

# Parks Without Borders Fort Greene Park

Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Public Hearing  
September 19, 2017

# Parks

# Parks Without Borders: Program Goals

## Accessible Parks

Make parks more welcoming and accessible to everyone

## Improved Neighborhoods

Extend the beauty of parks out into communities

## Vibrant Community Spaces

Transform underused spaces into centers of community



MYRTLE AVENUE MID-BLOCK ENTRANCE

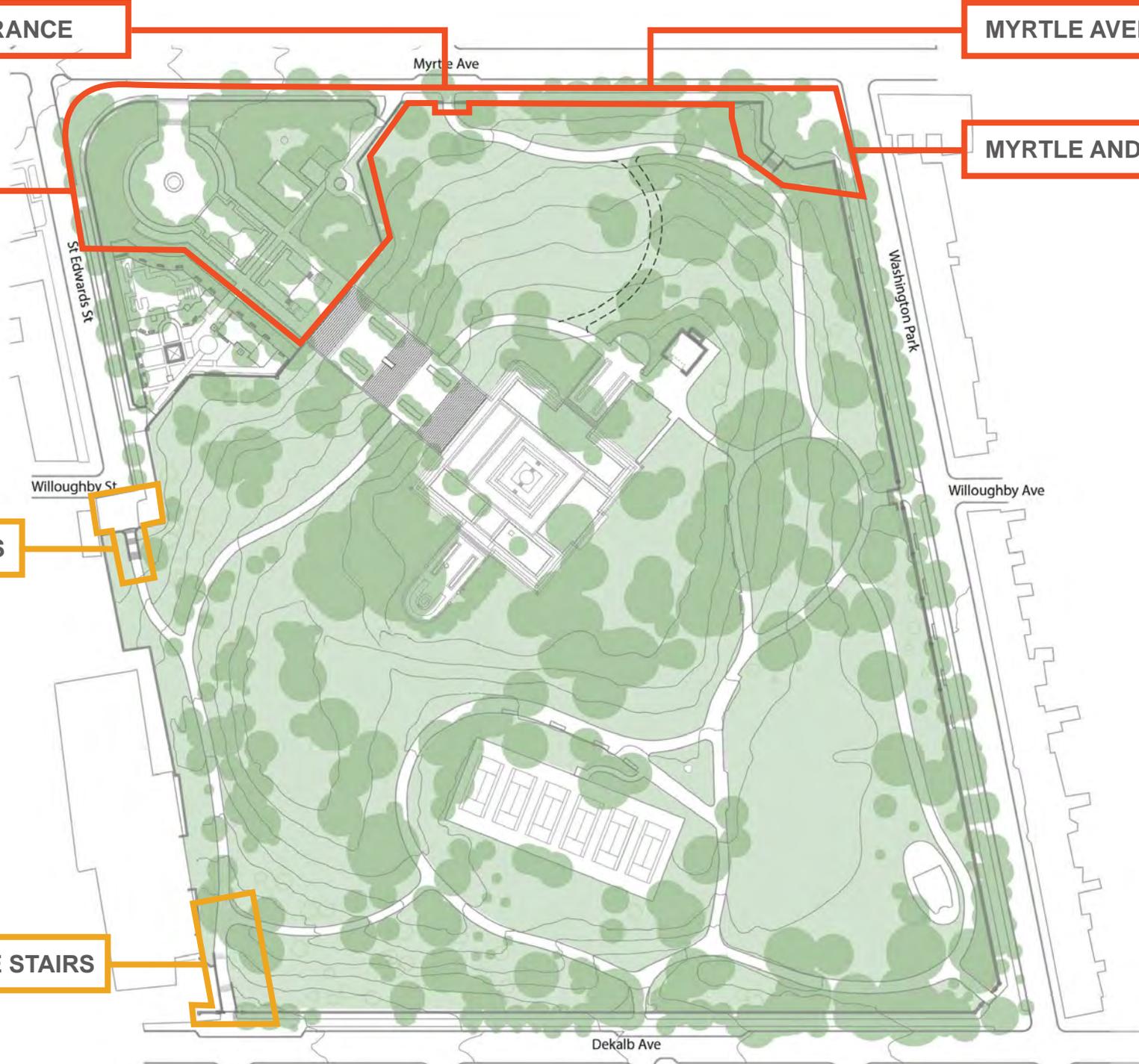
MYRTLE AVENUE SIDEWALK

LOWER PLAZA / PICNIC AREA /  
FITNESS / BASKETBALL

MYRTLE AND WASHINGTON PARK OVAL

WILLOUGHBY STREET STAIRS

DEKALB AVENUE STAIRS



**FORT GREENE PARK | SCOPE OF WORK**

MYRTLE AVENUE MID-BLOCK ENTRANCE

MYRTLE AVENUE SIDEWALK

MYRTLE AND WASHINGTON PARK OVAL

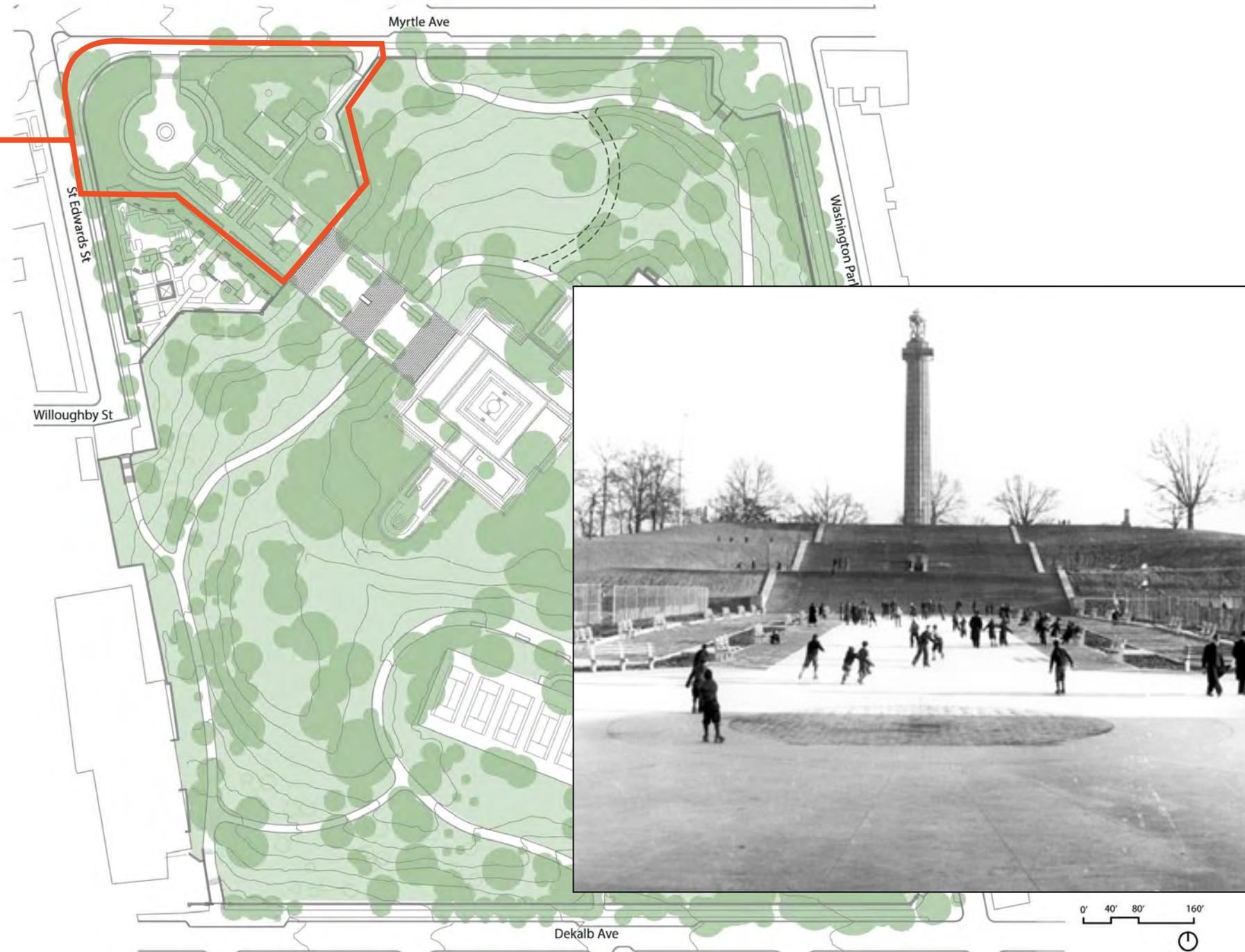
WILLOUGHBY STREET STAIRS

DEKALB AVENUE STAIRS



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Replacement In-Kind**

LOWER PLAZA / PICNIC AREA /  
FITNESS / BASKETBALL



## FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Lower Plaza

# EXISTING CONDITIONS & PERTINENT SITE PHOTOS



Entrance Stair  
-Not ADA Compliant

Small Circular  
Garden

Gilmore Clarke  
Wall



Playground  
(not in scope of work)

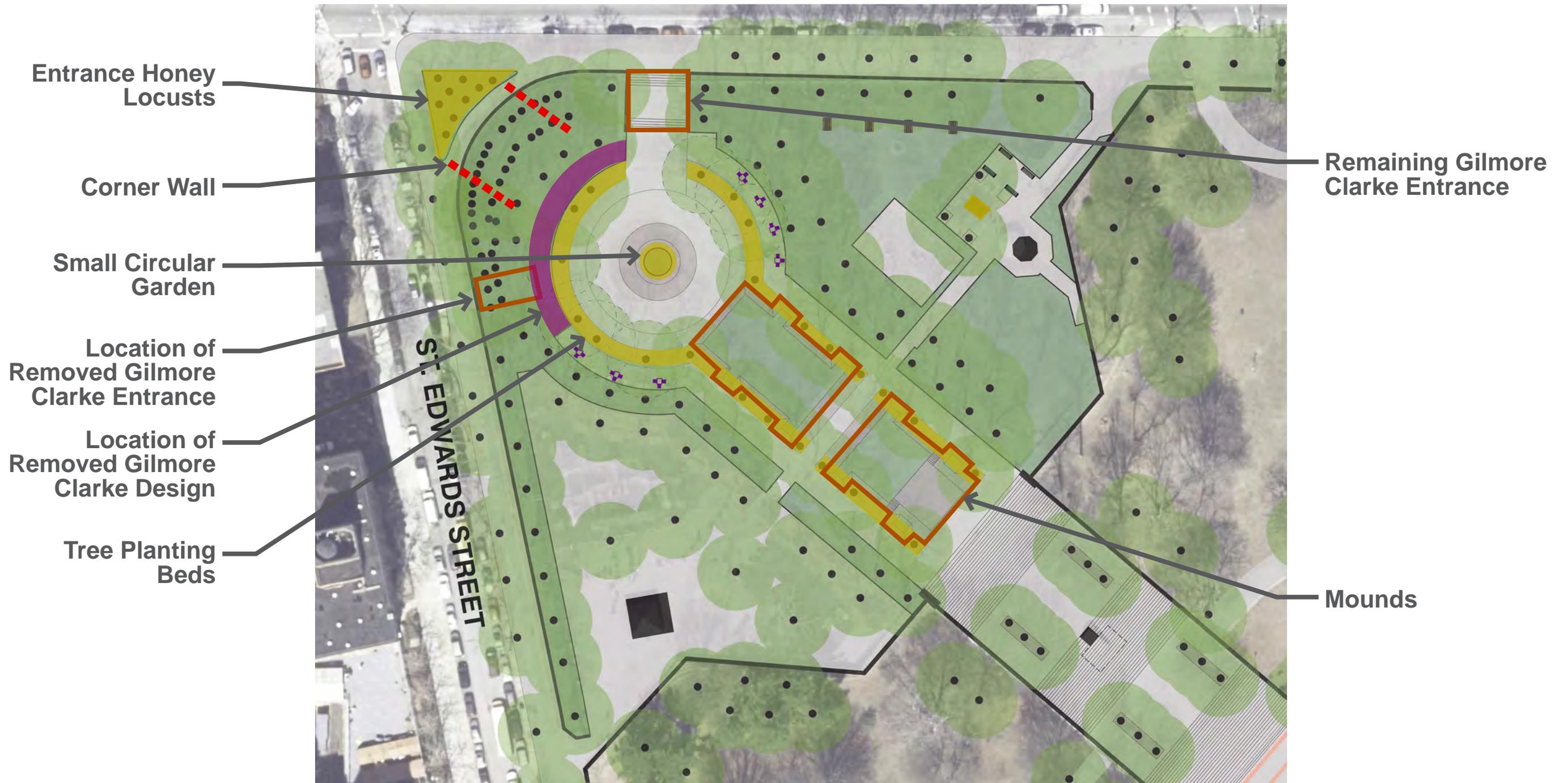
ST. EDWARDS STREET

Original Olmsted  
Stone Wall

Mounds  
-Not used often  
-Inhibits use of  
Plaza



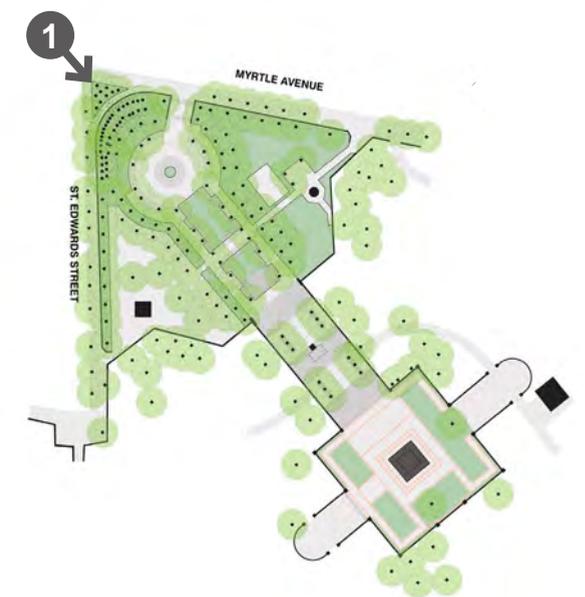
FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Existing Conditions



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Alteration Details**



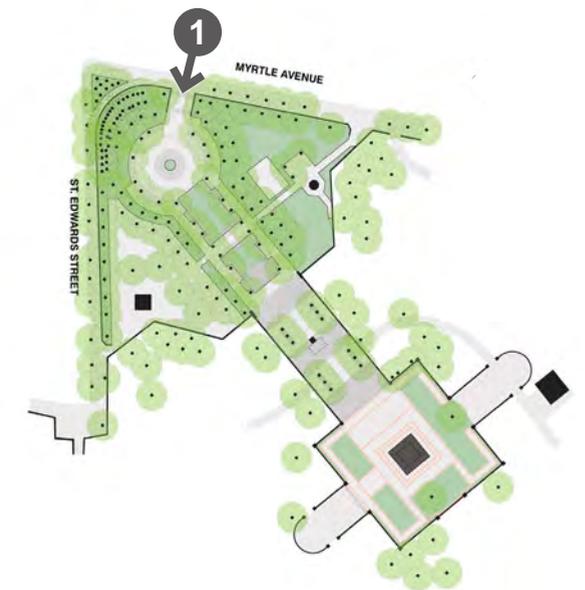
1 - CORNER OF MYRTLE AVENUE & ST. EDWARDS



## FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Lower Plaza - Site Photos



1 - MYRTLE AVENUE GILMORE CLARKE ENTRANCE



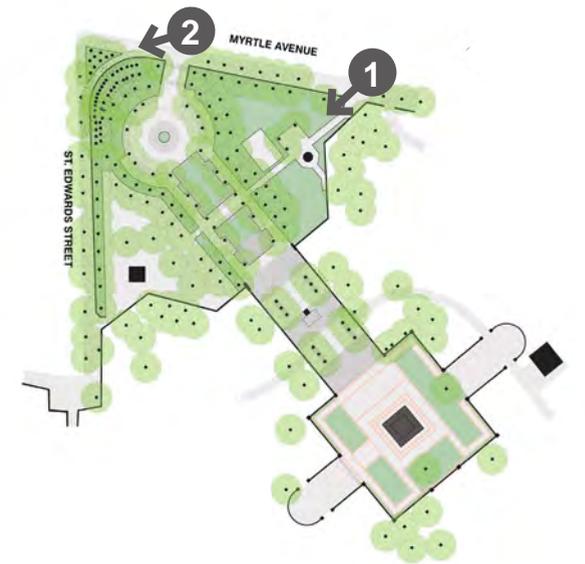
## FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Lower Plaza - Site Photos



1 - OLMSTED WALL - 1867



2 - GILMORE CLARKE WALL - 1936

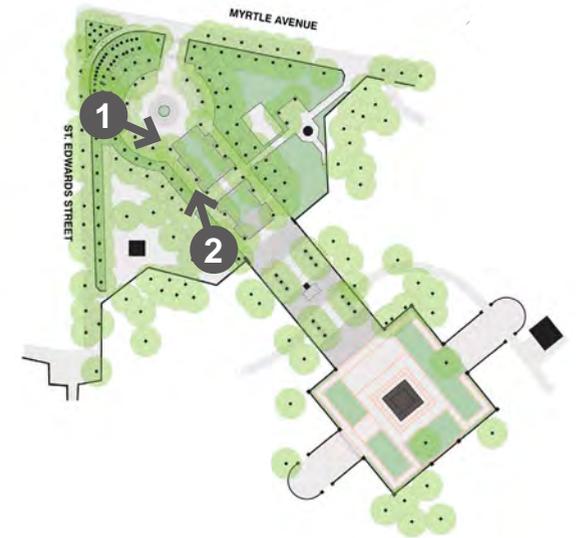




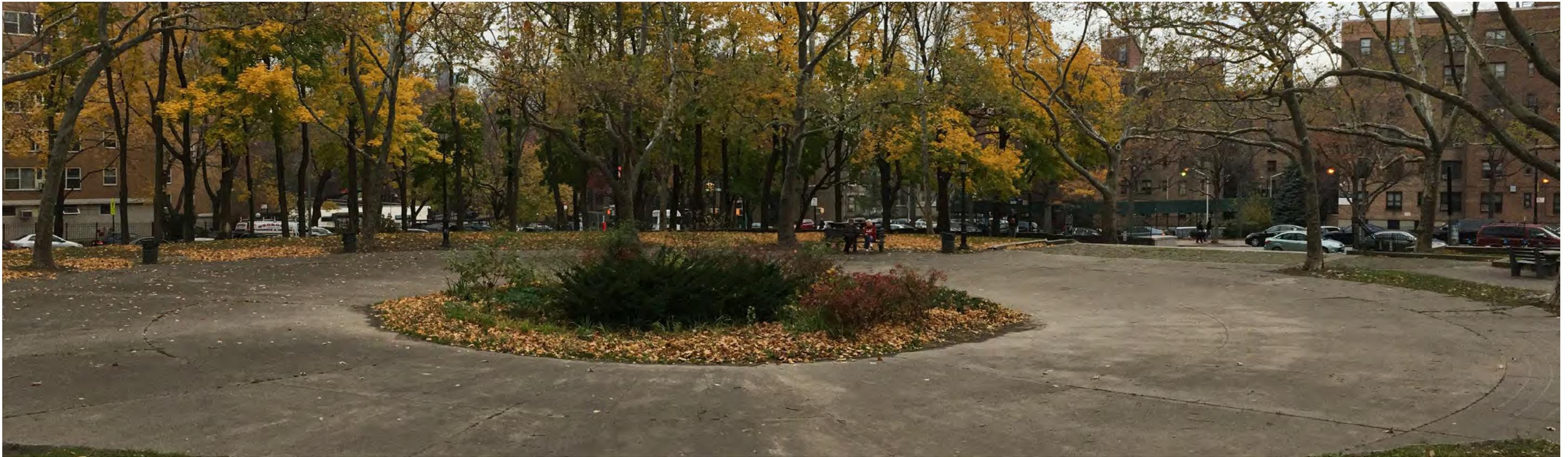
1 - CENTRAL PLAZA MOUNDS



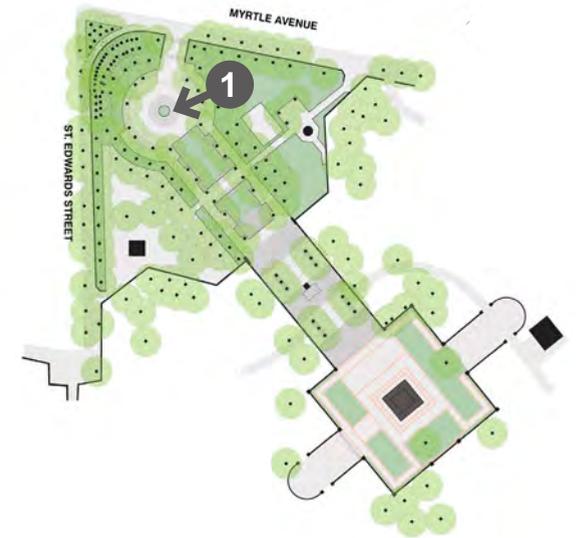
2 - GRANITE BLOCK PLANTING STRIPS



## FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Lower Plaza - Site Photos



1 - CIRCULAR PLAZA AREA AT CORNER



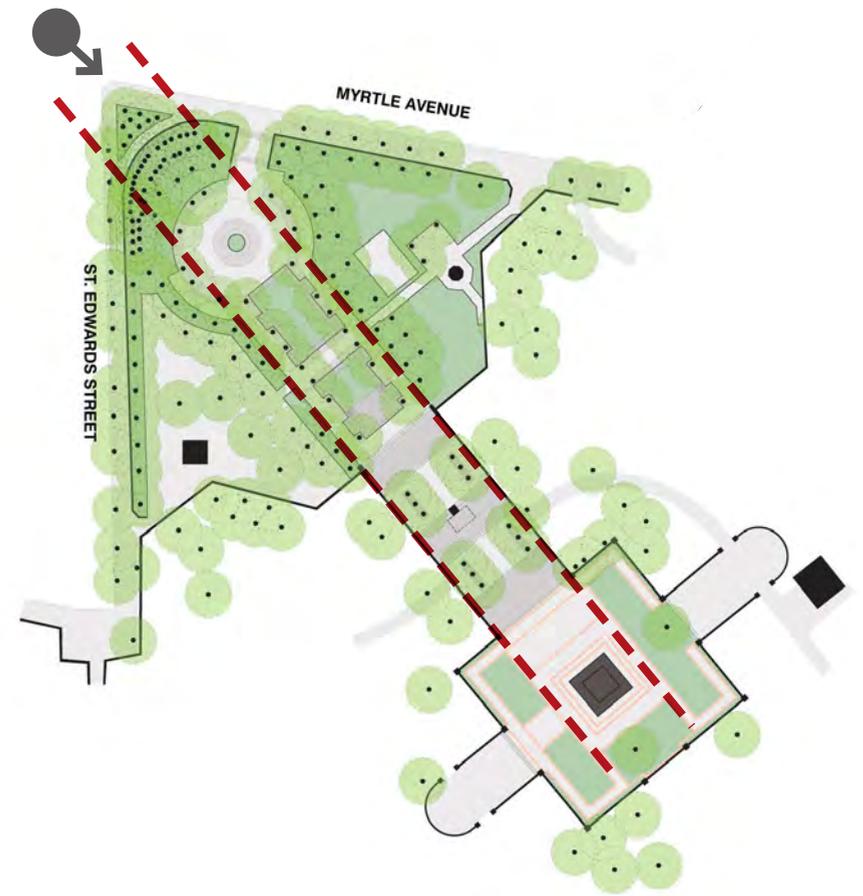
## FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Lower Plaza - Site Photos

# VIEW CORRIDOR



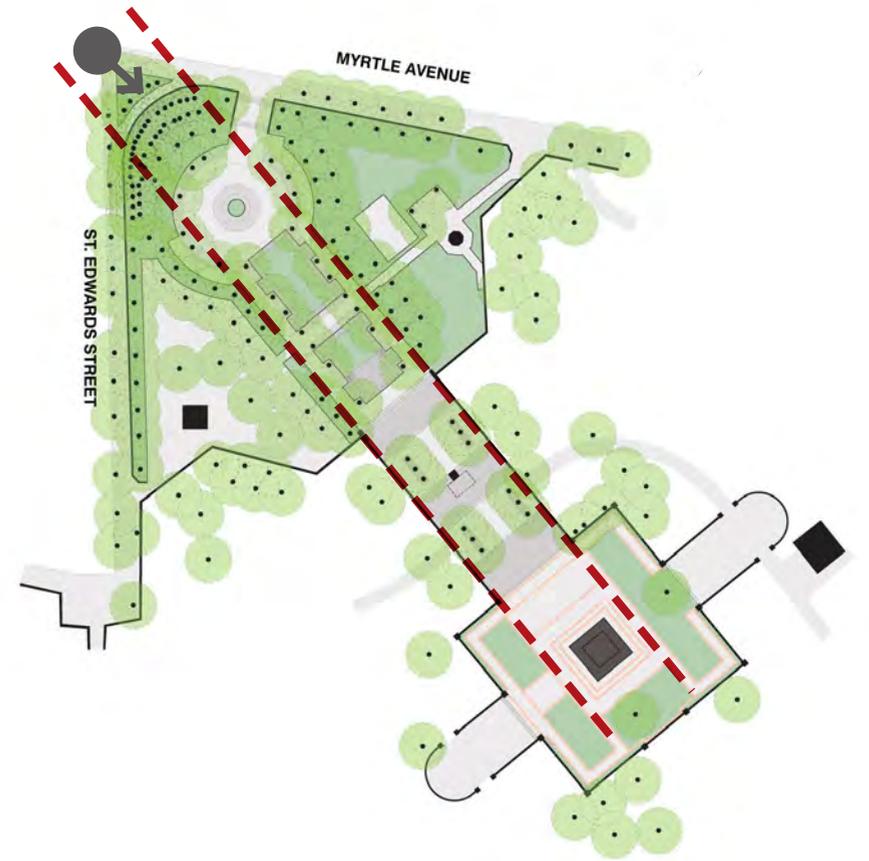


VIEW OF MONUMENT FROM MYRTLE AVENUE





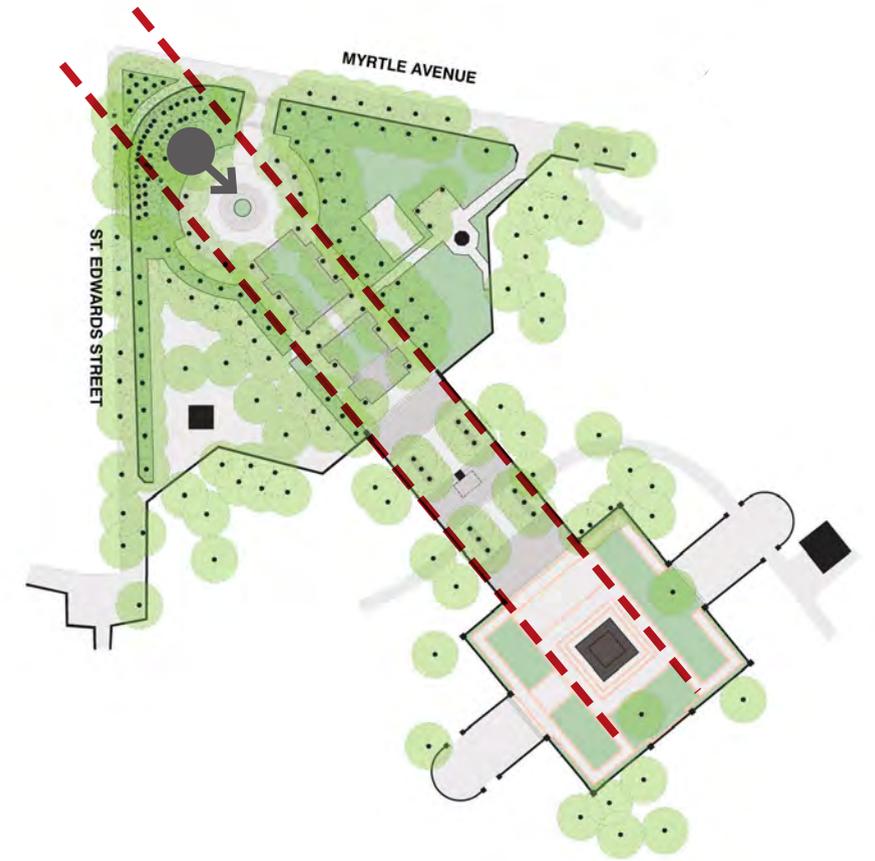
VIEW OF MONUMENT FROM SIDEWALK



FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Lower Plaza - Site Photos

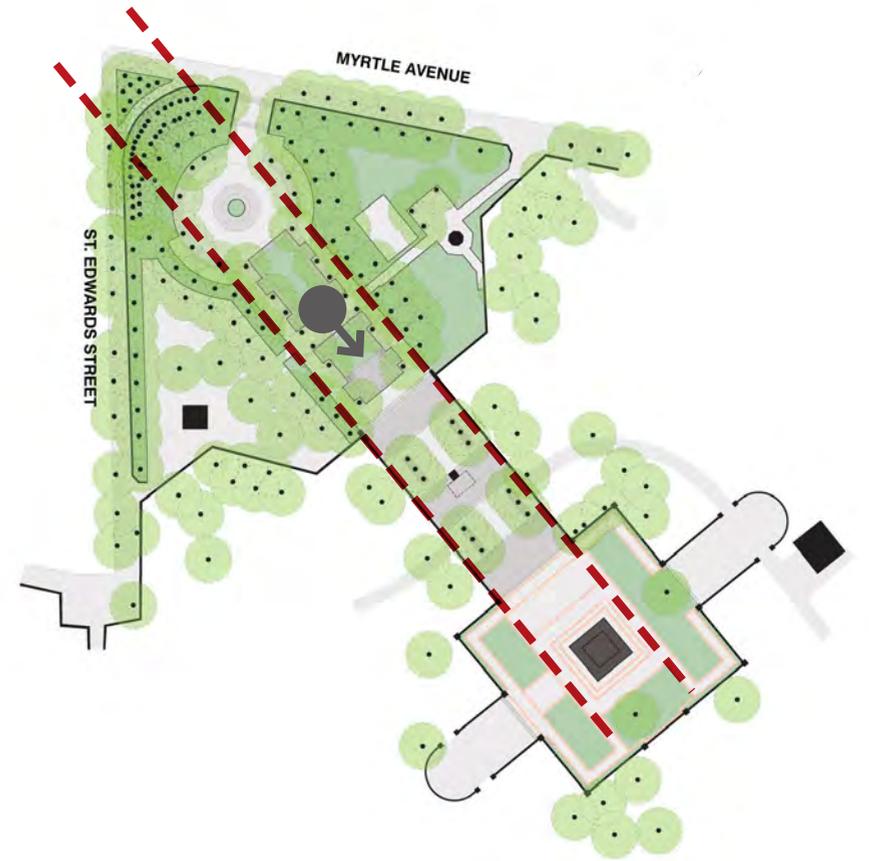


VIEW OF MONUMENT FROM CIRCULAR GARDEN





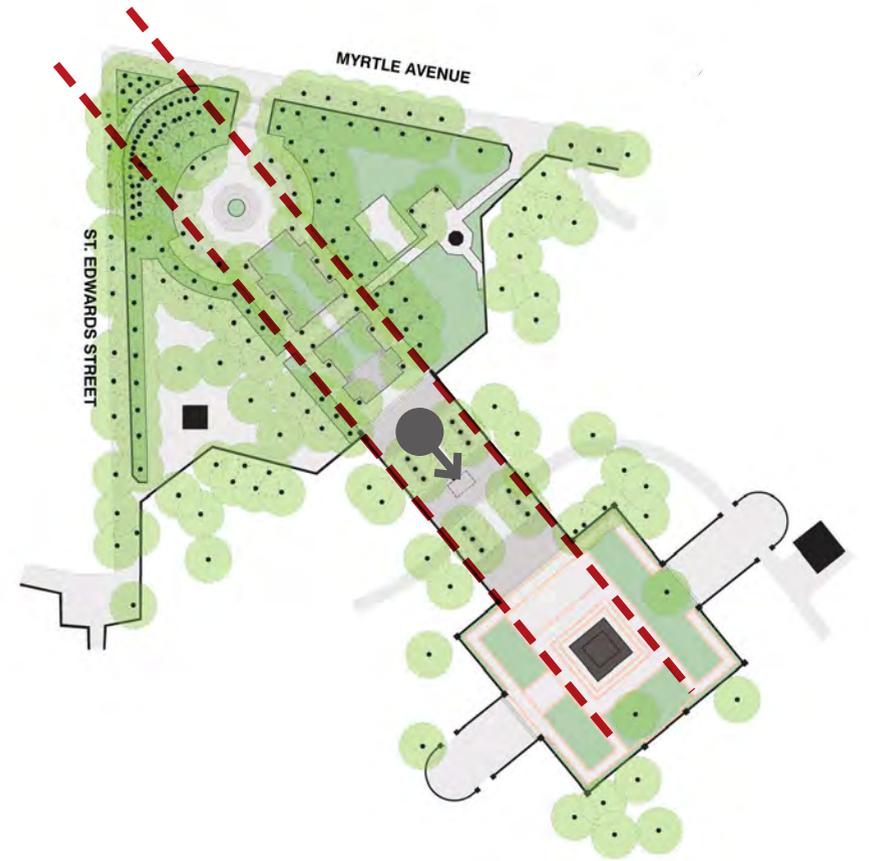
VIEW OF MONUMENT FROM MOUND



FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Lower Plaza - Site Photos



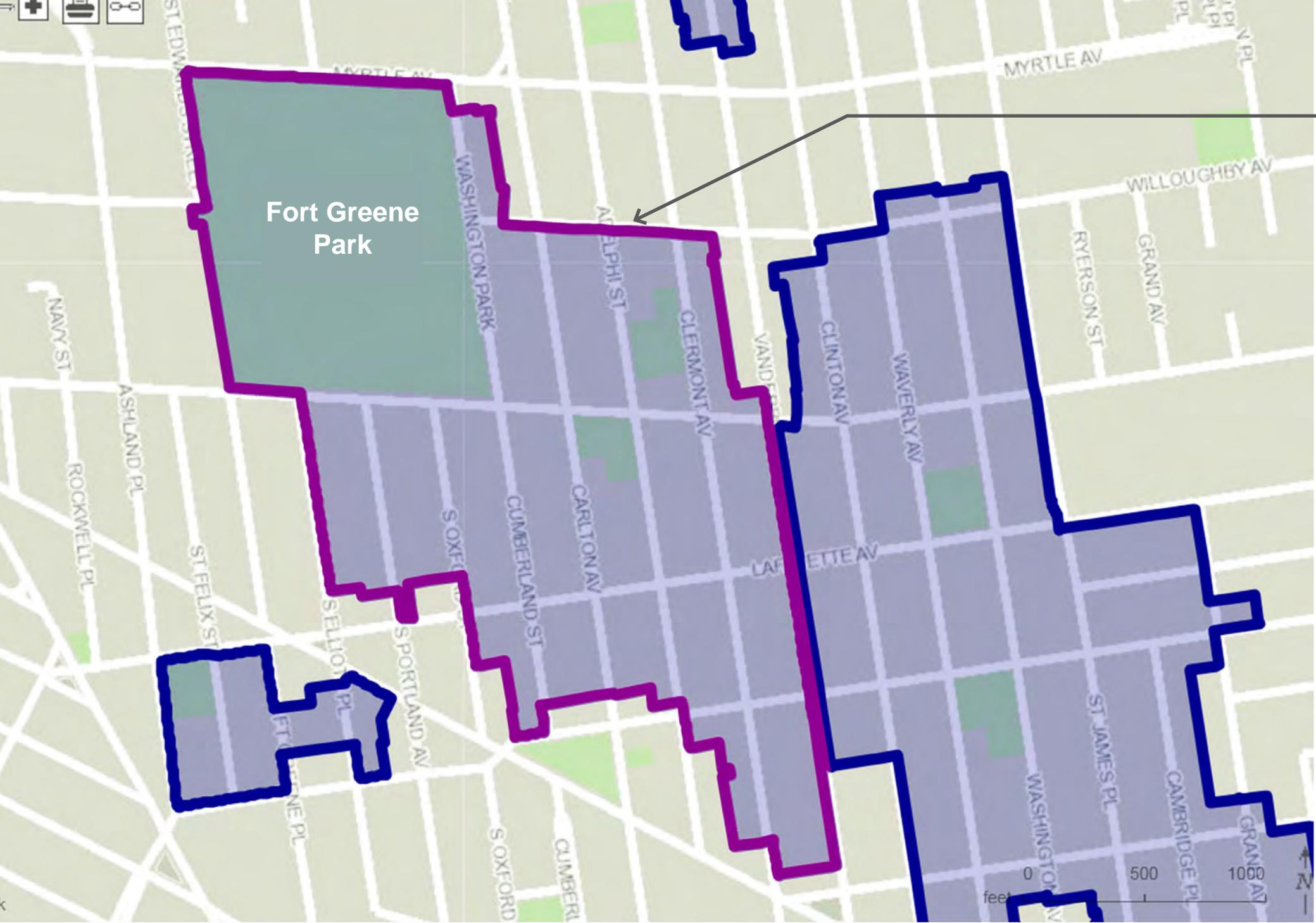
VIEW OF MONUMENT FROM LOWER STAIR LANDING



## FORT GREENE PARK | PWB Lower Plaza - Site Photos

# FORT GREENE PARK HISTORY





FORT GREENE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Fort Greene  
Park



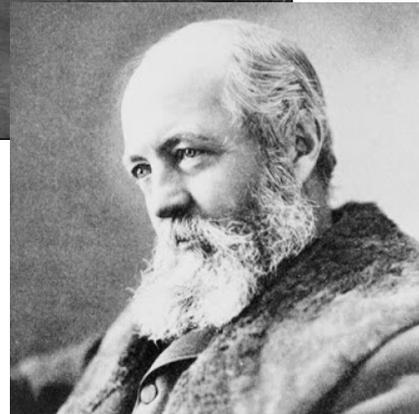
NYC Parks

# FORT GREENE PARK | Landmark District





Original Design: 1867



FREDRICK LAW OLMSTED



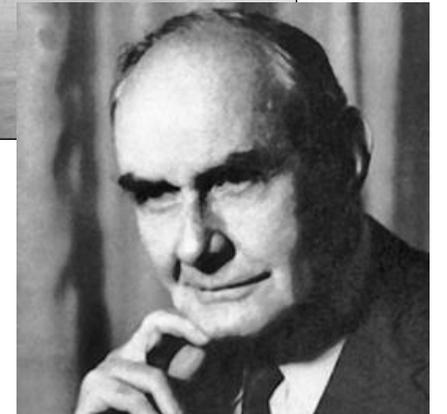
1908 Monument & Stairs



MCKIM, MEAD, & WHITE



1936 Lower Plaza



GILMORE CLARKE



# FORT GREENE PARK | Historical & Architectural Significance



Olmsted and Vaux Monument - 1867



McKim, Mead, and White Built Monument - 1908



## FORT GREENE PARK | Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument and Plaza Evolution



Monument Plaza - Gilmore Clarke, 1936



## FORT GREENE PARK | Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument and Plaza Evolution



Gilmore Clarke - Lower Plaza - 1930's



Gilmore Clarke - Upper Plaza - 1930's



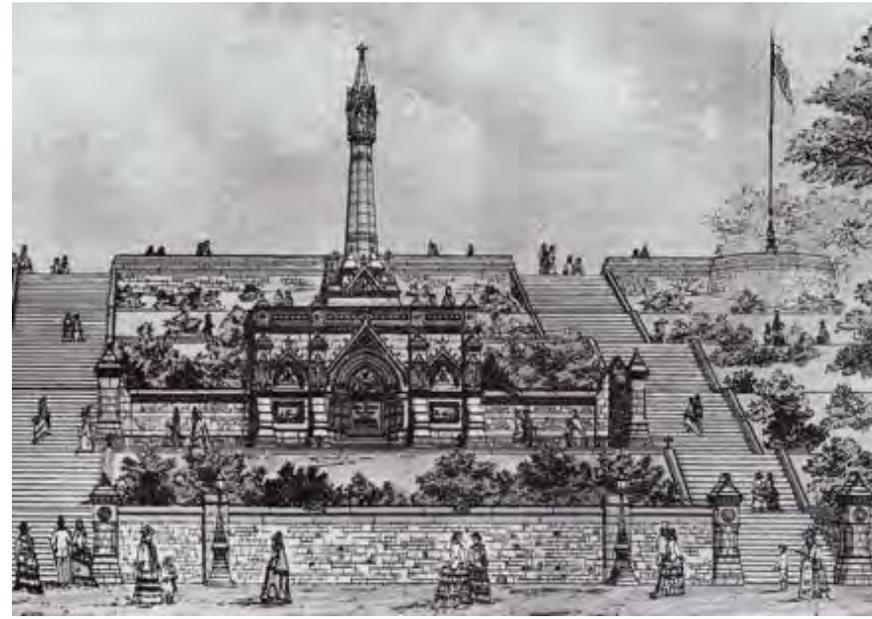
## FORT GREENE PARK | Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument and Plaza Evolution

# **PRISON SHIP MARTYRS' MONUMENT THE MEMORIAL**





1820's



Olmsted Concept Drawing of Monument



Olmsted scaled down Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument Designed - 1867



McKim, Mead, and White Built Monument - 1908

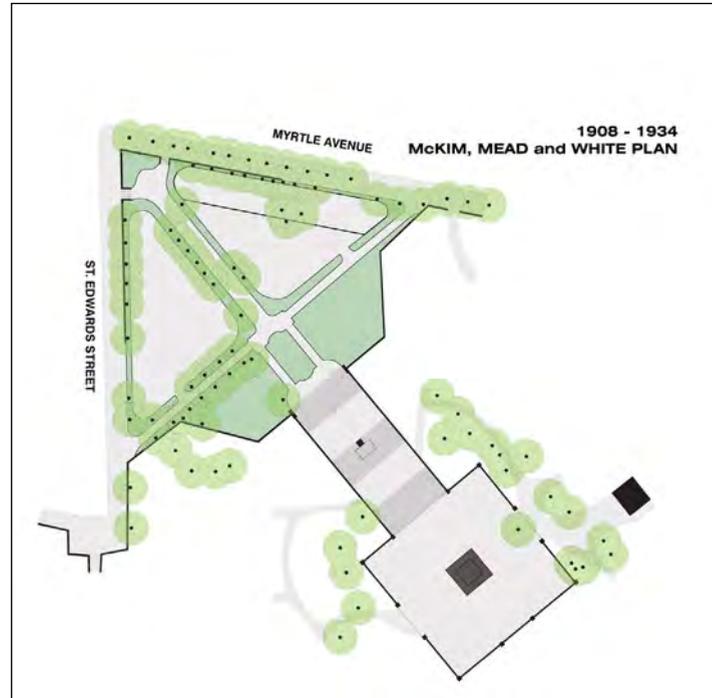


# FORT GREENE PARK | Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument - The Memorial

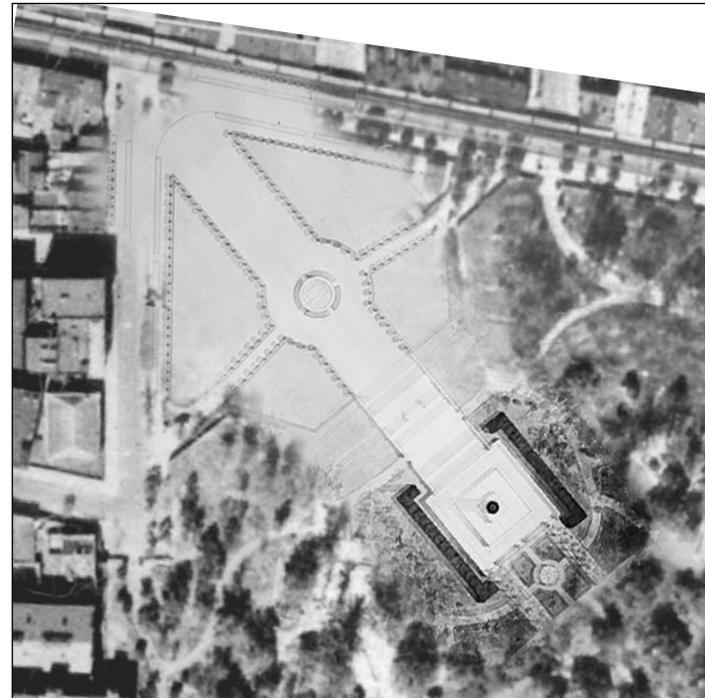
# **FORT GREENE PARK: LOWER PLAZA EVOLUTION & DESIGN**



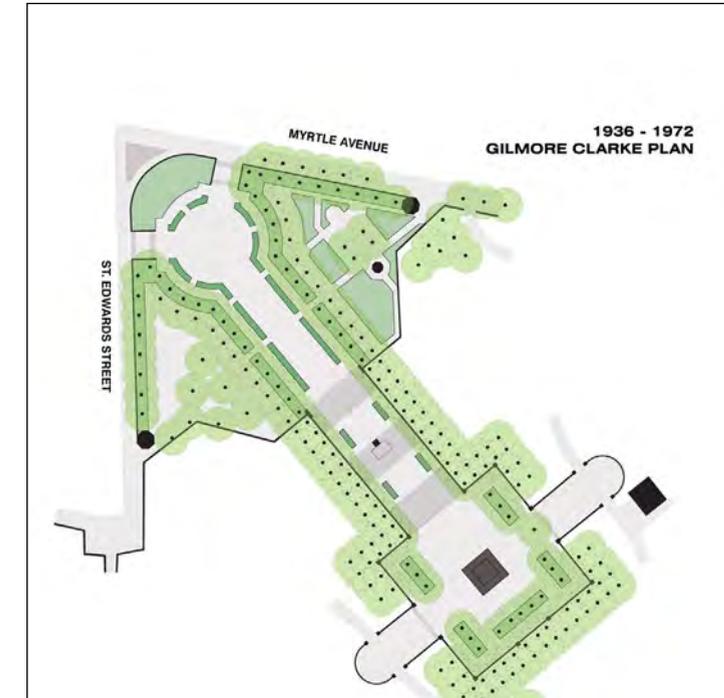
# Reconciling Multiple Generations of Design & Intent



McKim, Mead, & White Monument & Stair - 1908



McKim, Mead, & White Unrealized Schematic

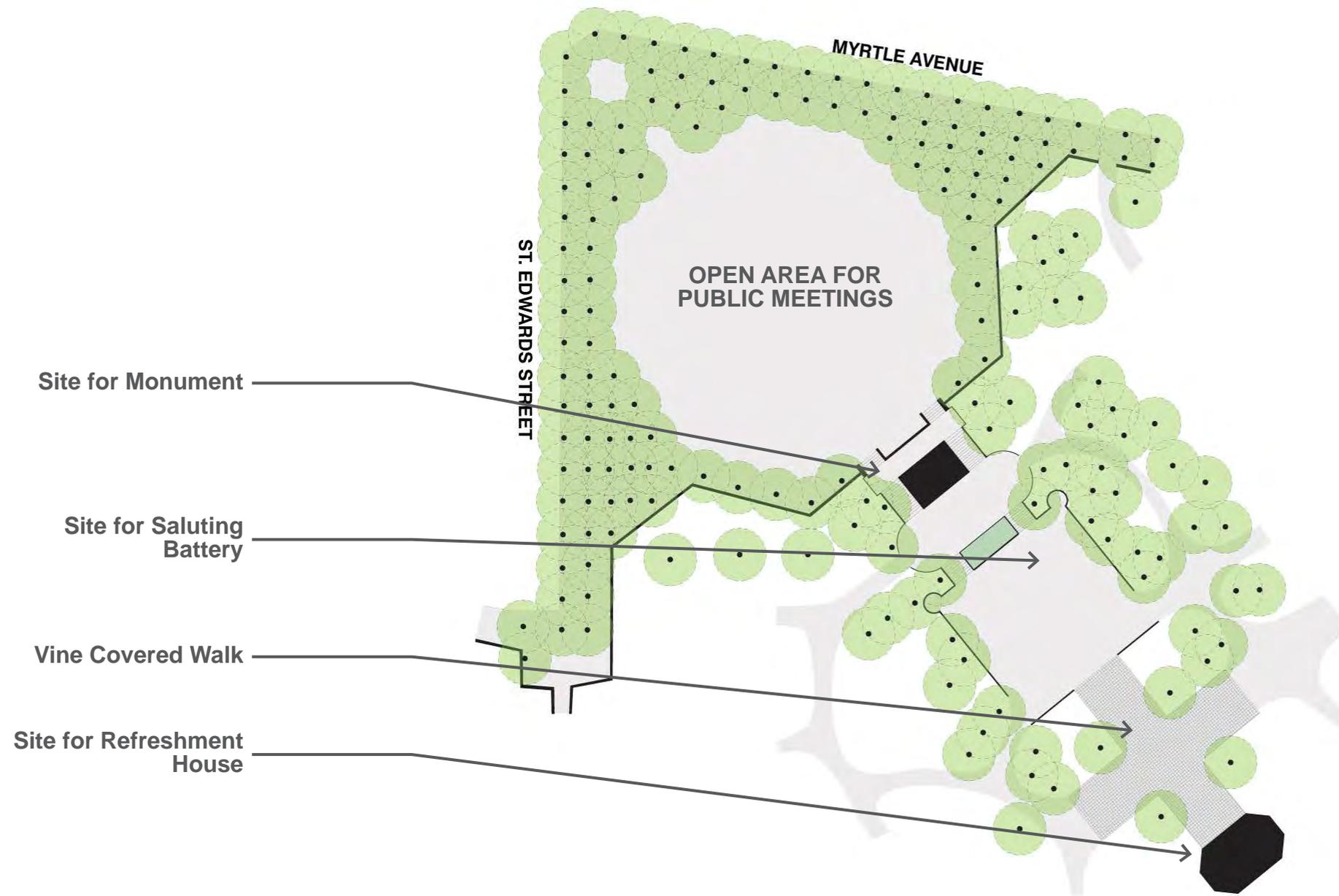


Gilmore Clarke - 1936

# Design Objectives

- Respect the Design Intent of the Martyrs Memorial
- Honor & Reconcile Multiple Generations of Design
- Improve Connections to the Community
- Improve Safety & Accessibility
- Address Modern Day Use of the Park
- Community Needs





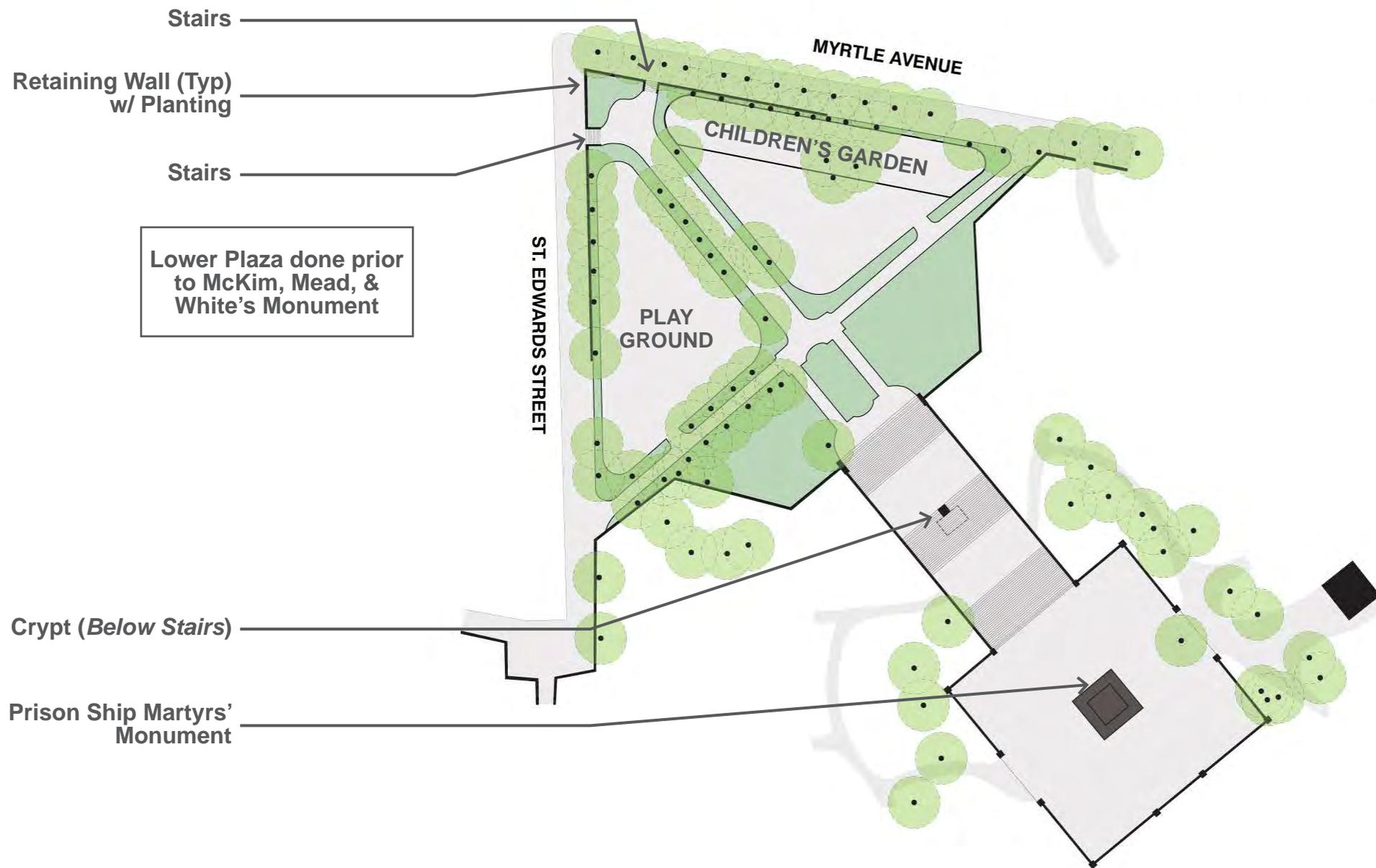
Earliest Photograph of Lower Plaza and Stair



1900 - Lower Plaza



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - Olmsted and Vaux Plan - 1867**



1908 Monument's Opening Ceremony



1924 Aerial

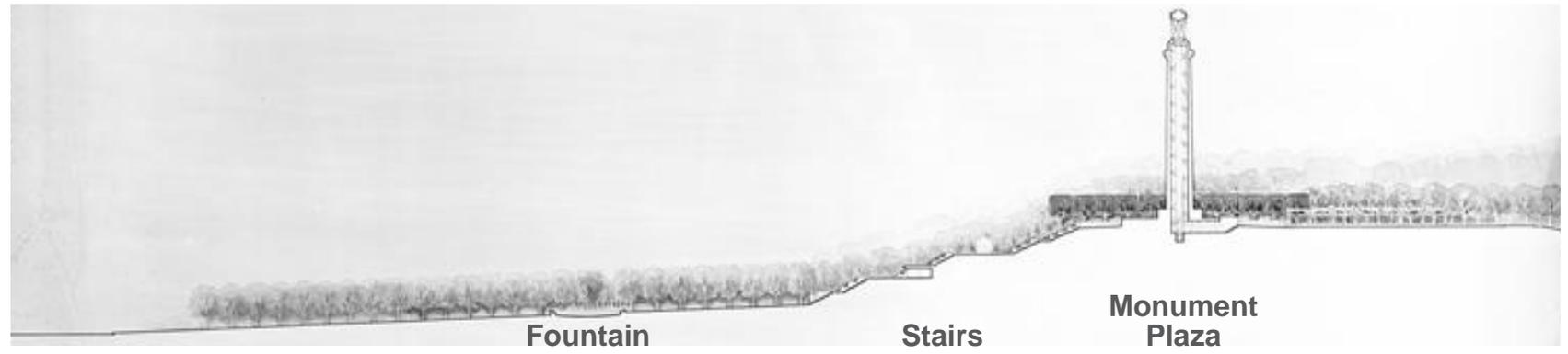


FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - 1908 McKim, Mead, and White Plan - Built

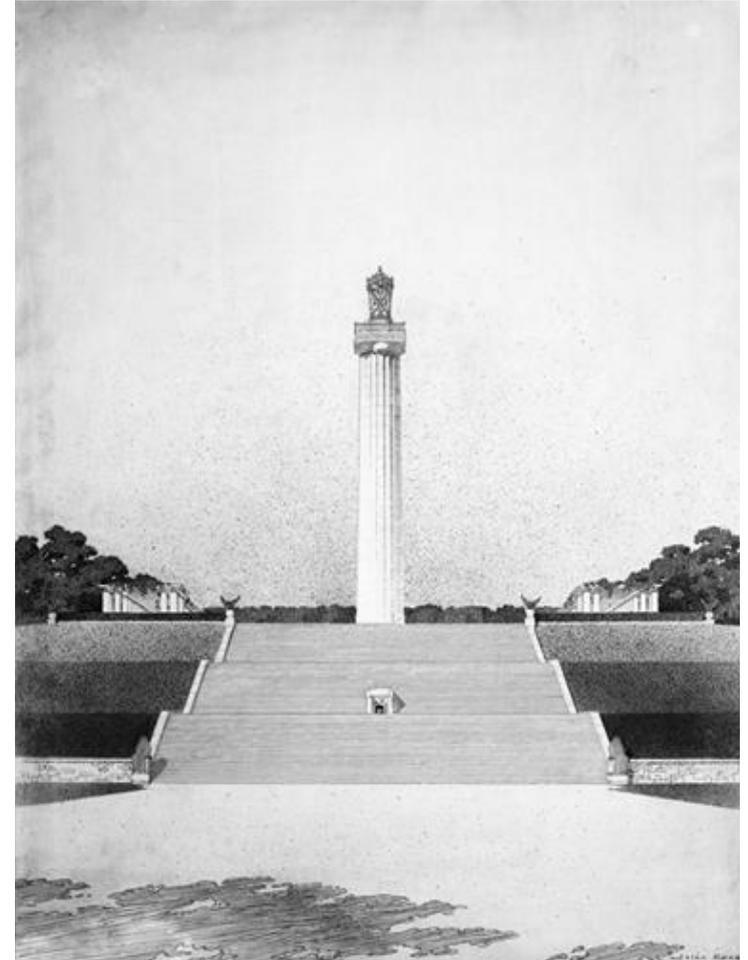




Proposed 1909 Plan on 1924 Aerial



Proposed Section



Proposed Elevation - View from Lower Plaza

Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument

Fountain

Stairs



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - McKim, Mead, and White - LOWER PLAZA SCHEMATIC - 1908 (not realized)**

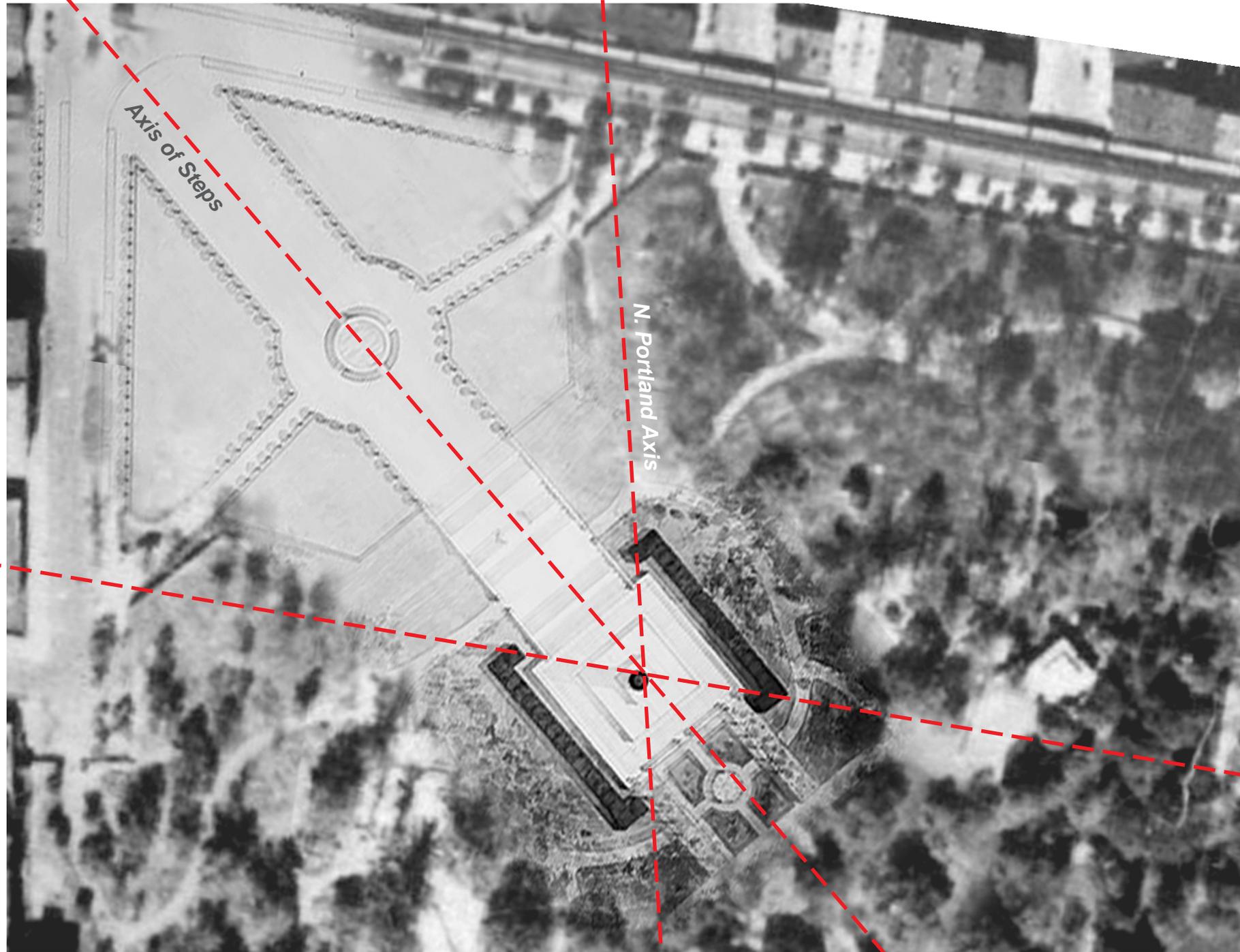
*“It is a rare chance to combine..... a column and a great flight of steps, both of which are of the most beautiful things in architecture, and this great shaft, crowning the hill, would be as impressive from the distance as nearby, and would stand as a shaft of light by day and a torch by night, and would be an ever present reminder of the loyalty of the martyrs, and of the causes for which they gave their lives.”*

**-McKim, Mead, & White  
Art Commission Submission Narrative, 1905**

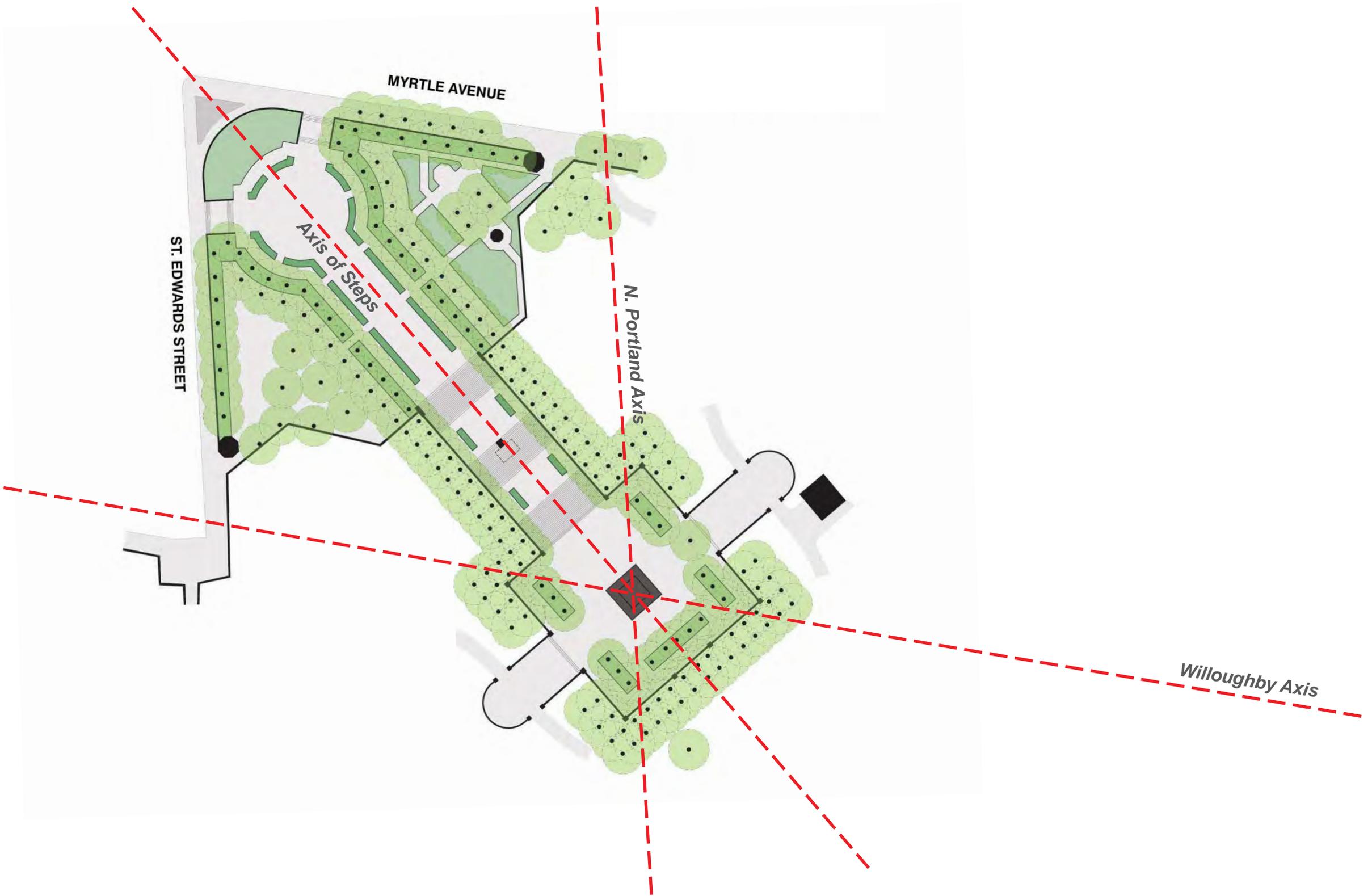




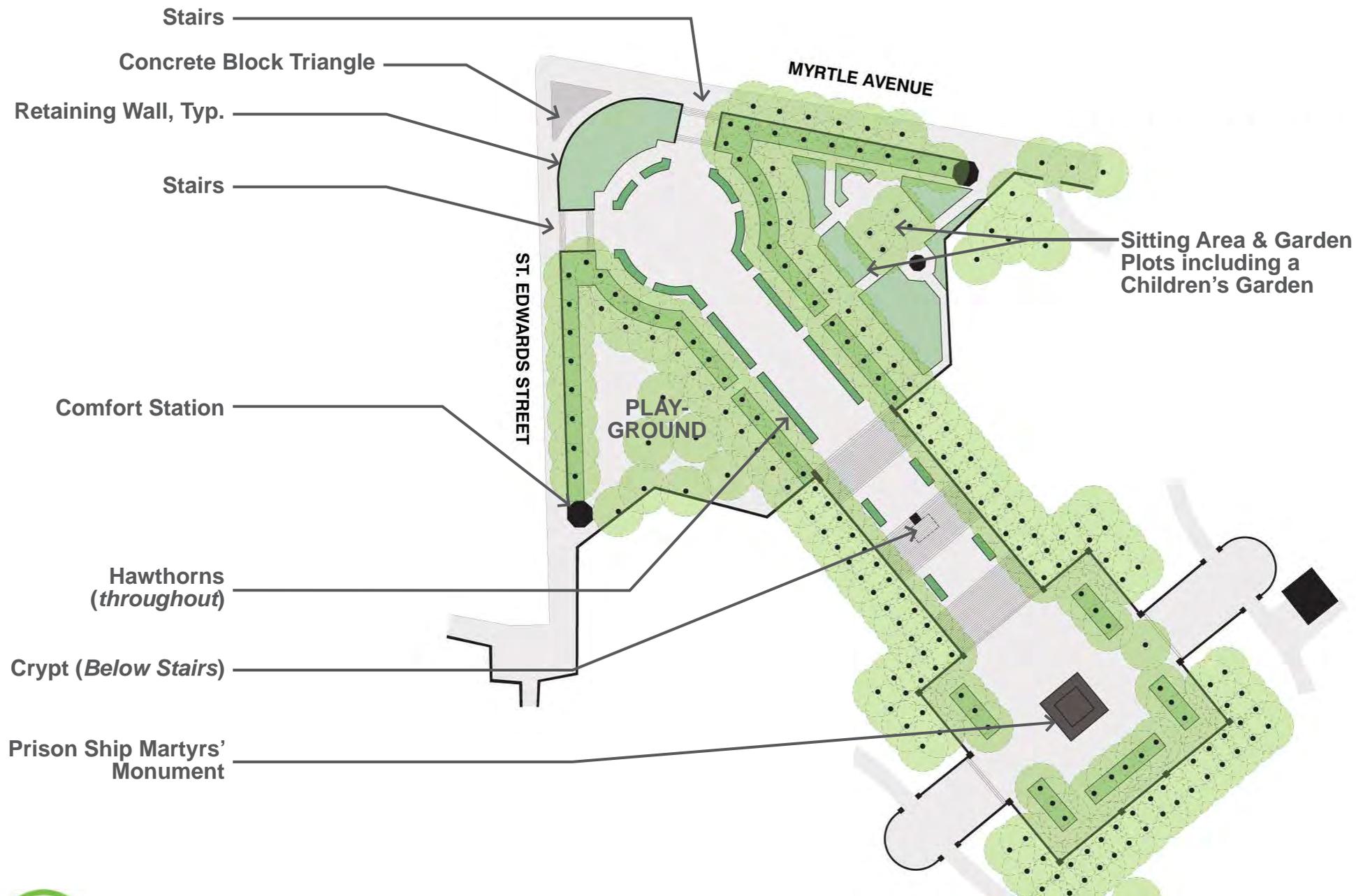
FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Monument Siting - Art Commission Submission - 1905



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - McKim, Mead, and White - Lower Plaza Intent - 1906**



FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Gilmore Clarke - 1936



1937 Skaters, Planting Strips and Benches



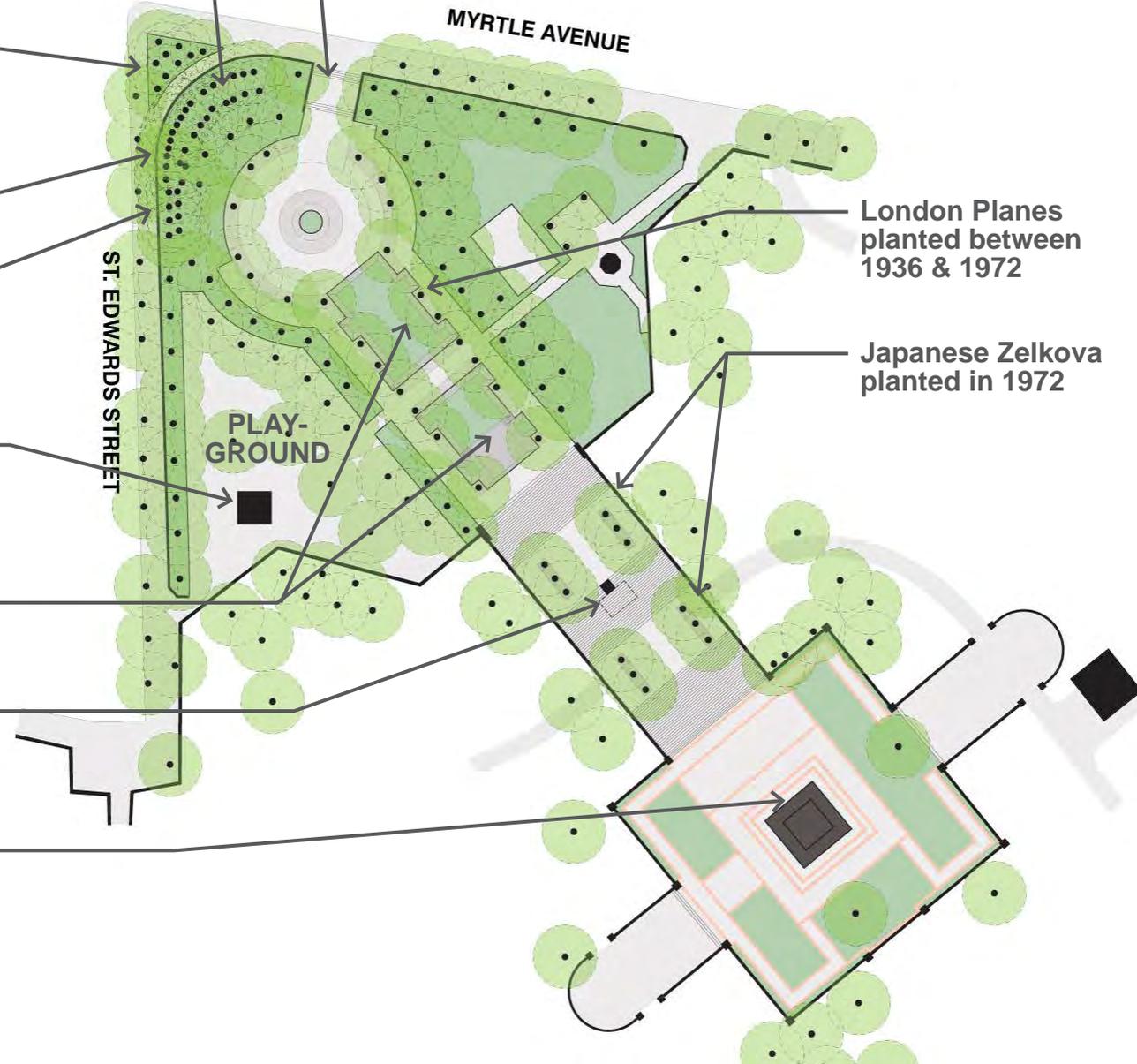
1930's Lower Plaza



FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - 1936 Gilmore Clarke Plan



- Stairs
- Norway Maples  
Planted by Corner
- Honey Locusts  
Planted in  
Concrete Block  
Triangle
- Retaining Wall, Typ.
- Gilmore Clarke 2nd  
Staircase removed
- Comfort Station
- Granite Block  
Mounds
- Crypt (*Below Stairs*)
- Prison Ship Martyrs'  
Monument



- London Planes  
planted between  
1936 & 1972
- Japanese Zelkova  
planted in 1972



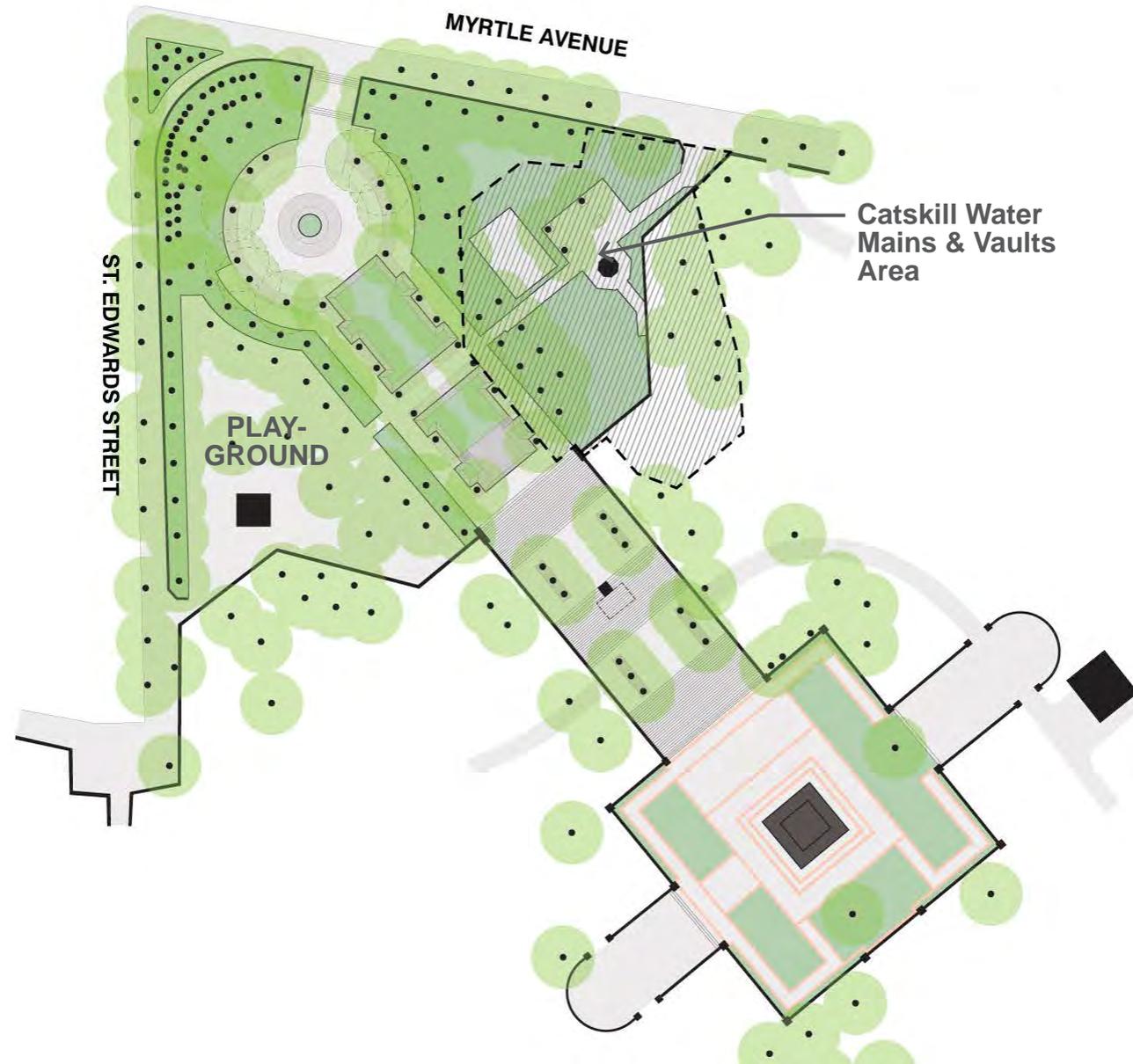
**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - 1972 A. E. Bye Plan - Existing Condition**



1978 Aerial



View towards Monument from Lower Plaza



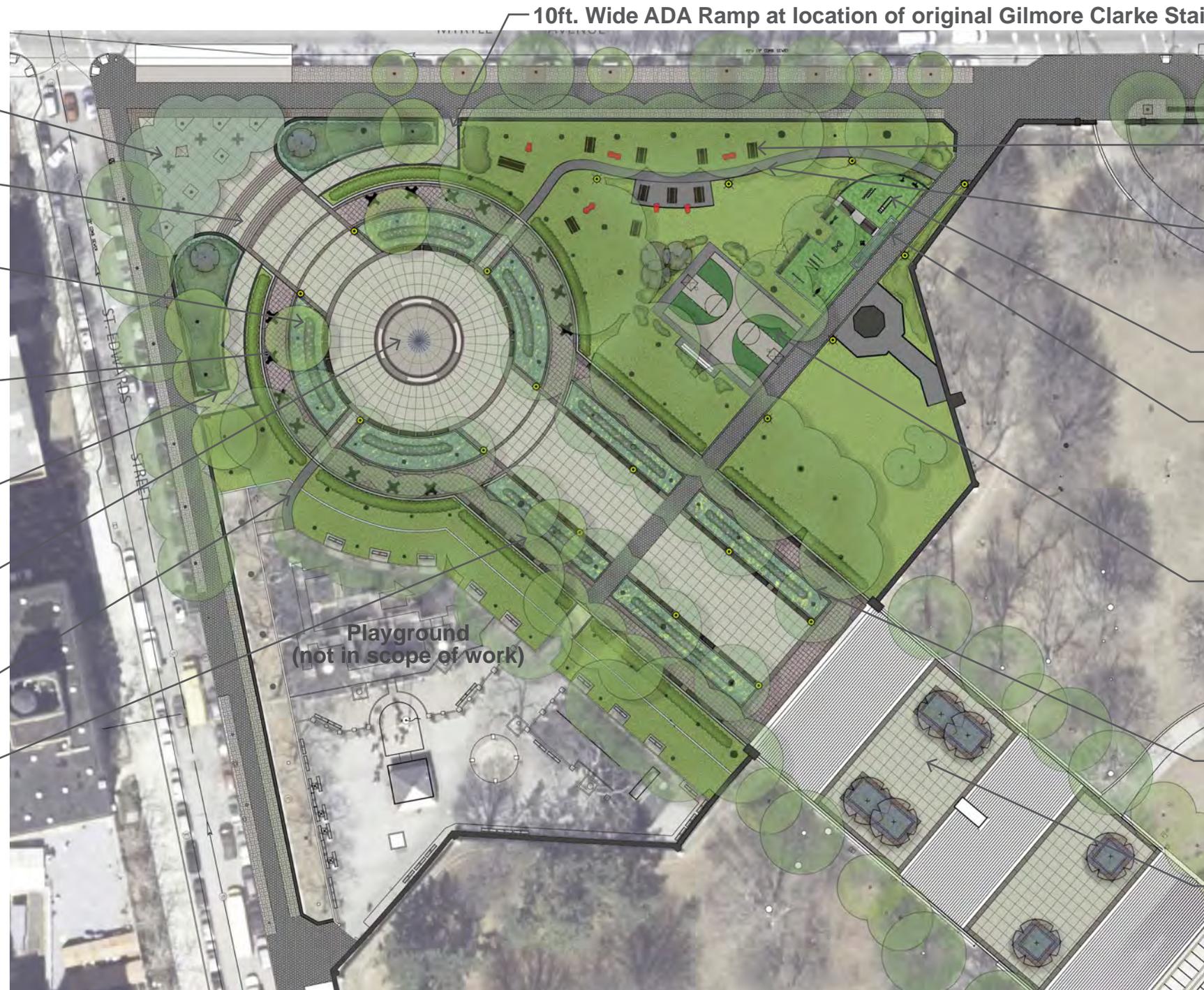
Water Tunnel Construction circa 1910



Detail of Water Mains and Vault Under Plaza



FORT GREENE PARK | PWB - DEP Infrastructure - Catskill Water Mains & Vaults



10ft. Wide ADA Ramp at location of original Gilmore Clarke Stairs

Tables and chairs off sidewalk

Entrance Moved to Corner

Existing London Plane Trees -Low Plantings with Pipe Rail Fence Surround (typ)

Tables & Chairs in each quadrant separated by "low" plantings to create more intimate spaces

10ft. Wide ADA Ramp at location of original Gilmore Clarke Stairs

Flush Water Feature w/ up lighting & backless radial granite benches

New Connection to Playground

Benches

Fixed Picnic Tables with grills and ash disposal

Asphalt (ADA) path through BBQ/Picnic Area

Expanded Adult Fitness

Asphalt Hex Block Walk with improved lighting

Reconstructed Basketball Court

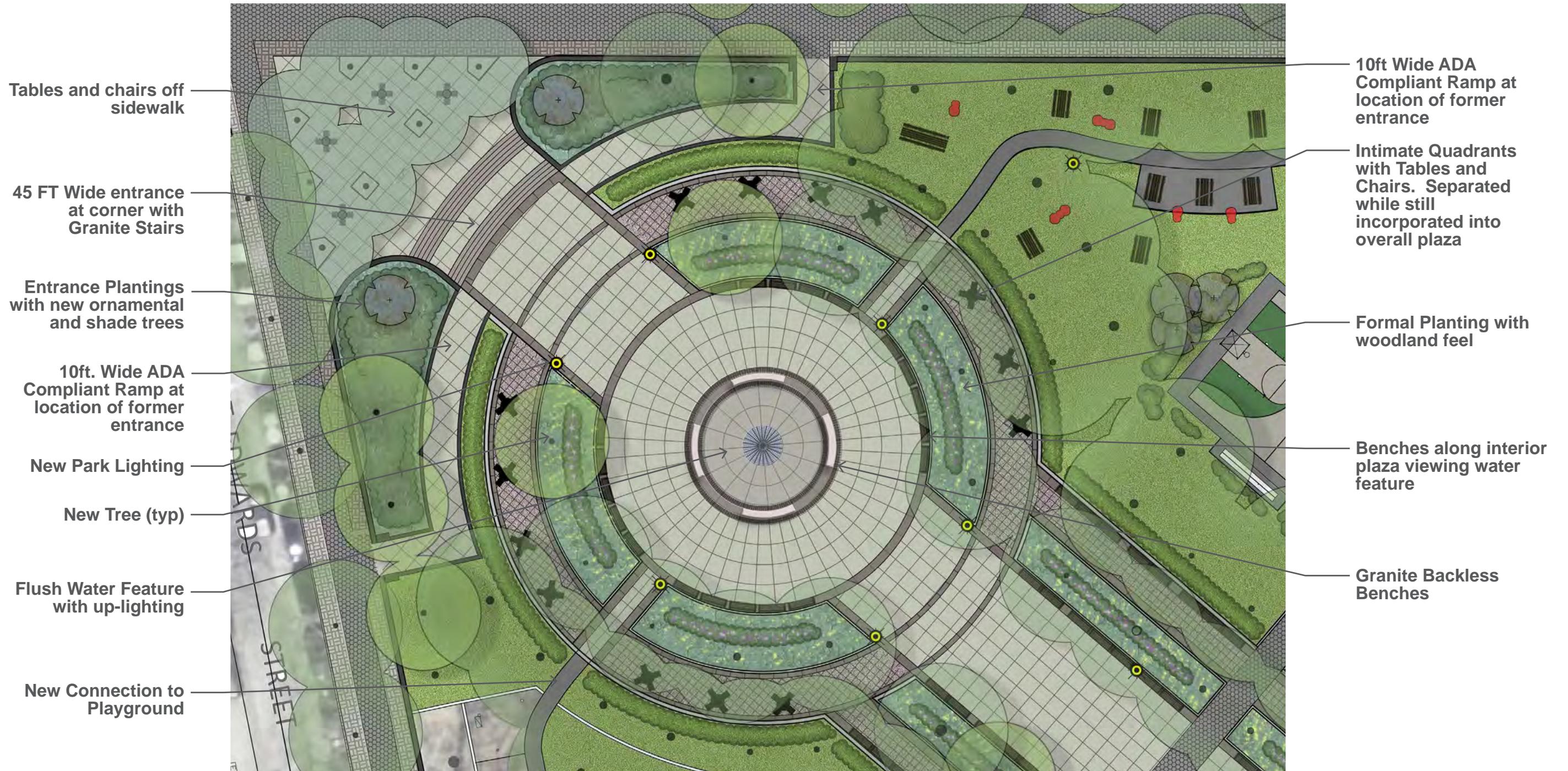
London Plane Trees to be pruned to allow for better sight lines to Monument -Low Plantings with Pipe Rail Fence Surround

Reconstructed Landings with Ornamental Trees -Similar to Hawthornes Originally proposed by Gilmore Clarke

Playground (not in scope of work)



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Schematic Plan**



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Circular Plaza Enlarged Plan**

ADA Compliant walk through 'Permanent Picnic areas'  
-Connects Plaza with Diagonal walk

Reconstructed Basketball Court

New Plantings in areas that do not conflict with DEP infrastructure

Central Plaza with New Security Lighting

1939 World's Fair Benches along Plaza

Permanent Picnic Tables, Grills, and Ash Disposal Bins

Senior Fitness Area

Adult Fitness Area

Improved Park Lighting along diagonal Walk

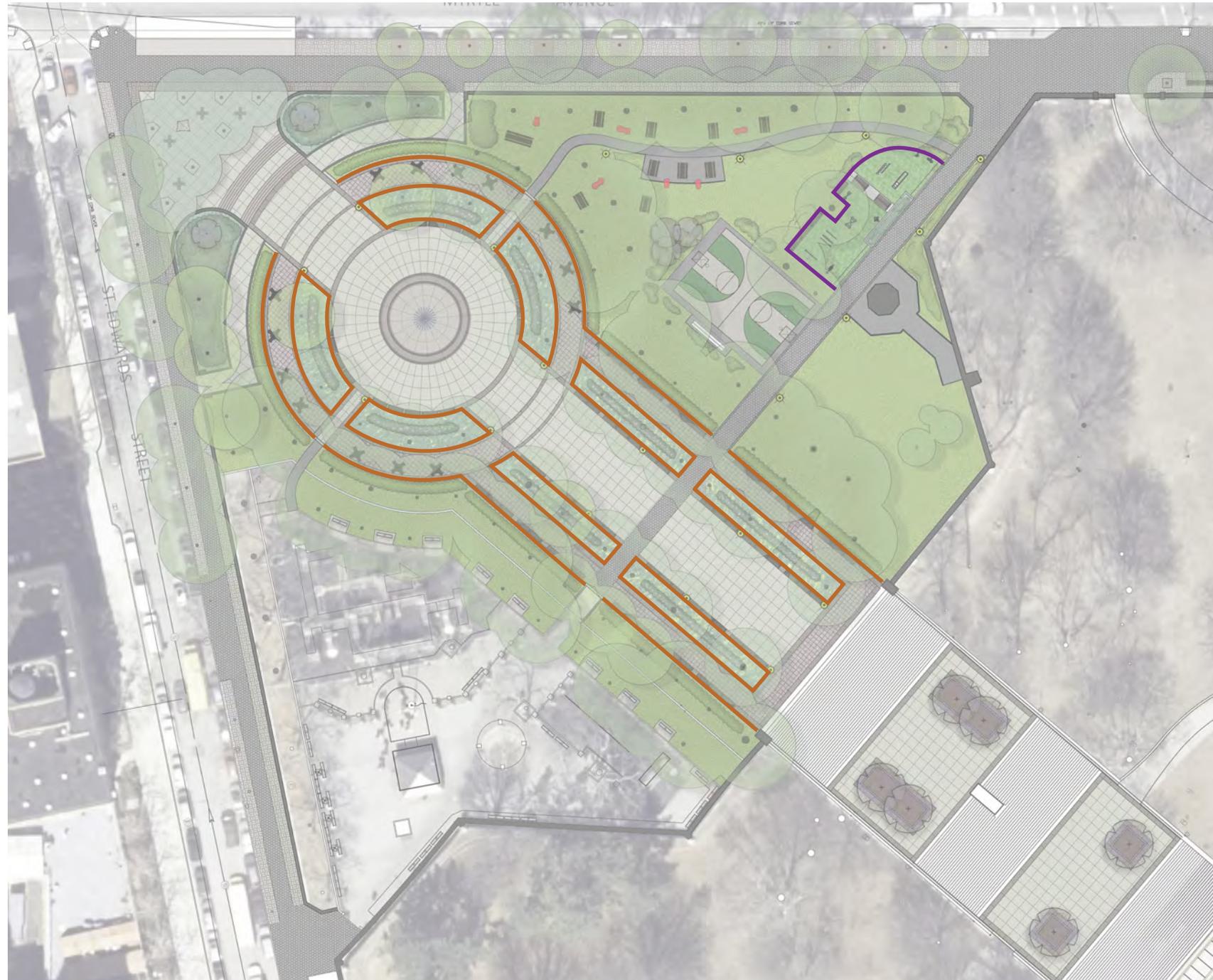
Asphalt Hex Block Diagonal Walk  
-Same material used along sidewalks

Benches

More intimate Garden Seating areas along perimeter of plaza

Planting Beds replace existing Granite Block Strips with low pipe rail fencing (typ)





### LEGEND

- 1'-6" Pipe Rail Fence
- 2'-6" Pipe Rail Fence



## FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Fencing Diagram



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Myrtle & St. Edwards Corner entrance**



**Myrtle & St. Edwards Corner - Existing**



**Myrtle & St. Edwards Corner - Proposed**



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Myrtle & St. Edwards Corner entrance - Before & After**



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Central Plaza - Sketch**



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Circular Plaza - Sketch**



Circular Plaza - Existing



Circular Plaza - Proposed



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Circular Plaza - Before & After**



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Picnic Area - Sketch**



Picnic Area - Existing



Picnic Area - Proposed



FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Picnic Area - Before & After



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Entrance Ramp - Sketch**



Entrance Ramp Area - Existing



Entrance Ramp Area - Proposed



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Entrance Ramp Area - Before & After**

# PAVEMENTS



- ADA Compliant Belgian Block
- Concrete Scored in Same fashion throughout -Match Concrete at top of Monument (typ)
- Mason Granite on stairs to Match Granite on all Park Stairs
- Concrete Pavers for seating areas -Crystal Rose (typ)
- Jet Mist Granite Radial Banding (typ)
- Mason Granite for central Spray Feature with Jet Mist 'Granite Sets' Surround
- Concrete in Radial Pattern -Similar to Gilmore Clarke's pattern
- Concrete Scored in Same fashion throughout -Match Concrete at top of Monument (typ)
- Concrete Pavers for seating areas -Crystal Rose (typ)



- Asphalt Pavement for ADA Path through BBQ Area
- Green Marbled Safety Surfacing
- Asphalt Hex Block Pavement for Main diagonal "Sidewalk"
- Concrete w Jet Mist Granite Banding on Each Landing



**FORT GREENE PARK | PWB | Lower Plaza - Pavements**

# SITE FURNISHINGS & MATERIALS



Park Lighting



Accessible Drinking Fountain



Pilot Rock Picnic Tables - Fixed & Movable



Basketball Court - Green and Tan



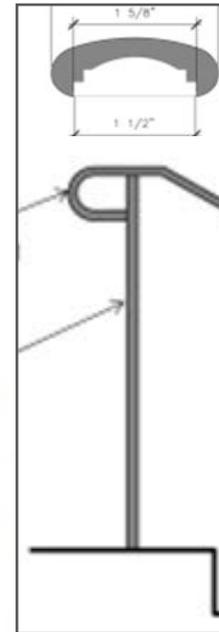
Bottle Filler



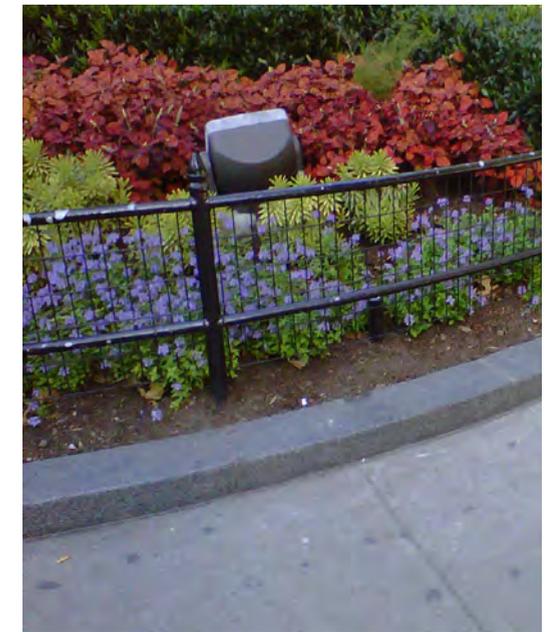
Barbecue Grills



Coal/Ash Disposal



Handrail - Julius Blum



Single & Double Pipe Rail Fence





Adult Fitness Equipment



Tables and Chairs



Belgian Block - ADA Compliant



Asphalt Hex Block Pavement



Borough President's Bench along Myrtle Avenue Sidewalk



1939 World's Fair Bench w/ Wood Slats painted green in Plaza and Oval



Radial Granite Backless Bench around water feature

Granite to Match Existing throughout park -Stairs & Water Feature  
Crystal Rose Concrete Paver -Seating Areas  
Jet Mist Granite -Banding -Granite Block



Plaza Paving Materials



Safety Surface - Green Marble



MYRTLE AVENUE MID-BLOCK ENTRANCE

MYRTLE AVENUE SIDEWALK

LOWER PLAZA / PICNIC AREA /  
FITNESS / BASKETBALL

MYRTLE AND WASHINGTON PARK OVAL



# Thank You

DeKALB AVENUE STAIRS

