

CHARLESGATE ALLIANCE

Talk About DCR Charlesgate Park

Tuesday, October 10, 2017 | 7pm to 9pm
91 Bay State Road, Common Lounge, First Floor

Join us as we discuss possibilities that we see for improvement to DCR Charlesgate Park, based on our September 16th walk, for those who could make it, as well as for others who can join us that evening.

charlesgatealliance.org



Talk About DCR Charlesgate Park

Charlesgate Park Improvement Outreach Process and Concept Design

Oct. 10, 2017

Convening organizations:

Charlesgate Alliance
Emerald Necklace Conservancy

Thanks to:

Many, many community members for donations and
The Solomon Foundation

Agency involvement:

Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
Massachusetts Dept. of Transportation (MassDOT)

Designer:

Landing Studio

Consultants:

Interfluve, river restoration specialist

Talk About Agenda

PART 1 - 7:10-8PM

INTRODUCTIONS, GOALS, AND INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

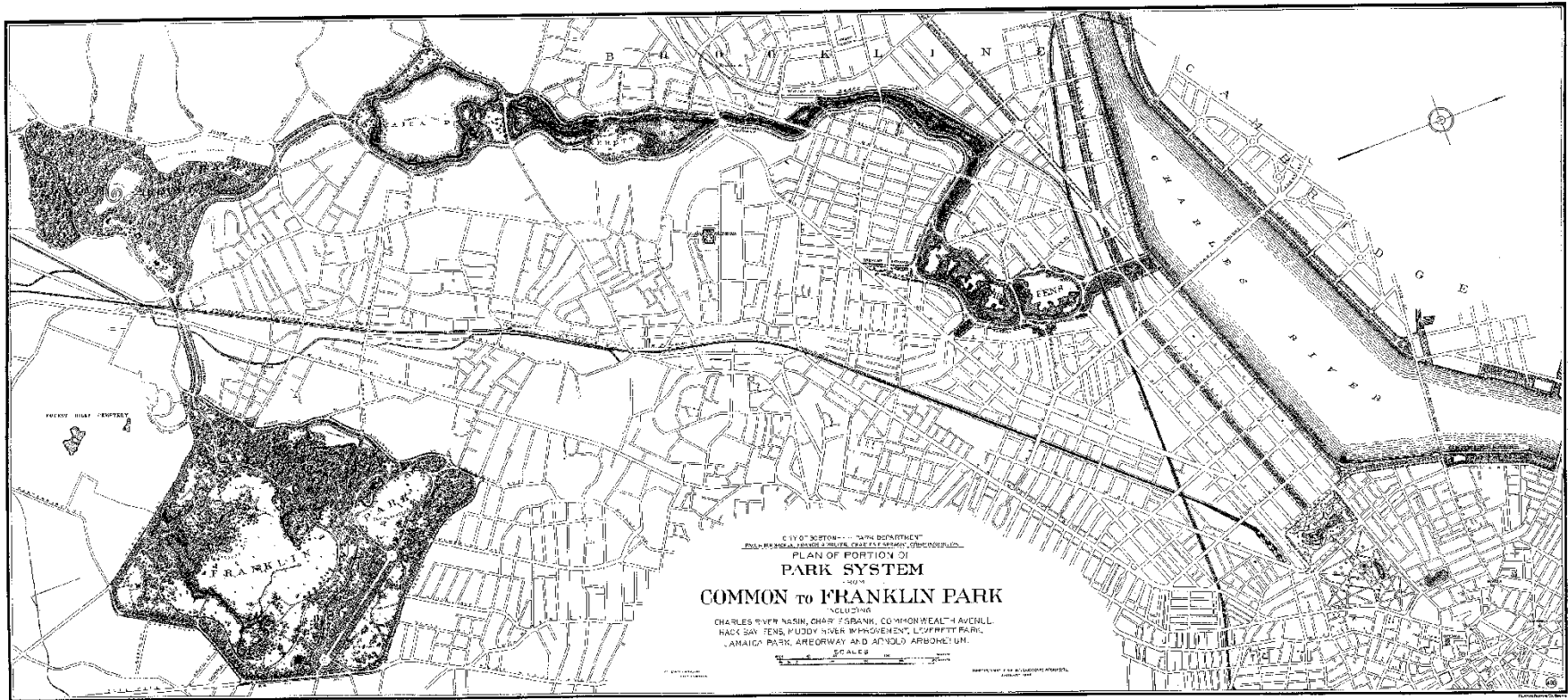
- Welcome
- Introduction
- Background and approach
- Initial observations about Charlesgate
- Design precedents

PART 2 - 8:05-9PM

GROUP VISIONING

- Guidelines/questions
- Small group discussions
- Report back and record

Background and approach: Combining infrastructure, landscape, and urbanism



National Park Service Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

OLMSTED ARCHIVES

99 Warren Street Brookline, Massachusetts 02146

Background and approach: Combining infrastructure, landscape, and urbanism



Underground at Ink Block

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



Temporary light projections on the underside of the I-93 viaduct in Boston at the beginning of the Underground at Ink Block process, 2014

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



'Rain hats' fabricated for temporary lights.

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



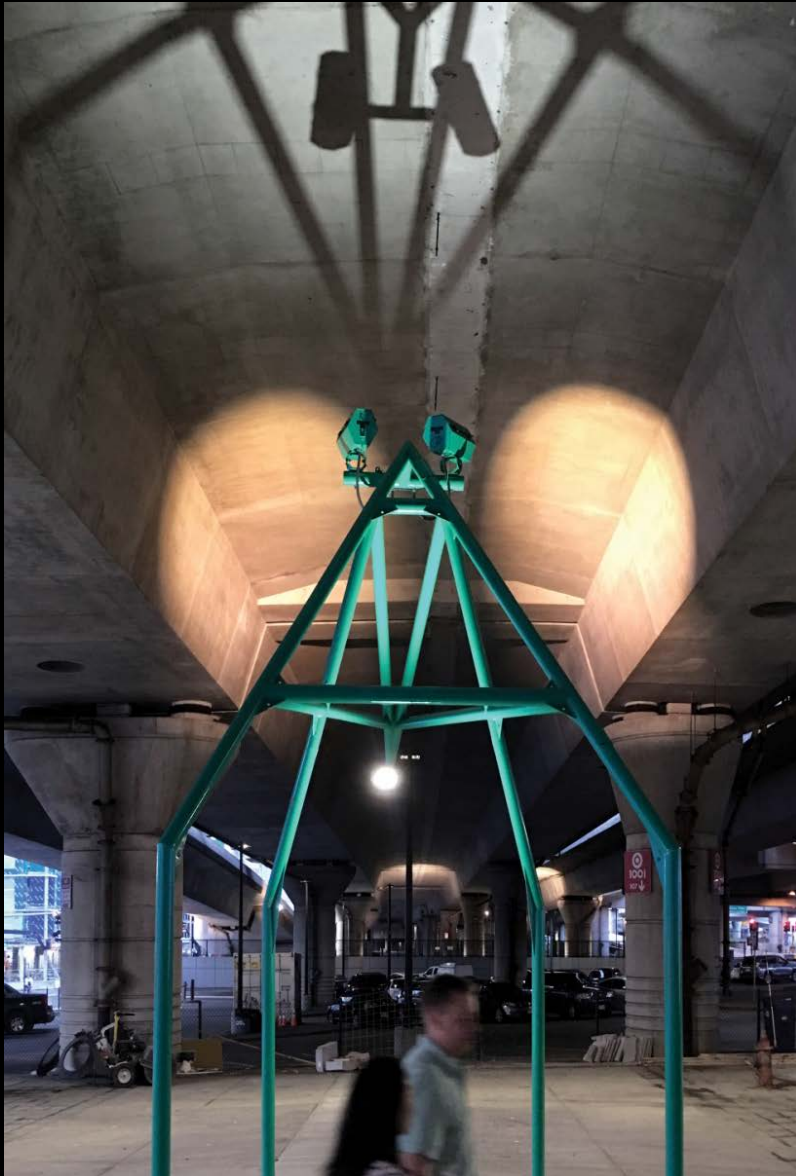
Temporary light projections on the underside of the I-93 viaduct in Boston at the beginning of the Underground at Ink Block process, 2014.

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



Commissioned up lighting at Underground at Ink Block

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



'Dinosaur' adaptable lighting and installation scaffold under I-93 at West 4th and Berkeley

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



The Lumen film and performance art festival at an active salt dock, 2012. Landing Studio worked with salt dock operators to construct salt pile landscapes.

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



A pedestal for a sculptural performance. Artist: Alien Moon Partnership

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



Salt gallery. Artist: Gabriel Comrie Pepin

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



Projection surface. Artist: Marco Brambilla

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



Demolition of the Coastal Oil Terminal

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



Temporary light projections on the Coastal Oil tanks along Chelsea Creek during demolition. Letters disappeared as tanks were demolished over 1 month.

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term



Temporary light projections on the Coastal Oil tanks along Chelsea Creek during demolition. Letters disappeared as tanks were demolished over 1 month.

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Temporary light projections on the Coastal Oil tanks along Chelsea Creek during demolition. Letters disappeared as tanks were demolished over 1 month.

Background and approach: Designing for the short-term and longer-term

- This process will be organized along ‘parallel tracks’
 - Track 1: Develop design options
 - Track 2: Implement 1 to 2 short-term installations, improvements, or events at Charlesgate Park during the process
- 2 more community meetings
 - November/December – date TBD
 - February/March – date TBD
- Final report with design options: March 2018

Initial observations: September 16 Walkaround

Walkaround DCR Charlesgate Park



Initial observations: September 16 Walkaround



Initial observations: **Critical Link**



New Boston and Charles River Basin, as proposed by Charles Davenport and drawn by Albert Coolidge (1875); courtesy of the Boston Athenaeum via *Inventing The Charles River* by Karl Haglund

Initial observations: **Critical Link**





Initial observations: **Critical Link**



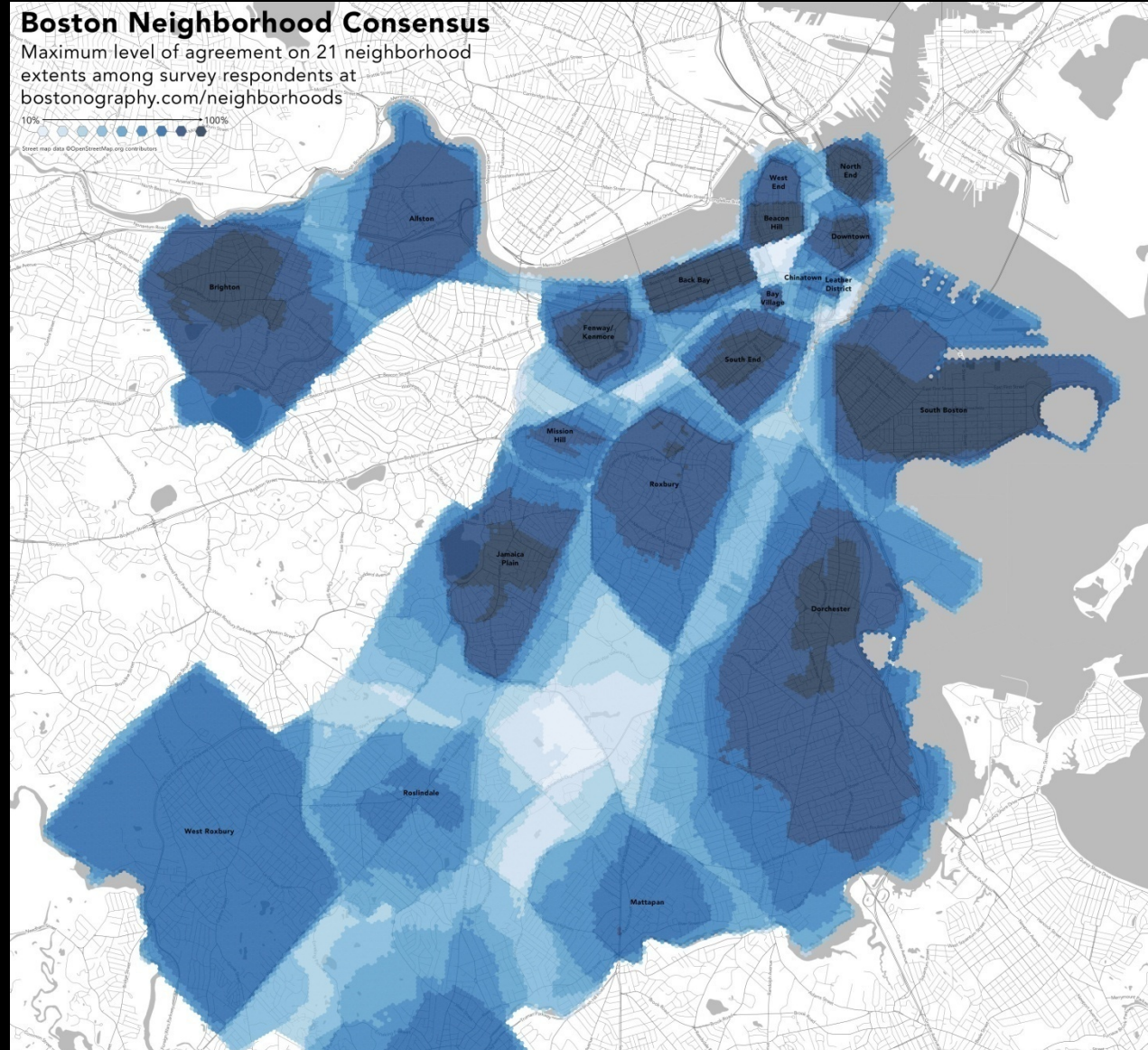
Heading to a Saturday game at Fenway

Initial observations: **Critical Link**

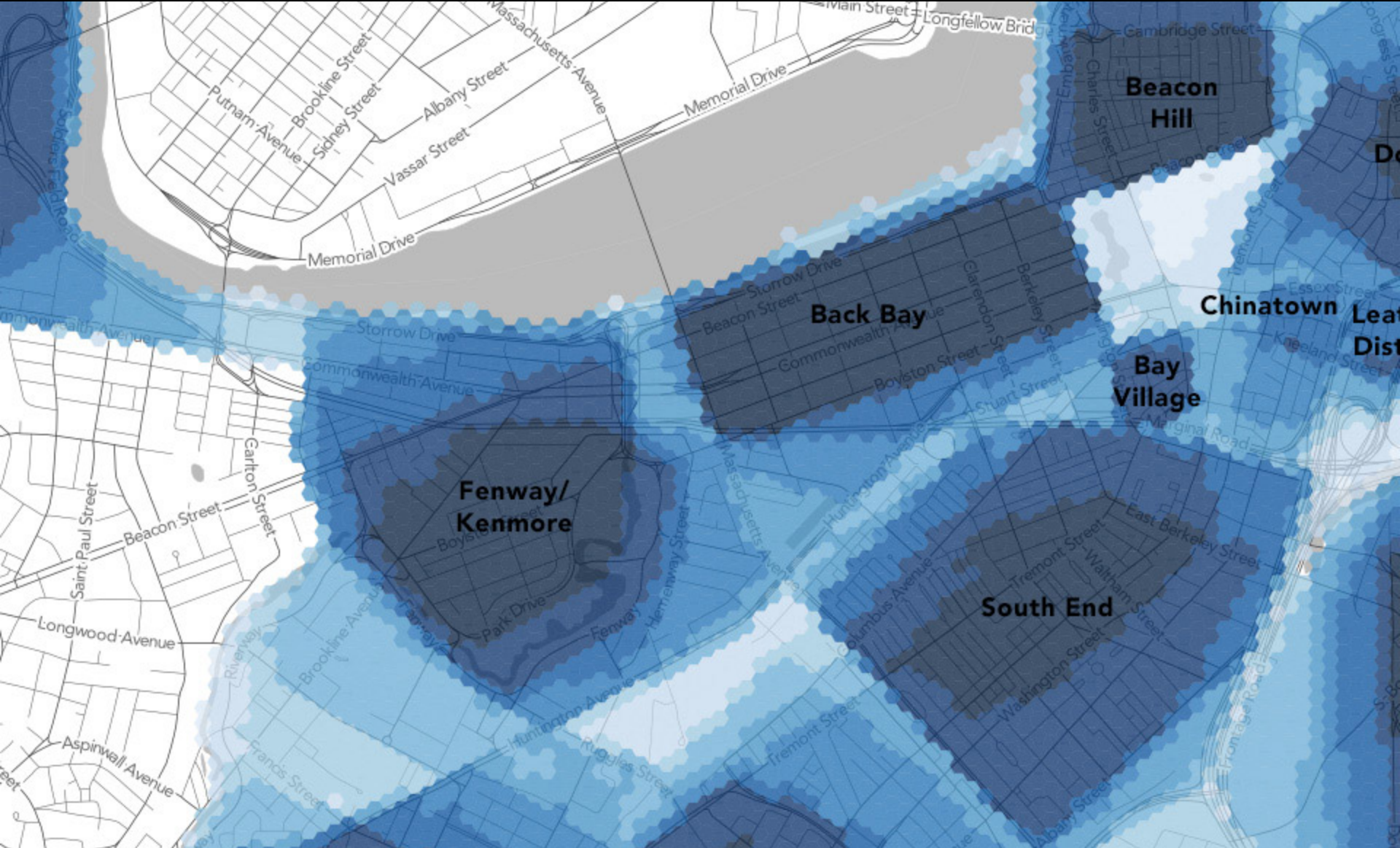


The future Charlesgate Greenway connection

Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**

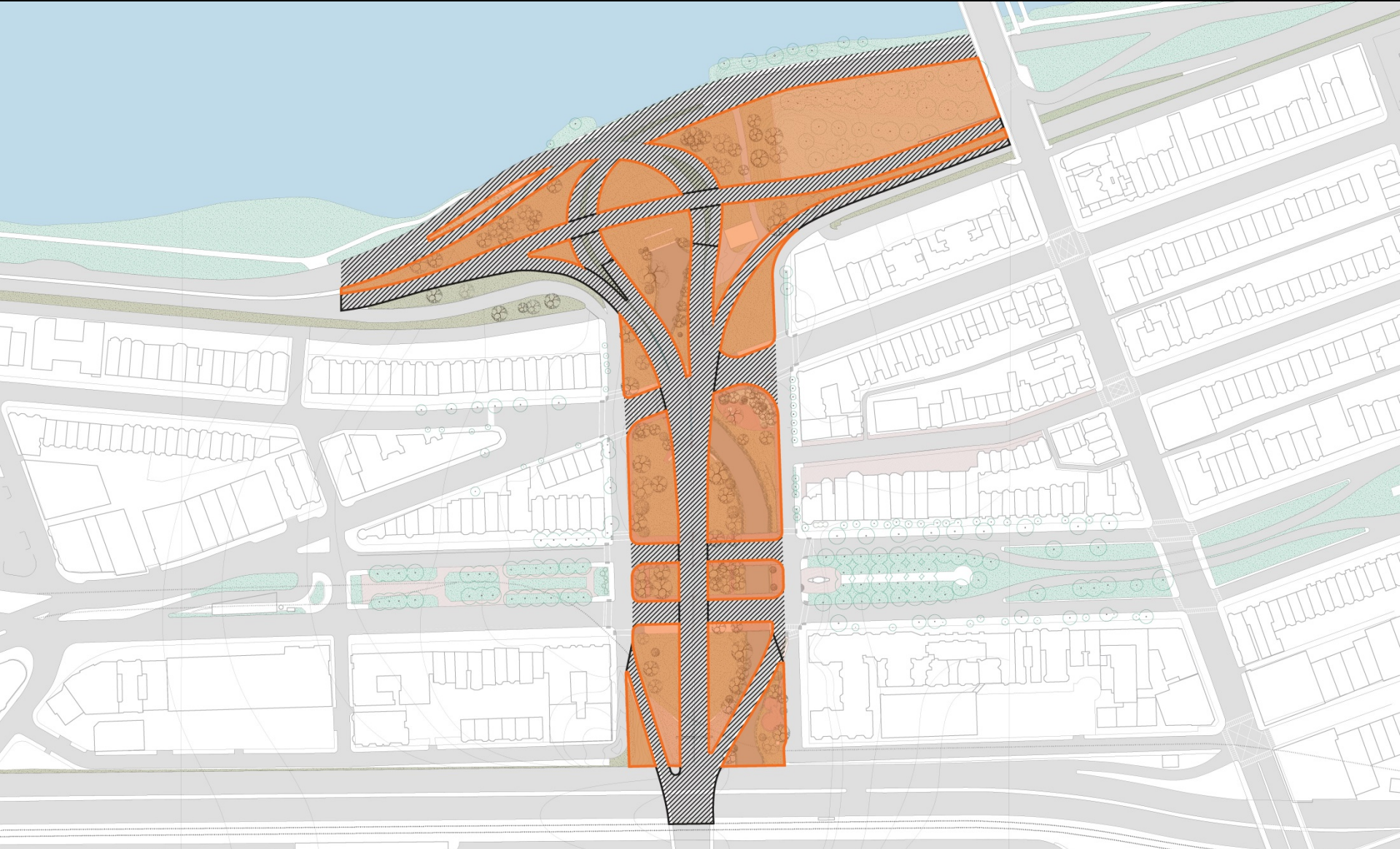


Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



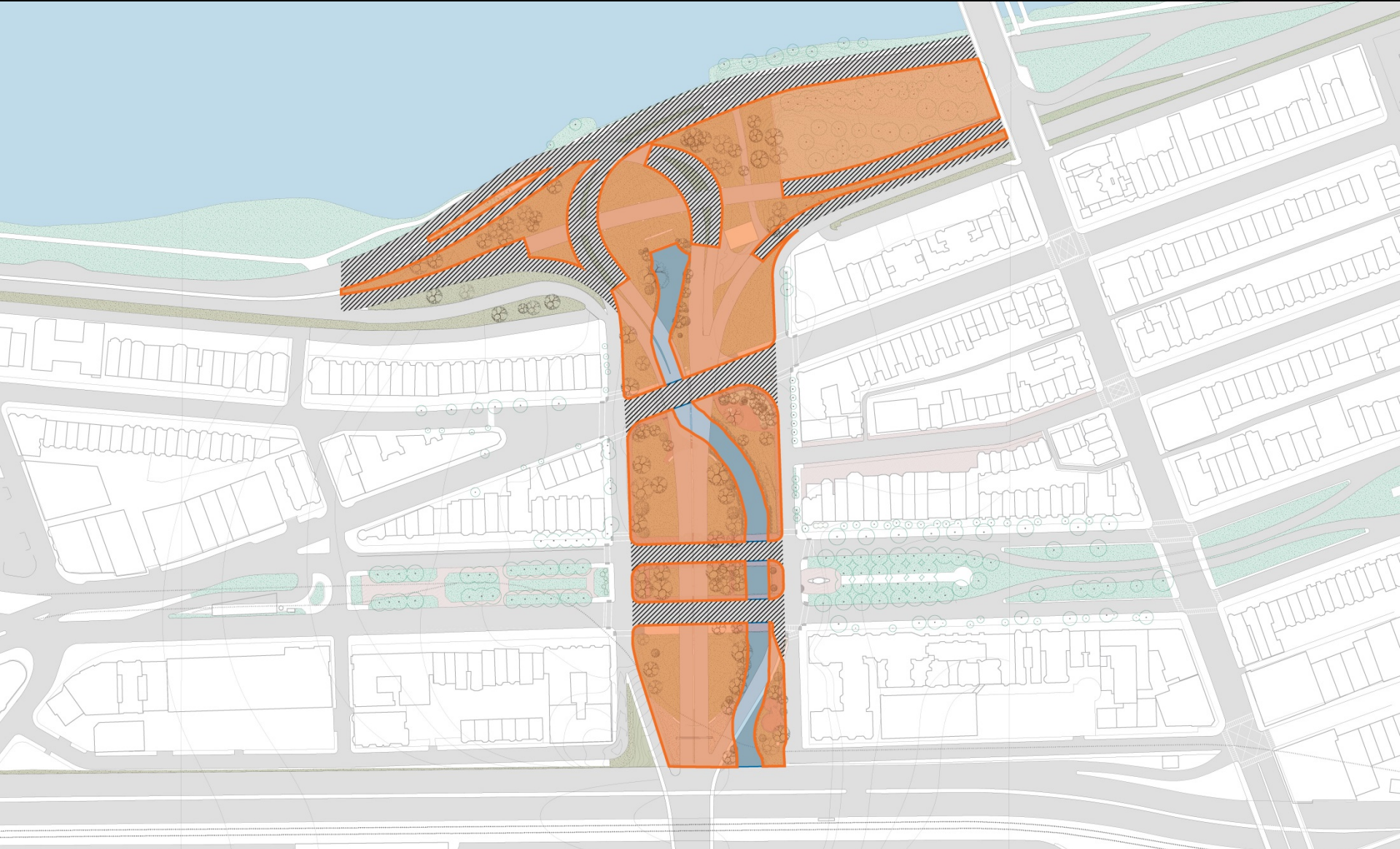
Someone finds a quiet moment along the Muddy River.

Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



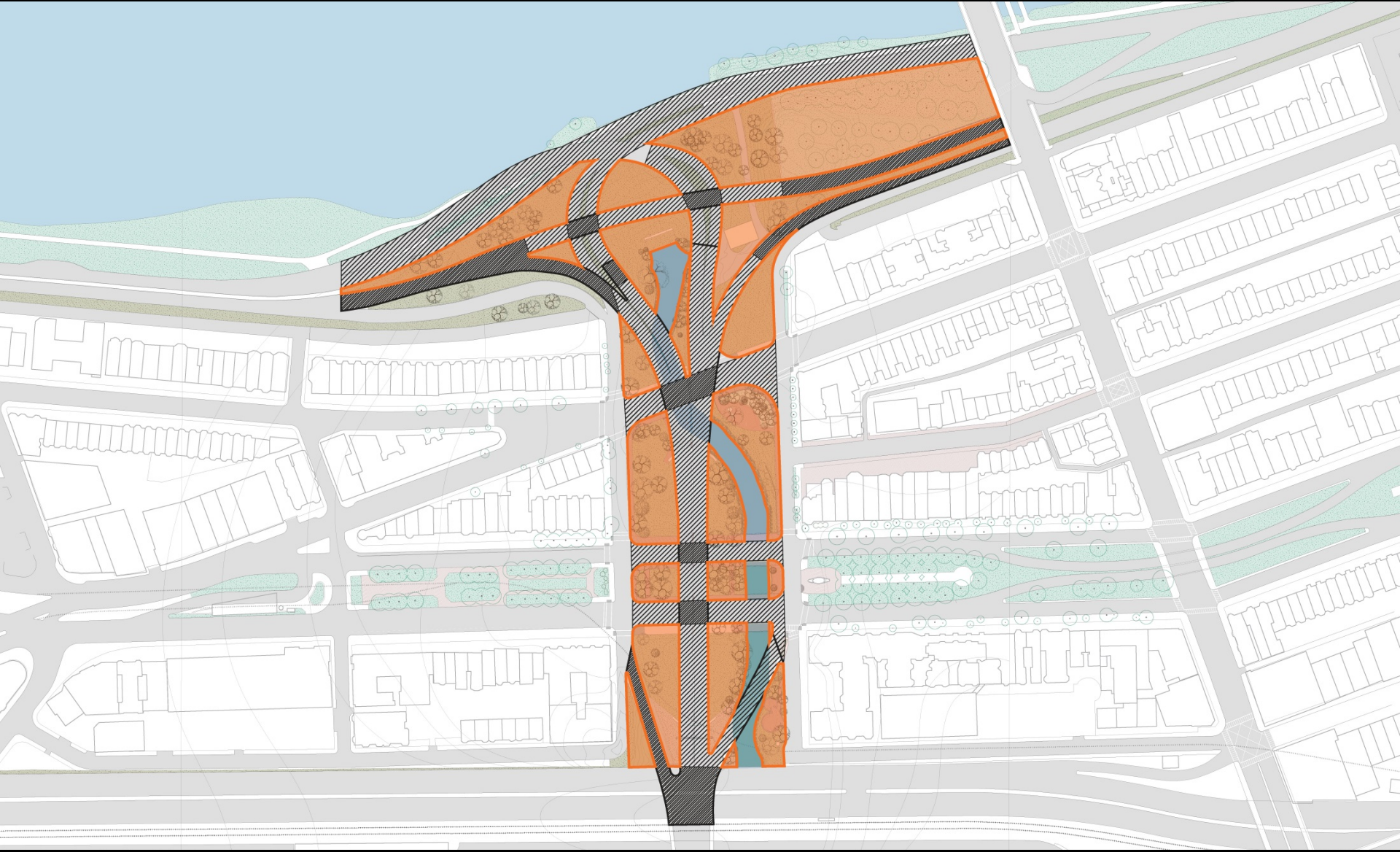
Roadway fragmentation: at grade and overhead

Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**

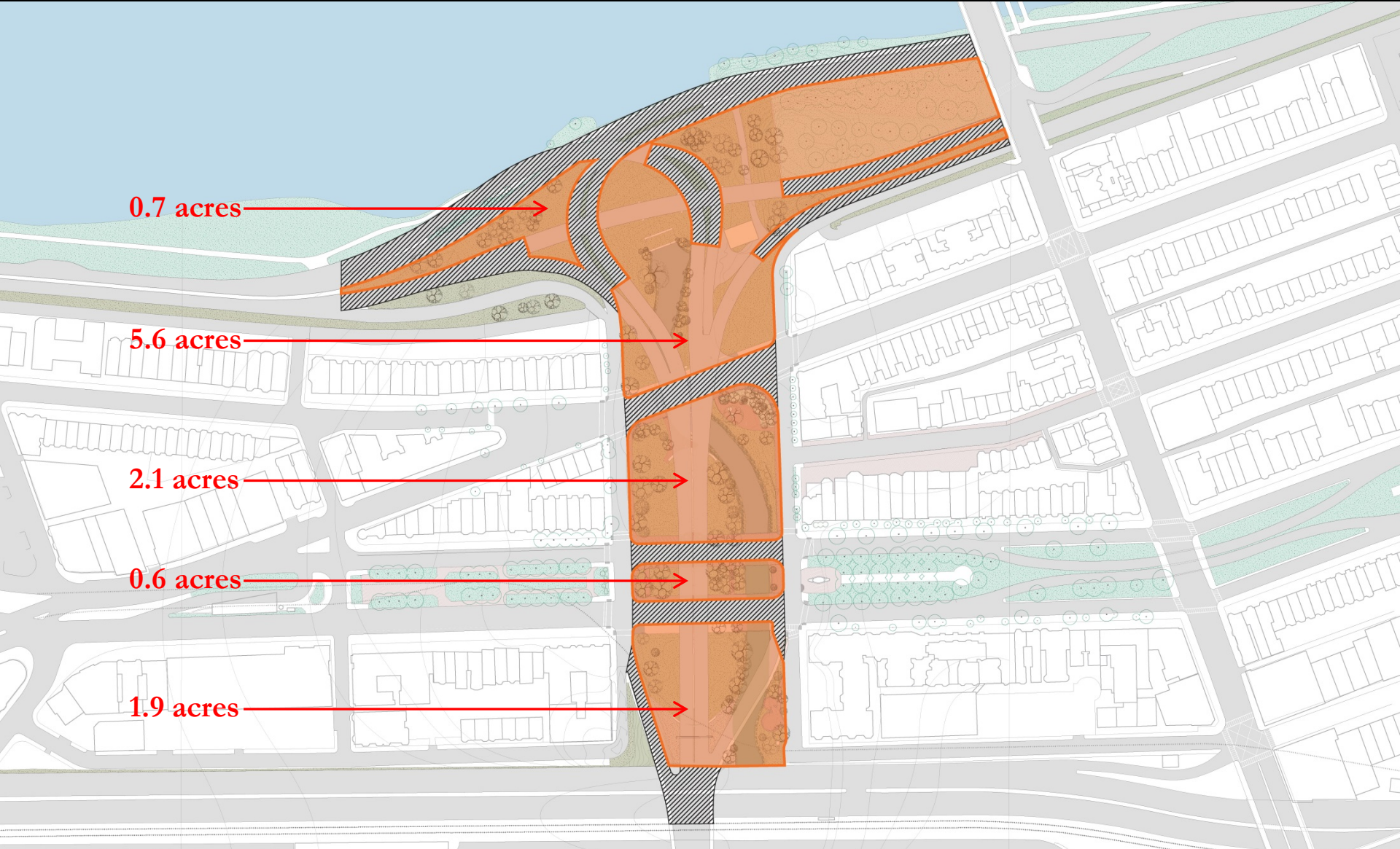


Watercourse fragmentation

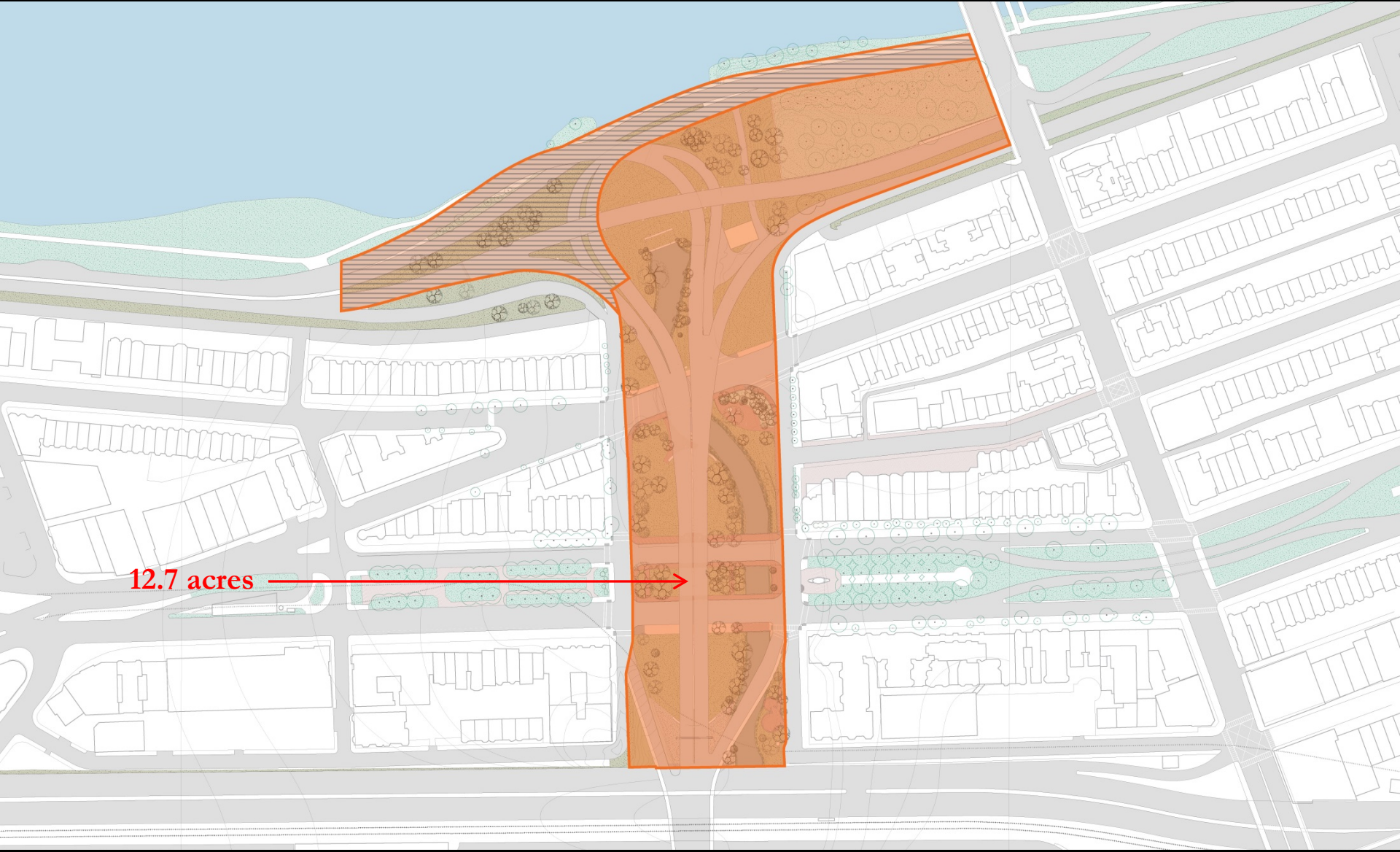
Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



12.7 acres

Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



Charlesgate:
9.7 acres



Christian Science Plaza
7.5 acres
(0.8 Charlesgates)

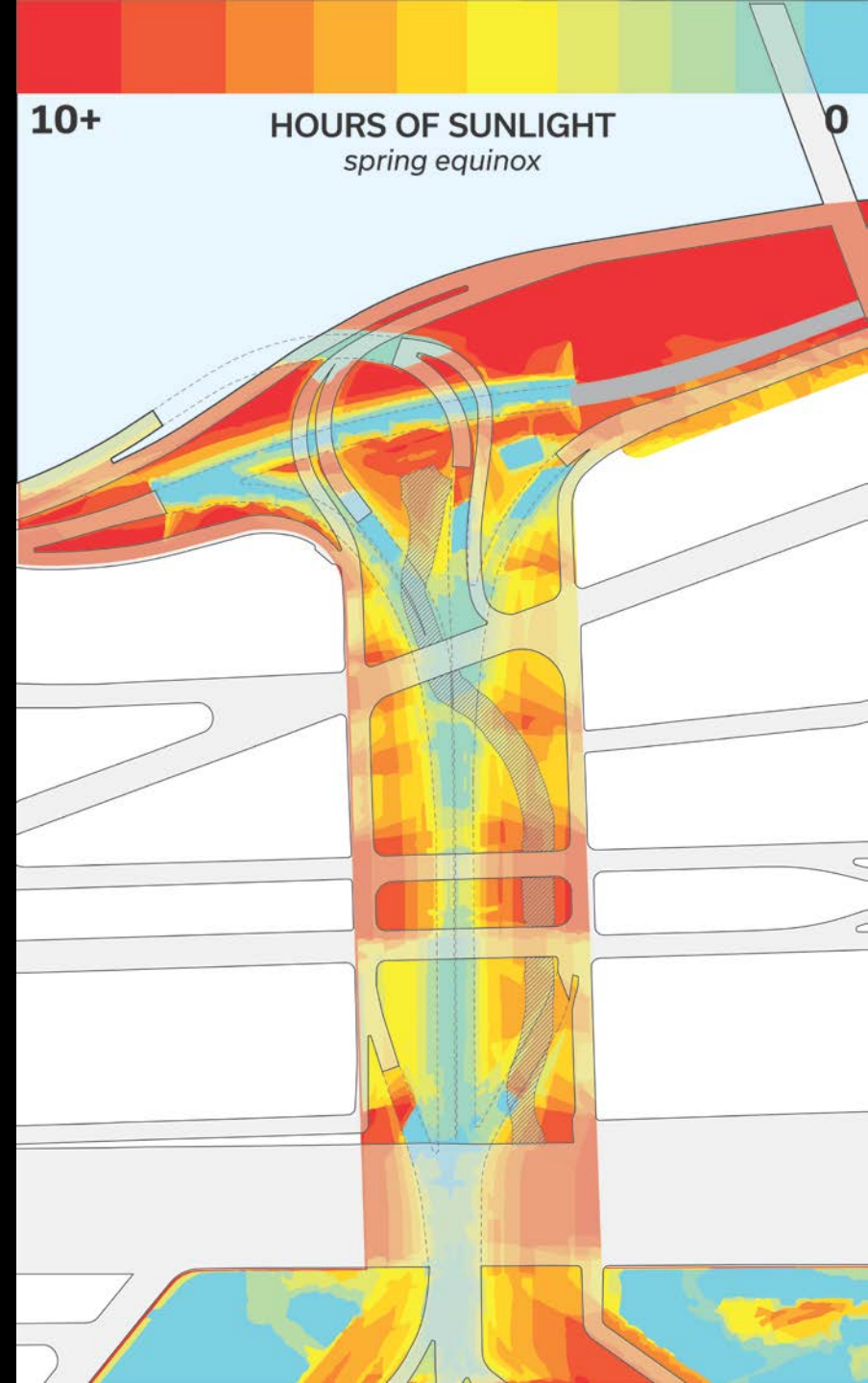


Fenway Ball Park
3.0 acres
(0.3 Charlesgates)

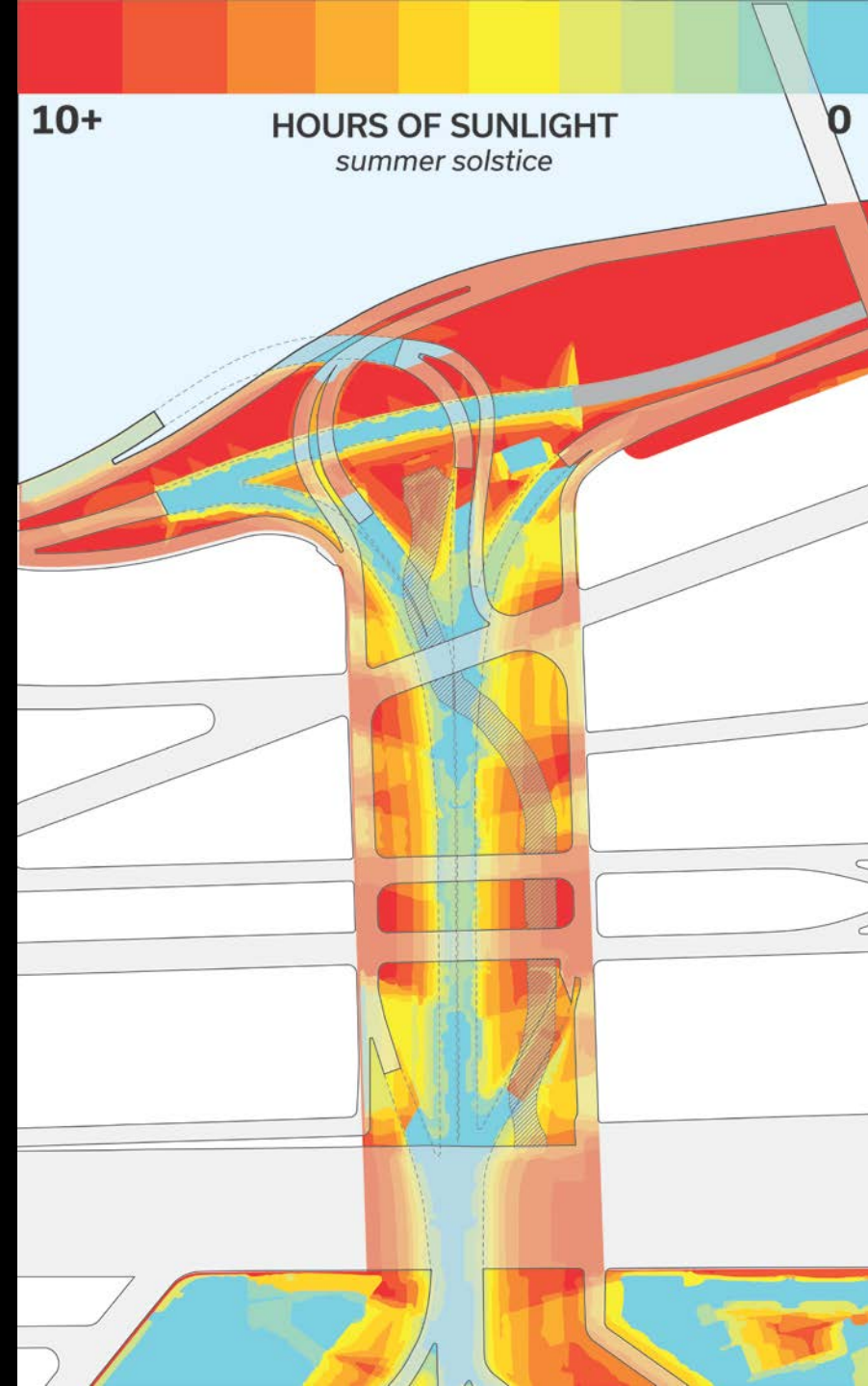


BPL + Copley Plaza
7.8 acres
(0.8 Charlesgates)

Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



Initial observations: **Fragmented Spaces**



Initial observations: **Layers of History**



Initial observations: **Layers of History**

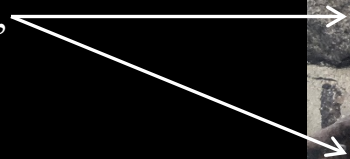
1966



Shurcliff,
1926?



Olmsted,
1880's



Initial observations: Layers of History



Partially buried bridge

Initial observations: **Water Systems**



Direct storm water discharge

Initial observations: **Water Systems**



Outfall

Initial observations: **Water Systems**



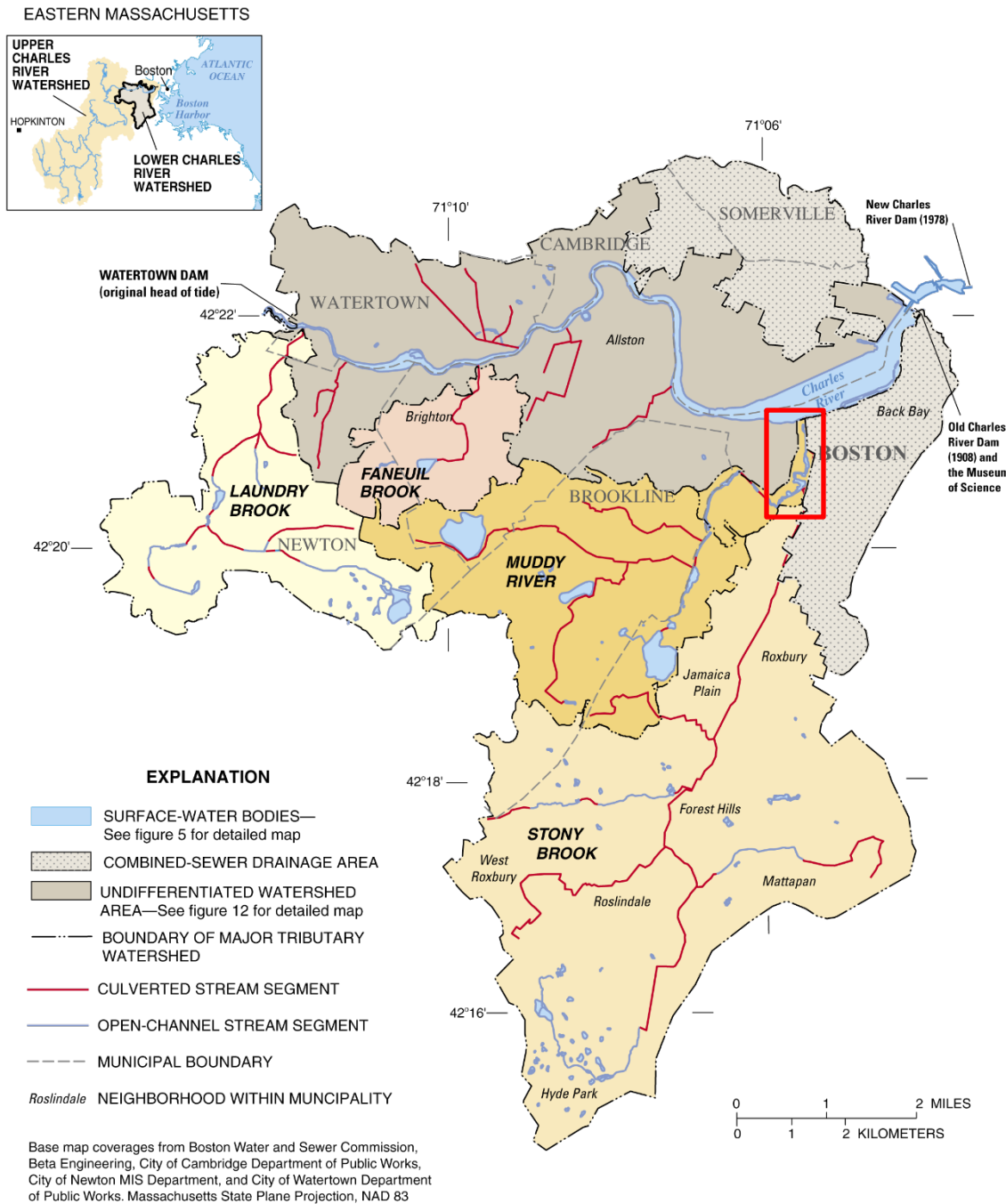
Stagnation

Initial observations: **Water Systems**

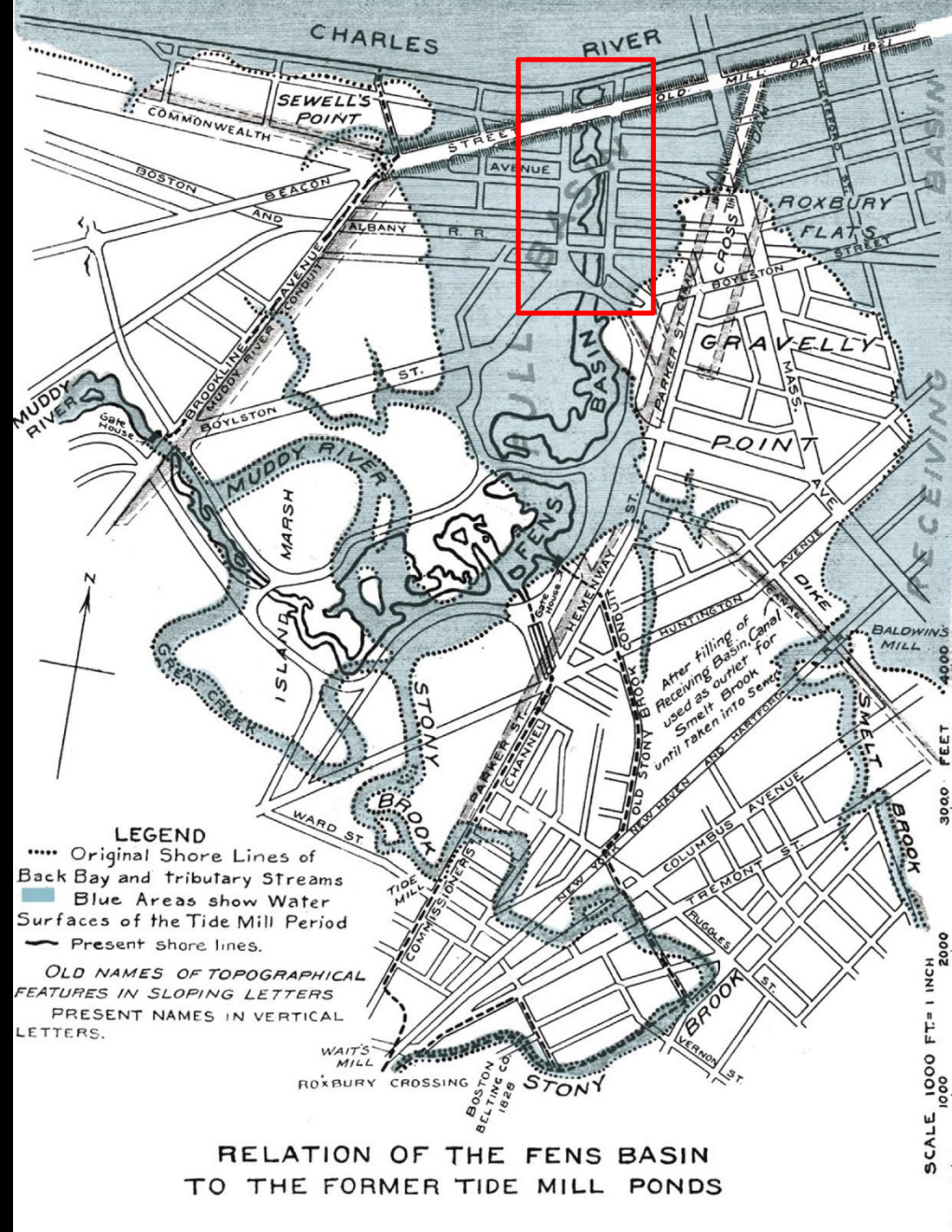


Duckweed

Initial observations: Water Systems



Initial observations: Water Systems



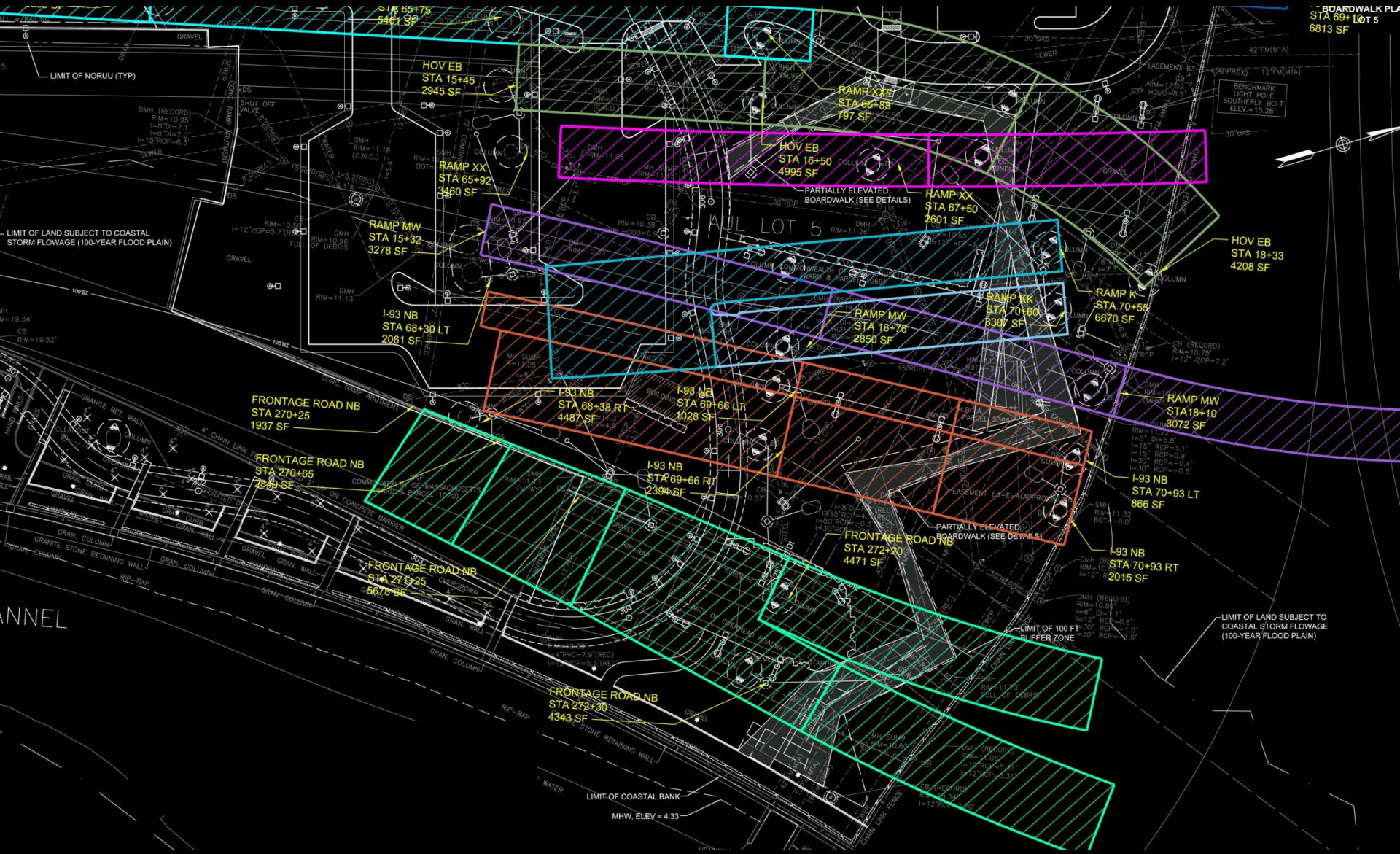
The confluence of Stony Brook, Muddy River and the Charles River as it existed in the early 19th century, and the subsequently constructed area of the Back Bay Fens about 1903. (Freeman, 1903)

Precedents: Underground at Ink Block



Dynamic architecture of the viaduct

Precedents: Underground at Ink Block



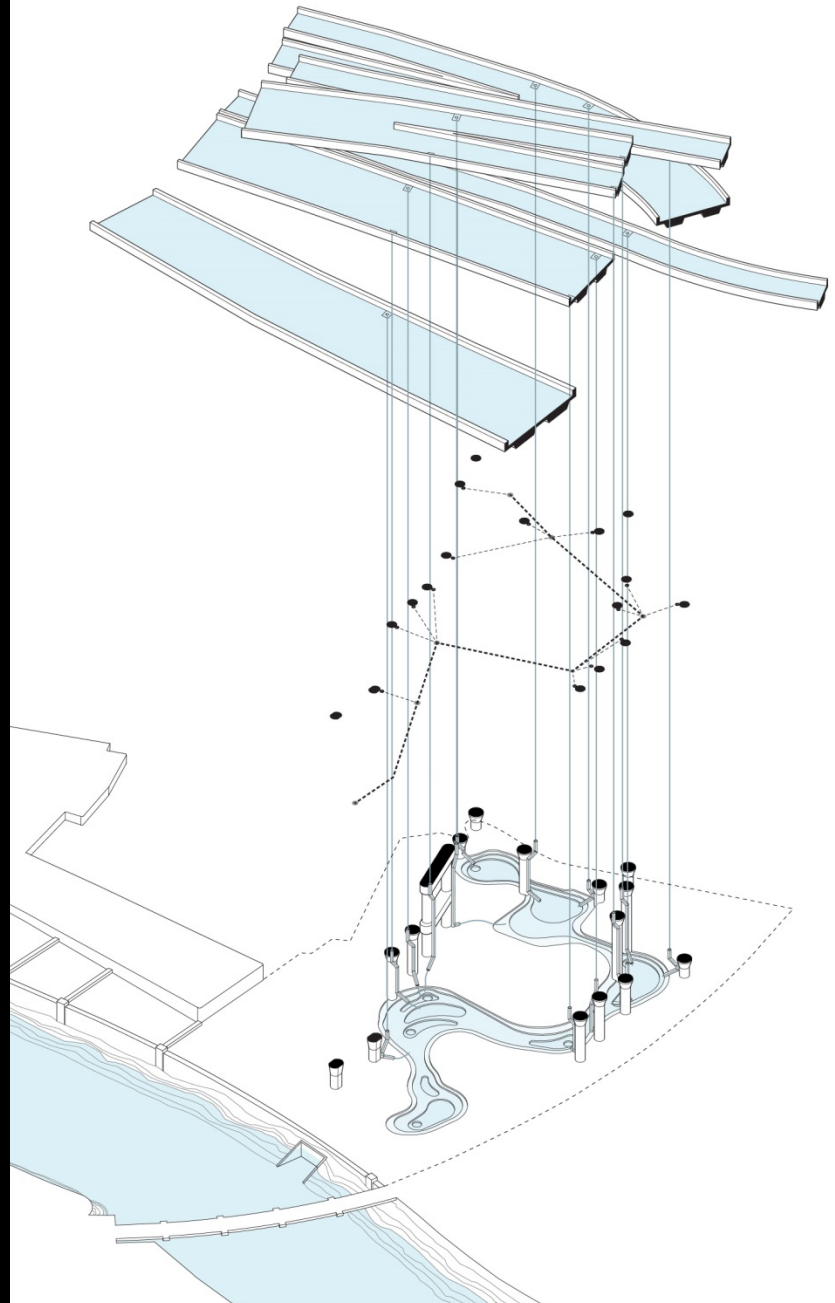
Storm water catchment areas

Precedents: Underground at Ink Block



Subterranean storm water system

Precedents: Underground at Ink Block



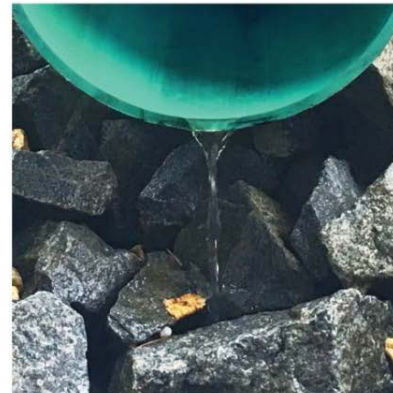
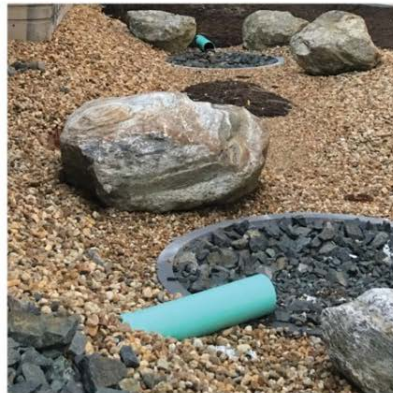
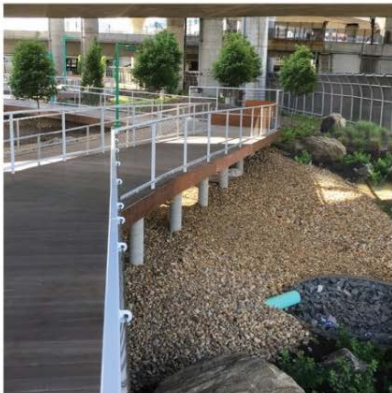
Stone filled 'dissipation basins' distribute runoff into the filtration and retention landscape

Precedents: Underground at Ink Block

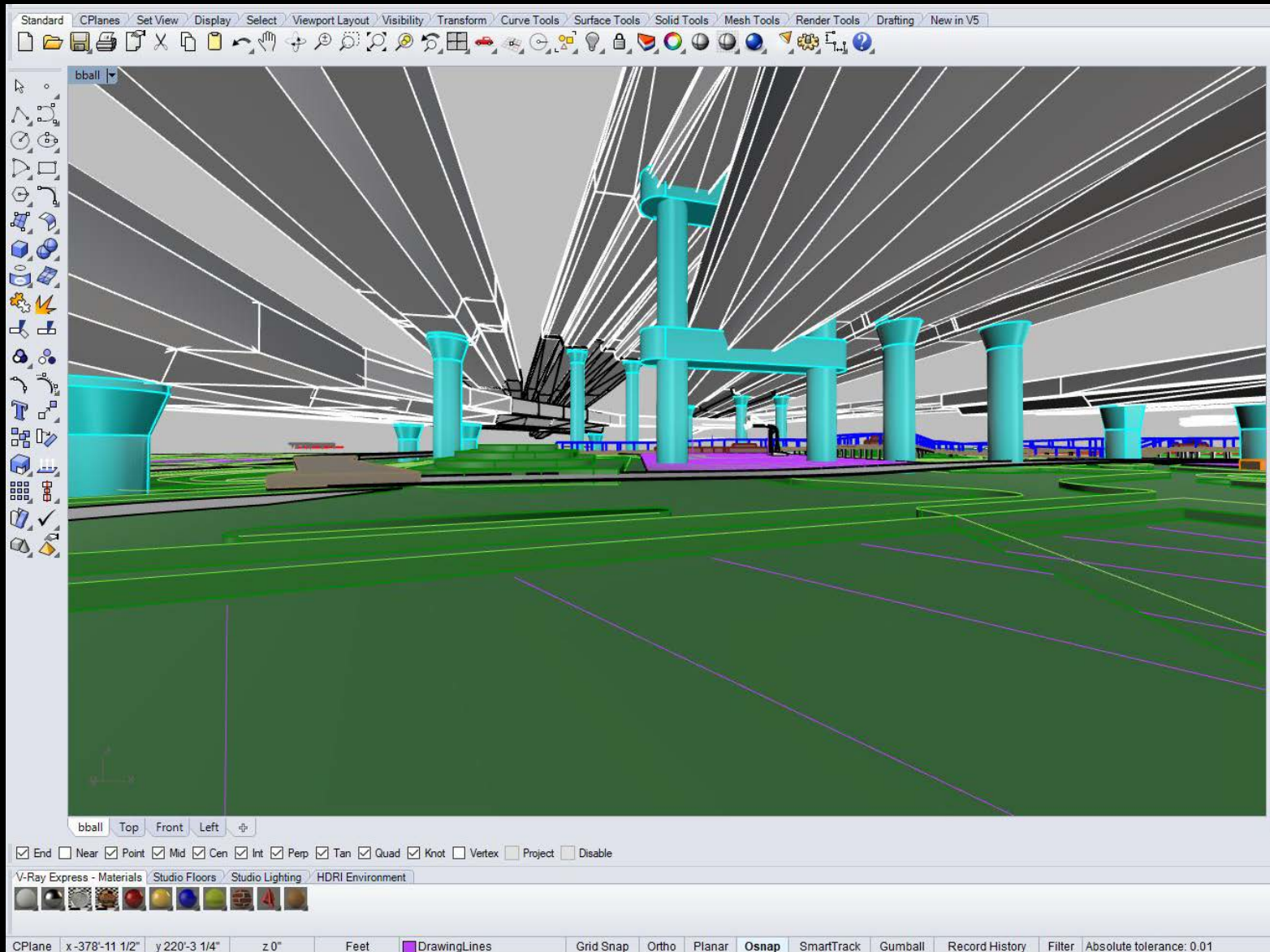


Stone filled 'dissipation basins' distribute runoff into the filtration and retention landscape

Precedents: Underground at Ink Block

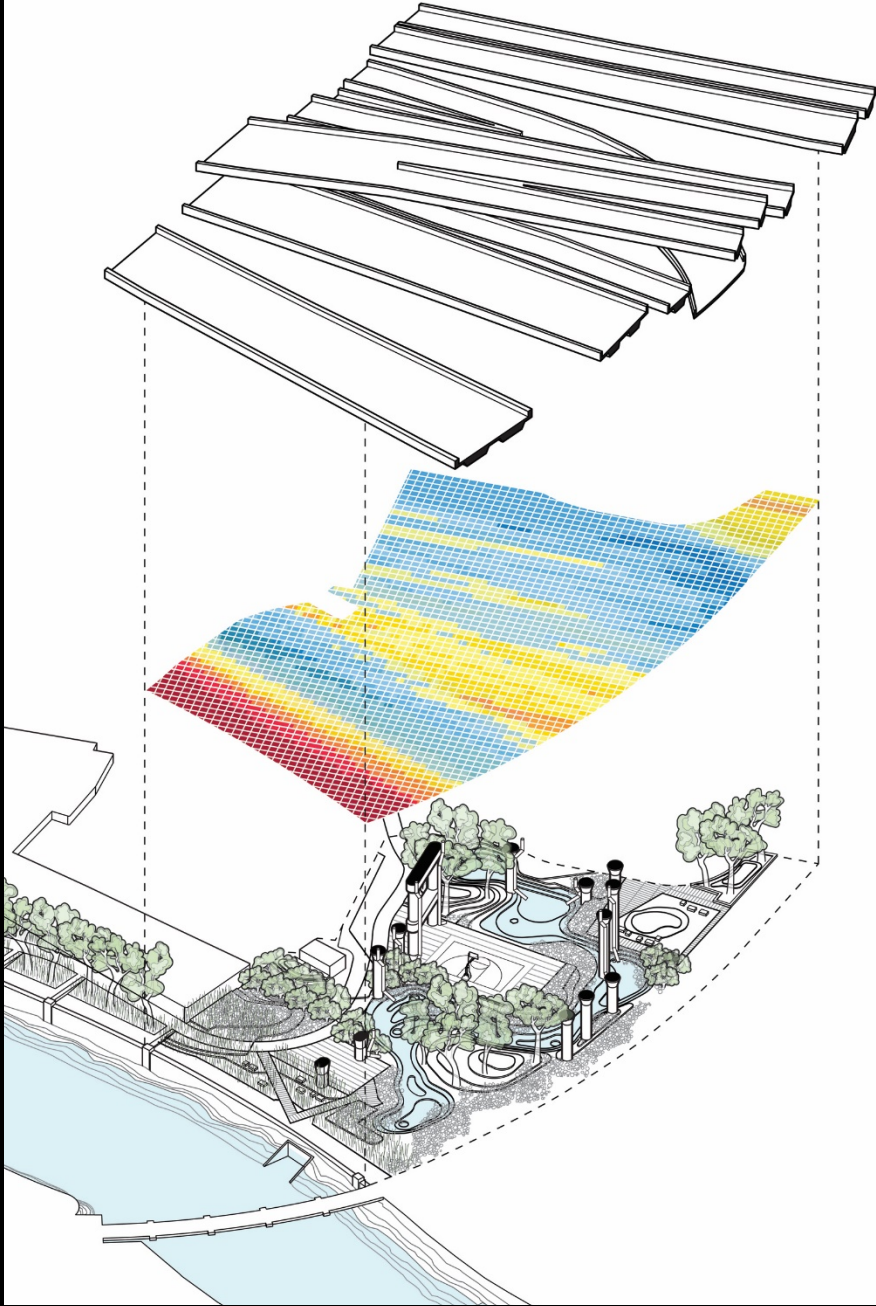


Precedents: Underground at Ink Block



3d model analysis

Precedents: Underground at Ink Block



Precedents: **Underground at Ink Block**



Daylight through the viaduct

Precedents: **Underground at Ink Block**



Precedents: Underground at Ink Block



Precedents: Charlesgate Park



Built layers of history are trapped and hidden away from public access near the terminus of the Muddy River.

Precedents: Charlesgate Park



Precedents: Charlesgate Park



Stone bridge by HH Richardson.

Group Visioning

8:05PM-8:35PM

1. Please divide into groups of up to 8 people at tables with a member of the Charlesgate leadership committee at each table.

2. Please select a Recorder and Reporter for your group.

Recorder: to record the findings of the group in writing (on site plans and blank sheets).

Reporter: to verbally report the findings of the group.

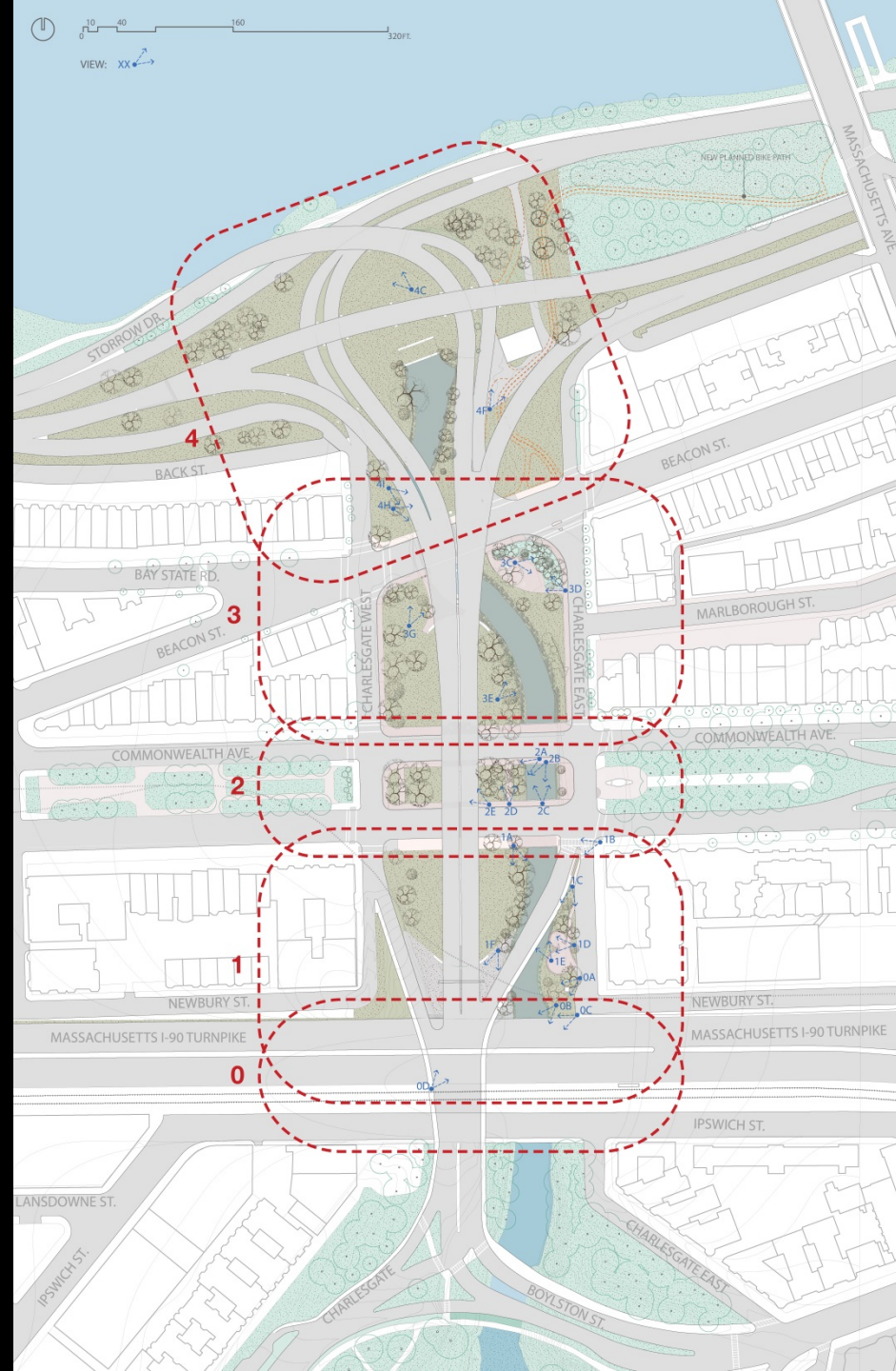
3. You will find the following drawings on the tables:

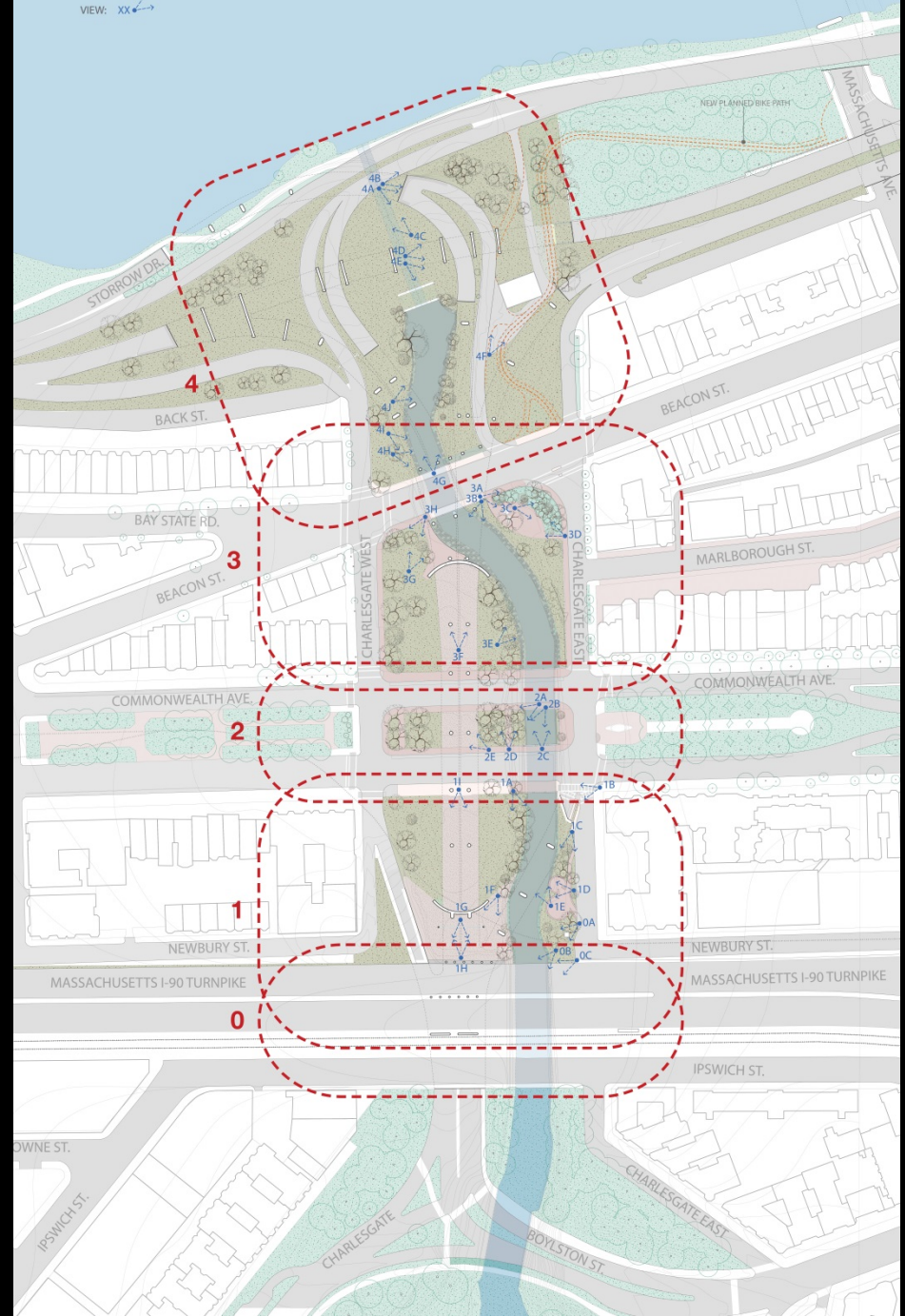
a- Site plan of Charlesgate from **above** the Bowker Overpass

b- Site plan of Charlesgate from **below** the Bowker Overpass

c- Photographs of each 'area' of Charlesgate

d- Blank sheets of paper and pencils for recording













2A



2B



2C



2D



2E







4A



4B



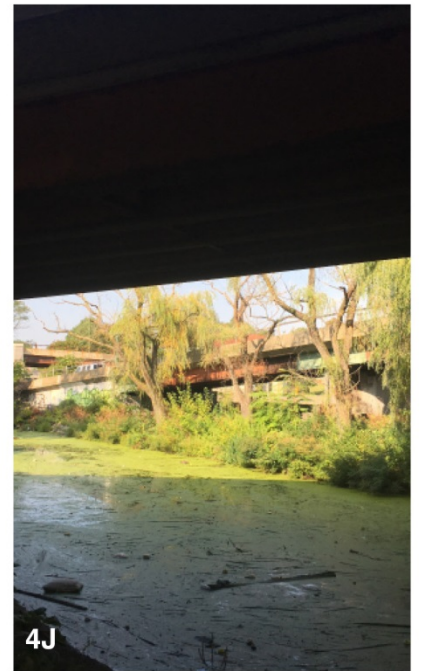
4C



4D



4E



Group Visioning

8:05PM-8:35PM

Please respond to these general questions:

1. What is your favorite park? What makes it great?
2. What would you like to be able to do in the Charlesgate neighborhood? What is missing?

Please respond to these questions for each 'area' (0-4) of Charlesgate:

1. How would you envision spending time in this area of Charlesgate?
2. What is the most/least desirable quality of this area?

Please write and sketch on the site plans and photos: let us know about things that are needed: crosswalks, benches, trees, trash cans, etc! We will collect the notes and sketches.

Thank you!

Charlesgatealliance.org

Thoughts? Questions?

Dan Adams: danieladams@landing-studio.com

Marie Law Adams: marielawadams@landing-studio.com