

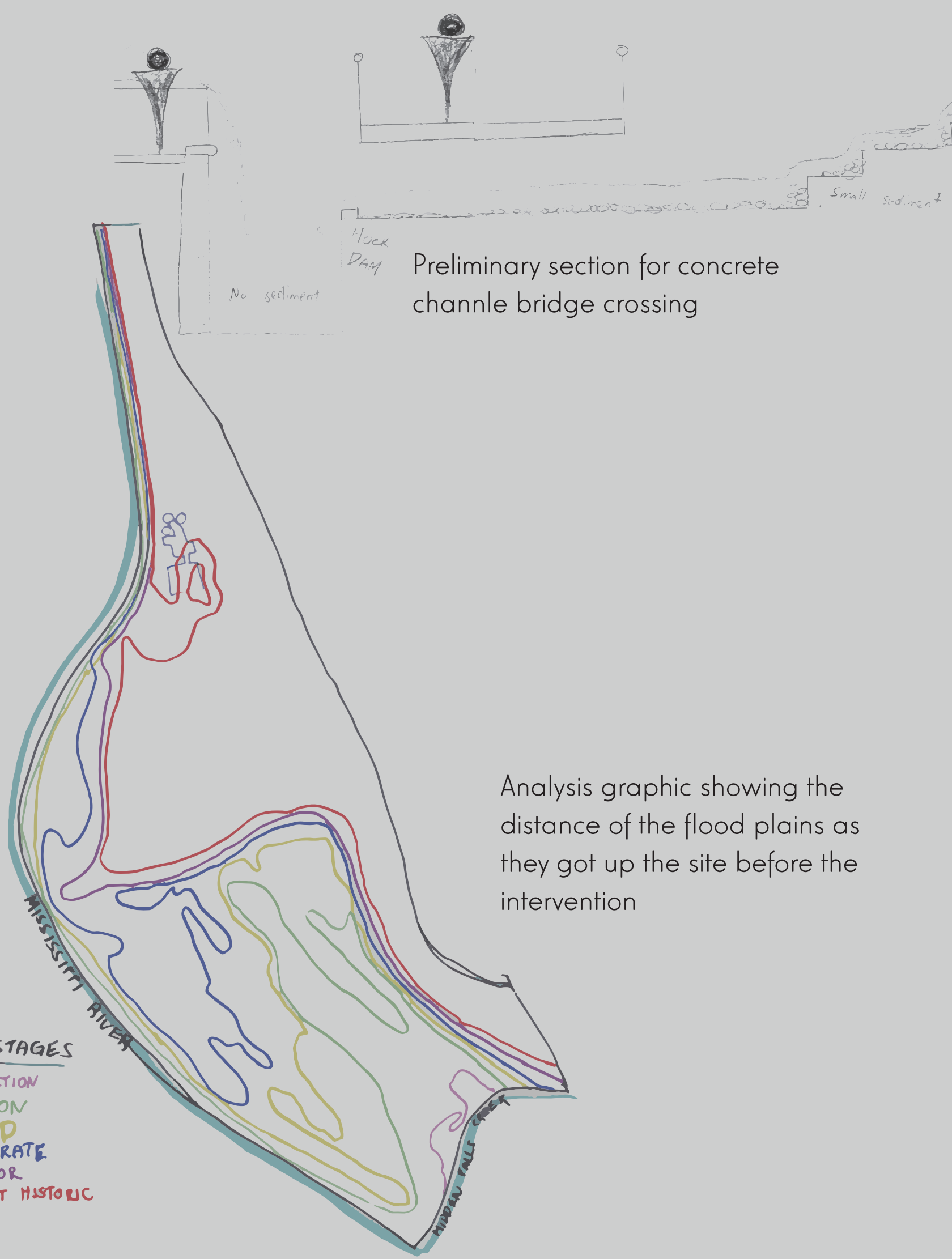
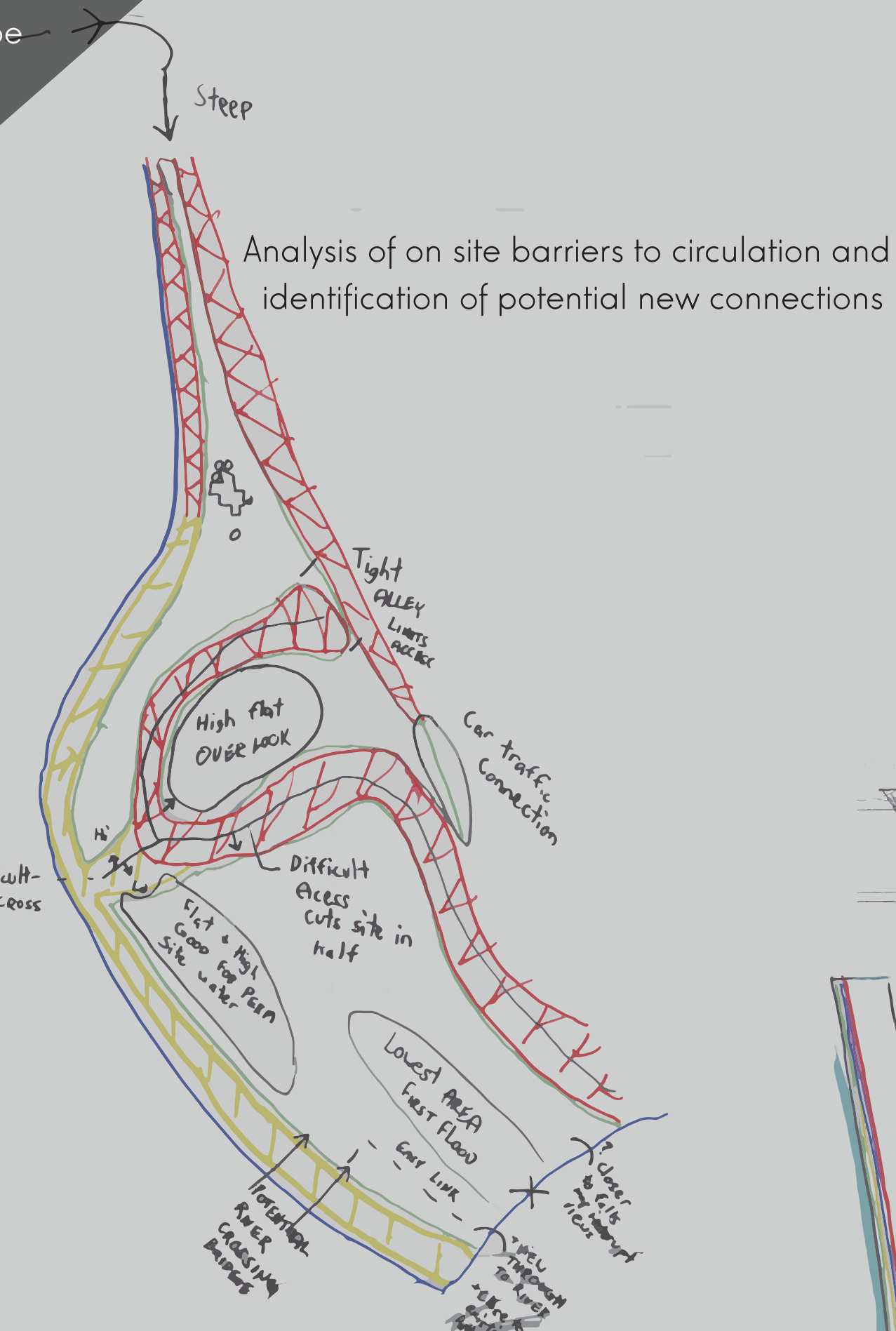
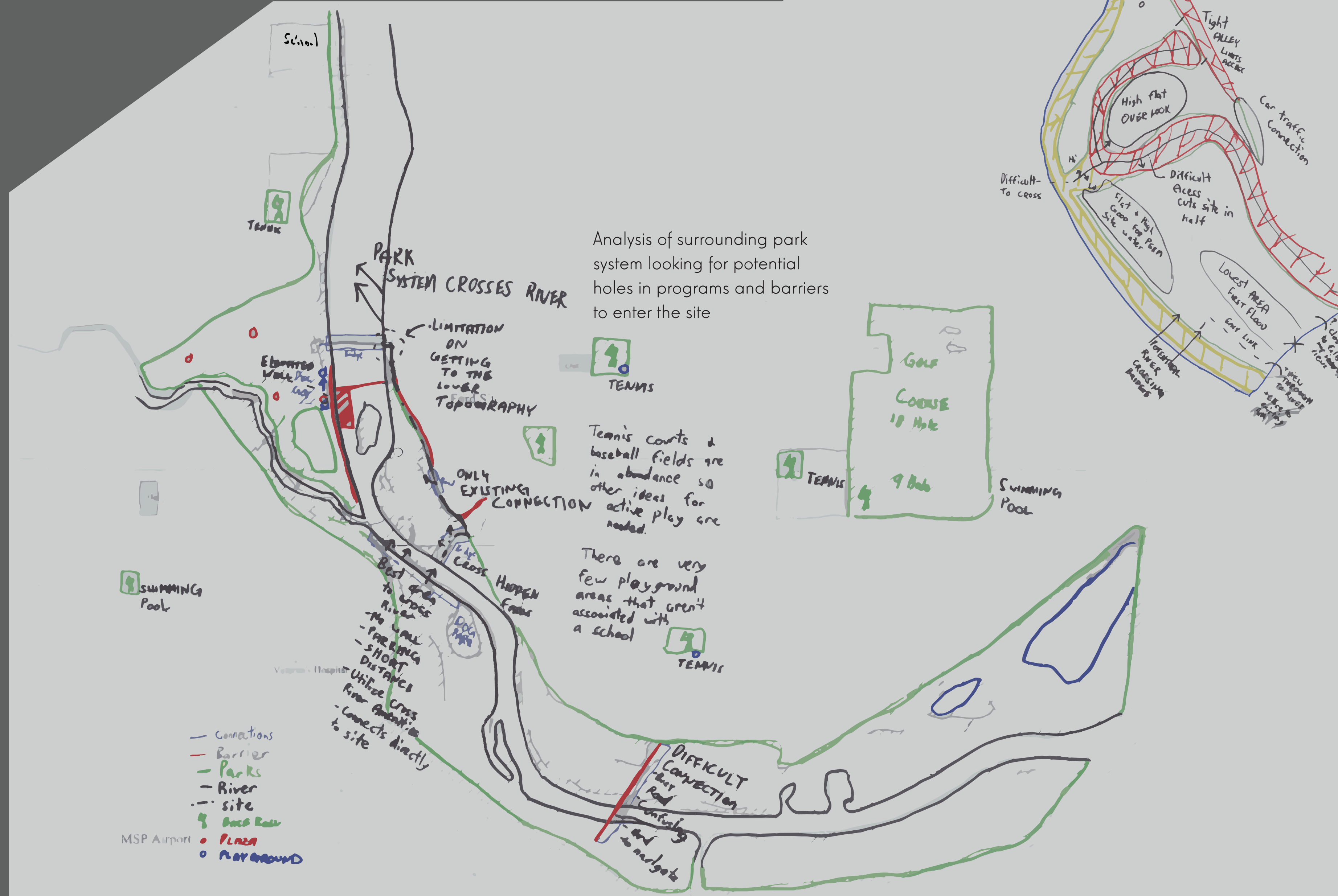
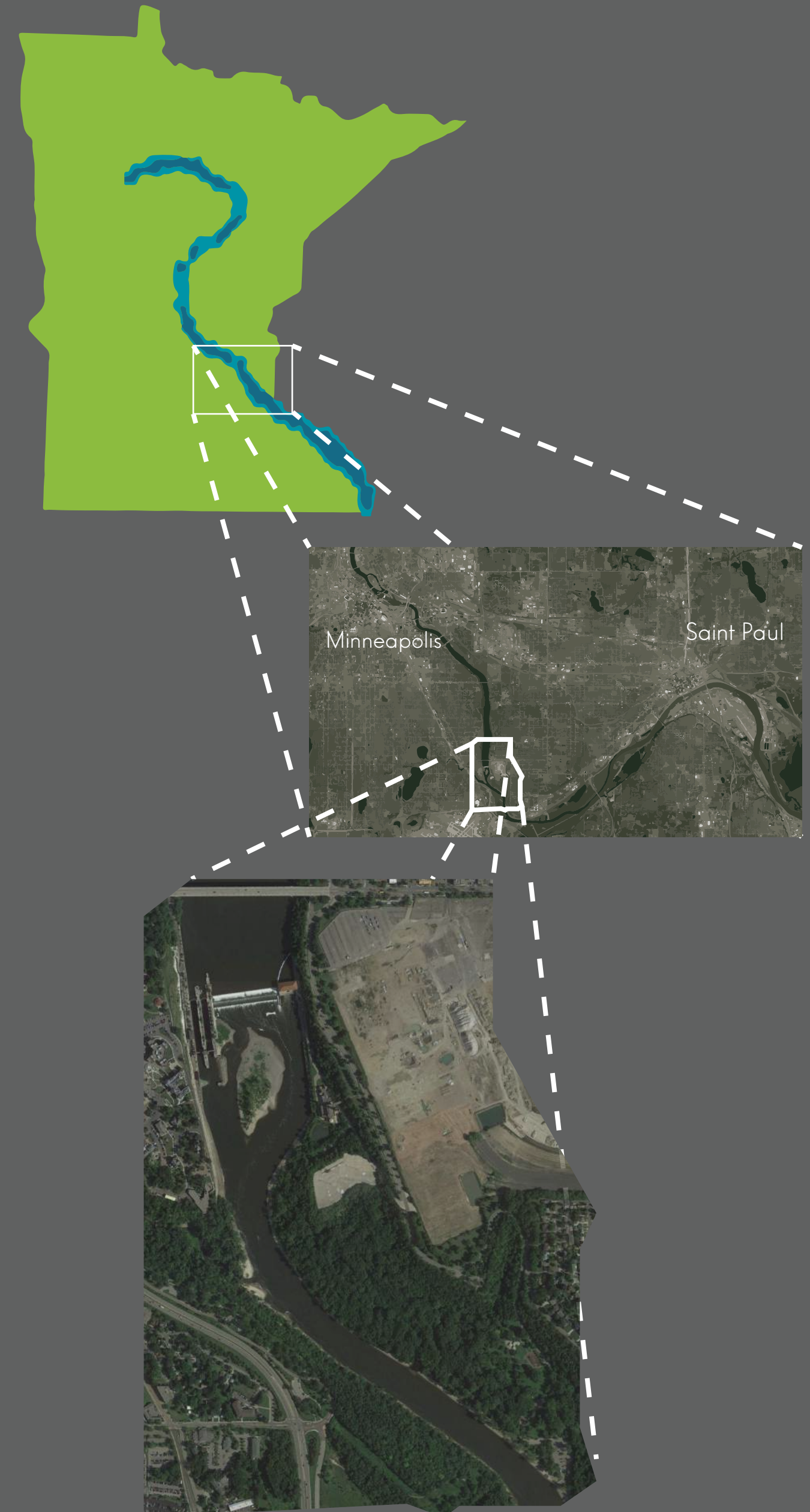
FORD PARK:

Creating New Hydrologically Sensitive Connections to the Mississippi Riverfront System

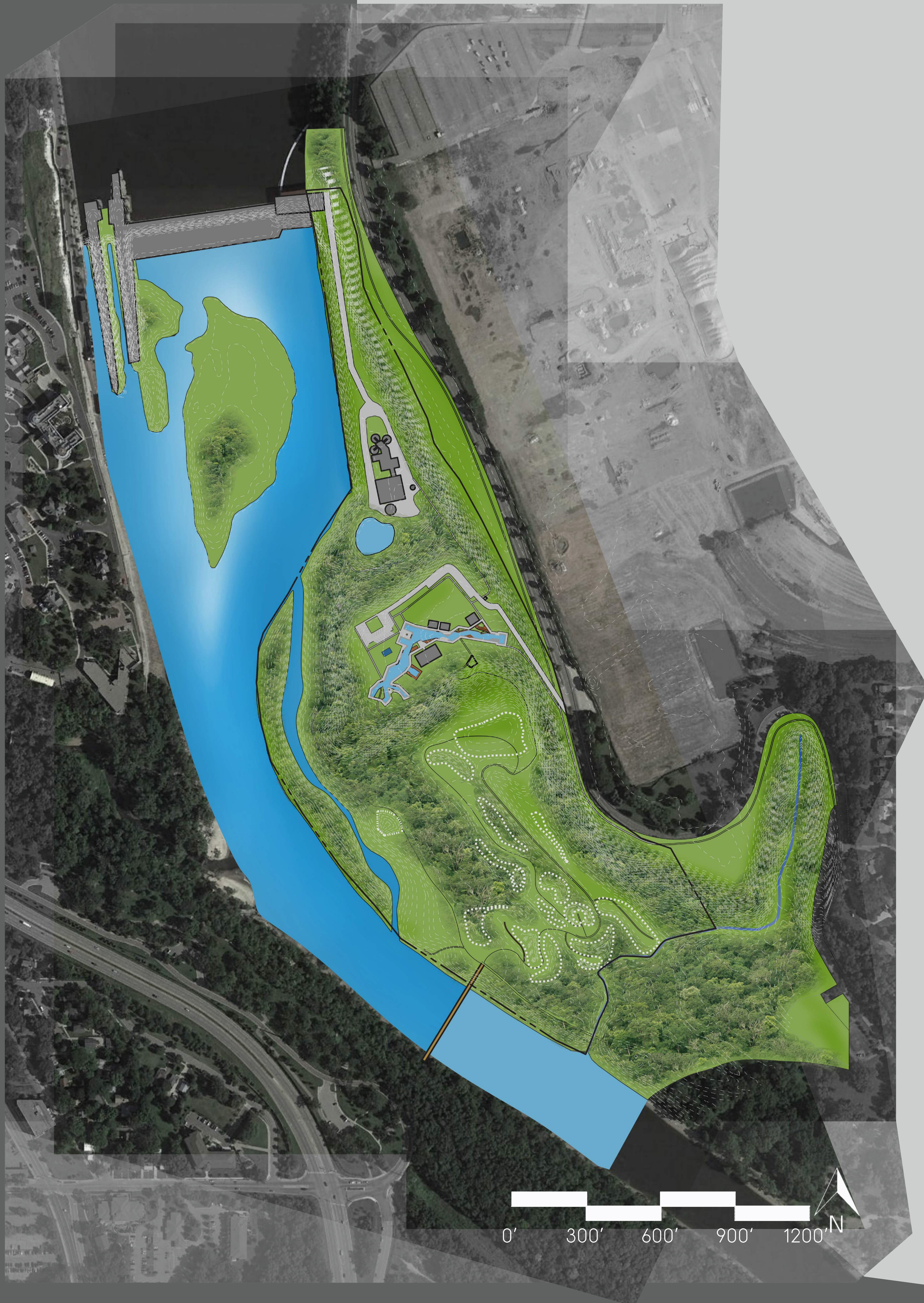
Project Goals:

- 1 To create new connections to the Mississippi River that increases accessibility for the people living in Saint Paul
- 2 Develop new connections to the existing park systems for both Minneapolis and Saint Paul
- 3 Generate new programmatic elements to invite more people to the riverfront

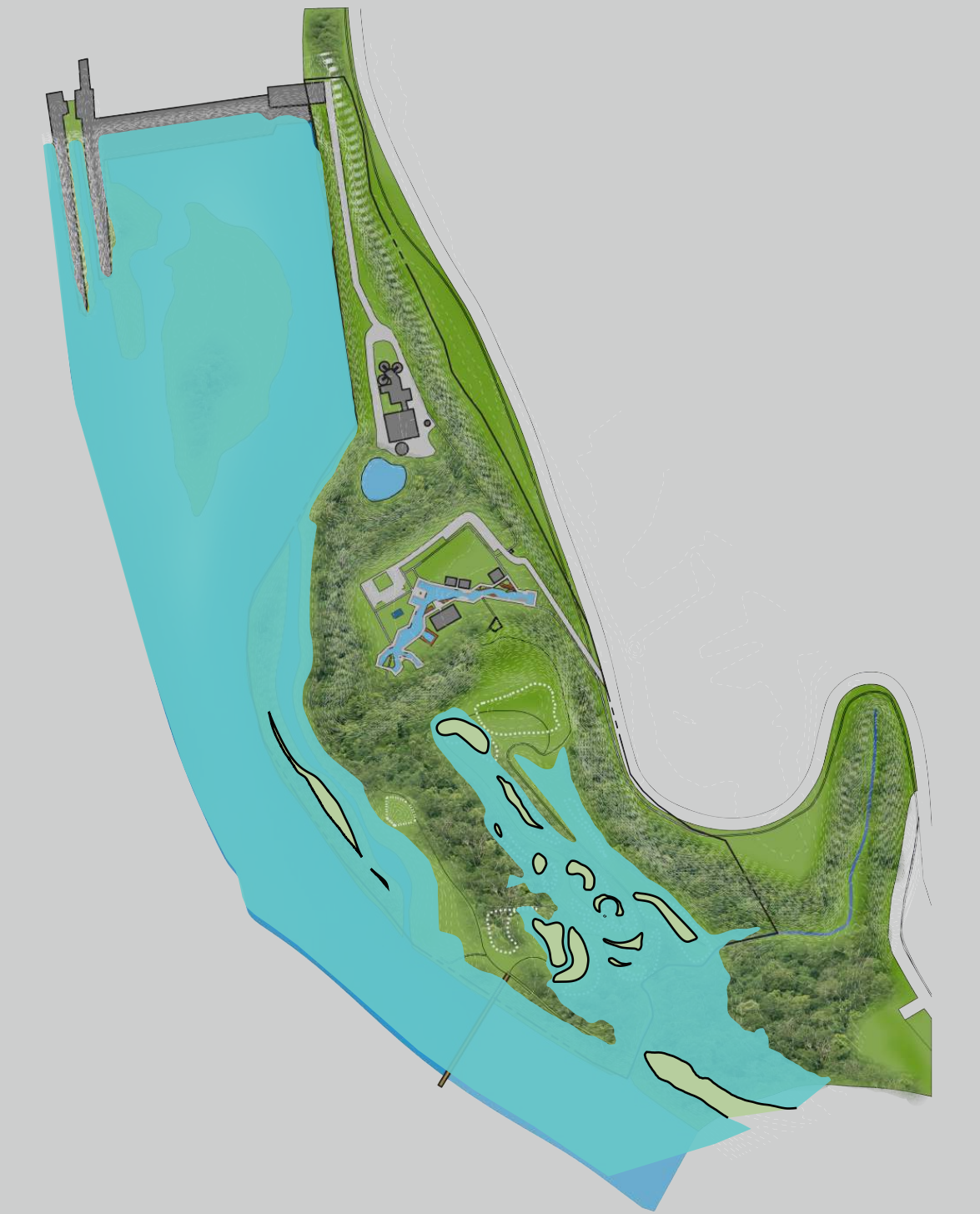
Historically city riverfronts were hub areas for new city development allowing large congregations of people to settle with easy access to transportation and trade. The industrial revolution changed the landscape of most large cities pushing back the social attraction of riverfronts. In our current state the industries along waterfronts are pushing out leaving new development opportunities along the riverfronts. The closing of the Ford Plant in Saint Paul, Minnesota has allowed the city to create new social connections to not only its river, but also the city of Minneapolis across the river. Ford Park is intended to create a new gathering space for both cities to gather along the river. One aspect that separates Ford Park from other riverfront development projects is that it is separated into two areas due to the topography of the site. The region on top of the bluff is far enough away from flooding so this area is designed to replicate natural stream evolution through the use of a concrete channel. The stream evolution allows the channel to be divided into different regions that allow for different experiences and changing programs. The region below the bluff that is in the floodplain was designed to allow flooding. This area emphasizes the natural environment and creates unique interactions with the Mississippi River. The most prone to flooding regions have topographic changes to carve land art out that changes the feeling of the environment during different river levels. The topography was strategically moved to keep the river waters moving slower even in large flood events. The site acts as a buffer to reduce the amount of water rushing towards the more developed edges of Downtown Saint Paul.



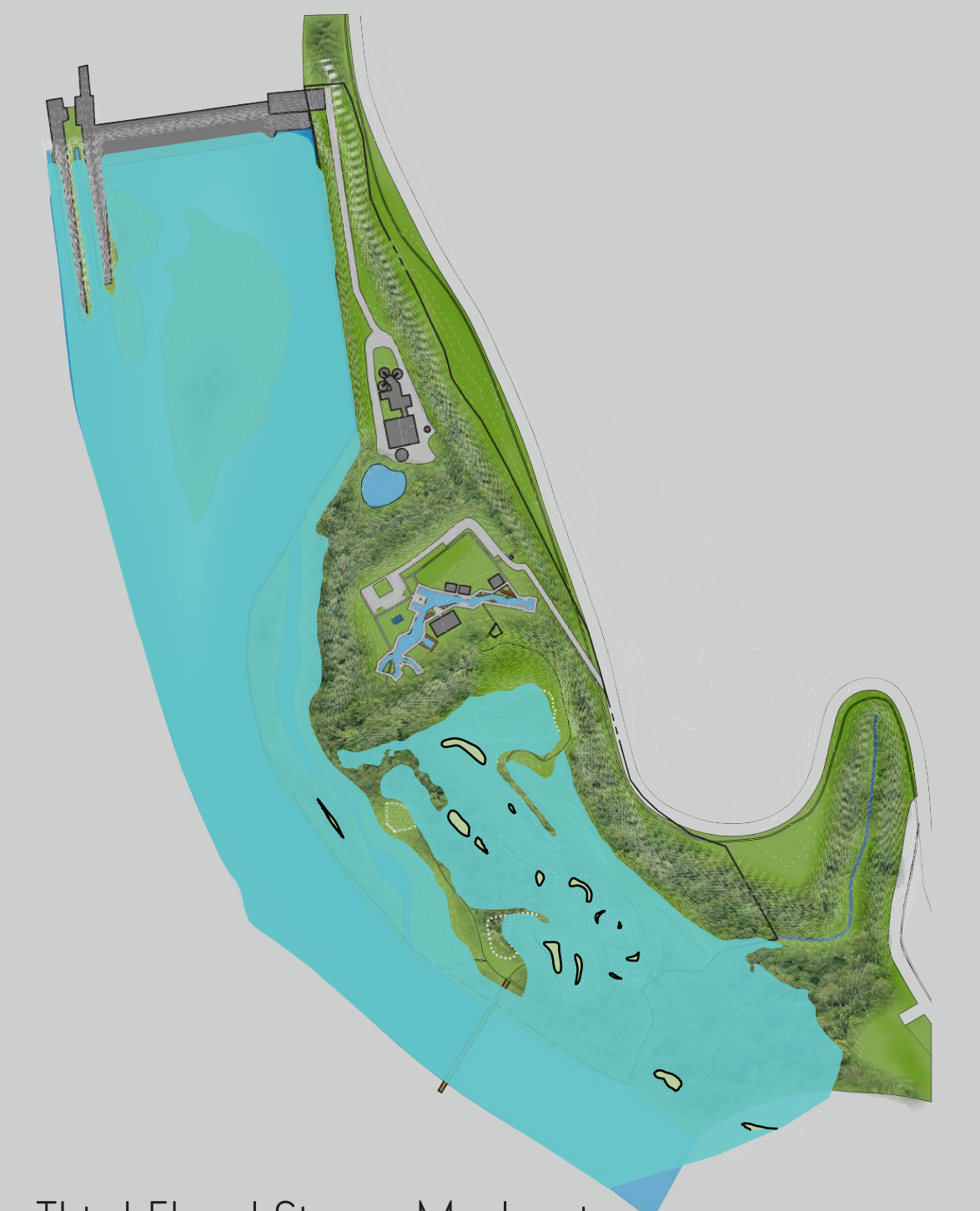




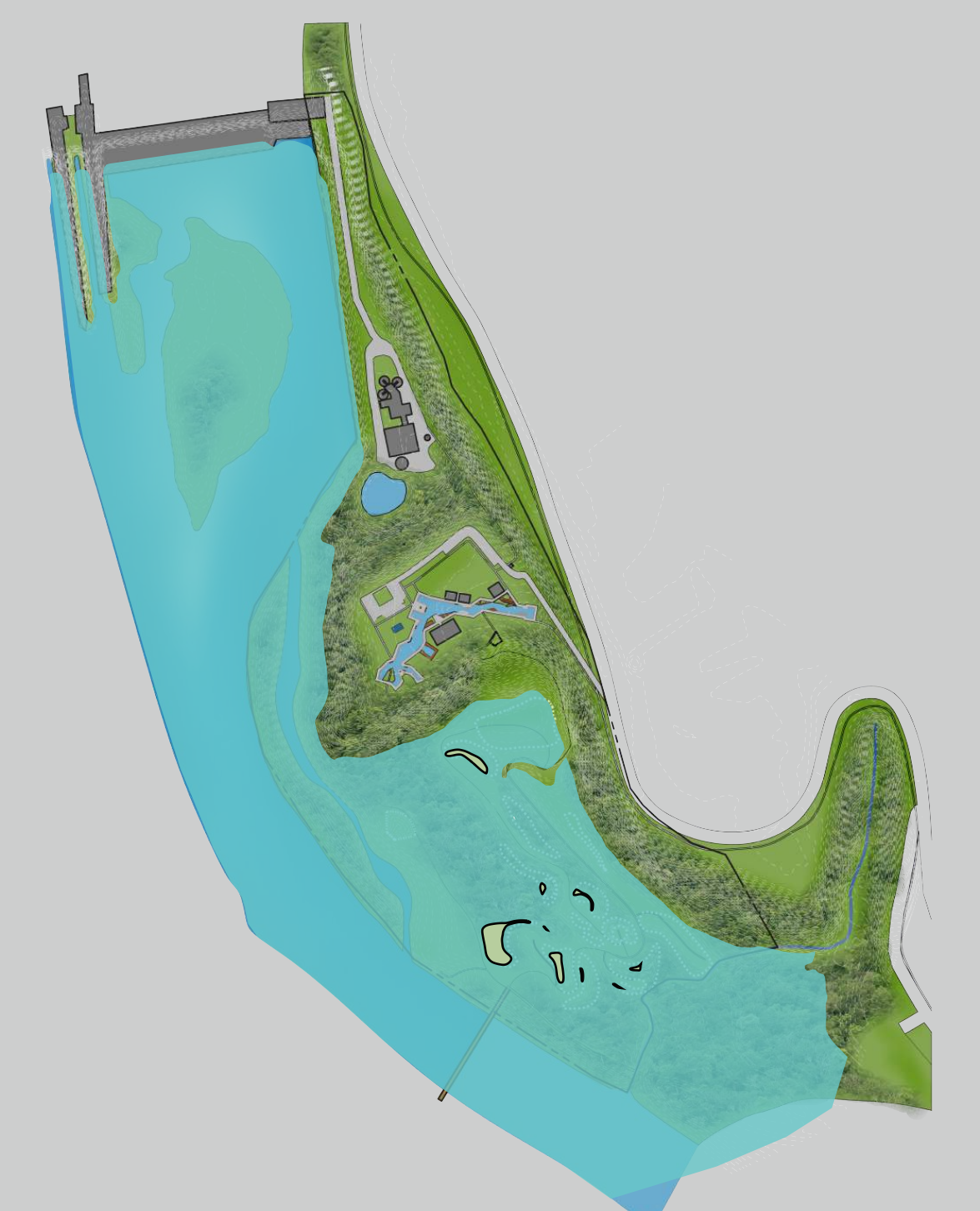
First Flood Stage: Action



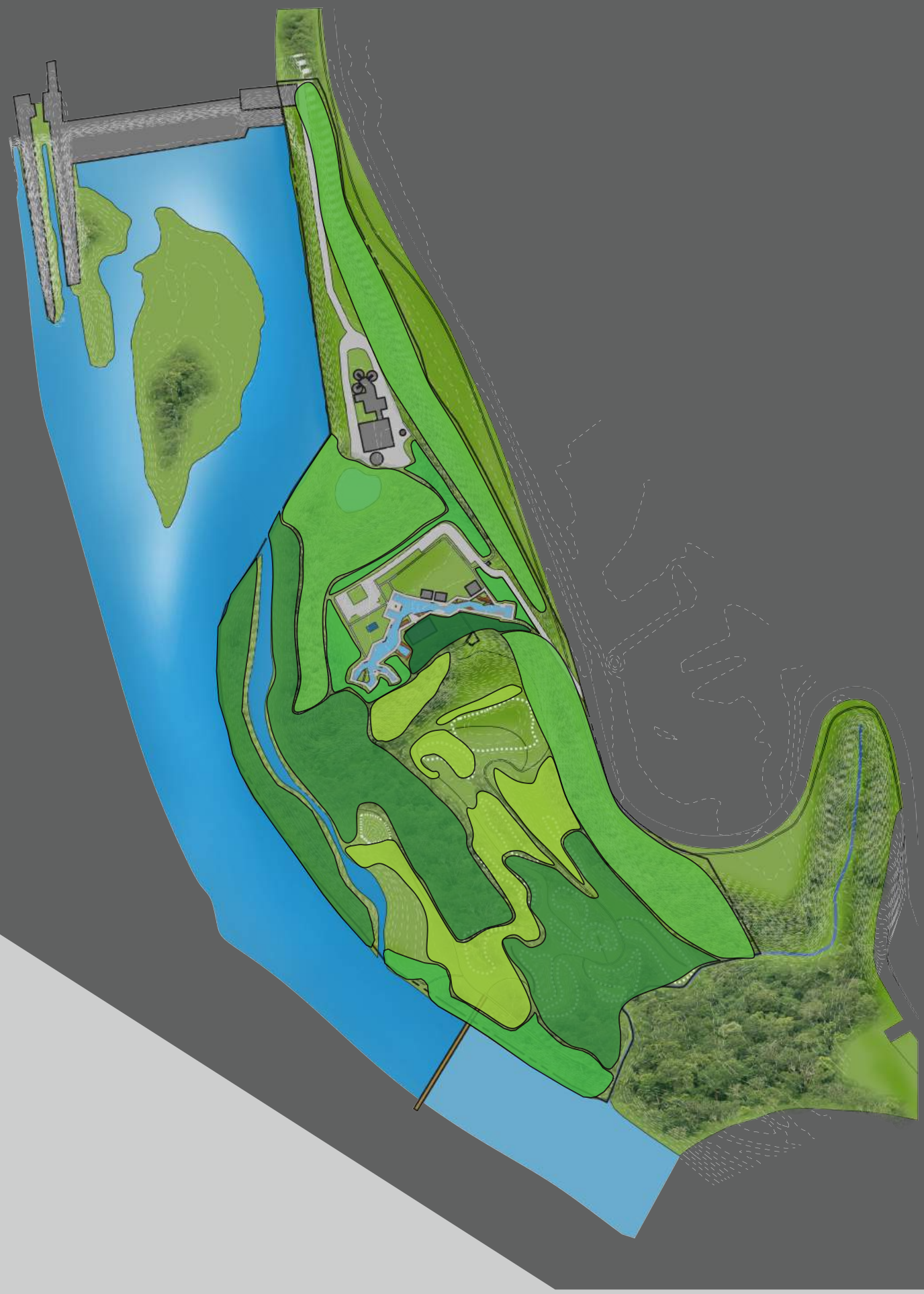
Second Flood Stage: Flood



Third Flood Stage: Moderate



Fourth Flood Stage: Major



1

2

3

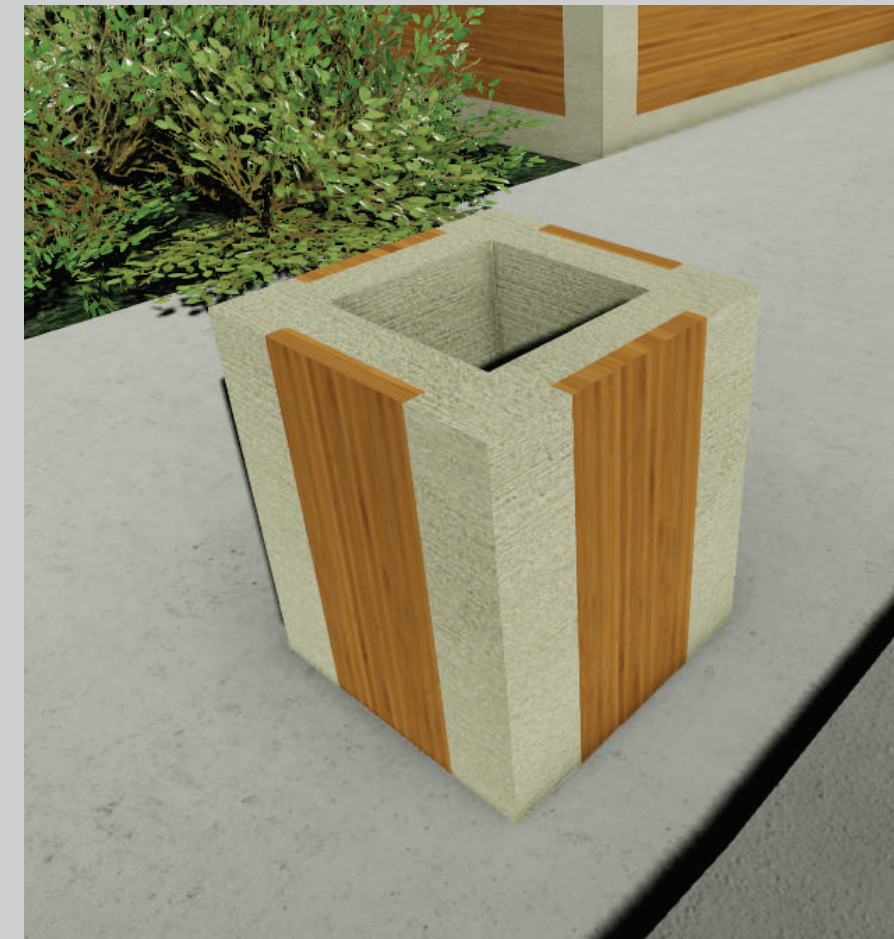
4

5

The seating is consistent throughout the entire 150 acre park. The materials consist of stained pre-cast concrete with treated lumber set in the seating area. The materials bench design has not back support because there are many places on the site where there is not direction that you are intended to be facing for example along the water channel you are encouraged to look both at the channel and back towards the rest of the site

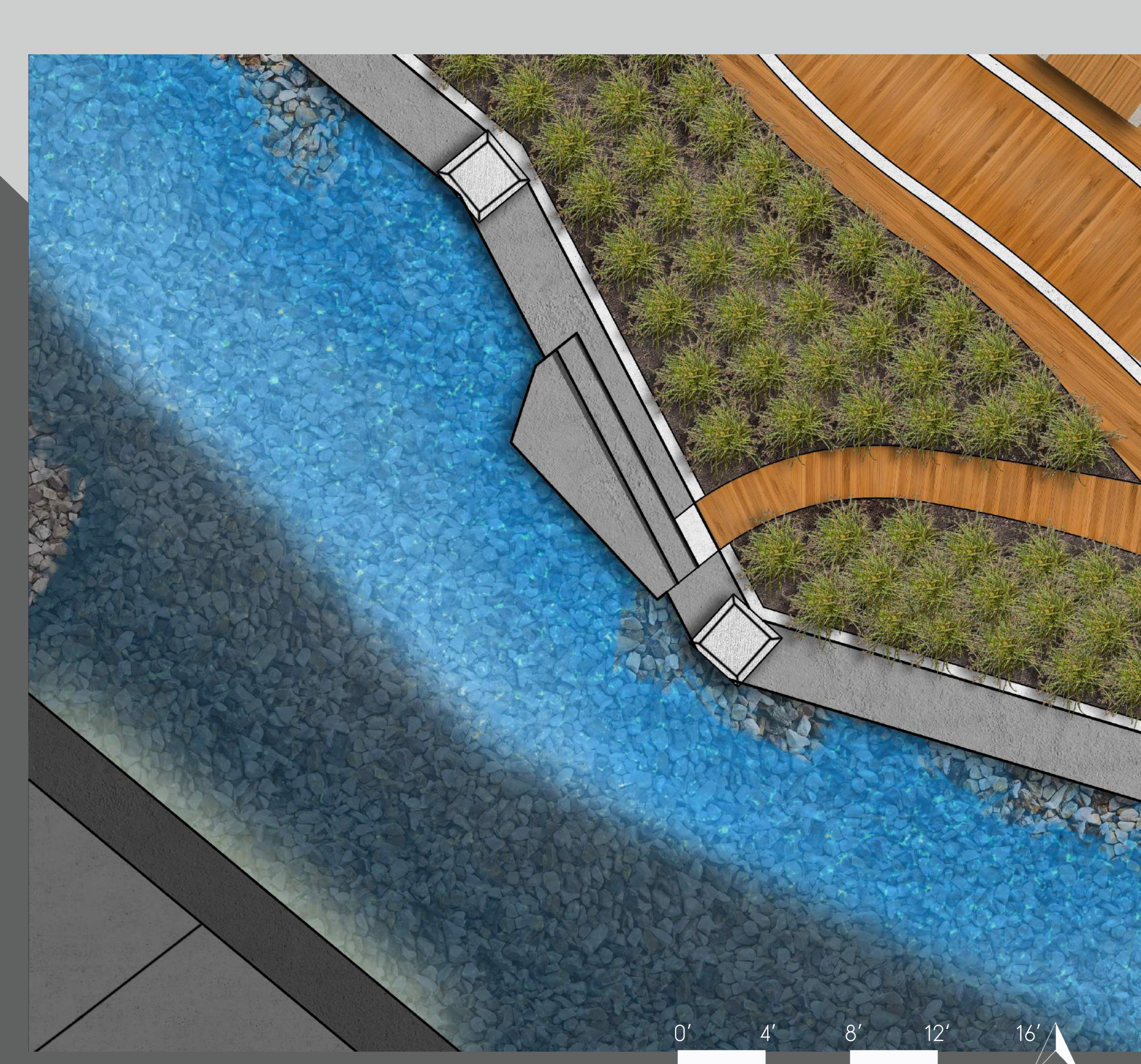


The garbage boxes for the site are consistent throughout the entire 150 acre park. The materials are the same as the seating as well as all buildings on site. The boxes themselves are intended to store both the garbage and also the recycling of the park.



This lighting design is only intended to be incorporated to the edges of the concrete channel in the upper part of the bluff. It also has the same stained concrete and inlaid wood combination with a glass casing that contains L.E.D. lights that can be set to different colors and brightness depending on different events.





Concrete Channel Design

