

## Art Commission Review – Submittal Form

*(Applicant complete below section)*

**Project Name:** Negro Leagues Memorial Park Art Screen Installation

**Project Address:** 1538 Belmont Ave **On Public Property?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

**Total Budget:** N/A **Utilizing City Funds?** ☐ Yes (specify amount): \_\_\_\_\_ ☒ No

**Project Type** (check all that apply):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building – New Construction or Addition | <input type="checkbox"/> Encroachment in/over ROW    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building – Renovation or Repair         | <input type="checkbox"/> Signage (Reconsideration)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Park/Playground                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Streetery (Reconsideration) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Art                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                |

**Project Team:**

Agency/Org.: Business Association of West Parkside Design Lead (firm): ContraFuerte, LLC

Other: Digsau

**Primary Contact for Project Communications:**

Name: Miguel Horn

Affiliation: Lead Artist

Email: [REDACTED]

*(Art Commission staff complete below section)*

**Art Commission Meeting Date of Project Review:** 2/11/26

**Level of Review:**

☒ Concept Review ☐ Final Review If Final, specify date of preceding Concept Review: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Administrative Review (for projects with minimal visual impact on public realm)

**Staff Notes (Optional):**

Art Commission previously gave Final Approval for construction of wall, and Concept Approval for plaza redesign. Concept Review is for new artwork installation on previously approved wall.

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Philadelphia Art Commission  
c/o Henry Felsman, Katherine Liss  
1515 Arch St., 13th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Re: Application for Conceptual Approval – Art Screen Installation, Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

Dear Members of the Philadelphia Art Commission,

Together with Digsau, and the Business Association of West Parkside (BAWP) I respectfully submit this application for conceptual approval of the proposed art screen to be installed as part of the ongoing renovations at the Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park, located at the southwest intersection of Belmont and Parkside Avenues. This 150' art screen, designed by artist Miguel Antonio Horn, is a key element in our comprehensive vision to revitalize this historic public space and honor the legacy of the Philadelphia Stars and the Negro Leagues.

### **Description of Proposed Artwork**

The proposed art screen will feature a series of laser-cut metal silhouettes representing the diverse audience of the ballpark, inspired by the spirit and history of the Philadelphia Stars. These evocative silhouettes will be modeled after actual members of the historic Parkside community, giving form and visibility to the individuals who have shaped and cherished this neighborhood for generations. By incorporating portraits of local residents, the artwork seeks not only to celebrate the legacy of African-American baseball, but also to highlight the ongoing contributions of Parkside's vibrant community. The installation will serve as a living testament to the enduring spirit of inclusion, pride, and connection that defines this place.

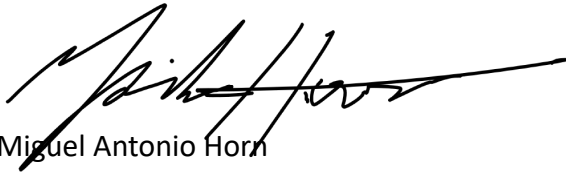
The Design Team has secured prior approvals from the Commission for significant project elements, including Final Approval for Phase 1A and Conceptual Approval for Phase 1b at the September 13, 2023 meeting (see attached letters for reference), and continues to work closely with stakeholders to ensure that each phase meets the highest standards of design and community impact. As part of Phase One, the art screen will replace the existing cedar fence and serve both a functional and artistic purpose, enhancing the park's sense of welcome, safety, and engagement.

CONTRAFUERTE, LLC  
4247 W STILES ST PHILADELPHIA PA 19104

We have carefully considered the Commission's feedback from previous submissions and have incorporated recommendations regarding material selection, dimensional layout, and contextual integration. The art screen, along with other improvements, will contribute to the park's long-term durability, accessibility, and ability to support diverse programming for the community.

We look forward to presenting further details and receiving your guidance as we advance toward final approval for this transformative project. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to public art in Philadelphia.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miguel Antonio Horn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Miguel Antonio Horn  
Owner, ContraFuerte, LLC  
4247 W Stiles St  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
(610) 608-7779  
[Contrafuerte.Phily@gmail.com](mailto:Contrafuerte.Phily@gmail.com)

Cc: Miller Parker, Marjorie Ogilve, Dennis Lee (BAWP); Adria Longenderfer (Digsau)

## The Philadelphia Art Commission Decision Form

The Philadelphia Art Commission

Established 1911

Robert Roesch  
Chair

José Almiñana

Carmen Febo San Miguel

Deborah Cahill

Sarah McEneaney

Matthew Kenyatta

Raed Nasser

Pepón Osorio

Mario Zacharjasz

Alex M. Smith  
Director

**File #:** 45-23

**Commission Meeting Date:** 09/13/2023

**Name:** Adria Longenderfer  
DIGSAU  
340 N. 12th Street, Suite 421  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

**Project Name & Location:** Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park - Wall  
1538 Belmont Avenue

**Proposal:** The proposal is for the construction of a concrete wall by the edge of the existing memorial plaza. The wall will be built to support the installation of a future mural and will be bookended by temporary fencing that will support a future screen wall art installation; both the mural and screen wall art will be reviewed by the Art Commission in a future phase.

**Commission Decision:** FINAL APPROVAL

**Remarks:** The Commissioners appreciated the revisions, including related to: the footprint of the wall; the condition of the northbound pedestrian approach; the impacts on the other side of the wall facing the school; tree protection details; utility access; and technical details. The Commissioners encouraged the applicant to further investigate and explore ways to minimize the impacts of the wall on the root zones of existing trees, and to consider a different tree species near the utility access area that is easier to maintain.



**Alex M. Smith**  
**Director of the Philadelphia Art Commission**

One Parkway Building  
1515 Arch Street  
13th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-4636  
artcommission@phila.gov

Art Commission approval is not an endorsement for any approval, exception or variance that the proposal might require from any other department, board or commission.



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*Director*

**File #:** 45-23 **Commission Meeting Date:** 09/13/2023

**Name:** Adria Longenderfer  
DIGSAU  
340 N. 12th Street, Suite 421  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

**Project Name & Location:** Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park – Phase 1 Site Improvements

**Proposal:** The proposal is for the redesign of an existing plaza, including: new seating (evoking the grandstand seating at baseball stadiums); new tree plantings; new paving; and new lighting. An existing memorial sculpture will remain in its current central location within the plaza.

**Commission Decision:** CONCEPT APPROVAL

**Remarks:** The Commissioners requested the applicant return with more details on: tree protection within the plaza, including impacts on root zones of proposed trees; design considerations for limiting skateboarding; and future signage, plaques, or historical markers, including as a way to improve the relationship with the bus stop.



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# Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

ART COMMISSION SUBMISSION  
February 11, 2026

CONTRAFUERTE, LLC

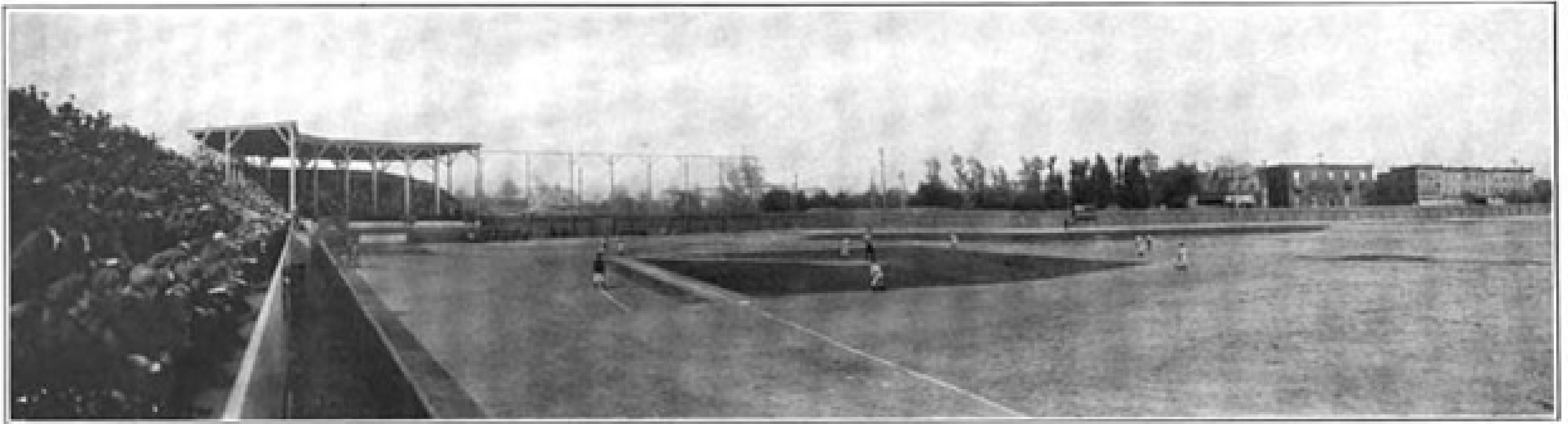
DIGSAU











*Athletic Field at Belmont and Parkside Avenues*

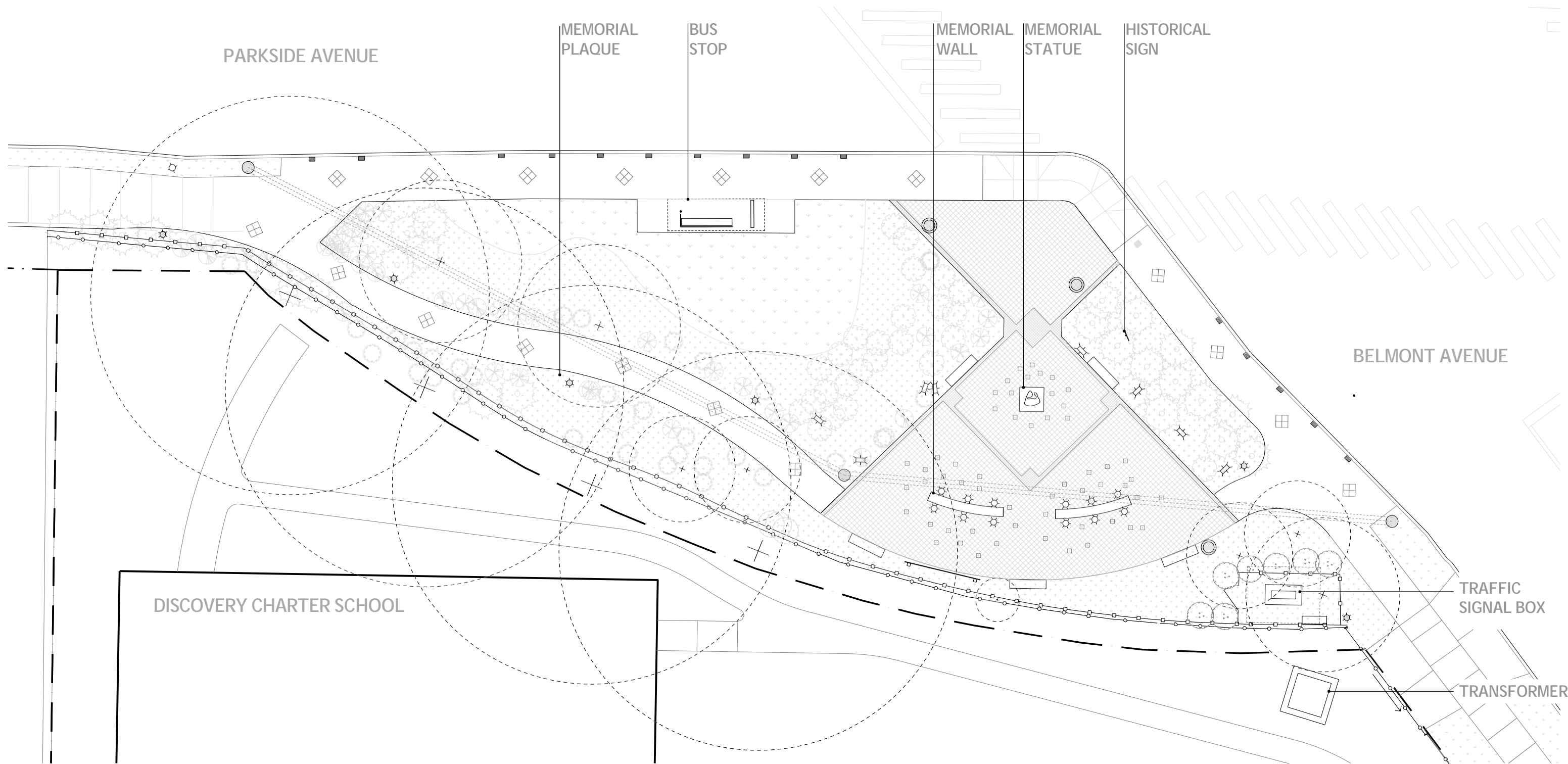


*Penmar Field Grandstands*

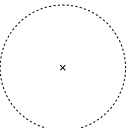



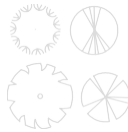










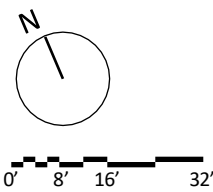






LEGEND

- |   |          |   |             |  |                 |   |             |
|---|----------|---|-------------|--|-----------------|---|-------------|
|  | TREE     |  | LAWN        |   | TELEPHONE POLE  |   | BENCH       |
|  | PLANTING |  | MULCH       |   | LIGHT POLE      |  | TRASH       |
|   |          |  | FLOOD LIGHT |   | IN-GROUND LIGHT |   | METAL FENCE |
|   |          |  | BOLLARD     |  | WOOD FENCE      |   |             |



CURRENT CONDITIONS  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





Approach to existing park from the Southeast



Existing Memorial Statue and Walls



Existing mural dedicated to Philadelphia Stars on building facade facing existing park. Mural is in process of being removed.



Approach to existing park from the West

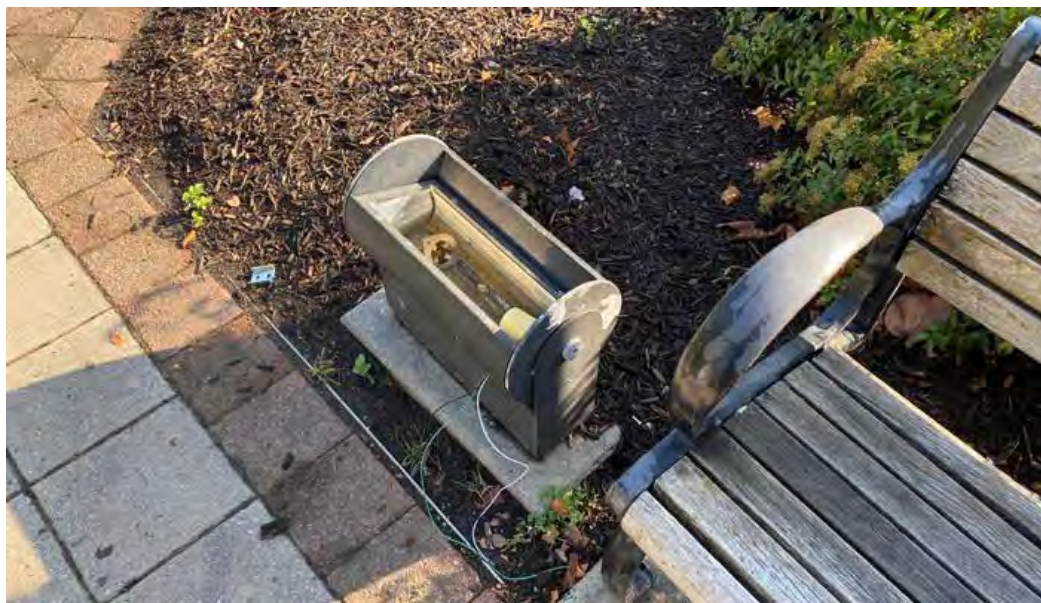


Existing fence separating existing park and Discovery Charter School (school side)

# CURRENT CONDITIONS

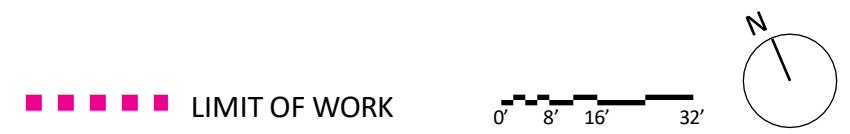
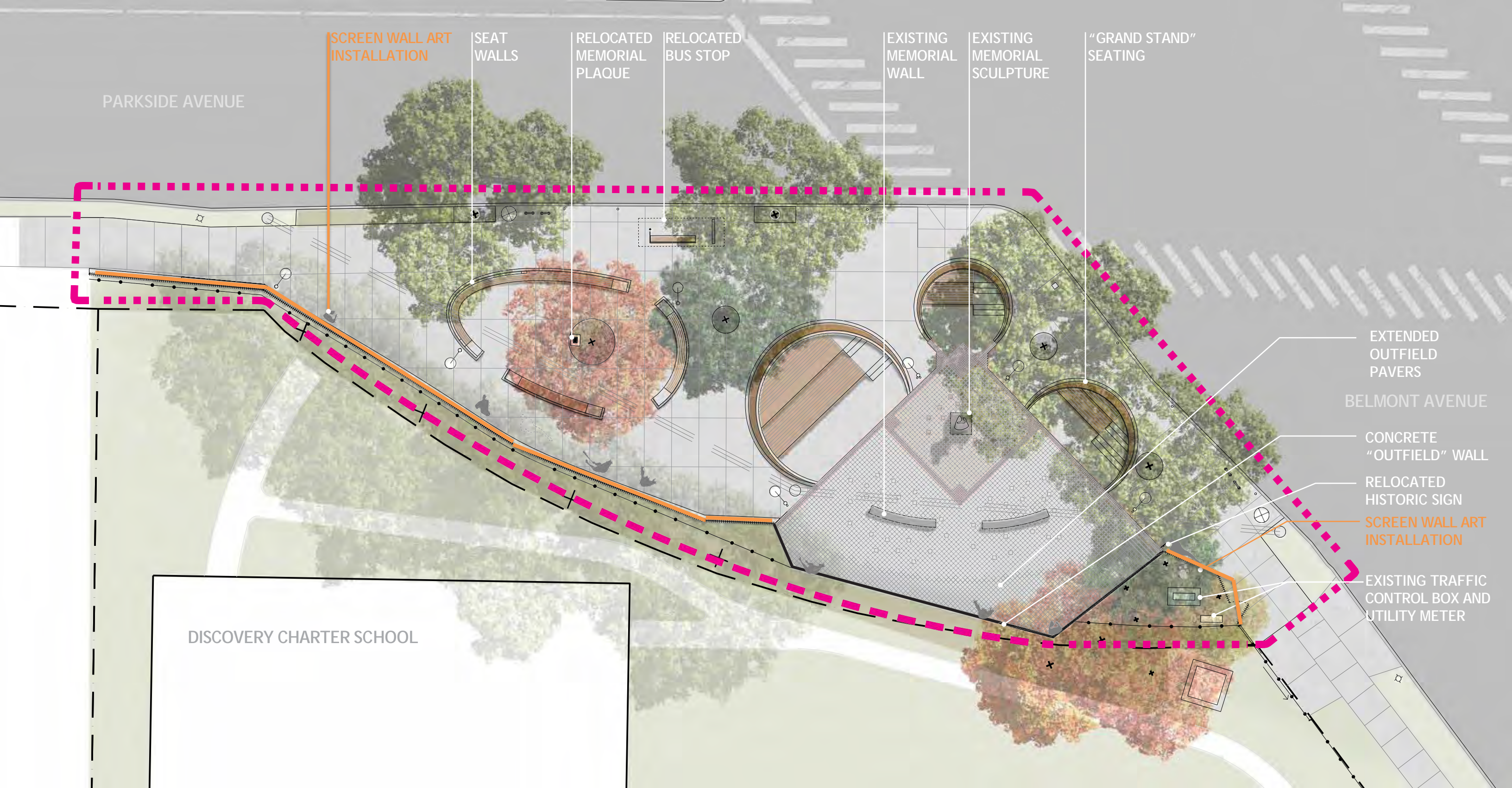
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





**CURRENT CONDITIONS**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

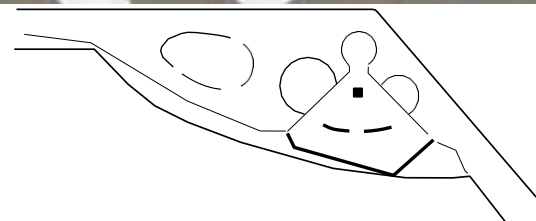




## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

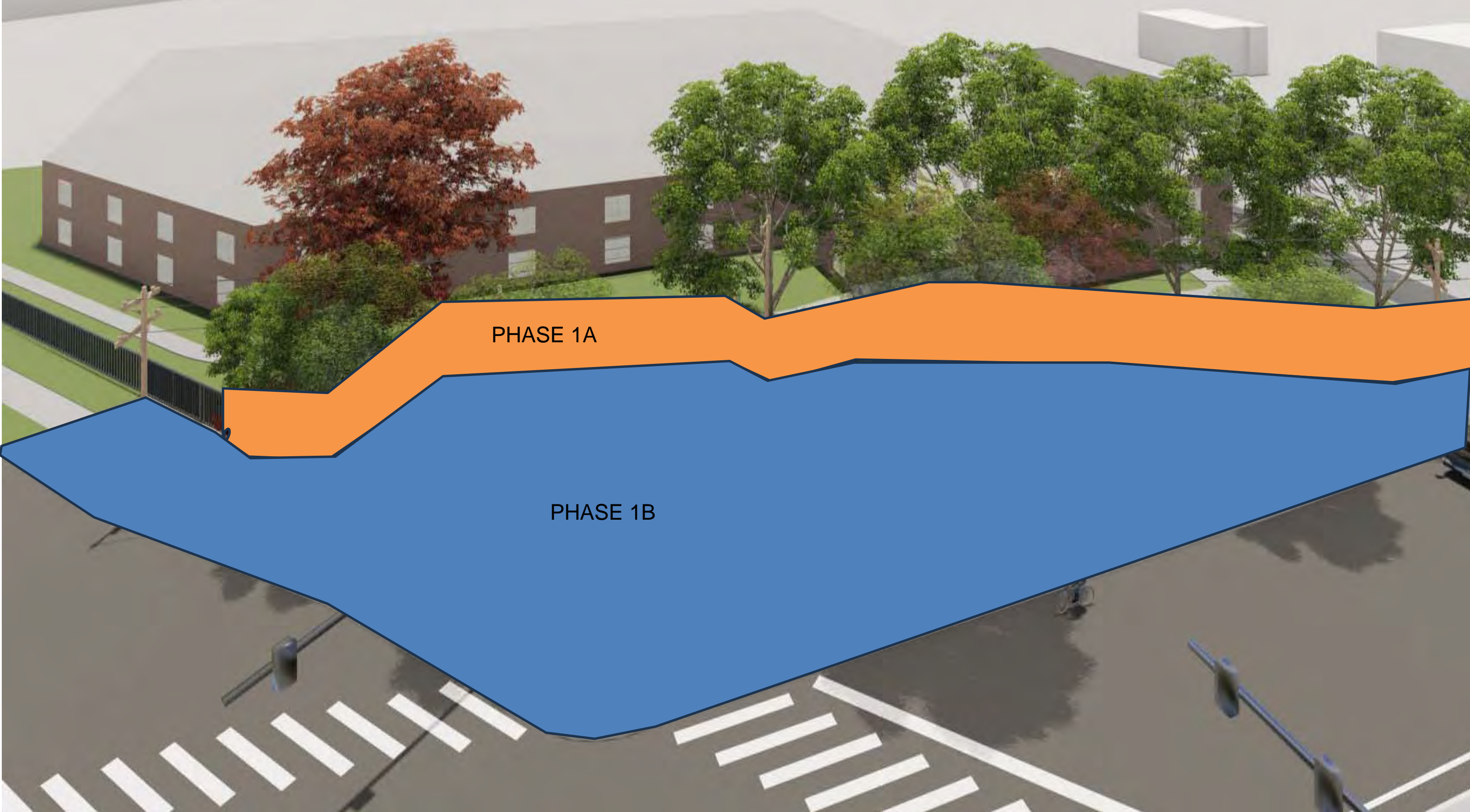




NEW MURAL AND SCREEN WALL INSTALLATION  
TO BE REVIEWED AT A LATER DATE. SHOWN FOR  
CONCEPTUAL PURPOSES ONLY

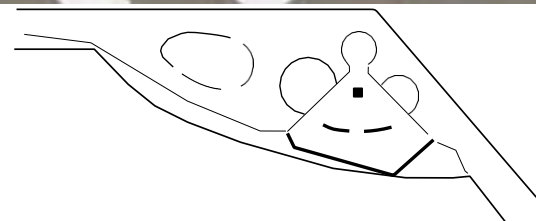
**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





PHASE 1A

PHASE 1B



NEW MURAL AND SCREEN WALL INSTALLATION  
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**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

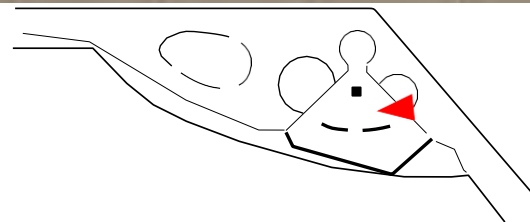




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Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

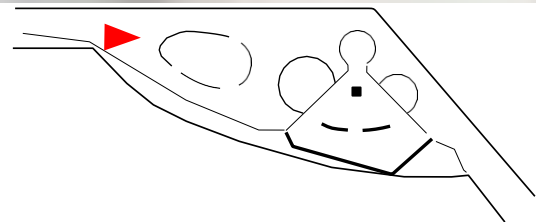




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Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

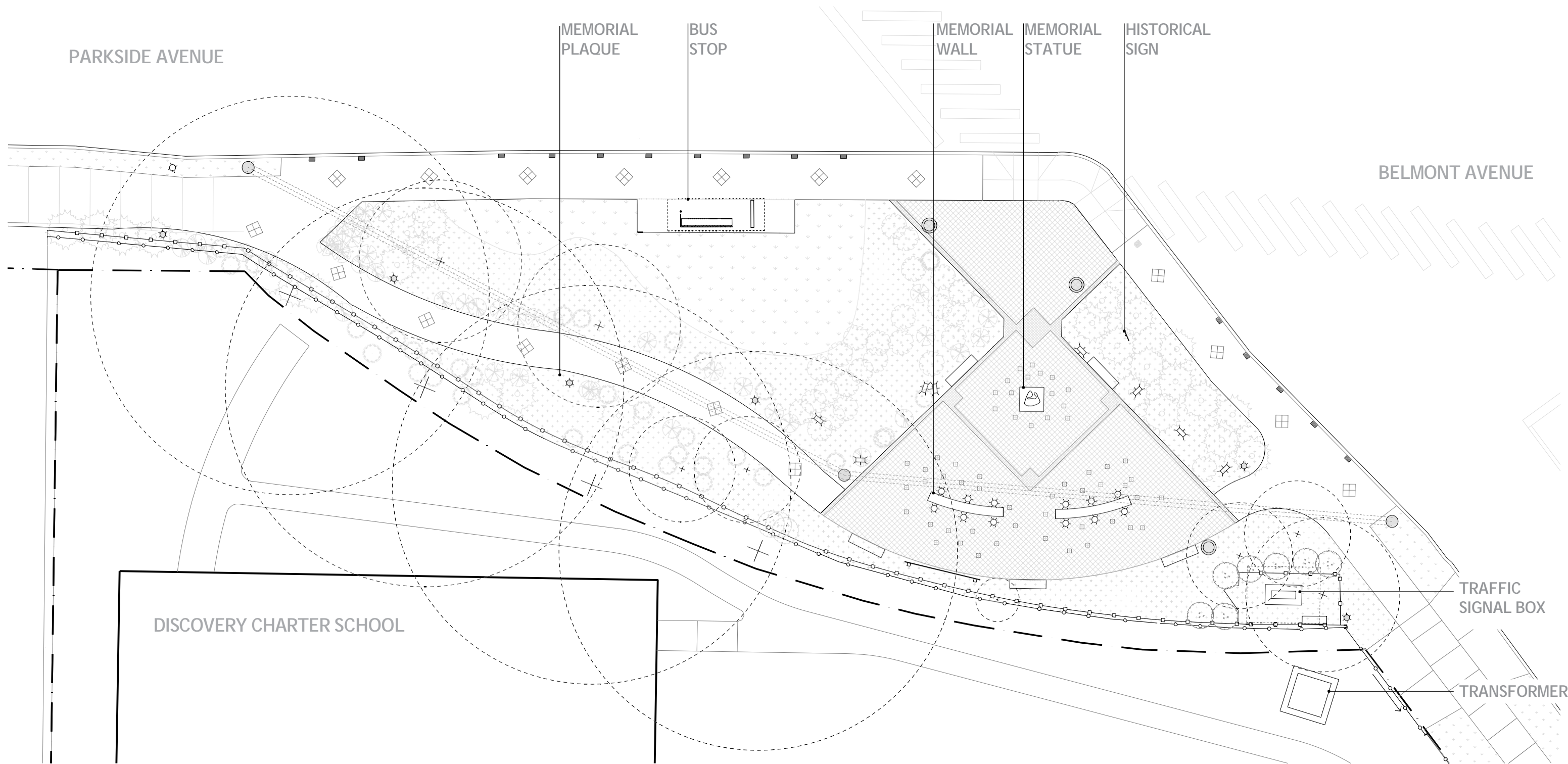




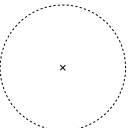



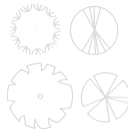








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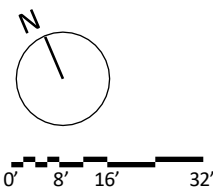
**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





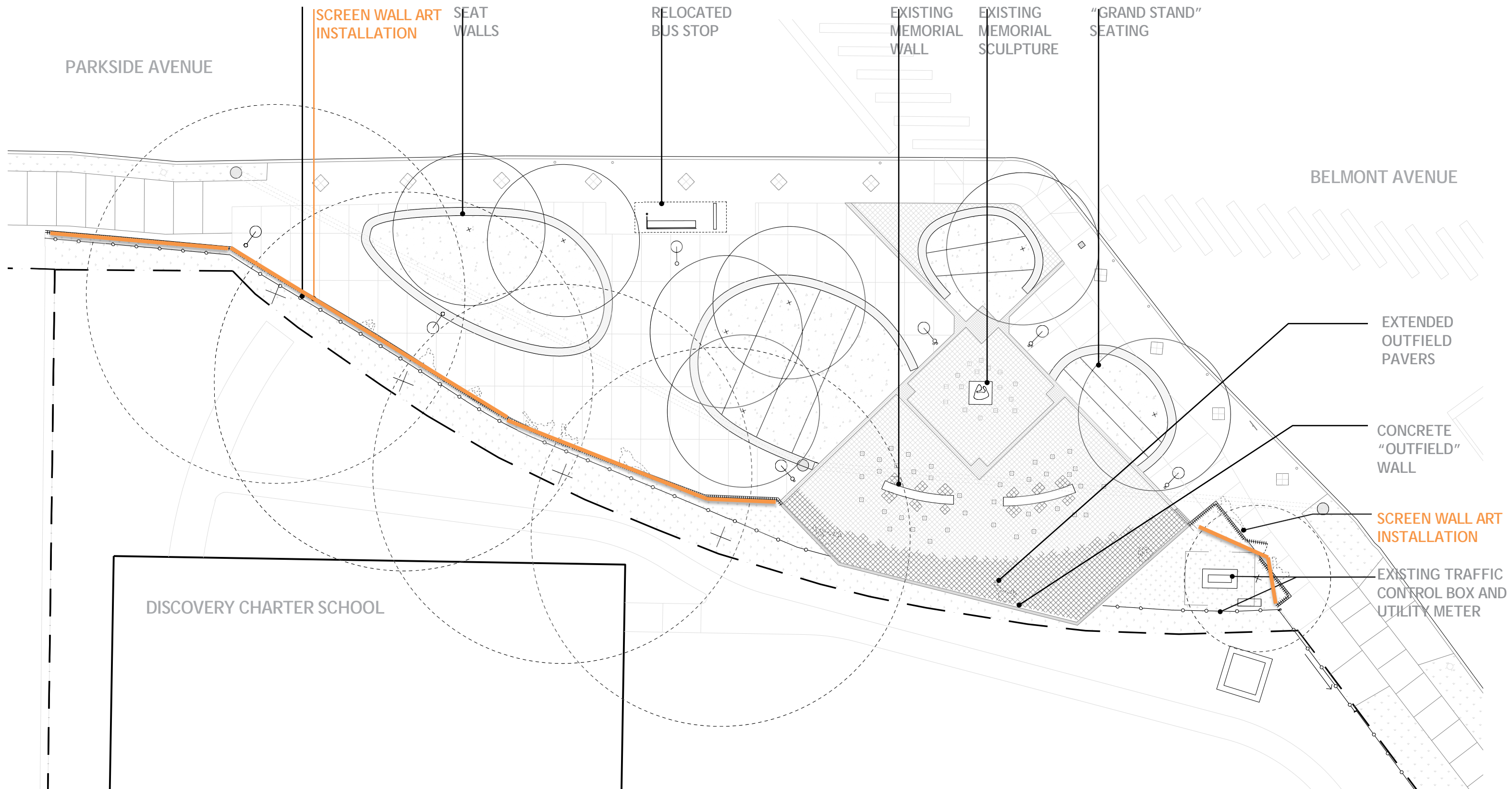
LEGEND

- |   |          |   |       |   |                 |   |             |
|---|----------|---|-------|---|-----------------|---|-------------|
|  | TREE     |  | LAWN  |  | TELEPHONE POLE  |   | BENCH       |
|  | PLANTING |  | MULCH |  | LIGHT POLE      |  | TRASH       |
|   |          |  |       |  | IN-GROUND LIGHT |   | METAL FENCE |
|   |          |  |       |   | BOLLARD         |   | WOOD FENCE  |



CURRENT CONDITIONS  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





# PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS MARCH 2023

Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

SCREEN WALL ART  
INSTALLATION

PARKSIDE AVENUE

BELMONT AVENUE

CONCRETE  
"OUTFIELD"  
WALL

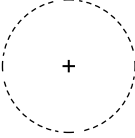
SCREEN WALL ART  
INSTALLATION

DISCOVERY CHARTER SCHOOL

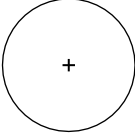
LEGEND

NEW MURAL WALL

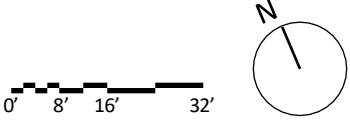
SCREEN WALL ART  
INSTALLATION



EXISTING TREE



PROPOSED TREE



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1A  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

















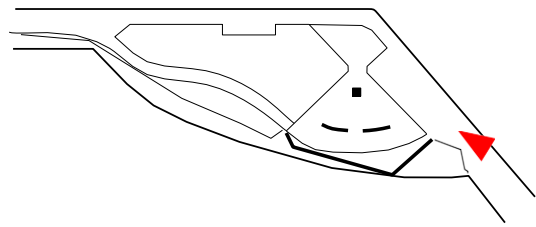






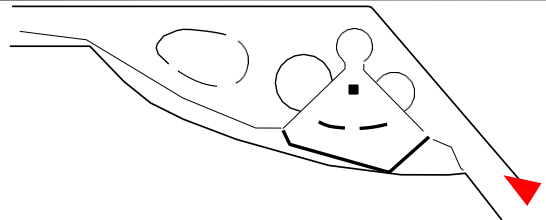






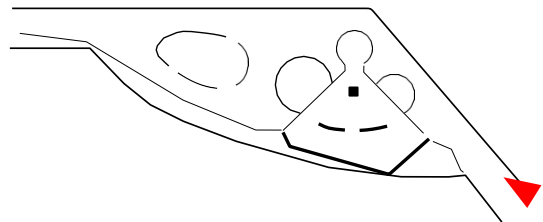
**EXISTING CONDITIONS**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1B**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

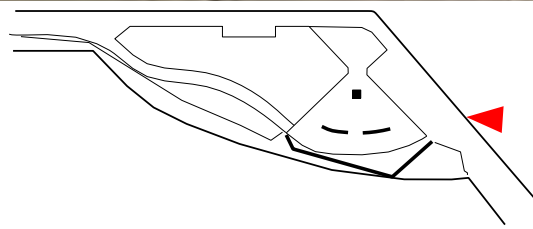




## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1A

Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

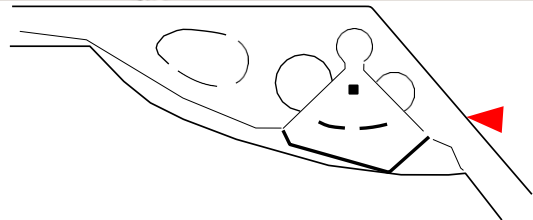




## EXISTING CONDITIONS

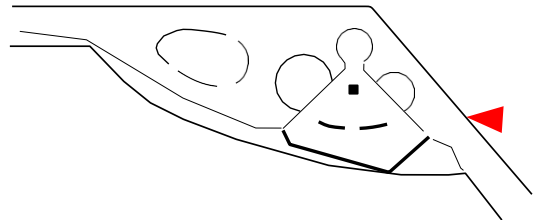
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





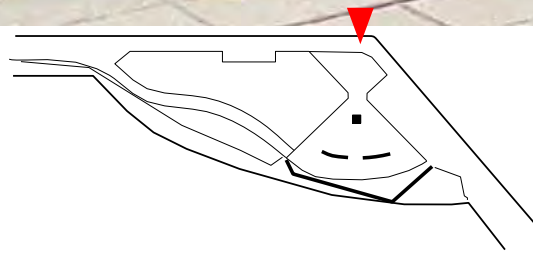
**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1B**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





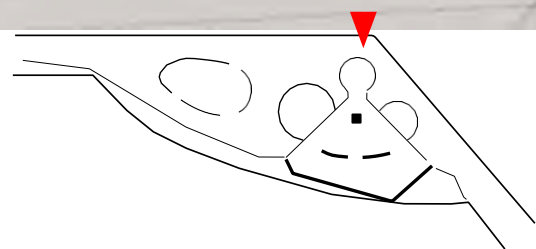
**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1A**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park



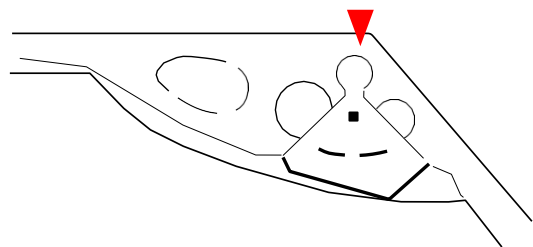


**EXISTING CONDITIONS**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park



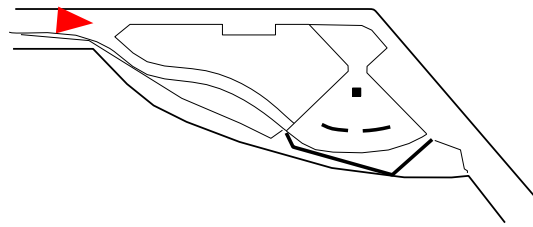






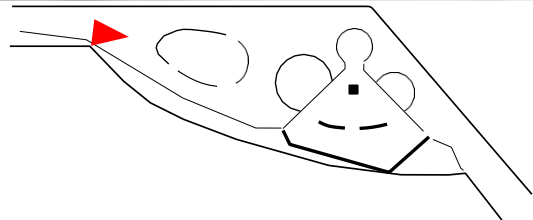
**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1A**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





**EXISTING CONDITIONS**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

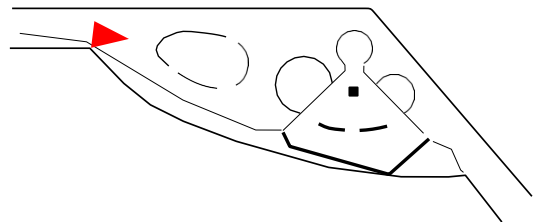




## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1B

Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park





**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1A**  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park



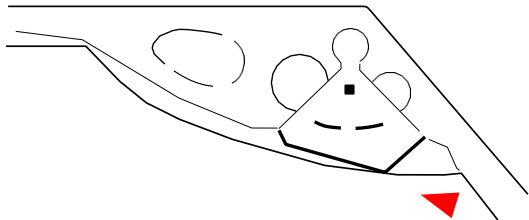


PROJECTION WALL OPTION\*

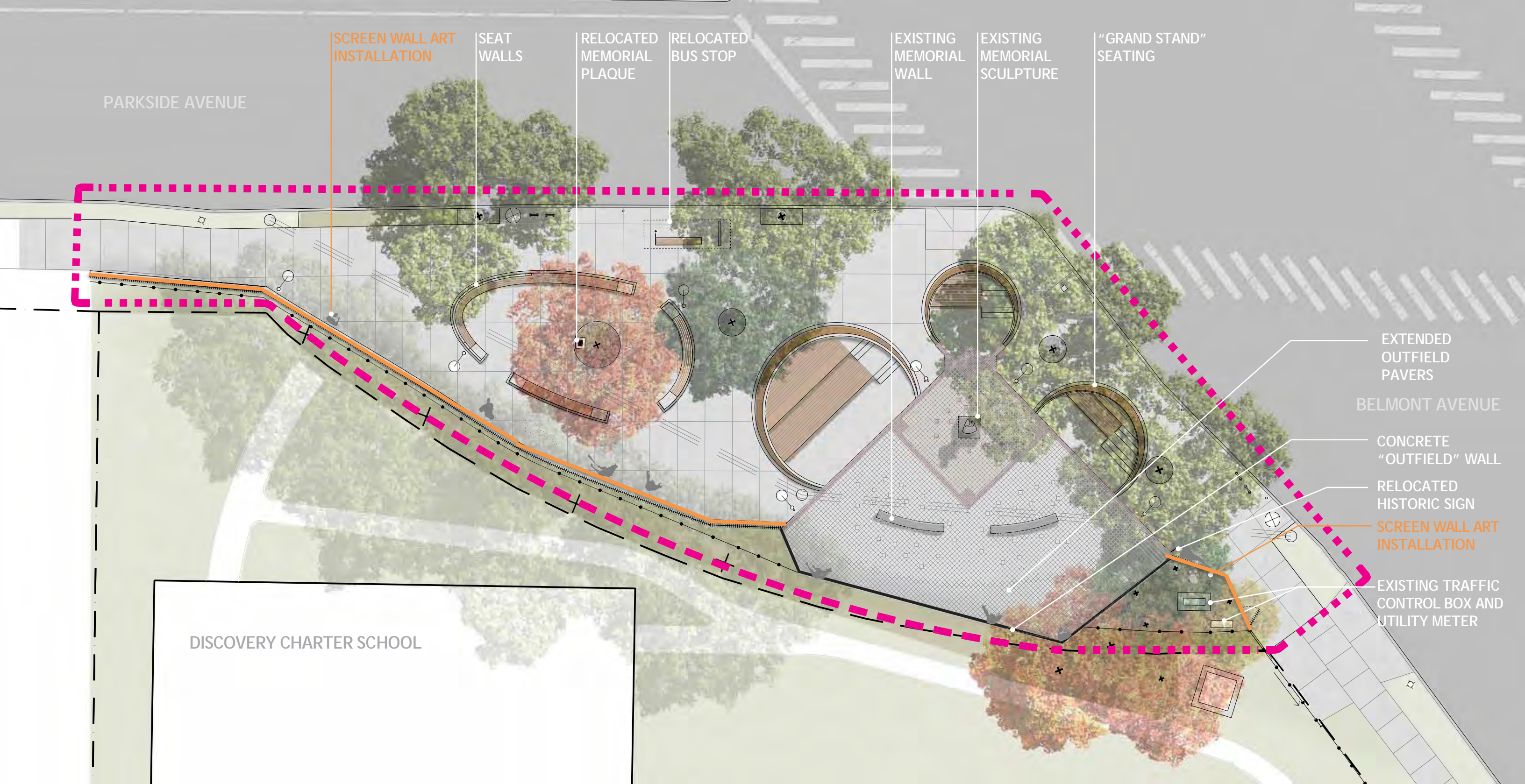
\*IMAGES REVIEWED WITH DISCOVERY CHARTER SCHOOL



MURAL WALL OPTION\*

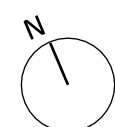






■ ■ ■ ■ ■ LIMIT OF WORK

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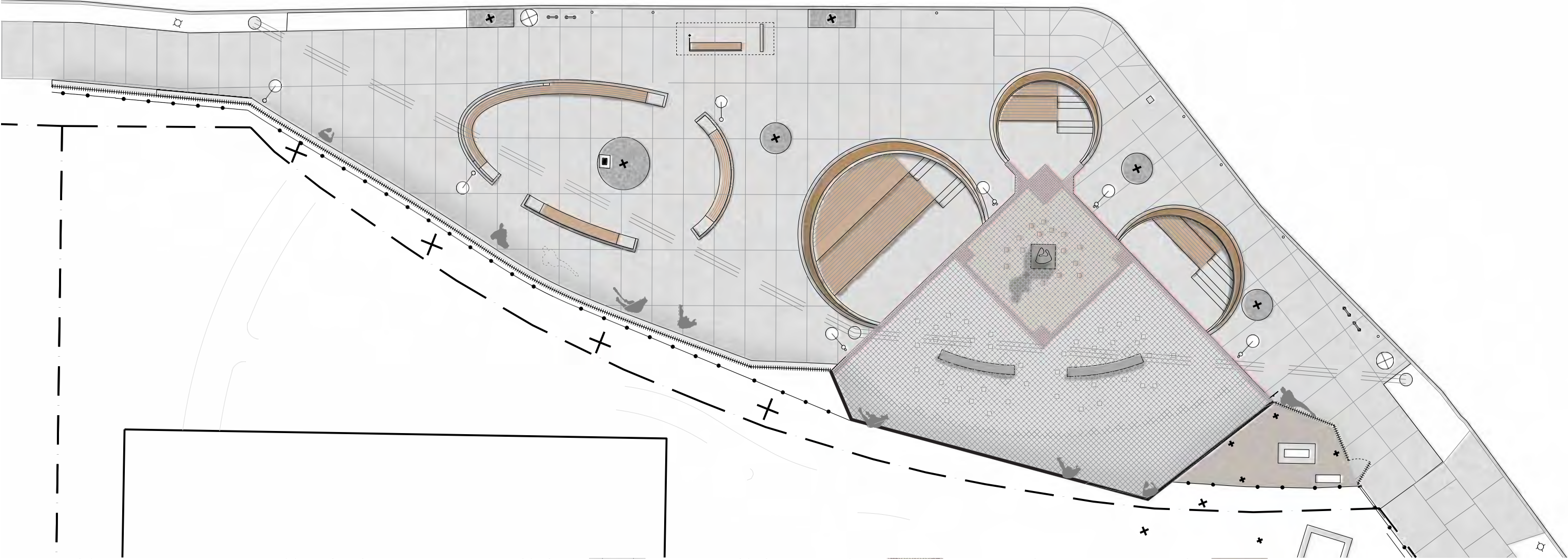


# PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1B

Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park



MATERIALS



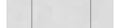
WEATHERING STEEL



IPE WOOD DECKING



PIP CONCRETE

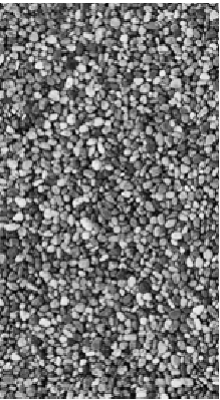
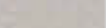


CONCRETE PAVERS  
(NEW + EXG)



GRAVEL

MULCH



0' 8' 16' 32'



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1B  
Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park

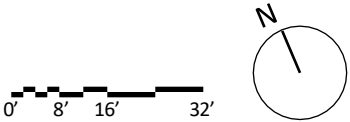




GENERAL SITE LIGHTING

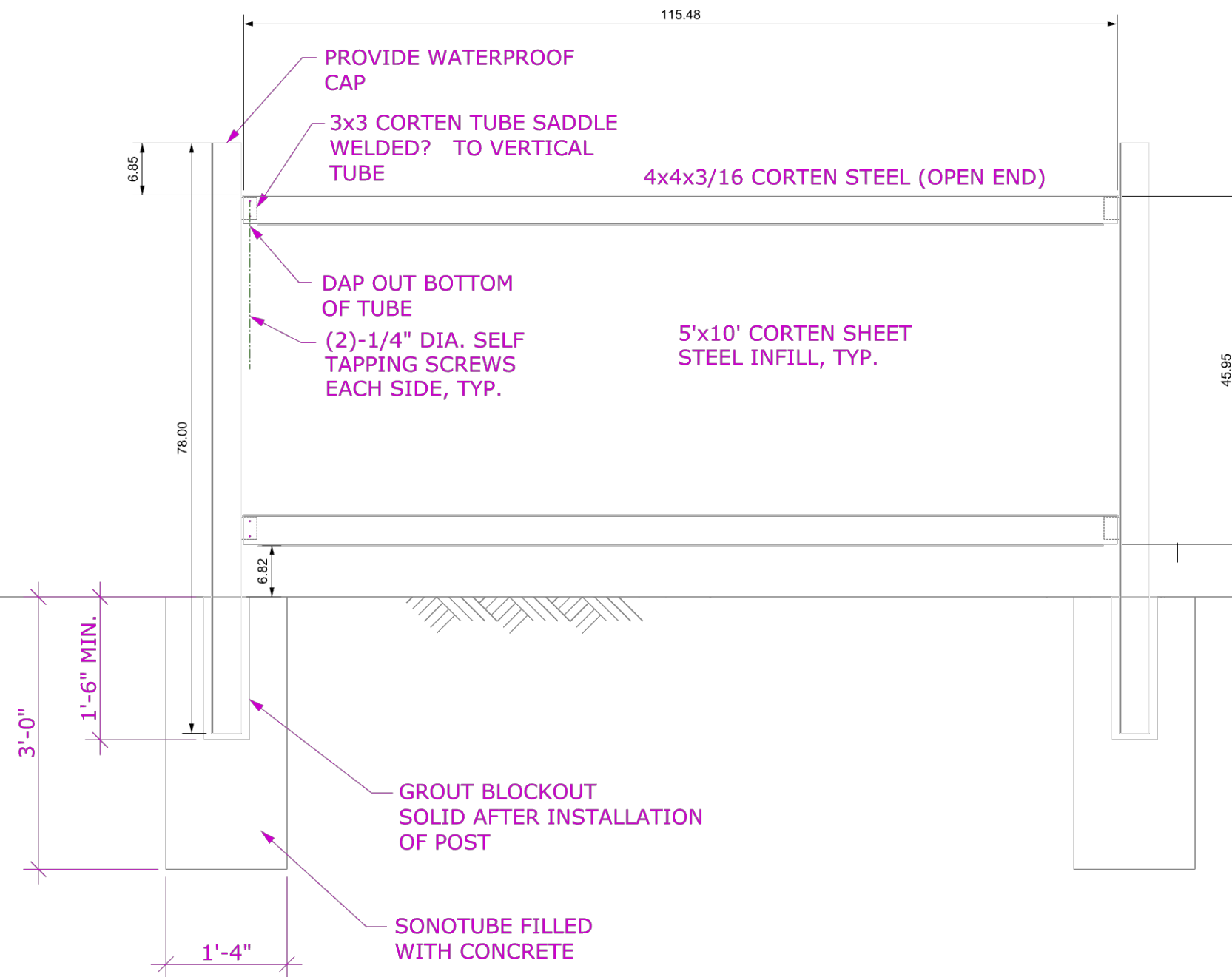


FEATURE ACCENT LIGHTING



\* SELECTIONS FROM PPR STANDARDS

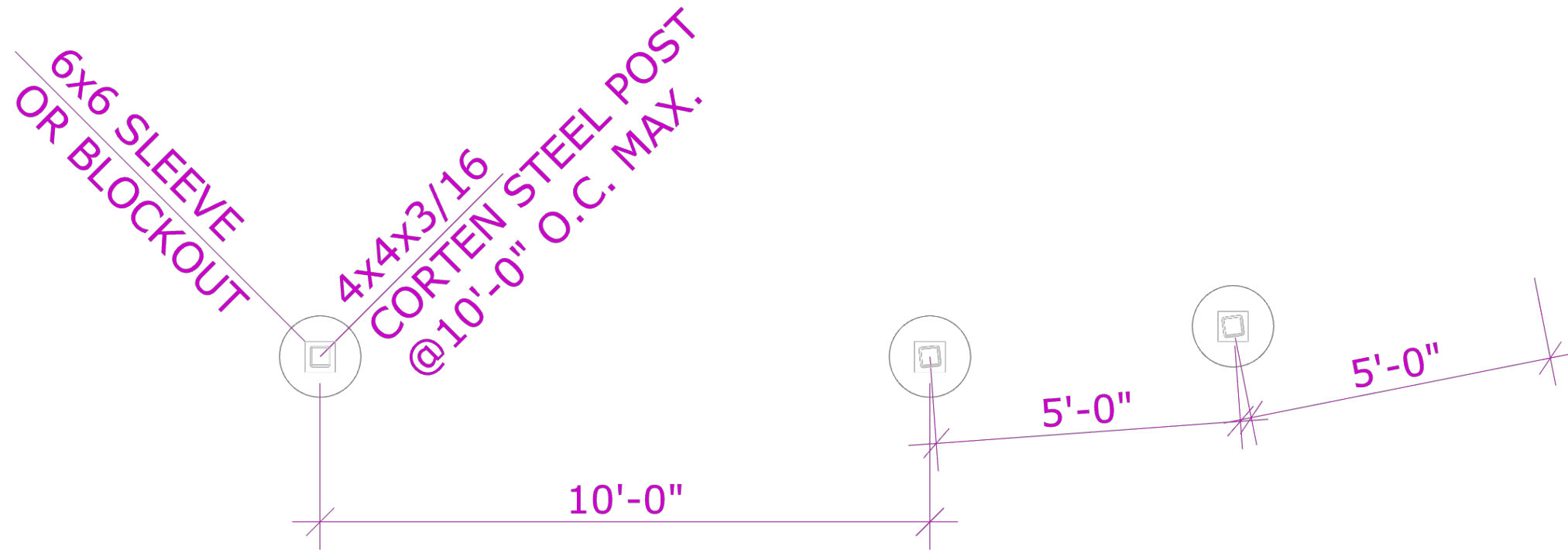




# STRUCTURAL DESIGN ELEVATION

Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park







# GOLDEN'S PHILA. STARS

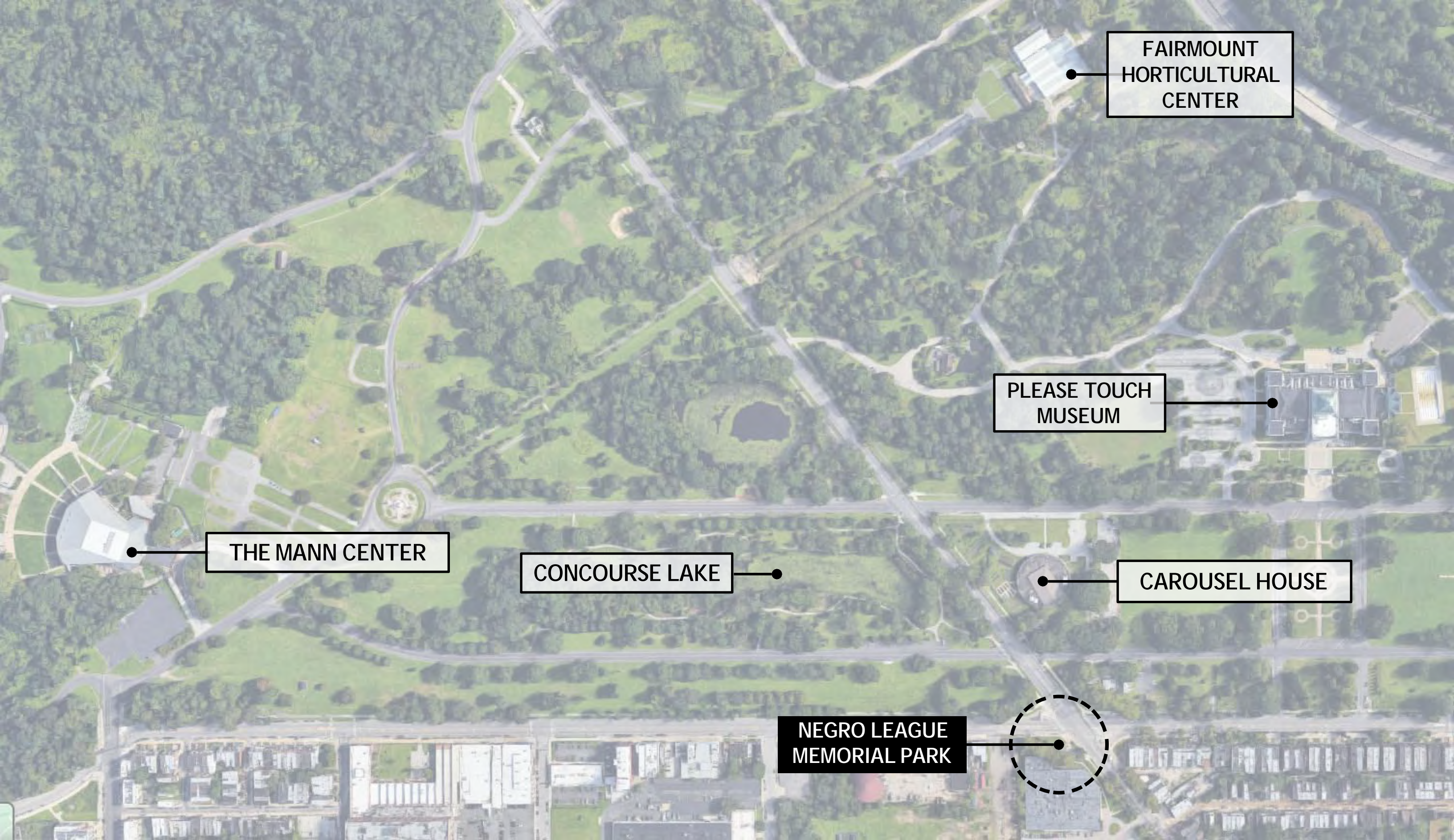


THANK YOU



# APPENDICES





THE MANN CENTER

CONCOURSE LAKE

FAIRMOUNT  
HORTICULTURAL  
CENTER

PLEASE TOUCH  
MUSEUM

CAROUSEL HOUSE

NEGRO LEAGUE  
MEMORIAL PARK





RELATED WORKS HIJO DEL ALMA  
JOSE MANUEL COLLAZO PLAYGROUND









## Jose Manuel Collazo 1964 - 1974

Playground est. 2001  
Renovated 2017

"Hijo Del Alma" (Son of My Soul)  
poem by  
José Martí

translated by  
Tyler Finner

"Hijo Del Alma"  
2018  
Laser cut powdercoated steel  
by  
Miguel Flores

Artworks made possible with support from:  
City of Philadelphia  
Trust for Public Land  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Contra Puerto LLC  
H&W LLC  
Taller Cervecerías

Son of my soul,  
You float above all  
The billowing swells  
Of the turbulent night,  
On my uncovered chest  
Leave you only at dawn;  
And the dark, bitter spine  
Of the turbulent night  
In the day will propel you  
Back out with the tides.

Heroic Wee watchman,  
Beloved, you guard  
The unconcealed door  
Of my innermost spirit;  
If you hide in shadow  
My various sorrows  
Pursue me with avarice,  
Craving my calm,  
Within the dark threshold  
Ferocious you rise,  
And close off their passage  
With your white wings!

The morning brings billows  
Of flowers and light,  
And you ride like a horseman  
On luminous waves.  
No, that which invokes me  
Is not the bright daylight,  
But rather your soft, little  
Hands on my pillow.

Some speak of your distance:  
It's madness they speak!  
They might have your shadow,  
But I have your soul!  
Those matters are novel.  
Are mine yet foreign.

I know your eyes glisten  
In faraway lands,  
In gold waves of air  
That assail my pale forehead.  
I could, with my hand,  
As if harvesting stars,  
Gleaning sheaves, I could reap  
Shafts of light from your glances!  
Son of my soul,  
You float above all!



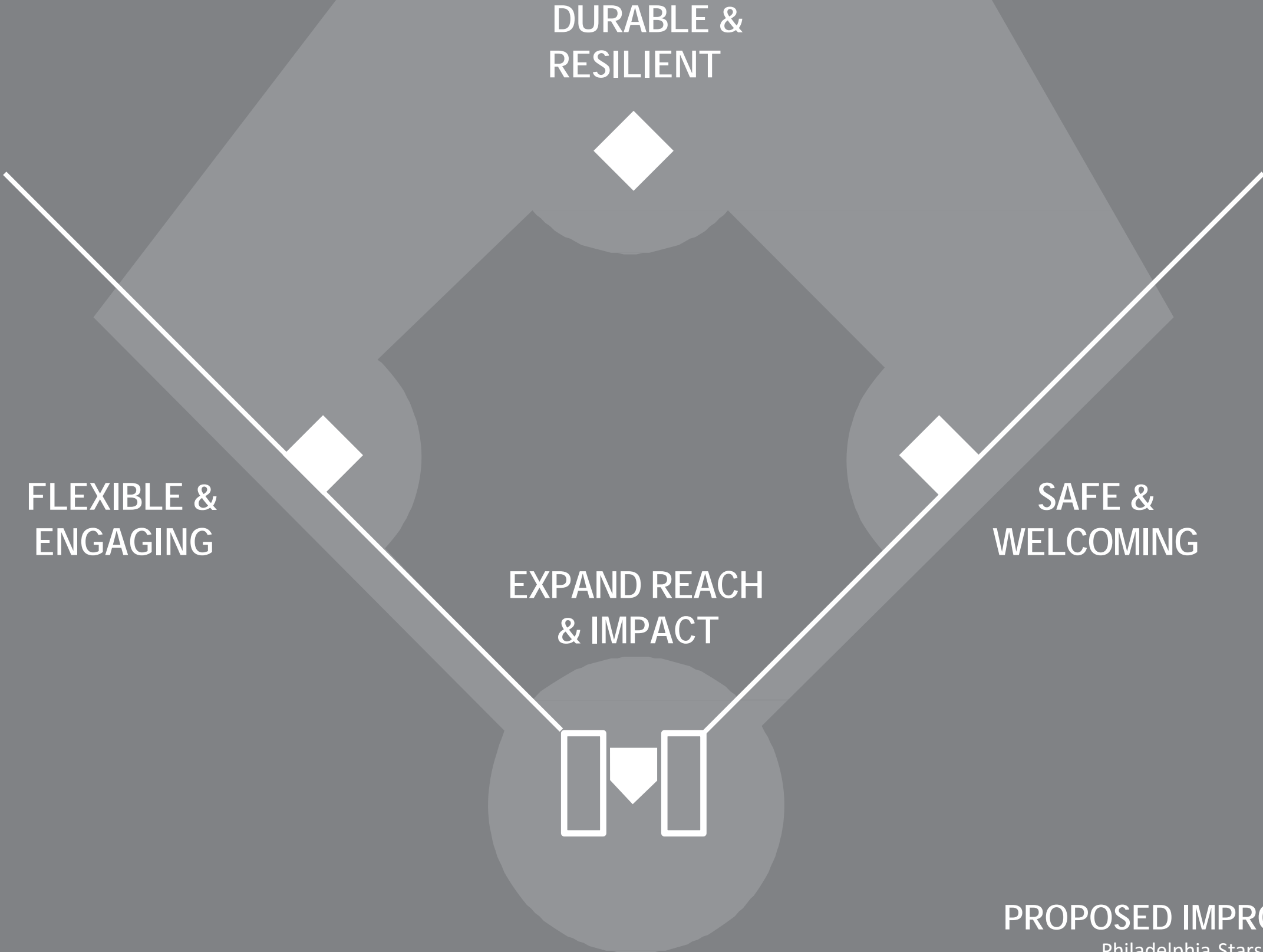
# ED. BOLDEN'S PHILA. STARS



Left to right:- "Jake" Stevens, 2B; Herb Smith, P; Casey, C; Jud Wilson, 3B; Pete Washington, CF; Allen, P; Porter Charleston, P; Biz Mackey, C; Ed Bolden, Mgr.; Paul Carter, P; R. Dixon, RF; Dick Lundy, SS; Chaney White, LF; Eggie Dallard, 1B; Tom Finley, Utility; McDonald, P; Tom Finley, Utility.



# GOALS OF RENOVATION



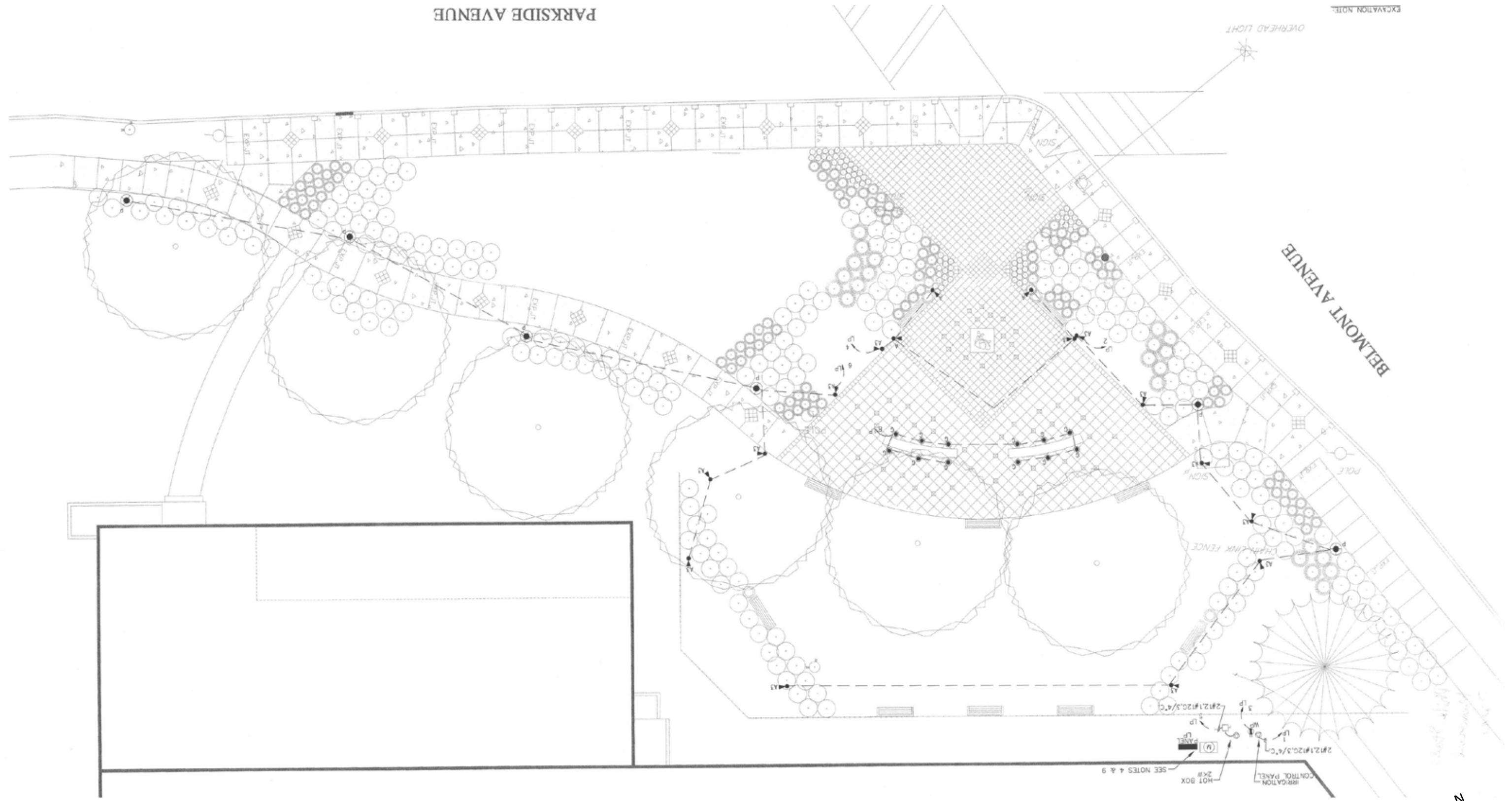


PARKSIDE AVENUE

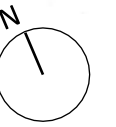
EXCAVATION NOTE:

OVERHEAD LIGHT

BEIMONT AVENUE



SOURCE: Synterra Lmtd.



# HISTORY PREVIOUS DEVELOPMENT

Philadelphia Stars Negro League Memorial Park