

# Designing for Play in Island Park



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Graduate Thesis Presentation

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## Presentation Overview

### Project Introduction:

- Emerald Ash Borer + Fargo Parks
- Site Selection + Analysis
- Project Goals

### Defining Play:

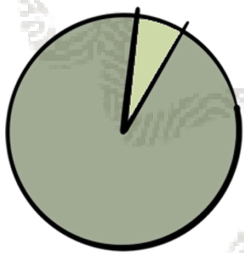
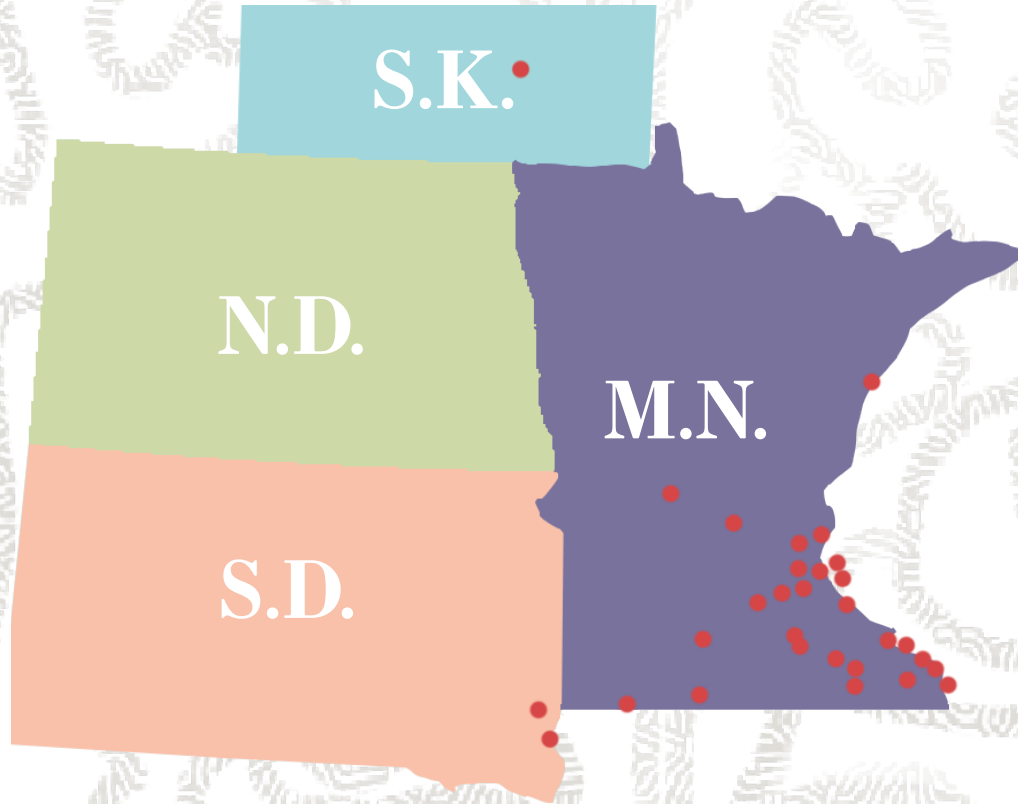
- Types of Play
- Tools of Design

### Proposed Design:

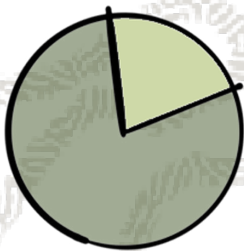
- Master Plan + Programming
- Play Areas
- The Gallery

# Project Introduction

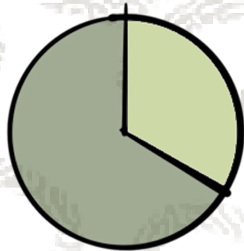
Emerald Ash Borer + Fargo Parks



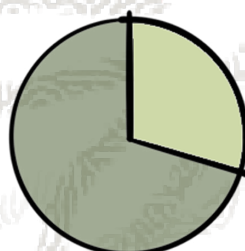
ISLAND PARK  
5.9%



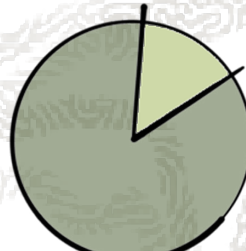
EDGEWOOD  
20.9%



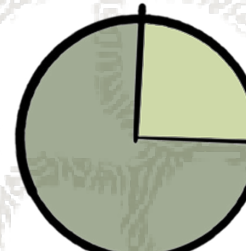
IWEN  
33.4%



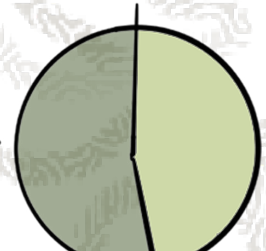
LINDENWOOD  
29.4%



OAK GROVE  
13.8%



TROLLWOOD  
25.0%



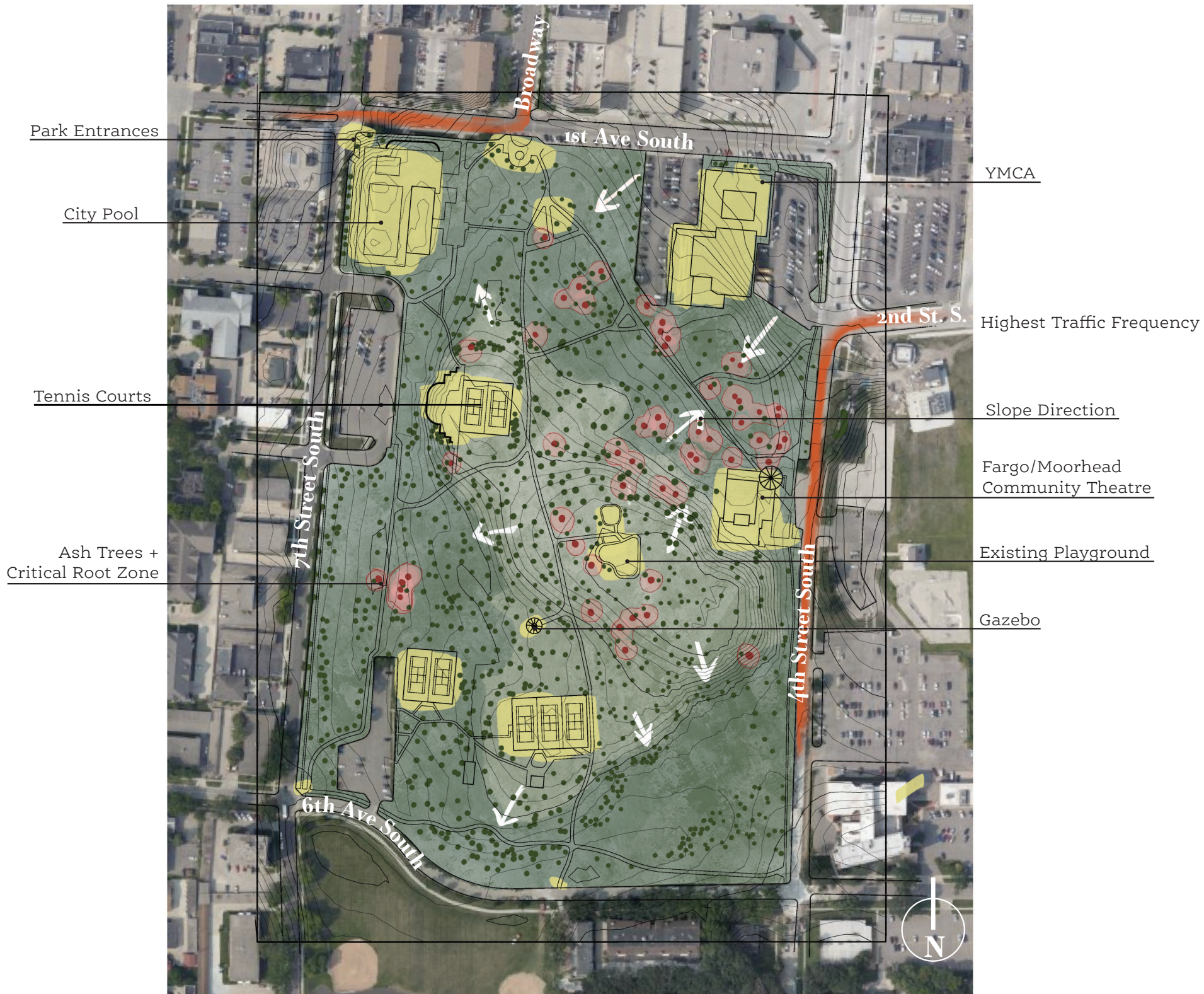
TREFOIL PARK  
47.4%

Site Selection

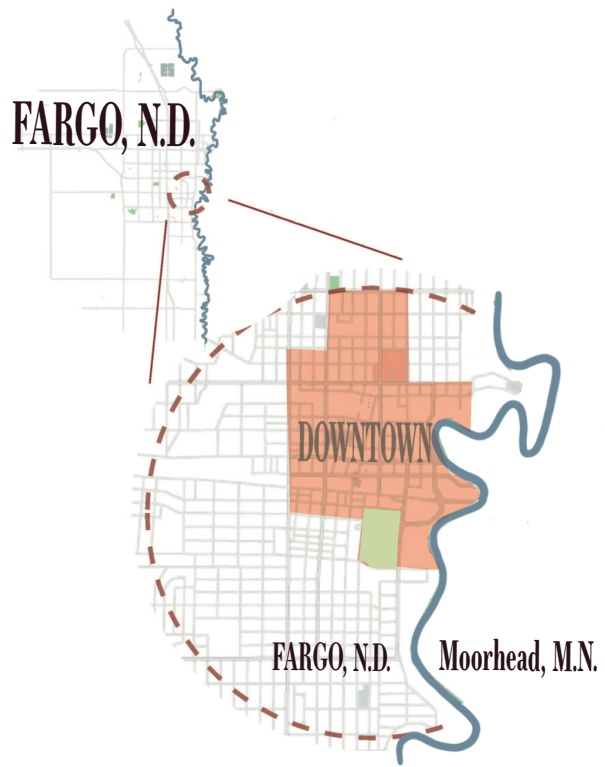




# Site Analysis





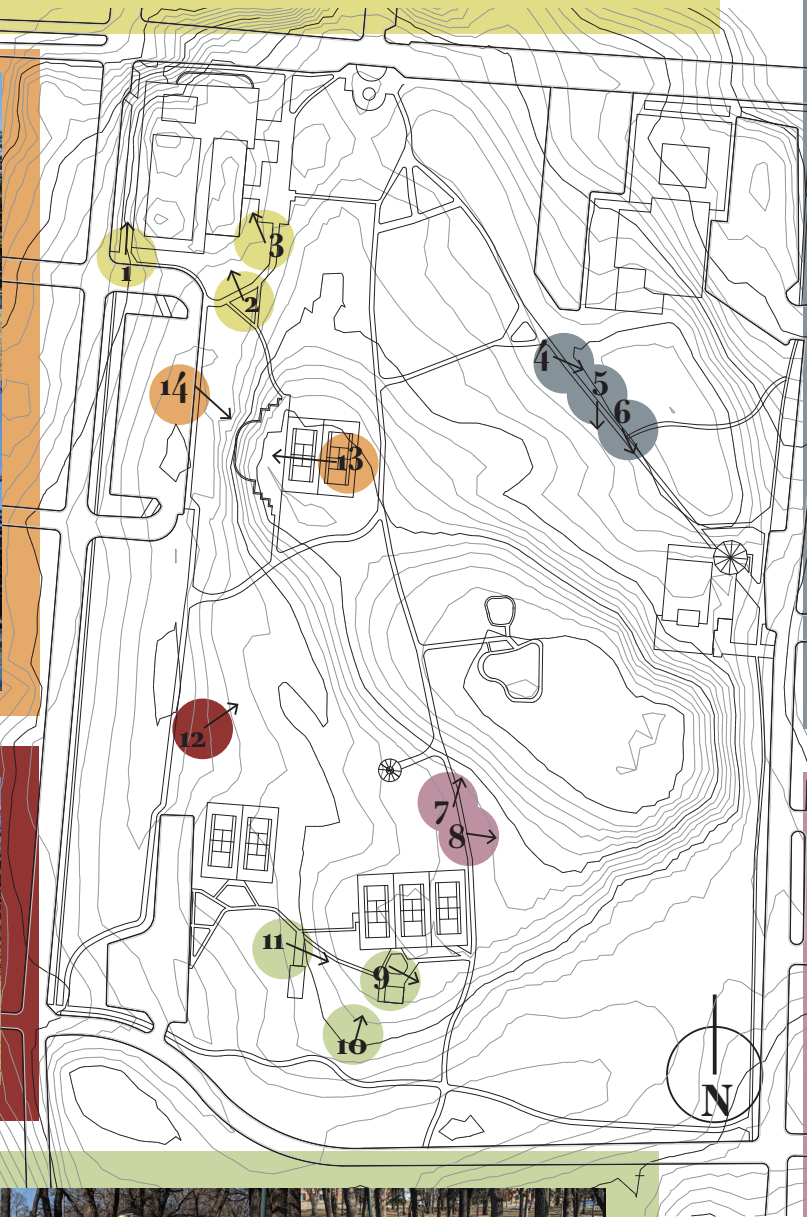


1943 Spring Flood

### Existing Park Features









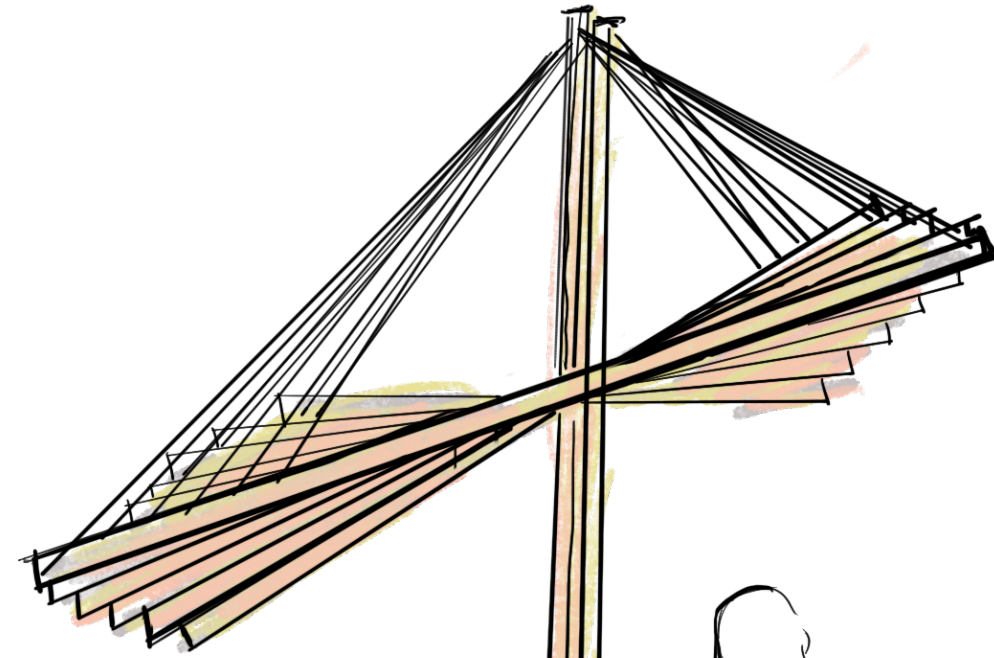






### DESIGN FOR PLAY

provide for range of play  
direct and implied play spaces  
foster connections with nature



### Project Goals

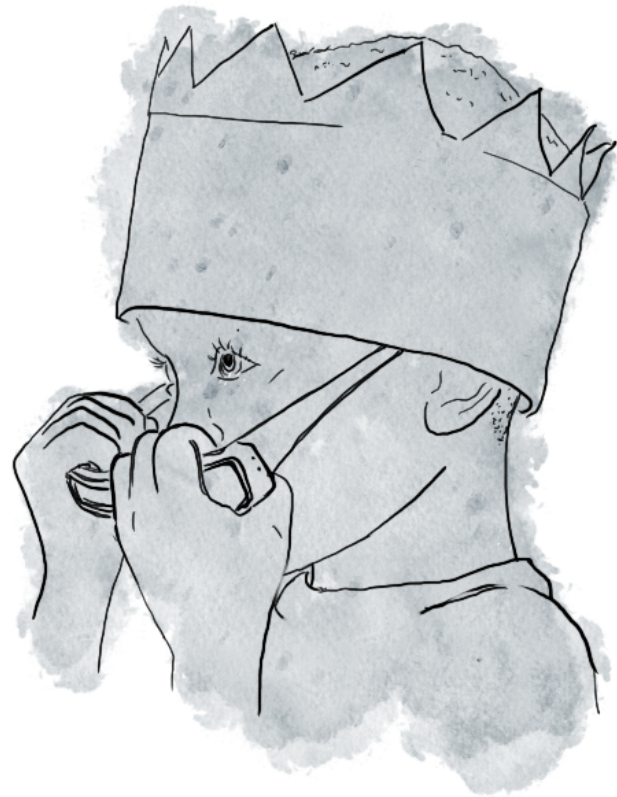
support current park functions  
compensate for lost mature canopy  
chaperon accommodation  
use ash trees as a resource

# Defining Play

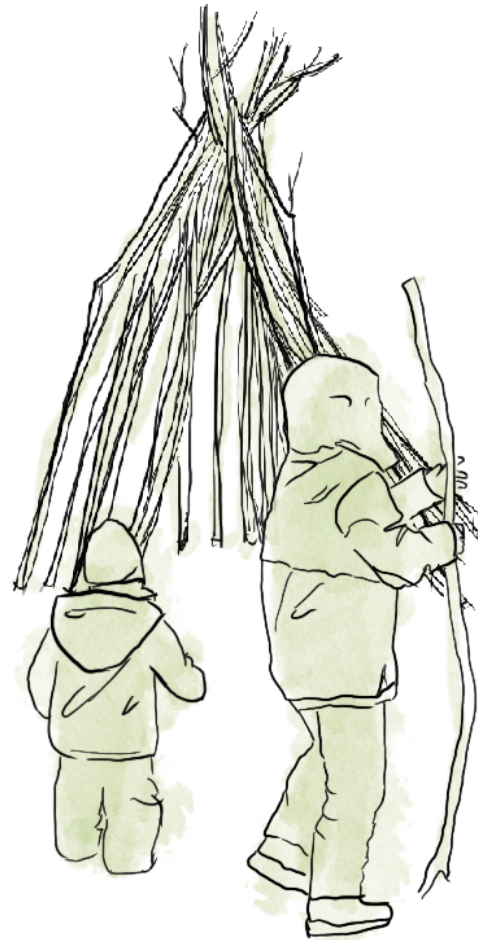
## Types of Play



Functional Play



Dramatic/Fantasy Play



Constructive Play



Game Play



Non-Play

A Venn diagram consisting of two overlapping light gray circles. The left circle is titled 'Behavior' and contains text about Barker's Behavior Settings (1968). The right circle is titled 'Affordance' and contains text about Gibson's theory of Affordances (1979). The circles overlap in the center.

## Behavior

Barker's Behavior Settings  
(1968):  
Settings and environments  
directly impact behavior, with  
a specific focus on Social  
Interaction.

## Affordance

Gibson's theory of  
Affordances (1979):  
Affordances are functional  
presences that give  
opportunity for behavior.



## Types of Play (behavior)

## Features (affordance)

## Development

### Functional Play

running, jumping, spinning, climbing on objects/surfaces, fine and gross motor skills

defined and undefined paths between features, topography, play structures, open spaces

physiological, environmental, problem solving, social, risk assessment

### Dramatic/Fantasy Play

exploration of a new role and situation, objects represented as alternative objects, engages in unseen environment

space indicated as a focal point, loose object, variations in shapes and colors to serve as an imaginative canvas

creative, social, communication, imagination, role play, educational

### Constructive Play

making and combining through manipulation and control of the environment

loose material, movable features, vegetation, brought items, interactive surfaces

exploration, educational, creative, physiological, environmental

### Game Play

a social agreement to accept guided by rules and boundaries, potential conflict management

open spaces, variety of destinations, view point variation, boundaries

social, educational

### Non - Play

social or nonsocial, often thoughts or discussion, rest

open space, view point variation,

creative, reflective, environmental



## Years 6-12

- Developing balance and momentum control
- Works with others
- Tests and challenges skills
- More complex constructive play
- 42 to 63 inches tall
- 18 inch seating height



## Years 2-5

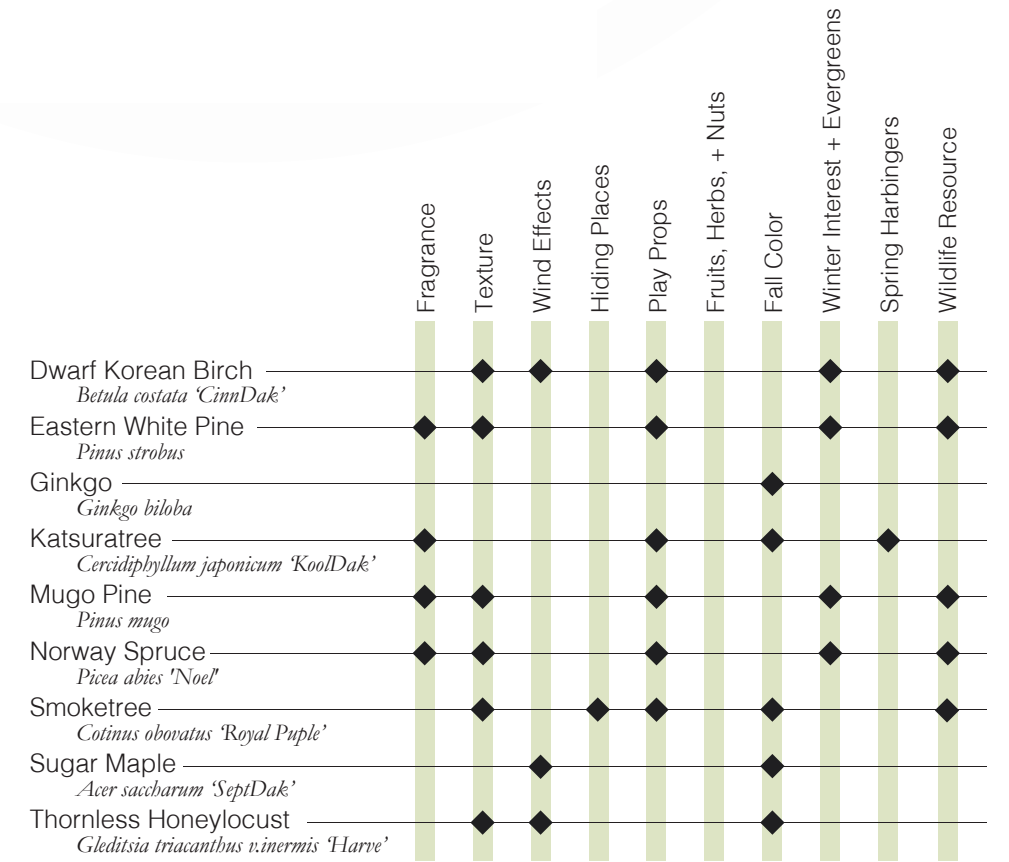
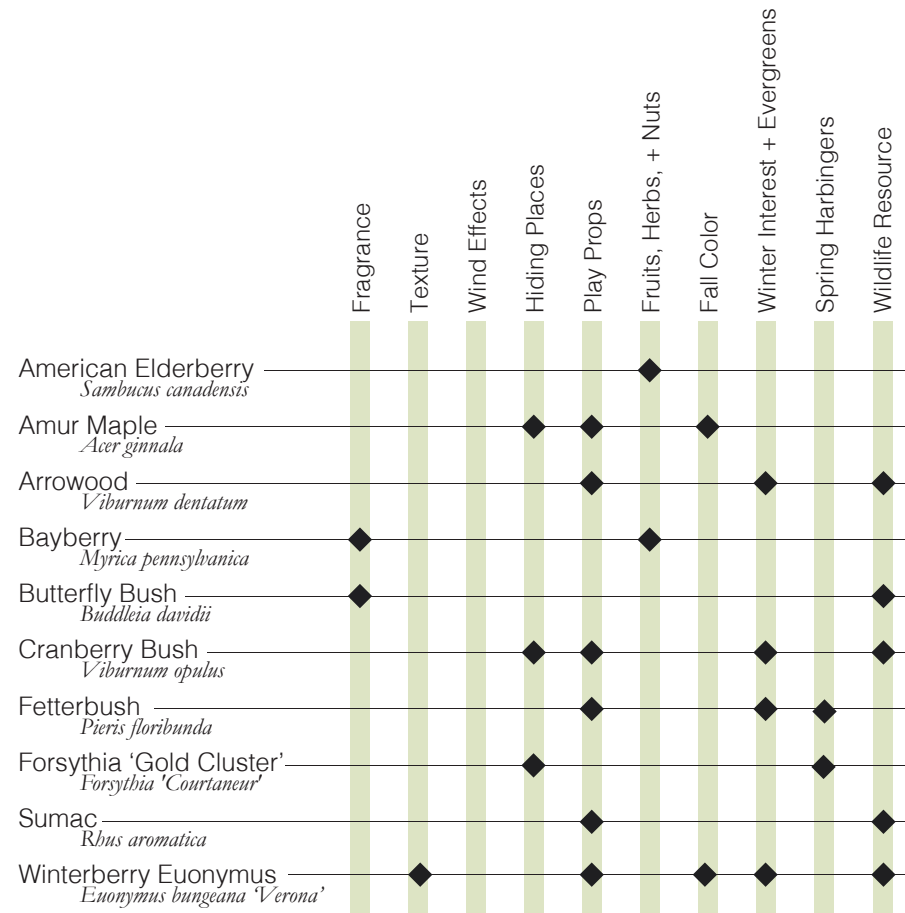
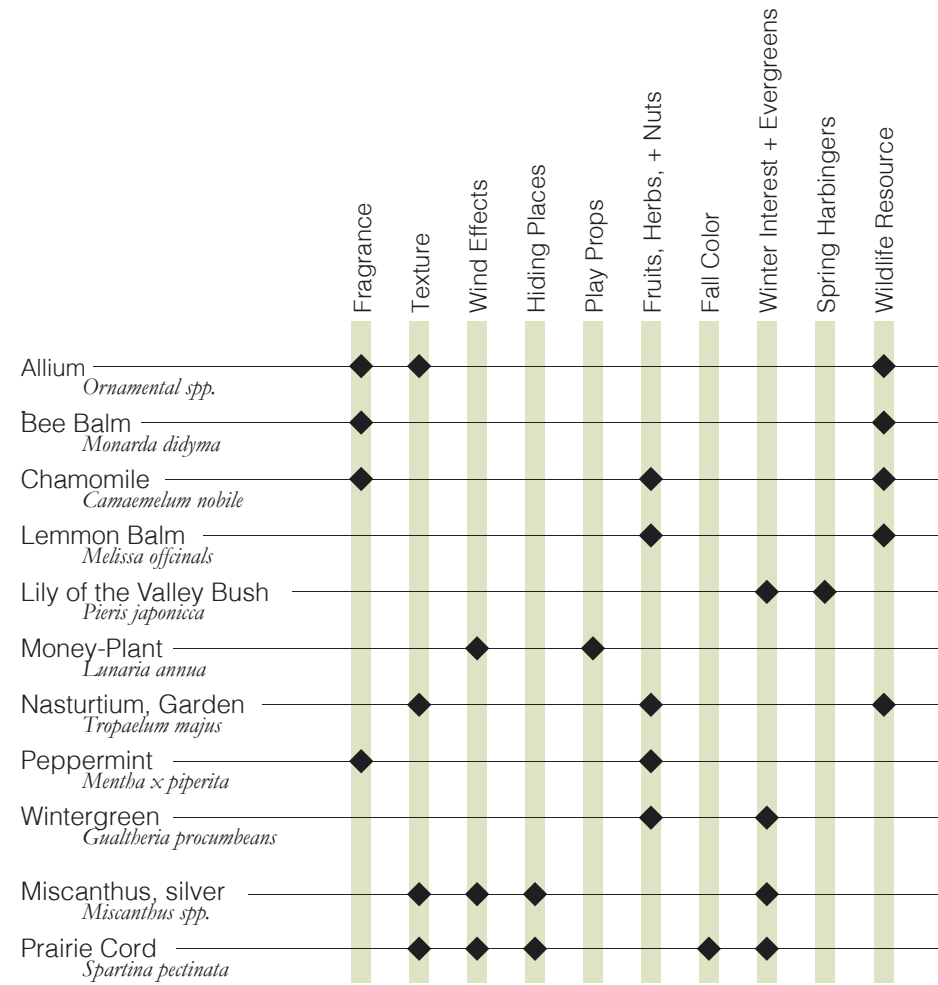
- Becoming independent
- Closer supervision
- Learning to share
- Building pulling/pushing ability
- 31 to 43 inches tall
- 12 inch seating height



# **Tools of Design**

- Vegetation
- Topography
- Predicting Play

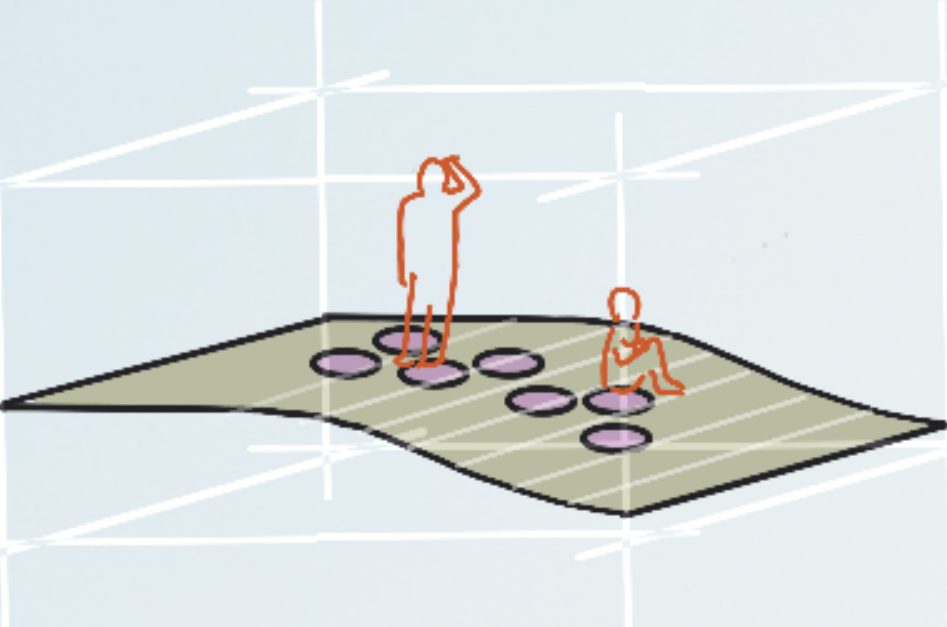




# Vegetation



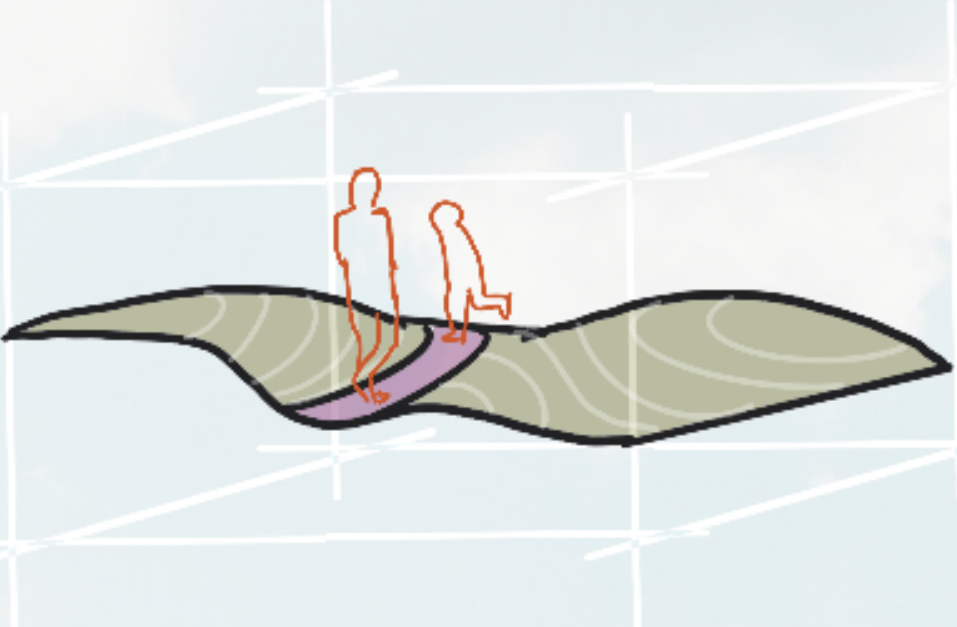
# Topography



Change Site Lines



Direct Interaction

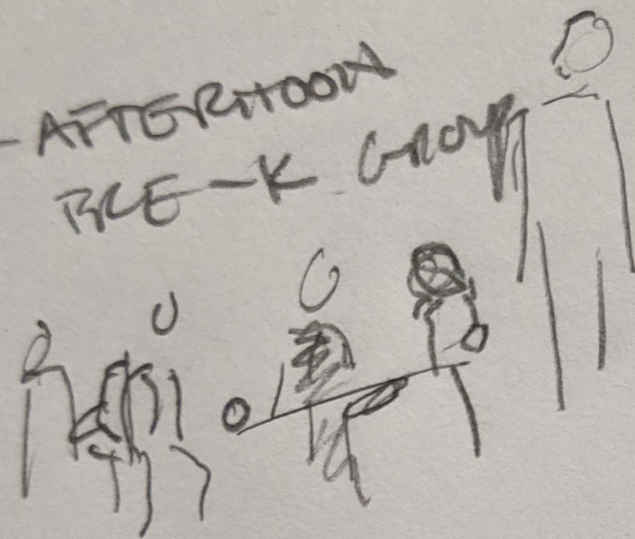


Suggest Boundary

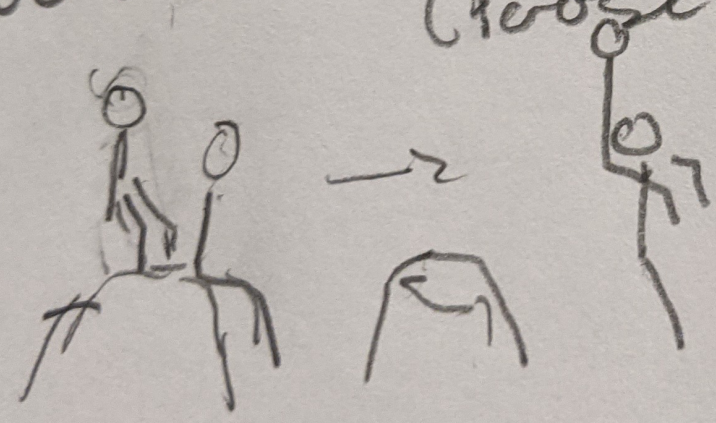
# Predicting Play

2-24

- AFTERNOON  
PKE - K GROUP YMCAs?

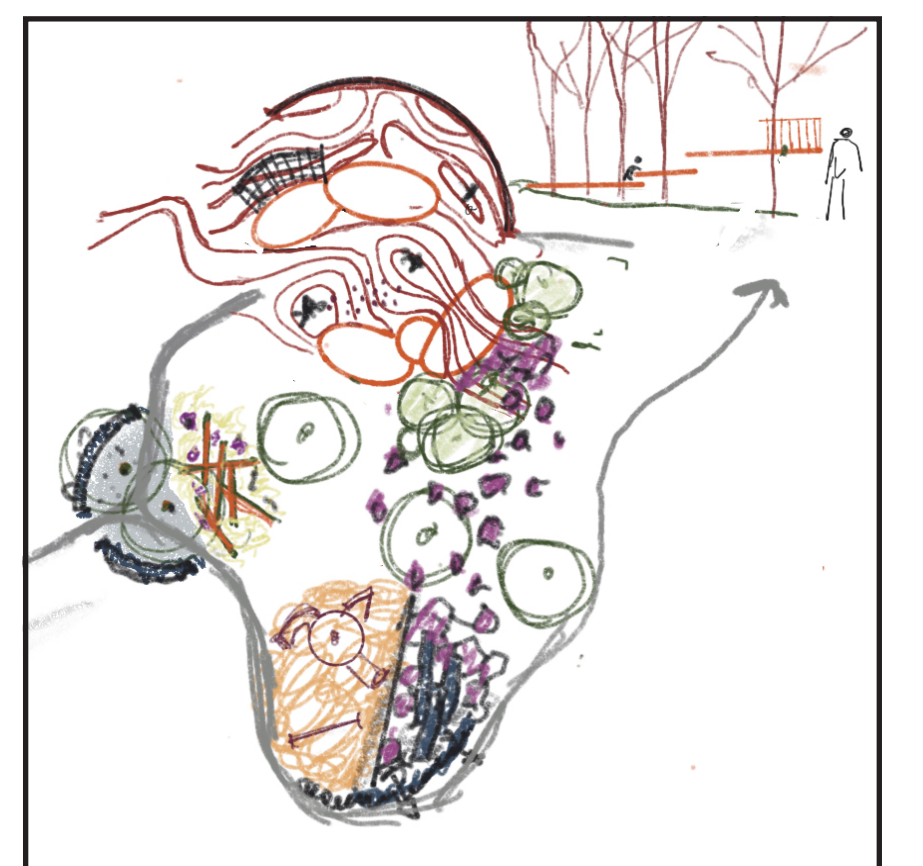
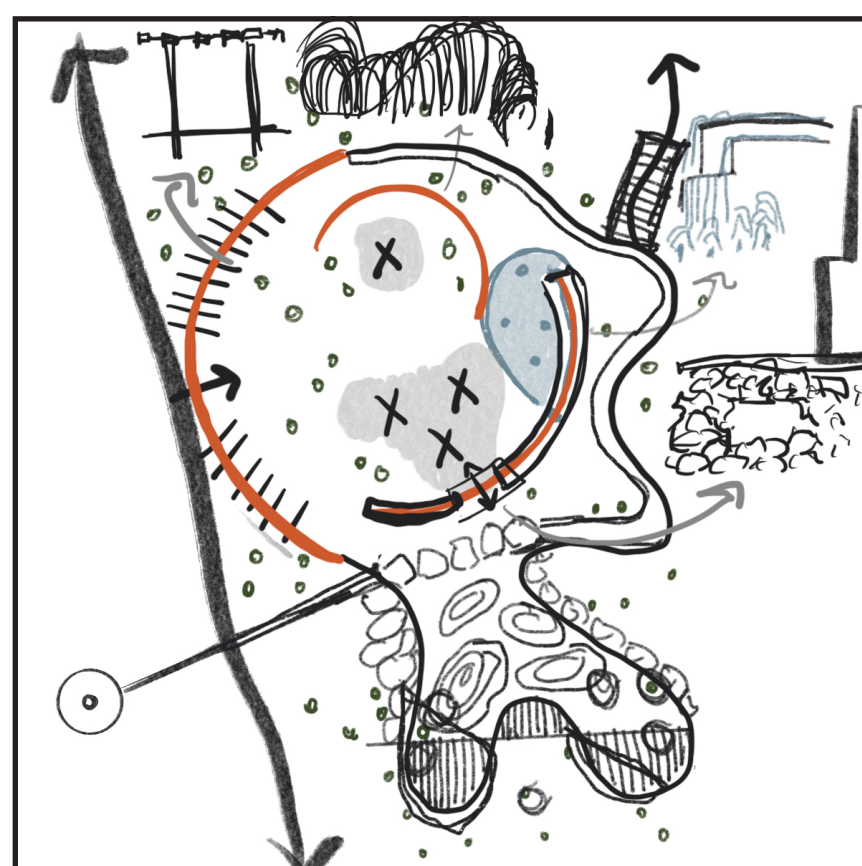
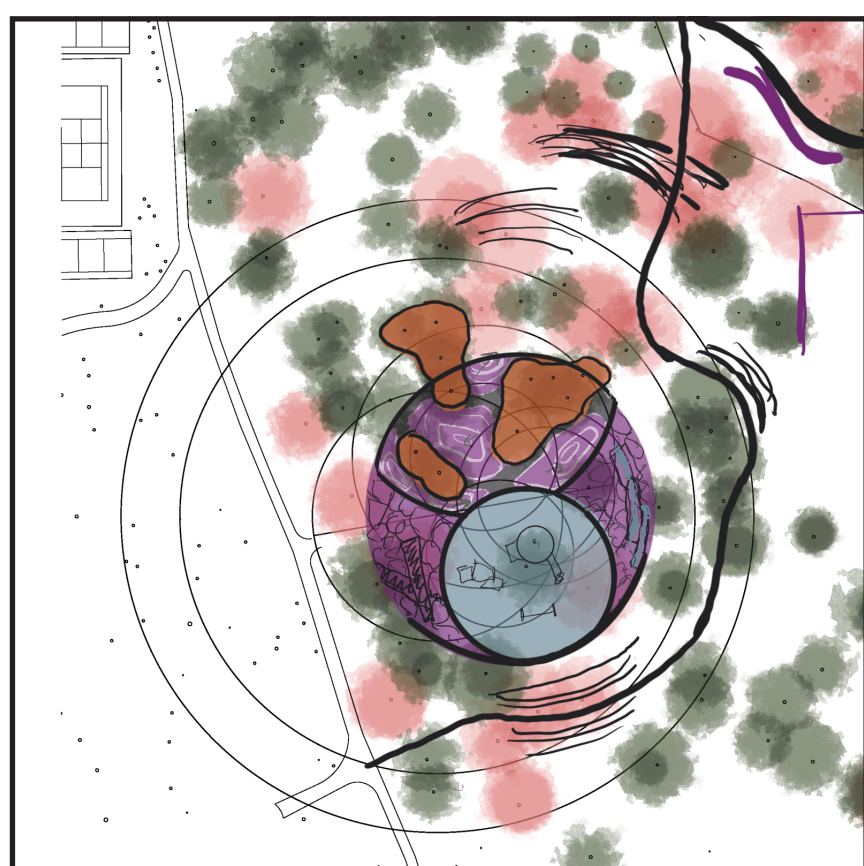


STONE MEMORIAL FLOWERS  
(Choose opposite)

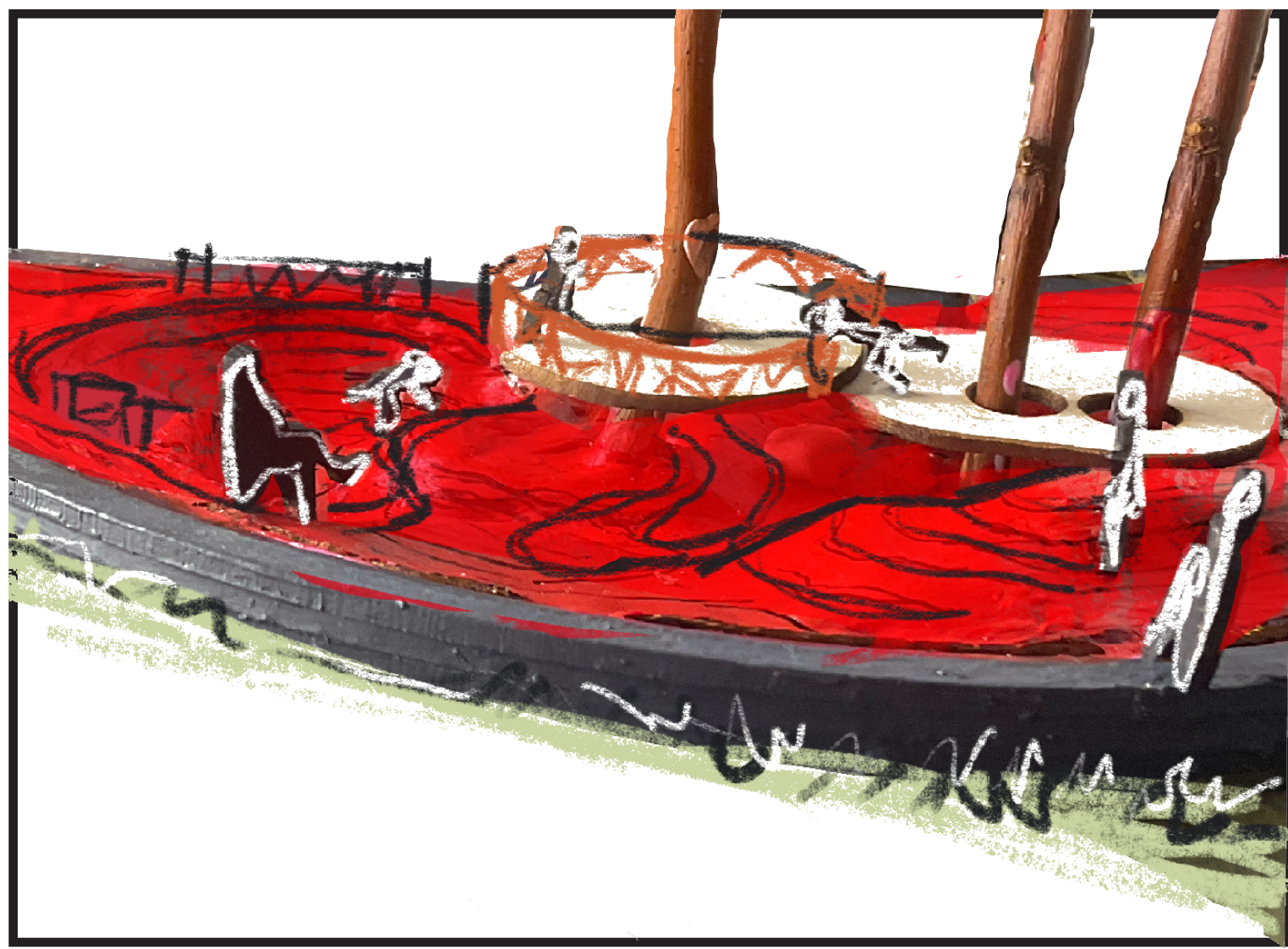


\* Jump on a  
DESK

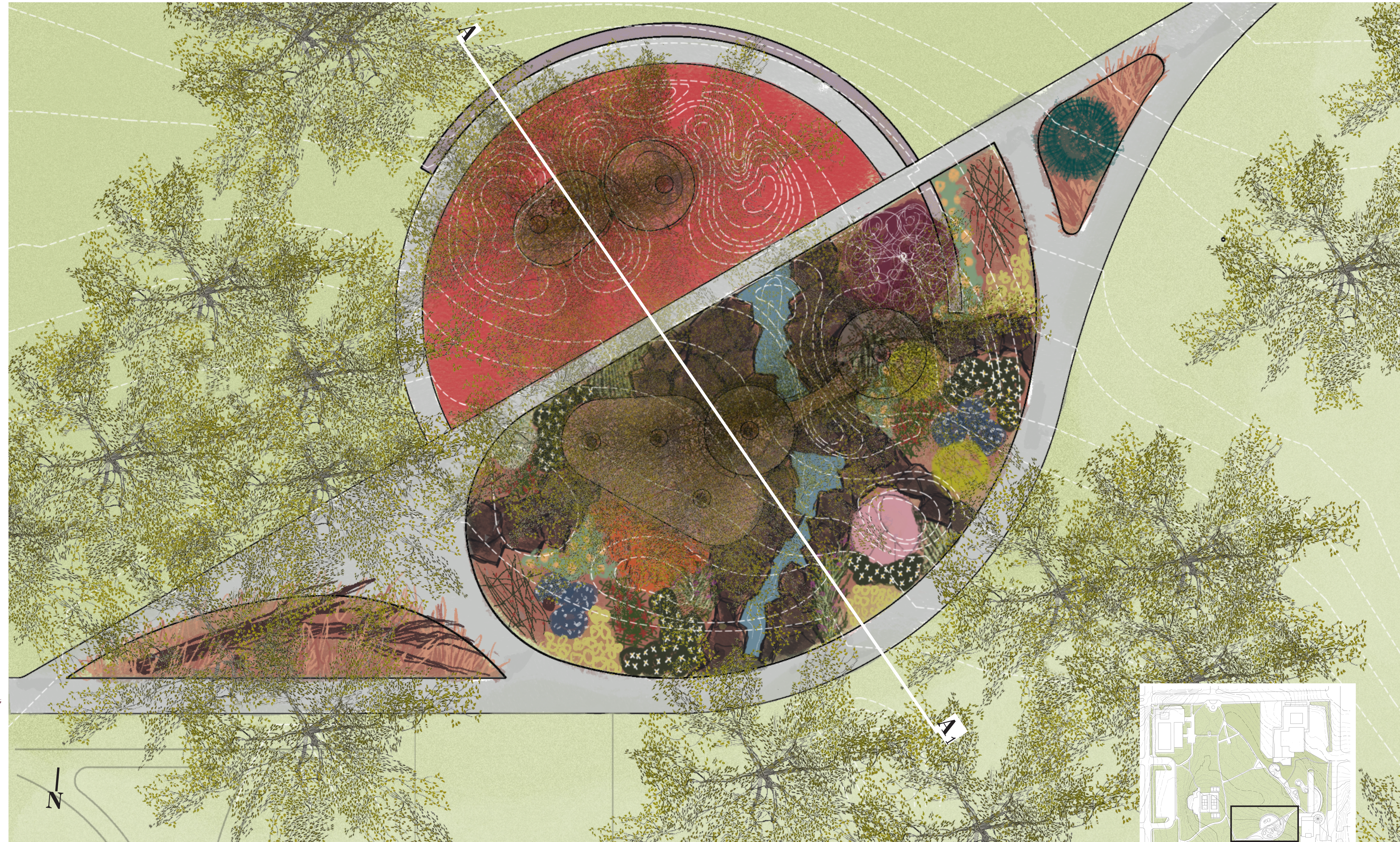
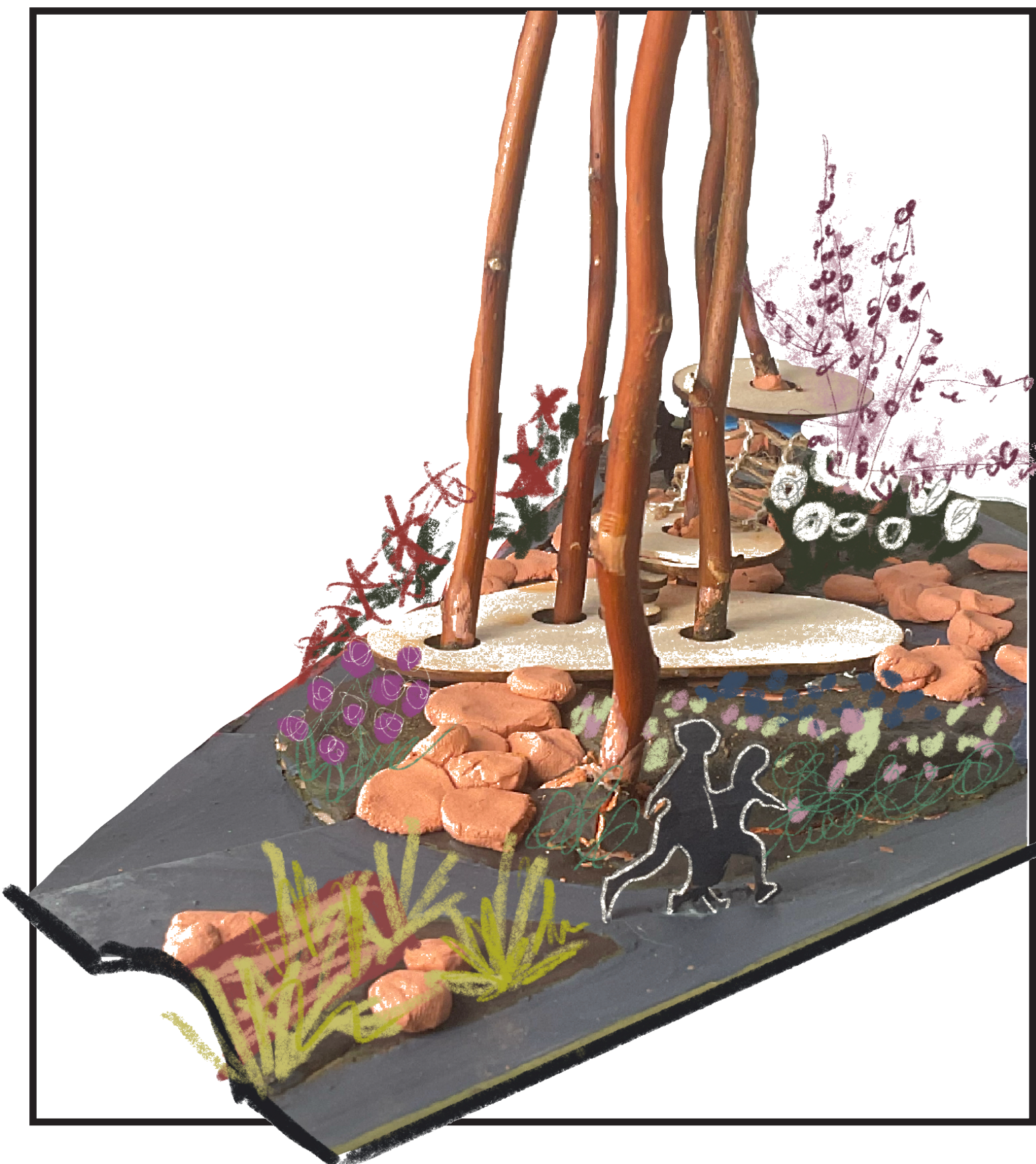
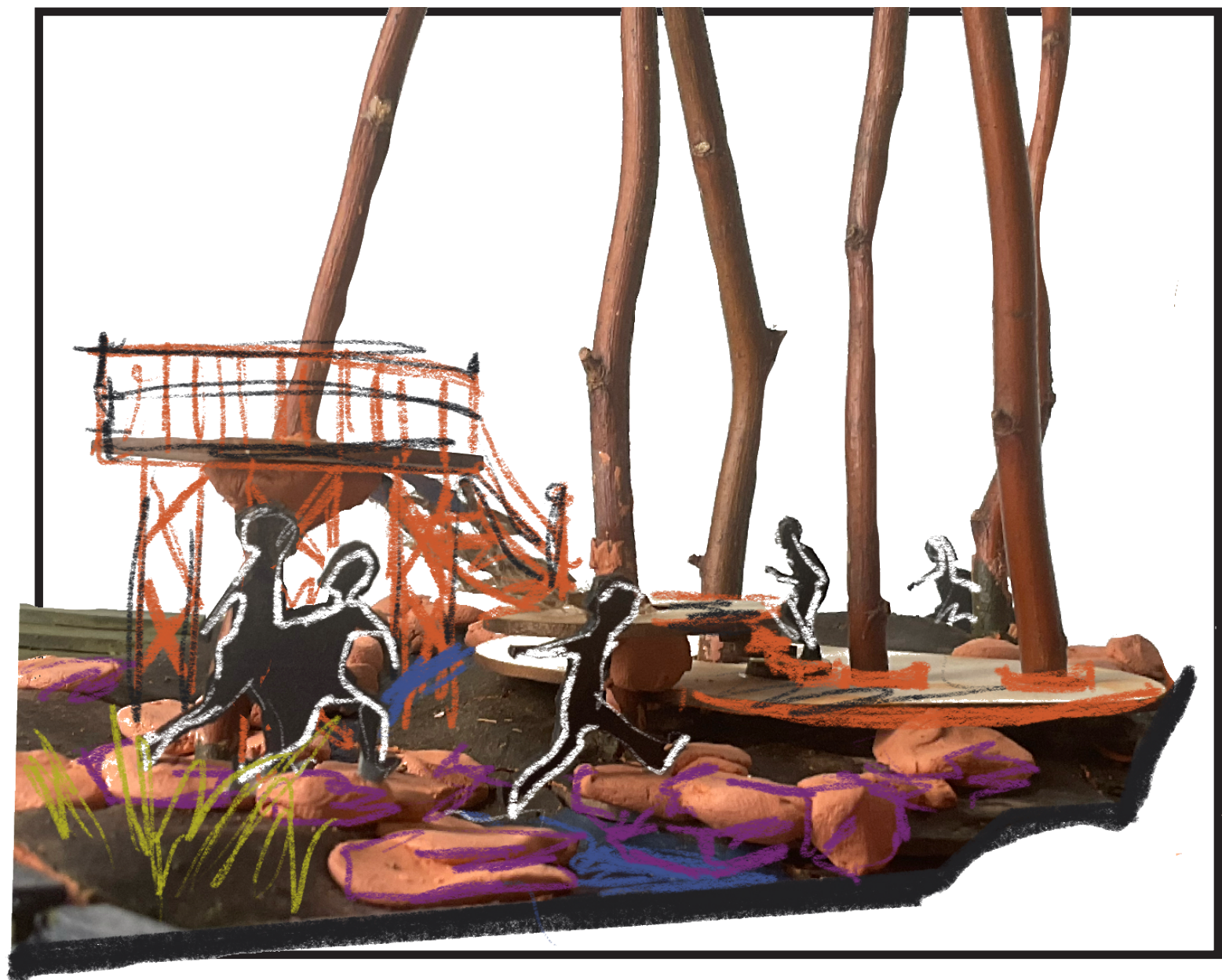






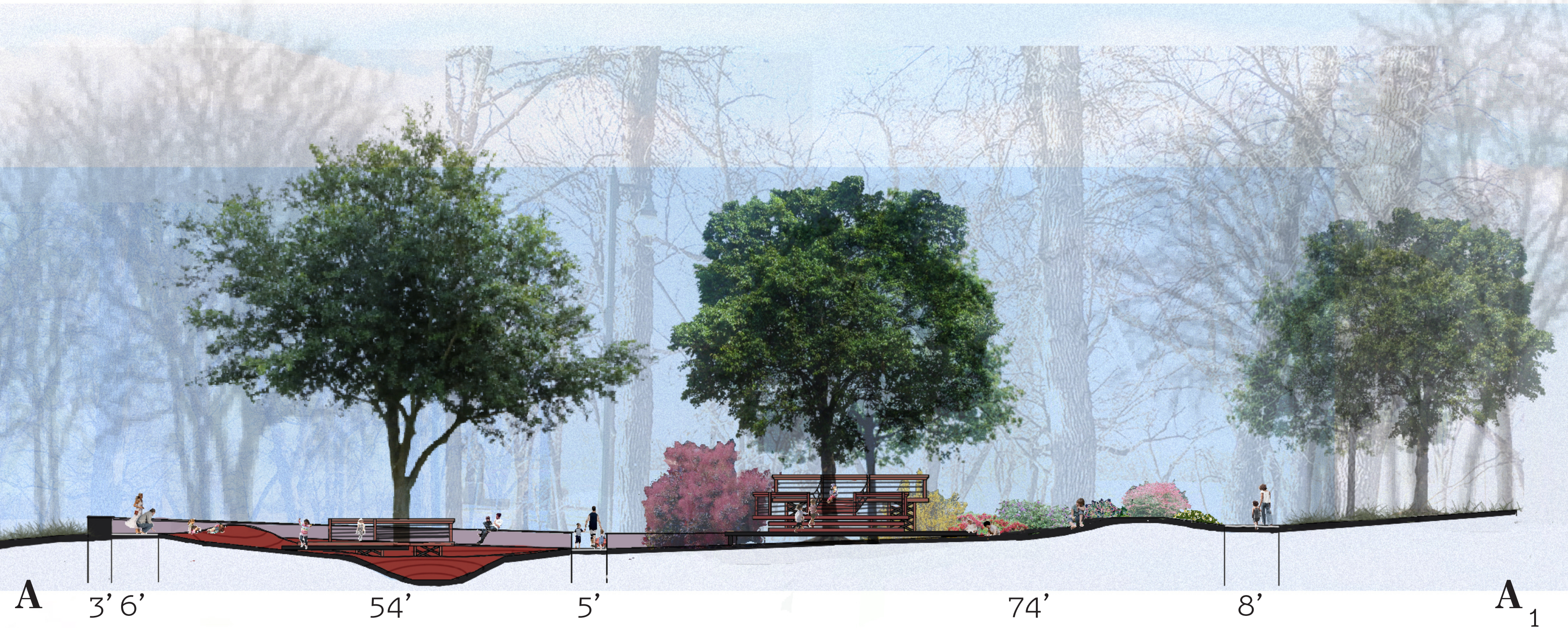


Topography + Garden Play 2-5





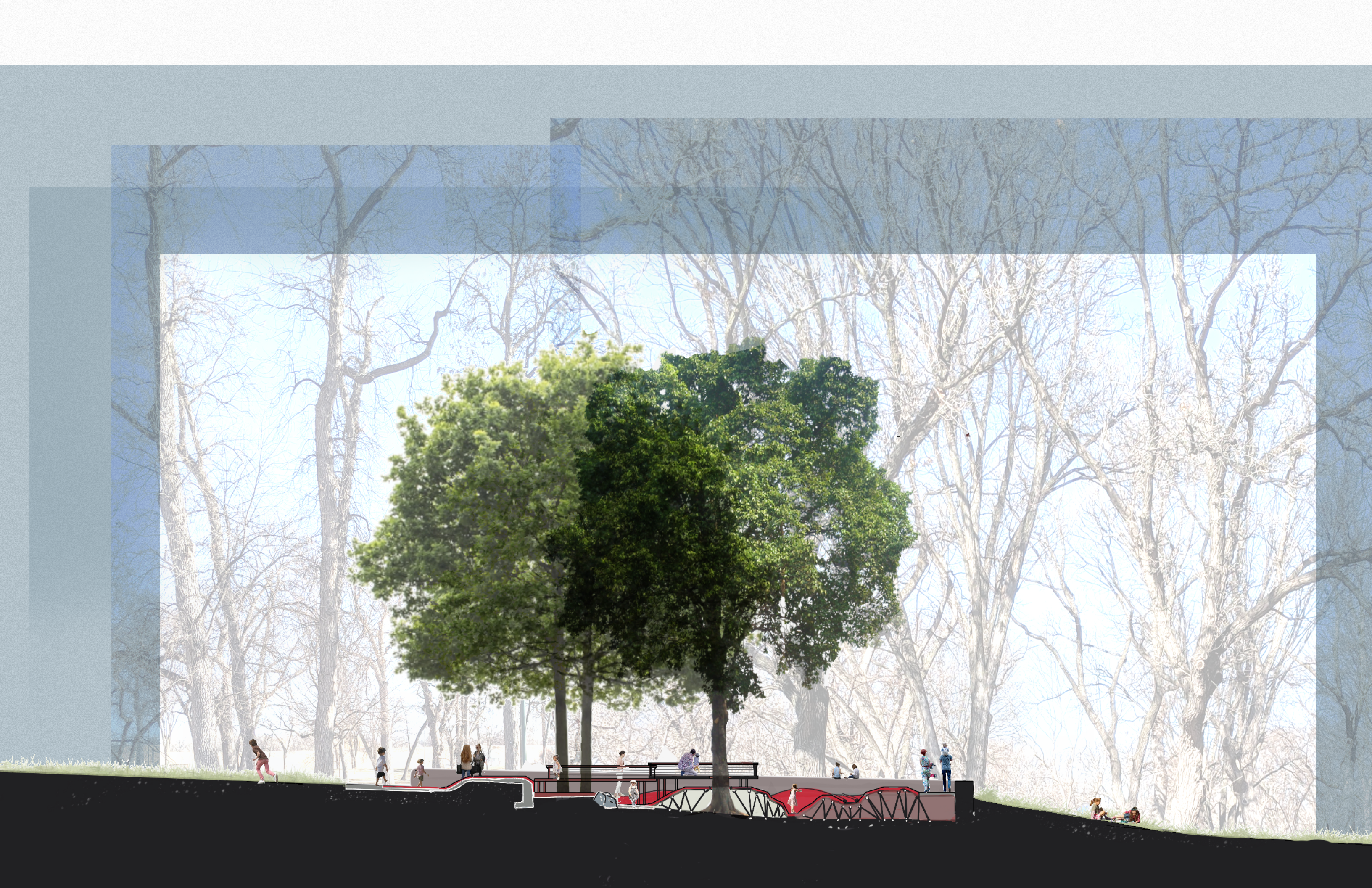
# Topography + Garden Play



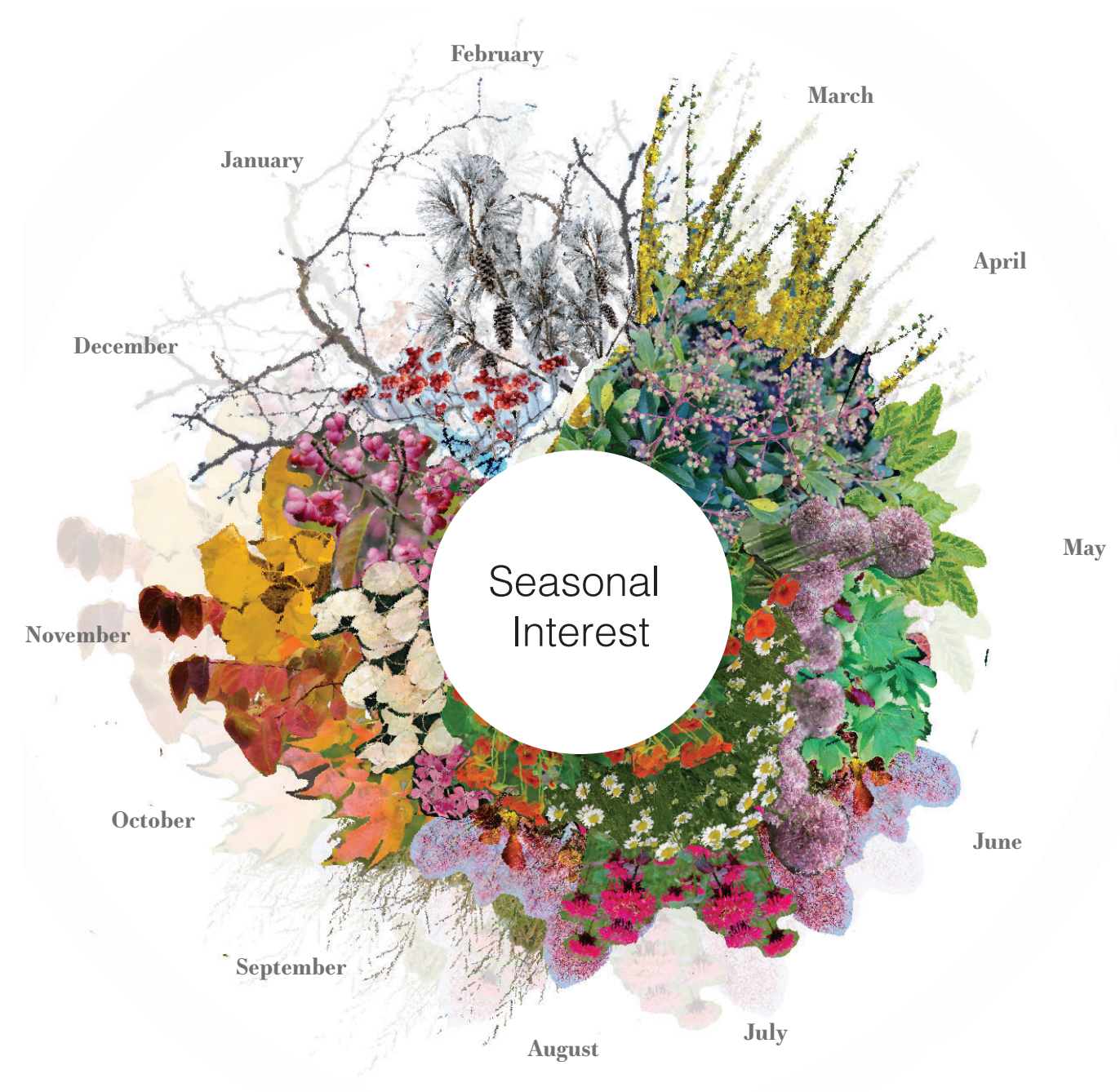
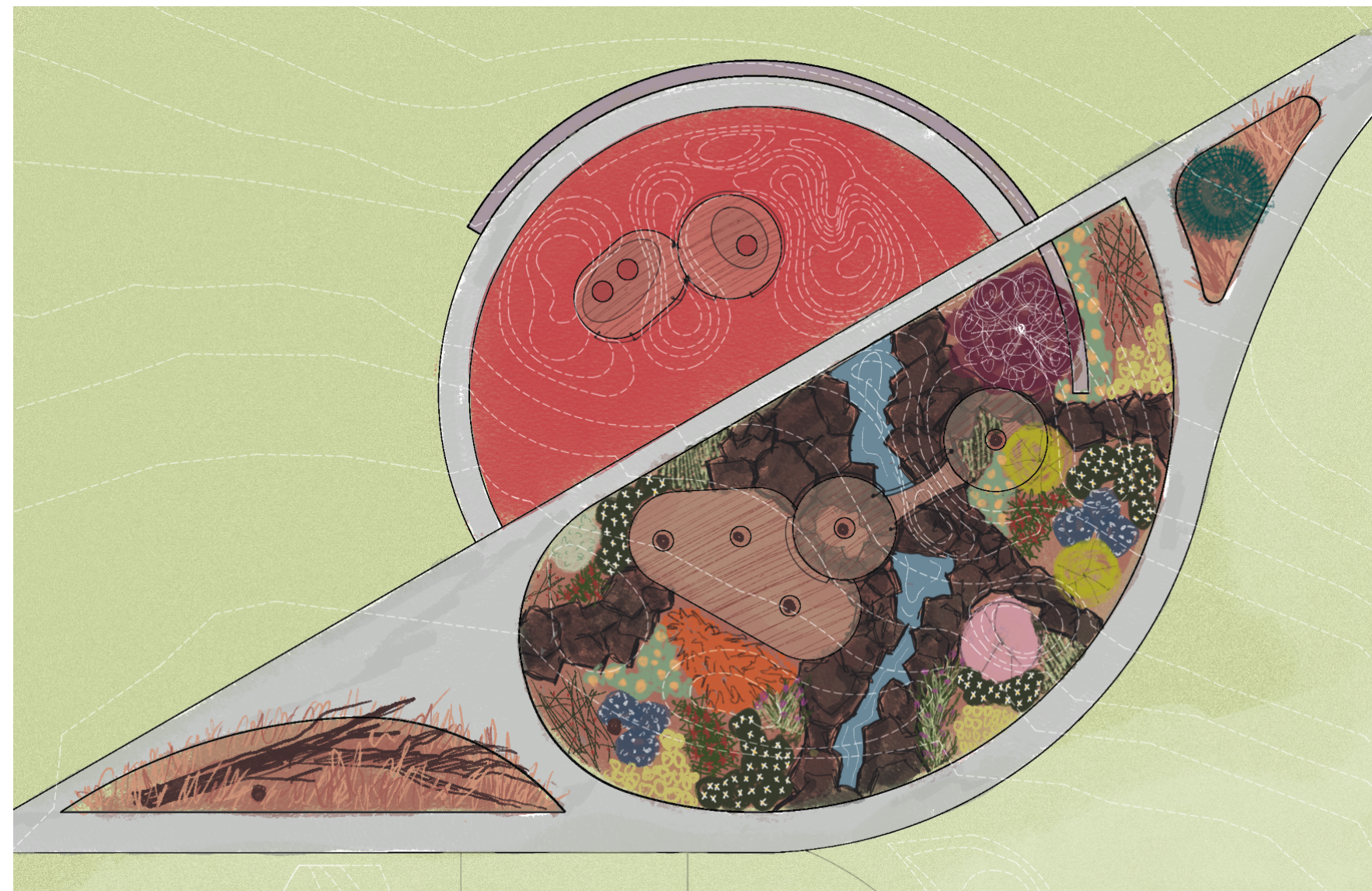


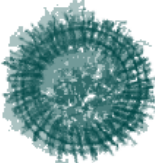


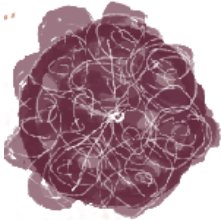

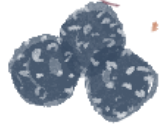

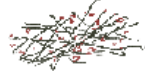
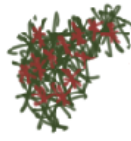
















- |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |  |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| <br>Mugo Pine    | <br>Forsythia | <br>Winterberry<br>Euonymus | <br>Smoketree  | <br>Sumac   | <br>Butterfly Bush | <br>Prairie Cord |  |
| <br>Wintergreen | <br>Bee Balm  | <br>Chamomile               | <br>Peppermint | <br>Allium | <br>Nastartium     | <br>Lemon Balm   | <br>Money Plant |







Series Play 6-12







Water Interaction

Climbing + Shade + Platform

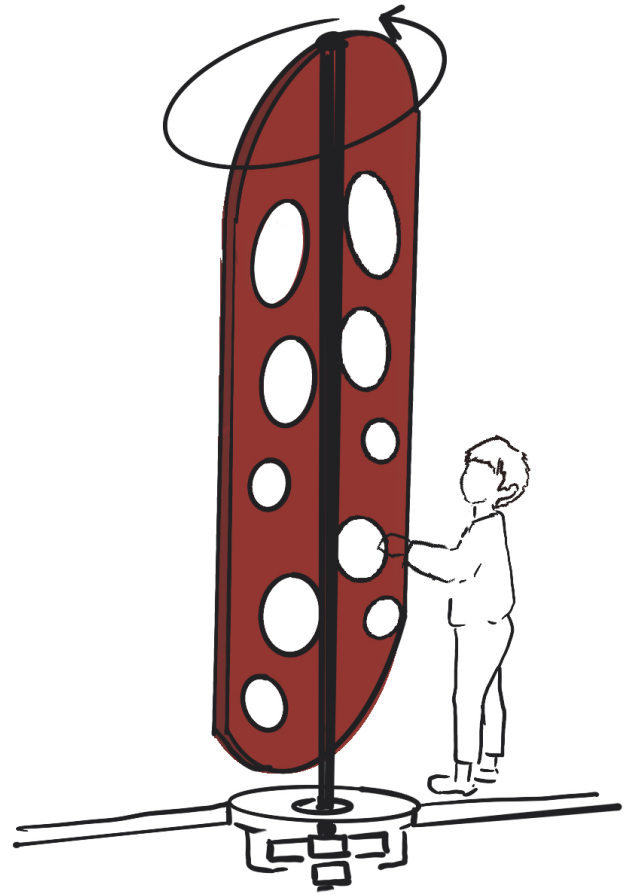
Play Sculpture

Self Discovery

**B**

**B**













**Playground**





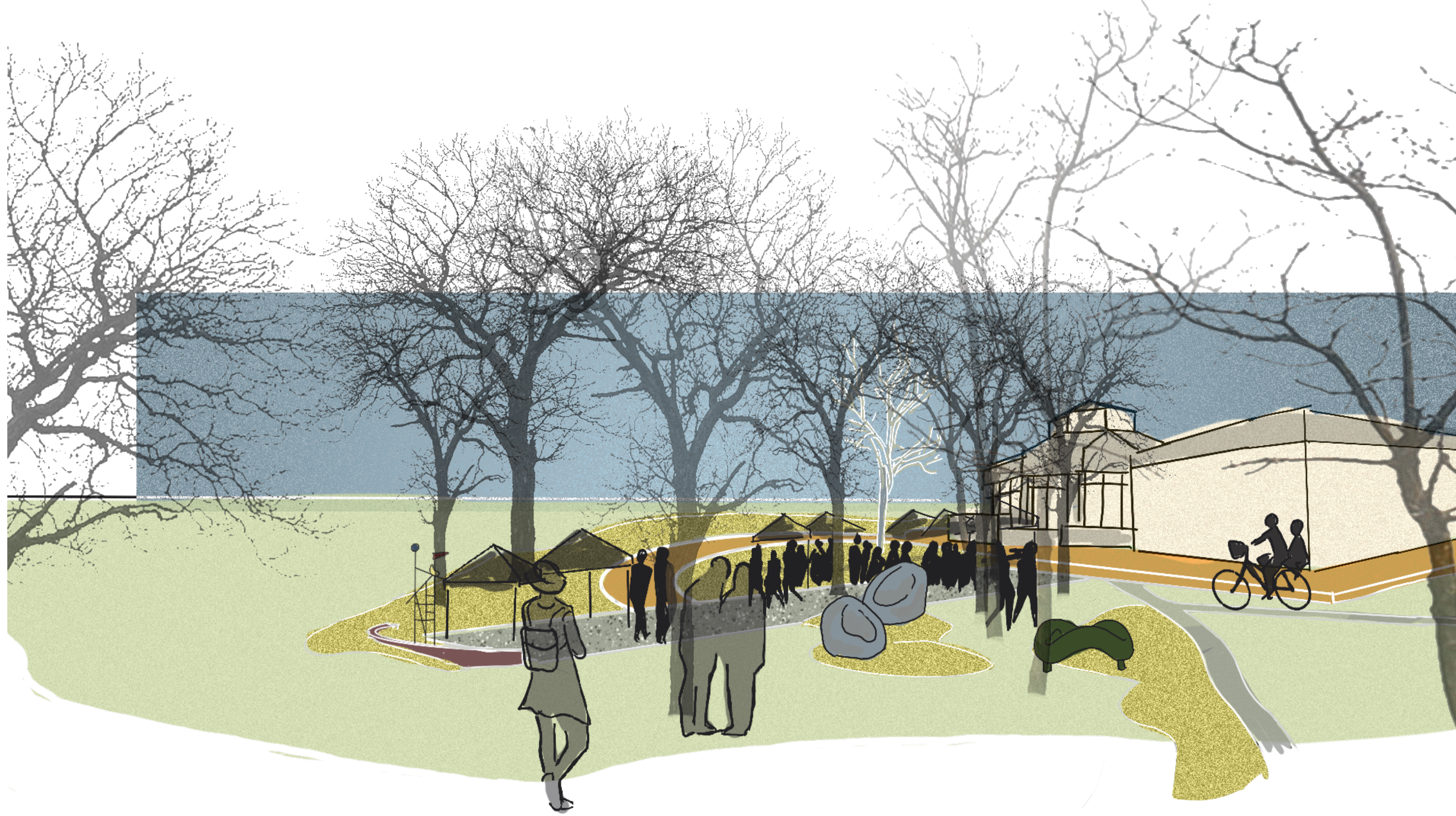
**Outdoor Theatre**





**Evening Music**





**Market**



