

Manayunk CSO Basin at the Venice Island Recreation Center  
Public Art Proposal  
Masayuki Nagase

**Manayunk CSO Basin at the Venice Island Recreation Center**  
**Concept Design Proposal**  
**Masayuki Nagase**

## **Background**

During my initial site visit to the Venice Island Recreation Center, I could see that this overall project presented a significant opportunity to develop open public space for the local community. There was such an obvious need to revitalize this area and to create a positive place for the residents of Manayunk. When doing the in depth site research, I saw that the new design had come about through much effort and thoughtfulness. The new plan would provide a positive experience for the community and revive the lower Venice Island.

My initial interest was the site's unique location between the canal and the river and it's inter-relation to the historical and present interactions with the Manayunk community. Water is such a significant element for the history of the development of Manayunk. My challenge was how to integrate the artwork in the site and the overall design and how to emphasis the experience and reconnection with nature.

## **Design Concept**

The overall theme of my design concept is based on the image of water. I wanted to work with the presence of the river symbolically and visually for the visitor to the recreational facilities. I designed the art elements with the intention to help restore the sense of connection with nature through the experience of the artwork. I also wanted to bring an overall awareness to the local community of the natural and historical context of their surrounding environment. The artwork is composed of a major paving element in the terrace walkway and two areas of sculptural seating.

### **Paving Element on the Terrace Walkway**

One of the sites I have chosen is the main Terrace Walkway between the Performing Arts Center and the Recreational Courts. I chose this area for the artwork to create a visual symbolic entrance into the facility and to give a striking visual character to this main walkway.

The image for the walkway is a river form of exposed aggregate concrete set into a colored brick pattern inspired by woven textile. This pattern for the walkway integrates the historical context of the textile industry and the natural characteristic of the Schuylkill River.

As the visitors approach the main entrances into the Performing Arts Center upon this walkway, they will find the flowing form of the river paving pattern as they walk to the various destinations in the facilities. Placed in the brick pattern would be glass blocks that would allow natural light to enter into the underground facility below. I propose to etch different natural regional images of native plants and birds and fish on larger brick pavers as an educational element. Also including in this area would be educational signage highlighting the natural and historical regional aspects of the river and canal.

**Proposed Materials and Dimensions:**

Exposed concrete aggregate

Colored concrete brick pavers

Glass blocks

Educational signage

Total Dimensions of Walkway: Length 142 ft. x Width 14 ft.

**Sculptural Bench Areas**

**Site 1: Riverside lawn area at the end of the walkway from Lock St. bridge entrance**

I chose this area since it offers the only direct access to the river. I propose several sculptural benches carved with a unified relief water pattern that would travel across the top surfaces of the boulders. This artwork will provide the tactile and visual experience of the theme of water and using natural material such as granite natural boulders. The planned landscape and existing trees can give shade, offering a pleasant alternative seating in this area.

**Site 2: Children's Garden Area**

This group of several sculptural seating offers again the tactile and visual experience of the theme of water. For the Children's' Garden each sculptural bench will be carved in a different pattern, presenting an individual character. The sculptural seating will be integrated in the area below the Children's Spray Garden.

**Proposed Materials and Dimensions:**

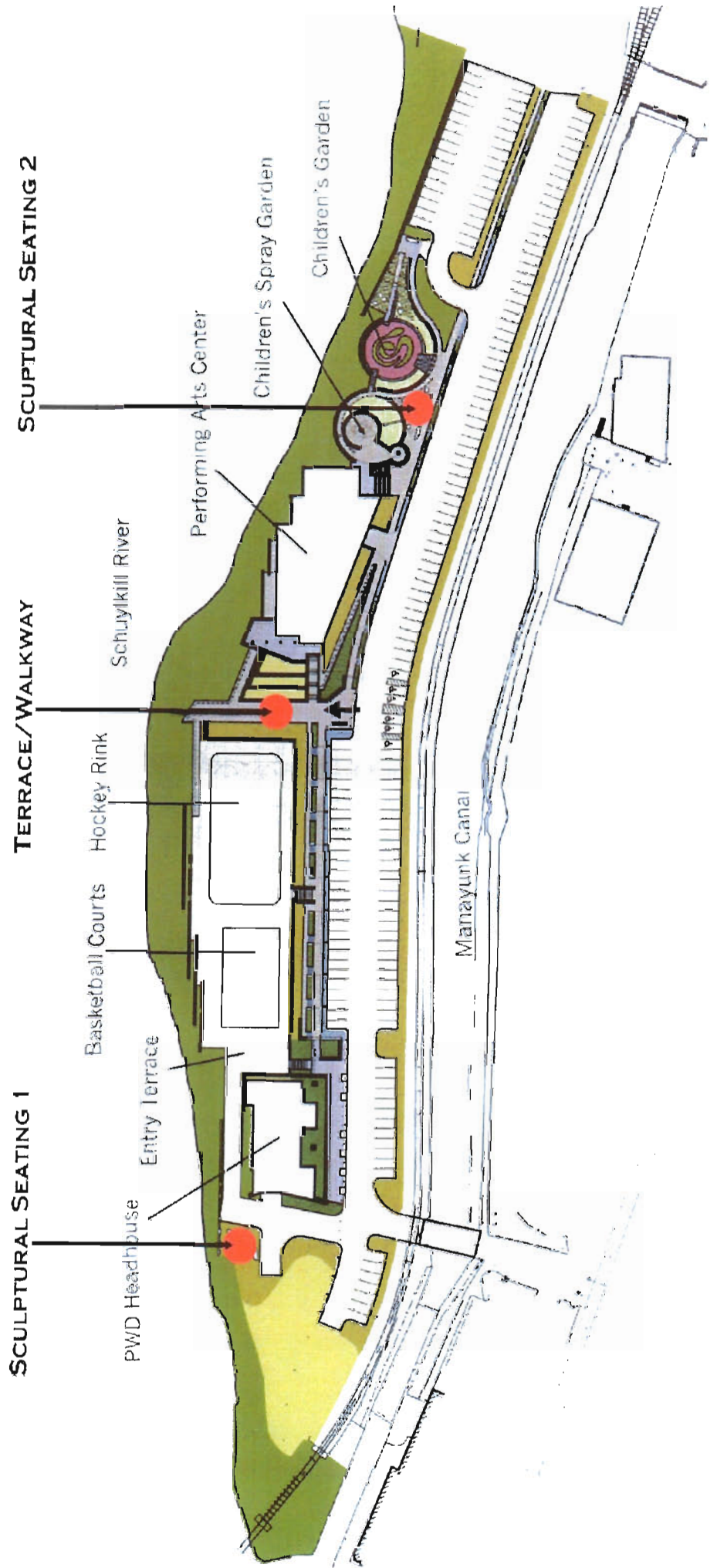
Natural granite boulders

Height 18 inches Length 4-6 feet Width 3-4 feet

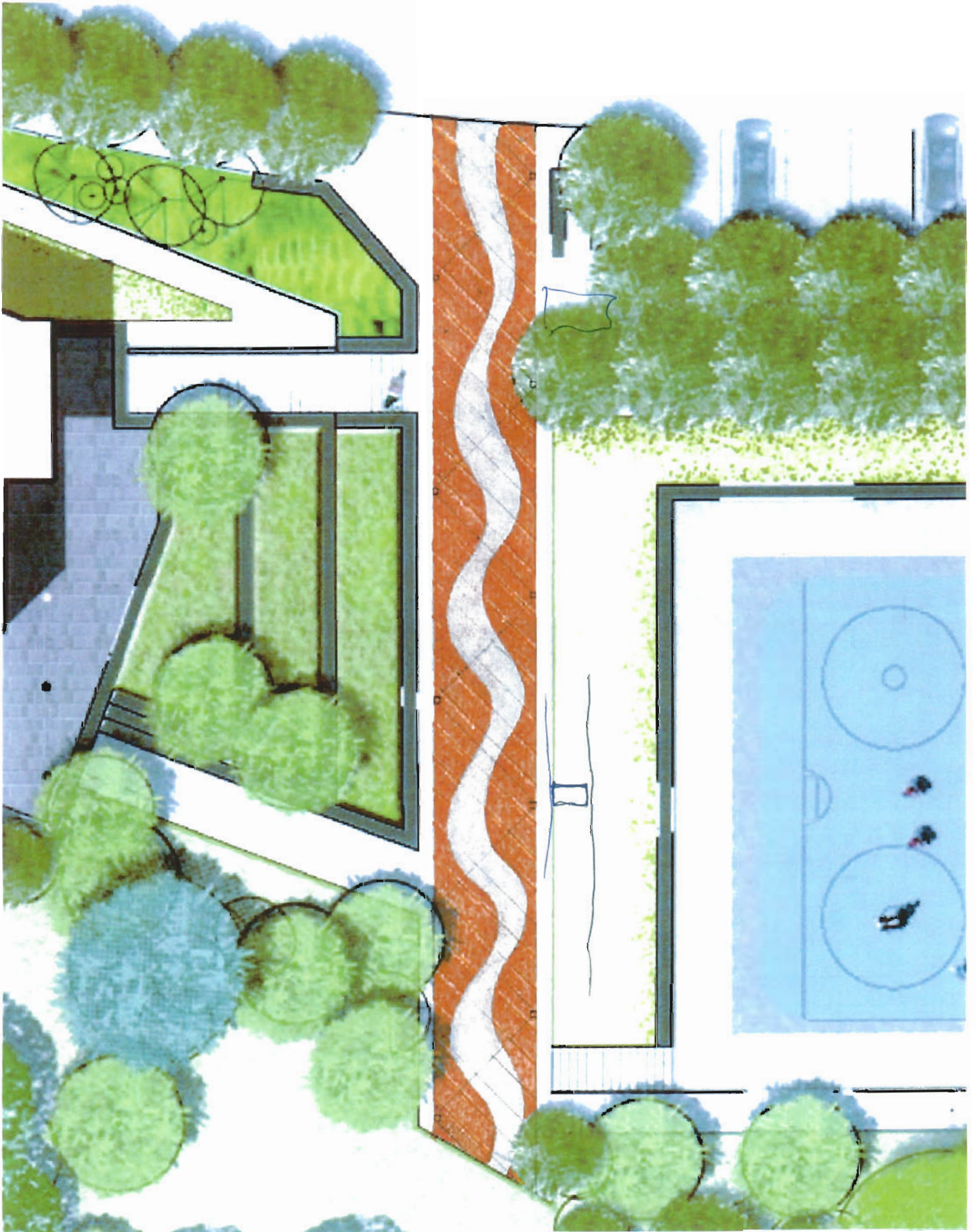
Reinforced concrete foundations designed by structural engineer

MANAYUNK CSO BASIN AT THE VENICE  
ISLAND RECREATION CENTER: SITE PLAN

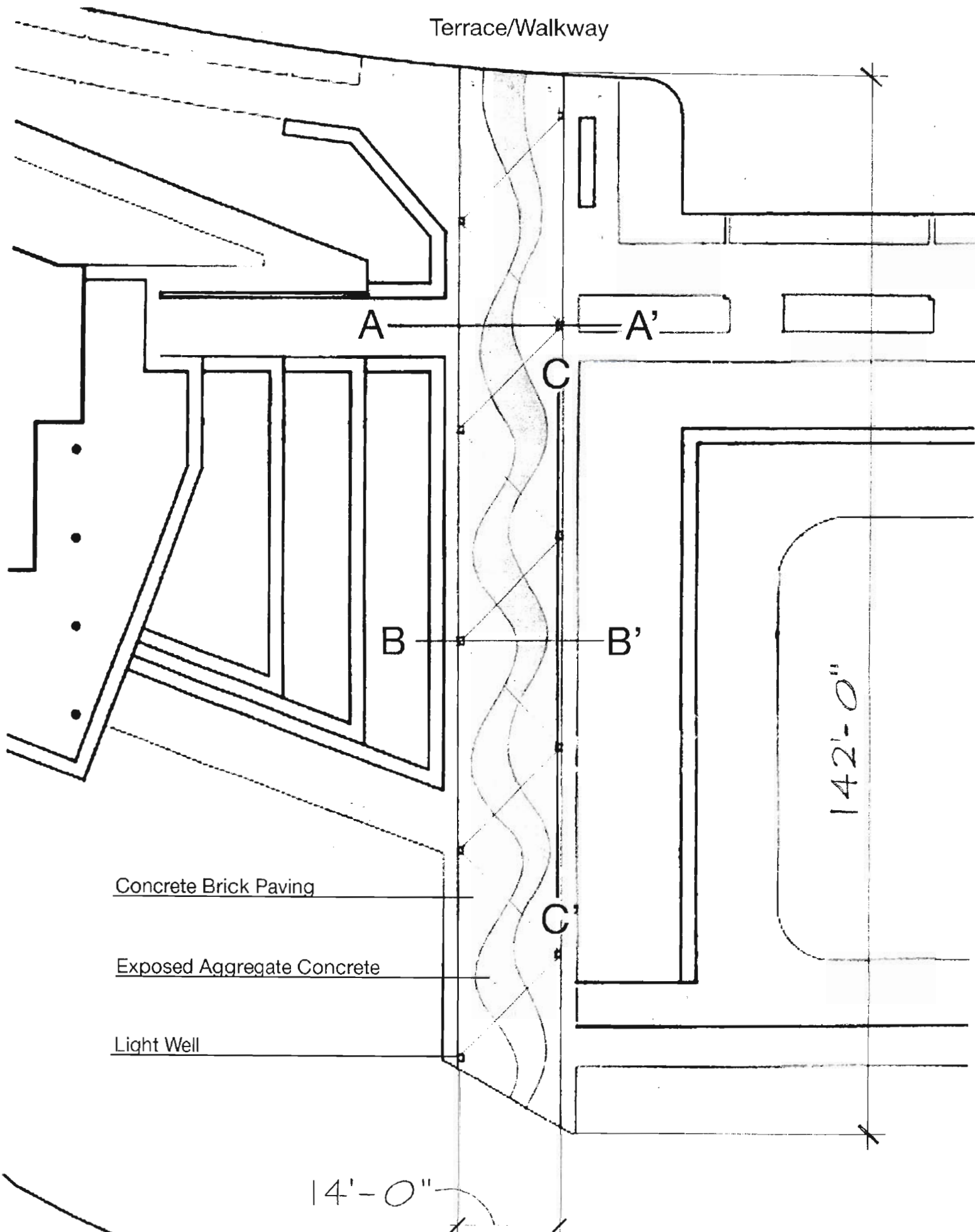
ARTWORK SITE LOCATION



Terrace/Walkway



Terrace/Walkway



A

A'

B

B'

C

C'

Concrete Brick Paving

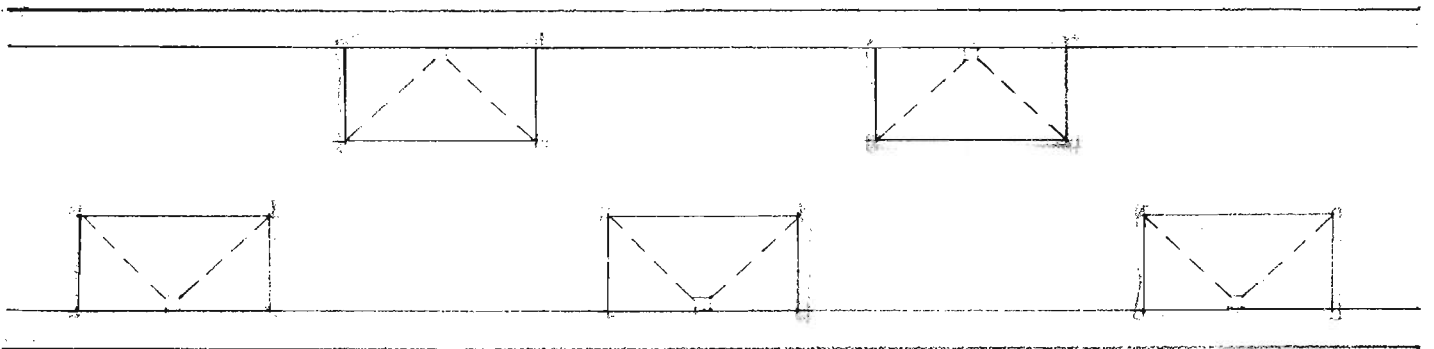
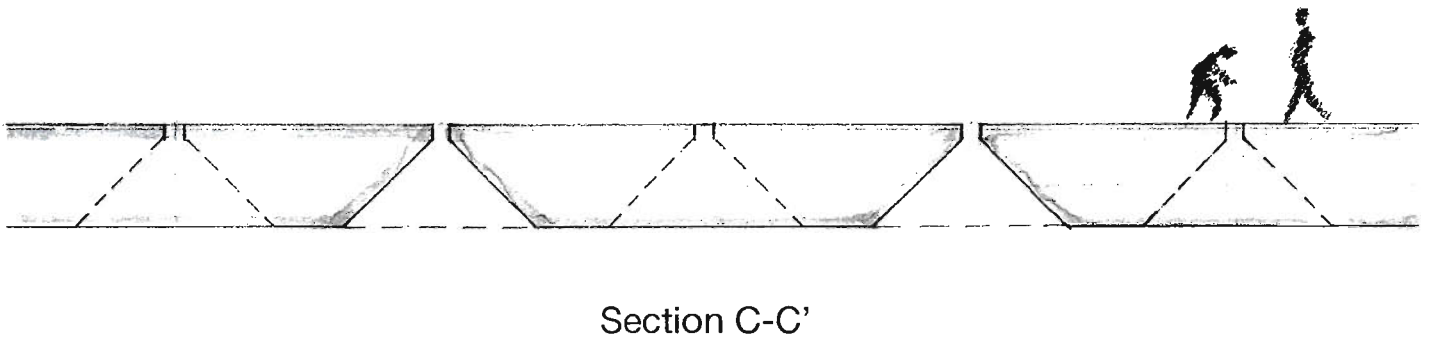
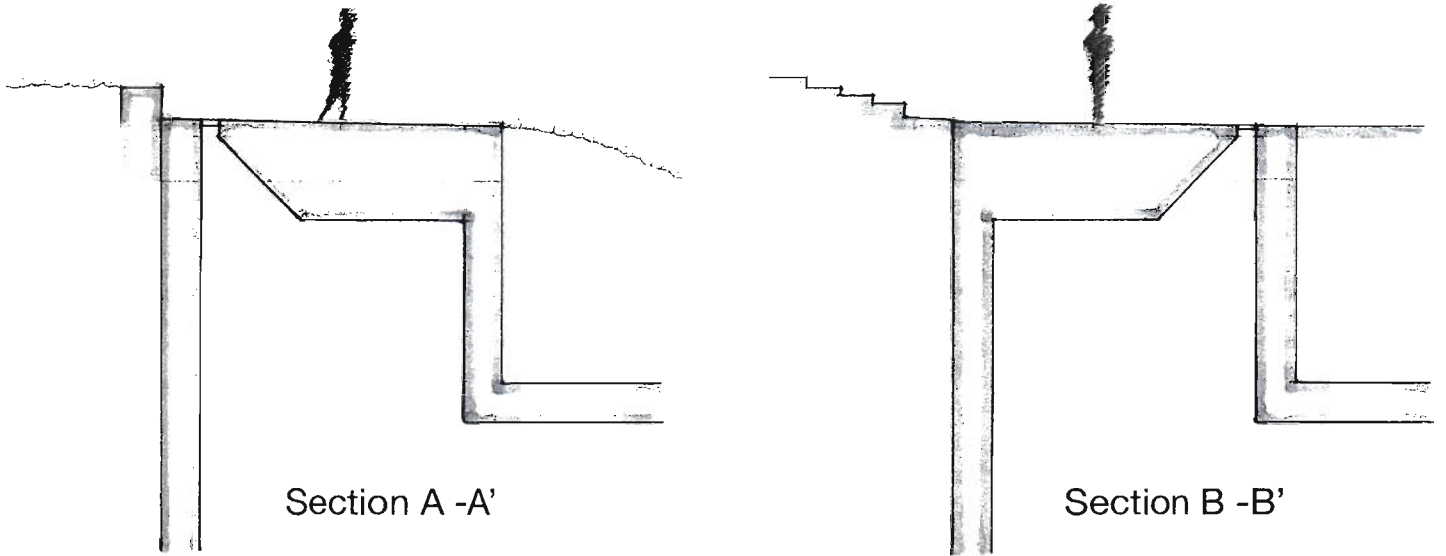
Exposed Aggregate Concrete

Light Well

142'-0"

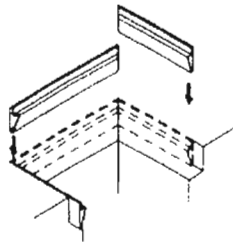
14'-0"

# Light Well Section Drawing for the CSO Basin

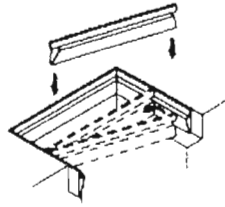


Light Well Opening Pattern on the CSO Basin Ceiling

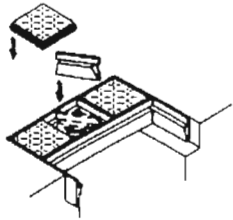
# GlassWall™ Paver Installation



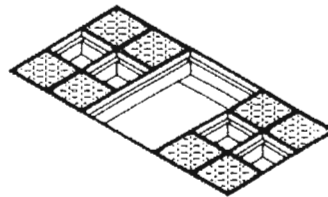
**Step 1:** Install perimeter members into containment opening.



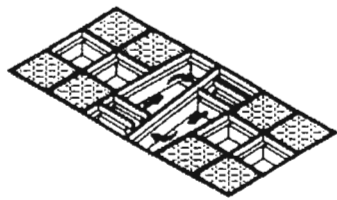
**Step 2:** Install one spanning member at each end.



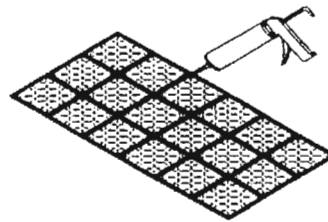
**Step 3:** Insert glass block paver units into rubber boots. Alternately install one paver unit, then one spacer member, simultaneously working in from each corner toward mid-span. Leave out the centermost paver unit.



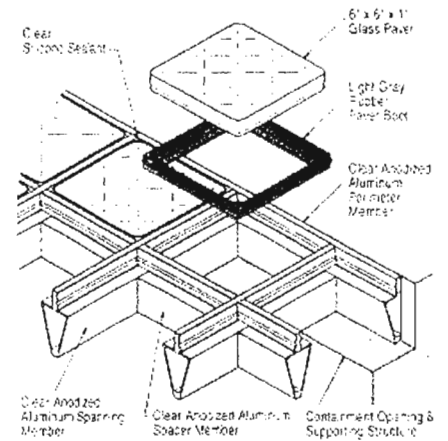
**Step 4:** Repeat steps 2 and 3, simultaneously working in from each end toward the center. Leave out the centermost spanning member, corresponding spacer members and glass block paver units.



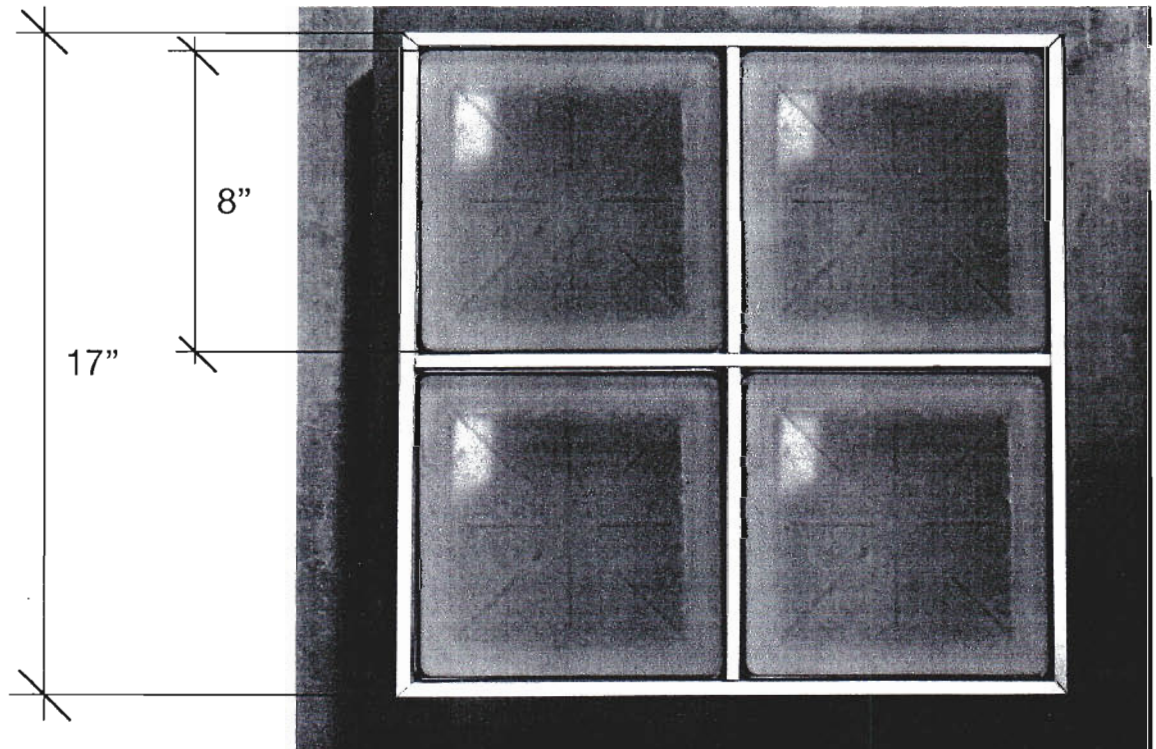
**Step 5:** Install last spanning member and corresponding spacer members.



**Step 6:** Install remaining glass block paver units and seal.



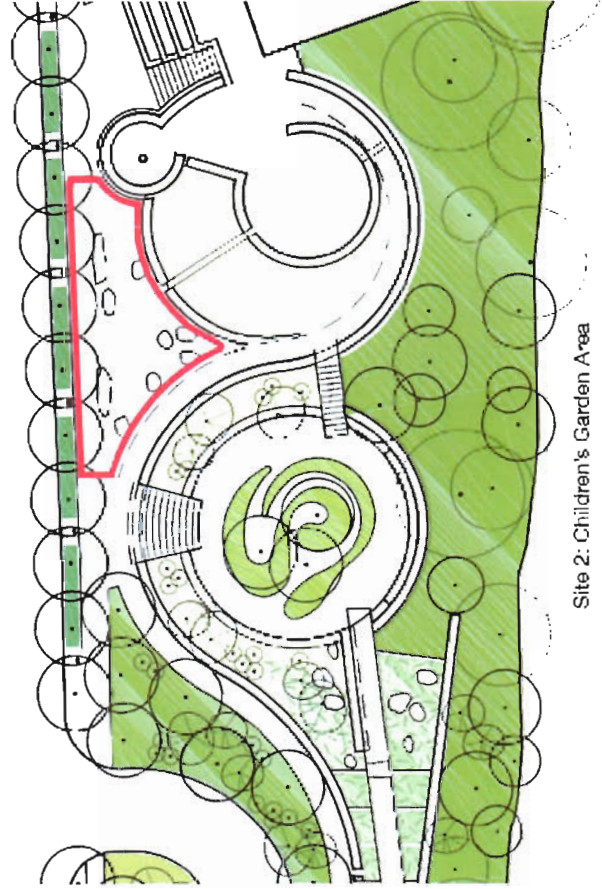
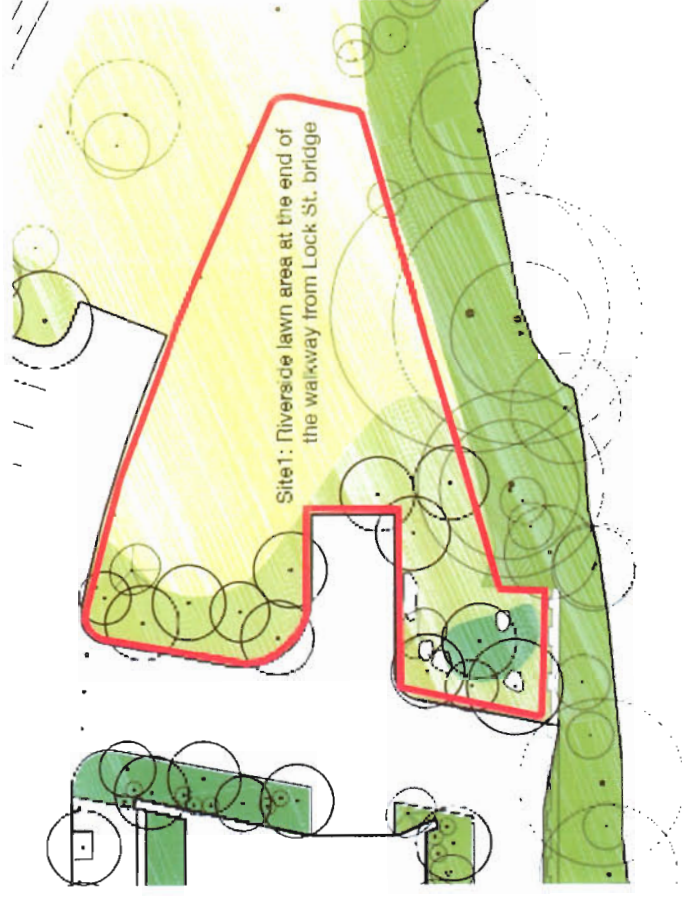
Installation guide also available as [Adobe Acrobat file](#) (1.2MB PDF; requires free Acrobat Reader)



## Sculptural Bench Areas

Site 1: Riverside Lawn Area at the end of the walkway from Lock St. bridge entrance

I chose this area since it offers the only direct access to the river. I propose several sculptural benches carved with a unified relief water pattern that would travel across the top surfaces of the boulders. This artwork will provide the tactile and visual experience of the theme of water and using natural material such as granite natural boulders. The planned landscape and existing trees can give shade, offering a pleasant alternative seating in this area.



## Site 2: Children's Garden Area

This group of several sculptural seating offers again the tactile and visual experience of the theme of water. For the Children's Garden each sculptural bench will be carved in a different pattern, presenting an individual character, integrating it with the design below the Spray garden.

## Proposed Material and Dimensions:

Natural granite boulders

Height 18 inches Length 4-6 feet Width 3-4 feet

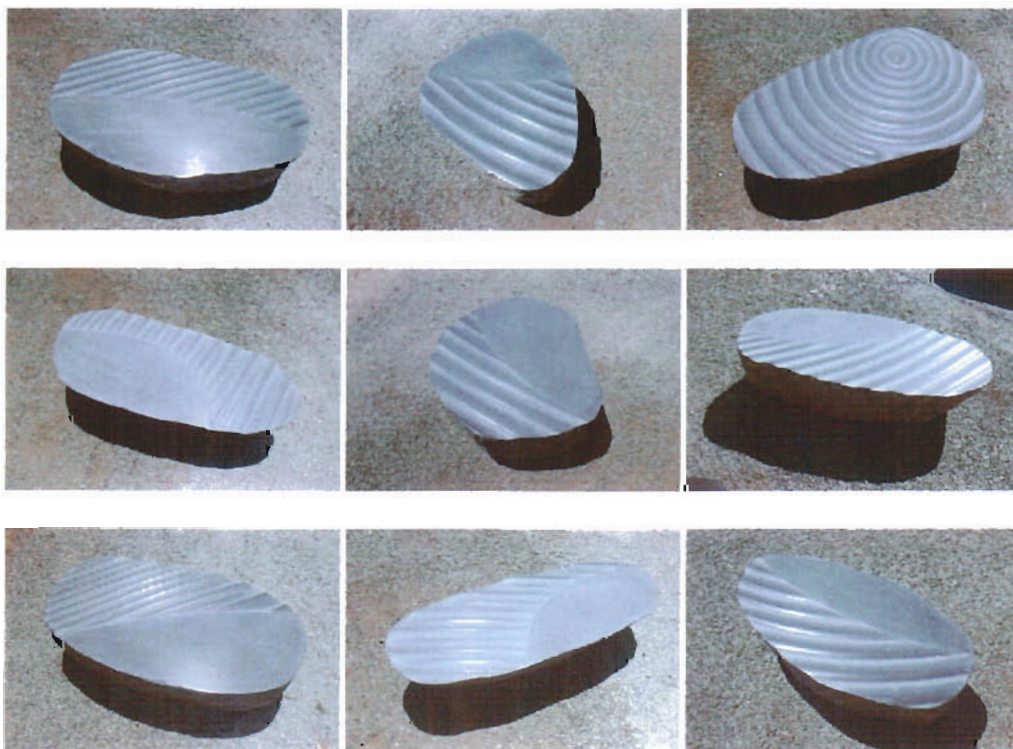
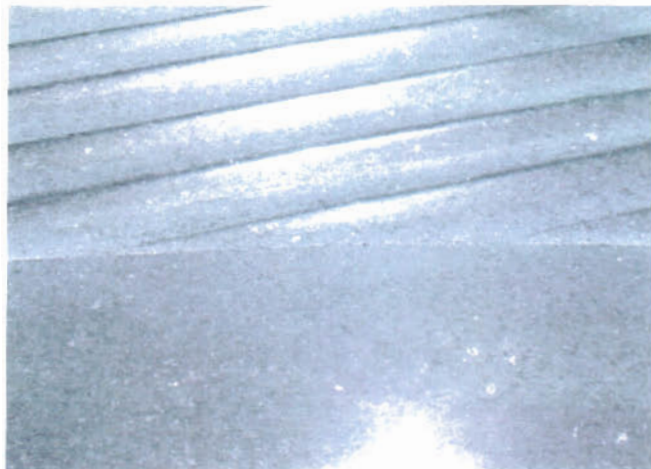
Reinforced concrete foundations designed by structural engineer



Proposed Size of Sculpture Benches: Ht. 18 inches Width 3-4 ft Length 4-6 ft

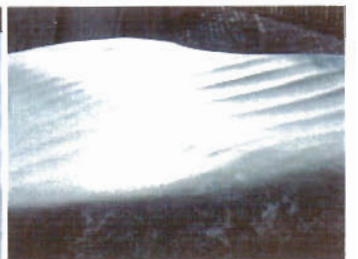
Sculptural Seating Example

1



# Sculptural Seating Example

2



**Manayunk CSO Basin at the Venice Island Recreation Center  
Conservation and Maintenance Concerns  
Masayuki Nagase**

**List of Proposed Materials and Maintenance Concerns**

**1) Natural granite boulders from Coldspring Granite Company, Raymond, CA.**

I have used these boulders are numerous public art project. The granite boulders can withstand freezing temperatures and all weather conditions. They can be treated with a water repellent sealer and an anti-graffiti sealant that can make paint removable. The boulders will require minimum maintenance including washing their surface with water if desirable. It is recommended to reapply the sealants every 3-5 years.

**2) Concrete brick pavers by Hanover Architectural Products as an example.**

They are widely used for outdoor large scale paving areas. They are weather resistant and can be treated with a sealant and also reapplied every 3-5 years.

**3) IBP Glass Block Grid System as an example.**

They are made for paving outdoor use and can withstand all weather conditions and pedestrian traffic. They are used widely in shopping malls and exterior commercial areas. They can be sandblasted so to provide traction for the pedestrian. They can be cleaned periodically with regular glass cleaner.

**4) Standard exposed aggregate concrete**

This is widely used in all outdoor paving surfaces and can withstand all weather conditions. A sealant can be re-applied every 3-5 years.

**Manayunk CSO Basin at the Venice Island Recreation Center  
Preliminary Budget  
Masayuki Nagase**

**I. FABRICATION PHASE**

Design fee: 6% \$16,500.

**Sculpture Benches**

- a) Natural granite boulders (estimate 14-16 boulders)  
with saw cuts by factory \$20,000.
- b) Transport and forklift rental to unload and to move in studio \$4,500.
- c) Tools and utilities \$3,000.
- d) Artist's labor: 6 months \$81,600.
- e) Structural engineering design services \$2,000.

**Paving Element**

- a) Fabrication of engraved pavers and educational signage \$5,000.
- b) Structural engineering design services \$1,000.

**II. SITE PREPARATION PHASE**

- a) Concrete foundation for the sculpture benches \$24,000.
- b) Supervision of framing for paving area and concrete foundation  
by artist \$1,200.

**III. INSTALLATION PHASE**

- a) Transportation of stone elements to the site  
including loading \$15,000.
- b) Brick pavers (est. at \$25. per sq. ft) \$32,000.
- c) Exposed aggregate concrete paving \$10,000.
- d) Sealer for all paving areas \$5,000.
- e) Glass pavers (10 units) \$9,000.
- f) Crane/Forklift rental for unloading and installing \$6,000.
- g) Artist's labor: 1 week \$3,000.

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS COSTS**

- a) Insurance \$800.
- b) Travel costs and lodging at the site \$5,500.
- c) Project overhead and management \$2,400.

Subtotal: \$247,500.  
10% Contingency: \$27,500.  
Total Budget: \$275,000.

**Manayunk CSO Basin at the Venice Island Recreation Center**  
**Projected Time Schedule**  
**Masayuki Nagase**

**I. RESEARCH PHASE** **1-3 months**

- a) Finalize schematic design details, plans and contract
- b) Coordinate with design team all design details and material selections
- c) Select structural engineer for concrete foundation for sculpture benches and paving glass elements
- d) Select subcontractors for concrete foundation, paving, glass, engraving elements
- e) Select boulders and order saw cuts in factory by artist

**II. FABRICATION PHASE** **6 months**

- a) Fabricate sculpture benches in studio by artist
- b) Fabrication of engraved pavers and educational signage by subcontractor

**III. SITE PREPARATION PHASE** **1 month**

- a) Pouring of the concrete foundation for the sculpture benches by subcontractor
- b) Supervision of framing for paving area and concrete foundation by artist

**IV. INSTALLATION PHASE** **1-2 months**

- a) Transportation of sculpture benches to the site by trucking company (1 week)
- b) Installation of brick pavers by subcontractor
- c) Installation of exposed aggregate concrete paving by subcontractor
- d) Installation of glass pavers by subcontractor
- e) Installation of stone elements by artist and educational signage (1 week)

## MASAYUKI NAGASE

1801 Cedar St.  
Berkeley, CA 94703  
tel/fax:(510) 548-3618  
e-mail: kunagase@lmi.net  
website: www.mnagase.com

## EDUCATION

1971-1976 Stone Carving Apprenticeship-Kasama, Japan  
1968-1971 Tokyo Academy of Fine Arts-Tokyo, Japan

## PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS

2008 Doyle-Hollis Park-Emeryville, California  
University of Oregon, College of Education-Eugene, Oregon  
2007 Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Little Sugar Creek Greenway-Charlotte, North Carolina  
2006 Alameda Free Library-Alameda, California (Collaborative design with Michele Ku)  
Joyce Ellington Branch Library-San Jose, California  
2005 University of Arizona-6<sup>th</sup> St. Parking & Office Building-Tucson, Arizona  
Palo Alto Transit Center-Palo Alto, California  
2004 Sacramento River Water Intake-Sacramento, California  
2003 Capitol Area East End Complex-Sacramento, California  
(Collaborative design with Michele Ku)  
2002 New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology-Socorro, New Mexico  
University of Northern Colorado-Ross Hall-Greeley, Colorado  
(Collaborative design with Michele Ku)  
2001 East Multnomah County Health, Aging & Disability Building-Gresham, Oregon  
1999 Ft. Lewis College-Fine Arts Building-Durango, Colorado  
1990 Market Plaza Fountain-Koper, Slovenia

## PRIVATE ART COMMISSIONS

2005 St. Regis Hotel-San Francisco, California  
1999 Colorado's Ocean Journey-Plaza Sculpture-Denver, Colorado  
(Collaborative design with Michele Ku)  
1997 National Peace Site-Ragle Ranch Park-Sebastopol, California  
1991 Shirai Corporation Garden-Shirai, Japan  
1981 Kenyukai Hospital Garden-Nagasaki, Japan

## INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE SYMPOSIUMS

1996 Forma Viva-Highway Project-Bled, Slovenia  
1987 Isla Negra Sculpture Park-Isla Negra, Chile  
Forma Viva-Group Project-Lucija, Slovenia  
1985 Forma Viva-Old Jewish Section, Slovenia  
1982 Lindabrunn Symposium-Hospital Garden-Group Project-Baden, Austria  
East-West Forum-Group Project-Dordrecht, Netherlands  
1981 City of Hagi Sculpture Park-Group Sculpture Project-Hagi, Japan  
1980 Town of Zrece Sculpture Symposium-Zrece, Slovenia  
Town of Lipica Sculpture Symposium-Lipica, Slovenia

## MASAYUKI NAGASE

Page 2

### ONE MAN EXHIBITIONS

- 1999 Fort Lewis College Art Gallery-Durango, Colorado
- 1995 Podsreda Castle Gallery-Podsreda, Slovenia
- 1994 Sezana Cultural Center-Sezana, Slovenia
- 1993 City of Ljubljana Gallery-Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Loza Gallery-Koper, Slovenia
- 1982 Alga Gallery-Izola, Slovenia  
Town of Umag Gallery-Umag, Croatia
- 1982 Pilonova Gallery-Ajdovscina, Slovenia
- 1980 Meduza Gallery-Koper, Slovenia  
Ars Gallery-Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Mala Gallery-Sezana, Slovenia

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2001 *Ascoltare Le Pietra Bianche*-Galleria A + A-Venice, Italy
- 1994 *Primorski Umetniki*-Koprski Museum-Koper, Slovenia
- 1986 *Fiera Internazionale de Arte Contemporanea*-Bari, Italy
- 1983 *Forma Viva '85*-City of Piran Gallery-Piran, Slovenia
- 1983 *Japanische Kleinplastik*-Fraunbad-Baden, Austria
- 1981 *Rassena Internazionale del Bronzetto*-Rettori Gallery-Trieste, Italy

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2000 Instructor-Ft. Lewis College-Durango, Colorado
- 1998 Instructor-International Summer Academy of Fine Arts-Salzburg, Austria
- 1996 Instructor-International Summer Academy of Fine Arts-Salzburg, Austria
- 1988 Instructor-Kornarija Sculpture Summer Program-Marusici, Croatia

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2005 Alameda Journal-July 26, 2005-front page & pg.6-Alameda, CA
- 2004 The Sacramento Bee-February 20, 2004-Sacramento, CA
- 2002 El Defensor Chieftain-April 3, 2002-p.1-photo-p.3-Socorro, NM
- 1999 The Durango Herald-September 24, 1999-p.1B-photo & p.2B-Durango, CO  
Denver Rocky Mountain News-February 19, 1999-p.1-photo & p.23-Denver, CO
- 1998 Sonoma West Times & News-May 27, 1998-p.3A-Sebastopol, CA  
The Press Democrat-May 24, 1998-p.1B to p. 3B-Santa Rosa, CA
- 1987 Jana Ambient-September/October issue 1987-p.14 to p.18-Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 1980 Primorski Novice-August 31, 1980-p.5-Koper, Slovenia

## REFERENCES

### Masayuki Nagase

1) Ms. Regina Alamguer  
Public Art Consultant  
9 Pico Ct.  
Orinda, CA. 94563  
(925)377-5531 [ralmaguer@comcast.net](mailto:ralmaguer@comcast.net)

2) Ms. Judyth Demarest  
Public Art Manger  
Percent for Art Program, Louisiana Division of the Arts, Department of Culture,  
Recreation & Tourism  
1051 North 3rd St. Room 420  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804  
work 225-342-2846  
mobile225-931-2641 [jdemarest@crt.state.la.us](mailto:jdemarest@crt.state.la.us)

3) Jennifer Easton  
Sr. Project Manager, Public Art  
Office of Cultural Affairs, City of San Jose, CA.  
work 408-277-5144 ext.24  
mobile510-407-4162

- 1) [jenniferaeaston@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferaeaston@gmail.com)
- 2) [Jennifer.Easton@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Easton@sanjoseca.gov)

4) Ms. Katheryn Minette  
Public Art Manager  
Art in Public Places Program, New Mexico Arts  
PO Box 1450  
Santa Fe, NM. 87504  
(505)827-6490 [kminette@oca.state.nm.us](mailto:kminette@oca.state.nm.us)

5) Ms. Peggy Kendall  
Public Art Manger  
Regional Arts & Culture Council of Portland, Oregon  
620 SW Main St. Suite 240  
Portland, OR. 97205  
(503)823-4196 [pkendellen@racc.org](mailto:pkendellen@racc.org)