

- 1.0 Introduction
 - 1.1 Purpose
 - 1.2 Project Funding
 - 1.3 Process
 - 1.4 Members

1.1 Purpose

This study was made possible by the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh, the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association, and the South Side Local Development Company. The purpose of this study was to create a new vision for South Side Park. Covering an area of 64.8 acres, the park's presence in the neighborhood is immense, yet understated. The park is currently disconnected from its surrounding neighborhoods, and has been all but abandoned. Yet it is a space with as much character as any of the other parks in Pittsburgh, with assets that should make it a draw to the entire city.

Regionally, South Side Park is a valuable amenity that has the potential to be a major draw to the community. Its scale and varying activities make it an asset that could encourage existing families to stay, as well as draw new ones. Locally, the park has the potential to act as a link between the Slopes and the South Side Flats, and communities such as Arlington. The existing trails, used for walking and biking, can potentially be linked to the Riverfront Park and Trail, thus connecting the park and its users to a larger system.

Revitalization starts locally by transforming this large space into a draw. The effect can potentially ripple into the surrounding neighborhoods, effecting development and revitalization efforts already under way.

1.2 Project Funding

Klavon Design Associates, Inc. (KDA) was hired in August of 2003 by The South Side Local Development Company (SSLDC) and the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association (SSSNA) to complete a planning study of the South Side Park. The two non-profit community organizations received a \$10,000 grant in 2003 from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh, another non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of design in Pittsburgh's neighborhoods.

1.3 Process

Public participation is a key component and an integral part of the master planning process. As part of the design process, the following meetings were included: a kick-off meeting, three steering committee meetings, one presentation to the Arlington Civic Council, and two community meetings.

The first meeting with both the Steering Committee and Community was focused on learning about their needs and wants. KDA brought boards with key issues or topics identified on each. The key topics were: Connectivity, Development, Beautification, Recreation, Preservation and Maintenance. These boards were used to generate ideas, to initiate discussion and to keep the meeting focused. Workshop attendees were asked to express their concerns and support with regards to each of the topics. The KDA team paraphrased the comments and attached the comments to the appropriate topic board.

After the discussion period, the participants were asked to help prioritize their comments. Each attendee was provided with three colored dots: red, yellow and blue. They were asked to select their first, second and third priority for the site. By the end of the meeting, the priorities were recorded and announced (see Appendix: Meeting Minutes). The goal of the meeting was to build consensus among the participants and for them to be active participants in the master planning process. Community comments are vital to the development of the project.

At the second meeting, the team showed a slide presentation outlining collected information about the park, an analysis of "Assets and Liabilities" of the existing park, precedents (ideas applicable from other projects), and conceptual design alternatives. Three conceptual design alternatives were shown, each representing a different strategy for the potential use of space. The first option, "Unprogrammed" transformed the space by altering currently structured, designated spaces into areas for multi-use activities. The second option, "Programmed" includes the construction of several amenities with specific uses. The third option, "Historic Roots" takes cues from past uses to determine space usage possibilities. Once again, the attendees were asked to respond to the material presented and to comment on each of the concept plans for further development. During this meeting it was decided that instead of looking at the plans as three distinct ideas, they could actually be looked at as a progression of phases of development.

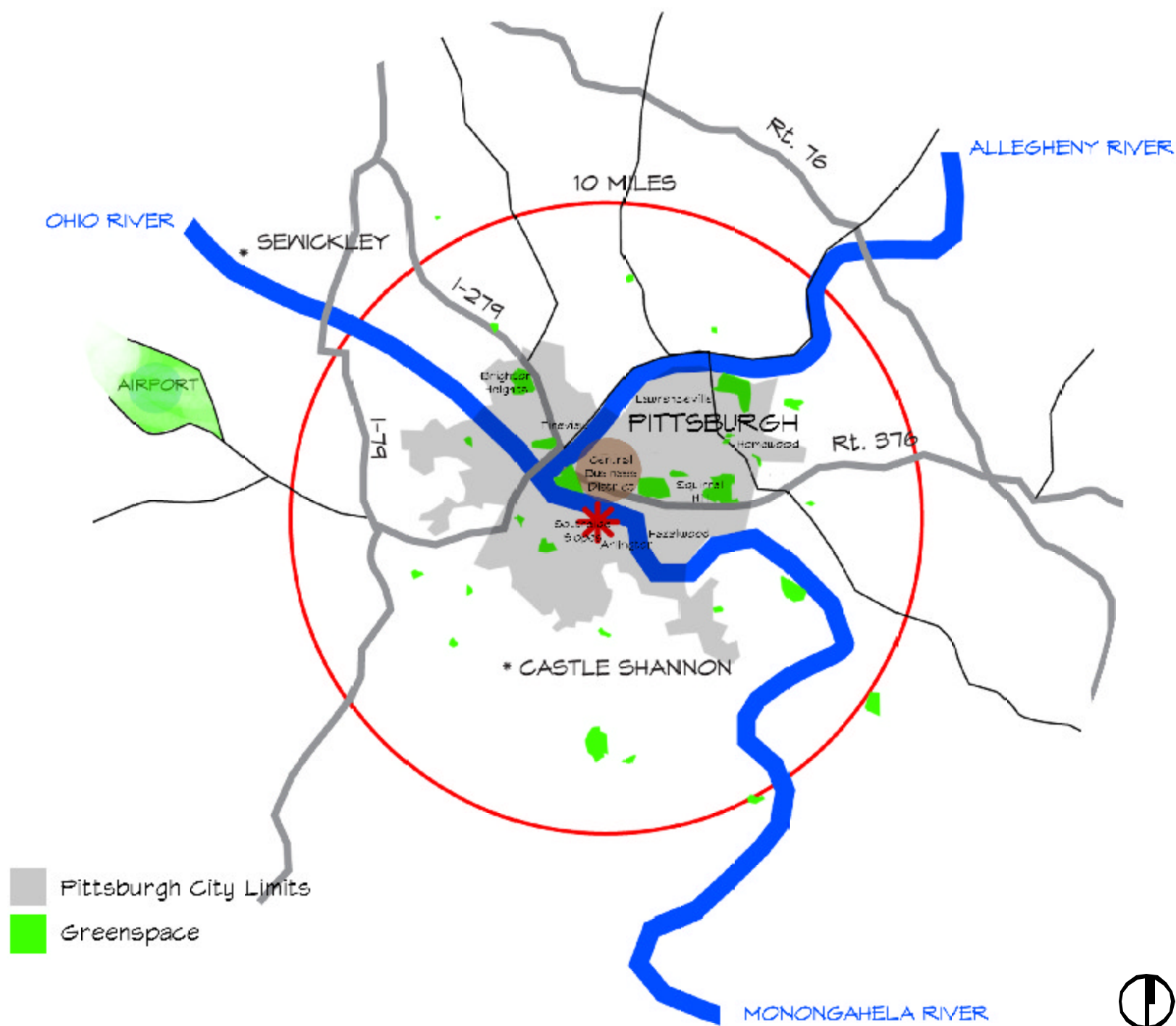
At the third and final meeting, KDA presented the three conceptual design alternative plans, revised per the comments from the previous meetings. Comments from all of the meetings are integrated into this final book.

1.4 Members

South Side Park Planning Task Force Members:

Michelle Aul, South Side Resident, Citiparks
Bev Bagosi, South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association
Joe Balaban, South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association
Michele Balcer, Arlington Civic Council
Janice Crum, South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association
Bob Gradeck, South Side Local Development Company
Kevin Hanley, South Side Local Development Company
Alexandra Laporte, South Side Local Development Company
Mary Lou Simon, South Side Local Development Company
John Werling, Arlington Civic Council
Jason Vrabel, South Side Resident, Community Design Center of Pittsburgh

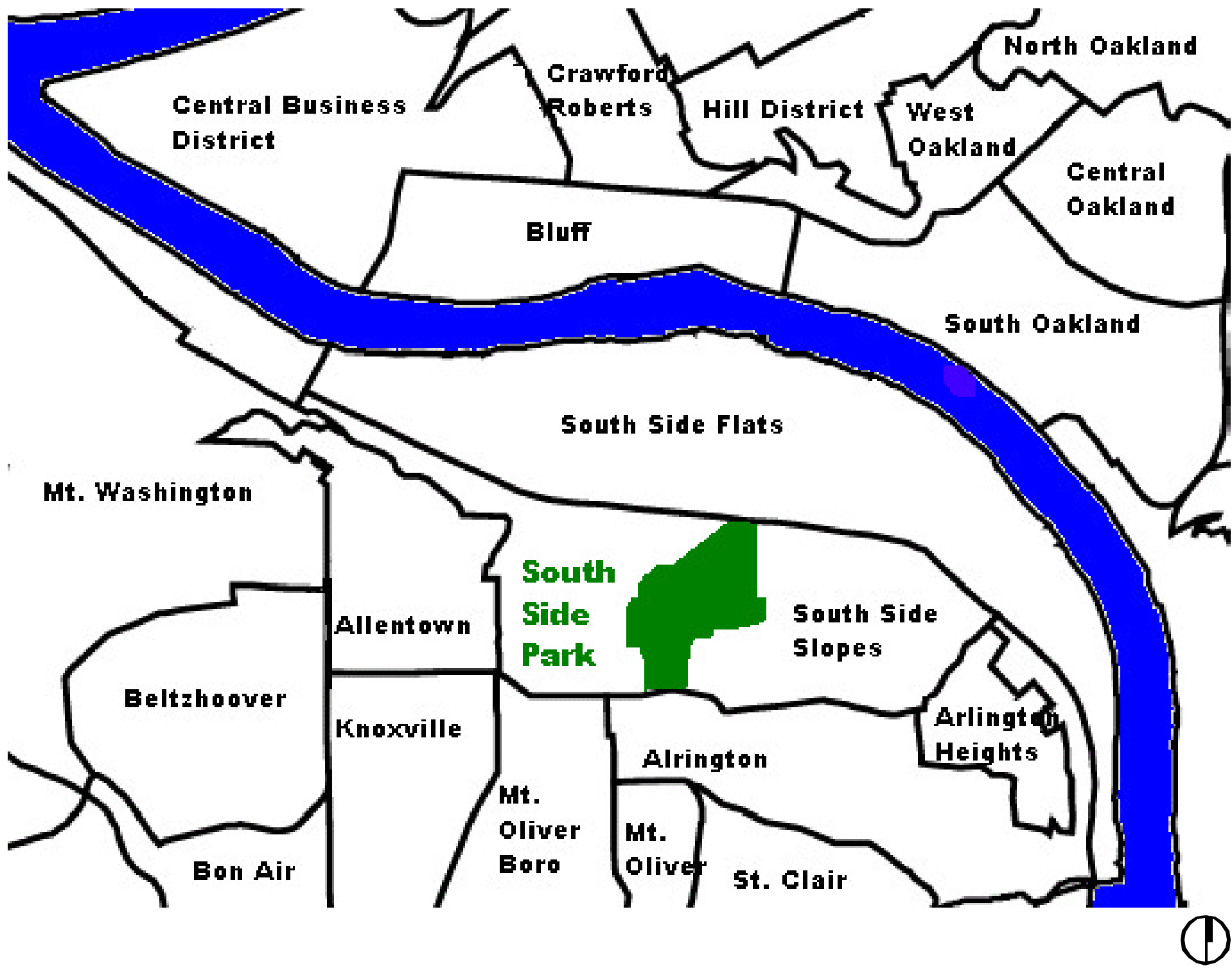
- 2.0 Background Data
 - 2.1 Regional Context
 - 2.2 Neighborhood Context
 - 2.3 Contract Limits



2.1 Regional Context

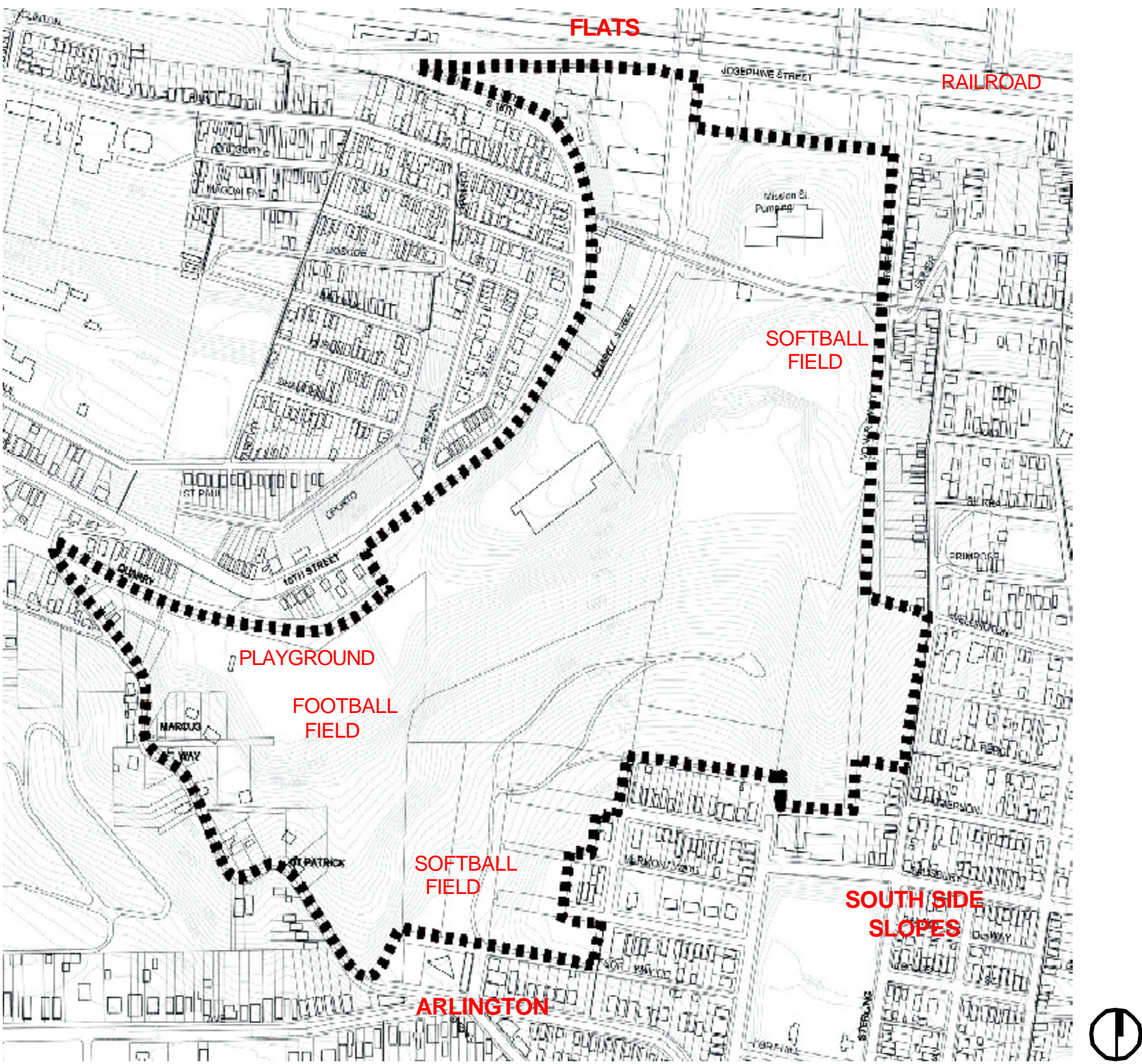
Pittsburgh is located at the meeting point of the Ohio, along the Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers. The project site is located on the southern side of the Monongahela River on a piece of land sandwiched between St. Patrick Street (on the slopes), and the South Side Flats starting at 21st Street. The park is within twenty miles of the Pittsburgh International Airport, Interstates 79, 76, and 279.

The City of Pittsburgh has several city parks that are maintained, highly used and are major draws for the communities. It is clear from this map, however, that the South Side lacks a city park.



2.2 Neighborhood Context

Given the lack of a city park on the South Side, South Side Park has the potential to be a major resource to several neighborhoods. Its northern edge fronts on the South Side Flats. Its southern edge abuts Arlington, and the park is largely surrounded (on its east and west sides) by the South Side Slopes. Although these are the adjoining neighborhoods, there are several other neighborhoods in proximity (see map), for whom the park would be a major asset.



2.3 Contract Limits

The contract limits for the study area for this project are shown on the adjacent map. The park's southern and eastern edges are a zig-zag caused by the collision of the street grid and property boundaries associated with the steep drop in topography that happens at the park's edge. The western edge is defined by 18th Street, which follows another topographical drop. The northern edge, begins with "the flats" along Josephine Street.

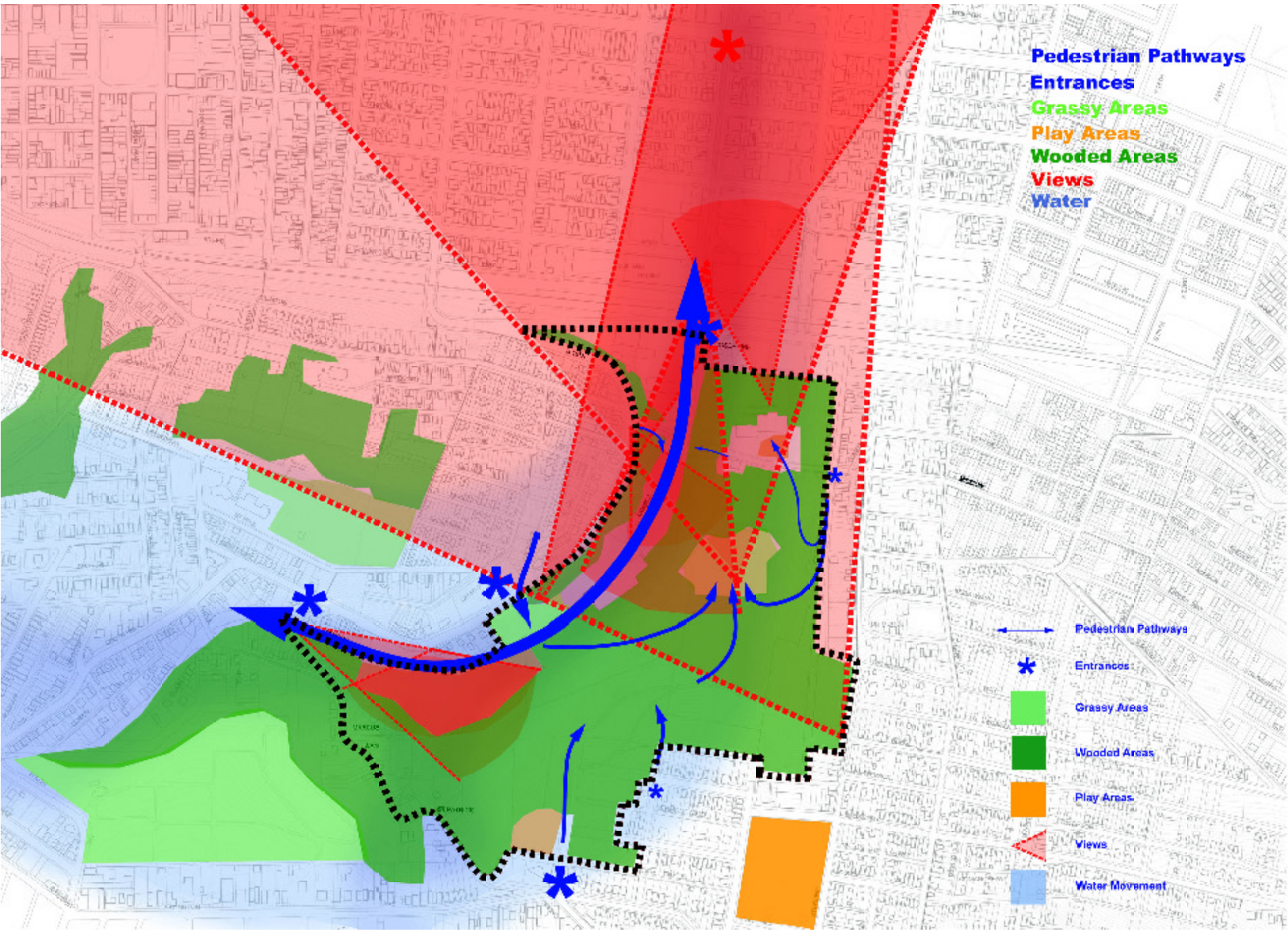
Almost completely surrounded by residential neighborhoods, the park could be a major draw to residents. It is obvious that a new safe park would be welcomed. There are currently two softball fields on the park's edges, as well as a fairly new playground by the existing football field. Other than the amenities that the park currently offers, there are few play and outdoor spaces associated with either the slopes or the flats.

- 3.0 Existing Conditions
 - 3.1 Introduction
 - 3.2 Entrances
 - 3.3 Pedestrian Circulation
 - 3.4 Grassy Areas
 - 3.5 Play Areas
 - 3.6 Wooded Areas
 - 3.7 Views
 - 3.8 Water

3.1 Introduction

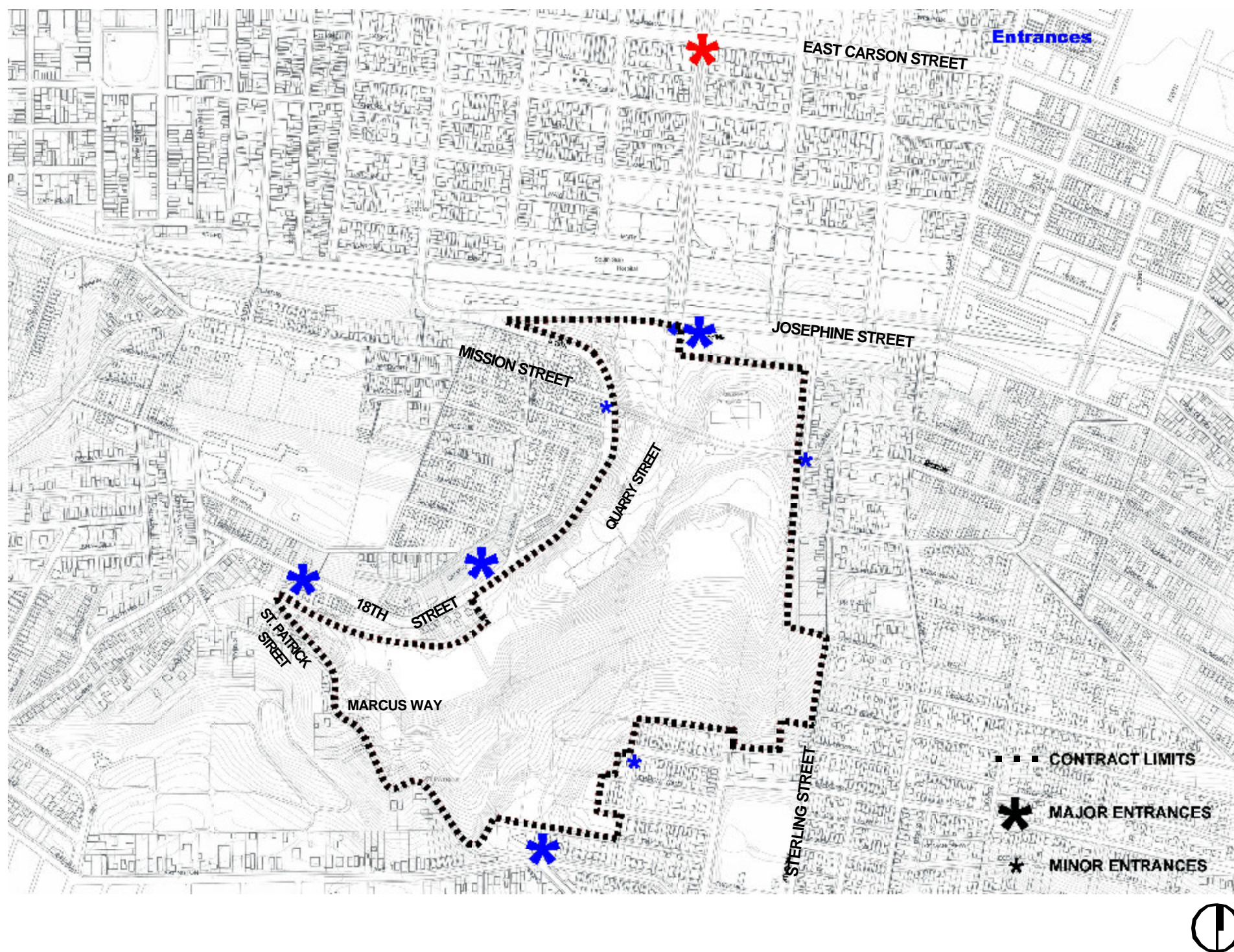
The existing conditions map is created through data collection and site observation. Understanding the existing conditions is the basis for beginning the design process. The design process is intended to present questions, and hopefully come up with some responses to issues identified through this observation process.

The elements that were analyzed for this project are all those that are considered essential to the way residents use, and desire to use the park. The following items were investigated and are shown on the following maps: Entrances, Pedestrian Circulation, Grassy Areas, Play Areas, Wooded Areas, Views, and Water.



EXISTING CONDITIONS MAP





3.2 Entrances

It is important to get a sense of pedestrian movement in the park to understand how people want to access these spaces, and to determine if there might be more convenient ways of entering the park. Major entrances are those that consistently get the heaviest usage. In the case of South Side Park, these usage patterns seem to be associated with scale. Major entrances, by and large, allow for vehicular entrance and parking, or are designated by a more formal element, such as a stone pier.

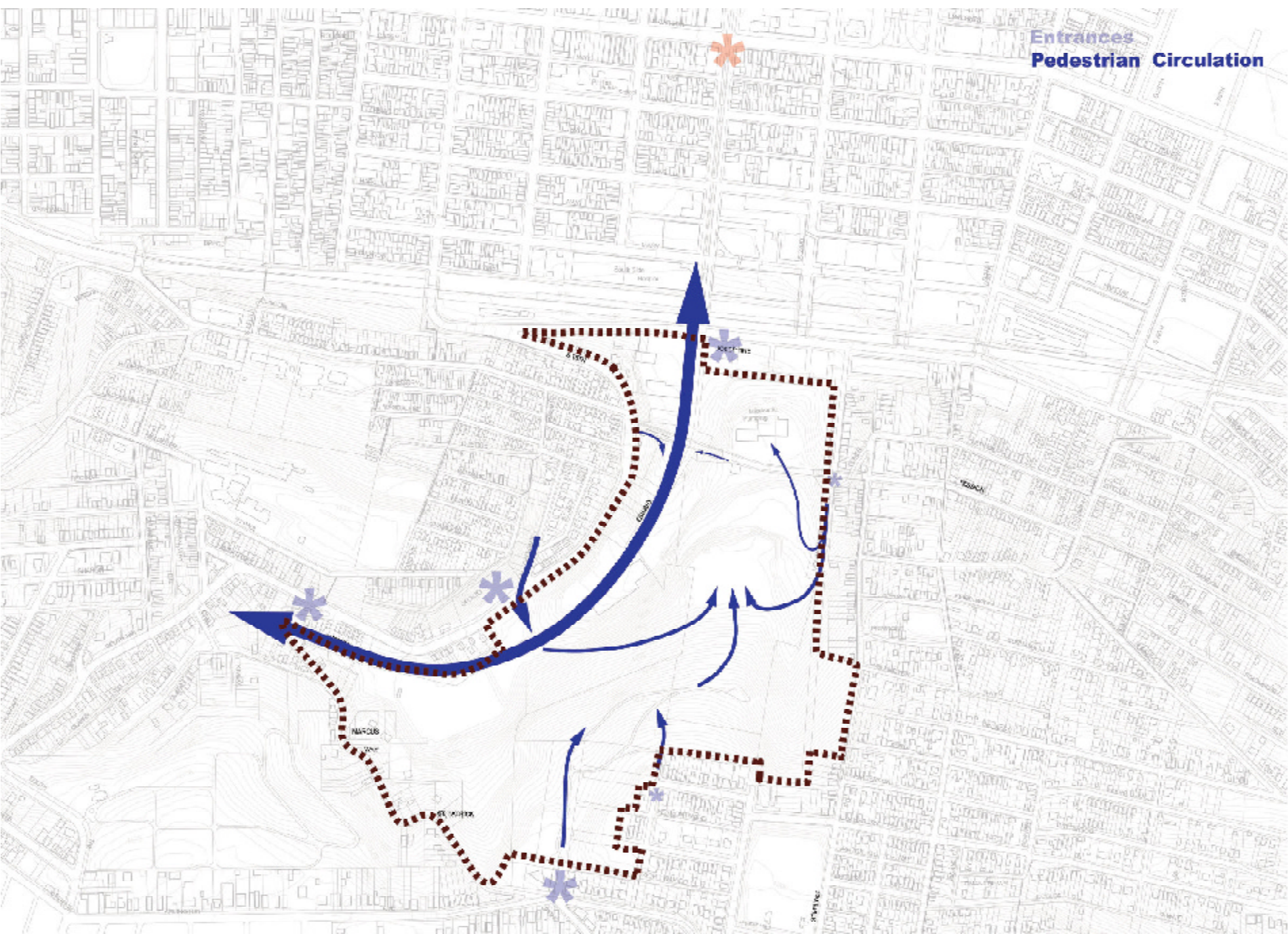
Minor entrances are less formal, and more on a pedestrian scale, perhaps a narrow set of stairs, or even a trampled path through brush.

There are five major, and three minor “official” pedestrian entrances to the park. Four of the major gateways are obvious: the 21st Street corridor, 18th Street, St. Patrick Street, and through the parking lot at the Arlington Ball Field. The fifth entrance, where 21st Street intersects with East Carson Street, is less obvious, but is considered to be essential to the success of the park. It is also the one entrance that is the most neglected. It seems that very few residents are even aware of the park’s presence. Creating a connection to East Carson Street pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow is crucial, and will help to make the park visible to the city.

3.3 Pedestrian Circulation

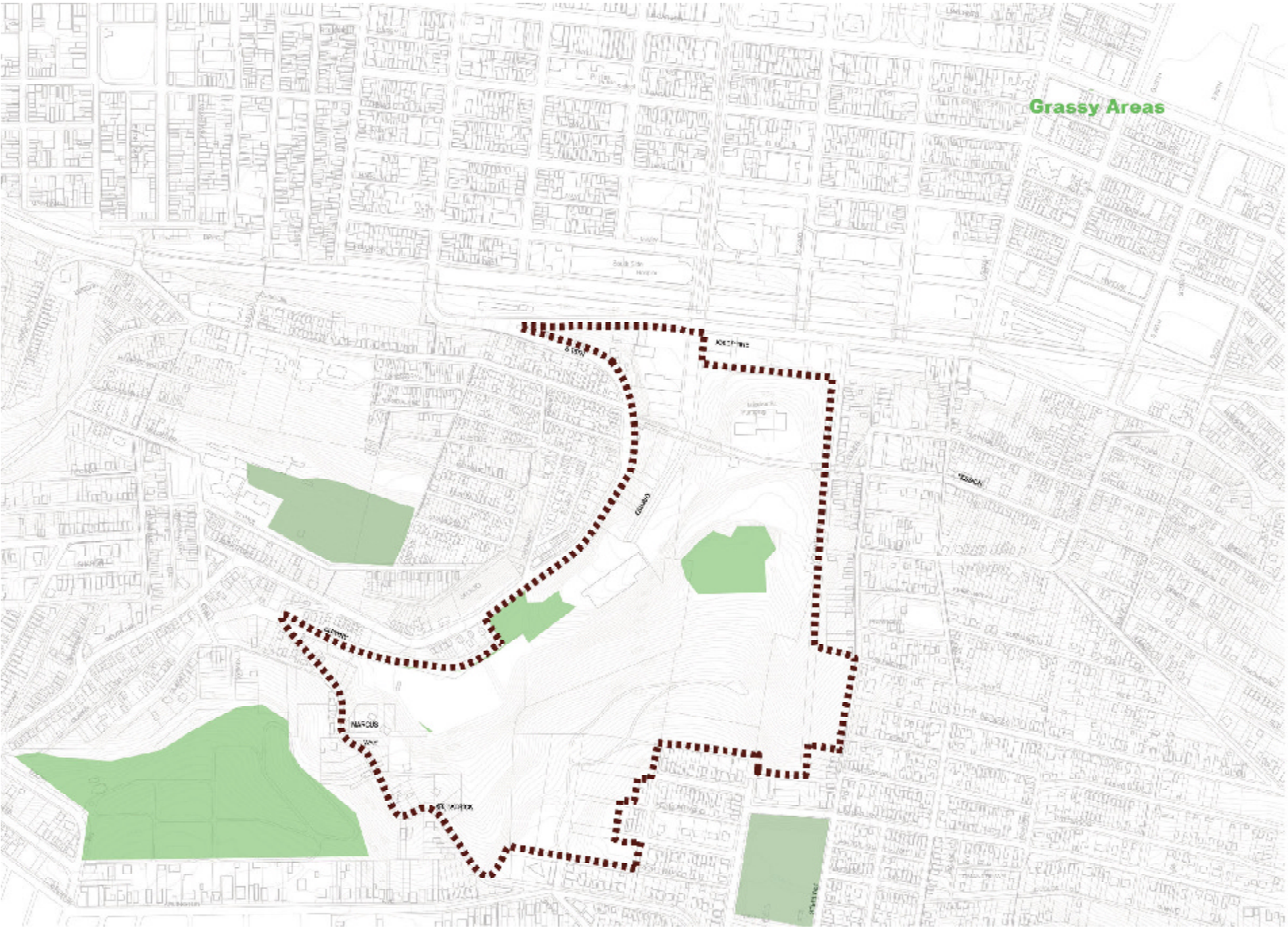
Associated with the entrances, the current paths of movement through the park were analyzed. It seems that there is a hierarchy of passages, occurring at two different scales. The largest flow of people use the park simply as a connection from the slopes to the flats (represented by the larger blue arrow). For those people, the park does not act as a filter or a destination, but more as a funnel.

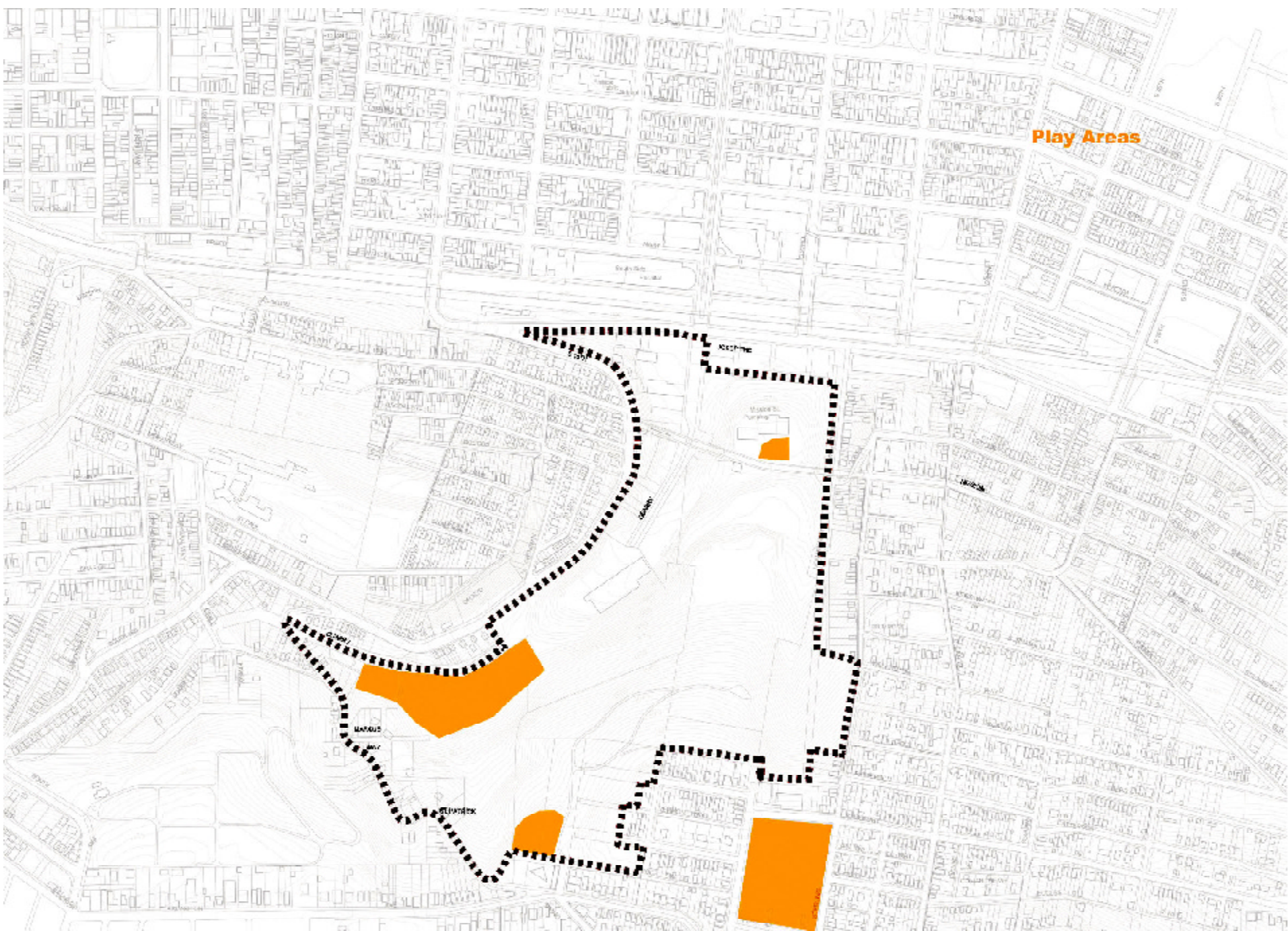
Secondary movement through the park happens at a much slower rate, on a more individual scale. The pathway system through the woods associated with the slopes also contains some movement, although only partially for activities that are supported by the community as a whole. There are numerous footpaths (represented by the smaller blue arrows along the eastern side of the park) as part of an extensive system of "nature paths", that lead to an overlook with an incredible view of the city. However, to residents this is known as "the plateau", and it is used for numerous illicit activities - teenage partying, bonfires, and car burnings.



3.4 Grassy Areas

There are numerous grassy, or open areas associated with the park and adjacent to it. From the mowed grass of the football field, to the unkept overlook up in the woods, these are places that are open to the sky, and potentially to more unobstructed, unprogrammed movement.





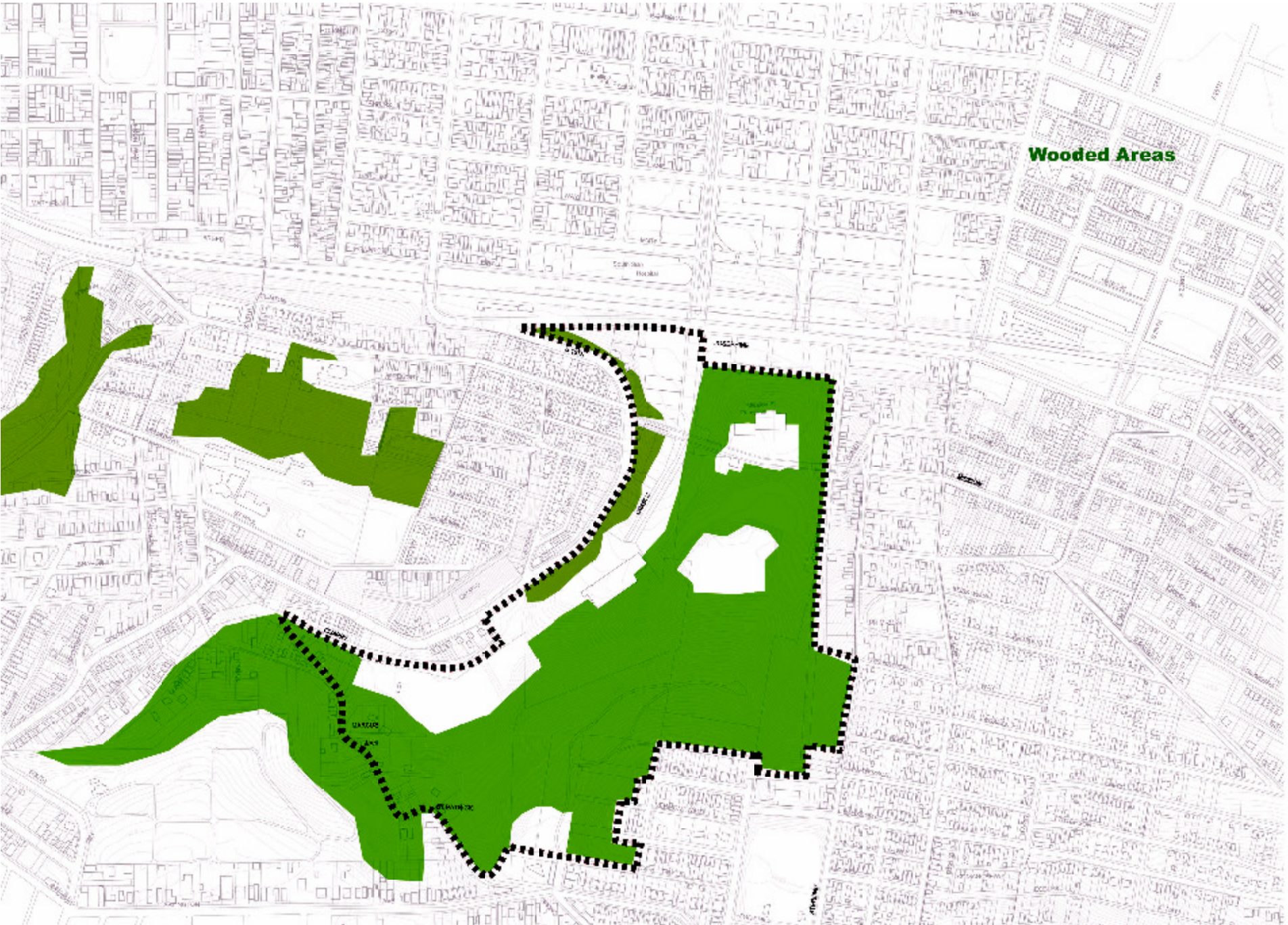
3.5 Play Areas

Play areas are spaces that are specifically designated for organized play activities. These include the football field, the playground along the western edge of the park, and the softball diamonds along Arlington and behind the pumping station.

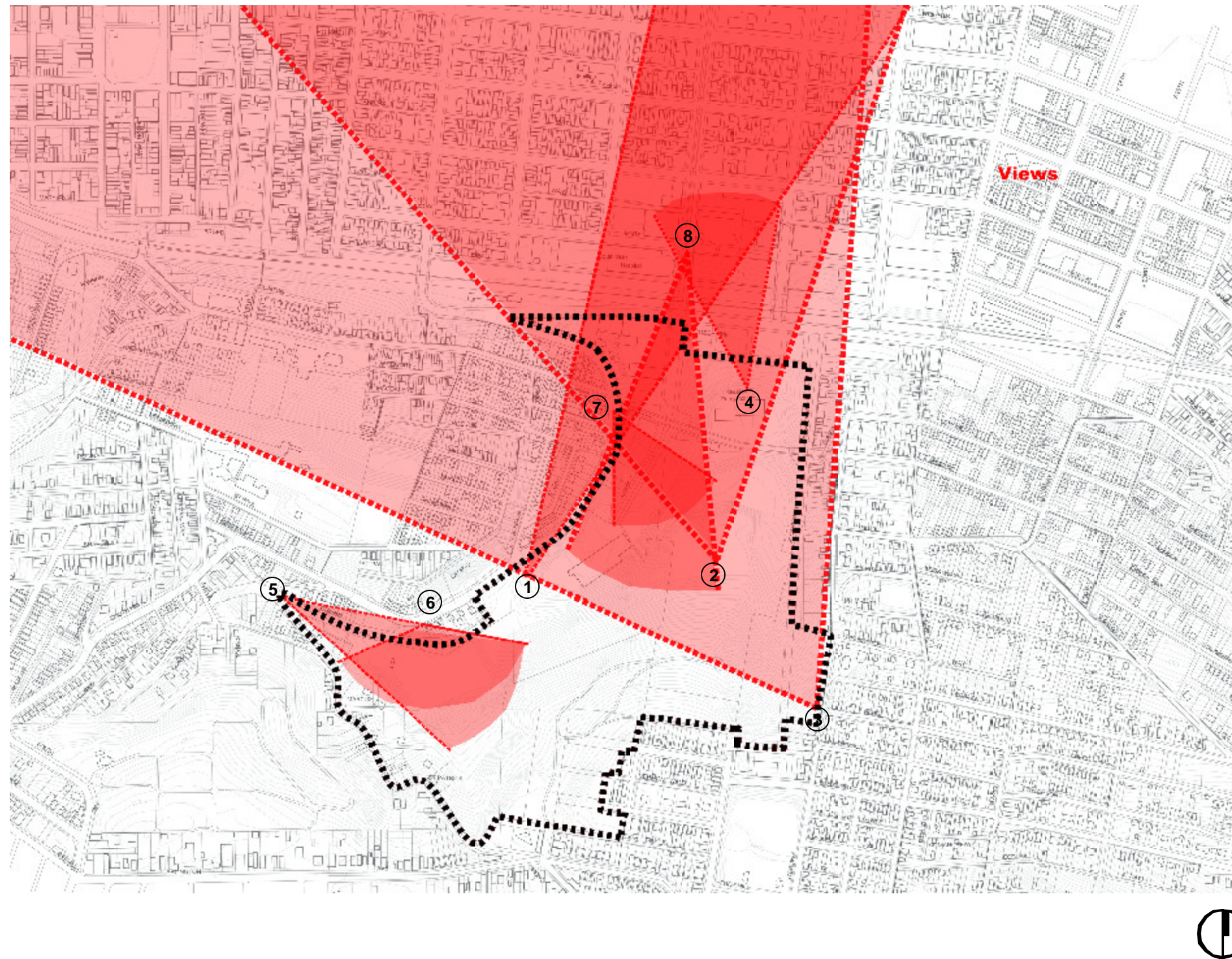


3.6 Wooded Areas

An analysis of aerial photos of the park reveals the dense coverage of woods in the park. The park consists of numerous species of shade and understory trees (a full landscape survey still needs to be done). From walking the edges of the park, or even along the major path from the flats to St. Patrick Street, it is hard to tell that South Side Park contains such a valuable resource.



Existing Conditions - Views



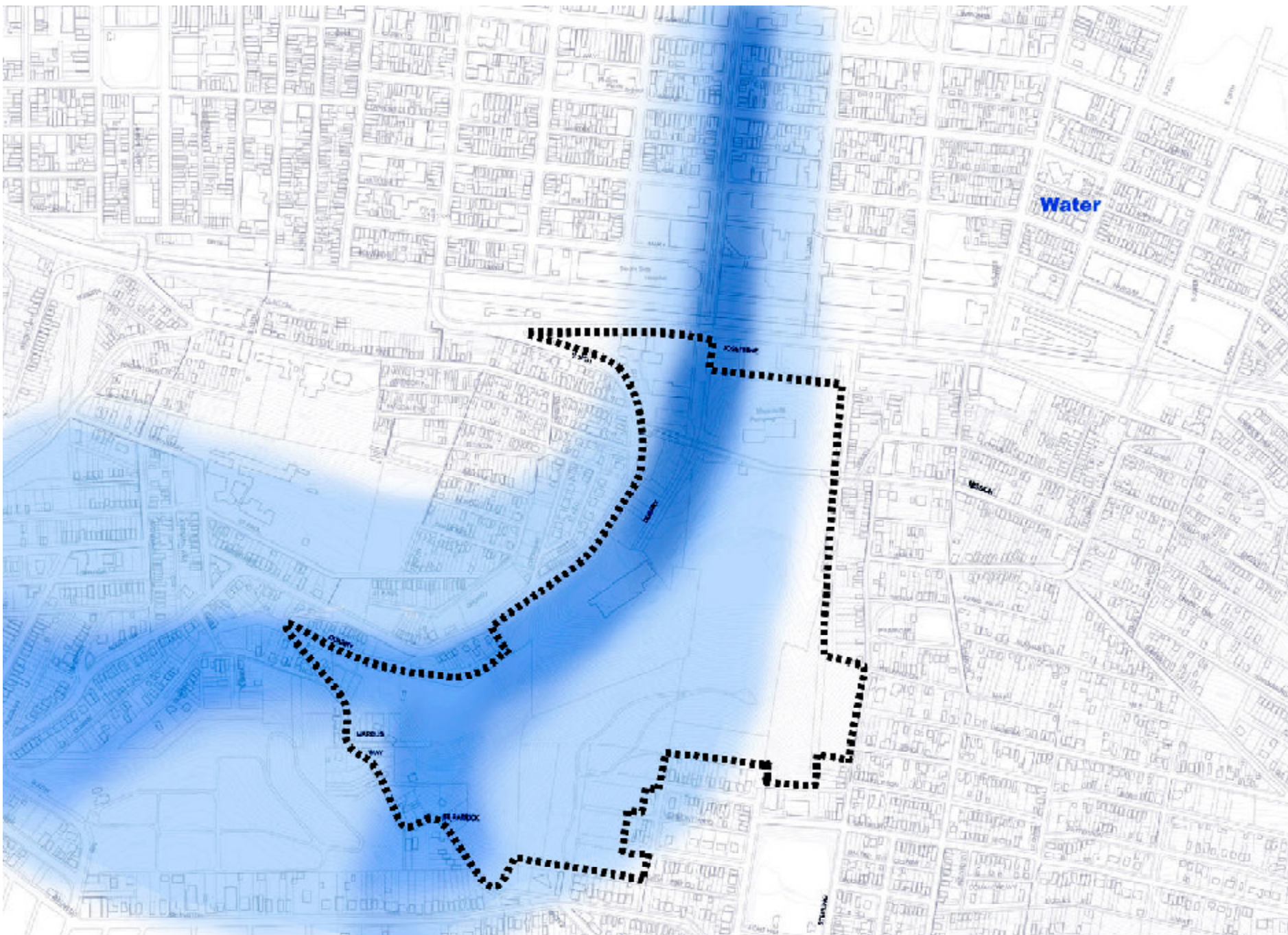
3.7 Views

South Side Park is replete with fantastic views of the city. Several spots, like the top of the curving stairs on the lower half of the park (view 1), the plateau (view 2), and especially from the top of Sterling Street (view 3 - also see p. 22) have panoramic views over the flats to downtown. Behind the pumping station there is a plinth that has a wonderful view over the flats (view 4). Unfortunately, the current layout of the park does not emphasize these views. Any new design should take advantage of these valuable assets, make them more accessible, thereby drawing people to the space.

There are also beneficial views into the park from its edges - extremely important for security purposes. The western-most-point of the park, on St. Patrick Street (view 5), and then just east along 18th Street (view 6) have clear views over the ballfield and children's playground. The skating rink and its parking lot are within sight of the stairs on the western end of the Mission Street Bridge (view 7). If one manages to look past all the cars, it is possible to catch a glimpse into the park from 21st Street (view 8). These views should be encouraged and emphasized in order to help overcome the feeling of isolation that currently prevents the space from becoming an attractive place for community use.



Existing Conditions - Water



3.8 Water

One of the major issues in the park is the problematic drainage that occurs in several spots on the lower level. An analysis of the topography of the entire area helps to explain why. The grounds are actually the collector for a watershed that extends far outside of the physical boundaries of the park. There is a tremendous amount of water running down the surrounding hillside that concentrates and gets funneled right through the center of the park as it runs toward the river. Any new design will need to take water management into account.

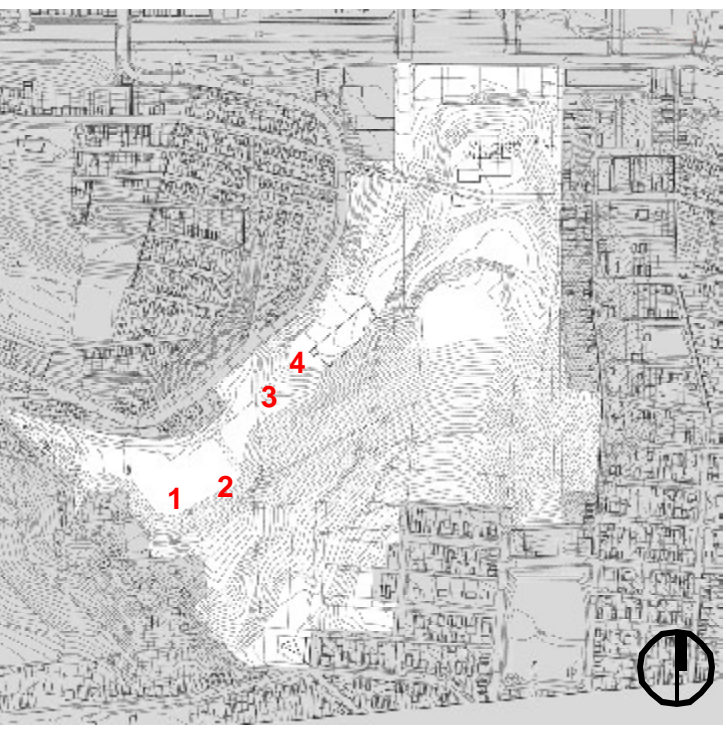


- 4.0 Visual Character
 - 4.1 Drainage and Maintenance
 - 4.2 Lack of Connection
 - 4.3 Topography
 - 4.4 Isolation
 - 4.5 Ecology
 - 4.6 Views
 - 4.7 Facility
 - 4.8 Trails
 - 4.9 Landforms
 - 4.10 History

4.1 Drainage and Maintenance

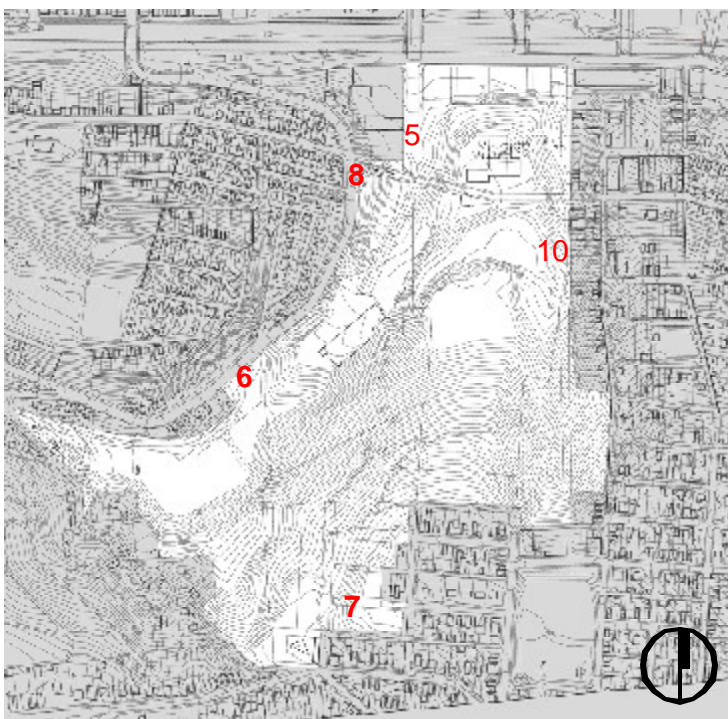
There are numerous spots throughout the park that make the issues with water management extremely important. The football field on the lower level of the park seems to be consistently soggy (image 1). The water pouring down the hillside, even on a day when it was clear and dry (image 2), is indicative of the role that this piece of land plays in the movement of water through the neighborhood.

The park has been largely neglected in recent years. The facilities and structures that do currently exist in the park have been allowed to decline into a state of disrepair (image 3). The lack of “public eyes” (internal or adjacent human occupancy, which provides a constant level of security) on the park has also allowed it to become a dumping ground of sorts. It is not unheard of to find burned out cars and bags of garbage in numerous spots throughout the park (image 4).



4.2 Lack of Connection

One of the major obstacles to the park's success is the lack of connection that it has to its surrounding communities. Visually it is cut off from East Carson Street by the elevated railroad tracks and mass of parking on 21st street. There is no indication to the general public that anything of interest lies beyond. The connection from the Arlington neighborhood is unofficial, and forced by those trying to find their way to the Arlington ballfield, and the nature paths (image 7). In order to access the park from the neighborhood cradled along its edge to the west, there are two entrances. The first is paved, and contains neglected stone piers that indicate that this space was once of some importance (image 6). The other is a set of steps that don't seem to lead to anywhere appealing, and that have a handrail that is completely unanchored at its top, making it unsteady and dangerous (image 8). There are no connections along Sterling Street. The stairs connecting the slopes to the flats, as they are currently designed, act as a boundary and do not allow for any lateral, East/West movement into the park (p. 19, image 10).



5.



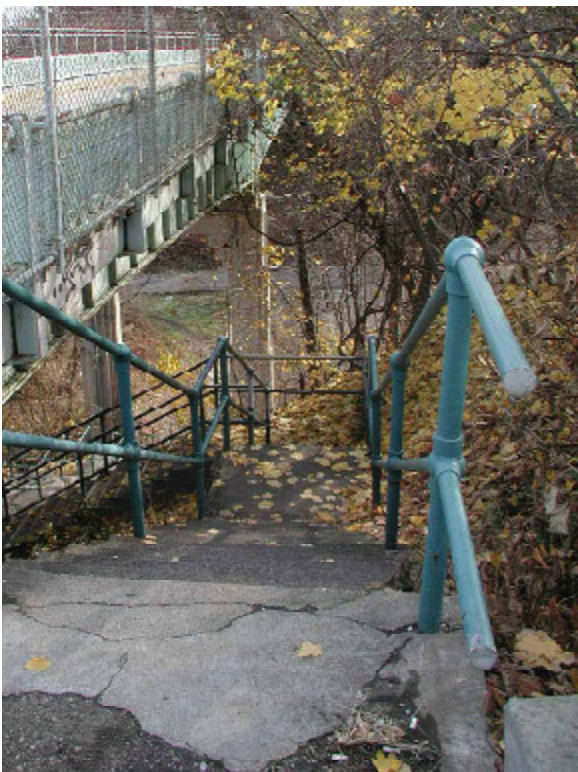
7.



6.

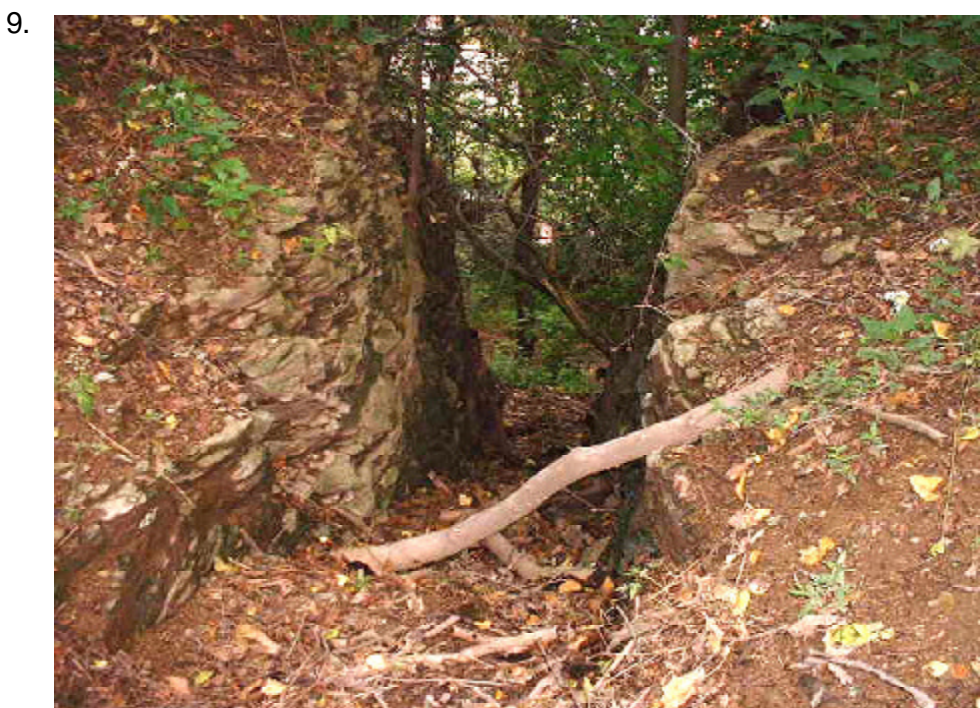
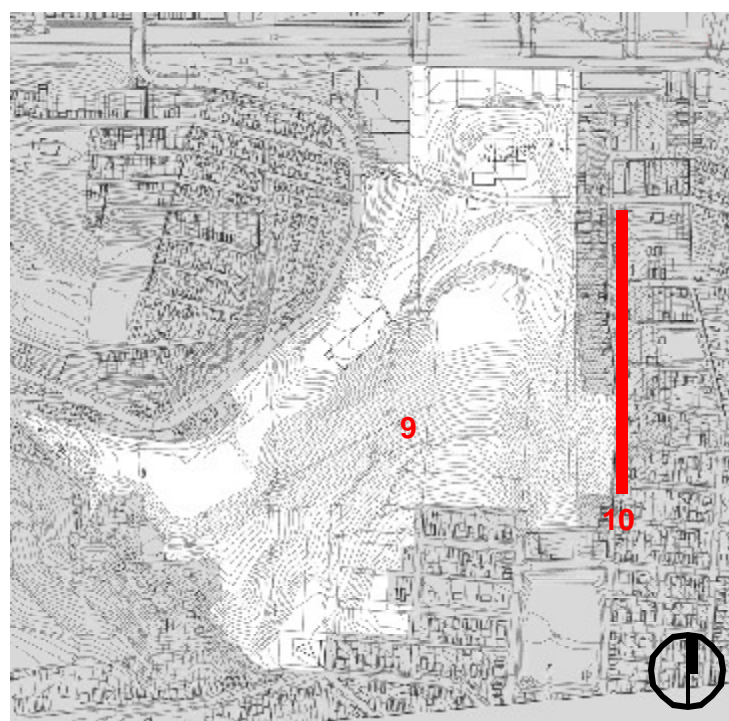


8.



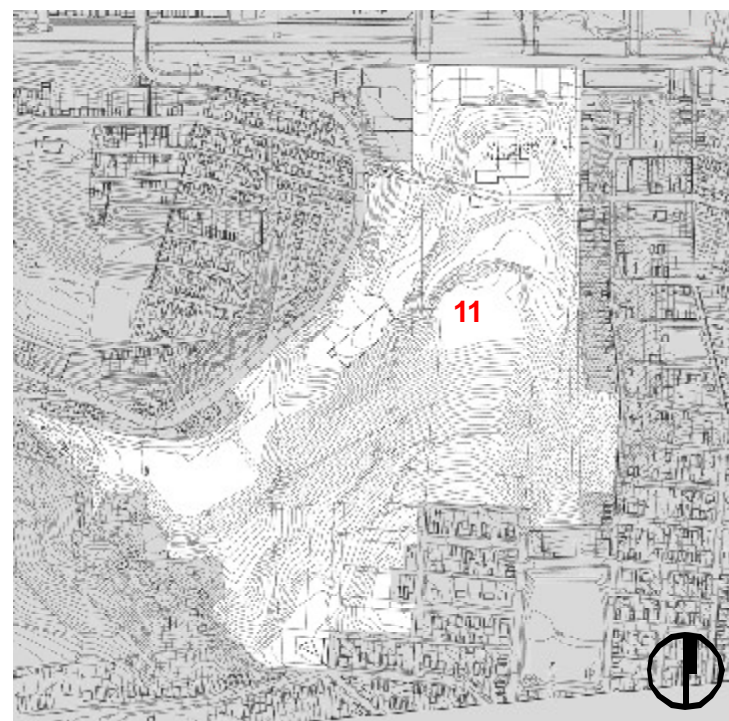
4.3 Topography

The topographical difference between the slopes and the flats makes negotiating between the two halves of the park seem rather daunting. Along the network of paths, the movement of water has cut clefts in the rock that make walking the paths difficult in places (image 9). The necessity to negotiate this terrain created an impressive run of steps along the eastern edge of the park on Sterling Street (image 10). Neighborhood residents have stated that these steps are used for exercise - an activity that could easily be transferred inside the park's boundaries.



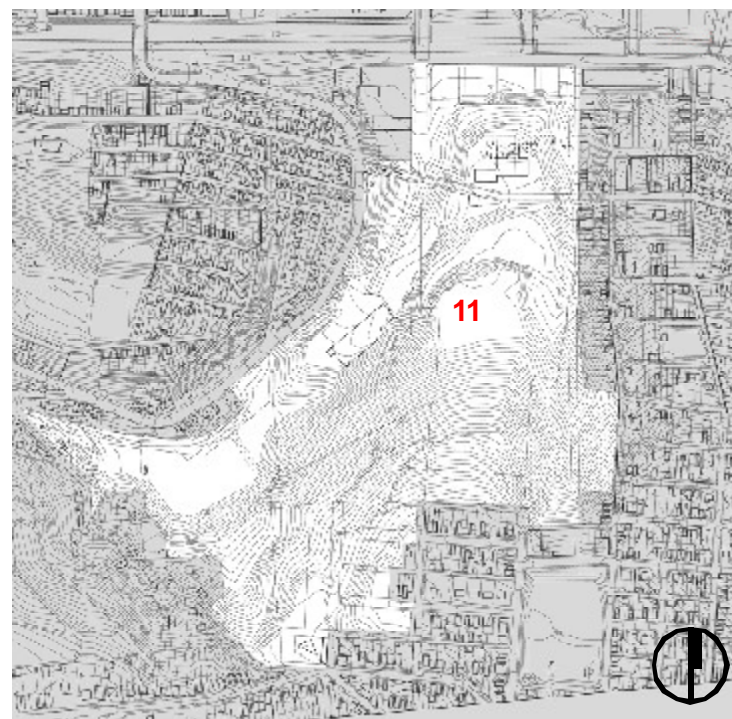
4.4 Isolation

One of the largest obstacles to overcome in order to make South Side Park a successful space is the sense of isolation (image 11). The entire park, for many members of the community, engenders a feeling of danger unless in the direct presence of larger numbers of people. The sense of danger presents an obstacle to the goal of attracting new residents. It should therefore be one of the goals of this project to change this perception. Yet, it is important to remember that there is a difference between isolation and *solitude*, and the design should not have the goal of eliminating spaces for personal occupation and reflection, but rather making these spaces safer.



4.5 Ecology

The limited pedestrian use of South Side Park, and resulting lack of maintenance has interestingly enough allowed the park to become a site of ecological diversity and interest - an asset that is a positive aspect of the park to some residents. The park as a whole has a large number of old and new growth tree species, pioneer shrubs and wildflowers. A delicate balance will need to be struck in order to encourage use, while maintaining the ecosystems that have become established, yet are potentially fairly fragile.

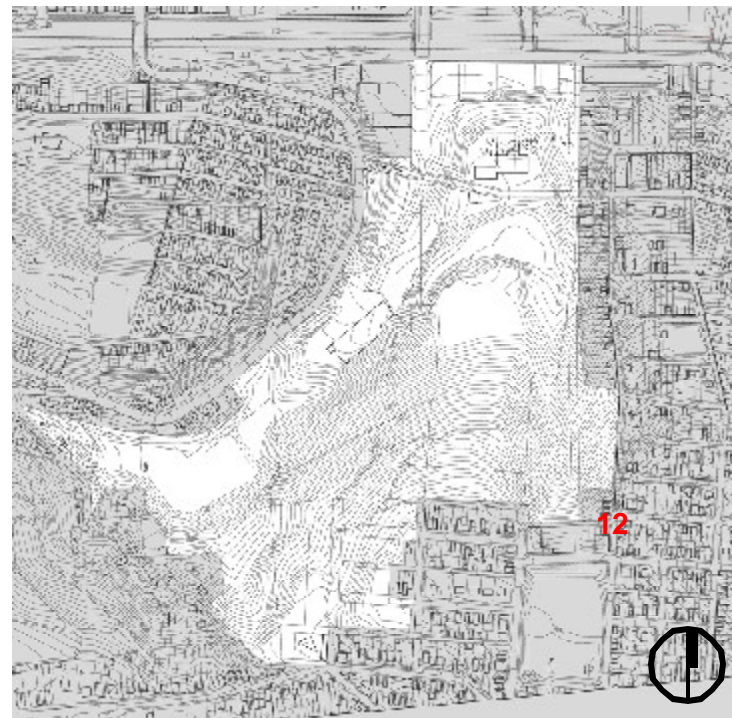


11.



4.6 Views

The major assets of the park are the views of the rest of the city (pg.13 see "views map"). Visitors to the city of Pittsburgh travel to Mount Washington to catch glimpses of downtown, yet the panorama available to the residents of the neighborhoods around South Side Park is equally spectacular.



12.



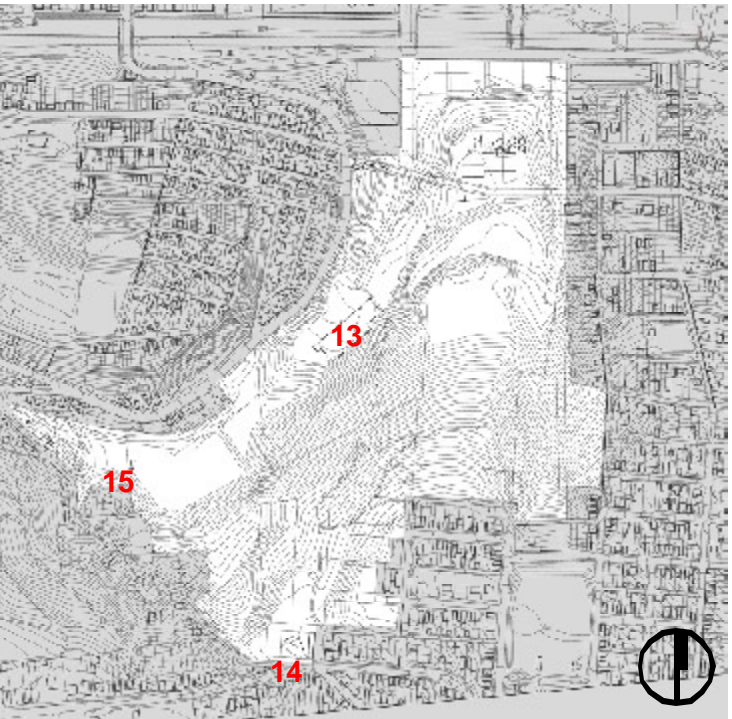
4.7 Facilities

South Side residents are lucky that their park already contains several facilities that make it a draw to community members and city residents. The skating rink used to be heavily used, although its been closed for a couple of years. There are several ballfields that make it possible for sports organizations to thrive on the South Side (pg.11 see “play areas”). A football field, two softball fields (image 14), basketball courts, and a playground (image 15) already exist on the site. It is necessary that their locations, and perhaps even *existence* be considered as part of the design solution. Could their relocation to other places within the park potentially offer greater safety in more deserted areas? Do these spaces encourage enough activity to warrant their presence above other potential uses?

13.



14.

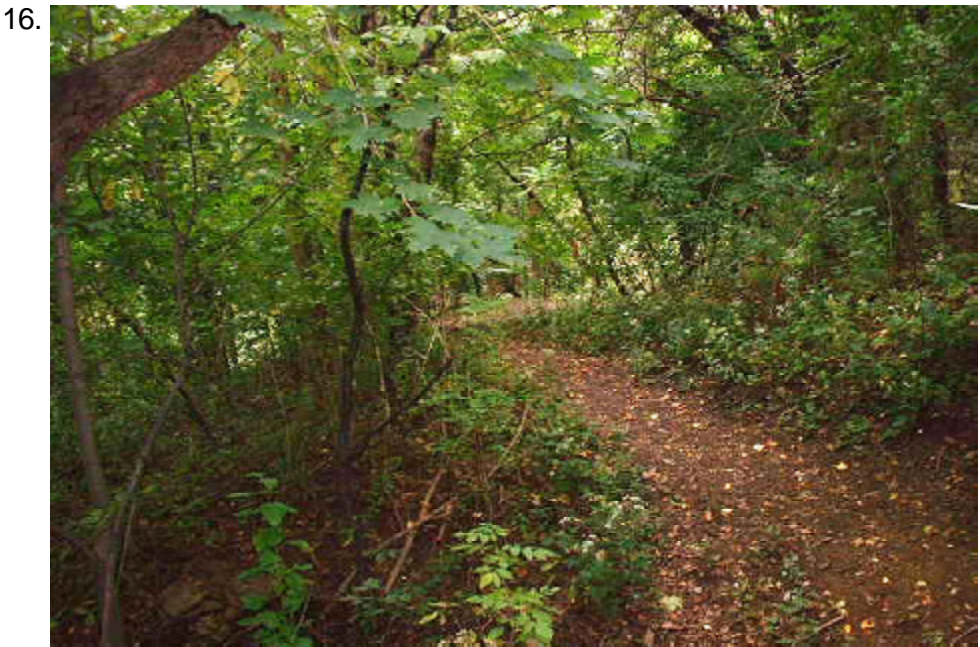
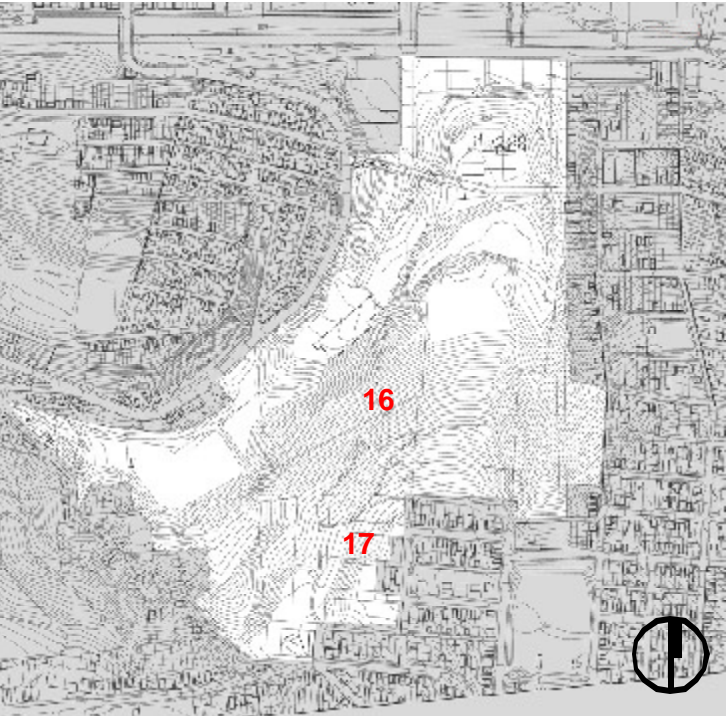


15.



4.8 Trails

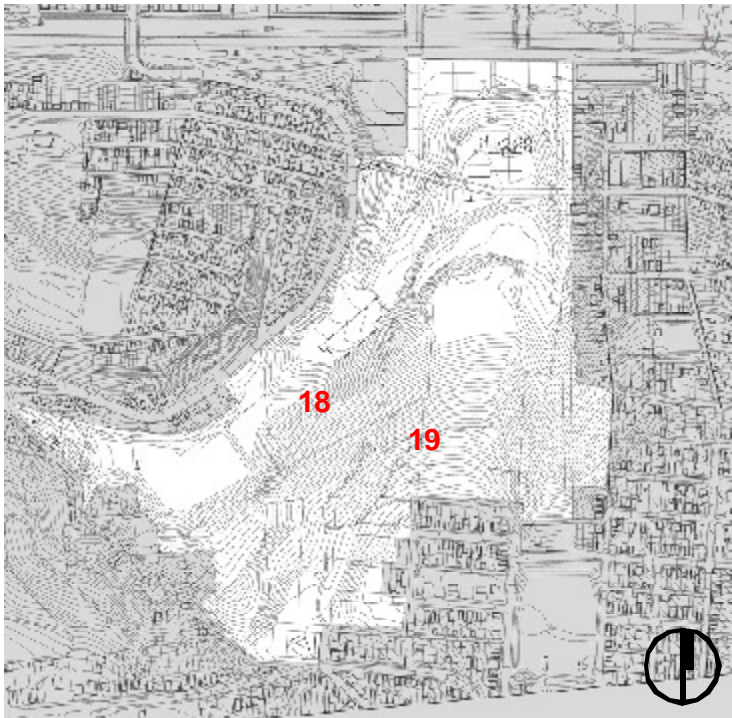
Further enriching the use of possibilities of South Side Park are the hierarchy of pedestrian pathways that cross the site. While larger, vehicular scale roads, and grand stairways occupy the lower portion of the park, there is an extensive network of narrow trails that navigate the wooded area above (images 16 and 17). Currently used for both hiking and biking, they are extremely beautiful, and allow for more private, personal occupation of the park.



Visual Character-Landforms

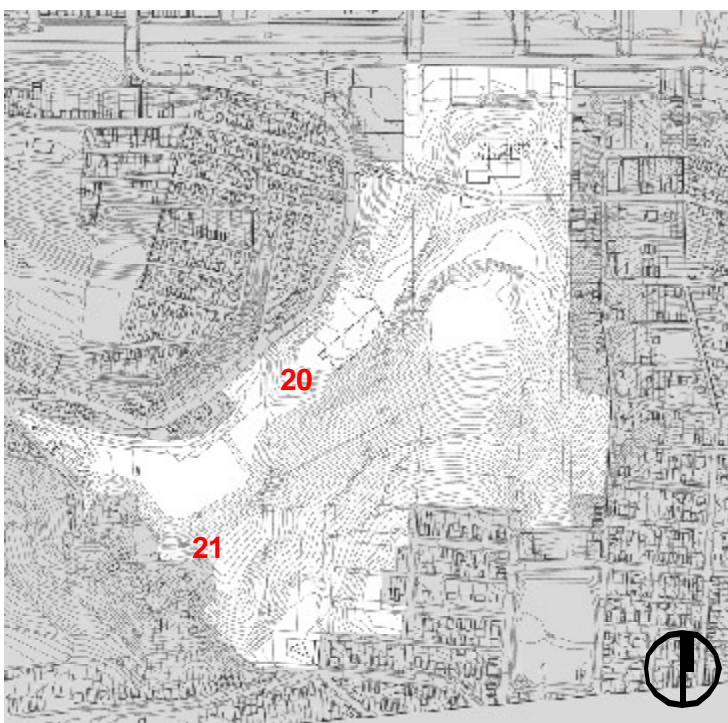
4.9 Landforms

While the views out to the rest of the city are spectacular, the views within the park are exceptional as well. Due to water movement, past uses, and perhaps past design implementations, there are landforms that are both dramatic and subtle (Image 18), grand and unimposing (image 19). The landscape of this park in particular is extremely varied, which makes the experiences quite unique and remarkable (see pg.19 “topography”).



4.10 History

It is clear that South Side Park has a rich history embedded within its boundaries. Numerous stone walls (image 21), structures (image 20), remnants of staircases and foundations indicate that this site had, perhaps, several other lives prior to its current existence. This history can be revealed by the design for the park.



5.0 History

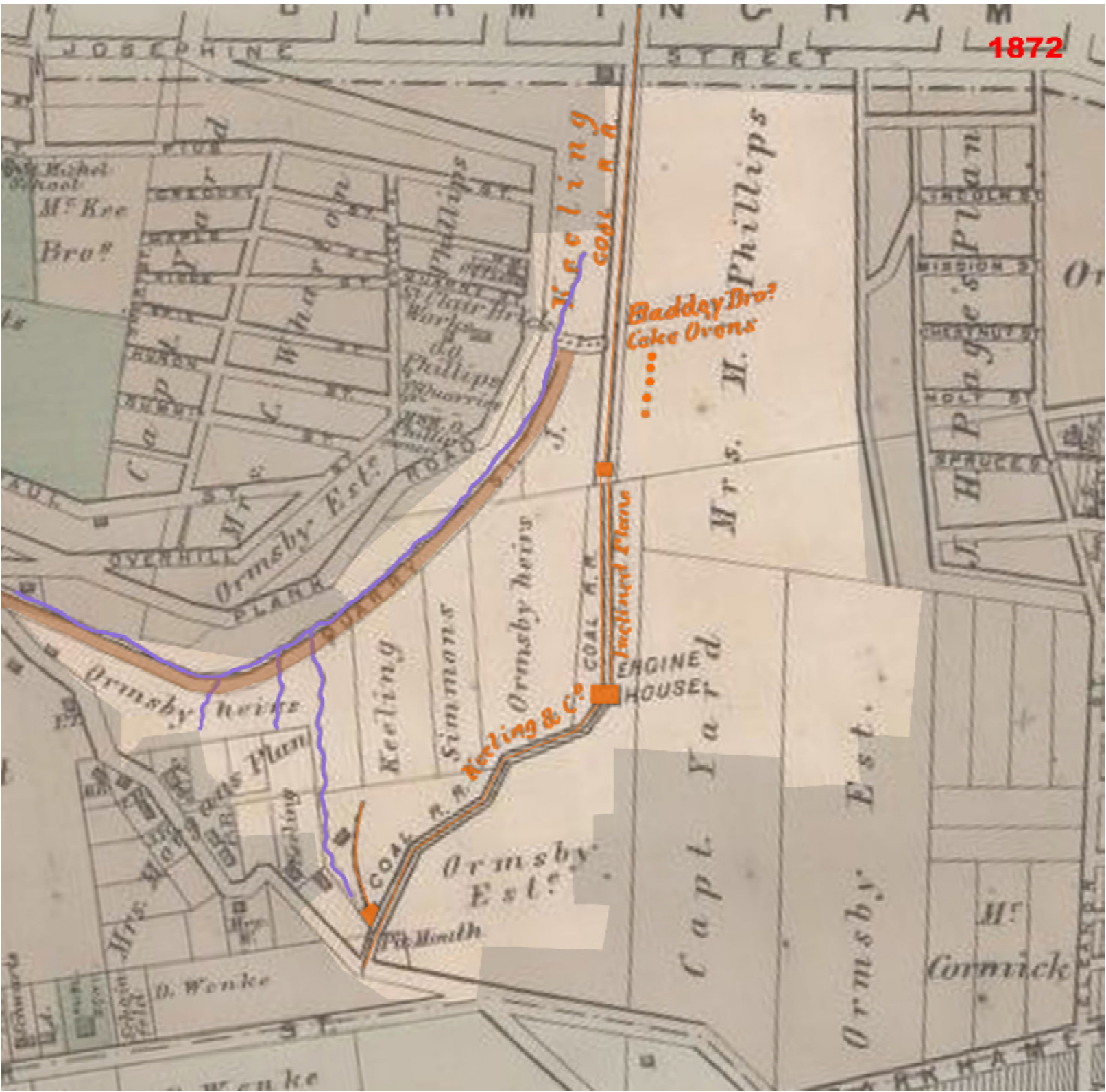
- 5.1 1872 Map
- 5.2 1876 Map
- 5.3 1886 Map
- 5.4 1916 Map

History - 1872 Map

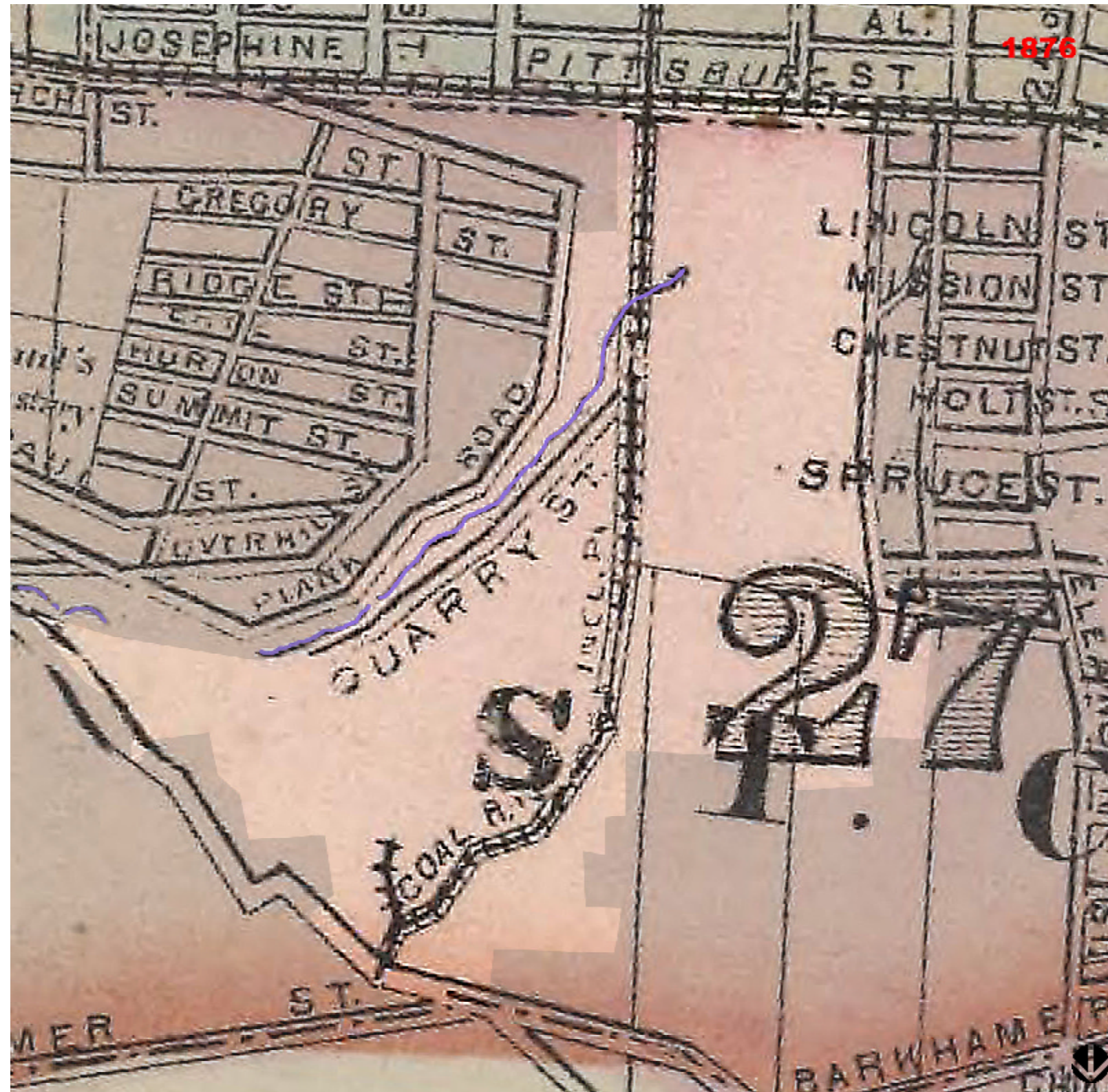
5.1 1872 History Map

The history of the site that is now South Side Park is extremely varied, and is a record of the industrial history of Pittsburgh. This 1872 Sanborn Map reveals several past uses and features of the site:

- A stream along Quarry Road which ran straight through the current sight (blue).
- Keeling & Co. was on site with a railroad leading to a pit mouth on the southern edge of the site, an incline (orange).
- Baddeley Brothers coke ovens at the base of the Keeling & Co. incline (orange).



History - 1876 Map

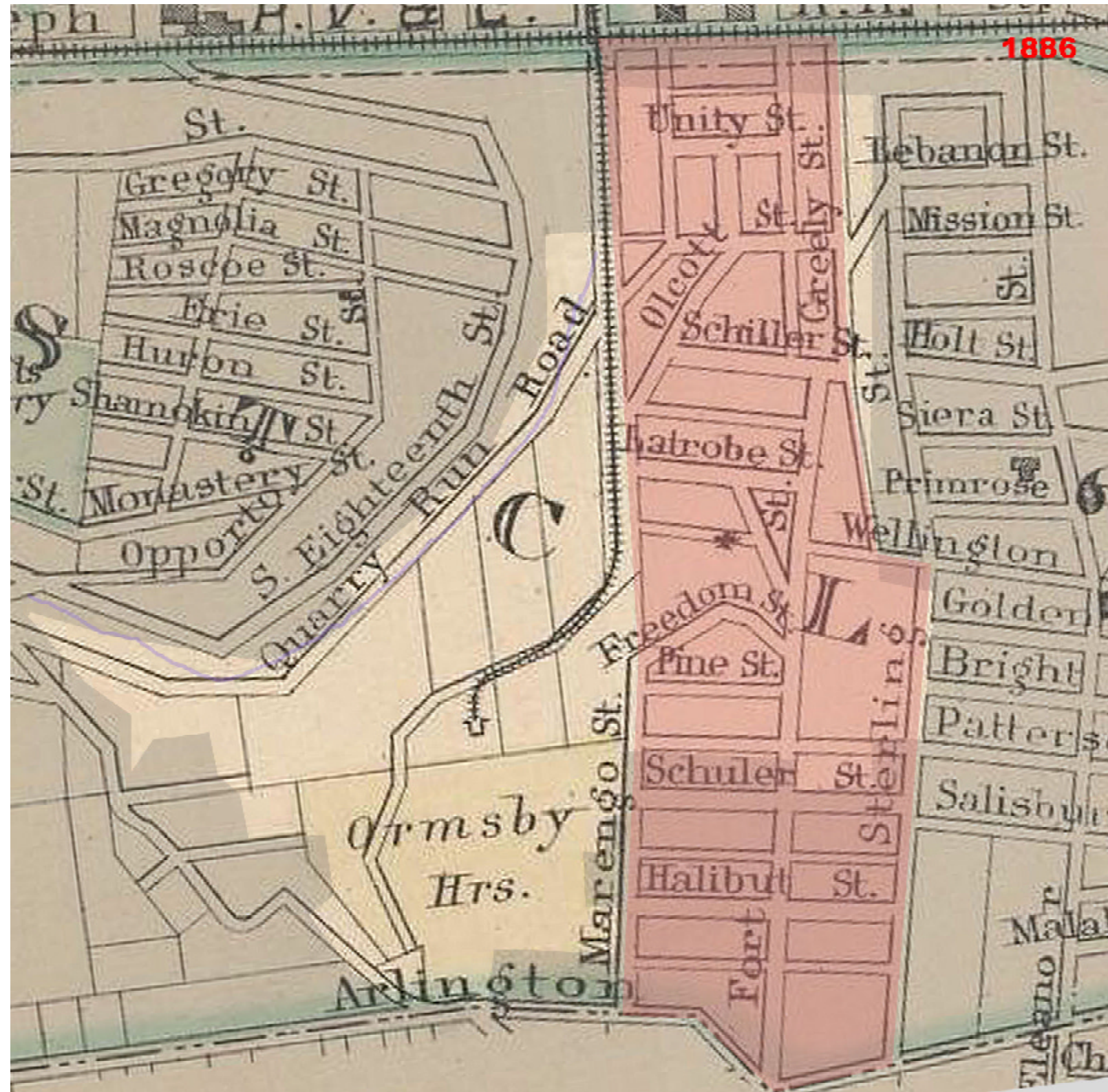


5.2 1876 History Map

By 1876:

- the stream had been interrupted (blue).
- the coke ovens disappeared.

History - 1886 Map



5.3 1886 History Map

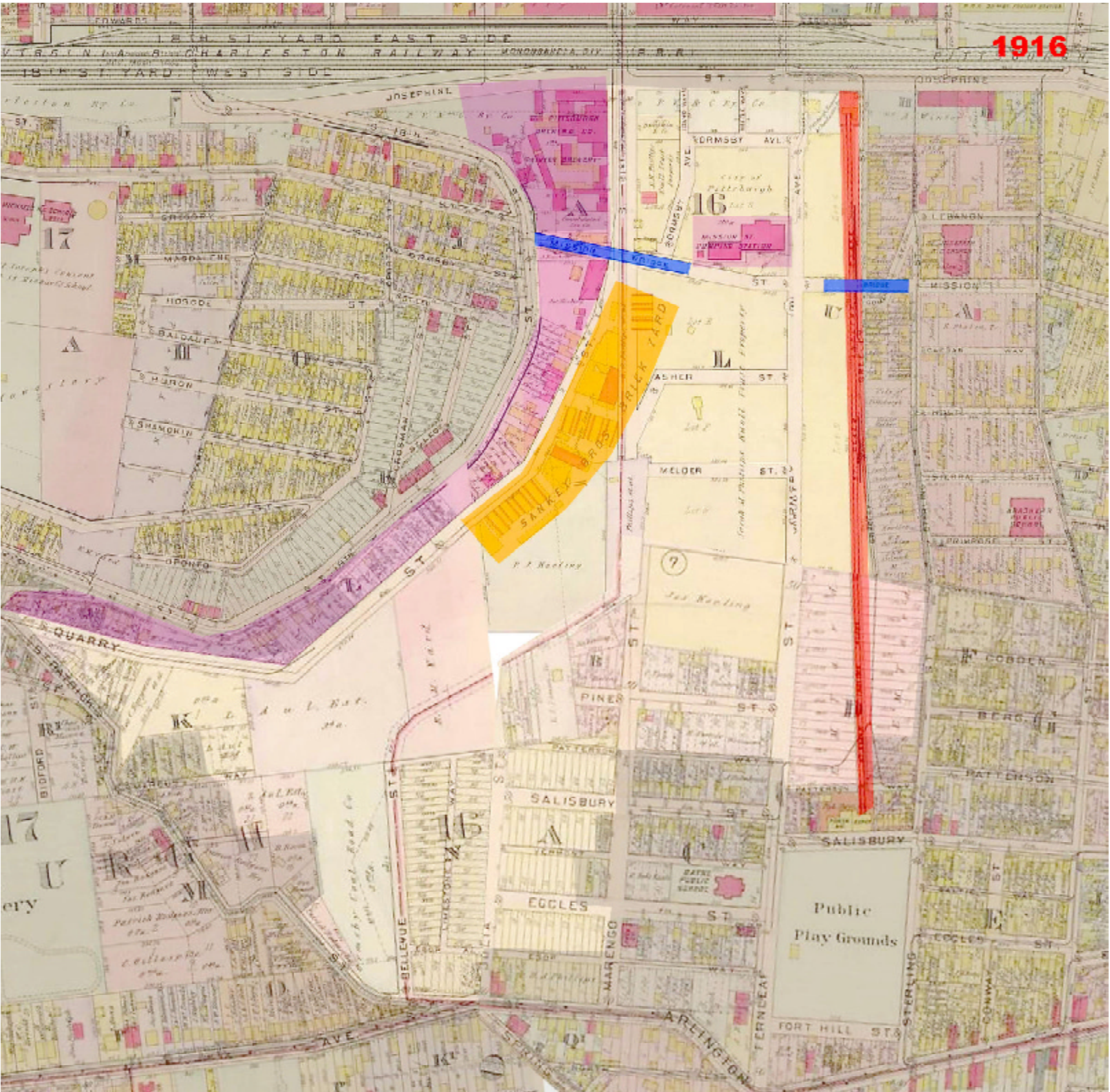
By 1886:

- the stream was completely gone, as was the incline.
- A brand new neighborhood was established along the eastern side of the site (red). Whether all of these streets were ever built, or whether some of the streets are simply “paper streets”, is unknown, however, there are pieces of this neighborhood that are in existence today.

5.4 1916 History Map

By 1916:

- an extensive zone of development (both housing and businesses) was established between 18th Street (or Plank) and Quarry Street (purple).
- Sankey Brothers Brick Yard had been established to the east of Quarry Street (orange).
- The Pumping Station had been built (purple).
- A new incline ran up the eastern edge of the site (red).
- Mission Street now needed bridges to cross the site (blue).



6.0

Conceptual Design

6.1

Guiding Design Principles

6.2

Design Concept Diagrams

6.3

Concept A - Unprogrammed Space

6.4

Concept B - Programmed Space

6.5

Concept C - Historic Roots

6.6

Design Recommendations

6.7

Potential Funding Sources

6.1 Guiding Design Principles

- **Provide historic connections**

The park has a rich history which can be evoked in many ways through the design.

- **Ensure sustainable design**

Minimize the destruction of existing ecosystems. Manage stormwater on site. Use sustainable materials.

- **Create educational opportunities**

There are opportunities to learn about history, ecology, botany, etc.

- **Create a maintenance plan**

The park could be significantly improved simply through maintenance efforts. If a design were to be implemented, it is maintenance that would prevent its failure.

- **Introduce public art**

Art could draw users who ordinarily would not occupy the space.

- **Create artful lighting**

Light can make the space less intimidating and if done well could attract users at times that are currently awkward.

- **Maintain simple design concepts**

South Side Park is rich as it is - there is no need to clutter it up.

- **Create a neighborhood attraction**

Make this a place that encourages multiple and overlapping uses, so it can be used by more than one group at once.

- **Maintain balance between organized and unprogrammed space**

Programmed space allows for specific athletic uses, while unprogrammed space keeps the park flexible.

- **Take advantage of the views**

The views are a major asset of the park and should be a huge draw.

- **Connect the “flats” with the “slopes”**

Currently, South Side Park acts as a divider when it could and should act as a connector.

- **Provide a gateway from 21st Street to East Carson**

Given the number of people who travel along East Carson Street who are unaware of the parks presence, it is important to announce the parks presence, and connect it to the street.

- **Define, enhance and mark entrances**

While the current scales of entrances are large, their actual physical presence is minimal. None of the entrances encourage entry into the park.

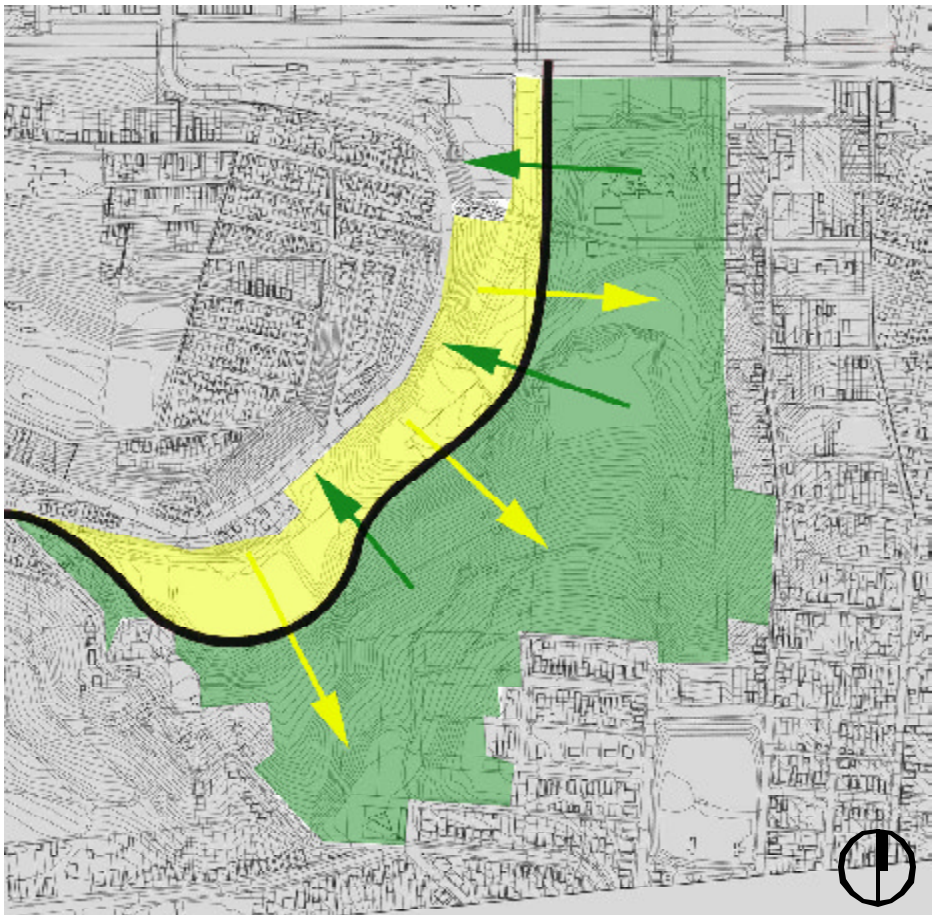
- **Provide signage markers throughout the park**

Visually, the actual scale of the park is deceptive. Residents used to one section of the park or another are sometimes unaware of the opportunities available in other parts. The trails seem “unofficial” and should be mapped in order to foster a sense of comfort with their use.

6.2 Design Concept Diagrams

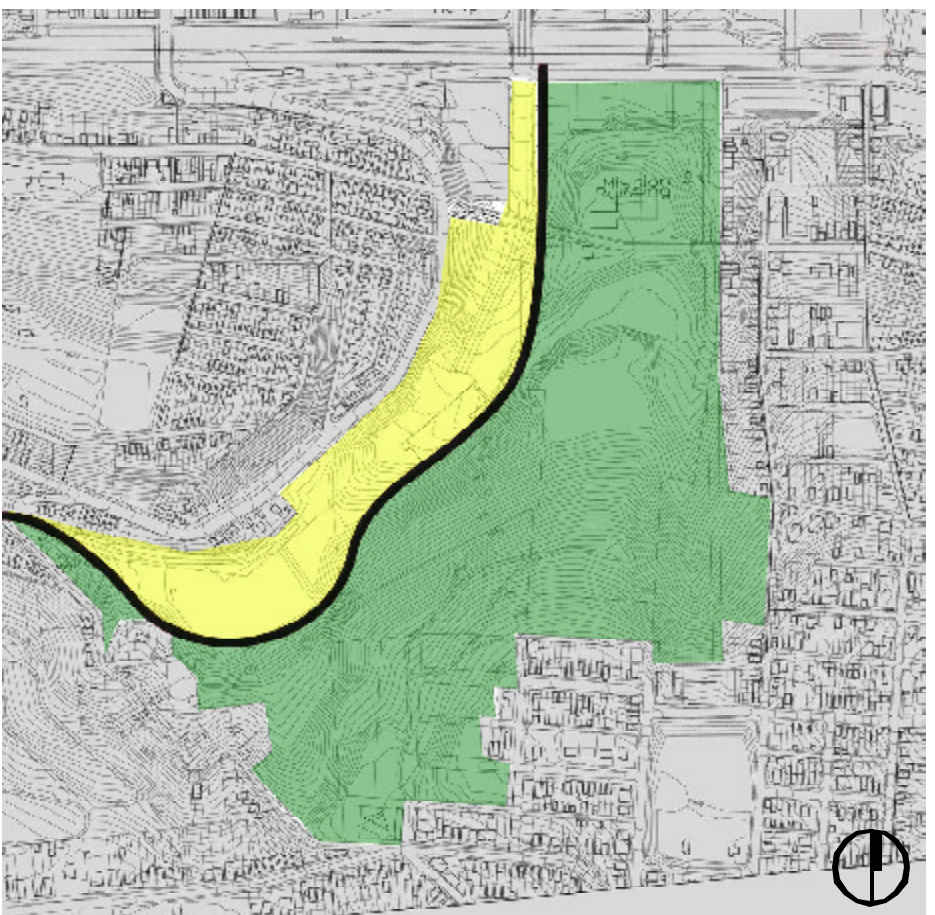
As part of this design process, there were several boundaries, largely due to topography, that needed to be considered. The outside edges of the park are far from welcoming, and do not allow for easy access. Within the park as well, there is a topographical and use separation between the two halves (upper and lower).

Three designs were developed for South Side Park. The progression of designs would actually allow the decisions made about these boundaries to happen at a natural pace, and the community need only take the concepts as far as they want.



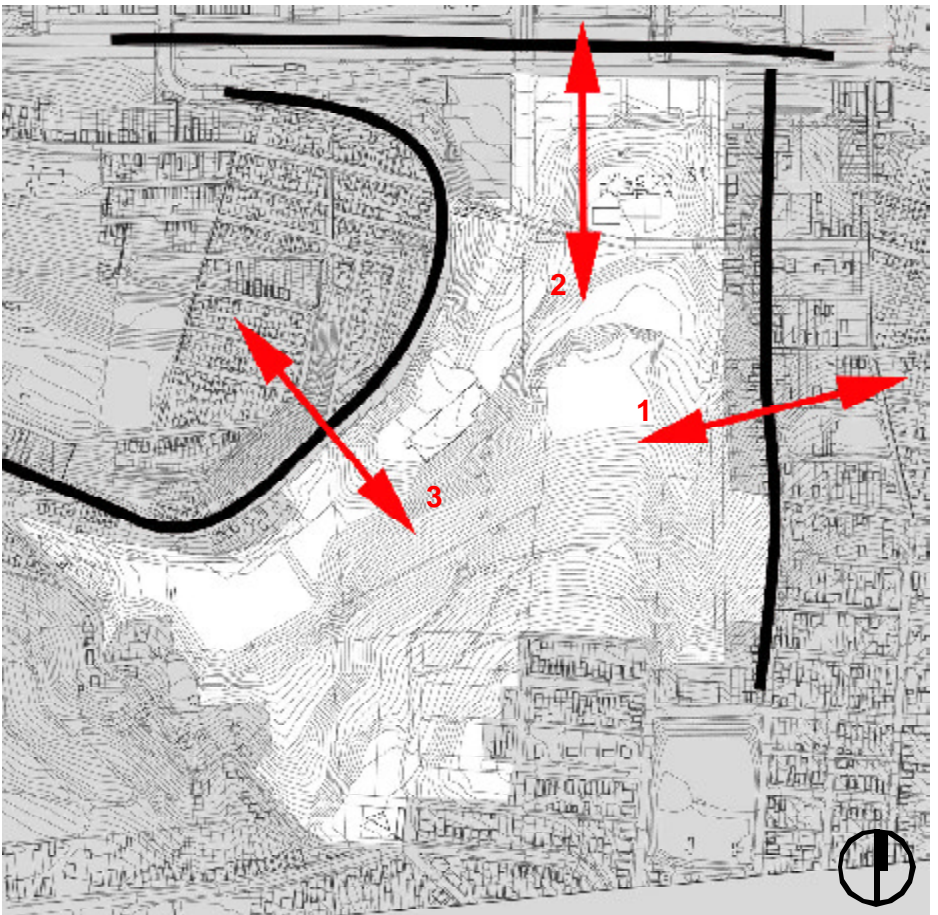
A. Blur Internal Park Separation

Find a way to blend the two zones, and types of activities. By blending the two, users might be encouraged to venture farther than their associated topographical zone into new areas of the park, thus activating the entire space.



B. Maintain Internal Park Separation

The topographical change between the two halves of the site creates a boundary within the park. In discussions with neighborhood residents, there were some people associated with the flats that didn't know of the network of paths above (green). There were those in the slopes that were unaware of the ballfields and playground associated with the lower area (yellow). In design terms, though, one option is to maintain this separation of activities as two distinct zones.



C. Traverse Neighborhood Boundaries

There are three infrastructural "boundaries" associated with the park edges, the crossing of which should be facilitated by the design. The stairs on the eastern edge of the project are not currently penetrable largely due to topography (1). (2) The railroad tracks and industrial zone at the 21st street entrance disconnect the park from the flats. The topographical drop, as well as the width and curve of 18th street causes the road to act as a boundary to the park (3).

6.3 Concept A - "Unprogrammed Space"

The first concept, considered "unprogrammed" was an attempt to blur the boundary between the two activity zones. The spaces that are currently existing were softened, and changed from rigid use definitions to more flexible spaces that could be used for a variety of activities, including sports.

This rendering of the design assumes the removal of the skating rink (although it would be possible to keep at least the oldest part of the building), and opening up that space as a great lawn, perhaps. The playground is moved from its current location closer to existing activity spaces, and the existing ball fields are thus turned into "play zones".

Common, and important to all three schemes is the system of pathways. The current system is maintained through the wooded area, yet a second system of constructed, elevated, accessible pathways is overlaid. Connections are made in this way to the Sterling Street neighborhood, and spots currently isolated by minimal access are opened up to a larger percentage of the population.

A grove of trees brings the wooded area across to 18th Street. This provides a green connection to the wooded area across the road and beyond (perhaps to Mount Washington's Emerald link). Ecologically, the blurring of the two zones enlarges the habitat for the wildlife currently existing in the woodland. Socially, it provides an indicator to the community to the west that the woods exist for their use as well.

South Side Park is currently unknown to city residents. One of the major goals of the new design should be to announce the park to the surrounding neighborhoods and to Pittsburgh. Common to all three schemes, is an allee of trees planted along 18th Street. By bringing the planting up onto the street, the sidewalk becomes part of the park, as opposed to its boundary, and thus makes the park seem more welcoming.

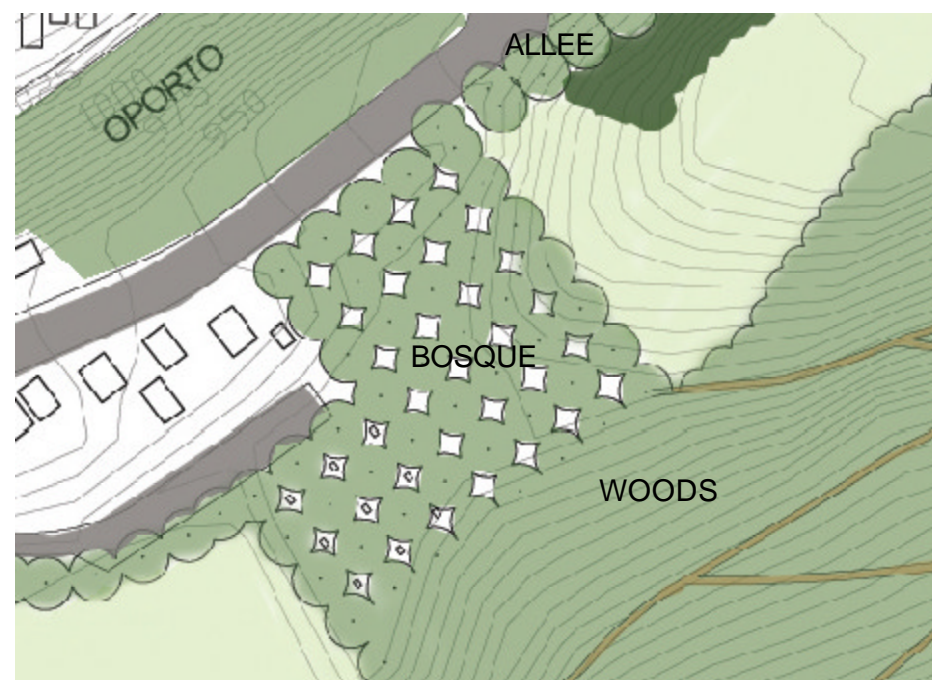
Similarly, parking along 21st Street is minimized and an allee of trees creates a boulevard, giving hierarchy to the street. This provides a visual clue to those passing on East Carson Street that 21st Street leads to a major, important destination.





A. Picnic Area

A grove of trees becomes the transition between the woods of the park, the allee and the wooded area beyond 18th Street. The space can be used perhaps for picnicking, chess, and other social gatherings.



B. Unprogrammed Field

In place of the current football field, a new field of a similar shape is unmarked, and therefore open to many uses. Perhaps benches around the outside will allow for viewers when the space is used for sporting events, but the lack of designation will allow for other active uses such as football, soccer, frisbee, as well as more passive uses, such as picnicking and sunbathing.



C. "Play Zone"

By congregating several activities for children in one place, it allows for "safety in numbers". It also allows for use by different age groups, thereby making family visitations to the park more convenient and less fractured.



6.4 Concept B - “Programmed Space”

The second option brings a little bit more structure to the park. Perhaps the football field becomes a more traditional sports field. The great lawn on the lower level now becomes the stage for an outdoor amphitheater built into the hillside, that can be used for summer concerts and “theater in the park”. There aren’t many other opportunities to do something on this scale anywhere else in the city. By bringing in a feature that can be programmed on a larger, city-wide scale, it draws from a wider population. It also allows for the possibility of holding events that can generate profit and perhaps help with the maintenance and construction of the park.

A new facility at the northern edge of the park, museum or art facility connects to the playground and ballfield on the upper level, creating a “zone of activity” in a portion of the park that is currently neglected.





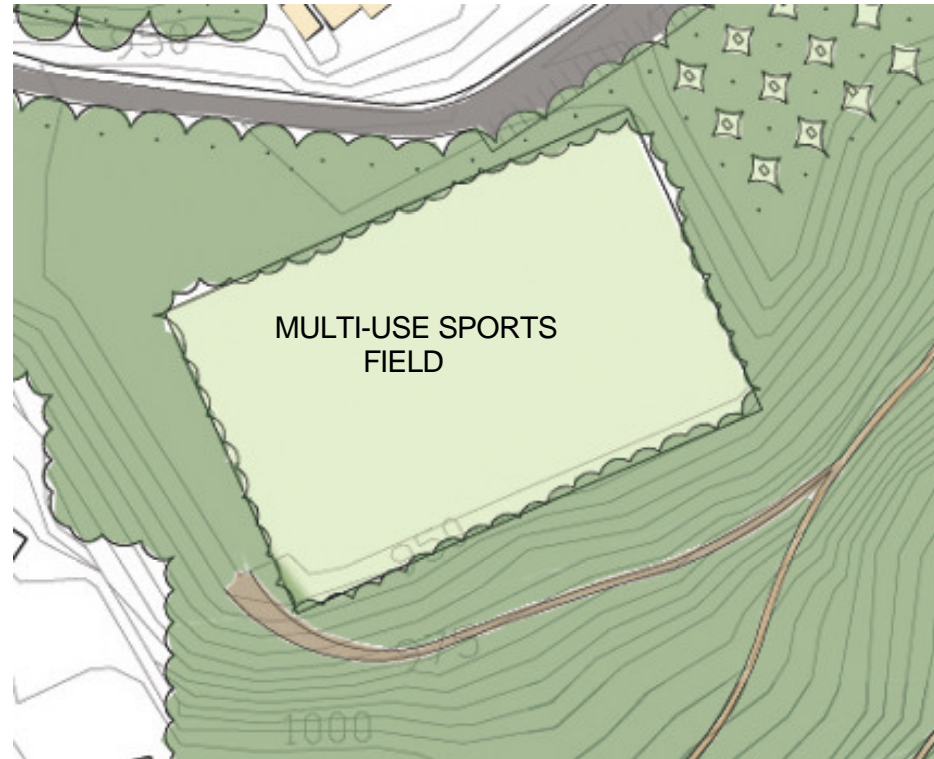
A. Amphitheater

Connecting to all neighborhoods, the soft, lawn amphitheater provides a central gathering space for not only neighborhood residents, but city and county residents who arrive to participate in organized activities.



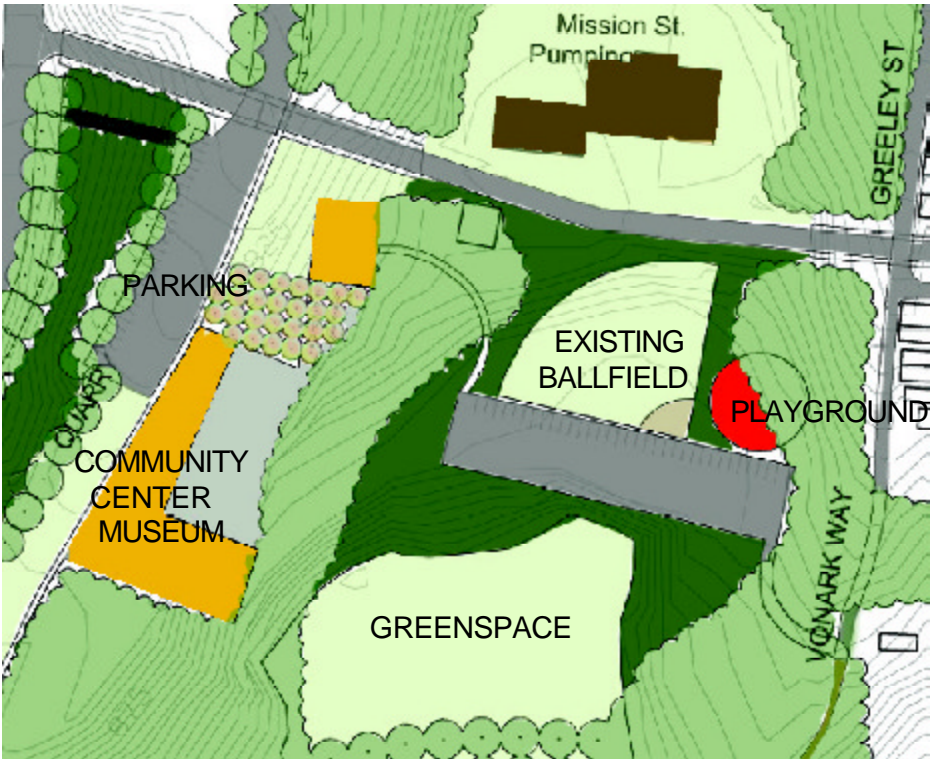
B. Multi-use Sports Field

Maintained as a multi-use sports field, perhaps it is left open for other uses.



C. Activity Zone

A new structure has many uses for the community - community center, reception hall, art museum, central sports center. Its connection to the sports field and play area above makes this area into a zone of activity.



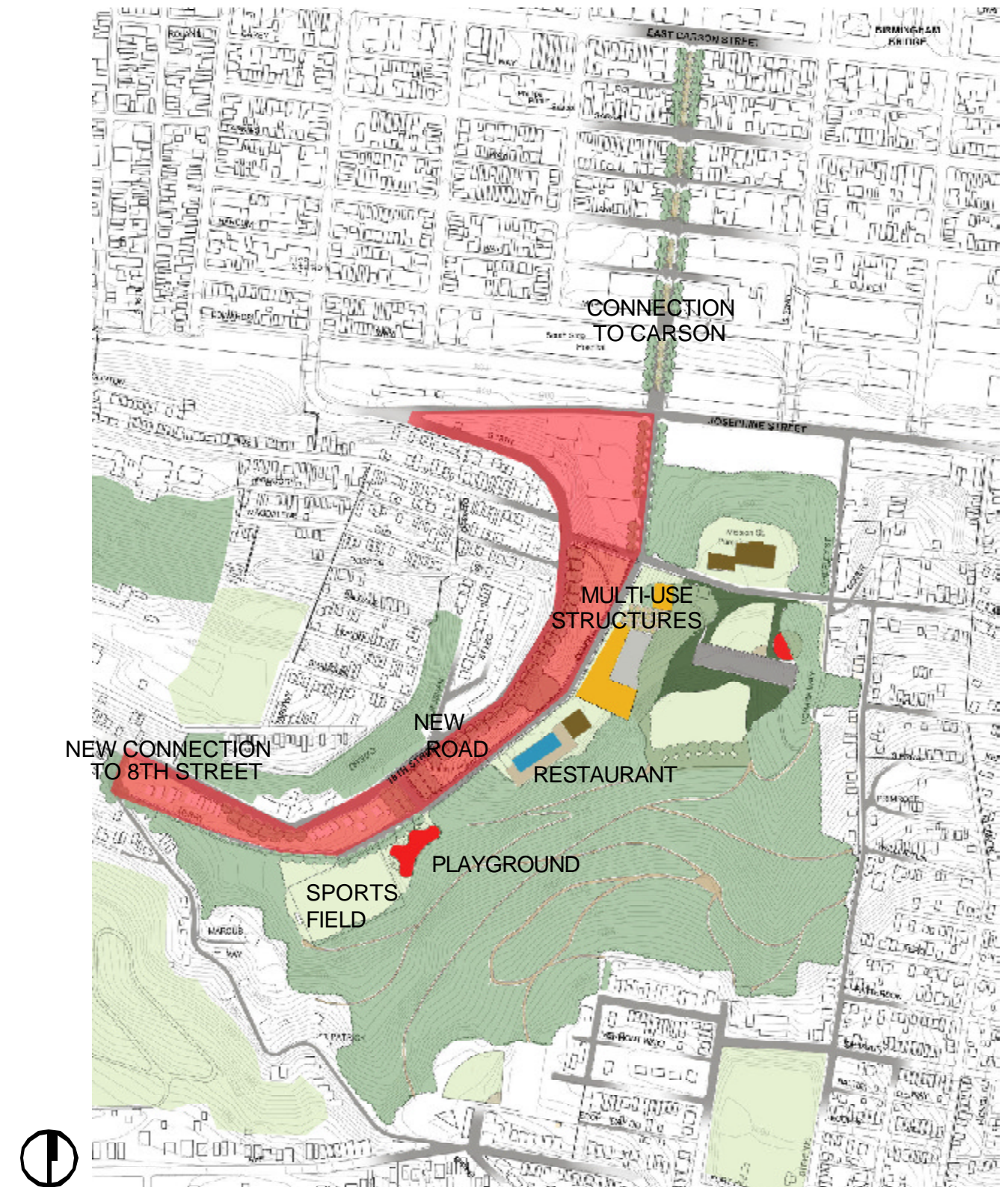
6.5 Concept C - "Historic Roots"

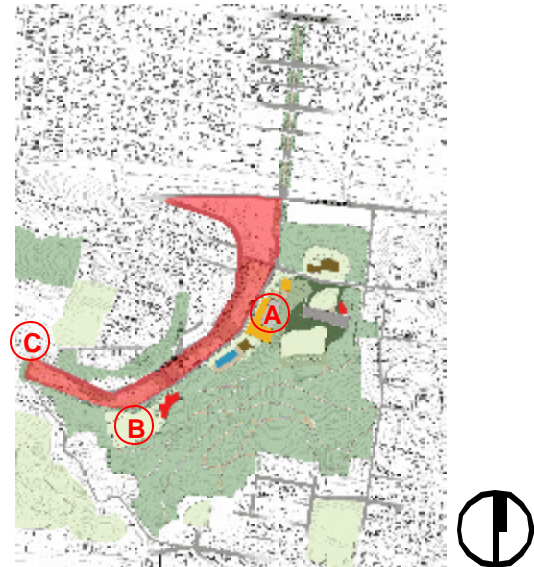
The third option takes cues from historic maps of the site. It would be possible to activate the western edge of the park with a new zone (in red) of community approved multi-use structures. Perhaps a new restaurant (similar to Tavern on the Green, in Central Park) is built.

21st Street (what was once Quarry Road) could once again cut through the park, and reconnect to 18th Street. Increased activity, and passage (even if vehicular) through the park increases safety and therefore usage. The more logical layout improves vehicular movement in the area, and provides for another convenient connection between the Flats, Slopes, and Arlington.

Another playground is constructed near the sports field, as increased use creates more demand for play spaces. Perhaps the playgrounds are "themes", thereby eliminating redundancy of play equipment, and more importantly, encouraging the intermingling of neighborhood residents.

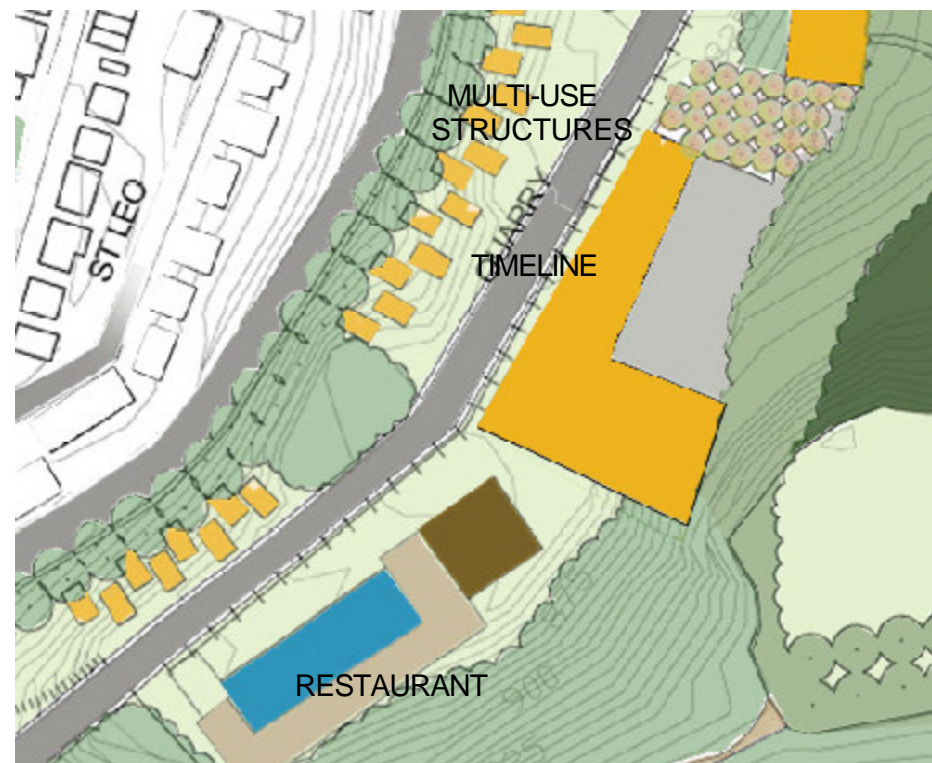
This new development would dramatically change the nature of the lower half of the park by extending the city fabric into the city boundaries. On one hand by bringing more diverse and full-time occupants into the park, they become "eyes on the park", and provide increased safety for the park users. On the other hand, by developing this edge of the park, some of the sense of solitude and "escape" currently provided would be lost.





A. Restaurant and multi-use structures

A new restaurant is constructed along the rebuilt Quarry Road. Perhaps a timeline runs along Quarry Road as well, displaying the history of the site, and its importance to Pittsburgh's history. New multi-use structures provide eyes on the park, and activate the lower level of the park.



B. New Playground

A new playground provides more play space for neighborhood children.



C. New Connection of 21st Street (Quarry) to 18th Street

The re-establishment of Quarry Street brings traffic from East Carson Street through the area to 18th Street. The elimination of the current hairpin connection on St. Patrick Street allows for a much safer access to the flats for slope residents who use this route.



6.6 Design Recommendations

- **Trails**
 - Identify trails on the city and county maps.
 - Provide signage at all major entrances, mile markers, and important historic or natural features.
 - Provide various trail types to meet the various age groups and skills of users; i.e.) natural rugged (as is) or improved with bituminous or limestone.
- **GIS Mapping**

Link all further studies and plans to GIS.
- **Environmental Assessment**

Past site uses indicate that it would be important to study site conditions to ensure that designs for, and management of the site would incorporate potential remediation scenarios.
- **Natural Resource Inventory**

The lack of management in South Side Park has led to the evolution of potentially fragile ecosystems that should be identified and managed appropriately.

6.7 Potential Funding Sources

- The Heinz Endowment
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Growing Green
- The Conservation Fund

7.0 Appendix

A Meeting Minutes

B Press

C Correspondence

South Side Park: Community Meeting
South Side Local Development Company
9/30/03

Participants:

Michele Balcer – ACC
Mary Lou Simon – ACC
Jason Vrabel – CDCP
Bob Gradeck – SSLDC
Kevin Hanley – SSLDC
Bev Bagosi – SSSNA – President
Janice Crum – SSSNA
Michelle Aul – Citiparks (Lou Polito)
John Werling – Duquesne University I.E.T. Resident
Dina Klavon – KDA
Phil Lisotta – KDA
Maria Riley – KDA

- Partners in the Parks: Volunteer arm of city services. They did assessments of the larger parks – South Side was one of those.
- There has been intense pressure to get the rink open. But the greater issue is of 64+ acres that have the potential to become trails. They should be the focal point.
- Focus area #1 (yellow) seems as if it were associated with the flats. Area #2 (green) seems more associated with the hills. Area #2 needs to be cleaned up. Don't focus on development, but keep it green.
- Perhaps we should eliminate the terms "Focus" and "consider" and instead use "active" and "passive".
- We need more pedestrian access to area #2.
- Area #1 perhaps has the potential to become an income generator.
- Consider the yellow and red areas as one.
- Stay away from the word "Development" in the community meeting. It has traditionally had negative connotations to the residents of this neighborhood.
- If the western entrance changes they can see adjacent pieces changing. But don't say it's development. It doesn't mean that they are opposed to development, because it would be a void in the book if they didn't consider it. Perhaps zoning changes are what's required, and will have similar effects.
- The 21st Street corridor is important, but not as important as the park itself. Don't get caught up in that link.
- Signage is essential. People don't know that the park is there. Connect the park to Carson Street.
- Arlington Rec. Center is not part of the park, yet it is a green space immediately adjacent to it.

- Is the ballfield behind the pumphouse still being utilized? Consult with Bingham House – they organize sports outings.
- The football field in Area #1 is not large enough for football. Mis-measured. Perhaps for ultimate Frisbee?
- Parking is a huge issue.
- Soccer?
- Upper Arlington field was developed in order to expand the field. The trails need to happen behind Arlington Park. There used to be a camp up there and the kids would set up tents down along the streams.
- All of the fields are used. The 18th Street/ Pious/ Mission St/ Pumphouse field is used more for unorganized sports.
- The fields are being used by the neighbors, even on an individual basis.
- Field is moved, but not maintained.
- There is a LOT of dog-walking which is good, but it needs to be cleaned up!
- Bonfires occur up on the flats, but it's mostly teenagers doing it illegally. Cars are burned up there as well. Police don't necessarily do anything about it.
- Trails are heavily used by motorcycles and ATVs. Local participation. They are extremely loud.
- Perhaps we should have certain parts that are for walkers, certain parts that are more accessible, and multigenerational. Separate trails for ATVs/bikes? Similar to Frick Park. Should there be a distinguished trail?
- Years ago, the ice rink was central to safety. Would draw people into the park during the day.
- State Park – South Hills (McKinley)
- Tennis important.
- They did an official study of the ice rink to see whether it was worth bringing it back up. Don't know what the results were.
- What about indoor soccer?
- The guess is that the rink study would say that it's in pretty bad shape. They have 4 compressors that allow for 1 indoor and 1 outdoor rink. Bob Gradeck says that the "place was a dump" when he worked there several years ago. Kevin will look into the rink study.
- What about a farmer's market?
- Indoor volleyball?
- There seems to be a huge group of people that want hockey. Brighton Heights is the only place that is open now.
- Artifacts had a vision for the building and entire grounds. Community center, creating art, workshops, educational programs, spread art throughout the grounds.

- Volleyball can be housed in numerous places throughout the city. There are also lots of facilities for the arts.
- What about a sand volleyball court?
- How is the property deeded?
- John Murdock – Preservation Pittsburgh. He was active to keep the space designated as a park.
- Ed Jacob – Community Activist. Has numerous papers/deeds/etc. associated with the park.
- Maintenance and safety: Weeds make it unsafe. The park is used mostly as a cut through during the day. Minimally as exercise. At night, you don't go home through there.
- There are no lights other than on the ballfield.
- Priority: CLEAN IT UP!
- What makes it safe? You're surrounded by nothing when you're in there. Individual housing might make it safer. Where the rink is, there is potential for housing development.
- Along 18th Street – focus on that slope. Connect the park to 18th Street. Somehow, overcoming the grade change there would make the world of difference to the lower flatland.
- Conservation/Preservation: Natural springs. Manage them so that they can be a feature.\
- History of the park – It was a quarry. There used to be an incline at Henry Kaufmann in 1903.
- Intersection of Holt and Sterling is greenspace that is actually part of the park.
- Path near Spring – make the springs a feature.
- Pumphouse has flat land. Re-fence it so that you can use the greenspace, but not access the building.
- People don't realize it's a park. Advertise! Create signs that show you what's there, "what you're getting into".
- Not safe during the day down below. Up on fields is safer because closer to the neighborhoods.
- No one uses the playground.
- The park is largely used as a place where the teenagers go to drink.
- Some trails are on the edge of cliffs.
- How will lighting effect the neighbors?
- What about cutting down trees? Perhaps selective cutting...
- A park should have a certain amount of privacy and intimacy. We don't want TOO many "eyes on the park".
- People being seen as they enter the park increases the park. If they know that there are others that know they're in there, they are less likely to actually act inappropriately.
- This will mostly be a local user park, simply because of parking issues.

Continue Page 43

- Frick Park – thousands of people care about it.
- Develop the trails, but don't make it into "Frick Park, but here".
- Beautification:
- Deliberate plantings. Organized plantings at certain areas. Mowed, open public space.
- There is an active slopes association. There are residents of the neighborhood who are willing to come out on short notice and clean/ beautify, etc. Break up the tasks into pieces so that people can get a mental grip on them and so that they can see the fruits of their labor.
- Fields of wildflowers – maintenance free.
- White Picket Fence Project: To let kids pick pumpkins. Neighbors maintained the space.
- We should look for partnerships outside of the immediate neighborhood. Who benefits from the revitalization of this park?
- The resources are all there. The SSSNA plants more community gardens every year. Neighborhood association has already forged relationships with outside organizations.
- Friends of the Riverfront: Is there a way to make a connection to the green circle?
- Consistent feel – The park touches three neighborhoods. We must figure out a way to come up with some consistent way to mesh the three and make the park recognizable to everyone.
- Maintenance of the streams is beautification.
- Pedestrian access to the trails that are prominent entrances. They don't really exist now, we would have to create them. Some places that make sense are:
 - Behind the rec center (to the West of the center). This also takes care of the "eyes on the park" problem as people would have to be entering through a neighborhood.
 - Sterling and Holt
- Wildflowers along the trails. Indigenous PA plantings.
- Mt. Lebanon and Greentree have bird/flower sanctuaries.
- The building has potential for uses other than high end, expensive things. If it is deemed usable, if we simply clean it out, it can become a flea market. Farmer's market. Phase I, get in and clean it up. It has a huge stone fireplace that is gorgeous. Ski lodge for cross country skiing?

Issue Board Comments (priority ranking)

Beautification

- Signage with Maps (2,2,3,1)
- Need for Lawn Area
- Organized Planting Areas
- Spring/Stream Management as attraction
- Native Plantings
- Pumpkin Patch
- Wildflowers
- Consistent look & feel

Connectivity

- People don't realize it's a park (2, 3, 3, 3)
- Access Identity (1, 2)
- Connection #1 and #2 Areas (3)
- 1/4 Mile radius what's near and around neighborhoods
- Firehouse gives a sense of security
- Morange & Salisbury look out into the Park
- PHLF Western PA Conservancy - "South Side Greenspace"
- Partnerships with other agencies - who benefits? Think regionally
- "Announce" publicness of park
- Holt & Sterling Green Space
- Visually Disconnected
- Arlington to S.S. Pedestrian
- Arlington Rec Center
- Signage at entry 1/2 hr. walk

Development

- Major entries need activity (1,2,3,3)
- The only time feel safe is with other people (1,2)
- Income producing property (i.e., Housing) (2,3)
- Flea Market potential
- Potential Ski Resort - Boyce Report
- John Murdock Preservation Pittsburgh says it "must stay a park" according to deed
- There aren't any adjacent uses that active
- Housing along slope on 18th Street
- Rink possibly to be demolished
- Rink Restoration
- Parking Problem near Football Field

Maintenance

- Clean up entire area (1,1,1,1,2)
- Community Involvement for maintenance (3)
- Not safe at night (1)
- Garbage piles
- Burn out cars problem

- Community Service partners in park
- Lights along Sterling Street
- Lighting to invite use at night
- Not safe at all "Perception" more than "reality" (1,3)
- Place to drink
- Cycle noise a problem
- General services now but not perfect

Preservation

- Preserve green space that currently exists
- Quarry incline crashed in 1903 along Grady Street
- Old Incline (burned)
- Natural Springs invitation

Recreation

- All fields are used (2)
- Trails benefits (2)
- Deck hockey a real need they have a league
- Volleyball need
- Artifacts use workshops sculptural
- Holt and Sterling Greenspace
- Playground not used
- Skateboard park?
- Similar to Frick
- Motorcycles & ATVs use trails
- Mountain bikers potential use separate trails
- Walkers vs. Riders
- Bonfire Bongo Kids
- Dog walking huge - good cleanup
- Sabres are current user of football field
- Little league tournament @ Arlington Ballfield
- Frisbee need
- Football not correct size
- Deck hockey in disrepair
- Exercise walk

Priorities

- 1 - Clean up entire area
- 2 - Signage with maps
- 3 - Major entries need activity
- 4 - People don't realize it's a park.

South Side Park Community Meeting Minutes – 11.13.03

Present:

Wayne R. Mosesso (Citiparks)
Roberta Stackawitz
Lou Polito (Citiparks)
Paul McCarthy
Ray (South Side Slopes)
Tom Smith
Signe and Donald Rudberg
Bev Bagosi
Kimberly Musial
Bob Gradeck
Michele Balcer
Mary Lou Simon
Jason Vrabel
Janice Green

- Developments are going up all over the city, but we can't maintain what's here already. Isn't this a waste of time?
- Safety – there are lots of safety issues. There have been a couple homicides in the “consider” area.
- Access to the riverfront bike trail would be great. Lots of people are coming across from 2nd avenue to the hot metal bridge. This would allow other people to find out about the fantastic views that the south side has.
- This was a former blue collar area, although it is now a mixture of professionals and blue collar. This park would bring more people into the area.
- Safety requirements:
 - Lighting
 - It's overgrown – take down the vines and damaged trees
 - Bonfires and cars are burned
 - Motorcycle riding in the hills
 - Bike lane – make a safe route for bikers to come to the park.
 - Mountain biking is BIG: Frick park is nationally known for its mountain bike trails.
 - It is currently a closed area. The police can't get in. Open up the trail and roadway. Allow for police patrols. Police on bikes?
 - Multigenerational use. Bring people in that will take care of things that they use. Lots of people use Arlington ball field. Focus on the kids, because people care about their kids.
- Have we found anything out about the condition of the ice rink? Incorporate that info into the next step.
- Generate revenue. Indoor driving range, etc.
- The rink probably needs major renovation.

- Recreation:
 - Trails: They need to be taken care of, not only for mountain bikes, but for hiking.
 - Climbing wall?
 - Perimeter trail for joggers or walkers, ~2 miles.
 - Tiers?
- Perimeter residents are concerned about the maintenance of privacy. Limited public access on their lands is fine. Trim trees so that they can appreciate the views.
- Safety. Bad trees need to be cleaned out. Invasives need to be cleaned out.
- Entranceways need to be more inviting. Signage is important. Encourage people to come.
- Designate entrances between park and residential areas.
- Perhaps have a rough map on the signs. Show a hierarchy of paths/walks/roads.
- There was a murder at the bonfire site.
- Recreation- fields:
 - Football field is used by the South Side Sabers. All of the fields are used, but basically only for practice, not official play.
 - Basketball courts would be nice.
 - What they really need is a soccer/multipurpose field.
 - Perhaps change Bandischaum field (behind pumphouse) to soccer field. There has been a significant drop off in usage of that field. It is also connected to parking for the pump house (which is where they found one of the bodies).
- Dogs- Make this a dog friendly place. Dog areas, or trail friendly.
- Ultimate Frisbee?
- Exercise stations?
- Bulleting boards at entrances?
- Clean/General maintenance. Get rid of the garbage and cement barricades.
- Incorporate history of the site. It was an old quarry, hence “Quarry Street”.
- Create a theme at the entrances that is recognizable in all neighborhoods.
- Use naturalists/birders. Have any ecological/archaeological studies been done in the area? It might make for a good project for local organizations. This might be a habitat for specific species that would attract specific users.
- ADA Accessibility?
- Market to colleges and universities as an outdoor resource.
- Community gardens?
- Arboretum?

- Bring in artists. Art in the park. Public art projects would be great.
- Preservation: Preserve what's already there. Springs as features.
- Random seating. Not necessarily prescribed (e.g., benches). Provide seating throughout park, including on trails.
- ~~Ray Mandibla. Lives on slopes. Has played in park since 4~~ grade. Doesn't want to see ANY development in the green area. The charm of the place is the fact that it is a green space in an urban environment.
- Blazing trails and marking changes – Don't knock down trees. It's nice the way it is. It's not more than what it is. To make it more user friendly, you “might as well walk on a city street”.
- Lots of wildlife – some rare salamanders and reptiles.
- No lights at night. Contrary to the charm of the place.
- The area adjacent to the rink (the concrete courts) was a barren factory before the deck hockey.
- There are not enough kids to take advantage of Bandischaum field. Convert it to something more useful – soccer field.
- Is there a way to connect to Emerald Ring around Mount Washington and to the river trail?
- Turn the ice rink into a venue. Big open building to become flea market, picnics, family reunions, etc. Hold events there. It's something that's needed on the South Side.
- Opposed to developments. Schenley Park, e.g., more natural portions are being “improved”. “Better hiking trails” for accessibility, but they're taking away natural areas to put in gazebos. Don't screw with the greenway. Make whatever changes fit the environment. Make it user friendly without taking away naturalistic nature. No buildings or roadways.
- Some wilderness areas have no vehicles allowed. These are the best kept areas because it limits the people that access the sites. They tend to be the ones that care about them and care for them.

South Side Park Community Meeting Minutes – 11.13.03

Issue Board Comments (Importance rankings)

Development

- Accessible “ADA” areas
- Bike Trails
- Bulletin Boards
- Parking lot near fields
- Generate revenue- miniature golf, indoor golf
- Minimize demolition
- Needs advertisement of interiors
- NO development inside green area
- Get the study for the Ice Park
- Community gardens
- Arboretum
- Ice Rink “Infrastructure”

Maintenance

- Kids priority to bring people in
- Privacy for neighbors (1, 3)
- Multi-generations assist safety
- Open access, police on bikes
- Trees pruned. Trim to see view.
- Police can’t get to it.
- Invasive Plans
- Motorcycles
- Safety/Homicides (1, 1, 2)
- Lighting
- Basic Cleanup (1, 1, 2)
- Overgrown (2)
- Clean up public space on periphery (garbage, concrete barriers, etc.)

Preservation

- Minimize lighting with “green” areas (3)
- Preservation of architectural details
- Archaeology or the story of area
- Charm is wilderness in urban area (1, 2, 2)
- Defined wilderness areas to limit “development” (1)
- Quarry “history”
- Animals

Beautification

- Public art – Southside Artists
- Naturalists/Birders attracted to Frick
- Entrance signage and lighting (2, 2)
- Better signage at entrances
- Quarry Street Stone structure as symbol of park?

Recreation

- Trails: Bikes, hiking, Frick Park trail style (1, 1)
- Indoor driving range
- Mini-golf
- Bandishump field – change use
- Start with the kids – they will take care of the park
- Random seating – unformed
- Climbing wall (3)
- Get people to use it (3, 3, 3)
- Dog friendly
- Perimeter trail (3)
- Gazebo
- Fields – soccer, baseball, football (2)
- What are other people doing
- Exercise stations (health path)

Connectivity

- Collegiate connection
- Maps of Park on site (3, 3, 3)
- Link to South Side Riverfront Trail (2)
- Emerald Ring Connectivity (1)
- Bike Lane
- Access to bike trails (2)

PRIORITIES:

- Safety/Homicides (1, 1, 2)
- Basic Cleanup (1, 1, 2)
- Trails: Bikes, hiking, Frick Park trail style (1, 1)
- Charm is wilderness in urban area (1, 2, 2)
- Privacy for neighbors (1, 3)
- Defined wilderness areas to limit “development” (1)
- Emerald Ring Connectivity (1)
- Entrance signage and lighting (2, 2)
- Fields – soccer, baseball, football (2)
- Link to South Side Riverfront Trail (2)
- Access to bike trails (2)
- Overgrown (2)
- Get people to use it (3, 3, 3)
- Maps of Park on site (3, 3, 3)
- Minimize lighting with “green” areas (3)
- Climbing wall (3)
- Perimeter trail (3)

South Side Park: Arlington Community Meeting
12.23.04

Issue Board Comments

- “Circle”
- Trees

Beautification

- Security
- Ornamental Trees for a view
- Weed Trees
- VIEW
- Visibility
- Lighting for Safety
- Selective Clearing

Connectivity

- Connectivity for Elderly - paved
- Longer walking path
- Entranceways
- Central Location “Node”
- Links to all entrances

Development

- Lit Trails
- Security
- Observation from Sterling

Maintenance

- Restore/Protect views
- Remove predatory trees
- Plant natives
- Vines and Dead Trees
- Dog “dirt”
- Restrooms
- Grills
- Shelters
- Walking oval
- Reactivating rink
- Guards/security
- Observation areas
- Parking
- Clean-up/Manicure/Maintain

Preservation

- Animals
- View
- Water/Creeks

Recreation

- Picnic tables
- Shelters
- Skate Park
- Grills
- Pavilions
- Roller skating
- Walking Circle
- Restrooms
- Parking and neighbors
- Bicycle racks
- Benches
- Observation Deck

Steering Committee Meeting (12.16.2003)

- Development along 18th Street was “interesting”.
- There is a lawn area around the pumping station.
- Add a view into the park from 21st street.
- There is a shelf behind the pumping station, with great views.
- Perhaps because this property was a watershed, it was deemed undevelopable, and therefore made into a park.
- Add a section to the park at Holt and Sterling.
- Investigate water overflow at the football field to determine the source. Is it simply surface runoff or broken pipe, or sewage, etc.?
- People use the Sterling Street steps for exercise.
- Is it possible to use the cliffs for mountain climbing?
- “People hanging out would be so cool.”
- Connect trail to Holt Street!
- 21st Street corridor boulevard concept is a great idea and could be done pretty easily.
- Coke ovens – perhaps reveal their historic presence?
- Brick ovens are still existing in some form behind the ice rink.
- Start at concept 1 and work forward to 2 and 3.
- Sled riding is big.
- Tennis courts? There are none in the South Side.
- There are several swimming pools already (Bathhouse, Birmingham, Arlington).
- Amphitheater is great. Movies, concerts, etc.
- Room in trees is spectacular.
- Emphasize the Sterling Street Stairs. They have been left out of the plans.
- Frank Toker’s Book on the South Side.
- 21st Street – Maybe there should be a focal point at the entrance to the park. The allee of trees is great, but perhaps there should be a draw.
- Since it is a watershed, perhaps we should use a natural water feature?
- They should hire a consultant for historical survey, watershed research, stream daylighting.
- Deeding?
- Research private components of public parks (Tavern on the Green, Dairy, etc.) that could be revenue generators.
- Think beyond what’s already there.

Phase one:

- Clean
- Signage
- Access

Phase two:

- Buildings
- Fields
- Trails
- Water

Phase three:

- Development
- Natural Resources Study
 - Colleges
 - DCNR
 - Field Institute
 - Regional Asset Money
- Trail Races
- Guidelines for Housing to avoid “vultures”
- Housing could be revenue, but pushes the edge of the park in tighter.
- Instead of three options, perhaps present short, long, ultimate goals?
- Housing if it is organized well? Perhaps it shouldn’t be mentioned at all. Allow for the possibility of housing but don’t demand or deny. Call it a DEVELOPABLE AREA.

South Side Park: Second Community Meeting

1.28.2004

- The allee is a great element.
- More Parking
- Find a way to utilize the park.
- Access to park from Sterling is crucial
- Paths are shortcuts currently.
- Defined/definite entrance on Sterling. You'd have to build/landscape an entrance.
- Signage is important - obvious and accessible

Road

- Rather see stream come back.
- Don't take the road beyond the current building.
- They like the steps
- Road would make it something other than a park
- Road activates it, but is severe
- You want to get away from cars in a park
- Keep the park as a park.
- Road cuts into the nice grassy area
- Passive and active - keep development in the active/programmed area.

Amphitheater

- Amphitheater is good: introduction of music, etc.
- Bosque is good.
- 18th Street - Decorative feature.
- Plateau - make that into a greenspace

Trails

- Elevated trails
- Clean up the trails. Mulch them.
- Map the trails at the entry points. Then people will know how to use the park.
- Plan exercise routes with the times that it takes to do them.
- Precedents for access through the community.

Hockey Rink

- URA - check with them about the skating rink. They loaned money to the current owner at time of purchase by city.
- What about a farmer's market? Currently at 18th St and Carson.
- What about a Kayak and Canoe rental facility in hockey building?
- Expose the rink. Make it an outdoor rink. When it went indoors, it lost its charm.

Manage the water better.

By Tony LaRussa
TRIBUNE-REVIEW
Monday, August 11, 2003

GROUP SEEKS PARK RENTALIZATION

Bev Bagosi loves being able to walk a few blocks from her home on Plus Street on the South Side Slopes to experience the serenity of being deep in the woods.

Bagosi and other local officials are looking for ways to get more people to utilize South Side Park, a heavily wooded 84-acre corridor between 18th and 22nd streets that stretches up the hill from Josephine Street to Arlington Avenue.

"We have this wonderful green space right in the middle of a densely populated area that offers spectacular views of the city that is used by very few people," said Bagosi, 38, president of South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association.

Bagosi admits that even after a dozen years of going to the park, there are large chunks that she has avoided exploring.

"I can understand why people might not come here," she

said. "There's a lot of trails, but they are overgrown and who knows where they lead? It just looks like one great big woods. That's something we need to change."

The park has three plateaus that contain a shuttered indoor ice skating rink on the lowest portion, a football field on the second level and a baseball field on the upper area.

A study designed to find ways to increase use of the park will be conducted by the association and the South Side Local Development Corp., which obtained a \$10,000 grant for the project from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh.

The study will include a series of community meetings to try to determine why the park is underused and what can be done to make it more attractive.

Some of the improvements residents have indicated they would like to see include:

- Clearing old hiking trails and creating new ones.
- Marking trails with signs to improve access.
- Installing benches.
- Adding recreational facilities such as bocce and volleyball courts, and possibly an area for skateboarders.
- Setting aside land for community gardens.

"This is the biggest park on the South Side," said Joe Balaban, 45, of Latrobe Street, who moved to the Slopes in 1991. "And it is basically unused or unknown by a large number of the people here. We need to change that."

While the city's financial woes are always an issue when discussions take place on improving public facilities, some believe the needed improvements do not necessarily have to be expensive.

"At this point, we're not looking at huge renovations," said Kevin Hanley of the South Side Local Development Corp. "Some of the initial things -- such as signs and maps to help direct people who visit here to the park -- shouldn't be a major cost."

Photo Gallery

click to enlarge



Bev Bagosi
Aman (left) and Bev Bagosi
Review

Tools

- Print this article
- Email this article
- Subscribe to this news



If the study identifies the need for more extensive improvements, they would become part of a long-term plan.

"The study is the first part of what we consider a working document that outlines the steps we need to take to better utilize the space," Hanley said.

Having a master plan for a parks restoration project is critical to obtaining funding from foundations or other groups, said Erin Clymer of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, a nonprofit organization that has worked with Pittsburgh to improve the city's four major parks -- Frick, Schenley, Highland and Riverview.

"A solid plan makes the project more attractive to those who make funding decisions," Clymer said. "And it also helps the local volunteers stay focused on what they need to do."

The idea for the park study grew out of efforts by several local community groups working to reopen the former Neville Ice Rink at the lower end of the park off 21st Street.

"During the meetings about the rink, we started to look at the bigger picture and realize that while it was important, it was really only a slice of an overall need to address the whole park corridor from the flats up to Arlington Avenue," Bagosi said.

The rink is owned by the city and was leased to an operator. It was closed in 2001 after city officials received several complaints from residents about noise from all-night "rave" parties being held there.

Earlier this year, officials in the city's department of parks indicated it was looking into the feasibility of reopening the rink.

Parks officials did not return repeated messages seeking comment on the status of the plan.

Tony LaRussa can be reached at tlarussa@tribweb.com

[Back to readings](#)

SOUTH • PITTSBURGH REPORTER

Since 1939, Serving The South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods of

• Allentown • Arlington • Beltzhoover • Bon Air • Carrick • Knoxville • Mount Oliver • Mount Washington • South Side

Vol. 64 No. 12 • Tuesday, October 28, 2003 • Free From Participating Merchants • Telephone: 412-481-0266 • Fax: 412-488-8011

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2003

THE SOUTH PITTSBURGH REPORTER

PAGE SEVEN

ACC asking for input on So. Side Park

The Arlington Civic Council is soliciting input from neighborhood residents concerning the future of South Side Park.

A task force has been formed to develop a blueprint for long overdue improvements and future plans to develop the land area as a South Pittsburgh attraction. Since the park is utilized by sports teams and residents that reside on the perimeter of the park, the A.C.C. wants to hear from the residents and the organizations that currently make the most of what the park currently has to offer.

"Now is the time for people that have an interest in South Side Park to speak up. It may take a great deal of time to actually develop and implement a plan but we need to hear from everyone that has an interest in this public space," said Mary Lou Simon, president of the A.C.C. Simon also added she is happy to work in cooperation with the South Side Slopes

Neighborhood Association and the South Side Local Development Company on this project.

If interested residents cannot attend the Monday, Nov. 3, 7 p.m. park meeting another meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Brashers Association on the South Side.

Other visitors to the meeting will include Hilltop Health Ministries to explain a new program they have designed to assist 18-35 year olds with a variety of services. They will also provide free blood pressure screenings.

Last meeting of the year for 29th Ward Carrick Block Watch

The last meeting of 2003 for the 29th Ward Carrick Block Watch will be Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 7-9 p.m. at the (new) Roosevelt School, Brownsville and Cherryhill roads. Use the side entrance.

District Justice Ann Scharding will speak about holiday safety tips and Councilman Jim Motenak will update everyone on city services.

Other invited guests include Mayor Tom Murphy, Senator Jay Costa, District Justice Richard King, City Council President Gene Ricciardi, Commander William Joyce, CPOs Dan McQuillan and Christine

There will be free refreshments, door prizes, raffles, babysitting and crime reports.

**INVESTOR
HAS CASH
FOR YOUR
HOME**

**21 Day Close
or Less**

Give Me Your Absolute
Minimum Price

412-561-2230

24 Years Experience

Eli's Place

2518 East Carson Street

412-431-3161

LDC offers second chance to voice opinion on park

The South Pittsburgh community is welcome to a public meeting to gather opinions about South Side Park and develop a vision for its future.

at the end of 21st Street. Klavon Associates was chosen to complete the study, and they are working with a task force of neighborhood representatives

**SOUTH SIDE
VFW Post 6675**

Coming Attractions

Open
11 a.m. Saturdays
During College Football Season
7 p.m. Mondays
For Monday Night Football

9:30 pm

The Monarchs
Friday, October 31

Saturday, November 8

DJ Wayne

Pittsburgh's Classic Oldies
From The 50s to the 90s

9:00 pm

R South • PITTSBURGH REPORTER

Since 1939, Serving The South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods of

• Allentown • Arlington • Beltzhoover • Bon Air • Carrick • Knoxville • Mount Oliver • Mount Washington • South Side

Vol. 64 No. 13 • Tuesday, November 4, 2003 • Free From Participating Merchants • Telephone: 412-481-0266 • Fax: 412-488-8011

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2003

THE SOUTH PITTSBURGH REPORTER

PAGE FTV

LDC offers second chance to voice opinion on park

The South Pittsburgh community is welcome to a public meeting to gather opinions about South Side Park and develop a vision for its future.

The South Side Local Development Company recently received a grant from the Community Design Center of Pitts-

burgh to hire a consultant to complete a planning study for South Side Park—to the Slopes at the end of 21st Street. Klavon Associates was chosen to complete the study, and they are working with a task force of neighborhood representatives,

including members of the SSLDC, South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association and Arlington Civic Council.

The planning study will address the entire park, nearly 65 acres, and make recommendations for improving this un-

derutilized urban gem. The meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. at Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah. Refreshments will be provided. Contact the SSLDC at 412-481-0651 for additional information.

Planning forum will meet at the So. Side Works

The next meeting of the South Side Planning Forum will be Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 5:30 p.m. in the office space above the Hot Metal Grille at South Side Works.

The address for the meeting is 2635 E. Carson Street and the entrance to the second floor is off the courtyard between the parking garage and Quantum II. Parking is available in the adjacent garage with its en-

trance to the second floor. The next meeting of the 29th Ward Carrick Block Watch will be Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 7-9 p.m. at the (new) Roosevelt School, Brownsville and Cherryhill roads. Use the side entrance.

District Justice Ann Scharding will speak about holiday

16th Ward BW taking fieldtrip to 911 center

The next meeting of the 16th Ward Arlington Block Watch will be Thursday, Nov. 13, 7-9 p.m.

at the 16th Ward Carrick Block Watch. The meeting will update everyone on city services.

Other invited guests include Mayor Tom Murphy, Senator Jay Costa, District Justice Richard King, City Council President Gene Ricciardi, Com-

Saint John Discussion Group welcomes Rev. Hamilton-Vargo

The Saint John Discussion Group will meet Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. at Saint John's Byzantine Church at 18th and Jane streets, South Side.

For this month's discussion

topic, traditions and spirituality of the Presbyterian church. The discussion is open to anyone interested in learning about and sharing faith. For more information, call 412-

481-0651 for additional information.

There will be free refreshments, door prizes, raffles, babysitting and crime reports.

For this month's discussion

ATTENTION

MT. OLIVER RESIDENTS RECEIVING AMBULANCE SUBSCRIPTION FORMS IN THE MAIL. THERE IS AN ERROR ON THE RETURN ENVELOPE. PLEASE CHANGE P.O. BOX 5983 TO 150 BROWNSVILLE ROAD WHEN USING THE RETURN ENVELOPE.

**THANK YOU AND SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE
MT. OLIVER AMBULANCE COMMITTEE**

The Original
Cupka's CAFE & Cupka's CAFE 2

48 S. 27th St. • South Side • 2314 E. Carson • South Side •
For Take Outs & Specials 412-481-6262 For Take Outs & Special 412-431-9691
412-431-9433 412-381-2857

Call For Dinner Specials

Since 1939, Serving The South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods of
Allentown • Arlington • Beltzhoover • Bon Air • Carrick • Knoxville • Mount Oliver • Mount Washington • South Side

Vol. 64 No. 14 • Tuesday, November 11, 2003 • Free From Participating Merchants • Telephone: 412-481-0246 • Fax: 412-488-8011

Inside This Week's Reporter

Beltzhoover
 The Beltzhoover River youth baseball organization has completed its season and secured a berth in the month with all four of its teams. The year's winning team, the 10U team, will play for the championship in the 10U division at the 2003 Little League World Series in Allentown, Pa. The 10U team is coached by Steve Pichler, 25 Southview Ave., and the season will be the Southwestern Park Minor League championship.

Mount Oliver
 Mount Oliver Elementary is expected to pass the referendum for a proposed 2004 budget of \$1.5 million. The budget for 2004 includes a 1.5% increase in the property tax levied on all property owners. The additional revenue will be used for capital improvements and to pay for the school's debt.

Allentown
 The Allentown Senior Center, 631 R. Worthington Avenue, will be for seniors 65 and over. A kick-off party is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 13 at 1 p.m. See Page 8.

South Side
 According to the South Side...

Residents would like to see park made more accessible for seniors

By David Aszad
Contributing Writer

The youth baseball field at South Side Park, located behind the fire station on Arlington Ave., was renovated and expanded by the city last year. The Arlington Athletic Association made good use of the facility with hundreds of boys and girls taking part in youth softball and baseball there this past summer.

Alfred Association president Nick Milanovich reported at the Arlington Civic Council meeting November 3 that the organization held youth baseball tournaments at the field in July that left a favorable impression on teams who came far from the city. Some of the teams were from Plum Borough, Elizabeth Township and Grove City, according to Milanovich.

"Those teams were excited about playing at a nice ball field that had a nice view of the city," Milanovich told the civic council at a meeting where the future of South Side Park was discussed.

Paul Lisotta, an architect from Klavon Design Associates, addressed a large audience at the civic council's monthly meeting at the Henry Kaufman Center on Salisbury Street. Lisotta was seeking input from the residents about their ideas on how to improve the park. He feels the park should benefit everyone, including senior citizens and not just boys and girls using the baseball diamond in the summer.

The Arlington Civic Council is interested in making the park more user-friendly for everybody. The organization is seeking input from the South Side Local Development Company as well as the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association on how to approach it.

Kevin Hanley of the SSIJC attended the meeting as well as Maria Riley from Klavon Design Associates.

The park has some heavily wooded areas. The fully terraced also makes much of the park inaccessible to the average person, particularly senior citizens.

Lisotta suggested residents look at various aspects of the park, including recreation, maintenance, preservation and beautification. Lisotta also brought up the point about "connectivity," meaning an attempt to tie in the upper part of the park with the lower area in the Quarry Field valley. Lisotta was asking the residents to give him feedback.

"What is your vision?" Lisotta asked.

Lisotta said he needs a "wish list" of ideas to work with before blueprints can be mapped out for park improvements. Some people in the audience wanted to know where the money was going to come from to pay for park improvements. Lisotta said funding would only be sought once concrete plans are put together.

Most of the residents attend-

Preventing more crime, city services discussed

By Al Lowe, Contributing Writer

Crime Prevention officers Dan McQuillan and Christine Luffey were dumbfounded to discover a car parked in the middle of a street in Allentown.

They told members about the Allentown Civic Association of the incident at the organization's October meeting, which also featured comments by City Council President Gene Ricciardi.

"There was no flashers, no engine running," McQuillan said. "We knocked on doors and found them [the car]. They didn't think they were doing anything wrong."

"Tell them how they treated us," Luffey told McQuillan. "They were not too happy. They used language that nearly made me blush," he said, adding, "I don't see how anybody can justify parking a car in the middle of the street and walking away from it." The officers issued a citation.

They also are responding to complaints about youths creating a disturbance on Allentown streets. They spoke to the offenders, got their names and plan to talk to their parents.

Another concern raised at the meeting was about identity theft. People somehow get others' credit card information and charge up a lot of expenses. "Go in the hardware store, pay \$10 and buy a paper shredder" to destroy no longer needed documents that contain personal information, McQuillan recommended.

Ricciardi had no formal presentation, but spoke off-the-cuff and fielded questions.

He mentioned that he always patronizes businesses in his district. He said Nabison left Pittsburgh because the locals did not buy Nabison products.

He said he was amazed to learn that gas prices were much cheaper at a Mount Lebanon BP station than at one on the South Side.

As he did last month, Ricciardi stressed that he was "asking for tax fairness." He disagrees with nonprofits such as hospitals and colleges being tax exempt and with some employers not being required to pay a business privilege tax.

He remembered a reduction in the amusement tax several years ago that was supposed to benefit sports patrons but didn't, because the savings weren't passed on to them.

"We can't have strong suburbs without a strong inner core, the city," Ricciardi said.

He also raised concerns about cuts in services recommended by the Pittsburgh Financial Leadership Committee, co-chaired by Elsie Hillman and David Roderick.

His recommendation was that attendees write letters to state

South Side Park

Continued from Page 1

ing the meeting were senior citizens. Some of them said they would rather see the civic council concentrate on finding a tenant for the abandoned dialysis center on Arlington Ave. The relatively new facility shut its doors less than a year after it was built. One resident lamented the former dialysis center as a "white elephant." The woman also suggested the abandoned building would be ideal for a senior citizens center.

Despite this "white elephant" that was brought up, the park remained the main focus of the meeting. One of the things the residents would like to see done in the near future is removing much of the wild growth on the hillside and along some of the ridges. Several residents noted the sightlines from the park of the annual Downtown fireworks shows (visible from the park 15 to 20 years ago), are being blocked by sumac trees, wild vines and other undesirable overgrowth. Another resident noted plenty of dead trees remain along the hillside.

In announcements, Herman said the Carrick Business Association's Light Up Night will be held on Friday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., at 8 Automobile, 2155 Brownsville Rd. Photos will be taken with Santa.

On Sat., Nov. 22, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., a welcome to the holidays celebration will take place at Fire Station 23, Brownsville Rd. and Cherry Hill Way. The first 150 children, grades K-3, will receive a free picture with Santa and a candy bag. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The block watch's next scheduled meeting will be on March 3, 2004.

Spaghetti dinner
 A Spaghetti Dinner will be at the Concord Presbyterian Church, 1907 Brownsville Road, Carrick, from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children. For more information call 412-882-1142.

PAGE FOUR

THE SOUTH PITTSBURGH REPORTER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2003

Carrick block watch

Continued from Page 1
 "Don't fight with those people," he said. "Give them whatever they want. It's not worth risking your life."

He said the most prevalent crime from the last meeting to tonight was criminal mischief, which is damaging someone else's property. He asked attendees to speak to their children and grandchildren about it, making it clear they regard the behavior as serious.

In his talk about the city budget crisis, Motznik said suburbanites, who comprise two-thirds of the city's workforce, or 85 percent of the payroll, pay a \$10 occupation tax, an amount unchanged since 1965.

Another problem is that of the largest 27 employers in downtown Pittsburgh, 24 pay no business privilege tax. Also, over 30 percent of Pittsburgh properties are tax-exempt. But the city must get permission from the state to change the tax structure.

Motznik said he is appalled to the garbage, sewage, and water fees that have been proposed.

He said Mayor Murphy closed the 19 recreation centers to save \$1.5 million, but has spent that amount on public development. Spending on such projects should occur "after the important things are done," he said.

Motznik said to call his office at 412-253-2151 about Section 8 housing problems, giving the address and the specific problem. Residents may

also call to report potholes.

In his talk, King said there are over 4,000 people in warrant status in the city's traffic court, meaning they failed to respond to a citation, failed to pay the fine after being found guilty, or failed to return for a jail sentence. But the city does not take any action when offenders fail to respond or pay.

King, who is also president of the Allegheny County Special Court Judges Association, wants the city administration to devote three or four employees to processing warrants, to start.

Moer's warning is that many of the warrants are for violations during suspensions due to DUI. The state legislature mandated a \$1,000 fine and 90 day jail sentence for motorists caught driving under suspension. Because the offender may appeal the jail sentence, they are given 30 days to return. But if they don't return, the city doesn't pursue them.

"The object of the fines is that you broke the law and this is your penalty. This is your debt to society, and we should take measures to collect it," said King.

A plan submitted to the city reneges some staff from housing court to working on warrants. Ordinance officers would file citations in the local district justice offices.

Mayor Tom Murphy is opposed to this, said King, as he tests community groups want to have local ordinance violations held in housing court, with the results of hearings

mailed to community groups.

King said neighborhoods are better served by having the hearings at the local district justice offices where residents who want to testify can easily get there. If questions arise, say on a rundown property problem, officials can visit the property. If a case is continued with the person given time to remedy the problem, the local district justice and ordinance officer can stop by to see if progress was made.

Ordinance officers, instead of waiting downtown, sometimes for hours for hearings, could be checking property on a specific ward near the local district justice that serves the ward. An ordinance officer would only appear in the district justice office of the ward they serve, resulting in time and money saved for the city.

In block watch news, Block watch coordinator JoAnn Herman said over 200 people attended the group's 20th anniversary dinner on Oct. 10. Since 20-year member Marilyn Wehrle was unable to attend, Herman presented her with flowers and a certificate at the block watch meeting. Luffey also received a certificate welcoming her to the "block watch team."

In announcements, Herman said the Carrick Business Association's Light Up Night will be held on Friday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., at 8 Automobile, 2155 Brownsville Rd. Photos will be taken with Santa.

On Sat., Nov. 22, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., a welcome to the holidays celebration will take place at Fire Station 23, Brownsville Rd. and Cherry Hill Way. The first 150 children, grades K-3, will receive a free picture with Santa and a candy bag. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The block watch's next scheduled meeting will be on March 3, 2004.

Spaghetti dinner

A Spaghetti Dinner will be at the Concord Presbyterian Church, 1907 Brownsville Road, Carrick, from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children. For more information call 412-882-1142.

South Side Park

Continued from Page 1
 ing the meeting were senior citizens. Some of them said they would rather see the civic council concentrate on finding a tenant for the abandoned dialysis center on Arlington Ave. The relatively new facility shut its doors less than a year after it was built. One resident lamented the former dialysis center as a "white elephant." The woman also suggested the abandoned building would be ideal for a senior citizens center.

Despite this "white elephant" that was brought up, the park remained the main focus of the meeting. One of the things the residents would like to see done in the near future is removing much of the wild growth on the hillside and along some of the ridges. Several residents noted the sightlines from the park of the annual Downtown fireworks shows (visible from the park 15 to 20 years ago), are being blocked by sumac trees, wild vines and other undesirable overgrowth. Another resident noted plenty of dead trees remain along the hillside.

In announcements, Herman said the Carrick Business Association's Light Up Night will be held on Friday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., at 8 Automobile, 2155 Brownsville Rd. Photos will be taken with Santa.

On Sat., Nov. 22, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., a welcome to the holidays celebration will take place at Fire Station 23, Brownsville Rd. and Cherry Hill Way. The first 150 children, grades K-3, will receive a free picture with Santa and a candy bag. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The block watch's next scheduled meeting will be on March 3, 2004.

Spaghetti dinner
 A Spaghetti Dinner will be at the Concord Presbyterian Church, 1907 Brownsville Road, Carrick, from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15.

The block watch's next scheduled meeting will be on March 3, 2004.

Spaghetti dinner

A Spaghetti Dinner will be at the Concord Presbyterian Church, 1907 Brownsville Road, Carrick, from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children. For more information call 412-882-1142.

Allentown Civic Council

Continued from Page 1
 senators and representatives about unfair taxing programs and also to tell city officials at meetings what services they need and don't want out.

Some audience members had other solutions to the city's financial crises.

Rather than "name calling" by residents at town meetings, Rob Koss, former ACA president, wanted leaders who would cut deals with corporations so they would cut deals back. He said he is against "micromanagement."

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

"Pittsburgh is Tax Hell, according to economic magazines," Erik K. Huber said. "They say it is the last place you want to go." He pushed for tax cuts. But Ricciardi said, "If you cut taxes, you cut people and services." He promised he would take everything Huber said under consideration.

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

He also promised to come to more association meetings.

cularly during Little League activities), water run-off and various access routes into the park. Lisotta would like to know how many access routes are necessary and where will they come from?

For anyone who didn't get a chance to voice their opinion about the future of South Side Park, there will be another opportunity at a meeting Thursday night at the Rootless Association, 2005 Rural Street starting at 6 p.m. Representatives from the SSIJC, the ACC and the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association are expected to attend the meeting.

The other topic of the week's Allentown Civic Council meeting involved a presentation by Paulette Tarrant of the Hilltop Healthy Ministries. She is offering help to young adults trying to cope with running a household on a limited budget and limited resources.

Tarrant passed out pamphlets about the Young Adult Outreach Program that offers Allentown, Arlington, Beltzhoover, Mount Oliver and Knoxville residents, age 18-35, a helping hand with employment assistance, educational programs, with filling out social service applications as well as offer support and advocacy groups.

Tarrant is YAO program coordinator. She administers the services (free of charge) out of the St. Paul A.M.E. Church, 400 Orchard Place in Knoxville. For more information, or to make an appointment, for the services, contact Tarrant at 412-628-3826.

The program is funded through the Birmingham Foundation and AmeriCorps.

SOUTH SIDE
VFW Post 6675
Caring Attractions

Open
11 a.m. Saturdays
During College Football Season
7 p.m. Mondays
For Monday Night Football
The Monarchs

SOUTH • PITTSBURGH REPORTER

Since 1939, Serving The South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods of

• Allentown • Arlington • Beltzhoover • Bon Air • Carrick • Knoxville • Mount Oliver • Mount Washington • South Side

Vol. 64 No. 14 • Tuesday, November 11, 2003 • Free From Participating Merchants • Telephone: 412-481-6266 • Fax: 412-488-8011

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2003 • THE SOUTH PITTSBURGH REPORTER

PAGE FIVE

put asked for future of South Side Park • Where to put this bus stop is the question

South Pittsburgh community is welcome to a public meeting to gather opinions on the future of South Side Park and a vision for its future. South Side Local Development Company recently received a grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh to hire a consultant to complete a planning study for South Side Park—in the Slopes at the end of 31st Street. Klavon Associates was chosen to complete the study, and they are

working with a task force of neighborhood representatives, including members of the SSLDC, South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association and Arlington-Civic Council.

Elder-ado centers holiday closings

All Elder-ado Senior Centers will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day. Centers will reopen at the regular time on November 12.

The centers will also be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 and 28 in observance of Thanksgiving, with centers reopening at the regular time on December 1.

The planning study will address the entire park, nearly 65 acres, and make recommendations for improving this underutilized urban gem. The meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. at Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah St. Refreshments will be provided.

Contact the SSLDC at 412-481-0651 for additional information.

Feast celebration at Saint John's

Saint John Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 18th and Lane streets, South Side, will celebrate preparations for the Feast of the Nativity of Jesus Christ on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 6 p.m. Religious hymns of the season will be sung at 5:45 p.m.

The church will serve the Emmanuel Akathist, a poetic liturgical hymn highlighting

According to some South Side residents, there has been a bus stop on the northern corner of 18th and Lane streets for more than 30 years, until this year when the stop was moved across the street.

Reacting to complaints from a local business, the Port Authority moved the bus stop across Sarah Street in front of the former Casne Electric building. According to County Councilman Rich Fitzgerald, he received numerous complaints about buses blocking traffic for both cars and pedestrians, while loading and unloading.

The councilman said to alleviate the situation, the bus stop was moved again to the corner of 18th and Lane streets. However, residents and businesses in the area are complaining about the crowds and litter resulting from the relocation of the stop.

The bus stop is the only one between East Carson Street and the train trestle just past Mary

To help find a solution to where to place the needed stop, Councilman Fitzgerald has called a public meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13 at the Brashear Center, 2005 Sarah Street. In addition to the county councilman, representatives from the Port Authority are expected to attend. All interested area residents are also welcome to attend.

Pardee
• Flowers • Produce • Deli
2430 S. 18th St. 412-431-5121

Pepperoni Cheese Pizza Bites	\$2.25
By the Slice, Pizza or With toppings	
Pizza	\$1.25
Antipasto, Turkey, Pork or Beef	
Sandwich Rings	\$2.49
Chopped Ham	\$1.79
Bologna	\$1.79
American Cheese	\$2.59

FAX SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE
Now Accepting:
FOOD STAMPS • MAC CARDS
MOST MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

Philip Pelusi

**INVESTOR
HAS CASH
FOR YOUR
HOME
1 Day Close
or Less
We Your Absolute
Minimum Price
2-561-2230
Years Experience**

Telephone
412-881-1043

Fax
412-881-1534

South Side Cemetery
MAUSOLEUM • LAWN CRYPT • MEMORIALS
PRE-PLANNING

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW CITY®ION

SECTION
B

Thursday,
November 13,
2003

SOUTH SIDE Meeting to focus on park upgrade

A public meeting will be held tonight at 6 at the Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah St., to discuss plans and gather input for the proposed upgrade of South Side Park.

The meeting will be led by the staff of Klavon Associates, the firm hired to complete a planning study on the park. The planning portion of the project was funded by a grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh.

The information gathered will be incorporated into a series of recommendations for improving the park.

For more information, contact Kevin Hanley at (412) 481-0851, ext. 11.

ALL ABOUT THE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
2117 Brownsville Road, 412-381-8383

• NO monthly charges
• NO minimum business requirement
• NO per check fee
• All 10 check cards FREE
• Automatic debit/credit transfers
• Free VISA Debit/Check Card
• FREE VISA DEBIT/CHECK CARD
• NO Annual fee
• Accepted at over 10 million merchant locations
• 24-hour 24/7 cash/ATM services
• All points of sale are FREE

2117 Brownsville Road
412-381-8383
Fax: 412-381-6440

Next round of input asked for the future of South Side Park

The South Side Local Development Company is seeking input from the community on the future of South Side Park. The company is currently conducting a planning study and will hold a public meeting on Thursday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah St. The meeting will be led by the staff of Klavon Associates, the firm hired to complete the planning study. The planning portion of the project was funded by a grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh. The information gathered will be incorporated into a series of recommendations for improving the park. For more information, contact Kevin Hanley at (412) 481-0851, ext. 11.

Kitchen Open 'til Midnight on Friday & Saturday

Spaghetti & Meatballs \$5
Roast Beef \$5
Pork Chop \$5.49
Pork Chops \$7
Shrimp or \$7.99
Beer Battered Fish \$7.99
Meatloaf \$5.99
Stuffed Cabbage \$2.99

20% OFF ON TUESDAYS
For Senior Citizens 65 & Over

Open For Breakfast 8 am - 11 am
2 Eggs with Sausage, Hash & Potatoes \$5.99
Breakfast \$5.99

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2003

THE SOUTH PITTSBURGH REPORTER

PAGE FOUR

R South • P PITTSBURGH REPORTER

Since 1939, Serving The South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods of

• Allentown • Arlington • Beltzhoover • Bon Air • Carrick • Knoxville • Mount Oliver • Mount Washington • South Side

Vol. 64 No. 24 • Tuesday, January 20, 2004 • Free From Participating Merchants • Telephone: 412-481-0266 • Fax: 412-488-8011

See Page 3
Zone 3
The next meeting of the Zone 3 Public Safety Council South will be Wednesday, January 21, 7 p.m.
See Page 7
Carrick
Beginning Monday, Feb. 2, the office of State Senator Cusack, Jr. in Carrick at 6 Brownsville Road will have free state tax assistance by appointment.
See Page 7
Downtown
An applicant for this has been filed by Riverside Development Group. Equitable Owner to be zoned the property located between S. 18th Street and S. 19th Street and having a height along the northernly side of Wharton and Mellon Streets.
See Page 3
check them out at:
v.sopghreporter.com

Planning forum against expansion of convenience store on 18th Street

Member organizations willing to keep up dialogue with developer

By Margaret L. Smykla, Contributing Writer

A preliminary proposal to enlarge the Crossroads convenience store at Sarah and 18th streets by encroaching onto residential property met opposition from South Side Planning Forum members at last week's meeting.

"The neighborhood plan is very clear on allowing no extensions of the LNC, or local neighborhood commercial district, when it would result in the loss of residences," said member Christine Claus.

In their presentation, Fran Rossi, of Echo Real Estate Services, and attorney Kevin McKeegan, of Meyer, Unkovic & Scott, proposed replacing the current 2,000 sq. ft. store with a new, 4,500 sq. ft. Giant Eagle-affiliated "GetGo" convenience store, and eliminating the gas pumps.

GetGo would be a 24-hour operation offering, among other items, prepared sandwiches and salads, and fresh bakery items.

For additional access, the adjacent house owned by Crossroads would be demolished. Appearing before the city planning commission

earlier in the day about rezoning the lot occupied by the house, McKeegan asked for a continuance to meet with the community about the issue.

At the forum meeting, an audience member charged that the proposal violates "the letter of the law" regarding the South Side Neighborhood Plan.

The intent of the plan, adopted in 1990 after six years of development, is to create a balance between residential, commercial, and industrial uses. The plan is updated every two years.

Another attendee commented that once a precedent is broken, might it pave the way in five years for a return visit to erect a Giant Eagle?

Rick Belloli said if store officials are convinced their preliminary drawing is the only way to proceed, they must present their case to the community. An attendee agreed it was important to talk to residents of Sarah St. and Larkins Way.

Forum Chair Hugh Brannan told Rossi and

There are reasons why we approach things in a certain way," said Joyce, noting the police have a challenging job trying to determine when to act aggressively against a high-crime area and when to take a less-aggressive approach.

Commander Joyce suggested to the people in the audience to sign up for the citizens/police academy program to better understand why the police operate the way they do. Those who complete the nine week training, which meets one week/night per week for several hours, are usually allowed to ride with two patrolmen for one hour during a regular shift.

Joyce said going for that ride really opened the eyes of one citizen who personally witnessed an incident during his ride. The citizen witnessed the police officers confronting a very irrational person during a neighborhood disturbance.

"The guy admitted that going through the academy, he still felt that what he was getting from the training 'was sometimes just a lot of talk'," Joyce said. "But when he went out with the officers, he witnessed first-hand the very difficult situations our officers face every day."

In a related matter, Neumeyer said the block watch is seeking residents to sign up for an emergency training course that is scheduled for February 9. As of last week, there were still openings available among the 25 slots allowed. Any one interested, can contact Neumeyer at 412-481-6408.

Commander Regina McDonald who heads the city's narcotics/vice impact squad also addressed the group. McDonald explained that this aspect of city law enforcement has made progress in curbing drug-dealing throughout the city, making it an undesirable destination for dealers from Philadelphia and New York City who want to do business here.

McDonald said her staff also investigates the source of every

Continued on Page 2

Planning forum

Continued from Page 1

McKeegan that while the forum is prepared to voice opposition based on the neighborhood plan, "we're more than willing to continue dialogue with you."

"We need to get our ducks more in a row until we come back," McKeegan said at the discussion's conclusion.

After his and Rossi's departure, Brannan asked members if they were "all on the same page" regarding their position, and they agreed they were.

In his LTV Site report, Rick Belloli, executive director of the South Side Local Development Co., said he met last week with Jerry Dettore, deputy executive director of the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh.

Here are the updates:

While the widening of East Carson St. between 33rd St. and the Hot Metal Bridge is a high priority, local matching funds are required for the construction phase. Considering the city's financial crisis, widening won't occur in the immediate future.

The rezoning that would allow erection of a 165-ft. hotel will probably be approved in March. The Soffer Organization has begun the architectural design phase.

Recreational Equipment Inc., or REI, is coming to the South Side Works. The retail anchor, to be located on 27th St., will, optimistically, be under construction by the end of summer.

Soffer has seven residential lofts, located above the retail stores being built, leased and occupied.

The Cheesecake Factory is under construction. The restaurant will be located adjacent to the public square at 27th and Sidney streets.

The city Dept. of Public Works gave Soffer the okay to do streetscape improvements along city-owned streets in the development.

The Hot Metal Bridge pedestrian bridge is under design. The trail will not yet link with the Eliza Furnace Trail.

A prospective water taxi service, "The Port of Pittsburgh," is being worked on.

Developers of the Holiday Inn on 10th St., Kratsa Properties, have received an option for development of a parcel east of Hot Metal Street, near the UPMC Sports Works. The company is evaluating development feasibility for a variety of options, including a hotel, which would make for two hotels on the site.

Soffer's hotel was given a 6-9 month headstart by the URA because of their investment at the site.

Regarding Pittsburgh Palisades Park, Belloli said the task force charged with studying the effect on the South Side of the proposed Betters racetrack/casino/residential/retail development in Hays will present their results to the planning forum in February or March.

In other news, a public meeting on the 64-acre South Side Park will be held on January 28 at 6 p.m. at the Brashear Center.

Landscape architects Klavon Design Associates were commissioned by the SSLDC and the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association to conduct a feasibility study on the park area. Funding came from a \$10,000 grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh.

A small task force of residents and community organizations' representatives met several times on the matter.

The public meeting, said Janice Crum of the SSSNA, will be an opportunity for residents to hear the study results, and present their own ideas and concerns regarding the park.

In other business, Brannan said the South Side Sports and Recreation Fund board will convene to look at the spring funding cycle.

The next forum meeting will be on February 10.

WE BUY HOUSES CASH

Do you own an unwanted house? Needs Work, Owe Liens, Back Taxes. We buy mortgages, even in Default. Call Now 412-276-6974

The Streetwood Group Inc.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009 THE SOUTH PITTSBURGH REPORTER PAGE THREE

Get Involved In Your Community

PACE/PACENET programs discussed in Arlington

Ardena Baker of South Side Community Center, who has been instrumental in the development of the PACE/PACENET program, spoke at a meeting of the Arlington neighborhood group on Tuesday, January 27, 2009. Baker discussed the program's goals and how it can help improve the lives of residents in the neighborhood. She also discussed the importance of community involvement and how residents can get involved in the program. Baker said that the program is a partnership between the city and the community, and that it is a great way for residents to get involved in their neighborhood. She also said that the program is a great way for residents to improve their lives and the lives of their neighbors. Baker said that she would like to see more residents get involved in the program and that she would like to see more residents get involved in their neighborhood. She said that she would like to see more residents get involved in the program and that she would like to see more residents get involved in their neighborhood.

Knoxville Weed and Seed topic at 30th Ward meeting

The 30th Ward Councilman, Keith Williams, spoke at a meeting of the 30th Ward neighborhood group on Tuesday, January 27, 2009. Williams discussed the Knoxville Weed and Seed program and how it can help improve the lives of residents in the neighborhood. He also discussed the importance of community involvement and how residents can get involved in the program. Williams said that the program is a partnership between the city and the community, and that it is a great way for residents to get involved in their neighborhood. He also said that the program is a great way for residents to improve their lives and the lives of their neighbors. Williams said that he would like to see more residents get involved in the program and that he would like to see more residents get involved in their neighborhood.

Learn more about proposed changes to South Side Park

South Side Community Center, who has been instrumental in the development of the PACE/PACENET program, spoke at a meeting of the Arlington neighborhood group on Tuesday, January 27, 2009. Baker discussed the program's goals and how it can help improve the lives of residents in the neighborhood. She also discussed the importance of community involvement and how residents can get involved in the program. Baker said that the program is a partnership between the city and the community, and that it is a great way for residents to get involved in their neighborhood. She also said that the program is a great way for residents to improve their lives and the lives of their neighbors. Baker said that she would like to see more residents get involved in the program and that she would like to see more residents get involved in their neighborhood.

Activities at Family Care

The Family Care Center, who has been instrumental in the development of the PACE/PACENET program, spoke at a meeting of the Arlington neighborhood group on Tuesday, January 27, 2009. Baker discussed the program's goals and how it can help improve the lives of residents in the neighborhood. She also discussed the importance of community involvement and how residents can get involved in the program. Baker said that the program is a partnership between the city and the community, and that it is a great way for residents to get involved in their neighborhood. She also said that the program is a great way for residents to improve their lives and the lives of their neighbors. Baker said that she would like to see more residents get involved in the program and that she would like to see more residents get involved in their neighborhood.

WE BUY HOUSES CASH

Do you have a house to sell? We buy houses for cash. We can help you sell your house quickly and for a fair price. We are a professional company and we have a lot of experience in the real estate market. We can help you sell your house quickly and for a fair price. We are a professional company and we have a lot of experience in the real estate market. We can help you sell your house quickly and for a fair price. We are a professional company and we have a lot of experience in the real estate market.

A TASTE OF MEXICO
Enjoy Unique Mexican Handicrafts
and Authentic Mexican Food!
Sunday, February 22, 1-5 pm
Taco Loco, 1701 E. Carson St.
www.tacolocome.com

Green Front Inn
2344 East Carson St.
Restaurant
412-481-4726
412-481-4726
Any Your Orders To 412-481-4726
Kitchen Open
all Night on
Friday & Saturday
Pork Chop \$6.99
Chicken Parmesan \$5.99
Baked Ham & Sweet potatoes \$5.99
Pork Chop \$5.49
Pork Chop \$7.49
Shrimp or
Beef Barley Fish \$7.99
Pork Chop \$5.99
Pork Chop \$5.99

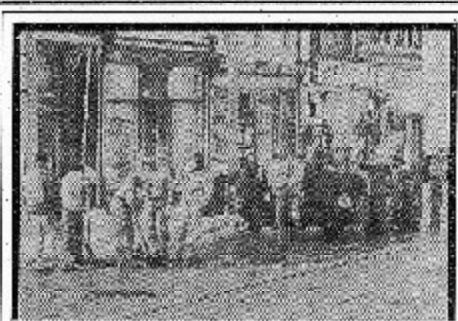
REPORTER

Since 1939, Serving The South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods of
Allentown • Arlington • Belflower • Bon Air • Carrick • Knoxville • Mount Oliver • Mount Washington • South Side
Vol. 64 No. 26 • Tuesday, February 3, 2009 • Box Price: \$1.00/Week • Circulation: 412-481-4726 • Fax: 412-481-4727

**make This
Reporter**
Knoxville
Belflower
South Side

Consultant proposes making a connection with South Side Park

By [Name], Community Reporter
South Side Community Center, who has been instrumental in the development of the PACE/PACENET program, spoke at a meeting of the Arlington neighborhood group on Tuesday, January 27, 2009. Baker discussed the program's goals and how it can help improve the lives of residents in the neighborhood. She also discussed the importance of community involvement and how residents can get involved in the program. Baker said that the program is a partnership between the city and the community, and that it is a great way for residents to get involved in their neighborhood. She also said that the program is a great way for residents to improve their lives and the lives of their neighbors. Baker said that she would like to see more residents get involved in the program and that she would like to see more residents get involved in their neighborhood.



It takes a crew to patch a pothole.
Taking advantage of the break in the weather, the potholes along East Washington Avenue got their fill before rain and snow returned.

accommodate organized football, where the South Side Suburbs youth team has played for the past five years.

Despite the brevity of activity there on Saturday afternoon in the fall, the area is usually very isolated. Evidence of this comes from a large playground that sits next to the park that is rarely occupied. Klavon suggested the playground be relocated closer to the youth baseball field on Arlington Ave.

"I've tried to come up with things that are doable," Klavon said.

One of the major obstacles to make the South Side Park more accessible is the massive and unsightly structure that used to sit in the Newell's Ice Storage tank.

The tank was built by the city as an outdoor facility 30 years ago, but was leased to a private businessman in the 1980s. The businessman created an outdoor ice storage tank, but the businessman died and the facility was closed in 2001 in a dilapidated, unsafe condition.

Looking up the hill at the structure from 21st Street, it is a very unsightly area with a parking lot that does not have automobile access to Quarry Park, which sits just a couple hundred yards up the hill from the ice tank.

Klavon suggested connecting 21st Street to Quarry Park. That idea was not well-received by the people at the meeting, who felt Quarry Park should be kept away from the South Side Flare traffic flow in order to maintain the park's beautiful setting.

However, Klavon's suggestion is to eliminate the ice storage tank and Quarry Street from both directions of St. Patrick Street was well-received. By doing this, traffic entering from 18th Street would have easier access to the football field part of the park.

One person suggested the best way to bring greater public access to the city street entrance to Quarry is to relocate the Flare's Market to South Side. This weekly activity is located in a parking lot on 18th Street near Carson.

Make no mistake, this change is not likely because the customer traffic for holding the produce is not as advantageous to the farmers. Someone else suggested conducting regular flea markets at the 21st Street entrance.

Regardless of the problem at the lower end of the South Side Park, the problem connecting the upper and lower halves presents a greater obstacle.

"I think the reason the park is not used more is because people are not sure where the trails lead," a South Side Slopes resident said. "It is going to lead to a Gypsy camp." No one wants to go into the woods unless they know what's there. Right now, people just

view [of the city]."

Some of the other issues discussed regarding the park pertain to identifying its boundaries, keeping the park free of litter, graffiti and vandalism, access, green-space uses and potential facilities for the ones they have in Central Park or even the one at the recently renovated West End Overlook that went through a \$2-million facelift last year.

It was noted during the meeting that the West End park is becoming a destination-center for bus tours as well as wedding parties.

With the panoramic views offered on the upper half of the South Side Park, this area has the same potential, according to Klavon.

Klavon, through the SSLDC, may have more public forums, hoping to integrate some of the ideas and suggestions from the first meetings into the designer's final vision for the park.



SOUTH SIDE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Mr. Bill Widdoes
 RIDC of Southwestern Pennsylvania
 425 Sixth Avenue, Suite 500
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

July 21, 2003

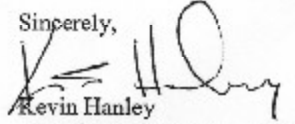
Dear Mr. Widdoes:

On behalf of the South Side Local Development Company (SSLDC) and the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association (SSSNA) I would like to inform you of a grant we recently received. The grant is from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh and will be used to conduct a planning study of the South Side Park, and the 21st Street entrance corridor.

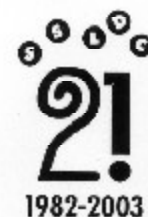
Since a focal point of the planning study will be this entrance corridor that currently consists of the RIDC lot, we wanted you to be aware of this project. We will be convening a task force to consist of members from the SSLDC, SSSNA, and local interest. Your participation in the task force is welcome. If you are not available to join the task force, we encourage you to share information you feel may help assist in the planning process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 412.481.0651.

Sincerely,


 Kevin Hanley
 Real Estate Development Specialist

50 South 14th Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15203
 phone: 412.481.0651 • fax: 412.481.2624
www.southsidepgh.com



SOUTH SIDE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

UPMC South Side
 2000 Mary Street
 Pittsburgh, PA 15203

July 21, 2003

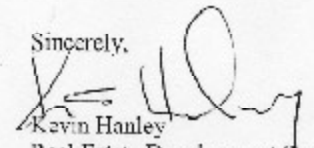
Dear Ms. Winn:

On behalf of the South Side Local Development Company (SSLDC) and the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association (SSSNA) I would like to inform you of a grant we recently received. The grant is from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh and will be used to conduct a planning study of the South Side Park, and the 21st Street entrance corridor.

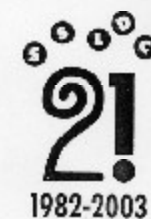
Since a focal point of the planning study will be this entrance corridor that currently consists of the UPMC parking lot, we wanted you to be aware of this project. We will be convening a task force to consist of members from the SSLDC, SSSNA, and local interest. Your participation in the task force is welcome. If you are not available to join the task force, we encourage you to share information you feel may help assist in the planning process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 412.481.0651.

Sincerely,


 Kevin Hanley
 Real Estate Development Specialist

50 South 14th Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15203
 phone: 412.481.0651 • fax: 412.481.2624
www.southsidepgh.com





SOUTH SIDE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

UPMC South Side
2000 Mary Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

July 21, 2003

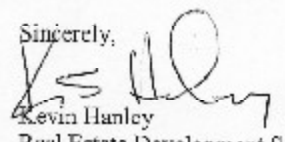
Dear Ms. Phillips:

On behalf of the South Side Local Development Company (SSLDC) and the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association (SSSNA) I would like to inform you of a grant we recently received. The grant is from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh and will be used to conduct a planning study of the South Side Park, and the 21st Street entrance corridor.

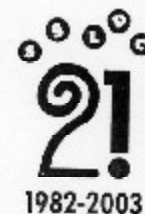
Since a focal point of the planning study will be this entrance corridor that currently consists of the UPMC parking lot, we wanted you to be aware of this project. We will be convening a task force to consist of members from the SSLDC, SSSNA, and local interest. Your participation in the task force is welcome. If you are not available to join the task force, we encourage you to share information you feel may help assist in the planning process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 412.481.0651.

Sincerely,


Kevin Hanley
Real Estate Development Specialist

50 South 14th Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15203
phone: 412.481.0651 • fax: 412.481.2624
www.southsidepgh.com



SOUTH SIDE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

22 August 2003

Susan Golomb, Director
Department of City Planning
200 Ross Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

RE: South Side Park Planning Study

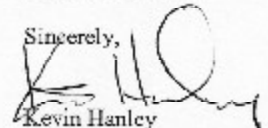
Dear Ms. Golomb:

The South Side Local Development Company recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh to complete a planning study of South Side Park. We have selected Klavon Associates to complete the study, and we hope to begin in early September. The proposal, co-sponsored by the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association, outlines our goal of creating a holistic vision for the 60+-acre park.

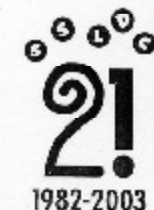
A project task force is being created to guide the planning process. This task force will meet four or five times with the consultant to review progress, make suggestions and to act as a voice for the larger community. In addition to task force meetings there will be one or two public input meetings to solicit ideas from park users and local residents. A representative from your department is welcome to join the task force and help us create a shared vision for this underused amenity. Additionally, if you have any existing plans, documents or data that you can share with us regarding this area, we would be grateful.

Enclosed is a copy of the proposal written to CDCP to provide some background and outline our initial motivation and goals. In the coming months, I look forward to refining our vision through public input, professional facilitation and a strong task force. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me; otherwise I'll contact you in the next two weeks to follow up.

Sincerely,


Kevin Hanley
Real Estate Development Specialist

50 South 14th Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15203
phone: 412.481.0651 • fax: 412.481.2624
www.southsidepgh.com





SOUTH SIDE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

22 August 2003

Duane Ashley, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

RE: South Side Park Planning Study

Dear Mr. Ashley:

The South Side Local Development Company recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh to complete a planning study of South Side Park. We have selected Klavon Associates to complete the study, and we hope to begin in early September. The proposal, co-sponsored by the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association, outlines our goal of creating a holistic vision for the 60+-acre park.

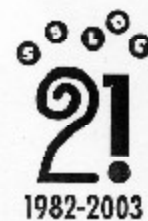
A project task force is being created to guide the planning process. This task force will meet four or five times with the consultant to review progress, make suggestions and to act as a voice for the larger community. In addition to task force meetings there will be one or two public input meetings to solicit ideas from park users and local residents. A representative from your department is welcome to join the task force and help us create a shared vision for this underused amenity. Additionally, if you have any existing plans, documents or data that you can share with us regarding this area, we would be grateful.

Enclosed is a copy of the proposal written to CDCP to provide some background and outline our initial motivation and goals. In the coming months, I look forward to refining our vision through public input, professional facilitation and a strong task force. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me; otherwise I'll contact you in the next two weeks to follow up.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hanley
Real Estate Development Specialist

50 South 14th Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15203
phone 412 481 0651 • fax 412 481 2624
www.southsidepgh.com



SOUTH SIDE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

11 September 2003

Guy Costa, Director
Department of Public Works
611 2nd Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

RE: South Side Park Planning Study

Dear Mr. Costa:

The South Side Local Development Company recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh to complete a planning study of South Side Park. Klavon Associates has begun collecting background information regarding the study, and we hope to hold our first planning meeting in late September. The proposal, co-sponsored by the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association, outlines our goal of creating a holistic vision for the 60+-acre park.

A project task force is being created to guide the planning process. This task force will meet four or five times with the consultant to review progress, make suggestions and to act as a voice for the larger community. In addition to task force meetings there will be one or two public input meetings to solicit ideas from park users and local residents. A representative from your department is welcome to join the task force and help us create a shared vision for this underused amenity. Additionally, if you have any existing plans, documents or data that you can share with us regarding this area, we would be grateful.

Enclosed is a copy of the proposal written to CDCP to provide some background and outline our initial motivation and goals. In the coming months, I look forward to refining our vision through public input, professional facilitation and a strong task force. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me; otherwise I'll contact you in the next two weeks to follow up.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hanley
Real Estate Development Specialist

50 South 14th Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15203
phone 412 481 0651 • fax 412 481 2624
www.southsidepgh.com



