

# *Reviving a Forgotten Forest*

*A Case Study of Preservation, CPTED, and History in Lower Kinnear Park, Seattle's oldest planted park*

**WASLA Conference  
Spokane, WA**

April 21, 2017

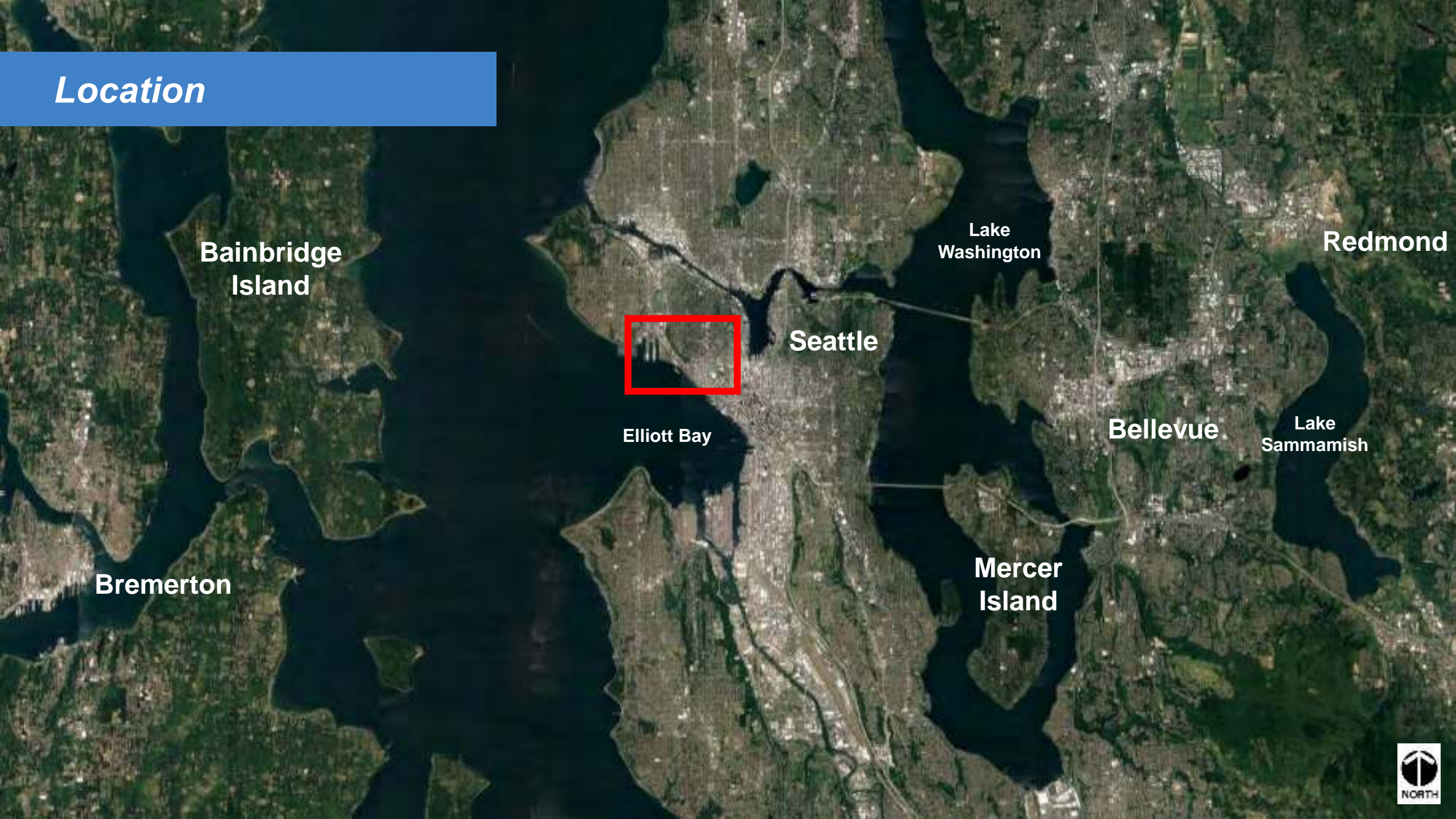


Aaron Luoma, ASLA  
Dean W. Koonts, ASLA

## Learning Objectives

- 1. Understand how multiple layers of history contributed towards the evolution of the park and its design.*
- 2. Learn from this case study how local community activism supported the preservation of the park and its renewal and reactivation.*
- 3. Learn how the park's ecology and the urban forest were studied and reshaped for the improved ecological health of the park.*
- 4. Learn how thoughtful approaches to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) can promote the preservation of historic landscapes.*

# Location



Bainbridge  
Island

Lake  
Washington

Redmond

Seattle

Elliott Bay

Bellevue

Lake  
Sammamish

Bremerton

Mercer  
Island



# Context

Queen Anne  
Neighborhood

Expedia  
Headquarters

Seattle  
Center

Elliott Bay

Single Family

Multi-family

	Housing	Population
0.5 mile	4,683	6,892
3 mile	46,484	158,388

2000 Census



# Context



# Context



# Context



# Context

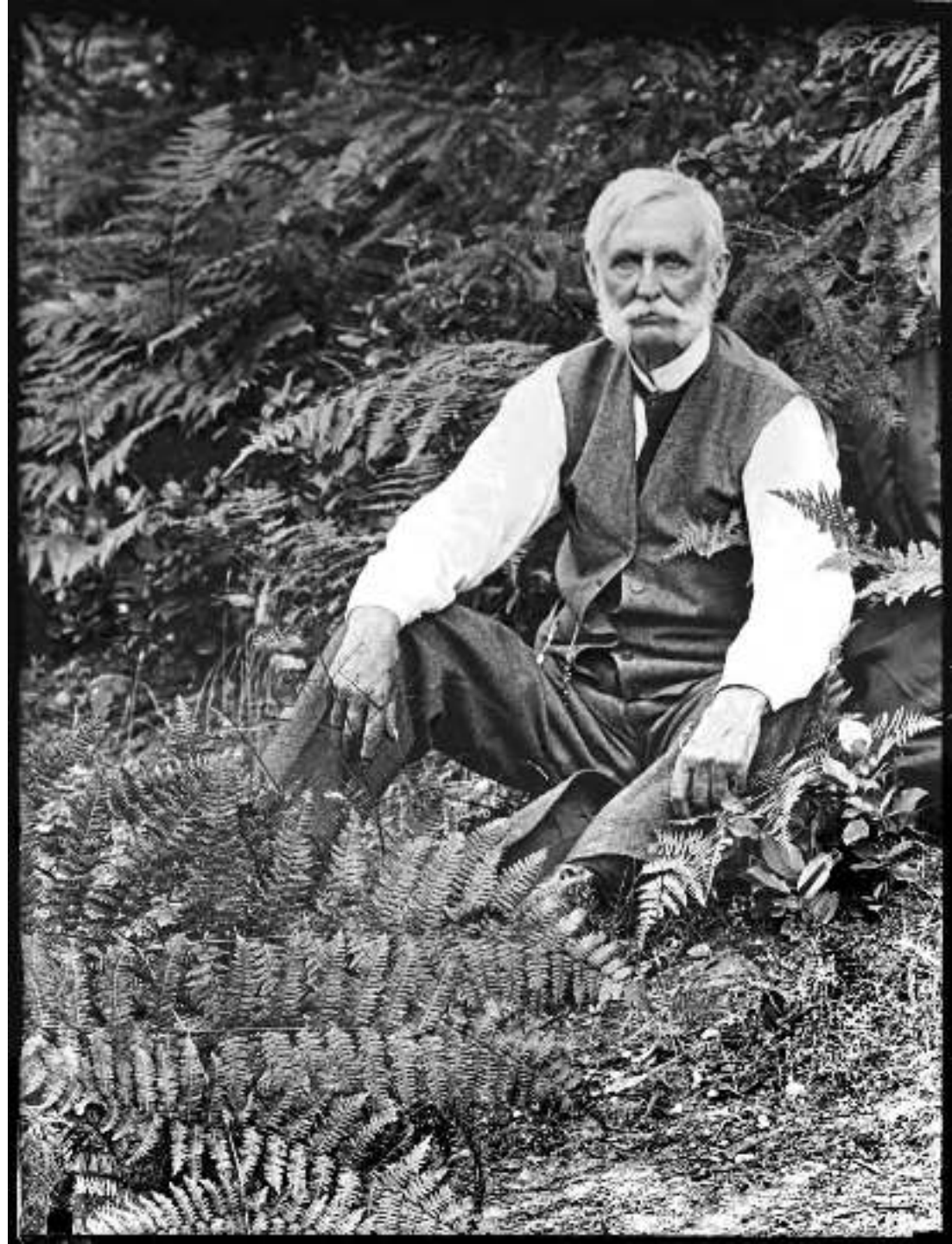




## *History – Late 1880s*



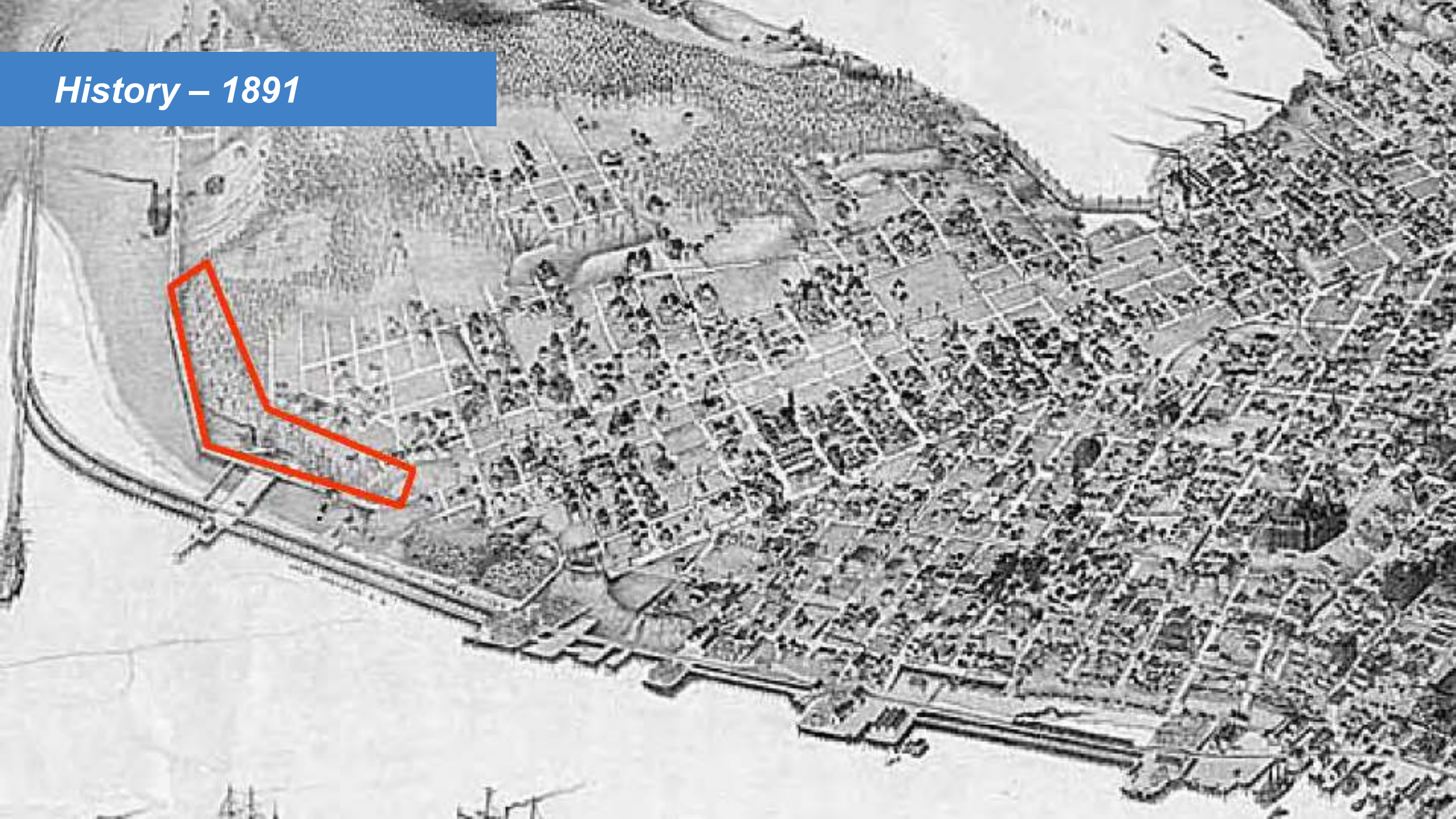
*History – George Kinnear*



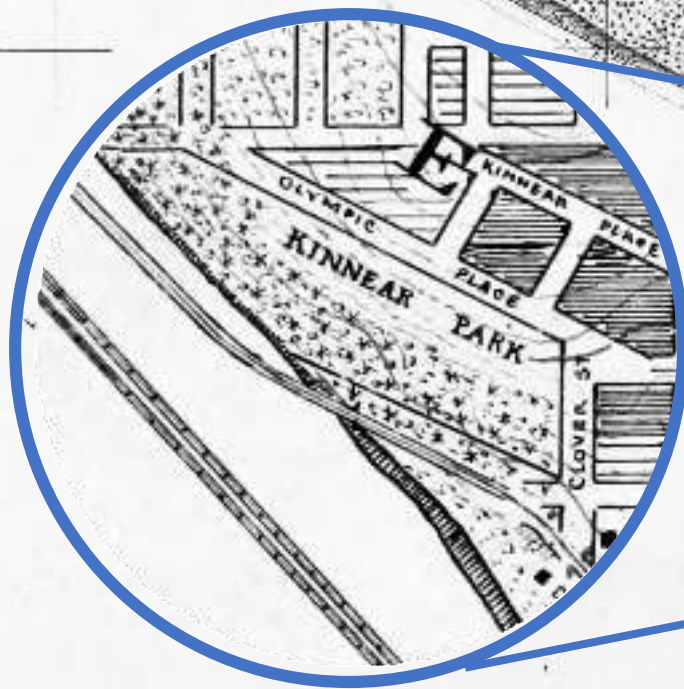
# History – 1891



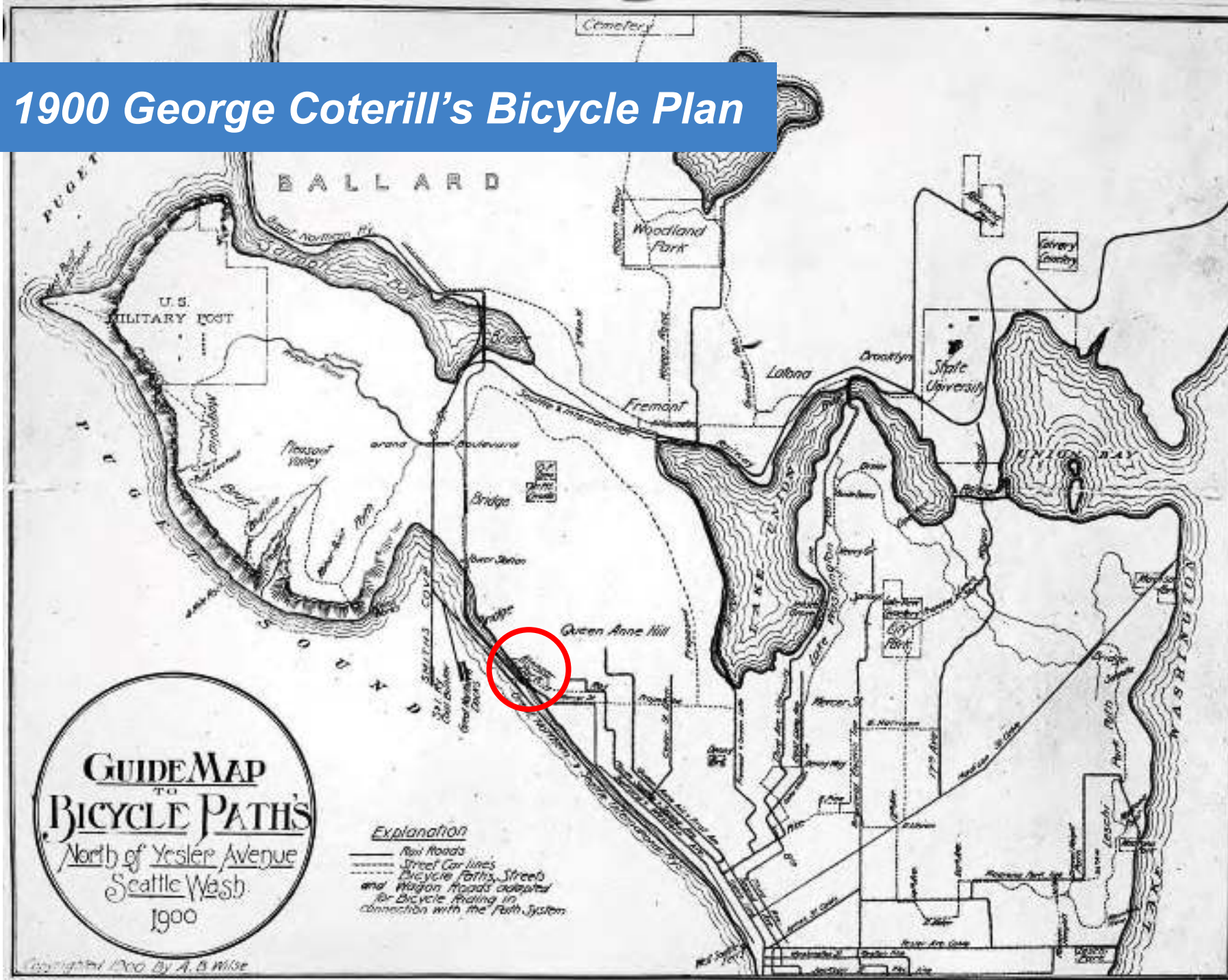
*History – 1891*



# History – 1899



# History – 1900 George Coterill's Bicycle Plan



*History – 1891-1894 Upper Kinnear Improvements*



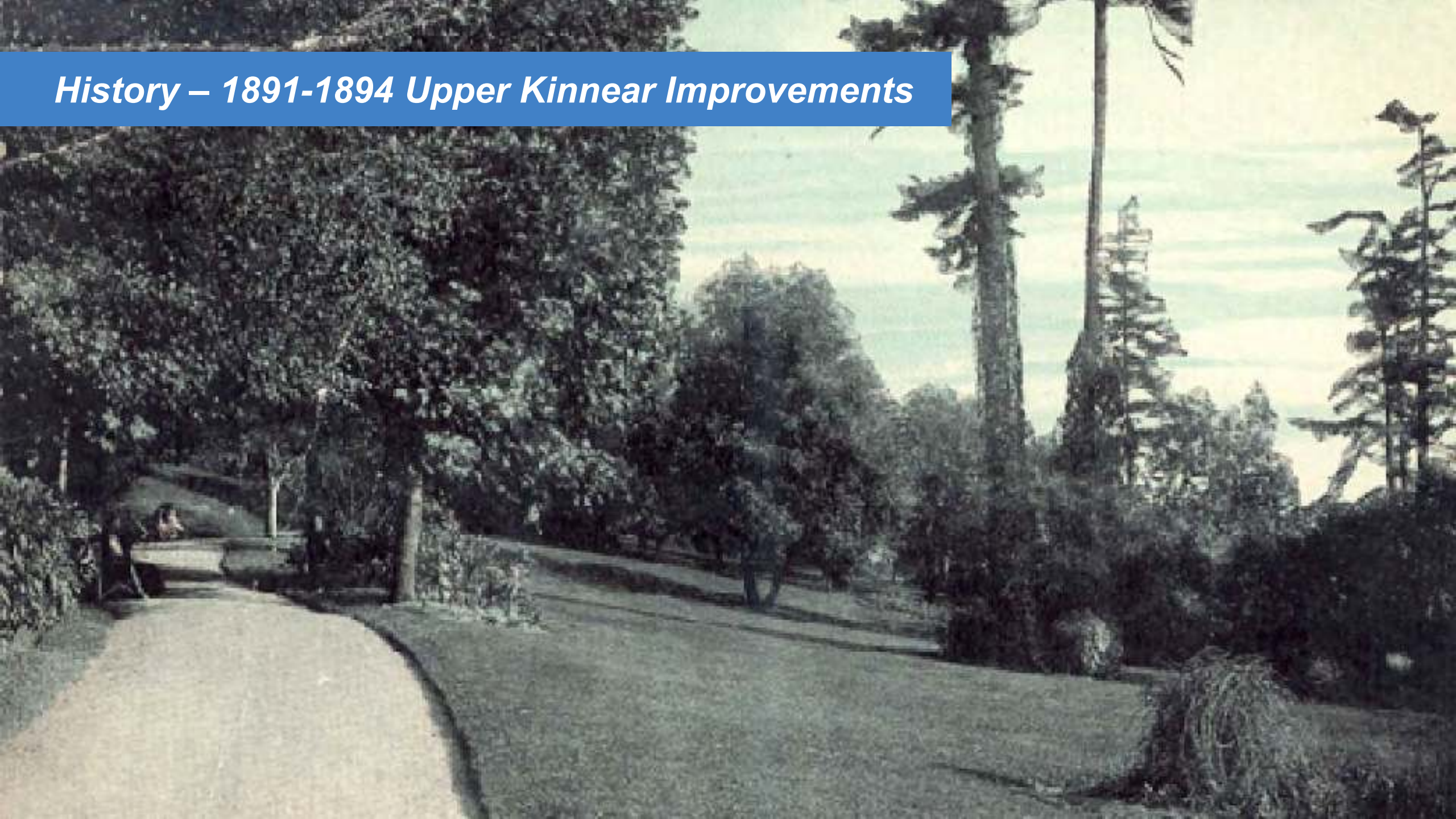
*History – 1891-1894 Upper Kinnear Improvements*



KINNEAR PARK



*History – 1891-1894 Upper Kinnear Improvements*



*History – 1894 Lower Kinnear Improvements*



## History – 1899

*“...there is nothing prettier in Seattle than Kinnear Park.”  
Seattle Times Article, June 11, 1899*

Olympus

69  
W35

## History – 1900



General Inspection Tour  
of the Seattle City Council, May 1, 1900  
by R. B. C. W.

*History – 1903 Olmsted Brother's Visit*



# History – 1904 Tent Caterpillar



**INSPECTOR BROWN CALLS HELP – If Kinnear Park is Saved From Caterpillars Volunteers Must Come at Once**  
*The Seattle Times – June 3, 1904*

“Forward the pruning hook brigade, and pause not while a caterpillar is left unburned.”

## INSPECTOR BROWN CALLS HELP

If Kinnear Park Is Saved From Caterpillars Volunteers Must Come at Once.

Ruth Delays March of the Woods, but They WILL Move Tomorrow.

Seattle, June 3, 1904. Inspector Brown today called on the city council to request that the city should immediately call on the volunteer fire department to assist in the work of burning the tent caterpillars which are now infesting the woods of Kinnear park. The inspector said that the caterpillars were now so numerous that they were doing great damage to the trees and that it was necessary to take prompt action to prevent the loss of the park. He stated that the caterpillars were now so numerous that they were doing great damage to the trees and that it was necessary to take prompt action to prevent the loss of the park.

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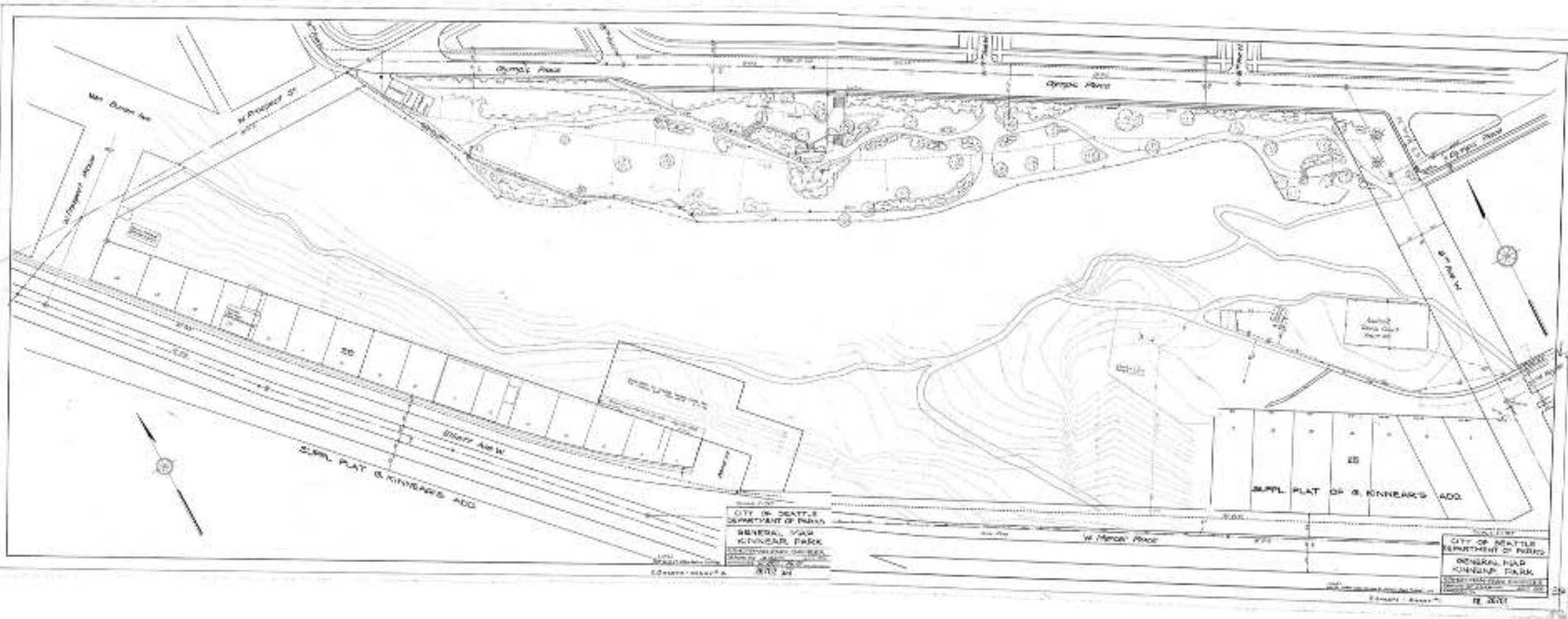
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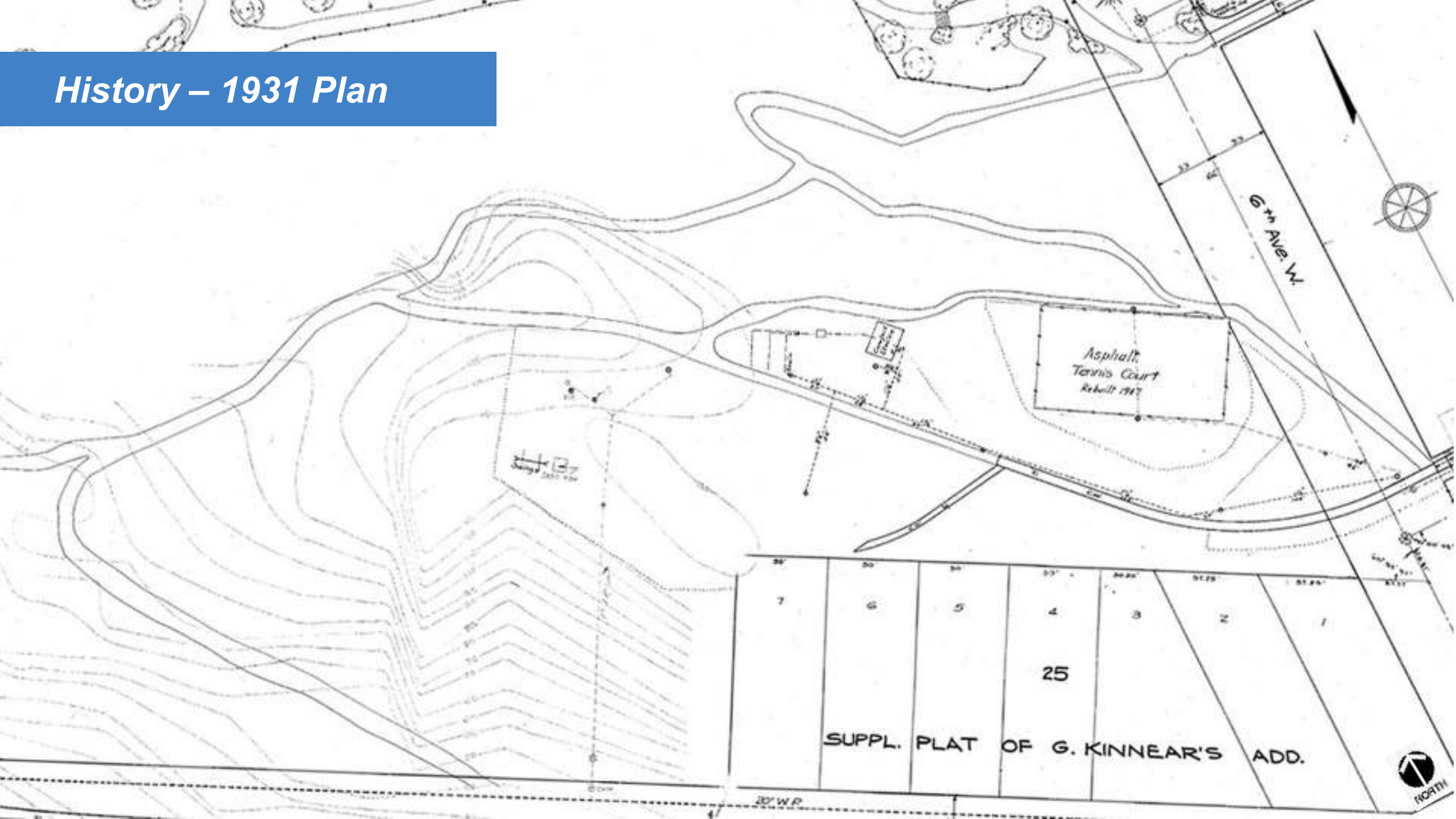
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# History – 1931 Plan



# History – 1931 Plan





## *History – 1950*



## *History – 1950*



## *History – 1950*



## *Recent History*



# Recent History



NORTH

# Recent History



1893



1905

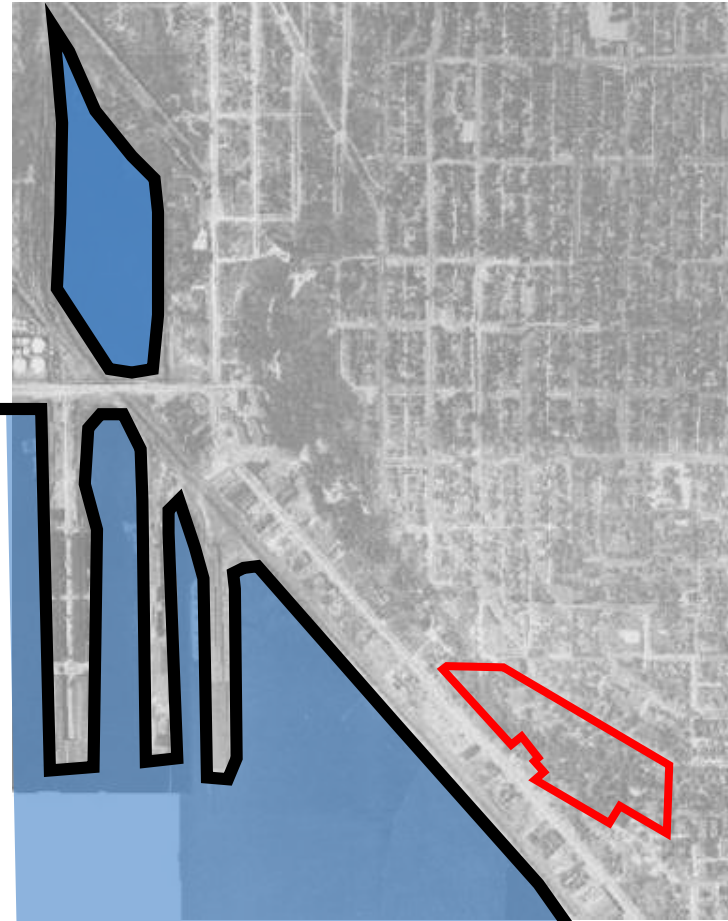


1917

# Recent History



1917



1936



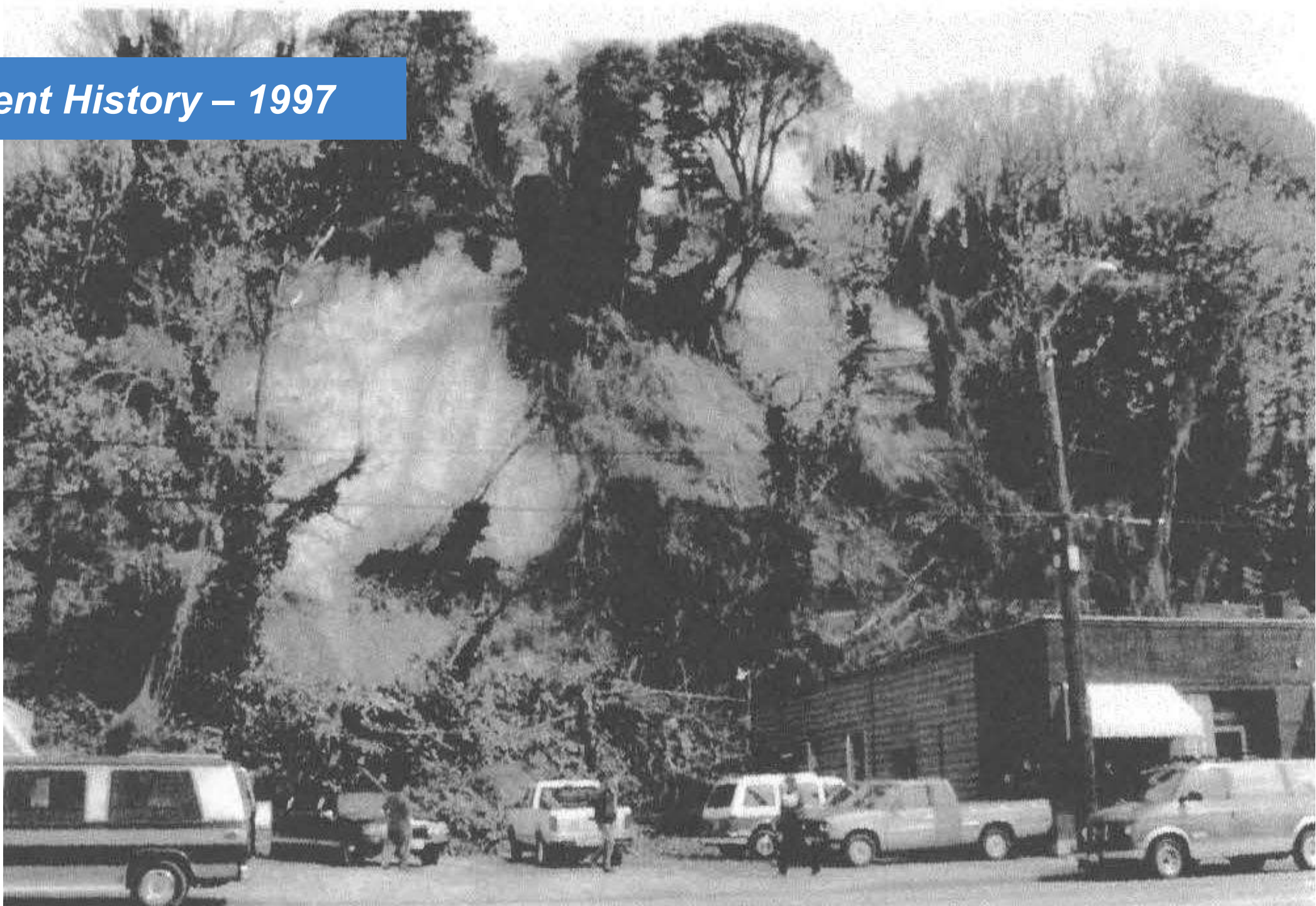
2016

*Recent History – 1997*





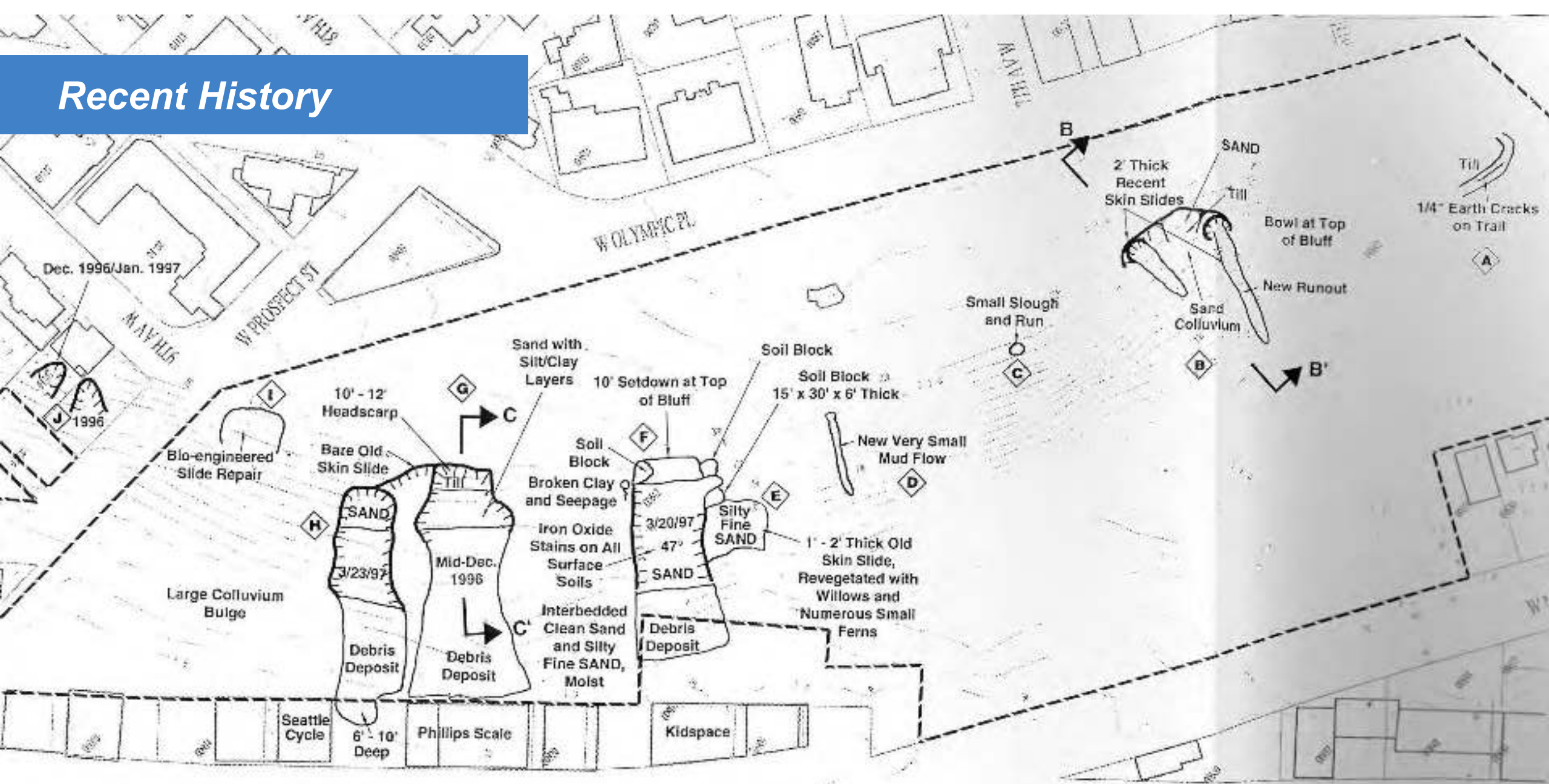
*Recent History – 1997*



*Recent History – 1997*



# Recent History



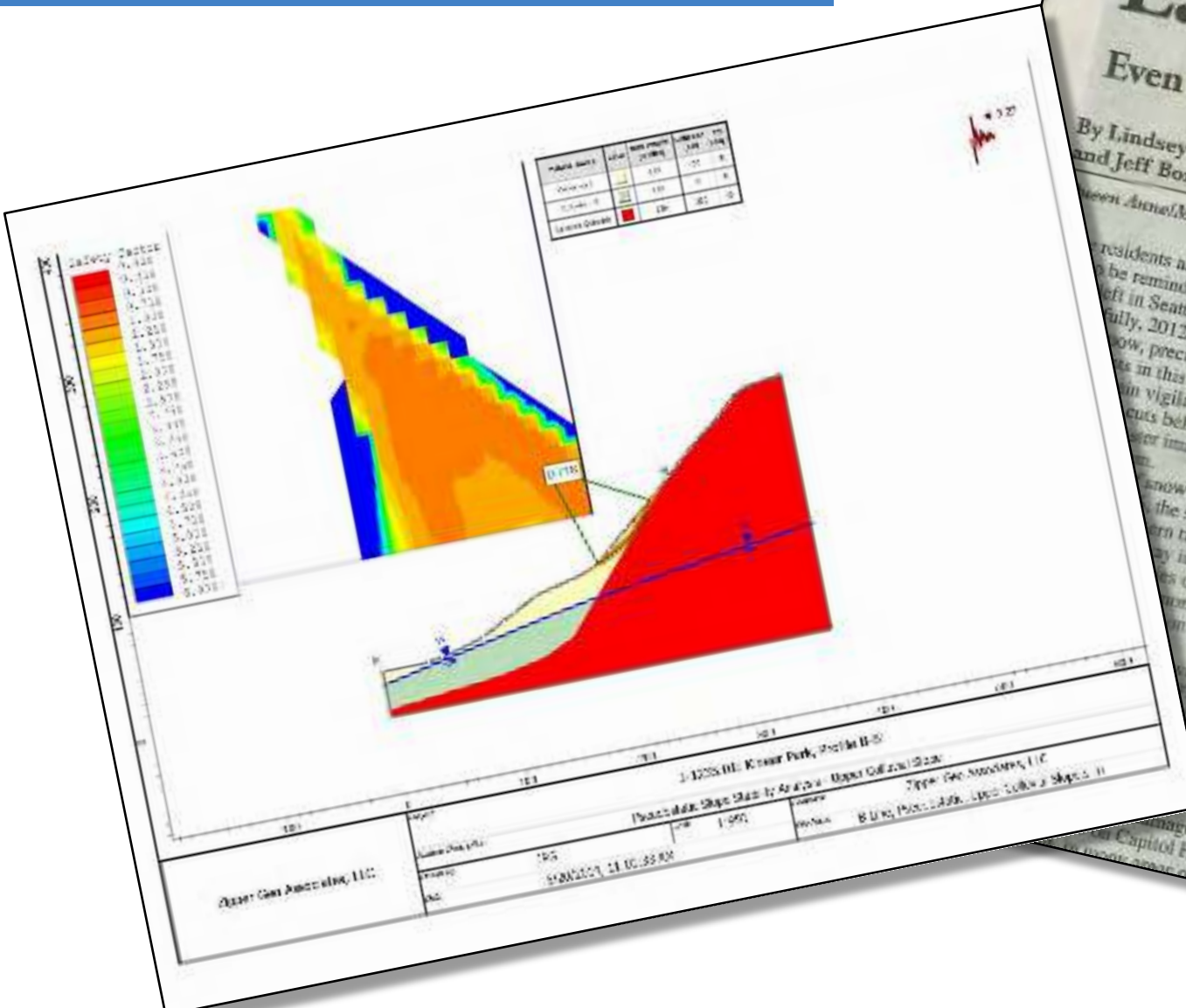
*Recent History – 2011*



*Recent History – 2011*



# Recent History – 2012-2014



## Landslide lessons learned

Even in dry years, city crews remain wary of landslide areas

By Lindsey Hall and Jeff Bond

Magnolia News

Residents along Perkins Lane don't have to be reminded that there is still a threat in Seattle's landslide season. Fully, 2012 has been a moderate one, with snow, precipitation and storms. Many in this area know they need to be vigilant. After all, this is the area below Magnolia Bluff, a major image for Seattle's skyline.

Snow and rain in late January saturated the land on the tip of Magnolia's bluff in early January. Days of mudslides followed. Months would pass before a group of residents would...

...won't alone. It proved that the equally... in Seattle. ...own into... Alki...

...and, if... damages. Also... Capitol Hill and... north side of Seattle.

Legend

- ECA - Forty% steep slope
- ECA - Potential Slide Areas

The City of Seattle map above shows just how prevalent the dangers of slides are for the residents of Magnolia and Queen Anne. The red areas on the map signify areas with at least a 40 percent steep slope, the blue areas signify locations that have the potential for slides. Both areas appear surrounded by the dangers of landslides.

*Recent History – 2010*



*Recent History – 2010*





*Recent History – 2010*



*Recent History – 2010*



*Recent History – 2009*



## Recent History

**BODY DISCOVERED IN PARK -  
UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN FOUND SLAIN  
IN LOWER QUEEN ANNE**  
*The Seattle Times - February 26, 1990*

**BODY FOUND BURIED IN QUEEN  
ANNE SLIDE - FRIENDS THINK IT WAS  
HOMELESS MAN**  
*The Seattle Times - December 20, 1996*

**MAN'S BODY FOUND IN QUEEN  
ANNE PARK**  
*The Seattle Times - June 13, 1998*

**Honduran drug ring busted in  
Belltown - Dozens of crack dealers  
targeted in sweeping arrests  
involving 70 officers**  
*The Seattle Times - April 19, 2009*

Late last year, Seattle police noticed something unusual about the dealers selling crack cocaine who had taken over Seattle's Kinnear Park: Most of them were Honduran. Officers arrested a number of the men at the park near the base of Queen Anne, and "**the park was rendered usable and safe for the public,**" said West Precinct Capt. Steve Brown.

## *Recent History*



## *Recent History*



## *Recent History*



## *Recent History*





# Community



# Community



# *Community*



# Community



# Community

Phil P.

## Site Analysis



Increased traffic  
Leaving/reducing  
natural elements  
i.e. by bridges

WHAT USE SUPPORT  
URBAN FOREST  
SUPPORT?  
OUTLINE, natural events,  
BRIDGES, ED PLANTS  
PIERS, BRIDGE - garden  
& car park part

Bridges  
Bridges, sitting  
areas - social  
+ views

Integrated  
pest management

Safety:  
Less light at night  
path - stake  
Safety for depth  
Less light

MAIN @ URBAN  
TRAIL/PIER  
TRAIL/PIER  
CUT-THROUGH

Erosion control  
on path

Rain - dry  
A path - stake  
Safety for depth  
Less light  
at night

Comp  
Forest  
(Forest)

Season  
lighting -  
but directed

URBAN  
FOREST

Two part  
of forest  
and more

Interpretive  
sign for  
Madrona  
Forest

SAFETY  
ART  
of LIGHTING

Edible plants

USELESS!  
(taken at home)

Gallery  
(Foster's court)  
making sense!

Greenhouse!  
instead of  
Jones Court?  
Multi purpose - add  
woodshed here??

Bird ID  
info

BIRD  
guides  
Native  
naturalists

Native/bird  
walks

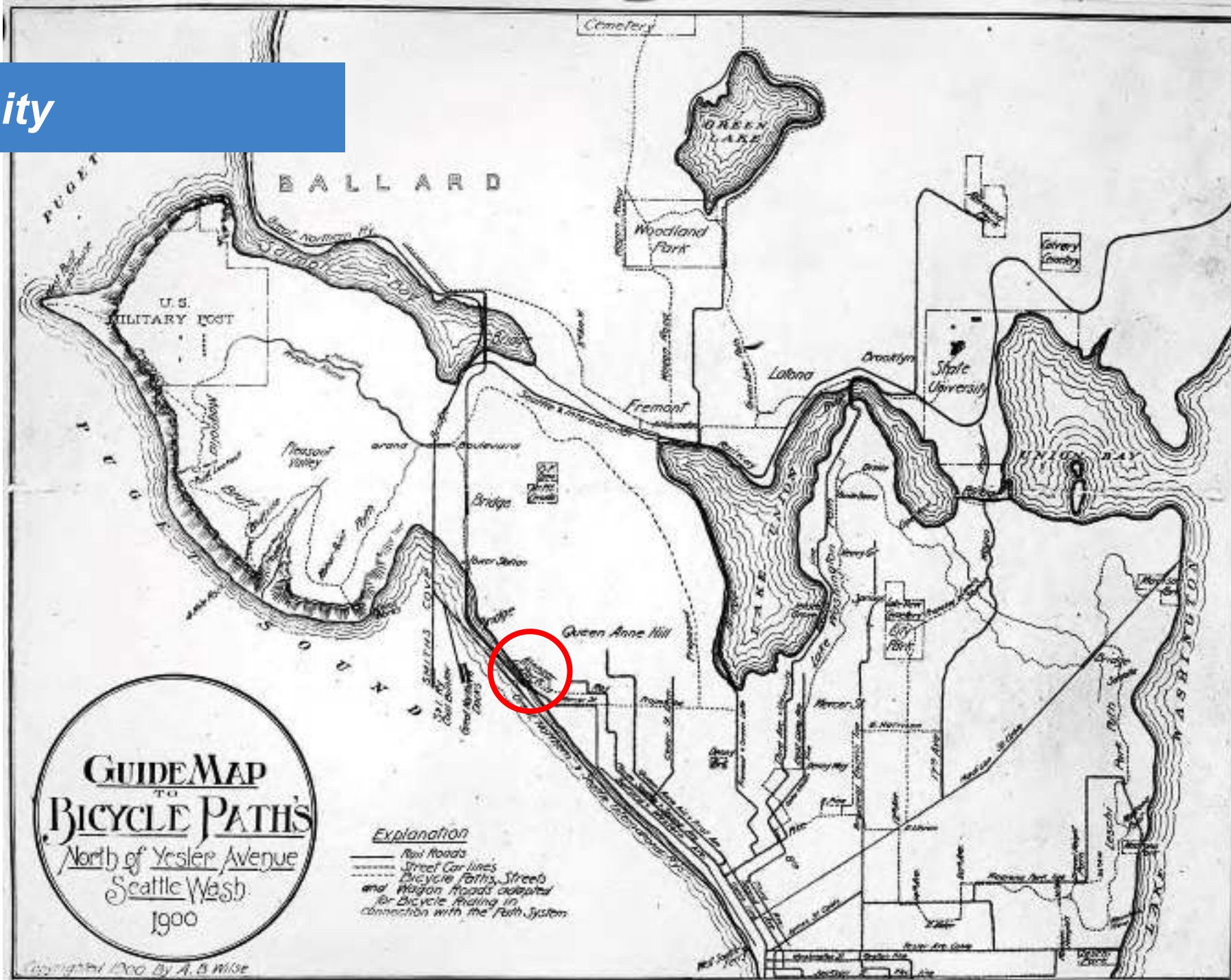
Plant signage

MERCER

Hill Park



# Community

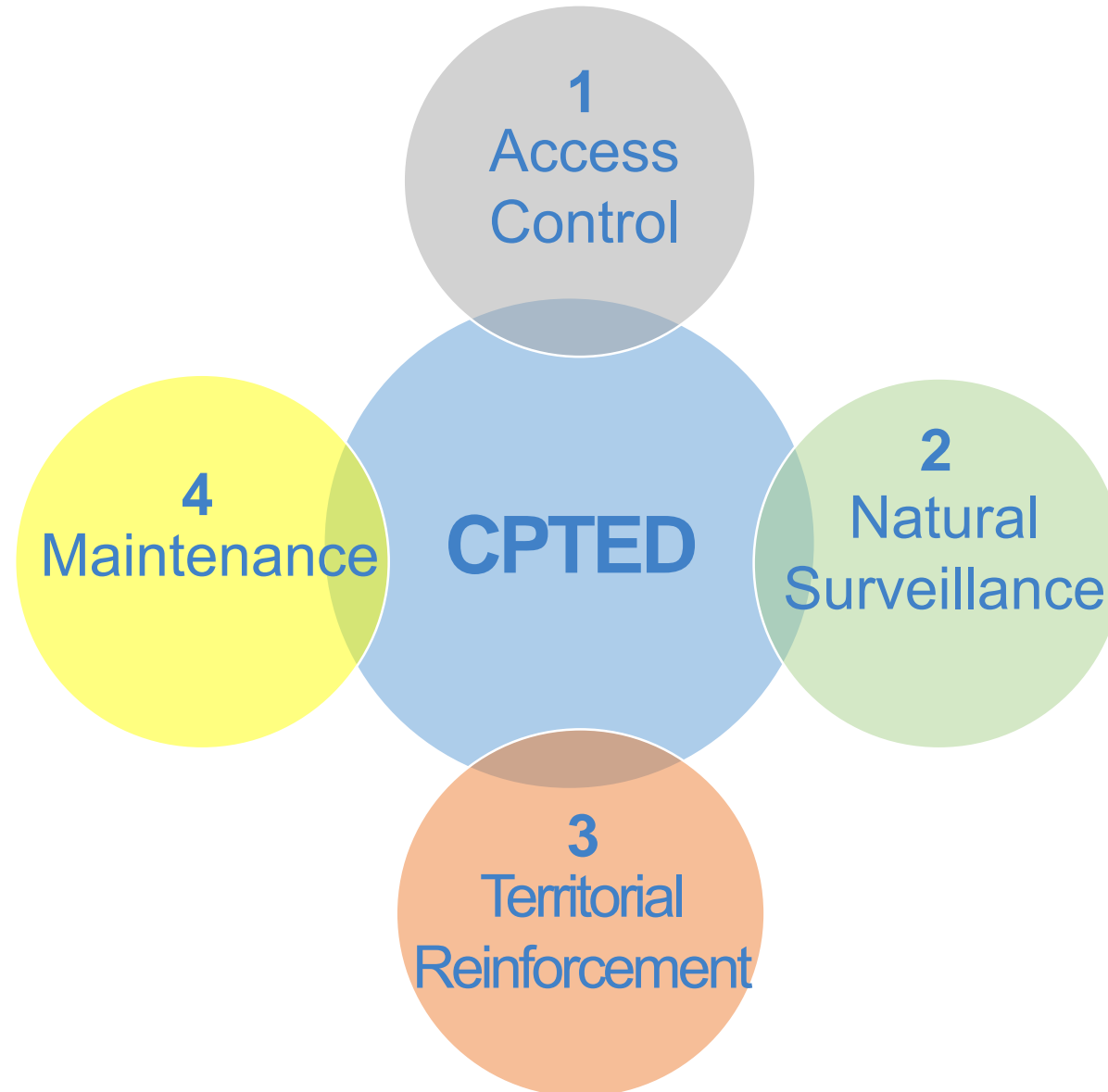


# Community





# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Principles



## **1. Access Control**

- Bollards (restricting particular uses)
- Hedges
- Furnishing placement
- Fencing (play and recreation areas)
- Gates (entries)

## **2. Natural Surveillance**

- Maximize visibility from adjacent buildings and roads
- Maximize surveillance on site (activate through programming)

## **3. Territorial Reinforcement**

- Public vs. private ownership
- Signs/tags
- Trees and formal planting
- Hardscape/paving

## **4. Maintenance**

- Indicates care and ownership
- Provides a visible presence
- Address vandalism (paint over graffiti, immediately repair/replace)

# ***Problems***

***Graffiti & vandalism***

***Diseased trees***

***Overgrown and invasive vegetation***

***Limited visibility***

***Eroding trails and slopes***

***Lack of programmed activities***

***Minimal way finding***

***No ADA accessible areas***

# Problem



# *Problem*





## *Asset & Problem*



## *Asset & Problem*



# Assets

*Volunteer groups*

*History of community gatherings*

*Tennis court*

*Trail network*

*Natural vegetation*

*Champion trees*

*Natural surveillance*

*Views*

# Asset



*Asset*



# Asset



*Asset*

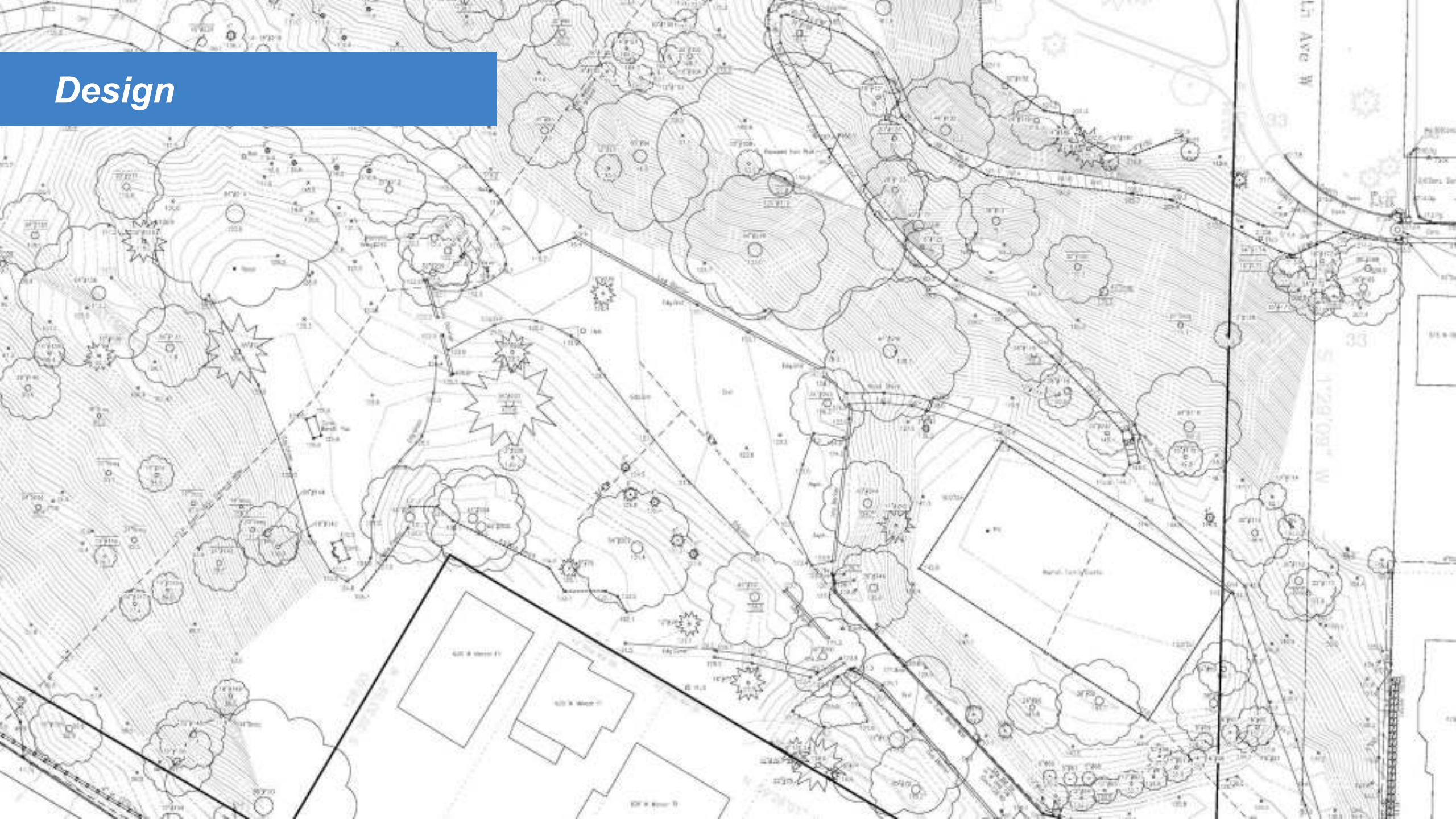


*Asset*





# Design



# *Design*



# Design

**Lower Kinnear Park  
Forest Restoration Action Plan**  
An Action Plan to Coordinate  
Forest Restoration Activities



HBB  
ARCHITECTS

FOLK PARK  
TENNESSEE'S LARGEST METROPOLITAN PARK

12

11

10

8

7

3

2

1

Upper  
Kinnear  
Park

Off-Leash  
Area

9

6

5

Grass  
Lawn

Graves  
Area

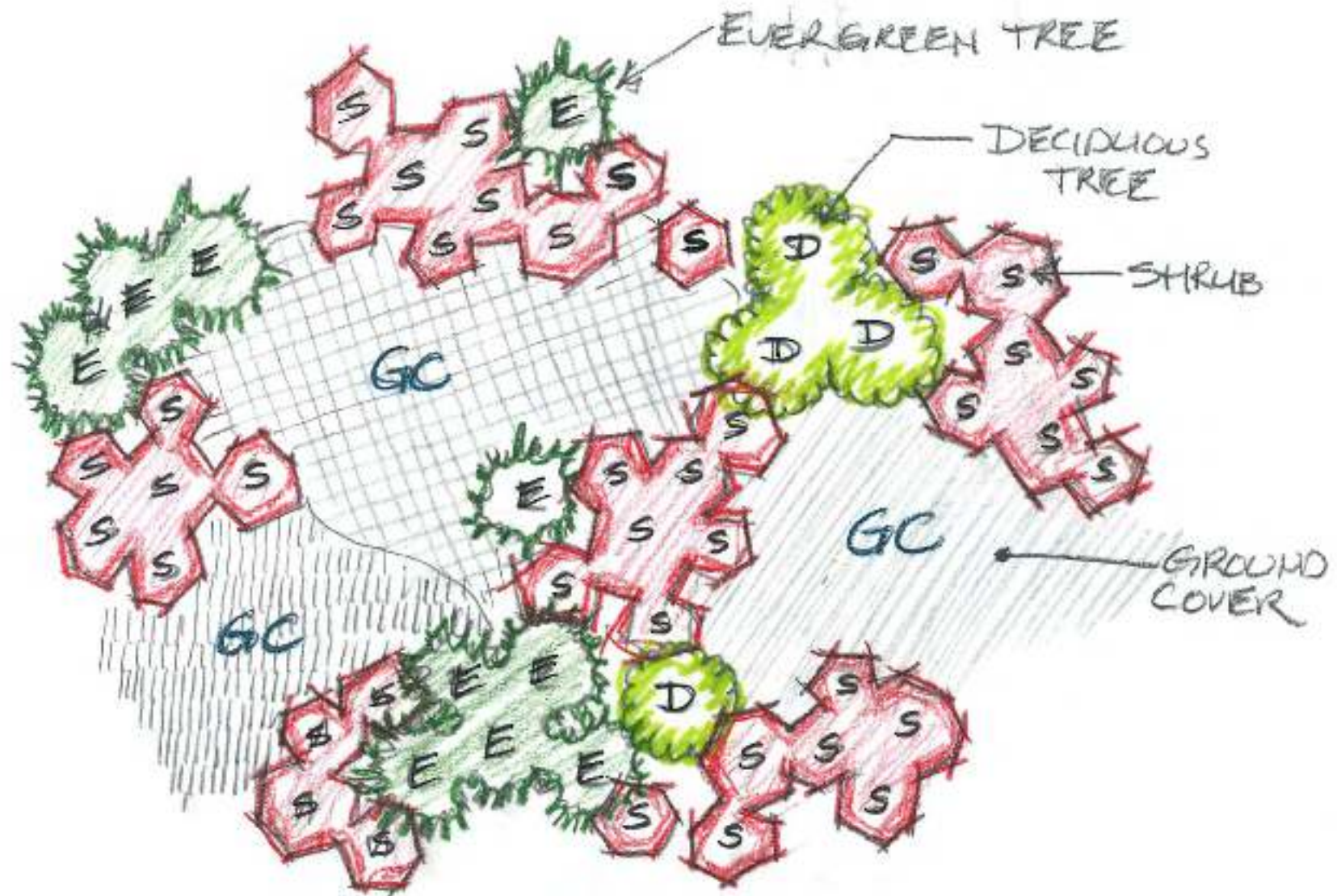
4

Tennis Courts  
(South Hill)

W OLYMPIC PL



# Design



# Design – Master Plan



Elliott Ave W

W Olympic Place

W Mercer Street

W Roy St



# Design – Before



# Design – Concept



# Design – After





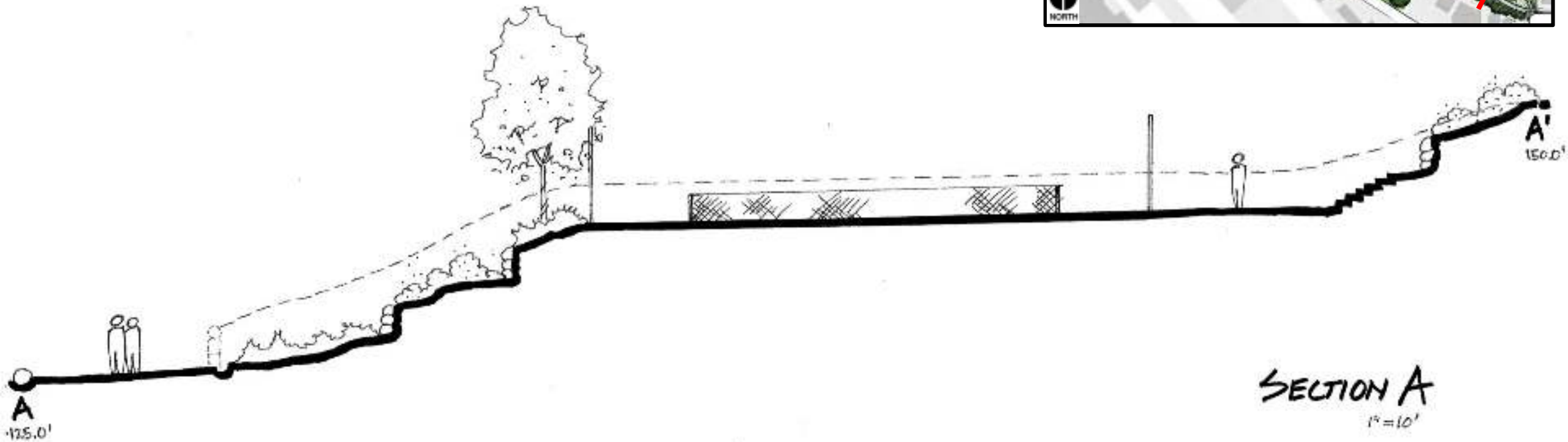
## *Design – Before*



*Design – Before*

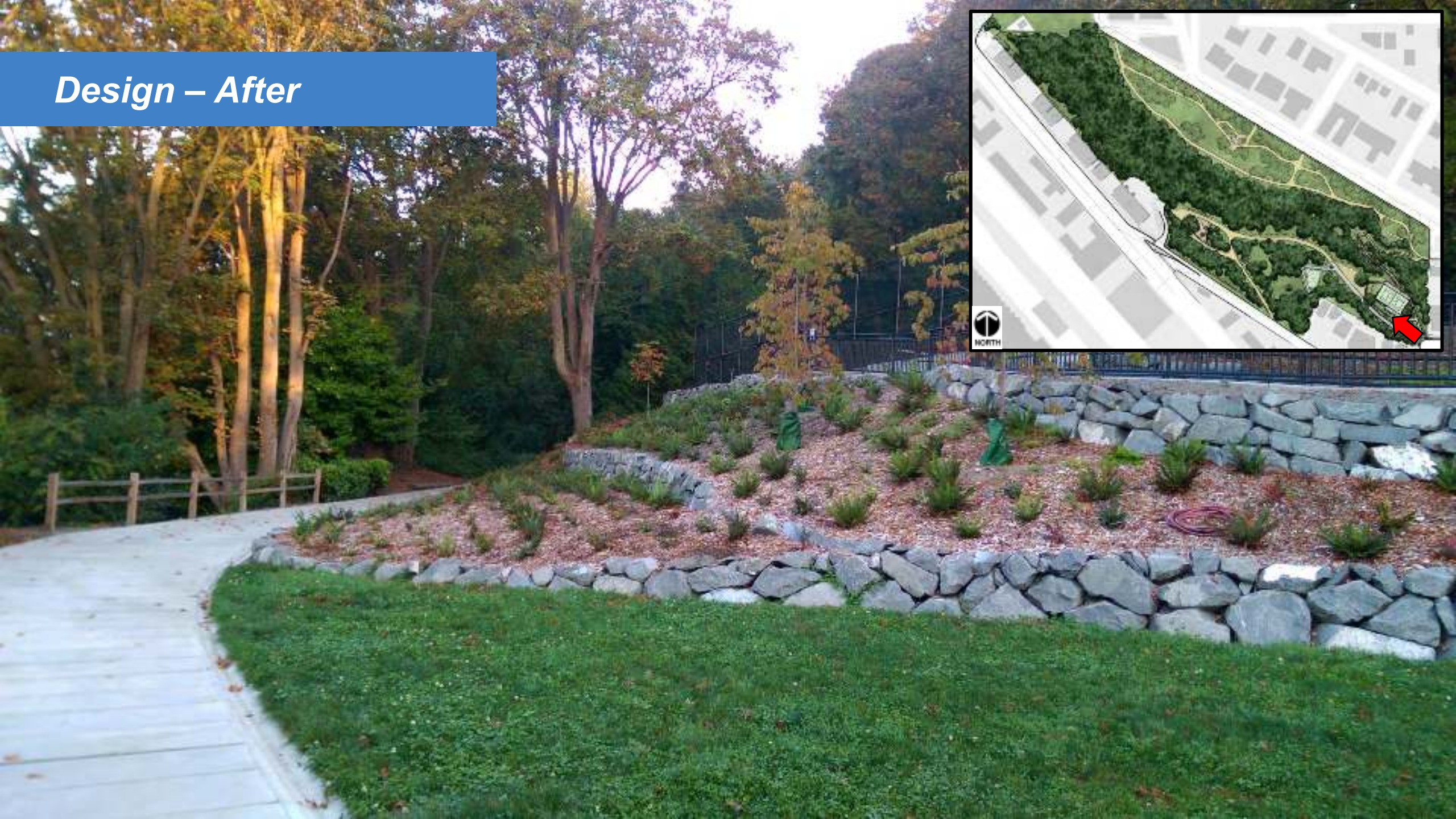


# Design – Concept

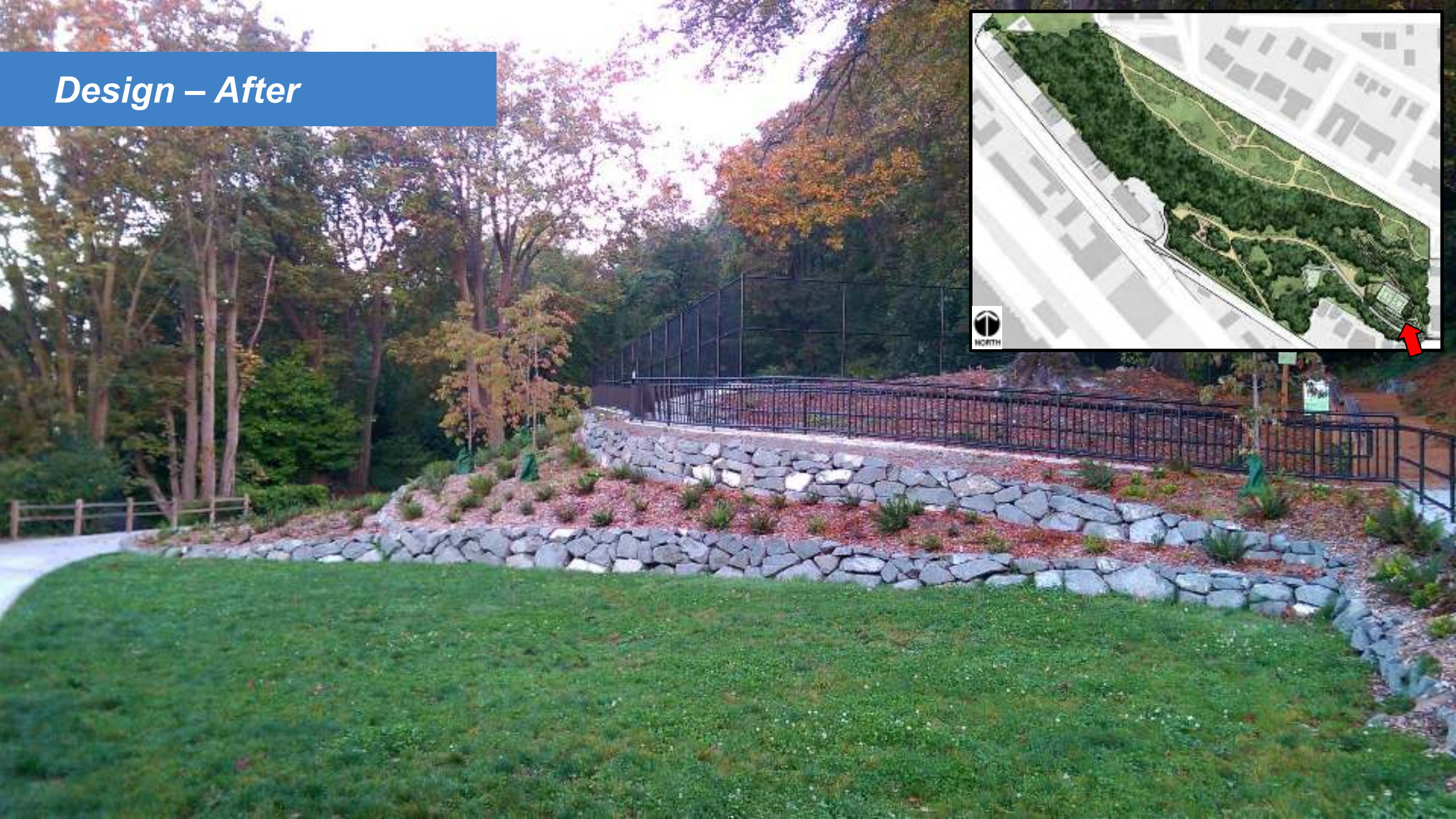


SECTION A  
1" = 10'

*Design – After*



*Design – After*



*Design – Before*



*Design – After*

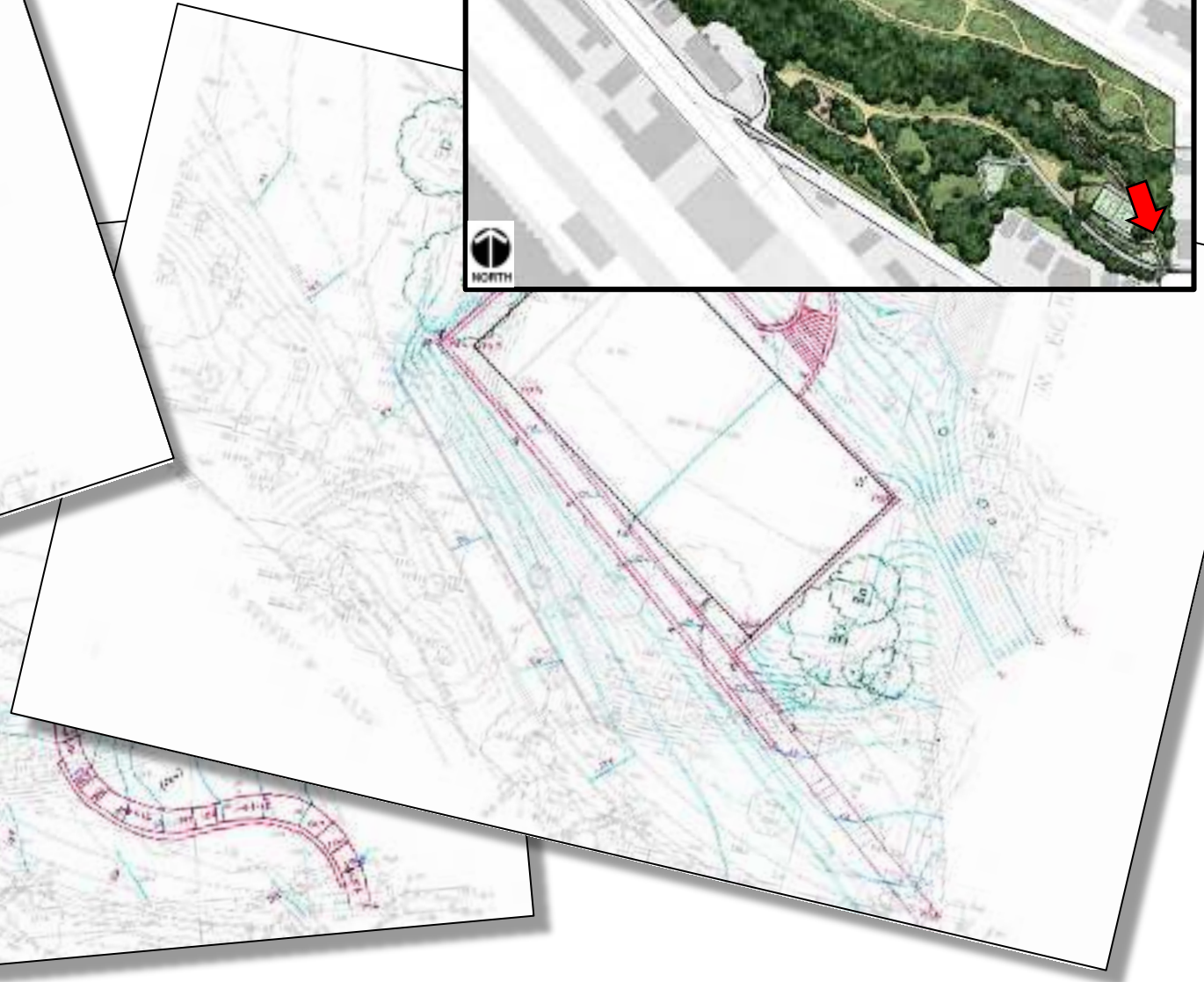


*Design – Before*





# Design – Concept



# Design – After



*Design – After*



*Design – After*



# Design – After



# Design – Before



*Design – After*



*Design – After*





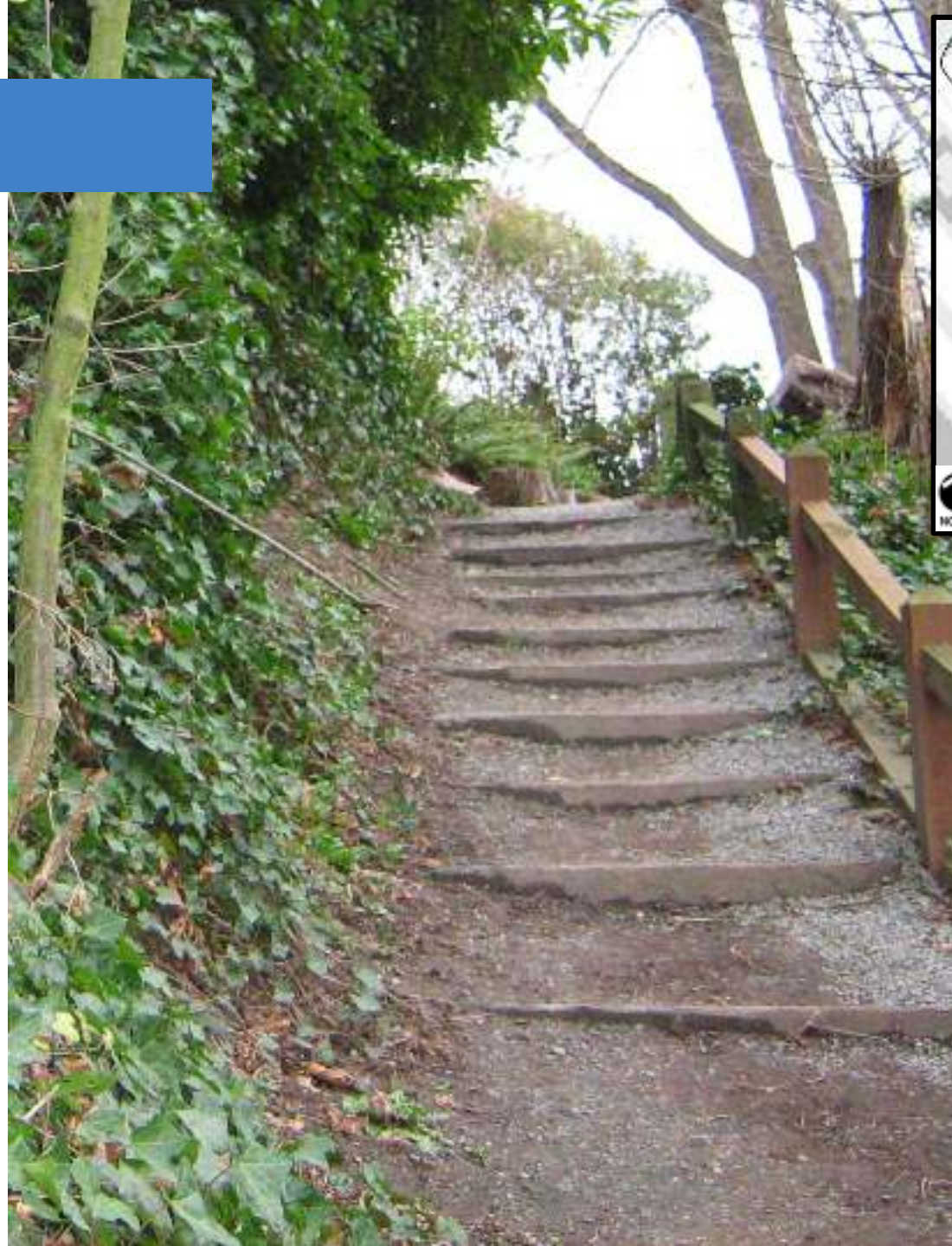
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*Design – After*



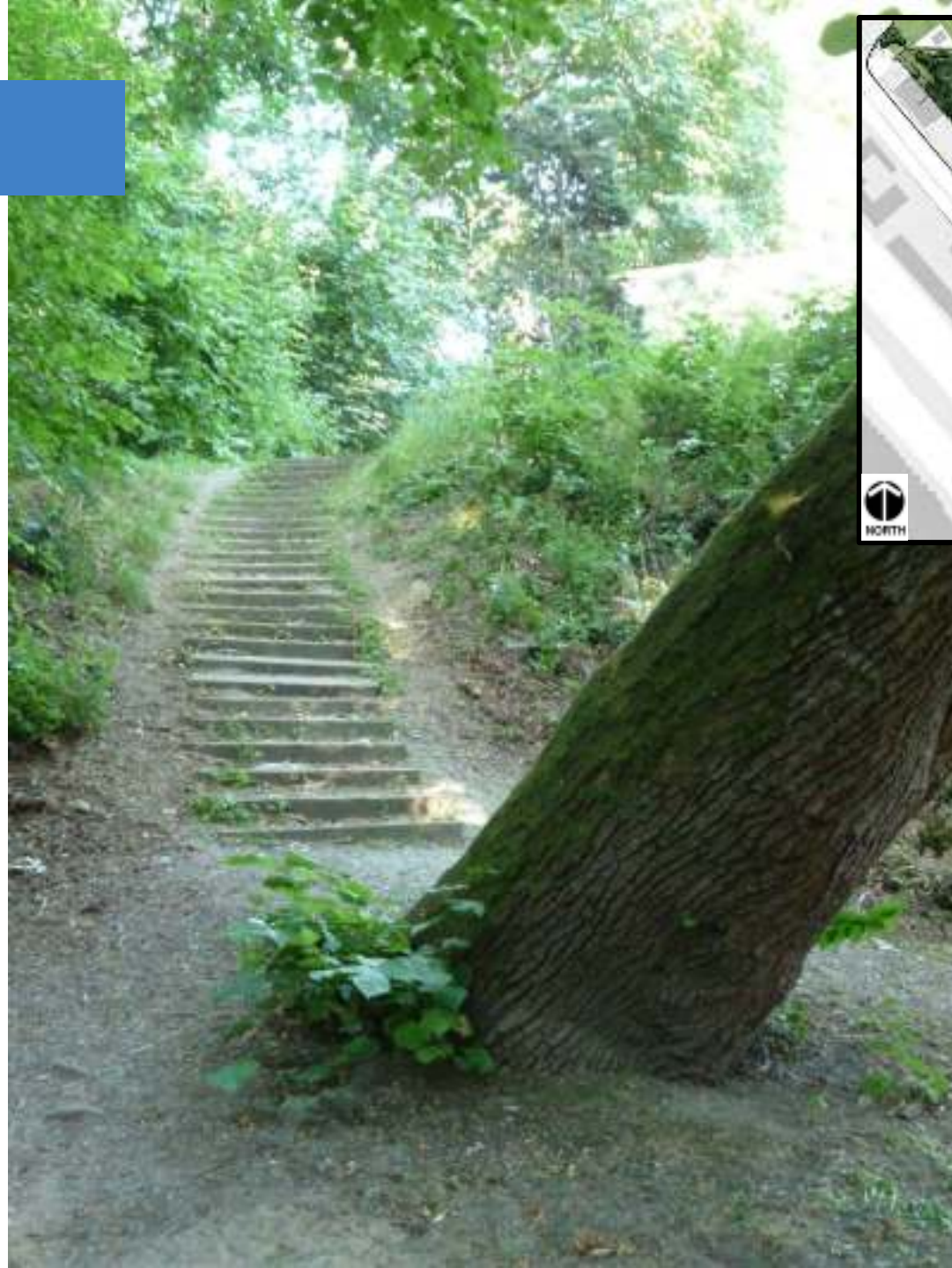
*Design – Before*



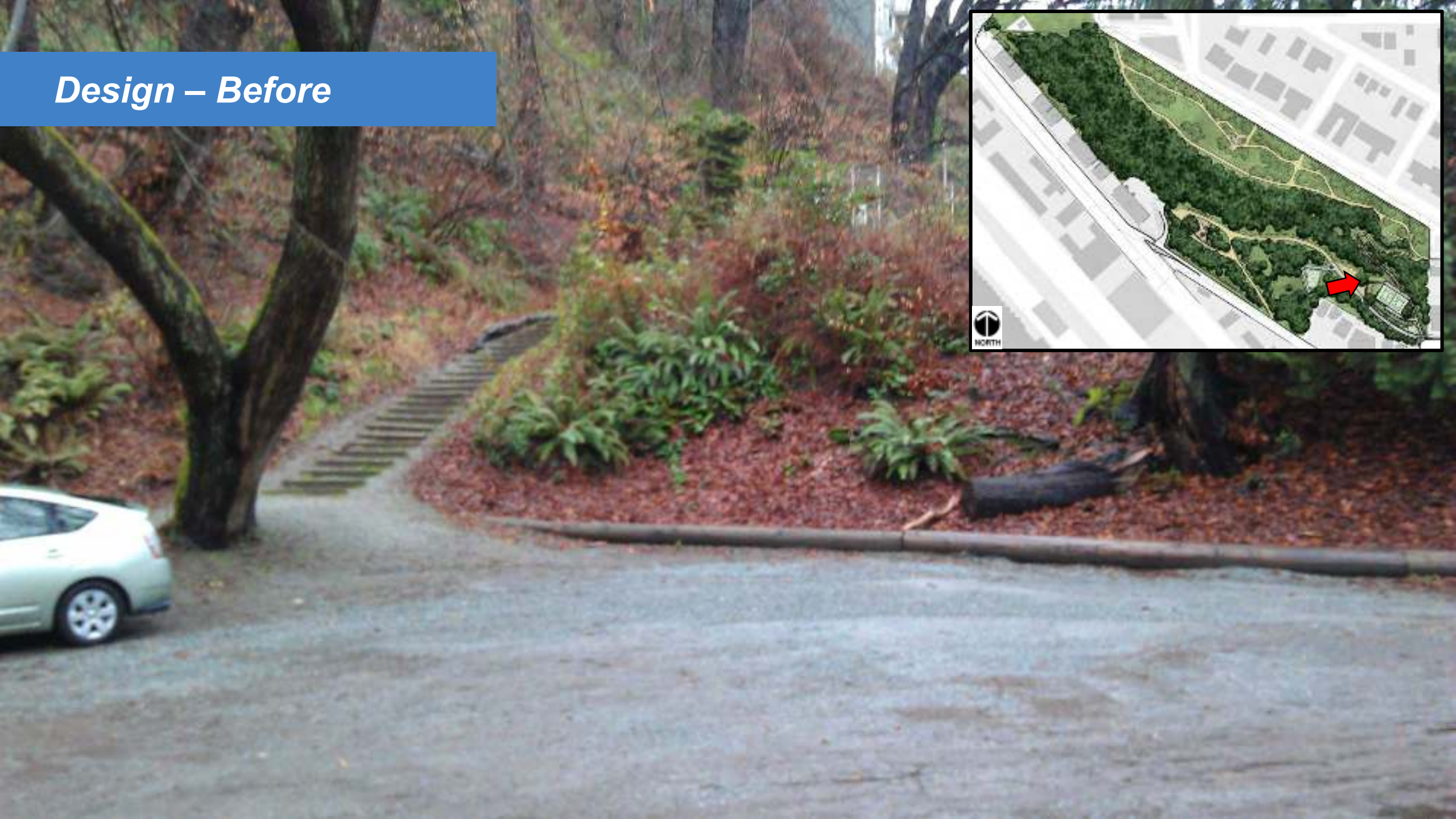
*Design – After*



*Design – Before*



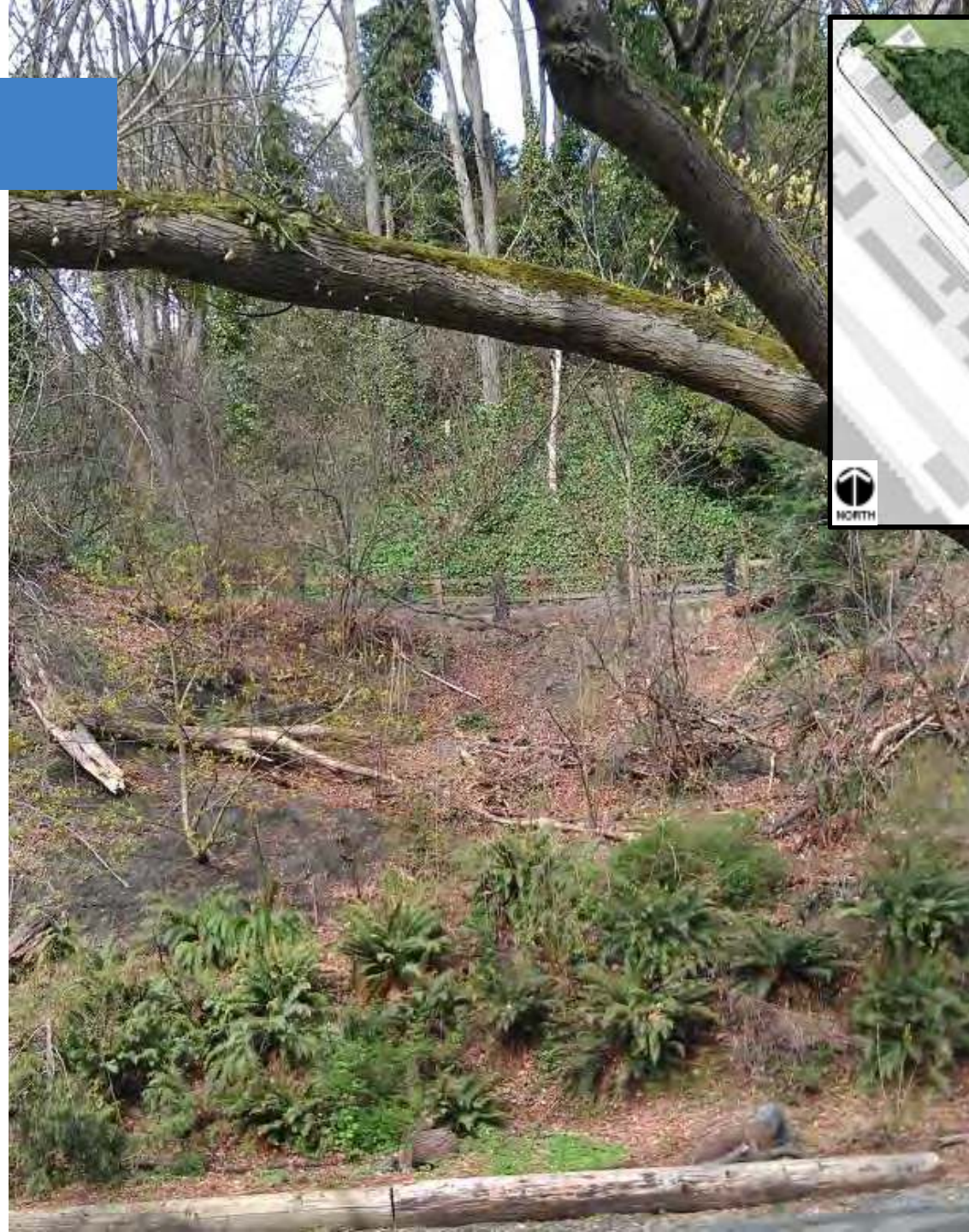
*Design – Before*



*Design – After*



# *Design – Before*





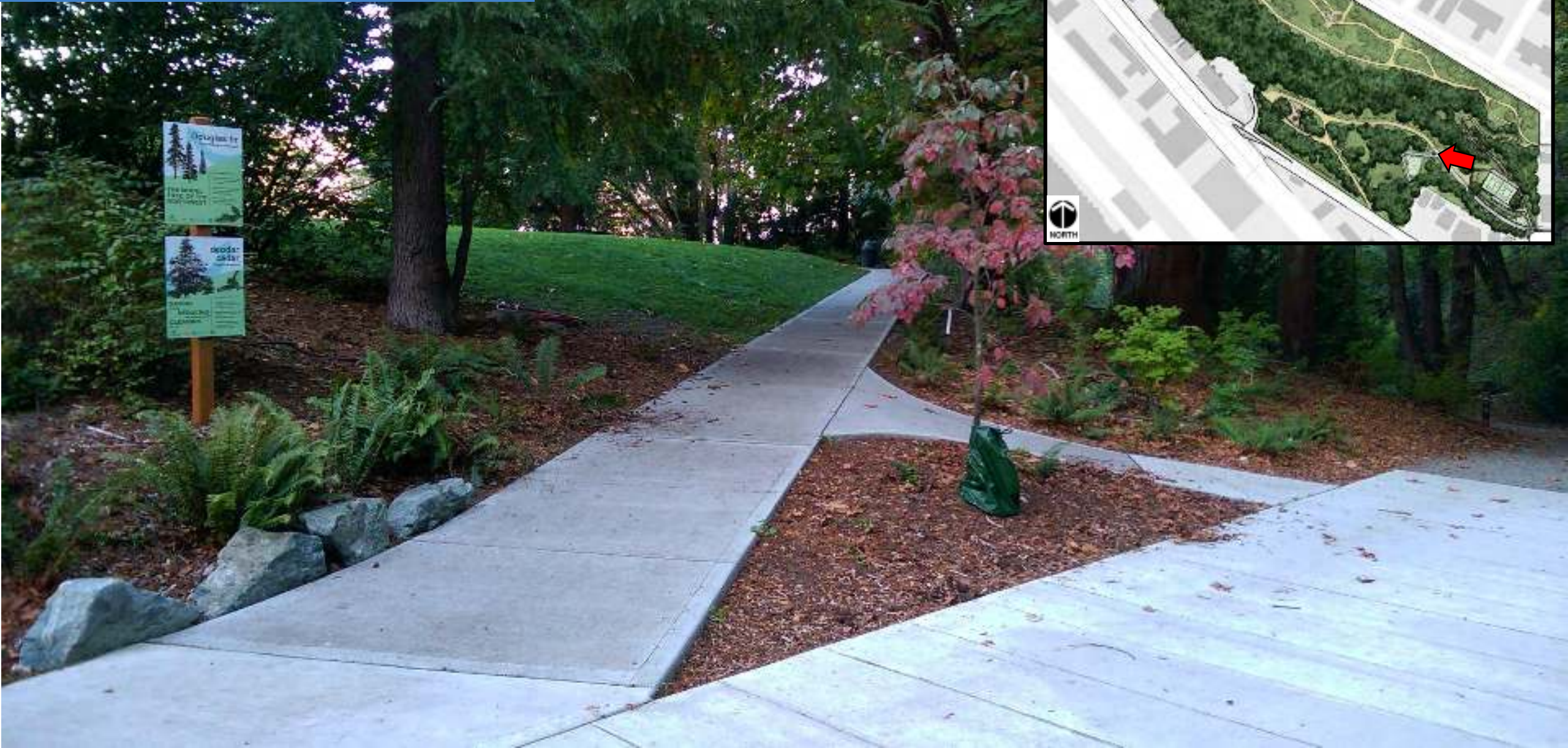
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*Design – Before*



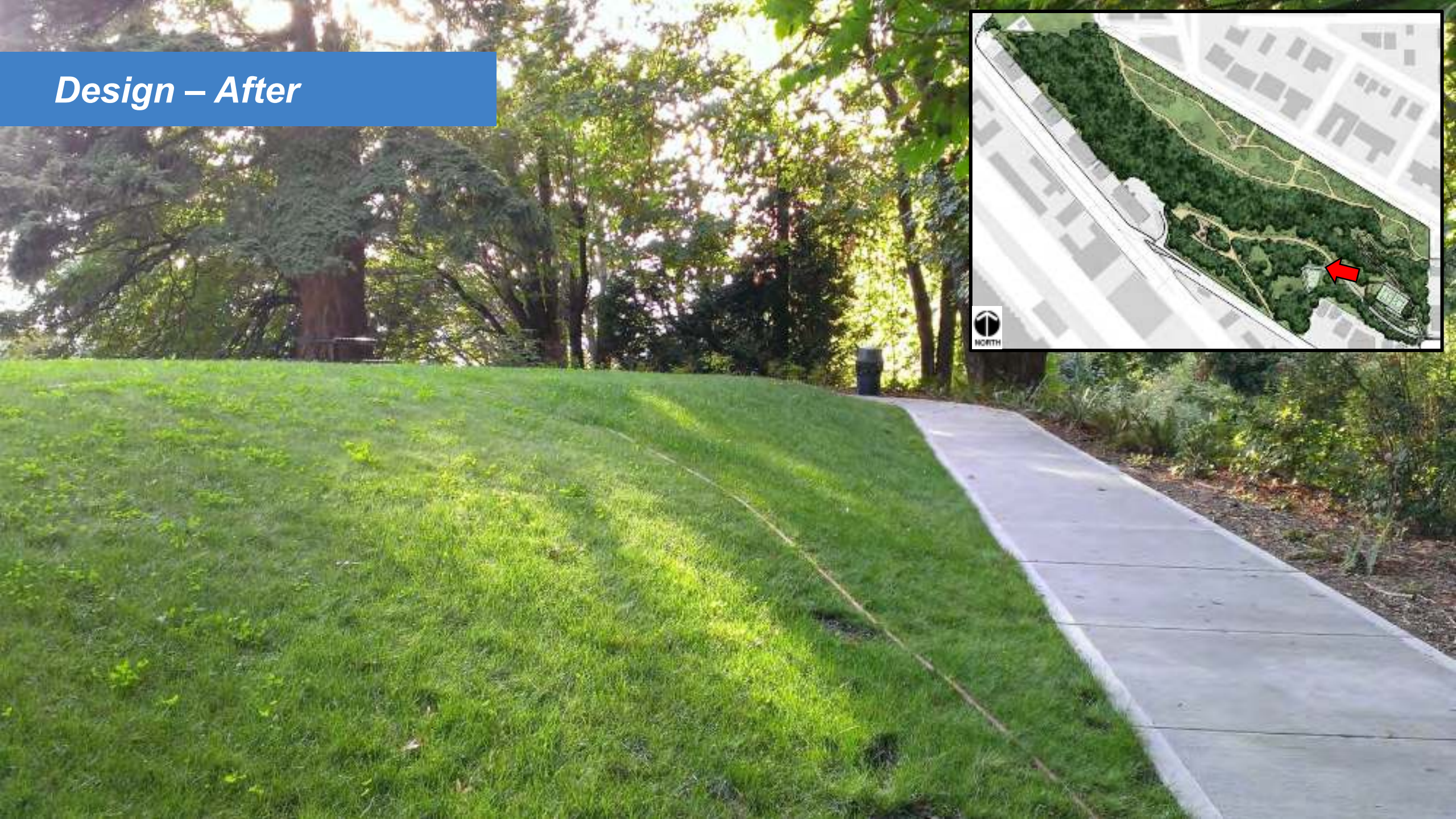
## Design – After



# Design – After



*Design – After*



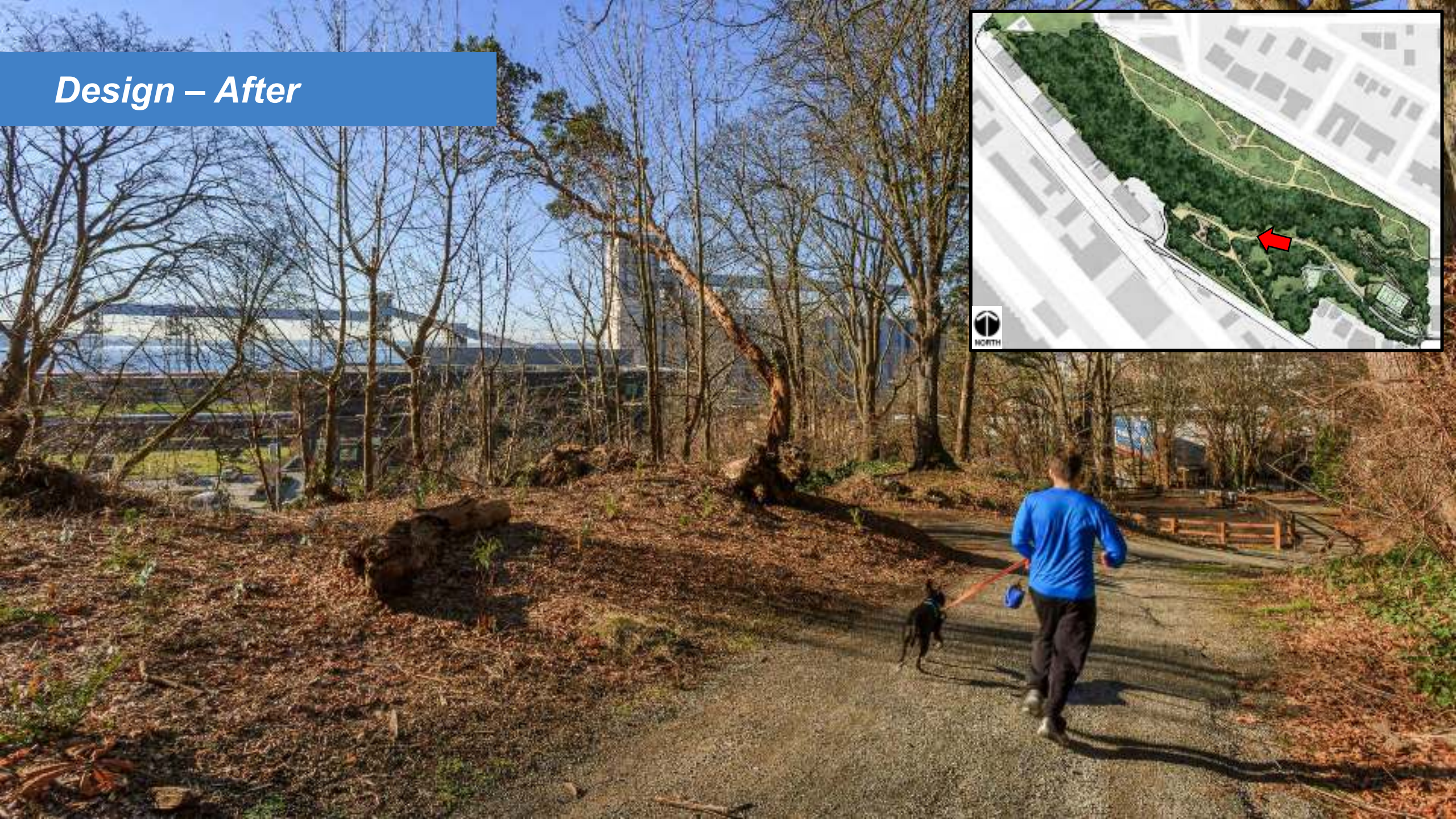
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*Design – After*

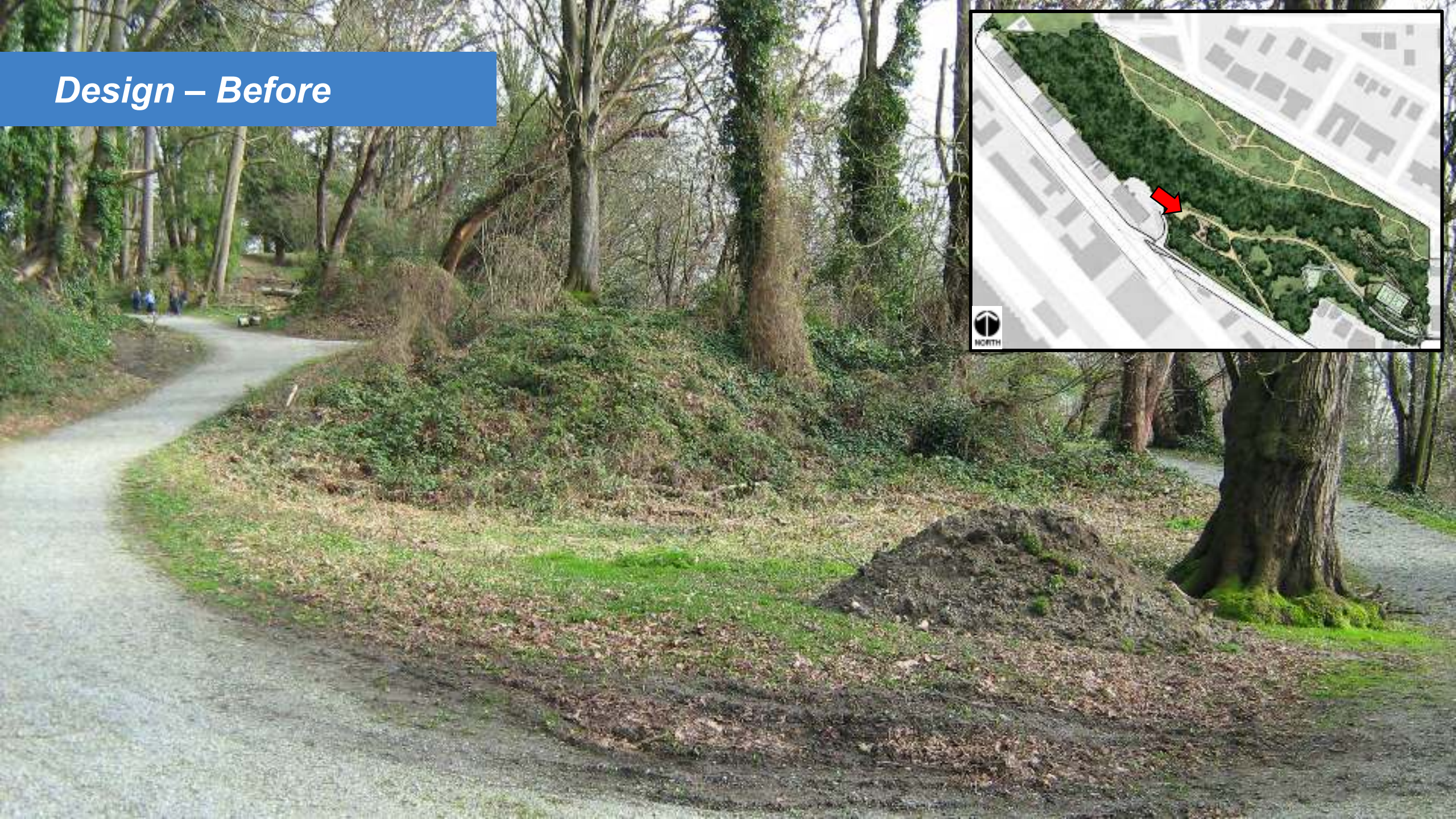


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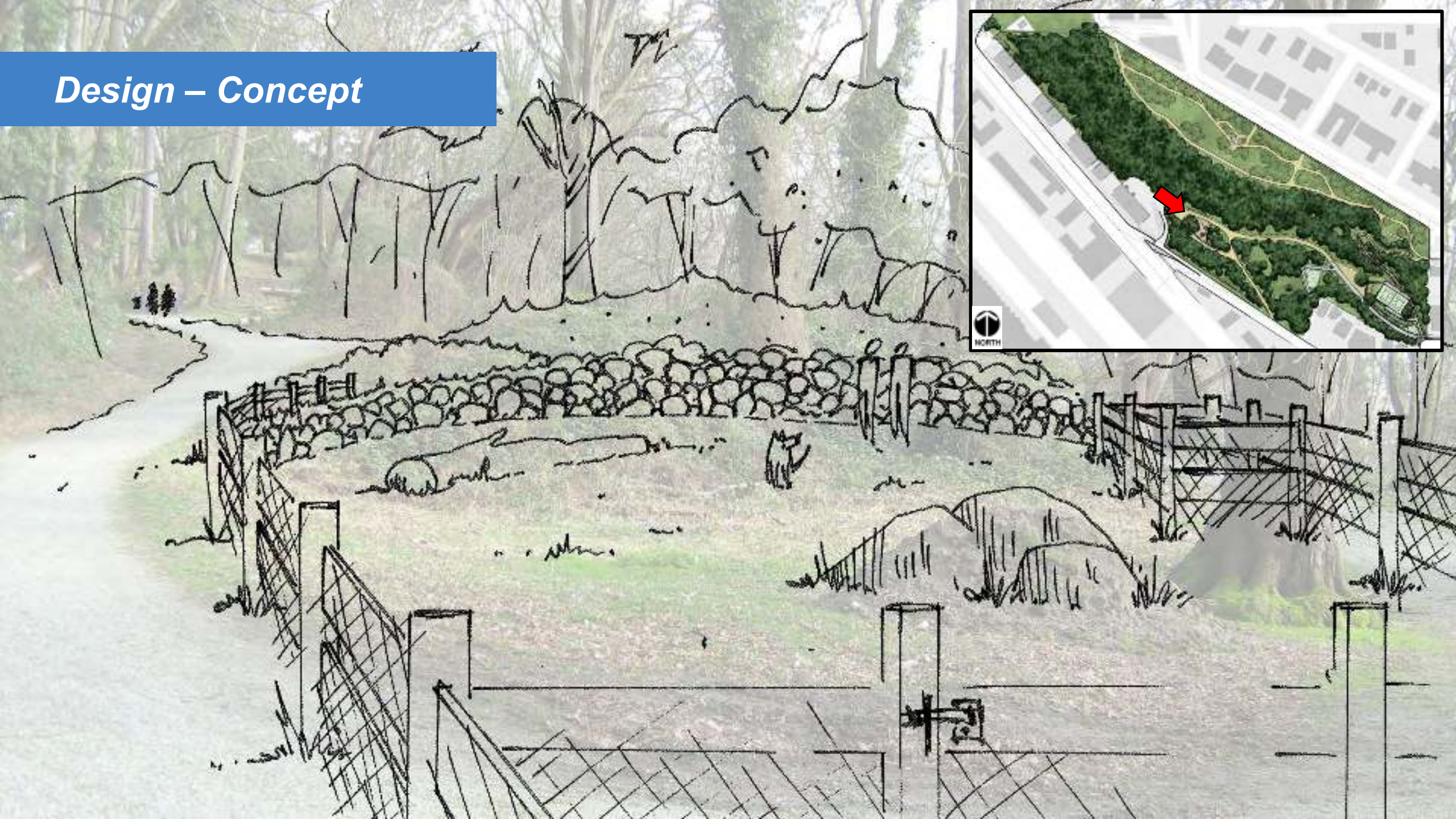




# *Design – Before*



*Design – Concept*



*Design – After*



## Design – After



Citizens for Off-Leash  
[www.coladog.org](http://www.coladog.org)



# Design – After

**EXCEPTIONAL TREE**  
**COPPER BEECH**  
*Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'*  
**ONE OF THE LARGEST IN SEATTLE**  
(*Trees of Seattle: Arbor Line*, 1995)



**Water Quality:**  
- Absorbs 100% of rainwater  
- Filters pollutants and  
- Reduces runoff  
- Improves water quality

**Air Quality:**  
- Absorbs 100% of  
- Filters pollutants and  
- Reduces runoff  
- Improves water quality

**Fun Facts:**  
- 100% of rainwater  
- Filters pollutants and  
- Reduces runoff  
- Improves water quality

**Energy Savings:**  
- Absorbs 100% of rainwater  
- Filters pollutants and  
- Reduces runoff  
- Improves water quality

**And priceless to our community**

**CHAMPION TREE**  
**BIGLEAF LINDEN**  
*Tilia platyphyllos*  
**ONE OF THE LARGEST IN WASHINGTON**  
(*Champion Trees of Washington State*,  
Robert Van Pelt, 1998)



**Water Quality:**  
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- Reduces runoff  
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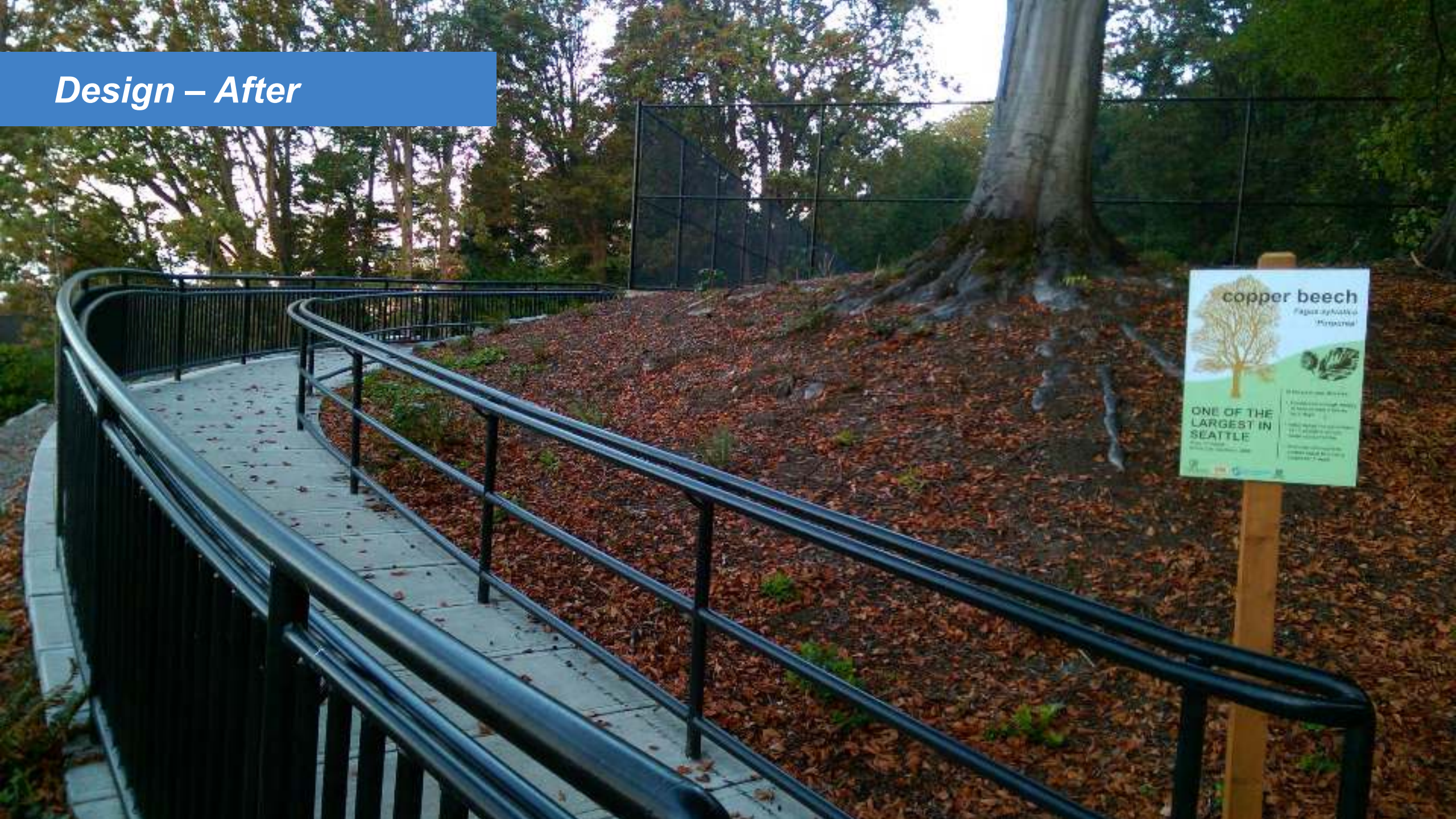
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**And priceless to our community**

## Design – After



**copper beech**  
*Fagus sylvatica*  
'Purpurea'



**ONE OF THE LARGEST IN SEATTLE**

© 2010 Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation

## Design – After

# Listen to the sounds...

When a bird sings you can find out what it is and where it is. The different calls and songs can often sound like words. Putting together the words as a mnemonic makes the songs easier to remember. To help identify the types of birds in Kinneer Park, below are mnemonics (🔊) to quickly let you identify the songs or calls of the birds in our park. To learn more, contact your neighborhood bird club or local Audubon Society chapter.

### Townsend's warbler

🔊 "dee dee dee-dee"

Size: 4 to 5 inches

Viewing: year-round, treetops

### Downy woodpecker

🔊 "peek"

Size: 6 to 7 inches

Viewing: year-round, tree dweller

### Cooper's hawk

🔊 "kek kek kek"

Size: 14 to 18 inches

Viewing: year-round, treetops, high flier

### Bald eagle

🔊 "cree, cree, cree"

Size: 28 to 40 inches

Viewing: year-round, tree tops,

high flier

### Northern flicker

🔊 "kleeey, wik-wik-wik"

Size: 10 to 12 inches

Viewing: year-round, tree dweller

### Ruby-crowned kinglet

🔊 "ton-fritchyo-fritchyo-fritchyo"

Size: 3 to 4 inches

Viewing: winter, tree dweller

### American goldfinch

🔊 "ps-chip-chip-chip per-chick-ee-ee"

Size: 4 to 6 inches

Viewing: year-round, tree dweller and ground forager

### Anna's hummingbird

🔊 "chee-ik-ee-ik-ee-ik"

Size: 3 to 5 inches

Viewing: year-round, tree dweller, hovers around shrubs

### Cedar waxwing

🔊 "Zee, zee"

Size: 6 to 7 inches

Viewing: year-round, tree dweller

### Varied thrush

🔊 "chyup"

Size: 8 to 10 inches

Viewing: year-round, ground forager

### Steller's jay

🔊 "shook-shook-shook-shook"

Size: 10 to 12 inches

Viewing: year-round, tree dweller and ground forager

### Bewick's wren

🔊 "seeee...slip-slip-slip-slip"

Size: 5 to 6 inches

Viewing: year-round, ground forager

### Spotted towhee

🔊 "drink-your-teeeee"

Size: 6 to 8 inches

Viewing: year-round,

*Design – After*





*Celebrate!*





Elliott Ave W

W Olympic Place

W Mercer Street

W Roy St

