



Diameter - TBD





Memorial Wall Names - Stone and Engraving Typ Condition

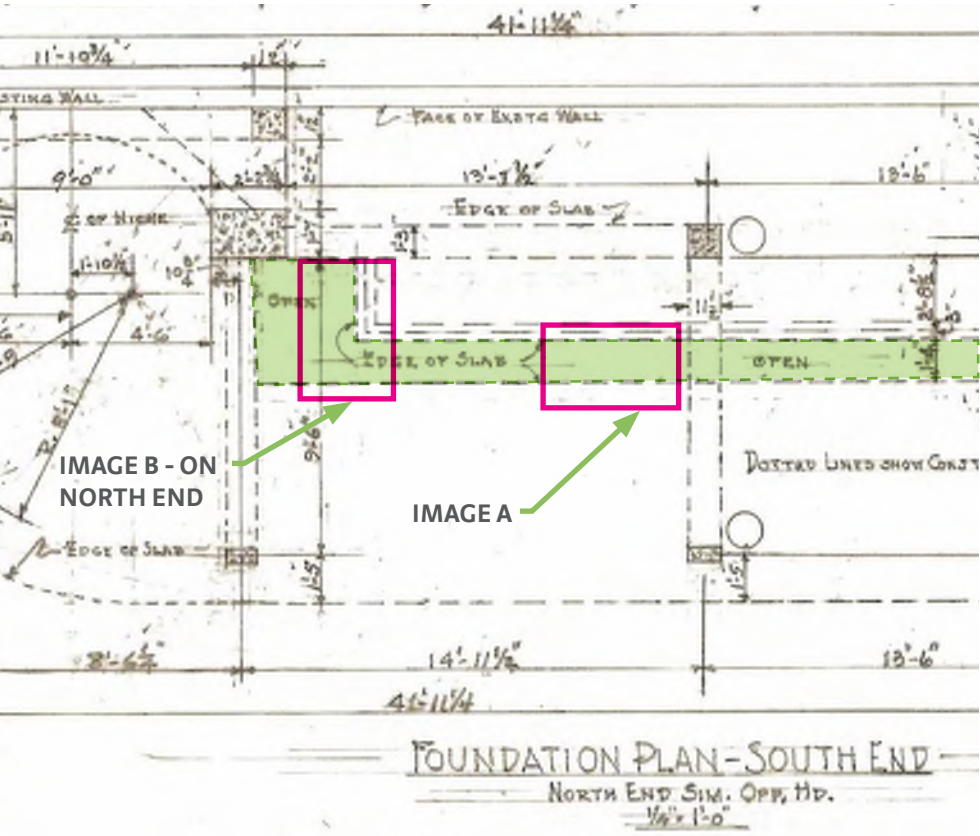


Names Close Up - Stone Discoloration



Memorial Wall - Stone Patch Work, Two of Three





South Half Planting Area Plan - Symetrical to North



Existing Planting Area -



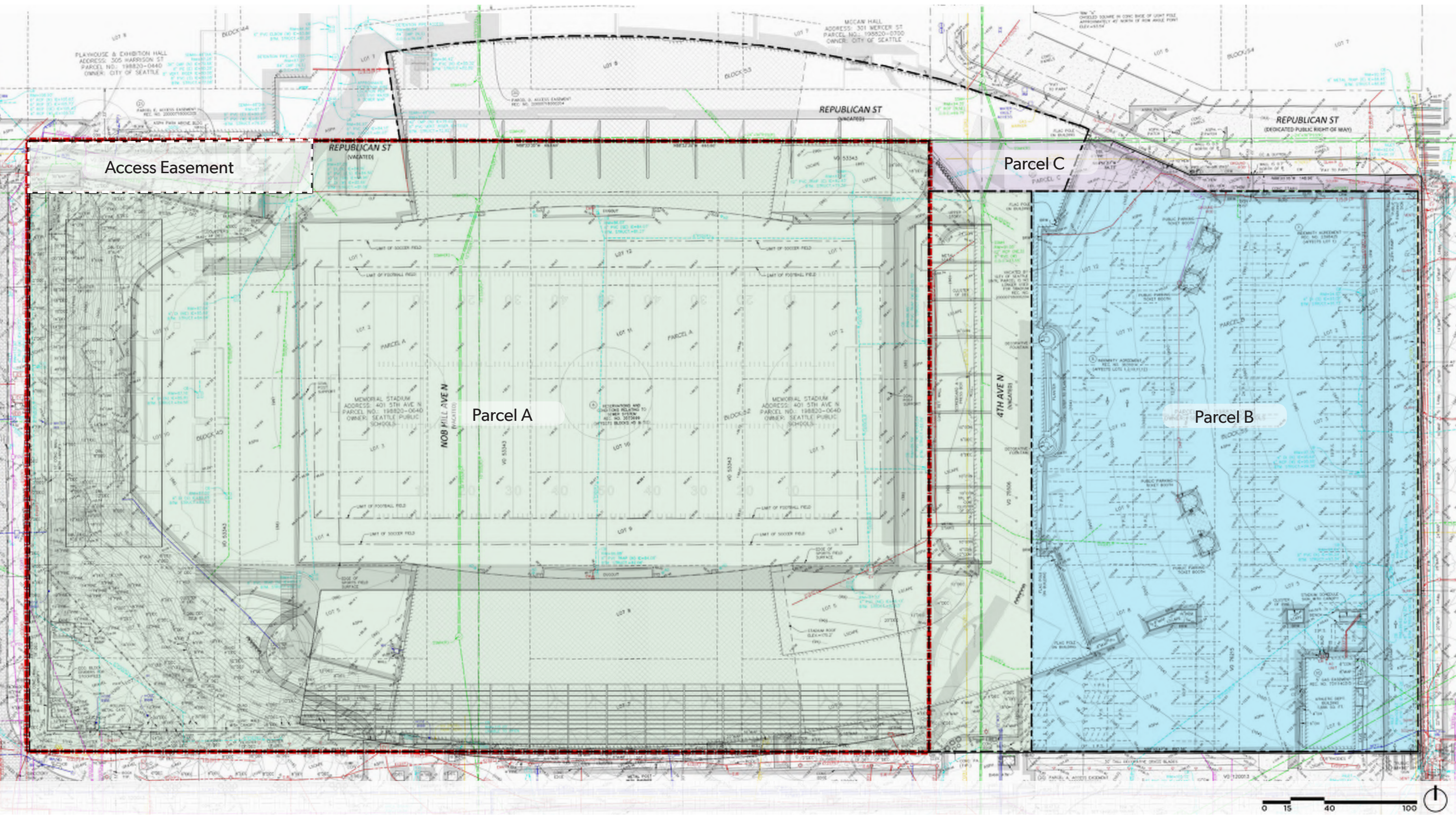
A: Existing Planter - Width of Planter



B: Planter at North End of Lighting Trench - Root Mass and Trash



# BUILDING HISTORY + EXISTING CONDITIONS | Current Lot Lines





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# LANDMARKS + PROJECT OBJECTIVES



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION ORDINANCE (SEATTLE MUNICIPAL CODE)

25.12.20 - PURPOSE AND DECLARATION OF POLICY

THE CITY’S LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY FINDS THAT THE PROTECTION, ENHANCEMENT, PERPETUATION AND USE OF SITES, IMPROVEMENTS AND OBJECTS OF HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING OR GEOGRAPHIC SIGNIFICANCE, LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY, ARE REQUIRED IN THE INTEREST OF THE PROSPERITY, CIVIC PRIDE AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE; AND FURTHER FINDS THAT THE ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND AESTHETIC STANDING OF THIS CITY CANNOT BE MAINTAINED OR ENHANCED BY DISREGARDING THE HERITAGE OF THE CITY AND BY ALLOWING THE UNNECESSARY DESTRUCTION OR DEFACEMENT OF SUCH CULTURAL ASSETS.

LANDMARKS ORDINANCE GOALS / OBJECTIVES

- TO DESIGNATE, PRESERVE, PROTECT, ENHANCE AND PERPETUATE THOSE SITES, IMPROVEMENTS AND OBJECTS WHICH REFLECT SIGNIFICANT ELEMENTS OF THE CITY’S CULTURAL, AESTHETIC, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING, HISTORIC OR OTHER HERITAGE, CONSISTENT WITH THE ESTABLISHED LONG-TERM GOALS AND POLICIES OF THE CITY.
- TO FOSTER CIVIC PRIDE IN THE BEAUTY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST
- TO STABILIZE OR IMPROVE THE AESTHETIC AND ECONOMIC VITALITY AND VALUES OF SUCH SITES, IMPROVEMENTS AND OBJECTS.
- TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE CITY’S ATTRACTION TO TOURISTS AND VISITORS
- TO PROMOTE THE USE OF OUTSTANDING SITES, IMPROVEMENTS AND OBJECTS FOR THE EDUCATION, STIMULATION AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY.
- TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE CONTINUED PRIVATE OWNERSHIP AND USE OF SUCH SITES, IMPROVEMENTS AND OBJECTS NOW SO OWNED AND USED, TO THE EXTENT THAT THE OBJECTIVES LISTED ABOVE CAN BE ATTAINED UNDER SUCH A POLICY.

GENERAL SYSTEM NOTES:

- CURRENT FUNCTIONALITY OF WATER FEATURE SOURCE PIPE AND DRAIN IS UNKNOWN.
- CURRENT FUNCTIONALITY OF FEATURE LIGHTING AND ELECTRICAL WIRING IS UNKNOWN.

PROJECT GOALS / OBJECTIVES

- PRESERVE, PROTECT AND HONOR EXISTING MEMORIAL WALL.
- PROTECT AND/OR REPAIR WALL, SITE , WATER FEATURES, LIGHTING FIXTURES AND CONDUIT.
- IMPROVE SURROUNDINGS IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO INCREASE THE PRESENCE OF THE MEMORIAL WALL.
- CREATE A SPATIAL BUFFER BETWEEN THE MEMORIAL WALL AND SURROUNDING PARKING TO HONOR MEMORIAL WALL AND PROVIDE PLACE FOR VIEWING AND VETERANS EVENTS.
- IMPROVE UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY AND SAFE ACCESS FOR VETERANS, SPS VISITORS, AND PUBLIC.
- ABANDON WATER FUNCTION DUE TO COMPLEXITY OF RENOVATION TO MEET PLUMBING CODE AND SAFETY WHILE PROTECTING HISTORIC FEATURES.

PRELIMINARY SITE PROGRAM

- INCREASE MEMORIAL ZONE AND PROVIDE PUBLIC GATHERING AREA.
- PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS.
- CREATE SEPARATION OF PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR ACTIVITY.



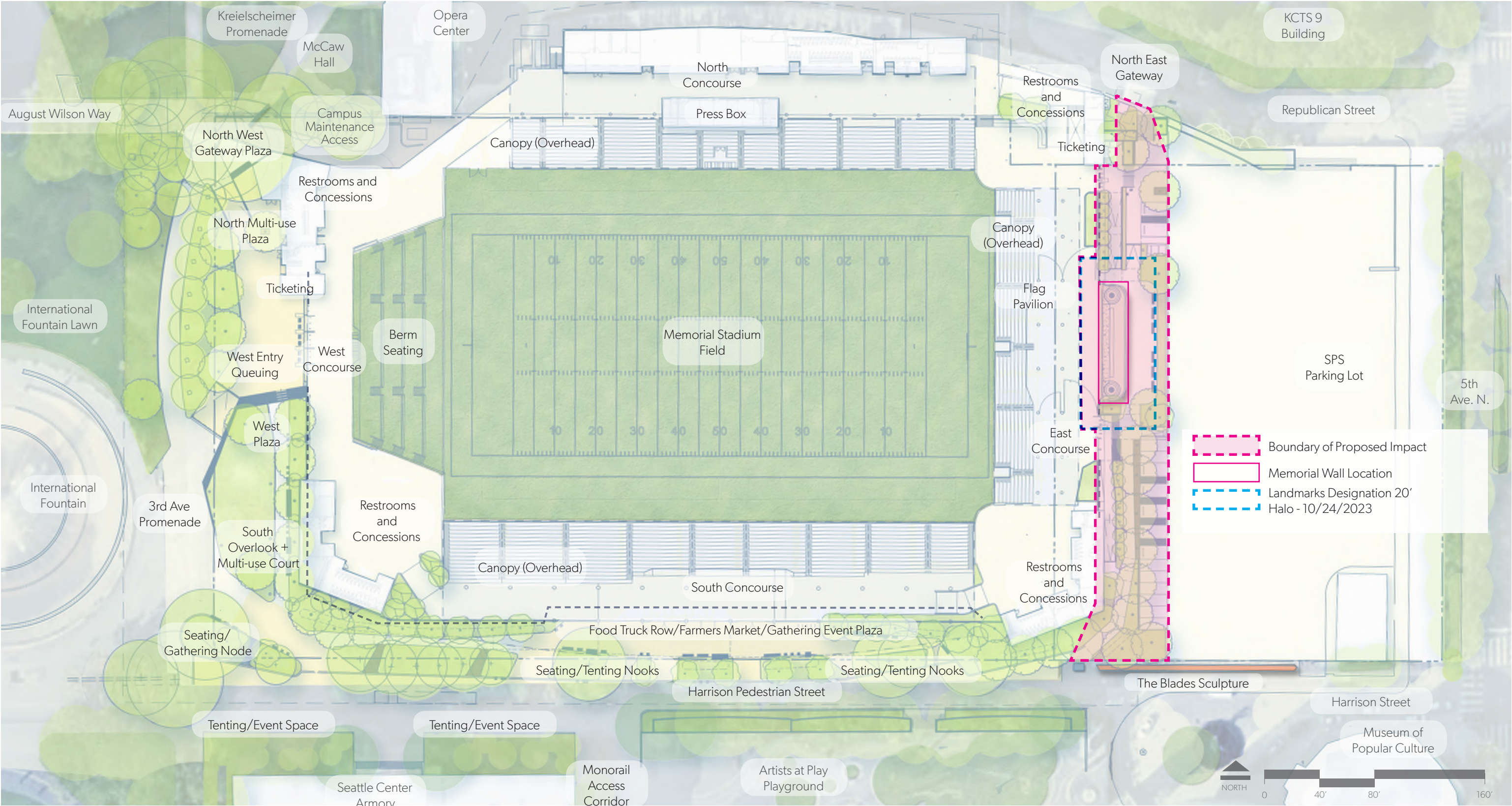
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# DESIGN PROPOSAL

- SITE CONTEXT
- CONTEXTUAL CHANGES
- STRUCTURAL + SYSTEM INTERVENTIONS
- SITE DESIGN + ACCESSIBILITY

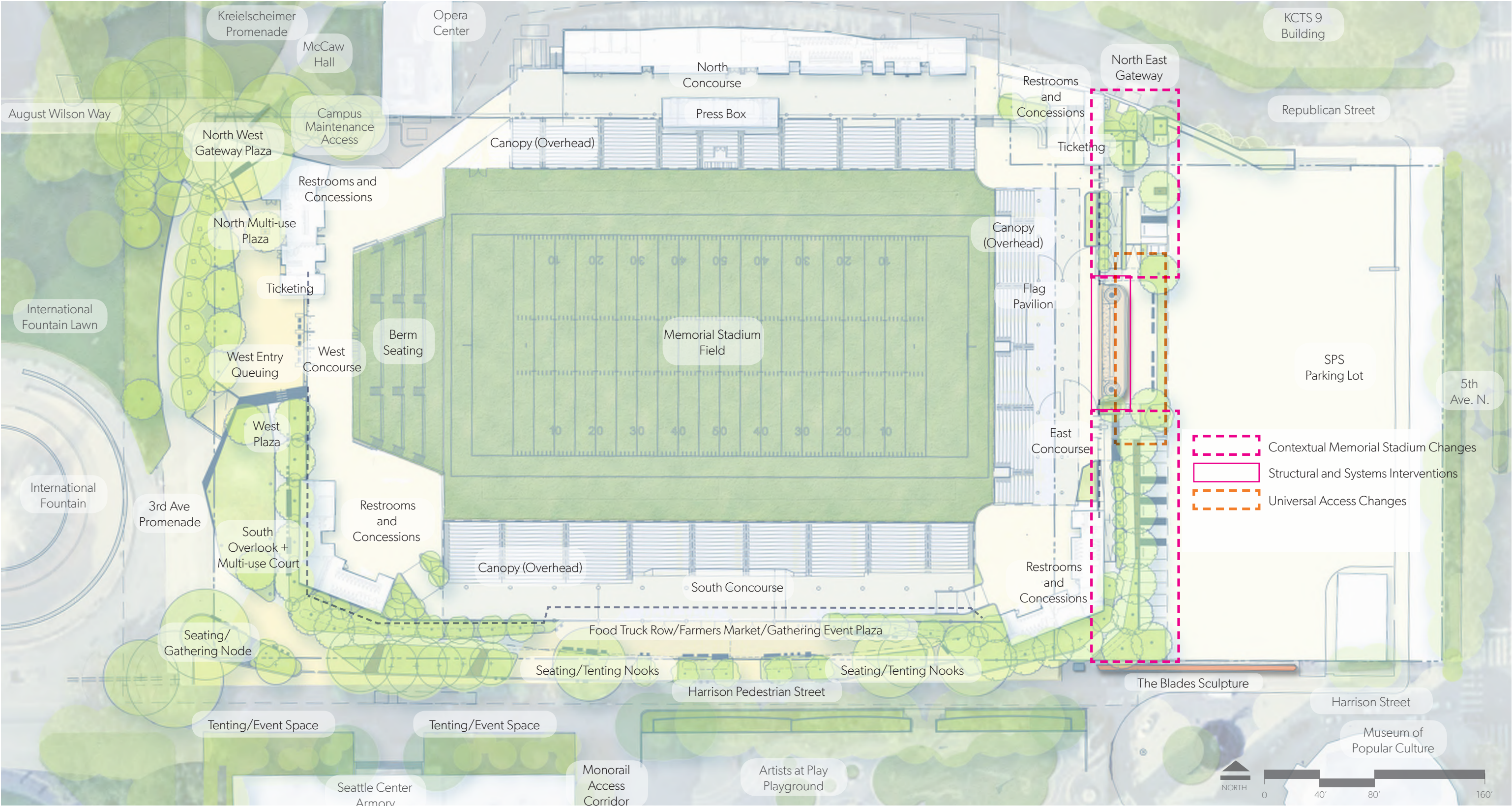


SITE CONTEXT | Memorial Stadium Site Plan - Contextual Overlays



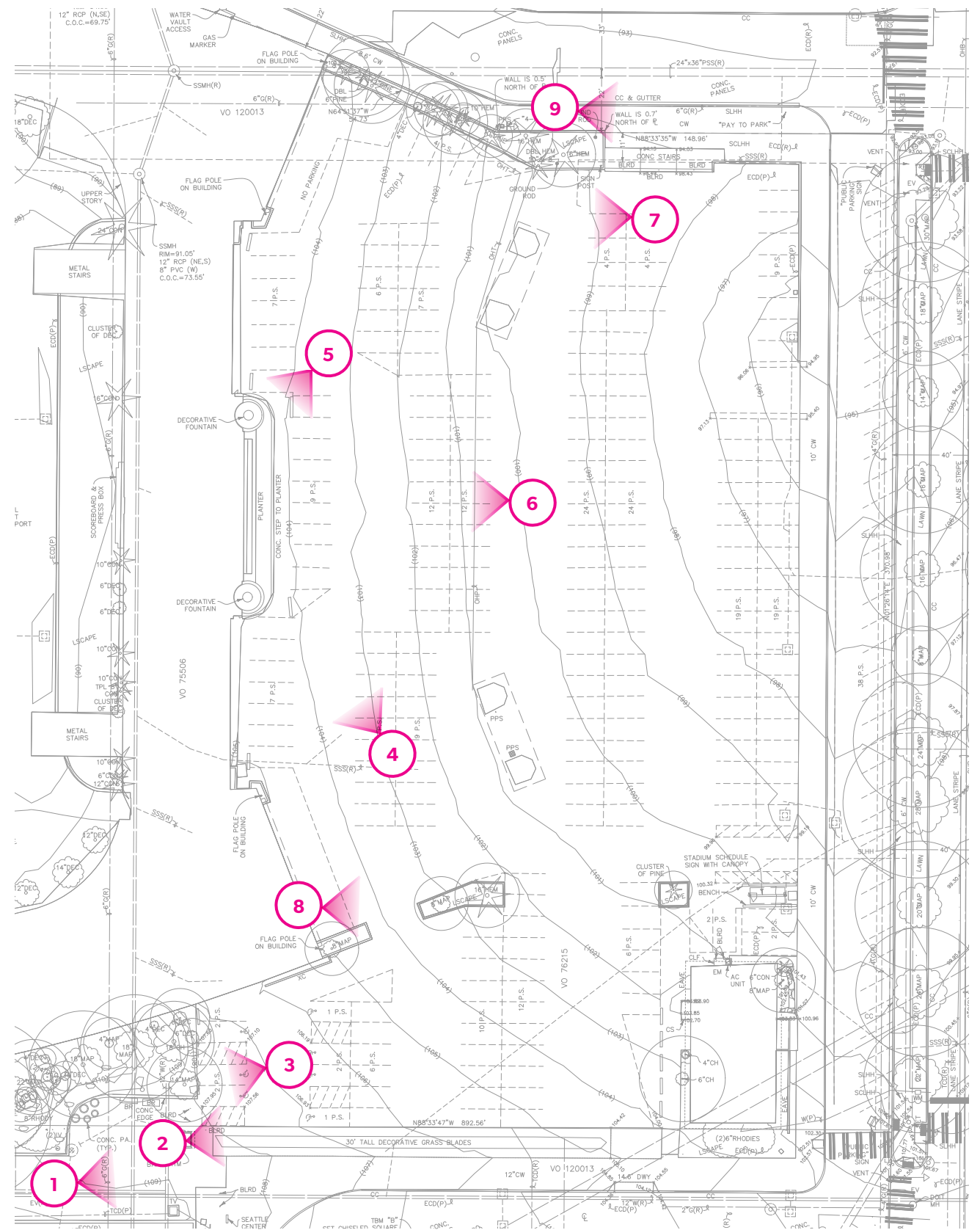


SITE CONTEXT | Memorial Stadium Site Plan - Memorial Preliminary Options Diagram





## EXISTING VIEWS



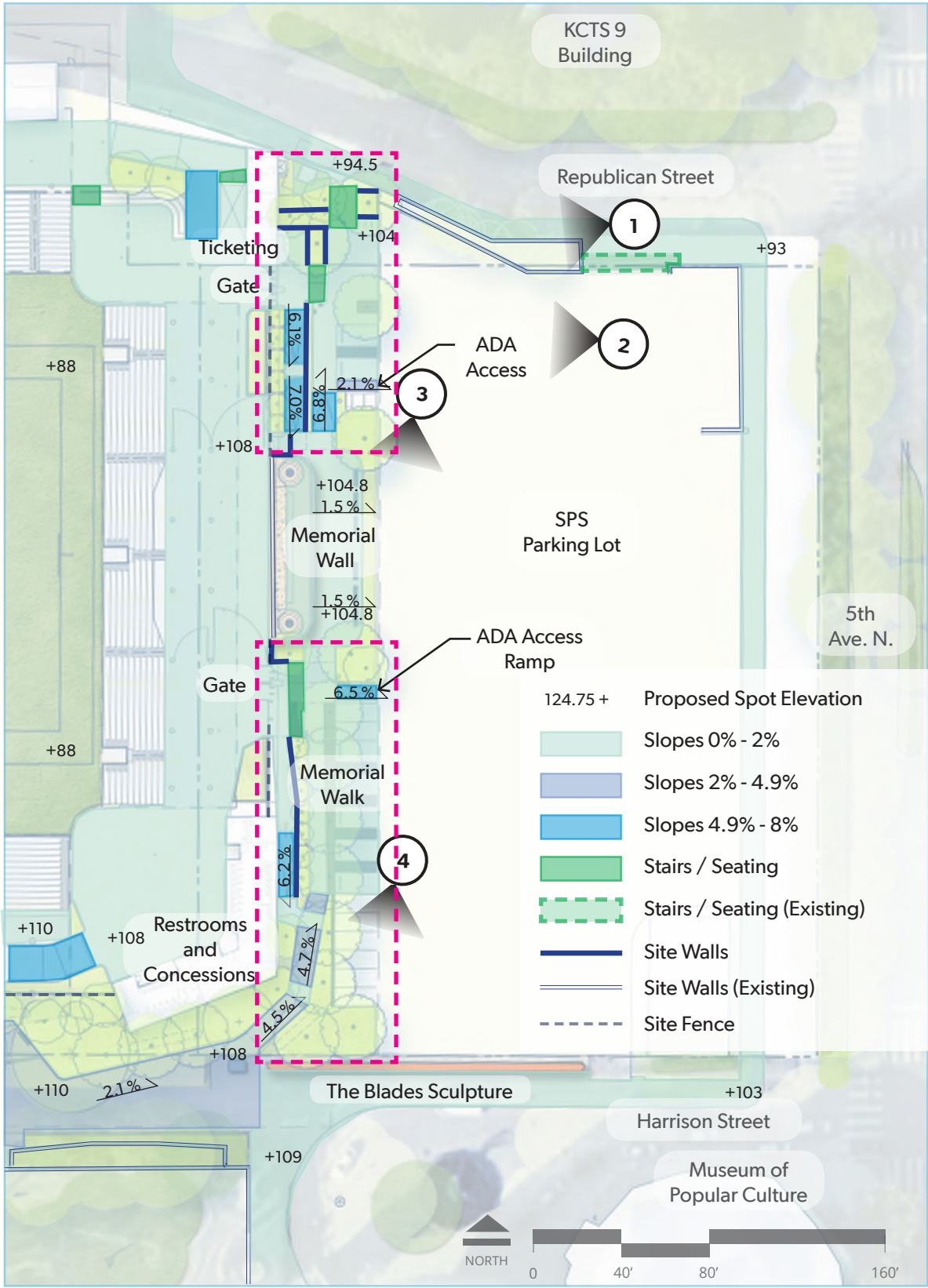


# CONTEXTUAL CHANGES | Proposed Memorial Stadium Site Grading

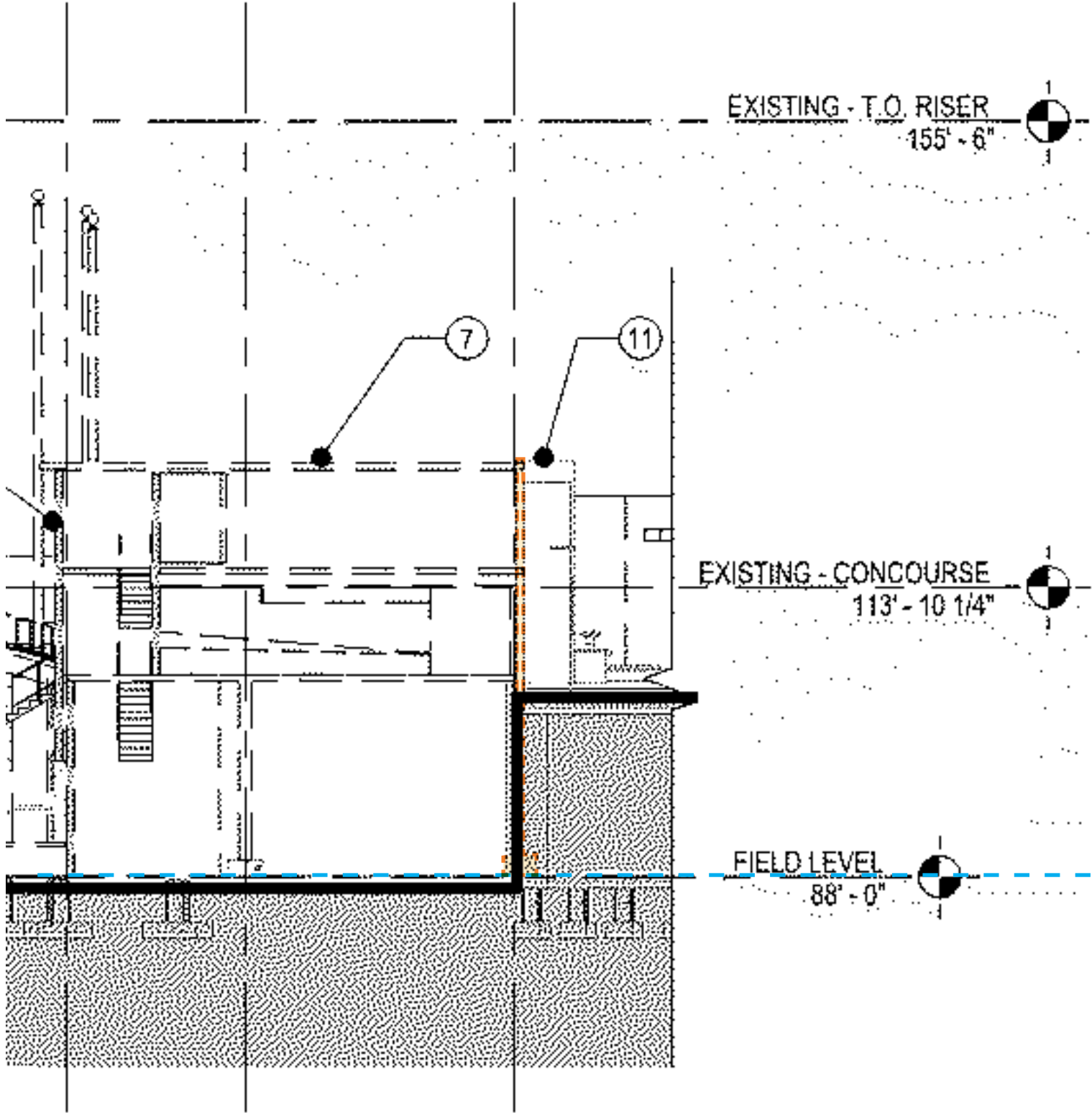
## GRADING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Existing topography will be modified adjacent to the Memorial Wall and new stadium to provide for universal access, pedestrian routes connecting the site to the north and south of the site. The existing parking lot, adjoining sidewalks and driveways will remain at existing elevation.

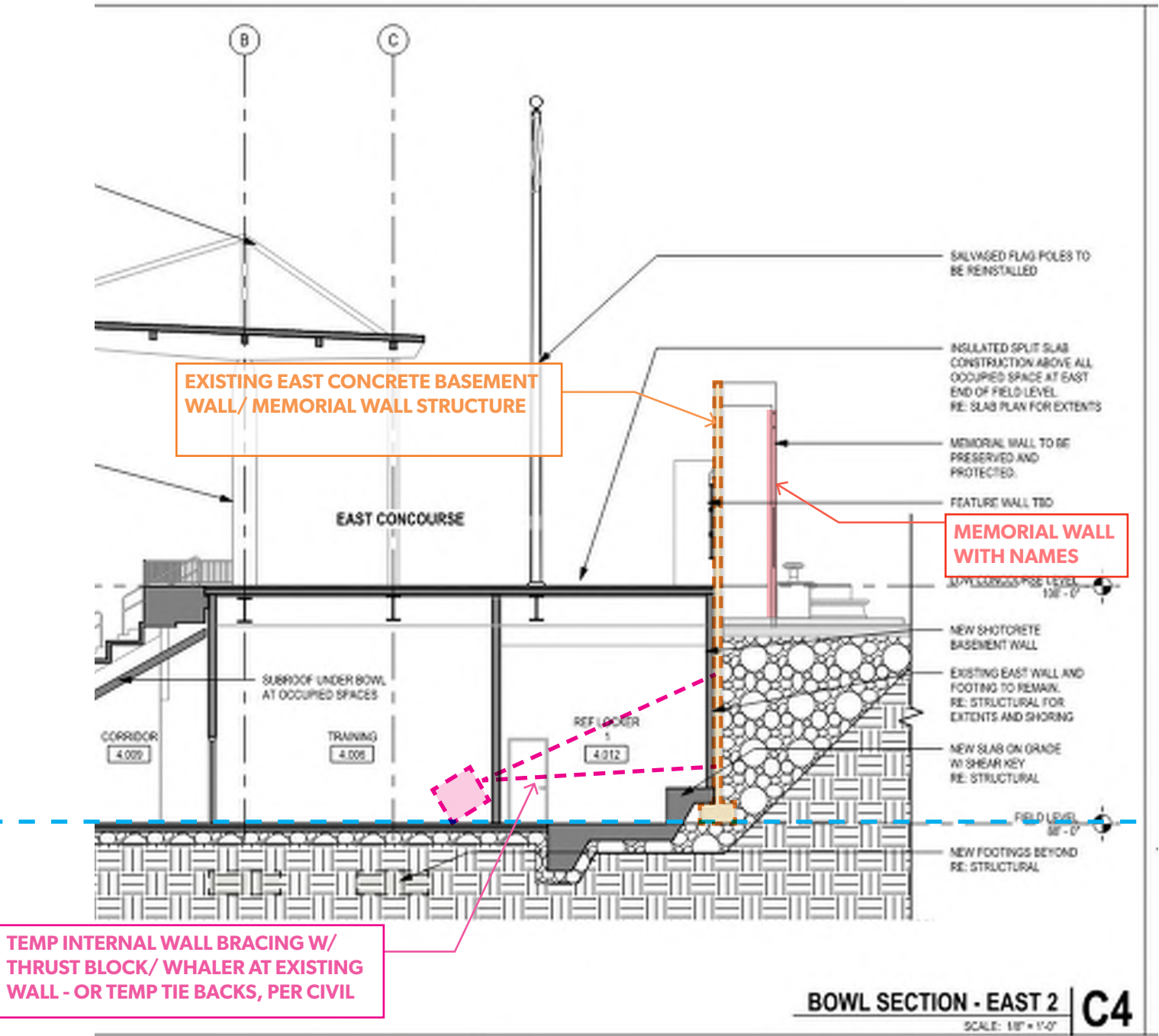
## EXISTING VIEWS







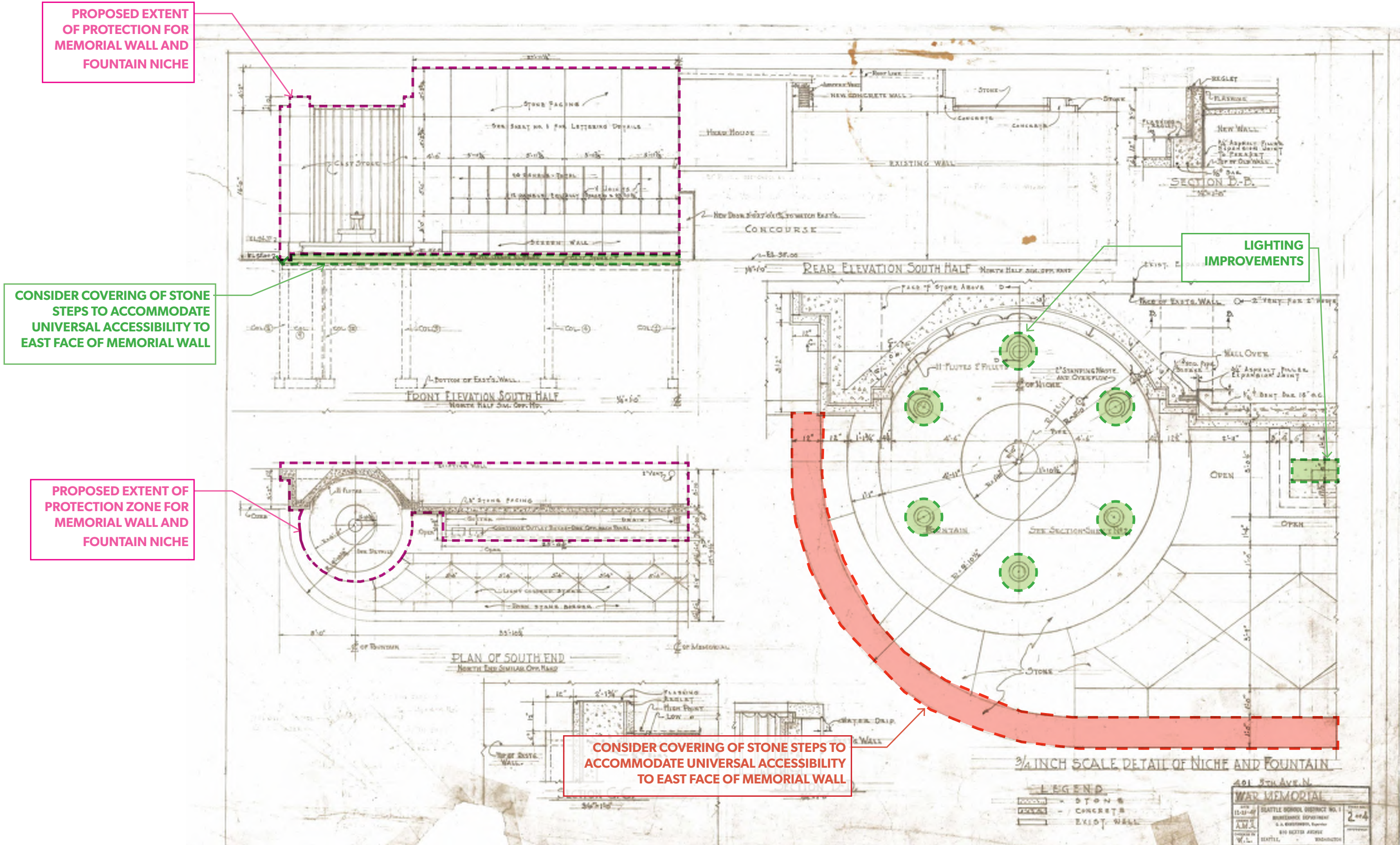
Existing Section of Memorial Wall and Foundations



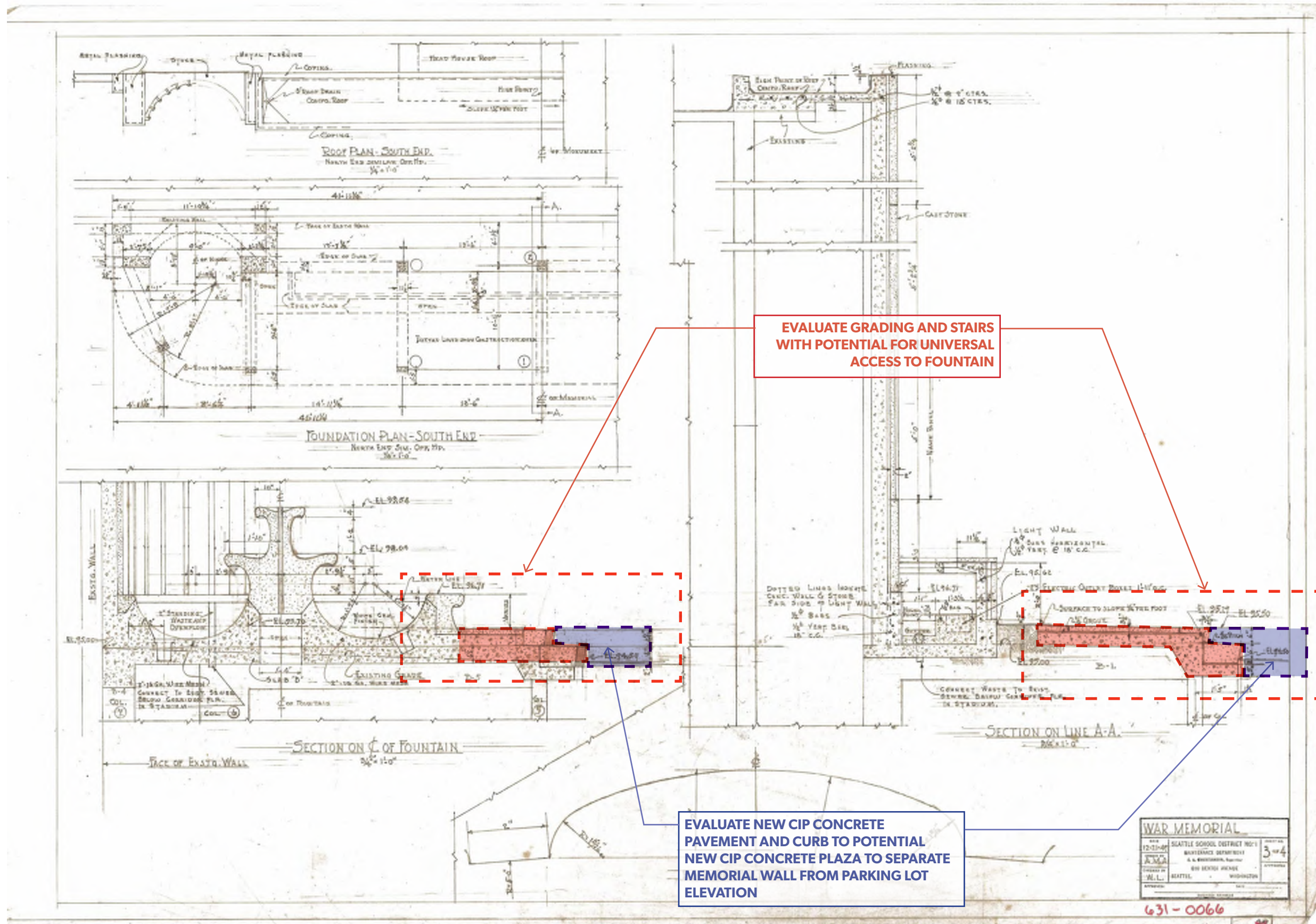
Proposed East Section of Memorial Wall, Temporary Shoring, and Foundations



## STRUCTURAL AND SYSTEM INTERVENTIONS | Original Drawings (12/21/1949) - Proposed Impact Extents









PROJECT GOALS / OBJECTIVES

- Preserve, protect and honor existing Memorial Wall.
- Protect and/OR repair wall, site, water features, lighting fixtures and conduit.
- Improve surroundings in such a manner as to increase the presence of the Memorial Wall.
- Create a spatial buffer between the Memorial Wall and surrounding parking to honor Memorial Wall and provide place for viewing and veterans events.
- Improve universal accessibility and safe access for veterans, SPS visitors and public.

PRELIMINARY SITE PROGRAM

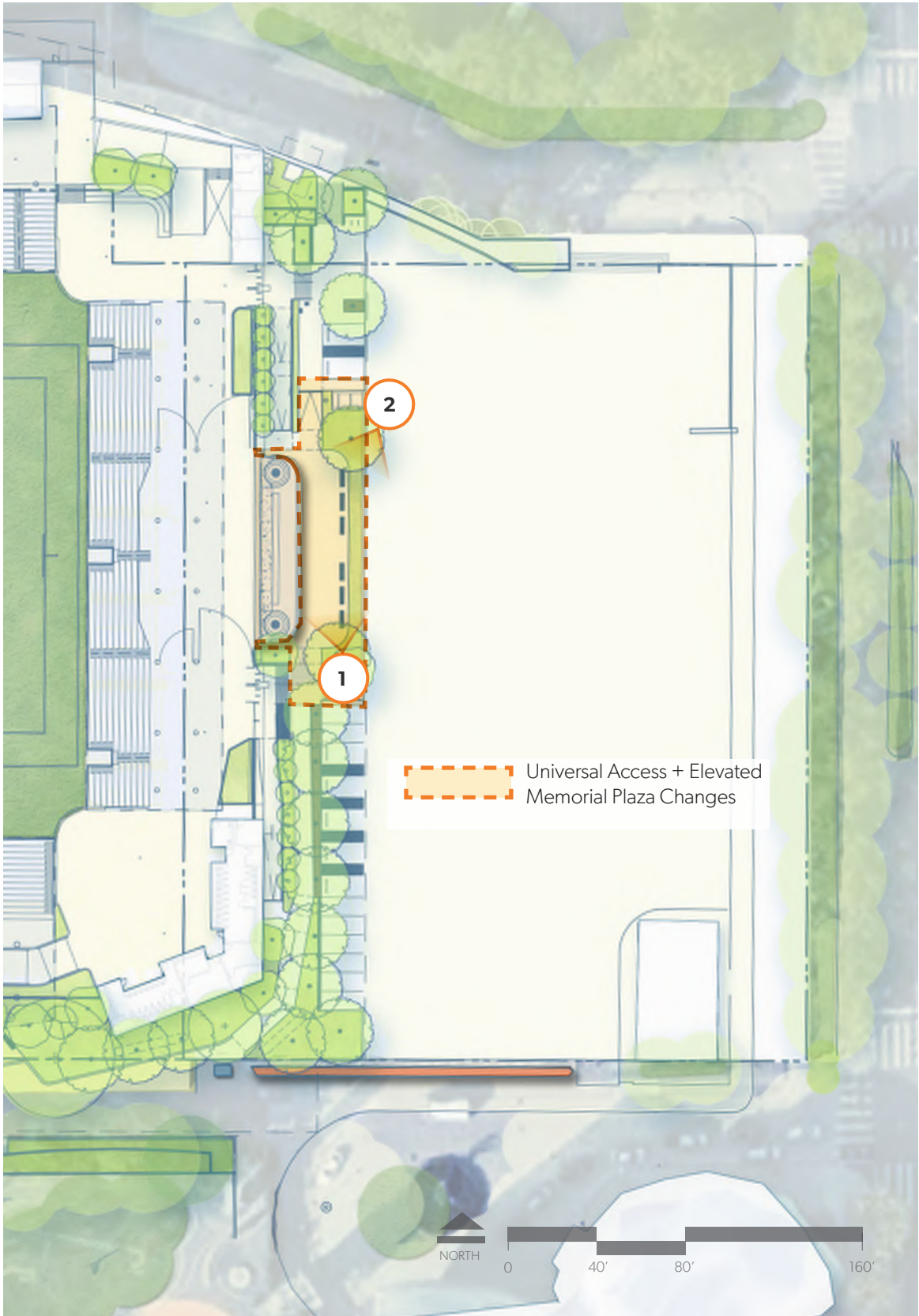
- Increase memorial zone and provide public gathering area.
- Provide pedestrian and universal access.
- Create separation of pedestrian and vehicular activity.



Existing View Looking North - Proposed Impact Zone



Rendered View Looking South West

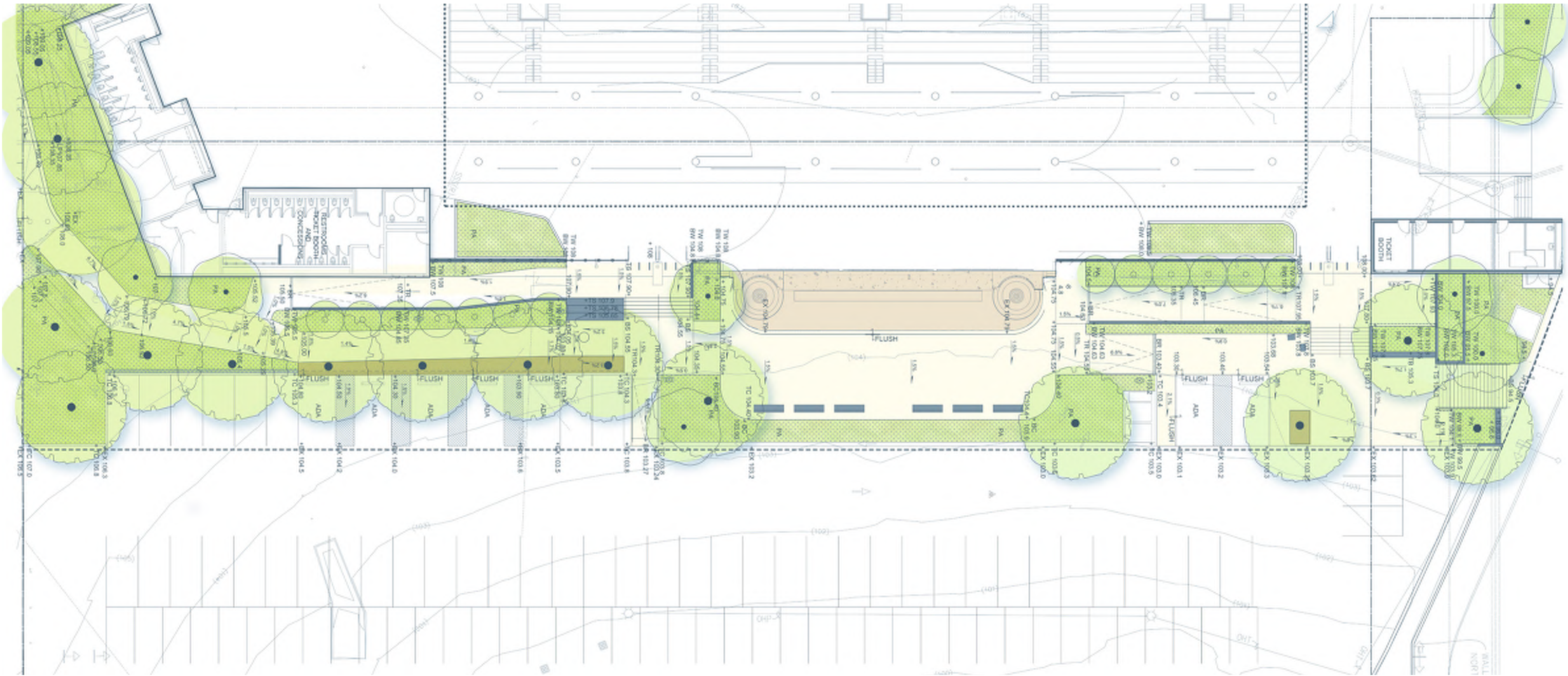






Rendered View Looking West

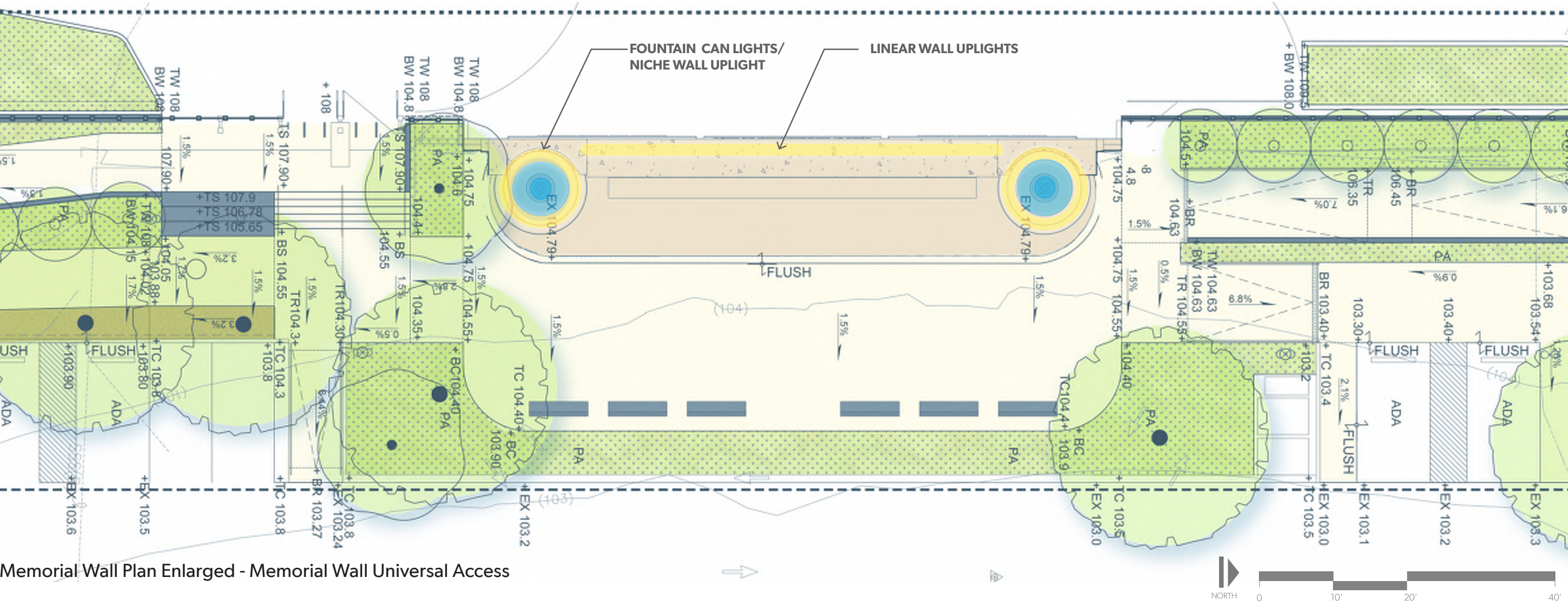




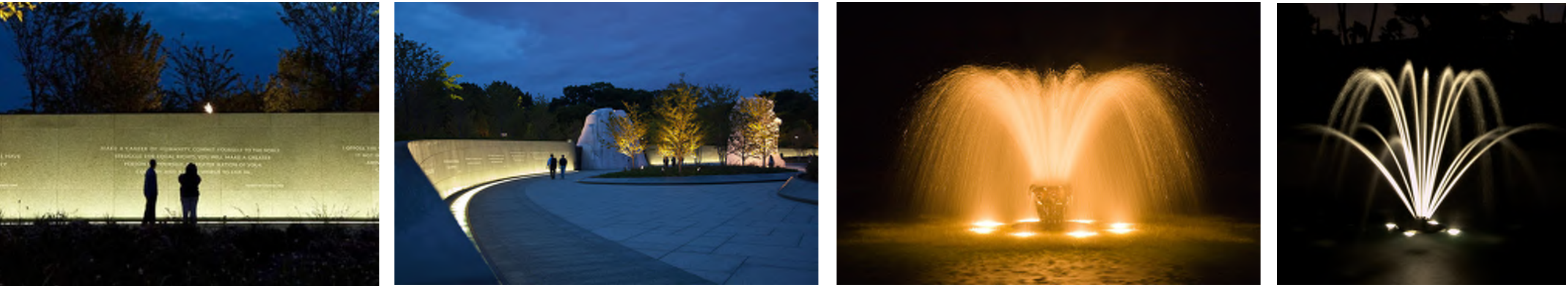
East Side Plan - Memorial Wall Universal Access



# UNIVERSAL ACCESS | Memorial Preliminary Design

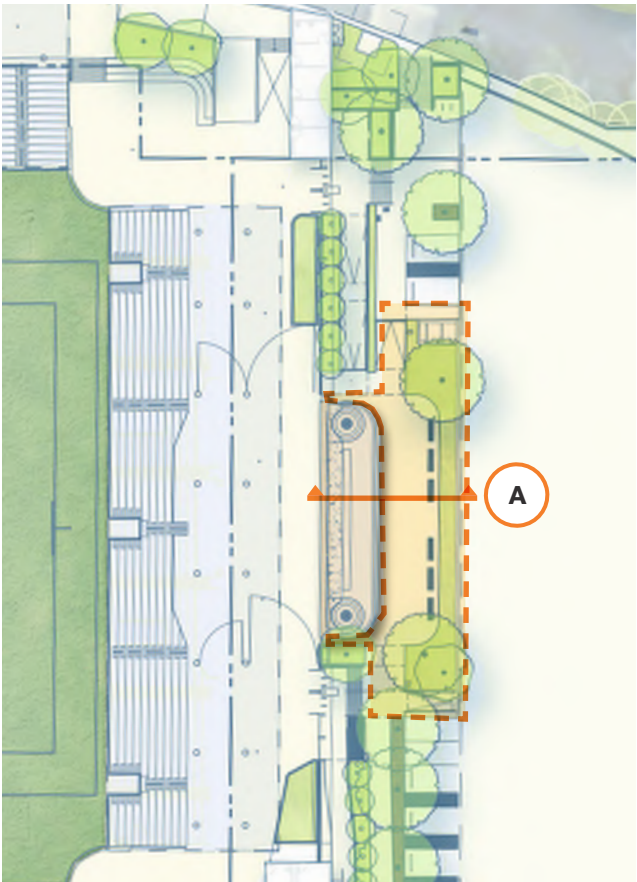



Memorial Wall Plan Enlarged - Memorial Wall Universal Access

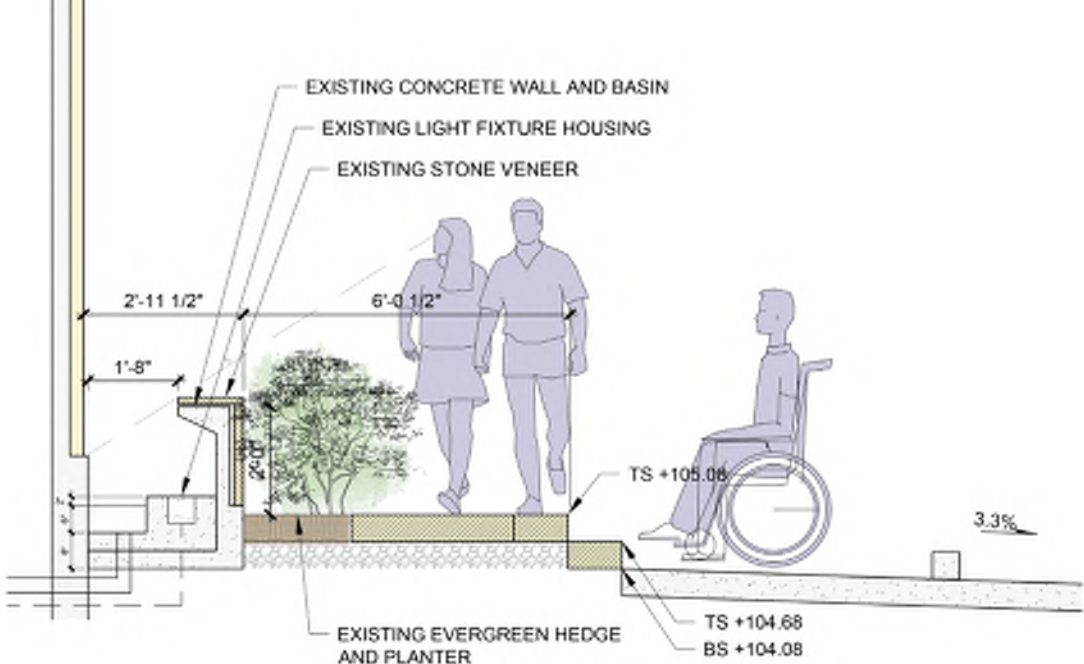


Memorial Wall Lighting - Concept Images

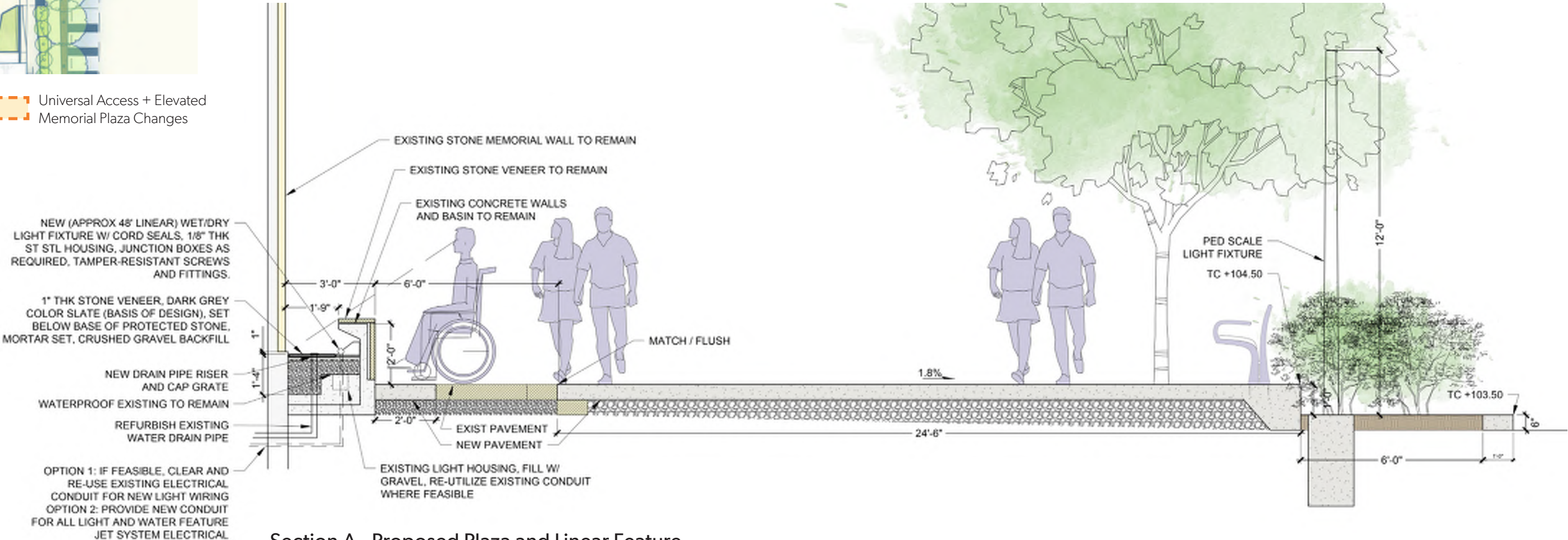




 Universal Access + Elevated Memorial Plaza Changes

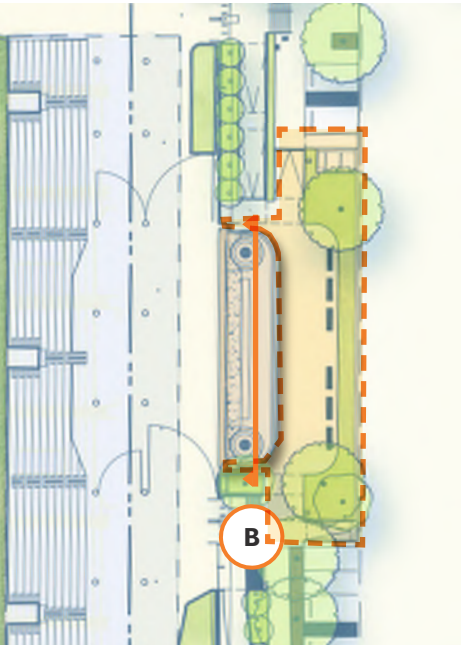



Section A - Existing Stair and Linear Feature

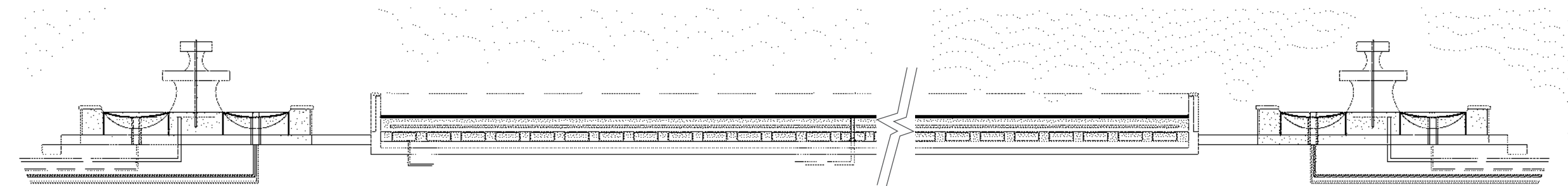


Section A - Proposed Plaza and Linear Feature

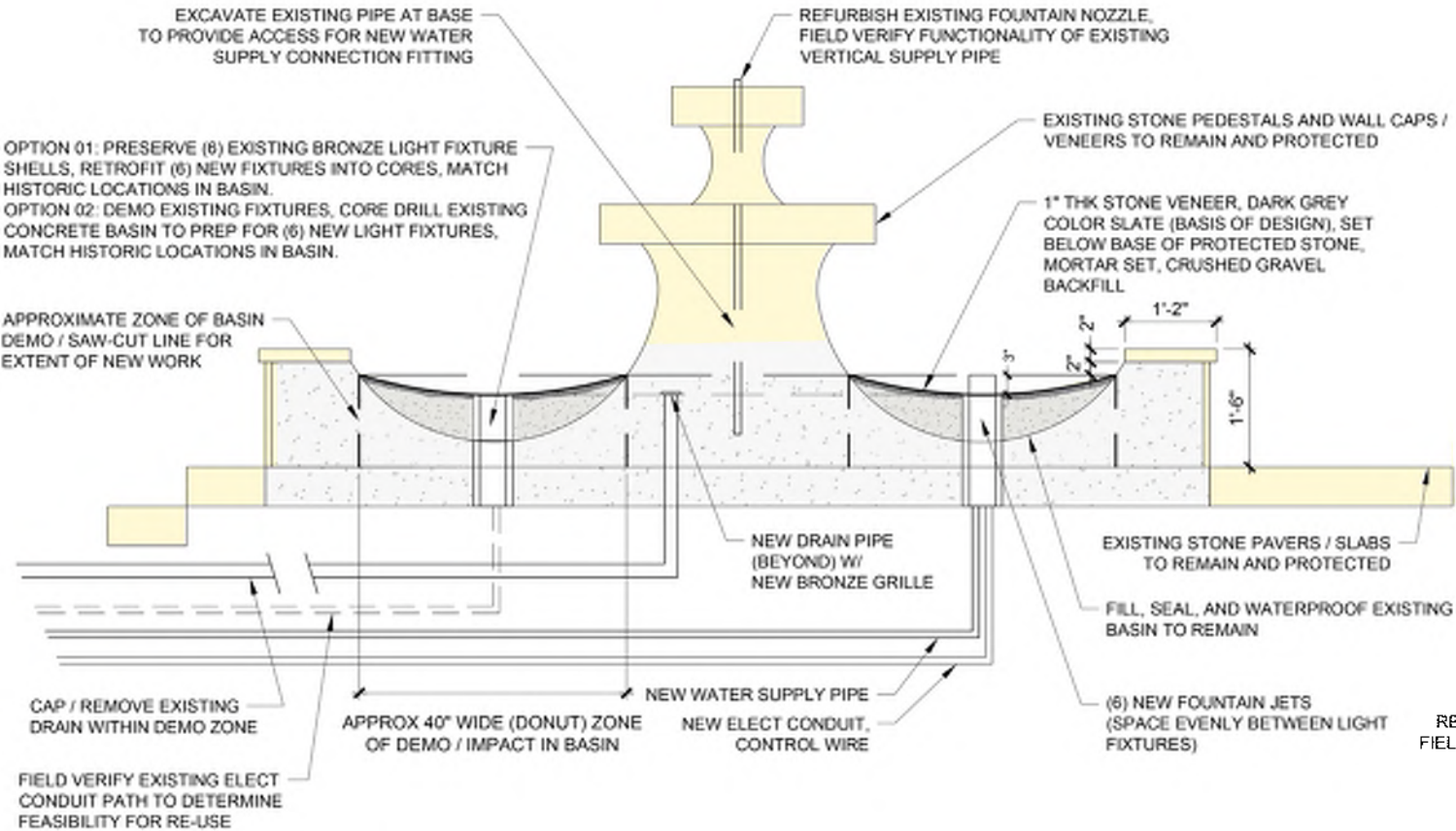




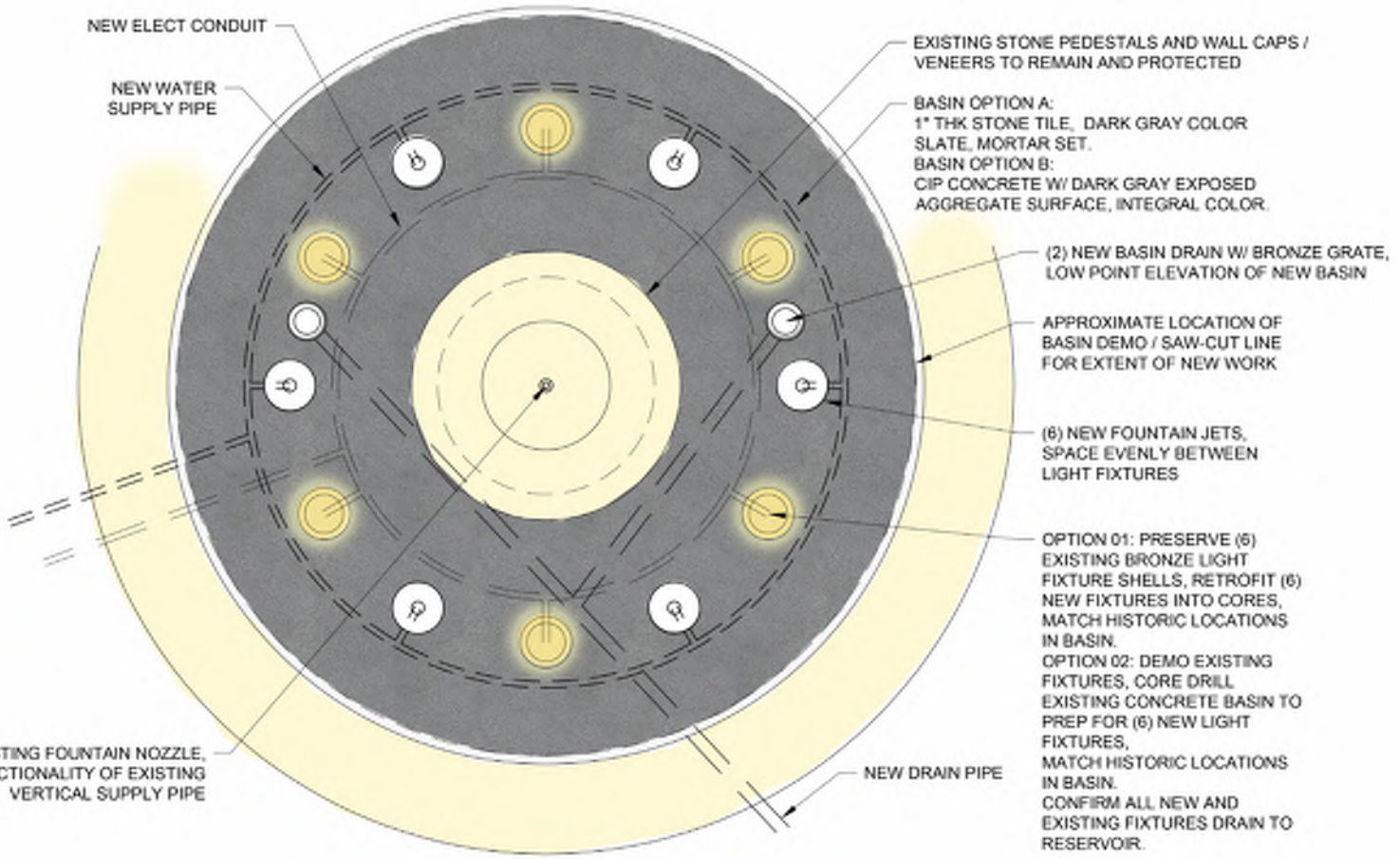
 Universal Access + Elevated Memorial Plaza Changes



Section B -Basin and Linear Features



Section B (Enlarged) - Proposed Basin Condition



Plan - Proposed Basin Condition



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# APPENDIX



