



The  
**ASHANTILLY**  
**CENTER** Darien, GA

# Master Plan

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Land4900 - Steffens

Spring 2015

# Table of Contents

Site Context	1
Inventory and Analysis	4
Project Program	8
Concepts	10
Master Plan	13
Main House	14
Woodland Garden	21
Birding Dock	28

# HISTORY

Ashantilly was first built around 1820. The original structure, pictured at right, was the residence of Thomas Spalding, early Georgia planter, legislator, and McIntosh County landowner. After the house burned in 1937, it was rebuilt by the Haynes family. Today, the Ashantilly Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to hosting cultural, environmental, and historical events and workshops.



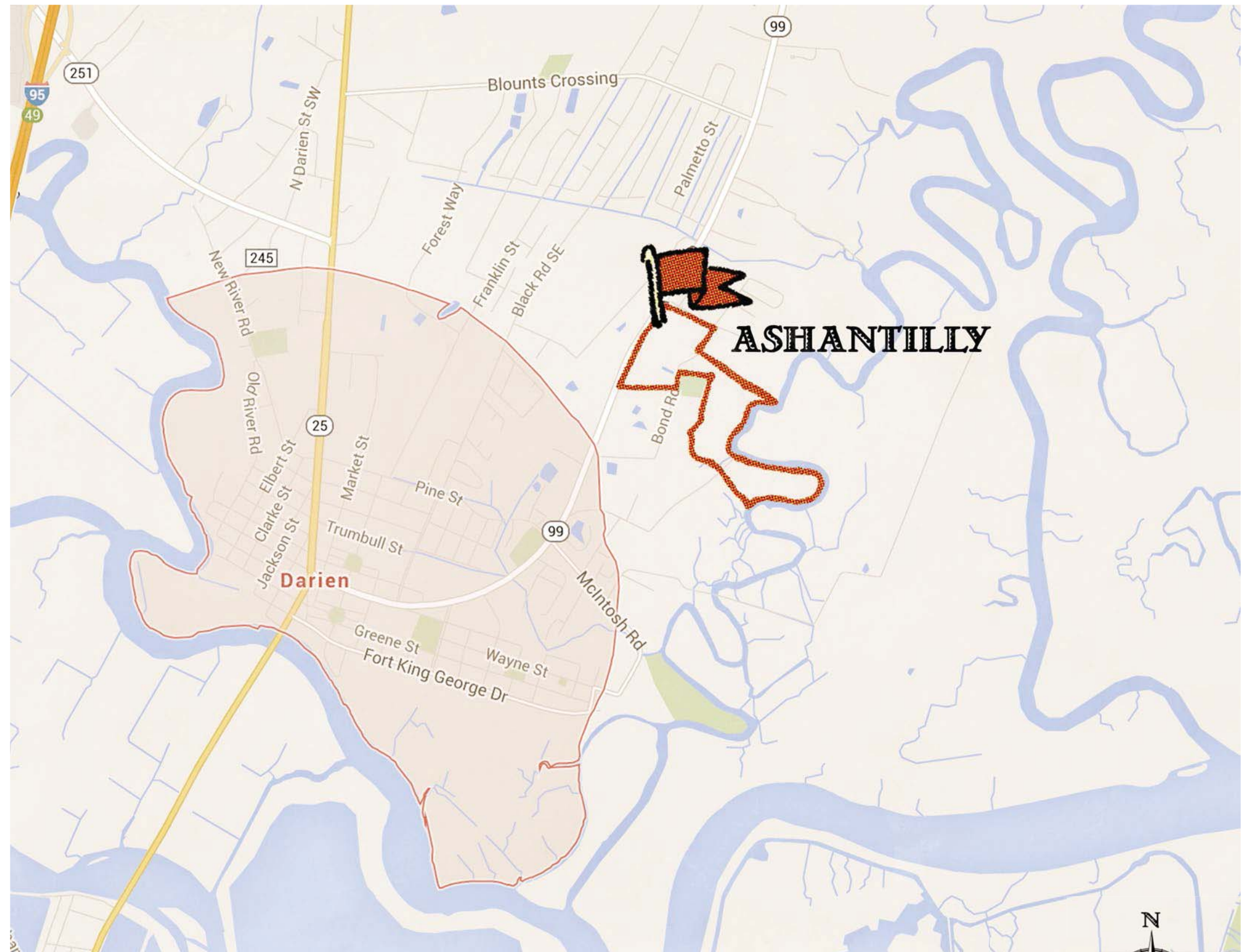
# PRESENT

Today, the Ashantilly house has been rebuilt in the style of the original with a few changes to the layout and exterior ornamentation. Visitors to the Center can experience the passage of time through the different phases of construction. The house's "tabby" exterior, finished with a special stucco made from oyster shells, is a unique regional style. The house is framed by stately oaks hung with Spanish moss.



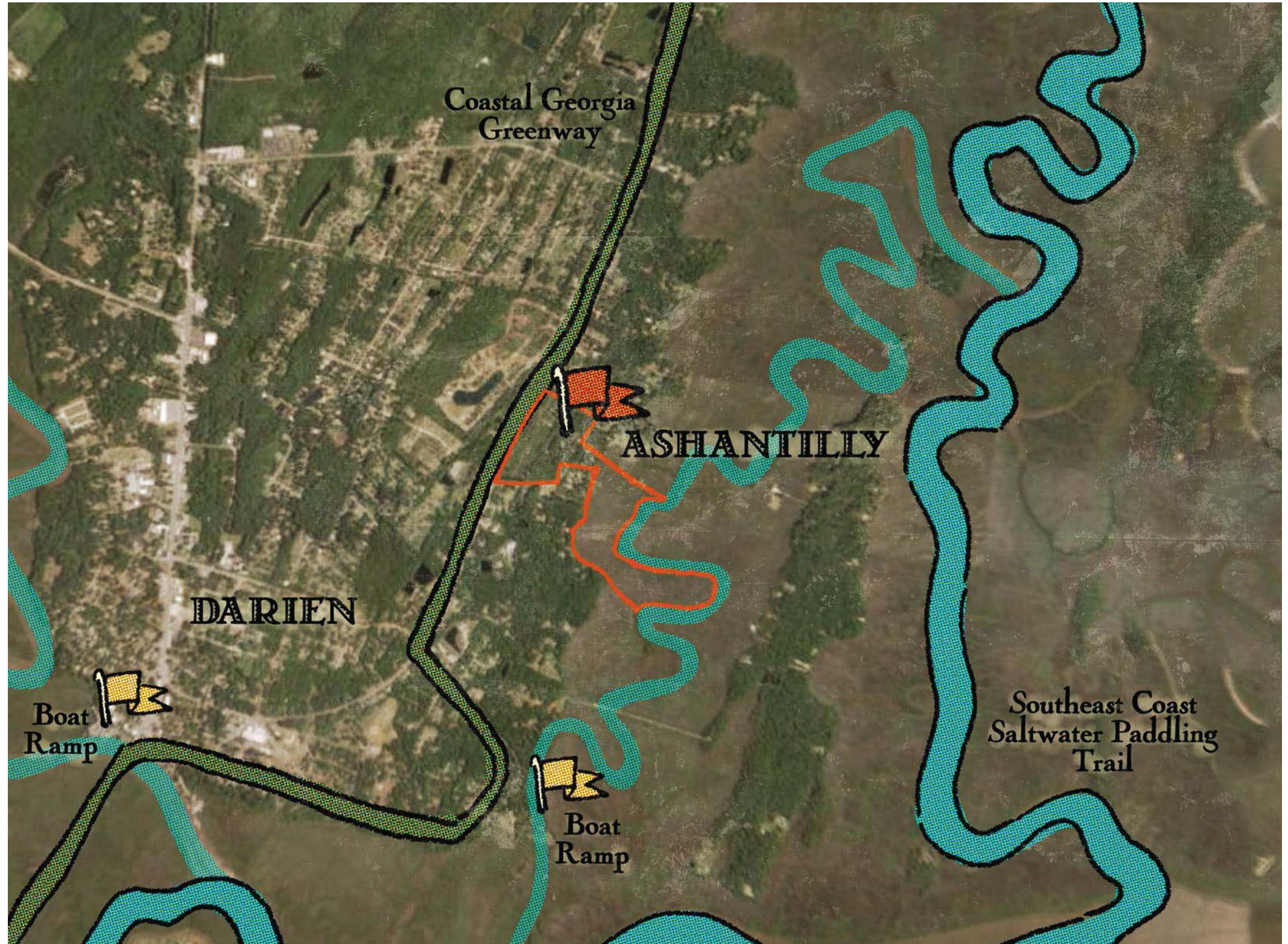
# CONTEXT MAP

Darien, GA was founded in 1736 and is the second-oldest city in the state. It is located in McIntosh County and has a population of 1,975. Darien is known for a number of tourist attractions including biking, boating, fishing and birding.



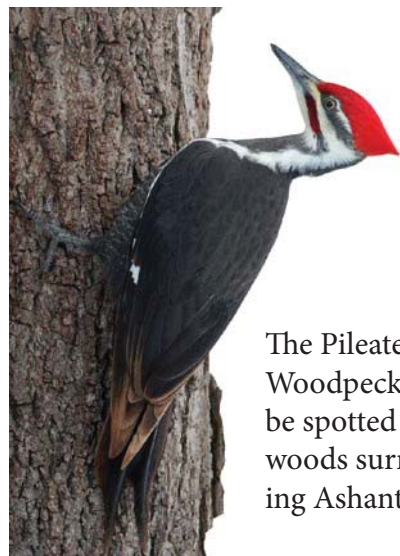
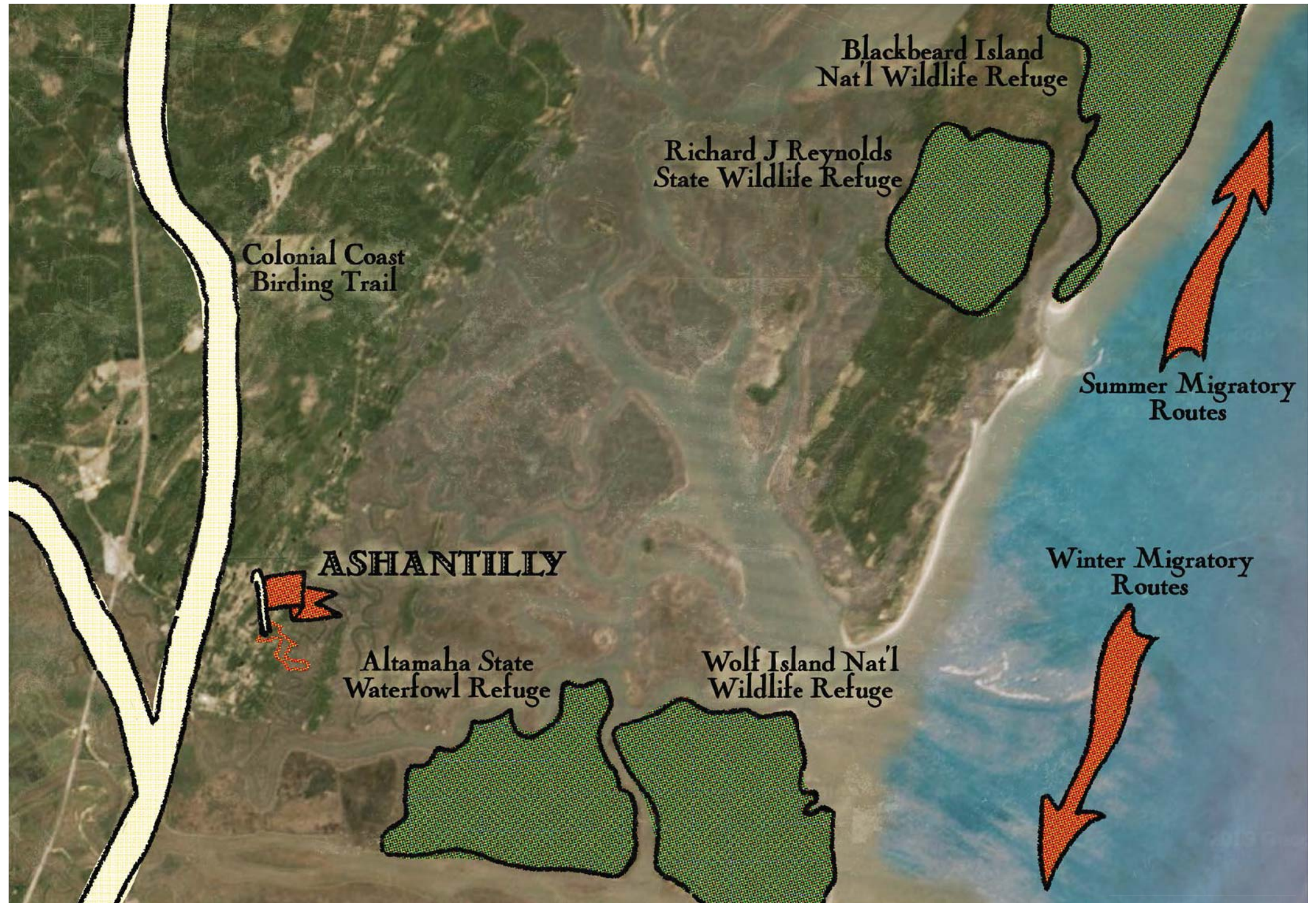
# RECREATIONAL TRAILS

Recreational trails connect Ashantilly to the surrounding community and potential new visitors. To the east, the Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail brings boaters through the marshes and river of Ashantilly's backyard. To the west, cyclists can ride along the Coastal Georgia Greenway directly past Ashantilly's rear entrance.



# BIRDING MAP

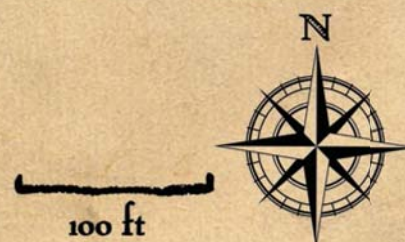
Birding and bird habitat in the area surrounding Ashantilly are part of what make the visitor experience so unique. Ashantilly is conveniently located near several wildlife refuges, giving it the potential to be an important link in the ecological corridor along the Georgia coastline. The property is also right off the Colonial Coast Birding Trail, which might provide a new source of visitors to Ashantilly.



The Pileated Woodpecker can be spotted in the woods surrounding Ashantilly.

## EXISTING CIRCULATION

Ashantilly can be accessed by either the front or rear entrances. Existing parking in grassy fields is very informal. Bond Road, technically a state road at this time, runs through the property. There are currently no additional formal walking paths or trails.



Garden Parking

Informal Parking

Front Entrance

Bond Road

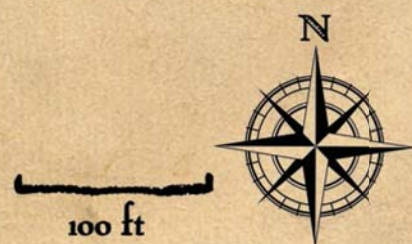
MAIN HOUSE

Cottage Parking

Rear Entrance

## EXISTING VEGETATION

The Ashantilly property is mainly woods and marsh, with a large swath of planted pines. Other key features of the vegetation are a vegetable garden, the remains of a formal garden, and several large, stately oaks and other specimen trees around the main house.



Planted Pines

Woods

Fountain

Former Formal Garden

Veggie Garden

Large Specimen Trees

MAIN HOUSE

Woods

Marsh

# CONCEPT

Exploring the main house, visitors can see for themselves the different stages of construction. While some would say the house is unfinished, in reality it provides visitors with a deeper appreciation of Ashantilly's long and rich history and allows them to visualize the passage of time. The passage of time and the weathering and change it brings has an undeniably romantic quality, especially in the deep South. After all, it was the story of a similar old southern mansion that enchanted millions with the idea of "a dream remembered, a civilization gone with the wind." This design invokes that same spirit in cultivating an almost magical atmosphere. By embracing and emphasizing the effects of time on Ashantilly, rather than trying to erase it, this design will celebrate Ashantilly in all its incarnations, from 1820 til today.



A column at Ashantilly shows signs of its years.



At Wormsloe in Chatham County, much like at Ashantilly, stately oaks hung with moss create an aura of age and grandeur.



At Wormsloe, a weathered gate provides a romantic backdrop.







# SITE PROGRAM

**Mission:** A master plan for the grounds of Ashantilly that enhances user experience, is accessible to all visitors, improves aesthetic quality, facilitates education and events, takes advantage of local recreational resources, and can be constructed in an environmentally sustainable fashion.


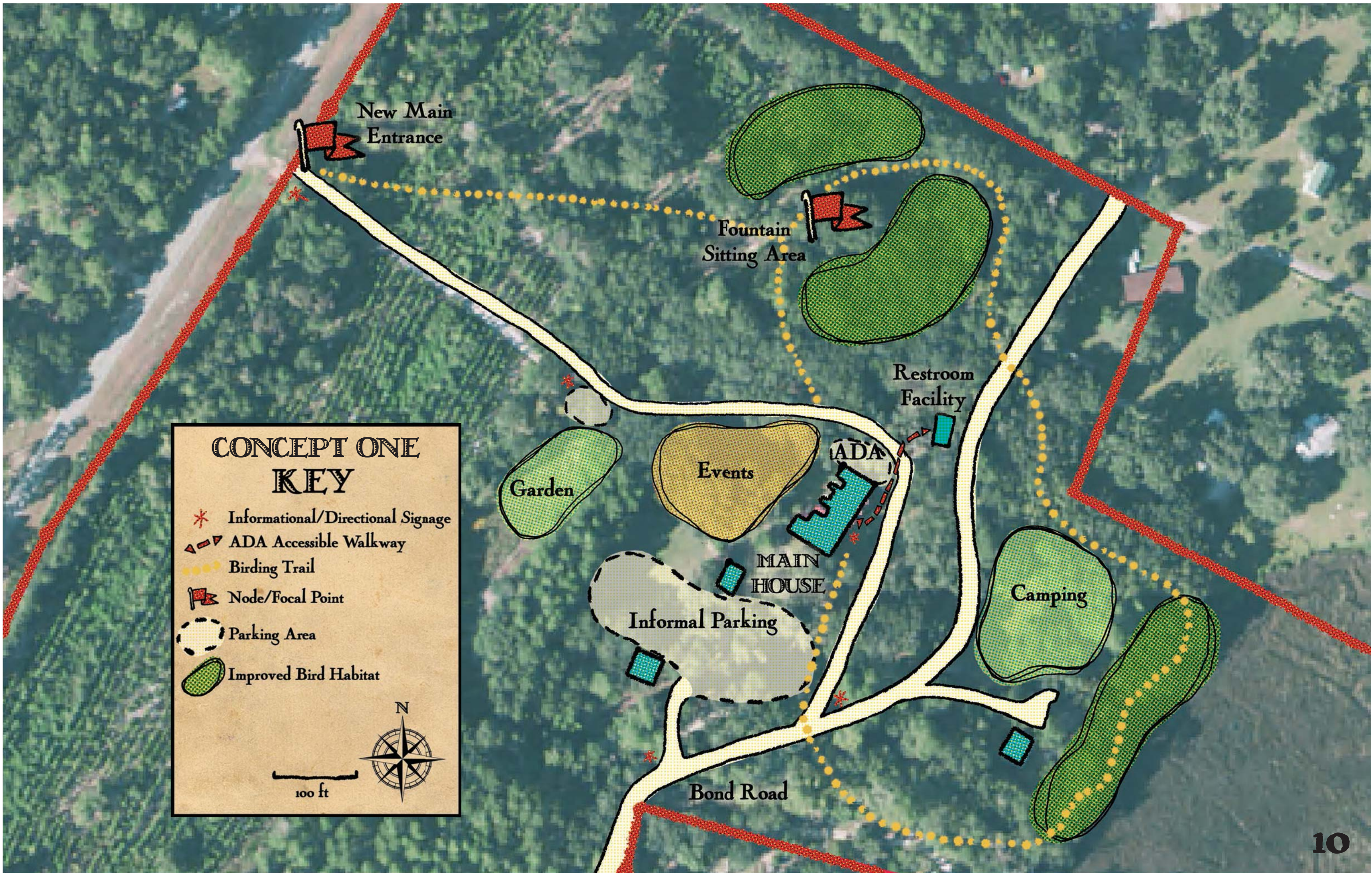
## Goals:

- *Parking and circulation.* The Ashantilly Center needs designated parking both for visitors and events. Circulation should improve the experience and convey visitors to key features in the site.
  - entrances - aesthetic improvements made to both front and rear entrances
  - accessibility - users must be able to easily access the house
    - permanent, paved small parking lot near house with path to entrance
  - event parking - need to be able to accommodate higher numbers of vehicles for events
    - flexible, pervious parking area
  - visitors should be conveyed to front of house on arrival
    - re-route circulation from rear entrance
- *Planting and habitat.* Add planting to key areas of the site for aesthetic improvement as well as the creation of wildlife habitat. Planting must be low maintenance.
  - native species
    - Coastal Wildscapes
  - bird watching - plant species that create habitat for bird species
  - foundation planting - shrubs and perennials to soften the house's facade
    - must tolerate alkaline soils because of tabby exterior
  - garden planting
    - shade-tolerant species
  - low maintenance
    - drought tolerant species
    - species that don't require pruning/deadheading
- *Connection with other resources.* Ashantilly should take advantage of its proximity to recreational trails in order to bring more visitors to the site.
  - bike trail, kayak trail
    - boardwalk/dock in marsh area
    - fruit trees along bike path
  - Colonial Coast Birding Trail
  - campground for users + source of revenue
    - restroom facility
    - online reservations
- *Experience and accessibility.* Improve the experience via wayfinding elements and visitor information.
  - lighting
  - signage







**CONCEPT ONE  
KEY**

-  Informational/Directional Signage
-  ADA Accessible Walkway
-  Birding Trail
-  Node/Focal Point
-  Parking Area
-  Improved Bird Habitat


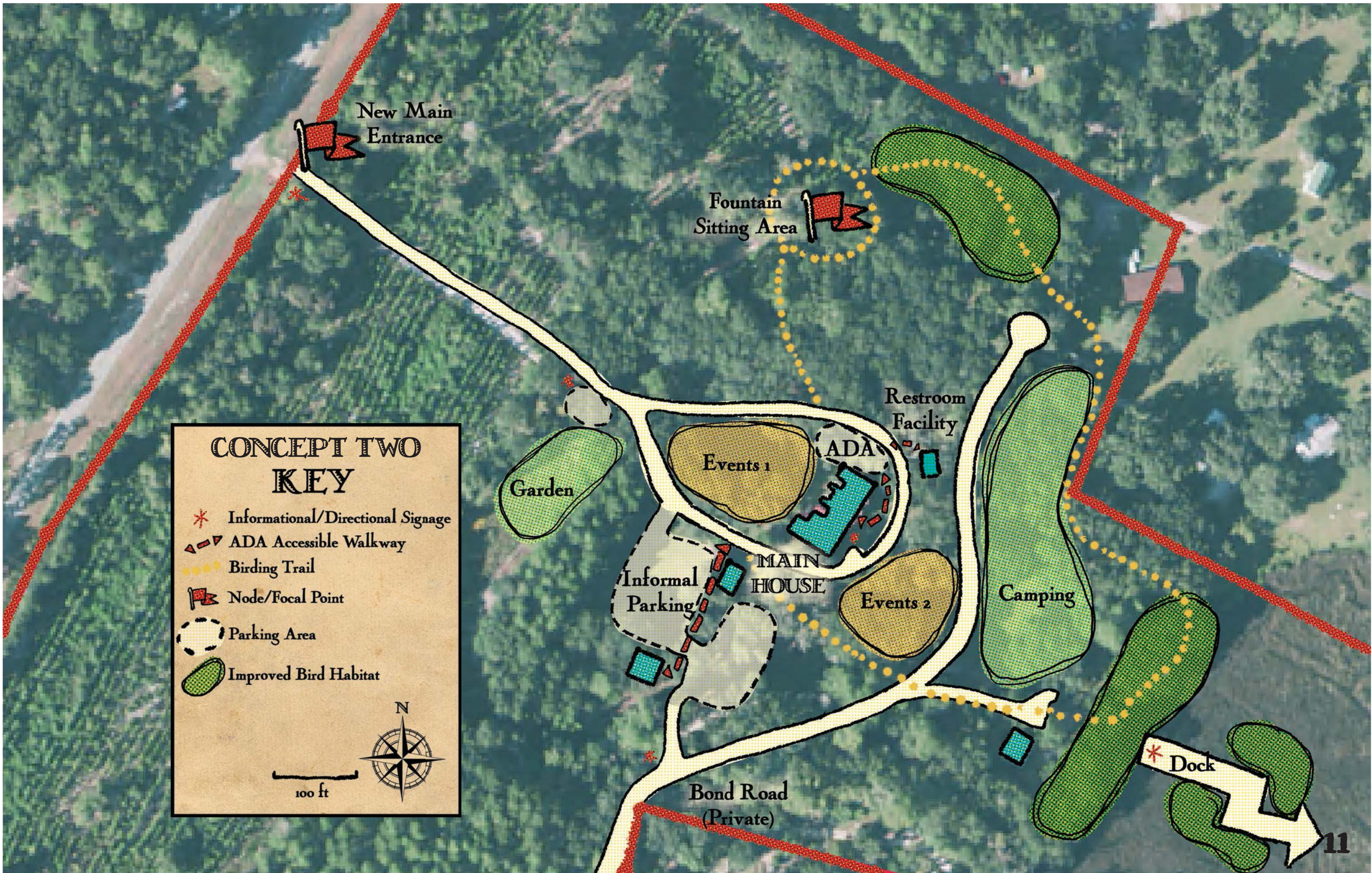
100 ft







### CONCEPT TWO KEY

-  Informational/Directional Signage
-  ADA Accessible Walkway
-  Birding Trail
-  Node/Focal Point
-  Parking Area
-  Improved Bird Habitat


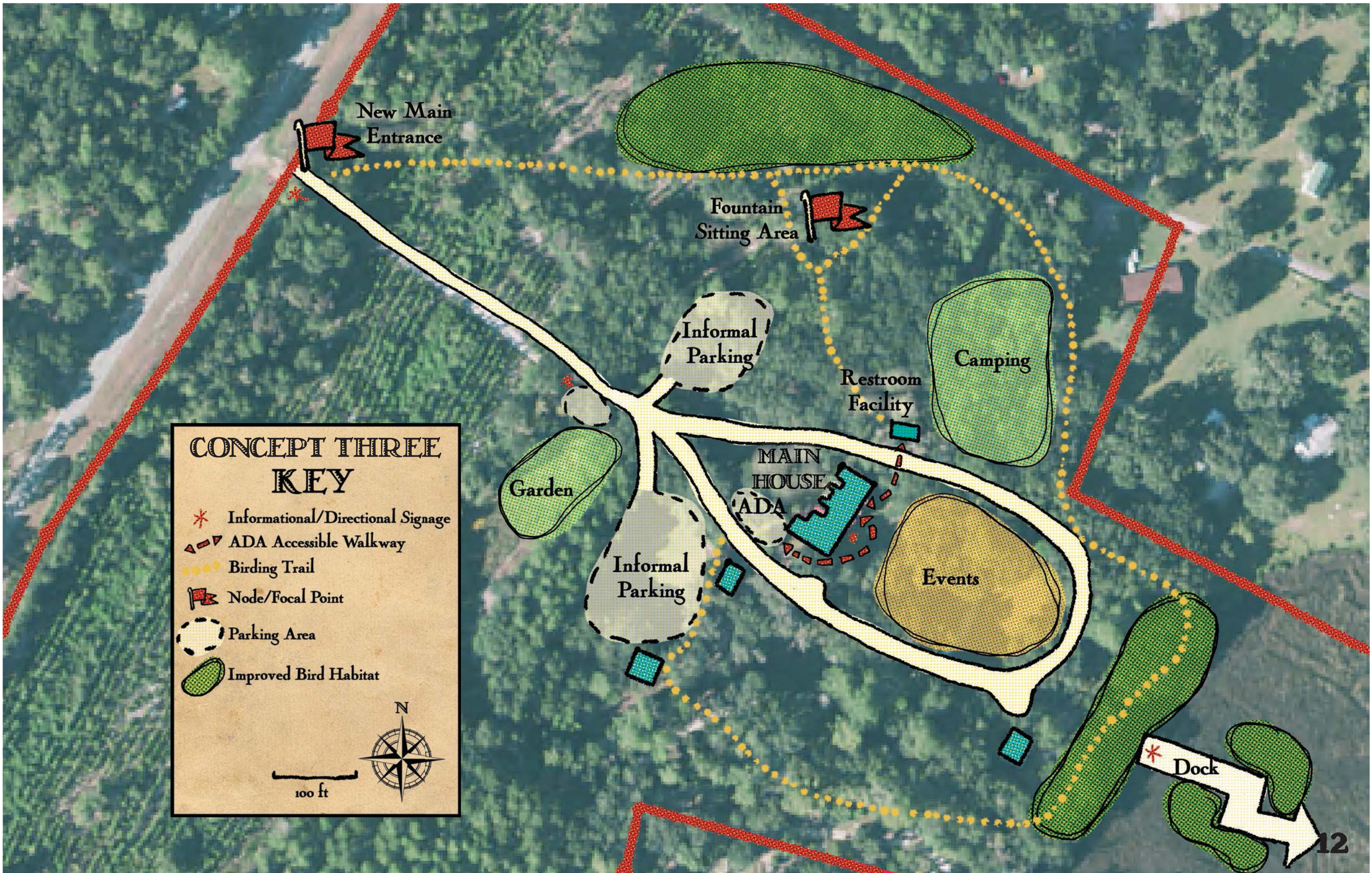
100 ft

### CONCEPT THREE KEY

-  Informational/Directional Signage
-  ADA Accessible Walkway
-  Birding Trail
-  Node/Focal Point
-  Parking Area
-  Improved Bird Habitat

100 ft

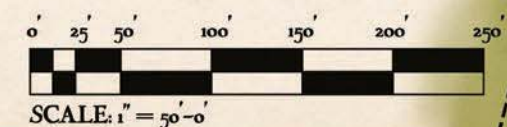





The  
**ASHANTILLY**  
CENTER Darien, GA  
**MASTER**  
**PLAN**



This design celebrates Ashantilly's long history while enhancing visitor experience and site function. The addition of campgrounds, birding trails, and connections to existing biking and kayaking trails encourage new visitors and take advantage of the site's location and ecology. Updated, accessible circulation ensures that everyone visiting Ashantilly has the best possible experience. New event spaces create a magical atmosphere and reference Ashantilly's evolution over time. Improved bird habitat makes Ashantilly a valuable part of the Coastal Georgia ecosystem.



TO RIVER



MAIN HOUSE

FOUNDATION PLANTING

WELLSPRING BENCH,  
LANDSCAPE FORMS (TYP.)

PLANTED URN (TYP.)

A

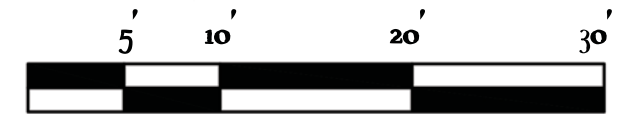
A'

CONCRETE WALKWAY,  
ADA ACCESSIBLE (TYP.)

SMALL CRUSHED SHELL  
WALKWAY, MAXWELL BEATTY  
SAND SUPPLY INC.

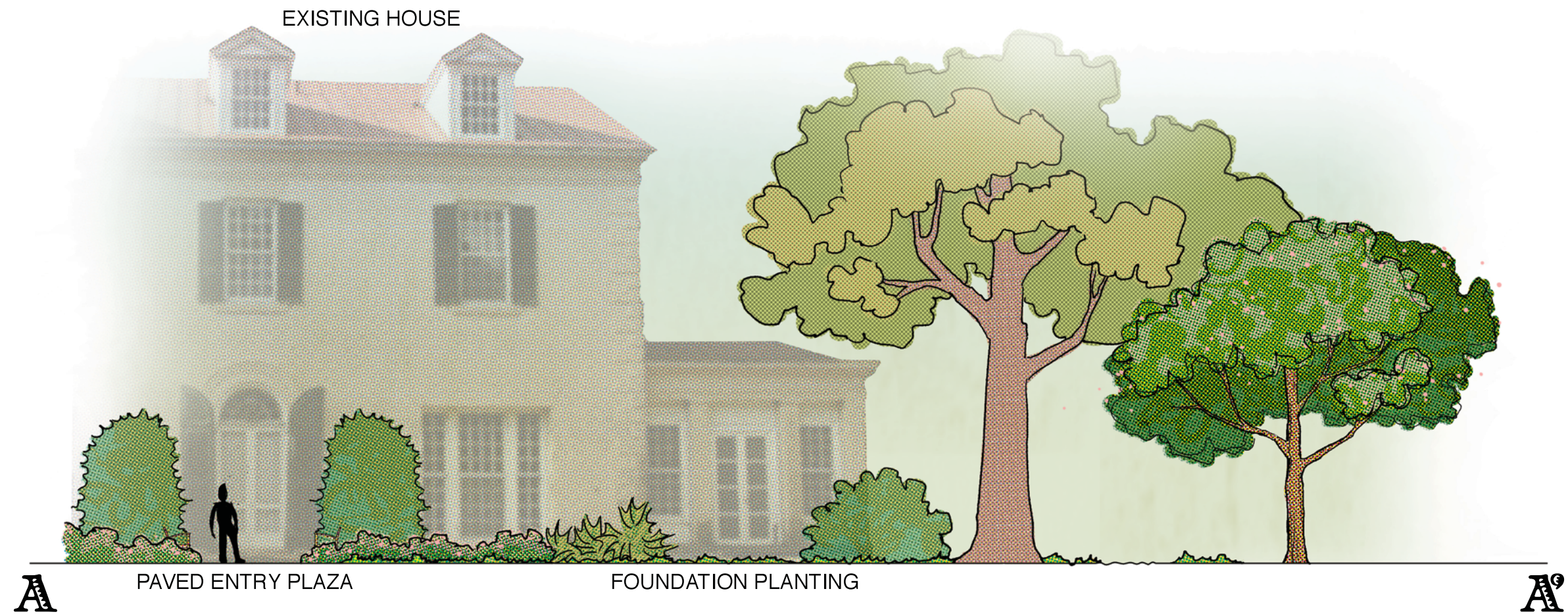
# MAIN HOUSE

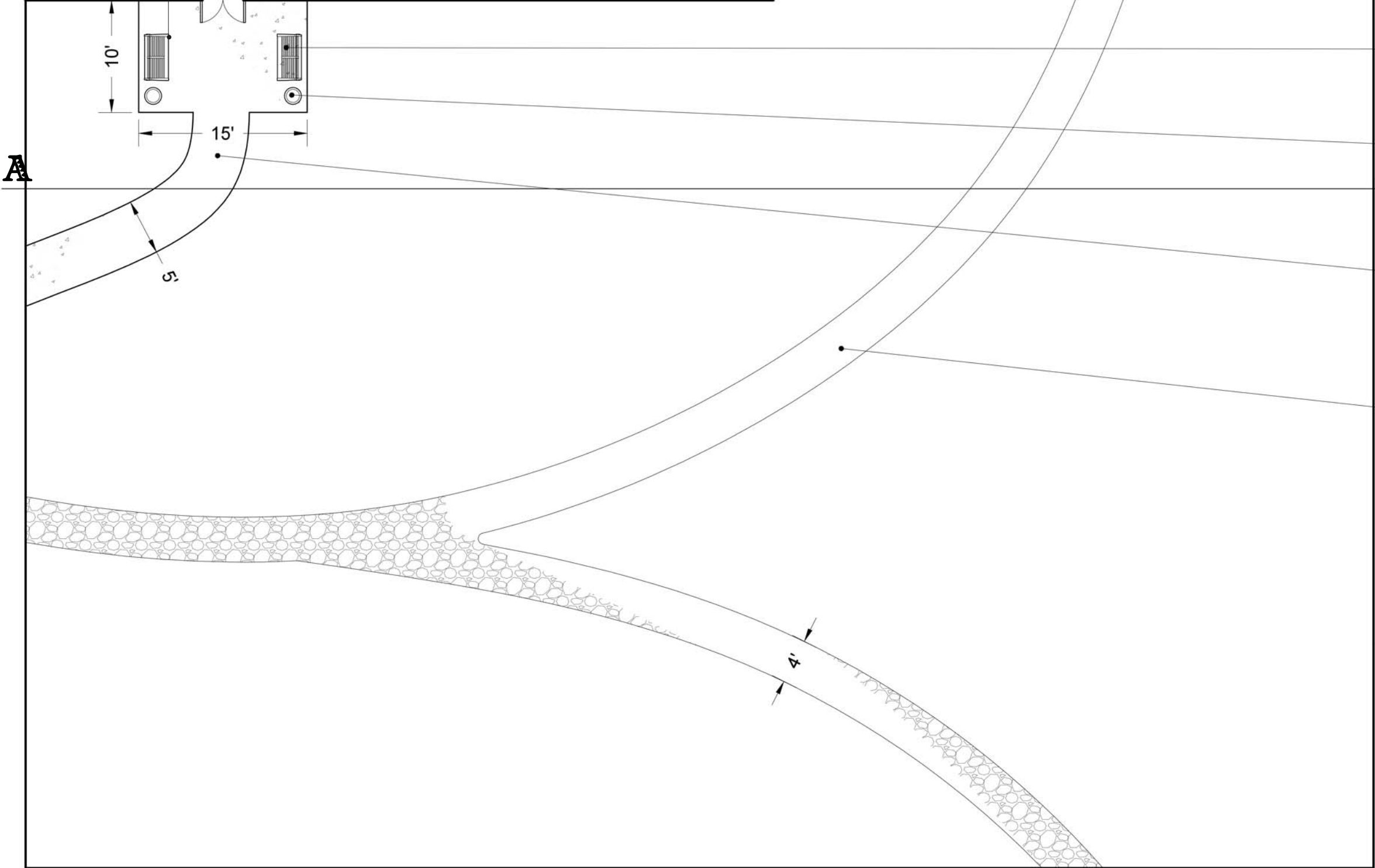
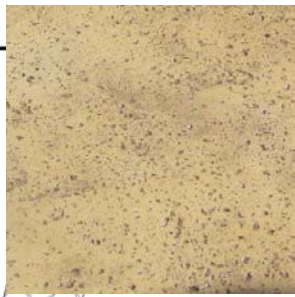
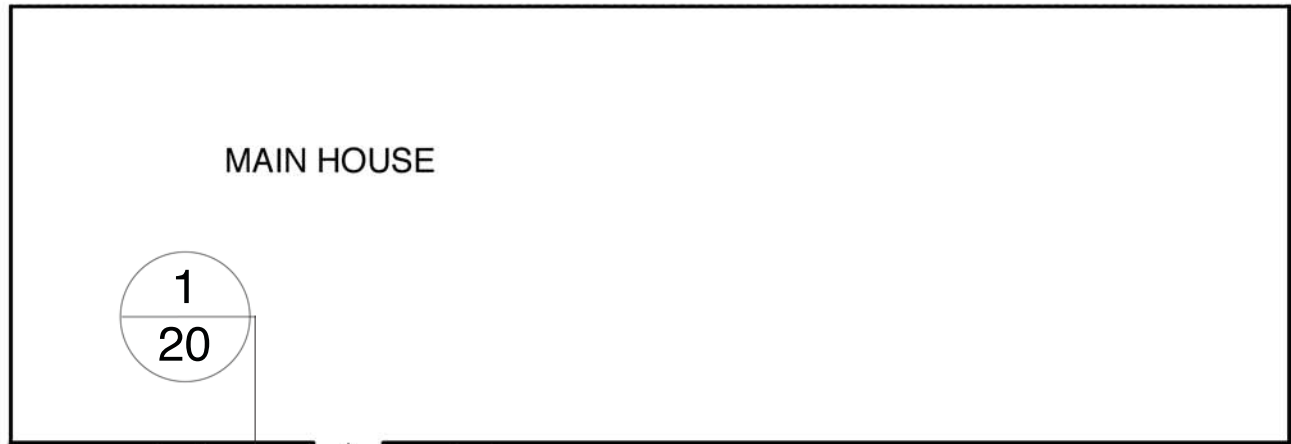
Illustrative Plan



SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

# SECTION VIEW: FRONT OF HOUSE





WELLSPRING BENCH,  
LANDSCAPE FORMS (TYP.)  
<http://www.landscapeforms.com>

PLANTED URN (TYP.)

CONCRETE WALKWAY,  
ADA ACCESSIBLE,  
ROCK SALT FINISH (TYP.)

SMALL CRUSHED SHELL  
WALKWAY, MAXWELL BEATTY  
SAND SUPPLY INC.  
<http://www.maxwellbeatty.com>

# MAIN HOUSE

## Materials Plan



SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

RC  
17

VD  
2

SC  
315

LN  
104

SM  
3

AM  
165



(NA) *Nevisia alabamensis*



(PV) *Viburnum dentatum*



(RC) *Rosa carolina*

SM  
3

NA  
1

VD  
1

HQ  
4

MG  
1

A

A

2  
19



(LN) *Linum narbonense*



(AM) *Achillea millefolium*

JV  
4

CA  
3

NA  
4



SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

HQ  
2

1  
19

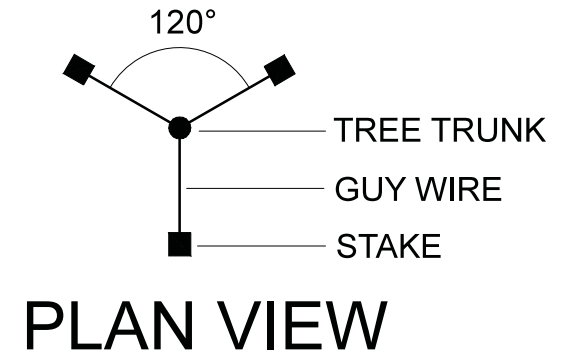
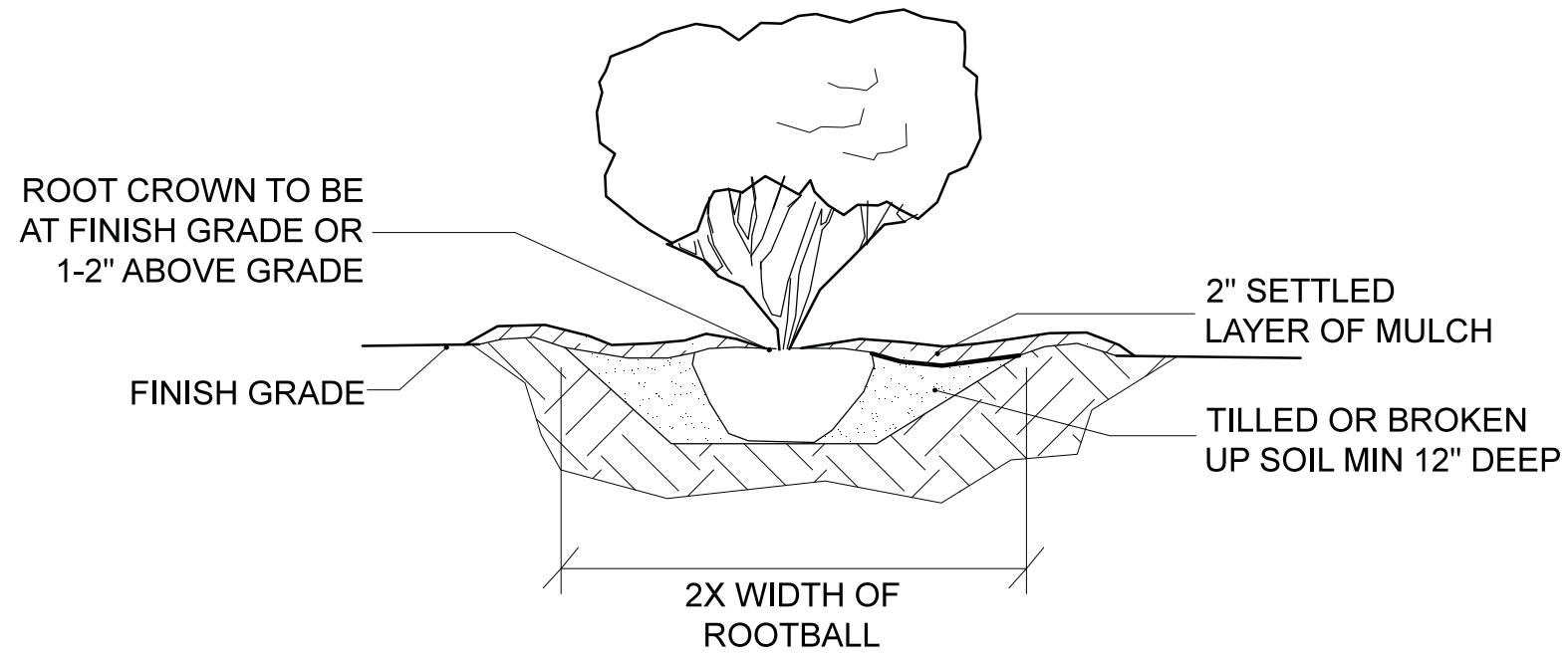
# MAIN HOUSE

Planting Plan

# PLANT SCHEDULE AND COST

## FOUNDATION PLANTING

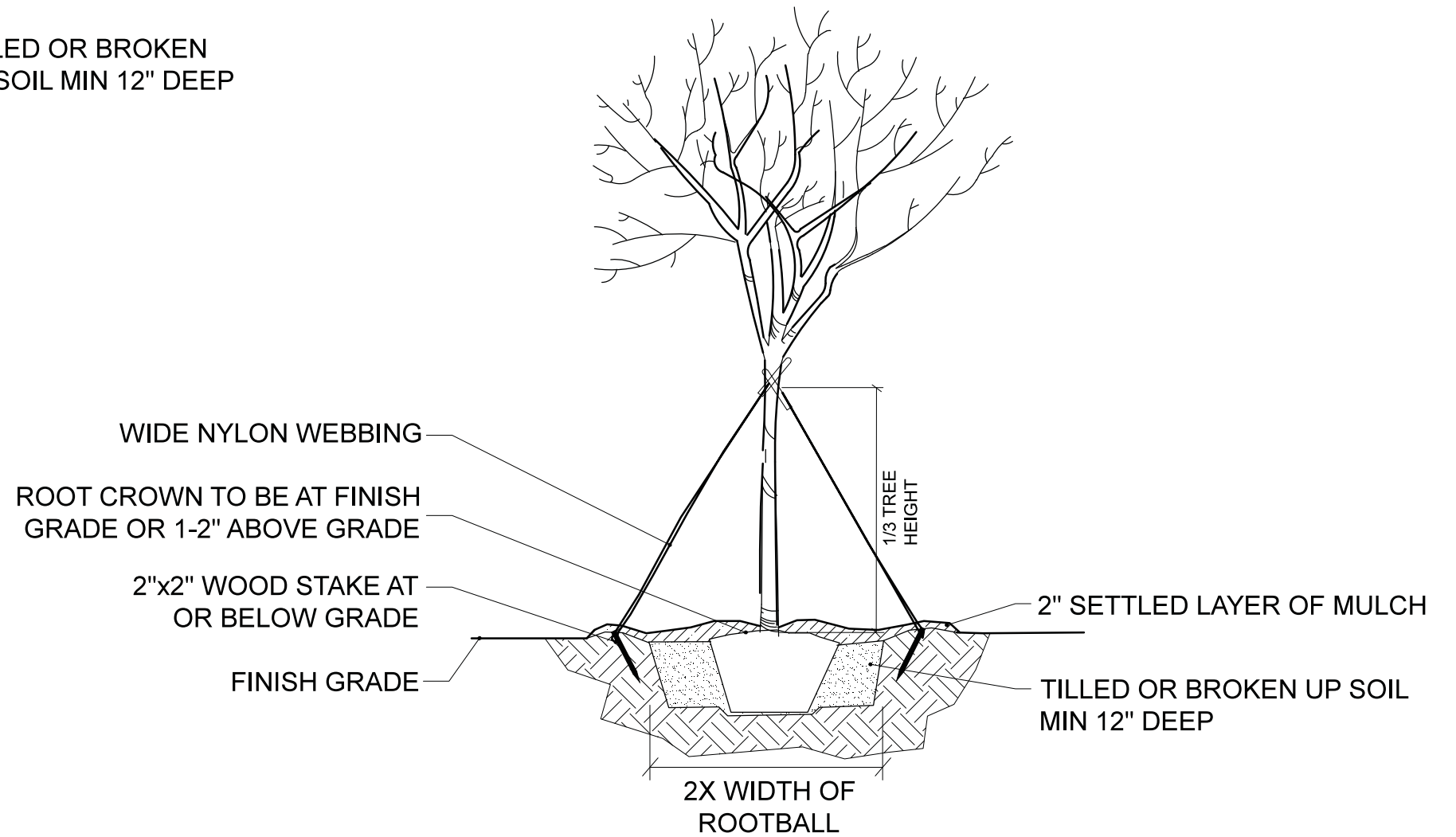
SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE	SPACING	NURSERY	SIZE	NUMBER OF PLANTS	COST PER PLANT	TOTAL COST
CA	<i>Cornus asperifolia</i>	Rough Leafed Dogwood	Tree	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	7 gal.	3	\$78.00	\$234.00
JV	<i>Juniperus virginianus</i>	Eastern Red Cedar	Tree	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	3 gal.	4	\$18.00	\$72.00
MG	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Southern Magnolia	Tree	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	3 gal.	1	\$28.00	\$28.00
HQ	<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	Oakleaf Hydrangea	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	6	\$12.00	\$72.00
NA	<i>Neviusia alabamensis</i>	Alabama Snow-Wreath	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	5	\$18.00	\$90.00
RC	<i>Rosa carolina</i>	Carolina Rose	Shrub	n/a	ForestFarm	Tube	17	\$9.95	\$169.15
SM	<i>Sabal minor</i>	Dwarf Palmetto	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	6	\$18.00	\$108.00
VD	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Southern Arrow-Wood	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	3	\$12.00	\$36.00
AM	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	Perennial	18"	High Country Gardens	5" pot	165	\$7.99	\$1318.35
EP	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower	Perennial	18"	High Country Gardens	5" pot	170	\$8.99	\$1528.30
LN	<i>Linum narbonense</i>	Blue Flax	Perennial	18"	High Country Gardens	4" pot	104	\$5.00	\$520.00
SC	<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Pincushion Flower	Perennial	18"	North Creek Nurseries	Flat of 72	315	\$44.64	\$195.30
<b>TOTAL</b>									\$4371.10



**1**  
19

**TYP. SHRUB PLANTING**

NOT TO SCALE



**2**  
19

**TYP. TREE PLANTING**

NOT TO SCALE





WISTERIA ARBOR, BOLTED TO COLUMNS  
PRESSURE-TREATED SOUTHERN YELLOW  
PINE OR CEDAR

CROSSVILLE OUTDOOR PORCELAIN  
TILE IN "BELVEDERE," 12 x 12

WELLSPRING TABLE AND CHAIRS,  
LANDSCAPE FORMS (TYP.)

**B'** SALVAGED CLASSICAL-STYLE STONE  
COLUMNS, WEATHERED

WISTERIA PLANTER (TYP.)

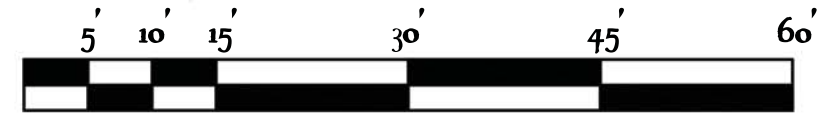
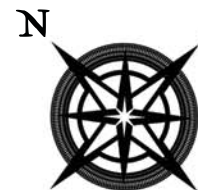
EXISTING FOUNTAIN RIM

WELLSPRING BENCH,  
LANDSCAPE FORMS (TYP.)

PLANTED URN (TYP.)

SMALL CRUSHED SHELL,  
MAXWELL BEATTY SAND SUPPLY INC.  
(TYP.)

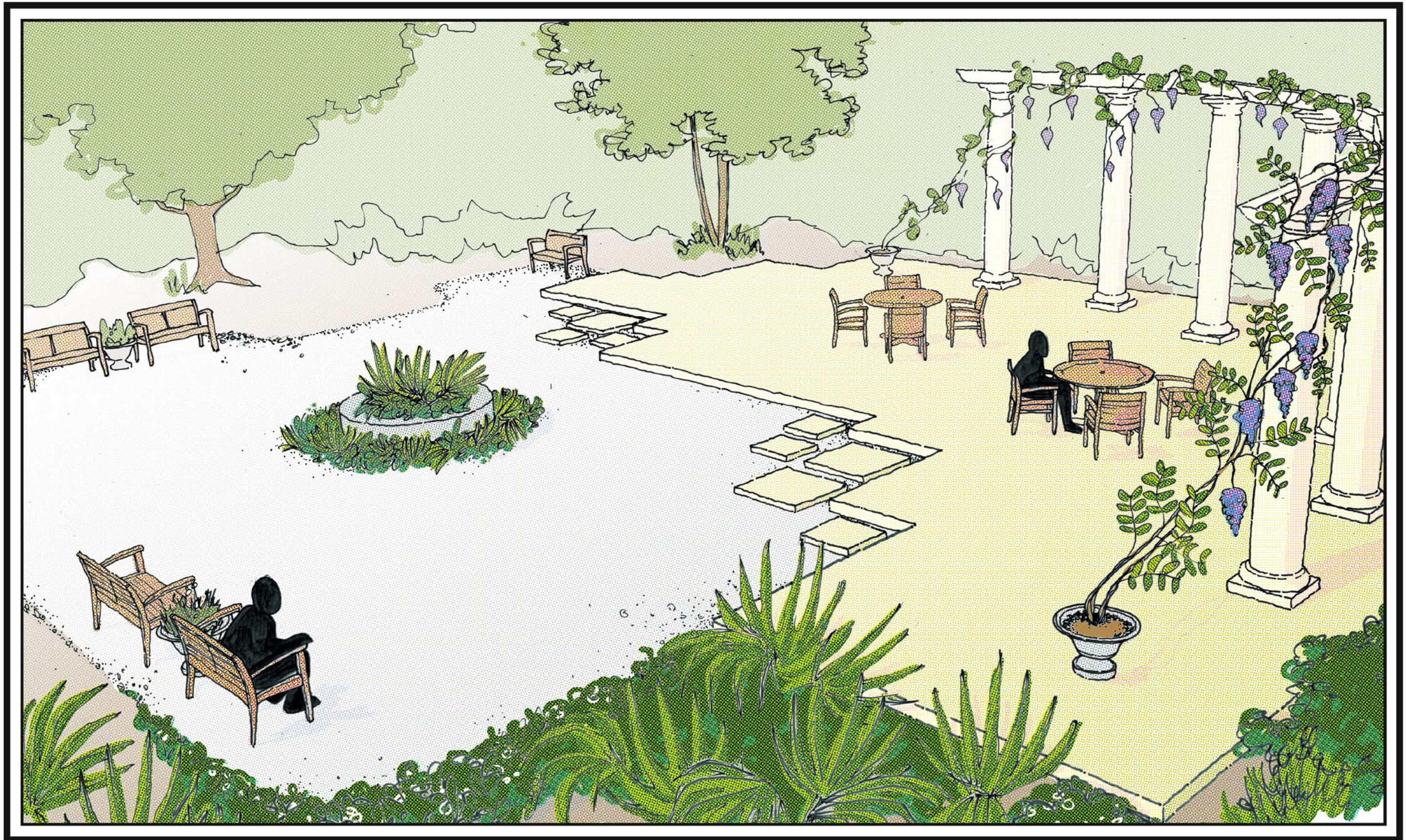
**B**



SCALE: 1" = 15'-0"

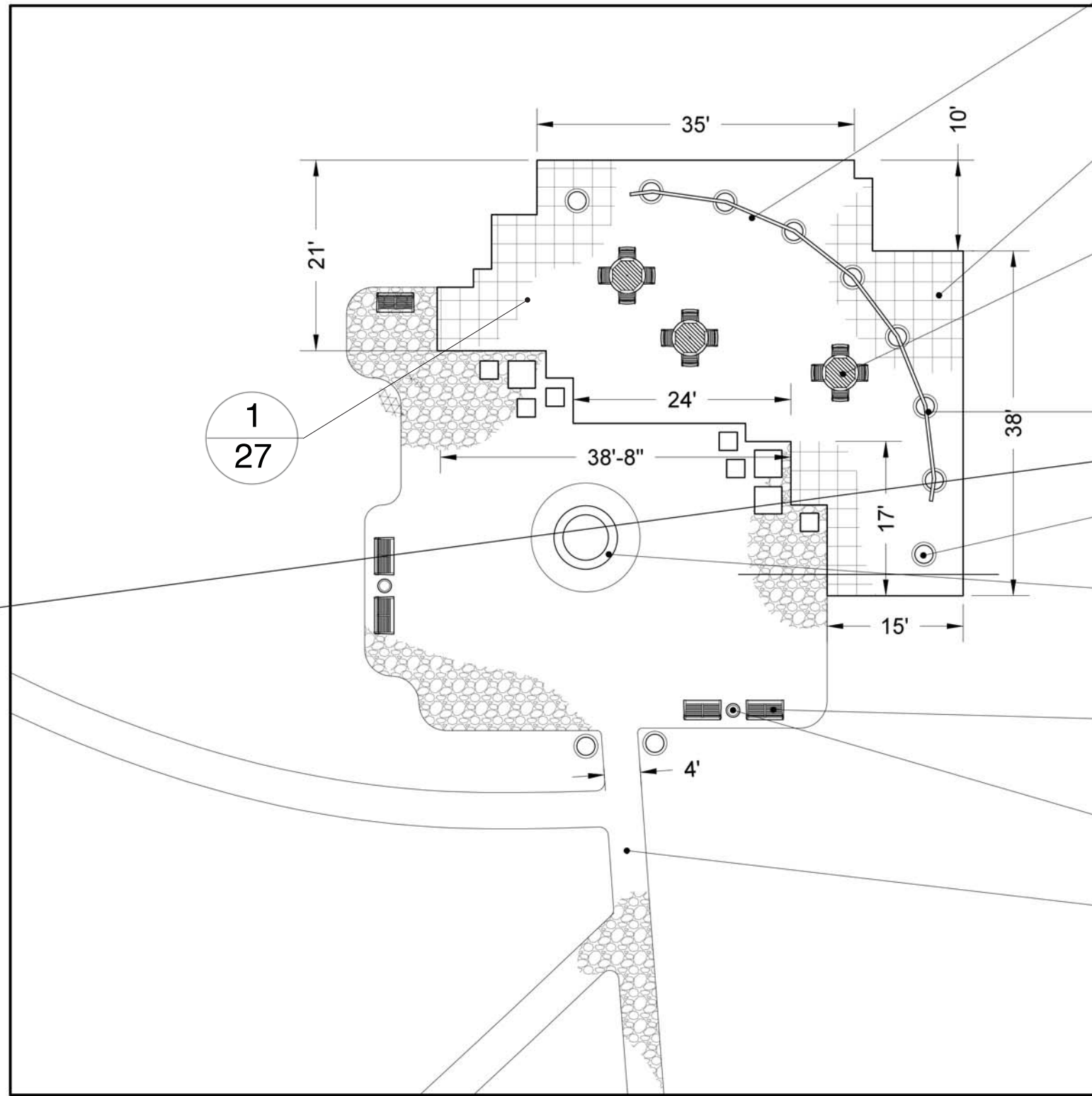
# WOODLAND GARDEN Illustrative Plan

# PERSPECTIVE: WOODLAND GARDEN



# SECTION VIEW: WOODLAND GARDEN





WISTERIA ARBOR, BOLTED TO COLUMNS  
PRESSURE-TREATED SOUTHERN YELLOW  
PINE OR CEDAR

CROSSVILLE OUTDOOR PORCELAIN  
TILE IN "BELVEDERE," 12 x 12  
<http://crossvilleinc.com>

WELLSPRING TABLE AND CHAIRS,  
LANDSCAPE FORMS (TYP.)  
<http://www.landscapeforms.com>

SALVAGED CLASSICAL-STYLE STONE  
COLUMNS, WEATHERED

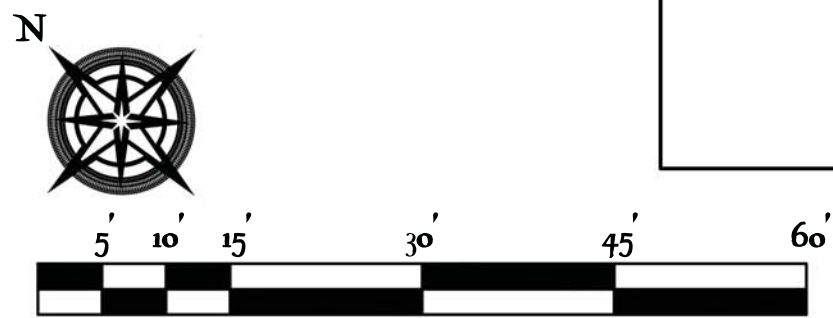
URN PLANTED WITH WISTERIA (TYP.)

EXISTING FOUNTAIN RIM, FILLED WITH  
SOIL MEDIA AND CONVERTED TO PLANTER

WELLSPRING BENCH,  
LANDSCAPE FORMS (TYP.)

PLANTED URN (TYP.)

SMALL CRUSHED SHELL,  
MAXWELL BEATTY SAND SUPPLY INC.  
(TYP.)  
<http://www.maxwellbeatty.com>



SCALE: 1" = 15'-0"

# WOODLAND GARDEN Materials Plan



(SL) *Salvia lyrata*



(SM) *Spigelia marilandica*



(PS) *Prunus serotina*



(CC) *Carpinus caroliniana*



(IG) *Ilex glabra*



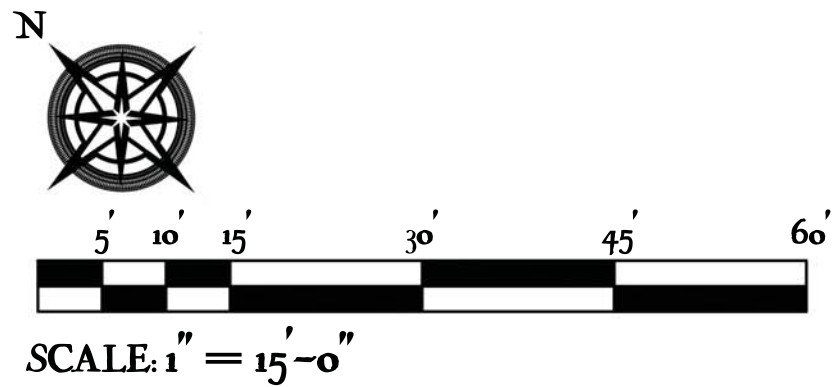
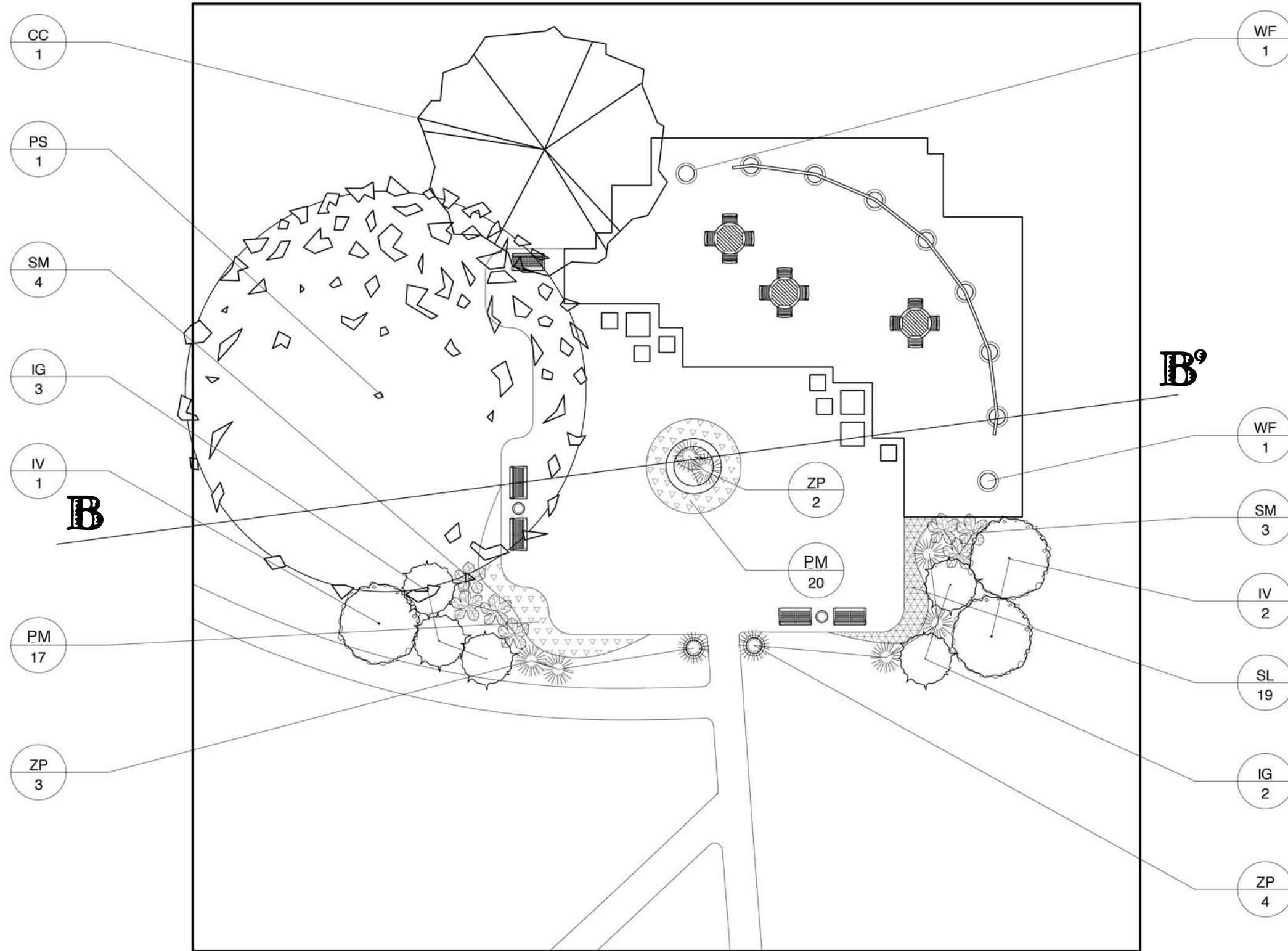
(IV) *Ilex vomitoria*



(ZP) *Zamia pumila*



(WF) *Wisteria frutescens*

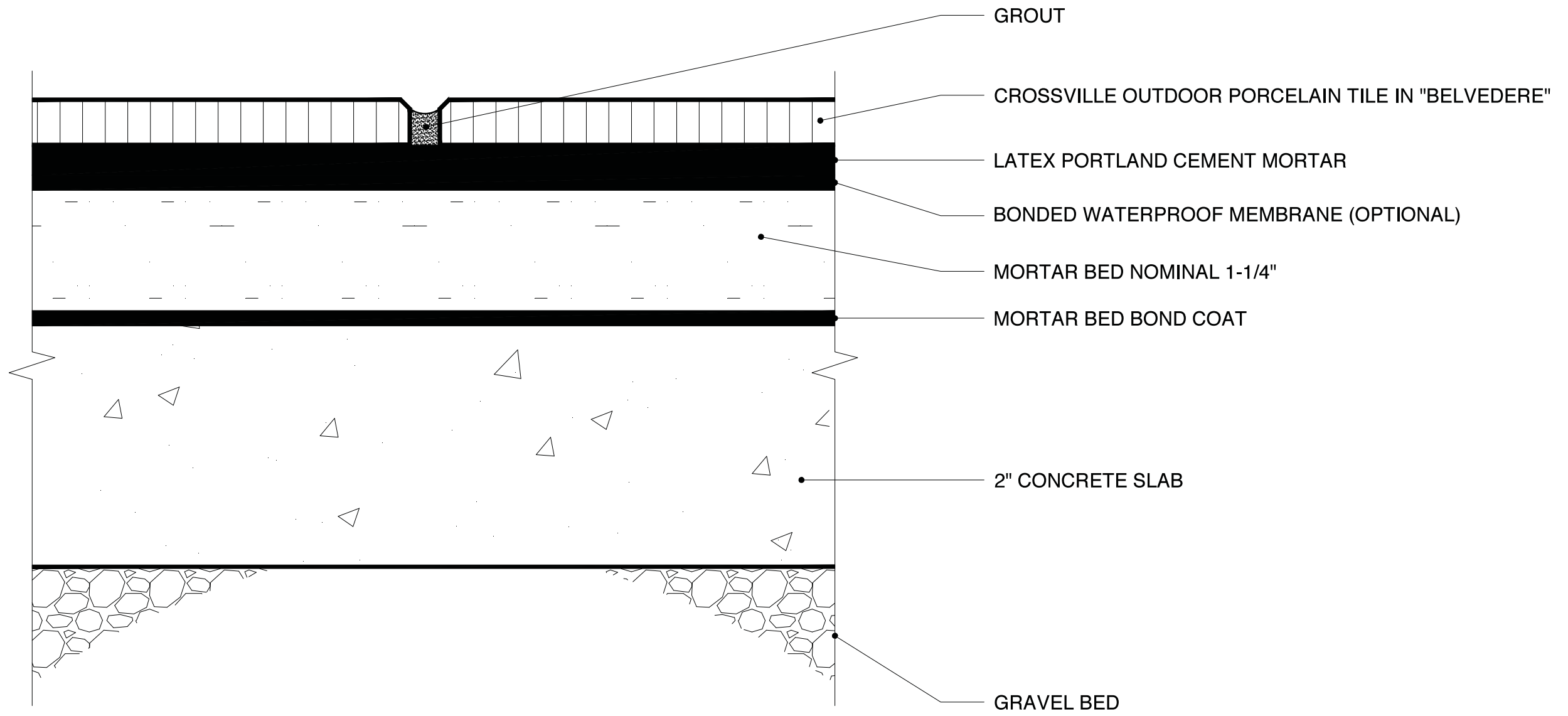


# WOODLAND GARDEN Planting Plan

# PLANT SCHEDULE AND COST

## WOODLAND GARDEN PLANTING

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE	SPACING	NURSERY	SIZE	NUMBER OF PLANTS	COST PER PLANT	TOTAL COST
CC	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam	Tree	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	3 gal.	1	\$28.00	\$28.00
PS	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry	Tree	n/a	Nativ Nurseries	10" seedling	1	\$3.49	\$3.49
IG	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	5	\$12.00	\$60.00
IV	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Yaupon Holly	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	3 gal.	3	\$24.00	\$72.00
SM	<i>Sabal minor</i>	Dwarf Palmetto	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	7	\$18.00	\$126.00
ZP	<i>Zamia pumila</i>	Coonti	Shrub	n/a	Woodlanders	1 gal.	9	\$18.00	\$162.00
WF	<i>Wisteria frutescens</i>	American Wisteria	Vine	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	2	\$12.00	\$24.00
SL	<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Lyreleaf Sage	Perennial	18"	North Creek Nurseries	Flat of 50	19	\$31.50	\$11.97
PM	<i>Spigelia marilandica</i>	Woodland Pinkroot	Perennial	18"	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 qt.	37	\$8.00	\$296.00
<b>TOTAL</b>									\$783.46



1  
27

# OUTDOOR PORCELAIN TILE

SCALE: 1" = 1"

SMALL CRUSHED SHELL  
WALKWAY, MAXWELL BEATTY  
SAND SUPPLY, INC.

NATIVE PLANTING FOR  
BIRDS AND WILDLIFE

PLANTED URN (TYP.)

ADIRONDACK CHAIR,  
LOCAL ARTISAN  
(TYP.)

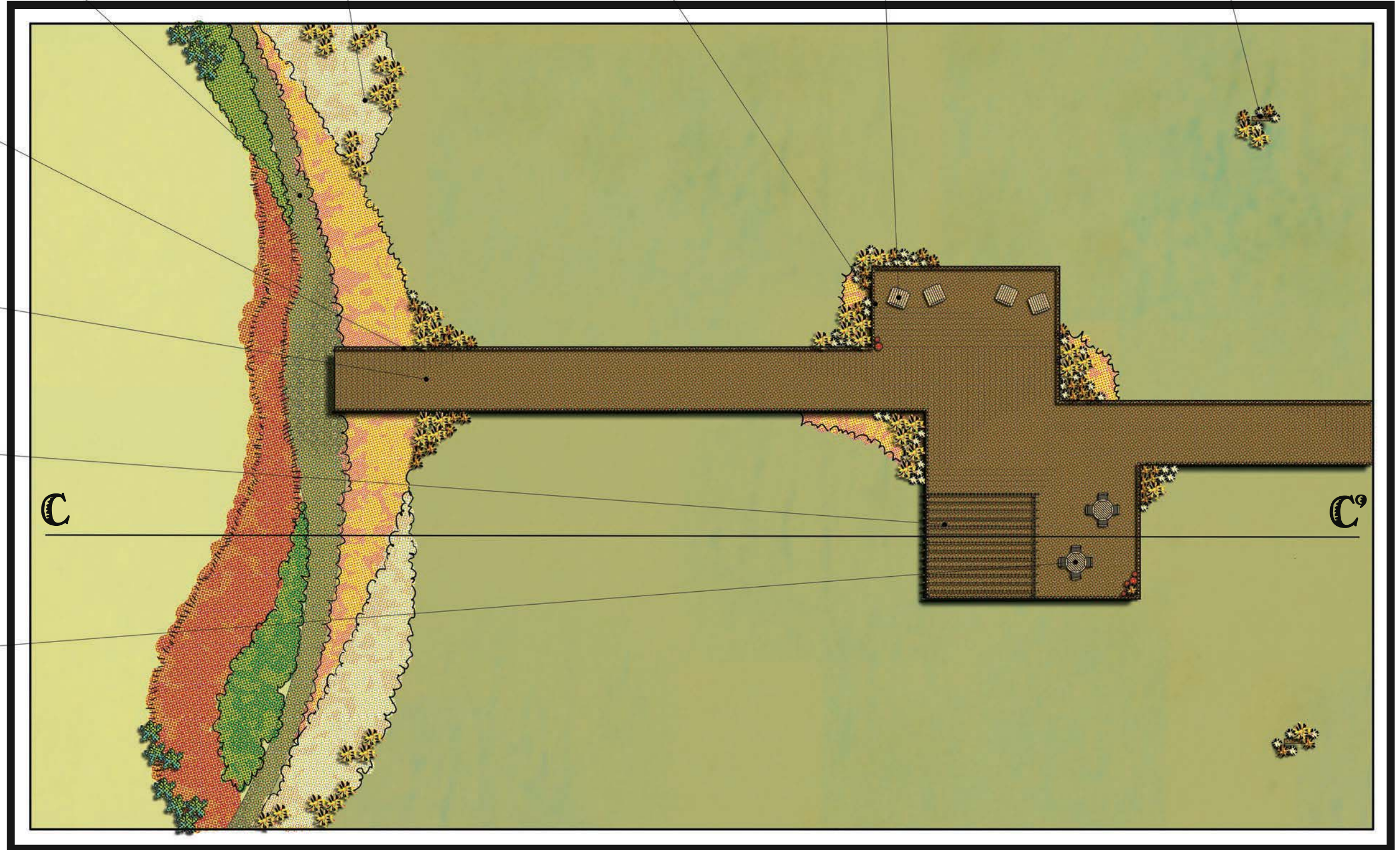
POLE-MOUNTED WATERBIRD  
NESTING PLATFORM (TYP.)

TREX REVEAL DECK RAILING  
WITH LIGHTED POST CAPS

RECREATIONAL AND BIRDING  
DOCK, TREX COMPOSITE  
DECKING

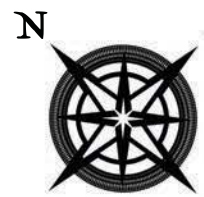
SHADE STRUCTURE,  
TREATED SOUTHERN  
YELLOW PINE (STAINED TO  
MATCH DECKING) OR CEDAR

WELLSPRING TABLE AND  
CHAIRS, LANDSCAPE FORMS  
(TYP.)



C

C

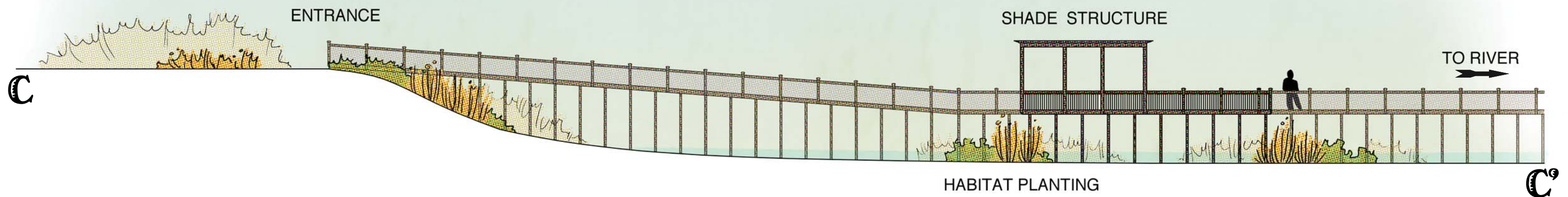


5' 10' 20' 40' 60'  
SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"

# BIRDDING DOCK

Illustrative  
Plan

# SECTION VIEW: BIRDING DOCK





PLANTED URN (TYP.)      ADIRONDACK CHAIR, LOCAL ARTISAN (TYP.)      POLE-MOUNTED WATERBIRD NESTING PLATFORM (TYP.)

SMALL CRUSHED SHELL WALKWAY, MAXWELL BEATTY SAND SUPPLY, INC. <http://www.maxwellbeatty.com>

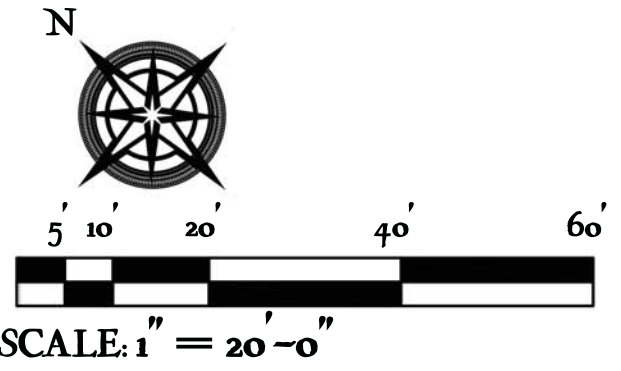
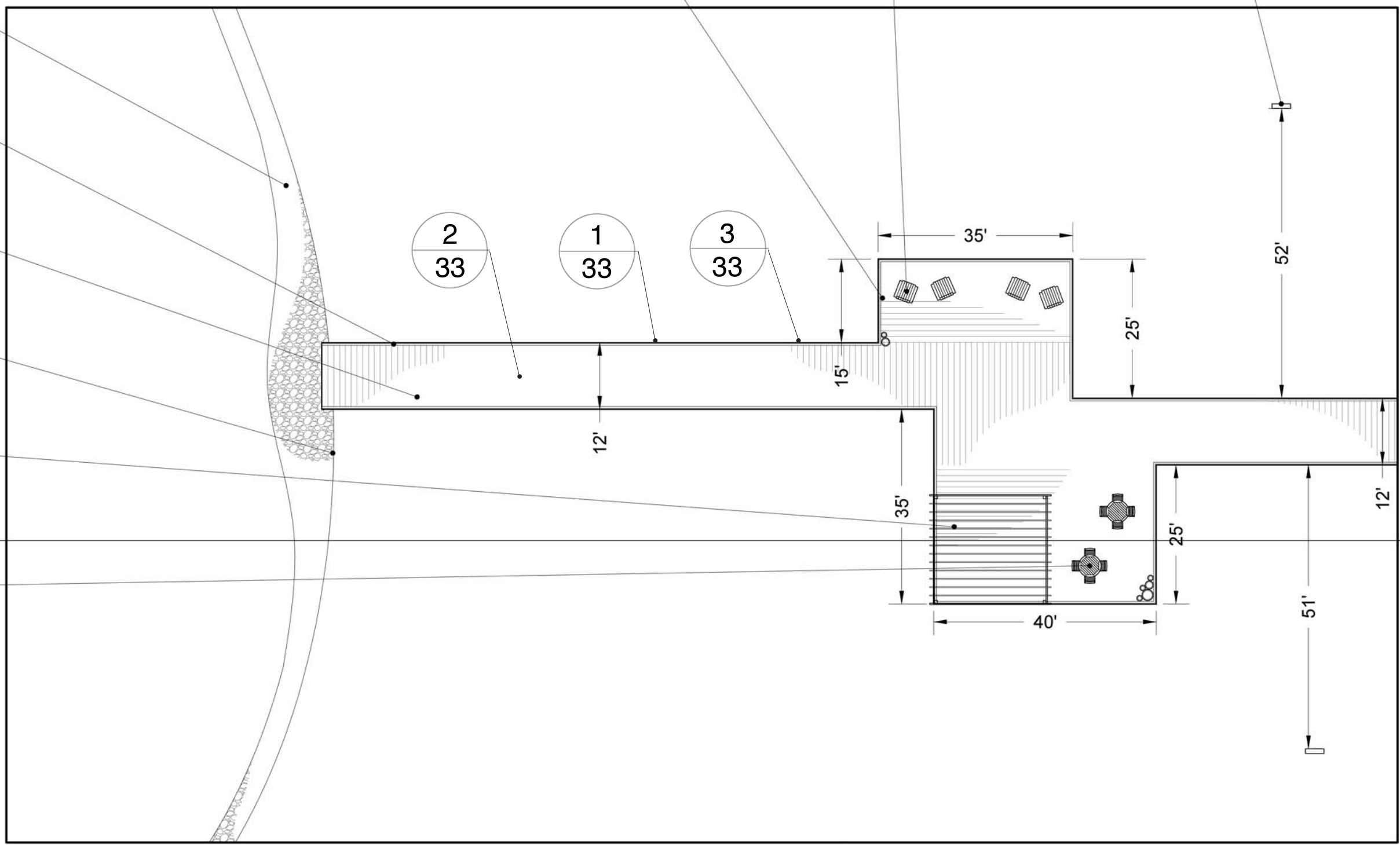
TREX REVEAL DECK RAILING WITH ROUND BALUSTERS, 6 FT. SPACING, BRONZE, <http://www.trex.com>

TREX TRANSCEND COMPOSITE DECKING, "VINTAGE LANTERN"

TREX FLAT POST CAP LIGHT, "VINTAGE LANTERN" (TYP.)

SHADE STRUCTURE, TREATED SOUTHERN YELLOW PINE (STAINED TO MATCH DECKING) OR CEDAR

WELLSPRING TABLE AND CHAIRS, LANDSCAPE FORMS (TYP.), <http://www.landscapeforms.com>



# BIRDING DOCK Materials Plan



(PV) *Panicum virgatum*



(MC) *Muhlenbergia capillaris*



(SP) *Spartina patens*



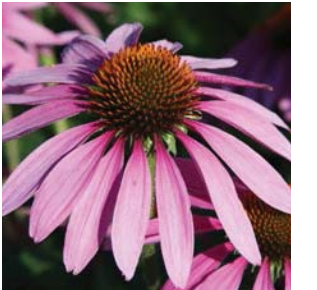
(SB) *Spartina bakeri*



(CL) *Chasmanthium latifolium*



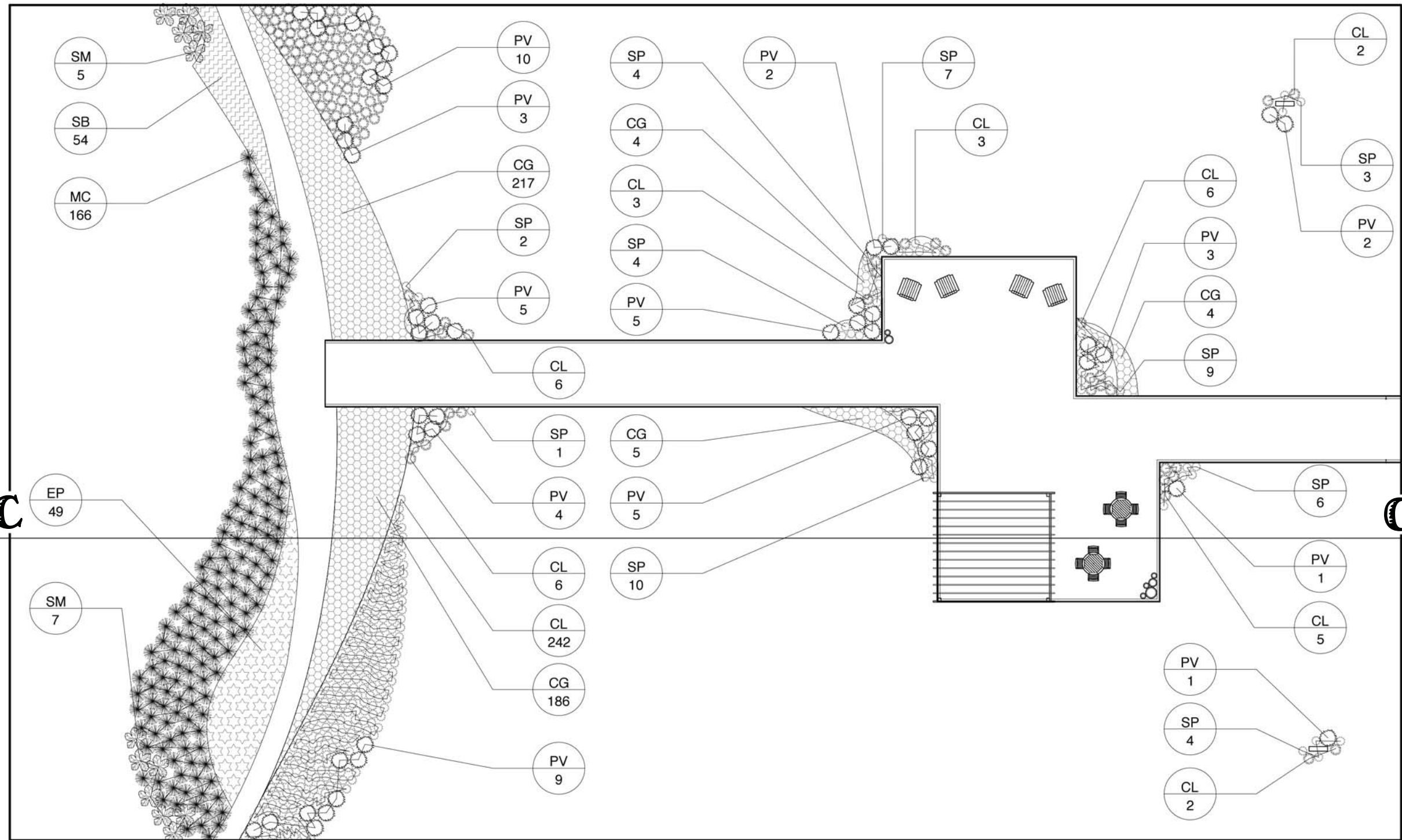
(CG) *Coreopsis gladiata*



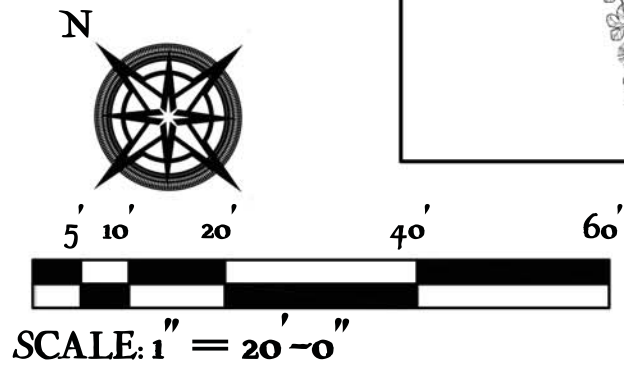
(EC) *Echinacea purpurea*



(SM) *Sabal minor*



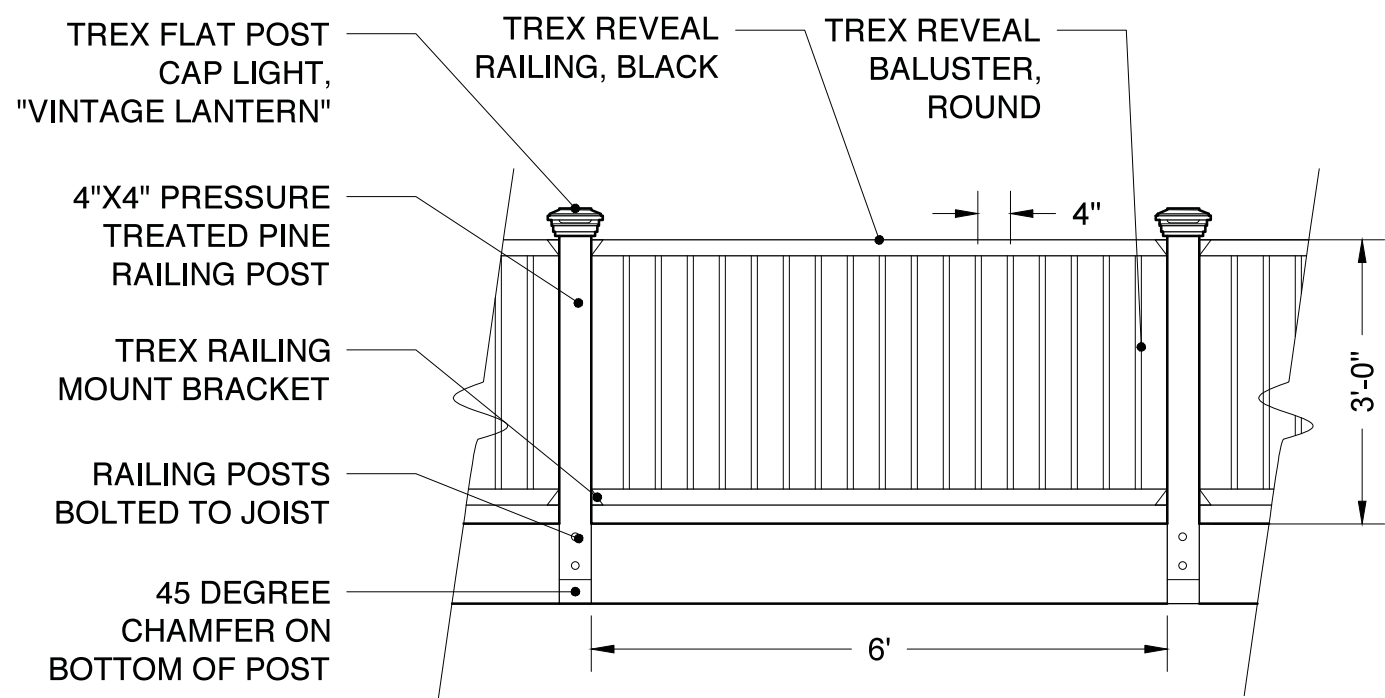
# BIRDING DOCK Planting Plan



# PLANT SCHEDULE AND COST

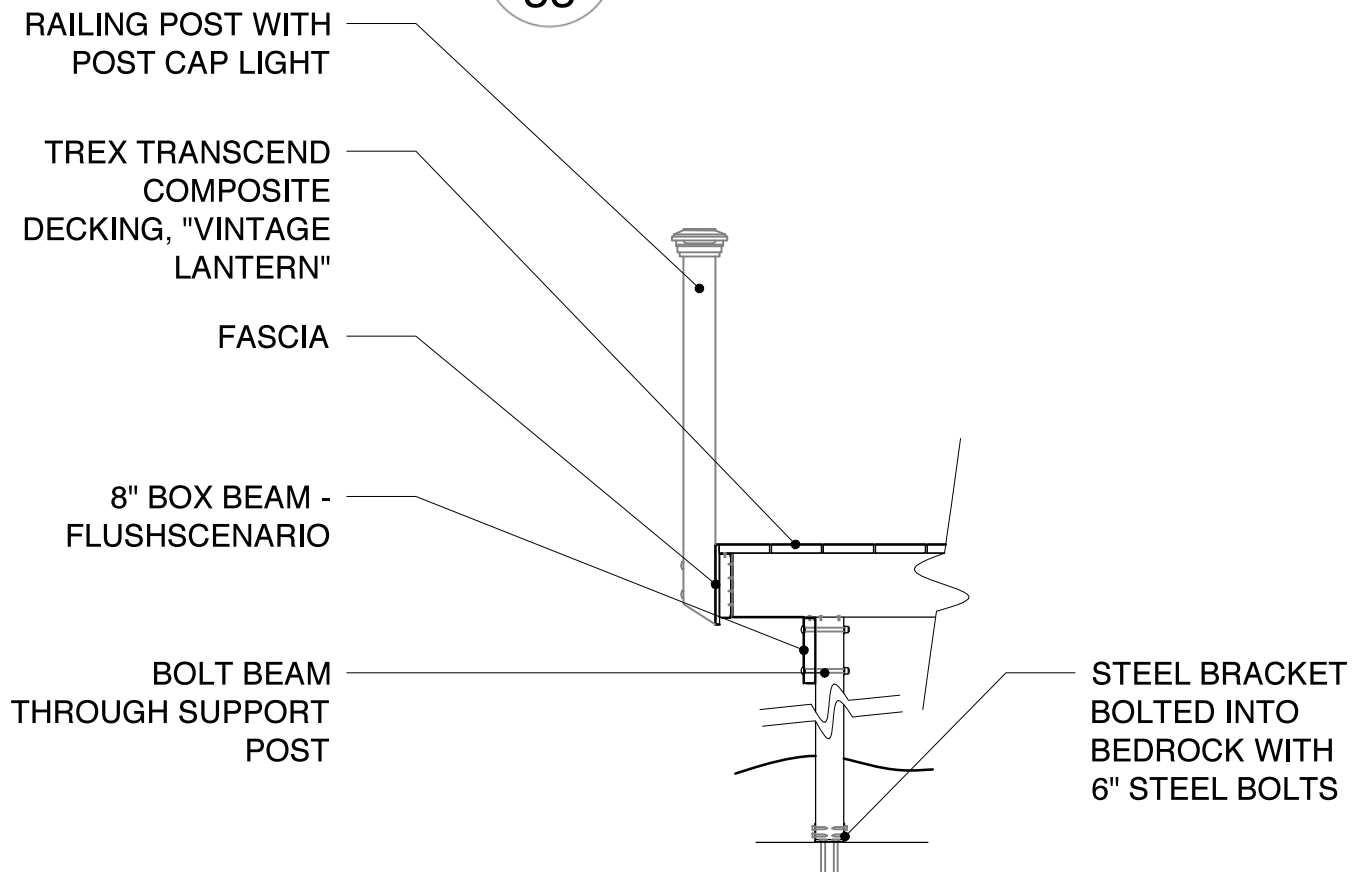
## BIRDING DOCK PLANTING

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE	SPACING	NURSERY	SIZE	NUMBER OF PLANTS	COST PER PLANT	TOTAL COST
SM	<i>Sabal minor</i>	Dwarf Palmetto	Shrub	n/a	Nearly Native Nurseries	1 gal.	12	\$18.00	\$216.00
CL	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Inland Sea Oats	Grass	n/a	Baker Environmental Nurseries	1 gal.	275	\$12.00	\$3300.00
MC	<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	Pink Muhly Grass	Grass	n/a	Baker Environmental Nurseries	4" pot	166	\$15.00	\$2490.00
PV	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass	Grass	n/a	Plant Delights	2 qt.	50	\$15.00	\$750.00
SB	<i>Spartina bakeri</i>	Cordgrass	Grass	n/a	Baker Environmental Nurseries	1 gal.	54	\$9.00	\$486.00
SP	<i>Spartina patens</i>	Salt Hay Grass	Grass	n/a	Baker Environmental Nurseries	1 gal.	50	\$9.00	\$450.00
CG	<i>Coreopsis gladiata</i>	Coastal Plain Tickseed	Perennial	18"	Plant Delights	4" pot	416	\$14.00	\$5824.00
EP	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower	Perennial	18"	High Country Gardens	5" pot	49	\$8.99	\$440.51
<b>TOTAL</b>									\$13956.51



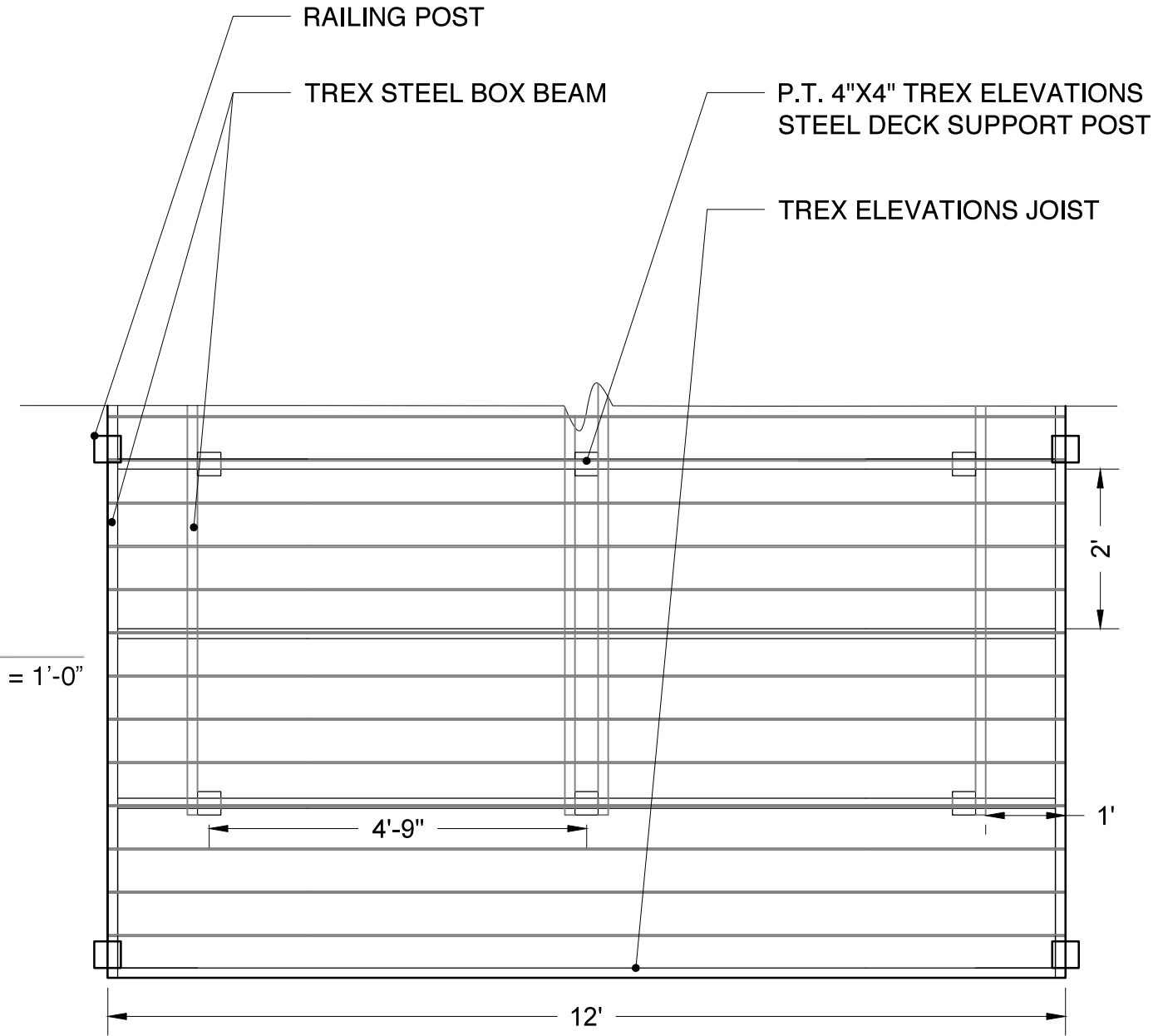
**1 DOCK RAILING**  
33

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"



**3 JOIST/BEAM ASSEMBLY**  
33

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"



**2 DECKING LAYOUT**  
33

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"