



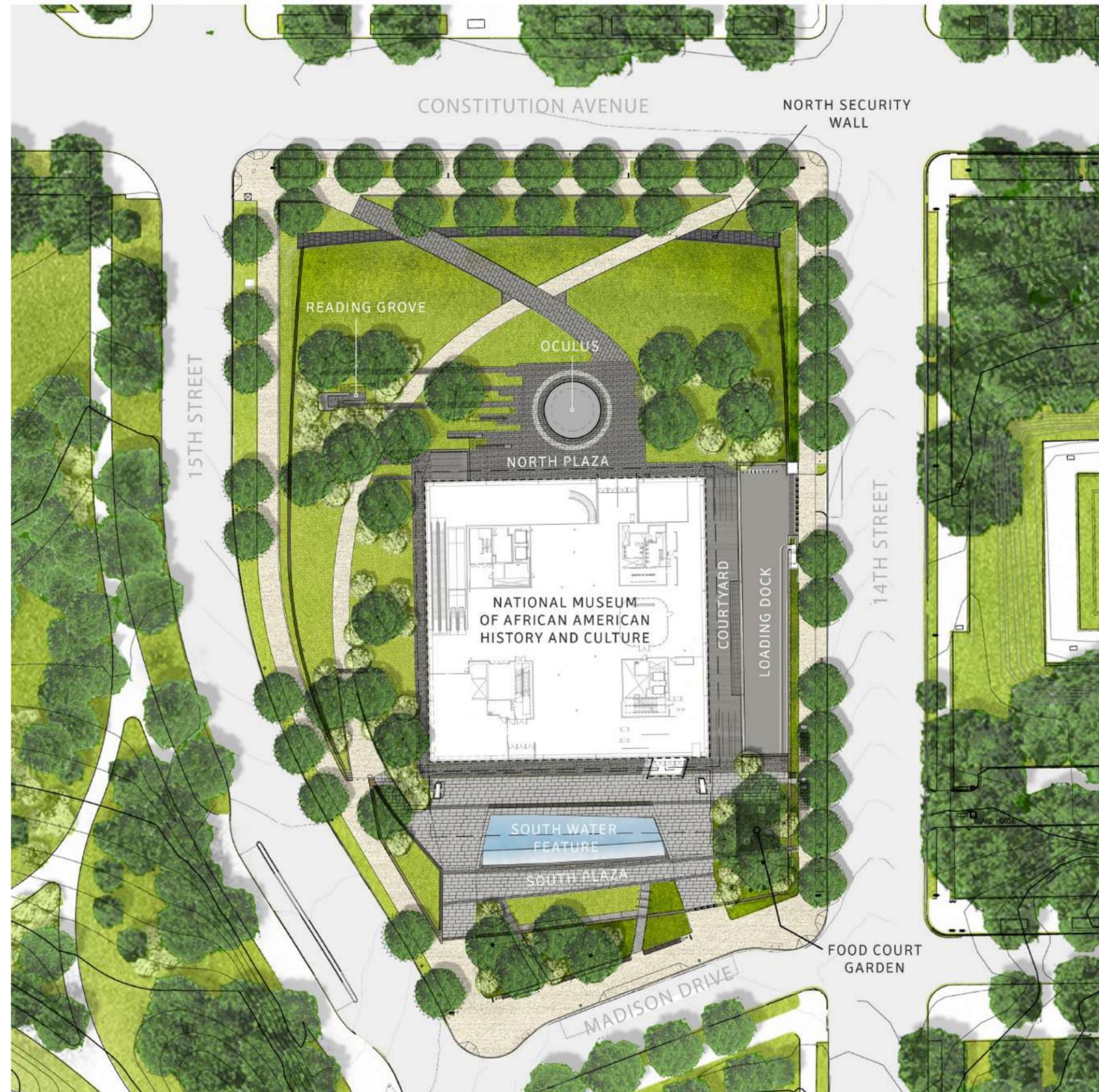
1

The National Museum of African American History and Culture sits at the juncture between two landscapes with distinct characters: the open, pastoral character of the White House and Washington Monument Grounds, and the formal character of the National Mall.



2

The landscape design integrates the Building, conceived of as a pavilion in a park, into this national context by pulling the curving site geometries, open lawns, and informally grouped trees characteristic of the Washington Monument Grounds into the site.



3

Functional requirements for the landscape included two entry plazas and pathways that would accommodate millions of visitors per year, a fully functioning loading dock, and a secure site perimeter.



4

The design team took advantage of the site's gently sloping topography to create a level plinth around the Museum with retaining walls at the edges. The plinth seamlessly integrates the security design into the grading strategies of the site.



5

The northern site entry paths cut through a wide security wall that creates a dramatic threshold from the space of Constitution Avenue to the space of the Museum. The top of the wall is polished to reflect the surrounding context.



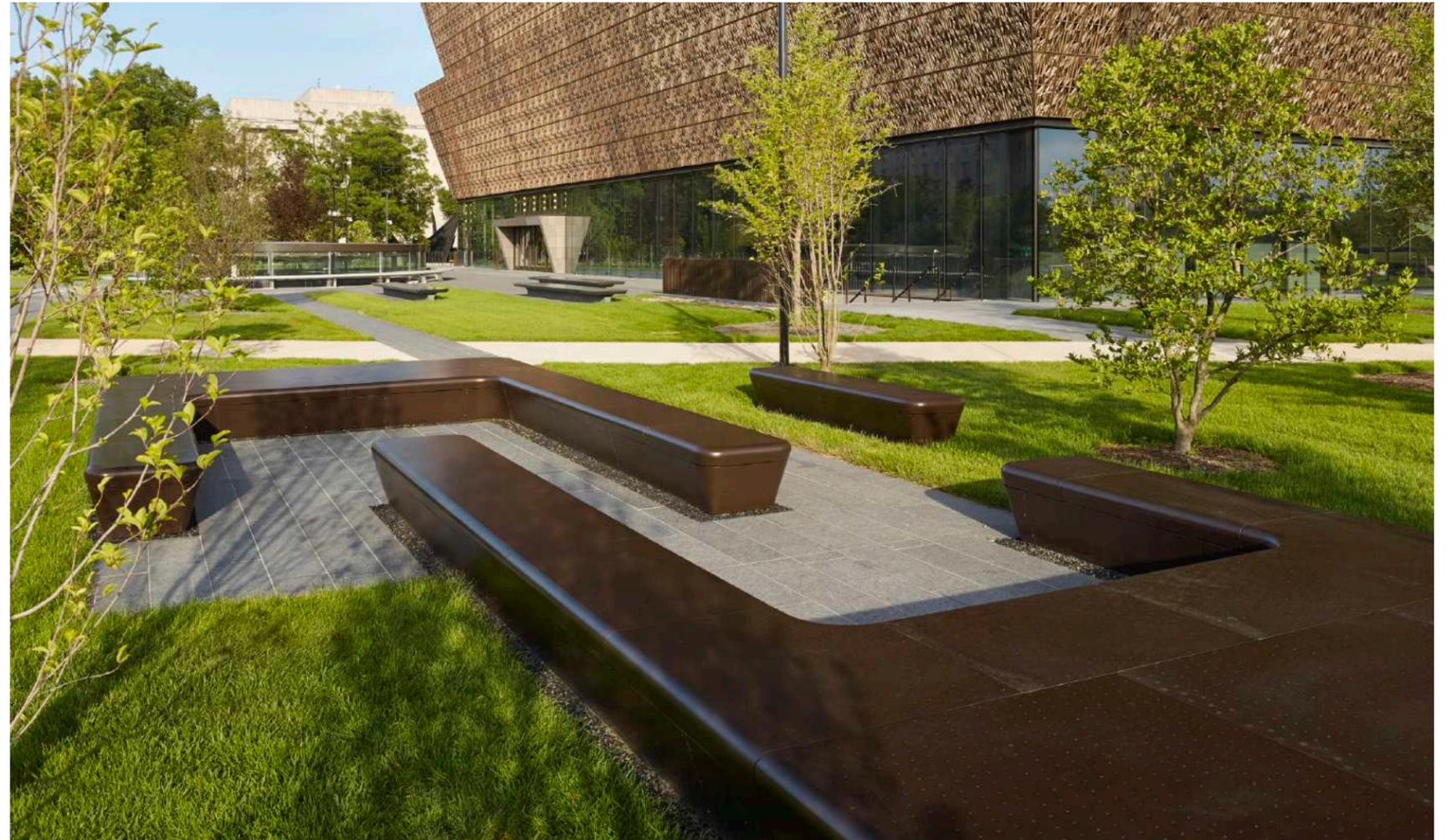
6

The curves of the site paths were carefully calibrated to encourage visual and physical connection to the Washington Monument.

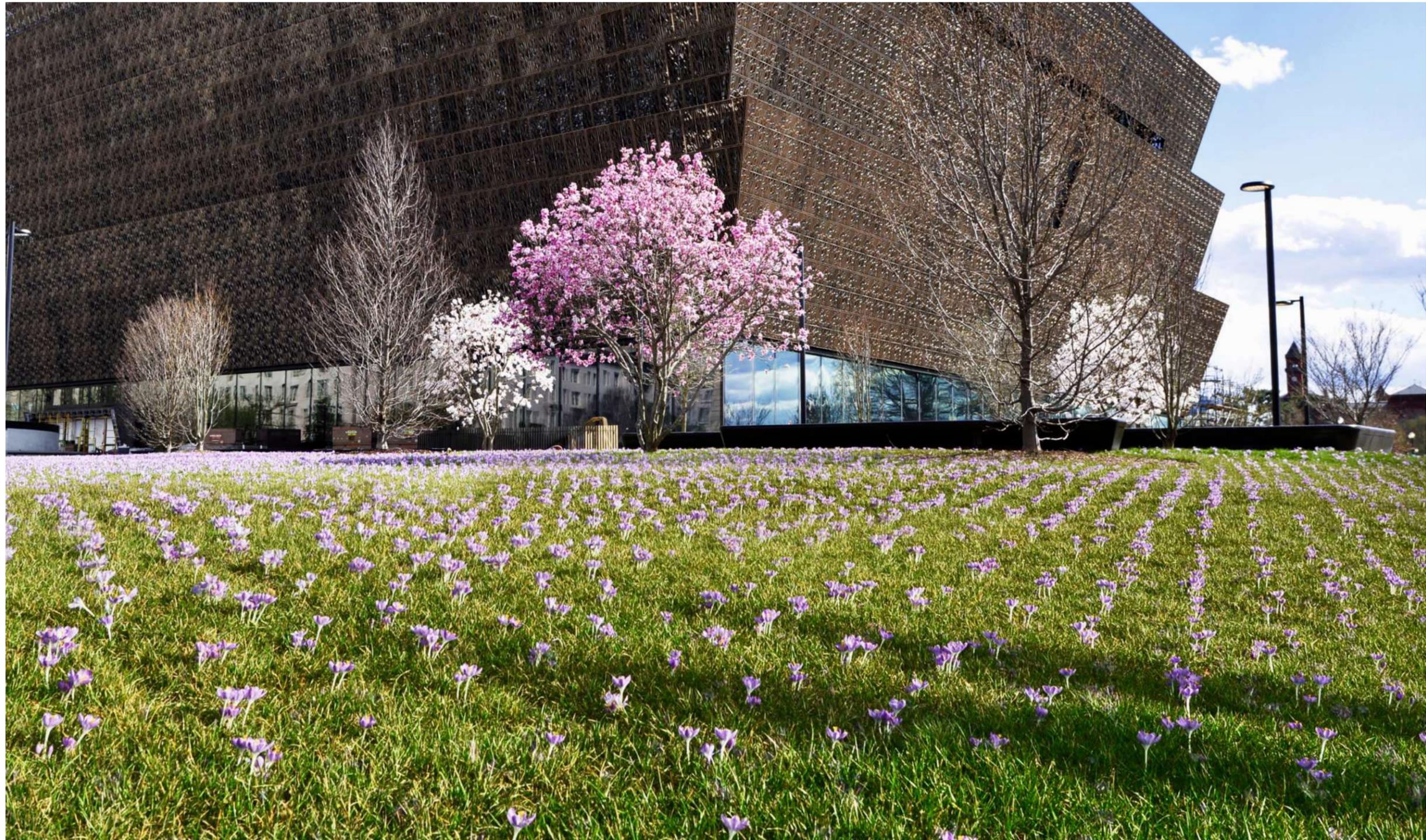


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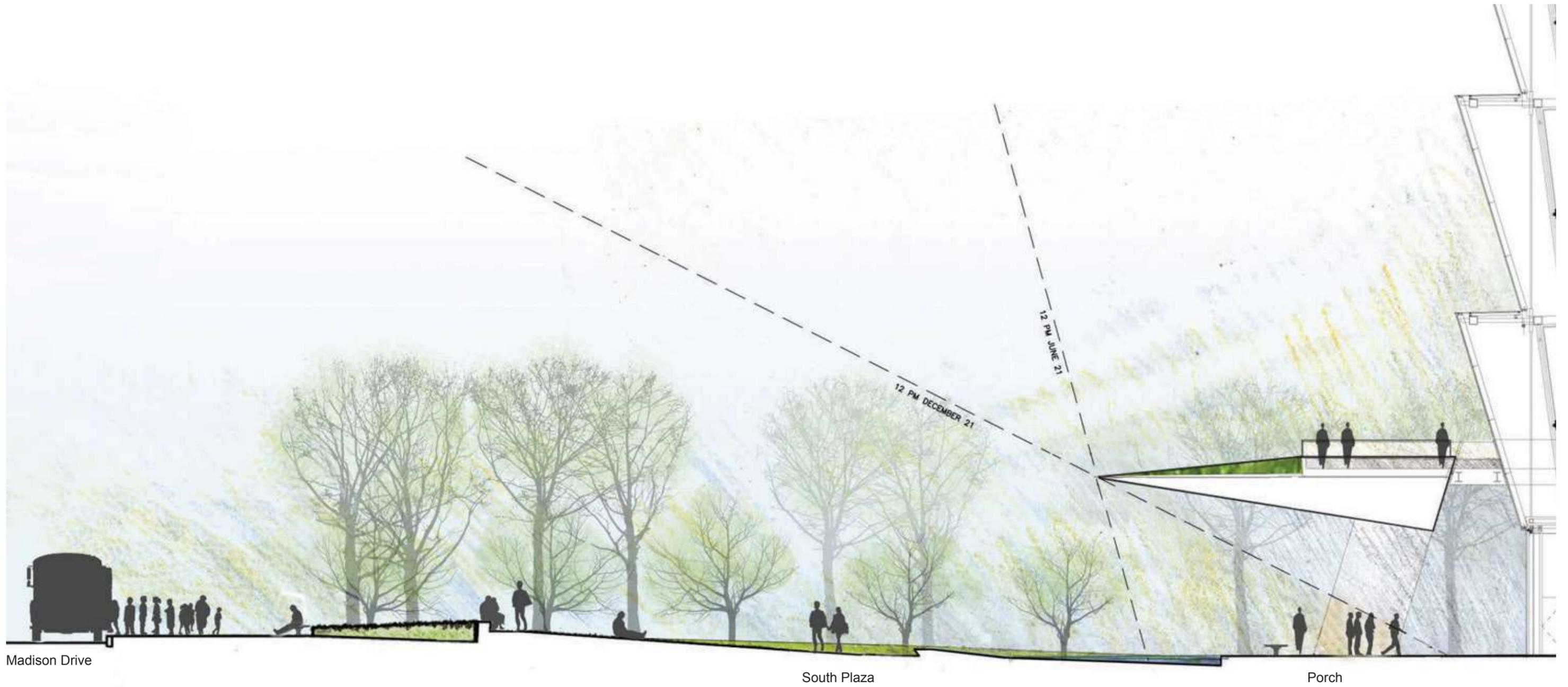
At the crossing of the two northern entry paths visitors can follow the stone path to the Museum entry or cross through the site on the concrete path that leads to the Washington Monument Grounds.

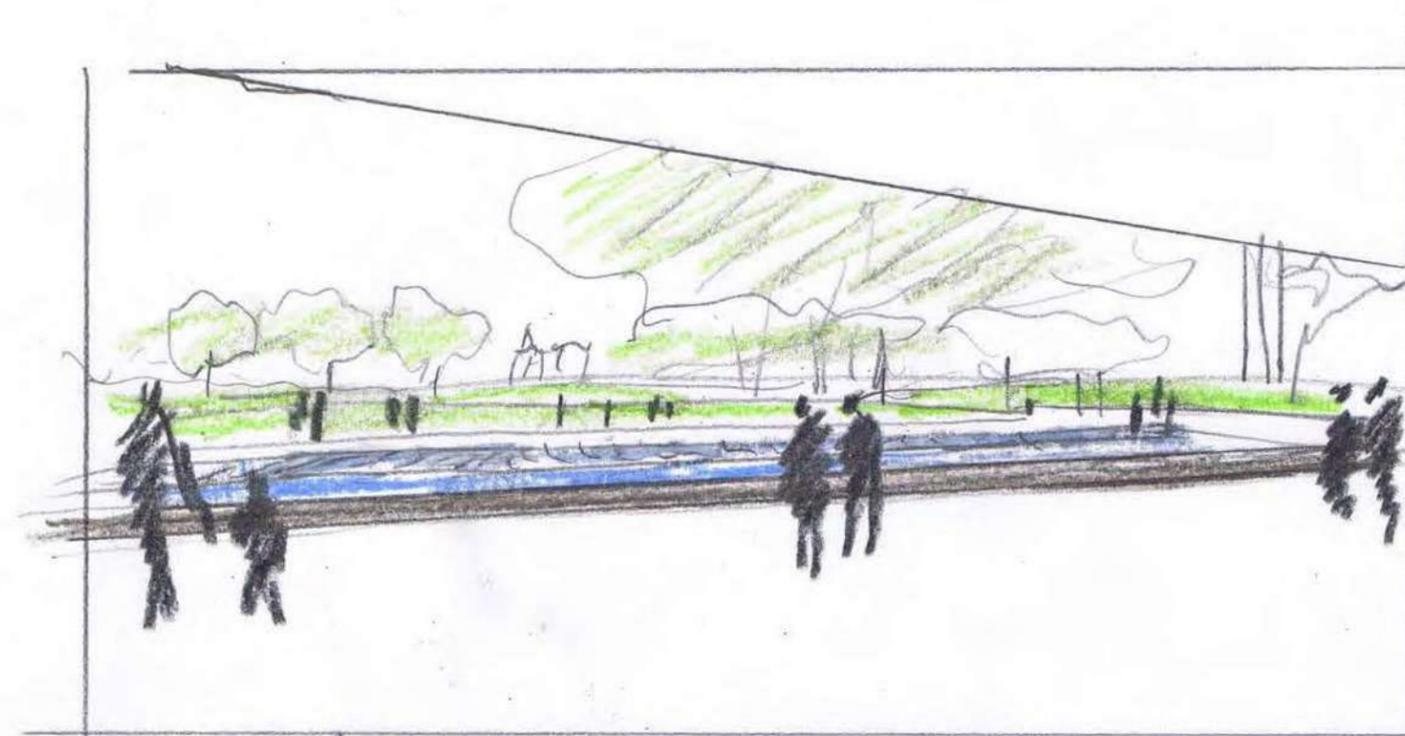
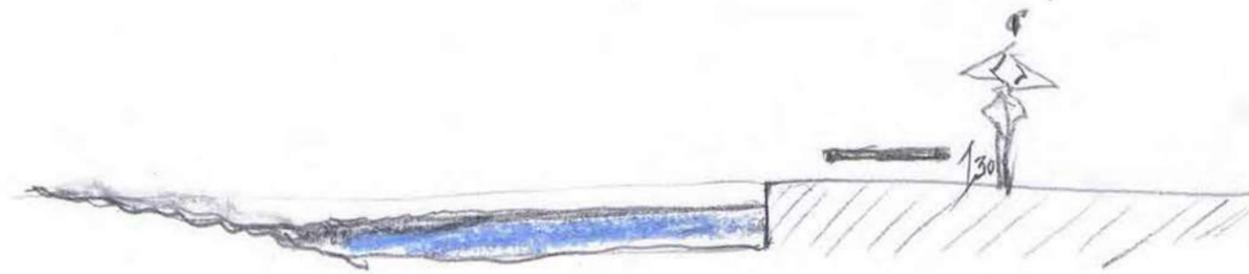


8 Spaces with seating are integrated throughout the landscape including this Reading Grove, a place for small groups to gather for story-telling.









*South Porch.*





