



## Executive Director's Recommendation

Commission Meeting: March 5, 2020

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**PROJECT**

**Reservation 378 Park Design Revisions and Reconstruction**

Virginia Avenue between C Street and 21st Street, NW  
Washington, DC

**SUBMITTED BY**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**REVIEW AUTHORITY**

Federal Projects in the District  
per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

**NCPC FILE NUMBER**

8147

**NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER**

1.34(38.00)45067

**APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

Approval of preliminary site and building plans

**PROPOSED ACTION**

Approve comments on concept plans

**ACTION ITEM TYPE**

Staff Presentation

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### PROJECT SUMMARY

The National Park Service (NPS) in coordination with the Federal Reserve Board (Federal Reserve) has submitted site and building plans for design revisions and reconstruction of the park at National Park Service Reservation 378. This work is associated with the necessary repair and maintenance of the Federal Reserve's Martin Building north and east parking garages. Reservation 378 is located on Virginia Avenue, NW between C Street, NW and 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW, in Washington, D.C. The north garage is accessed from 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW and the east garage is accessed from C Street, NW. Both garages are located entirely underground, beneath Reservation 378 which is a public park with a fountain, seating, active and passive recreation areas, and mature trees originally designed by George Patton in 1971 and redesigned by Oehme, van Sweden & Associates (Oehme van Sweden) in 1979. In order to access the garage roofs and install a new waterproofing system the park at Reservation 378 must be removed. The applicant intends to store and reinstall, rebuild, and/or replace the park elements upon completion of the project, with some variations from the existing design including a new, relocated pedestrian garage entrance and security screening kiosk. The proposed kiosk is located within the park, serving the north garage with upgraded security screening and accessibility features.

Reservation 105 abuts Reservation 378 to the northwest where 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW and Virginia Avenue, NW intersect. The proposed updates to Reservation 105 include in-kind replacement of an existing perimeter park fence and the base of the existing Discobolus statue. Reservations 105 and 378 are both open to the public, remain under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, and are maintained by the Federal Reserve pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement between the two agencies.

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The proposed project is a separate phase of the Martin Building modernization project, which is currently under construction. The project is also separate from the proposed expansion project recently reviewed by the Commission.

## KEY INFORMATION

- Reservation 378 is a public park owned by the National Park Service. It was originally designed by George Patton in 1971 and redesigned by Oehme van Sweden in 1979.
- The District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer (DC SHPO) requested a National Register Determination of Eligibility form be prepared for the Oehme van Sweden-designed landscape at Reservation 378.
- The project proposes maintenance and repair work to the below-grade parking structures located beneath Reservation 378 and a new, relocated entrance and security screening kiosk for the north garage with updated accessibility and security features.
- The proposed maintenance and repair work requires removal of the park at Reservation 378 in order to access the rooftops of the below-grade garages. The proposal includes reinstallation or replacement of the existing park elements, with some variations from the existing design.
- The proposed project is a separate phase of the Martin Building modernization project, which the Commission reviewed and approved in March 2014 and October 2016, and the proposed expansion project recently reviewed by the Commission in December 2019.
- Improvements within or adjacent the District right-of-way, including curb and seat walls, may require a public space permit prior to construction.

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Commission:

**Notes** the park at Reservation 378 must be removed in order to access the roofs of the below-grade parking garages to perform necessary maintenance and repairs.

**Notes** the DC SHPO has requested completion of a National Register Determination of Eligibility form for the Oehme van Sweden-designed landscape at Reservation 378 as part of the historic preservation review process.

**Supports** the applicant's intent to reinstall, rebuild, and/or replace the existing park elements at Reservation 378.

**Requests** a plan that illustrates the existing features to be demolished, retained in place, reinstalled, and replaced in the next submission.

*Park Features and Design*

**Finds** the composition of ornamental grasses and perennials integrated with the generally level planes and modest berms in the park demonstrate the hallmark style of Oehme van Sweden's "New American Garden" at Reservation 378.

**Notes** that the applicant proposes some variations to the original Oehme van Sweden design, including the addition of curbs, garden walls, and elevated berms within the park.

**Notes** the applicant does not propose to alter the perimeter security line as part of the project.

**Notes** the importance of providing planting soil volume and depth consistent with current industry best practices to support the proposed vegetation; however, the addition of walls and berms can change the open character of the park and perception of public access.

**Finds** the perspective renderings and sections demonstrate that the walls, berming, and plant material collectively alter views into the park from Virginia Avenue, NW resulting in a greater sense of enclosure compared to the open character of the park today.

**Requests** the applicant continue to refine the landscape design and explore ways to accommodate planting soil volume, depth, and seating while maintaining a feeling of openness and public access from Virginia Avenue, NW.

**Notes** that any improvements within or adjacent to the District right-of-way may require coordination with or review by the District Public Space Committee.

**Requests** a tree survey and inventory prepared by a certified arborist that documents the size, species, and condition of the existing trees is provided in the next submission.

**Requests** the applicant develop a tree replacement plan in the next submission pursuant to the Federal Environment Element of the *Comprehensive Plan* to prevent a net tree loss on-site.

*Proposed Kiosk*

**Notes** the existing entrance kiosk does not comply with current accessibility standards or the security requirements of the Federal Reserve.

**Finds** the proposed location of the garage entrance and security kiosk appropriate in relationship to Virginia Avenue, the Martin Building, and the park.

**Supports** the overall form and massing of the garage entrance and security kiosk but finds the design could be further simplified to further distinguish it from the Martin Building.

**Requests** the applicant provide additional information about the proposed building materials as part of the next submission.

## PROJECT REVIEW TIMELINE

<b>Previous actions</b>	None.
<b>Remaining actions</b> (anticipated)	Approval of preliminary and final site and building plans.

## PROJECT ANALYSIS

### Executive Summary

The National Park Service has requested approval of site and building plans for the proposed design revisions and reconstruction of the park at Reservation 378. The parking garages below Reservation 378 currently serve Department of Interior and Federal Reserve employees. The purpose of this project is to repair structural and waterproofing issues on the roofs of the below-grade garages and upgrade security screening and accessibility to the north garage from the ground level. Reservation 378 is a public park originally designed by George Patton in 1971 and redesigned by Oehme van Sweden in 1979. The existing Oehme van Sweden park design at Reservation 378 is widely known as the birth of the “New American Garden.” In order to access the roofs of the parking garages, the park at Reservation 378 must be removed. Therefore, staff recommends the **Commission notes the park at Reservation 378 must be removed in order to access the roofs of the below-grade parking garages to perform necessary maintenance and repairs.** The applicant proposes to store and reinstall certain elements and replace or rebuild other park elements generally in-kind with some design variations, including a new garage entrance and security kiosk.

Although the applicant requests approval of preliminary site and building plans, staff reviewed the submission as a concept plan due to outstanding information related to the historic significance of the Oehme van Sweden-designed landscape at Reservation 378. The DC SHPO has recognized the significance of the Oehme van Sweden-designed landscape of Reservation 378 in the history of landscape architecture and design. As such, staff recommends the **Commission notes the DC SHPO requested completion of a National Register Determination of Eligibility form for the Oehme van Sweden-designed landscape at Reservation 378 as part of the historic preservation review process.** As a concept review, the Commission is reviewing the project for general consistency with the *Comprehensive Plan*, an understanding the unique issues, and identification of items to be addressed prior to the next review. The Commission’s comments as part of the concept review will assist staff in reviewing and providing comments on future project development.

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## **Analysis**

Although the proposed maintenance and repairs to the north and east garages will occur below-grade, this project requires the Commission's review because of the impacts to the park at Reservation 378 and the proposed removal and relocation of the north garage entrance kiosk. While staff recommends the **Commission supports the applicant's intent to reinstall, rebuild, and/or replace the existing park elements at Reservation 378**, staff also recommends the **Commission requests a plan that illustrates the existing features to be demolished, retained in place, reinstalled, and replaced in the next submission** to better understand the impacts this process will have on the individual park elements.

The key components of the project include the park features and design, and the proposed garage entry kiosk. These items are analyzed further in the following sections.

### **Park Features and Design**

As described in the submission materials, the palimpsest of Reservation 378 began with a site plan developed by George E. Patton in 1971, a landscape architect working in Philadelphia. His design included a large, open lawn surrounded by a formal evergreen plant palette and the original east fountain that exists today. The evolution of the garden began when harsh winter weather in 1977 destroyed most of Patton's evergreen plantings. The following year, the Federal Reserve Board engaged James van Sweden and Wolfgang Oehme of Oehme, van Sweden & Associates to reimagine the garden and develop a more usable public space. Oehme van Sweden created a design for the Federal Reserve which would later be described as the birth of the "New American Garden," the hallmark style of Oehme and van Sweden. Their design included a composition of ornamental grasses and perennials interwoven into Patton's network of pathways and plant beds. The design connects the garden to the existing public sidewalks on Virginia Avenue, NW and 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW at-grade, which slopes gently from the north and west to the south and east. Planted berms, rising between one and two feet from the adjacent grade surround a generally flat central lawn area offering views through the site from Virginia Avenue, NW. A taller planted berm, rising to approximately five feet above finished grade, screens the view of the tennis courts and its perimeter chain link fence. For these reasons, staff recommends the **Commission finds the composition of ornamental grasses and perennials integrated with the generally level planes and modest berms in the park demonstrate the hallmark style of Oehme van Sweden's "New American Garden" at Reservation 378.**

As previously noted, the applicant proposes to replace, rebuild, and/or reinstall the park elements with completion of the proposed maintenance and repair work. The applicant also proposes some updates, revisions, and refinements to the Oehme van Sweden park design to respond to current user needs and maintenance demands. The proposed changes primarily result in the following variations to the current design:

- Proposed Kiosk: As described in the following section, the existing garage entrance kiosk will be removed and consolidated with the existing garage egress kiosk located adjacent to the tennis courts.
- Circulation: Modest shifts to the geometry of the internal pathways are proposed to facilitate movement through the park and maximize green space. Widening of the sidewalk on Virginia Avenue, NW from 4-feet to 10-feet and on 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW from 8-feet to 10-feet is also proposed.
- Tennis Court: The proposal includes shifting the tennis court 10-feet northwest of its current location. This shift is intended to accommodate relocating existing mechanical exhaust at the southern end of the court into a consolidated and more effective exhaust area at the northern end of the court. The shift also results in a more generous east-west pathway on the south side of the court as well as more open and green space in the park.
- South Plaza: The South Plaza will be raised to match the finished floor elevation of the Martin Building, with stairs and accessible ramps to transition the grade from the plaza to the park.
- Curbs and Garden Walls: 8-inch tall curbs and 18-inch tall garden walls are proposed along the perimeter of the park on Virginia Avenue, NW and 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW, and around the perimeter of the plant beds internal to the park.
- Seating: Fixed benches are integrated with the proposed garden walls internal to the park along the edges of the plant beds. The garden walls are also intended to provide additional seating opportunities.
- Grading: The top elevation of the existing plant beds is proposed to increase between 8-inches and 30-inches (inclusive of proposed wall heights) from the current conditions in most areas.

In consideration of the proposed changes, staff recommends the **Commission notes that the applicant proposes some variations to the original Oehme van Sweden design, including the addition of curbs, garden walls, and elevated berms within the park.** The applicant indicated the proposed curbs, walls, and berms are not intended to serve as new perimeter security measures and that existing perimeter security measures will be reinstalled in-place. As such, staff also recommends the **Commission notes the applicant does not propose to alter the perimeter security line as part of the project.** Instead, the proposed curbs, garden walls, and elevated berms are intended to provide a means of achieving additional soil volume to support the proposed vegetation. The existing trees have experienced stress and signs of decline due to lack of necessary soil volume and compact spacing between the trees. Additional research has been conducted since the time of their planting and more information is known today about best practices to support the health and longevity of trees and other vegetation above structure. Current industry best practices recommend a minimum soil depth of three feet above structure to support large canopy trees, with

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less depth required for small trees, shrubs, and perennials. Further, industry standards emphasize the importance of maximizing the amount of soil volume per tree, with recommendations of approximately 1,000 cubic feet of soil per tree if shared by multiple trees and 1,200 – 1,500 cubic feet of soil for individual trees depending on the soil system. Planting soil volumes are typically calculated with only the upper three feet of soil because critical root areas primarily grow in wide, horizontal patterns rather than deep, vertical patterns. For these reasons, staff recommends the **Commission notes the importance of providing planting soil volume and depth consistent with current industry best practices to support the proposed vegetation; however, the addition of walls and berms can change the open character of the park and perception of public access.**

The proposed curbs, garden walls, and berms collectively change the current relationship of the planting areas to the adjacent pathways, resulting in altered views through the site as demonstrated in the application materials. For example, the lawn area adjacent to Virginia Avenue, NW is now proposed to slope up to a height of 6-inches above an 18-inch high garden wall, with perennial vegetation planted at the crest. The provided renderings and sections illustrate the tops of these plantings reaching or exceeding a person's standing eye-level from the adjacent sidewalk on Virginia Avenue, NW. For these reasons, staff recommends the **Commission finds the perspective renderings and sections demonstrate that the walls, berming, and plant material collectively alter views into the park from Virginia Avenue, NW resulting in a sense of enclosure compared to the open character of the park today.** Therefore, staff recommends the **Commission requests the applicant continue to refine the landscape design and explore ways to accommodate planting soil volume, depth, and seating while maintaining a feeling of openness and public access from Virginia Avenue, NW.**

The significance of any changes to the existing design will also be evaluated through the historic preservation review process. As noted previously, the DC SHPO requested determination of National Register eligibility for the Oehme van Sweden-designed landscape at Reservation 378. This determination will inform the development of the scope and design of the undertaking. In addition to the historic preservation review process, further coordination with the District's Public Space Committee is necessary due to the project's proximity and impacts to the District right-of-way. Therefore, staff recommends the **Commission notes any improvements within or adjacent to the District right-of-way may require coordination with or review by the District Public Space Committee.** Elements that fall within the purview of the Public Space Committee may include, but are not limited to, street tree removal, sidewalk improvements, and the proposed curbs and garden walls that abut the right-of-way.

Additionally, a visual survey demonstrates that multiple mature trees exist on the site and adjacent to the site within the District right-of-way. While the existing trees are shown illustratively in the submission drawings, documentation of the trees' species, size, and condition is not provided. Therefore, staff recommends the **Commission requests a tree survey and inventory prepared by a certified arborist that documents the size, species, and condition of the existing trees is provided in the next submission.** Furthermore, staff recommends the **Commission requests the applicant develop a tree replacement plan in the next submission pursuant to the Federal Environment Element of the *Comprehensive Plan* to prevent a net tree loss on-site.**

Proposed Kiosk

A new entrance and security kiosk serving the north garage is proposed with upgraded security screening and accessible access to the garage from the ground level. This kiosk will replace an existing entrance kiosk that does not currently meet the security standards of the Federal Reserve or provide access for those who are disabled or handicapped. As such, staff recommends the **Commission notes that the existing entrance kiosk does not comply with current accessibility standards or the security requirements of the Federal Reserve.** The proposed kiosk will have two elevators to serve the Department of Interior and Federal Reserve employees that park in the garage, as well as upgraded security screening. A magnetometer, x-ray scanning unit, physical access control system, a law enforcement post, and a holding room without direct access to the kiosk lobby are incorporated into the proposed design.

The applicant studied several locations for the proposed kiosk, including: the current entrance kiosk location adjacent to the Martin Building; the approved northeast guard booth; on-axis with 20<sup>th</sup> Street, NW; and at the existing north garage emergency egress kiosk. Their studies concluded that to meet the program and accessibility requirements, the height and massing of the proposed kiosk at the existing kiosk location appears too large and incongruous with the new Martin Building addition, and siting the kiosk on axis with 20th Street, NW made the kiosk appear as an object in the landscape which emphasized the private use of the kiosk, rather than the public garden.

The proposed location for the kiosk consolidates it with the existing north garage emergency egress kiosk located adjacent to the tennis courts. The entry kiosk in this location is the same distance to Virginia Avenue, NW as the current entry kiosk, allows for unobstructed views along Virginia Avenue, NW and into the park, and is further away from the Martin Building than the other options. This location orients the kiosk on an east-west axis, which is consistent with other structures and hardscape elements on the site and also positions the kiosk near other utilitarian uses on the site, including the garage exhaust vent. For these reasons, staff recommends the **Commission finds the proposed location of the garage entrance and security kiosk appropriate in relationship to Virginia Avenue, NW, the Martin Building, and the park.**

The applicant studied the overall form, height, and footprint of the proposed kiosk building to minimize its visual and physical impacts on the site while also accommodating the required program. As a result, the proposed form of the kiosk building is comprised of two rectangular volumes that intersect, clad with glass and stone materials. The overall footprint of the kiosk is approximately 30-feet by 50-feet with a gross floor area of 1,485 square feet, which is 170 square feet more than the existing garage kiosk. The proposed building height is 15-feet and 7-inches, which is the minimum height required to accommodate the elevator overrun. As such staff recommends the **Commission supports the overall form and massing of the garage entrance and security kiosk but finds the design could be further simplified to further distinguish it from the Martin Building.** Also, staff recommends the **Commission requests the applicant provide additional information about the proposed building materials as part of the next submission.**

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## CONFORMANCE TO EXISTING PLANS, POLICIES AND RELATED GUIDANCE

### **Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital**

Staff analyzed the project using guidance in the Federal Elements of the *Comprehensive Plan*, particularly those related to the Urban Design, Environment, and Historic Preservation Elements. Applicable policies include creating welcoming public spaces, ensuring compatible changes to reservations with historic landscapes, and tree preservation and replacement. The comments in this report are intended to support conformance with those policies.

### **National Historic Preservation Act**

NPS and NCPC each have a responsibility to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). NPS is serving as the lead agency for the Section 106 consultation. NPS initiated consultation with the DC SHPO on October 7, 2019. In response, the DC SHPO requested completion of a National Register Determination of Eligibility form for the Oehme van Sweden-designed landscape at Reservation 378 before the Consulting Parties can begin to determine whether the project has the potential for adverse effects and development of the scope and design of the undertaking.

### **National Environmental Policy Act**

Both NPS and NCPC have an independent obligation to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. NPS is the lead agency and NCPC is a cooperating agency. NPS is currently evaluating the appropriate NEPA pathway for compliance, which is pending the assessment of effects through the NHPA Section 106 process.

## CONSULTATION

### **Coordinating Committee**

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the proposal at its February 12, 2020 meeting. Without objection, the Committee forwarded the proposed plans to the Commission with the statement that the proposal has been coordinated with all participating agencies, with requests for additional information. Participating agencies included: U.S. General Services Administration, National Park Service, District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT), District of Columbia Office of Planning (DCOP), District Office of Energy and Environment (DOEE), District State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA).

The DC SHPO stated that no response was received following their request for Determination of Eligibility for the National Historic Register, and further consultation under Section 106 is required. DDOT and DCOP requested additional information regarding property ownership to determine Public Space Committee review. Additional information to clarify perimeter security

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and the status of the loading facility on 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW was also requested. DOEE noted that they had not had any contact with the applicant on this project.

### **U.S. Commission of Fine Arts**

The Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) approved the concept plans at its February 20, 2020 meeting. The Commission noted the historic significance of the perennial plant material in the birth of the “New American Garden,” encouraged the applicants to maintain the same, or greater, ratio of plantings at the ground level to the amount that exists today, and recommended the applicant study the proposed plant palette in consideration of present and future climate conditions.

### **ONLINE REFERENCE**

The following supporting documents for this project are available online at [www.ncpc.gov](http://www.ncpc.gov):

- Submission Package
- Section 106 Documentation

Prepared by Stephanie Free  
02/12/2020

### **POWERPOINT (ATTACHED)**

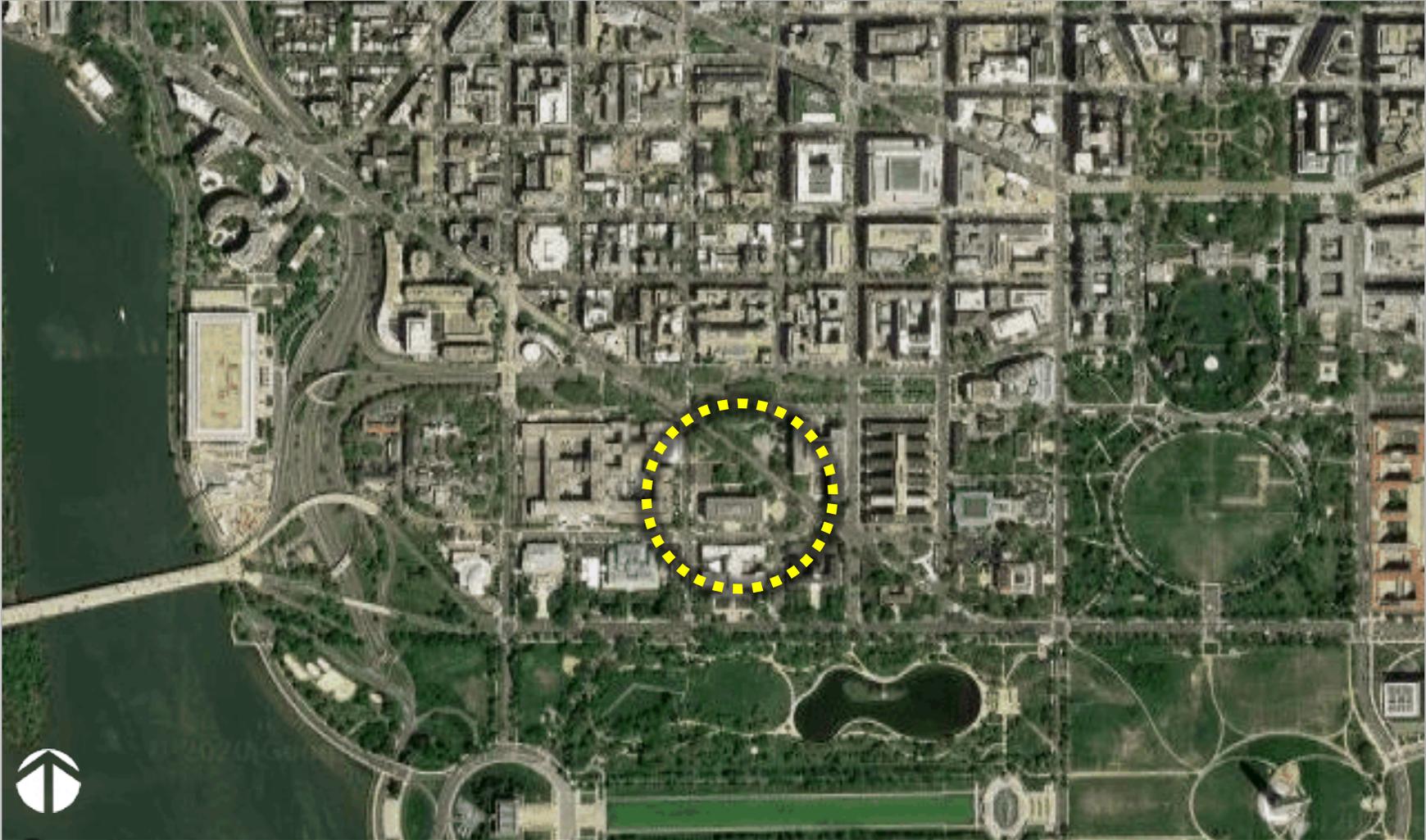
# Reservation 378 Design Revisions and Reconstruction

Virginia Avenue between C Street and 21st Street NW, Washington DC

Approval of Comments on Concept Plans

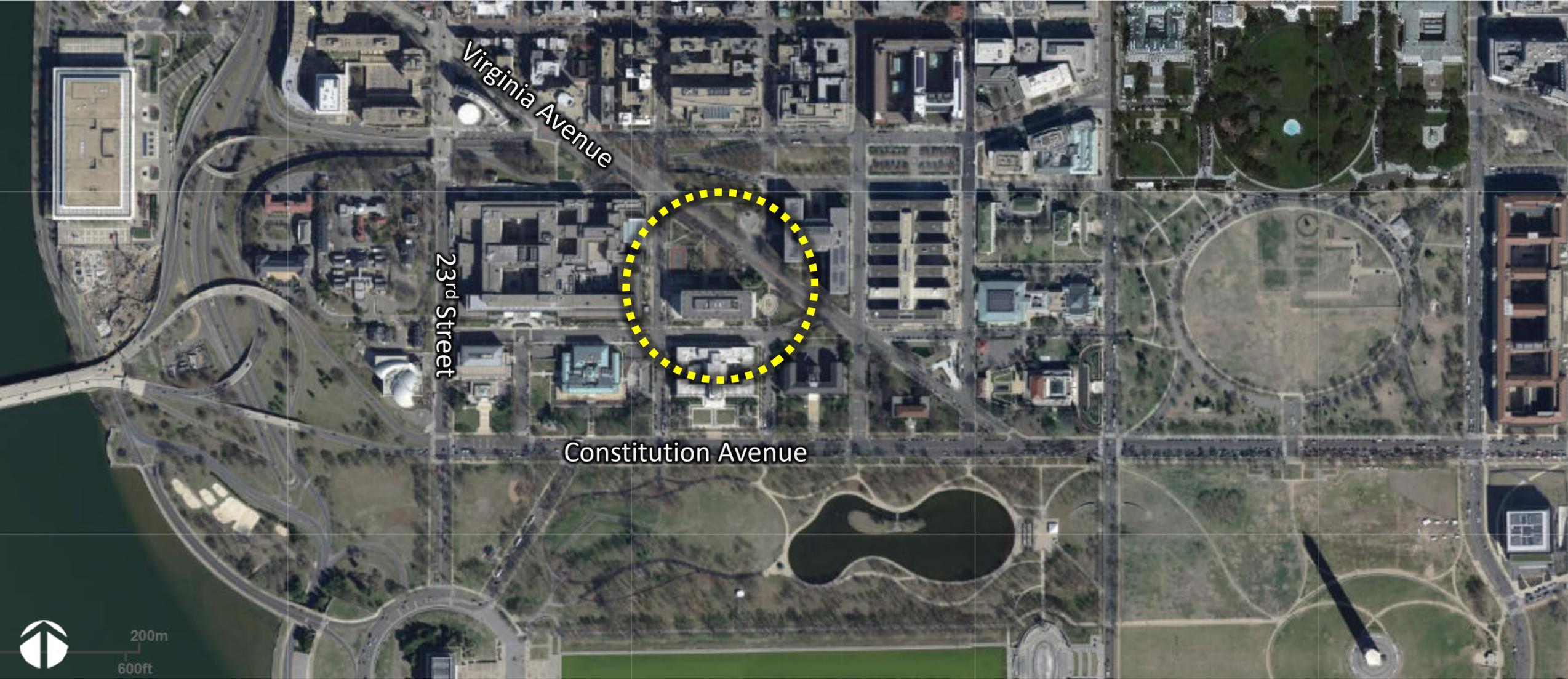
United States Department of the Interior

# Site Location



Location Map

# Existing Site



# Existing Site



Virginia Avenue South to Martin Building



Seating Area East of Main Lawn



Virginia Avenue Sidewalk



Southeast View from Fountain



View of Lawn and Sculptures



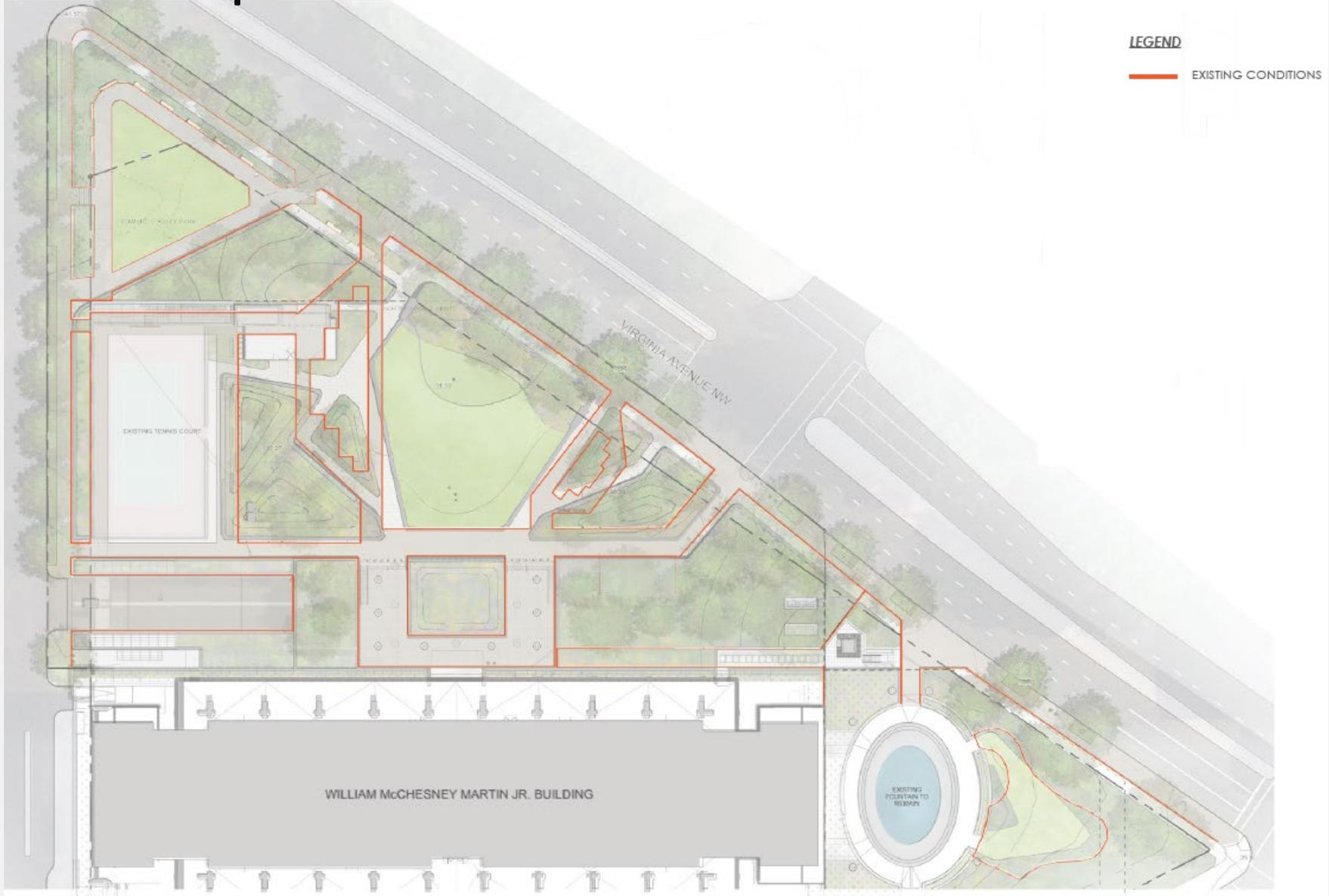
View of Tennis Court

# Existing Site Plan

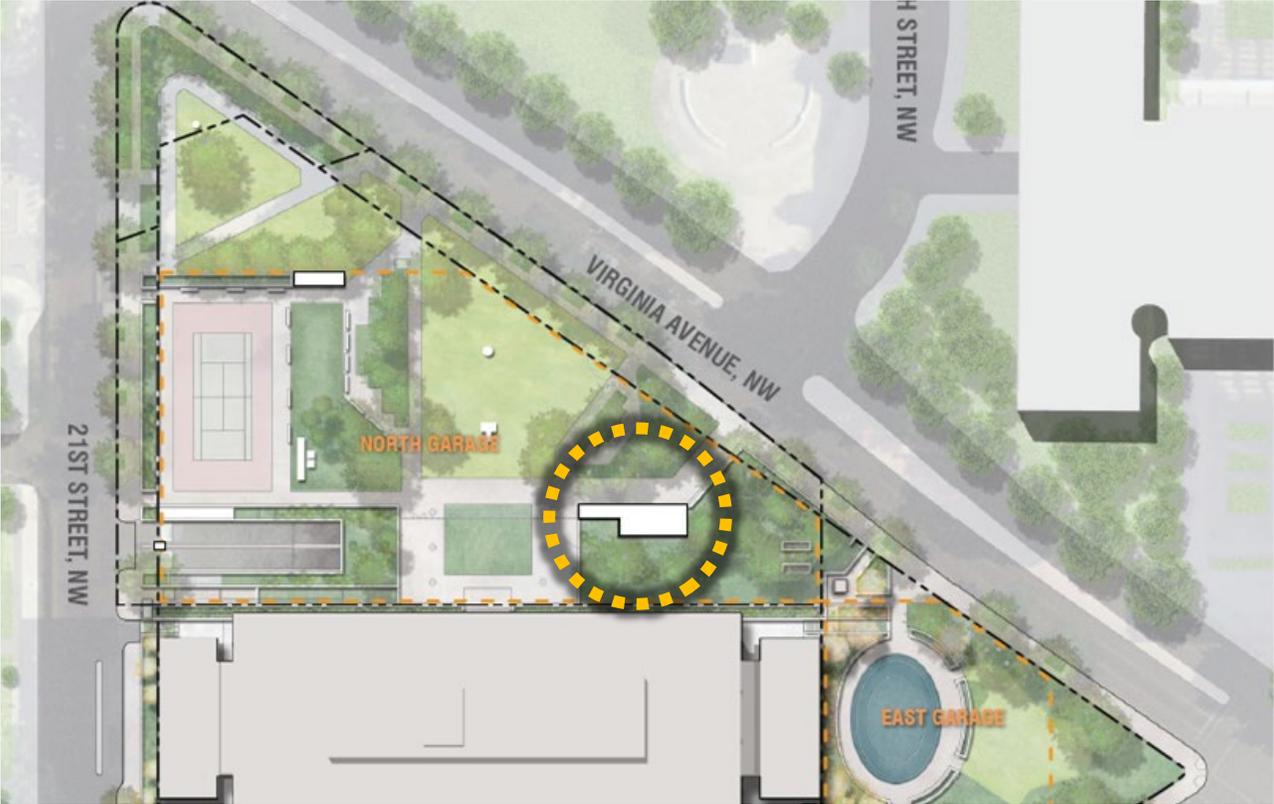




# Existing and Proposed Site Plan



# Existing Garage Kiosk

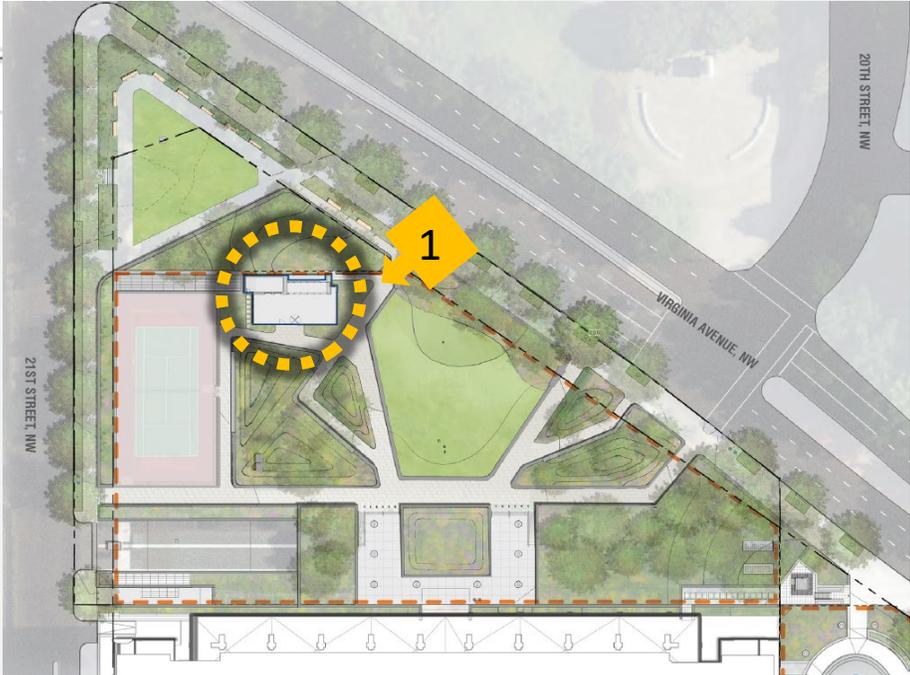
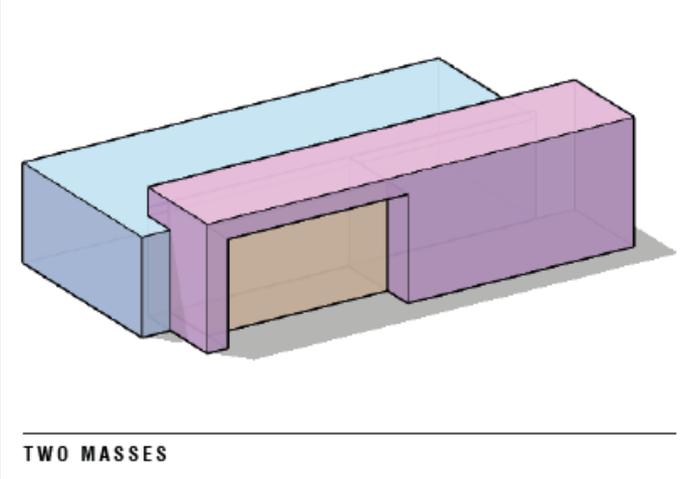


EXISTING ENTRY KIOSK PERSPECTIVE

# Proposed Garage Kiosk



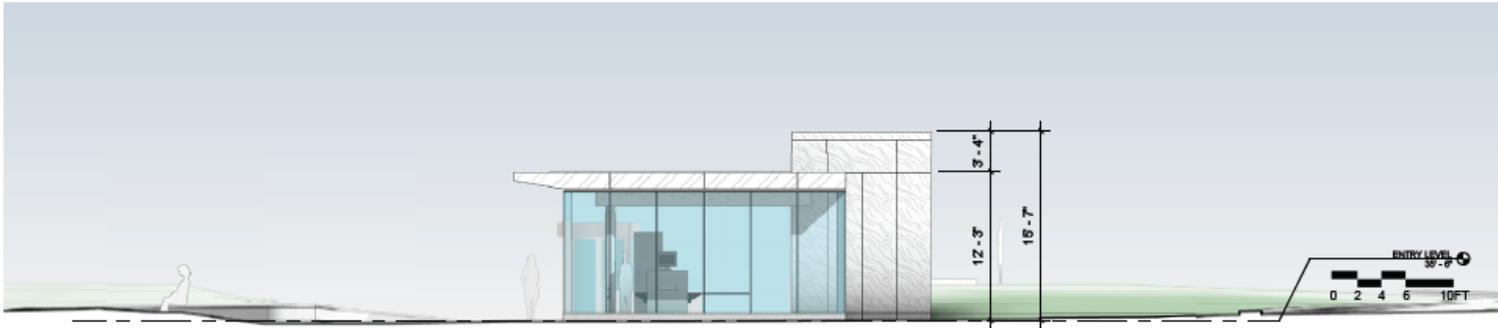
View 1



# Proposed Garage Kiosk



SOUTH ELEVATION

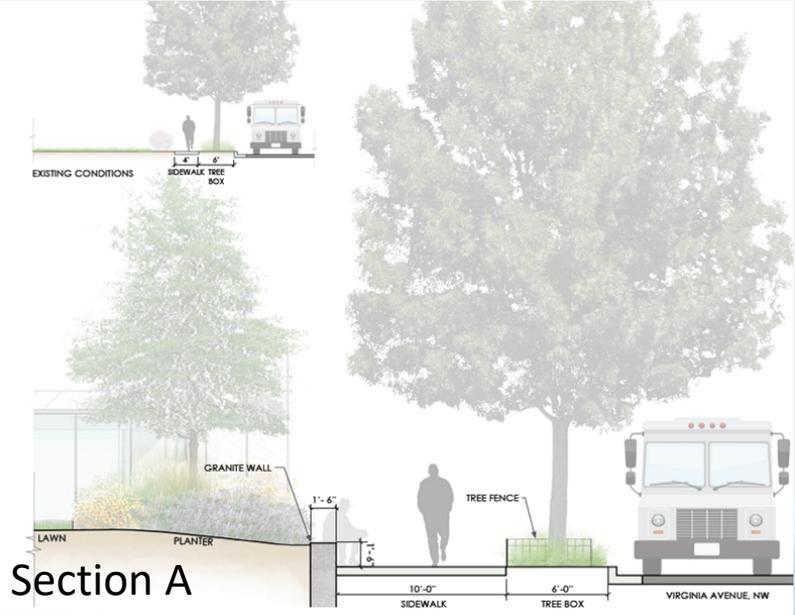


EAST ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION

# Proposed Garage Kiosk and Views



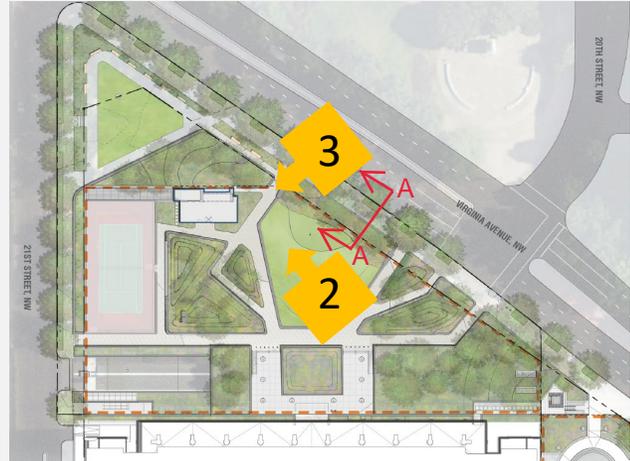
Section A



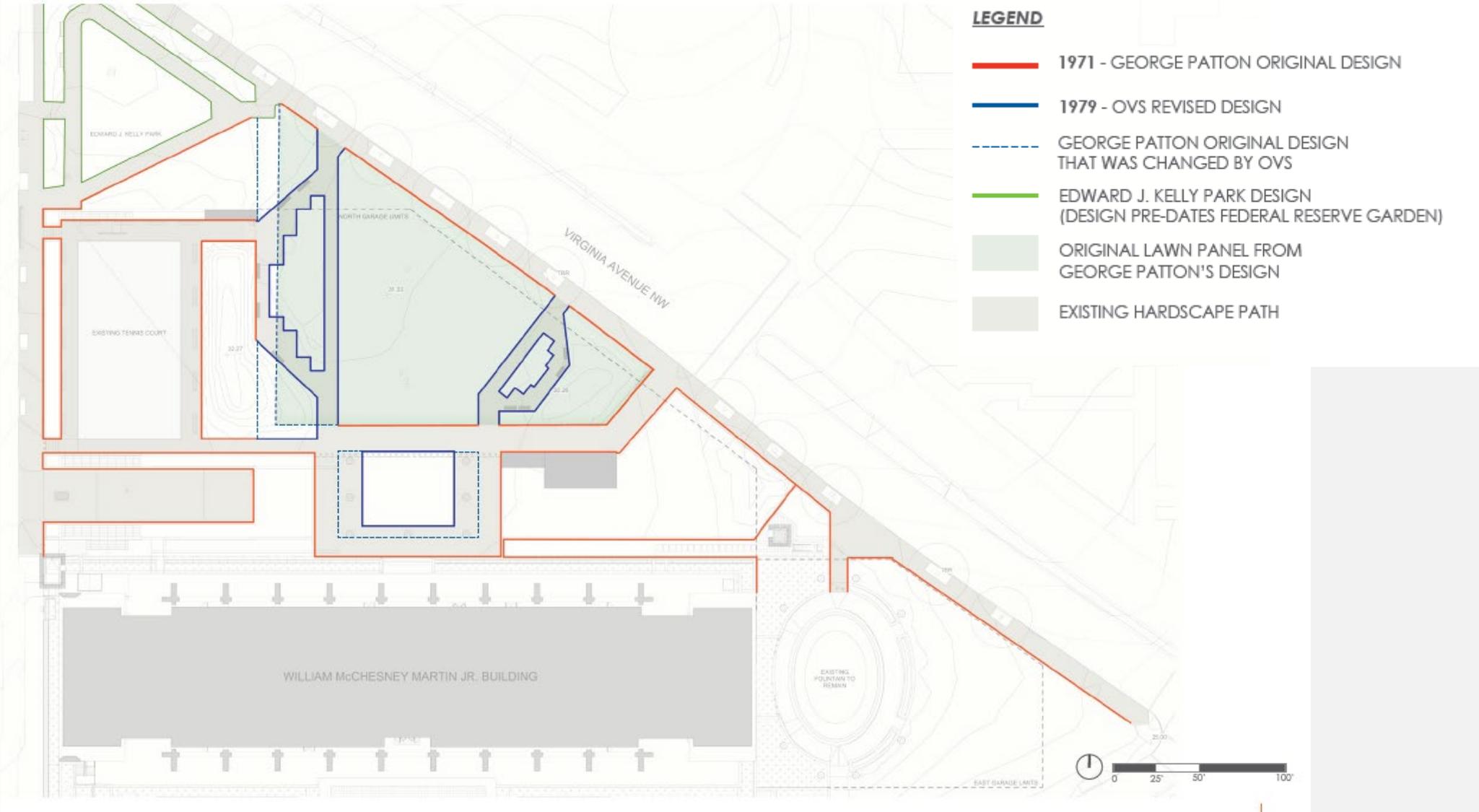
View 3



View 2



# Existing Landscape History



# Existing Landscape History

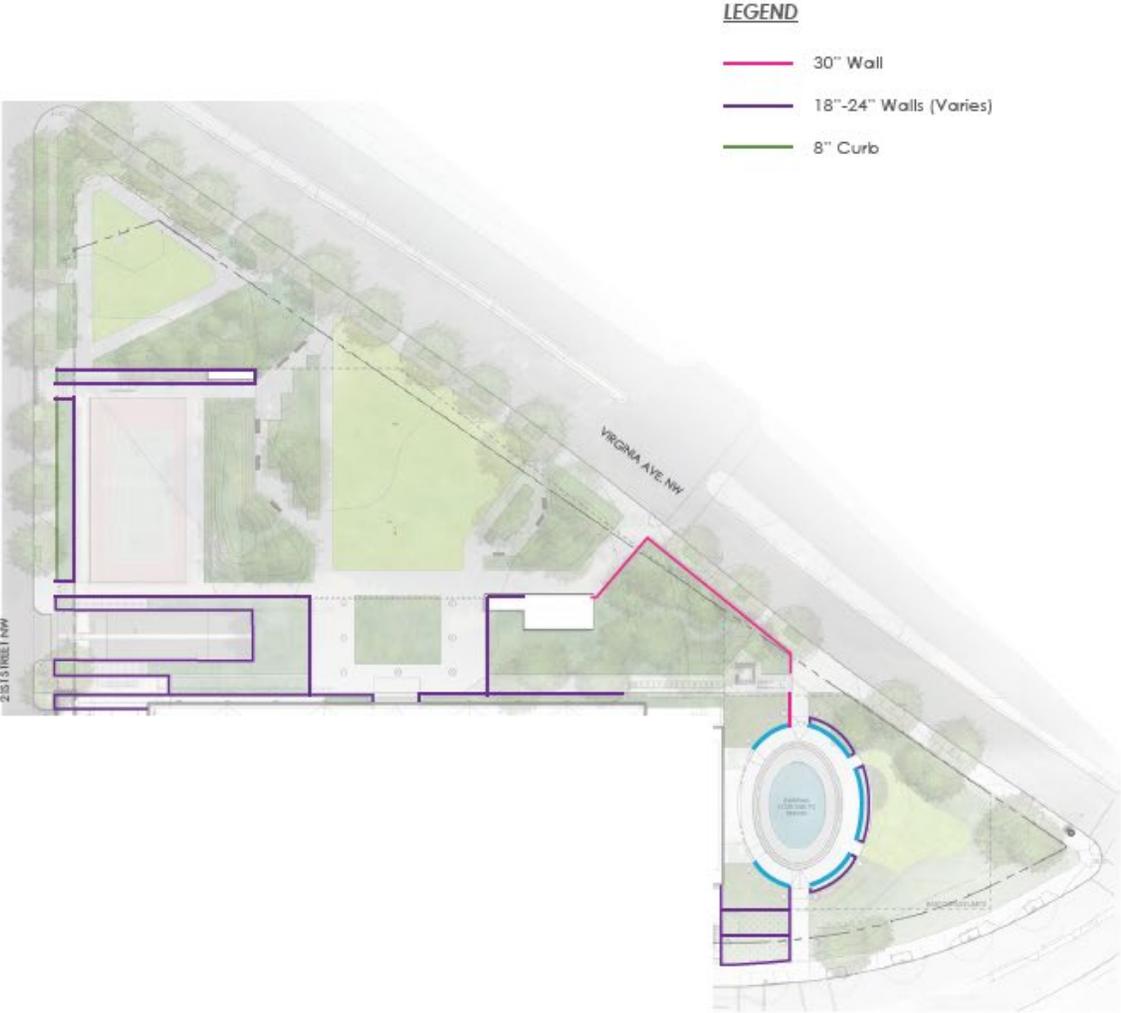


# Existing Landscape Design – OvS “New American Garden”

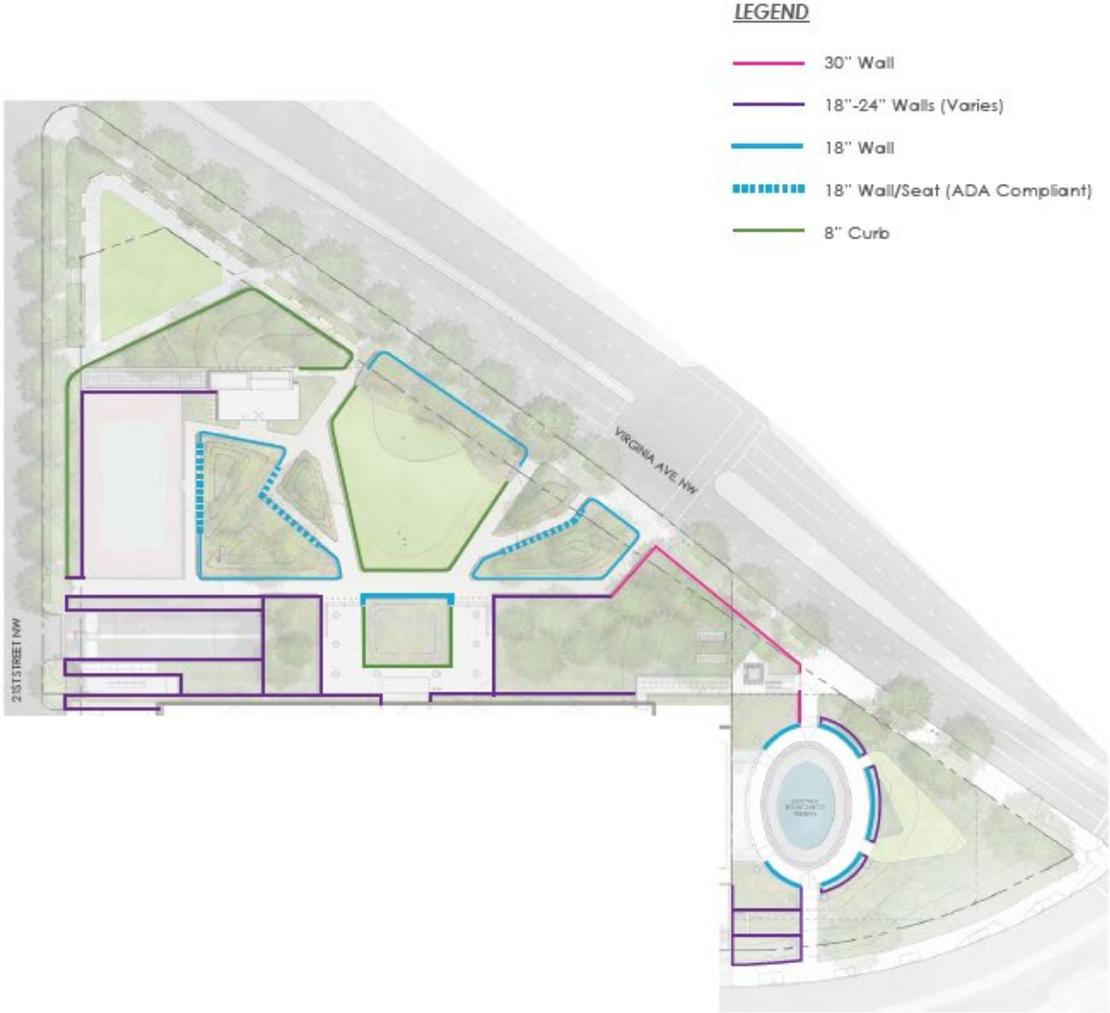




# Proposed Landscape Design

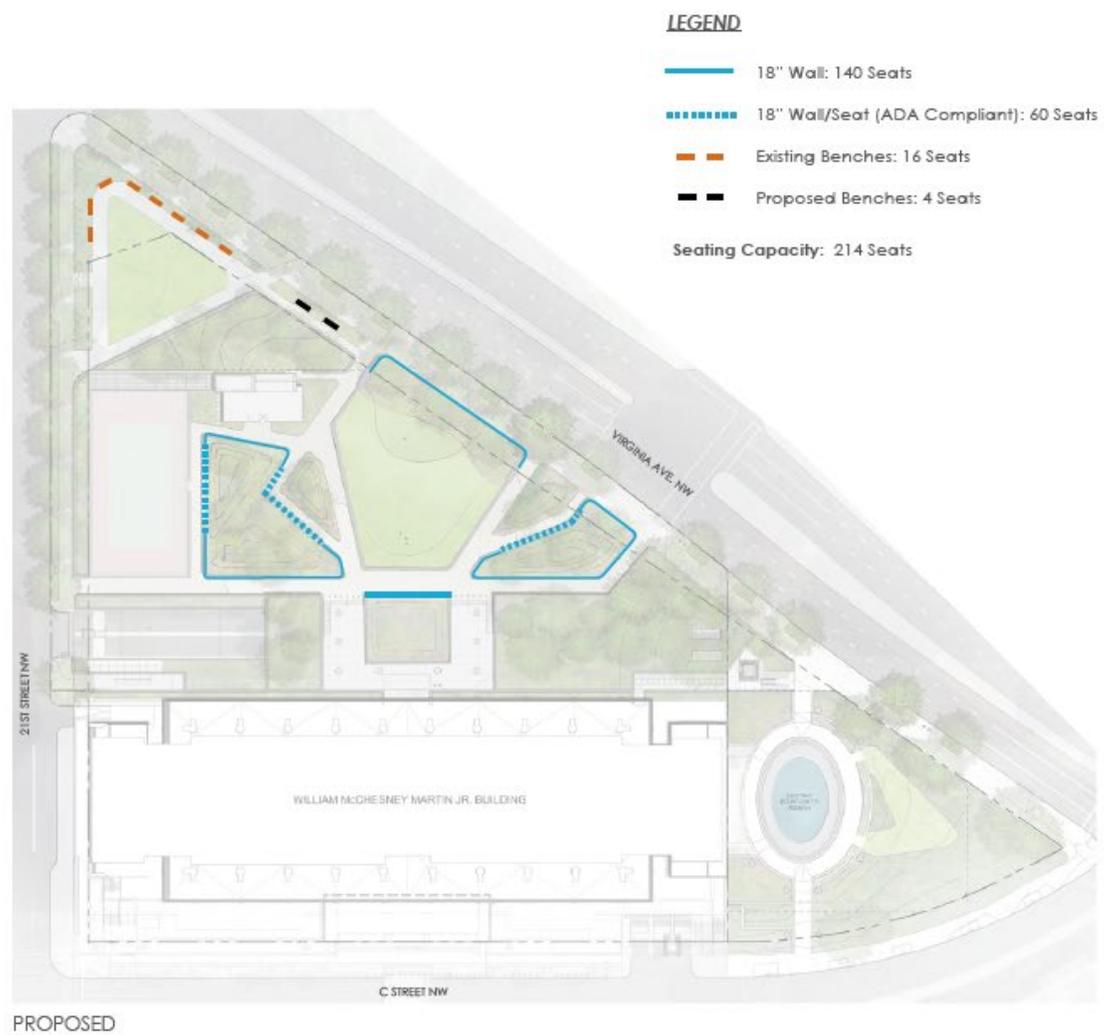
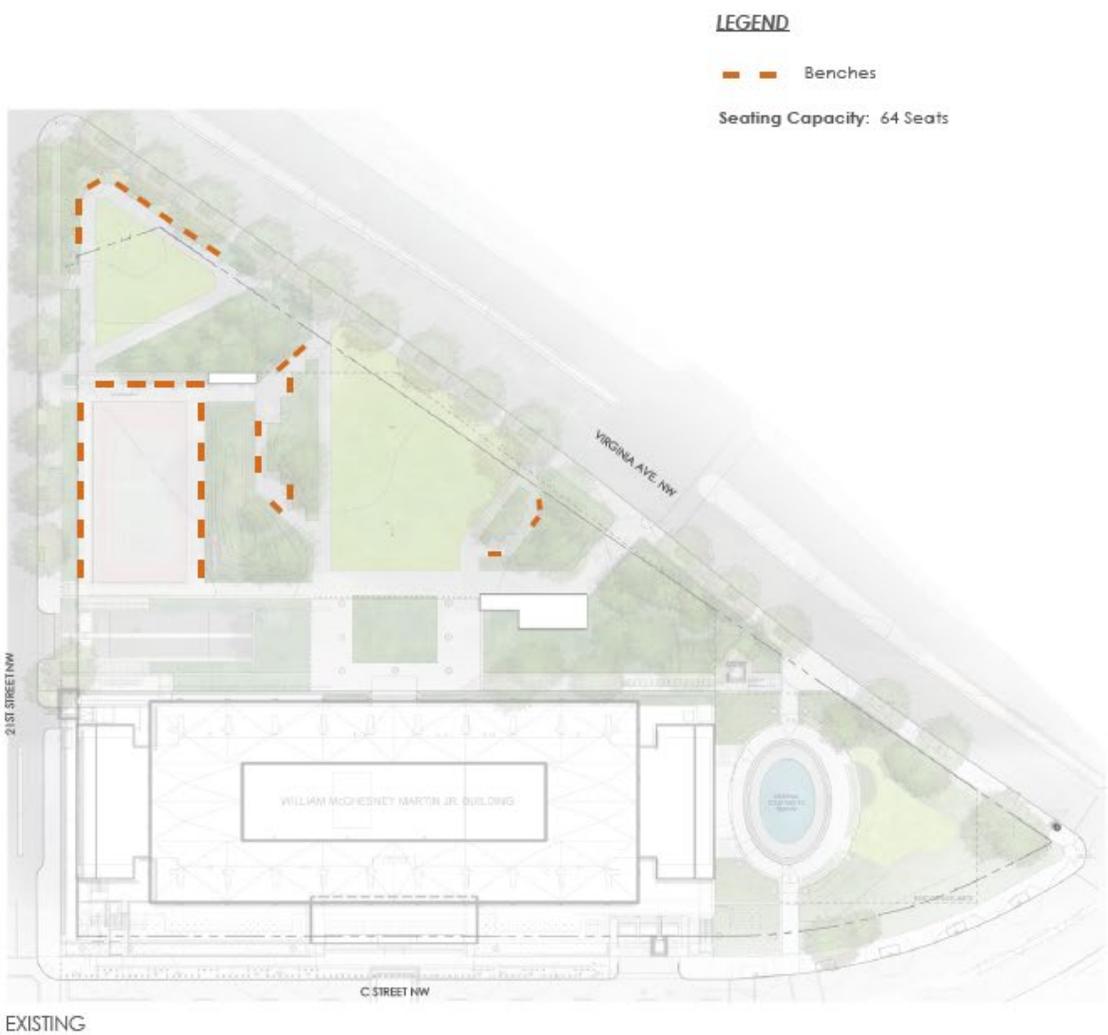


EXISTING

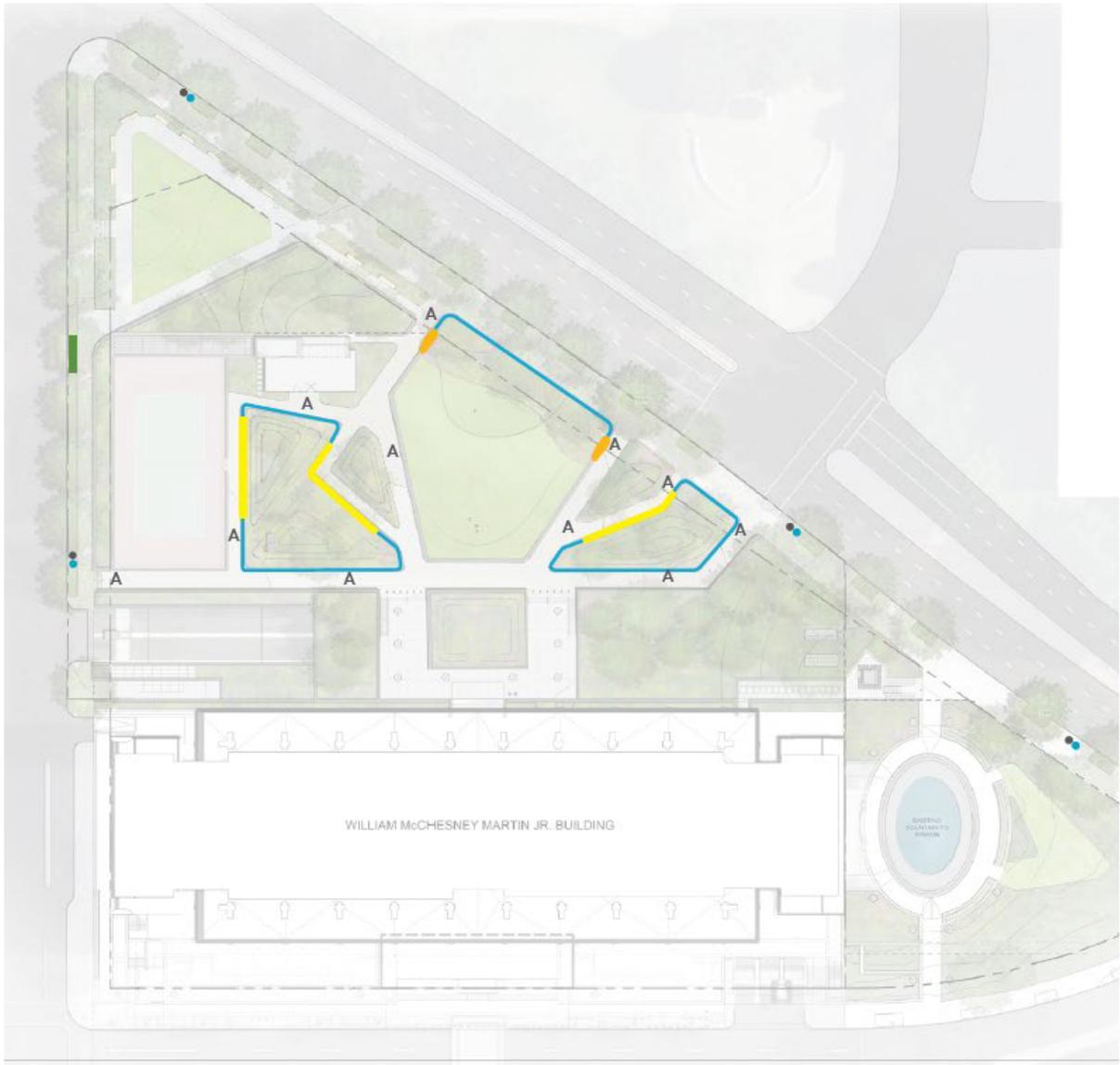


PROPOSED

# Proposed Landscape Design



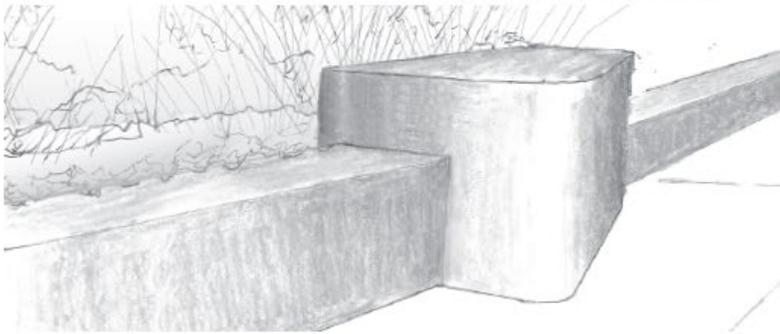
# Proposed Landscape Design



18" GRANITE WALL



18" GRANITE WALL WITH INSERTED MODULAR STEEL SEATING (ADA COMPLIANT)



GRANITE PIER



DDOT STANDARD TRASH AND RECYCLING RECEPTACLES

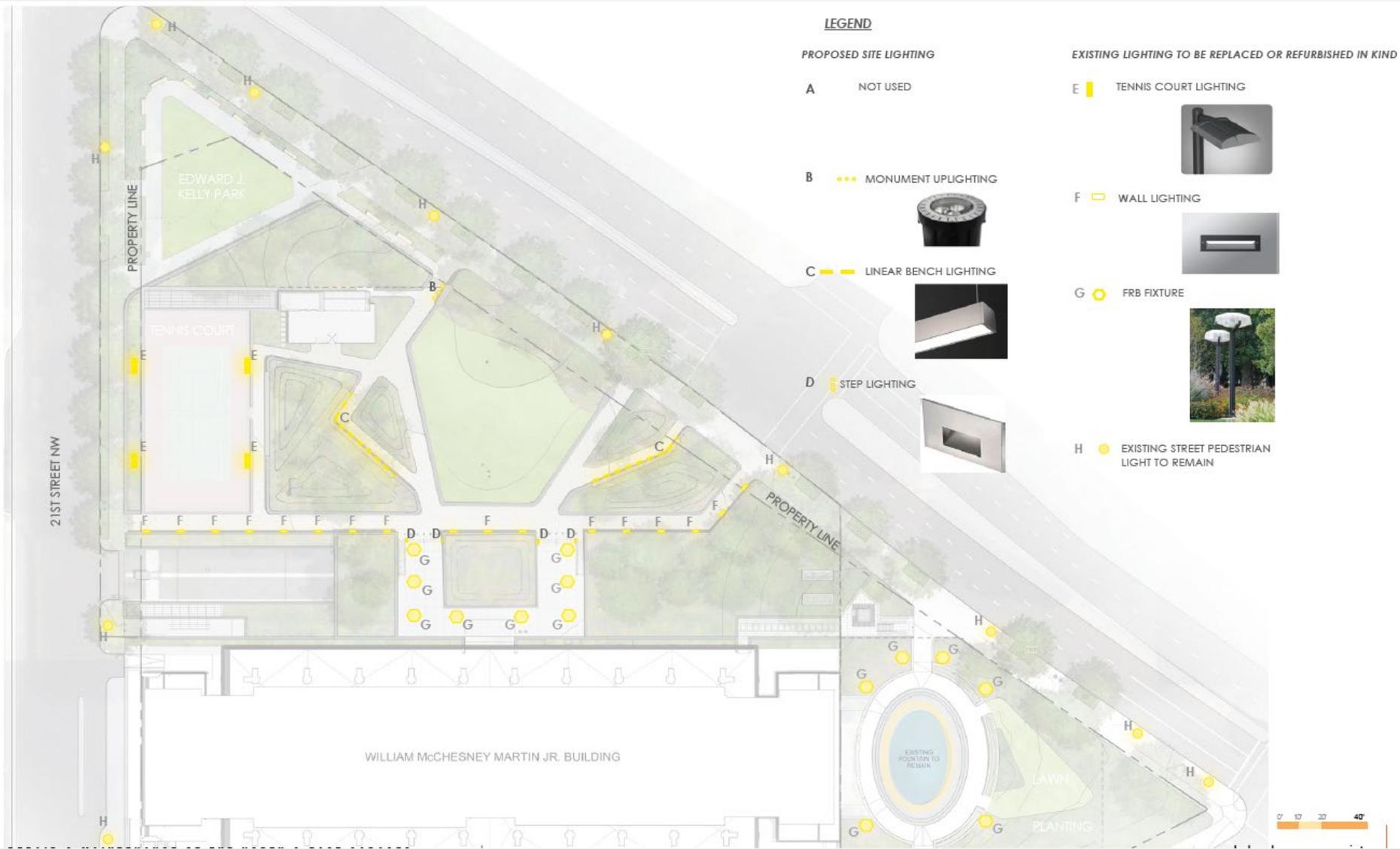


BIKE RACKS



3' x 2' CONCRETE PAVERS MATRIX# 1914 WITH TUDOR FINISH

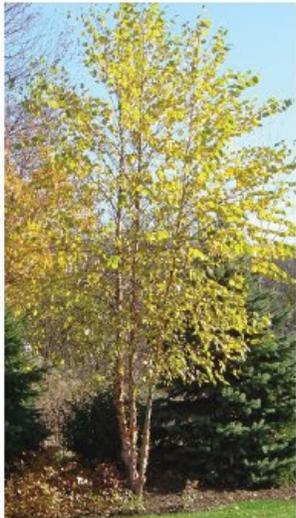
# Proposed Landscape Design



# Proposed Landscape Design



● AMALANCHIER CANADENSIS / SERVICEBERRY



● BETULA NIGRA 'HERITAGE' / HERITAGE RIVER BIRCH



● CERCIS CANADENSIS / FLOWER EASTERN REDBUD



● CERCIS CANADENSIS 'ALBA' / WHITE FLOWER EASTERN REDBUD



● CHIONANTHUS VIRGINICUS / FRINGE TREE



● CORNUS KOUSA / KOUSA DOGWOOD



● CRATAEGUS PHAENOPYRUM / WASHINGTON HAWTHORN



● GLEDITSIA TRIACANTHOS VAR. INERMIS 'SHADEMASTER' / SHADEMASTER LOCUST



● HAMAMELIS x INTERMEDIA 'PALLIDA' / WITCH HAZEL



● ILEX 'NELLIE STEVENS' / NELLIE STEVENS HOLLY



● JUNIPEROUS VIRGINIANA IDYLLWILD / IDYLLWILD EASTERN RED CEDAR



● MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA 'ALTA' / SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA

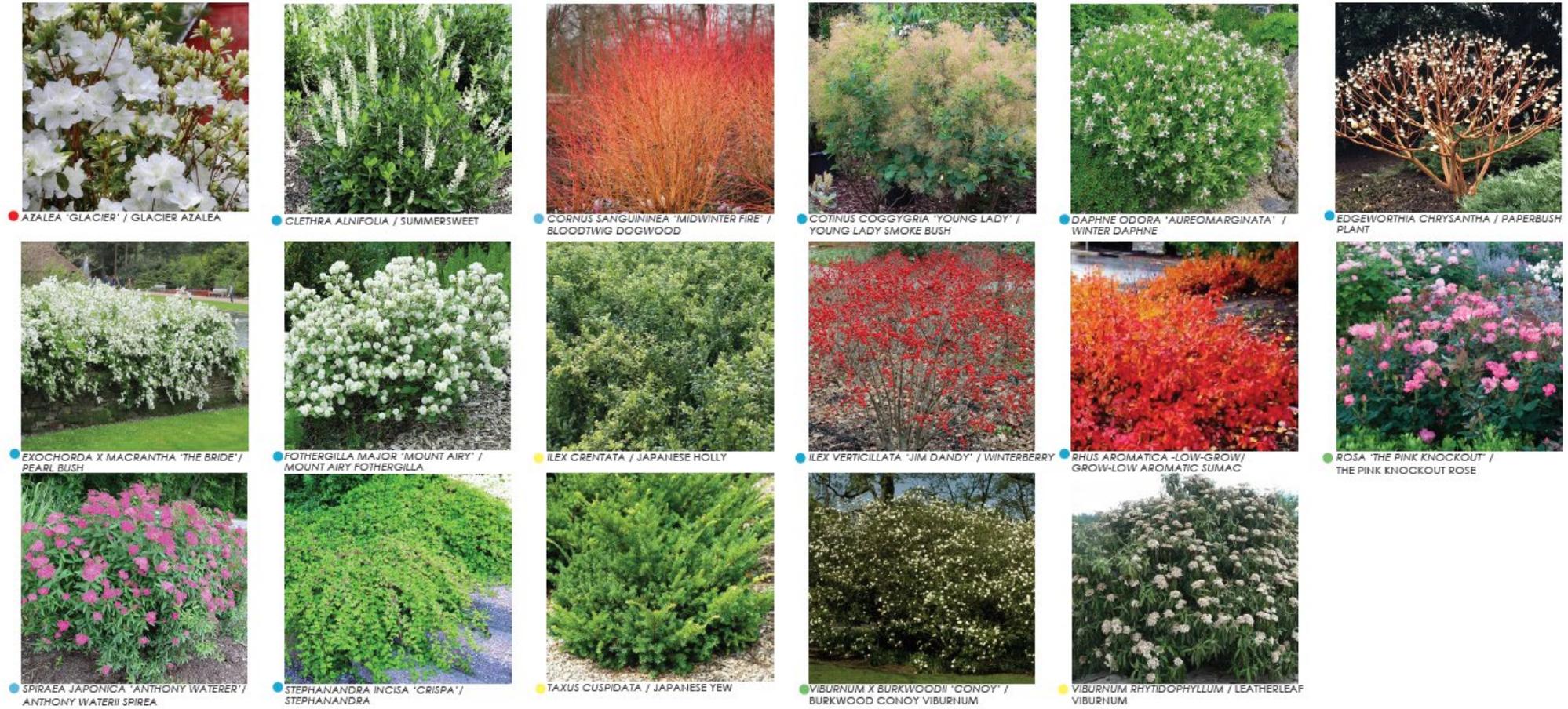
● SPECIES FROM GEORGE PATTON DESIGN OF 1975

● SPECIES FROM OVS 1979

● SPECIES FROM OVS 2015

● SPECIES FROM OVS 2020 (PROPOSED)

# Proposed Landscape Design



● SPECIES FROM GEORGE PATTON DESIGN OF 1975

● SPECIES FROM OVS 1979

● SPECIES FROM OVS 2015

● SPECIES FROM OVS 2020 (PROPOSED)

# Proposed Landscape Design



● ACANTHUS LONGIFOLIUS / BEAR'S BREECH



● ACHILLEA FILIPENDULINA 'PARKER'S VARIETY' / YARROW



● ADIANTUM PEDATUM / MAIDENHAIR FERN



● AGASTACHE 'BLACK ADDER' / GIANT HYSSOP



● ASTER OBLONGIFOLIUS 'OCTOBER SKIES' / AROMATIC ASTER



● ASTILBE ARENDSII 'DEUTSCHLAND' / DEUTSCHLAND ASTILBE



● ASTILBE JAPONICA 'KÖLN' / KÖLN ASTILBE



● ATHYRIUM FILIX-FEMINA / LADY FERN



● BAPTISIA X 'PURPLE SMOKE' / PURPLE SMOKE FALSE INDIGO



● BRUNNERA MACROPHYLLA / DWARF ANCHUSA



● CERATOSTIGMA PLUMBAGINOIDES / LEADWORT



● DRYOPTERIS MARGINALIS / EVERGREEN WOODFERN



● ECHINACEA PURPUREA 'MAGNUS' / MAGNUS CONEFLOWER



● ECHINOPS RITRO / GLOBE THISTLE



● EPIMEDIUM X YOUNGIANUM 'NIVEUM' / BISHOP'S HAT



● EUPHORBIA AMYGDALOIDES VAR ROBBIAE / WOOD SPURGE



● EUPHORBIA WULFENII / MEDITERRANEAN SPURGE



● GAURA LINCHEIMERI 'WHIRLING BUTTERFLIES' / WHIRLING BUTTERFLIES GAURA



● HELLEBORES X HYBRID 'WHITE DUCHESS'



● HEUCHERA VILLOSA 'AUTUMN BRIDE' /



● HIBISCUS MOSCHEUTOS 'BLUE RIVER II' /



● HOSTA SIEBOLDIANA / HOSTA

● SPECIES FROM GEORGE PATTON DESIGN OF 1975

● SPECIES FROM OVS 1979

● SPECIES FROM OVS 2015

● SPECIES FROM OVS 2020 (PROPOSED)

# Proposed Landscape Design



● *HOSTA VENTRICOSA* / BLUE PLANTAIN-LILY



● *HYPERICUM CALYCIUM* / ST. JOHN'S WORT



● *INULA HELENIUM* / ELECCAMPANE



● *IRIS CAESARS BROTHER* / SIBERIAN IRIS



● *LIATRIS SPICATA* / BLAZING STAR



● *LIGULARIA DENTATA 'DESDEMONA'* / GOLDENRAY



● *LYTHRUM SALICARIA 'MORDEN PINK'* / LOOSESTRIFE



● *PEROVSKIA ATRICPILOFOLIA 'LITTLE SPIRE'* / RUSSIAN SAGE



● *POLYSTICHUM ACROSTICHOIDES* / CHRISTMAS FERN



● *ROHDEA JAPONICA* / JAPANESE SACRED LILY



● *RUDBECKIA FULGIDA DEAMII* / BLACK-EYED SUSAN



● *RUDBECKIA SUBTOMENTOSA* / SWEET BLACK-EYED SUSAN



● *SARCOCOCCA HOOKERIANA VAR. HUMILIS* / SWEETBOX



● *SEDUM TELEPHIUM 'AUTUMN JOY'* / STONECROP



● *SCABIOSA COLUMBARIA* / PINCUSHION FLOWER



● *STACHYS BYZANTINA 'HELEN VON STEIN'* / LAMB'S EARS



● *VERBENA HASTATA* / AMERICAN BLUE VERVAIN



● *STACHYS MONIERI 'HUMMELO'* / BETONY



● *YUCCA PALLIDA 'TEXAS BLUE YUCCA'* /



● *YUCCA FILAMENTOSA 'EXCALIBUR'* / ADAMS NEEDLE

- SPECIES FROM GEORGE PATTON DESIGN OF 1975
- SPECIES FROM OVS 1979
- SPECIES FROM OVS 2015
- SPECIES FROM OVS 2020 (PROPOSED)

# Proposed Landscape Design



● *BOUTELOUA GRACILIS* / MOSQUITO GRASS



● *CALAMAGROSTIS ACUTIFLORA STRICTA* / REEDGRASS



● *CAREX MORROWII* / SEDGE



● *CAREX MUSKINGIMENSIS 'OEHME'* / PALM SEDGE



● *CAREX PENDULA* / WEeping SEDGE



● *CAREX PENNSYLVANICA* / PENNSYLVANIA SEDGE



● *MOLINIA ARUNDINACEA 'KARL FOERSTER'* / MOORGRASS



● *MOLINIA CAERULEA SUBSP. ARUNDINACEA 'SKYRACER'* / MOORGRASS



● *NASSELLA TENUISSIMA* / MEXICAN FEATHERGRASS



● *PANICUM VIRGATUM 'CAPE BREEZE'* / SWITCH GRASS



● *SCHIZACHYRIUM SCOPARIUM 'STANDING OVATION'* / LITTLE BLUESTEM

- SPECIES FROM GEORGE PATTON DESIGN OF 1975
- SPECIES FROM OVS 1979
- SPECIES FROM OVS 2015
- SPECIES FROM OVS 2020 (PROPOSED)

# U.S. COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

401 F STREET NW SUITE 312 WASHINGTON DC 20001-2728 202-504-2200 FAX 202-504-2195 WWW.CFA.GOV

27 February 2020

Dear Ms. Mendelson-Ielmini:

In its meeting of 20 February, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed a concept proposal for the replacement of Edward J. Kelly Park, located on Virginia Avenue, NW, between C and 21st Streets, functionally part of the campus of the Federal Reserve Board. Acknowledging the need for the park's reconstruction as part of the site disturbance necessary to repair the parking garage beneath it, the Commission approved the concept for the landscape design and for a new pedestrian entrance pavilion to the garage, providing the following comments for the development of the project.

The Commission members expressed appreciation for the project team's recognition of the importance of the existing landscape, designed by Oehme, van Sweden in the late 1970s; they noted the park's significance as the first institutional rendition of the firm's innovative New American Garden—the elevation of a domestic garden typology, based on perennials and grasses, to a public landscape. They supported the intent for the proposal to recall the existing design's spatial organization of a central lawn with perimeter perennial enclosures and an abundance of plants. Observing that this landscape has been characterized by the palette and form of the plants more than the specific plan geometry, they supported the modifications proposed for the layout of the park. They emphasized the need to present this adaptation clearly in the project documentation, such as by developing rendered section drawings through the perennial beds for different seasons to compare the current proposal with the late 1970s design, to ensure that the new landscape will retain the park's essential material, spatial, and experiential qualities. They expressed support for the design of the new parking garage entrance pavilion set within the landscape, recommending that it be as small as possible, and that the architect design the furniture inside the pavilion because of its transparency.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with the next submission.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Luebke, FAIA  
Secretary

Lisa Mendelson-Ielmini, Acting Director  
Region 1—National Capital Area  
National Park Service  
1100 Ohio Drive, SW  
Washington, DC 20242

cc: Eric Groft, Oehme, van Sweden  
Shalom Baranes, Shalom Baranes Associates  
Winona Varnon, Federal Reserve Board