

September 23, 2020

Philadelphia Art Commission  
1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

**RE: FloatLab – 2901 & 3101 South 56th Street, Philadelphia, PA**

Dear Art Commission:

We are submitting this cover letter to confirm Mural Arts Philadelphia's request to present *FloatLab* before the Art Commission on Wednesday, October 7, 2020.

*FloatLab* is a unique public art collaboration between Philadelphia Mural Arts Advocates (MAA), the John Bartram Association (JBA), stewards of Bartram's Garden, and artist J. Meejin Yoon and her associates at Howeler + Yoon Architecture.

*FloatLab* is a structure that integrates art, science and educational programming to create a unique platform for connection to and learning about the Schuylkill River. In physical form, *FloatLab* is a large inhabitable floating steel ring. The structure frames the water both literally and figuratively and creates a new experience of the river by allowing a public promenade into the water to see, hear, and sense the river in a heightened and unfamiliar way. Designed to connect Philadelphians to the Schuylkill River and promote environmental stewardship, *FloatLab* establishes a platform for both public art and ecology. By allowing visitors to engage in research and combining educational programs with recreational activity, *FloatLab* will provide a new landmark for the City of Philadelphia.

Located at Bartram's Garden in Southwest Philadelphia, just steps away from Bartram's Mile, *FloatLab* will become a prominent fixture for ecology and artistic outreach in Philadelphia. A dock extending north from South 56th Street will lead guests across the river to a hinged gangway attached to the edge of *FloatLab* that provides flexibility for the tidal changes in the river. *FloatLab* has two prominent design features – the lookout point, where guests can experience the river at eye level, and the wider high point, where classes and larger groups can gather. *FloatLab* will host group activities such as school field trips, arts events and science camps.

Philadelphia Art Commission  
Page Two  
September 23, 2020

The *FloatLab* structure and concept design is being led by Howeler + Yoon Architecture, together with Urban Engineers for design of *FloatLab*'s moorings, dock and gangway and overall construction management. Urban Engineers has submitted for review and approval applications now pending with the Philadelphia Department of License & Inspections and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. Philadelphia Department of Parks & Recreation has jurisdiction over the property along South 56th Street where *FloatLab*'s dock is to be located and has approved this site for its construction, acknowledging that JBA and MAA may make minor adjustments to the proposed location and layout of *FloatLab*.

Funding for *FloatLab* has been provided in part by the William Penn Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grants awarded to MAA and JBA.

*FloatLab* will be owned and operated by Bartram's Garden and is currently scheduled to be installed in the Schuylkill River in summer 2021 and open to the public in late September or early October 2021.

As requested, Mural Arts will provide the Art Commission our *FloatLab* submission materials and presentation slides on or before Wednesday, September 30, 2020. If you have questions or need any additional information prior to this submission date, please contact Mural Arts' Director of Special Projects Judy Hellman at [judy.hellman@muralarts.org](mailto:judy.hellman@muralarts.org) or phone at 215-868-6296 (mobile).

Mural Arts, Bartram's Garden, and Meejin Yoon look forward to presenting *FloatLab* before the Art Commission on Wednesday, October 7, 2020.

Sincerely,



Jane Golden  
Executive Director  
Mural Arts Philadelphia



Philadelphia Art Commission  
October 13, 2020

Submitted 9.30.2020

# FloatLab

**2901 & 3101 S. 56th Street**

Philadelphia, PA

## NARRATIVE

FloatLab will be located near the southern shoreline of Bartram's Garden, extending from the end of 56th street and the nearby Bartram's Mile Trail. Beginning at the end of 56th street, the existing fence will be adjusted to accommodate the entrance to a dock with a wooden deck that extends well beyond the nearby gabion wall berm before turning 90 degrees to reach deeper waters, and offer more length for viewing the 75' diameter structural ring. Access to the floating ring via a 65' wood deck aluminum gangway will be controlled with a security gate designed with a similar aesthetic to the guardrails, with a black frame and a mesh spanning between, allowing the guardrail to fade into the surrounding context. The main feature of the project is a 75' diameter yellow ring with an ADA-compliant sloped platform that allows visitors to engage directly with the river at eye level. While FloatLab intends to serve as a lens for seeing the river up close, the vibrant color of yellow inspired by the natural color of autumn leaves aspires to sharpen our focus from afar and bring increased attention and awareness to the river. In addition, tie-down cleats on FloatLab's exterior walls allow it to function as an access point and destination for the Garden's popular free boating programs, which serve an estimated 6,000 neighbors annually.

FloatLab's design sits at the juncture of art and science. Its striking curves and unparalleled vantage point to the river and the wider horizon are undergirded by its sophisticated system of ballast chambers, tethered to riverbed anchor piles and a hinged gangway that allows safe, level access shifting in sync with the river's currents and tidal fluctuations. As a lens by which to explore the river, the higher portion of FloatLab's loop can accommodate a full classroom visit or an arts audience, while the sloping platform invites visitors to connect with the river on their own terms and at their own level, whether collecting water samples, taking a plein air painting class, exploring a floating garden or a freshwater mussel bed, or simply contemplating the nuances of a living, tidal river that has sustained thousands of years of human and animal life. Crucially, FloatLab's innovative ballast system ensures that visitors can always access the river at eye level, provoking personal relationships—or, when necessary, allowing healing—with this storied river.

## PROJECT TEAM

### Owner:

John Bartram's Association  
5400 Lindbergh BLVD.  
Philadelphia, PA 19143  
215.729.5281

### Design Partner:

Mural Arts Philadelphia  
Lincoln Financial Mural Arts Center  
at the Thomas Eakins House  
1727-29 Mt. Vernon Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
215.685.0750

### Designer:

Howeler + Yoon Architecture LLP  
150 Lincoln Street, 3A  
Boston, MA. 02111  
617.517.4101

### Civil/Environmental Engineer:

Urban Engineers  
530 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
215.922.8080

### Naval Engineer:

C.R. Cushing  
30 Vesey Street 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10007  
212.964.1180



**BARTRAM'S GARDEN**



**C.R. CUSHING  
& CO., INC.**

## DRAWINGS LIST

G-001	DRAWING LIST + NARRATIVE
G-002	SITE DOCUMENTATION
G-030	SITE PLAN
A-100	PLAN
A-200	SITE SECTION
A-300	SOUTH ELEVATION
A-301	EAST & WEST ELEVATION
A-310	DOCK GUARDRAIL ELEVATION
A-500	APPROACH RENDERINGS
A-501	RAMP RENDERING
A-502	AERIAL RENDERING

## APPENDIX

APP-01	PARKS & REC LOCATION APPROVAL
APP-02	HÖWELER & YOON BIO

GENERAL NOTES

NO. DATE REVISION

REVIEW



**Howeler+Yoon Architecture**

**ARCHITECT**  
HOWELER+YOON ARCHITECTURE  
150 LINCOLN STREET #3A  
BOSTON, MA 02111  
T 617 517 4101  
WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

**C.R. CUSHING  
& CO., INC.**

**NAVAL ARCHITECT/MARINE ENGINEER**  
C.R. CUSHING  
30 VESEY STREET 7TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007  
T +1 212-964-1180  
F +1 212-285-1334  
WWW.CRCCO.COM



**CIVIL/ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**  
URBAN ENGINEERS  
530 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
T +1 215-922-8080  
F +1 215-922-8082  
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SCALE PROJECT NUMBER  
1/8" = 1'-0" 1510

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PROJECT

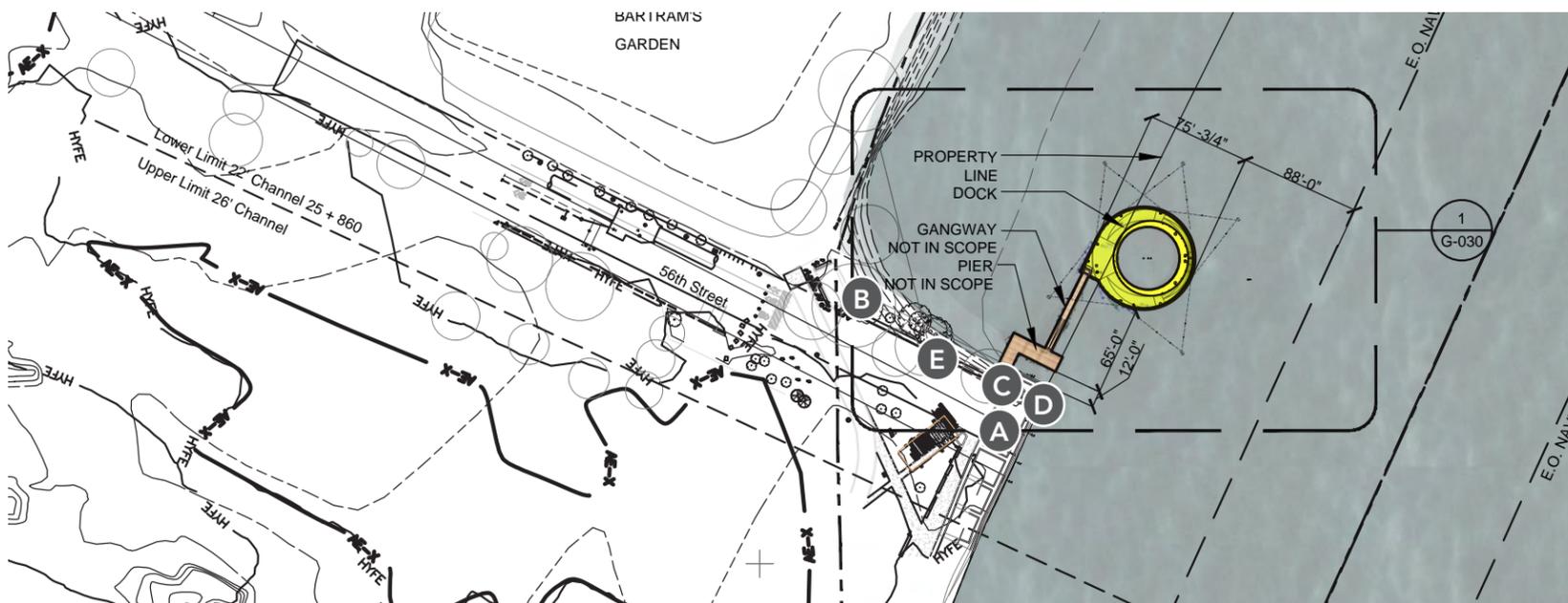
**FLOATLAB**

2901 & 3101 SOUTH 56th STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143

TITLE

**DRAWING LIST + NARRATIVE**

DATE SECTION DRAWING NUMBER  
09/30/2020 G 001



- A | View from Pavilion
- B | View from Bike Path
- C | View from 56th Street - Future dock entrance
- D | View from 56th Street - Future dock beyond gabion wall
- E | View from 56th Street - approach

GENERAL NOTES

NO. DATE REVISION

REVIEW



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**ARCHITECT**  
 HOWELER+YOON ARCHITECTURE  
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 BOSTON, MA 02111  
 T 617 517 4101  
 WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

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TITLE

**SITE DOCUMENTATION**

DATE  
 09/30/2020

SECTION  
 G

DRAWING NUMBER  
 010



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**ARCHITECT**  
HOWELER+YOON ARCHITECTURE  
150 LINCOLN STREET #3A  
BOSTON, MA 02111  
T 617 517 4101  
WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

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C.R. CUSHING  
30 VESEY STREET 7TH FLOOR  
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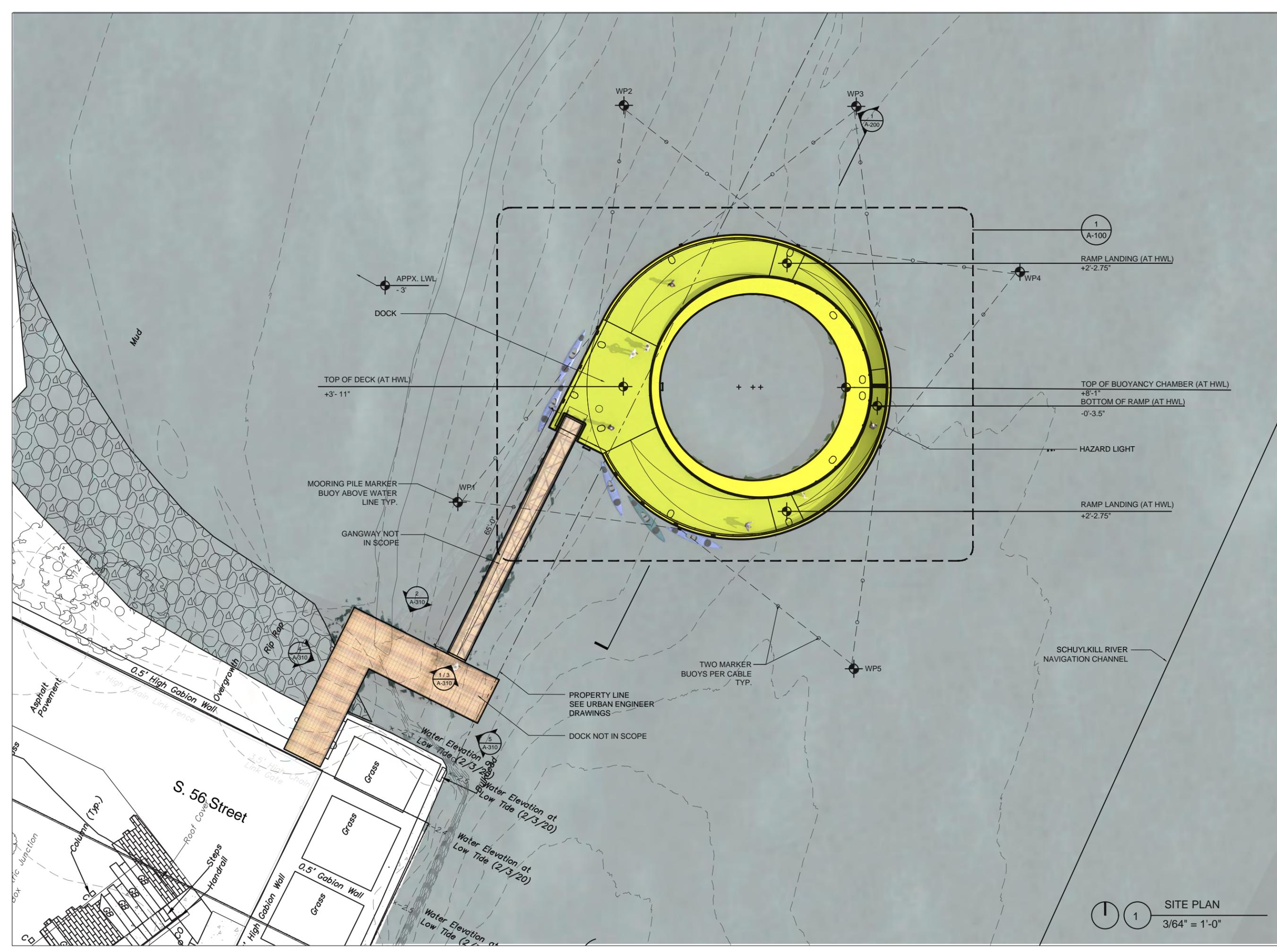
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SCALE 3/64"=1'  
PROJECT NUMBER 1510

PROJECT  
**FLOATLAB**  
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PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143

TITLE  
**SITE PLAN**

DATE 09/30/2020 SECTION G DRAWING NUMBER 30



1 SITE PLAN  
3/64" = 1'-0"



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**ARCHITECT**  
HOWELER+YOON ARCHITECTURE  
150 LINCOLN STREET #3A  
BOSTON, MA 02111  
T 617 517 4101  
WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

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**NAVAL ARCHITECT/MARINE ENGINEER**  
C.R. CUSHING  
30 VESEY STREET 7TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007  
T +1 212-964-1180  
F +1 212-285-1334  
WWW.CRCCO.COM



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530 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
T +1 215-922-8080  
F +1 215-922-8082  
WWW.URBANENGINEERS.COM

**G1** ARLUCE STONE55  
ONE-WAY RECESSED LIGHT  
MOUNTED TO FLOOR

**W1** ARLUCE THUNDER55  
ONE-WAY RECESSED LIGHT  
MOUNTED TO WALL

STAMP

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SCALE  
1/4" = 1'-0"

PROJECT NUMBER  
1510

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PROJECT

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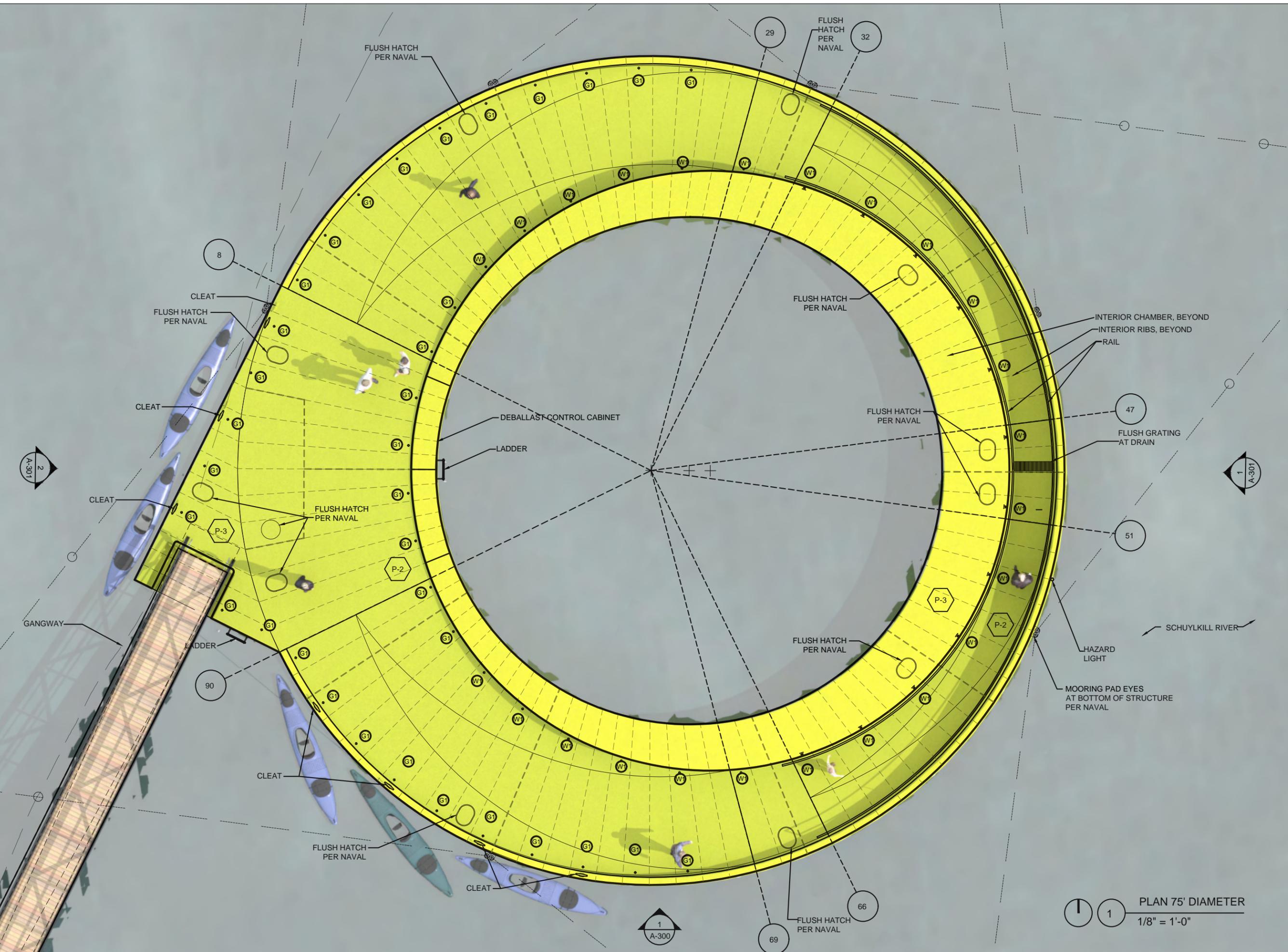
TITLE

PLAN

DATE  
09/30/2020

SECTION  
A

DRAWING NUMBER  
100



PLAN 75' DIAMETER  
1/8" = 1'-0"



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**ARCHITECT**  
HOWELER+YOON ARCHITECTURE  
150 LINCOLN STREET #3A  
BOSTON, MA 02111  
T 617 517 4101  
WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

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30 VESEY STREET 7TH FLOOR  
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WWW.CRCCO.COM



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SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0" PROJECT NUMBER: 1510

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PROJECT:

**FLOATLAB**

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PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143

**SITE SECTION**

DATE: 09/30/2020

SECTION: A

DRAWING NUMBER: 200

1 SITE SECTION  
1/16" = 1'-0"

SHORE LINE

DOCK

GANGWAY  
BUOYANCY CHAMBER  
TOP OF RAMP

75'-3/4"

+8'-1" T.O. BUOYANCY CHAMBER

+7'-4" BANK

+3'-11" T.O. DECK

+3'-2" MEAN HIGH WATER

0'-0" NAVD-88

-2'-10.875" B.O. FLOATLAB

-2'-10" MEAN LOW WATER

-5'-11" CABLE TO PILE CONNECTION



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ARCHITECT  
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SCALE  
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PROJECT NUMBER  
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PROJECT

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PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143

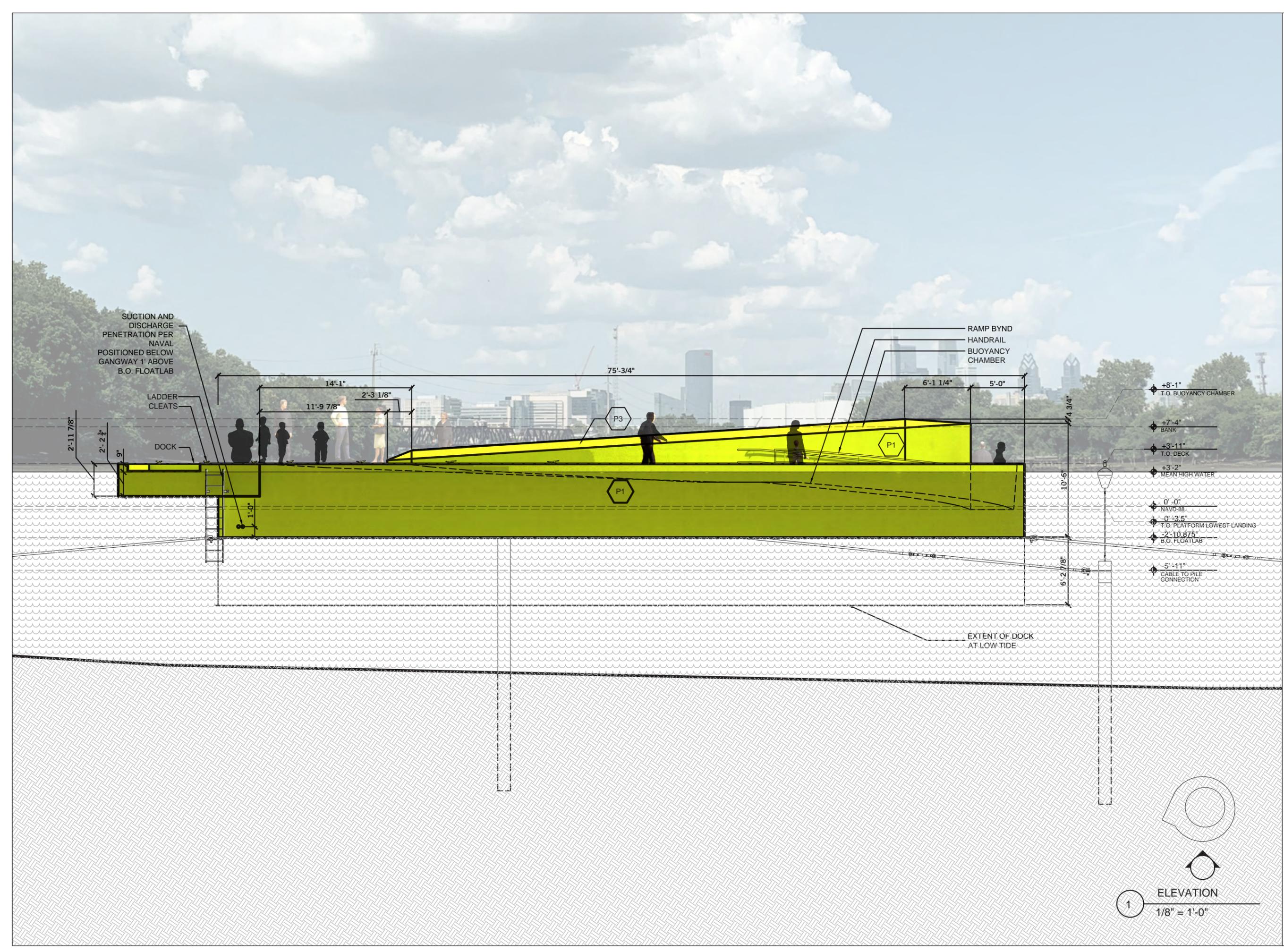
TITLE

SOUTH ELEVATION

DATE  
09/30/2020

SECTION  
A

DRAWING NUMBER  
300



1  
ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



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**ARCHITECT**  
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 150 LINCOLN STREET #3A  
 BOSTON, MA 02111  
 T 617 517 4101  
 WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

**C.R. CUSHING & CO., INC.**

**NAVAL ARCHITECT/MARINE ENGINEER**  
 C.R. CUSHING  
 30 VESEY STREET 7TH FLOOR  
 NEW YORK, NY 10007  
 T +1 212-964-1180  
 F +1 212-285-1334  
 WWW.CRCCO.COM



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 URBAN ENGINEERS  
 530 WALNUT STREET  
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SCALE

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PROJECT NUMBER

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PROJECT

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TITLE

**EAST % WEST ELEV.**

DATE

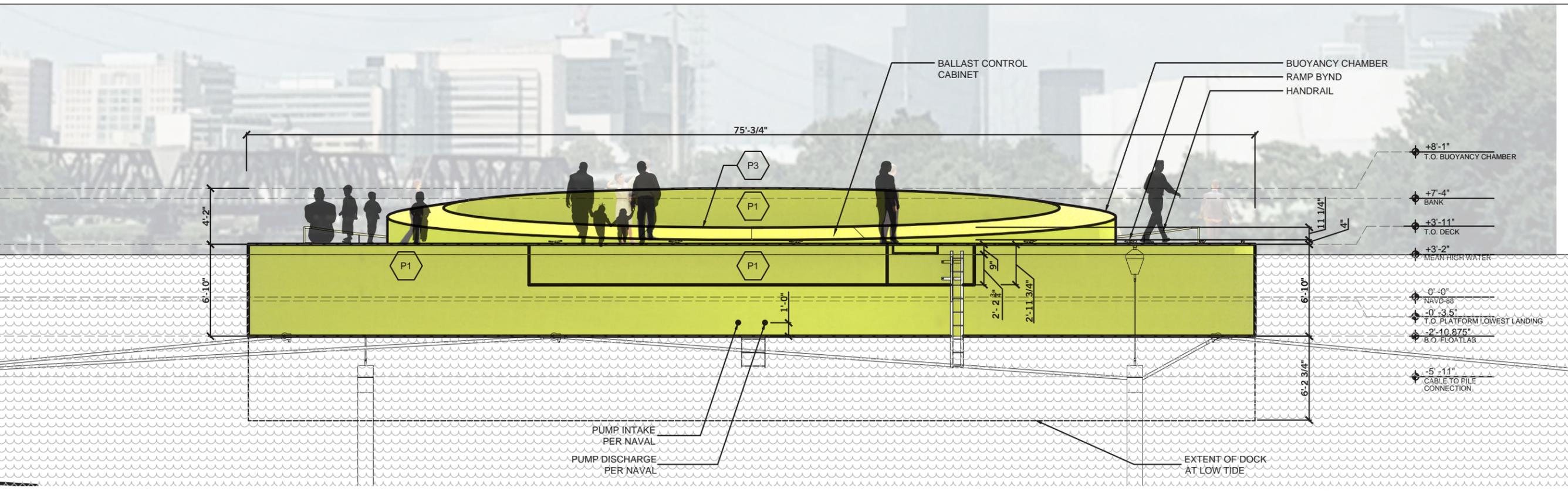
09/30/2020

SECTION

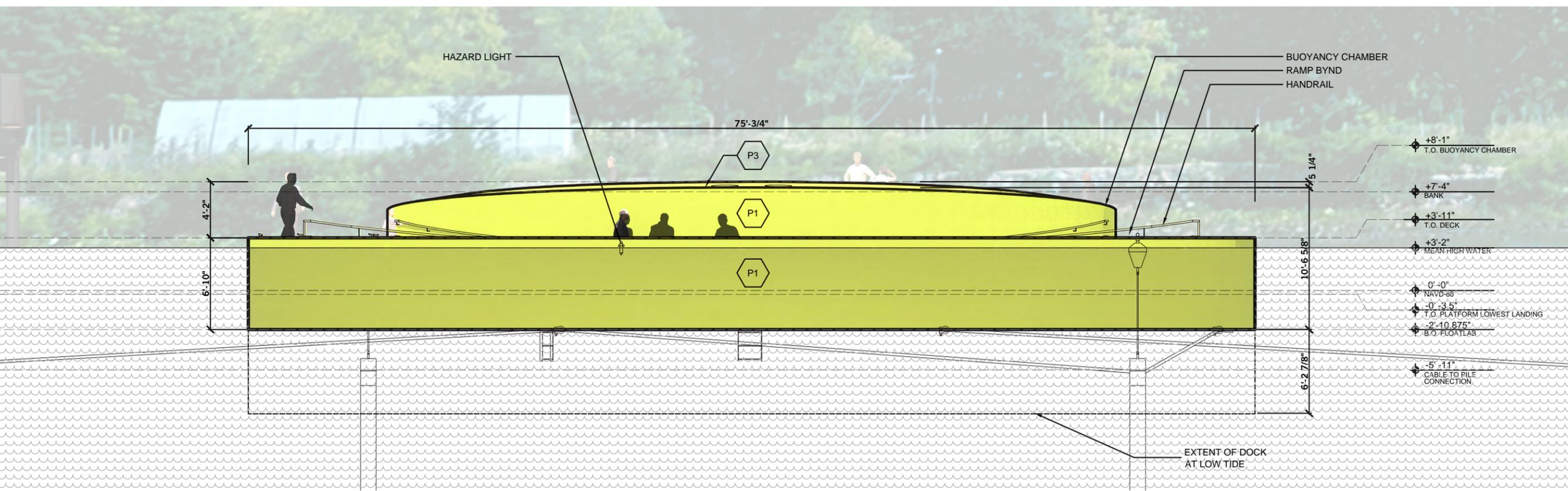
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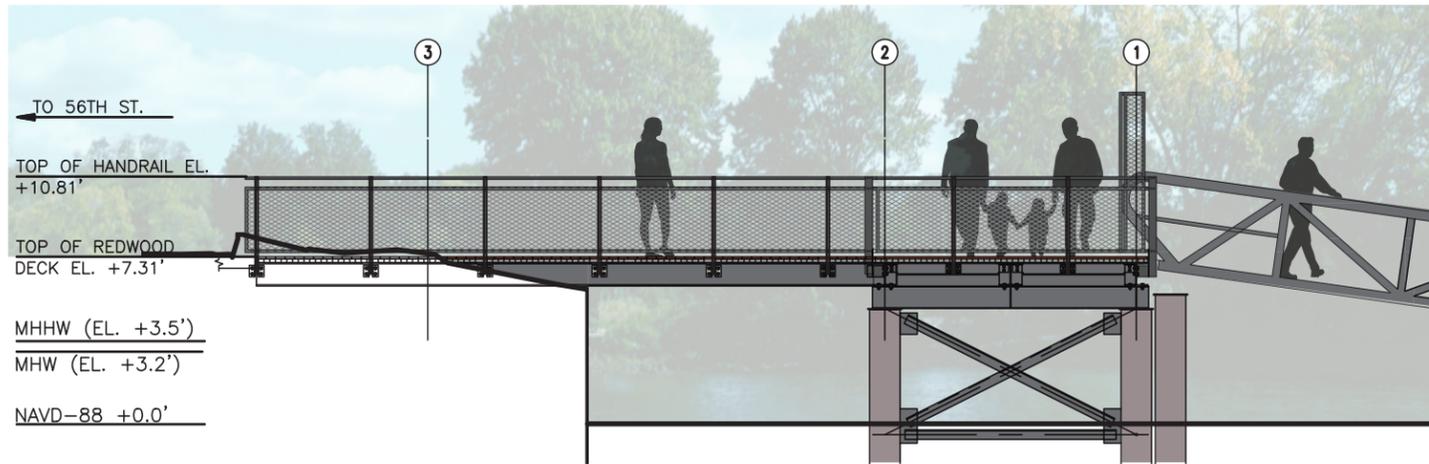
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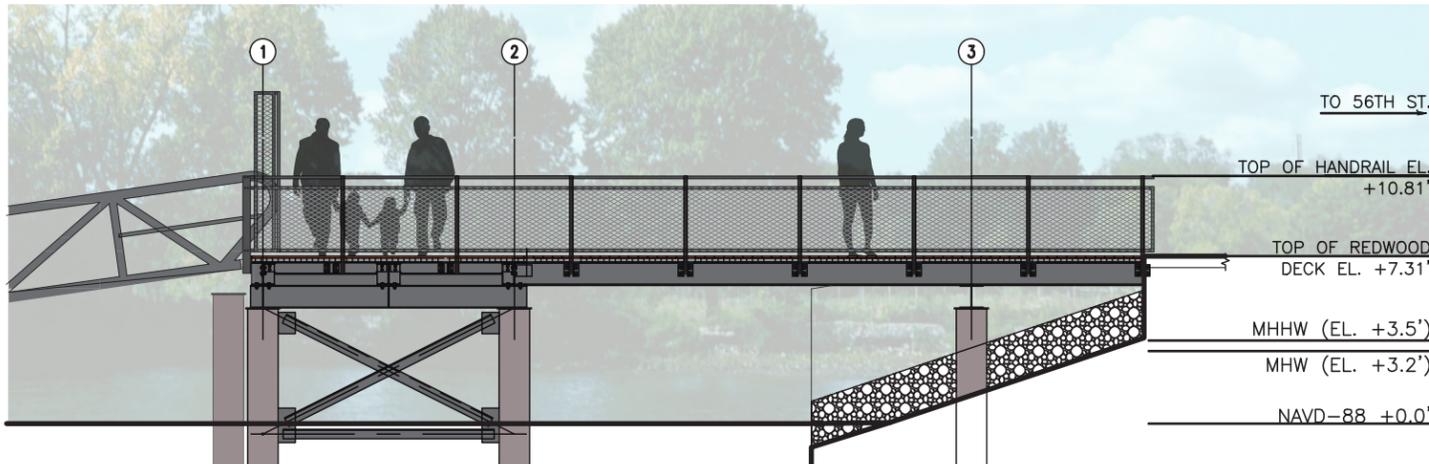
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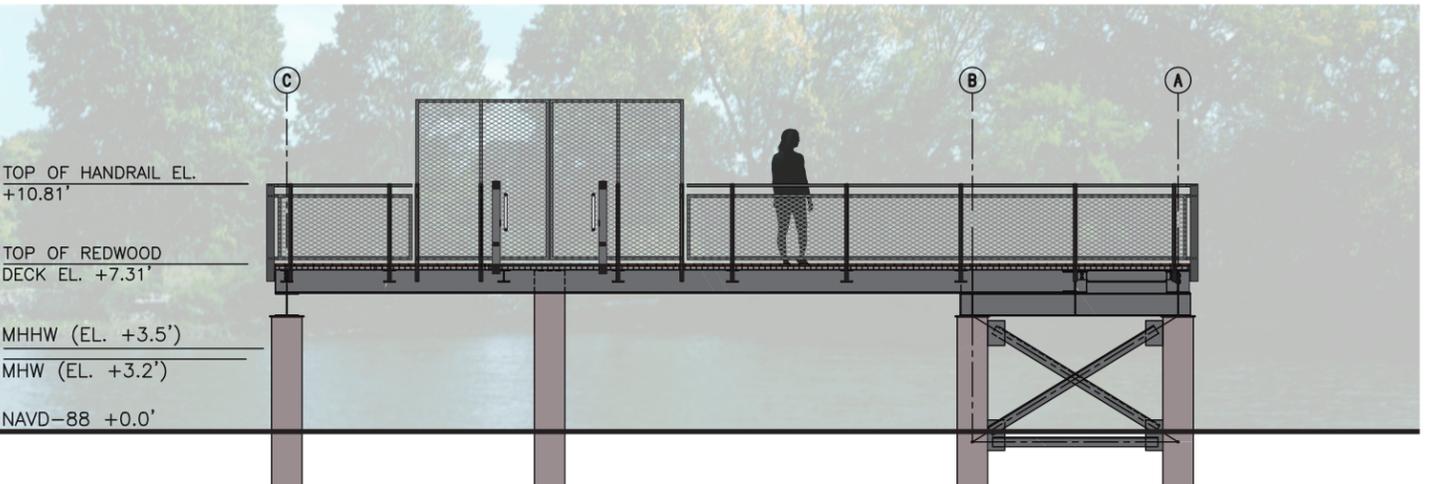
**EAST ELEVATION**  
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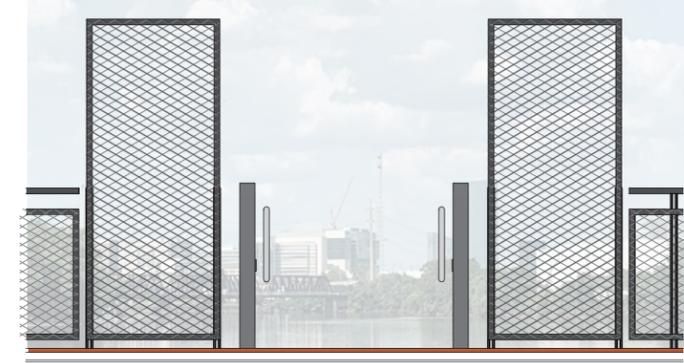
5 SE ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



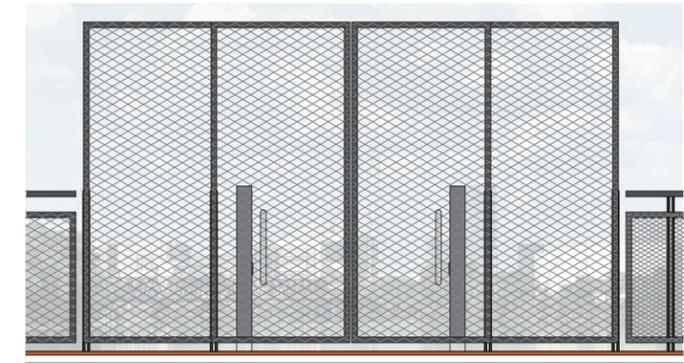
4 NW ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



2 NE ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



3 OPEN GATE ELEVATION  
1/4" = 1'-0"



1 CLOSED GATE ELEVATION  
1/4" = 1'-0"

GENERAL NOTES

NO. DATE REVISION

REVIEW



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**ARCHITECT**  
HOWELER+YOON ARCHITECTURE  
150 LINCOLN STREET #3A  
BOSTON, MA 02111  
T 617 517 4101  
WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

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C.R. CUSHING  
30 VESEY STREET 7TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007  
T +1 212-964-1180  
F +1 212-285-1334  
WWW.CRCCO.COM



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URBAN ENGINEERS  
530 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
T +1 215-922-8080  
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**FLOATLAB**

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PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143

TITLE

**DOCK GUARDRAIL ELEVS.**

DATE  
09/30/2020

SECTION  
A

DRAWING NUMBER  
310



GENERAL NOTES

NO. DATE REVISION

REVIEW



**Höweler+Yoon Architecture**

**ARCHITECT**  
 HOWELER+YOON ARCHITECTURE  
 150 LINCOLN STREET #3A  
 BOSTON, MA 02111  
 T 617 517 4101  
 WWW.HOWELERYOON.COM

**C.R. CUSHING  
 & CO., INC.**

**NAVAL ARCHITECT/MARINE ENGINEER**  
 C.R. CUSHING  
 30 VESEY STREET 7TH FLOOR  
 NEW YORK, NY 10007  
 T +1 212-964-1180  
 F +1 212-285-1334  
 WWW.CRCCO.COM



**CIVIL/ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**  
 URBAN ENGINEERS  
 530 WALNUT STREET  
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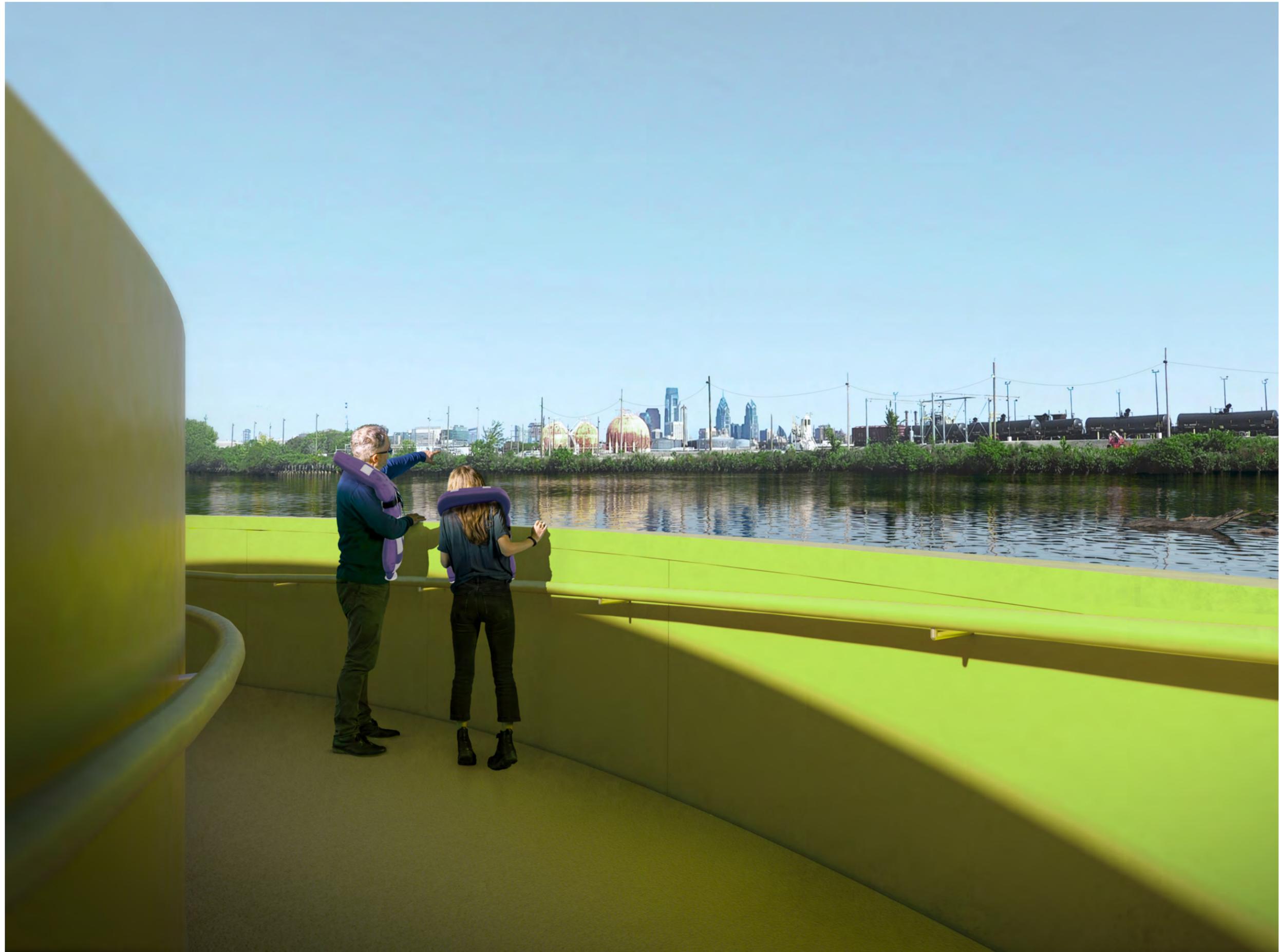
TITLE

APPROACH RENDERINGS

DATE  
 09/30/2020

SECTION  
 A

DRAWING NUMBER  
 500



GENERAL NOTES

NO. DATE REVISION

REVIEW



**Höweler+Yoon Architecture**

**ARCHITECT**  
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 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143

TITLE

**RAMP RENDERINGS**

DATE  
 09/30/2020

SECTION  
 A

DRAWING NUMBER  
 501



GENERAL NOTES

NO. DATE REVISION

REVIEW



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**ARCHITECT**  
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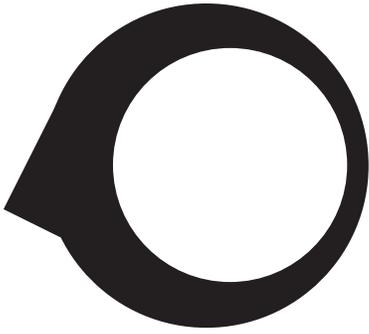
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**AERIAL RENDERINGS**

DATE  
 09/30/2020

SECTION  
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DRAWING NUMBER  
 502



# FloatLab

2901 & 3101 S. 56th Street

Philadelphia, PA

## APP-01 : PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION LOCATION APPROVAL





# CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION  
One Parkway Building  
1515 Arch Street, 10th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102-1587  
(215) 683-3686  
kathryn.ott.lovell@phila.gov

KATHRYN OTT LOVELL  
Commissioner

June 9, 2020

Maitreyi Roy  
Executive Director  
John Bartram Association  
5400 Lindbergh Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Magda Martinez  
Chief Operating Officer  
Philadelphia Mural Arts Advocates  
Lincoln Financial Mural Arts Center  
At the Thomas Eakins House  
1727-29 Mount Vernon Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130

Re: Bartram's Garden - FloatLab Project

Dear Maitreyi and Magda:

The Department of Parks and Recreation (the "Department") has consulted with the John Bartram Association ("JBA") and Mural Arts Philadelphia ("MAP") in the development of a project known as "FloatLab".

JBA and MAP are co-developing FloatLab, a floating art installation designed by J. Meejin Yoon and Howeler + Yoon Architecture. Scheduled for completion in 2021, FloatLab will be a one-of-a-kind, state-of-the-art installation and learning laboratory on the Schuylkill River waterfront. FloatLab will be a floating, publicly-accessible ring, including moorings to which the ring will be tethered in the river. The project will interpret the ecological health of the river directly adjacent to Bartram's Garden, and teach the public how to become environmental stewards.

FloatLab will be connected to the shore at Bartram's Garden by a dock and gangway, accessible from Bartram's Garden via 56<sup>th</sup> Street. A site plan showing the layout of the dock and gangway is attached to this letter as Exhibit A. You have requested approval of this layout and location from the Department. The land upon which the dock is to be constructed is known as 3101 South 56<sup>th</sup> Street

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**APP-01 : Parks & Rec Location Approval**

Bartram's Garden – FloatLab Project

may travel to reach FloatLab include but are not limited to 3000 South 56<sup>th</sup> Street and 2901 South 56<sup>th</sup> Street.)

The Department reviewed the site plan and other renderings that were provided and, as the Department having jurisdiction over 3101 South 56<sup>th</sup> Street, approves this location and layout. The Department acknowledges that JBA and MAP may make minor adjustments to the proposed location and layout of FloatLab, with the understanding that JBA and MAP will consult with the Department in connection with any material changes that significantly differ from the site plan location and layout.

The site plan location and layout approval set forth in this letter will allow you and your representatives to proceed with obtaining the necessary permits for the FloatLab and its associated dock and gangway from all federal, state and local bodies having jurisdiction over the project. This letter is not a substitute for any other approvals or permits that may be required by the City of Philadelphia.

Very truly yours,

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, through the  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

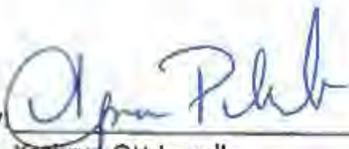
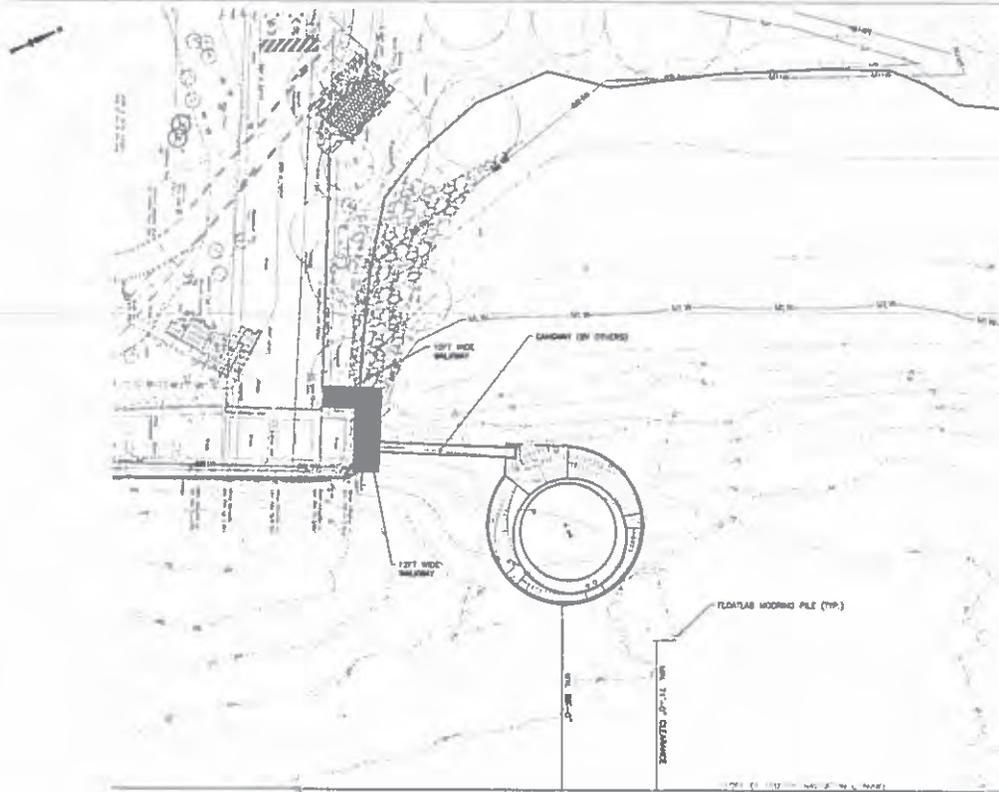
By   
FOX Kathryn Ott Lovell  
Commissioner

EXHIBIT A  
LOCATION OF FLOATLAB



1 FLOATLAB DOCK & GANGWAY PLAN  
 0-1  
 0-1

NOTES:  
 1 FOR GENERAL NOTES, SEE DRAWINGS DR-1 & DR-2.

ISSUED FOR REVIEW  
 DATE 02/11/11

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

**HCV**  
 Hovde-Voss Architecture

ARCHITECT  
 1000 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, SUITE 1000  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
 TEL: 215-561-1111  
 WWW.HOVDEVOS.COM

**C.R. CUSHING & CO., INC.**  
 CIVIL ENGINEERING & SURVEYING  
 1000 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, SUITE 1000  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
 TEL: 215-561-1111  
 WWW.CRCSURV.COM

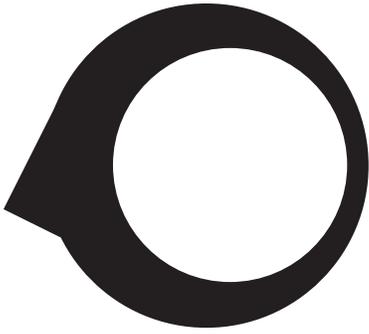
**URBAN ENGINEERS**  
 CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS  
 URBAN ENGINEERING  
 630 WINDY HILL DRIVE  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
 TEL: 215-822-0000  
 WWW.URBANENGINEERS.COM

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION  
 USE ONLY FOR COORDINATION

AD SECTION 1310  
 DATE 02/11/11

**Floatlab**  
 630 WINDY HILL DRIVE  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106

Floatlab Dock & Gangway Plan



# FloatLab

2901 & 3101 S. 56th Street

Philadelphia, PA

APP-02 : HÖWELER & YOON ARCHITECTURE BIO





**Höweler + Yoon Architecture** is a design-driven architecture practice and creative studio that believes design is an instrument for imagining and implementing change – social, cultural, technological, and environmental. Since 2005, Höweler + Yoon has built a reputation for work that is formally and technologically innovative, socially engaged, and conceptually rigorous. Höweler + Yoon has done unprecedented work in atypical fields: interactive landscapes, submersible structures, stone vaulting, and media projects. Their projects ask how design fits within contemporary culture, how it can affect behavioral and social norms, and how it can produce a sense of place or create environmental awareness. Projects range from cultural and institutional buildings, mixed-use residential and commercial buildings, to public spaces, interactive environments, and research projects. Specializing in special projects, Höweler + Yoon is a dedicated group of 20+ architects, designers, and researchers.

**J. Meejin Yoon** is an architect, designer, and educator. She is currently the Gale and Ira Drukier Dean of Cornell University's College of Architecture, Art, and Planning. Previously, she was Professor and Head of the Department of Architecture at MIT where she began teaching in 2001. Yoon is the co-founding principal of Höweler + Yoon Architecture, a multidisciplinary architecture and design studio that has garnered international recognition for a wide range of built work. Her design work and

research investigate the intersections between architecture, technology, and public space. Yoon received the New Generation Design Leadership Award by Architectural Record (2015), the US Artist Award in Architecture and Design (2008), and the Rome Prize in Design (2005). She is the co-author of *Public Works: Unsolicited Small Projects for the Big Dig and Absence*. Yoon received a Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University with the AIA Henry Adams Medal in 1995, a Master of Architecture in Urban Design with Distinction from Harvard University in 1997, and a Fulbright Fellowship to Korea in 1998.

**Eric Höweler** is an architect, designer, and educator. He is currently Associate Professor in Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. His design work and research explore the relationships between architecture and building technologies with a focus on envelopes and material systems. Prior to forming Höweler + Yoon Architecture in 2005, Höweler was a senior designer at Diller Scofidio + Renfro in New York, and an Associate Principal at Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates. Höweler has been widely recognized for his innovative and interdisciplinary work. He is author of *Skyscraper, Vertical Now* (Rizzoli/Universe 2003) and co-author of *1,001 Skyscrapers* (Princeton Architectural Press 2000). Höweler received a Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University with the AIA Henry Adams Certificate in 1994, a Master of Architecture from Cornell University in 1996.



**Bridge House**  
McLean, VA (2014)



**White Noise White Light**  
Athens, Greece (2004)



**Downtown Crossing Amphitheater and Plaza**  
Boston, MA (2016)



**MIT Museum**  
Cambridge, MA (est 2021)



**Coolidge Corner Theatre**  
Brookline, MA (est 2021)



**BSA | Space**  
Boston, MA (2011)



**Sky Courts Exhibition Hall**  
Chengdu, China (2012)



**Oblique House**  
McLean, VA (2019)



**MIT Sean Collier Memorial**  
Cambridge, MA (2015)



**UVA Memorial to Enslaved Laborers**  
Charlottesville, VA (2020)



**212 Stuart Street**  
Boston, MA (est 2021)



**ShadowPlay**  
Phoenix, AZ (2015)



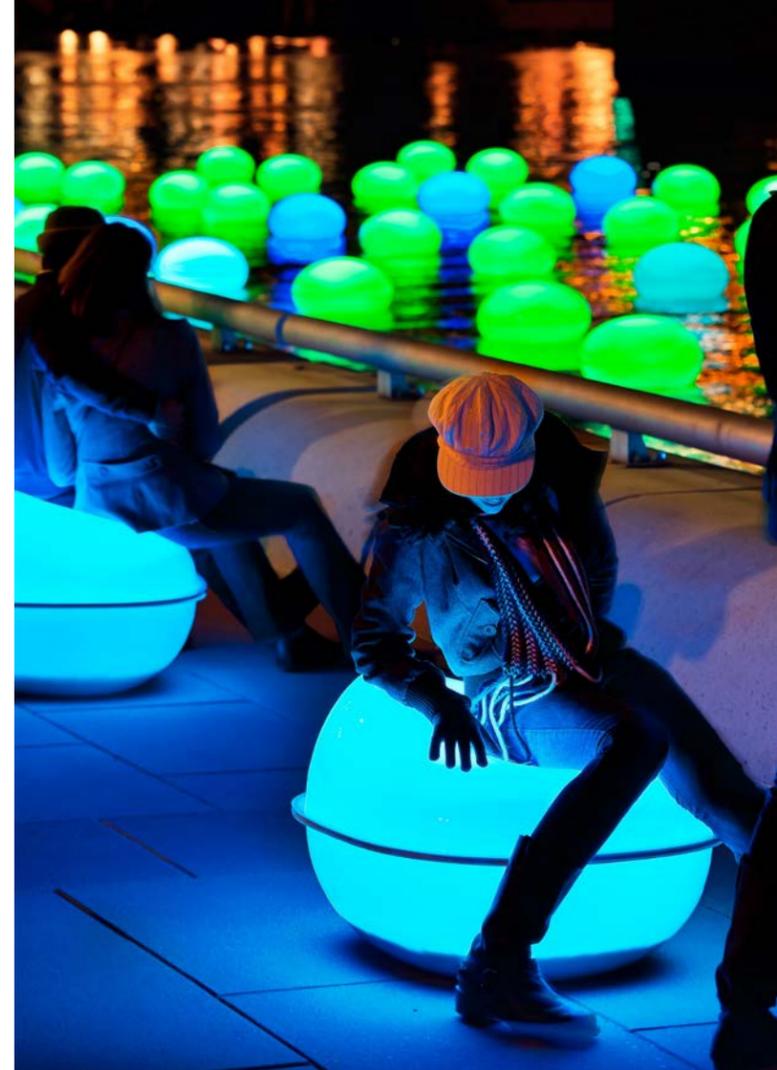
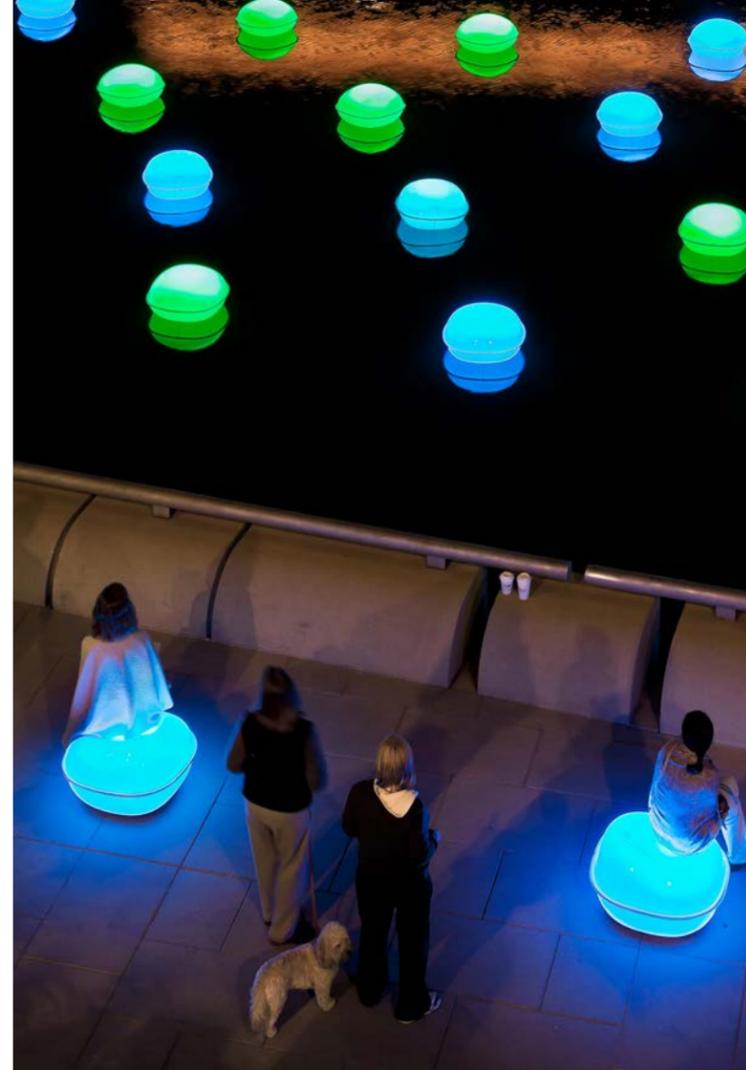
**Light Drift**  
Philadelphia, PA (2010)



**Kerry Pavilion**  
Qianhai, China (est 2020)



**Low Rez / Hi Fi**  
Washington DC (2007)



# Light Drift

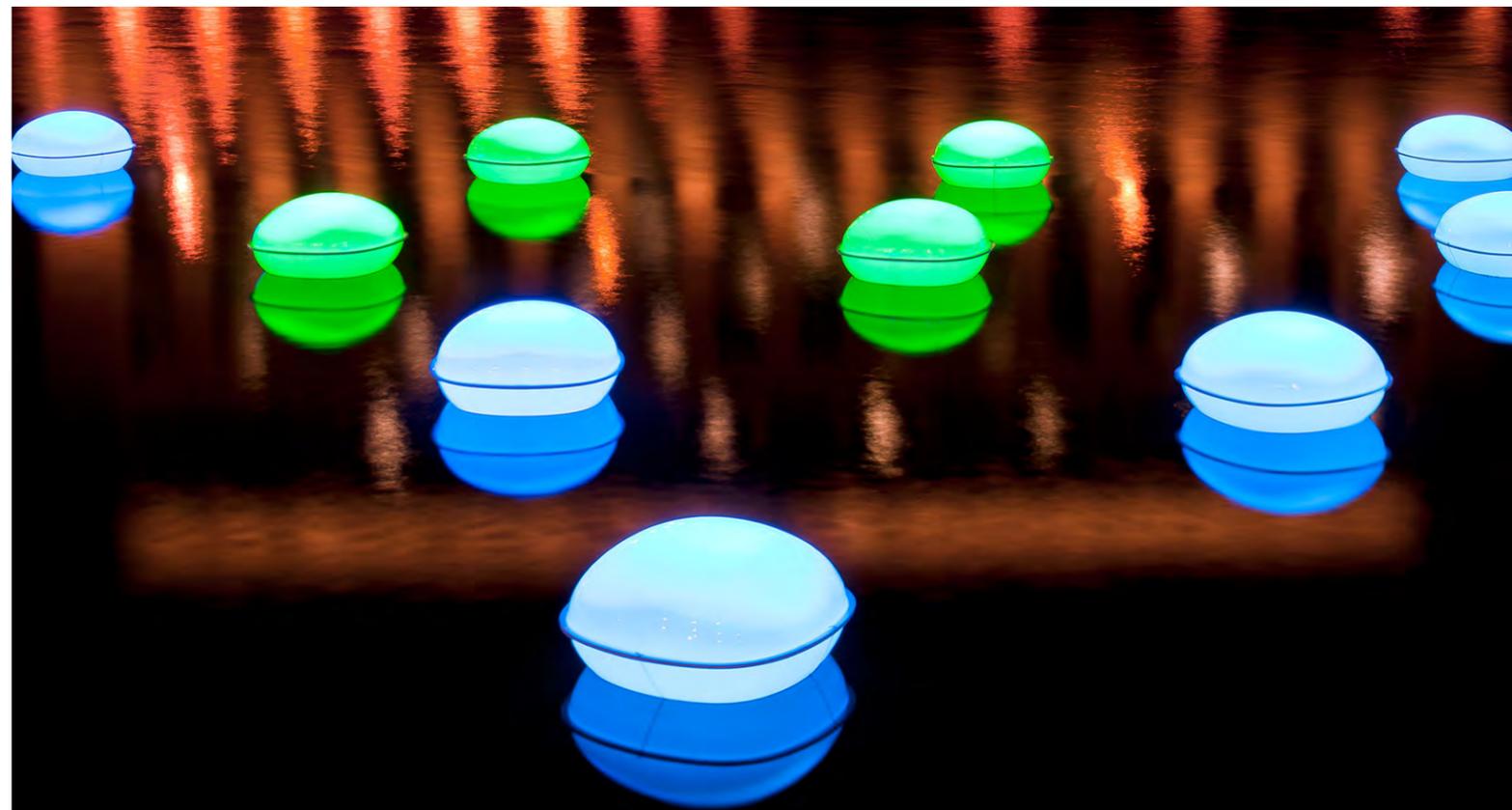
## INTERACTIVE FLOATING INSTALLATION

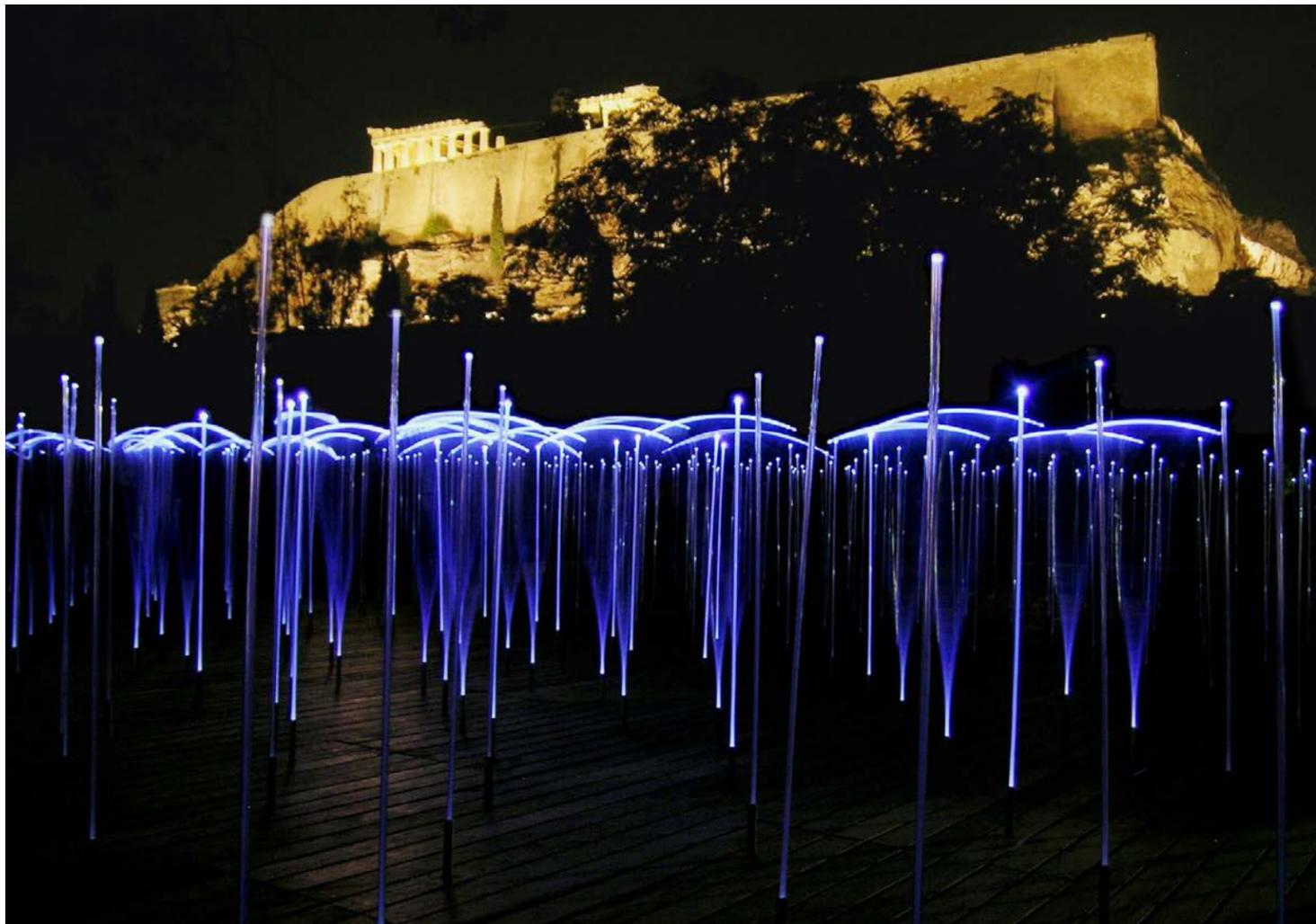
<b>COMPLETED</b>	2010
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Interactive Public Art
<b>MATERIALS</b>	PETG Plastic, LED Lights, IR Sensors
<b>LOCATION</b>	Philadelphia, PA
<b>SCOPE</b>	Installation design
<b>CLIENT</b>	Philadelphia Mural Arts
<b>BUDGET</b>	\$85,000 MAP, \$30,000 MIT

### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

- Commissioned by Philadelphia Mural Arts
- Coordination and Approvals with SRDC, and Philadelphia Parks + Recreation

Light Drift is a temporary interactive lighting installation along the edge of the Schuylkill River drawing viewers into a playful engagement with the artwork, the river's edge, and each other. The project creates a matrix of lighting elements that were arrayed along the waterfront, with seating elements on land and floating elements in the water. The orbs on land use sensors to detect the presence of a person and relay a radio signal to the corresponding orbs in the water, allowing visitors to transform the lighting behavior and color of the orbs in the river. As viewers engage and occupy the orbs along the park, the grid of lights in the water becomes an index of the activities on land. Multiple viewers create intersections of linear patterns, encouraging viewers to play together.





# White Noise White Light

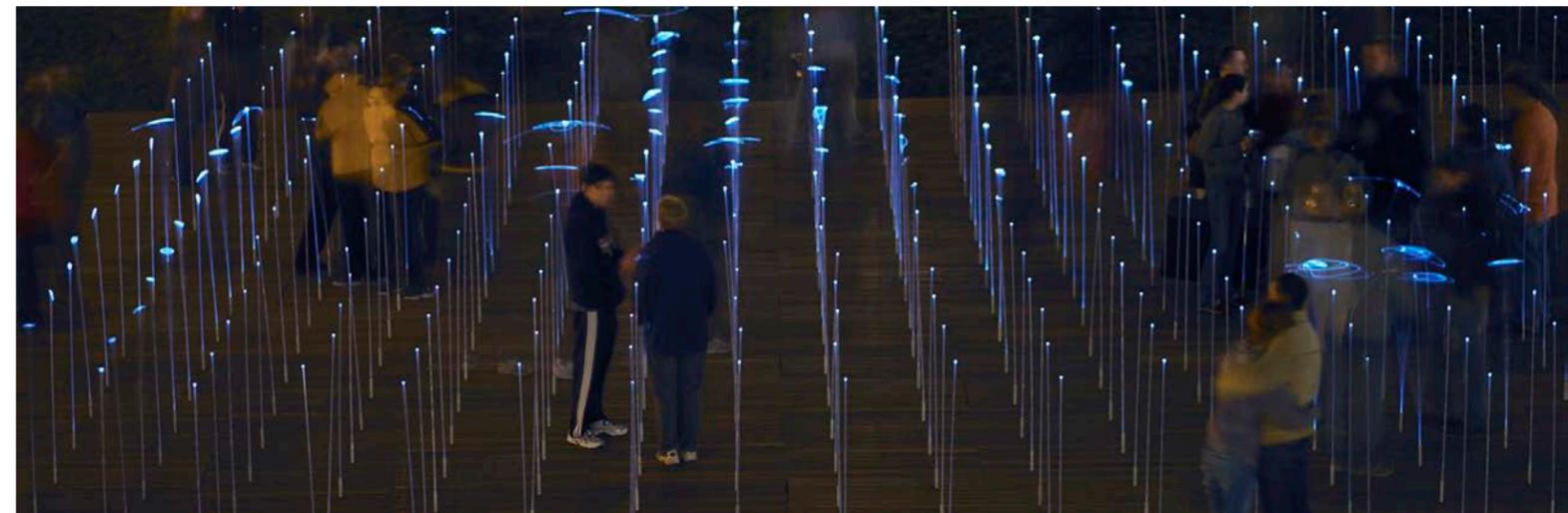
## INTERACTIVE LANDSCAPE

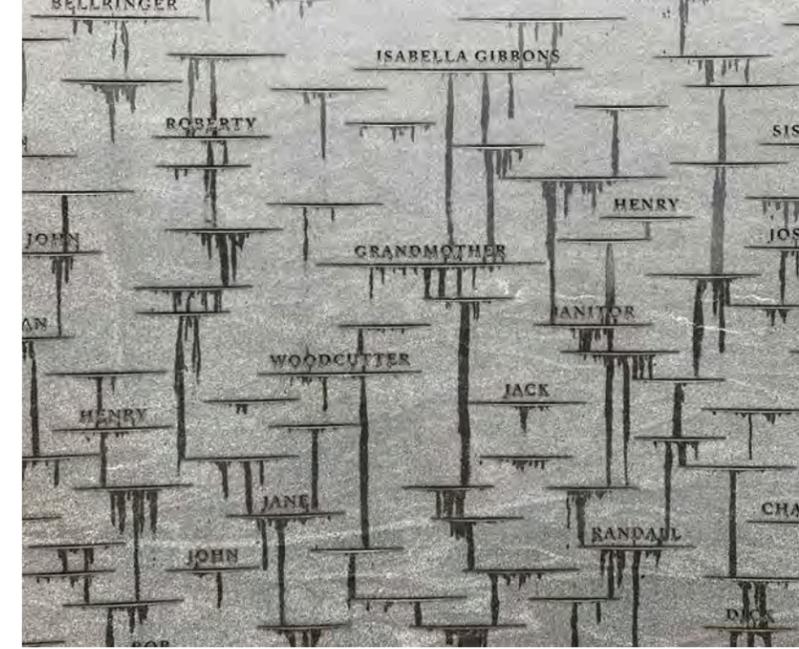
**COMPLETED** 2004  
**PROGRAM** Temporary Public Art installation  
**LOCATION** Athens, Greece  
**CLIENT** Athens 2004 Olympic Committee  
**SCOPE** Installation design  
**MATERIALS** Fiber-optics, electronic modules with passive infrared sensors

### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

- Commissioned by the Athens 2004 Olympic Committee.
- Reviewed by the National Archeology Society due to proximity to Acropolis

White Noise / White Light was one of 9 temporary interactive urban installations commissioned and installed for the Athens 2004 Olympics. The project inserted a luminous interactive soundscape within an urban public plaza to create a constantly publicly choreographed field in flux. Semi-flexible fiber-optic strands, arranged in a fading grid, responded to the movement of pedestrians through the field by emitting white light and white noise. Activated by the passersby, the fiber optics transmit light from white LEDs while the speakers below the raised deck emit white noise. This field of white noise creates a unique sound-scape in the city and masks out the noises from the immediate context, forming a place of sonic refuge within the bustling city. If motion is detected, the white LED illumination grows brighter while the white noise increases in volume. Once motion is no longer detected, the microprocessor smoothly decreases the light and fades the sound to silence. The movement of pedestrians creates an afterglow effect in the form of a flickering wake of white light and white noise, trailing and tracing visitors as they cross the field. Depending on the time of day, number of people, and trajectories of movement, the project is constantly being choreographed by the cumulative interaction of the public.





# UVA Memorial to Enslaved Laborers

## COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DESIGN

<b>COMPLETED</b>	2020
<b>LOCATION</b>	Charlottesville, Virginia
<b>SCOPE</b>	Architectural design
<b>CLIENT</b>	University of Virginia
<b>MATERIALS</b>	Granite, pavers
<b>COLLABORATORS</b>	Mabel Wilson, Eto Otitigbe, GBLA, Frank Dukes, et al

### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

- Memorial located on part of the UVA campus designated a UNESCO World Heritage site
- Deep community engagement process informed design, site choice, aspirations.
- Several public forums, surveys, and extended engagement with university members, as well as descendants of the enslaved and others from the Charlottesville community.

The Memorial to Enslaved Laborers (MEL) at the University of Virginia (UVA) honors the lives, labor, and perseverance of the community of enslaved African Americans who built UVA and sustained daily life at the University during the 19th century. As part of a student-initiated effort to critically examine its institutional history, UVA commissioned a memorial to the 4000 enslaved laborers who constructed and maintained the UVA campus (designed by Thomas Jefferson, a slaveholder.) MEL, the result of a collaborative design process involving the Charlottesville community and descendants of the enslaved, is sited in the valley on the east side of the Lawn, directly east of the rotunda. The memorial, an abstract granite ring embedded in the terrain, reveals a circular gathering space for the community, a center for the public conversation that initially catalyzed it.





# Shadow Play

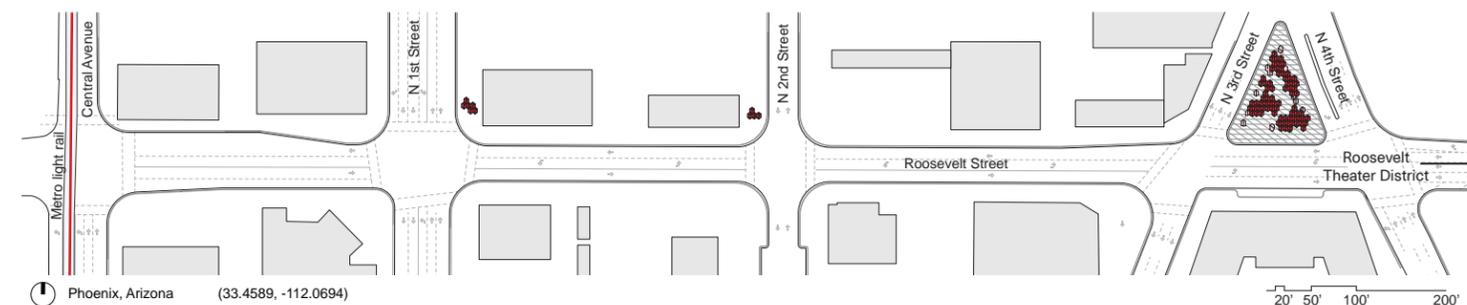
## CONTEXT DRIVEN PLACE-MAKING

**COMPLETED** 2015  
**LOCATION** Phoenix, AZ  
**CLIENT** City of Phoenix  
**SCOPE** Installation design  
**MATERIALS** Steel, Photovoltaic Panels

### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

- Design selected through a juried process organized by the City of Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture.
- Public presentation and Community Engagement
- Department of transportation approval process
- Funding by Federal Government for sidewalk widening and traffic calming.

Inspired by the heat of the desert sun in Phoenix, Shadow Play proposes a family of sculptural shading elements. Each individual marker is made up of a folded surface. In its most compact form, it is a seat. Aggregated together the units form a screen-like canopy, a theater of shadows, both filtering sunlight and capturing the breeze, producing an oasis-like island within the city. The set of canopies are part of an urban strategy to encourage public transit usage. Dotted along Roosevelt St, they provide respite from the sun for pedestrians traveling between the theater district and metro light rail.





# Downtown Crossing Plaza + Amphitheater

## THEATER OF THE STREET

<b>COMPLETED</b>	2016
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Public space, transit hub
<b>LOCATION</b>	Boston, MA
<b>CLIENT</b>	Millennium Partners Boston
<b>SCOPE</b>	Architectural design (New construction)
<b>BUDGET</b>	\$2.8 M
<b>MATERIALS</b>	Glass, Steel, Concrete, Pavers, Stone

### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

- Design Review by Boston Redevelopment Authority.
- Reviewed by the Boston Civic Design Commission.

In a public-private partnership between Millennium Partners and Boston, HYA enriched Downtown Boston's public realm, historically a retail destination but desolate since the 2000's. In exchange for use of a public turnaround, the developer rebuilt the intersection as a mixed-traffic plaza, drawing it into a network of small public spaces downtown. The plaza peels up to reveal the entrance to Downtown Crossing MBTA station, one of the city's busiest subway stops. Atop the headhouse, concrete steps form an amphitheater, allowing the public to reclaim 1000 sf of much-needed 'slow public space.'





# Collier Memorial

## TRANSLATING FORCE INTO FORM

<b>COMPLETED</b>	2015
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Public gateway / memorial
<b>LOCATION</b>	Cambridge, MA
<b>CLIENT</b>	MIT
<b>SCOPE</b>	Architectural design (New construction)
<b>MATERIALS</b>	32 Solid granite blocks
<b>CONSULTANTS</b>	Richard Burck Associates, Knippers Helbig

### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

- Memorial committee consisted of friends, police officers, and MIT leadership
- City of Cambridge permit review
- Structural engineer peer review

The memorial design translates the ideals of “Collier Strong” into a structure that embodies both strength and connectedness. Inspired by the gesture of an Open Hand, the memorial consists of five radial walls which meet at a center. The central intersection of walls is then hollowed out to create a space of unity as oppose to separation—creating in its void a space for remembrance. Located at the gateway to North Court, the memorial structure and landscape transforms this site of tragedy into a site of reflection. An interconnected and intimate landscape of rocks and trees creates a space for contemplation shielded from the activities of Vassar Street and the campus. Constructed of solid granite blocks which act as buttresses-- the five walls converge to support a “keystone” which unifies the whole structure-- a timeless building method which exemplifies strength and unity.



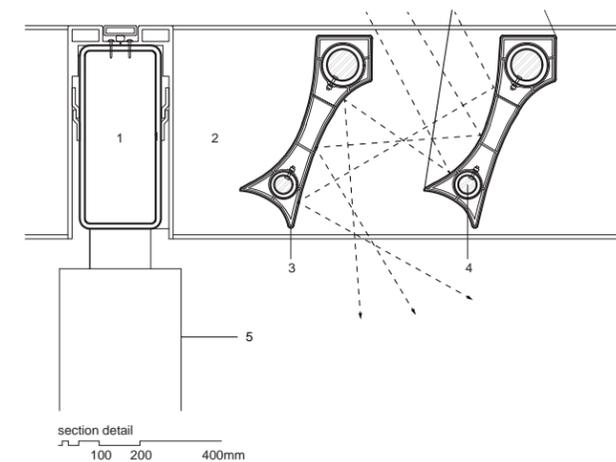
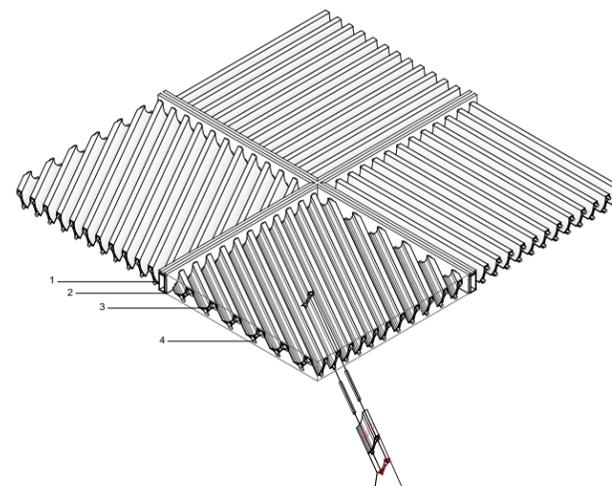


# Qianhai Shade Pavilion

## CLIMATE INSPIRED PLACE-MAKING

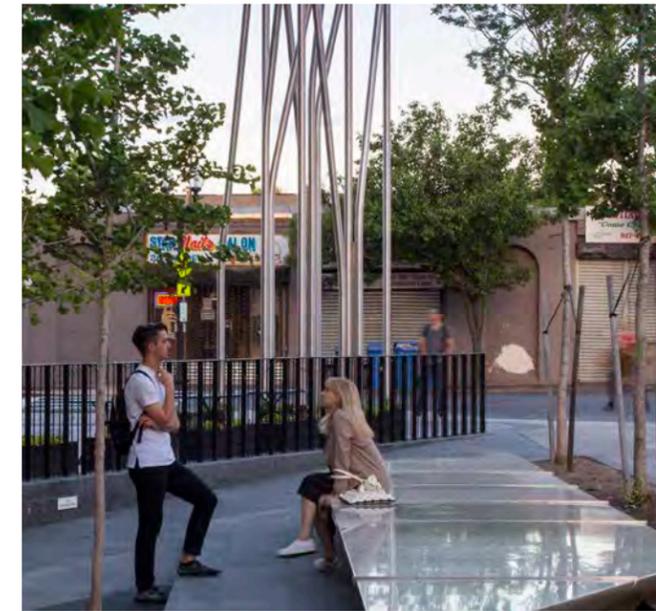
**COMPLETION** In-progress (est 2021)  
**PROGRAM** Retail pavilion, public space  
**LOCATION** Shenzhen, China  
**CLIENT** Kerry Properties  
**SCOPE** Architectural design  
 (New construction)  
**MATERIALS** Aluminum louvers, steel, glass  
**COLLABORATORS** KPF

The Qianhai Shade Pavilion sits within a new park in a large commercial development in Shenzhen's third Central Business District. Hovering over the glassy pavilion sits an expansive trellis, which creates a shaded outdoor area much larger than the pavilion itself. It serves as a programmatic feature for the park and small event space. The louvers of the trellis are designed to maximize indirect light, and so visitors the park experience both a cool, shaded ground plane and a bright canopy above.



- 1 steel beam
- 2 custom aluminum frame
- 3 louver profile, custom aluminum extrusion
- 4 stainless steel rod
- 5 rectangular steel column

section detail  
 100 200 400mm



# Crisscross Signal Spire

## NEW URBAN LANDMARK

**COMPLETED** 2015  
**PROGRAM** Interactive urban landmark  
**LOCATION** Boston, MA  
**CLIENT** Boston Arts Commission  
**SCOPE** Installation design  
**MATERIALS** Stainless Steel Tube, LED

### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

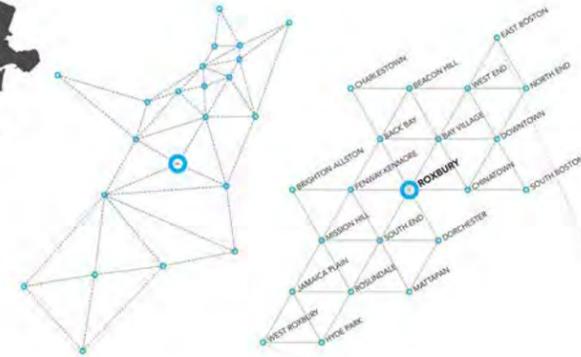
- Selected by a jury organized by the Boston Art Commission.
- Public review of 3 finalist proposals.
- Monthly meetings with Boston Art Commission during design phase.
- Engineering peer review.

Crisscross Signal Spire is a new public art piece commissioned by the City of Boston, Boston Art Commission to mark the corner in front of the newly completed Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building. The Crisscross Signal Spire creates a new landmark for the Roxbury neighborhood while representing the city as a whole. Dudley Square is the historical heart of Roxbury, and Roxbury is the geographic center of Boston. The Crisscross Signal Spire was inspired by Boston's historic structures and by the idea of symbolically uniting Boston's diverse neighborhoods: the sculpture "stands" by mutual support, as individual elements that lean on and brace each other. Conceived as a "braided" structure, the sculpture represents all the neighborhoods in Boston, each represented by a segment of the structure, as coming together, while maintaining their distinct identities.

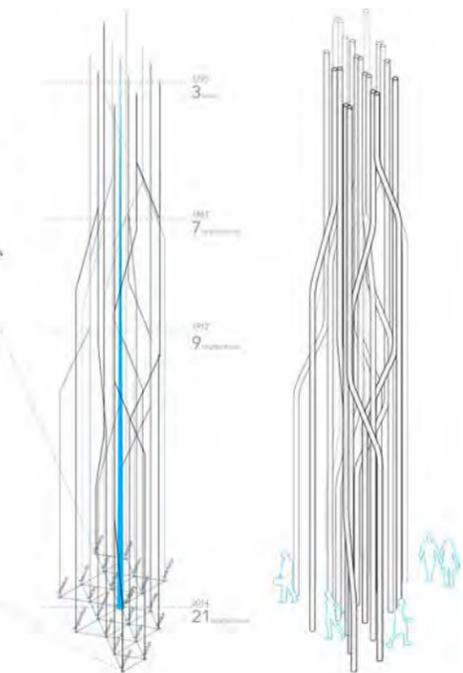
The sculpture draws inspiration from historic landmarks like clock towers and bell towers, that define civic spaces and create a sense of identity for a neighborhood. The Crisscross Signal Spire uses internal lighting to maintain a different rhythm, the lighting behavior illustrates the real time on line interactions of the City of Boston with Boston residents.



City of Boston



Boston neighborhoods



Neighborhoods over time



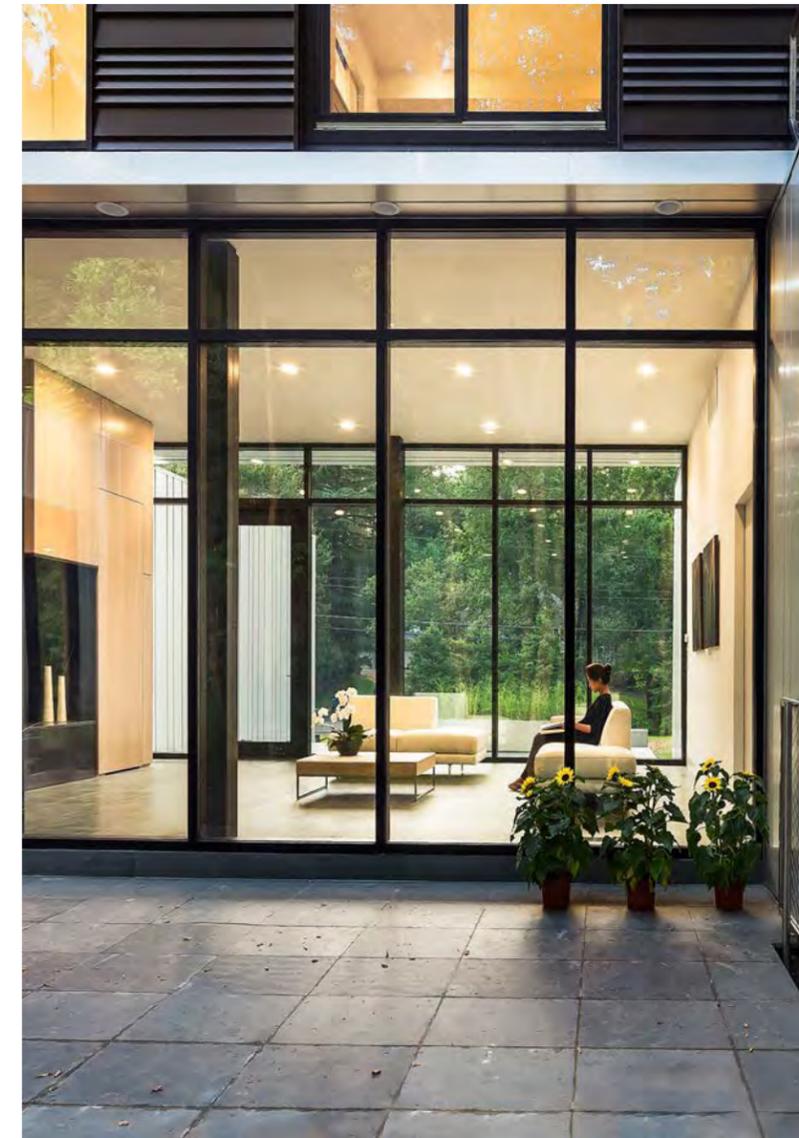
# Bridge House

## MULTI-GENERATIONAL HOME

**COMPLETED** 2014  
**PROGRAM** Single family residence  
**LOCATION** McLean, VA  
**SCOPE** Architectural services (New Construction)  
**AREA** 7,500 sf  
**CLIENT** Private Owner

**REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS**  
 -Fairfax County Building Department  
 -Health Department Site Plan Review

Bridge House is a multi-generational family home that spans both landscapes and age groups. Sited between a suburban development and a protected wooded area, the Bridge House appears as a single family home from the front. Its rear elevation reveals an internal organization designed to accommodate three generations living together under one roof—or in this case, within three volumes that act as a number of roofs. These three volumes are devices that frame views through the house of the dramatically sloped wooded site. Views from the suburban street through to the sloped landscape are informed by the programmatic volumes of the main floor and the bridge-like volume above, which frame the scene from interior and exterior vantage points.





## Low Rez / Hi Fi

### TRANSFORMATIVE LIGHTING

**COMPLETED** 2007  
**PROGRAM** Interactive light and sound Installation  
**LOCATION** Washington DC  
**CLIENT** Stilman Group  
**SCOPE** Installation design  
**MATERIALS** Stainless steel touch responsive poles, LED lights, glass vitrines

#### REGULATORY / APPROVAL PROCESS

-Review by D Dot.  
 -Part of the transformation of the "Midtown Renaissance."

Low Rez / Hi Fi is an interactive public space project that activates the sidewalk at 1110 Vermont Avenue in Washington, DC. The project consists of a full scale LED matrix (Lo-Rez) and a field of touch-responsive sound poles (Hi Fi). Low Rez broadcasts digital imagery on a custom LED pixel net comprised of 8000 LED pixels within glass vitrines. Working together the pixels make up a new "screen," capable of carrying a text or image as a video signal. When a viewer approaches the vitrine, a building surveillance camera will capture their image, adjust the contrast and send the signal to the LED net. The "live feed" will broadcast the image on the net, forming a "digital shadow" in real time. Hi Fi invites the public into an interactive sculptural field that plays musical notes in response to touch, and in effect, creates an architecturally-scaled, public musical instrument. The networked poles relay sounds to one another, allowing the viewer/listener to "compose" a unique spatial and musical score.





# Boston Society of Architects Space

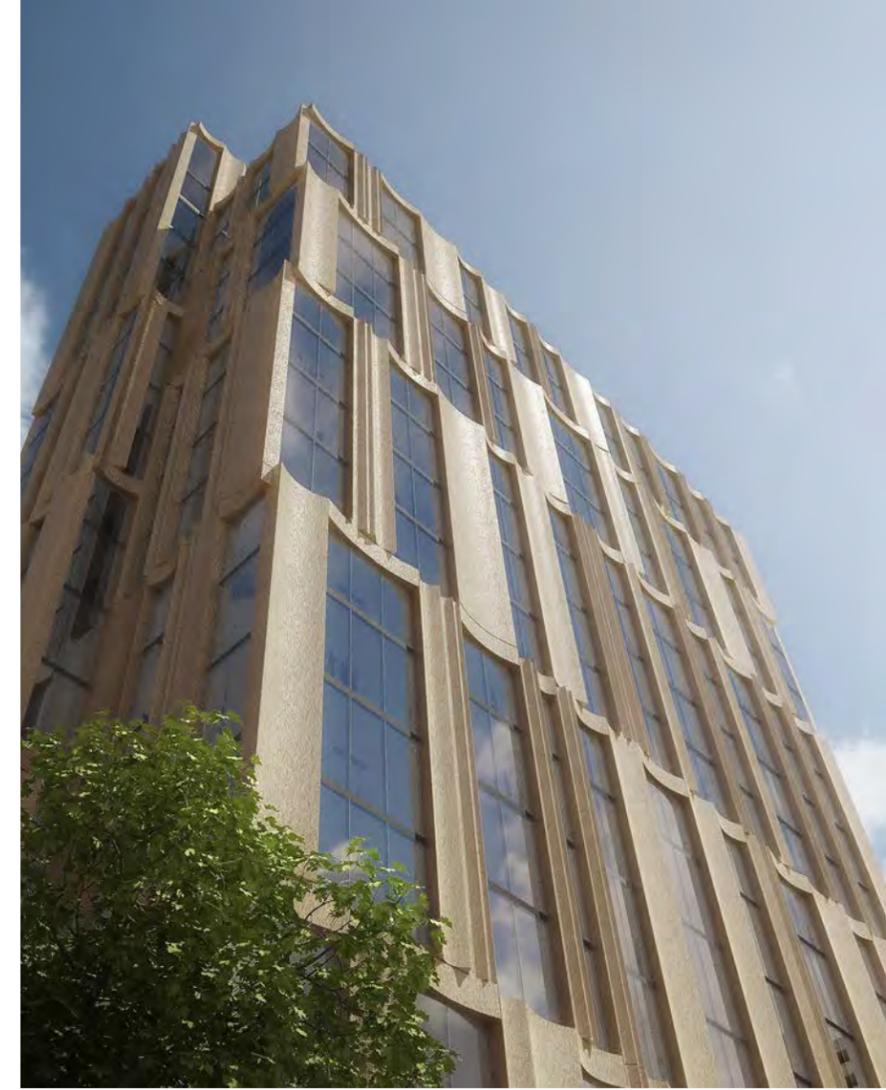
## GALLERY AND MEETING SPACE

**COMPLETED** 2011  
**PROGRAM** Exhibition Space/ Meeting Rms/Offices  
**CLIENT** Boston Society of Architects  
**LOCATION** Boston, MA  
**AREA** 15,000 sf  
**SCOPE** Architectural Services (Interior Arch)

BSA | SPACE is the headquarters of the Boston Society of Architects, housing office space for BSA staff, meeting rooms for members and a 5,000sf public gallery space. Awarded as part of a design competition, the winning design addresses the challenges of a second floor space with a bright green ceiling that transforms into a stair that appears to be suspended from the ceiling above. The meeting and staff rooms are set back from the perimeter, allowing the galleries to wrap around the edges, providing natural light and visibility to these public programs and encouraging a mix between the different visitors to the space.

- CLIENT GOALS + EXPECTATIONS EXCEEDED**
- Project completed on time and on budget
  - Extremely tight project schedule of 10 mo
  - Lead times identified early to avoid delays
  - High visibility attracts new members and visitors from the street
  - Gallery program expands BSA mission
  - New design sensitive to historic building
  - LEED Gold Certified





## 212 STUART STREET

### CONTEXT-DRIVEN RESIDENTIAL TOWER

<b>COMPLETION</b>	Ongoing (2021)
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Mixed-use residential
<b>LOCATION</b>	Boston, MA
<b>CLIENT</b>	Transom Real Estate
<b>SCOPE</b>	Architectural design (New Construction)
<b>AREA</b>	129,000sf / 12,000sm
<b>COLLABORATORS</b>	Sasaki

The design of 212 Stuart Street is rooted in the idea that the tall building operates at multiple scales in the city. When viewed from a distance, the building meets the sky with a distinctive silhouette and participates in the iconic composition of the city's skyline. From the sidewalk, the building meets the ground and is responsible for activating the streetscape in its immediate context. 212 Stuart Street occupies the site that is currently an empty parking lot, between the Bay Village Neighborhood, and the Stuart Street corridor. Our design for 212 Stuart Street consists of a 20 story residential building on a narrow site that presents two different faces to the surrounding neighborhoods: the low rise residential neighborhood to the south, and the mixed fabric of the "High Spine" corridor to the north.

212 Stuart Street will house approximately 130 residential units on 19 floors, with approximately 7 units per floor. The penthouse floor is a single-loaded organization with an outdoor amenity deck to the south. The ground floor contains the lobby and retail spaces with storefront glazing facing the northern, more commercial side of Stuart Street. The southern portion of the ground floor consists of two walk-up townhouses accessible directly from Shawmut Street. These "new neighbors" respond directly to the existing townhomes across the street and maintains an active residential frontage.





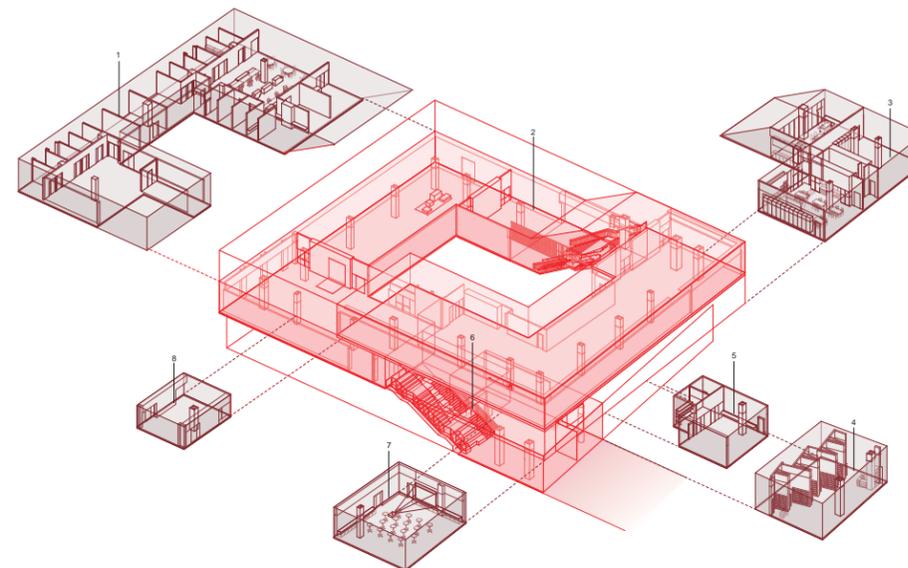
# MIT Museum

## MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

<b>COMPLETED PROGRAM</b>	Ongoing (2021) Gallery / Classrooms / Makerspace
<b>LOCATION CLIENT</b>	Cambridge, MA Massachusetts Institute of Technology
<b>AREA SCOPE</b>	50,000 sf Architectural Services (Interior Arch)
<b>COST</b>	\$30 M

Located on the ground, second and third floors of a new office building in Kendall Square, the new MIT Museum will function as a key pragmatic anchor to MIT's east campus and the newly conceived Kendall Gateway projects. The MIT Museum serves as a home to an extensive collection of MIT and technological artifacts, while also serving as a teaching museum, inviting students to participate in museum, archive and curatorial studies. It also has a growing education and public programs department which invite visitors and high school students to participate in classes and programs that highlight topics in science and technology.

The institution is looking to capitalize on increased visibility that its new Kendall Gateway location will provide, both anticipating a larger volume of visitors as well as an expanded role as a community member in Cambridge. The design for the museum reflects these goals by organizing the gallery programs on all floors of the Museum, with a series of large grand stair bleachers which cascade down between floors. A visitor could experience the museum by climbing the grand stairs and circulating around the galleries in a spiral configuration from the ground level to the third level, or else, they could take an elevator to the third floor and spiral back down to the ground floor level.



- 1 Administration Spaces
- 2 Galleries
- 3 Classrooms
- 4 Education Offices
- 5 Retail
- 6 Grand Stair
- 7 Event Spaces
- 8 Administration Spaces