



Image: Daniel Jost

Masking the Alley. October 2013.

INVITING URBAN PLAY: Public Spaces | Public Life for Seattle's University District

2013 Scan | Design Master Studio

INVITING

URBAN

PLAY



bringing lessons from
Copenhagen, Århus, & Malmö
to Seattle's University District

PUBLIC SPACES | PUBLIC LIFE
2013 Scan | Design Interdisciplinary Master Studio
University of Washington College of Built Environments



PUBLIC SPACES | PUBLIC LIFE

INVITING URBAN PLAY IN SEATTLE'S UNIVERSITY DISTRICT

2013 Scan | Design Interdisciplinary Master Studio
University of Washington, College of Built Environments

INSTRUCTORS

Nancy Rottle, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture, University of Washington

Jim Nicholls, Senior Lecturer, Architecture, University of Washington

Bianca Hermansen, Master Teacher, Gehl Architects & Cititek

VeraEve Giampietro, Teaching Assistant, Landscape Architecture + Urban Planning

STUDIO PARTICIPANTS

Hiroki Baba, Landscape Architecture

Scott Boetjer, Landscape Architecture

Shih Chia Chiu, Landscape Architecture

Rao Fu, Landscape Architecture

Machiyo Fujii, Landscape Architecture

Midori Fukutani, Architecture

Guanyi Gao, Landscape Architecture

Ian Garnier, Landscape Architecture

+ Urban Planning

Sophie Glass, Urban Planning

Graham Golbuff, Landscape Architecture

Dhara Goradia, Architecture

Tianshi Guo, Landscape Architecture

Fangyuan Hong, Landscape Architecture

Dan Jost, Landscape Architecture

Youngsuk Jun, Landscape Architecture

Matt Kikosicki, Architecture

Kyle Kinney, Architecture

Hao Liang, Landscape Architecture

Veronica Macalinao, Architecture

Wren McNally, Urban Planning

Joel Miller, Landscape Architecture

Heli Ojamaa, Architecture

Patrick Pirtle, Landscape Architecture

Kate Reef, Architecture

Erica Witcher, Architecture

Dian Zhang, Landscape Architecture

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UW Campus & Capital Planning

University District Livability Partnership

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- Lars Gemzøe, Gehl Architects

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Image: Heli Ojamaa

Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Nyhavn

FOREWORD

The focus of our 2013 ScanDesign Interdisciplinary Master Studio has been to imagine and propose a University District that is shaped by invitations for people of all ages to engage in physical, cultural, and intellectual play. The University District Neighborhood is poised to undergo rapid and long-term transformation, brought on by burgeoning multi-family housing, an imminent light rail station, an expanded waterfront park along Lake Union, and planned green streets. The City’s recently-completed urban design framework suggests significantly increased residential density, and notes the need for better urban public space as well as a shortage of parks and open spaces for the District’s diverse and growing populations. Urban research indicates that active spaces where people of varying backgrounds can play together may be most effective in breaking down social barriers and creating an integrated, valued public life culture. Therefore, to address the challenges and opportunities of the district’s imminent transformation our students have imagined solutions that would yield active, playful public spaces, and would contribute to a walkable, bikable, artful, environmentally healthy and socially inclusive district.

We were guided by principles, examples and teachings from Gehl Architects and our experiences together in Denmark and Sweden, made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Scan | Design Foundation. During our two-week September tour we experienced many playful public spaces, parks, recreation centers, schools, and cultural facilities in Malmo, Sweden and in the Danish cities of Copenhagen and Aarhus, documenting successful design qualities and analyzing the social performance of these exemplary projects. The group bicycled extensively throughout Copenhagen, experiencing the city’s renewed neighborhoods, innovative architecture, and thriving public spaces. The staff of Gehl Architects, Copenhagen’s bicycle planners, instructors in the University of Copenhagen’s Landscape Architecture program, professional guides, practicing urban designers and architects, and others, provided insight into the cities’ historical development and contemporary planning issues, elucidating design approaches to successful projects and sharing personal perspectives. Back in the studio in Seattle, students applied the lessons they learned to our University District project, benefitting from an additional two weeks of expert guidance from Bianca Hermansen of Gehl architects.

We have many people to thank for this remarkable opportunity in teaching and learning. Without the support of the Scan | Design Foundation, we could not have been so inspired by our experiences in Scandinavia or so deeply integrated Gehl Architects’ approach in our design work. We are sincerely appreciative of Bianca Hermansen’s generous, clear and insightful teaching and critique, and of her and Gehl Architects’ illuminating lectures and tours. We owe thanks to many people in Seattle who helped us understand the conditions, forces, and potentials in the U-District, and provided feedback on our work. We are ever grateful to our capable teaching assistant VeraEve Giampietro for her invaluable assistance throughout the study-tour, studio, and production of this document.

We thank you all, and hope that these ideas for establishing an innovative, playful, democratic public realm will help transform the University District into an active, healthy neighborhood for all.

Nancy Rottle, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture, University of Washington
Jim Nicholls, Senior Lecturer, Architecture, University of Washington

ITINERARY

FRIDAY AUGUST 30
Students arrived in Copenhagen; orientation.

SATURDAY AUGUST 31
Copenhagen: the Once and Future City
Walking tour: Christiansborg, Rundtaarn, Kultorvet, King's Garden, Nyboder housing, Kastellet, Kvaesthus, Nyhavn.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1
Copenhagen: Beyond the City Gates
Train to Helsingør. Kulturhuset/Bibliotek (AART Architects), Maritime Museum. Train to Humlebæk, Louisiana Museum.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2
Gehl Architects: History, Public Space Network & Methods.
Lectures with Lars Gemzøe, Camilla van Deurs, Lærke Jul Gagner. Apply Quality Criteria to plazas. End at Charlotte Amundsens Plads for an exercise. Pick up bikes.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3
Urban Play and Copenhagen's Inner Harbor
Lectures by Vanessa Ahuactzin & Lars Gemzøe. Bicycle tour: Kalvebod Brygge, Sluseholmen, Tegholmen, Evolution Graffiti Wall, Havnestad, Islands Brygge, Christiania.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4
Playing on the Coast
Amager Children's House to Holmbladsgade/Prags Blvd, Prismen Green Gym, Maritime Youth House, Amager Strand Park. Bike to Winter Bathing Structure.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5
Copenhagen: A Bicycle City
Lectures on Bicycle Planning. Exercise with Isobel Froes and Ashle Favre. Solbjerg Plads, PorcelænsHAVEN, Flintholm Station, Frederiksberg Have. Bicycle culture at Dronning Louise's Bridge.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6
Playing in the Neighborhoods: Vesterbro & Nørrebro:
New Urban Parks and Recreational Facilities
Vesterbro: Kodbyen and Sønder Boulevard. Hedebygade Housing. Nørrebro tour with Bianca. Korsgadehallen, Jægersborggade, Blågårdsplads, Blågårds-gade, Nørrebrogade, Assistentens Kierkegård, Nørrebrøparken, Superkilen, Bananna Park, Sjællandsgade. BIG Retrofitted gym. Courtyard housing gardens.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10
INVITING URBAN PLAY: Public Spaces | Public Life for Seattle's University District



Shih Chia glides down the Superkilen mound on his bike



Bianca & Dian climb on the new Wave play form



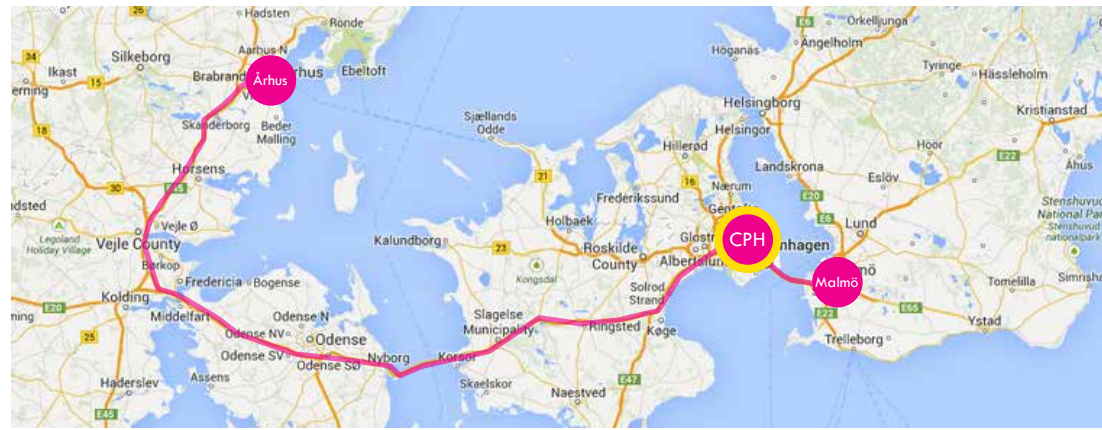
Sophie at the Ama'r Children's Culture House



Parkour instruction by Martin Kallesøe



Joel enjoys the Urban Play installation in Køge



Travel routes: Copenhagen + Århus + Malmö

OVERVIEW TRAVEL STUDY

Copenhagen + Århus + Malmö

August 30 - September 15, 2013

Prior to the beginning of the Autumn 2013 quarter, twenty-five graduate students from Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning participated in the 2013 Scan|Design Foundation Travel Study Program. The trip focused on design for urban play. Through study of the built environment in Copenhagen, Århus, and Malmö, students were introduced to ideas and concepts that transcended and united their three disciplines, and encouraged a broader, multidisciplinary approach to design.

The trip introduced the students to the public space ideas championed by Jan Gehl and Gehl Architects. The principle that design is an invitation, and in this case an invitation to play in the urban environment, was illustrated both in lecture and through site visits. During the trip, students were afforded the unique opportunity to study with Bianca Hermansen and Lars Gemzøe, founding and principal members of the internationally acclaimed Gehl Architects office.

Field studies, lectures, and workshops led by the staff of Gehl Architects were augmented by presentations from city officials, transportation planners, and local architects in both Copenhagen and Malmö. Guest lecturers included Isabelle Froes, Bettina Lamm, John Bela, Eric Scharnhorst, Catarina Rolfsdotter-Jansson, Martin Kallesøe, Ashley Favre, and others. In Copenhagen, students visited the offices of COBE, Dorte Mandrup, and Tradje Natur, toured the Royal Danish Playhouse and Tietgenkollegiet. In Malmö the trip included a tour of the sustainable developments at Bo01.

Students embraced Scandinavian culture during the trip, with authentic Scandinavian meals being a highlight of the experience. In Århus, the students enjoyed a dinner with members of the Scan|Design Fellows, alumni, and current students, who introduced them to some favorite local sites.

ITINERARY CONTINUED

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7

Aarhus: Explore Festival, Art Museum, City, Campus
Lørdag Train to Aarhus. Free Day and dinner with the Danish ScanIDesign Board. Suggested activities: Explore Aarhus Festival, Art Museum, Olafur Eliasson's Rainbow Panorama.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8

Walking Tour, Continued Explorations, Return to Copenhagen.
Walking tour of the city's open space network. Den Gamle By, artificial village of old historic Danish houses in a historic urban fabric pattern. Train back to Copenhagen.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 9

Playing in Copenhagen Neighborhoods: Ørestad
Tietgenkollegiet, U of C campus, Concert Hall (Jean Nouvel), Tour of Ørestad, Solstrøben, Mountain Building, Library, School Playground, Plug n Play, 8 House, Ørestad Byparken.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10

Play, Body, and Performance
Bike to Playhouse for a tour. Independent exploration: Christianshavn streets, canals and cafes; Danish Architecture Center; Design Museum. Tour Opera House (Henning Larsen). Visit COBE, lecture about Prinsessegade and Youth Club.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11

Malmö: Open Space Systems
Biking Tour of Malmö open space system. Catarina Rolfsdotter-Jansson Bo01/Western Harbor tour.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12

Playing in Copenhagen Neighborhoods: Bellahøj & Østerbro
Dorte Mandrup visit. Mandrup Daycare, Potato Rows. Faelled Parken. Visit Tredje Natur. Sorensen Amphitheater and tour Bellahøj Adventure Playground with Richard Hare.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13

Play for All Ages, Temporary to Permanent: Carlsberg and Køge
Beginning Parkour instruction: Martin Kallesøe, Street Movement. Train to Køge. Urban Playground tour with Bettina Lamm, John Bela (ReBar), and others. Dinner in Copenhagen.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14

Return bikes. Group barbecue in apartment courtyard.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15

Check out & departure.



Image: Scott Boefjer

Students play at Copenhagen's Kastrop Sea Bath



Image: Kate Reef

Copenhagen children do scooter tricks in Charlotte Amundsens Plads



Image: Nancy Rottle

Families enjoy swings at Superkilen



Image: Nancy Rottle

Danish moms enjoy coffee at Amager Strandpark



Image: Scott Boefjer

Local family serves champagne in the harbor



Image: Scott Boefjer

Local children carried by cargo bike.

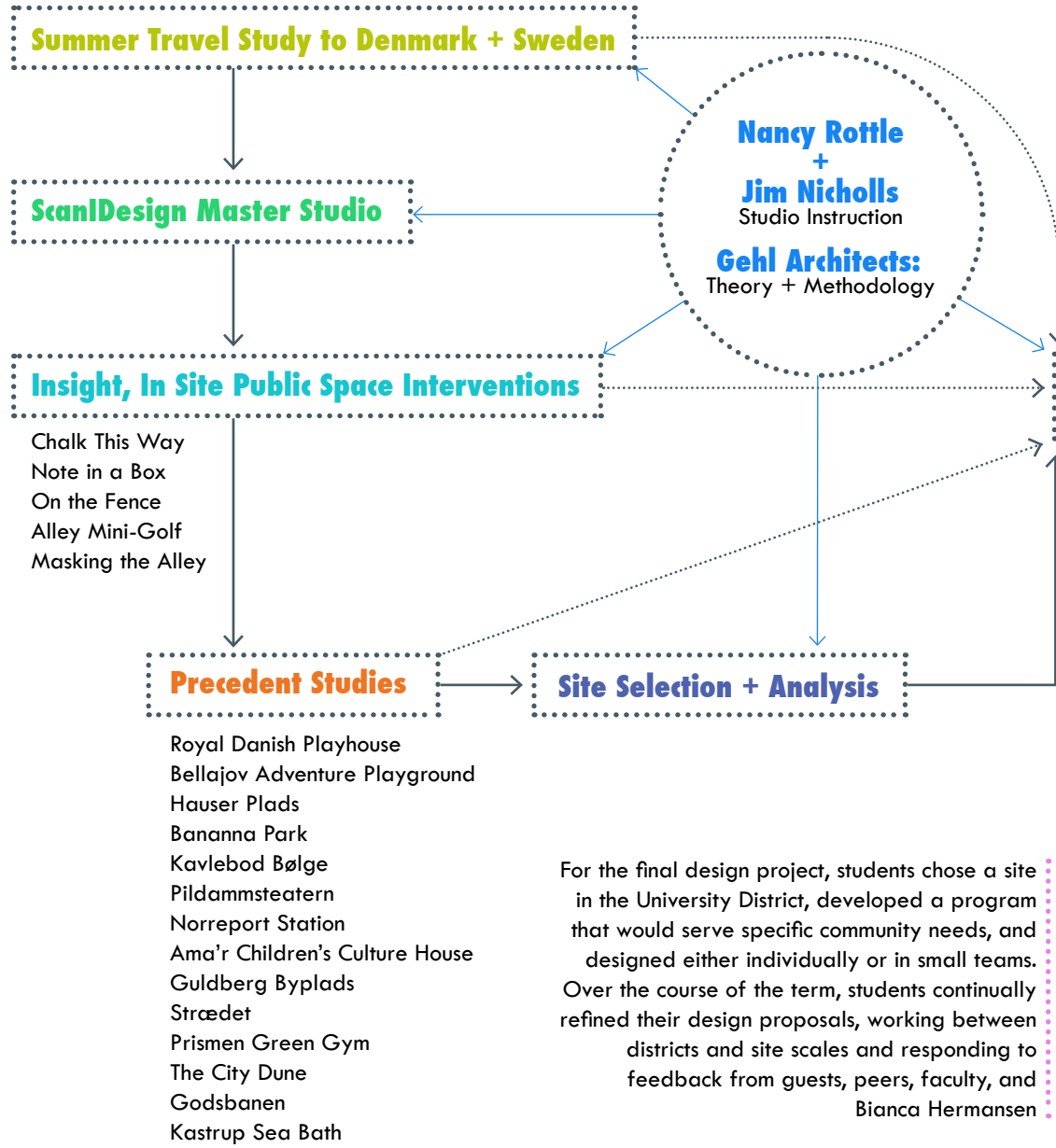


Image: Nancy Rottle

Local kids play hide and seek at Copenhagen's Maritime Youth House



Kites at Bananna Park



COURSE SEQUENCE

Throughout the quarter the students had opportunities to work in various groups to take advantage of the interdisciplinary studio format. After working in interdisciplinary teams on temporary public space interventions, students divided into pairs for precedent studies and some formed small groups for site analysis.

SITE DESIGNS

- School**
University District School Feasibility Study
- Connect the Blocks**
- Parks / Stopping Places**
Christie Park
Urban Fun(ction)
A Multifunctional Urban Plaza
1/48 x Alley Play^N
- Movement Corridors**
Campus Parkway
Active Campus Parkway
Camp(us) Parkway
The wAve
- Community Resource Centers**
Passageway Alley
Trans-Cowlitz
Fueling Station
Burke Gilman Street
- Waterfront**
U-District Learning Lab + Nature Park
North Portage Park
Restoring Body and Site
From Bridge to Bridge
Salmon Beach
Continuous Ribbon Edge Around Zones of Action

For the final design project, students chose a site in the University District, developed a program that would serve specific community needs, and designed either individually or in small teams. Over the course of the term, students continually refined their design proposals, working between districts and site scales and responding to feedback from guests, peers, faculty, and Bianca Hermansen

STUDIO OBJECTIVES

- Design a University District that is:**
- shaped by physical invitations for urban play
 - demonstrating strategies of resilience, inclusiveness, and authenticity
 - activating public space, streets, and sites within the district
 - contributing to a high-functioning, socially responsive and environmentally regenerative city
 - artful, walkable, bikable, and has playful public realm

Employing and expanding on Gehl's Quality Criteria:
Creatively engage ecological considerations and such challenges and opportunities as urban intensification, affordability, habitat protection and climate change mitigation and adaptation.



Heli presents her design for a new waterfront



Kate and Wren present the Fueling Station



Dian (Nikky) presents at the final review



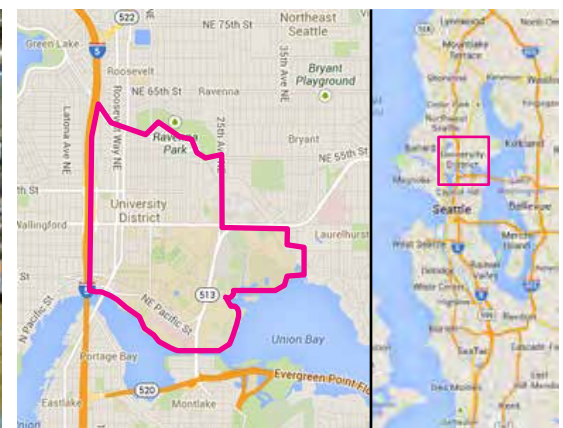
Shih Chia presents at the final review

OVERVIEW URBAN PLAY STUDIO

University District, Seattle, Washington

Autumn Quarter, 2013

Poised to undergo rapid and long-term transformation, the U-district has the potential to become a model for how Seattle can grow in a way that respects the integrity and authenticity of its neighborhoods while looking to the future of our city and world. Applying an ethic of an inclusive public realm and inspired by our travel-study to Denmark, our interdisciplinary students selected sites, proposed site programs, and developed building, street and park designs that provide needed services while integrating artful play into the transitioning district.

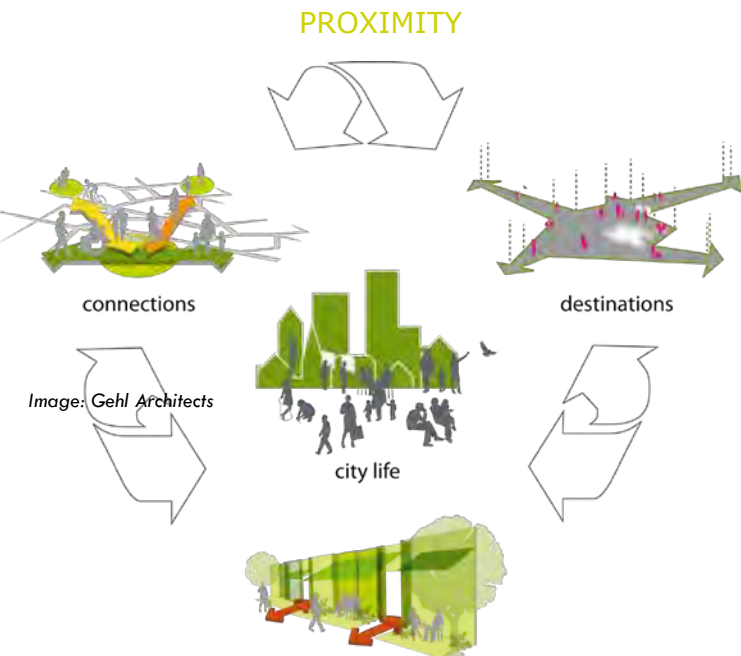


— University District, Seattle, Washington

DESIGN METHODOLOGY

During site analysis, students used Gehl Architects' Quality Criteria approach for observing and assessing sites for their pedestrian quality. This approach complemented the project area's quantitative pedestrian analysis, allowing students to understand how people might experience the neighborhood. The students also used these Quality Criteria to evaluate their finished design proposals.

We also applied the concept of creating proximity between urban events rather than simply focusing on density.



Concept of Proximity vs. Density

PROTECTION	PROTECTION AGAINST VEHICULAR TRAFFIC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic accidents Pollution, fumes, noise Visibility 	PROTECTION AGAINST CRIME & VIOLENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well lit Allow for passive surveillance Overlap functions in space and time 	PROTECTION AGAINST UNPLEASANT SENSORY EXPERIENCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wind / Draft Rain / Snow Cold / Heat Pollution Dust, Glare, Noise 	
	INVITATIONS FOR WALKING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room for walking Accessibility to key areas Interesting facades No obstacles Quality surfaces 	INVITATIONS FOR STANDING AND STAYING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attractive and functional edges Defined spots for staying Objects to lean against or stand next to 	INVITATIONS FOR SITTING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined zones for sitting Maximize advantages pleasant views, people watching Good mix of public and café seating Resting opportunities 	
INVITATION	INVITATIONS FOR VISUAL CONTACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coherent way-finding Unhindered views Interesting views Lighting (when dark) 	PLAY, RECREATION & INTERACTION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow for physical activity, play, interaction and entertainment Temporary activities (markets, festivals, exhibitions etc.) Optional activities (resting, meeting, social interaction) Create opportunities for people to interact in the public realm 	DAY / EVENING / NIGHT ACTIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 hour city Variety of functions throughout the day Light in the windows Mixed-use Lighting in human scale 	
	AUDIO & VERBAL CONTACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low ambient noise level Public seating arrangements conducive to communicating 	VARYING SEASONAL ACTIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> seasonal activities. (skating, christmas markets,) extra protection from unpleasant climatic conditions Lighting 		
DELIGHT	DIMENSIONED AT HUMAN SCALE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dimensions of buildings & spaces in observance of the important human dimensions in related to senses, movements, size & behavior 	POSITIVE ASPECTS OF CLIMATE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun / shade Warmth / coolness Breeze / ventilation 	AESTHETIC & SENSORY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality design, fine detailing, robust materials Views / vistas Rich sensory experiences 	

Gehl Architects' Quality Criteria

Gehl Architects Master Instructors

Students were first introduced to Gehl Architects' working methods while in Copenhagen, through lectures and exercises. Students benefitted from working with Bianca Hermansen in Seattle, during the middle point of the studio and near the end of the term. Bianca provided valuable feedback to guide the development of students' designs for inviting urban play.



Bianca Hermansen, Cititek & Gehl Architects



Lars Gemzøe, Gehl Architects

Life | Space | Buildings

In addition to using the 15 Quality Criteria, in one exercise called "Life | Space | Buildings" students took on different roles: student, artist, business woman, club goer, etc. to establish the required program elements needed to create vital public space that is inviting to all.



Image: Gehl Architects



PUBLIC SPACE INTERVENTIONS

Five teams formed to conceive, construct, install and observe temporary public space interventions. The creative projects invited the public to engage in urban play in the U-District over the span of an October weekend.

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Freedom Wall, Charlottesville, VA



Image: Sky Guo

Process



Image: Young Jun

Installation



Image: Sky Guo

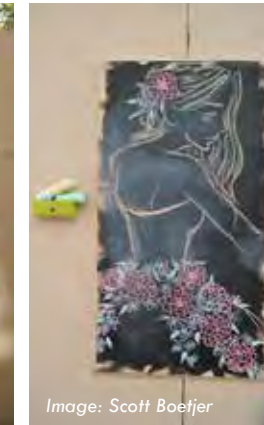
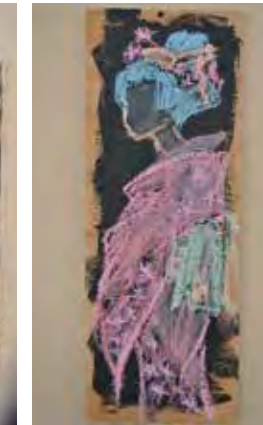


Image: Scott Boetjer



CHALK THIS WAY

Scott Boetjer + Tianshi Guo + Dhara Goradia + Young Jun + Veronica Macalinao

The site is a local commuter artery primarily used by pedestrian and cyclist students. The blank construction wall along the sidewalk conceals a day care playground and is opposite a construction site. The idea of a chalkboard intervention is to provide a place for people to write or draw their thoughts on a whim and create a place for students to express themselves. Normally an uninviting sidewalk, the installation quickly became filled with multilingual text and quirky drawings.

"I think this is a great idea for construction fences in urban areas. Perhaps it requires a timely question or provocative statement that invites/dialogue..."

- Rob Winstead, Freedom Wall Designer



Freedom Wall, Charlottesville, VA



Image: Sky Guo

Process



Image: Young Jun

Installation



Image: Young Jun



Freedom Wall, Charlottesville, VA



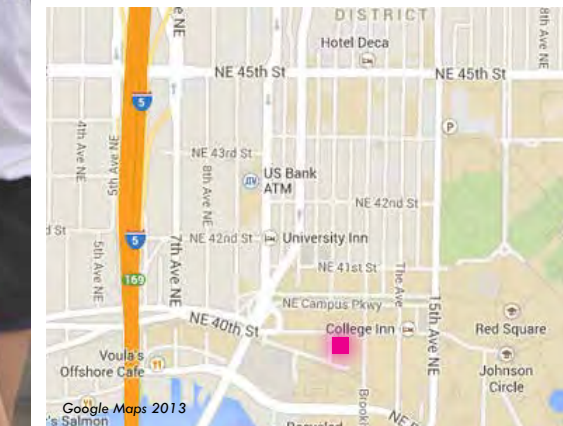
Image: Sky Guo

Process

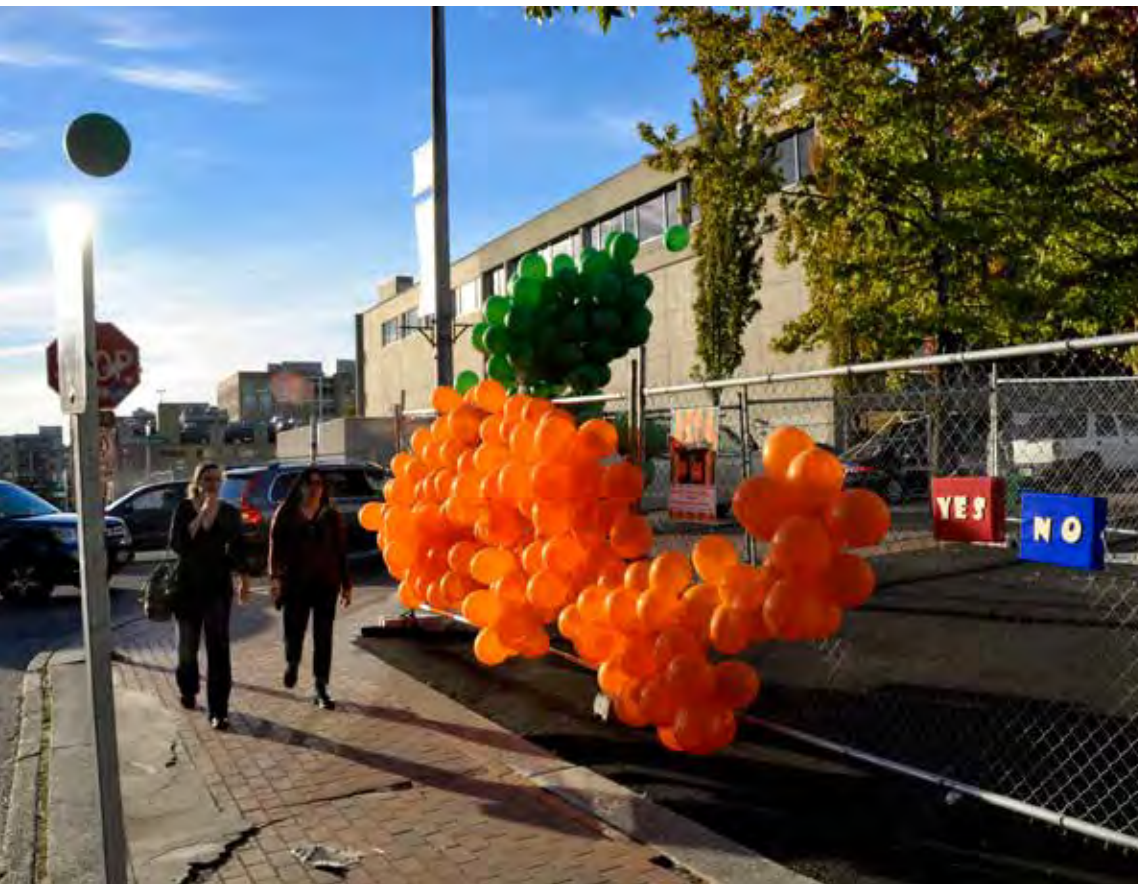


Image: Dhara Goradia

Installed



■ SITE: NE 40th St & Cowlitz Rd



Notes In The Balloon with the yes/no boxes

Results

Dozens of pedestrians enjoyed the balloon popping installation on Saturday evening. A major contribution to the large turnout was the pleasant, sunny weather. We directly invited people to engage with the play installation by asking, “Do you want to play by popping a balloon?” More than half of the pedestrians responded positively to this invitation. We also allowed passersby to discover the play on their own without the vocal prompt by just reading the sign. Some reactions to the installation included:

- “Popping balloons feels really good!”
- “I thought this was a marriage proposal. What is this?”
- “I’m scared to pop a balloon and I don’t know why!”
- “This is fun! Can I pop another?”

After we finished the installation, we compiled the “Yes” and “No” answers and learned a great deal about the preferences people have about the U-District. Through the playing process, we got 164 note feedbacks, and had further understanding about people’s concerns for the U-District.

Process and Construction

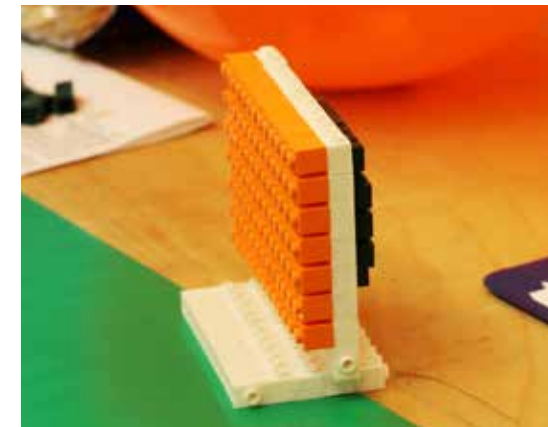
We inflated 300 balloons and covered approximately 30 linear feet of a construction fence with signs inviting pedestrians to pop the balloons. We wanted to activate play at the corner of the street by asking forty different “Yes” or “No” questions on small notes inside of the balloon. Some of these questions included:

- Do you feel safe walking in the U-District?
- Is the U-District a healthy place?
- Is the U-District a fun place to hang out?
- Is the U-District a good place to raise a family?

Passersby could answer the question on their note by placing their preference in a “Yes” or “No” box tied to the fence. We also decided to use green and orange balloons to symbolize the changing of the season from summer to autumn.



A conceptual drawing of the balloons at the site



A conceptual model designed with Legos

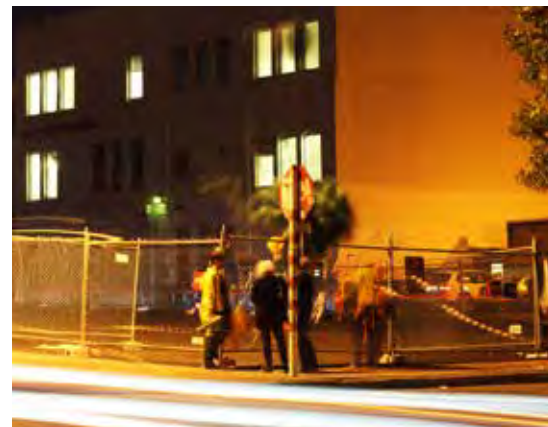
NOTE IN A BOX

Shih Chia Chiu + Midori Fukutani + Ian Garnier
+ Sophie Glass + Fangyuan Hong + Hao Liang

Big Balloon Pop’n in the U-District

Our “Insight, In Site” urban play installation was located on the southwest corner of the future light rail station in the University District (43rd St and Brooklyn Ave). The arrival of the light rail to the U-District will dramatically alter the neighborhood’s character and economy. Already its construction has impacted the area: over the course of just a few months, a historic house, a bank, and a building all disappeared to make room for the light rail station.

For our play installation we wanted to capture the sense of change that is sweeping the U-District, particularly this area. By using balloons – and encouraging pedestrians to pop these balloons – we emphasized the ephemeral nature of the built environment in the U-District.



People longing for more balloons to play with



Reading a question after popping the balloon



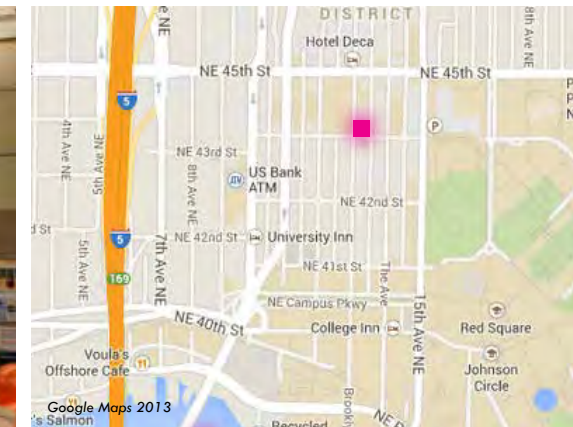
Curious people gather around to participate



A pickup truck brought the balloons to the site



300+ balloons were all inflated in studio



■ SITE: NE 43rd St & Brooklyn Ave

ON THE FENCE

Hiroki Baba + Wren McNally + Kate Reef
+ Graham Golbuff + Matt Kikosicki

Bolstering the thriving music scene provided by the Neptune Theater and Music Co., On The Fence moves the performance venue to the streets. A chain link fence surrounding the future site of the U District light rail station provides a flexible armature to support musical instruments constructed with salvaged objects. In utilizing the ubiquitous chain link fence the installation brings to light the endless possibilities to enliven compromised spaces in cities throughout the world.



Bottle instruments integrated into the fence



Hashtag signage



Design sketches



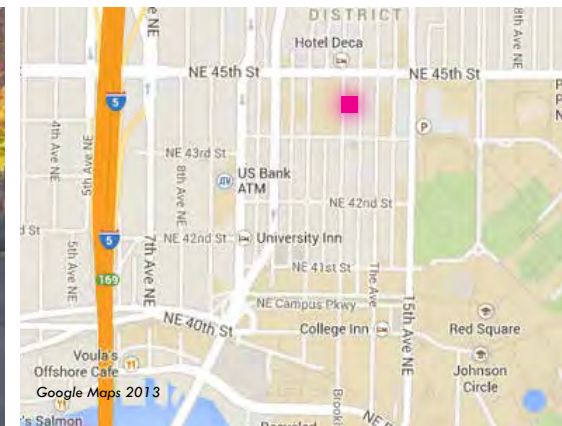
A view of the installation down Brooklyn Ave NE



The green man dances when instruments are played



Buckets and bottles are just some of the instruments available to passersby



SITE: Brooklyn Ave btw NE 43rd & 45th Sts



Playing, stopping, talking



All ages enjoy Alley Mini Golf



Cutting, painting, drilling, and setup



Neighborhood signage



Framing space

ALLEY MINI GOLF

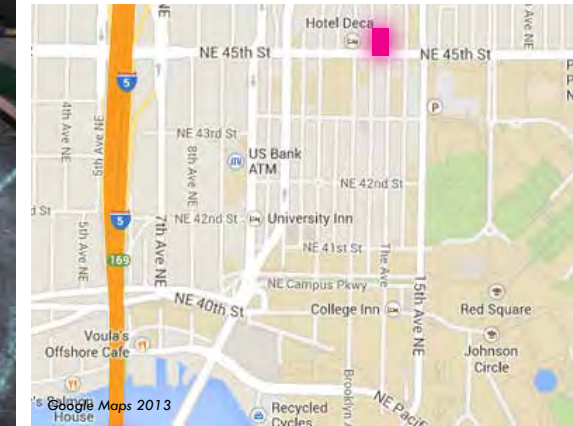
Joel Miller + Erica Witcher + Kyle Kinney
+ Guanyi Gao + Rao Fu

The alley north of 45th Street and west of the Ave is a dark and smelly space, dominated by dumpsters and garbage.

Mini golf, possibly the world's least serious sport, invites all people to putt up and down the alley.

Using iconic alley detritus, mini golf transforms the space, utilizing the dumpsters, doorways, and slope to bring playful people into the alley while allowing cars, pedestrians, and bikers to pass through.

The "19th Hole," including music, a photo station, and furniture, invites players to stay and re- envision what an alley can be.



■ SITE: Alley between the Ave & Brooklyn

MASKING THE ALLEY

Machiyo Fujii + Daniel Jost + Heli Ojamaa
+ Patrick Pirtle + Dian Zhang

**Re-imagining graffiti removal,
from gray to PLAY!**

Today, Seattle's alleys are a graffiti war zone. After decades of battle, they're covered with gray scars - - making them gloomy and uninviting. When graffiti is associated with gang activity, there is a good argument to remove it. But must the process of painting over leave the city so bleak? What if the city used a more colorful palette of paints to remove the graffiti? Our alleys would become abstract paintings and graffiti removers would become artists themselves. This installation confronts that idea by using different colored masking tape to re-envision these gray scars. The public was given the authority to take back the walls of the alley by creating what they felt would be appropriate as a response to the graffiti removal using the colorful tape.

More photos at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/104131007@N03/>



Image: Dian Zhang

Date night - forget the movies!



Image: Patrick Pirtle

Testing hatch pattern technique



Image: Daniel Jost

Messing with the Stranger



Image: Daniel Jost

View of alley intervention entrance



Image: Dian Zhang

Taking his art to the streets



Image: Daniel Jost

Tape runs with paint



Image: Daniel Jost

Beautifying the post office



Image: Daniel Jost

First installation exploration

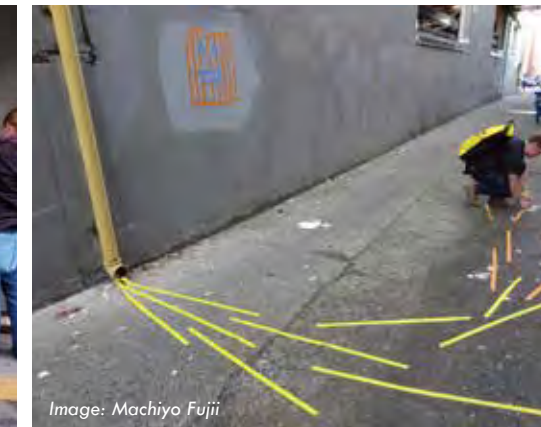


Image: Machiyo Fujii

Matt's masterpiece

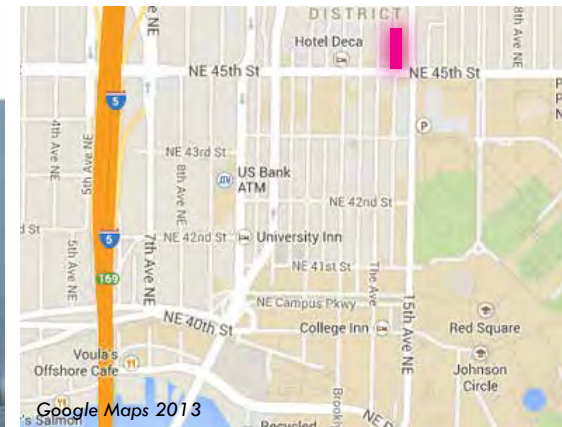


Image: Heli Ojamaa

3D participant signature



Post intervention - the installations continue



Google Maps 2013

■ SITE: Alley btw University Way & 15th Ave NE



PRECEDENT STUDIES

SITES IN COPENHAGEN, ÅRHUS, & MALMÖ

Student pairs further researched sites we interacted with during our travel-study trip, to extract the teachings they held and to bring those lessons forward for application in their site designs. Examples included cultural centers, parks, playgrounds, plazas, recreational facilities, waterfront structures, streets, and an historic amphitheater.

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Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

Playhouse site in relation to Opera House



Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

Section of program relationships to water



Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

Night time activation of public spaces



Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

View of 650 seat main theater



Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

Public events on promenade

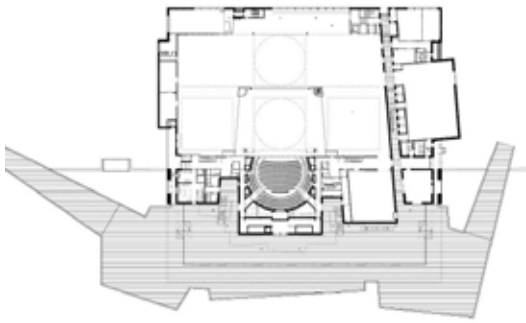


Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

First floor plan of Playhouse and promenade



Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

Promenade approach to Playhouse



Image: Kate Reef

Rear of building with windows to back stage



Image: Lundgaard & Tranberg

Section of Playhouse and promenade



Image: Heli Ojamaa

View of indoor public space



Image: Kate Reef

Harborside promenade and building overhang

ROYAL DANISH PLAYHOUSE

Study by Kate Reef + Heli Ojamaa

- Location:** Sankt Annæ Plads, Copenhagen
- Architect:** Lundgaard & Tranberg
- Engineers:** COWI
- Client:** Royal Danish Theater
- Constructed:** 2007
- Cost:** 71,000 EUR (~ 96,000 USD)

The Royal Danish Playhouse was completed as recently as 2007 and is already a cultural institution, holding a prominent position in the Copenhagen Harbor. The playhouse acts as an anchor for the meeting of city and sea, reinforcing the existing urban spatial qualities.

The playhouse is rooted in the context of its historic neighborhood and is clad in copper; integrating the stage tower in the Copenhagen skyline of copper domes and spires.



Google Maps 2013

■ SITE: Sankt Annæ Plads, Copenhagen

BELLAJOV ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Study by Daniel Jost + Nikky Zhang

At adventure playgrounds kids are free to build the playground of their dreams using leftover construction materials and junk. The landscape architect C. Th Sorensen first proposed creating “junk playgrounds” in 1931, and according to Richard Hare of the University of Copenhagen, Sorensen was involved with the creation of this playground in Bellahoj in 1965. The site is carefully screened from the community, so it has not become an eyesore. Unlike the adventure playground in Berkeley, California, which is a regional destination, Bellahoj’s playground is used mainly by neighborhood kids. It is connected with an after school program, for which the childrens’ families pay membership fees. Because the same group of kids is here every weekday afternoon, there seems to be a stronger sense of ownership over individual structures.



Image: Daniel Jost



Image: Daniel Jost

This fort could be mistaken for a pile of junk.



Image: Daniel Jost

Adults help build the larger structures and remove structures that are unsafe.



Image: Daniel Jost

Kids use hammers, nails, and saws in creative ways.



Image: Nikky Zhang

A fence hides the junk playground from the park.



Image: Daniel Jost

Kids dreamt up this homemade photo opportunity.



Image: Daniel Jost

This pile of wood is used for building and burning.



Image: Daniel Jost

Kids are only allowed to demolish their own forts.



■ SITE: Solkrogen 6, Copenhagen, Denmark

HAUSER PLADS

Study by Hiroki Baba + Shih Chia Chiu

A green oasis for local residents

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
Client: Københavns Ejendomme
Constructed: 2009-2011
Program: Office, parking, & park
Size: 1,000 m²
Total Cost: 19 million Danish Kroner
 ~ 3.5 million USD

This site is a public playground, under which a municipal cleaning center is located. Underneath the plads there used to be parking lot, and this was transformed into the new facility. The facility and the plads are connected to each other by the curved glass façade, which inspires curiosity. Today Hauser Plads is a green oasis for local residents.



Image: Hiroki Baba



Image: Shih Chia Chiu

The courtyard provides lighting and a rest area.



Image: Karren en Brands Landscape Architects

A permeable fence makes a safe area for children.

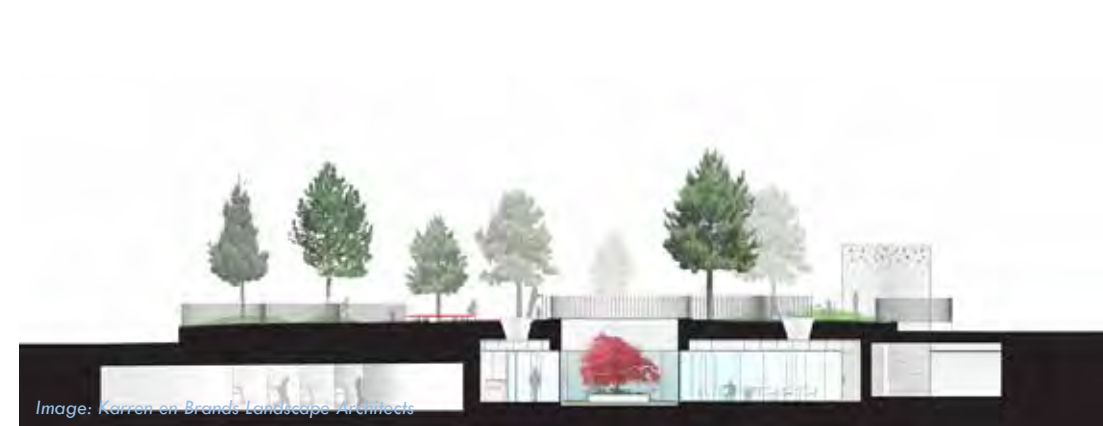


Image: Karren en Brands Landscape Architects

Section: multi-use building



Image: Karren en Brands Landscape Architects

Site Plan: A green oasis in the urban center.



Image: Hiroki Baba

Public space for everyone.



Image: Danish Architecture Center

Hauser Plads is a playground, plaza, and a community park.



Image: Shih Chia Chiu

Plantings provide green space on the roof.



Image: Shih Chia Chiu

A safe and fun playground for children.

Lessons Learned

There is a lack of open space in the University District, places where children can play freely, and the area will only get denser with the opening of the light rail. One possible remedy could be to design facilities that serve multiple purposes, addressing both urban infrastructure and open space needs.



Google Maps, 2013

■ SITE: Copenhagen, Denmark



Image: DAC & LIFE Website

Bananna Park: bird's-eye view of the Banana

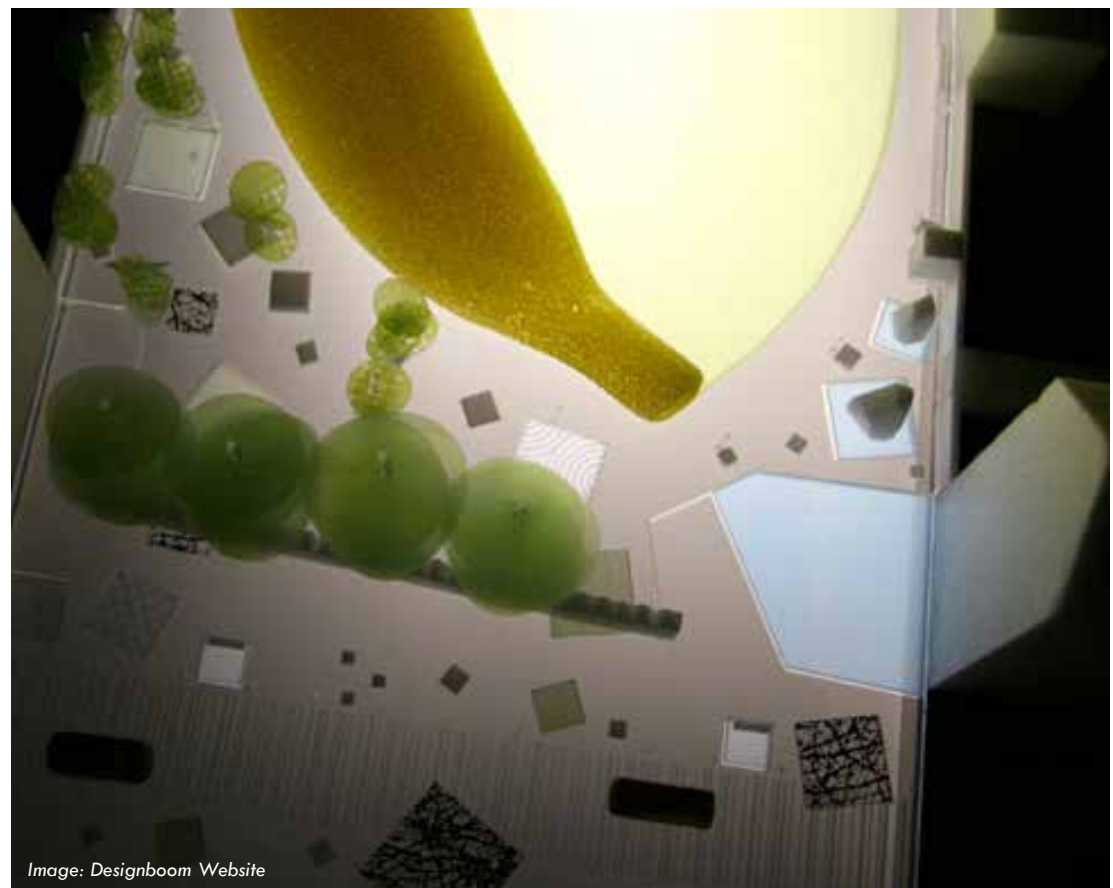


Image: Designboom Website

Model

BANANNA PARK

Study by Guanyi Gao + Youngsuk Jun

BaNanna Park was conceived as a Local Green Haven. This project is meaningful because it secured green space in one of Denmark's least green urban areas. In late 2004 news of a plan to build a housing estate on an unbuilt and overgrown pocket of land at Nannasgade in Nørrebro were made public. Parents and staff at the Rådmandsgade School along with local community members quickly gathered 2,300 signatures in a petition against the project, which eventually led to the BaNana Park project.

Before the face lift, Nannasgade was called "the contaminated site" because of the oil refinery that used to be there. The site was cleaned up to create safer place for children to play in the park, and the name was also changed to the more cheerful BaNanna Park.



Image: DAC & LIFE Website

The Jungle



Image: DAC & LIFE Website

The Square



Image: DAC & LIFE Website

The Lawn



Image: Designboom Website

Plan



Google Maps, 2013

■ SITE: Nørrebro, Copenhagen, Denmark



Image: Scott Boetjer

Hot tub party boat.



Image: Matt Kikosicki



Image: Matt Kikosicki



Image: <http://www.dac.dk>

Open play.



Image: Scott Boetjer

Kayak polo.

Diversity is the primary theme of the project's program and people have openly embraced this fact. The project consists of two plazas connected by a variable-height boardwalk. There are ample places for sitting and the open plazas can be used for many types of organized events. Spontaneity is common here and the project is already evolving to fit the needs of use and safety. Simple but high quality concrete, wood, and steel construction enhance the experience but shift the focus to the elegant form and ever-changing viewscape.



Image: Scott Boetjer

Ribbon playshape.

KALVEBOD BØLGE

Study by Matt Kikosicki + Scott Boetjer

Making a Splash: Copenhagen's Waterfront Wave.

Location:	Kalvebod Brygge, Copenhagen
Architect:	JDS Architects, KLAR
Engineers:	Sloth Møller Rådgivende Ingeniører
Client:	City of Copenhagen, Denmark
Area:	8500 m ²
Cost:	35 million Danish Kroner (~ 6.4 million USD)
Constructed:	2011 - 2012

The bold, unique design of this boardwalk extension was conceived and built with the express intent of reclaiming access to the harbour and connecting the overall urban fabric with the waterfront. The existing buildings along the Kalvebod Brygge dominate the edge and create large, uninviting shadows. The double-wave form of the Kavelbod Bølge reaches beyond these shadows and invites visitors and residents to relax, play, and stay.



Google Maps, 2013

■ SITE: Copenhagen Harbor



Image: Graham Golbuff

Open view.

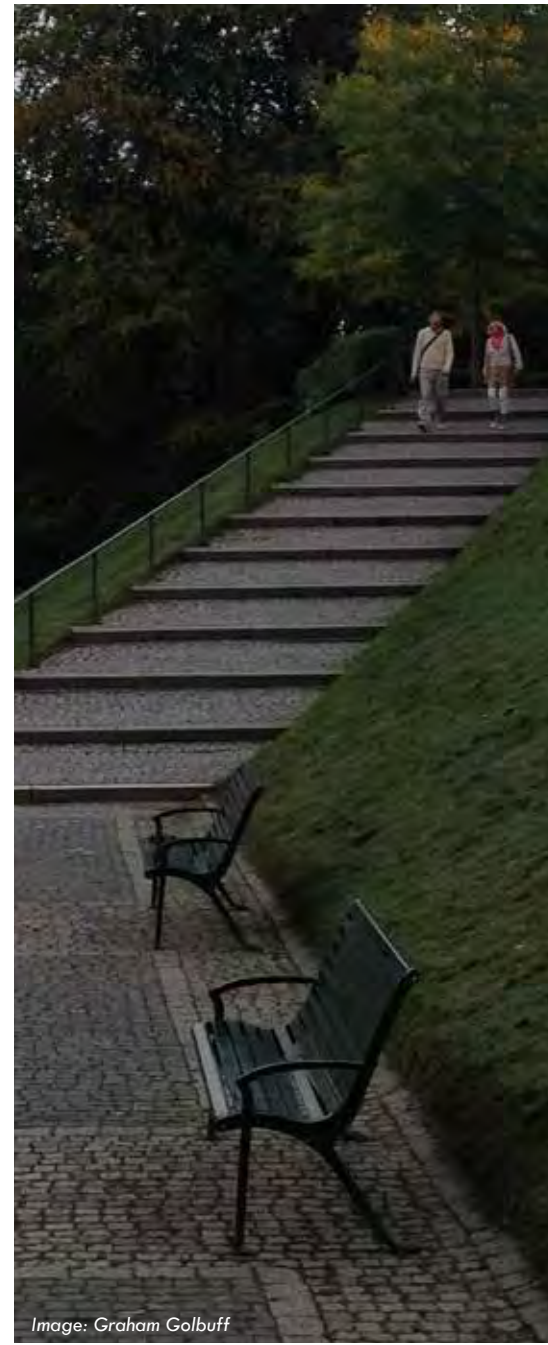


Image: Graham Golbuff

Stairs at the park's North edge.



Image: Graham Golbuff

View from the back row.

Constructed and “desired” pathways blaze through the mounds, which are scaled large enough to allow for prospect and refuge for a “summer,” and provide closure for an audience without completely shutting out the urban context in which the theater sits. In summers, however, the site becomes a venue for theatrical and musical performance and allows for a different kind of urban play.



Image: WikiMedia.org

Open view.



Image: Graham Golbuff

On-site sketch.



Image: Google Maps, 2013

Amphitheater within Pildammsparken.

PILDAMMSTEATERN

Study by Graham Golbuff + Rao Fu

Mounds. Masonry. Music!

- Location:** Pildammsparken, Malmö, Sweden
- Client:** Malmö Municipality Streets & Parks Department
- Constructed:** 1914 (earthworks)
1963 (hardscaping)

Nestled in the southern corner of Malmö's historic Pildammsparken sits the otherworldly Pildammsteatern. The materials are simple: tiered seating and a circular stage of paving stones and a backdrop of rolling, 20'+ tall turf covered mounds. When empty, as our studio discovered it in September 2013, the site invites exploration and play. In this context, it's difficult to not be reminded of the Baggins' countryside in Tolkein's works.



Google Maps, 2013

■ Pildammsparken in Greater Malmö, Sweden

Sponsored by the City of Malmö, free shows routinely draw double the theater's official capacity (1,500 people) and feature noted Scandanavian artists.



Image: www.rockfoto.net

Public concert, July 2008.



NORREPORT STATION

Study by Ian Garnier + Joel Miller

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
Architect: COBE Architects
 Scheduled for completion in 2015, the new Norreport Station will accommodate over 250,000 people per day in one of central Copenhagen's busiest areas. To embrace this mass of people, COBE studied preferred pedestrian routes from the surrounding area into the fixed station entrances. They then designed a series of floating roof structures and bicycle parking areas around these pedestrian flows. With parking for 2,500 bikes, the sunken "bicycle beds" allow for clear delineation between areas for bikes and the space needed for vibrant city life. These "beds" not only keep the bikes spatially organized, they lower the mass of bikes slightly below grade, visually opening up the crowded and valuable space.



Norreport Station is Copenhagen's busiest hub.



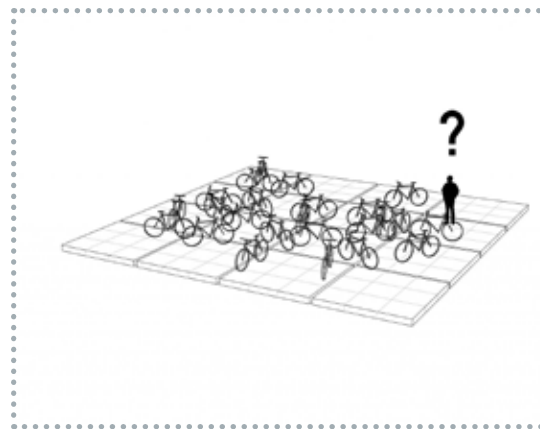
Pedestrian flows.



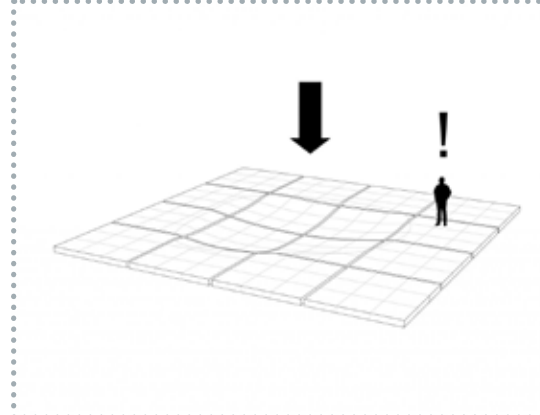
Station structures fit within flow lines.



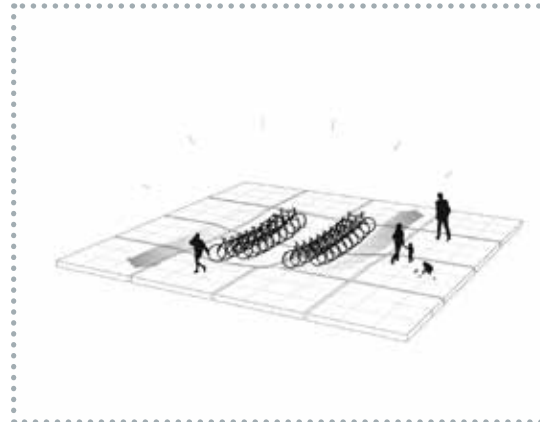
Section view of station area.



Unorganized bike parking does not allow flow.



"Bicycle beds" are sunk 40 cm below grade.



Grade separation helps organize the space.



Project images & Diagrams: COBE Architects



■ SITE: Frederiksborggade & Linnésgade, Copenhagen

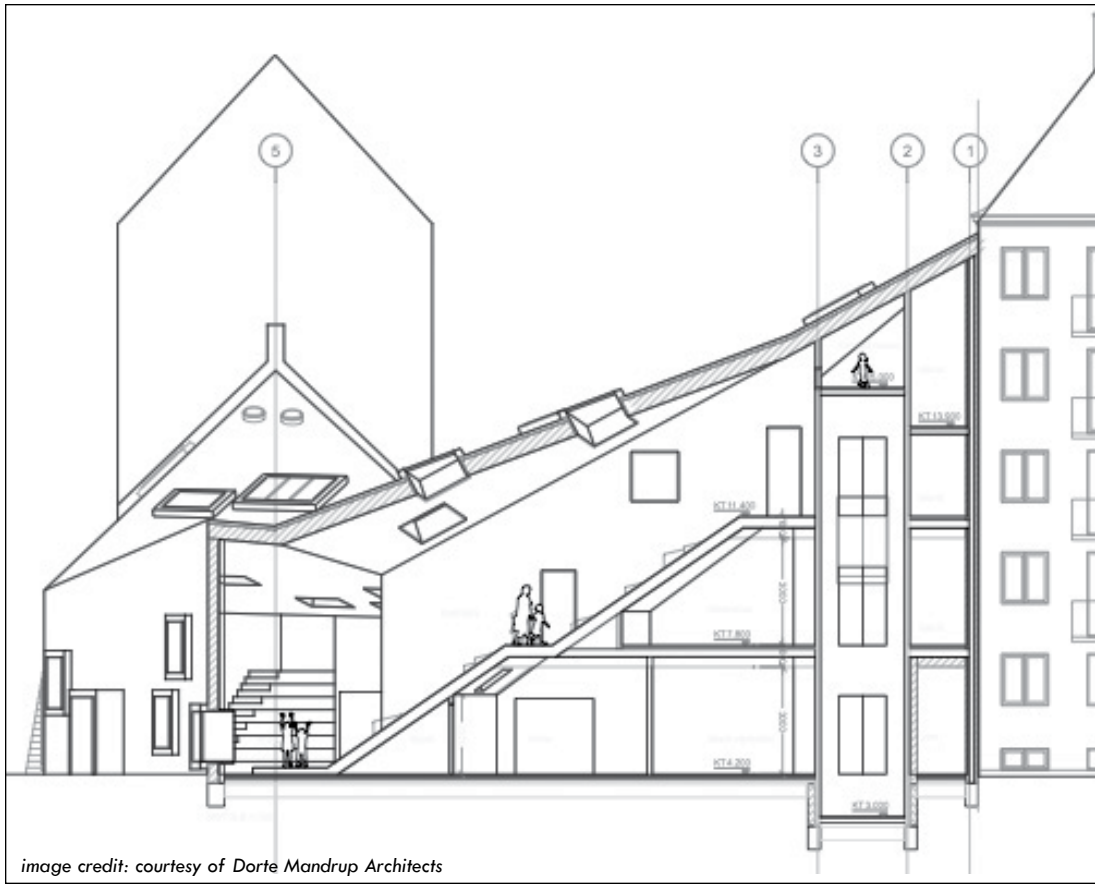


image credit: courtesy of Dorte Mandrup Architects

West-East Section



Image: Sophie Glass

Study model



Image: Jens Lindhe

Exterior, Amar Children's House

AMA'R CHILDREN'S CULTURE HOUSE

Study by Sophie Glass + Dhara Goradia

Location: Amagerbro, Copenhagen
Architect: Dorte Mandrup
 (in collaboration with Nøhr and Sigsgaard Arkitekter)
Client: Municipality of Copenhagen
Constructed: 2012, opened on 2/2/2013
Cost: 20 million Danish Kroner
 (~ 3,652,560 USD)
 Made possible with contributions from Lokale & Anlægsfonden and Nordea Fonden.

The Ama'r Children's Culture House is a project developed with the input of children throughout the design process. The building is organized as a mountain with visually connected spaces bound together by dynamic circulation. The house offers flexible spaces and customized furniture, which have been proven to enhance children's creativity and active participation. The spaces provide opportunities to accommodate age groups from 0-18 years with changing needs.

The culture house is contributing to the revival of the district by providing a playful environment for the area's youth with many intriguing angles, caves and stairs that provide a wealth of opportunities for creative expression and exploration. These opportunities give youth a place to spend their free time and an alternative to potentially unsafe street activity. By channeling the energy and creativity of Amagerbro's youth, the Children's Culture House is helping Amagerbro become a better place for families.

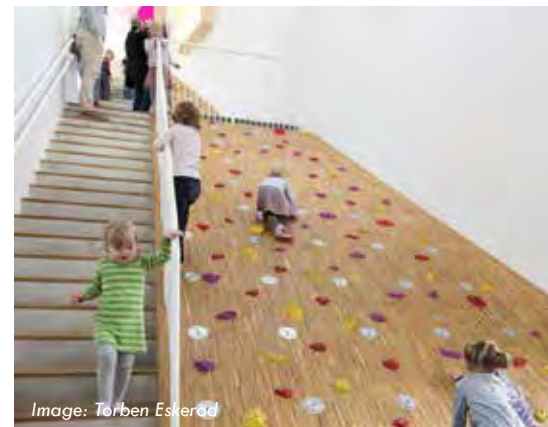


Image: Torben Eskerod

Climbing mountain

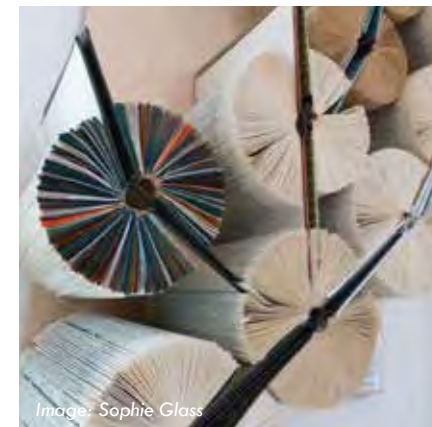


Image: Sophie Glass

Interior art



Image: Jens Lindhe

Street view



Image: Torben Eskerod

Inhabitable window



Google Maps, 2013

■ SITE: Øster Farimagsgade, Copenhagen

GULDBERG BYPLADS

Study by Fangyuan Hong + Wren McNally



Photo: Fangyuan Hong

Boundary between playground and traffic space.

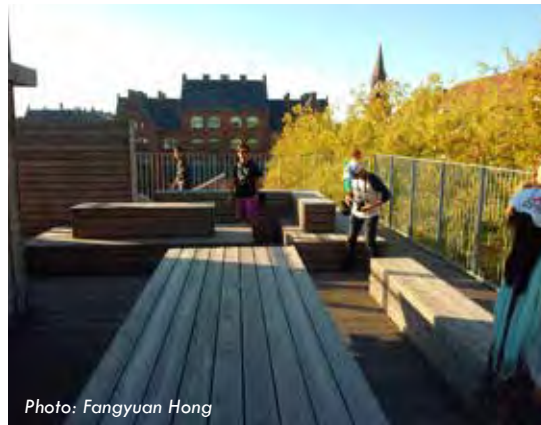


Photo: Fangyuan Hong

Parkour on community center roof.



Photo: Guldberg Byplads's facebook

Public play area/plaza accommodates events.



Photo: www.landezine.com

Trampolines in public play area/plaza.



Photo: Fangyuan Hong

Non-motorized public play area ensures safety.



Photo: www.ohlers.com

Skeletal structure by Hans Henrik Øhlers.



Design Strategies.



Photo: www.landezine.com

BEFORE: Public play area/plaza



Photo: www.landezine.com

AFTER: Public play area/plaza



Photo: Fangyuan Hong

Innovatively designed playground.

In addition to serving various needs, the project site provides creative recreational opportunities. The playground equipment uses innovative design techniques and encourages vertical, creative play: climbing, swinging, balancing, and hanging. This project informs our work in the University District in several ways. The multi-purpose character of the project and the equipment design is based on the needs of the local community and efficiently uses space in innovative ways. The project also effectively illustrates how the prioritization of bike and pedestrian safety can generate well-used, community space.



Google Maps, 2013

■ SITE: Sjællandsgade 10, 2200 København

The Guldberg Byplads was developed out of an effort to create more recreational space in the Nørrebro district. The project resulted in the closing of Sjællandsgade street to create a multi-use area with a public playground, plaza, and school yard for the Guldberg Skole.

The project, "New Urban Life around Guldberg Skole," began in 2006 and was part of Copenhagen's urban lift initiatives. Prior to the creation of the Guldberg Byplads, the area suffered from significant traffic and congestion. The project created a new district and prioritized safety and connectivity improvements in five intervention areas along Guldbergsgade between the surrounding Skt. Hans Torv and Empire Bio areas.

STRÆDET

Study by Machiyo Fujii

Strædet is a popular pedestrian-oriented corridor and is one of the coziest streets in Copenhagen. It is in the city center, near other busy and congested streets, but spatial qualities of Strædet make for a very different atmosphere. This research compares Strædet to two other streets of similar size in Copenhagen. The results show how design elements, spatial arrangements, and unique details can bring about a high quality public space.



Building corner



Paving material



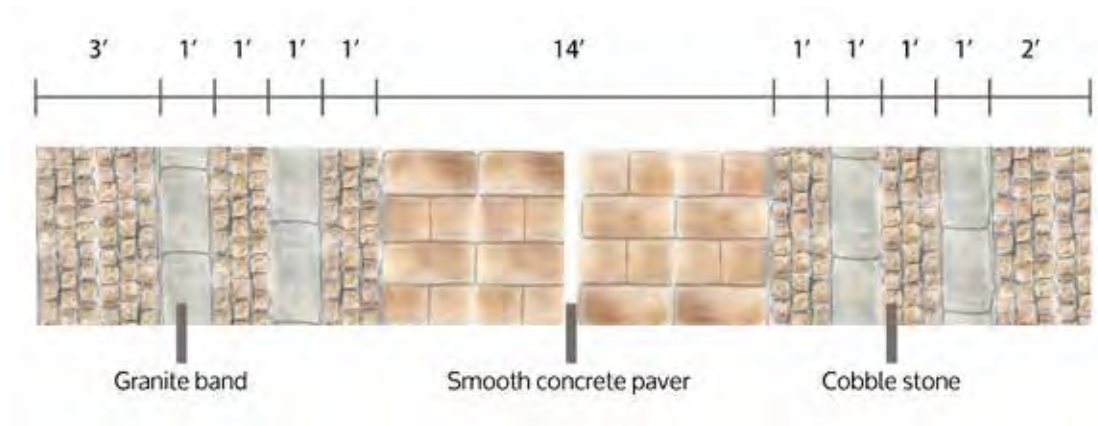
Paving material



What is a good indicator of the quality of a space?



Building corner



Paving pattern



Frederiksberggade



Strædet

Kay Fiskers Plads



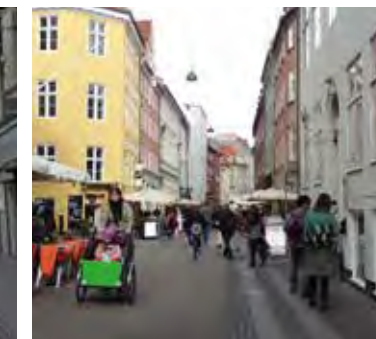
Building corner



Street use mapping



85,000 pedestrians / day



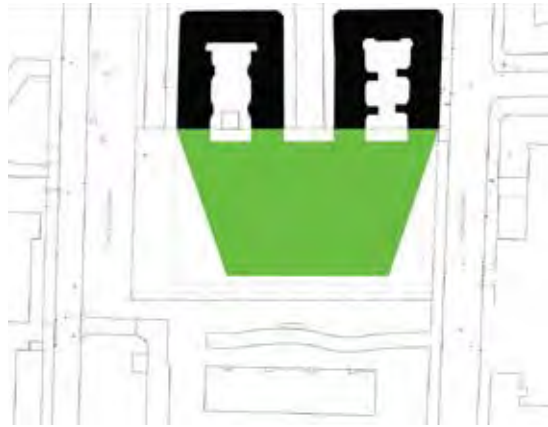
8,000 pedestrians / day
benches & cafe seating: 372
Average number of people present: 258



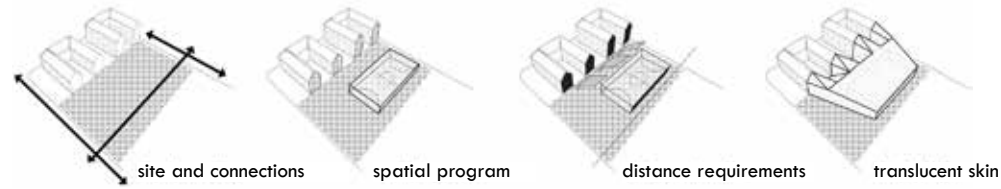
8,000 pedestrians / day
benches & cafe seating: 0
Average number of people present: 19



■ SITE: Strædet, Copenhagen, Denmark

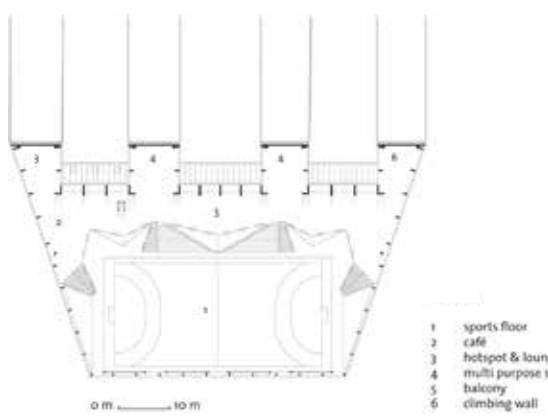


Site Plan



The interior consists of a bright green semisoft material that makes up the floors, seating areas, and parts of the walls to accommodate for a variety of play. Its vibrant color also encourages play.

The exterior consists of a combination of steel and wood structural members that are clad with translucent polycarbonate panels. This allows for the building to be naturally lit by day, and a source of light by night.



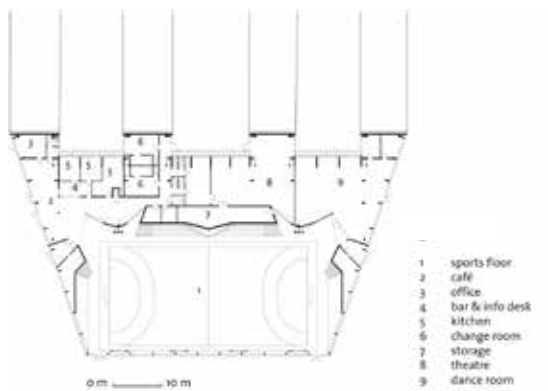
First Floor Plan



Image: Copenhagen Architecture, Interiors, Lifestyle



Image: Copenhagen: Architecture, Interiors, Lifestyle



Ground Floor Plan



Image: Copenhagen Architecture, Interiors, Lifestyle



Image: Copenhagen: Architecture, Interiors, Lifestyle



Image: archdaily.com



image credit: archdaily.com



Image: archdaily.com

PRISMEN GREEN GYM

Study by Patrick Pirtle + Veronica Macalino

A sports and culture center.

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
Architect: Dorte Mandrup with B&K Brandluber & Co.
Client: Municipality of Copenhagen & LOA Foundation
Constructed: 2006

The Prismen Green Gym serves as a sports and culture center, providing an enclosed space for recreational sports and community gatherings. Despite its unconventional shape and material choice, the building is well integrated into its context, rising to meet the edges of the adjacent parti walls. By doing this, the building works to activate what would be blank building facades into four multi-functional interior play spaces. In terms of the structure, the building is comprised of steel and timber that span the width of the building and allow for the three ball courts to remain uninterrupted by vertical columns.



Google Maps, 2013

■ SITE: Holmbladsgade 71, Copenhagen

THE CITY DUNE SEB BANK & PENSION HEADQUARTERS

Study by Hao Liang + Midori Fukutani

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
Architect: SLA
Client: Lundgaard & Tranberg
SEB Bank & Pension
Constructed: 2011
Cost: € 4,850,000
 (~ 6.62 million USD)

Copenhagen's harbor area has been widely criticized through the years for being the site of flawed infrastructure and unusable public spaces. The City Dune, an urban space designed by SLA and inspired by the texture and form of the sand dunes on the coast of north Jutland, is an urban gesture that bonds the SEB Bank building together with the traffic-heavy crossroad, the harbor front, and the rest of the Danish capital. This pattern of undulating hard and green surfaces transforms the urban monoculture of offices and roads to an environment for the people.



The design was inspired by the natural sand dunes.



The City Dune within the urban fabric.



A path zigzags up from Baernstorffsgade street.

Although the City Dune is a privately-owned property of SEB, the site must remain open to the public according to Danish laws. The City Dune is successful in making the entire complex a pleasant and accessible place in the city.

The design language is strong, but the construction and the appearance is understated. The green is not only embodied in the trees, but also in the sustainable concepts - rainwater is collected and recycled and not a drop finds its way into the city sewers. The mechanical nebulizer and the lighting system were both placed in the site as measures for promoting its overall sustainability.



Concrete is a sparkly element in the City Dune.



Vertical relationship of open spaces.



The City Dune is a cycling path...



...and a skateboarding paradise in Copenhagen.



The site plan emphasizes the zigzagging path



■ SITE: Copenhagen Harbor

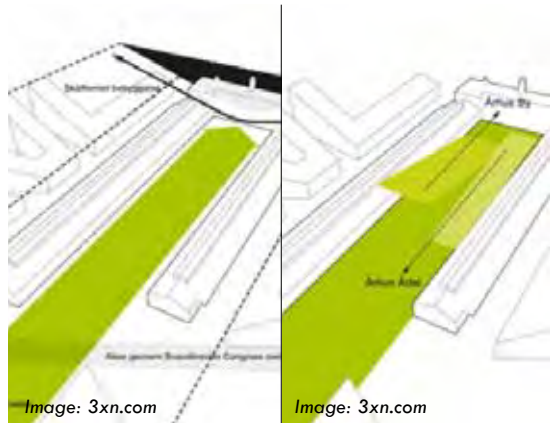


Image: 3xn.com

Image: 3xn.com

Preliminary concept images.



Image: 3xn.com

Competition imagery shows the structure as a steel framed, red clad object. The images depict a sense of lightness in the structure, heavily contrasting with the constructed concrete forms. The image at left shows this draped object above the program and circulation massing in the modern addition.



Image: archdaily.com

Competition rendering: interior view.



Image: archdaily.com

Image: archdaily.com

Section drawings.



Image: archdaily.com

Competition rendering, aerial view.



Image: 3xn.com

View toward the highest point of the addition.



Image: 3xn.com

View toward the highest point of the addition.



Image: 3xn.com



Image: 3xn.com

Interior views of the addition.

GODSBANEN

CULTURAL PRODUCTION CENTER

Study by Kyle Kinney

"a synergy between landscape and historical freight train warehouses"

Architect: 3XN
Client: Aarhus Municipality
Gross Floor Area (Addition): ~ 20,000 sqft
Opened: March 30, 2012
Cost: 16.25 Million USD

While supplying the local community with a center for primarily visual arts, this project draws from its historic U-shaped train warehouse by symbolically gesturing its form both outward and inward, a nod to the movement of trains as they constantly pull in and out of their stations. This large roof gesture provides a series of public and semi-public spaces while evoking a sense of 'grit' in its concrete structure that successfully contrasts yet relates to the historic train shed.



Google Maps, 2013

■ SITE LOCATOR: Aarhus, Denmark

KASTRUP SEA BATH

Study by Erica Witcher + Tianshi Guo



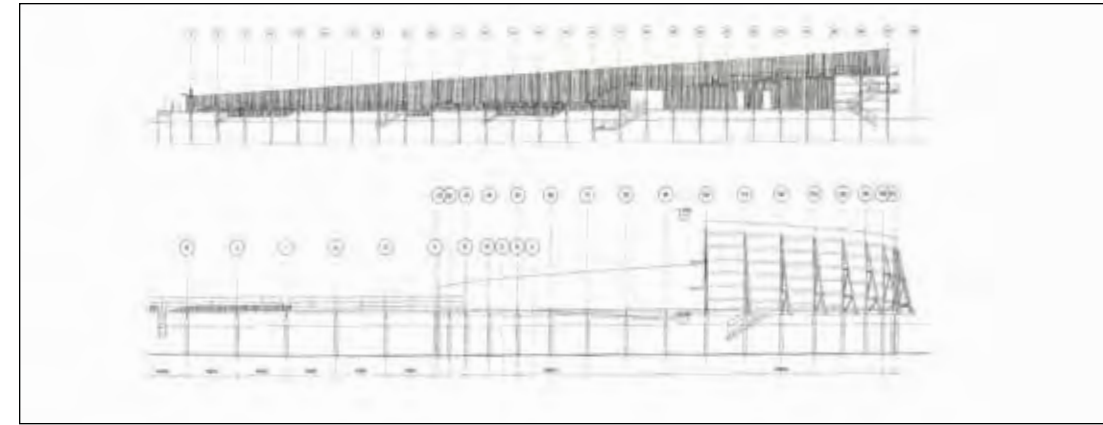
People using the structure



Platforms on multiple levels



View from the diving platform



Sections



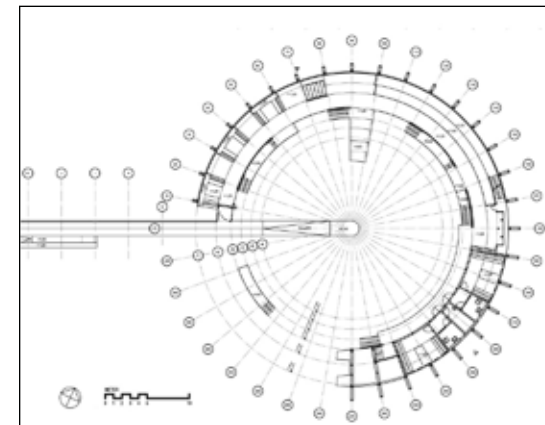
Pier and swimming structure



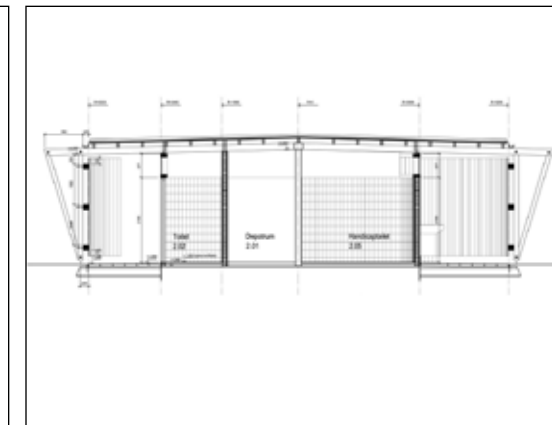
Night view of the swimming structure



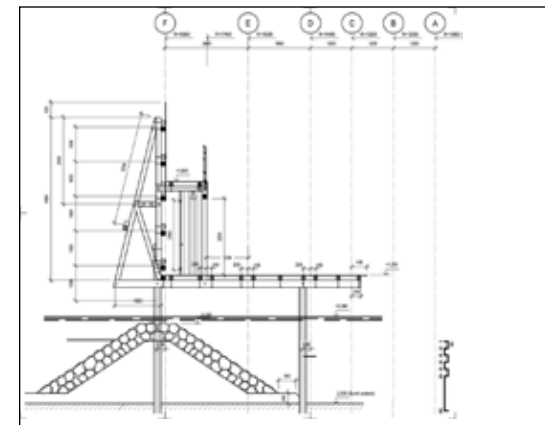
The service building



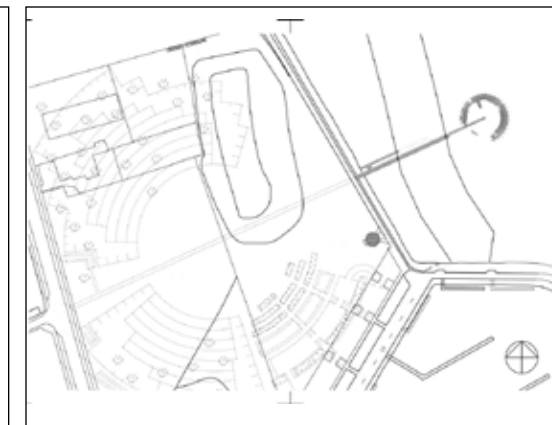
Level 1 plan



Service building section



Detail section



Site plan



Google Maps, 2013

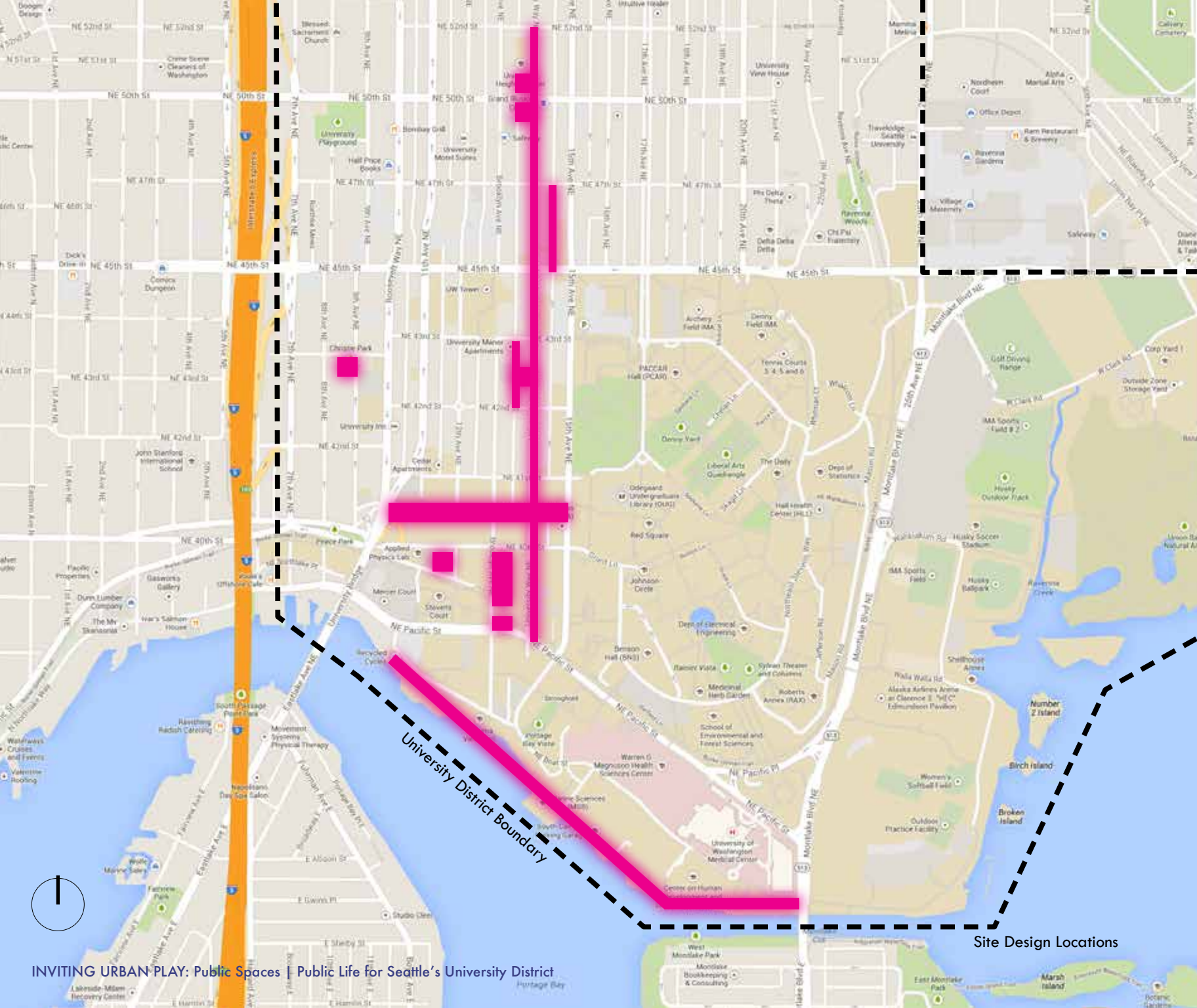
■ SITE: Kastrup, Copenhagen, Denmark

The Kastrup Sea Bath extends out from the Kastrup Strandpark into the Oresund Sound and has become a crucial part of the vitality of the newly developed waterfront. Along with the swimming structure, the project also includes a new beach with an adjoining service building. The primary design and programmatic goal was for the bath to be something that can be used by everyone. It is free and open to the public and accommodates both young and old, active and leisurely swimmers, as well as people with mobility challenges.

The circular swimming structure was conceived as a dynamic sculpture that would change form at different viewpoints. The structure and pier are constructed predominantly with Azobé wood, a material that can withstand the harshness of sea water.

**INVITING URBAN PLAY
IN SEATTLE'S UNIVERSITY DISTRICT**

Instructed by our experiences in Copenhagen, we maintain that in order to create an equitable, exciting district with a thriving public realm, there should be ample opportunities for many types of play for people of all ages and needs. Therefore, our students selected sites, developed site programs, and created designs for urban play places that range from a much-needed school for the U-District, to parks, plazas, community and youth centers, bicycle and play streets, working gardens, and a new Lake Union waterfront.



SCHOOL 55 **University District School Feasibility Study** | Sophie Glass
61 **Connect the Blocks** | Veronica Macalinao + Erica Witcher

**PARKS/
STOPPING
PLACES** 71 **Christie Park** | Youngsuk Jun
77 **Urban Fun(ction)** | Dian (Nikky) Zhang
83 **A Multifunctional Urban Plaza** | Shih Chia Chiu
89 **1/48 x Alley Play^N** | Guanyi Gao

**MOVEMENT
CORRIDORS** 95 **Campus Parkway** | Fangyuan Hong + Tianshi Guo
105 **Active Campus Parkway** | Rao Fu
111 **Camp(us) Parkway** | Ian Garnier + Patrick Pirtle
123 **The wAve** | Graham Golbuff + Joel Miller

**COMMUNITY
RESOURCE
CENTERS** 135 **Passageway Alley** | Machiyo Fujii
141 **Trans-Cowlitz** | Hiroki Baba + Midori Fukutani
153 **Fueling Station** | Wren McNally + Kate Reef
165 **Burke Gilman Street** | Kyle Kinney

WATERFRONT 171 **U-District Learning Lab + Nature Park** | Dhara Goradia
177 **North Portage Park** | Scott Boetjer
183 **Restoring Body and Site** | Matt Kikosicki
189 **From Bridge to Bridge** | Daniel Jost + Hao Liang + Heli Ojamaa
191 **Salmon Beach** | Daniel Jost
197 **Campus Balcony** | Hao Liang
203 **Continuous Ribbon Edge Around Zones of Action** | Heli Ojamaa

1. Enhancing District Diversity

Seattle's University District (U District) is primarily composed of students aged 18-29. To increase the diversity of the area, various U District plans seek to attract more families to the area. But in order to do that, the U District needs its own primary school.

Creating a new K-8 school in the U District could serve the small number of families already living in the district, as well as attract new families to move to the area.



Families = Children = Schools

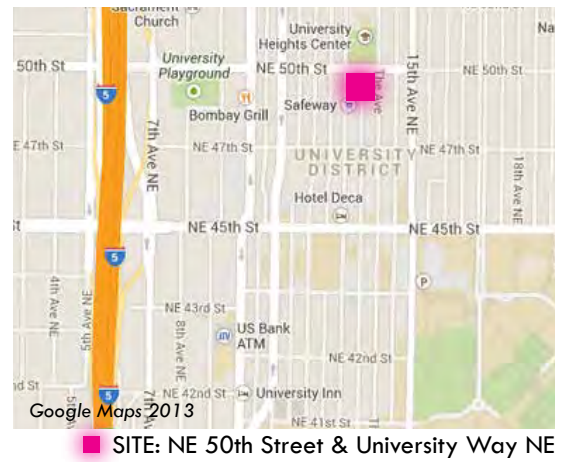
The University District has not had its own primary school since the University Heights Elementary School shuttered its doors in 1989 after serving the community for over 85 years.

Creating a new University District school could improve the area in a multitude of ways, including:

1. Enhancing district diversity
2. Creating cohesiveness, and
3. Leading the way in small urban school design.

Please see the full University District School Feasibility Study for a more detailed analysis.

See the full report at: courses.washington.edu/gehlstud

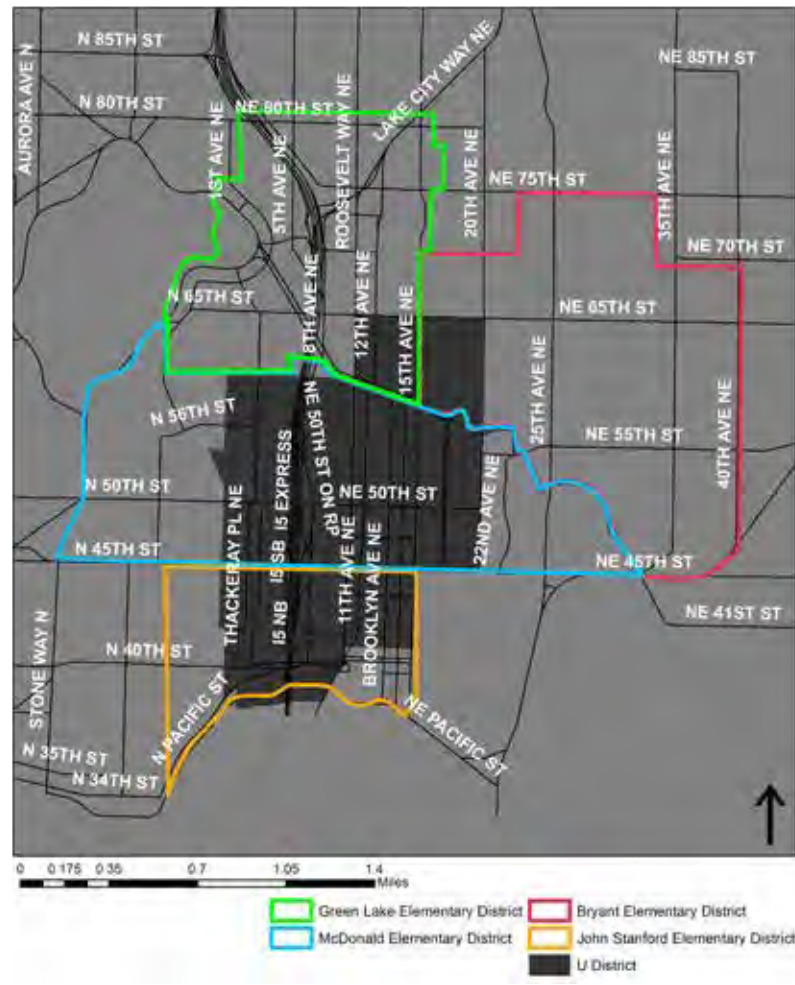


2. Creating a Cohesive University District

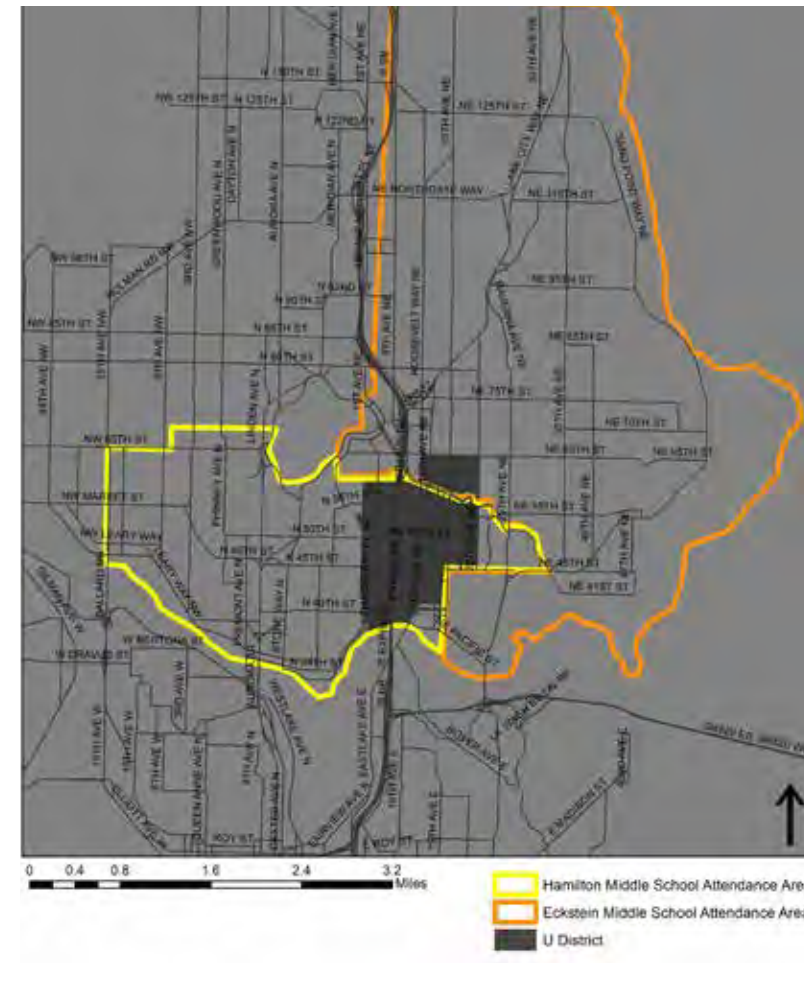
Currently, the U District is divided among four elementary school attendance areas and two middle school attendance areas. Creating a new U District school would serve as a force for neighborhood cohesiveness.

If the U District had its own school, it would provide a space for community engagement and solidify the U District as a discrete and unified neighborhood.

Elementary School Attendance Areas



Middle School Attendance Areas



National Examples of Small Urban Schools

Co-Located School



Tacoma Arts
The Tacoma School of the Arts in Washington State lacks a central campus. Instead, it holds classes at venues across the city.

University-Based School



Displacing Space
The University of Texas operates UT Elementary, which is an open-enrollment school that serves as a training site for future teachers.

Small School



Gonzales Gooddale Architects
The Los Angeles Unified School District recently hosted a competition to design a 30,000 square foot school to show how small spaces can include all the essential educational and recreational facilities.

Vertical School

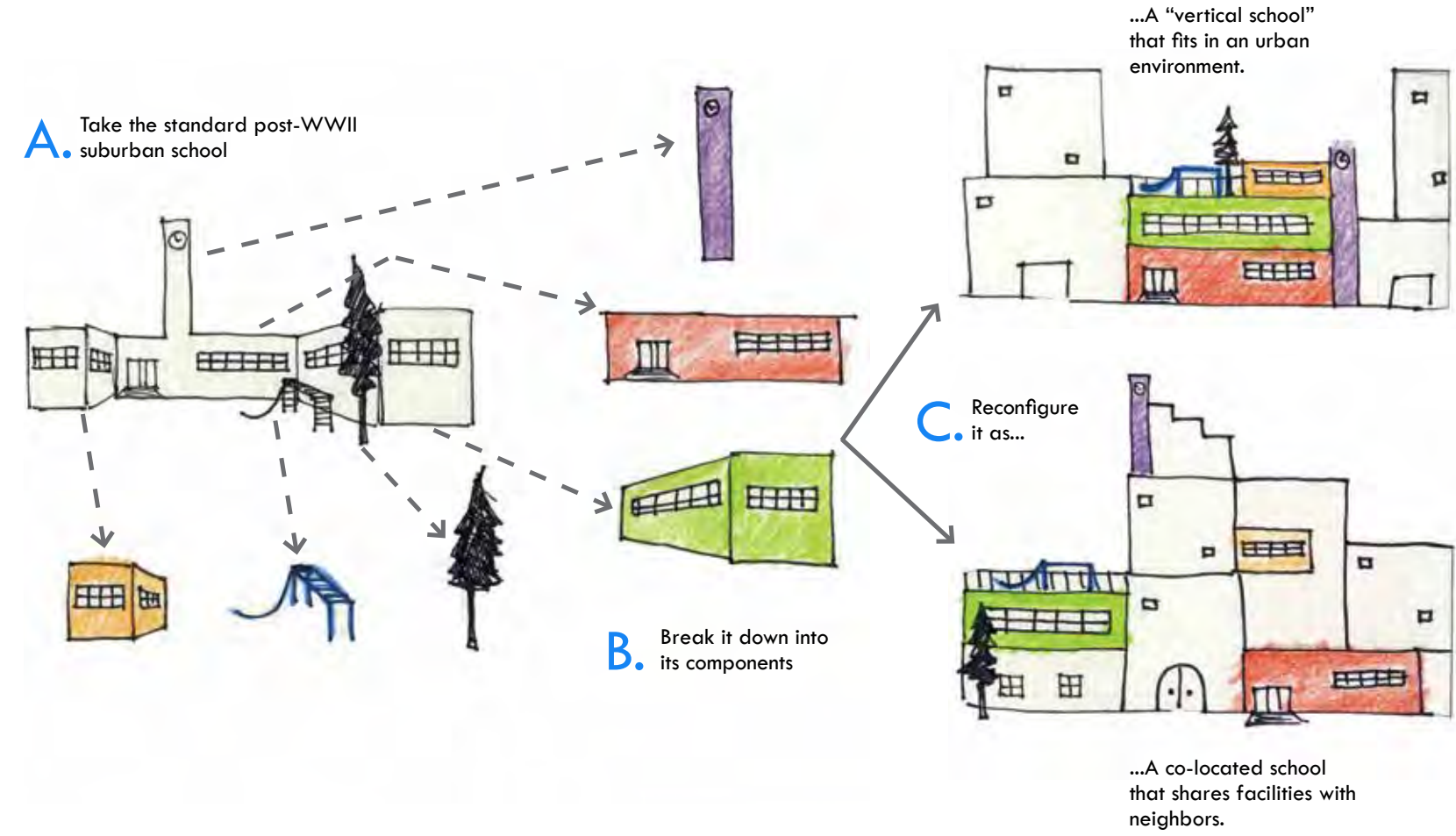


Perkins Eastman
The Beekman Hill International School in New York City is an eight floor, 50,000 square foot K-5 school. The school is located in a historic building and makes creative use of its space by including a rooftop playground and a basement cafeteria.

3. Leading the Way in Creating Small Urban Schools

Given the density of the U District, any school would have to be small and urban – characteristics that defy decades of “school sprawl.” There are many ways to re-imagine the typical suburban school as an urban school.

By challenging the paradigm of auto-centric and “mega schools” located on the outskirts of communities, the U District primary school could serve as an example of the benefits of centrally-located neighborhood schools.



...A “vertical school” that fits in an urban environment.

...A co-located school that shares facilities with neighbors.

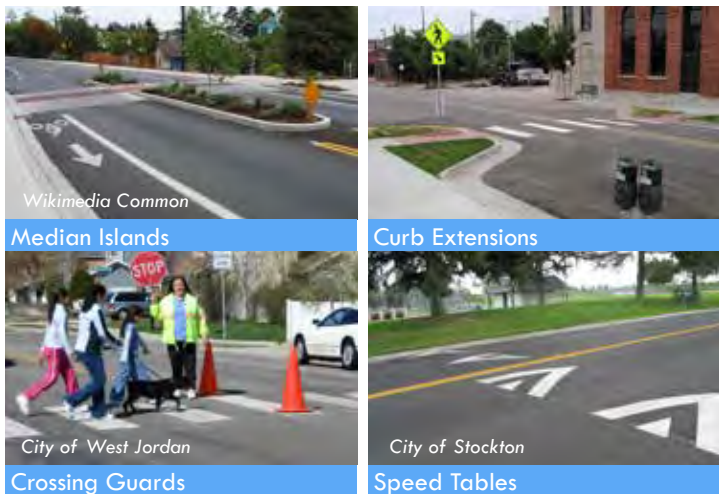
Site Challenges

Car Traffic

The site of the proposed school is located on NE 50th St. - a main arterial that connects to Interstate-5. This busy arterial poses some safety concerns for children trying to cross the street. To increase pedestrian safety by slowing traffic down on NE 50th St., the district could implement a wide range of traffic calming measures (right).

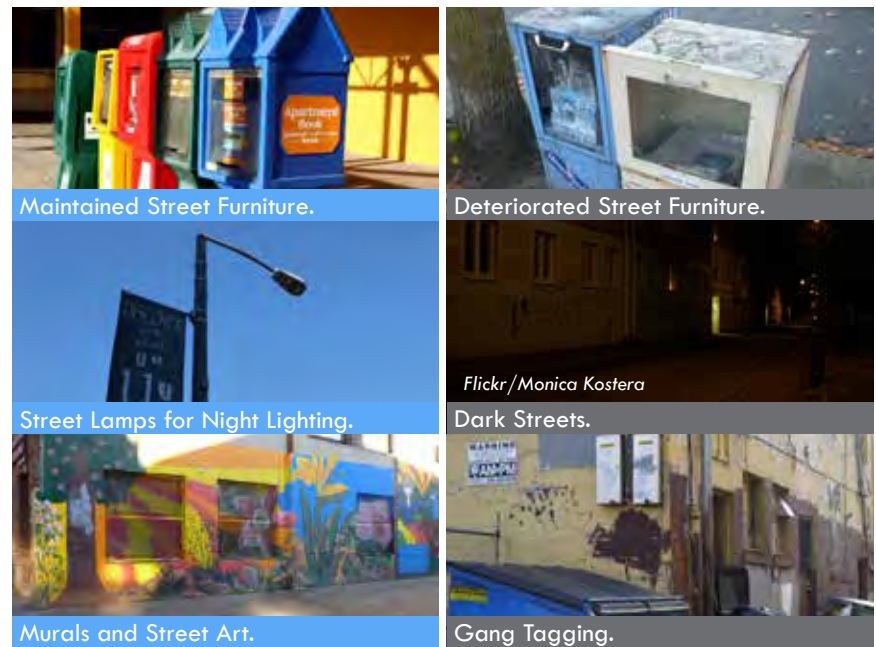
Safety Concerns

The site of the proposed school has historically been a “hotspot” for crime. Replacing this crime hotspot with a school could mean that crime would simply shift to a new, nearby location. The U District School could do its part to decrease crime by integrating “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design” techniques into its plans.

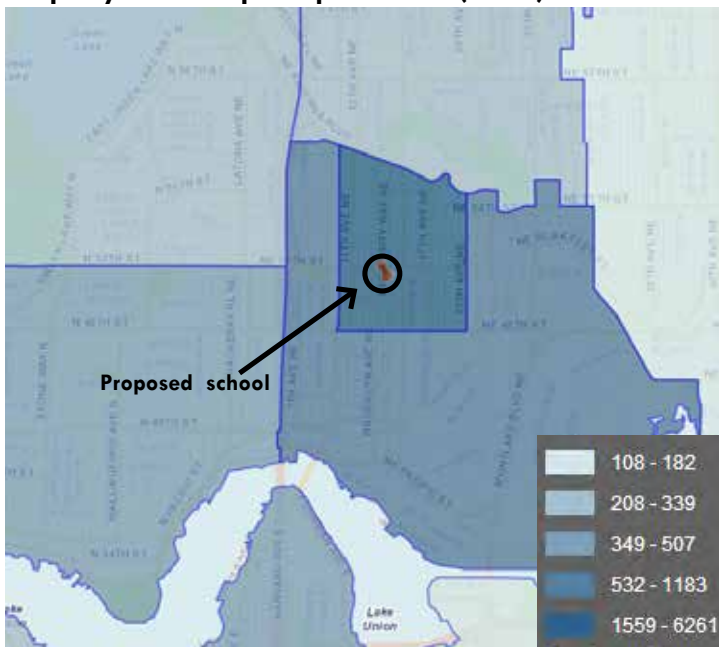


Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

This... Not This...



Property Crimes* per Square Mile (2012)

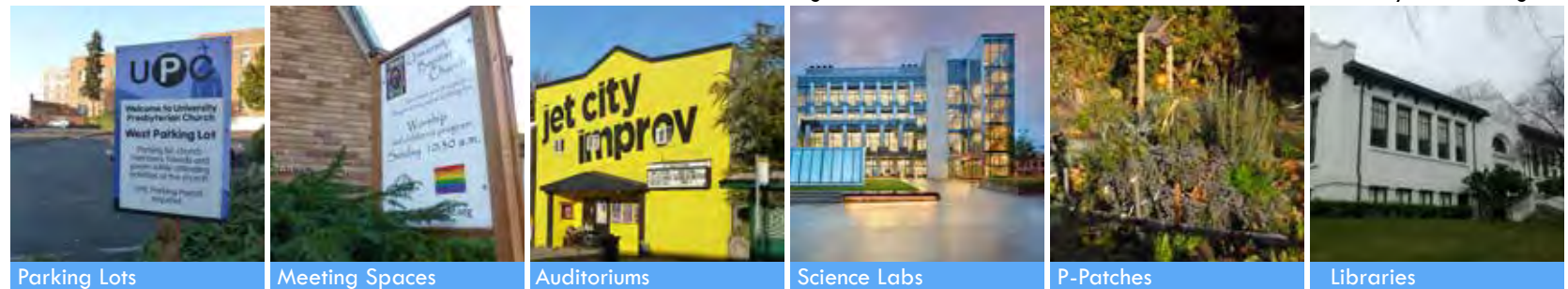


*Property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft and auto theft. Source: Seattle Police Department

Site Opportunities

Complementary Land Uses

Many of the establishments that surround the site of the proposed school complement school-related activities. For example, the proposed school could share facilities with neighboring organizations and businesses like the YMCA and the University of Washington.



Another advantage of the site of the proposed school is that students and staff could reach the school without a car. This could help save the school money by decreasing school bus and parking lot costs.

Walk to School

The U District has a historic street grid that is ideal for walking, plus ample crosswalks and sidewalks.



Pedestrian Features

Bike to School

There is an existing network of bike lanes and more on the way once the “Neighborhood Greenway” is completed.



Bike Routes

Bus or Train to School

Numerous bus routes and the forthcoming light rail station would allow school staff to access the school with transit.



Bus Routes

CONNECT THE BLOCKS

by Veronica Macalinao + Erica Witcher

A New School & Community Hub For The University District

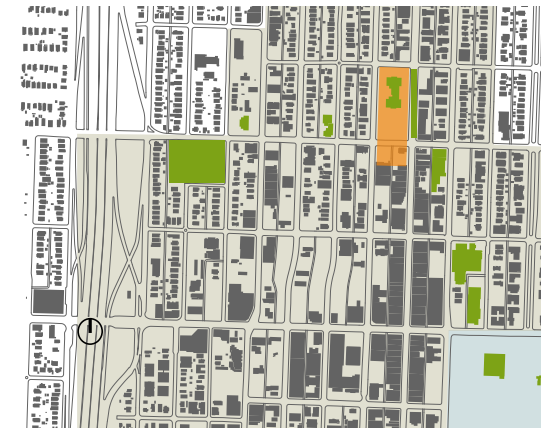
A new school for the district would not only fill a need for a more centrally located place for kids to learn, but also a place which can connect the people of the community with one another.

A middle and elementary school with a cafeteria, gym, and meeting room fill the remainder of the block to the south of 50th street, while a multi-media library, kitchen pavilion, meditation garden and pea-patch are added around the existing historic University Heights Community Center.

A playful pathway seeks to connect the two blocks, which are severed by 50th Street, with the varying programs and the site to the greater University District.



Open Play Space

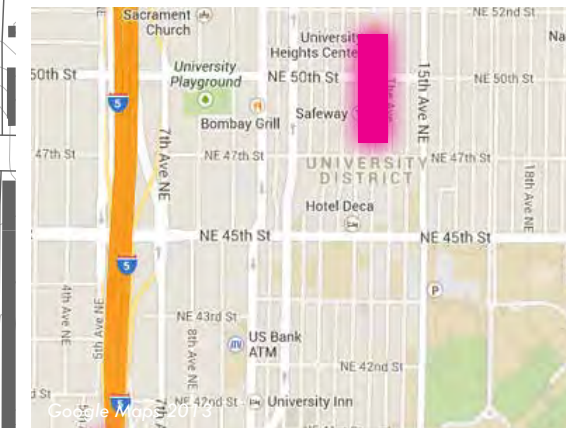


Vicinity Map

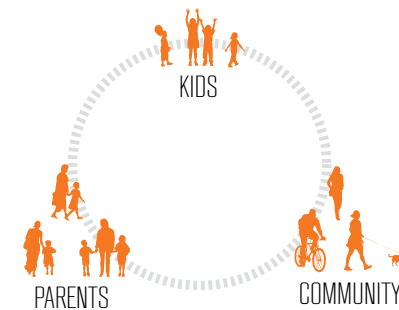
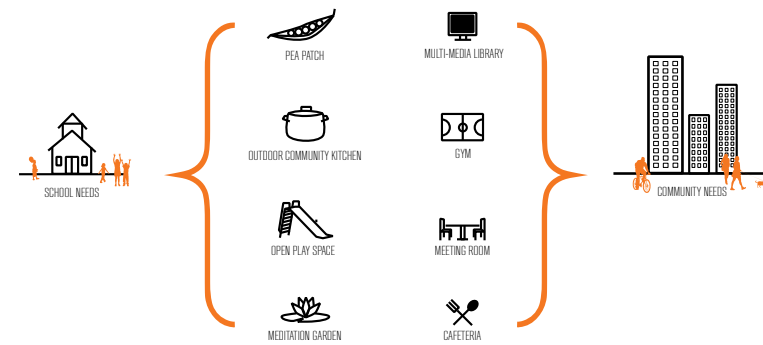


Site Context

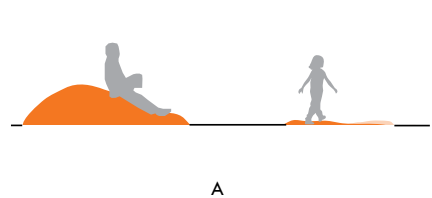
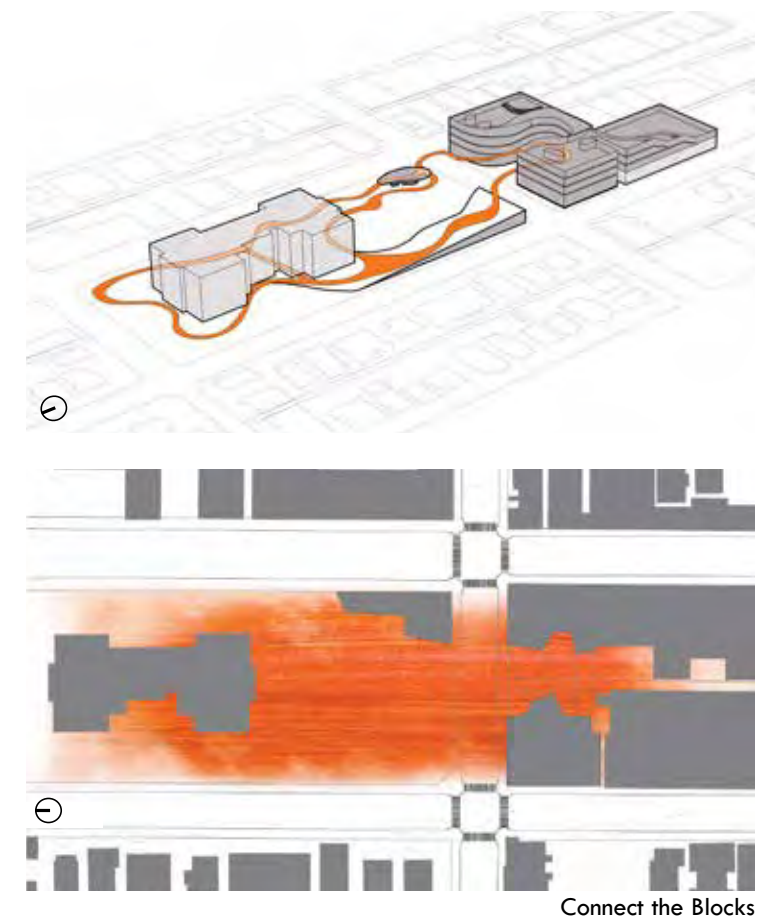
Program



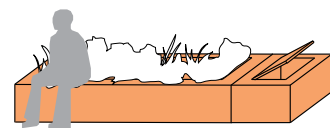
SITE: Blocks north and south of 50th Street



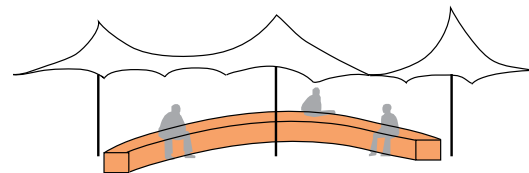
Needs + Users



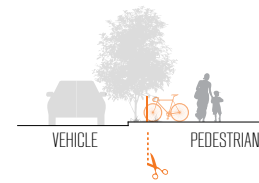
A



B



C



D



E



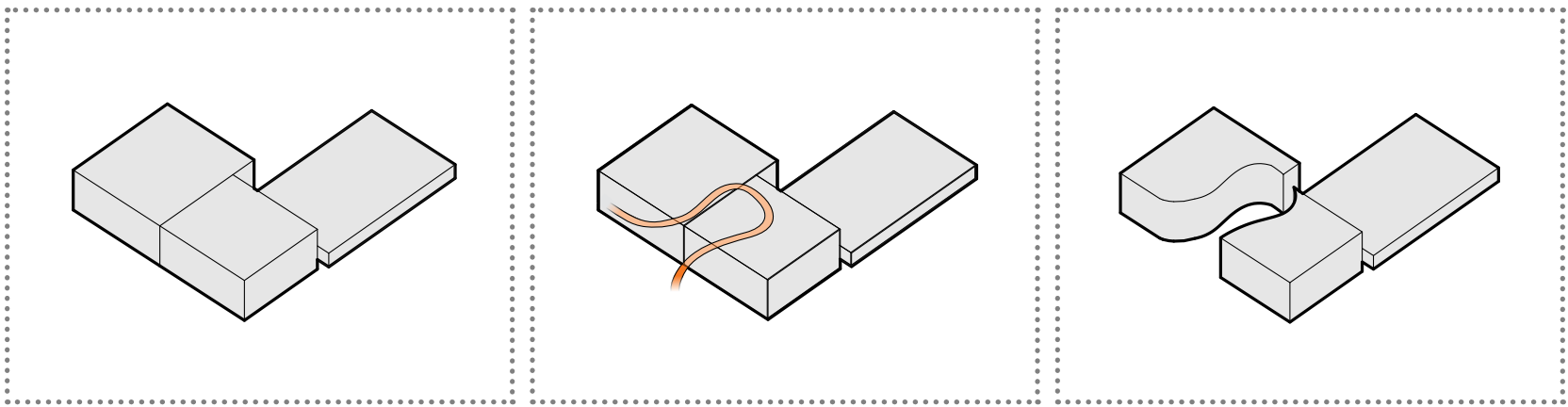
Kitchen Pavilion



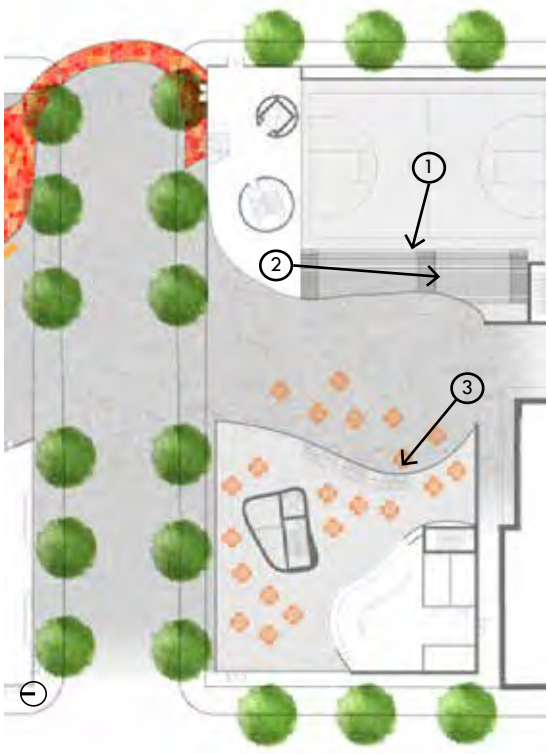
Library Roof



Site Section



Connect the Blocks



Perspective Views



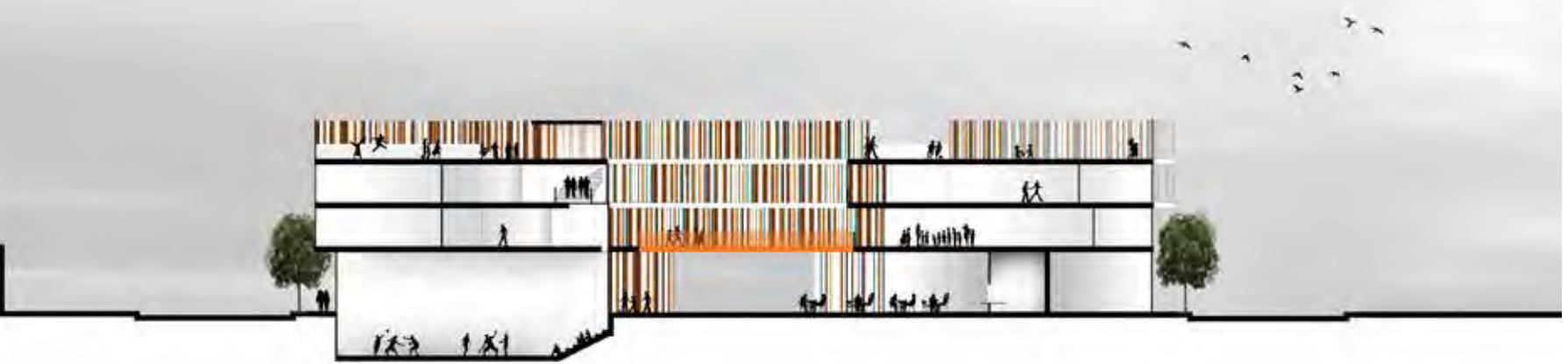
1 | Middle School Gym



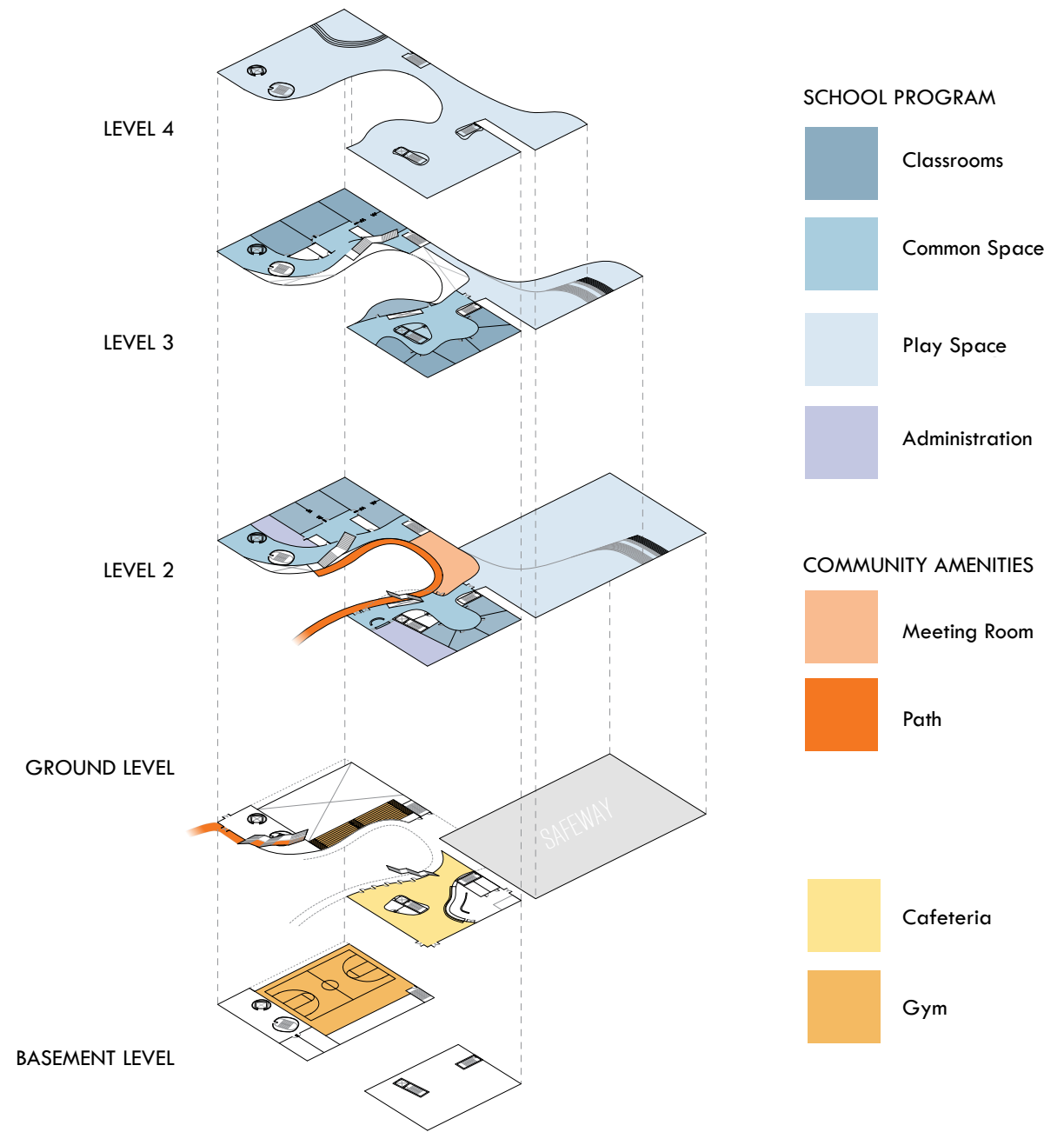
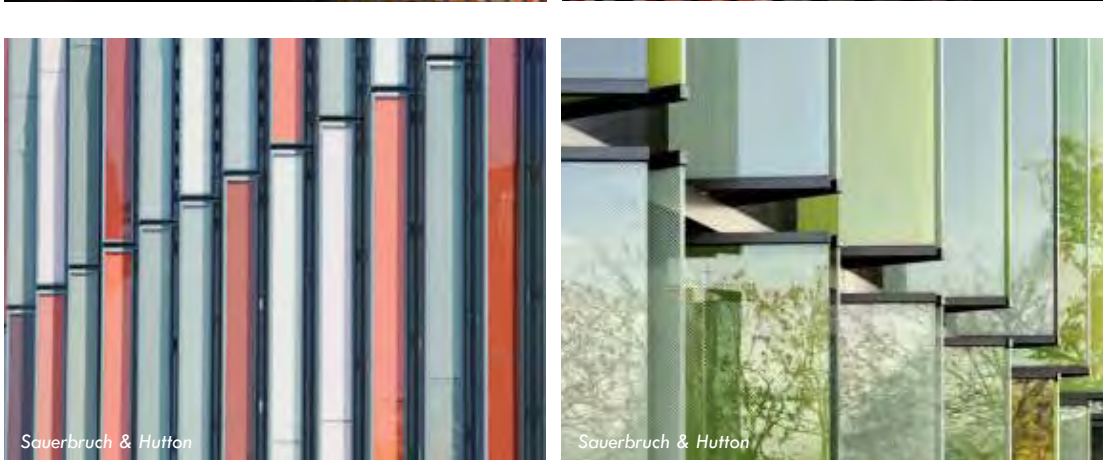
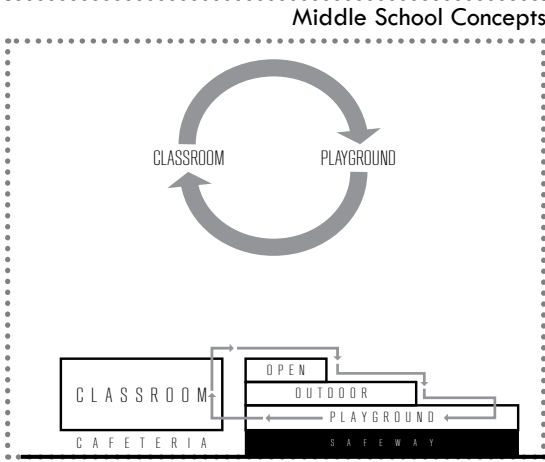
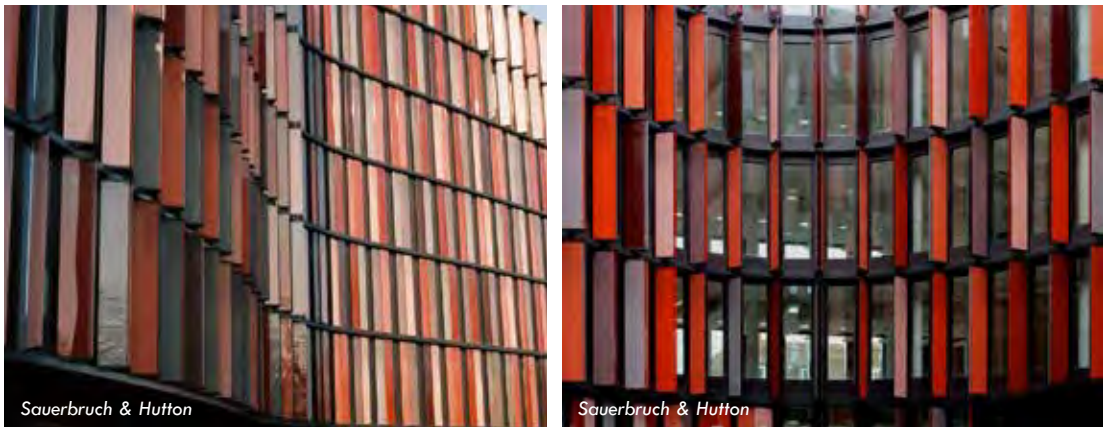
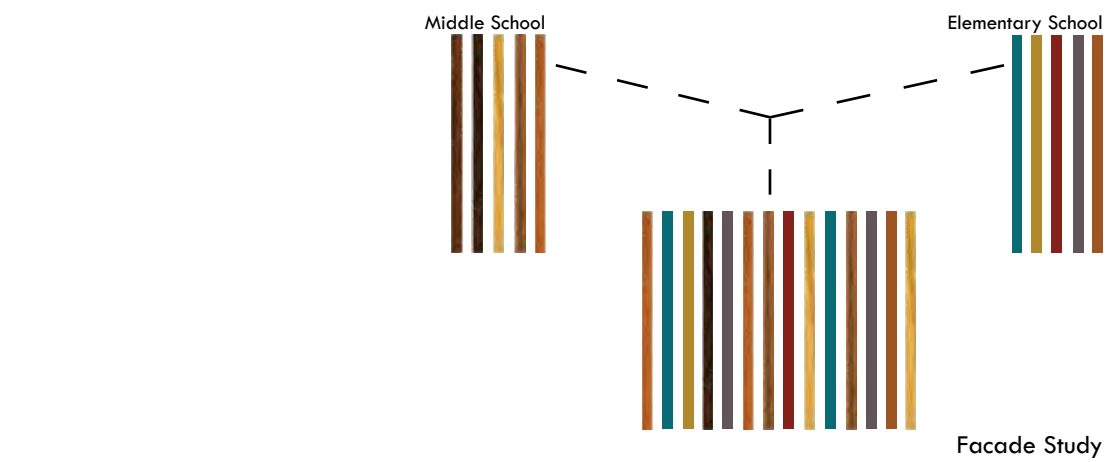
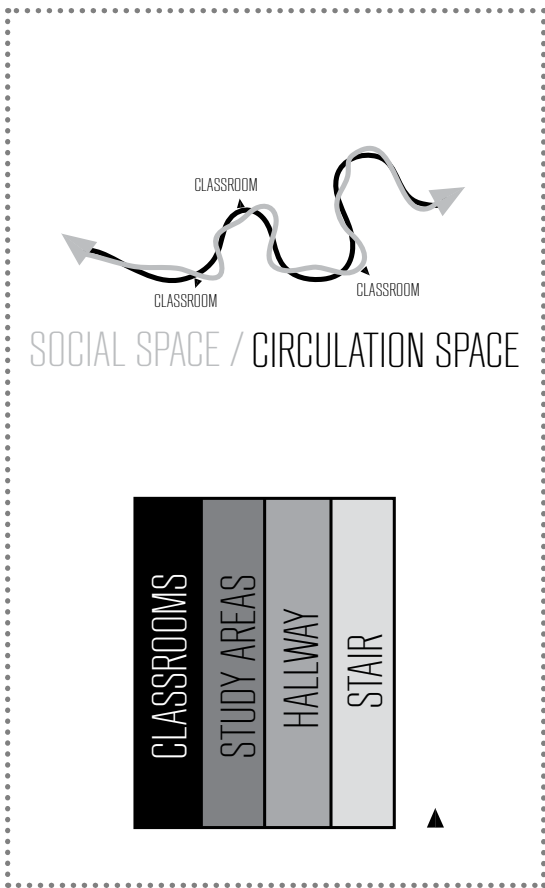
2 | Middle School Social Stair

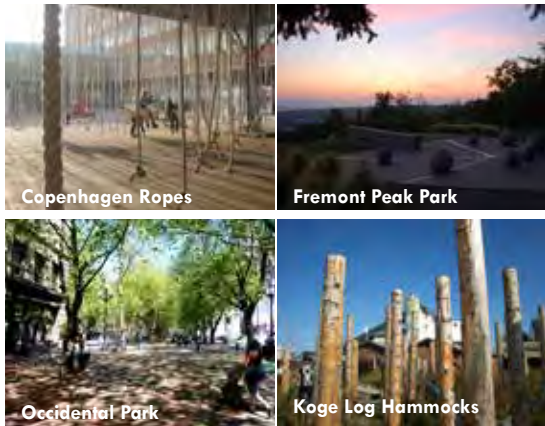


3 | Elementary Cafeteria and Exterior Spill-out Space

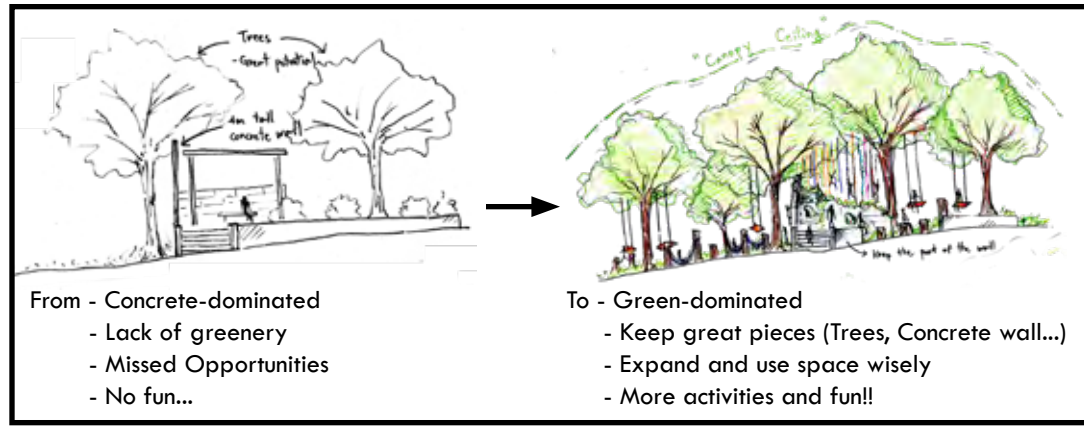


Building Section



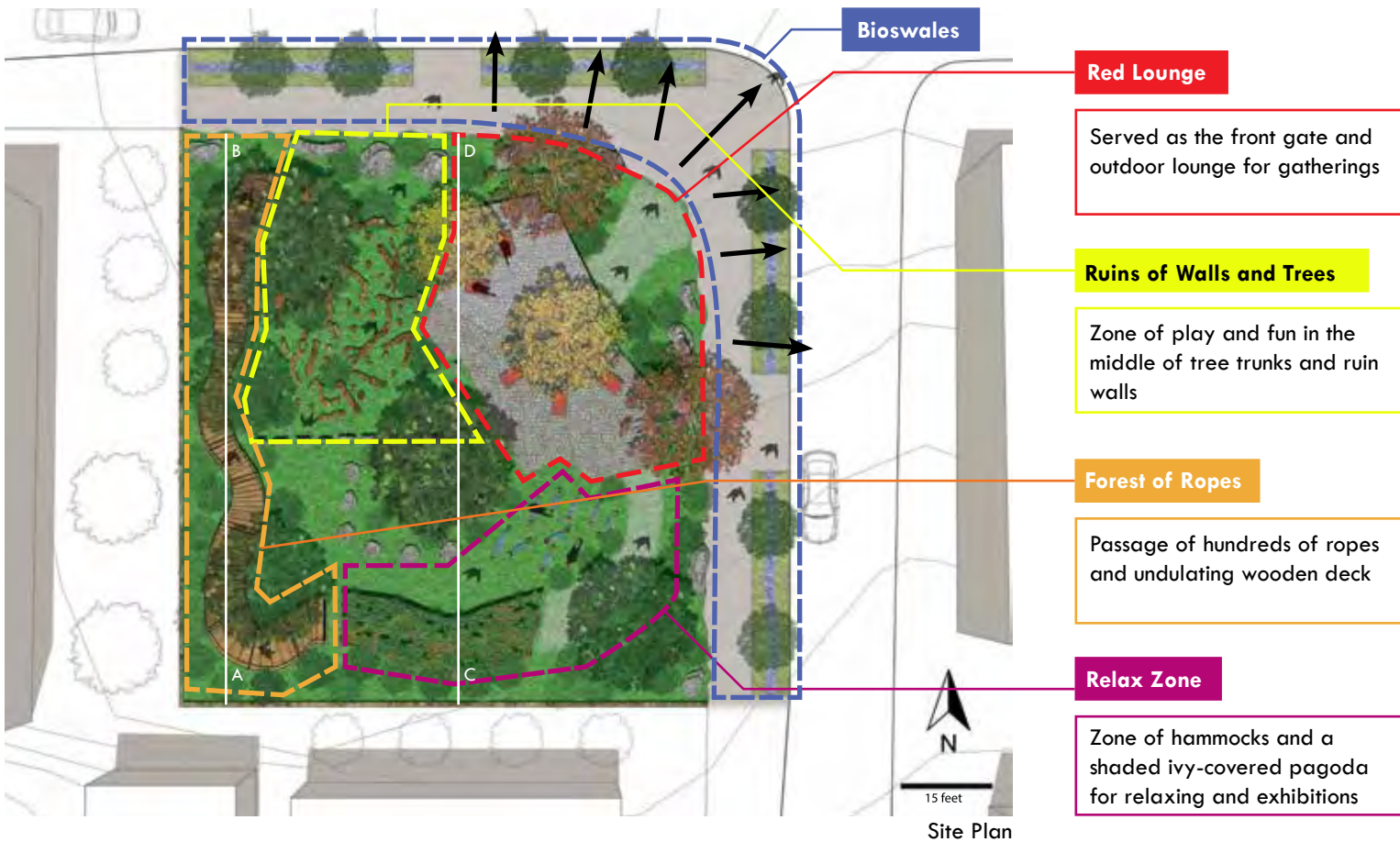


Precedents



From - Concrete-dominated
 - Lack of greenery
 - Missed Opportunities
 - No fun...

To - Green-dominated
 - Keep great pieces (Trees, Concrete wall...)
 - Expand and use space wisely
 - More activities and fun!!



Bioswales

Red Lounge

Served as the front gate and outdoor lounge for gatherings

Ruins of Walls and Trees

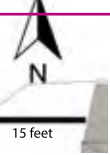
Zone of play and fun in the middle of tree trunks and ruin walls

Forest of Ropes

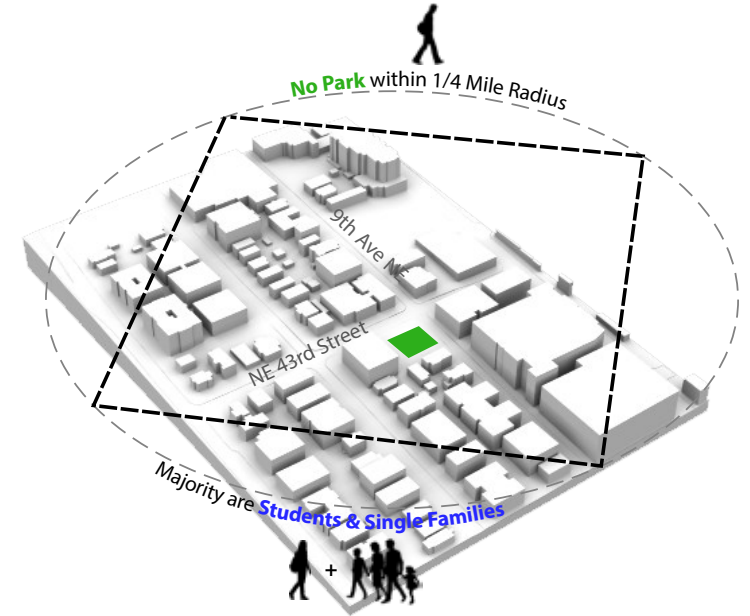
Passage of hundreds of ropes and undulating wooden deck

Relax Zone

Zone of hammocks and a shaded ivy-covered pagoda for relaxing and exhibitions



Site Plan



CHRISTIE PARK

by Youngsuk Jun

Urban oasis among ruins.

Christie Park is located at 9th Ave NE and NE 43rd Street. It is the **only park** in the area within a **1/4 mile radius**. Christie Park is currently not being used well by the neighbors, which are mainly university **students** and **single families**.

The site is in a great location and it is only a couple of blocks away from the future light rail station. Christie Park has great potential to become the park of urban play and fun in the U-District, a neighborhood that is seriously lacking green space and parks.

The newly proposed design for Christie Park will transform it into an **Urban Oasis Among Ruins** with lush nature and fun activities for everyone to enjoy and appreciate.



Many Blind Spots



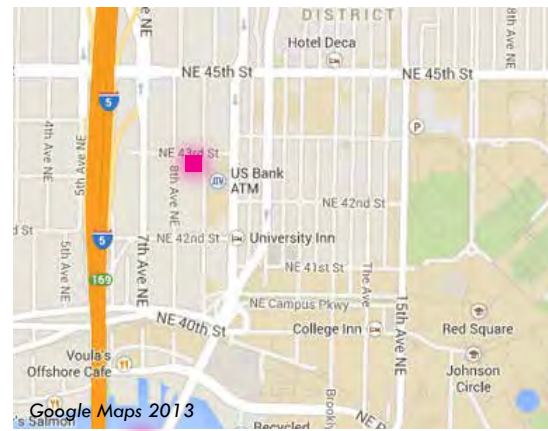
More Space !!



Limited Access



Current Site Condition

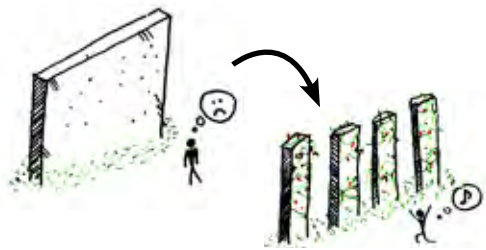


Google Maps 2013
 ■ SITE: 9th Ave NE and NE 43rd Street



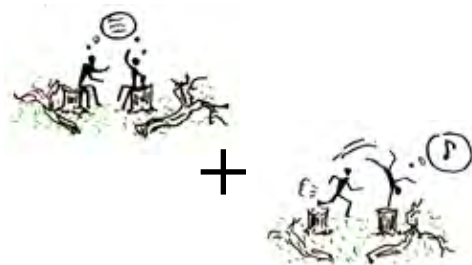
Walls and Trees

Strips of Concrete Walls



12 feet-tall concrete wall has been blocking peoples' view and increased the risk of crime and illegal camping. The wall will be torn down into strips. This will result in getting rid of shaded, dangerous spots in the park and, at the same time, will create the feel of old ruins with ivy climbing up the walls.

Tree Obstacle Course

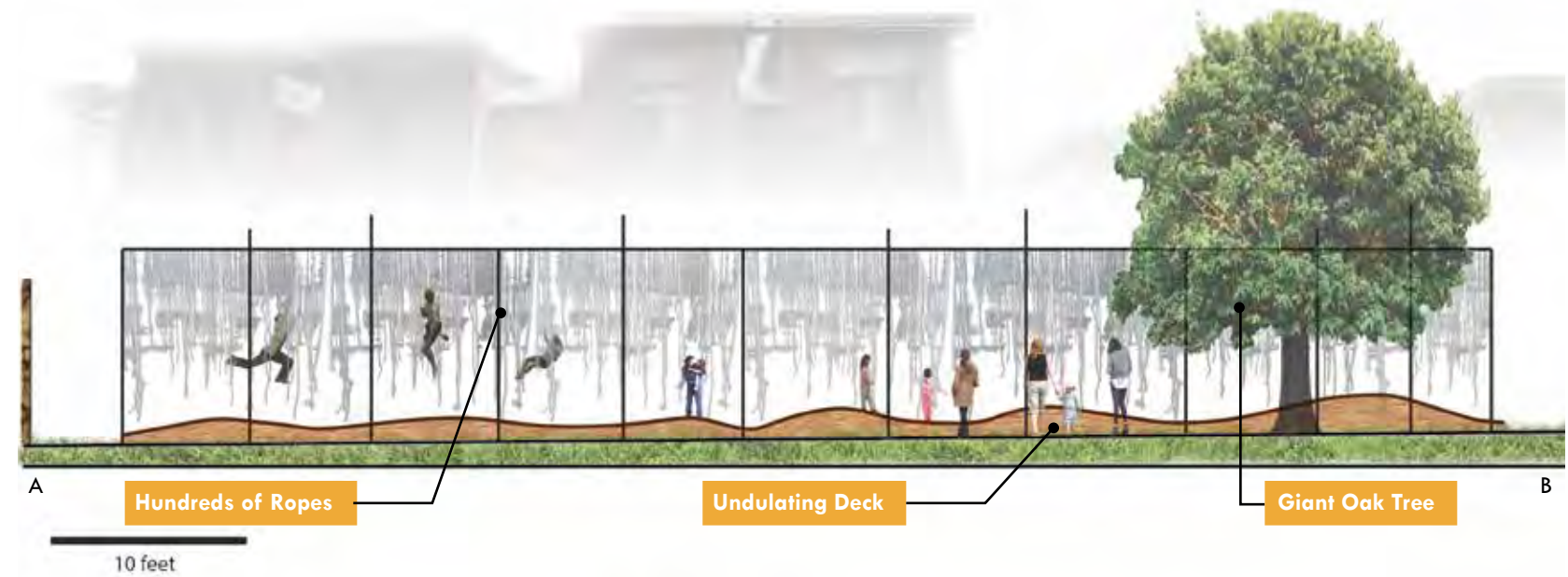


This section will be placed in front of the strips of walls. Tree logs and big branches will be installed and create very lush, organic area for people to talk, play, or just have a great time. Robustness is the strength of this zone.

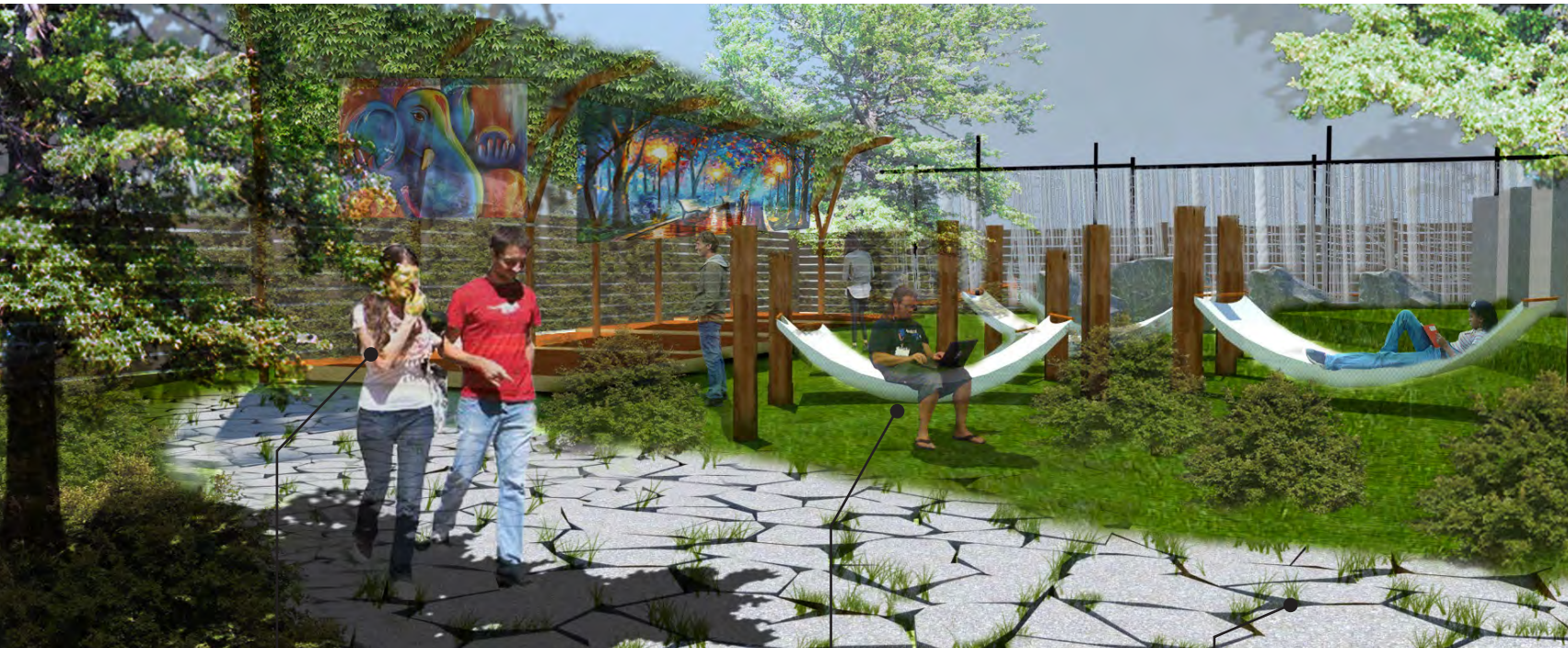
Activities for Everyone



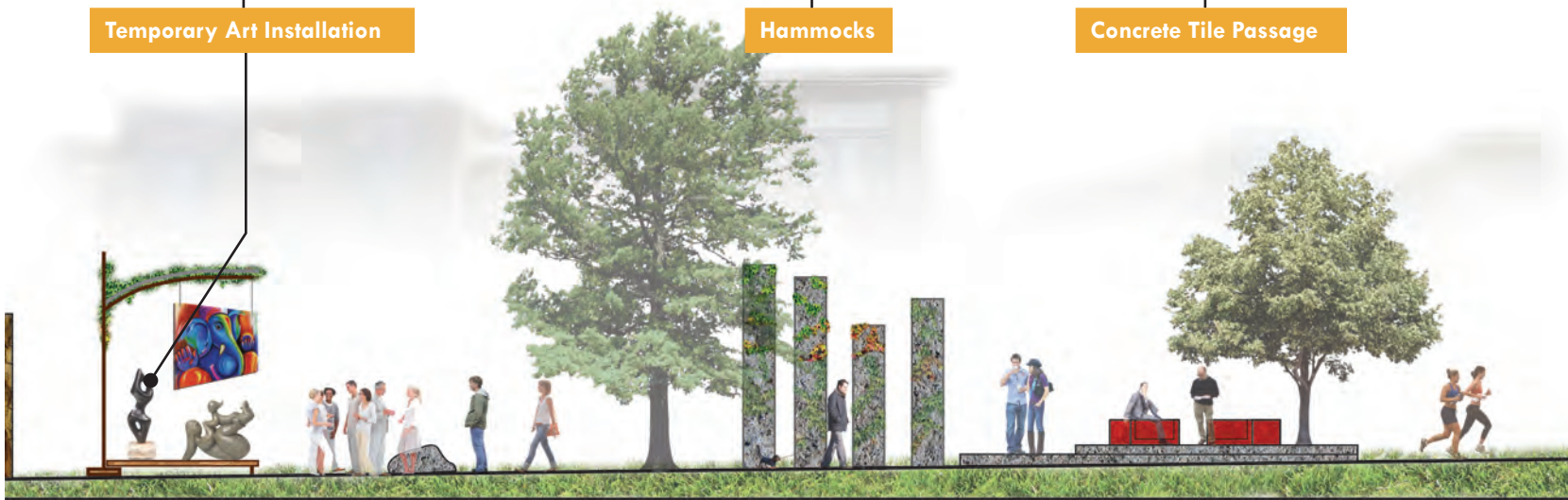
This park is designed for everyone to enjoy. Variety of possible activities, including tree obstacle course, forest of ropes, temporary art installations, is there for not only kids and families, but also should not exclude other users, such as homeless and university students.



Forest of Ropes



Relaxation Zone



C

D

Section

Red Lounge for Gathering

This zone is here to invite people to actively participate in **small community gatherings** or events. **Red lounge chairs** will be placed on top of the concrete tile platform so people can sit down and relax or have small parties when needed.

Multi-Use of Concrete

The original design of Christie Park consists of many dull concrete pavers and platforms. To recycle the materials on site, the broken concrete pieces will be **reused** to construct different parts in the park, including a **concrete tile path** and **boulders** for extra seating.

Bioswales: Expansion of Green

9th Ave and 43rd Street is one of the quieter areas in the U District, enjoying low levels of traffic. The newly-designed park will be **expanded** up to the edge of the pedestrian path by **creating bioswales** around the park. This will not only **expand the green area** of the neighborhood, but also provide a **better overall pedestrian experience**.



Red Lounge



Bird's-eye view of the proposed design.



Site context



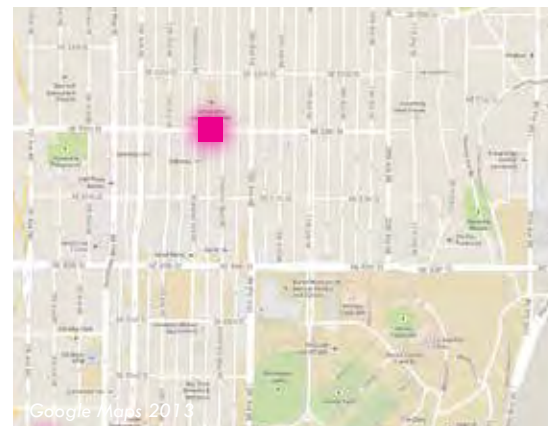
Site analysis



View from the intersection of 50th street and University Way



Slope of 50th Street



Google Maps 2013
 ■ SITE: Parking lot at University Way & 50th St.

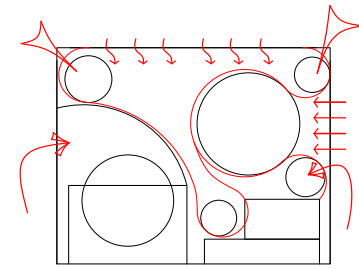
URBAN FUN(CTION)

by Dian (Nikky) Zhang

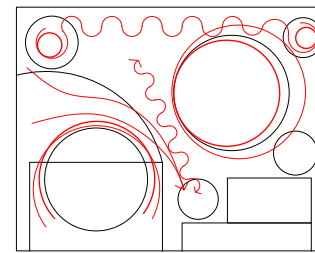
The "Jack in the Box" site, located along 50th Street between University Way (the Ave) and Brooklyn Ave, is currently serving as a parking lot for the Safeway store nearby. The site sits between two busy intersections. The area is one of the main points of entry to the U-district neighborhood and the UW campus. The site is unsafe and is considered a busy drug dealing location. At the same time, from the east side of 50th Street, the site is very easy to observe. This project focuses on activating the site with various urban play activities, as well as providing people a good place to stay, walk through, and participate in other activities, particularly young people.



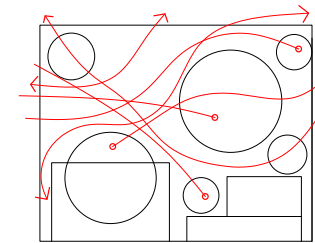
Site Plan



Connections from the street

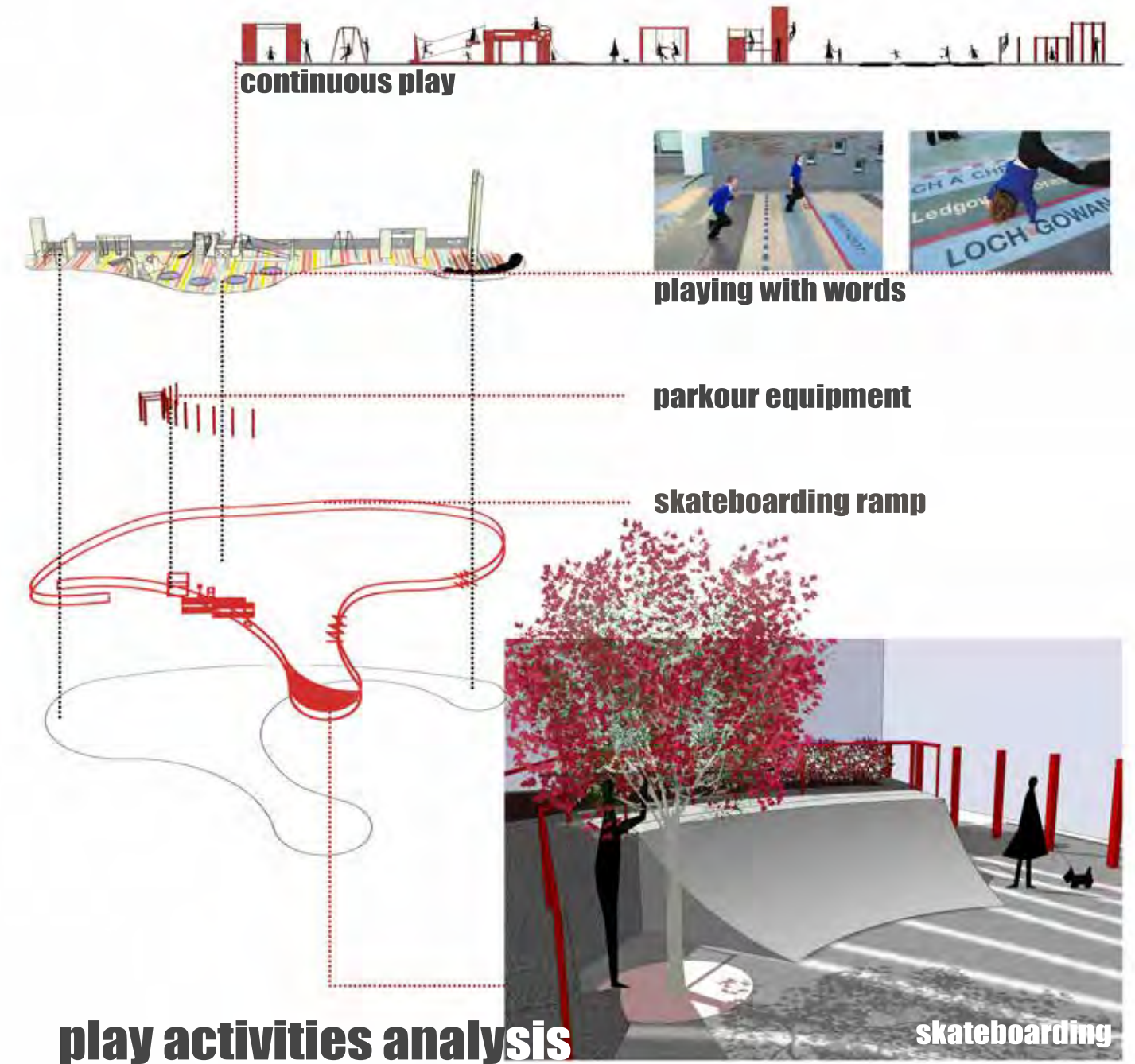


Activity & rest



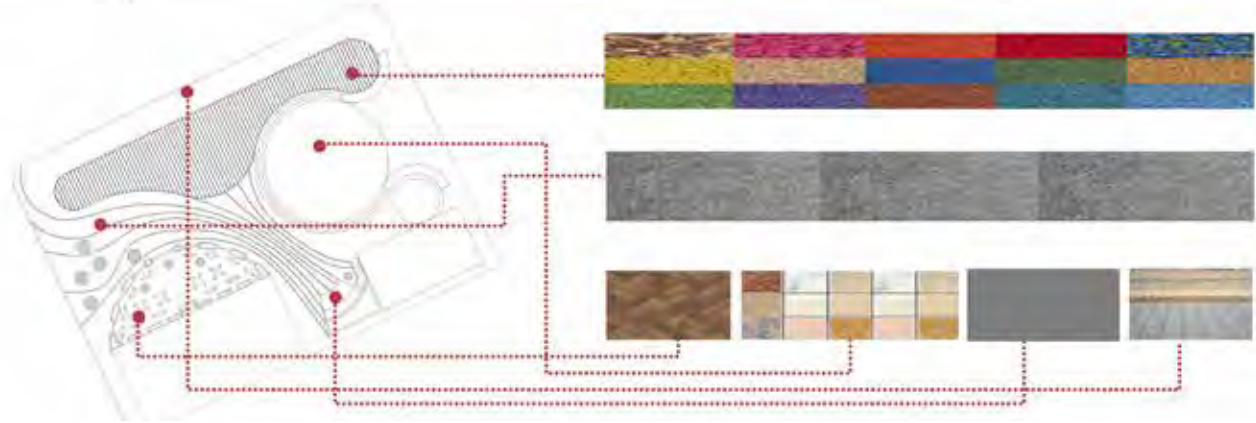
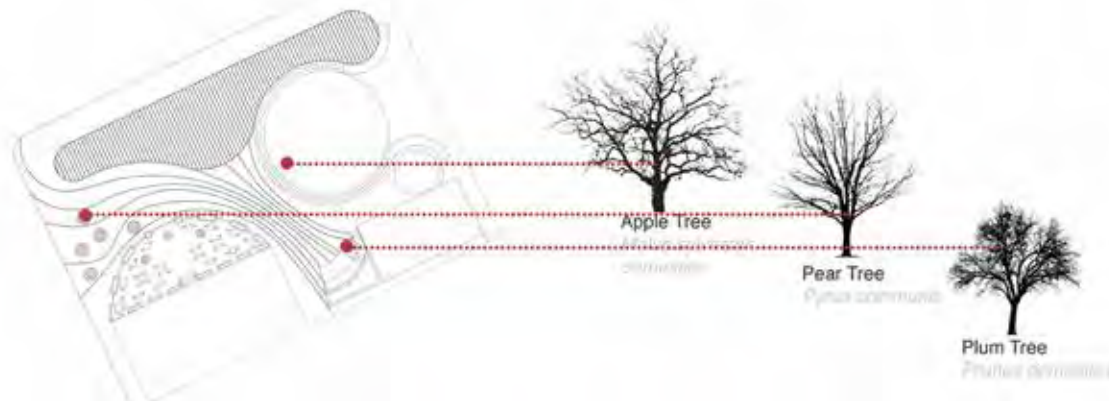
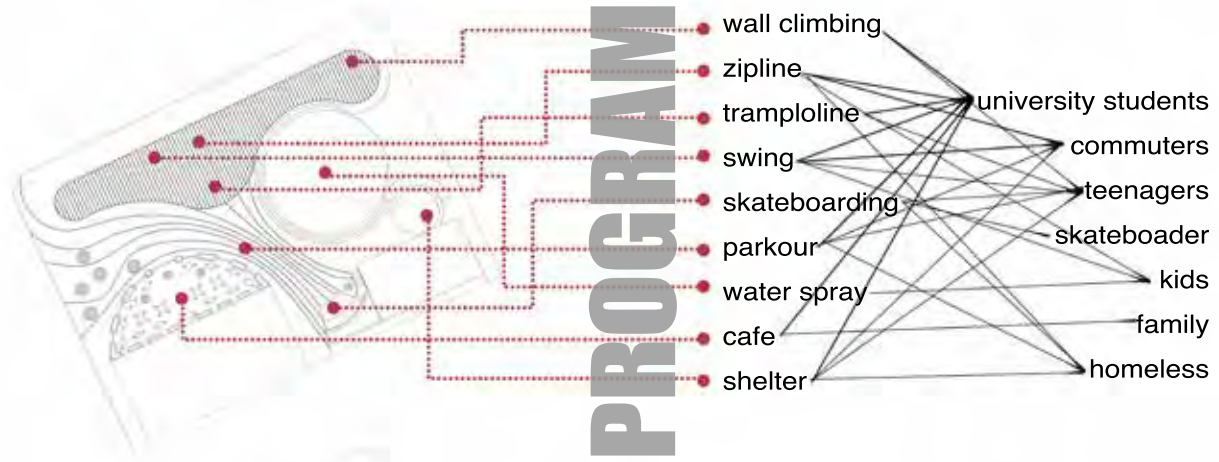
Routes for passing through & places for stopping

Analysis



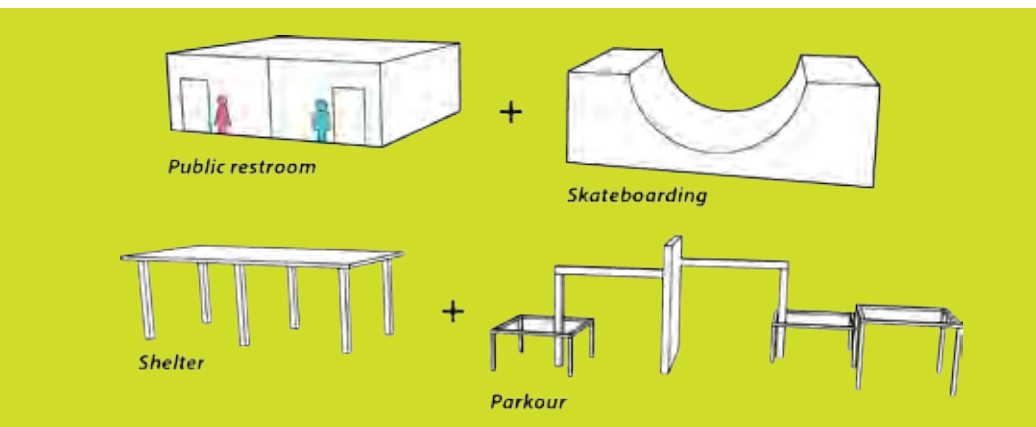
play activities analysis

skateboarding

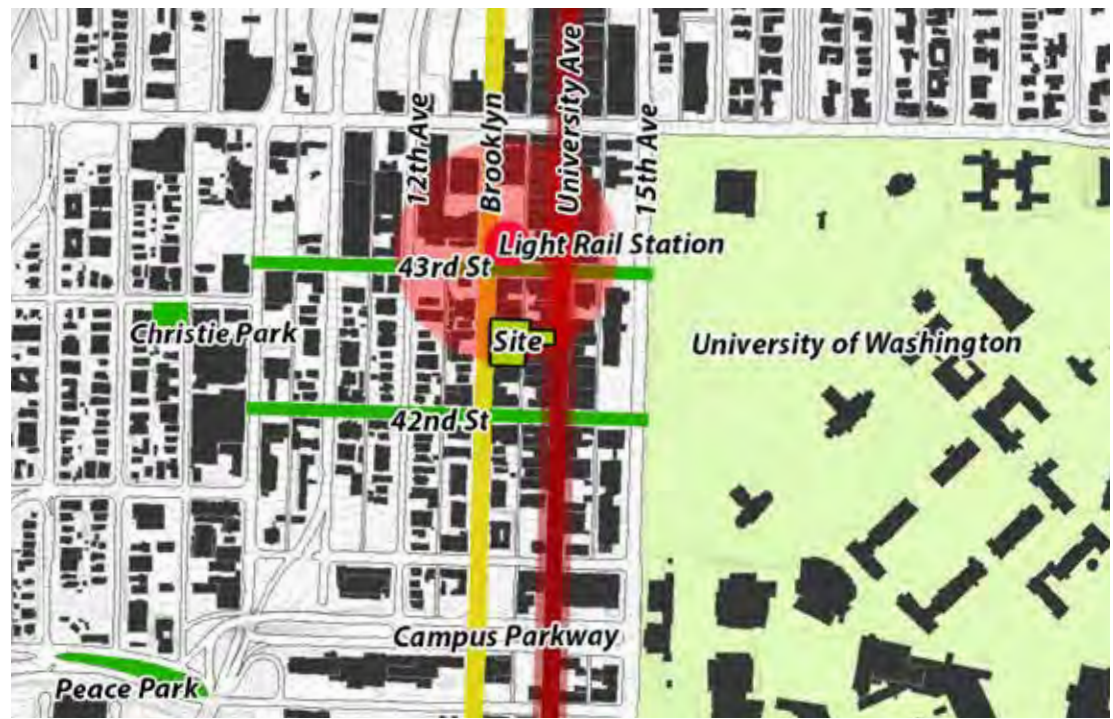
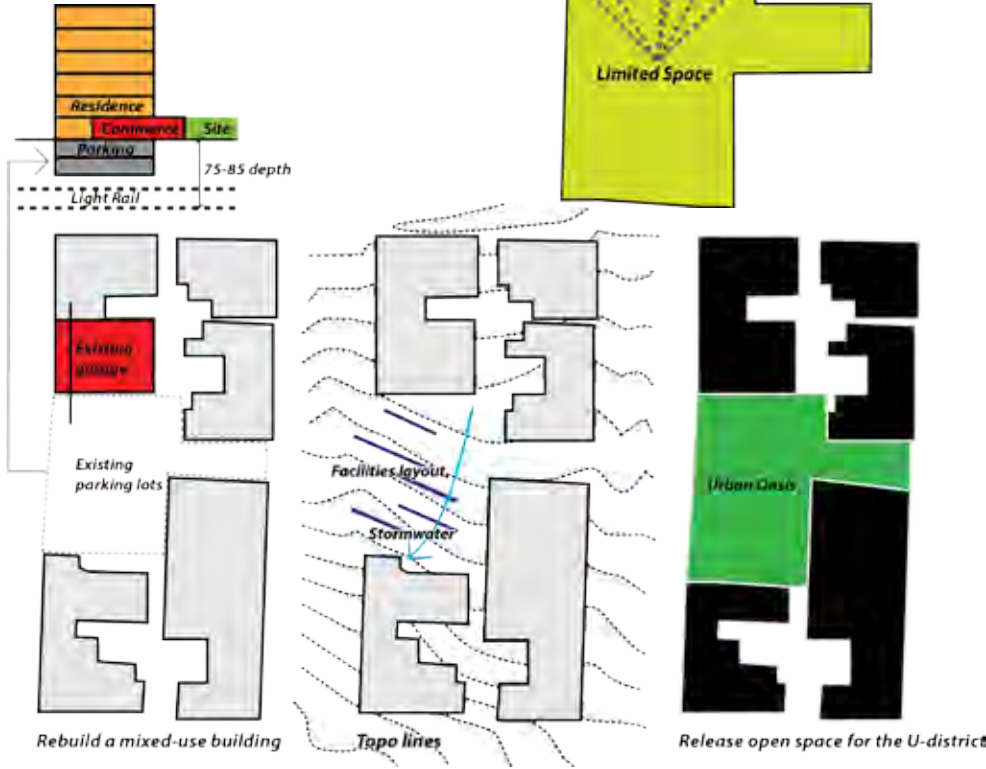
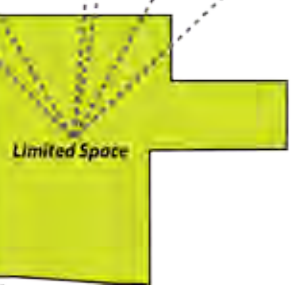
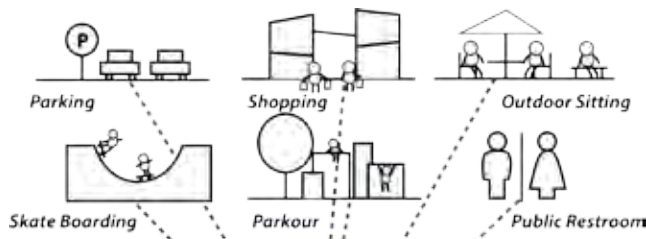
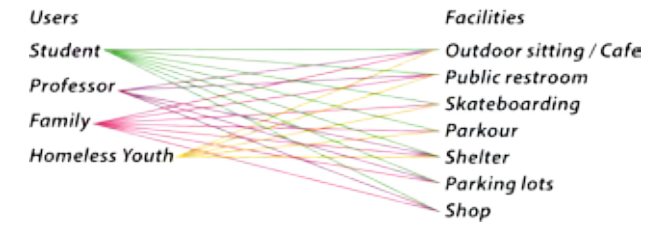


Detail Analysis

Section



Concept: Multifunctional Facilities



Site Context

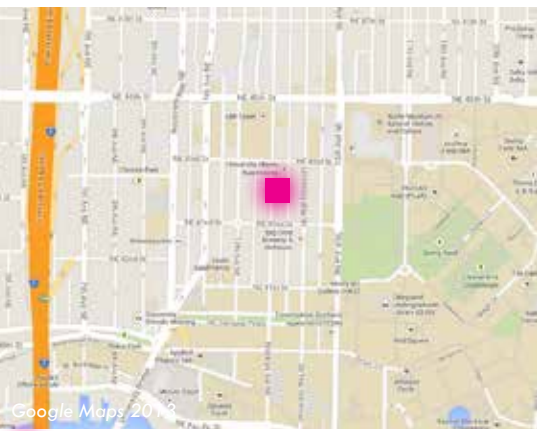
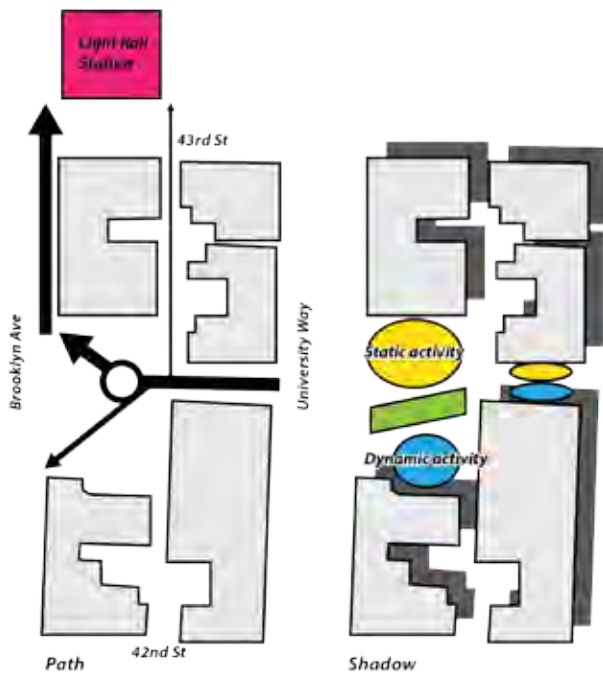
A MULTIFUNCTIONAL URBAN PLAZA

by Shih Chia Chiu

Open to the public 24 hours

According to the urban plan for the U-district, this area will become a high density urban space over the next 20 years, primarily because of the new light rail station and new higher-volume residential buildings. This site is centrally located between University Ave and Brooklyn Ave, and it is currently used as a parking lot located. It is also very close to the new light rail station. The site has great potential to become a green oasis in the U-district.

This project will focus on providing what people need in public space. The concept is to create a multifunctional urban plaza that is open 24 hours a day for the public. Mixed use spaces and facilities are designed for diverse users. The goal is to help the U-district become a more livable and playful area.



Existing Conditions ■ SITE: Lot behind Radio Shack, Brooklyn Ave NE



Site Plan



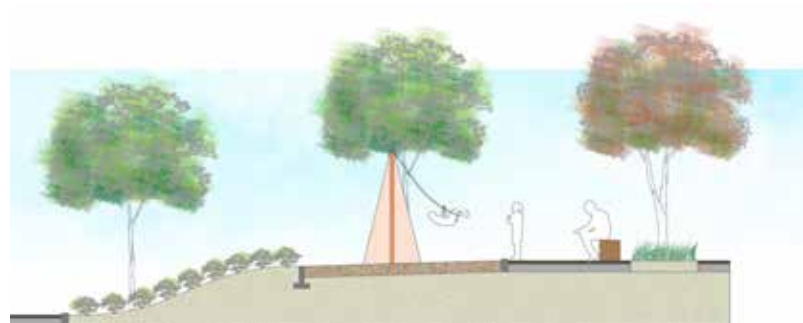
A-A' Alley and Shops



B-B' Fountain Square and Shops



C-C' Trampolines



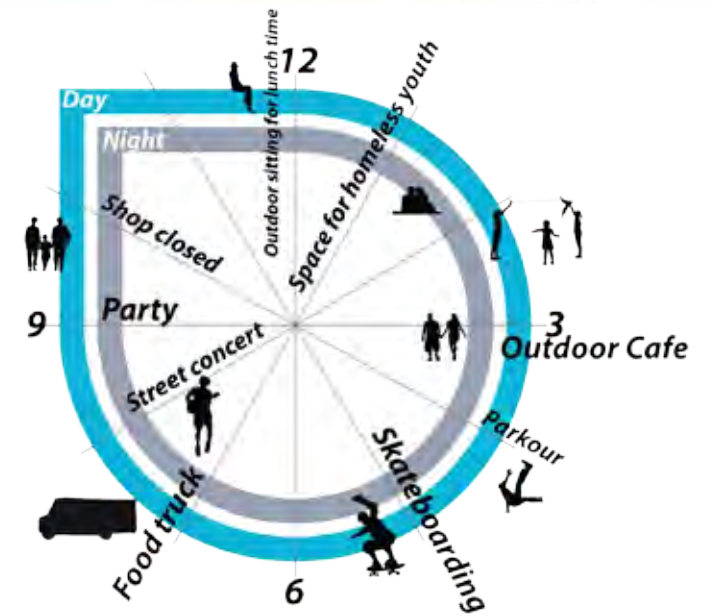
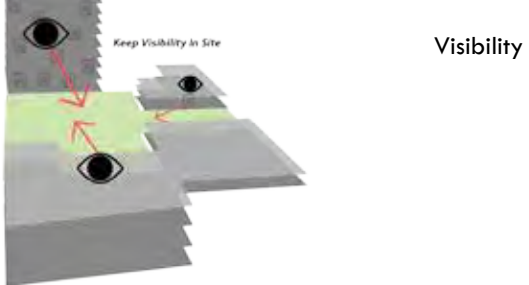
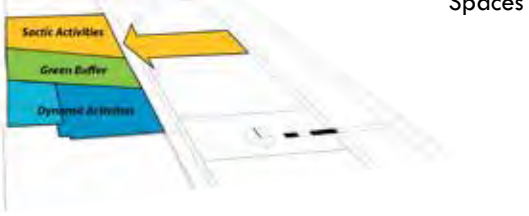
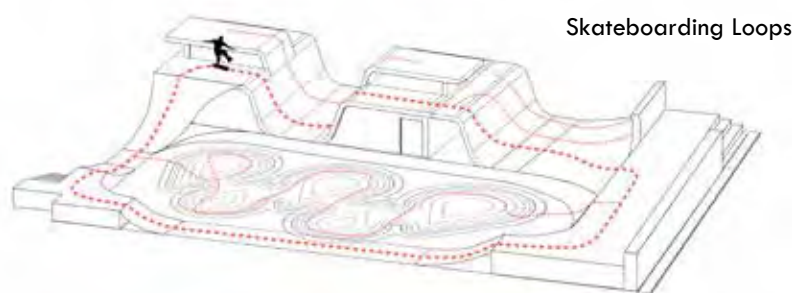
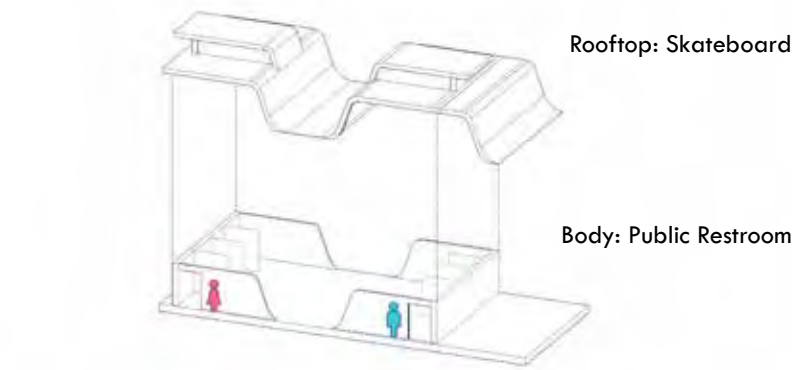
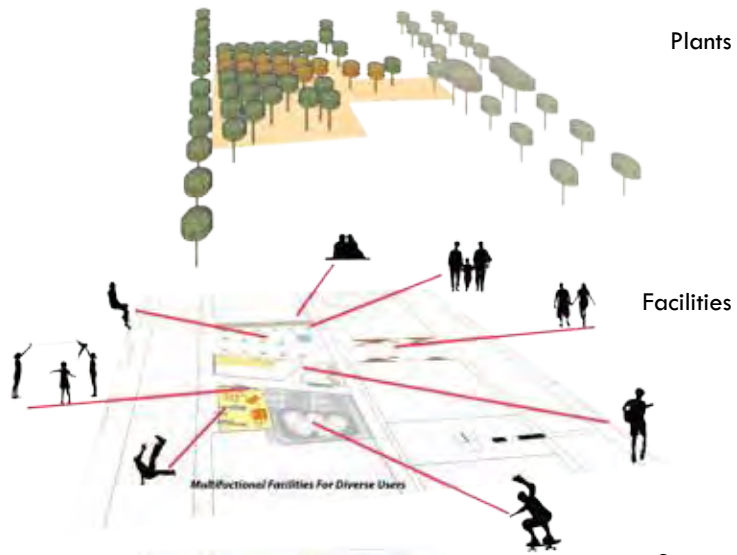
D-D' Children's Playground



E-E' Skate Ramp and Public Restroom



F-F' Daytime: Parkour / Night time: Shelters for Homeless Youth

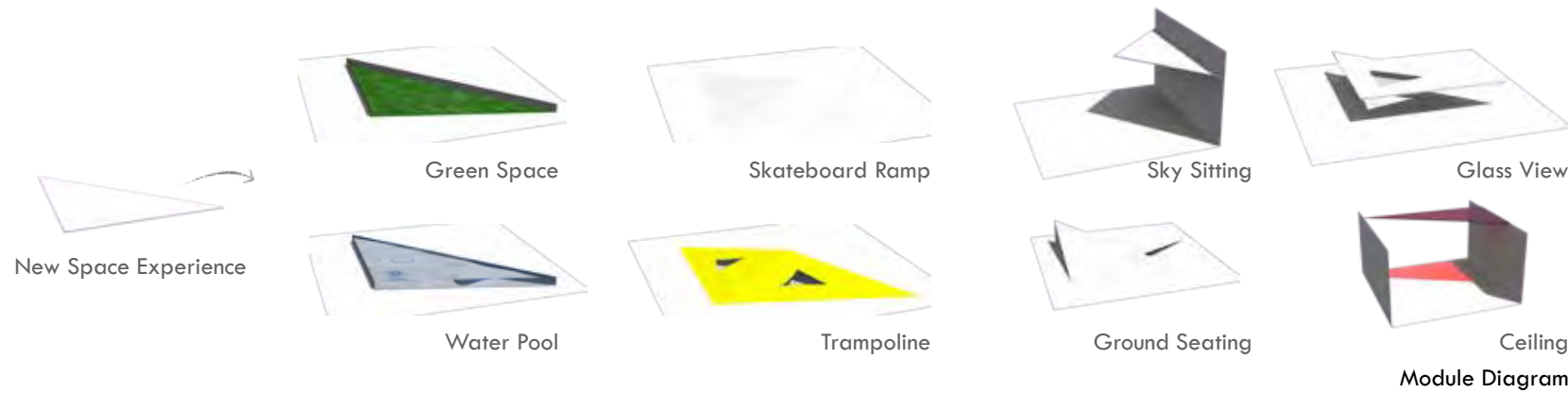


A 24-Hour Public Space





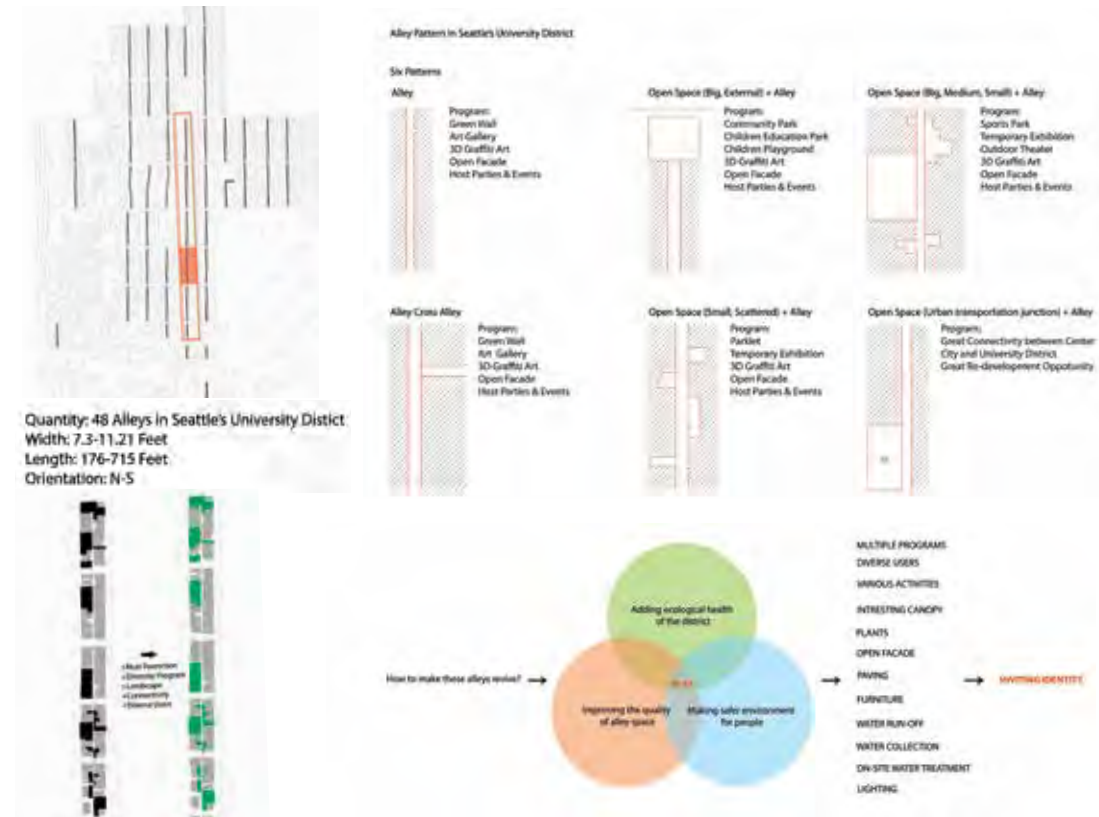
“1” Concept: reshape the monotonous space to create a new, inviting, and exciting identity



Plant Palette



Material Palette



“48” Alleys in University District



“1” Site Analysis

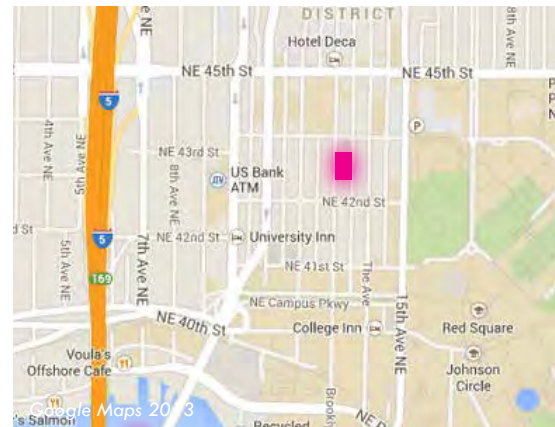
1/48 × ALLEY PLAY^N

by Guanyi Gao

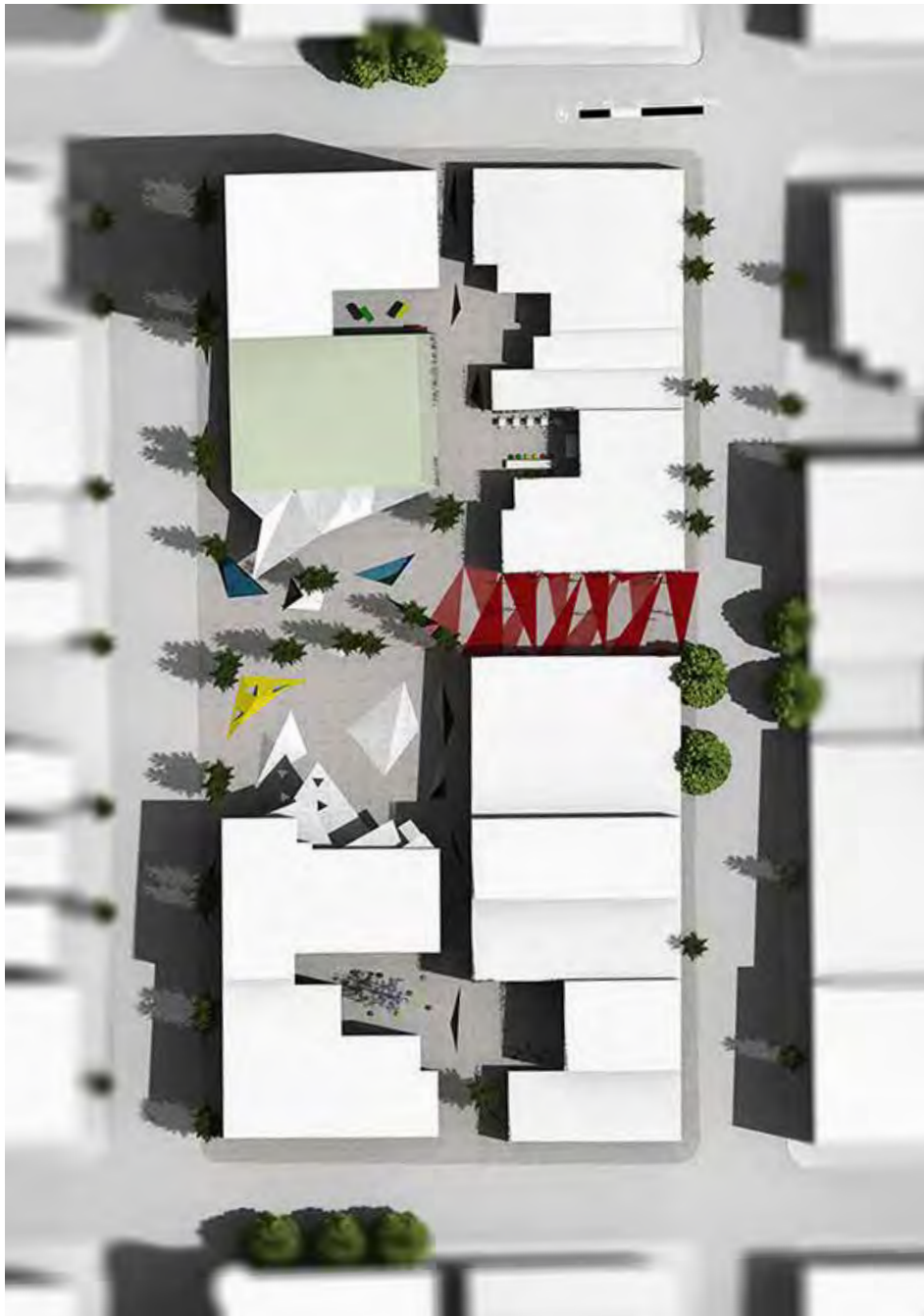
The alley as a line connecting and integrating a diverse urban space.

My design's focus is to imagine and propose the alley in university district that is shaped by physical invitations for urban play, demonstrating strategies of resilience, inclusiveness, and authenticity. I think the alley is a line which can connect and integrate diverse urban spaces.

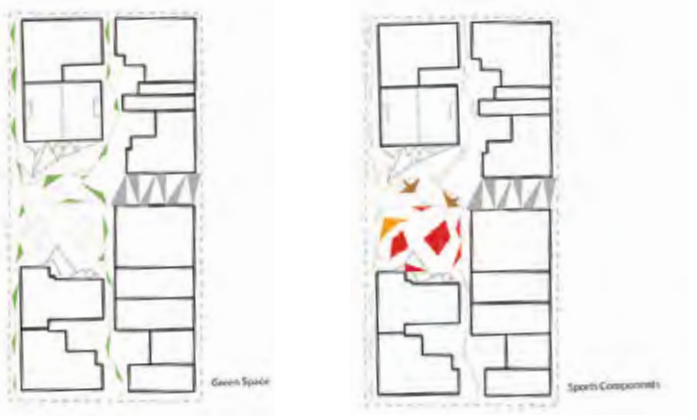
For this design project I chose one of the university district alleys, between 43rd & 42nd St. I mainly focused on how to use physical and psychological design methods on infill projects and programs, so that the design could activate the alley life, public spaces, and buildings, with the goal of contributing to a highly functional, socially responsive, and environmentally regenerative alley space.



■ SITE: Alley between 42nd & 43rd Sts



Plan



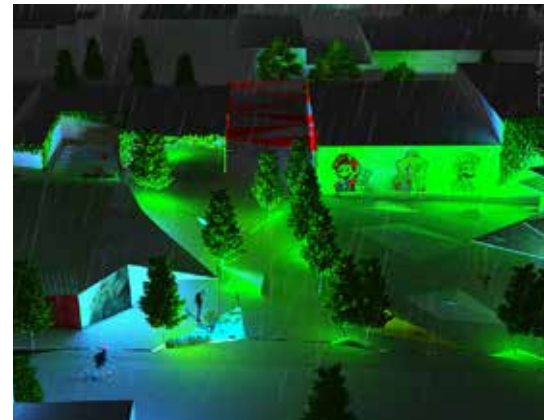
Design Diagrams



Shadow Gallery (nightfall in late spring)



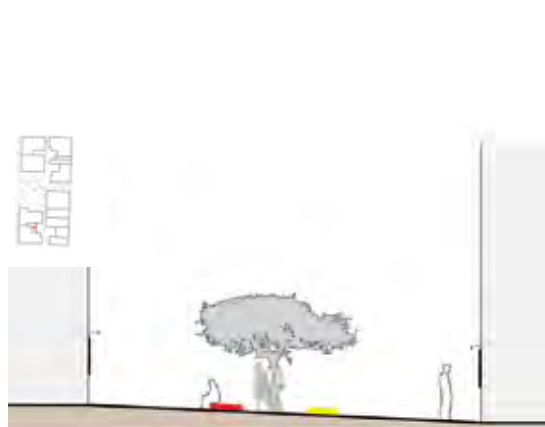
Skate Park (late autumn)



Night View (rainy summer)



Section



Section



Section



Art Gallery & Outdoor Cinema



Central View (early summer)



Section

Section

Section

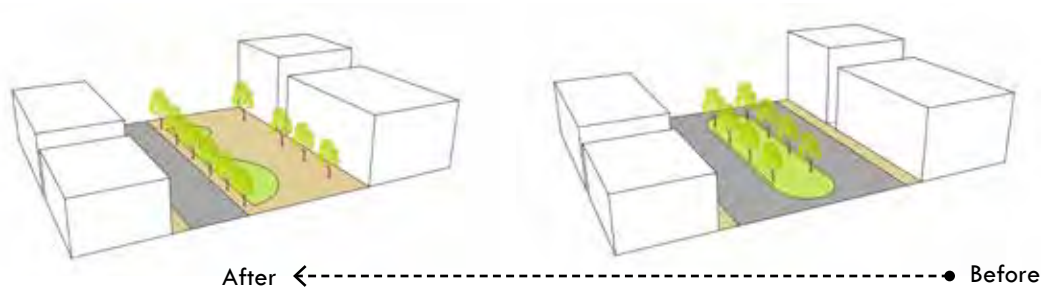


Bird View

Main Perspective

Street Vacation

Existing conditions on Campus Parkway show that it is inactive, shadowy, and not very pedestrian friendly, particularly because two wide one-way traffic lanes hinder the pedestrian flow and isolate the middle public space from the surrounding context. The main design idea is to create a street vacation so that the street could become an active, sunny and pedestrian friendly public place for both the university and the community.



After ←-----● Before



After ←-----● Before



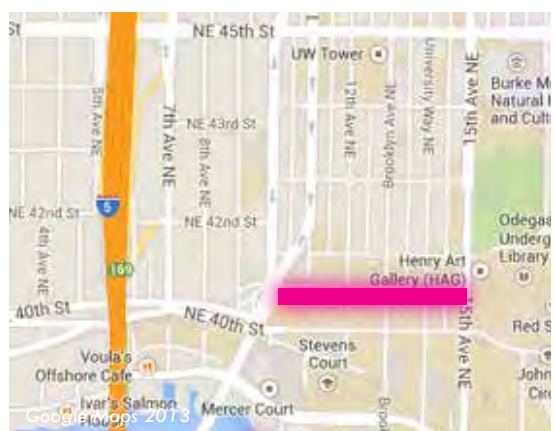
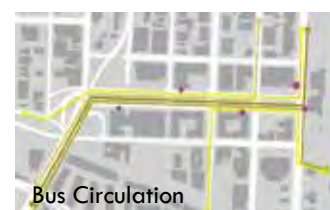
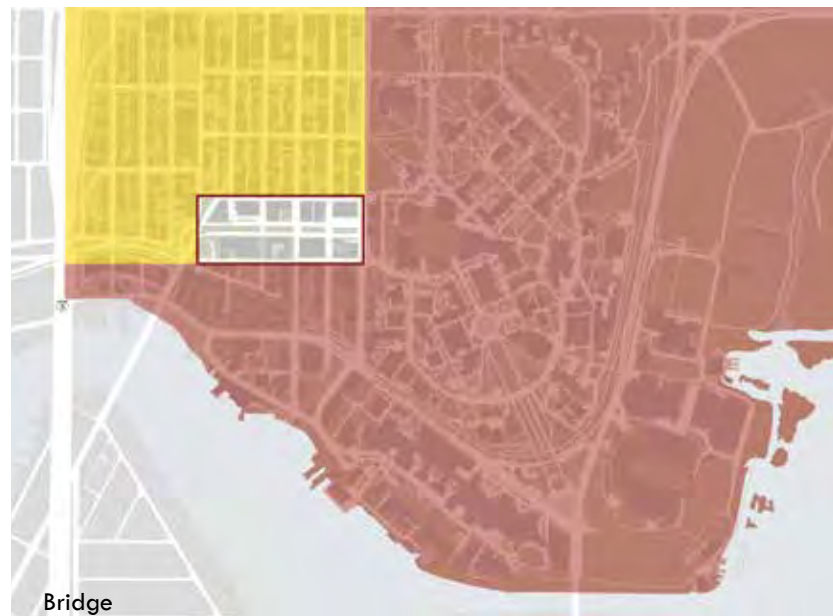
After ←-----● Before

CAMPUS PARKWAY

by Fangyuan Hong + Tianshi Guo

Play with the "WAVE"

Campus Parkway unites the University of Washington campus and the university district community together. It is surrounded by campus dorms and teaching buildings. It is also a very important landscape axis for the University of Washington. However, as a public open space, it is not considered a usable green space within the district. Our design goal is to activate this boring traffic corridor through a street vacation. People, traffic, and vegetation will be redirected toward the urban play concept, which is highlighted by different wavy forms.



■ SITE: NE Campus Parkway



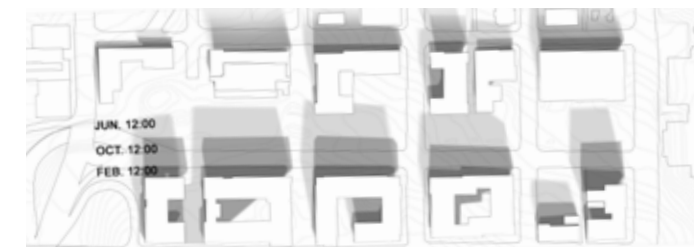
Belts



Zone



Traffic



Shadow



Topography

Master Plan

Concept

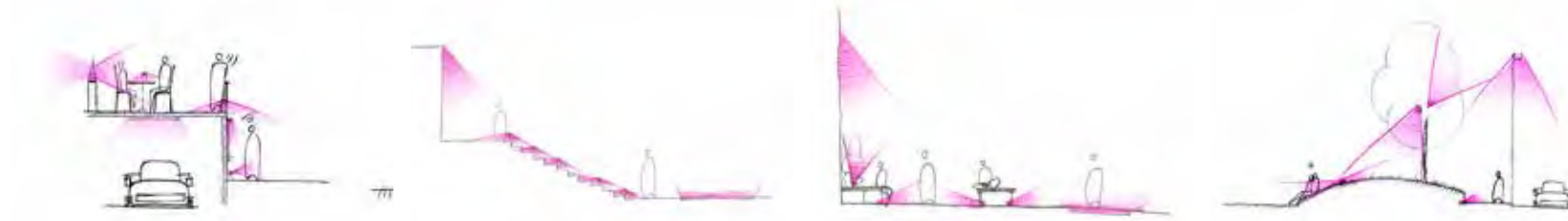
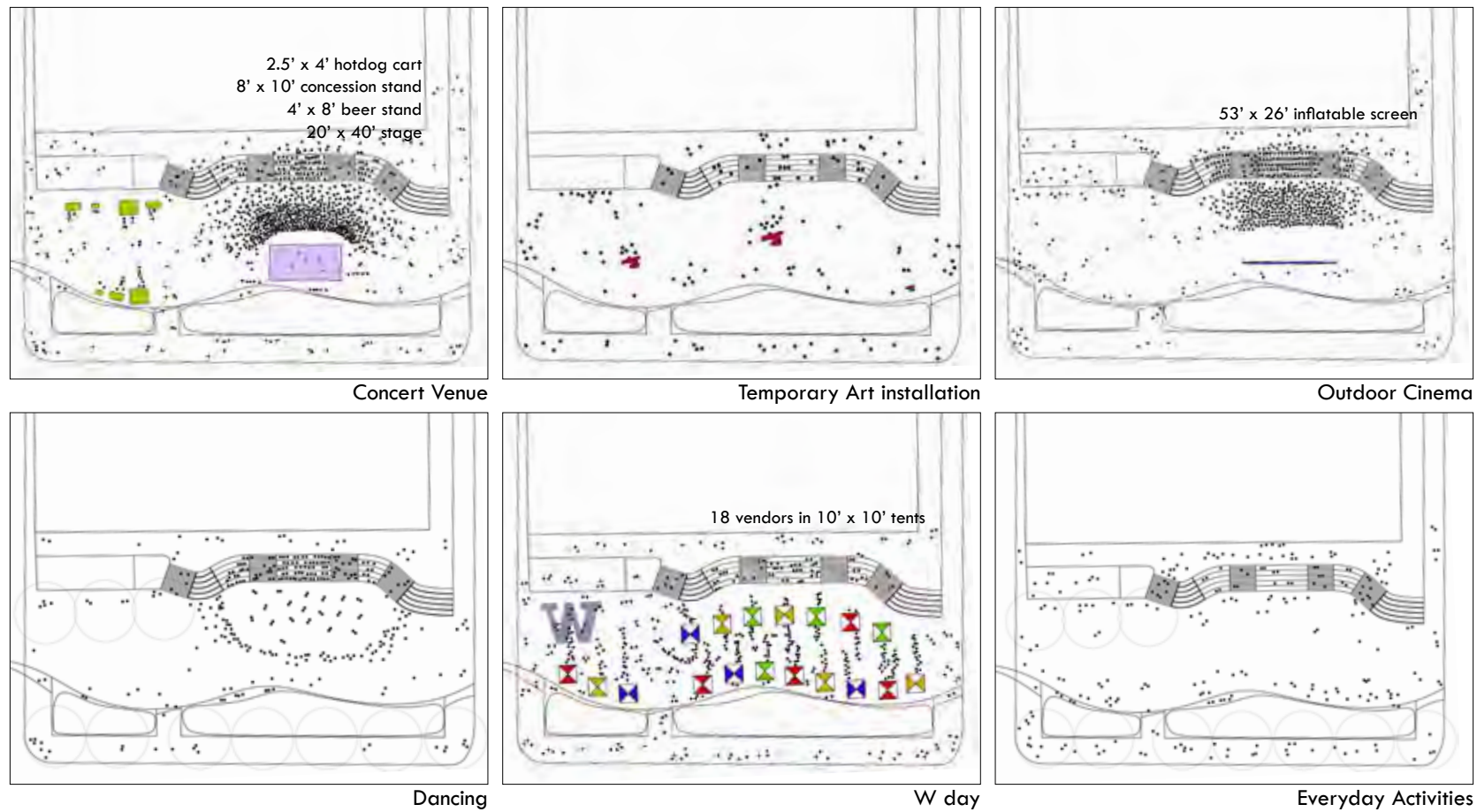
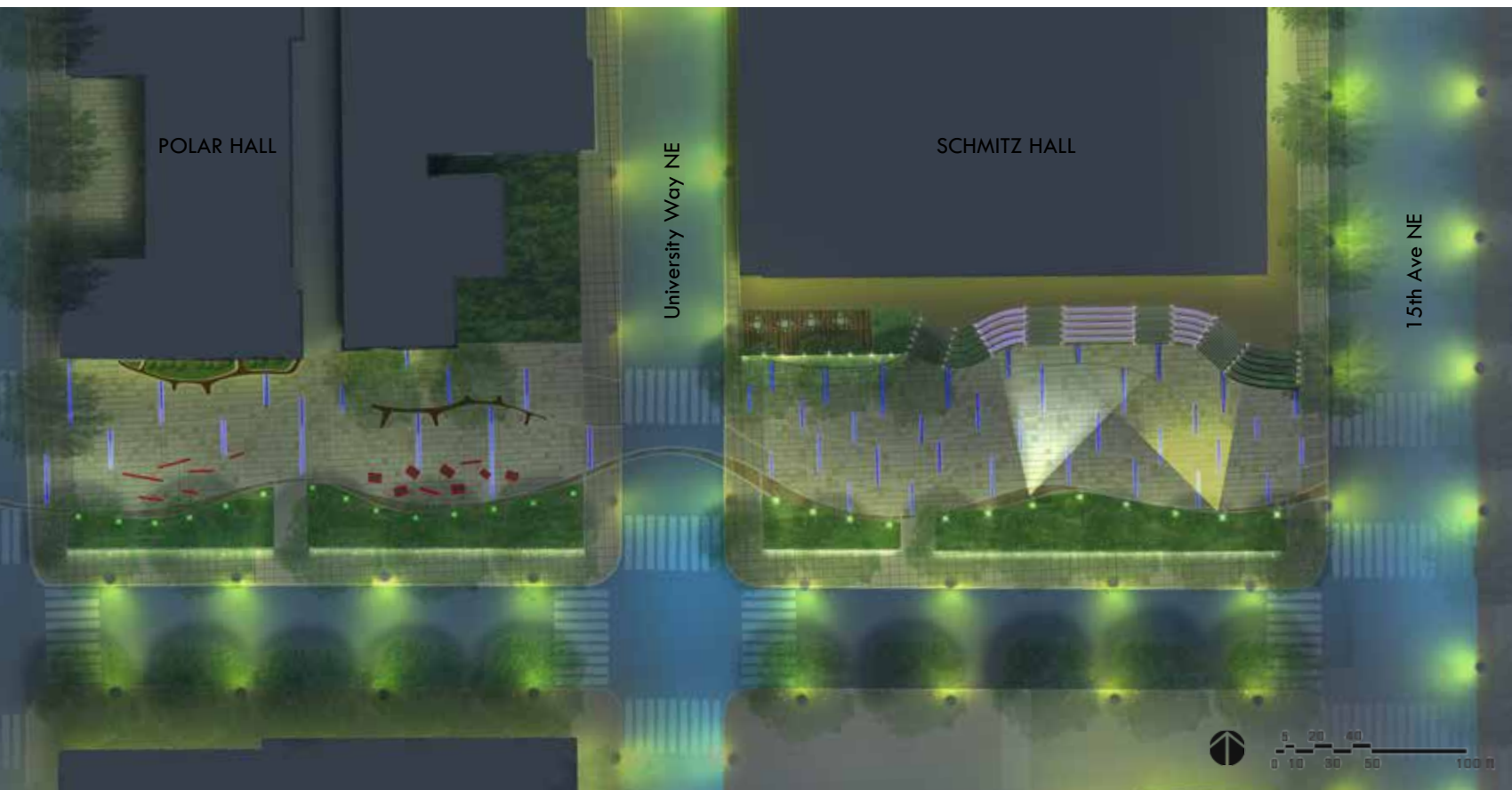
The main design concept is to create a public space for different activities by using different wavy forms. Instead of the existing straight traffic lines and green space on the street, there are two social and green belts, which are followed by a wavy line.



Users & Activities

We put different types of installations into the site to meet different users' needs. People can sit to have a cup of coffee or play on swings while waiting for the bus.





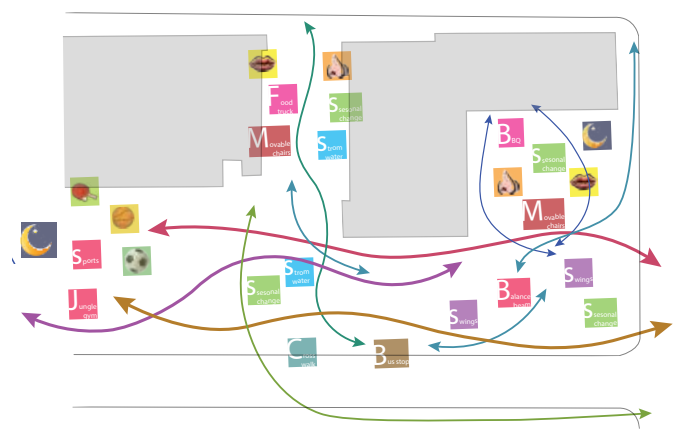
Lighting Analysis

The plaza in front of the Schmitz Hall is designed to accommodate different types of activities. Lighting design in this area tends to make the plaza more dynamic in the evening, especially the long dark nights during fall and winter in Seattle.





Activity Analysis
 The design takes over 12th Ave and creates a very active space between Brooklyn and 11th Avenues. It offers many kinds of activities, from the stationary qualities of an outdoor cafe, the lively qualities of swings or an outdoor BBQ, to vibrant ball games or jungle gyms, or even parkour. Five huge existing trees will be saved and create different a atmosphere both through daily and seasonal change.



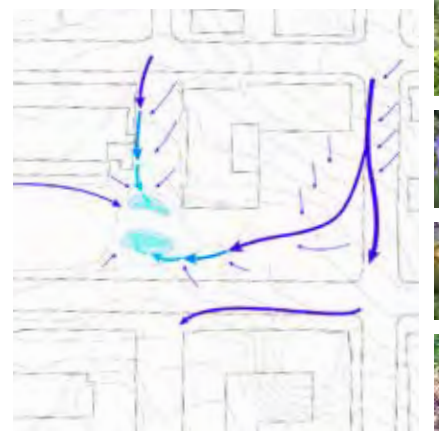
Stormwater Analysis
 Seattle experiences seasonal changes because of precipitation variations throughout the year. We designed a rain garden at the lowest part of the site by vacating 12th Ave and collecting the storm water on the street. Here the plants perform the role of cleaning the stormwater.



Section A: Summer



Section A: Fall



Stormwater Diagram



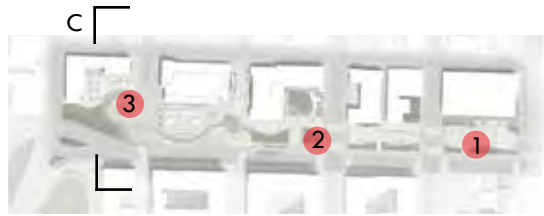
Section A: Night



Section B: Change Over Time

Playing with the wavy edge

The edge between the grass slope and the activity area shows different manifestations of the waving form. People can enjoy a variety of activities there, such as sitting, walking, and even cycling along it.



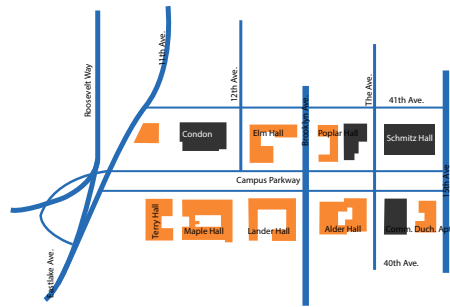
Weekend Market

At the west end there is a community art center for both the University and local community. The front yard on the South side could become a weekend flea market for students and locals alike.





Current space usage



Current road network

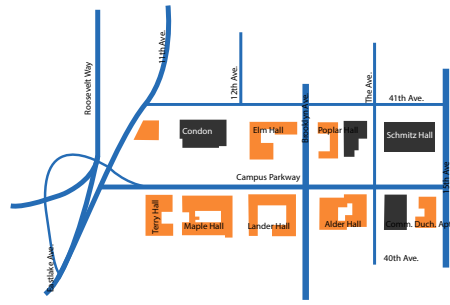


Sun/Shade analysis

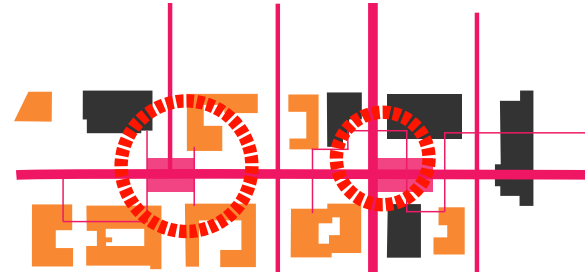
Rainwater flow



Proposed space usage



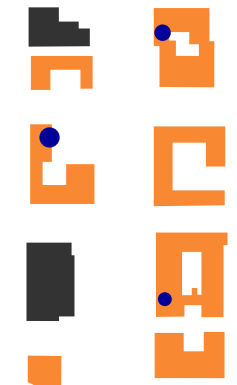
Proposed road network



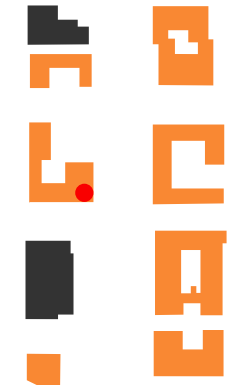
Pedestrian Concentration/Focal Point



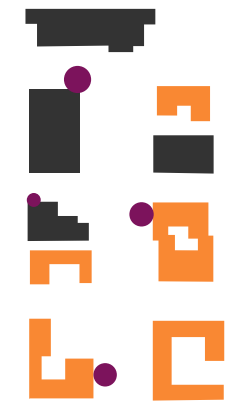
West entrance of Campus Parkway



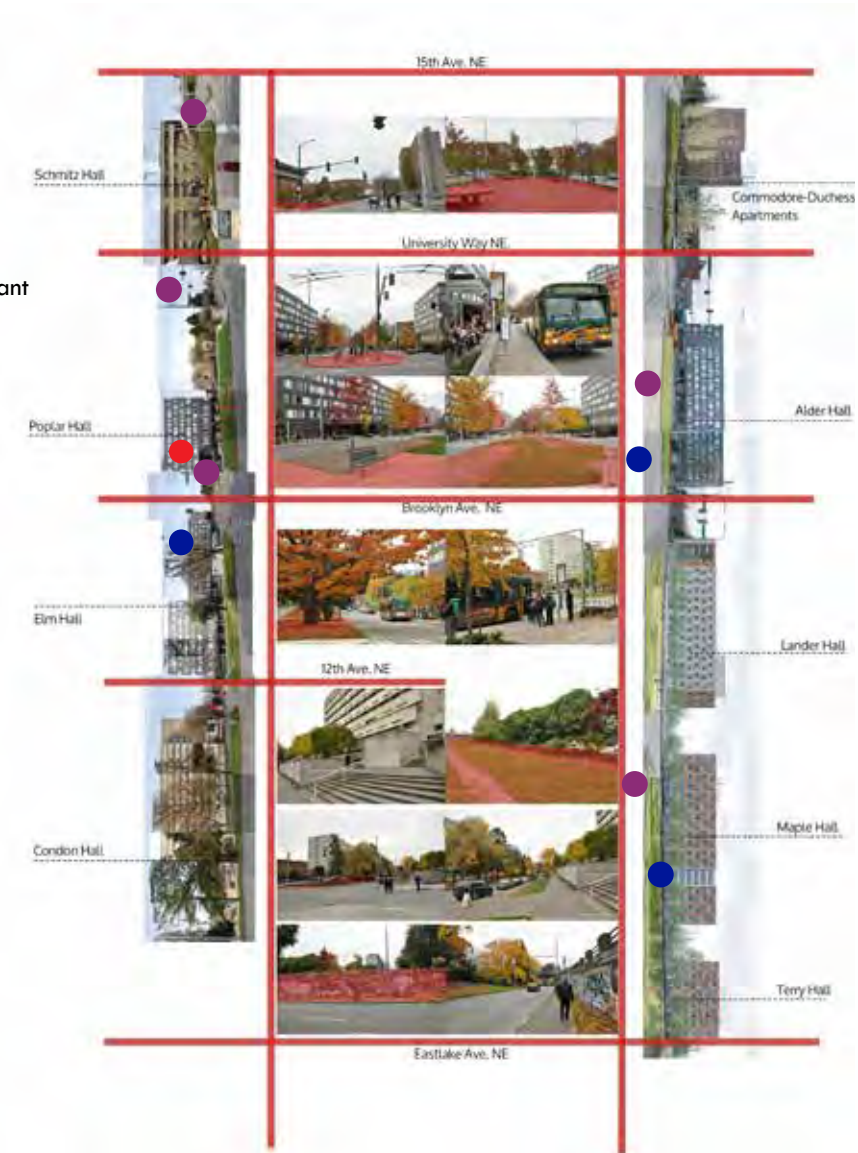
Coffee Shop / Restaurant



Gym / Fitness Center



Main Bus Stop



Current Site Photo Collage

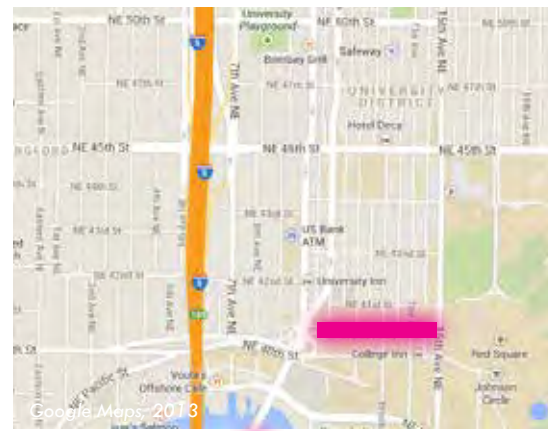
ACTIVE CAMPUS PARKWAY

by Rao Fu

Spell "WASHINGTON" On your way to and from campus

Campus Parkway has great potential to be a **playful urban street**, and it should provide a playground for students who are living around Campus Parkway. As more student dorms are built there, Campus Parkway will be seen as a "home" for students. Therefore, **more identity and "furniture" are needed** for their new "home & playground".

In the near future, Campus Parkway will be surrounded by UW buildings and student dorms, so Campus Parkway should provide a **great outdoor living room and playground** for residents. Therefore I propose a **serial "Washington" furniture structure**, offering a strong identity for the UW campus and inviting residents out to **play on the street**. My proposal would transform the current empty space to an active urban play street.



■ SITE: NE Campus Parkway



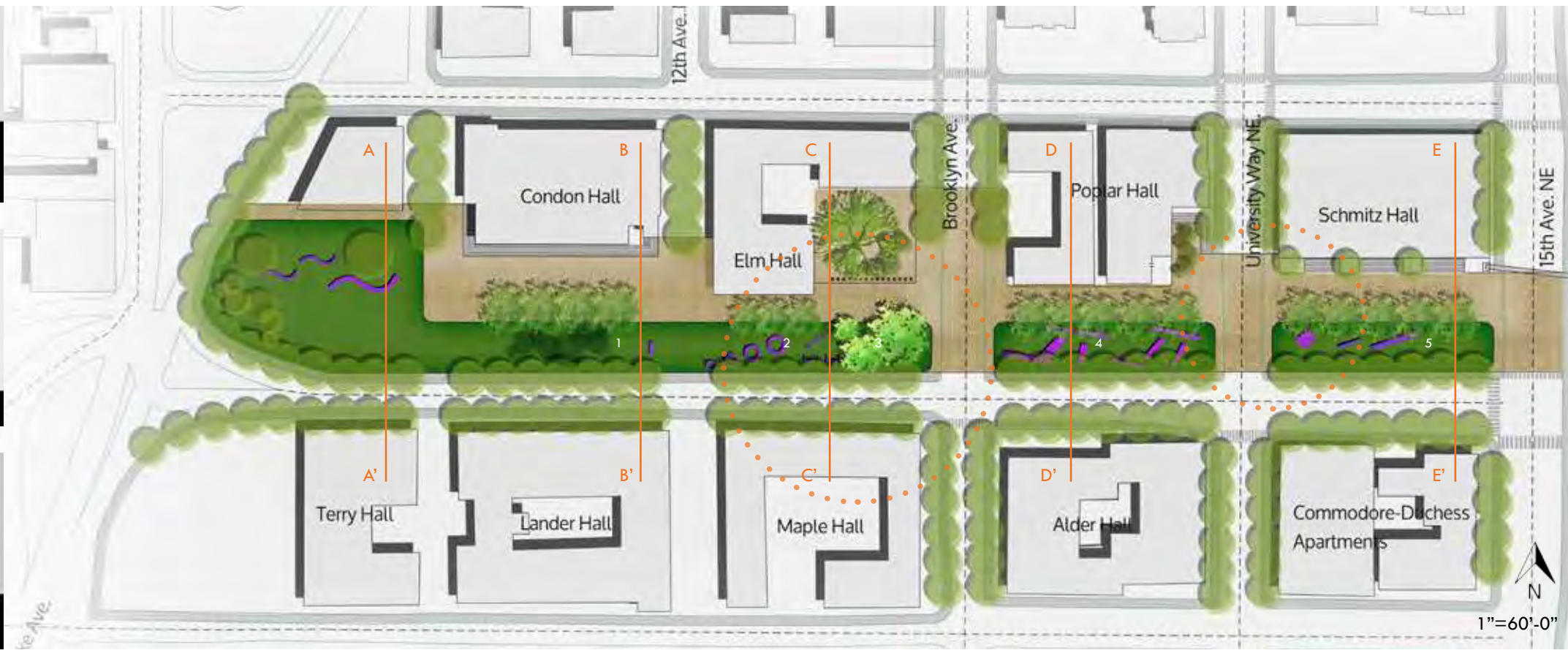
Section A-A' 1" = 15'-0"



Section B-B' 1" = 15'-0"



Section C-C' 1" = 15'-0"



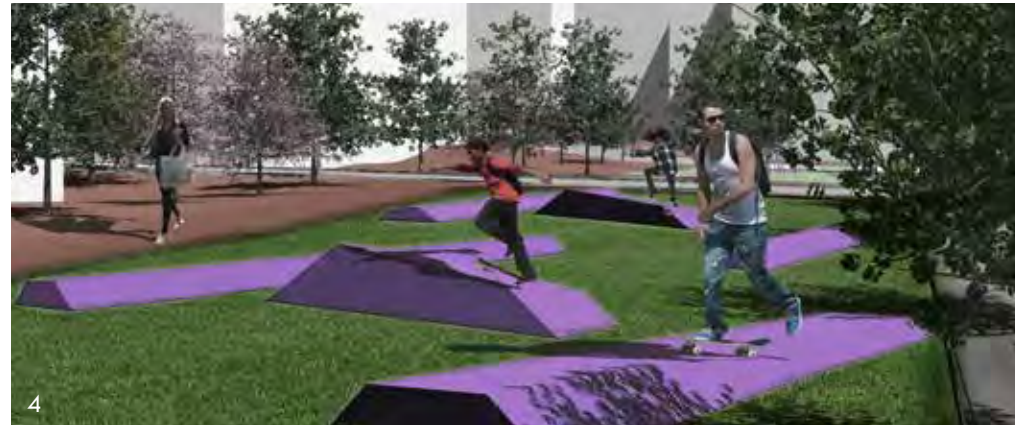
Site Plan 1"=60'-0"



Night view of "W"



"G" Sitting under elm



"H" Skating play



"I" Play Structure



3

Precedent study & Materials

"A" Swing / Play Ground



Out-sider

Street Furniture, Co.

Sønder Boulevard

Skyspace | James Turrel | UW Campus



Section D-D' 1"=15'-0"



Section E-E' 1"=15'-0"



5

East of Campus Parkway, connection to Red Square

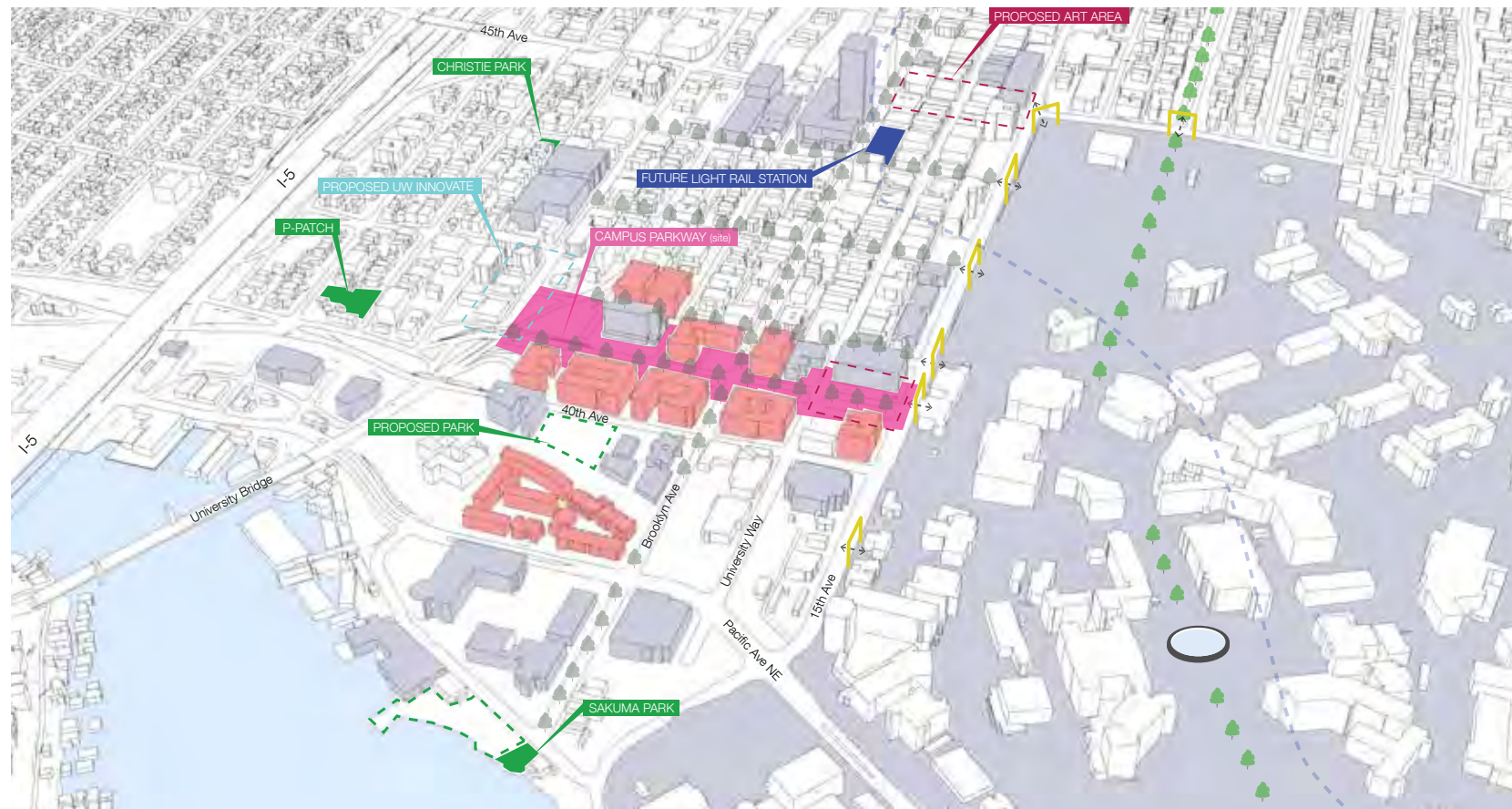
CAMP(US) PARKWAY

by Ian Garnier + Patrick Pirtle

UW's NEW Front Porch

The recent focus on planning the area west of 15th Avenue NE allows a great opportunity to envision Campus Parkway as a new center for student life west of campus. The University is currently building new housing along Campus Parkway, buildings that are home to student-focused activities, not limited to: a game center, gym, and student activity center. Unfortunately these activity spaces are located within the new dormitories themselves, sealing themselves off from the Parkway.

The redesigned Campus Parkway pulls these activities from the buildings out onto Campus Parkway for the community to enjoy, creating a more lively street that students and neighbors of the university will yearn to be a part of.



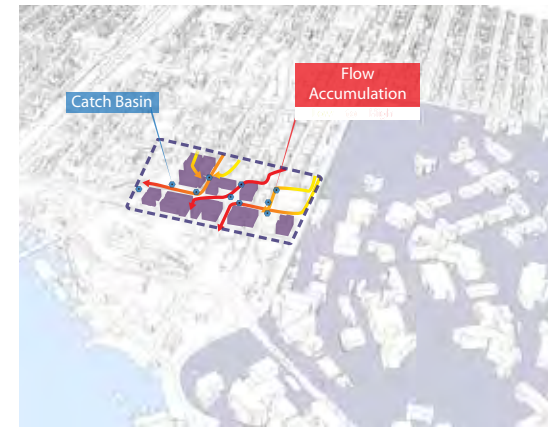
Existing Site Conditions



Current Traffic Configuration



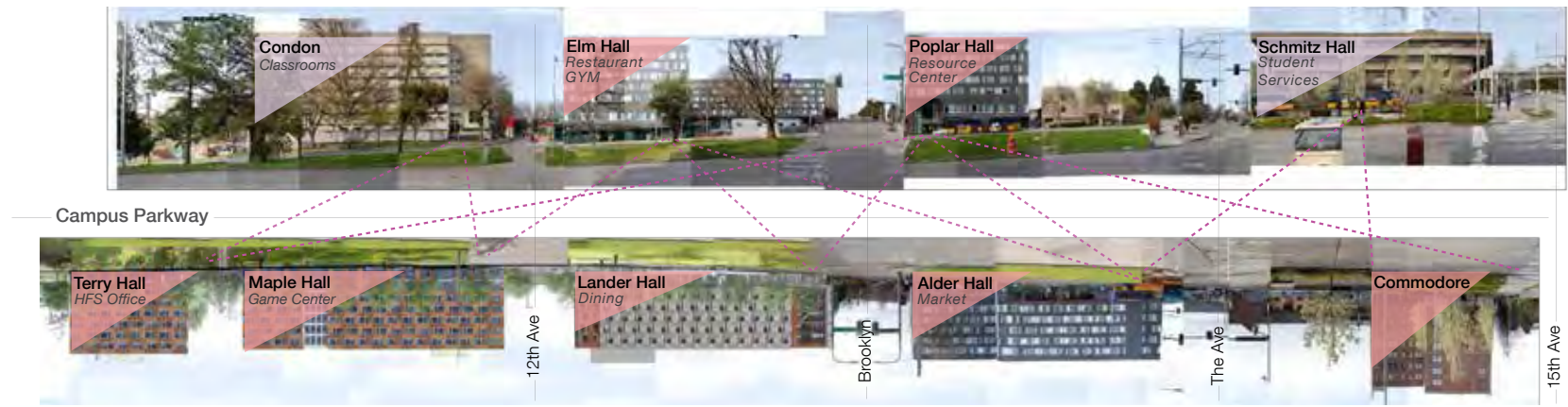
Revised Traffic Configuration



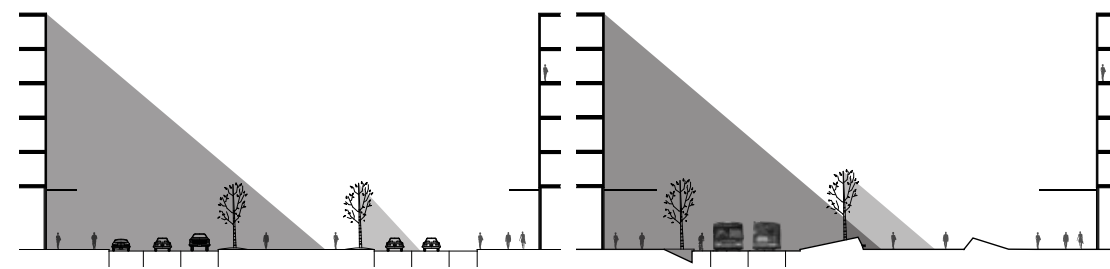
Surface Water Flow Study



Open Space Accessibility by Day & Night

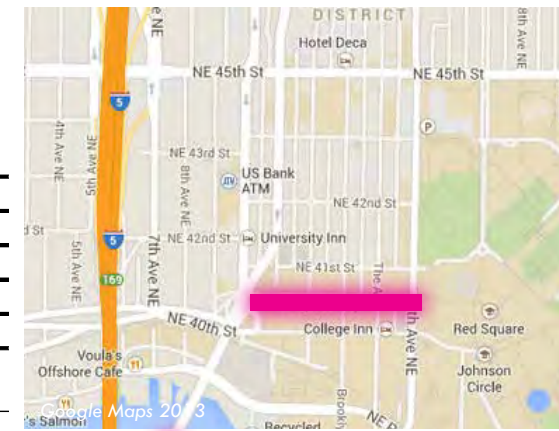


Current Streetscape with Desire Lines



Current Shadow Study

Revised Shadow Study



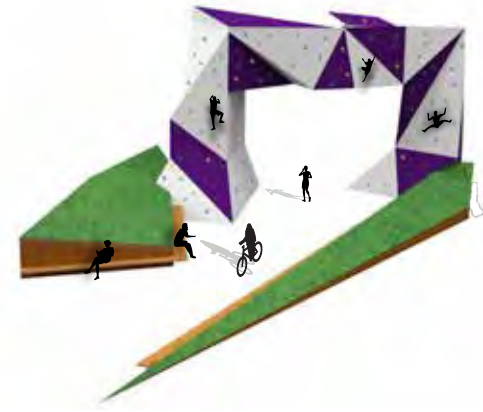
■ SITE: Campus Parkway Seattle, WA



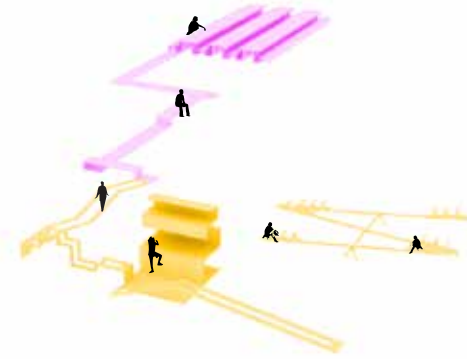
Rain Gardens Along Street



Rotating Table and Chairs



Rock Climbing Wall



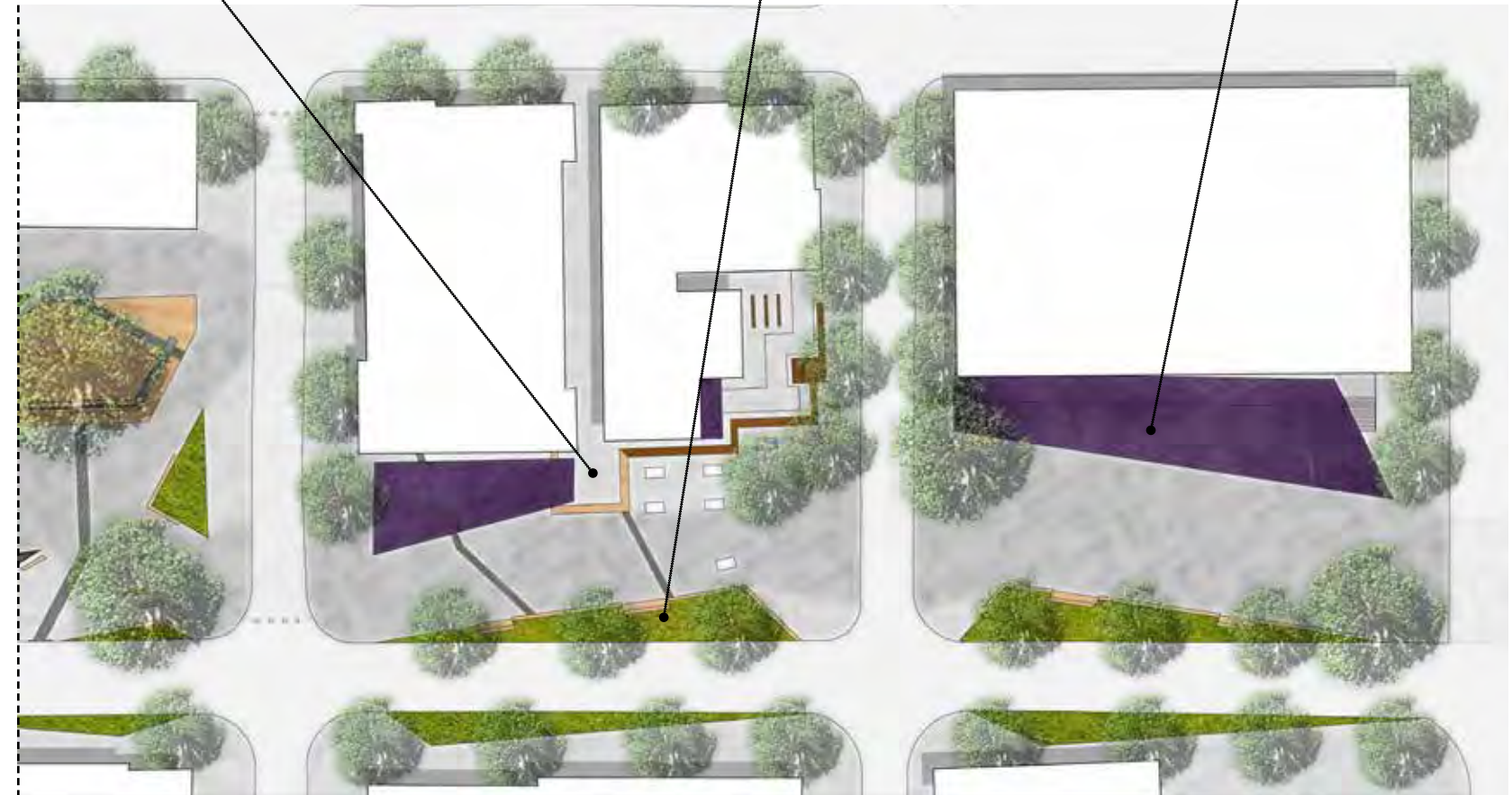
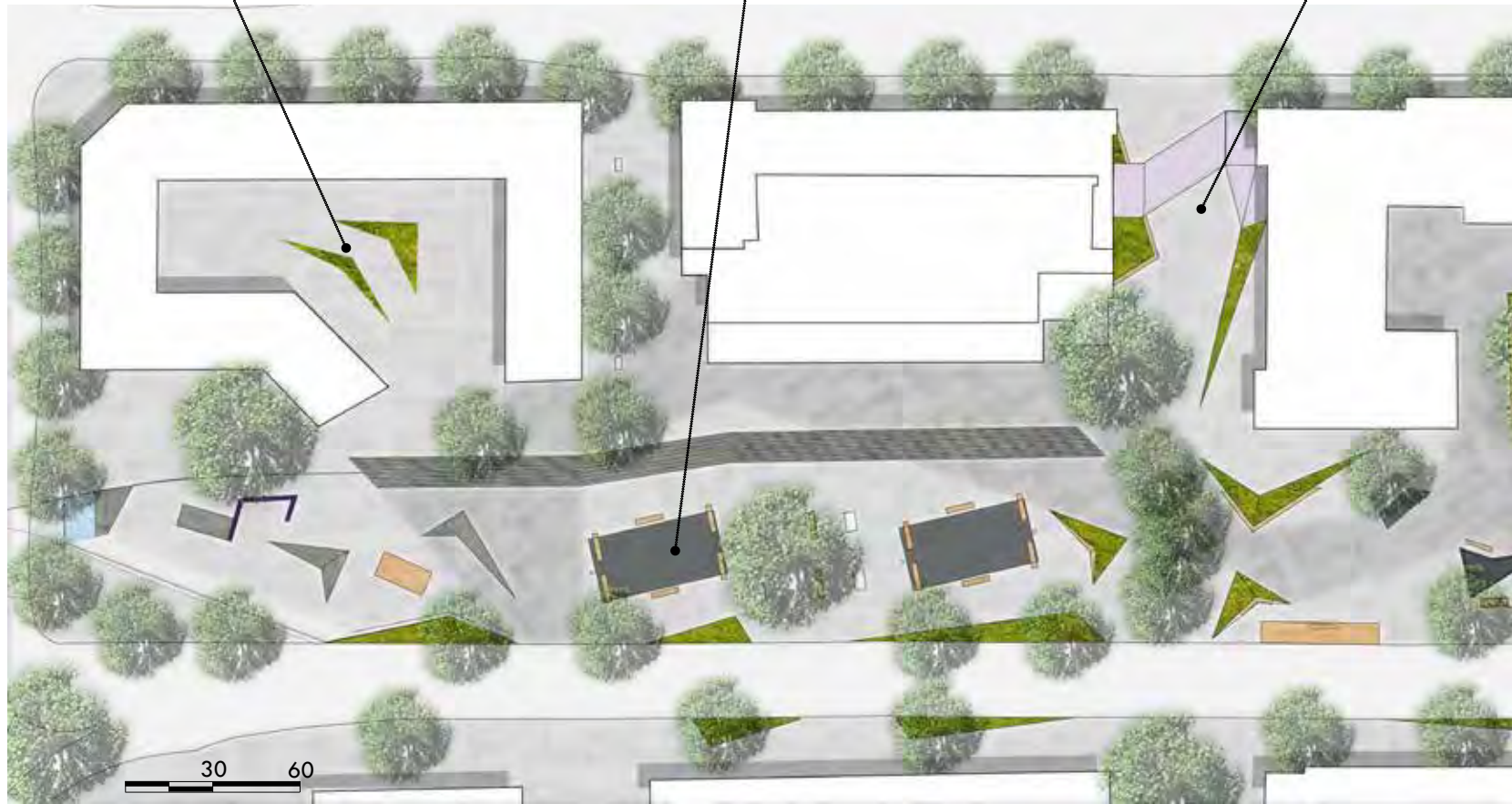
Team Building & Activity Area



Bench and Lawn Seating



Ramada in front of Schmitz



Site Plan



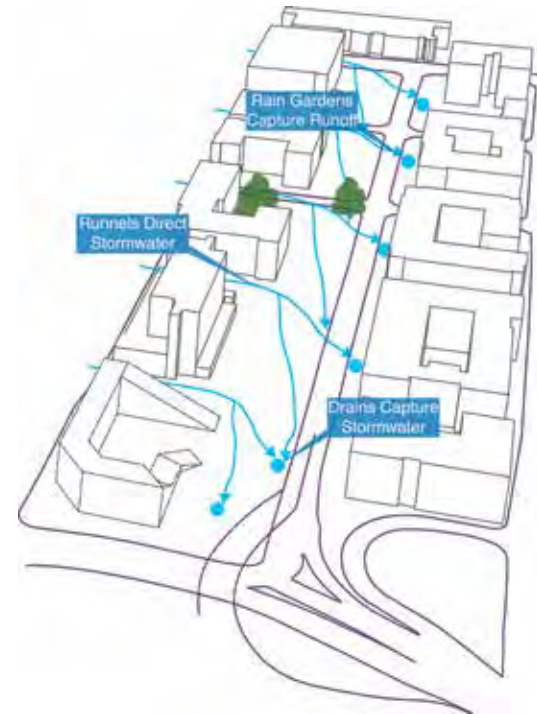
Current Traffic Configuration



Revised Traffic Configuration



Pulling Building Activities into Public Spaces



Surface Water Flow



Planting & Flow Levels of Rain Garden



Types of Users by Season

- The Plaza
- Team Building
- Activity Center
- Brooklyn Woonerf
- Elm/Maple Trees
- Outdoor Gym
- Recreation Courts
- Skate Plaza
- Building Court

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
College Game Day												
Winter Festivals												
Spring & Summer Events												
HR Events												
HR Events & Family Play												
Student Projects & Activities												
Jolly Food Trucks												
Food Trucks & Festival Space												
Student Gathering												
Student/Family Gathering & Communal Eating												
Physical Activity												
Climbing, Gym, & Odd Object Training												
Sports Tournaments, Games, & Gathering												
Skateboarding, Rollerblading, Scootering												
Housing, Daycare, Lawn & Commercial Spaces												

Activities by Space & Time of Year

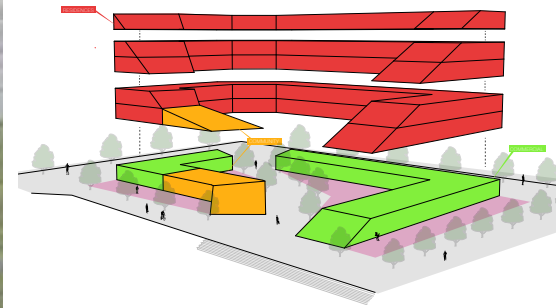


Seasonal Section

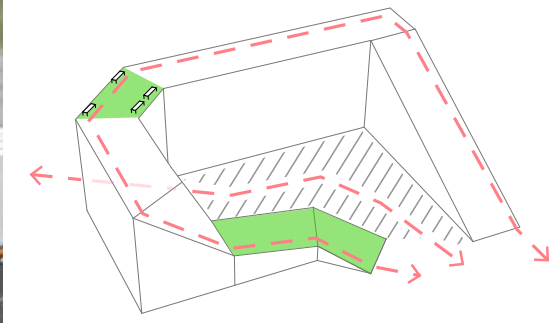


25 50

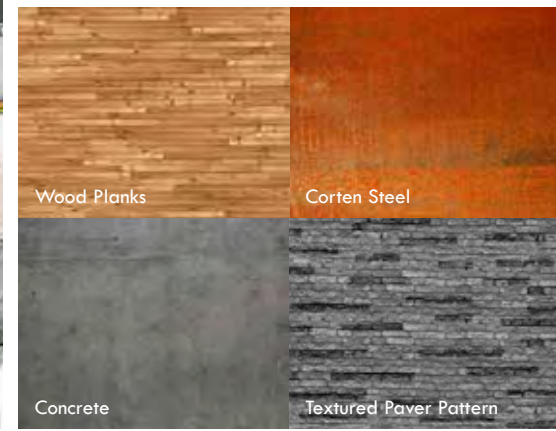
Detail View of Proposed Student Housing



Building Uses by Floor



Mobility & Open Space of Building



Material Palette

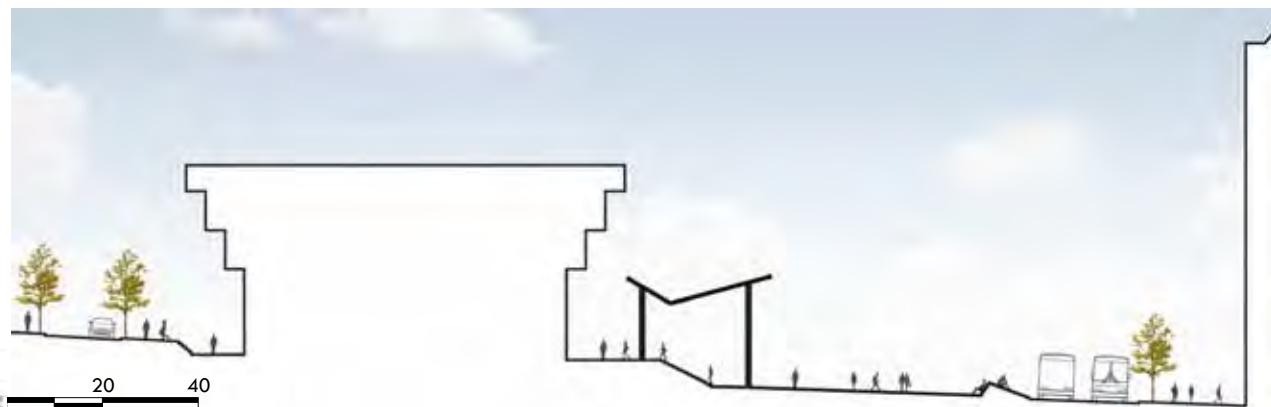


Looking East from Roosevelt Way NE



5 20

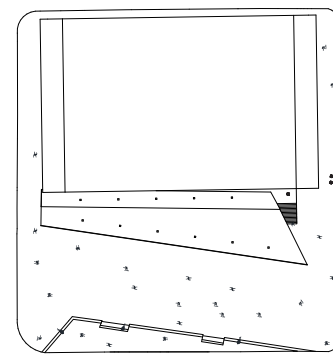
Skate Plaza Looking North



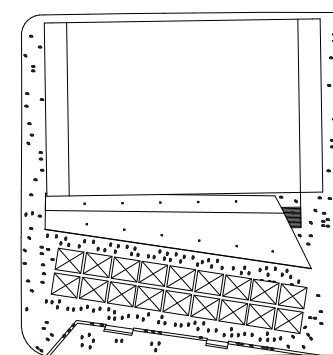
Schmitz Hall Elevation Looking East



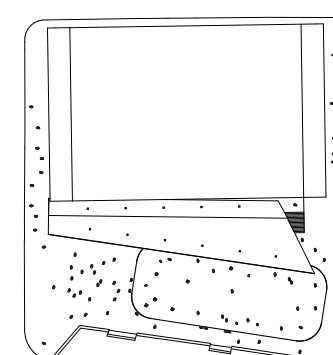
Ice Skating in front of Schmitz on a Rare Snowy Day



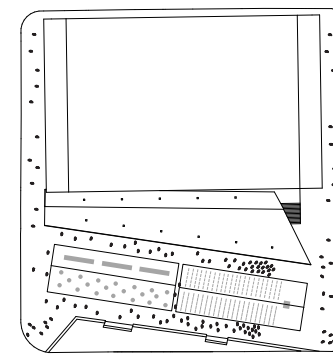
Average Day



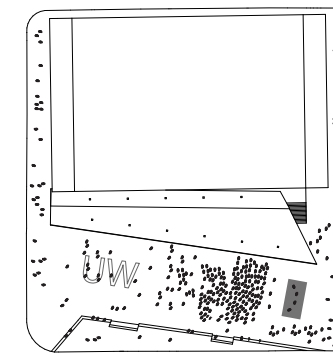
Market Area



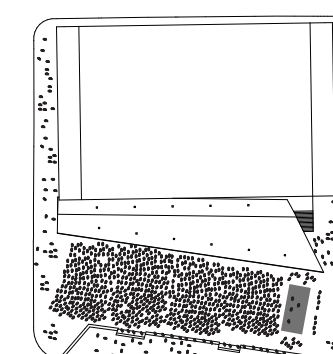
Ice Skating Rink



Graduation



College Game Day

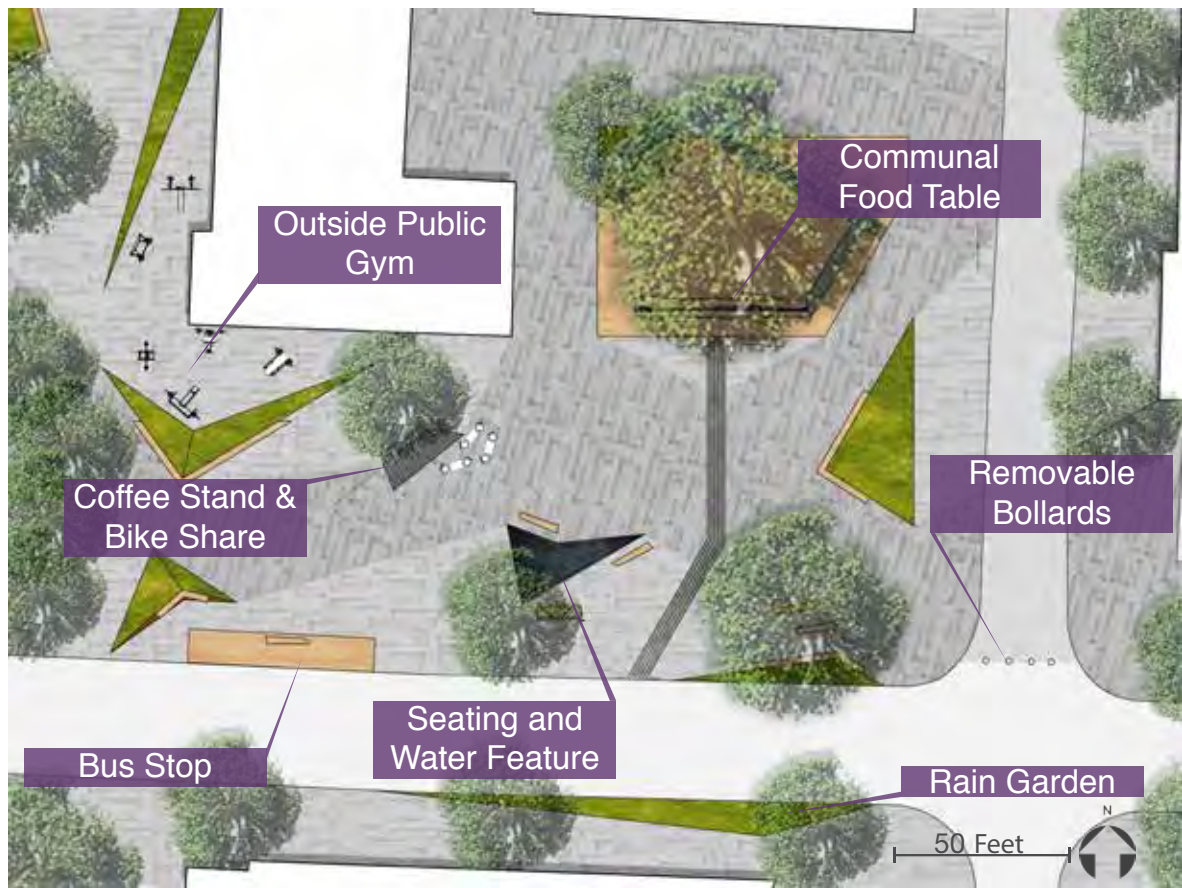


Concert



20 40

12th Ave | Climbing Wall Section



Elm/Maple Detail Plan



Looking Northwest Underneath the Maple Tree



Early Morning Along Campus Parkway



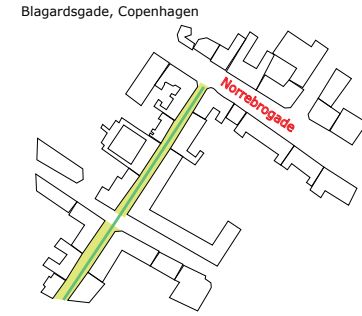
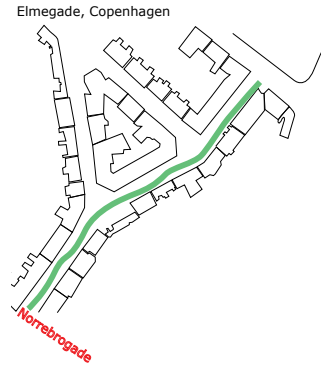
Afternoon Beneath the Trees



Evening on Campus Parkway

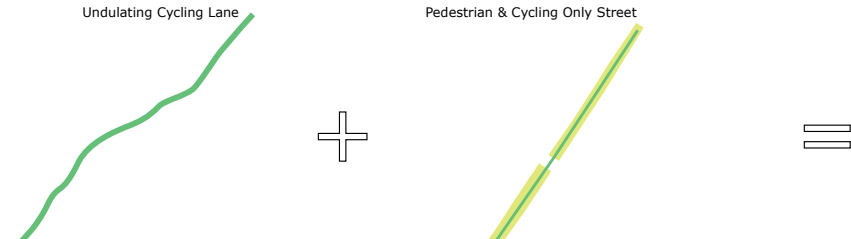


Elm/Maple Elevation Looking West



Undulating Cycling Lane

Pedestrian & Cycling Only Street



Inspiration Diagram

THE wAVE

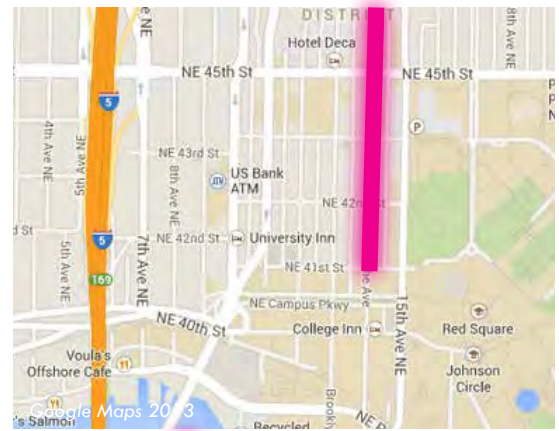
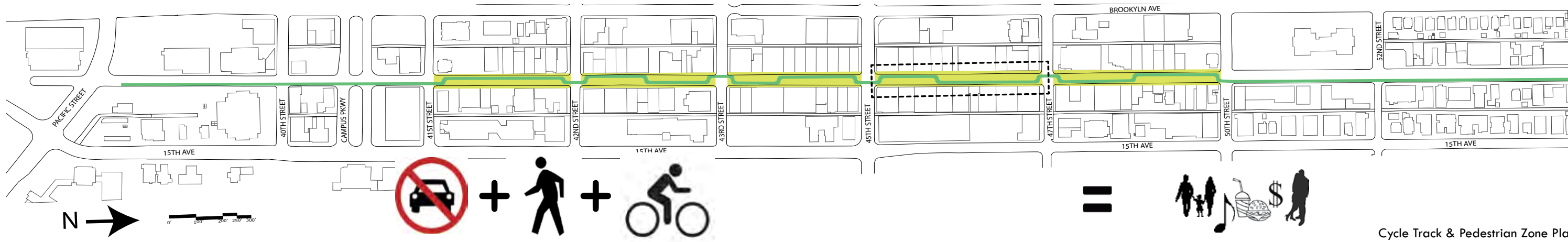
by Graham Golbuff + Joel Miller

Waves of change in the University District

Crowded, dominated, and unlivable. Vs. open, friendly, and vibrant. With the area's dramatic increase in density and development, our proposed cycle track and pedestrian mall along the Ave will give the U District a needed core of public open space. Already the district's cultural center, the Ave can again become a lively space for shopping, play, food, and more. It can be the breathing, beating heart of the neighborhood.

A cycle track, connecting the Burke Gilman Trail with Ravenna Boulevard, gives cyclists an interesting and safe route through the heart of the district, while adding life and commerce to the pedestrian mall.

People, bikes, culture, and open space; the Ave can become a world-class street in the heart of the University District.



SITE: "The Ave" (University Way)

Cycle Track & Pedestrian Zone Plan



Image: Graham Golbuff

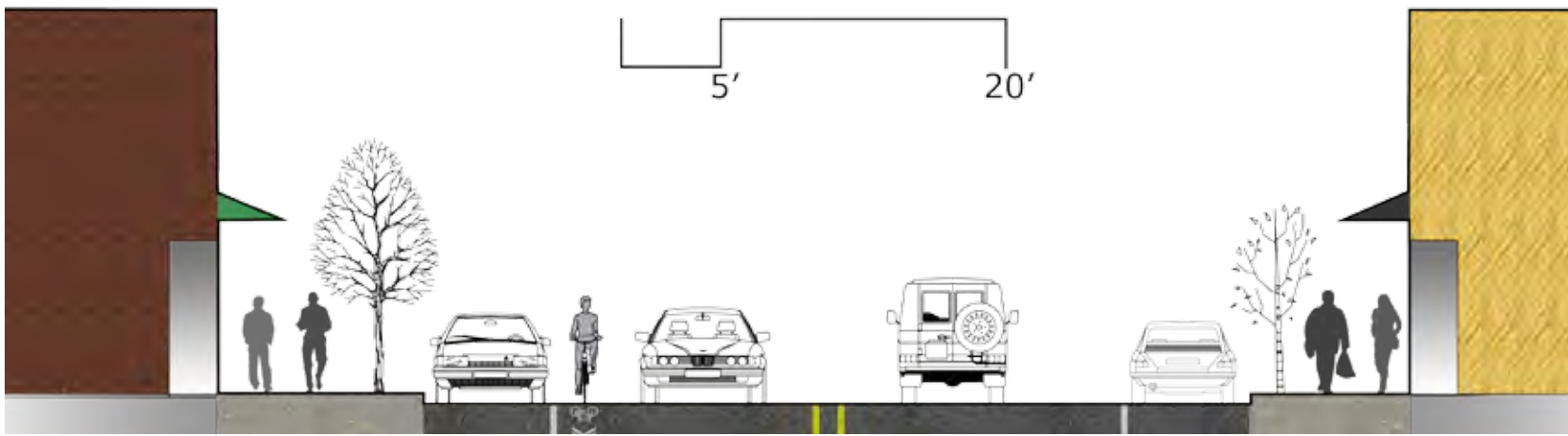
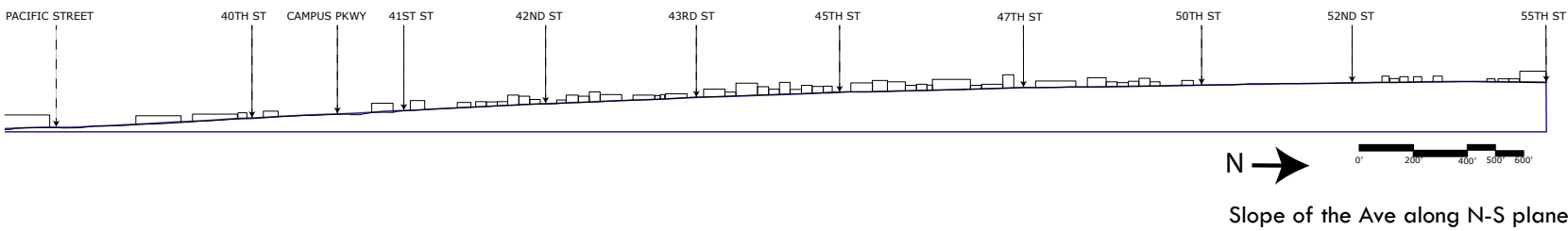


Image: Graham Golbuff



Image: Graham Golbuff

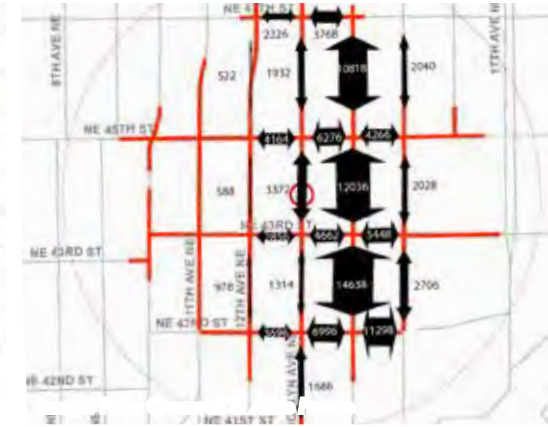
Existing context & character of the Ave



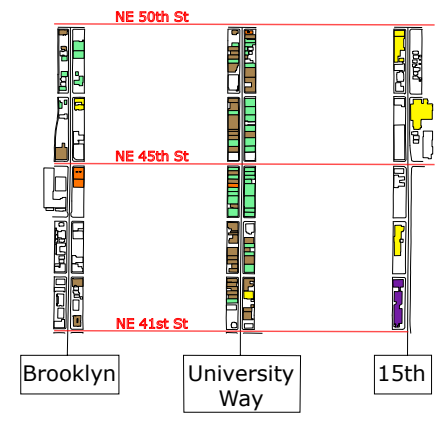
Section: Existing Context



Economic impacts of bicycle infrastructure



Pedestrian activity



Distribution of Cultural Activities



AUSTIN MADISON BOULDER

PEDESTRIAN MALLS IN THE US

WORKS

- near a major **university** or tourist center
- abundance of **local retail**
- restaurants** and bars that attract customers after 5pm
- good transit, **bike** & pedestrian access

DOESN'T WORK

- no proximate residents or **regular users**
- department stores with large frontages
- dependent on **cars** for access
- only active during **workdays**



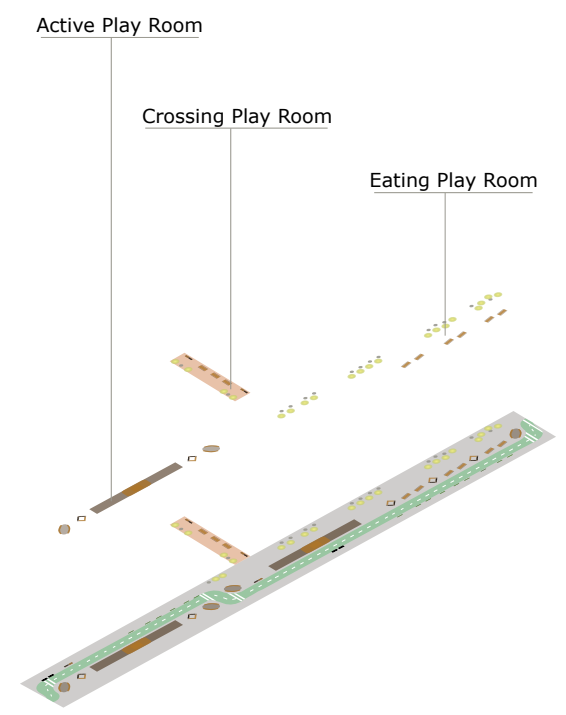
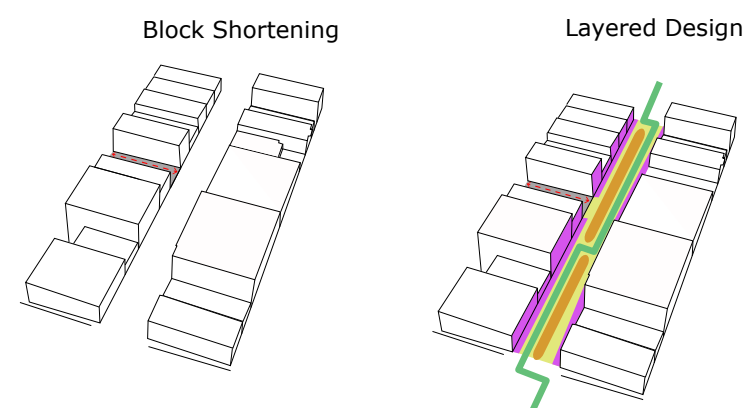
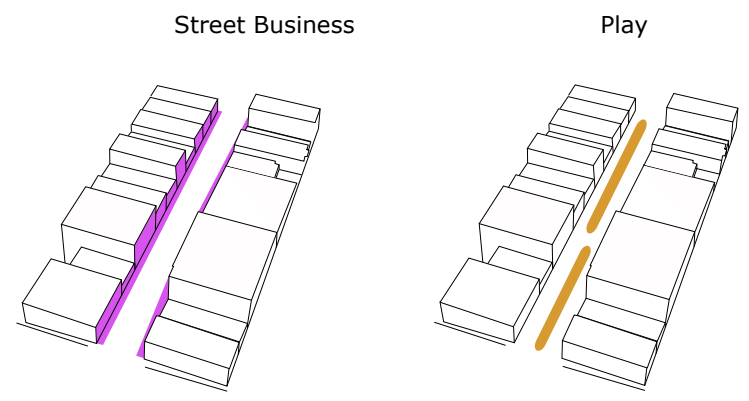
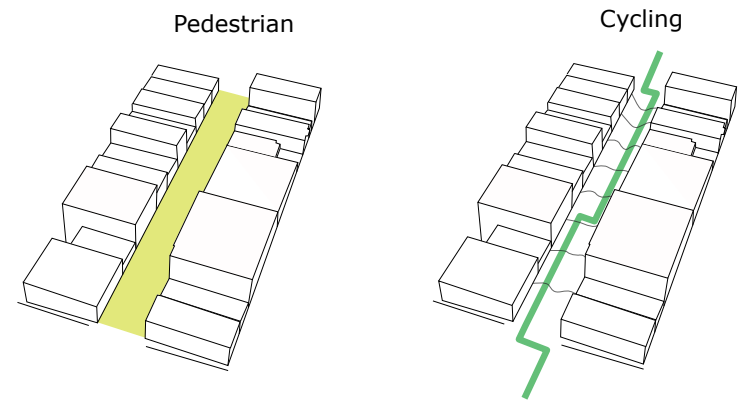
BUFFALO GRAND RAPIDS



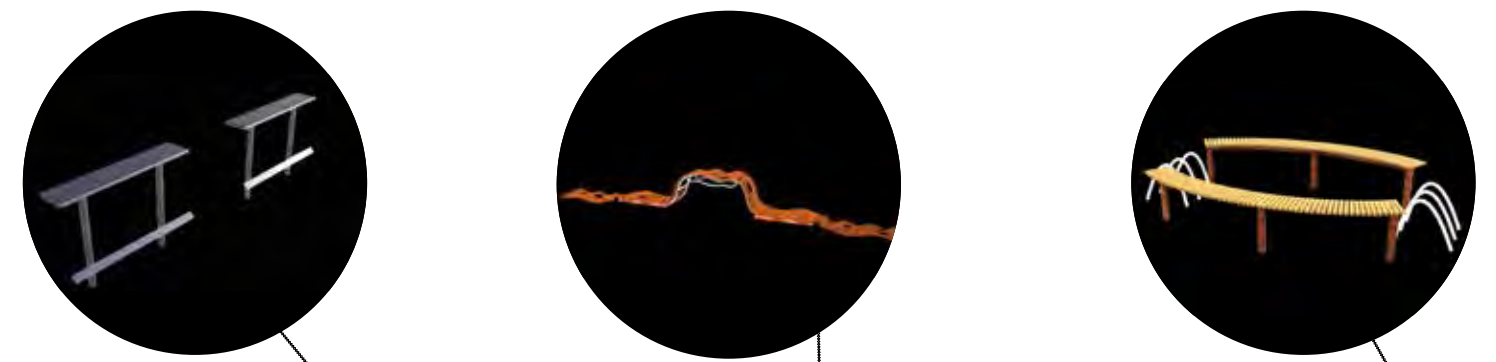
Why remove the busses? Don't they help business?



Bus Mall vs. Bike & Pedestrian Mall section



Play Room Schematic Detail



Plan: Typical Block





Block Shortening



Section 1: Active Play Room



Section 2: Block Shortening entrance from the Ave



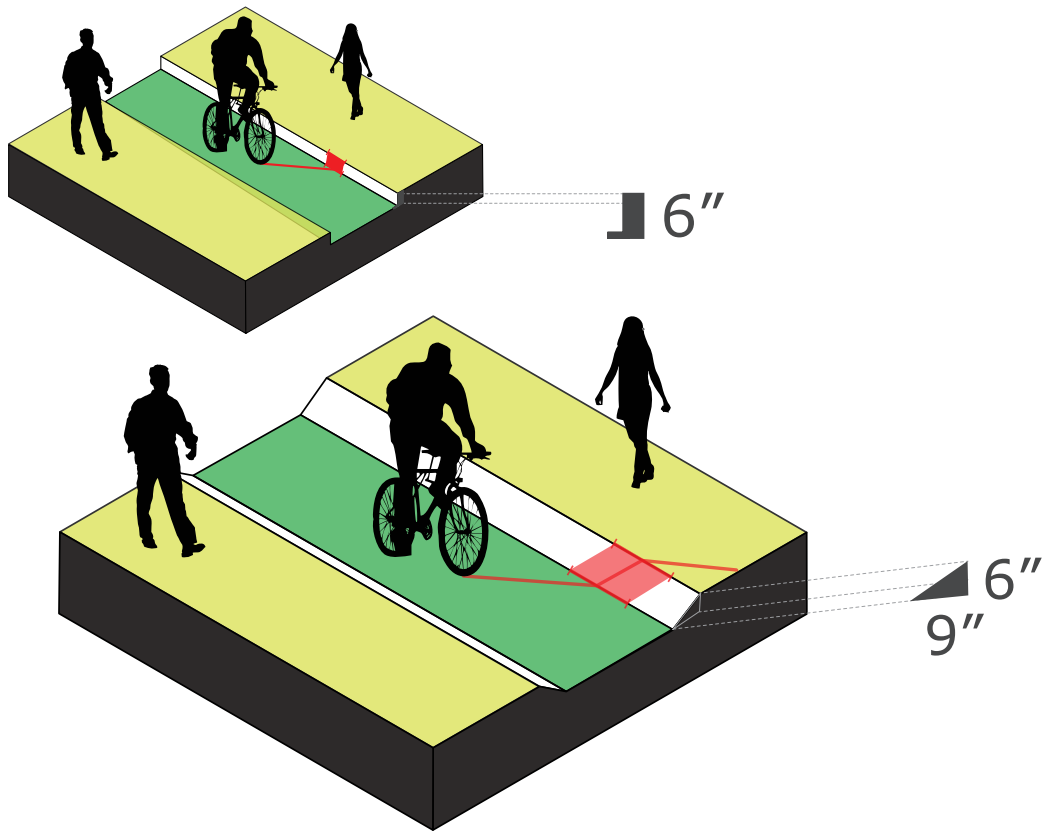
Evening wAVEs



Section 3: The wAVE in context



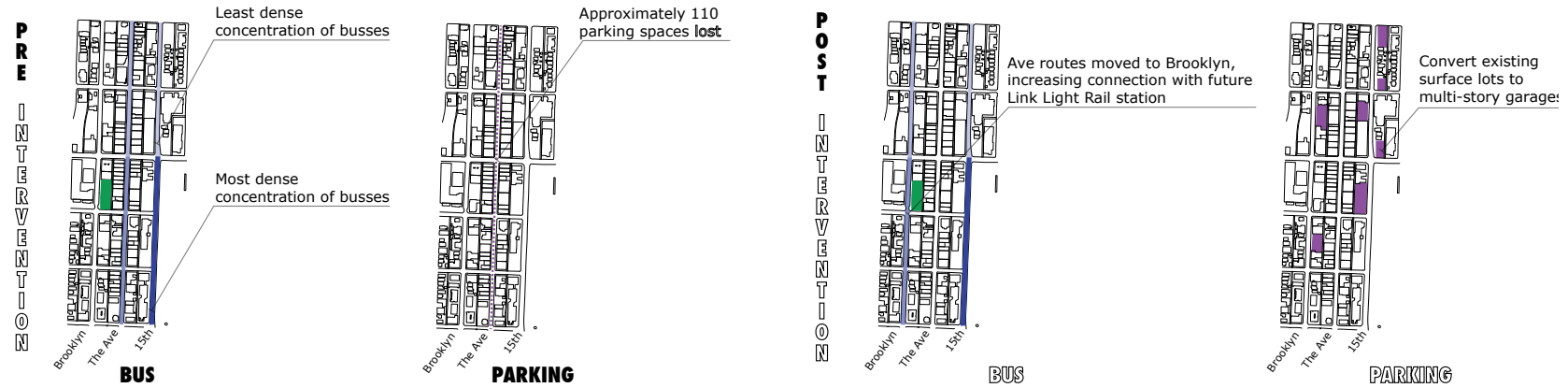
Section 4: Eating Play Room



Recessed Cycle track Detail Diagram



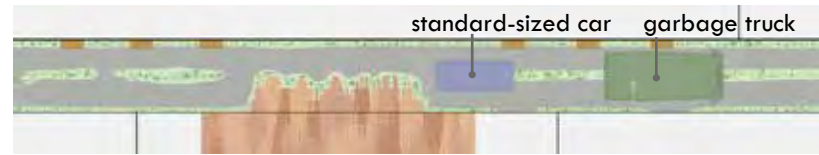
See you on the wAVE!



Pre & Post Intervention Analysis Diagram



Alley Design



Alley Design

Daytime



Nighttime / Early Morning



Design Process



Site-Block



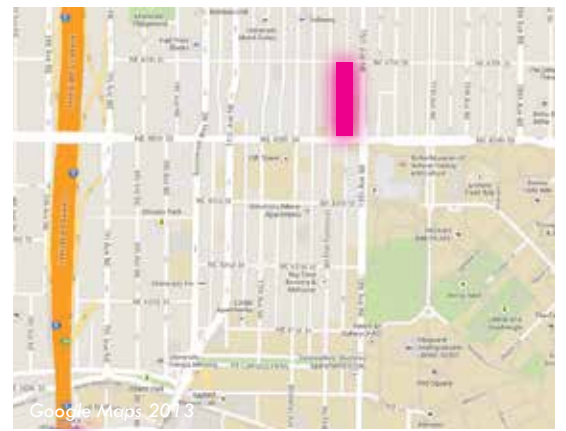
The Issues in the Alley



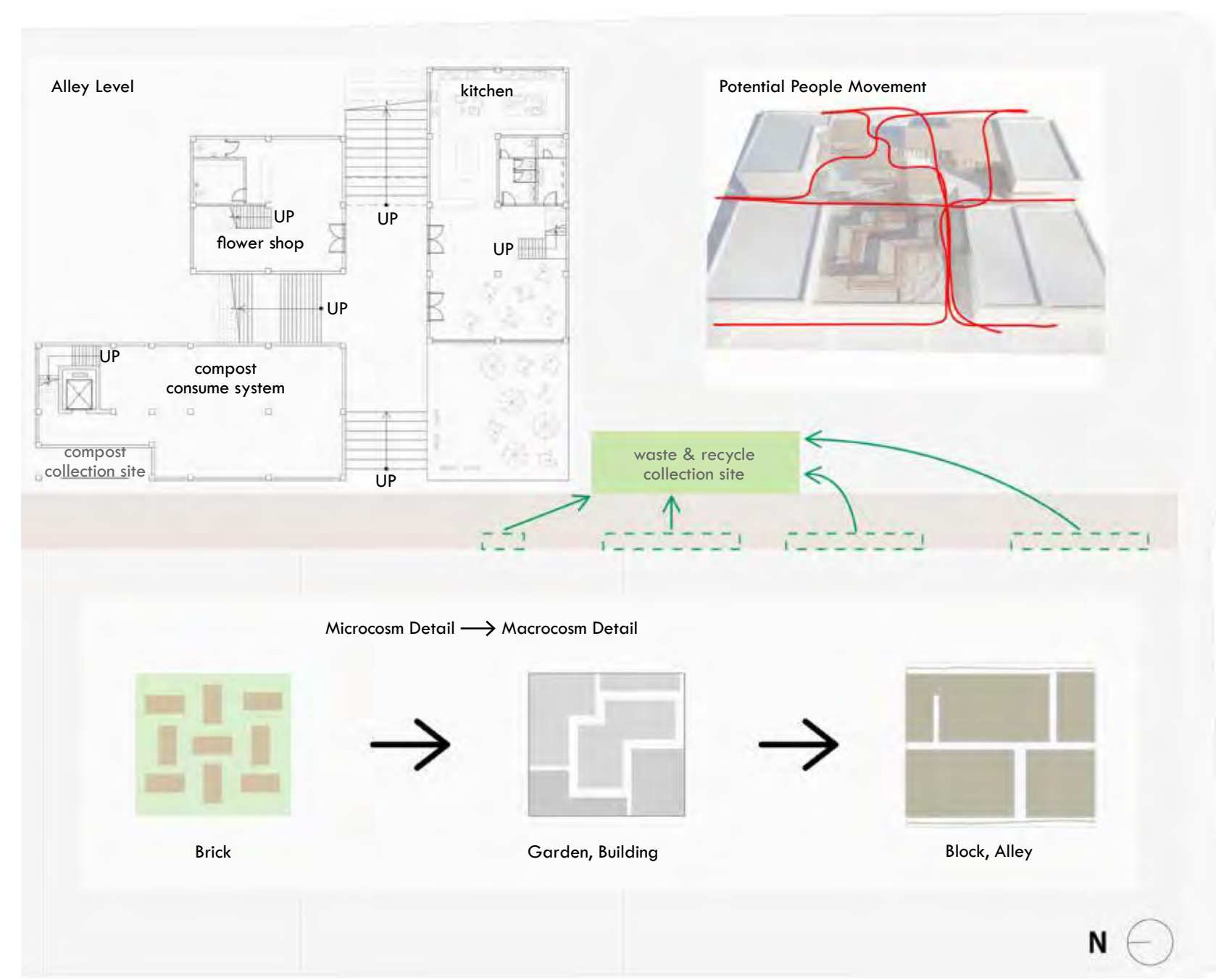
PASSAGEWAY ALLEY

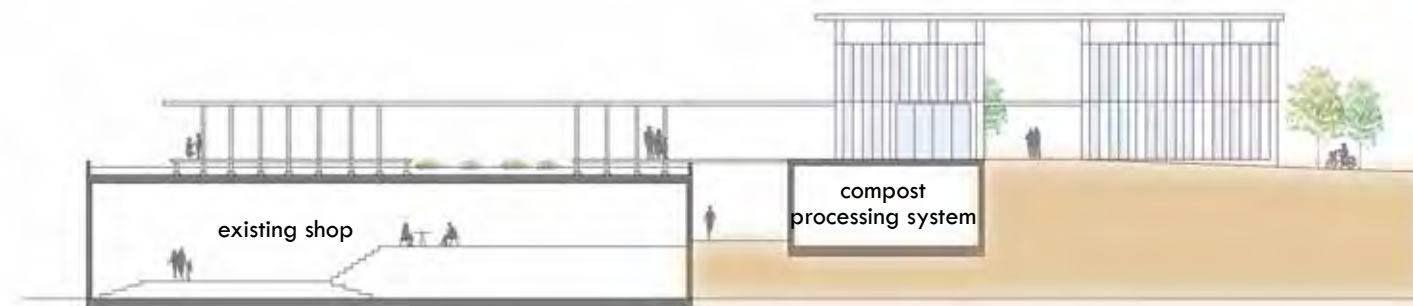
by Machiyo Fujii

Alleys in the U-district have a lot of issues, such as poor lighting, litter, and so on. My main goal is to invite people into the alley. First, I designed an alley that people will feel drawn to, where their presence will help address some of the alley's issues, and I do so by bringing plant life into these spaces behind buildings. Next, I made a new alley between the west and east, and provide more passageways so that more people can find and explore the alley. For problems of garbage and litter, I set up two main garbage collection sites. Compost is created and consumed here, adding nutrients to the garden soil. Community gardens are made available, where people can play by experimenting with plantings. Visitors will find that they can shop here, and then make food using the vegetables grown in the alley. Such a community would make for a great gathering place in the alley.



Google Maps 2013
 ■ SITE: Alley between University Way & 15th





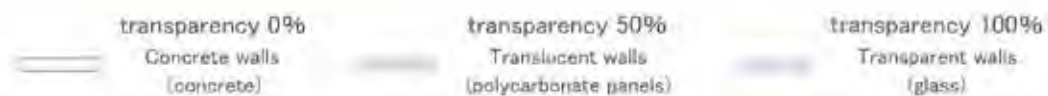
N
A'-A' North Side



N
B'-B' North Side



N
B'-B' South Side



Sections 1/32"=1'-0"

TRANS-COWLITZ

by Hiroki Baba + Midori Fukutani



Precedent Research

Cowlitz Road is one major crossing point between the University of Washington and adjacent neighborhoods. At the same time, limited car flow enables the road to be a safe place for pedestrians. However, the road does not emancipate itself from the University of Washington, which is not open to the public. By making a gradual transition between the university and adjacent communities, this road will become an appropriate space for people of all ages to play, to be inspired by each other, and to gain further understanding of one another.

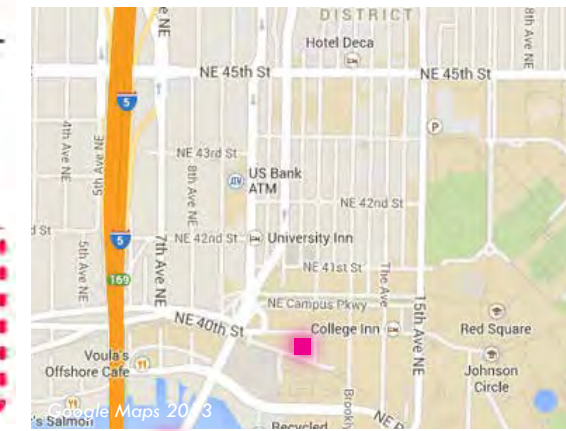


I. Close the Cowlitz road, open for pedestrian

II. Integrating activities

III. Inviting new types of people

	Anticipated users	Activities	facilities
Existing users	undergrad students	go through interaction among students	plaza meeting place suitable road
	grad students	go through study outside	bench table suitable road
	uw stufts	park their car	parking lot
Potential users	children	playing	safety fence attractive facilities children's library
	families	take a rest get together	workshop benches playground for children
	bikers	take a rest	bicycle parking flexible bicycle road



Concept

■ SITE: Cowlitz Road & NE 40th Street



The site does not front on any main arterials.

No safe grounds around the elementary schools.

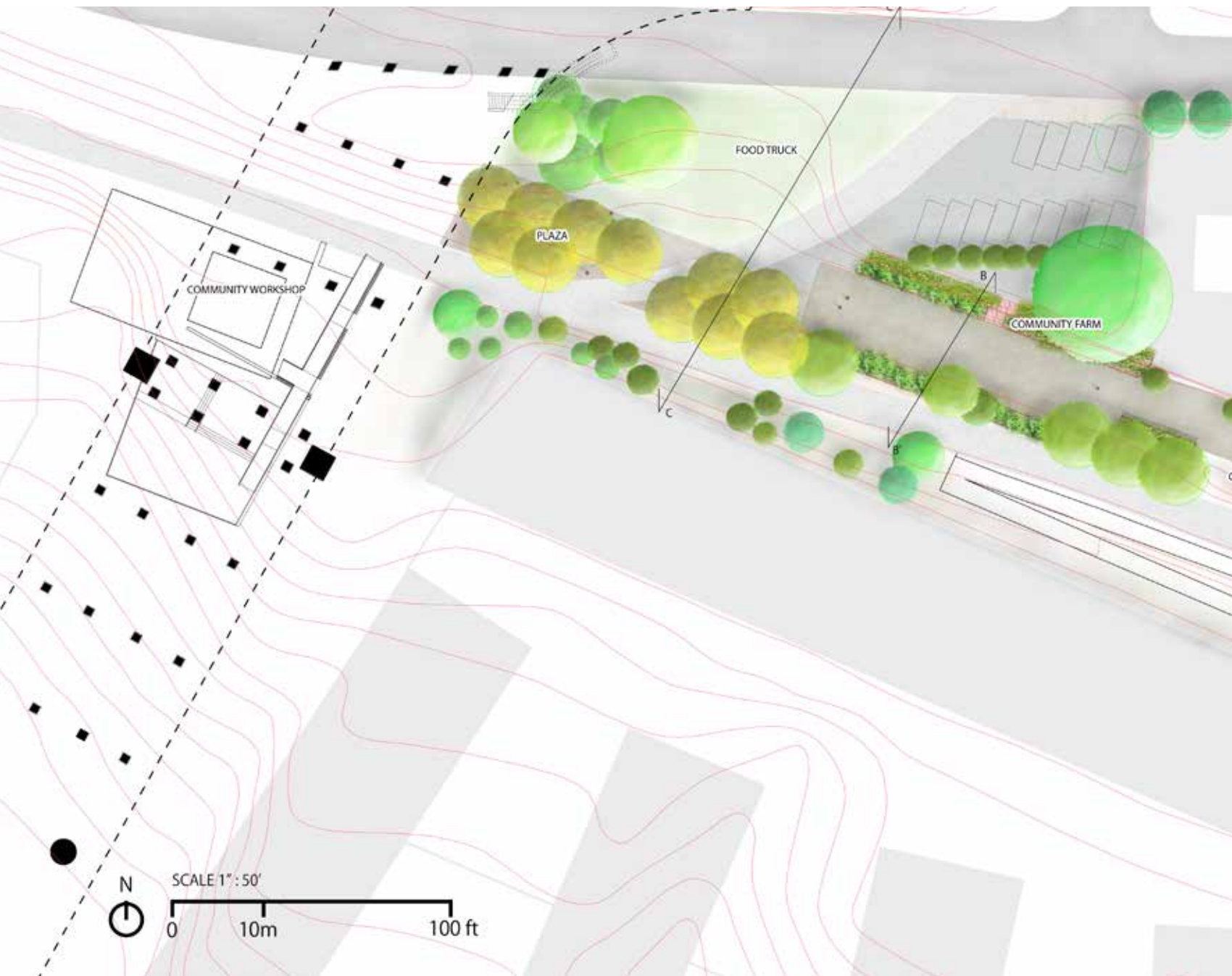


The site will serve as a gateway to the U-district.



MAKING TRANSITIONS

Site Context

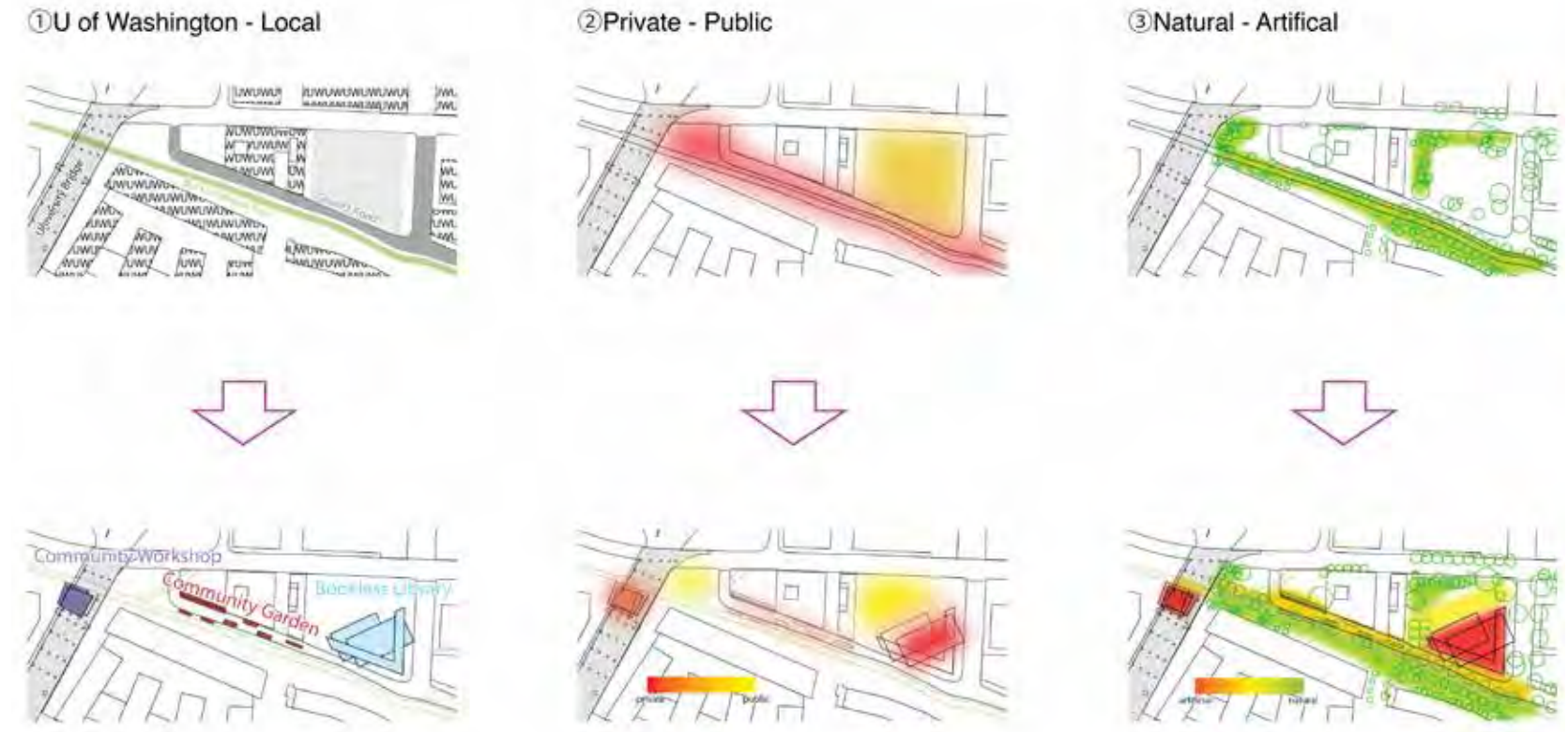


Inducing activities along Cowlitz Road



Site Plan

Making transitional spaces from 3 aspects



Design Process

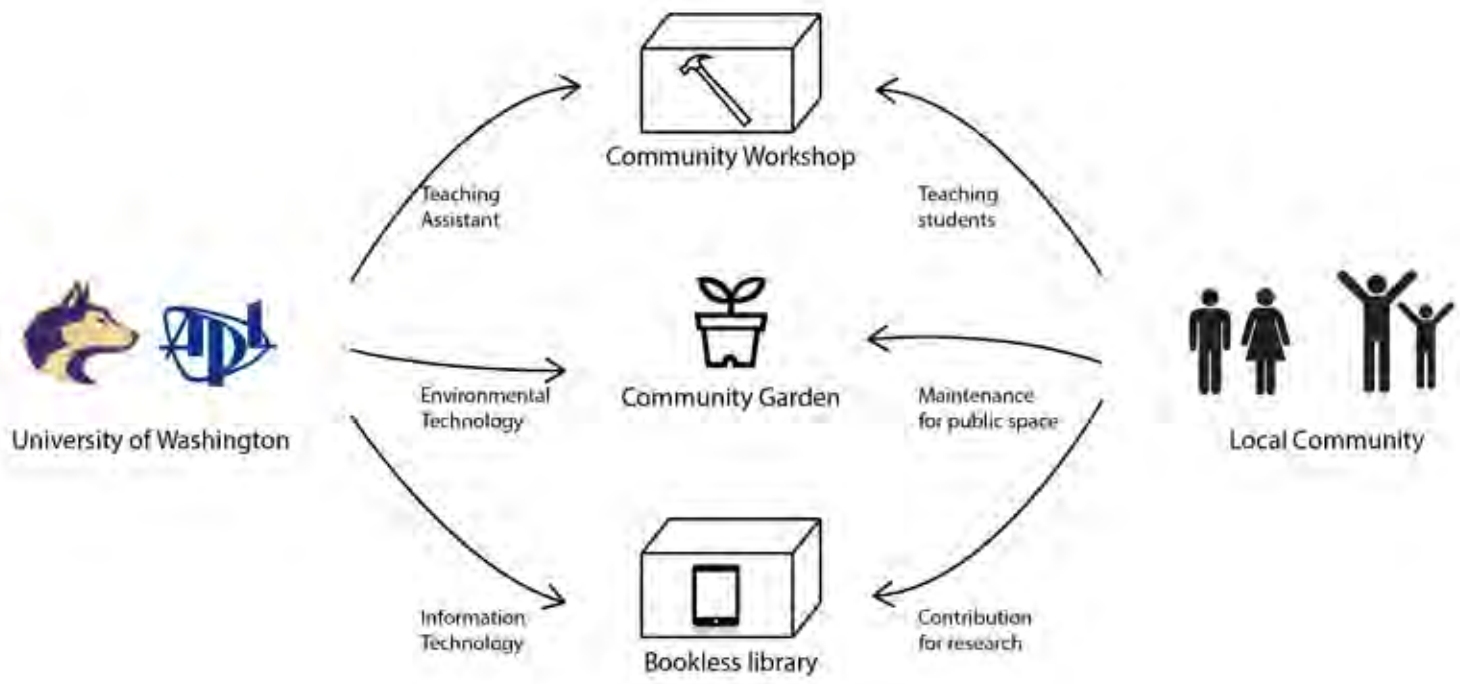


Perspective (daytime)



Perspective (night)

Creating relationships between the University of Washington and the local community



Section Perspective: Middle Area



Section Perspective: East Area



Section Perspective: West Area



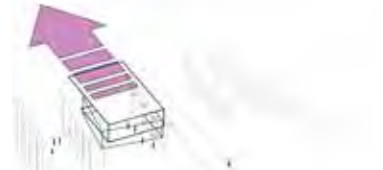
Existing Eastlake bridge



Volume extruded, introducing a community lighthouse



Volume shifts and edges respond to the community



Light guided outward towards the community



Linking the street and Burke Gilman trail to the building



Result: Eastlake Bridge Community Workshop

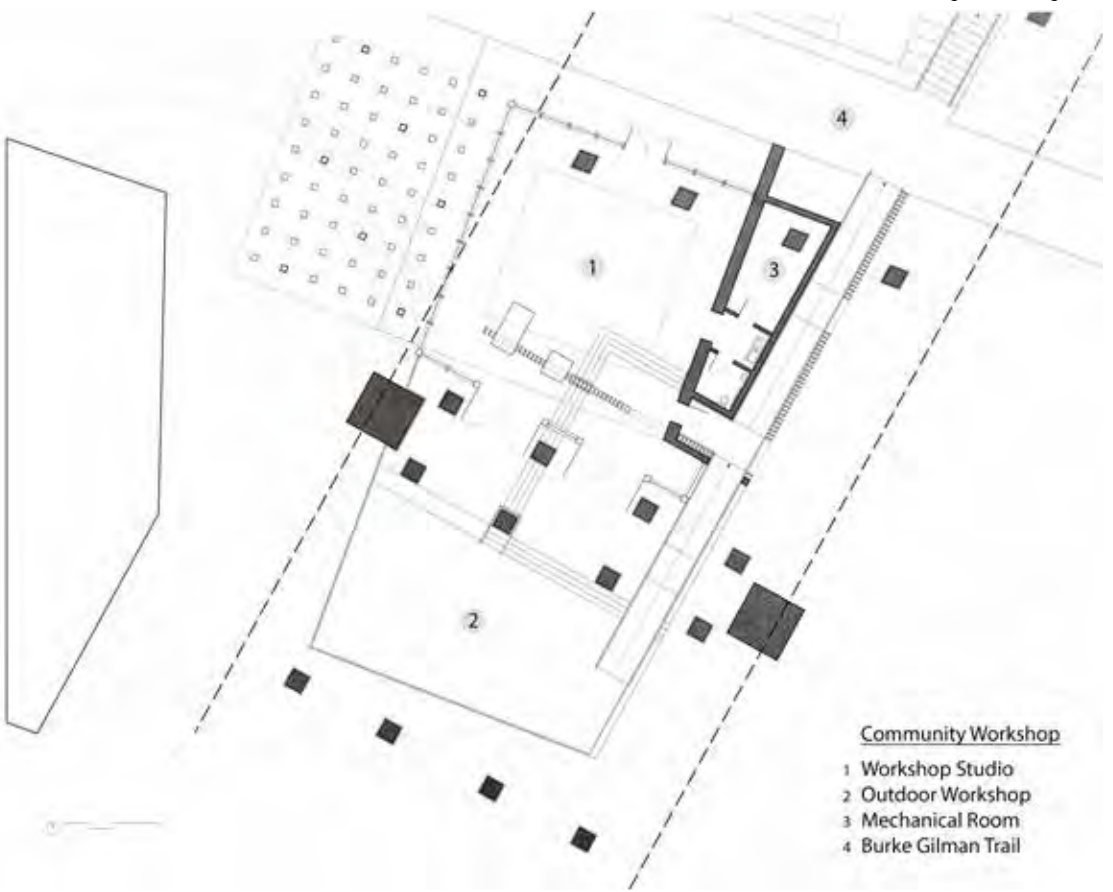
Concept Diagram



Model Photo



Program Diagram



- Community Workshop**
- 1 Workshop Studio
 - 2 Outdoor Workshop
 - 3 Mechanical Room
 - 4 Burke Gilman Trail

Floor Plan 1" = 32'-0"

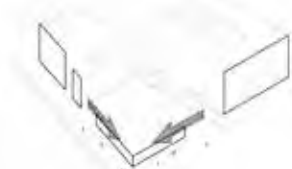


Section 1" = 32'-0"





Existing University parking lot



Adjacent facades pulled down



Facades offset, creating an in-between space



Openings become fenestrations inviting people into space



Volumes introduced, becoming interior spaces



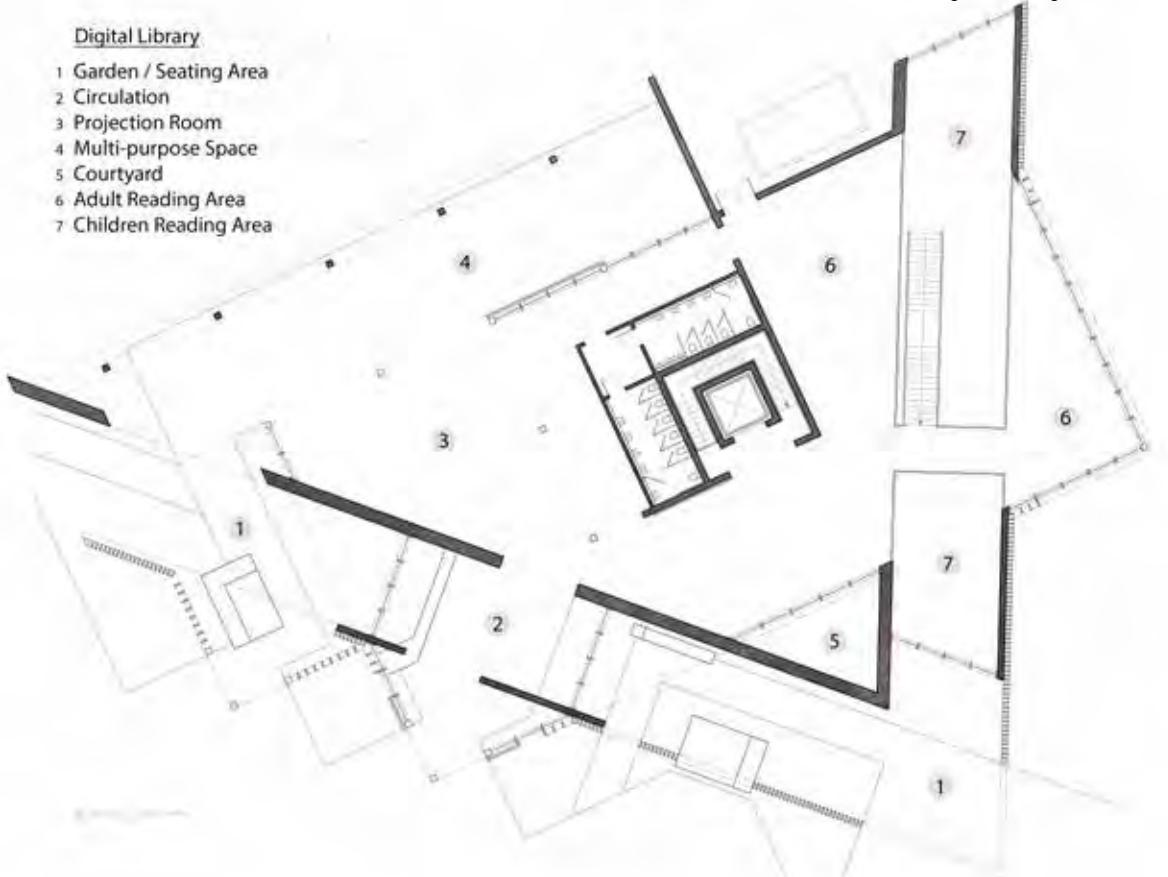
Result: University Digital Library



Model Photo



Program Diagram



Floor Plan 1" = 32'-0"

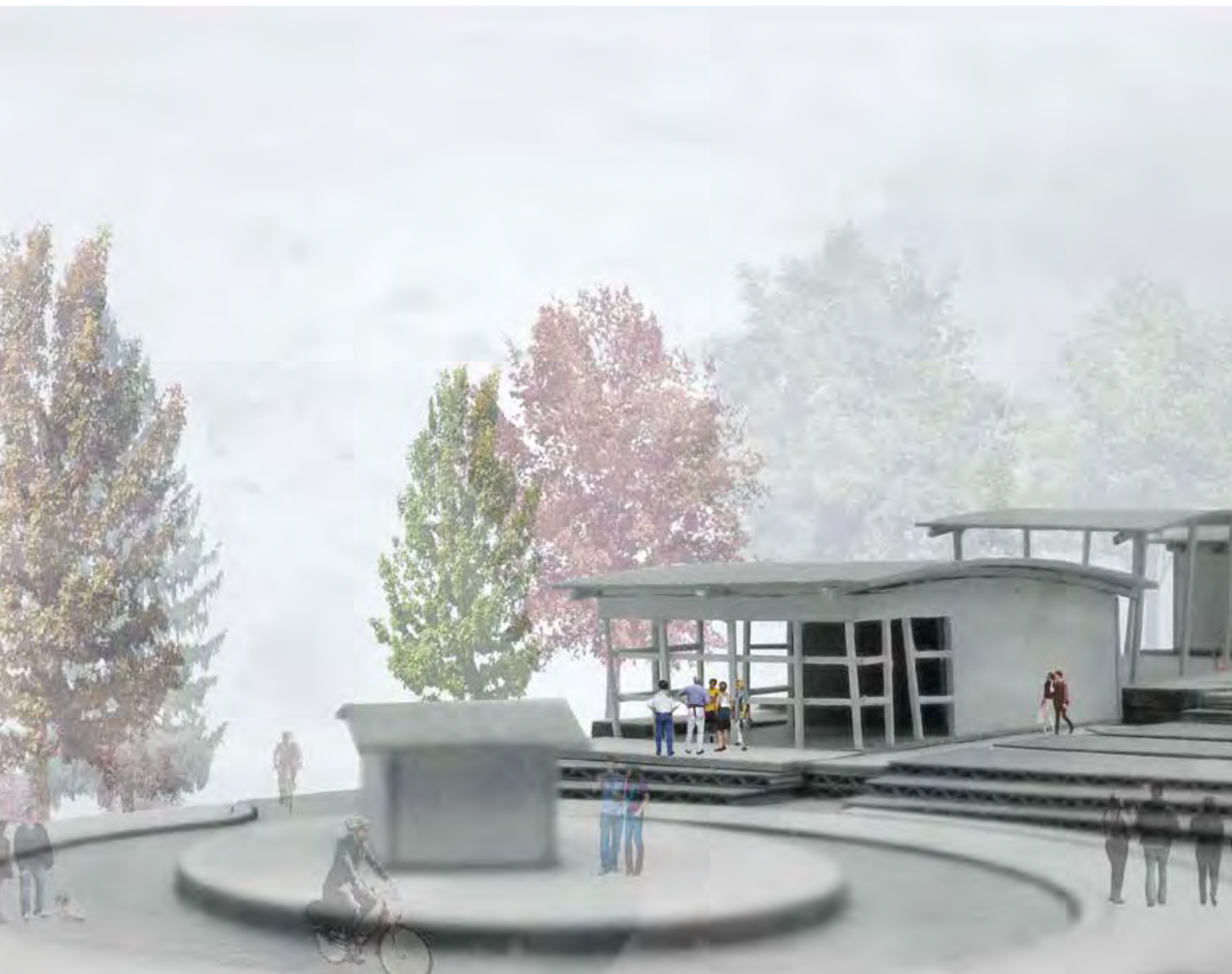
- Digital Library
- 1 Garden / Seating Area
 - 2 Circulation
 - 3 Projection Room
 - 4 Multi-purpose Space
 - 5 Courtyard
 - 6 Adult Reading Area
 - 7 Children Reading Area

Concept Diagram



Section 1" = 32'-0"





Pit Stop and Community Center



FUELING STATION

by Wren McNally + Kate Reef

Cultivating minds, bodies, & communities

The Fueling Station creates a hub for healthy living and community engagement by repurposing under-used urban space. The Station's integrated public areas invite passive and active recreation, enable socialization, and expand neighborhood assets. The site's prime location connects varied user groups.

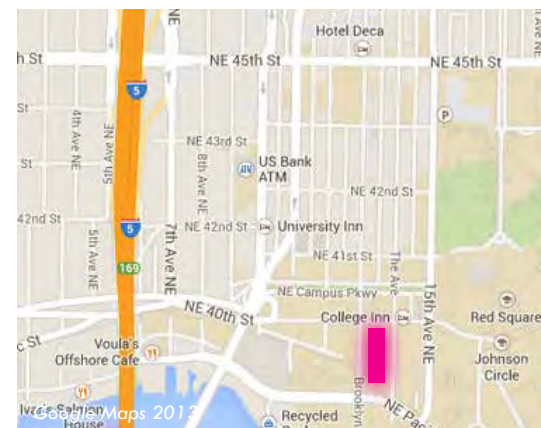
The Fueling Station's **Grow-Produce-Live** model aligns with regional and local environmental, social, and economic development goals. Urban gardens, food forests, and open green space reclaim impervious surface. A community center and public recreation space enables social connections. Youth agriculture and food-service training foster individual and professional growth. Fresh produce and trail-side restaurants generate revenue.

Easily accessible by foot or bike, the site connects to the well-used Burke-Gilman Trail, to Brooklyn Ave. NE, and is within ½ mile walk from UW Campus, the waterfront, and the future Light Rail station.

Throughout the site, public open space is varied and accommodates all users. Fixed and flexible seating allow for rest or play.

Bike and pedestrian friendly leisure space surround the Burke-Gilman Trail. Trail-side cafes provide trail users with healthy, convenient refueling services.

The youth training and community gardens are connected by open natural space with herb gardens and fruit-bearing shrubs and trees. A shared greenhouse extends the growing season. Food forests buffer the site to the south from busy streets.



■ SITE: Brooklyn Ave & Burke Gilman Trail

CHALLENGES



HOMOGENOUS LAND USE



IMPERVIOUS SURFACE

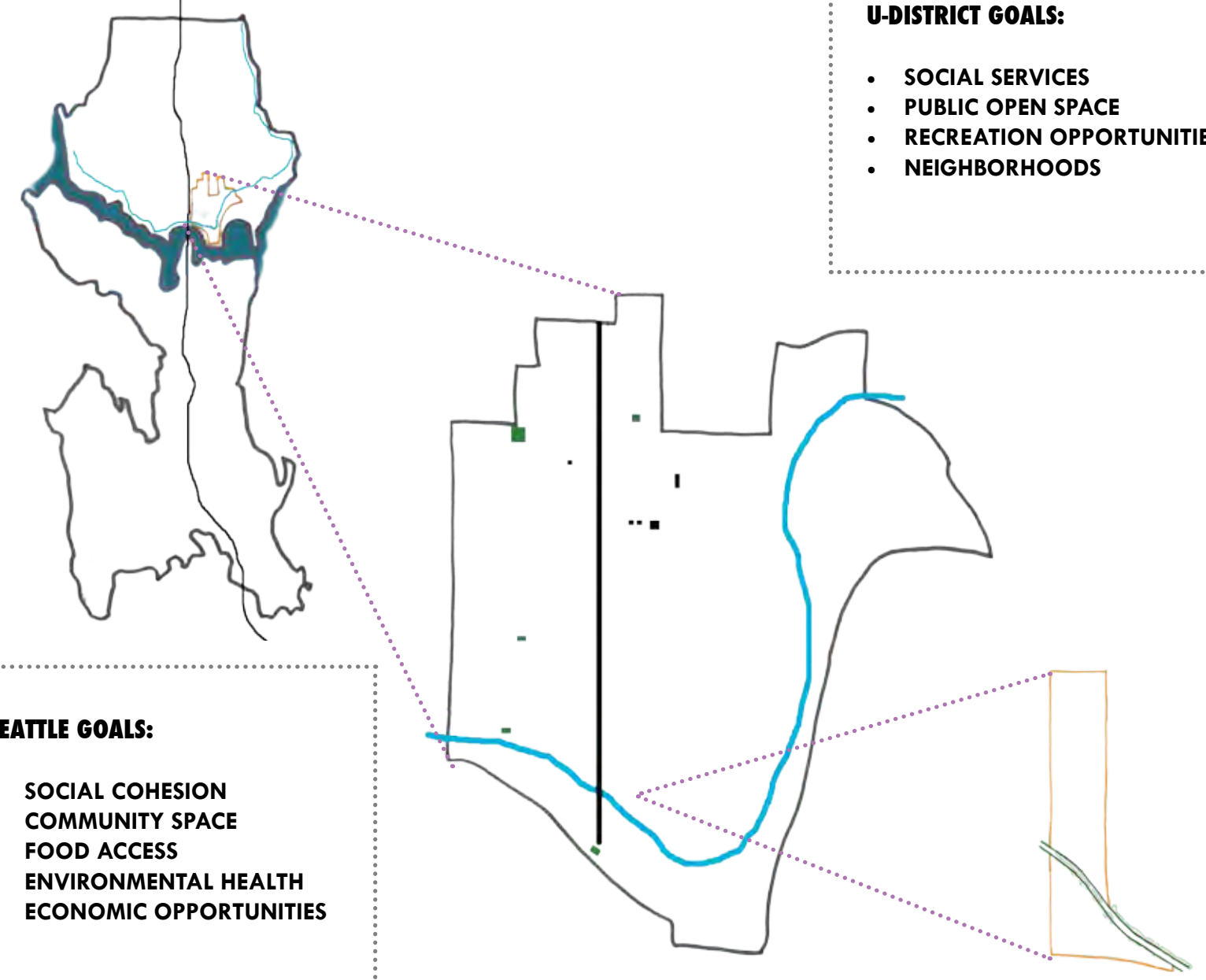


UNDER-UTILIZED ASSETS



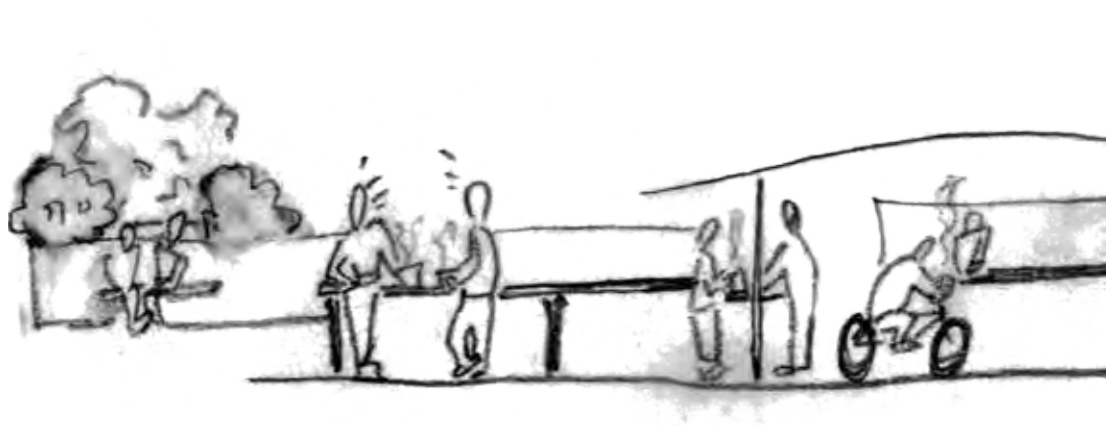
SITE & USERS

OPPORTUNITIES



- U-DISTRICT GOALS:**
- SOCIAL SERVICES
 - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE
 - RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES
 - NEIGHBORHOODS

- SEATTLE GOALS:**
- SOCIAL COHESION
 - COMMUNITY SPACE
 - FOOD ACCESS
 - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES



Pit Stop Sketch



LIVE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES,
LOCAL AMENITIES, RECREATION SPACE

Expanded neighborhood assets

Non-motorized activity

Passive and active recreation

Public open space



Site Plan Concept

GROW HEALTHY FOOD, SKILLS,
COMMUNITY, HABITAT

Youth agricultural training

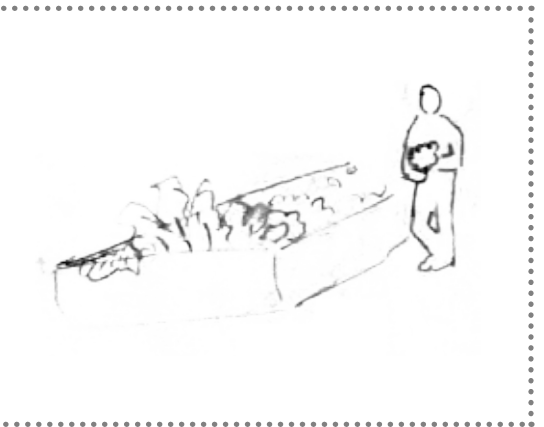
Community gardens

Food forests

Native vegetation



Cafe Seating Sketch



Garden Box Sketch



Bench Sketch



PRODUCE FOOD SALES, ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITIES, RECREATION SPACE

Produce sales & donations

Youth food service training

Trail-side cafes

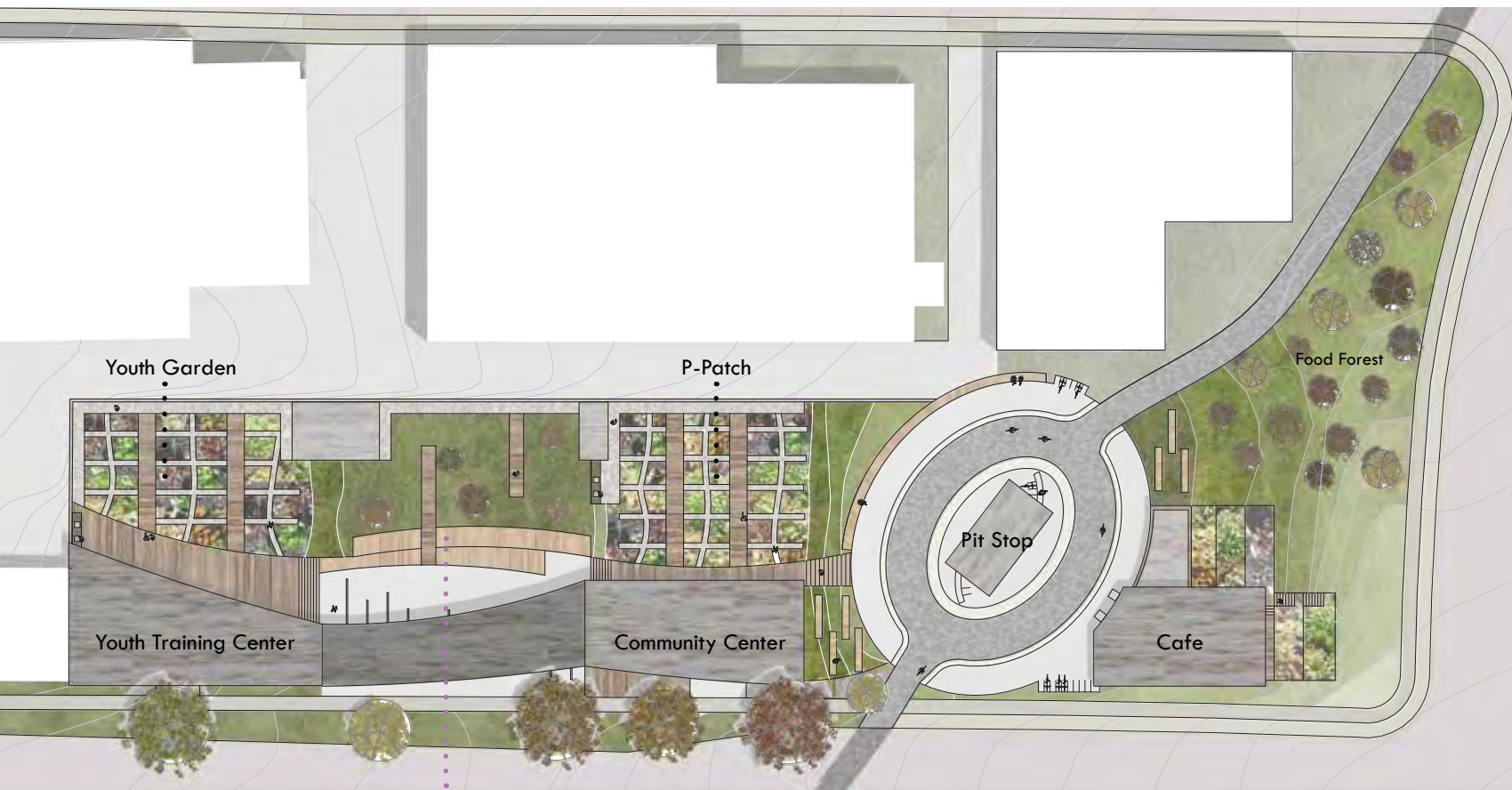
Natural open space



Trail Front Seating Sketch



motherspongedesign.com



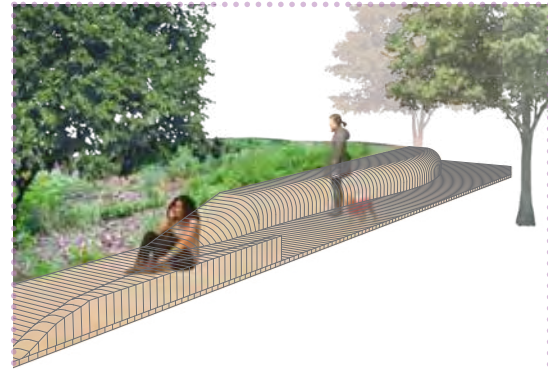
Site Plan

YOUTH TRAINING CENTER

The youth training center and thermal wall provide a protected, semi-private garden space. The youth training facilities provide indoor and outdoor learning space.

Within the center, a large kitchen provides space for food preparation training. An open classroom allows for teaching and socializing.

Outdoor garden space capitalizes on the site's elevation and southern exposure.



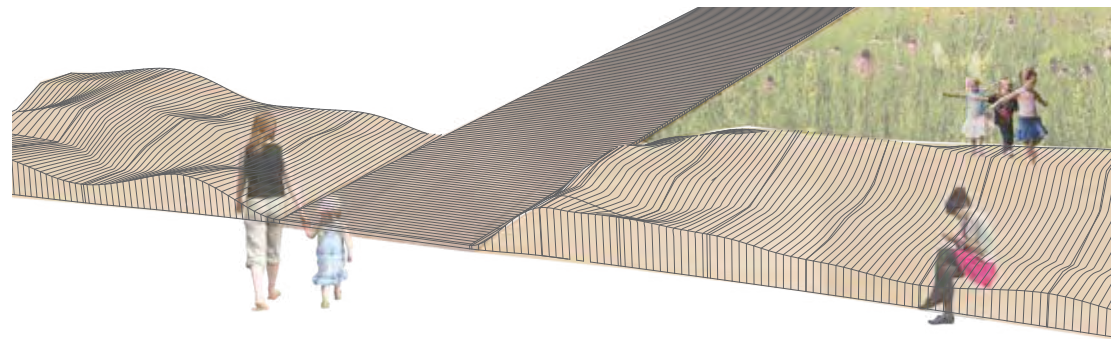
Garden Pathway



Garden Plots



Youth Center Plan

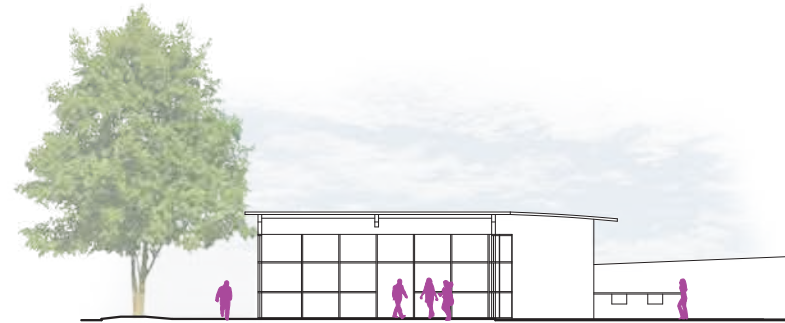


Play Bench

The site buildings and a thermal wall buffer garden areas and create semi-public and private spaces. The thermal wall allows gardens to maximize usable space.

Between the youth and community centers, a covered entryway welcomes site visitors, creates shelter from the elements, and provides space for produce sales from the youth garden.

An integrated seating and play area connects the centers (left).



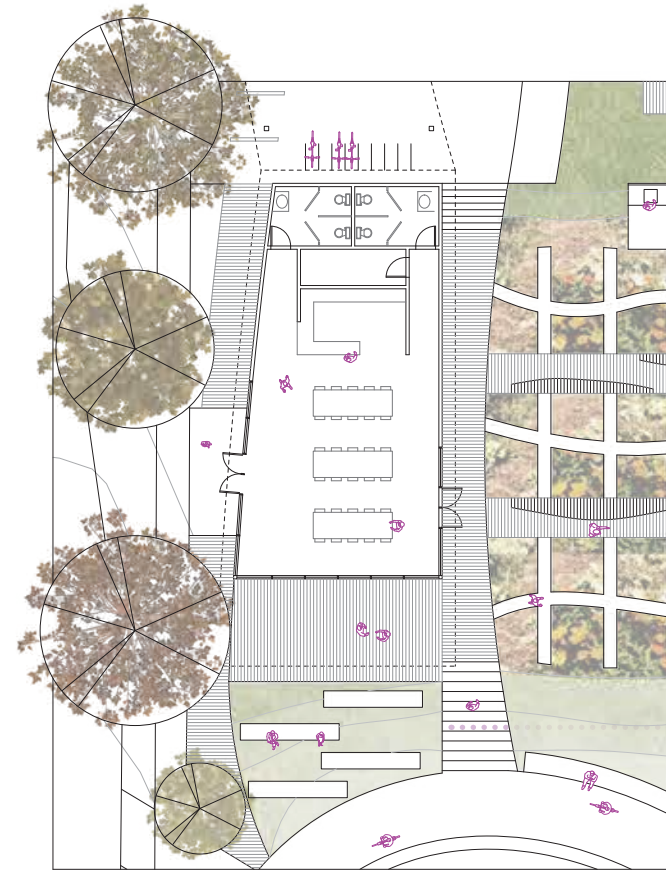
Youth Center Section



Youth Garden



Perspective along Brooklyn Ave. NE



Community Center Plan



Community Center Section



Wall Garden

COMMUNITY CENTER

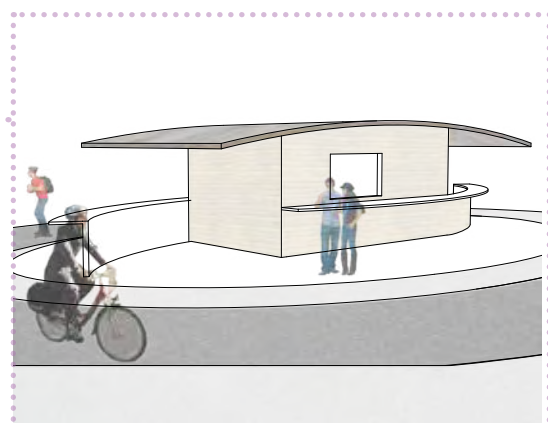
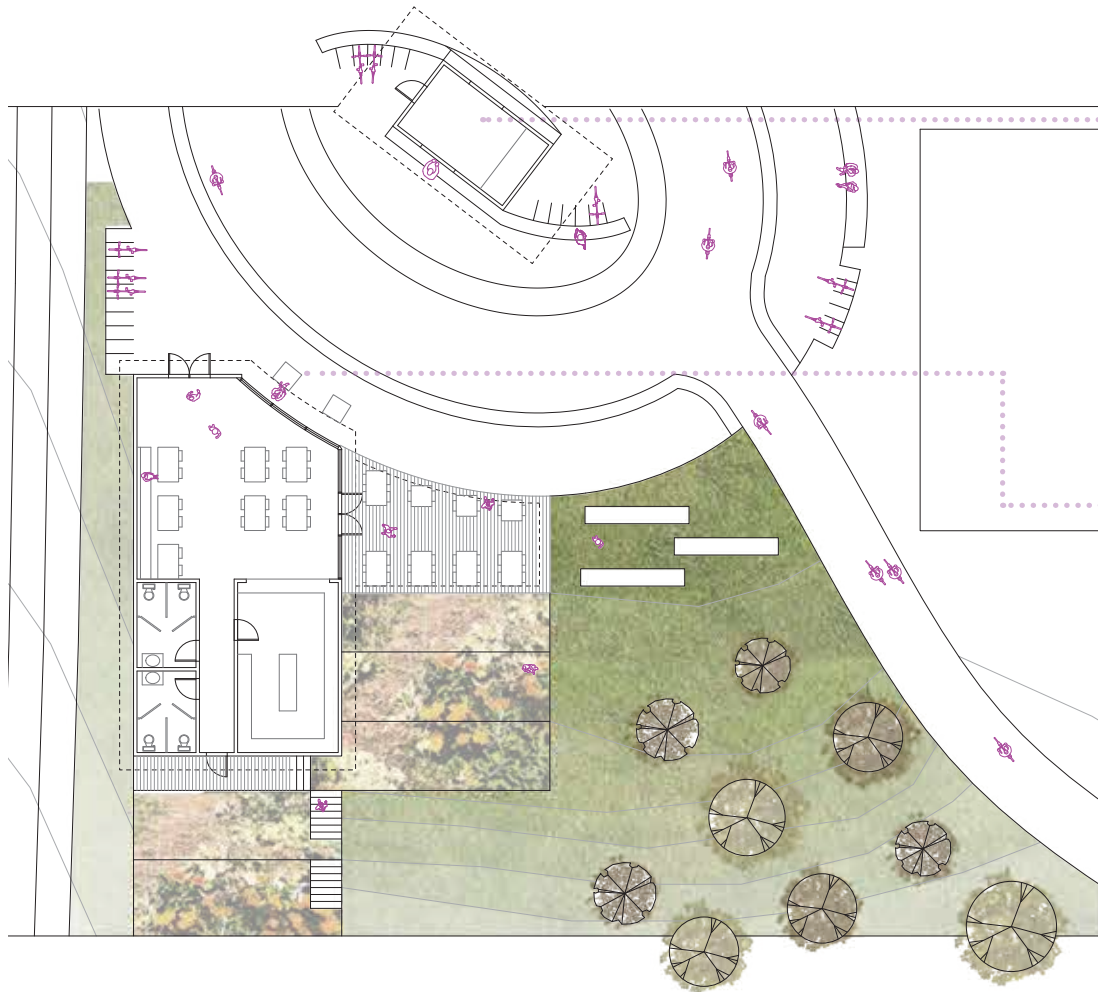
Community garden space surrounds the community center. Public open space buffers the community garden from the trail front.

To the east, the community center opens to the garden and provides ample space for outdoor socializing.

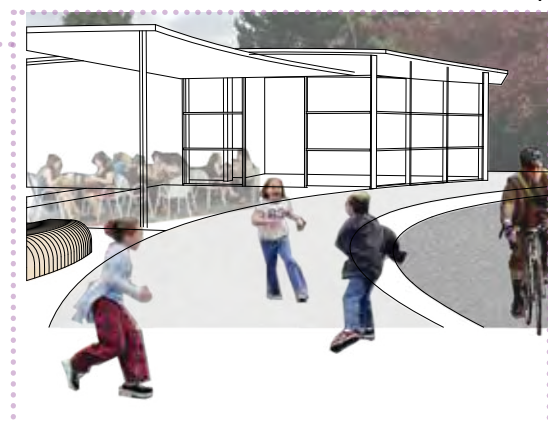
A rentable community center facilitates community gathering. Benches are distributed throughout the site and invite sitting, talking, or playing.



Bench



Pit Stop



Cafe Seating

CAFE & PIT STOP

The Pit Stop conveniently services trail users with refreshments (top). The trail-side cafe grows its own produce and provides healthy food and community space to rest, meet, and refuel.

Bike and pedestrian facilities surround the cafe, and Pit Stop. Varied paving differentiates spaces for movement and leisure (middle).

A food forest protects the site from surrounding busy streets (left).



Cafe Section



Community Garden



Looking North on Brooklyn Ave. NE



View of Outreach Center looking Southeast



Existing site location along the U-District Urban Framework designated "Green Street" and bisected by the Burke Gilman Trail



There are currently zero playgrounds on the UW campus.

Childcare centers closest to campus have long waiting lists and it can take several years to secure a spot at one of three facilities that accept roughly 60 to 100 children per facility.

The UW's Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) estimates that one in 10 students at UW is raising a child, meaning that over 90% of students do not have access to childcare through the university.



The Cascade Bicycle Club Education Foundation was created in 2001 to provide education programs and consulting services to the local community in the interest of creating a better community through bicycling (Cascade.org).

Cascade is located in Sand Point and currently uses school and community facilities to educate the public in and around the city of Seattle.



Poor visibility at existing wooded intersections



Poor visibility at existing wooded intersections

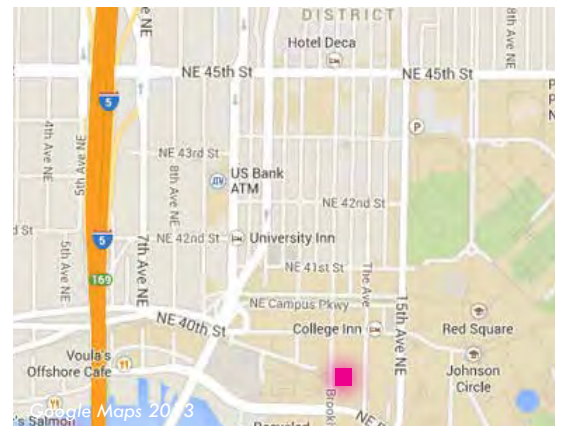
BURKE GILMAN STREET

by Kyle Kinney

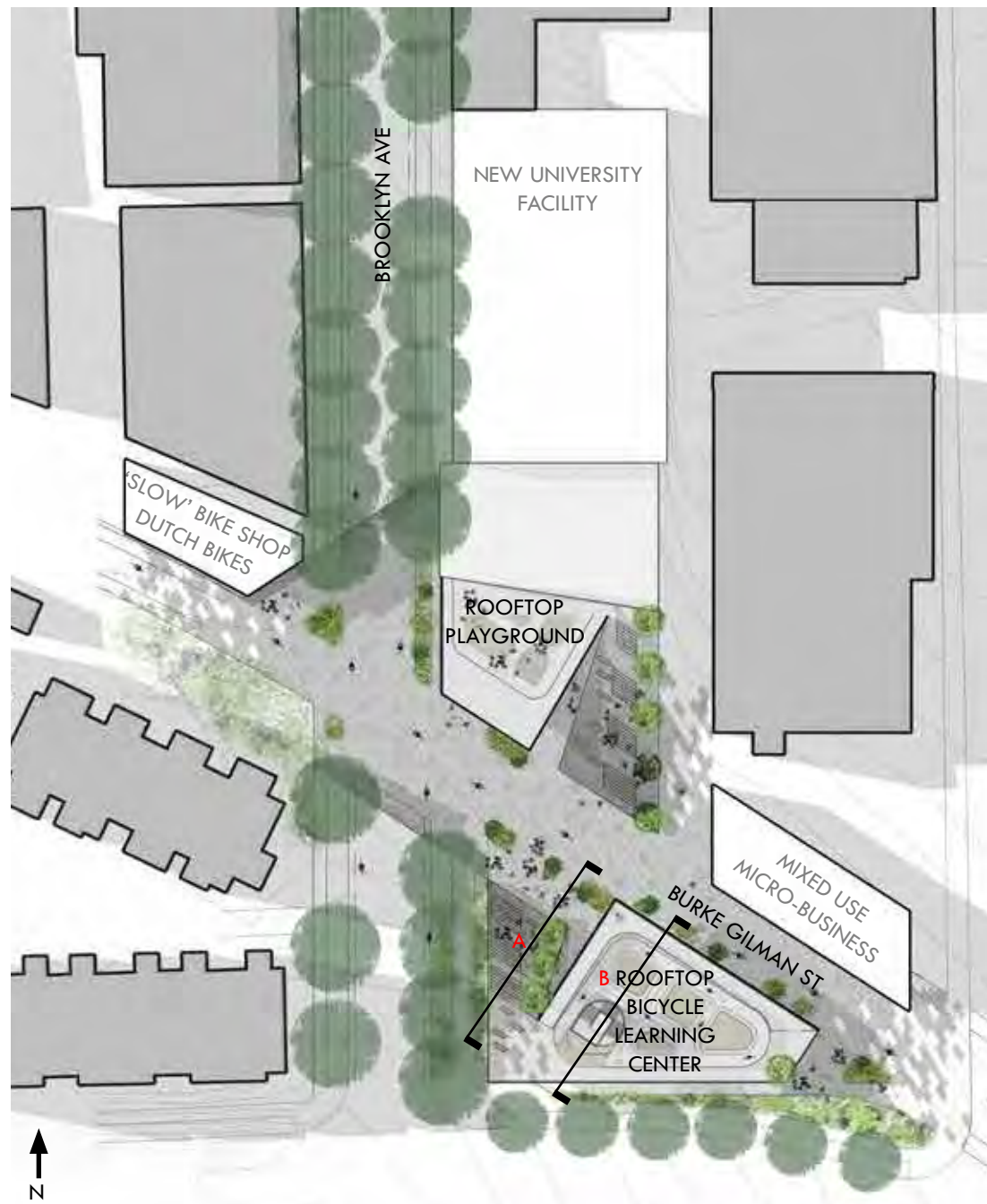
A Childcare and Cycling Outreach Center

"Spread good Karma." In the city of Copenhagen, Denmark, this simple phrase is often considered the first rule of cycling in the urban environment.

Sited along the Burke Gilman Trail, arguably the most highly trafficked pedestrian path in Seattle, Burke Gilman Street aims to foster awareness and etiquette in urban cycling through transportation education. Here, youth will learn about cycling as both an active form of recreation and transportation. By creating open, visible intersections along urban streetwalls, density of activity and users will generate an open plaza atmosphere where pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists will interact freely, encouraging the "spread good karma" mindset.



■ SITE: Brooklyn Ave. & the Burke Gilman Trail



Plan: Burke Gilman Street



Existing site 'stop-start' cycling condition



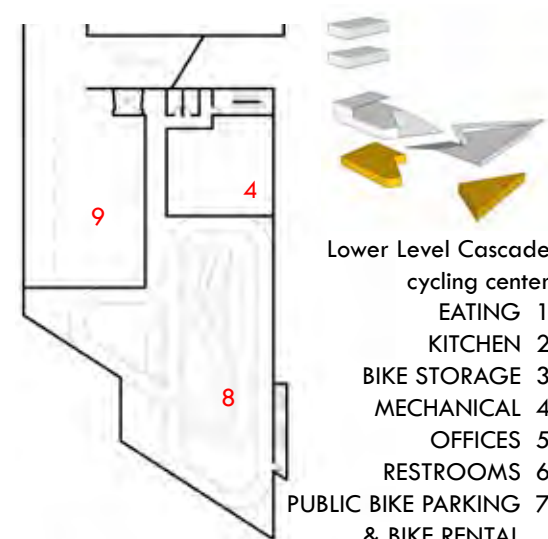
Open intersections at pedestrian-heavy locations



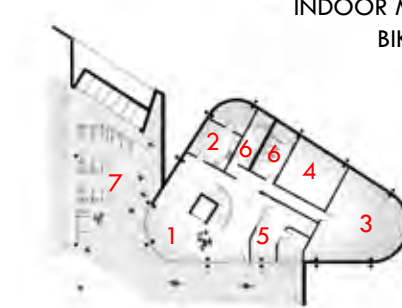
Create density at the street, park space behind



Through the manipulation of the ground plane, semi-public play spaces are elevated off the street. Play spaces are then expressed visually in the buildings through inserted playful screening elements.



- Lower Level Cascade cycling center
- EATING 1
- KITCHEN 2
- BIKE STORAGE 3
- MECHANICAL 4
- OFFICES 5
- RESTROOMS 6
- PUBLIC BIKE PARKING & BIKE RENTAL 7
- INDOOR MOUNTAIN BIKE COURSE 8
- PARKING 9



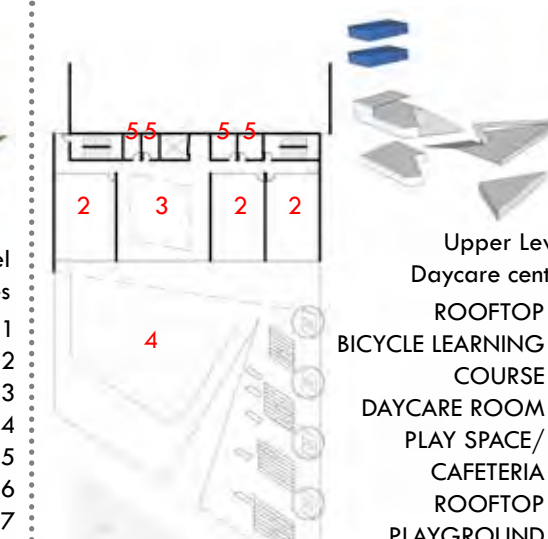
Lower Level Plan



- Ground Level shared spaces
- CAFE 1
- MEETING ROOM 2
- GALLERY 3
- ENTRY 4
- YOGA ROOM 5
- SPIN ROOM 6
- ENTRY TO BIKE COURSE 7
- DAYCARE ENTRY 8
- LOCKER ROOMS 9
- RESTROOM 10
- BIKE MAINTENANCE 11



Ground Level Plan



- Upper Level Daycare center
- ROOFTOP BIKE COURSE 1
- DAYCARE ROOM 2
- PLAY SPACE/ CAFETERIA 3
- ROOFTOP PLAYGROUND 4
- RESTROOM 5



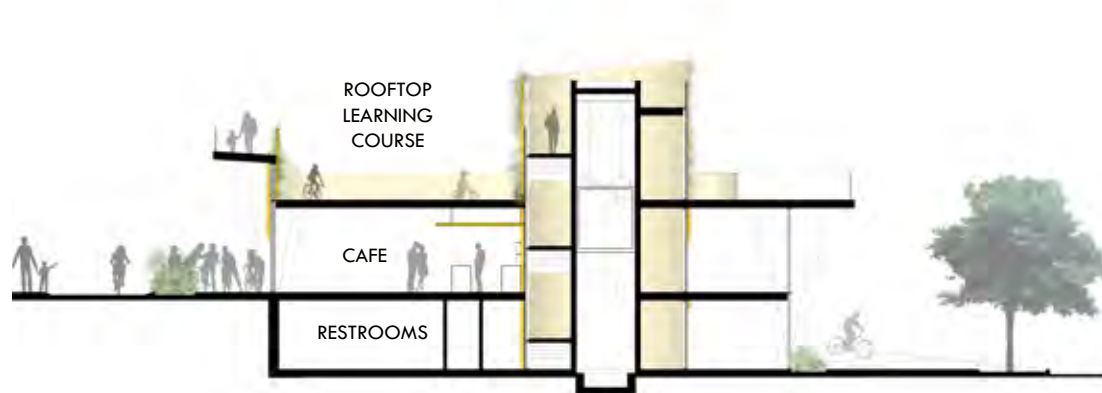
Upper Level Plan



Section 'A' through elevated park space at Outreach Center



Aerial view looking Northeast



Section 'B' through Outreach Center building



Traffic table at Brooklyn Ave and Burke Gilman St from Outreach Center elevated park space



View looking NE at Rooftop Learning Center



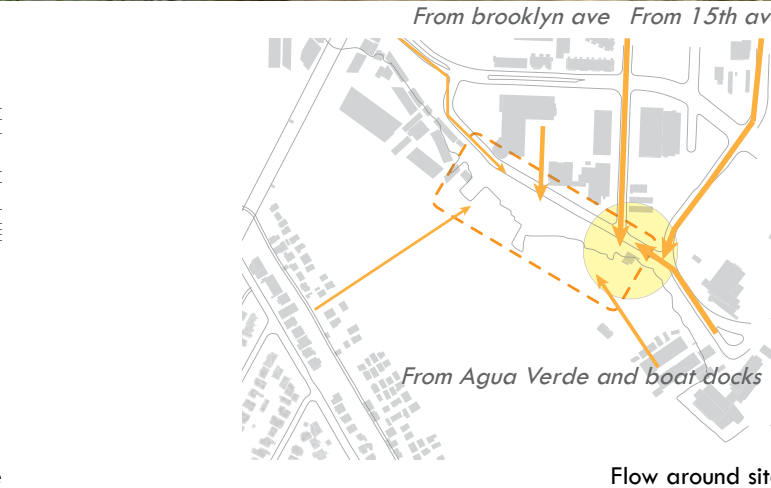
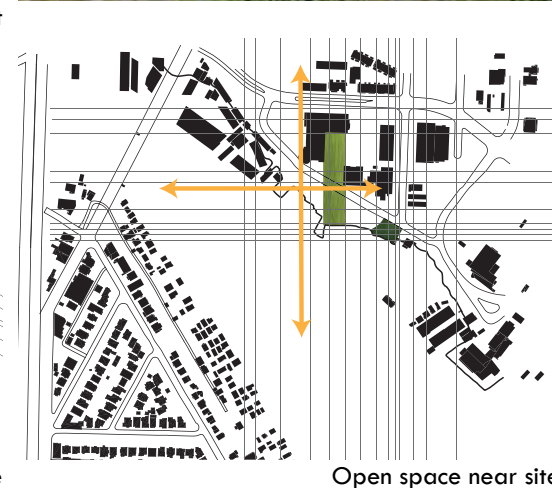
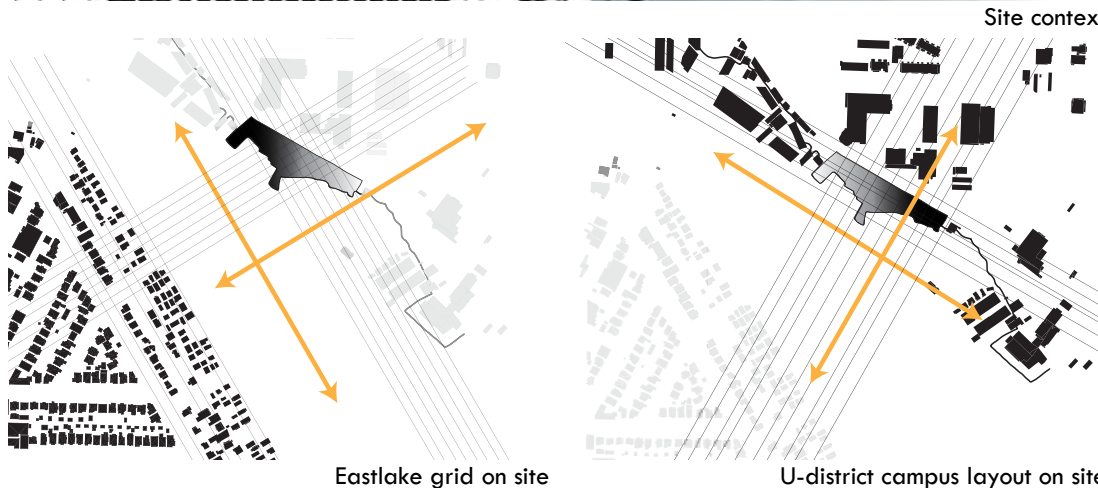
View at Outreach Center Cafe

U-DISTRICT LEARNING LAB + NATURE PARK

by Dhara Goradia

Connecting nature to the U-district

This project seeks to reconnect the U-district with the waterfront while taking advantage of a natural site in a dense, gritty, urban neighborhood. The design addresses people on three different scales - the general public, the semi-public UW scale, and the individual. Both formal and informal spaces guide people through a forest and provide opportunities for research, observation, and the dissemination of information in a unique park on the waterfront.





Section through community building



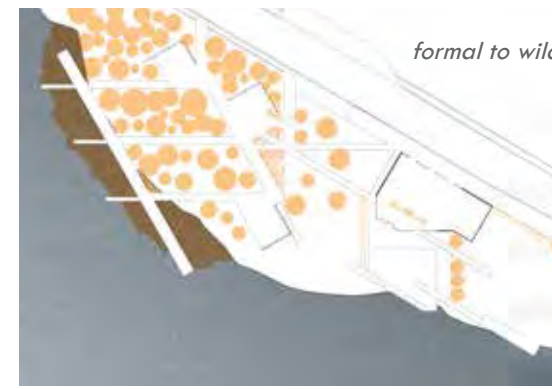
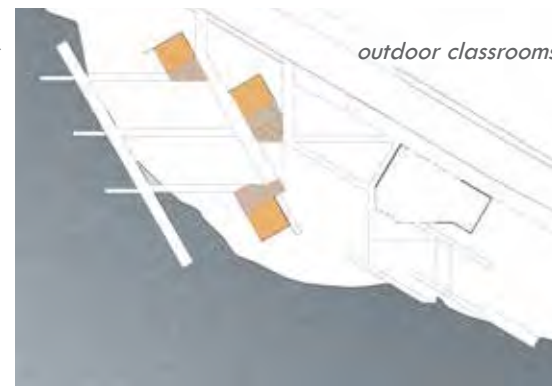
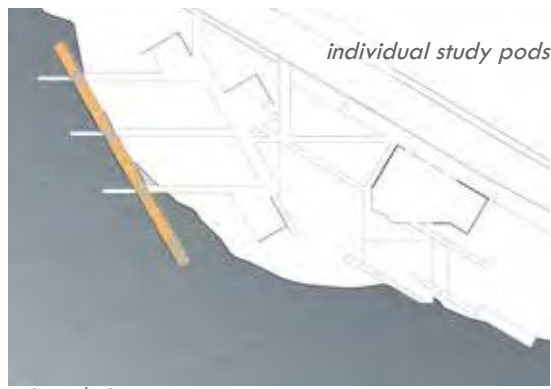
Section through outdoor classroom



Section through study pods



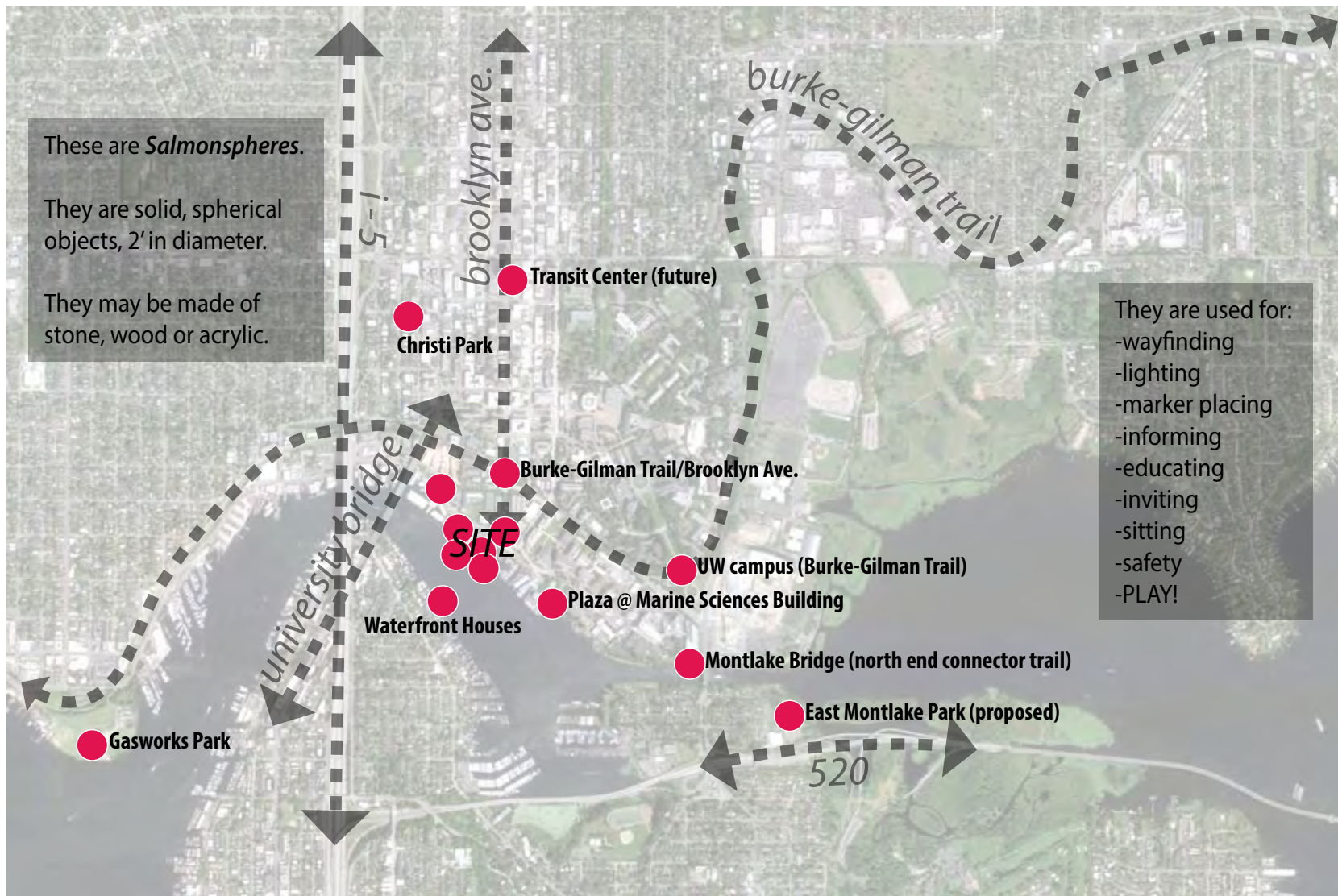
Site Plan



View from study pods



View from boat dock



These are *Salmonspheres*.
 They are solid, spherical objects, 2' in diameter.
 They may be made of stone, wood or acrylic.

They are used for:
 -wayfinding
 -lighting
 -marker placing
 -informing
 -educating
 -inviting
 -sitting
 -safety
 -PLAY!

NORTH PORTAGE PARK

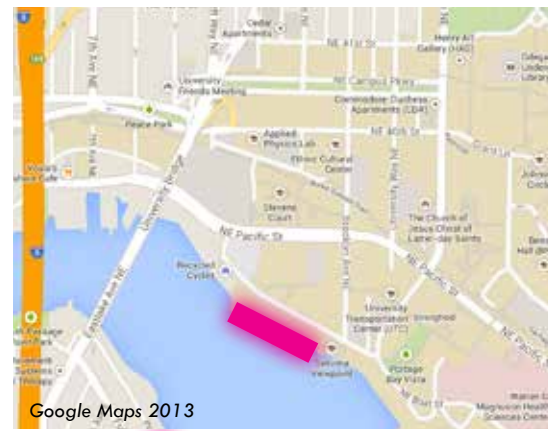
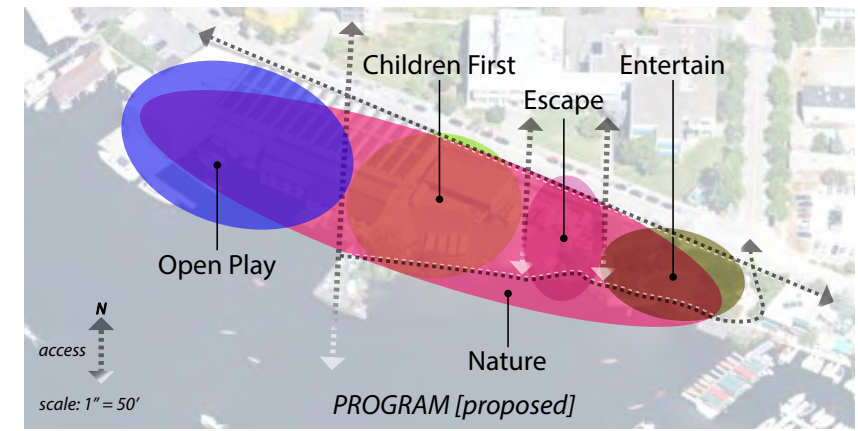
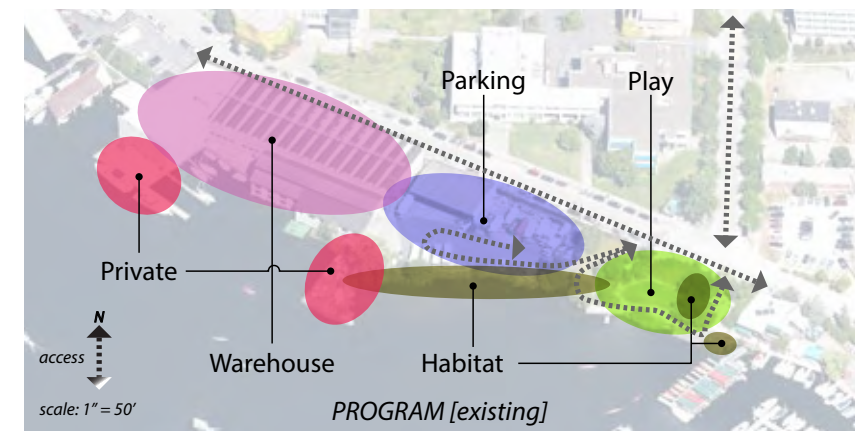
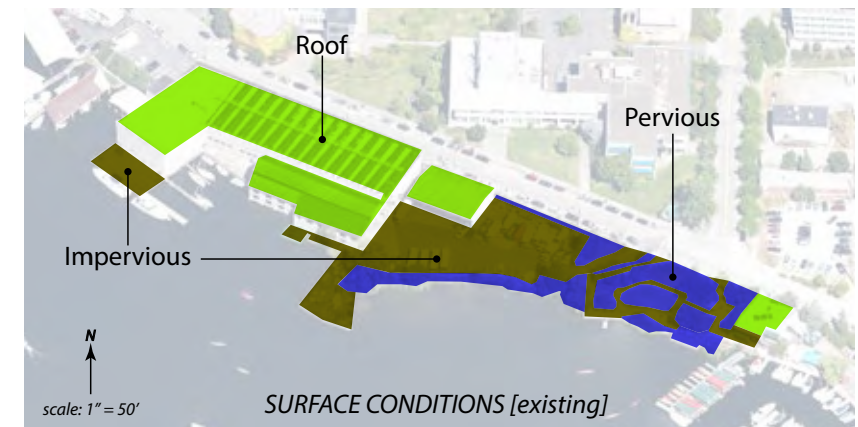
by Scott Boetjer

An Invitation of Water

The University of Washington owns an highly valuable waterfront parcel. This land, adjacent to NE Boat Street between Brooklyn Avenue NE and NE Pacific Street, boasts 650 feet of Lake Union shoreline, a small leisure park and historical structures. Plagued by private storage and inaccessible edges, great design opportunities exist. My plan is shaped by these key strategies.

- Improve public access to Lake Union by redefining the shoreline and eliminating large structures.
- Provide refuge for wildlife and improve stormwater drainage for surrounding area.
- Make it fun by incorporating physical and social play elements.

Shorelines can be incredibly productive ecological environments and a place for inspiration and fun. Let the water invite us!



Google Maps 2013
 ■ SITE: Portage Bay Waterfront area



Image: Scott Boetjer

Existing condition: inaccessible shoreline



Proposed: outdoor cinema at amphitheater



Proposed: salmonisphere play



Image: Scott Boetjer

Existing condition: unresolved stormwater treatment



Proposed: intimate setting for escape



Image: Scott Boetjer

Existing condition: boring programming



SECTION A



SECTION B



Image: Scott Boefjer

Incredible views



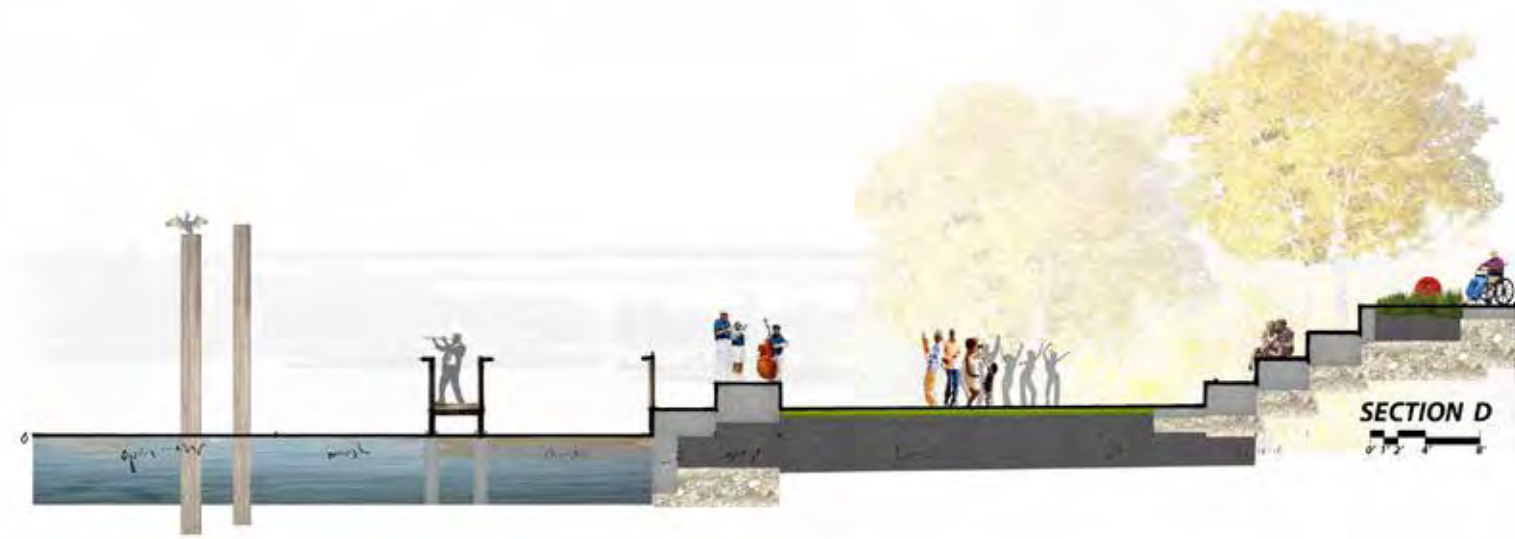
Image: Scott Boefjer

The desired natural edge



Image: Scott Boefjer

Pedestrian prioritized





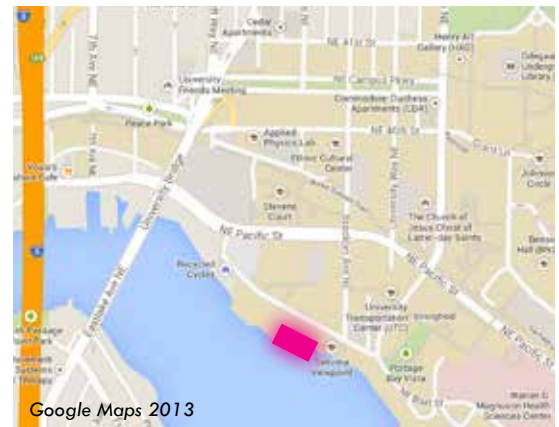
View from Brooklyn Avenue



Completing the constellation.
Giving the waterfront back to the city



CONTEXT: liminal habitats, marine industry, recreational boating, academic research



Google Maps 2013
SITE: Portage Bay Waterfront area

RESTORING BODY AND SITE

Matt Kikosicki

Cleansing (at) the University District Waterfront

Despite its location on the north shore of Portage Bay the University District does not identify as a waterfront neighborhood. The University of Washington campus physically separates the U-District waterfront from the fabric of the neighborhood. The amenity that is Portage Bay, its potential uses, and connection to Lake Union and beyond present the opportunity to activate a large waterfront park and swimming and bathing facility. The water related programs associated with both the building and site increase awareness of one of Seattle's great waterfronts while serving both students and the greater Seattle community.



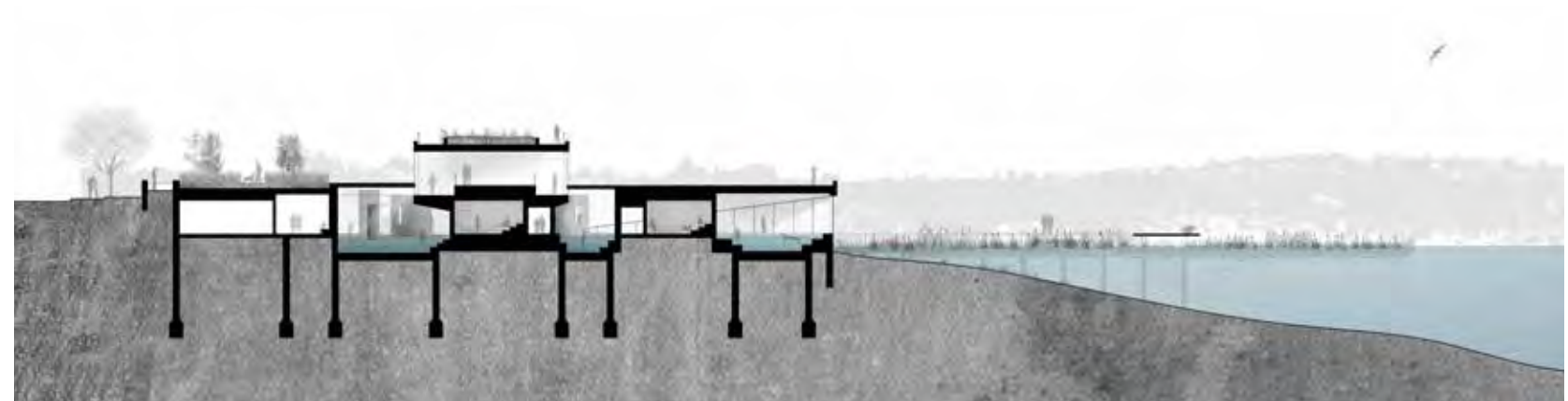
Landscape rooms occupy the planted roof.



A hot pool on a cold day.



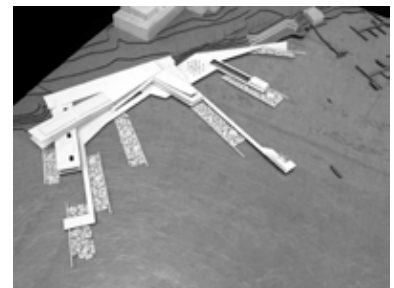
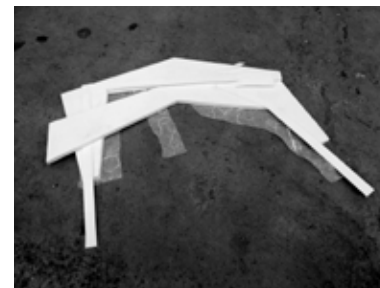
Deck roofscape as viewing platform



Section through baths



Section through lap pool



Model studies



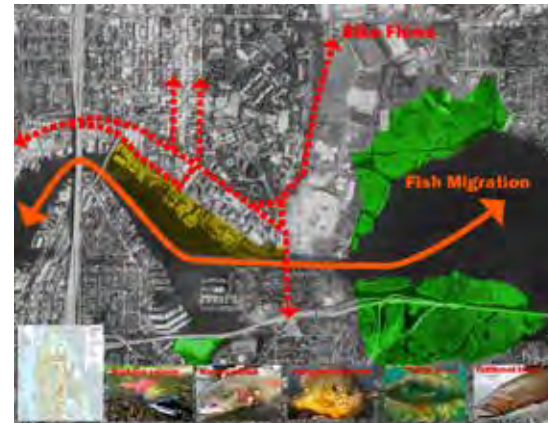
The Big Purple Edge:
The University of Washington (its properties in purple) greets its neighbors with lifeless facades and imposing concrete walls. It cuts off its neighbors from the water.

Image: Google Earth 2013

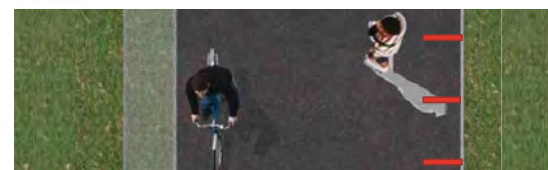
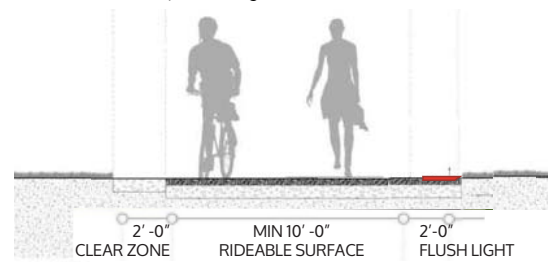
The University of Washington and its many hard edges separate the neighborhood from the water



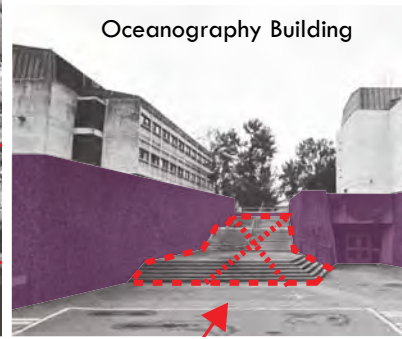
Two views showing the waterfront as it is today, with hard edges but lots of potential



Bike flows, fish migration and solar orientation.

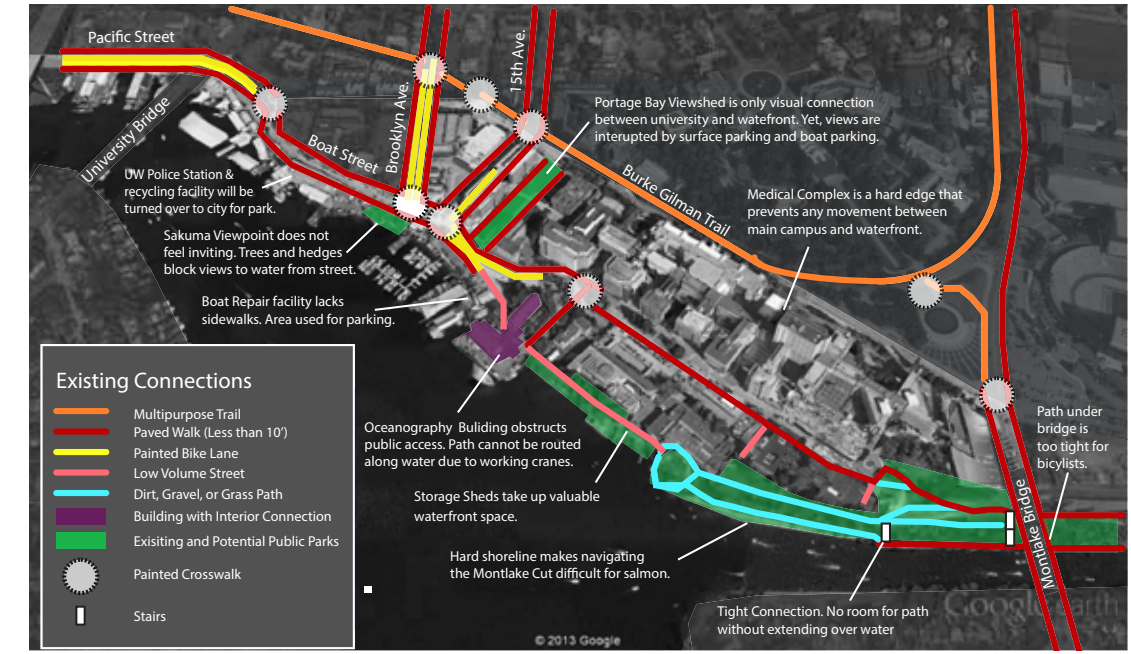


Red lighting connects disparate areas along trail



Oceanography Building

Instead of stairs to nowhere, make a path that goes through



It is impossible to bike along the waterfront in the University District, and walking is difficult



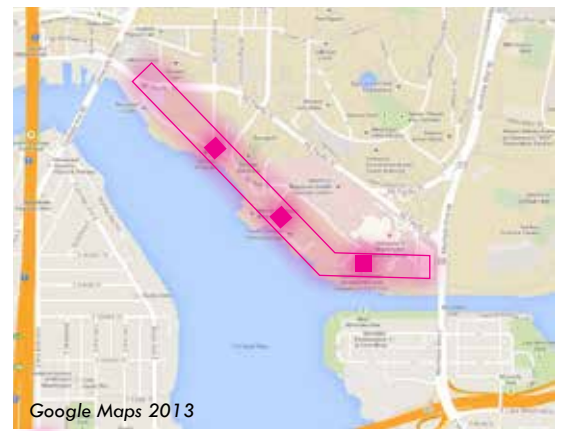
A new waterfront promenade would change that

FROM BRIDGE TO BRIDGE

by Daniel Jost + Hao Liang + Heli Ojamaa

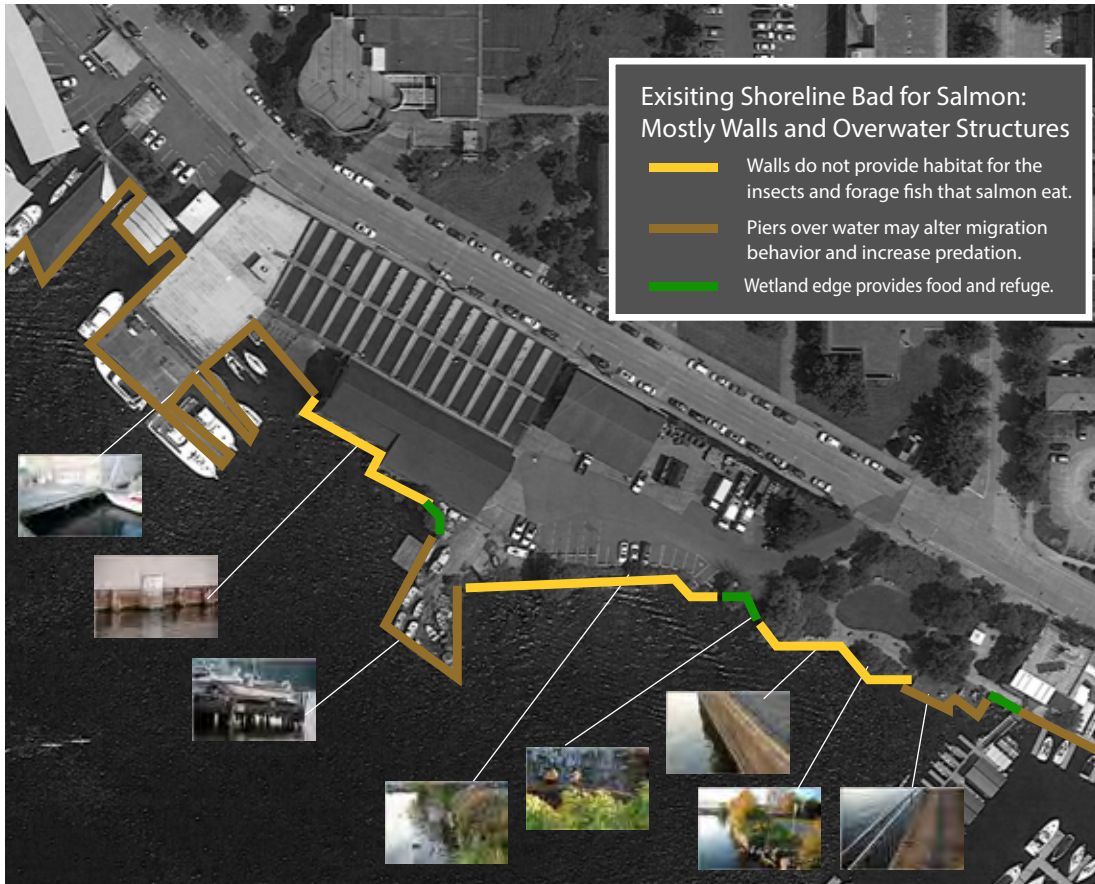
A playful promenade for people and salmon

UW's campus was designed to incorporate a distant view to Mount Rainier, but for years it has ignored a much closer natural asset, its waterfront. Poor planning has created both physical and psychological barriers between the surrounding community and the water. Meanwhile, hard and shaded edges along the water make this corridor inhospitable to the salmon who migrate through. This could change thanks to an agreement to transfer 4 acres of waterfront property, now used for the university police station and storage, to the City of Seattle in order to create a public park. This park could be the gateway to a whole network of open spaces along the water. We propose a playful promenade linking from bridge to bridge, one that takes advantage of the waterfront's solar orientation, a corridor for both people and salmon.



Google Maps 2013

■ SITE: University to Montlake Bridge Waterfront



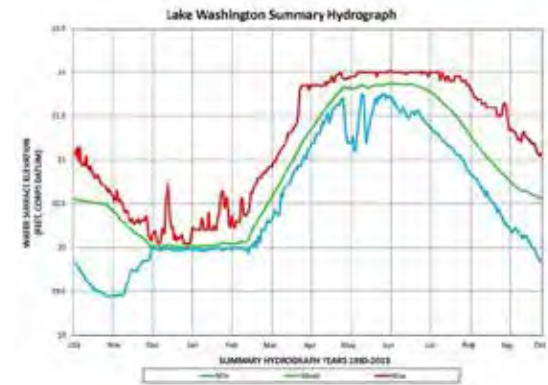
**Existing Shoreline Bad for Salmon:
Mostly Walls and Overwater Structures**

- Walls do not provide habitat for the insects and forage fish that salmon eat.
- Piers over water may alter migration behavior and increase predation.
- Wetland edge provides food and refuge.



Trebal Propi via Wikipedia

Salmon's prey thrive in organic soils, not sand.



COE The water level varies. It's controlled by a dam

Most of the shoreline is now armored or shaded by piers, which is not good for migrating salmon



Trees and hedges obscure views into Sakuma Viewpoint, so people don't realize its public. An ugly old police station blocks views further down



Precedents: Canada's Sugar Beach has no swimming, yet it attracts people from all over Toronto



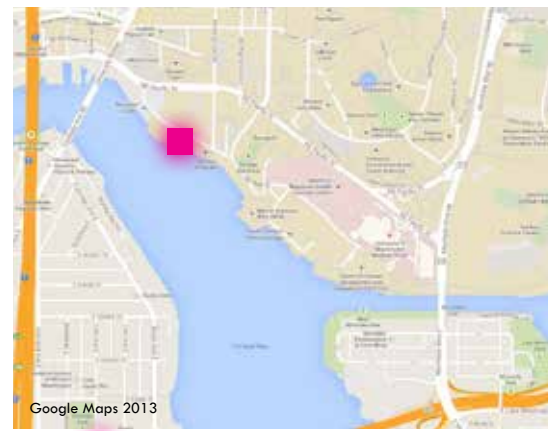
Image: Austin Parks Foundation Blog

"Loose parts" at Imagination Playground



Image: (c) Micheal Barton (via Flickr)

Director Park's fountain is not just for kids



Google Maps 2013

■ SITE: Alley between The Ave & Brooklyn

SALMON BEACH

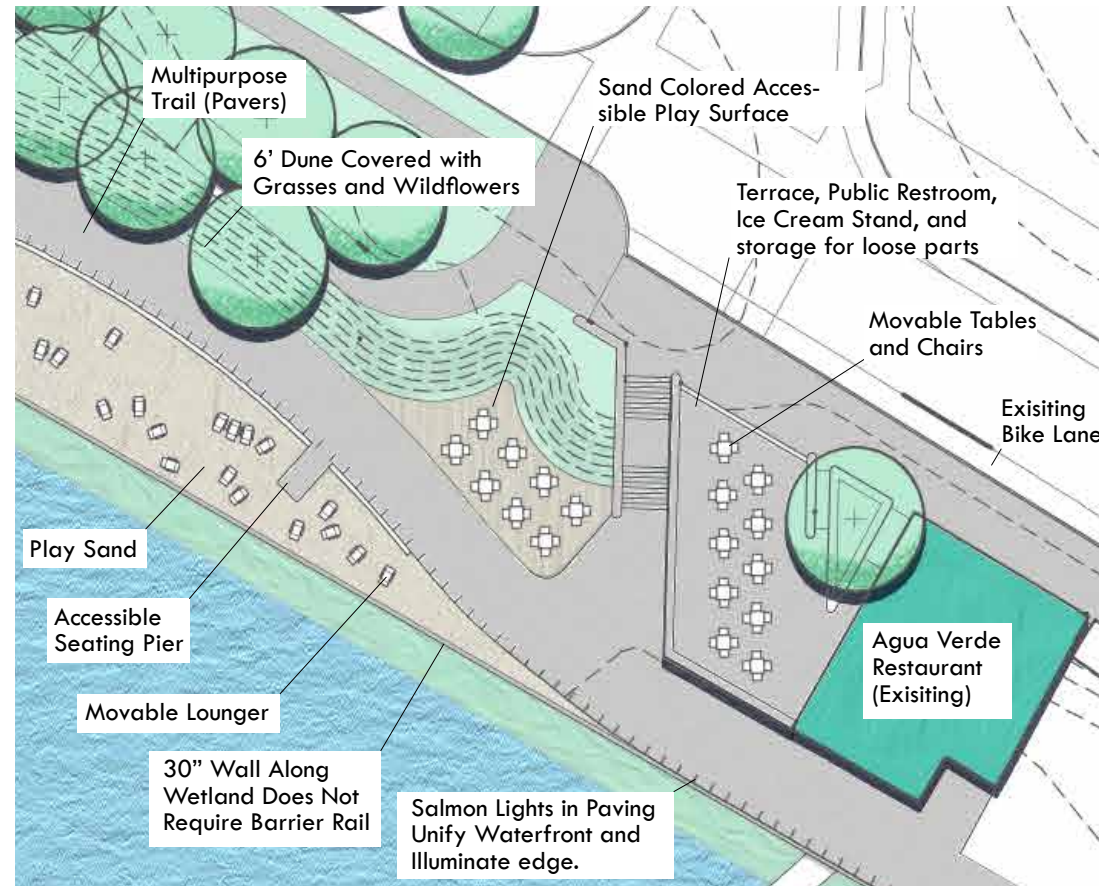
Daniel Jost

Where Salmon Swim and People Play in the Sand

In Paris, Toronto, and Montreal, residents are flocking to a new type of beach. "Urban beaches" provide a sandy refuge in the city, often with fountains that allow visitors to cool off, but they don't provide access to swimming, due to shipping lanes and pollution. This plot of land, located next to the University District's best margarita bar, might not be a good place for a conventional beach, since it is located just downstream from a combined sewer outlet and it is an important corridor for salmon migration. But it could provide many of a beach's best qualities—lounging along the water, playing in the sand, and even cooling off on a hot day. The site's existing concrete edge will be replaced with a more salmon friendly marsh that is sunken thirty inches from the beach level so it doesn't block views.



Site Plan

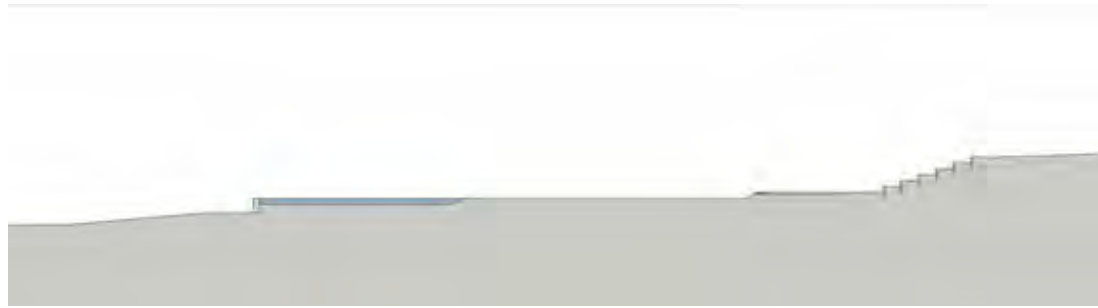
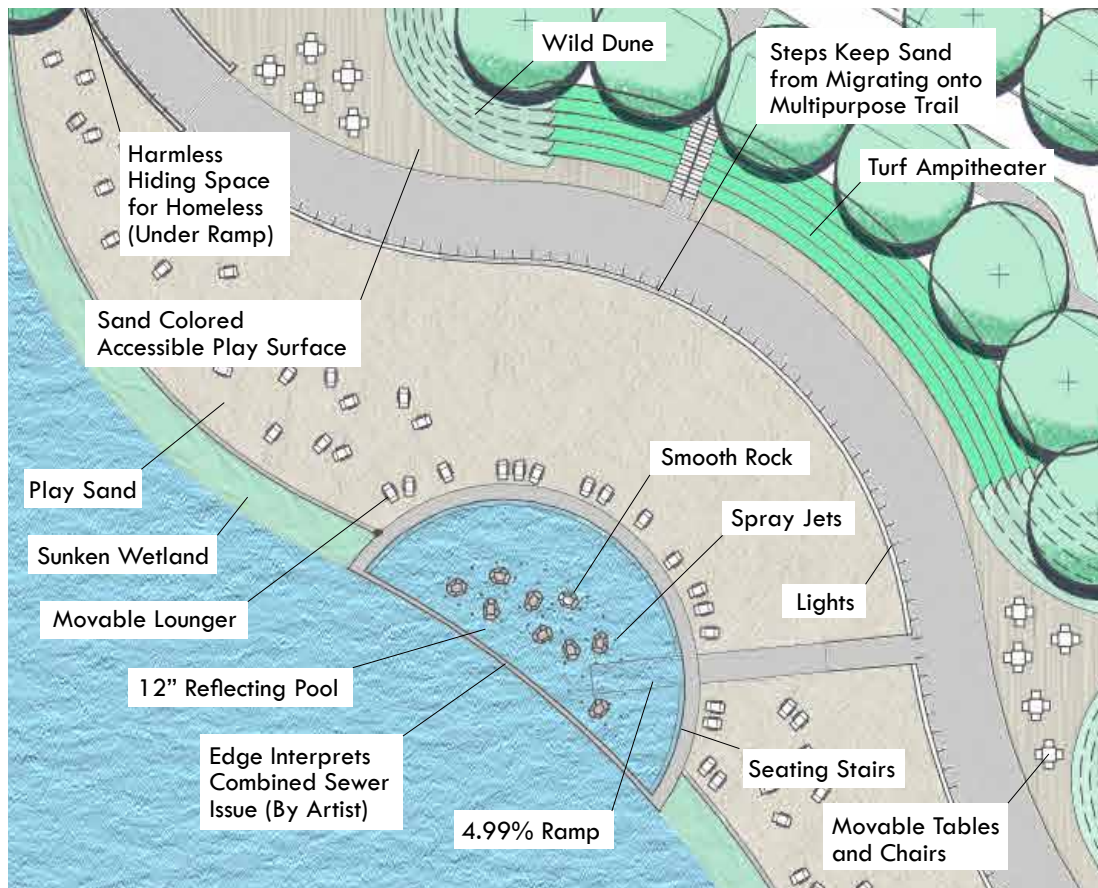


A new terrace connected to Agua Verde will provide eyes on the park, so it feels safe.



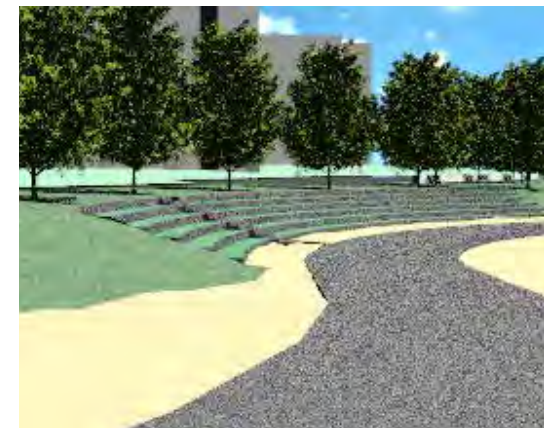
The Dune gives a green backdrop to the beach.

Opening up views to the water from Brooklyn Avenue will help to draw people into the site. A rooftop terrace, on the same level as Agua Verde's south facing deck will provide an extended area where people can have an alcoholic beverage along the water. Below the terrace is an ice cream stand and public restroom. Restroom facilities are essential so people can comfortably spend the day here. The lack of restroom facilities was among the most frequent complaints among visitors I interviewed at Canada's Sugar Beach.

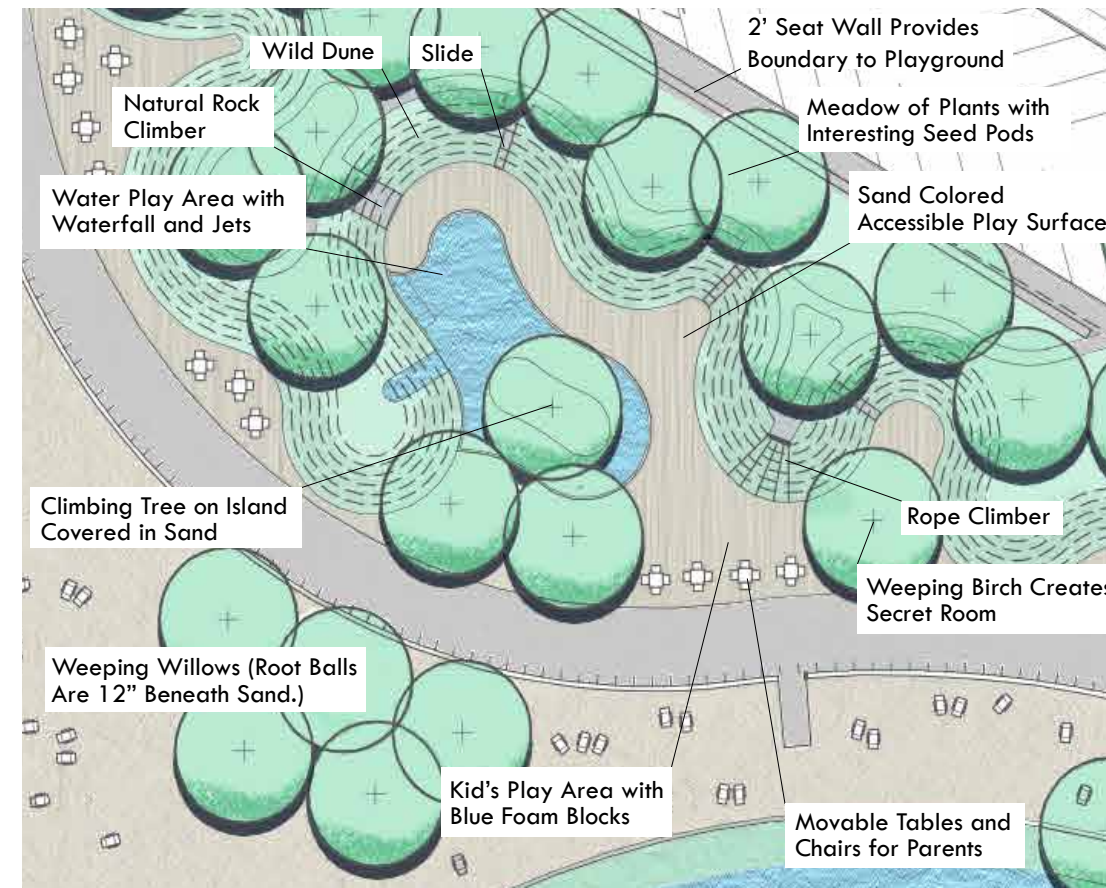


A section through the amphitheater and fountain shows the edge conditions there.

While the pink fiberglass umbrellas at Canada's Sugar Beach are quite iconic, they discourage active use of the sand. You don't see people throwing frisbees or footballs there. At Salmon Beach, the sand would be a much more flexible surface. All of the chairs would be moveable until around midnight, when a student paid through federal work study cables them together. A reflecting pool with playful jets attracts small children without becoming a parent and child ghetto. Adults without kids feel comfortable sitting along its edge and dipping their feet in the cool water.



A turf amphitheater is integrated into the dune.



Beach is 30" above wetland to preserve views out to the water.

The typical American playground has very few loose parts that children can manipulate. Salmon Beach would include the West Coast's first permanent imagination playground. Inspired by the adventure playground (see page 27), Rockwell Group developed a collection of blue foam blocks that kids could use in concert with sand and water. These blocks are now available nationwide, the only thing preventing their wide adoption is the need to supervise their use. But using work study funding, play workers could be hired without much expense to the city.



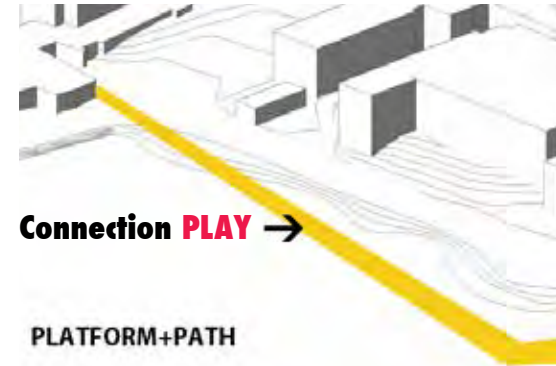
Natural PLAY



LIVABLE SHORELINE + RAIN WATER PURIFICATION



Connection PLAY



PLATFORM+PATH



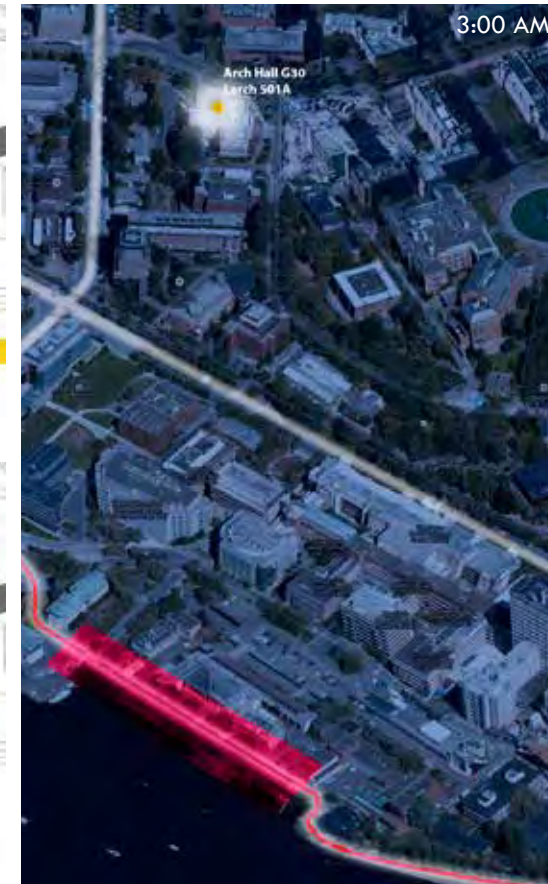
Hang-out PLAY

BUILDING + MULTI-LAYERS



View PLAY

DIVERSITY + LOOP

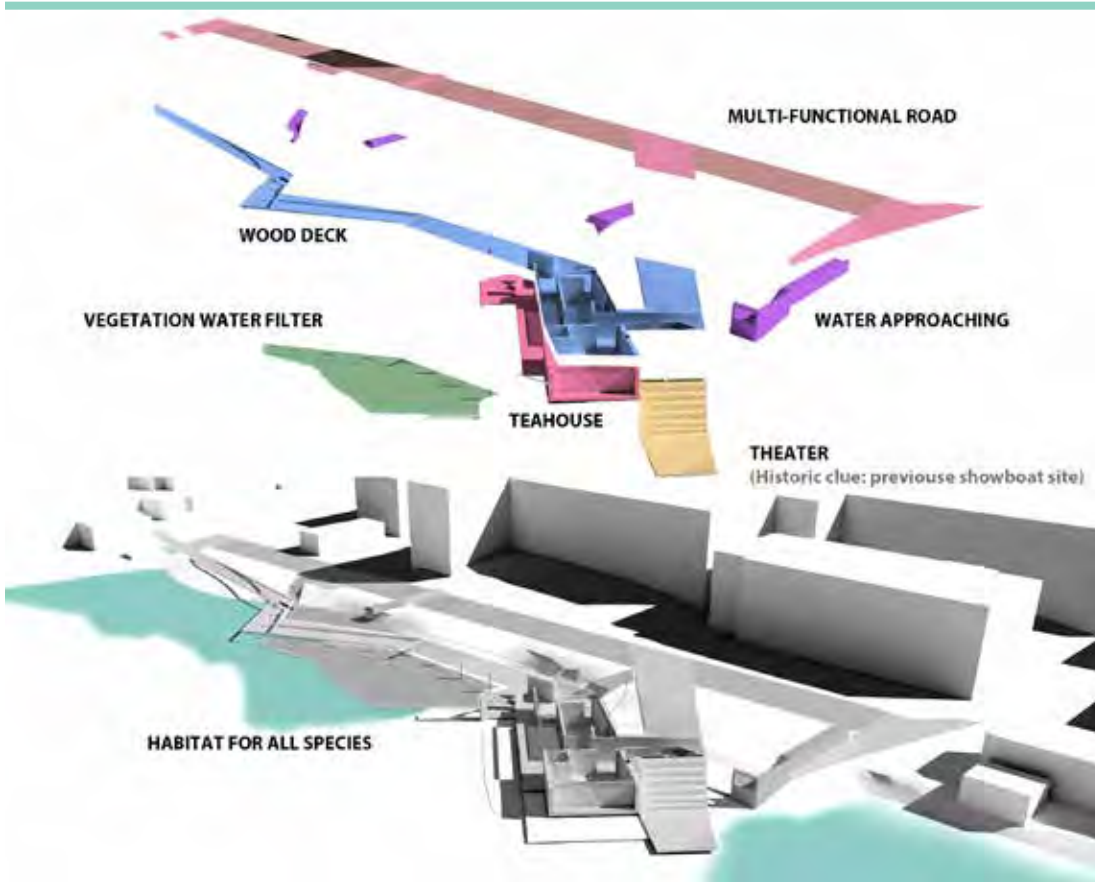


CAMPUS BALCONY

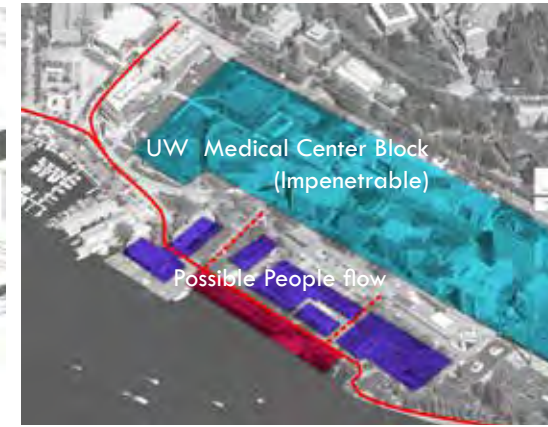
Hao Liang

Waterfront Bridge to Bridge, Part II

The most distinctive characteristics of this part of the waterfront are the peaceful environment and open view, as well as the inclusivity for all species. Based on the current situation and the functional demands from neighboring sites, this proposal uses the idea of play to solve problems of inaccessibility and habitat loss. Meanwhile, the proposal also engages in activating the existing amenities nearby by creating positive relationship with the surrounding environment. As one part of the bridge to bridge waterfront site, the consistency of the proposal appears in the installation of city furniture, such as street lights, benches, and trash cans. Also, the proposal creates an independent loop where people can hang out. BE students could jog to the site, enjoy the peaceful view on the deck, have a cup of coffee in the tea house, then go back to work. This is the balcony of the campus.

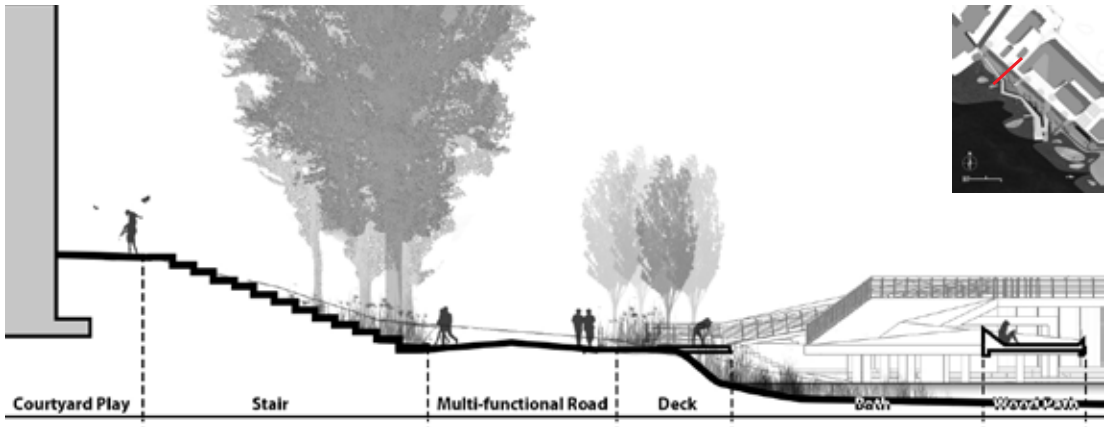


Concept Generating

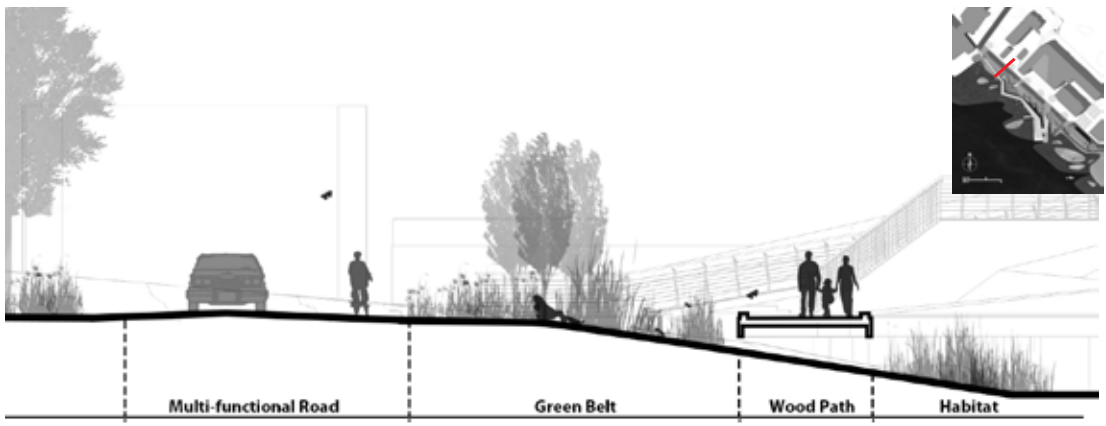




Concept in context

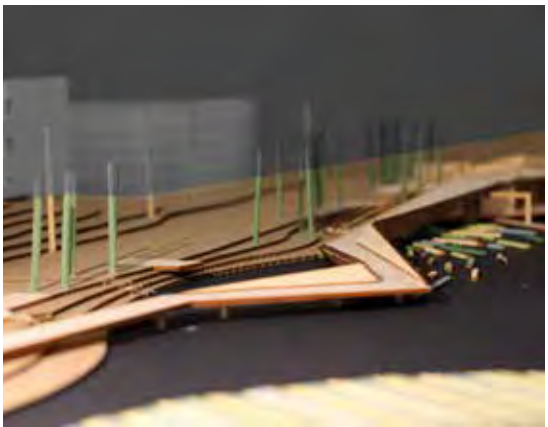


Courtyard Play Stair Multi-functional Road Deck Bath Wood Path

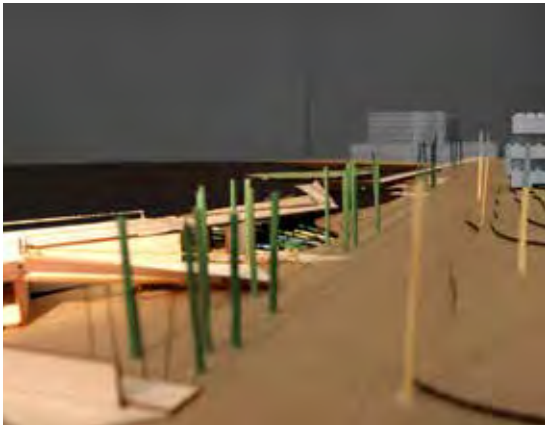


Multi-functional Road Green Belt Wood Path Habitat

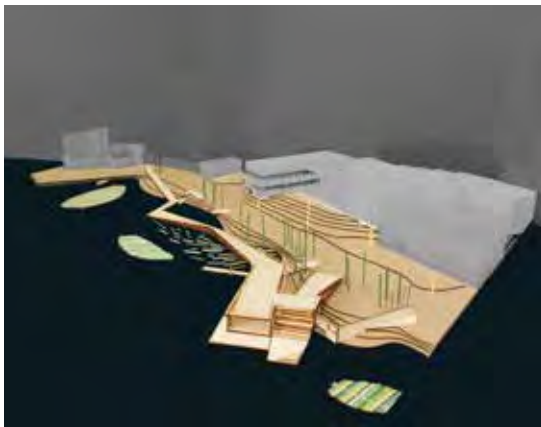
Sections



Pedestrian Deck



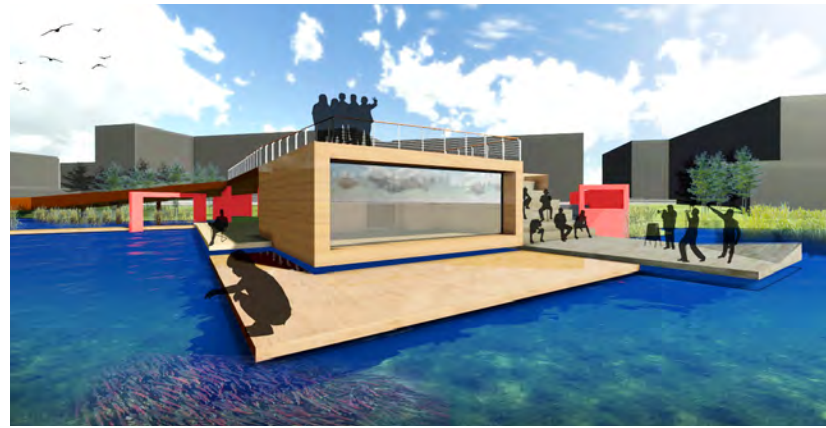
Multifunctional connection



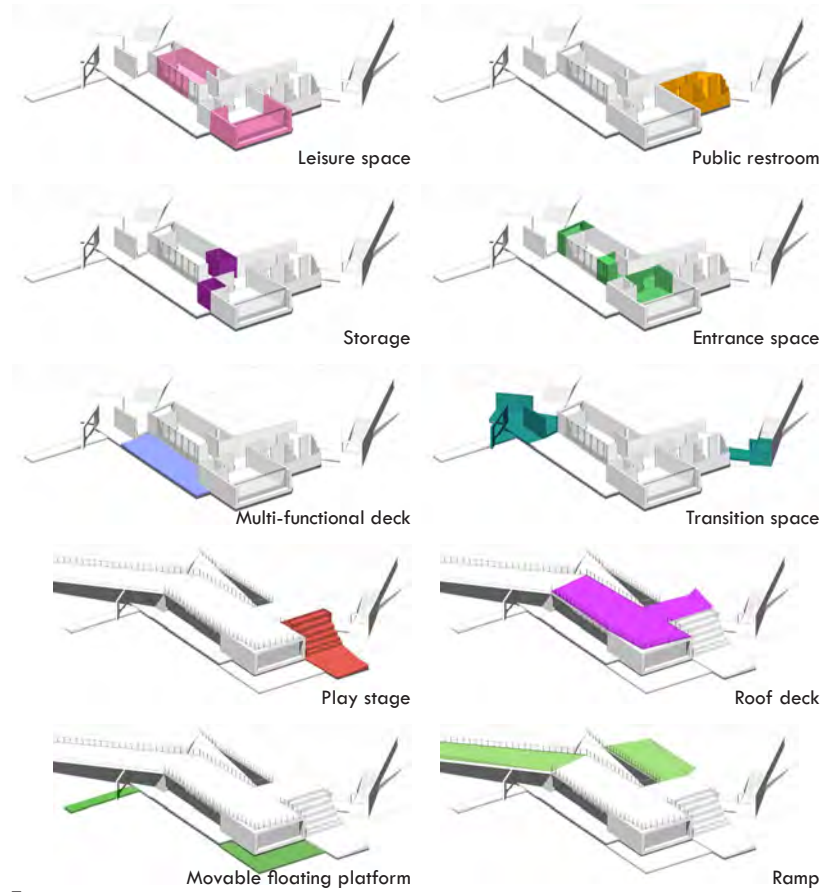
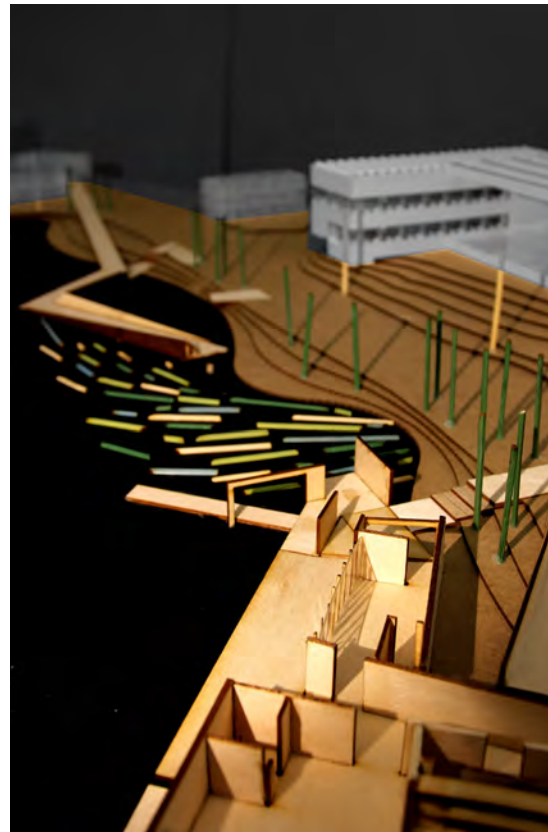
Model bird's-eye view



Master Plan



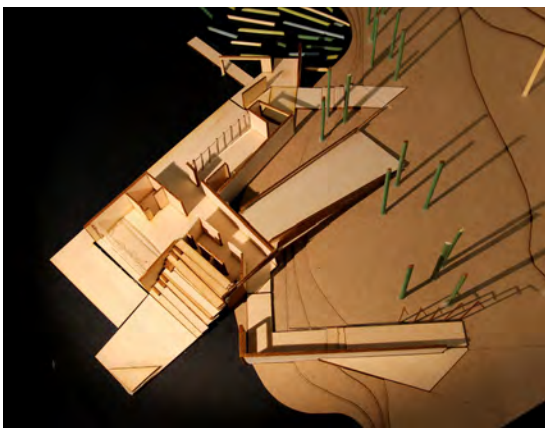
- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 1 |
1. Mutual penetration of human space and nature
 2. Teahouse, diversity of water play
 3. View of Teahouse's platform
 4. View of wood deck path



Features



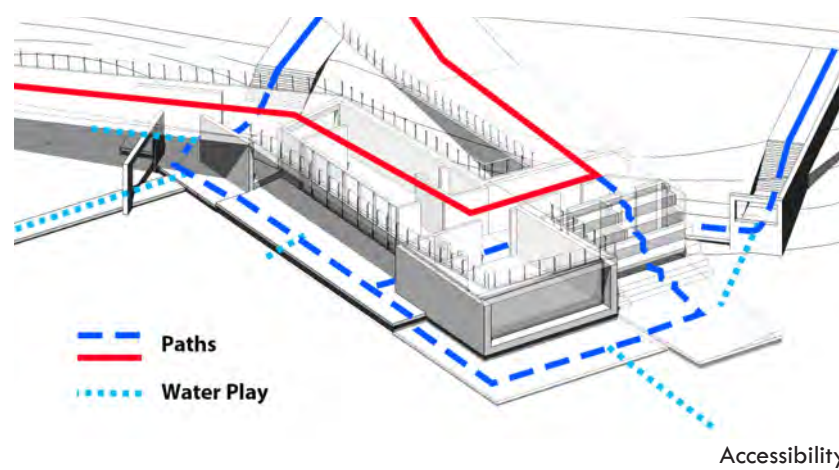
Relationship with student center building



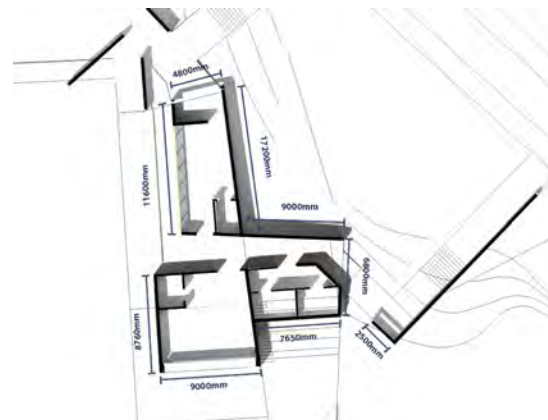
Integrity



Teahouse



Accessibility

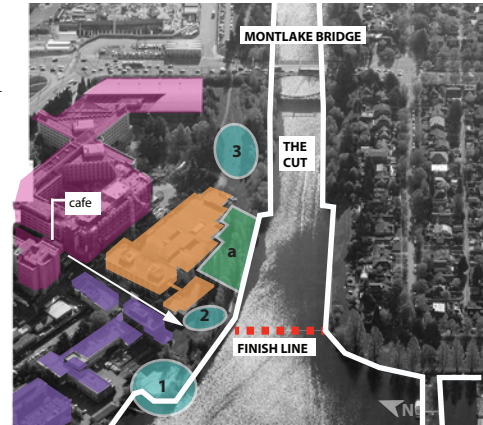


Plan



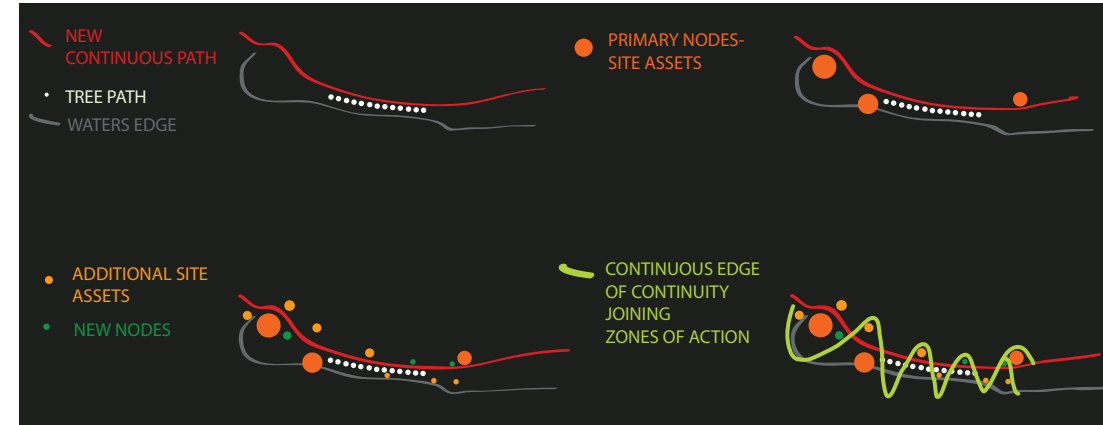
1955 aerial showing golf course on site

- NEIGHBORING BUILDINGS**
- MEDICAL CENTER
 - HARING CENTER - CENTER ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY
 - ACADEMIC BUILDINGS
- SITE NODES**
- 1 NODE 1- SALMON POND NATURAL PLAY
 - 2 NODE 2- FINISH LINE GATHERING AREA
 - 3 NODE 3- GRADE SCULPTURE ACTIVE PLAY
 - a THERAPEUTIC LANDSCAPE- RETREAT



- NODE 1: NATURAL PLAY**
- bridge (cross water, overview of water)
 - historic trail- stepping stones
 - info graphics kiosk (history, information)
 - sculpture
 - seating
 - water play
 - public bathrooms, living machine- aqua culture
- NODE 2: GATHERING**
- covered area
 - public restrooms
 - picnic area
 - raised platform
 - small kiosk
 - landmark
 - water amphitheater (group access to water)
 - slides and swings
- NODE 3: ACTIVE PLAY**
- pull and pulled landscape
 - slide stairs
 - swings
 - city art gym, exercise area
 - existing basketball court
- THERAPEUTIC LANDSCAPE:**
- staggered seating and shelter
 - plantings
 - stairs down to water

Site and program elements



Site concept

CONTINUOUS RIBBON EDGE AROUND ZONES OF ACTION

Heli Ojamaa

Identifying and enhancing site assets

The portion of the University of Washington waterfront from the Salmon Homing Pond and hatchery, now being decommissioned, to the Montlake Bridge, has historically been a very active site. From the creation of the Montlake Cut, to the location of the Medical Complex, and the crowds for the Boat Parade and crew races, the site is dynamic and actively used.

This proposal evaluates the existing site assets and explores ways to enhance them through a continuous edge that organizes and connects the site with the multi use trail path and the waterfront. The program addresses the individual visitor as well as aims to serve the crowds at events and hopes to support more events. Images: Heli Ojamaa, unless otherwise noted.



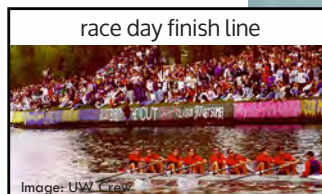
water connection



retreat spaces



animal habitats



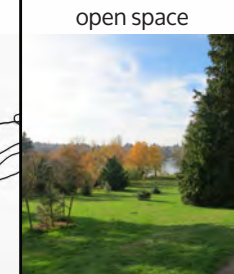
race day finish line



open south facing sun exposure



developed trees



open space

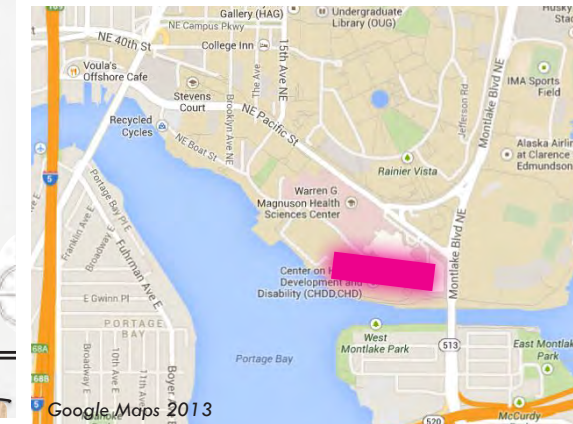


history

Image: MOHAI

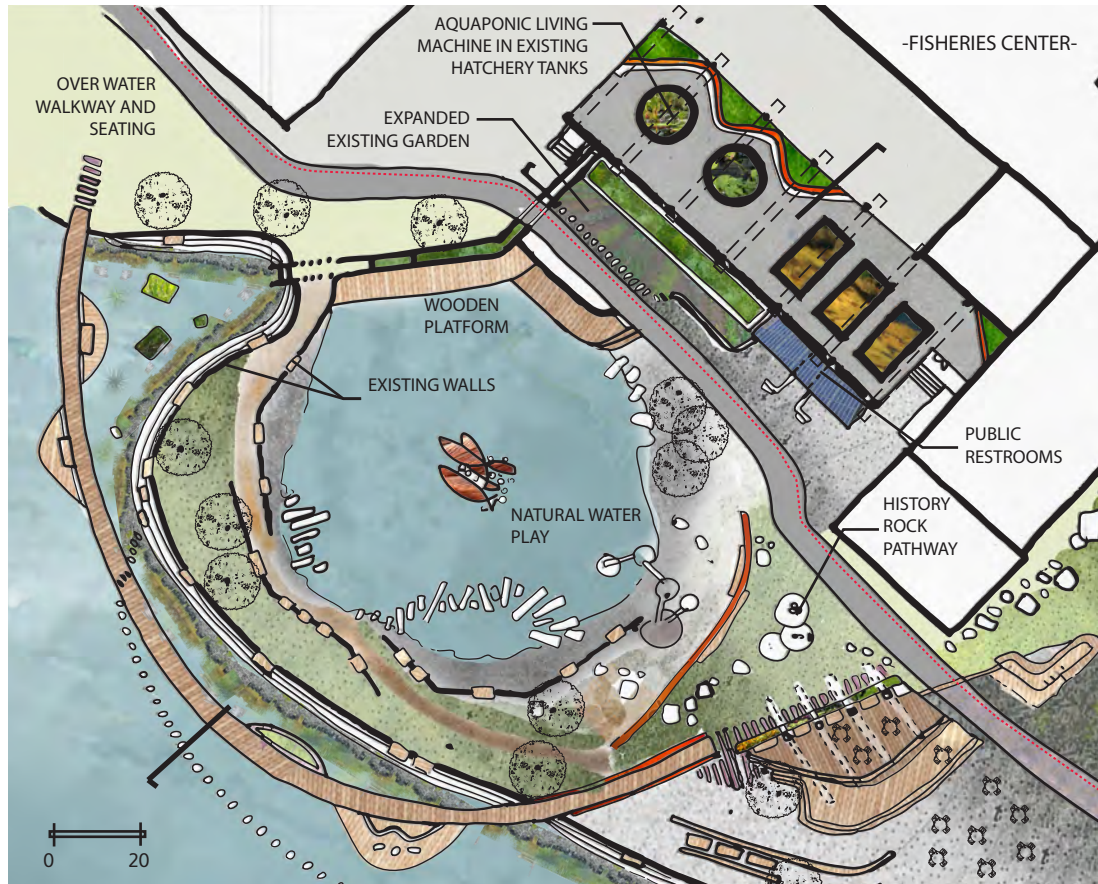


Full Site Plan highlighting site assets



Google Maps 2013

■ SITE: Salmon Homing Pond to Montlake Bridge



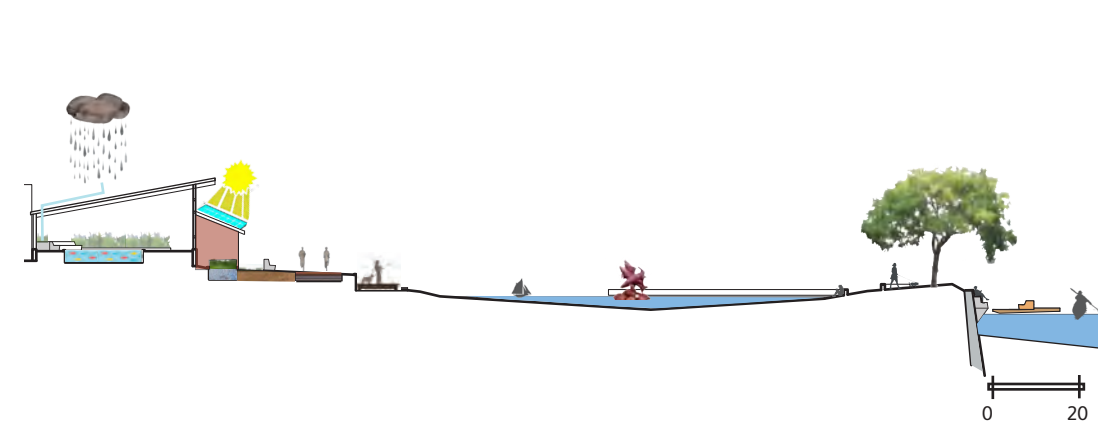
Node 1. Natural Play at decommissioned salmon pond



View of Portage Bay and salmon pond



Node 2. Gathering Space plan



Section through salmon pond to Portage Bay

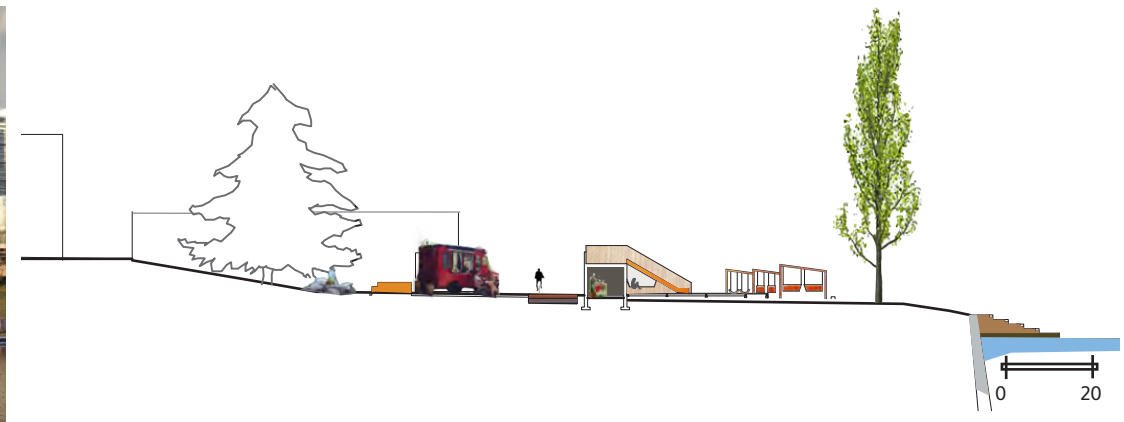


Image: Greg Gilbert

Salmon hatchery and pond



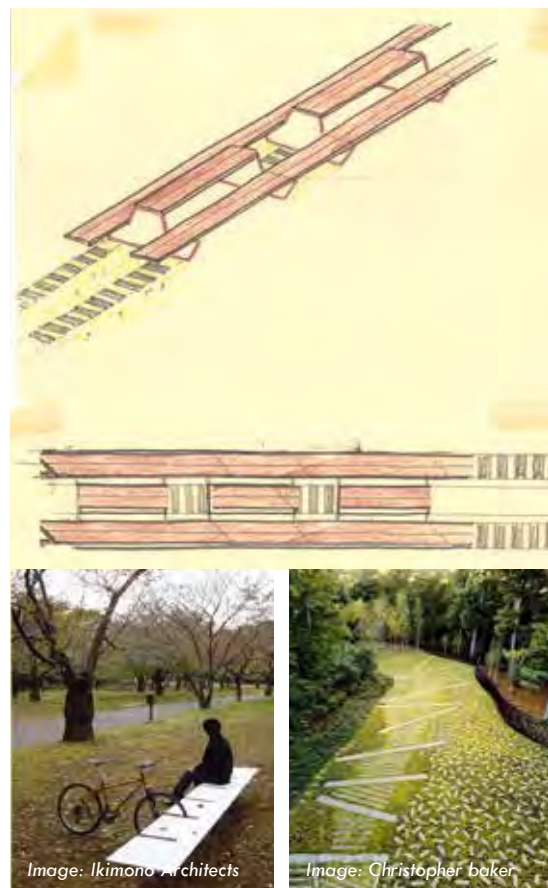
Sketch from water looking at gathering space



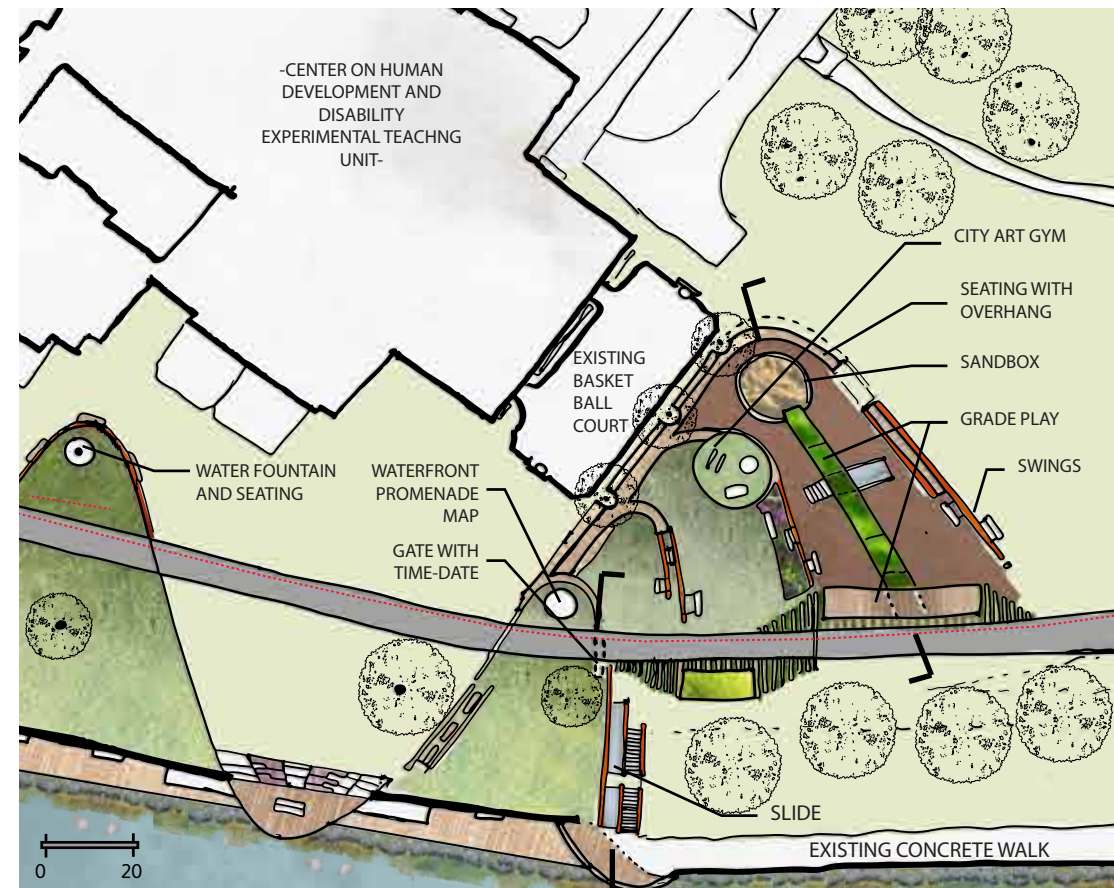
Section through Gathering Space



Therapeutic landscape retreat



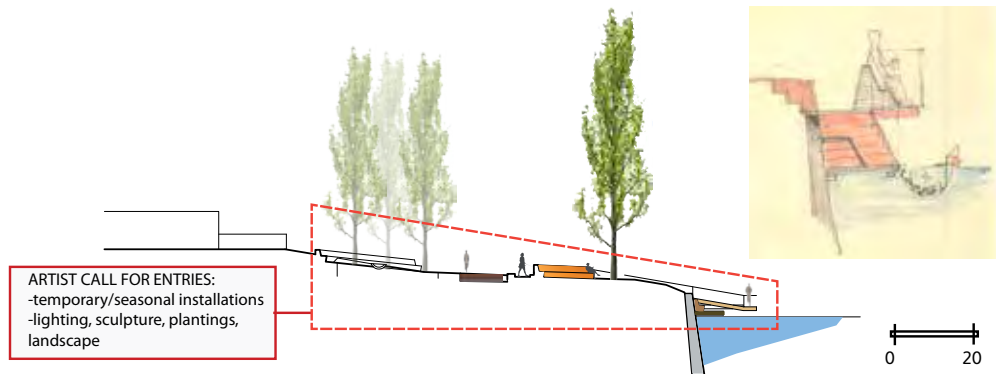
Site elements



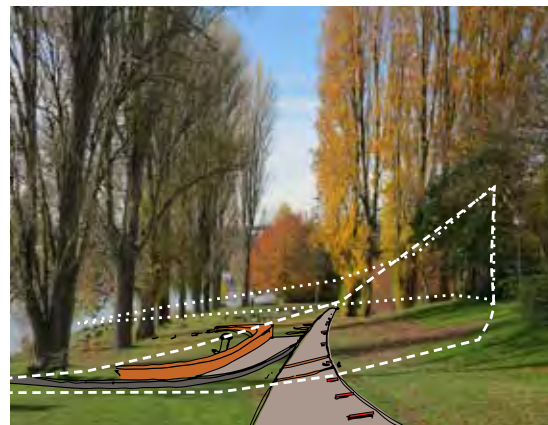
Node 4. Grade Play, Active Play



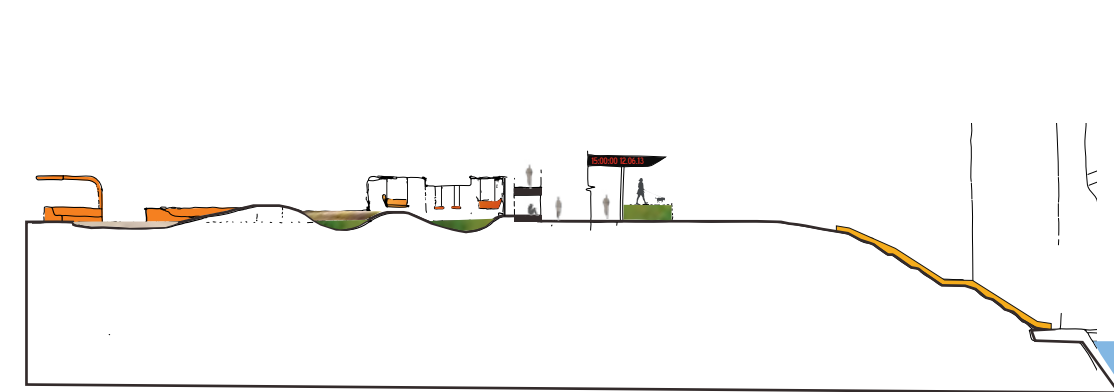
Perspective of grade play and exercise equipment



Section through landscape



View of multipurpose trail at art installation zone



Section through grade play area to water



Swings instead of benches

Paving changes

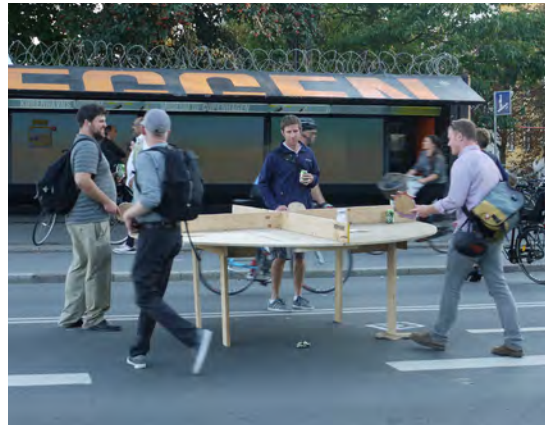
AFTERWORD

"A playful city is a city where you are invited to explore and play - not just on specific playgrounds or for children, **but for everybody.**"

- Lars Gemzøe, Gehl Architects



Mirrored barn at new Copenhagen playground



4-person ping-pong in the right of way



Group barbecue in the apartment courtyard



Matt and Dhara enjoy trampolines in the plaza



Kate swings bar to bar at the Ørestad School



Gehl Architects' lecture and hands-on activity



Cycling students wait at a Copenhagen light



Students listen to Catarina in Malmö

Download a free PDF of this book at courses.washington.edu/gehlstud

Hard copies available for order from blurb.com (instructions on the Gehl Studio website)



Studio Participants & Instructors at the Kastrup Sea Bath, Copenhagen