A Center for Community & Culture

Kansas City, Kansas

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Primary Advisor: Jay Kost
LA 572 Design Thesis
Software: Hand Rendering, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Sketchup

+SITE location

KANSAS

Kansas City

MISSOURI

+SITE specifics

Kansas City, KS - 146,453 (2011)
Kansas City, MO - 463,202
KC Metropolitan Population - 2,035,335
Site Area Population: 978

Site Size: 35.5 acres

+SITE inventory & analysis

Surrounding Parks

Building Usage

- Church
- Municipal
- Commercial
- Residential
- Uninhabited
- Retail
- Parking Ramp

Bus Routes

- Route 107
- Route 101
- Route 104
- Route 106
- Route 102
- Route 115

0'   500'   1500'

N

+SITE history & culture

The Kansas Territory was the 1st battled in the conflict over slavery and southern succession that led to the Civil War. The Kansas Territory, struggled with slavery laws for years, until they finally found success in 1861 as becoming a free state,granting voting rights for women, and deeming Kansas as an actual state.

The Kansas Territory started as a settlement for the Wyandette Indians, but much of their opinion on anything political was overlooked by those higher up in the area and the citizens of Missouri before Kansas was granted the ability to be a state and be officially considered a part of Wyandette County.

The citizens in the area fought hard for their territory to become an actual place, and this battle shapes who the citizens are and how honored they are to live in the place they do.
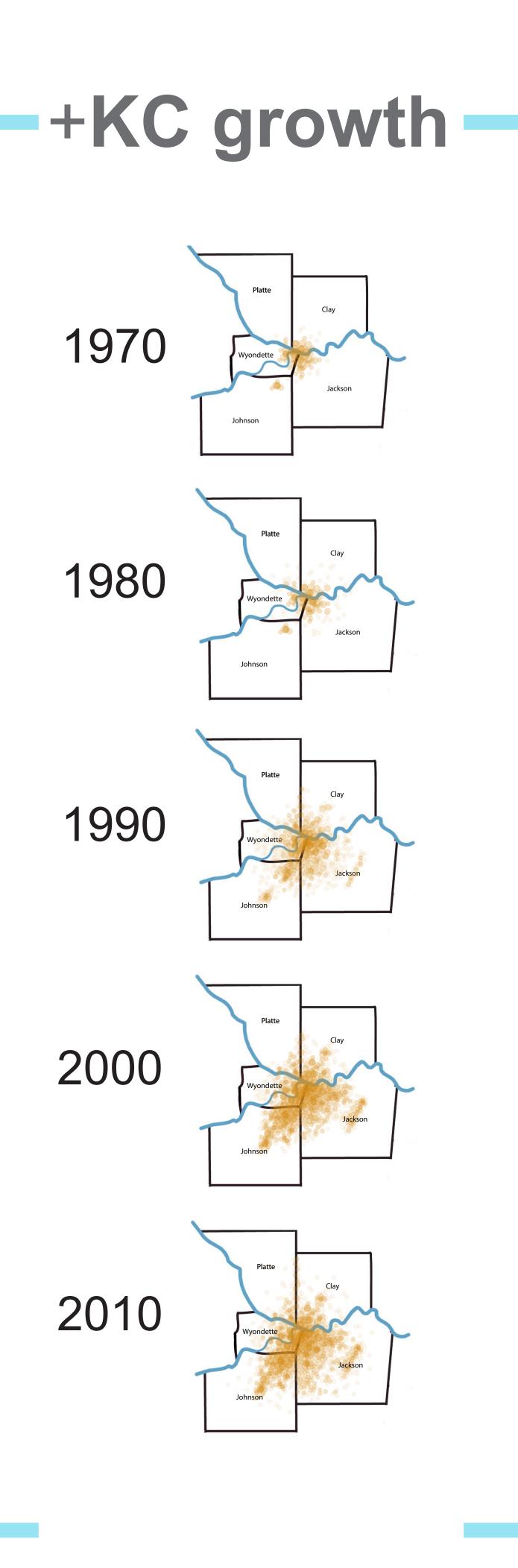
Kansas City, Kansas has a rich and diverse culture and history. Each year, a celebration is held to honor and celebrate this. The most recent celebration was in 2009, marking the 150th year celebration since the area started their right to become a state and to be free.

This celebration runs for 6 months from January to June, and celebrates many different groups such as the Germans, Africans,English, Irish, Scottish, Shawnee, Welsh, and Wyandot Indians.
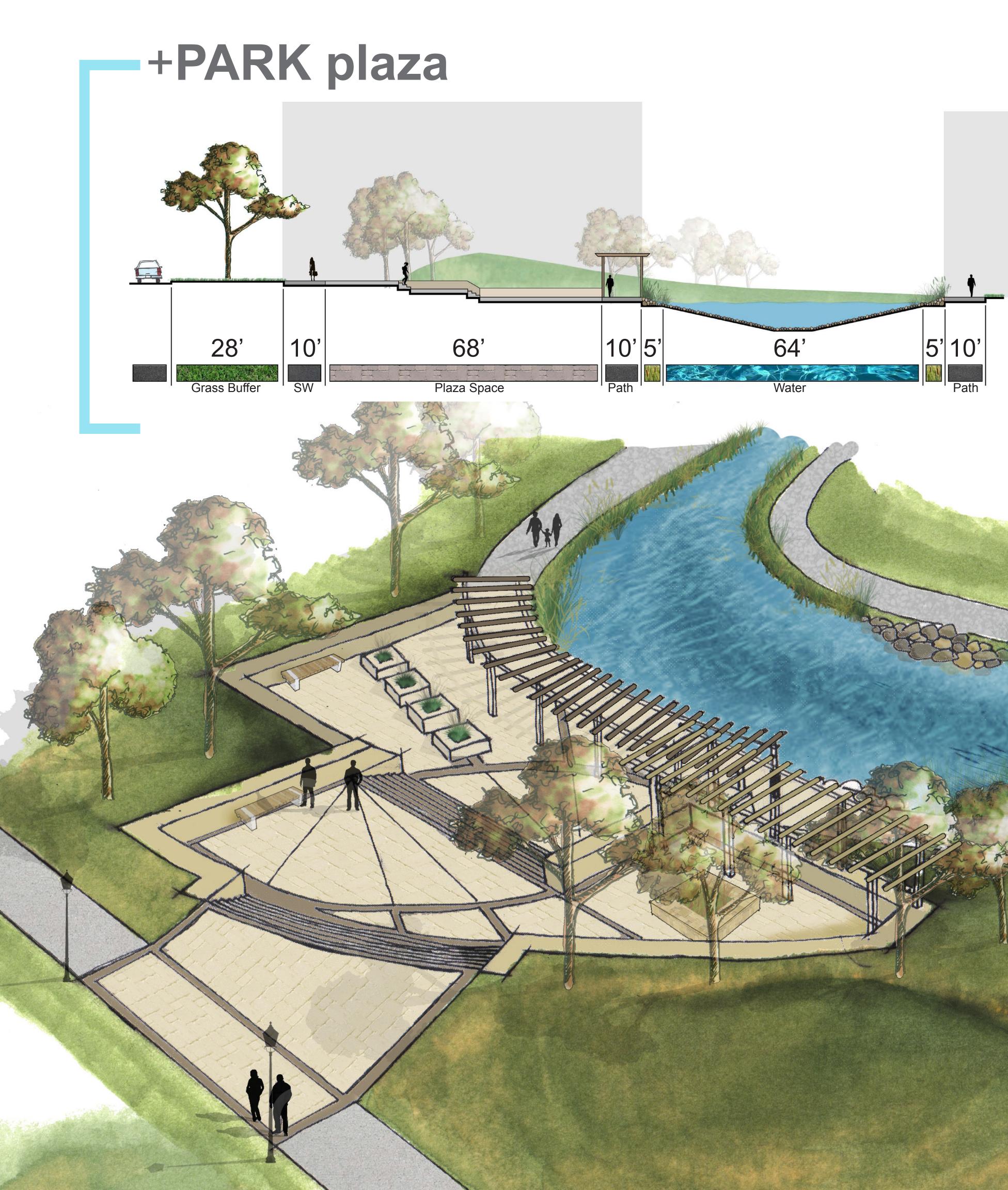
+KC growth

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

+PROBLEM statement

How can city planning embrace different cultures and promote desirable and sustainable spaces?
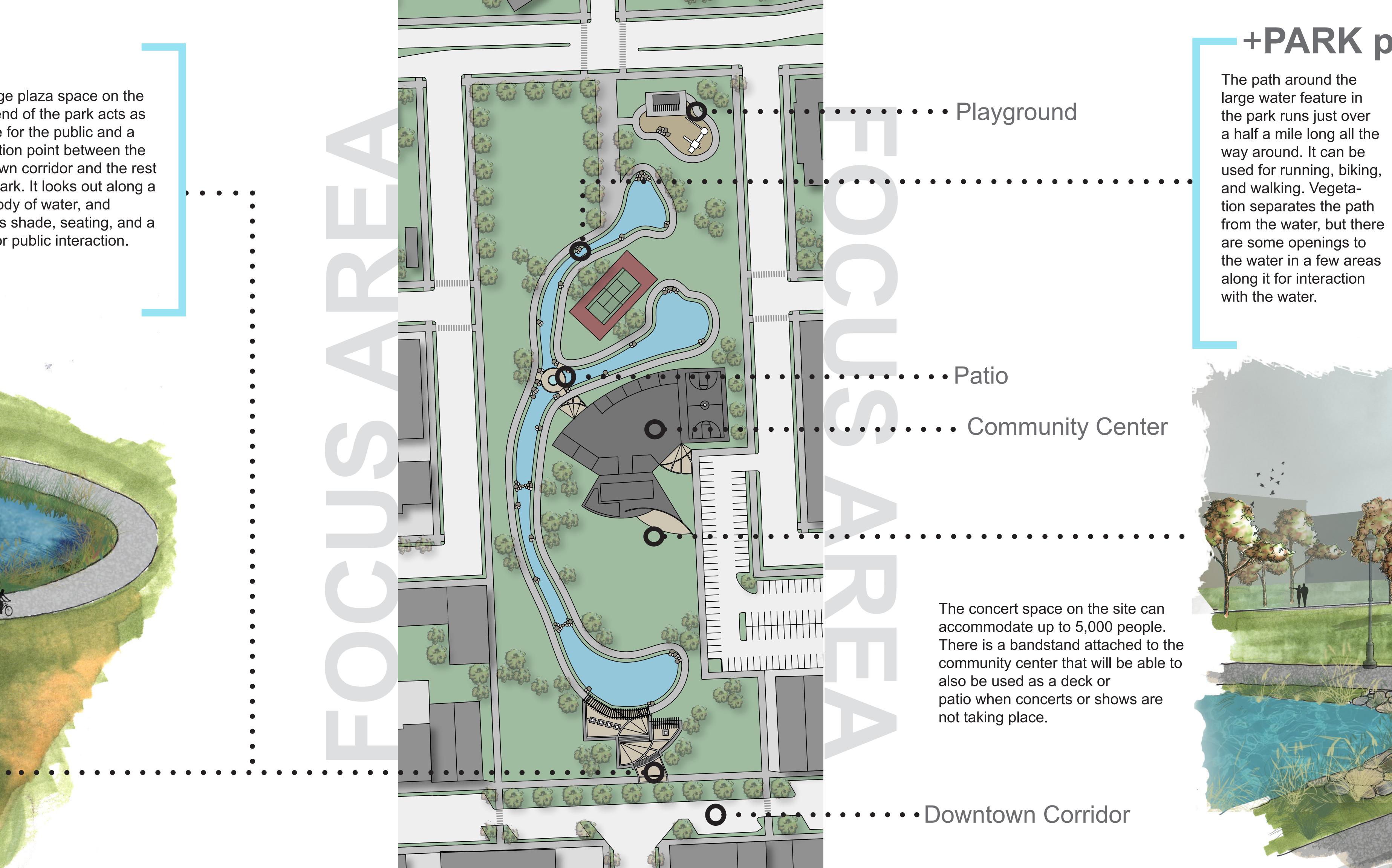
+PROJECT goal

Downtown Kansas City, Kansas will become an attractive and diverse city by engaging residents thru sustainable, well planned activities and spaces.

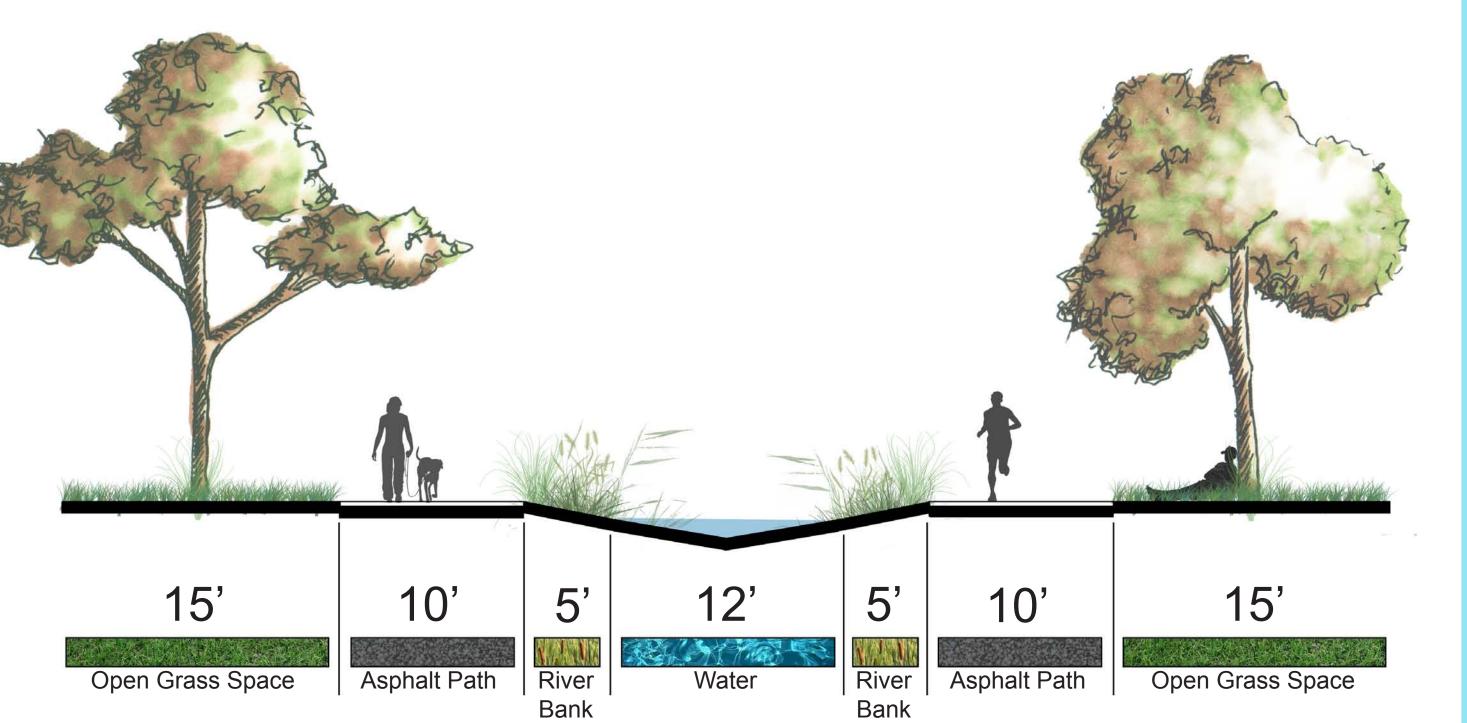## +MASTER plan

0'   100'   300'   600'

N

+PARK plaza

The large plaza space on the South end of the park acts as a space for the public and a connection point between the downtown corridor and the rest of the park. It looks out along a large body of water, and provides shade, seating, and a place for public interaction.

28'	10'	68'	10'	5'	64'	5'	10'
Grass Buffer	SW	Plaza Space	Path		Water		Path

+PARK path

The path around the large water feature in the park runs just over a half a mile long all the way around. It can be used for running, biking, and walking. Vegetation separates the path from the water, but there are some openings to the water in a few areas along it for interaction with the water.

15'	10'	5'	12'	5'	10'	15'
Open Grass Space	Asphalt Path	River Bank	Water	River Bank	Asphalt Path	Open Grass Space

FOCUS AREA

FOCUS AREA

Playground

Patio

Community Center

Downtown Corridor

The concert space on the site can accommodate up to 5,000 people. There is a bandstand attached to the community center that will be able to also be used as a deck or patio when concerts or shows are not taking place.

+COMMUNITY CENTER patio

The patio placed at the intersection of the man made river and placed just outside the Community Center acts as a central node to reach all sections of the park.

Water

Wood Base

Rock & Riverbank

+DOWNTOWN corridor

Sidewalk Lighting

Trash Receptacles

Outdoor Seating

+DOWNTOWN corridor

The downtown corridor lies on the South end of the site. It offers to public shopping, dining, and resting along it's entirety.

Acting as a main pedestrian corridor within the Kansas City downtown, it also accommodates for small amounts of vehicular traffic.

This pedestrian friendly space encourages more walking and less driving, and gives the community a place to gather and enjoy every day.

| 8' | 5' | 16' | 6' | 12' | 12' | 6' | 16' | 5' | 8' |
| Sidewalk | Buffer | Diagonal Parking | Bike Lane | Driving Lane | Driving Lane | Bike Lane | Diagonal Parking | Buffer | Sidewalk |

+DESIGN details

The seat of the bench is made of a wood material that is sealed to prolong it's life.

LENGTH: 16

WIDTH: 2

HEIGHT: 1.5

The base of the bench is made of cement for prolonged life and to act as a sturdy material.

Tall grasses and greenery, along with natural growth, will act as the center piece to the planter.

WIDTH: 5

HEIGHT: 1.5

LENGTH: 5

The planter is tiled with stone on all faces, including those being sat on.