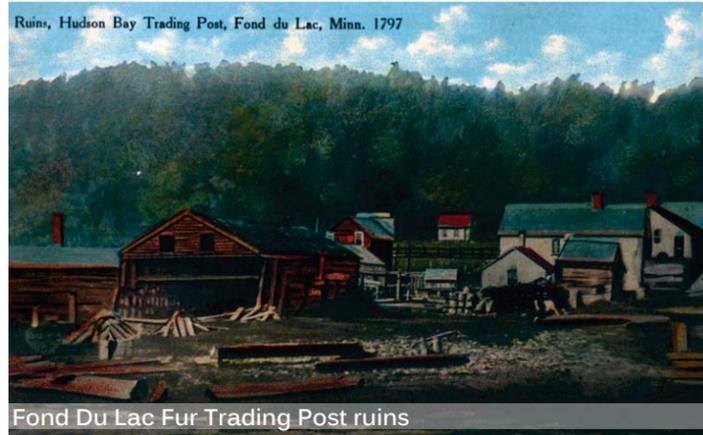


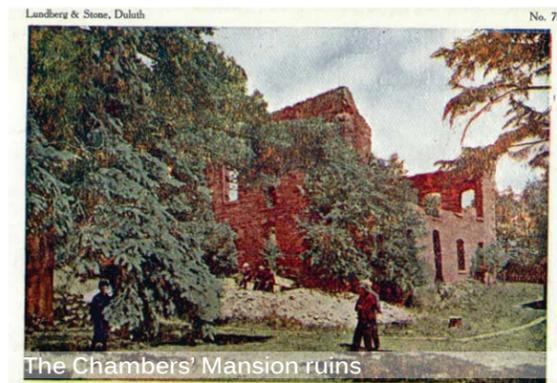
SITE HISTORY & GREATER CONNECTIONS

CHAMBERS GROVE PARK HISTORY

THIS LAND IS HISTORIC!

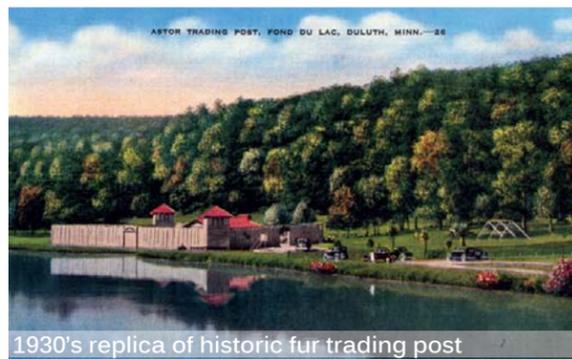
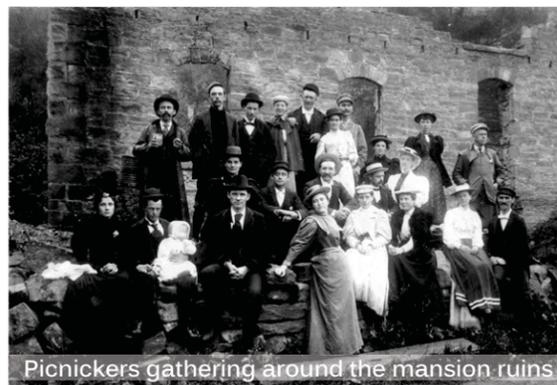


Fur traders settled the Fond Du Lac area in the late 18th century. In the mid 19th century, fur trading suffered as a trade and Fond Du Lac turned to quarrying the natural brown sandstone.



The area that Chambers Grove Park now sits within was initially settled as a fur trading post. After the trading post was abandoned by the American Fur Company, Michael and Emily Chambers purchased the land in 1869. They leased out a portion of the property to brownstone quarrymen, and built their two-story mansion on another portion of the site using the brownstone. Along with the mansion, their residential property also boasted a grove of manicured trees.

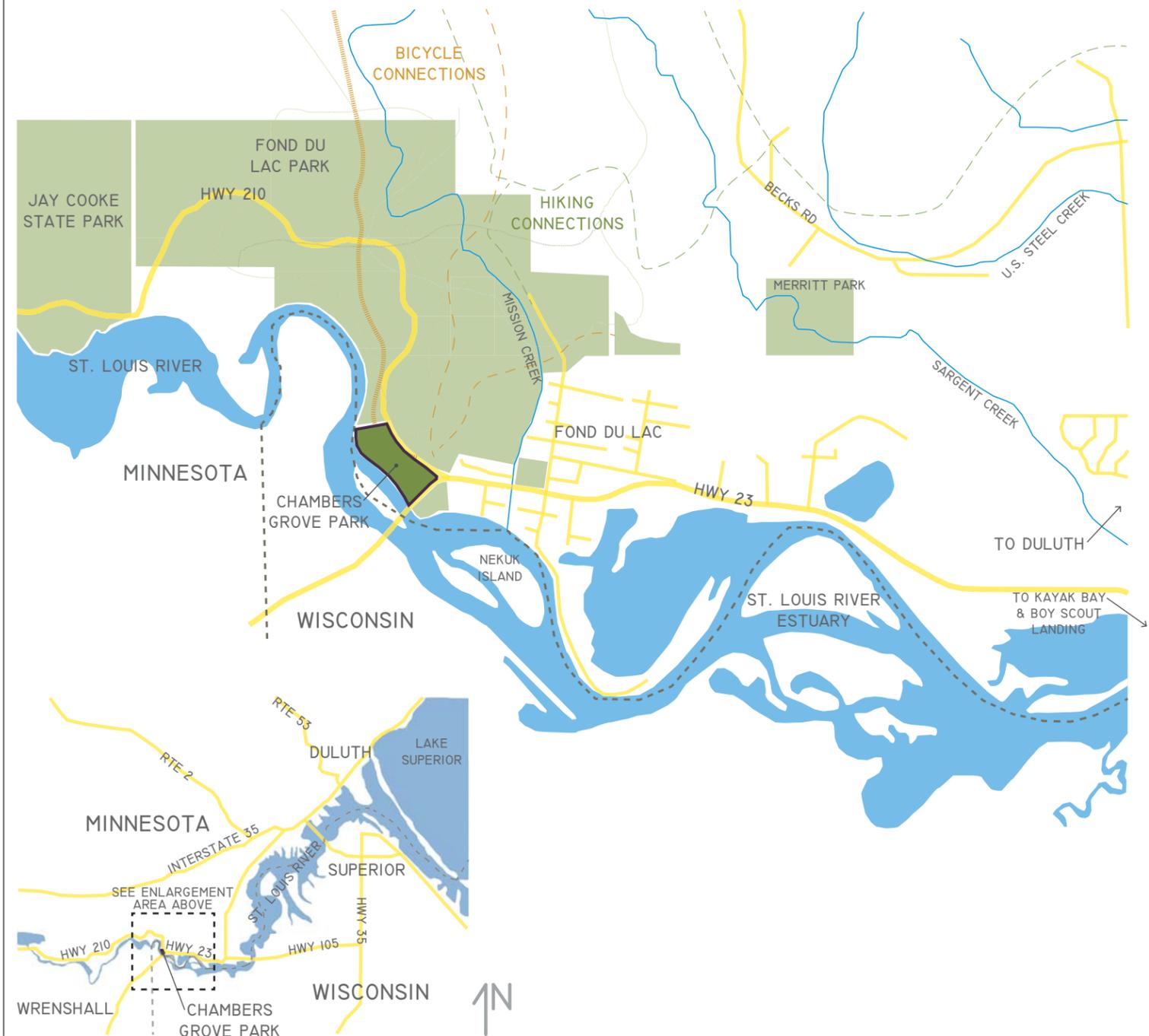
The home was destroyed in a fire in 1891, and the Chambers opened the land to the public as a picnic ground and the land quickly became a popular place for gathering, dancing, and playing.



The City of Duluth purchased 577 acres from Emily Chambers in the early 20th century and turned 10 of those acres where the Chambers mansion once sat into Chambers Grove Park.

Throughout the decades, nods to the rich history of this area have been made. A replica of the original American Fur Trading Post was even constructed in the 1930's here. Today, the park in is need up upgrading and renovation.

AREA AND REGIONAL CONNECTIONS



CHAMBERS GROVE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND PROJECT FOCUS



- A: TOILET FACILITIES
TO BE REPLACED WITH NEW STRUCTURE
 - B: PICNIC PAVILION
TO REMAIN; IMPROVE ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
 - C: PLAYGROUND
TO BE REPLACED WITH NEW PLAY STRUCTURE
 - D: DUMPSTER
TO BE SCREENED AND/OR RELOCATED
 - E: WWII VETERAN MEMORIAL
TO BE RELOCATED
 - F: PARK ENTRANCE
TO BE IMPROVED; UPDATED SIGN AND GATE
 - G: STORM WATER MANAGEMENT
PART OF OTHER PROJECT
 - H: PARKING
TO BE IMPROVED AND EXPANDED
 - I: GAZEBO
TO BE RELOCATED/IMPROVED
 - J: WATER'S EDGE
PART OF OTHER PROJECT
 - K: WET MEADOW
TO REMAIN
 - L: TRAIL HEAD
TO BE IMPROVED
 - M: HILLSIDE STABILIZATION
TO BE CONTROLLED AND IMPROVED
- PARK BOUNDARY
 100-YEAR FEMA FLOOD LINE

CHAMBERS GROVE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

JANUARY 2016



SENSITIVE AREAS ON THE SITE

PROTECTING THE WETLANDS



2.88 ACRES WET MEADOW

0.70 ACRES SCRUB/SCRUB AREA

0.16 ACRES POND AREA

From the May 1, 2015 Barr Engineering Memorandum:

" The wetlands identified on the Chambers Grove site appear to meet all of the definitions of a wetland and thus any activities proposing to drain, fill, or excavate any part of the wetland would be subject to the regulatory provisions of (the DNR Public Waters Work Permit Program)."

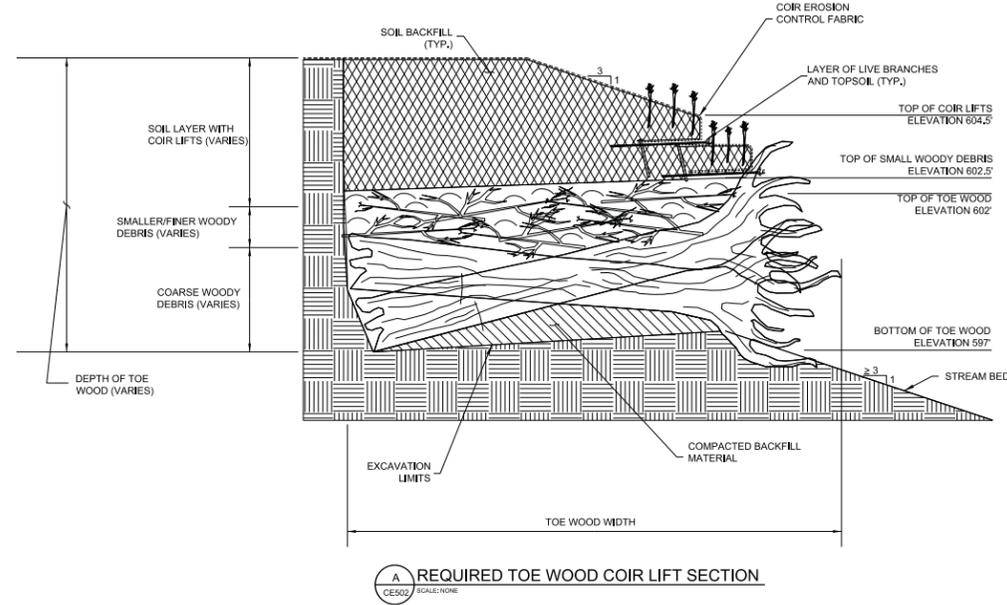
-  50' HARDSCAPE SETBACK FROM RIVER
-  PARK BOUNDARY
-  100-YEAR FEMA FLOOD LINE

SOFTENING THE WATER'S EDGE COMPLETED AQUATIC RESTORATION WORK

In the fall of 2015, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, along with the DNR and the MN Land Trust, undertook a restoration effort to soften the water's edge in Chambers Grove Park. There had been a hard edge of concrete along much of the stretch of what was once natural shore, and this project intended to break that down

and return the edge to a more natural condition. Among other naturalizing elements, two of the most prominent project features were rebuilding a natural shore, and installing stone weirs for shore stabilization:

REBUILDING THE NATURAL SHORE



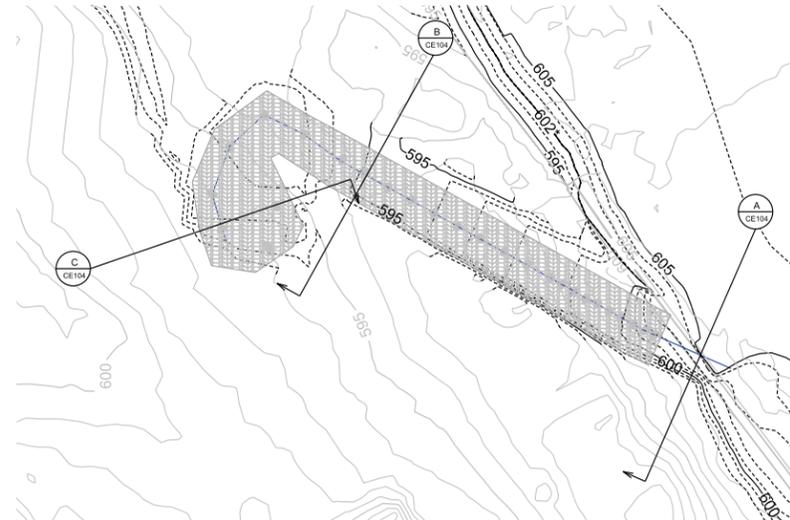
PRIOR CONDITION



PROJECT FOCUS AREA



INSTALLING STONE WEIRS



CHAMBERS GROVE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

COMPLETED PROJECTS

JANUARY 2016



IMPROVED & EXPANDED PARKING AREA CONSIDERATIONS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The previous parking lot in Chambers Grove Park served about 15 cars, however the majority of pavement has been recently removed as a part of the River Restoration work. The remaining pavement needs replacing, and the park elements located within the "islands" could be featured in more intentional locations on site.

The overall circulation of the previous parking lot was also rather inefficient for the amount of vehicles the lot served, and the location did not adhere to a 50 foot setback requirement of impervious surfaces from the river's edge.

There is opportunity here to create a more efficient and greater capacity parking lot (around a 50-space goal) to service the re-designed park while keeping in mind the sensitive ecological portions of the site. Any new parking lot will be required to comply with UDC standards.



NEW PARKING LOT CONCEPTS

COMPACT LAYOUT

- GREATER EXPANSE OF HARDSCAPE
- ALL PARKING CONTAINED IN ONE AREA OF PARK
- NO WETLAND IMPACT



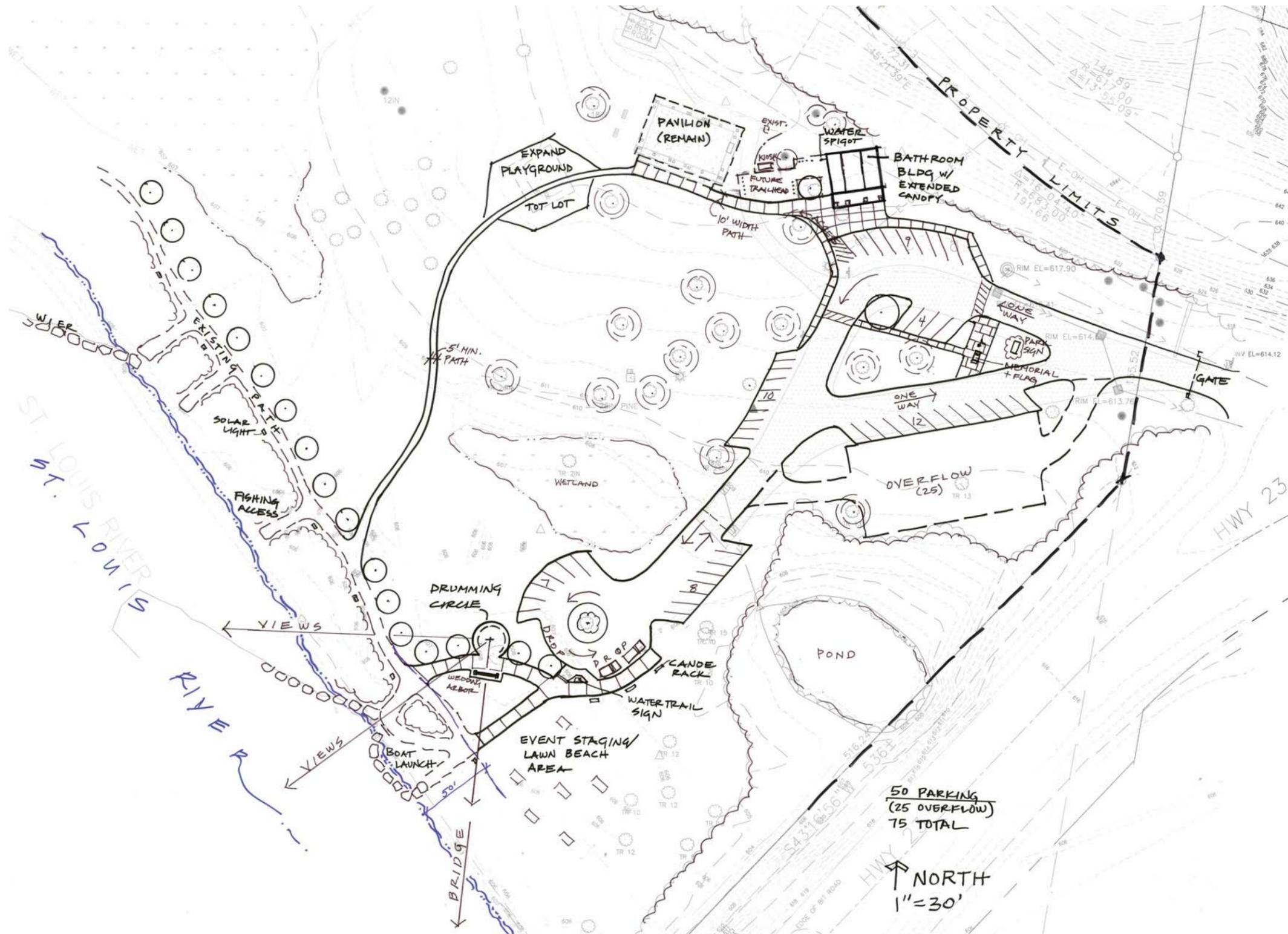
"PODS" LAYOUT

- BREAKS UP HARDSCAPE
- PARKING DISPERSED THROUGHOUT PARK
- POTENTIAL WETLAND IMPACT



- 2.88 ACRES WET MEADOW
- 0.70 ACRES SCRUB/SCRUB AREA
- 0.16 ACRES POND AREA
- 50' HARDSCAPE SETBACK
- PARK BOUNDARY
- 100-YEAR FEMA FLOOD LINE

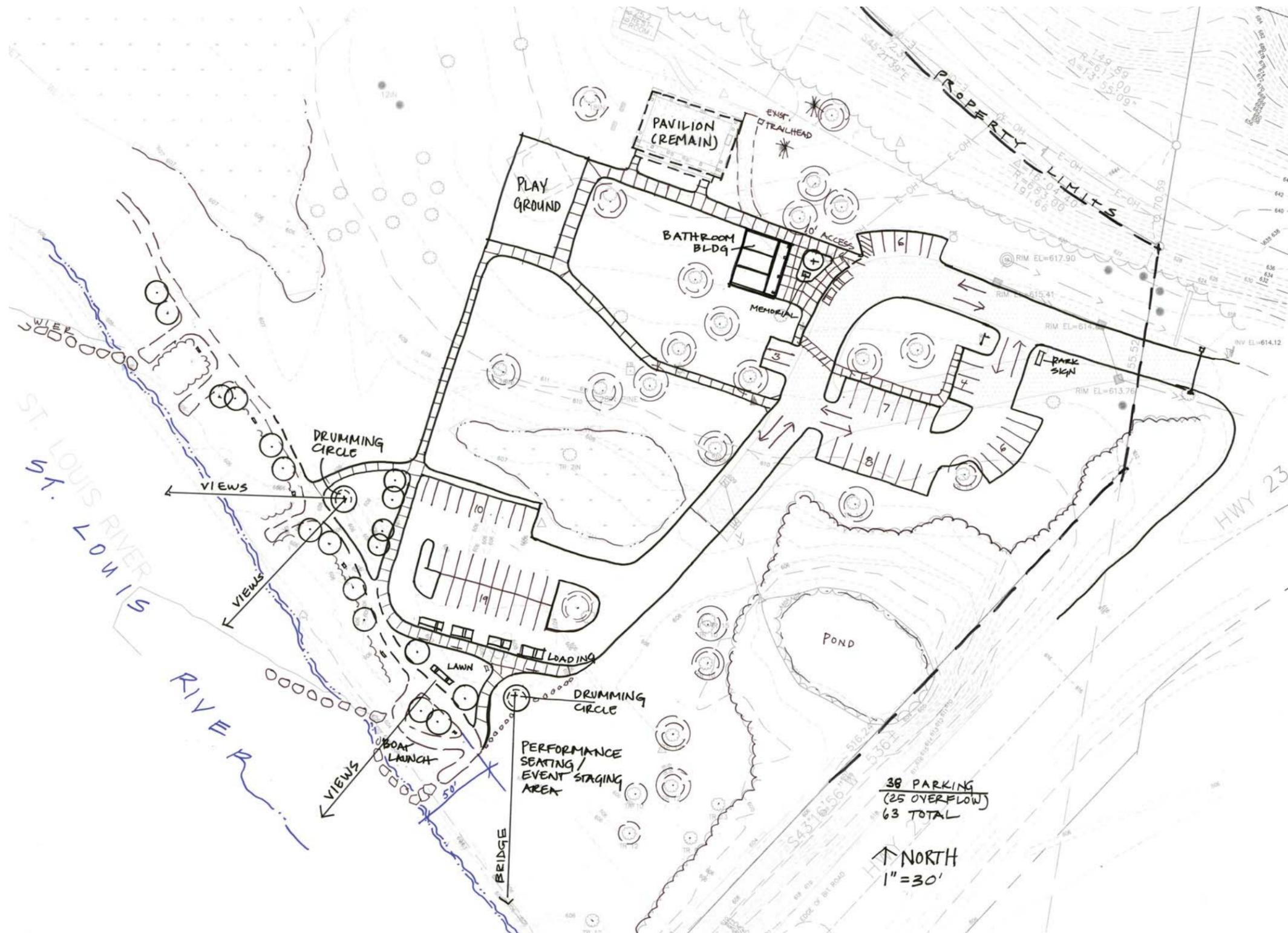
CONCEPT PLAN "A"



CONCEPT A CONSIDERATIONS:

- >> Re-use existing roadway footprint while reducing unnecessary two-way lanes
- >> Future trailhead build-out
- >> Aligns all hardscape spaces along one primary path (bathroom, trailhead/bike gathering space, pavilion, playground)
- >> Bathroom building placement angled but still visible from road
- >> Overflow parking area is grass-pave/permeable surface for stormwater control
- >> Maximizes views to water from wedding arbor and drumming circle

CONCEPT PLAN "B"



CONCEPT B CONSIDERATIONS:

- >> Clumps the parking spaces into two primary lots - near the water and near the bathroom
- >> Existing trailhead location maintained
- >> All hardscape spaces along primary path (bathroom, trailhead/bike gathering space, pavilion, playground) with additional access path across site
- >> Bathroom building placement centered on road for better approach sight lines and solar gain, and does not disturb any trees
- >> Maximizes views to water from wedding arbor and drumming circle

NEW TOILET FACILITIES

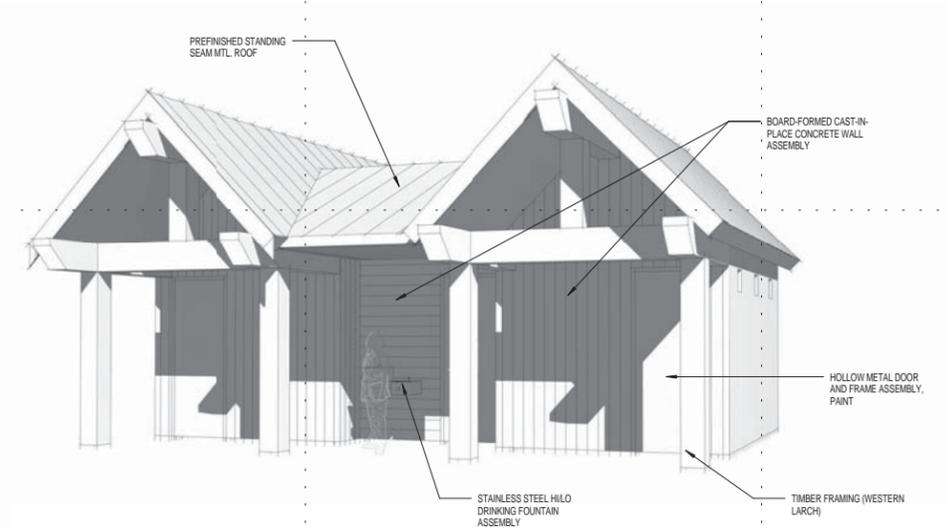
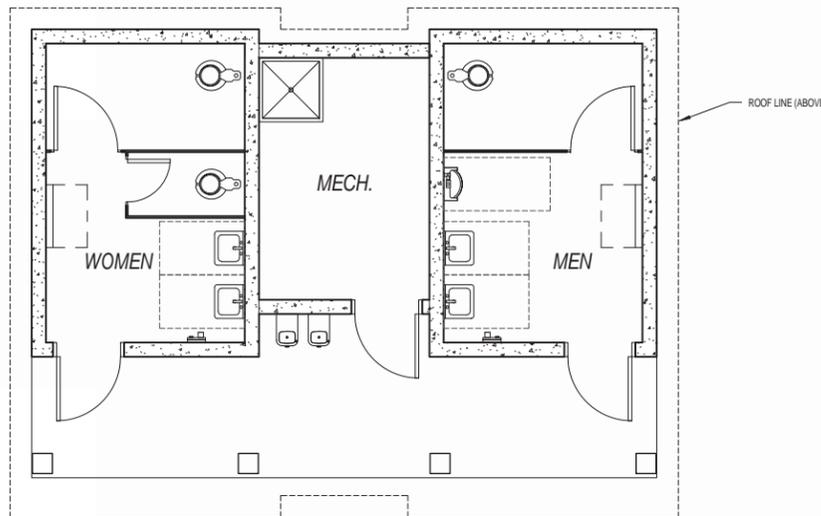
EXISTING CONDITIONS



The existing restroom facilities are outdated and inefficient.

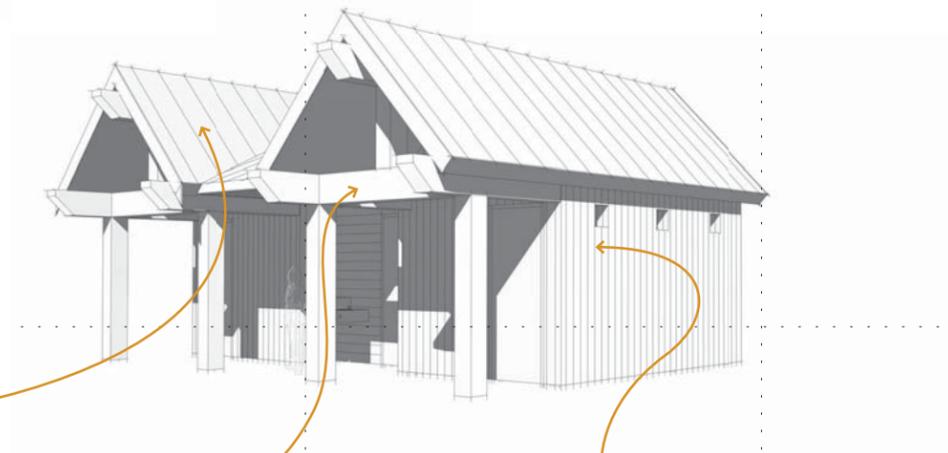
The restroom facilities could better emphasize a sense of place and aesthetic that is special and unique to Chambers Grove Park.

NEW FACILITY CONCEPT DESIGN

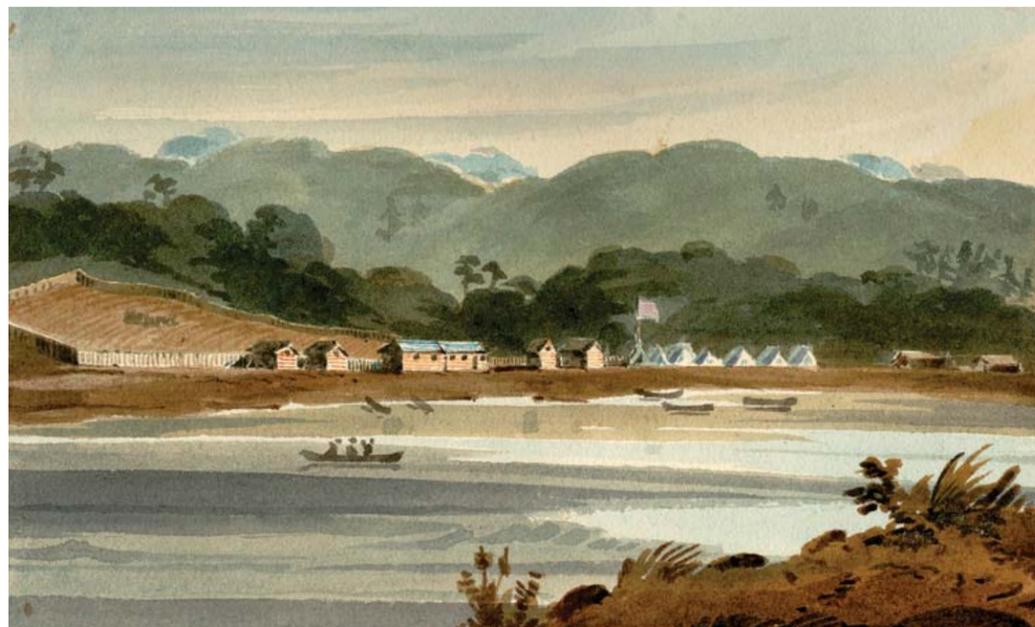


Based on the scale and accumulative nature of historic development at the site, the new restroom concept design hints at two smaller structures which have been added together in an almost ad-hoc fashion, as historic paintings & drawings of the site attest to a similar design language.

In line with goals set forth by the City of Duluth, sustainable design will be a priority with the new toilet facility.



HISTORICAL INFLUENCE



John Jacob Astor's American Fur post at Fond du Lac as seen from the St. Louis River. The above painting was done in 1826 by James Otto Lewis.

STANDING SEAM METAL ROOFING



WESTERN LARCH TIMBER FRAMING



BOARD-FORMED CAST IN PLACE CONCRETE



IMPROVED PICNIC PAVILION ACCESS

EXISTING CONDITIONS



The paths leading to the picnic pavilion are crumbling, overgrown, uneven, and inaccessible to those with mobility challenges. Similarly, the surfacing under the pavilion is worn and the edges pose a tripping hazard.

The opportunity that arises when re-surfacing and re-grading the paths and pavilion area is to think about more sustainable and unique paving types.



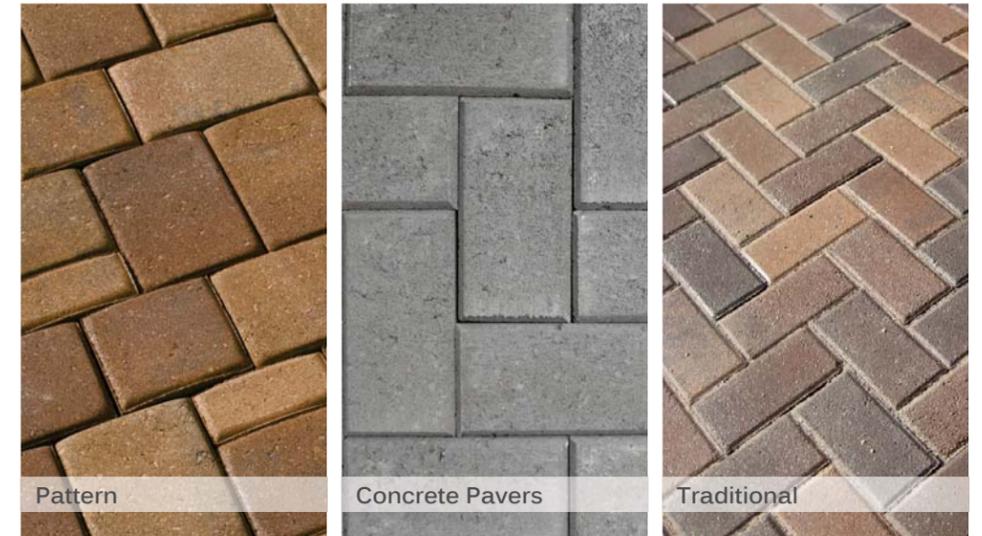
IMPROVED ACCESS AND SURFACING

There is a variety of types of surfacing materials - from pavers to poured surface, the chosen materials in Chambers Grove Park can give an identity and tell a story.

PERMEABLE PAVERS



TRADITIONAL BRICK OR CONCRETE PAVERS



CONCRETE OR BITUMINOUS POURED SURFACE



CRUSHED STONE



NEW PLAY STRUCTURE/PLAYGROUND

EXISTING CONDITIONS



The existing playground is a simple set of swings that have seen their life cycle through. Perched advantageously on a mound overlooking the river, there is opportunity to provide a more unique and creative way for children to play in Chambers Grove Park with updated equipment.



NEW PLAYGROUND CONCEPT



Newer types of playgrounds challenge the traditional ways in which we think about play equipment. Research shows that when nature elements are incorporated into playgrounds, kids have more fun, are more active, and utilize more motor skills.

A more natural approach to the playground in Chambers Grove Park not only fits the park aesthetically, but also encourages children to run, jump, climb, swing, slide, and interact with their environment in a more meaningful way than conventional playground equipment.



Images from Landscape Structures "Play Naturally!" and "Canyon Collection" playground product lines

SITE LIGHTING

BOLLARD LIGHTING

MAC SOL II (SOLAR, LED) - STRUCTURA

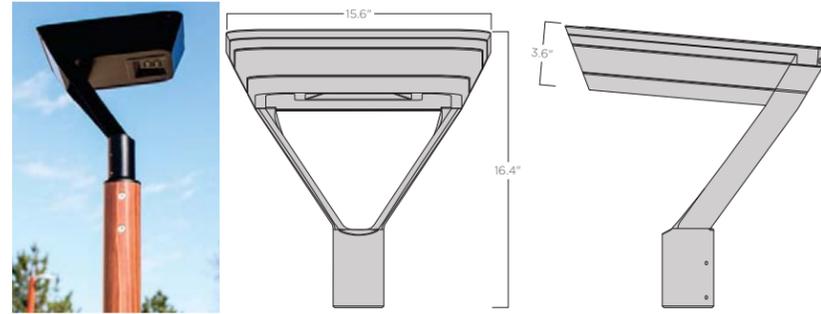


MAC SOL II XL (SOLAR, LED) - STRUCTURA



PEDESTRIAN OVERHEAD LIGHTING

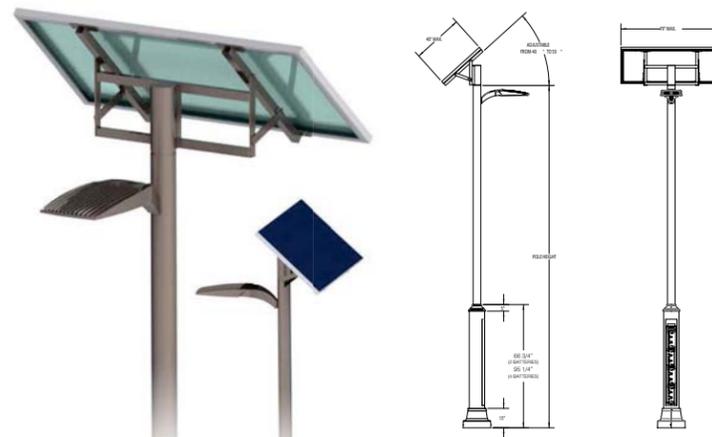
SPL (SOLAR, LED) - STRUCTURA



SOLAR VISION (SOLAR, LED) - VISIONAIRE LIGHTING
POLE MOUNTED BATTERY ENCLOSURE

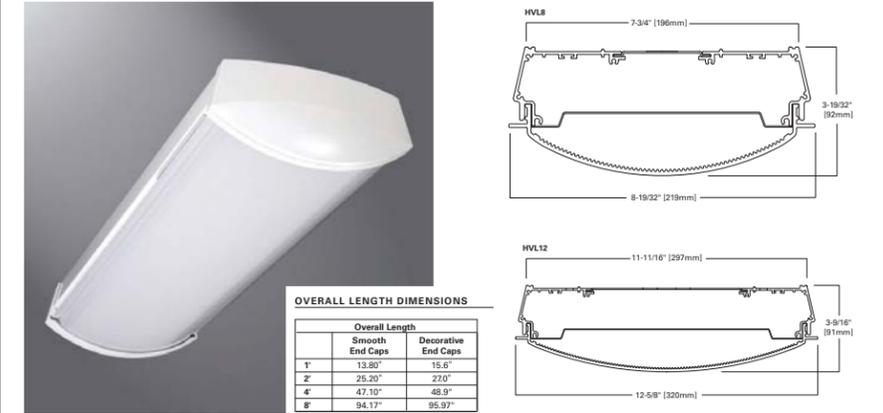


POLE BASE BATTERY MOUNT



CANOPY/INTERIOR LIGHTING

HVL VANDAL RESISTANT (LED) - EATON

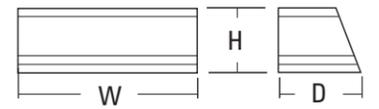


WSTM MINI WALL SCONCE (LED) - LITHONIA



Specifications Luminaire

- Height:** 5-3/4" (14.6 cm)
- Width:** 12-1/2" (31.8 cm)
- Depth:** 7-1/2" (19.1 cm)
- Weight:** 6 lbs. (2.7 kg)



RELOCATED WWII VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

EXISTING CONDITIONS



The World War II Veteran's Memorial is located near the gated entrance of Chambers Grove Park. Set back from the road a significant amount and only accessible by an uneven and stepped narrow path, this important piece of the park is difficult to get to.

There is great opportunity to re-locate the memorial within the park to an area that puts it in better context with the nearby flag pole and intentional landscaping, and where people of all mobilities can approach and appreciate the memorial. This can be done in a variety of ways, and these ideas explore doing this in either a grandiose way, or in a modest and soft way.

RELOCATED MEMORIAL AND IMPROVED LANDSCAPING

FORMAL & MONUMENTAL DESIGN

- GREATER AREA OF HARDSCAPE FOR GATHERING
- "STRUCTURED" IN FEEL
- INDEPENDENT OF OTHER PARK ELEMENTS



NATURAL & MINIMAL DESIGN

- FLEXIBLE SOFTSCAPE SPACE FOR GATHERING
- "SOFT" IN FEEL
- INGRAINED IN GREATER LANDSCAPING OF PARK



CHAMBERS GROVE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

UPDATED SIGN & GATE AT PARK ENTRANCE

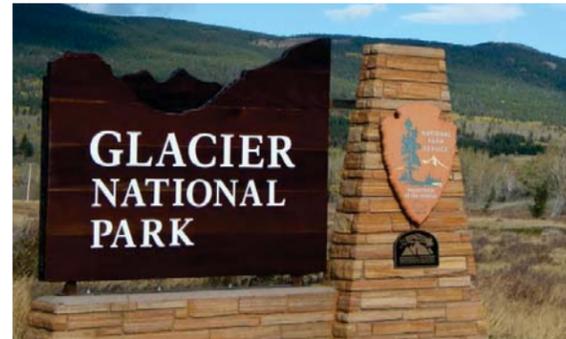
EXISTING CONDITIONS



NEW PARK ENTRANCE CONCEPTS

There is an opportunity at Chambers Grove Park to set a standard style and look to park signage within the City of Duluth system. This new style of park signage will be utilized across the three types of parks in the system - neighborhood, community, and regional.

NATURAL - COMFORTABLE AND FAMILIAR AESTHETIC



CONTEMPORARY - SIMPLE AND INCONSPICUOUS

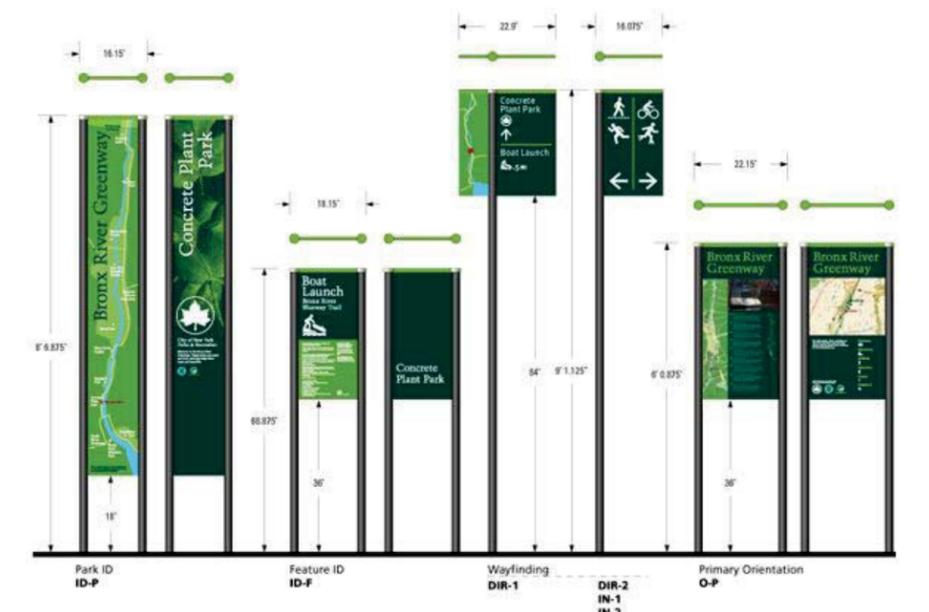


MODERN - UNIQUE IDENTITY AND FEEL



SCALE

The new park signage must be applicable to all scales necessary to provide proper signage within the parks - from the main entrance, to wayfinding, and down to the restroom.



RELOCATED & IMPROVED EVENT GAZEBO

EXISTING CONDITIONS



The event gazebo is situated along the river's edge with open space around it to support events or provide an idyllic background for photographs. A need for an event gazebo as a park element in the park is a priority for the City, and looking at different styles and typologies of gazebo-like elements is beneficial to understand the ideal location and aesthetic of this feature and the area around it.

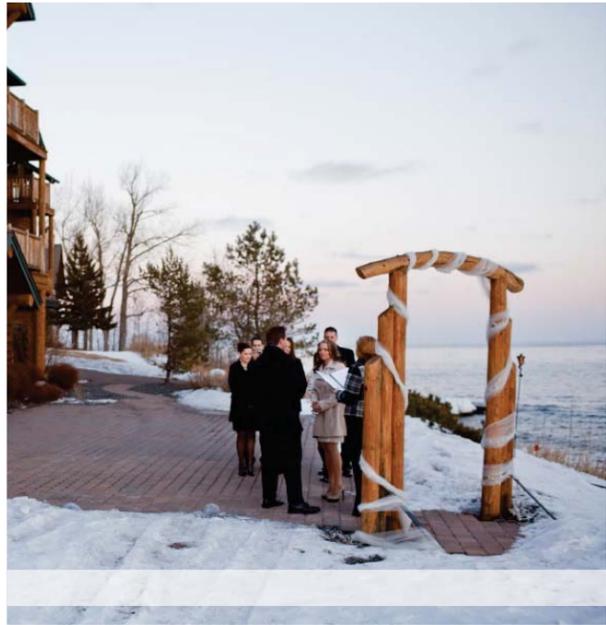
Re-locating this element will be necessary as other portions of the park are re-designed, but the memorial Maple tree in the foreground will be protected as a special element within the park.

NEW EVENT GAZEBO

SIMPLE WOOD FRAME AS BACKDROP



Event space at Grand Superior Lodge in Two Harbors, MN



SIMPLE WOOD PERGOLA AS SPACE



Variety of look and feel of covered wooden pergolas



IMPROVED TRAIL HEAD KIOSK AREA

EXISTING CONDITIONS



There is currently a stand-alone trail head sign in the park. Along with new entrance and accessory signage, the trailhead kiosk will be considered for upgrade.

The area around the kiosk could also serve a greater purpose as a resting place for those using the trail, and also feature useful facilities such as a bicycle repair/tune up station and an area to lock bicycles up for those who want to stay in Chambers Grove Park for a longer period of time.

Materials that this area is constructed out of should be aesthetically in line with other architectural park features, yet stand out so the space is easily identifiable by people using the many trails within and around the park.

NEW TRAIL HEAD KIOSK AREA CONCEPT

BICYCLE TUNE UP STATION AND BICYCLE RACK AREA



KIOSK GATHERING AREA PRECEDENT PROJECT: BEAVER BAY TRAILHEAD, BEAVER BAY, MN

