

Welcome!

The meeting will begin momentarily.



The image shows a Zoom webinar interface with a black background. At the top, there is a green status bar that reads "You are viewing Carly Bond's screen" and a "View Options" dropdown menu. In the top right corner, there is an "Exit Full Screen" button. The main content area features a large blue sunburst logo in the center. To the left of the logo, the text reads "Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center". To the right, it says "Consulting Parties Meeting #1" and "08.09.2023". Below the logo, the logos for "Smithsonian" and "Perkins&Will" are displayed. At the bottom, there is a dark grey control bar with "Audio Settings" on the left and "Leave Meeting" on the right. In the center of the control bar, the "Raise Hand" and "Q&A" icons are circled in red.

How to Use Zoom Webinar:

- Zoom webinar will not permit access to your camera.
- Please submit comments/questions in writing through the Q&A function.
- Written comments/questions can be submitted at any time and will be answered or discussed at designated points during the meeting by the panelists.
- Click "Raise Hand" if you would like to speak your comments/questions at designated points with the panelists. A moderator will grant temporary access to your device's microphone.

Thank you for participating in our virtual public consultation meeting!

**Construct Integrated
Bezos Learning Center**



**Consulting Parties
Meeting #1**
08.09.2023

 **Smithsonian** **Perkins&Will**

Panel of Speakers

Moderator

Carly Bond, Acting Associate Director, Historic Preservation, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

Panelists

Christopher U. Browne, John and Adrienne Mars Director, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum

Charles Obi, Program Executive, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

Mike Henry, Senior Design Manager, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

Zena Howard, Project Principal, Perkins and Will



Carly



Chris



Charles



Mike



Zena

Meeting Agenda

I. Project Introduction

- NASM Revitalization
- Bezos Learning Center Program Scope

II. Section 106 Process

- Draft APE
- NASM Determination of Eligibility
- Project Background
- National Mall Historic District

III. Contextual Framework

IV. Next Steps

Q&A Process

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Project Introduction

Project Introduction

NASM Revitalization

Revitalization

- Memorandum of Agreement executed December 28, 2017
- NASM Revitalization construction substantial completion in 2024
- 7 years devoted to revitalizing NASM and providing a secure building envelope

Transformation

- 23 galleries and spaces reimagined for immersive learning
- 5,200 artifacts moved and preserved
- 1,400 new objects on display



NASM viewed looking NE, November 2022.

Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center Scope

- Largest philanthropic gift since SI's founding gift from James Smithson in 1846
- Gift designs, constructs, and supports a premiere space for education across Smithsonian, housed at the NASM, at the heart of the National Mall
- Bezos Learning Center program shall reach underserved communities in DC and across the nation
- Smithsonian will supplement these funds to include:
 - Demolition of restaurant addition aligned with NASM Revitalization construction
 - Address loading dock functionality providing proper height clearances and separation of delivery areas
 - Construct a restaurant facility
 - Design and construct permanent location for the Phoebe Waterman Haas Public Observatory
 - Design and construct the Phoebe Waterman Haas Astronomy Park
 - Landscape east terrace





Section 106 Process

Section 106 Process Overview

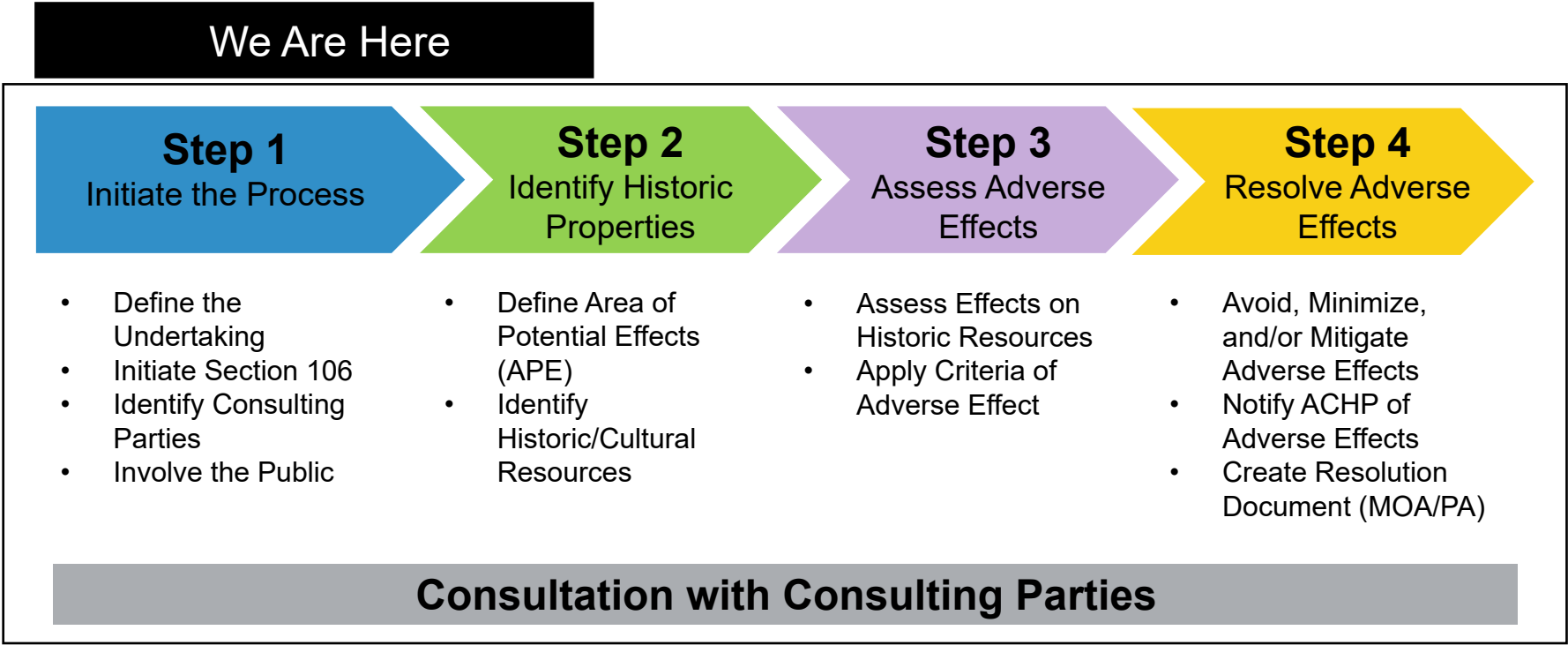
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA):

- National Air and Space Museum (NASM) contributes to the National Mall Historic District
- Section 106 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their projects on historic properties and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects
- Section 106 requires consultation to seek, discuss, and consider the views of "consulting parties" who are invited to participate in the process
- Approximately 90 consulting parties or organizations invited to participate



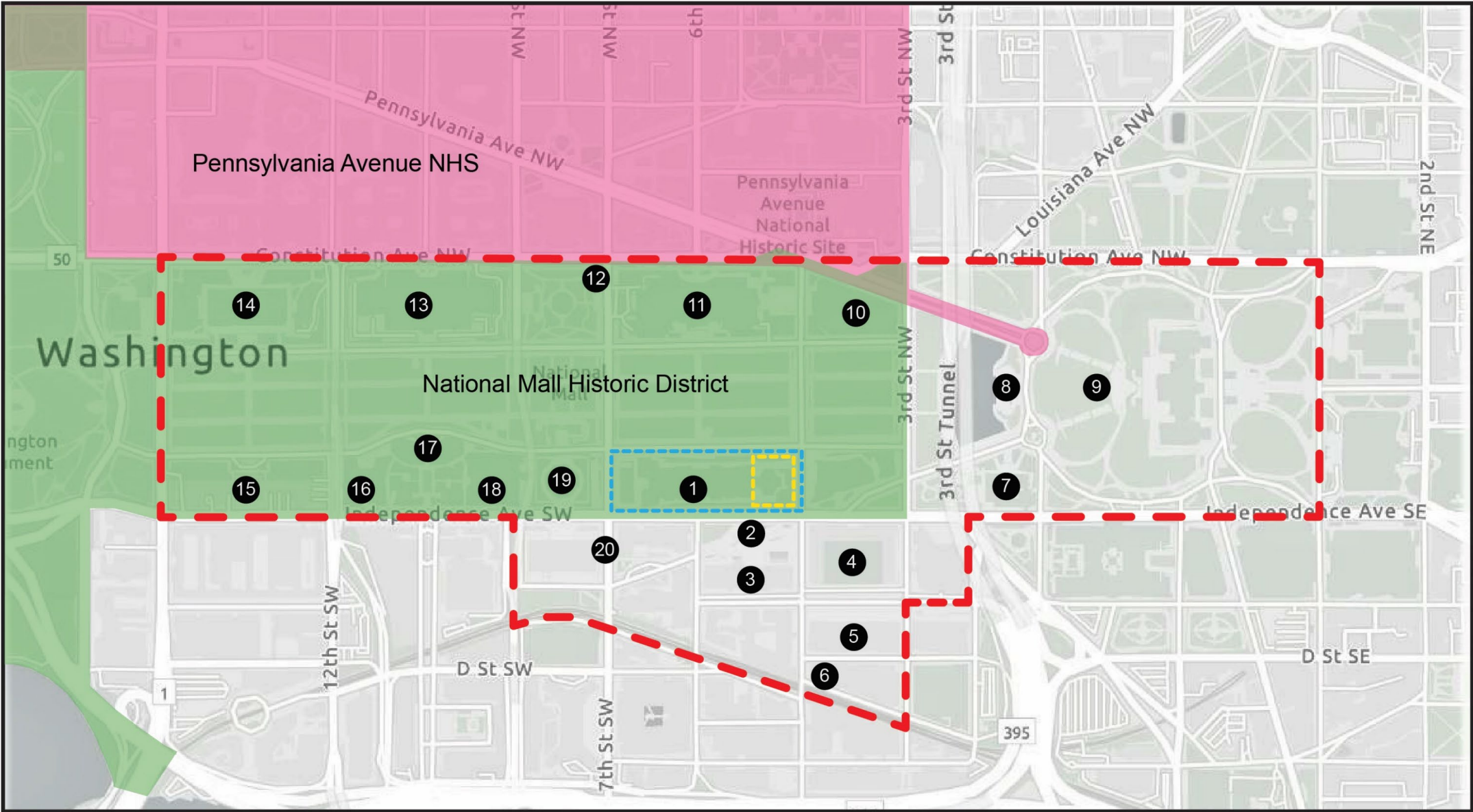
NASM Viewed Looking NE, Historic American Building Survey, 2017.

Section 106 Process Overview

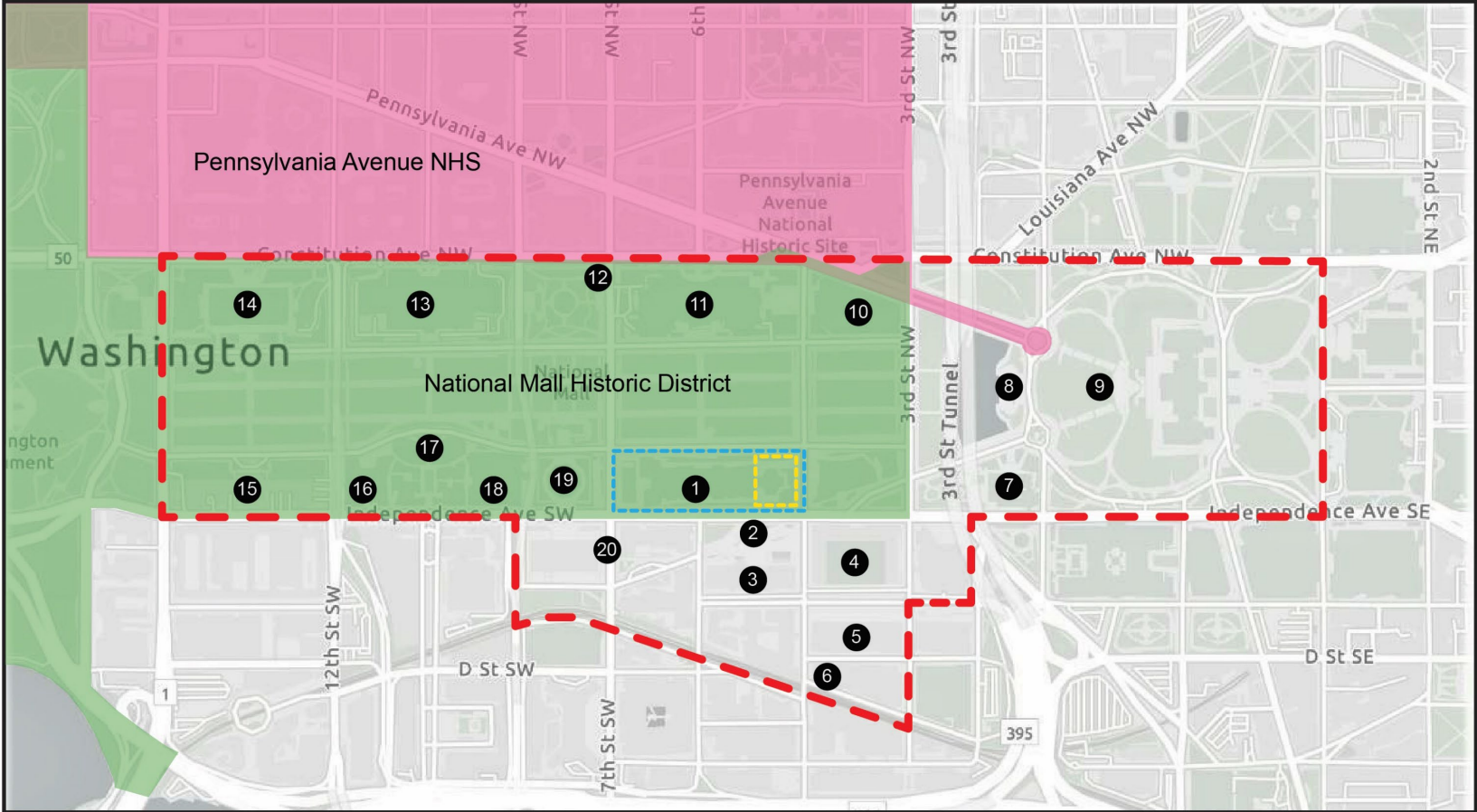


- A Consulting Party is anyone with a demonstrated interest in the project.
- Consulting Parties meetings will review design progress, provide detailed discussions on how the Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center project may adversely affect historic resources, and consider ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects.

Draft Area of Potential Effect



Historic Resources

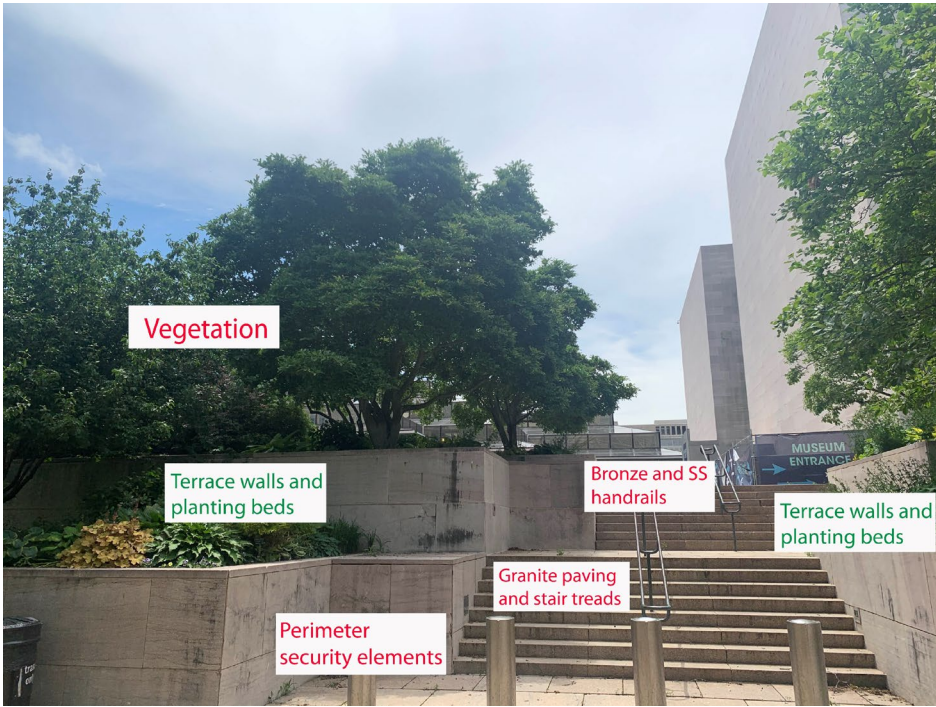


Key		5	14
NASM Site	Project Area	6 Terminal Refrigerating & Warehousing Co.	14 National Museum of American History
Area of Potential Effects		7 US Botanic Gardens	15 US Dept of Agriculture
National Mall Historic District		8 Ulysses S Grant Memorial	16 Freer Gallery
Pennsylvania Avenue NHS		9 US Capitol and Grounds	17 Smithsonian Castle
1 National Air & Space Museum (NR Eligible)	10 National Gallery of Art East Wing (NR Eligible)	19 Hirshhorn Museum (NR Eligible)	
2 Dwight D Eisenhower Memorial	11 National Gallery of Art West Wing	20 Orville & Wilbur Wright Federal Buildings (NR Eligible)	
3 Lyndon B Johnson Dept of Education	12 Bulfinch Gatehouses and Gateposts		
4 Social Security Administration	13 Natural History Museum		
			* Plan of the City of Washington (Not Shown)

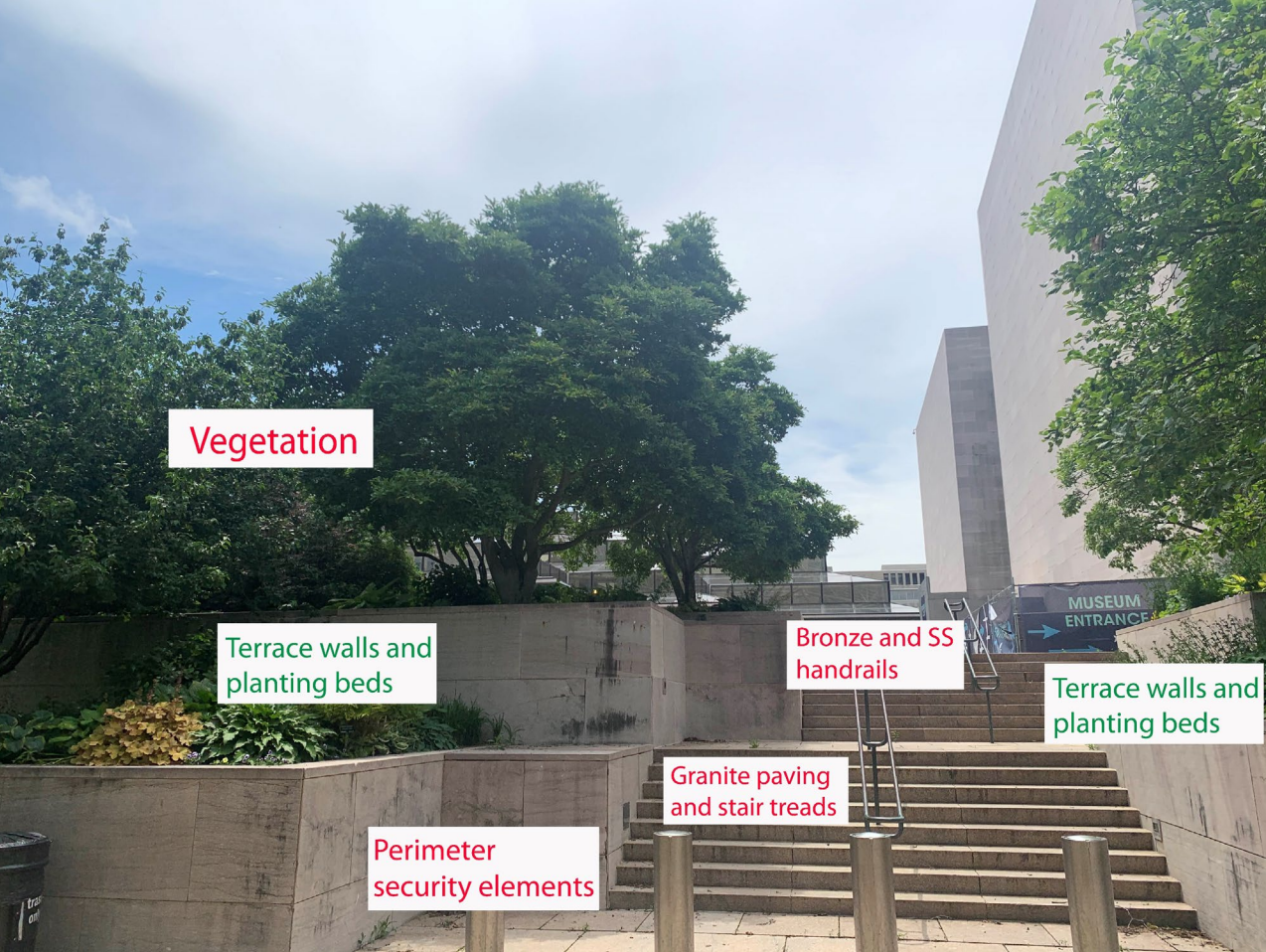
Contributing Elements of NASM

Table #1: NASM Site Contributing Features

Feature	Status
Tiered terraces and planting beds	Contributing (modified)
Marble-clad retaining walls throughout	Contributing (modified)
Garage openings and ramps	Contributing
Ad Astra sculpture	Contributing
Continuum sculpture	Contributing
Delta Solar sculpture and reflecting pool	Non-Contributing
Vegetation	Non-Contributing
Plaza surrounding restaurant addition	Non-Contributing
Steel guardrails surrounding garage egress walls and ramps	Non-Contributing
Bronze and stainless steel handrails throughout	Non-Contributing
Freestanding astrophysical observatory	Non-Contributing
Freestanding planters, site furniture, and vendor carts throughout	Non-Contributing
Perimeter security elements	Non-Contributing
Granite paving and stair treads	Non-Contributing



Contributing Elements of NASM



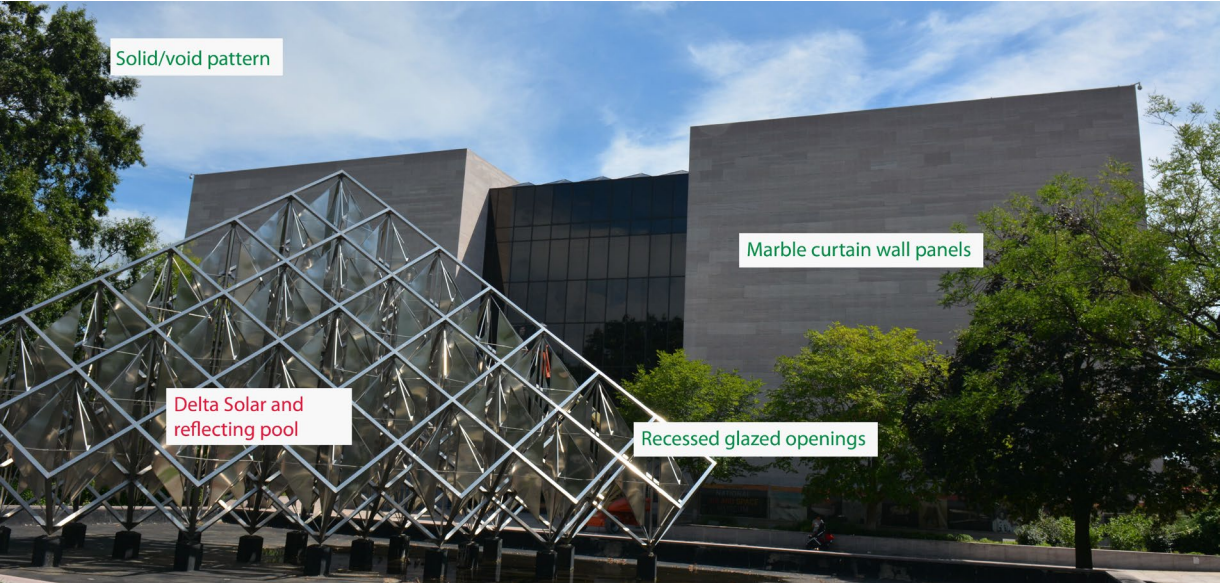
Contributing Elements of NASM



Contributing Elements of NASM

Table #2: NASM Building Exterior Contributing Features

Feature	Status
Seven-bay building form with alternating solid-void pattern	Contributing
Recessed, glazed openings in east and west elevations	Contributing
Recessed, third-story linear openings and balconies	Contributing
Marble curtain wall panels	Contributing
Carved inscriptions on north and south elevations	Contributing
Exterior terrace on southeast cantilevered block	Contributing
North and south entry vestibules	Non-Contributing
Restaurant addition	Non-Contributing
Vertical glazing and ridged skylights on first and second floors	Non-Contributing



NASM History

- SI National Air Museum established by President Truman August 12, 1946
- NASM building completed on July 1, 1976
 - Building site selected June 26, 1958
 - Designed by Gyo Obata of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabum (HOK) in 1972
- Alterations:
 - Terrace repaving in 1986
 - Restaurant addition added in 1988
 - Terrace waterproofing & landscaping alterations from 1996-1998
 - Failed glass curtain walls and acrylic skylights replaced from 1994-2000
 - Perimeter security from 2001-2005
 - Restaurant demolition in 2023
 - Ongoing major revitalization project




Rocket row along the west side of the Arts and Industries Building, ca. 1960.



Early National Air Museum Quonset hut (image left) on the south yard of the Smithsonian Castle, 1963.

NASM DOE

- MOA stipulation to complete a Determination of Eligibility for individually listing NASM
- Draft completed October 2021
- Determined individually eligible under Criteria A and C, and Criteria Consideration G
 - 21 contributing features
 - 12 non-contributing features
- Period of significance – 1976
- To be updated and resubmitted after Major Revitalization project completion



**DC STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Property Name(s): National Air and Space Museum
Street Address(es): Independence Avenue at Sixth Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20560
Square(s) and Lot(s): Reservation Nos. 4 and 5
Property Owner(s): Smithsonian Institution
The property/properties is/are being evaluated for potential historical significance as/for:

- An individual building or structure.
- A contributing element of a historic district: National Mall Historic District
- A possible expansion of a historic district: Specify
- A previously unevaluated historic district to be known as: Specify
- An archaeological resource with site number(s): Specify
- An object (e.g. statue, stone marker etc.): Specify
- A new multiple property/thematic study regarding: Specify
- Association with a multiple property/thematic study: Specify
- Other: Specify




Figure 1: National Air and Space Museum, south elevation, facing northwest along Independence Avenue.

Project Background

NASM Restaurant Addition



Restaurant addition and planted area at the east end of the NASM site.
Historic American Building Survey, 2017.



NASM east terrace, March 2023.

- Restaurant addition completed in 1988
- Section 106 consultation initiated in May 2020 for restaurant demolition and replacement
- Received Bezos Learning Center philanthropic gift July 14, 2021
- NASM East End Programmatic Agreement executed in March 2022 to govern the two phases of the project: addition demolition, then design and construction of the BLC
- Restaurant demolished in 2023

NASM East End Programmatic Agreement

Stipulation 2.A. Bezos Learning Center Program

- i. **Building Parameters:** Two levels above a ground floor restaurant, connected to the NASM at the east end
- ii. **Observatory Program:** Consultation to establish a permanent location for the Phoebe Waterman Haas Public Observatory
- iii. **Astronomy Park:** Consultation to site the outdoor Phoebe Waterman Haas Astronomy Park on the east terrace
- iv. **Comprehensive East End:** Cohesive design of the BLC, Observatory, Astronomy Park with east terrace site features and the Revitalization landscape design



East Terrace, Looking South, c. 1976.



Phoebe Waterman Haas Public Observatory.

NASM East End Programmatic Agreement

Stipulation 2.B. Bezos Learning Center Design Framework

Consider the following in the design concepts for the BLC:

- i. Respect the formal setting of the National Mall and neighboring museums
- ii. Respond to NASM's architecture and massing with an addition that maintains the form and integrity of the NASM and environment
- iii. Consider the physical connection to the NASM and exterior materials
- iv. Respect contributing vistas of the National Mall Historic District and the building line established by the Plan of the City of Washington



NASM looking east towards Capitol, HABS, 2017.



NASM east terrace from the 4th Street sidewalk, HABS, 2017.

National Mall Historic District



NASM and East Terrace Under Construction, April 30, 1974.



President Ford, NASM Director Michael Collins, and Secretary Ripley at the NASM Opening, 1976.



NASM North Elevation, 1976.

National Mall Historic District – National Register of Historic Places

- Criterion A – Period of Significance 1791 to Present
- Criteria C and D – Period of Significance 1791-1965
- NASM is a contributing element to the National Mall Historic District
- Resource list in the nomination places NASM's significant dates as 1972-1976

National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion A: Properties that are associated or linked to events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of American history.

- Period of Significance for Criterion A is 1791 to the Present.
- NASM contributes to the National Mall's historic significance under Criterion A.



Inauguration of President Obama, 2009.



Women's March, January 2017.

- National Mall is significant as the nation's symbolic core and public gathering space
- Ongoing location for national celebrations and expressions of constitutional rights
- Rooflines and monumental building masses form the backdrop for the Mall's associations with Criterion A

National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion A: Properties that are associated or linked to events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of American history.



Inauguration of President Obama, 2009.

- National Mall ongoing importance as a public gathering space justifies the continuation of the period of significance to the present
- Location is ongoing site for national celebrations and expressions of constitutional rights
- Significant as the site of continuing recreation in the form of museum and memorial visitation.
- Smithsonian buildings and other Federal buildings form the north-south boundaries of the main gathering space of the National Mall
- Buildings at grade obscured by the four rows of American elm trees that flank the central green space of the National Mall
- NASM originally had a direct visual connection to the Capitol until the construction of the National Museum of the American Indian in 2004

National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

- Period of Significance for Criterion C is 1791 to 1965.
- NASM does **not** contribute to the National Mall's historic significance under Criterion C.



National Mall Historic District

Contributing Views and Visual Relationships



- Reciprocal view east-west between the Washington Monument to the Capitol
- North-south vista along 4th Street
- North-south vista along 6th Street, between NASM and the National Gallery West Building
- North-south vista along 8th Street, toward the National Archives
- North-south vista along 10th Street, between National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Building
- Visual relationships include views to the elms and the buildings along the Mall from the pedestrian walks and central grass panels

Questions and Comments

Moderator

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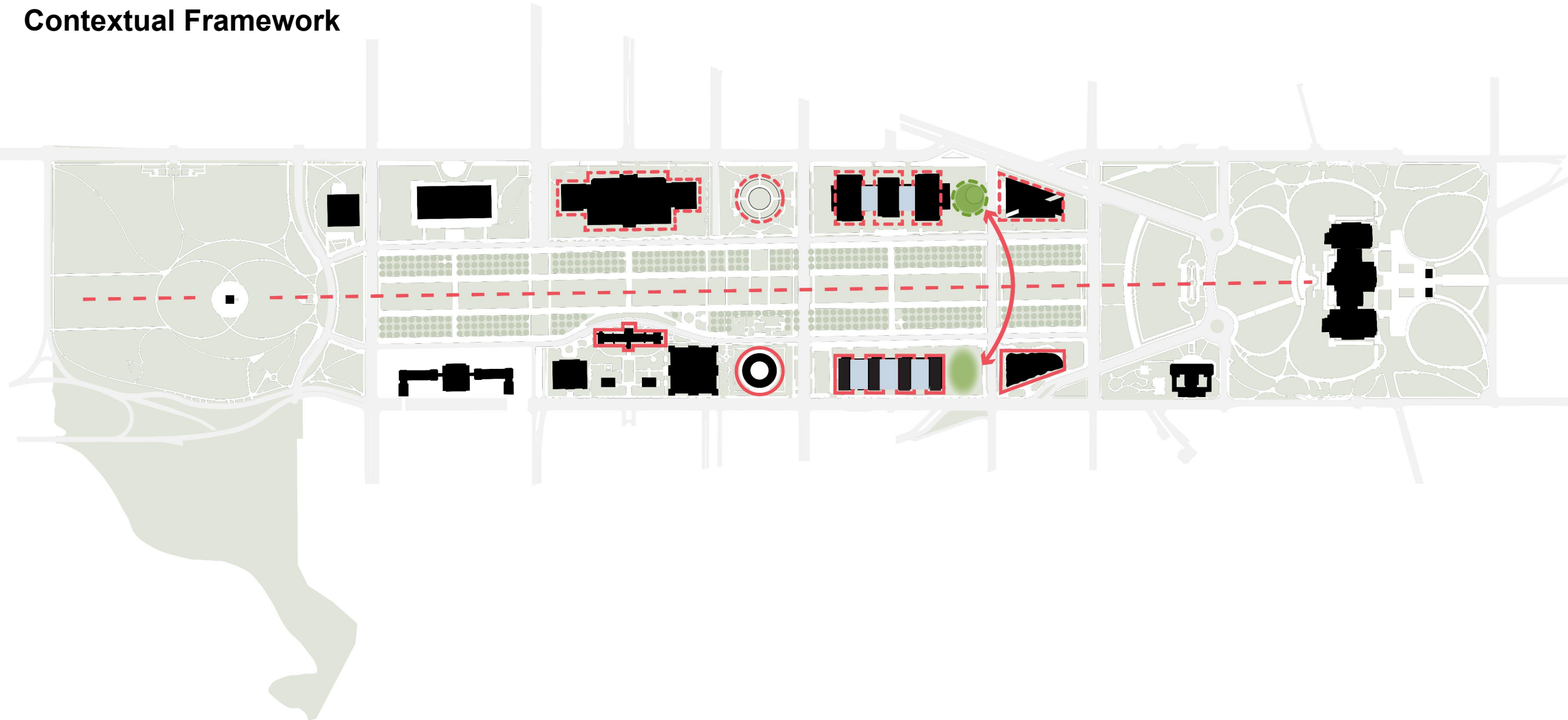
Zena



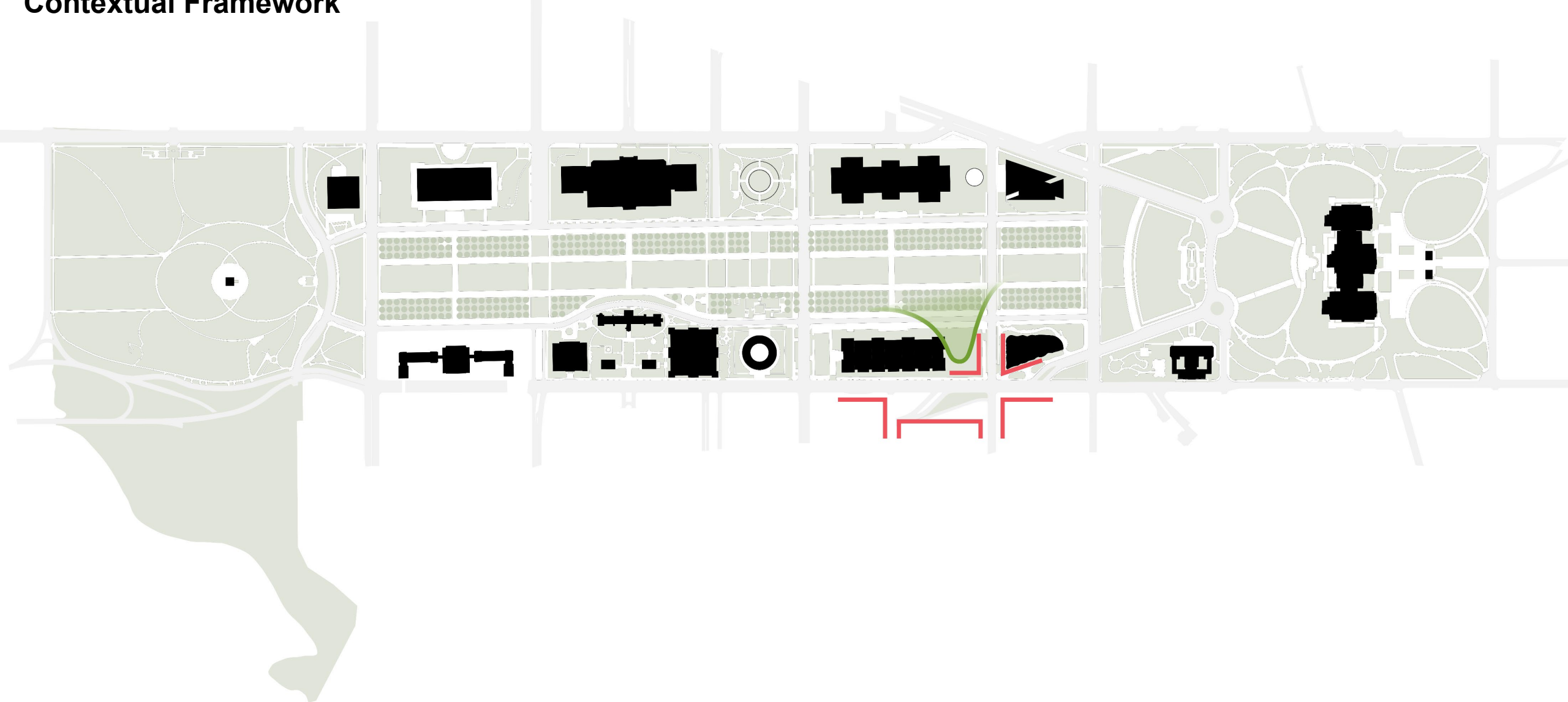
Contextual Framework

Pattern - Reflection

Contextual Framework

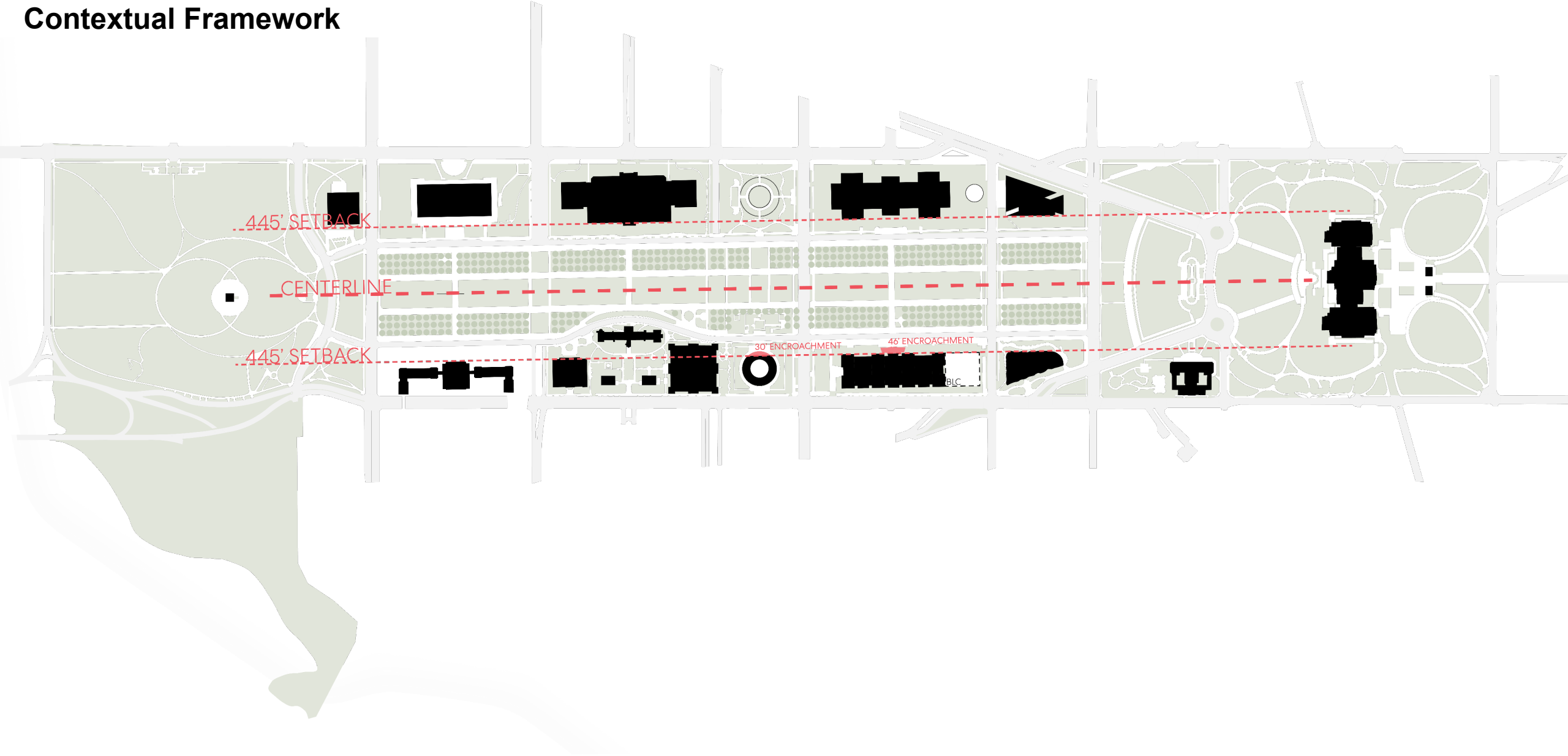


Urban Edge and Green Space Contextual Framework



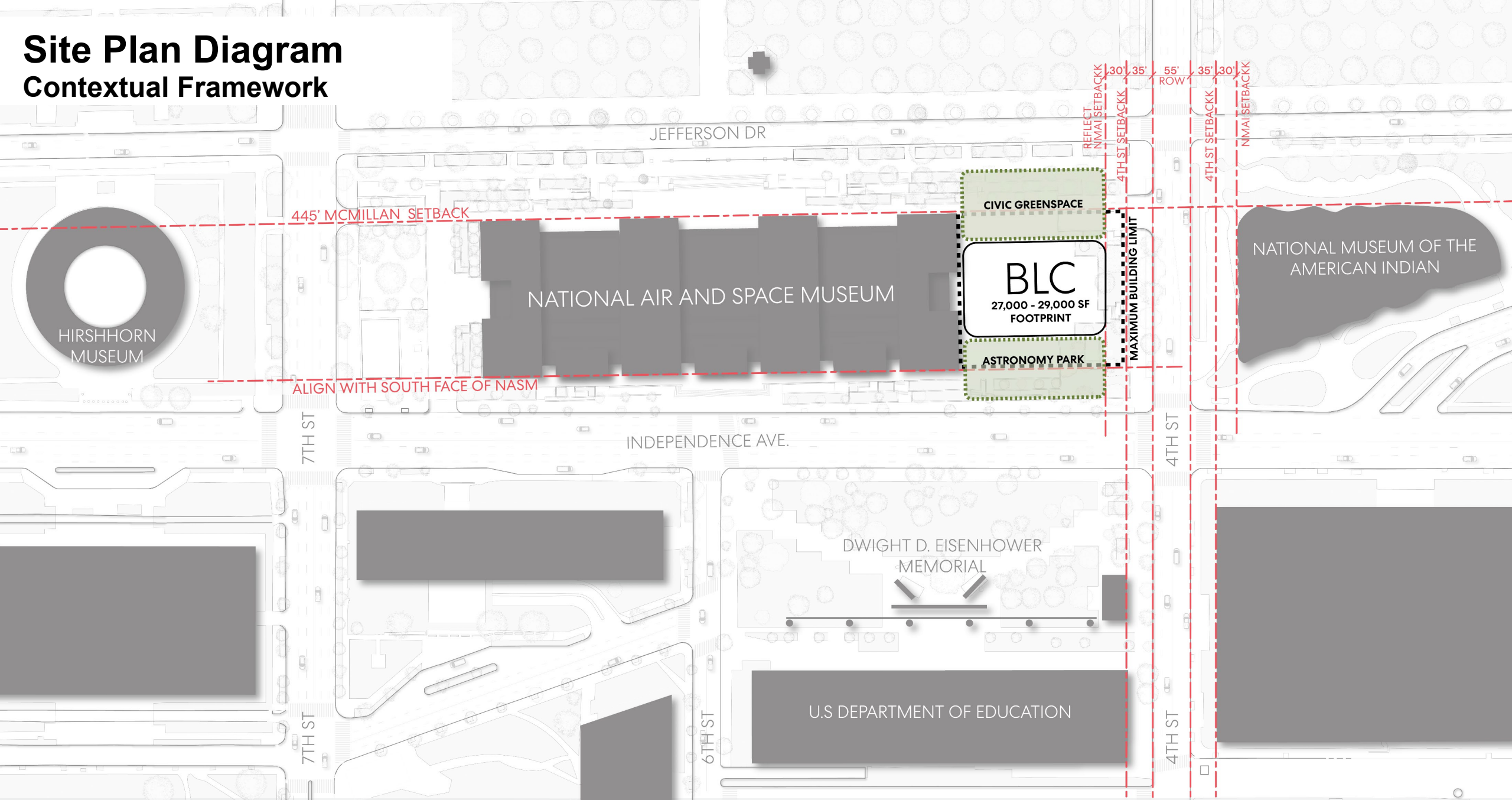
McMillan Line

Contextual Framework



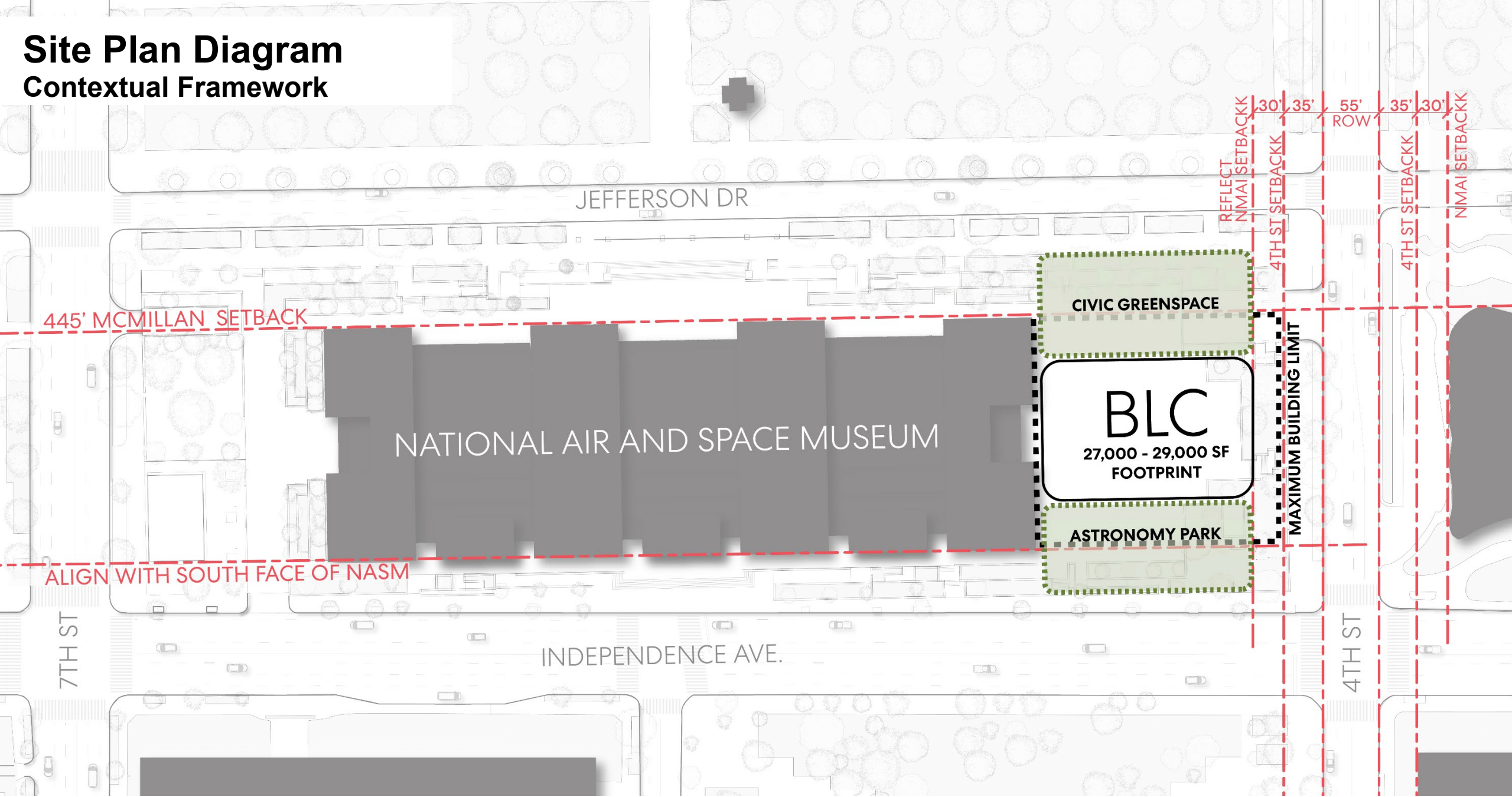
Site Plan Diagram

Contextual Framework



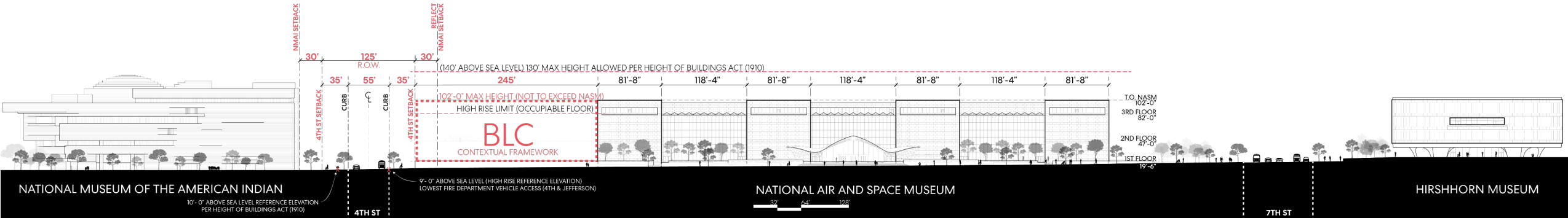
Site Plan Diagram

Contextual Framework



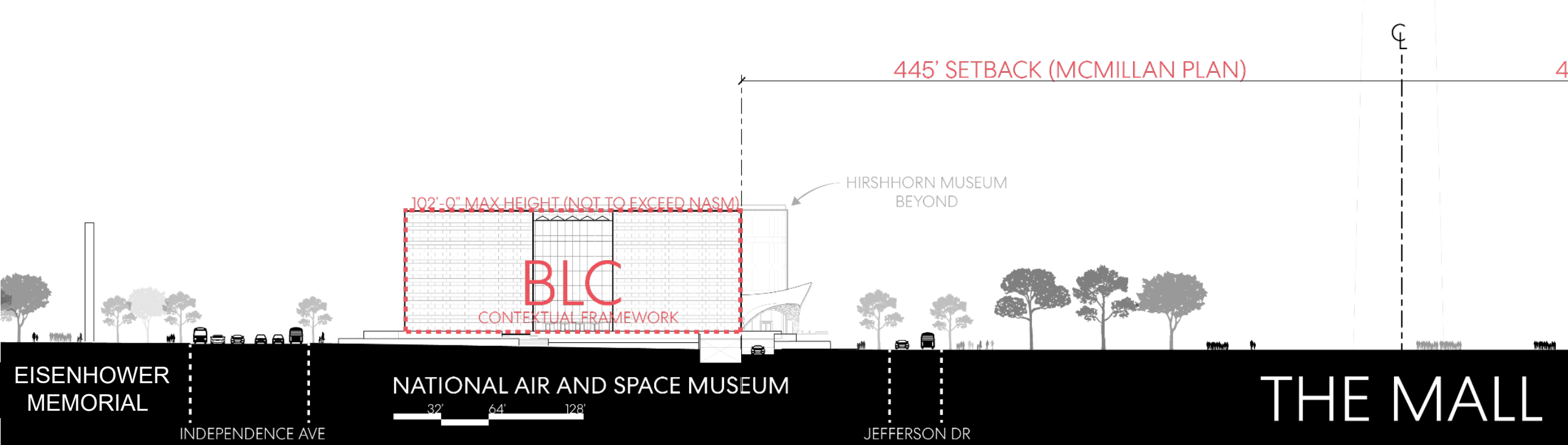
North Elevation Contextual Framework

- **Maximum Height** is *not to exceed* the top of the National Air and Space Museum (*NASM*)
- **East Face** is *not to exceed* the 4th Street Corridor Setback
- **East Face** is *targeted* to reflect the additional **30' Setback** set forth by the National Museum of the American Indian

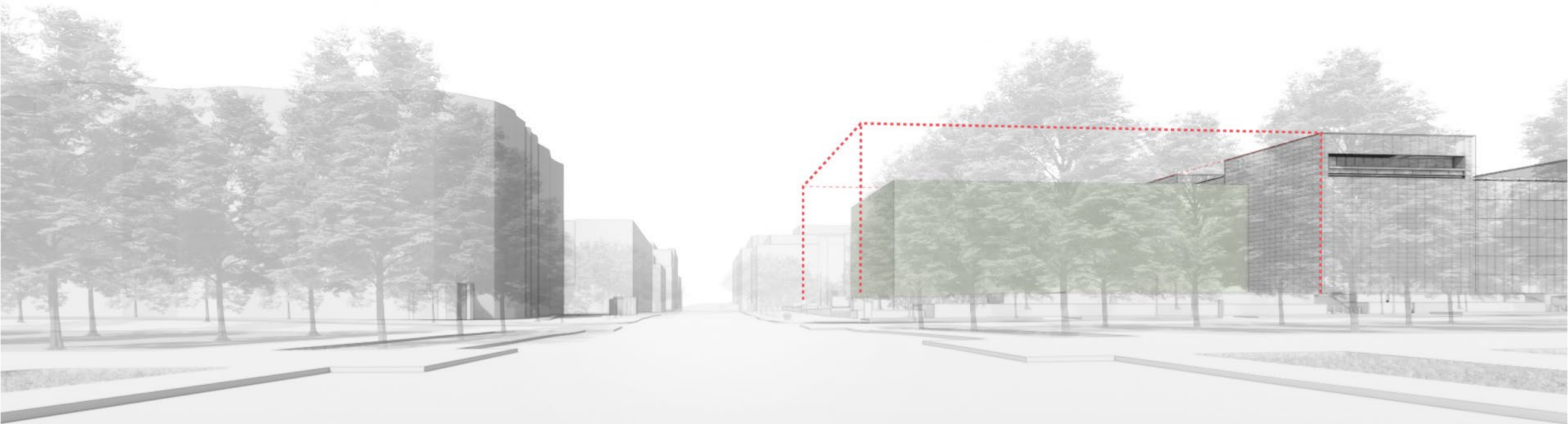
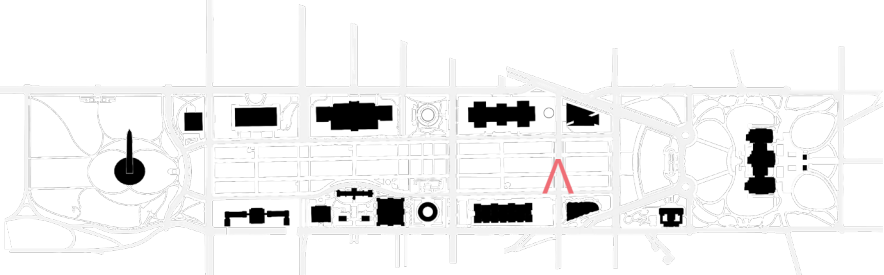


East Elevation Contextual Framework

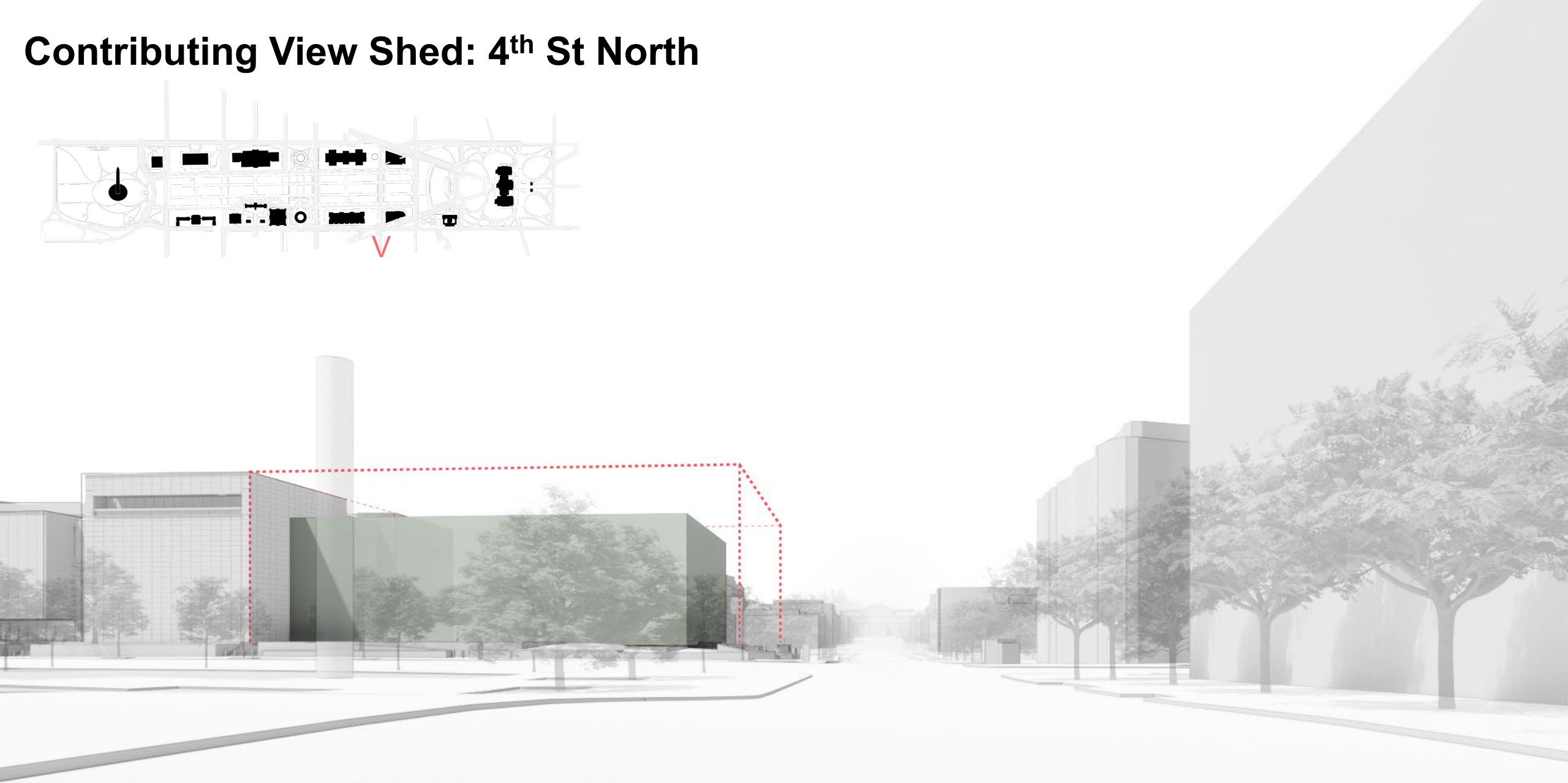
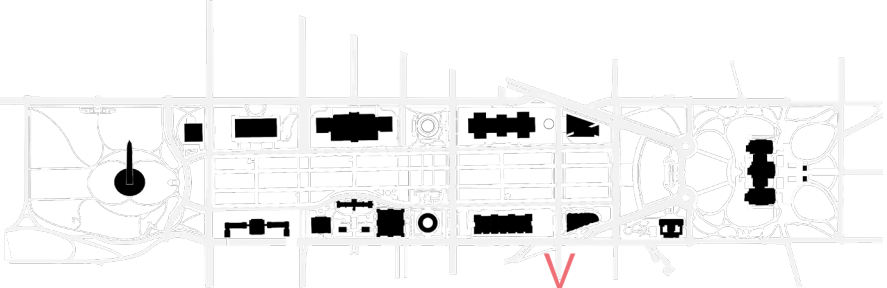
- **Maximum Height** is *not to exceed* the top of the National Air and Space Museum (*NASM*)
- **North Face** is *not to exceed* the **445' Setback** set forth by the McMillan Plan
- **South Face** is *not to exceed* the South Face of *NASM*



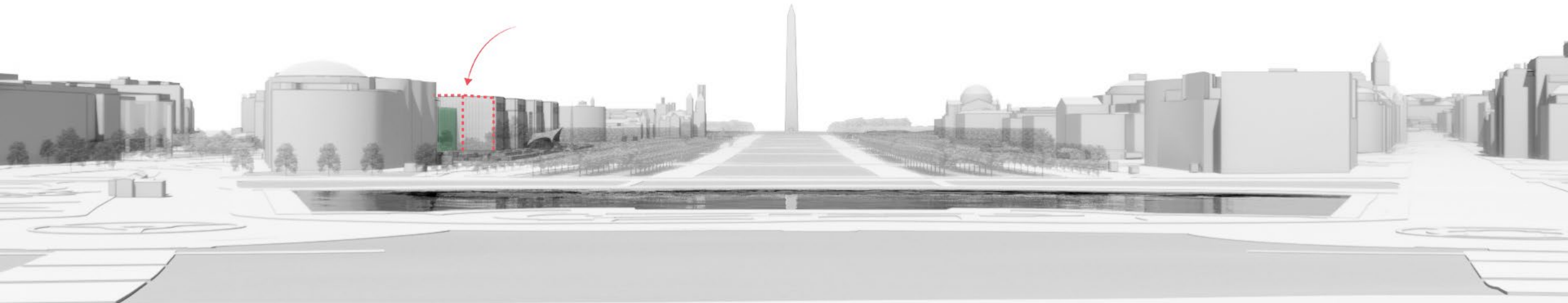
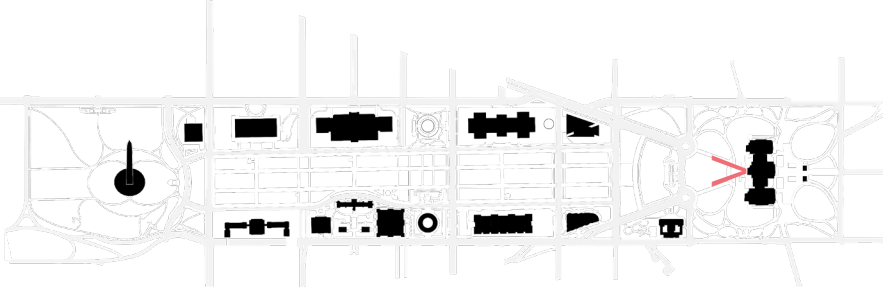
Contributing View Shed: 4th St South



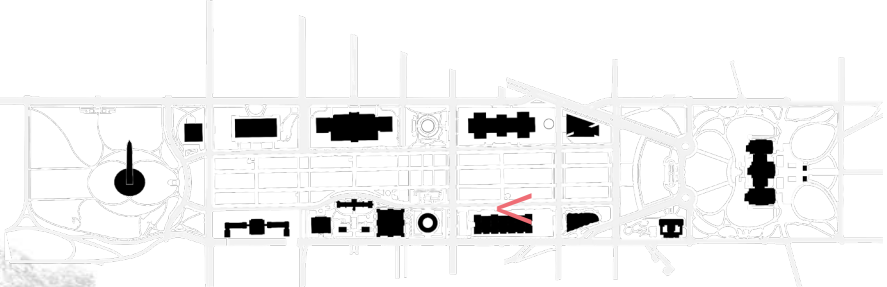
Contributing View Shed: 4th St North



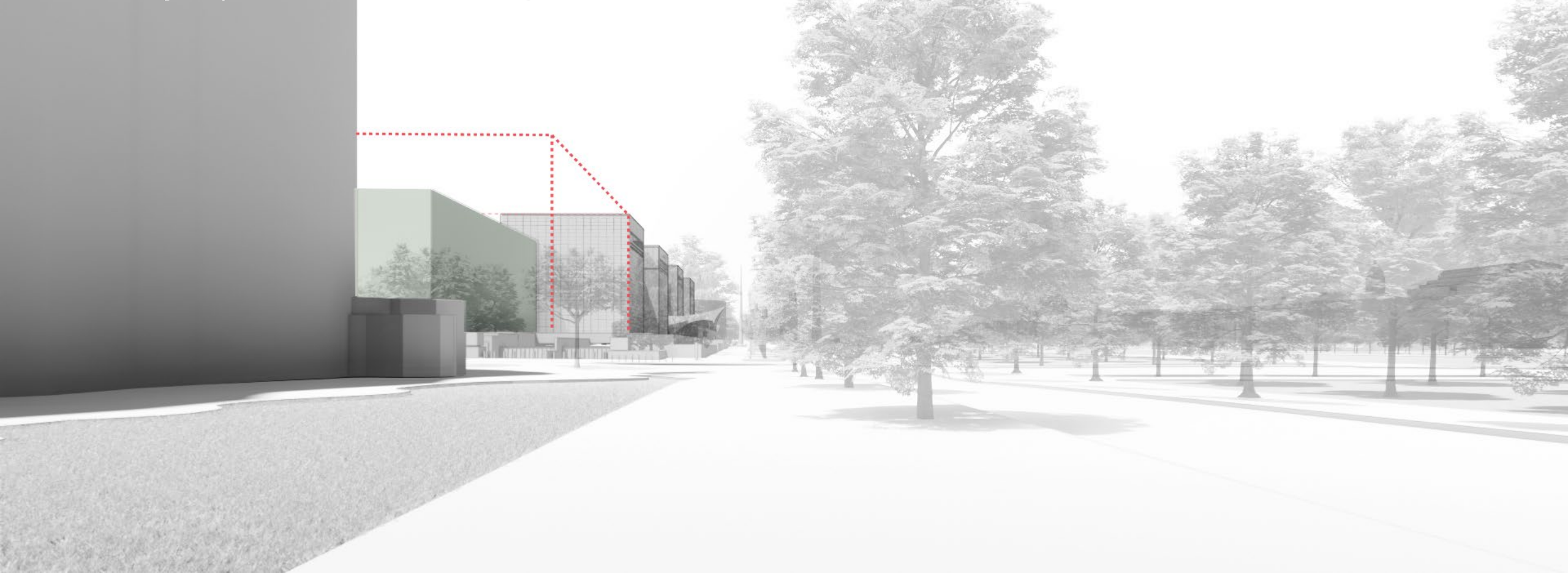
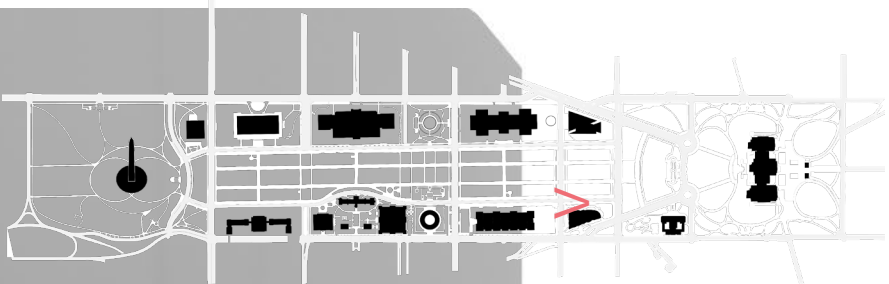
Contributing View Shed: Capitol Steps



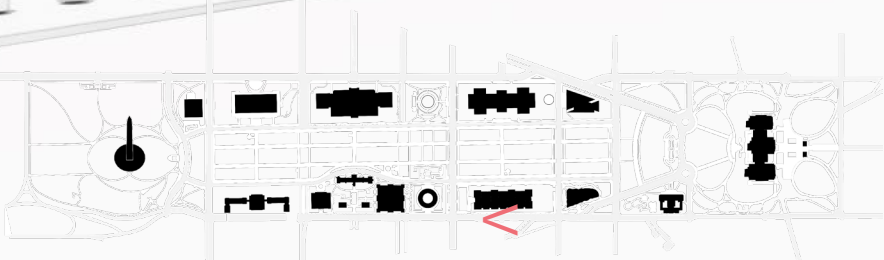
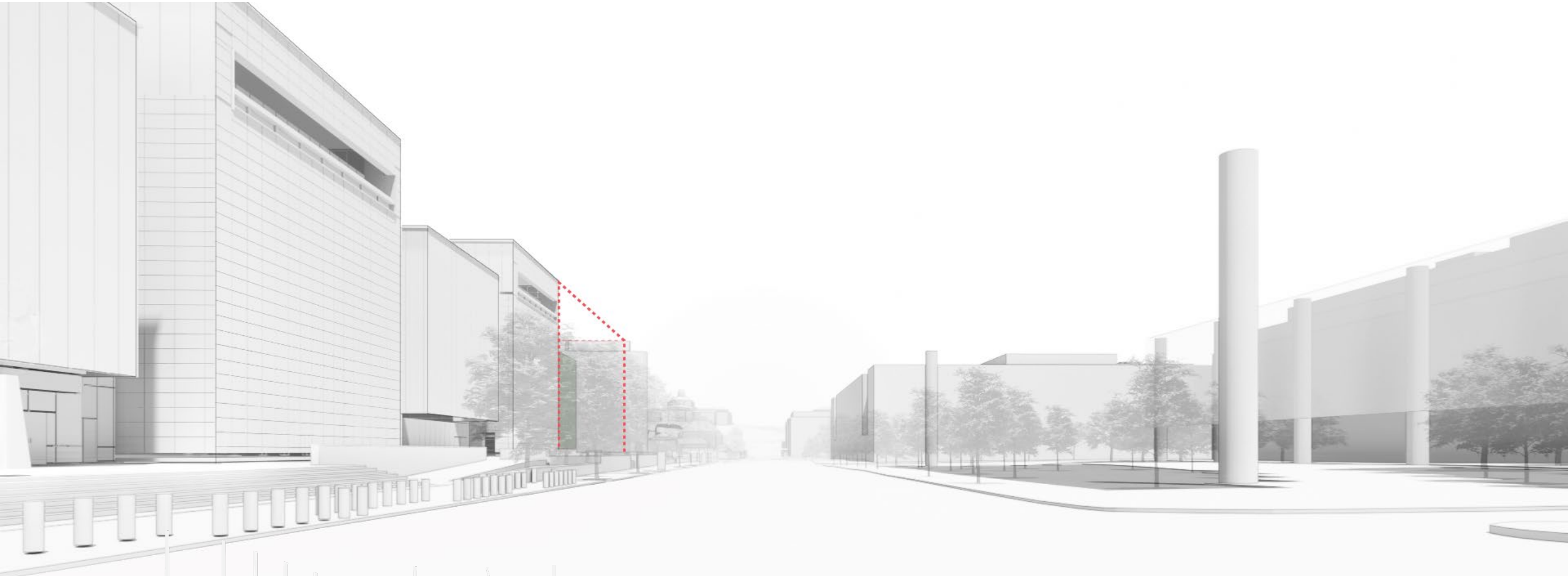
Contributing View Shed: Jefferson Dr East



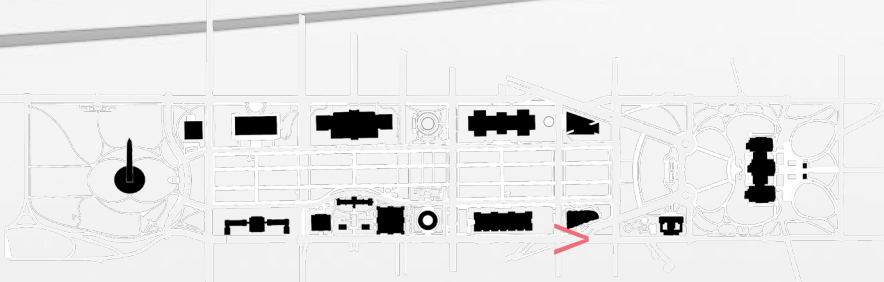
Contributing View Shed: Jefferson Dr West



View Shed: Independence Ave East

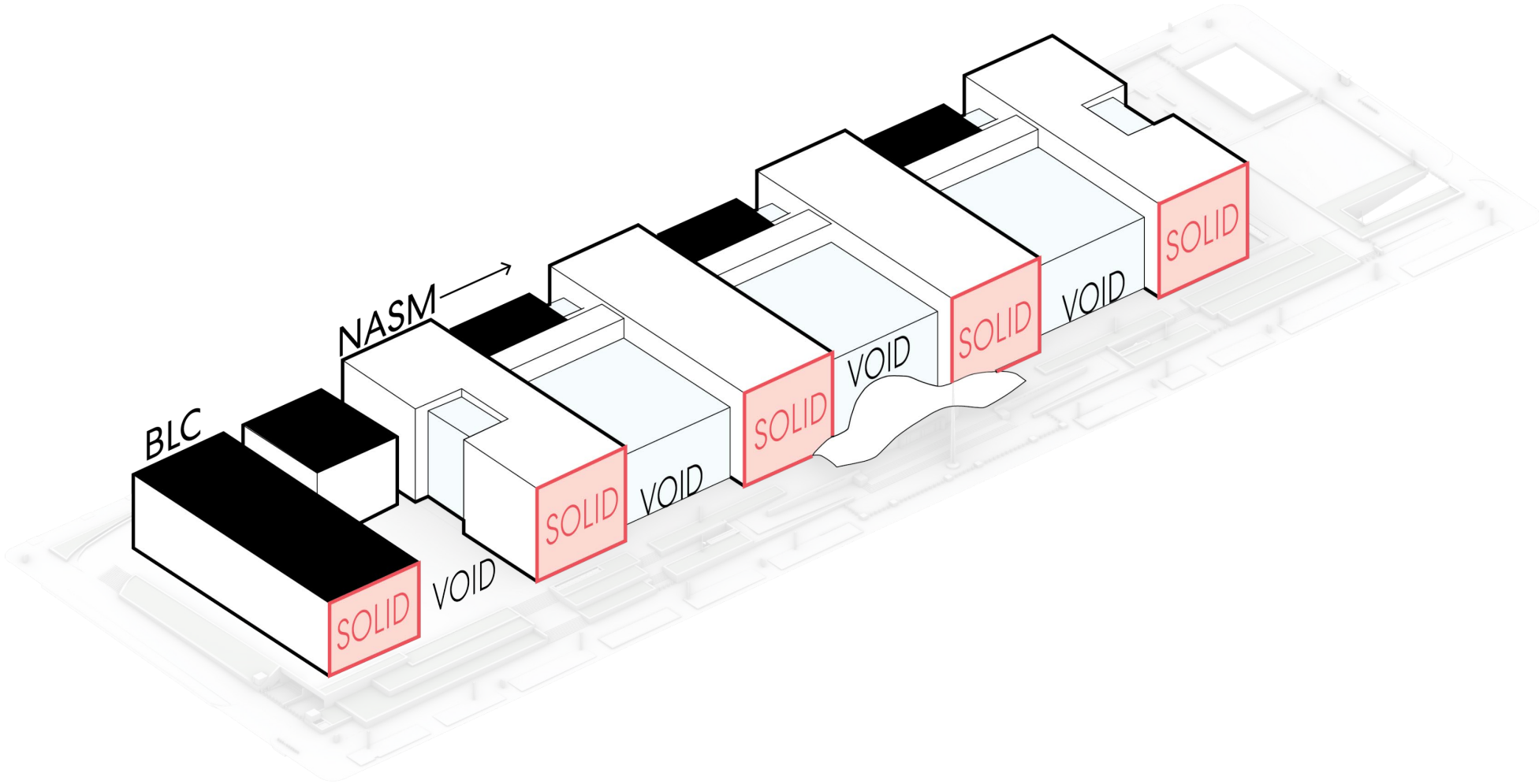


View Shed: Independence Ave West



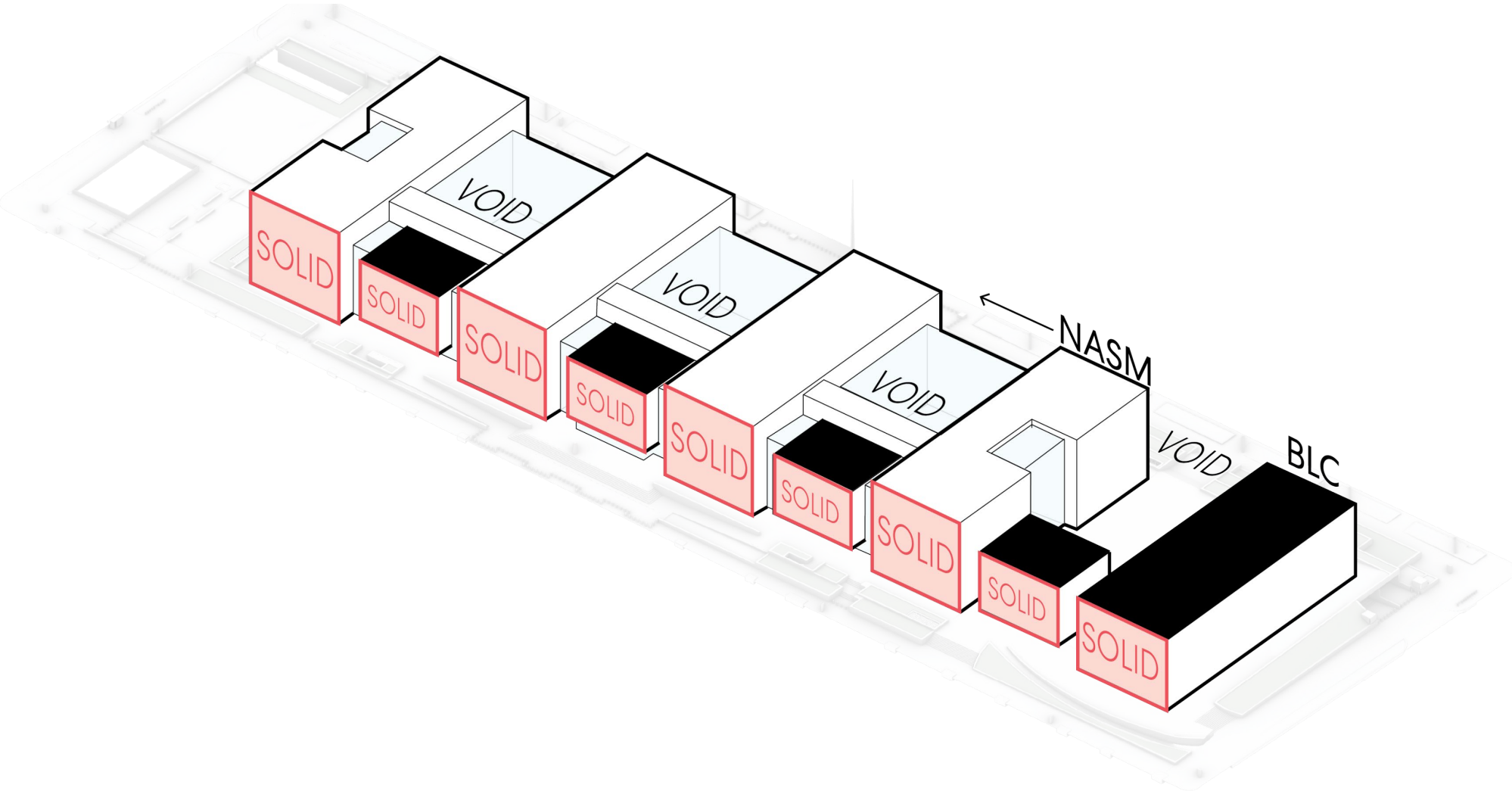
Solid Void Rhythm

NE Axon



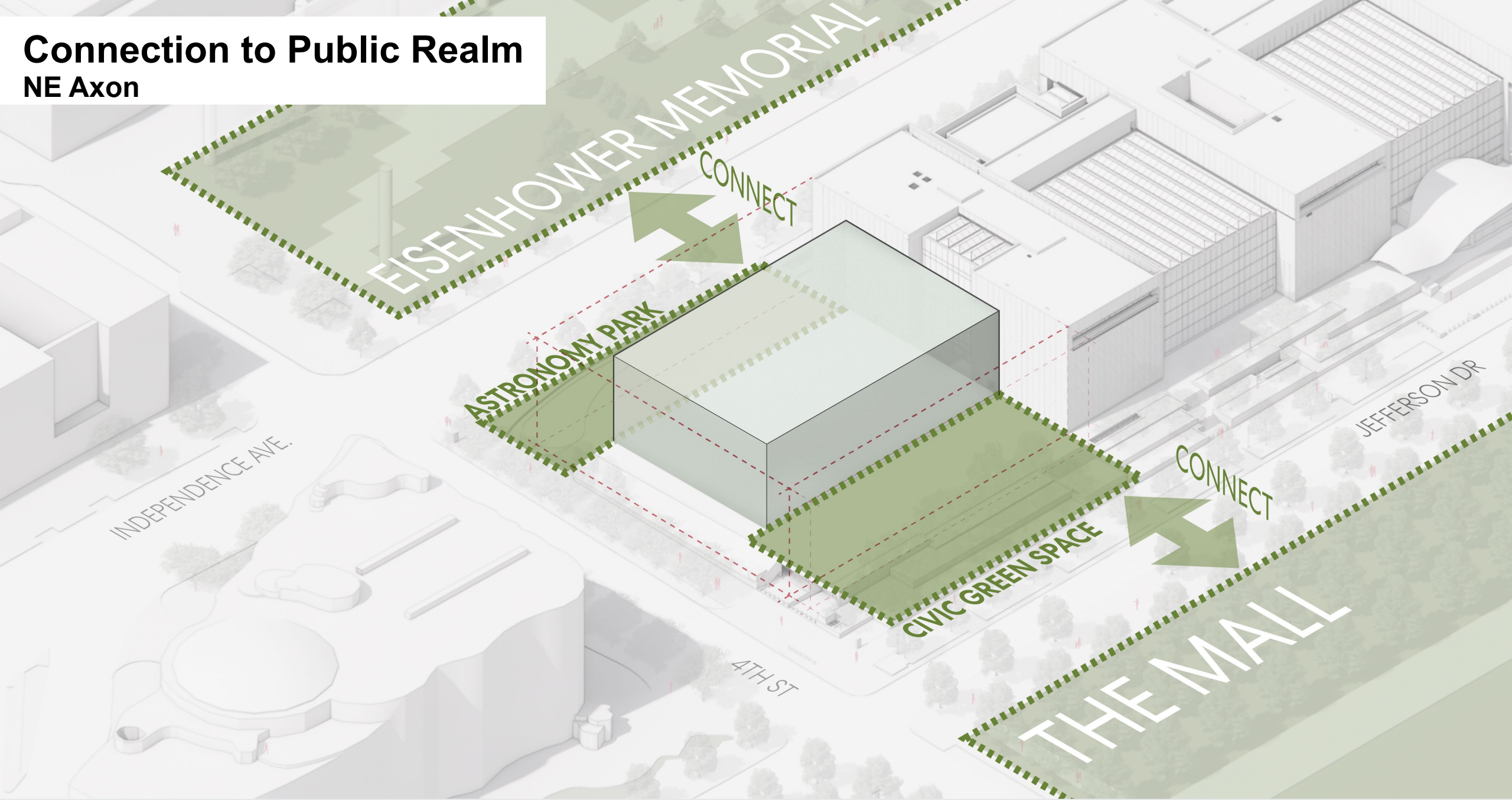
Solid Void Rhythm

SE Axon

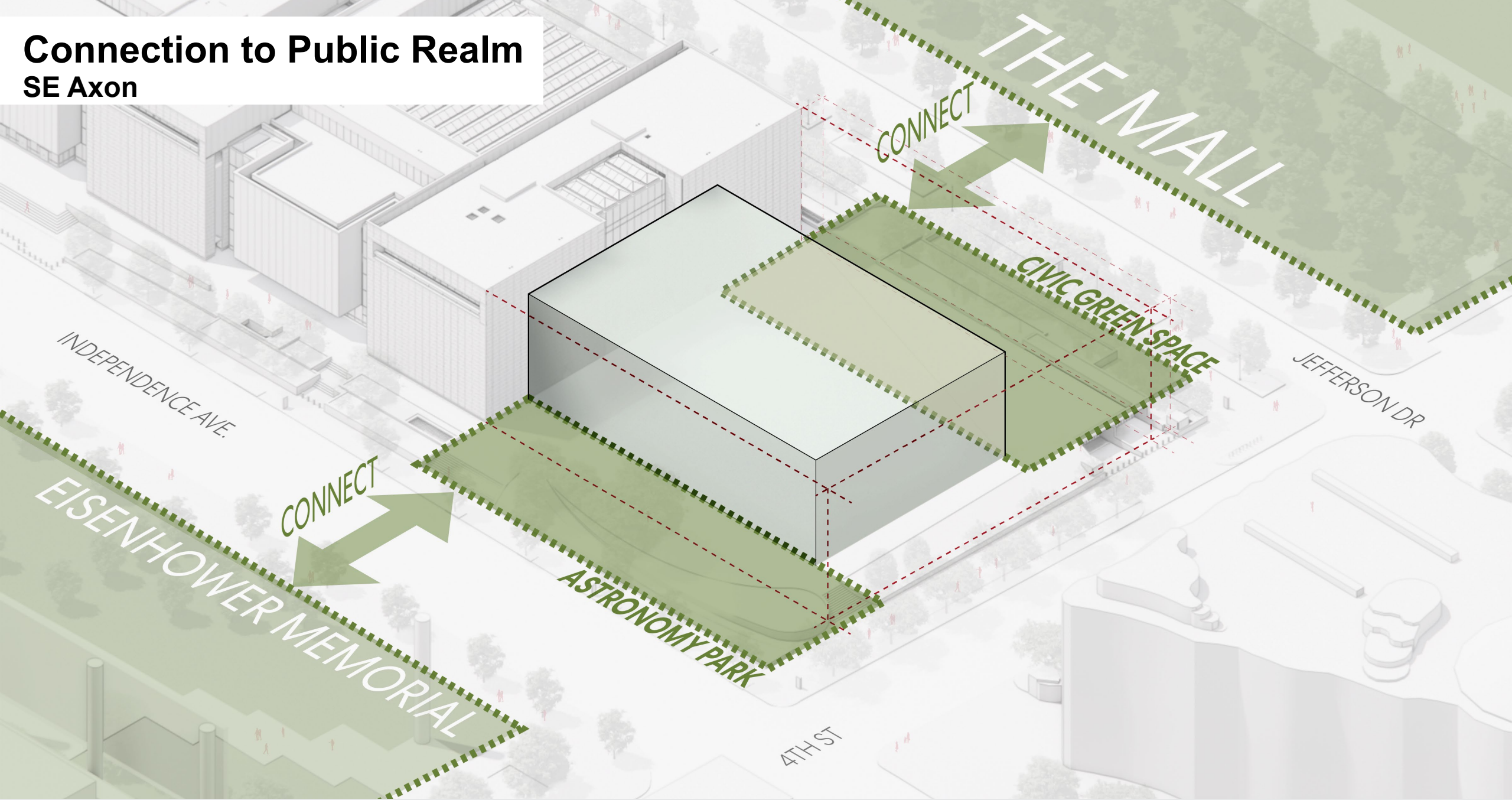


Connection to Public Realm

NE Axon

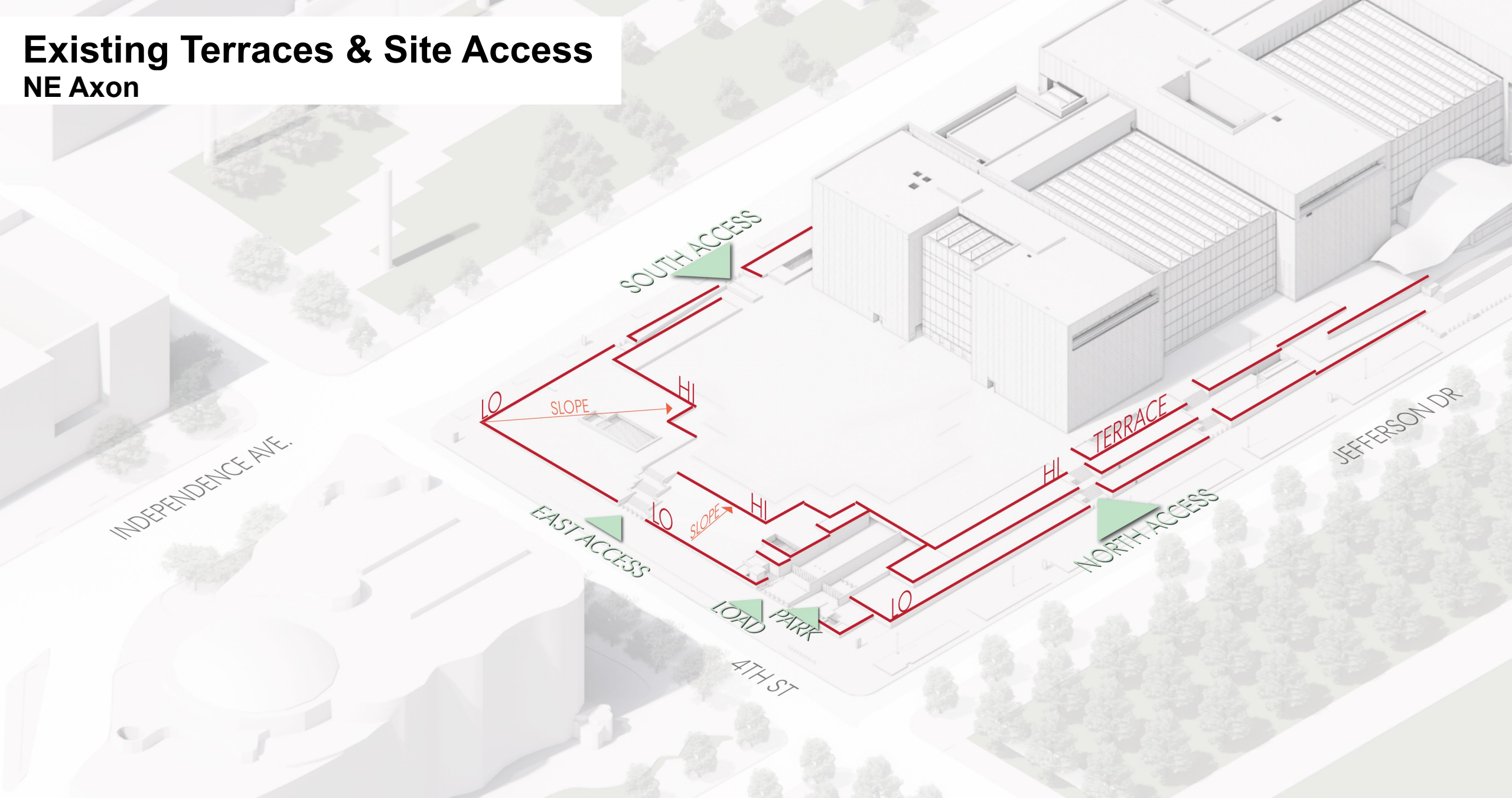


Connection to Public Realm SE Axon



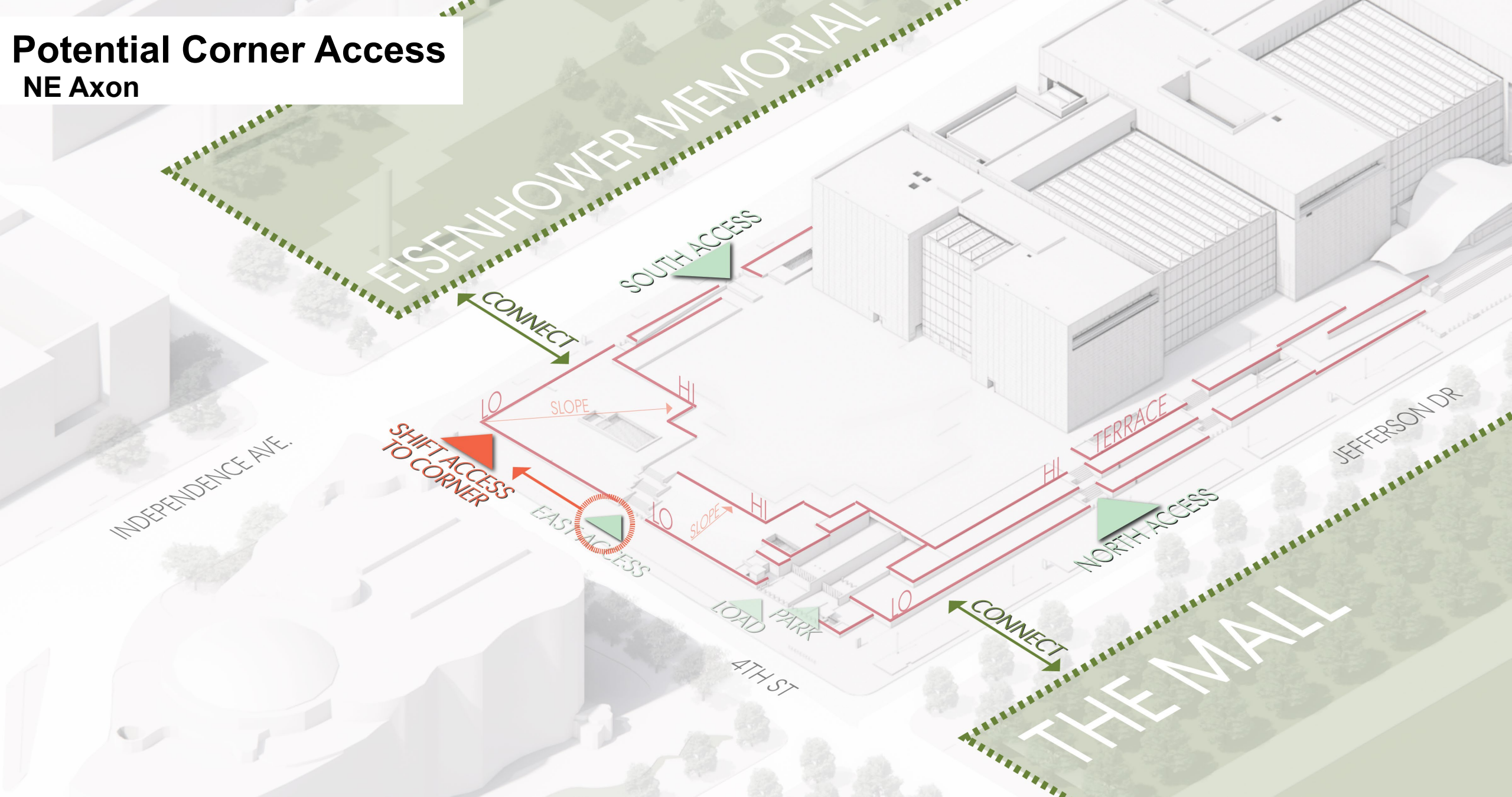
Existing Terraces & Site Access

NE Axon



Potential Corner Access

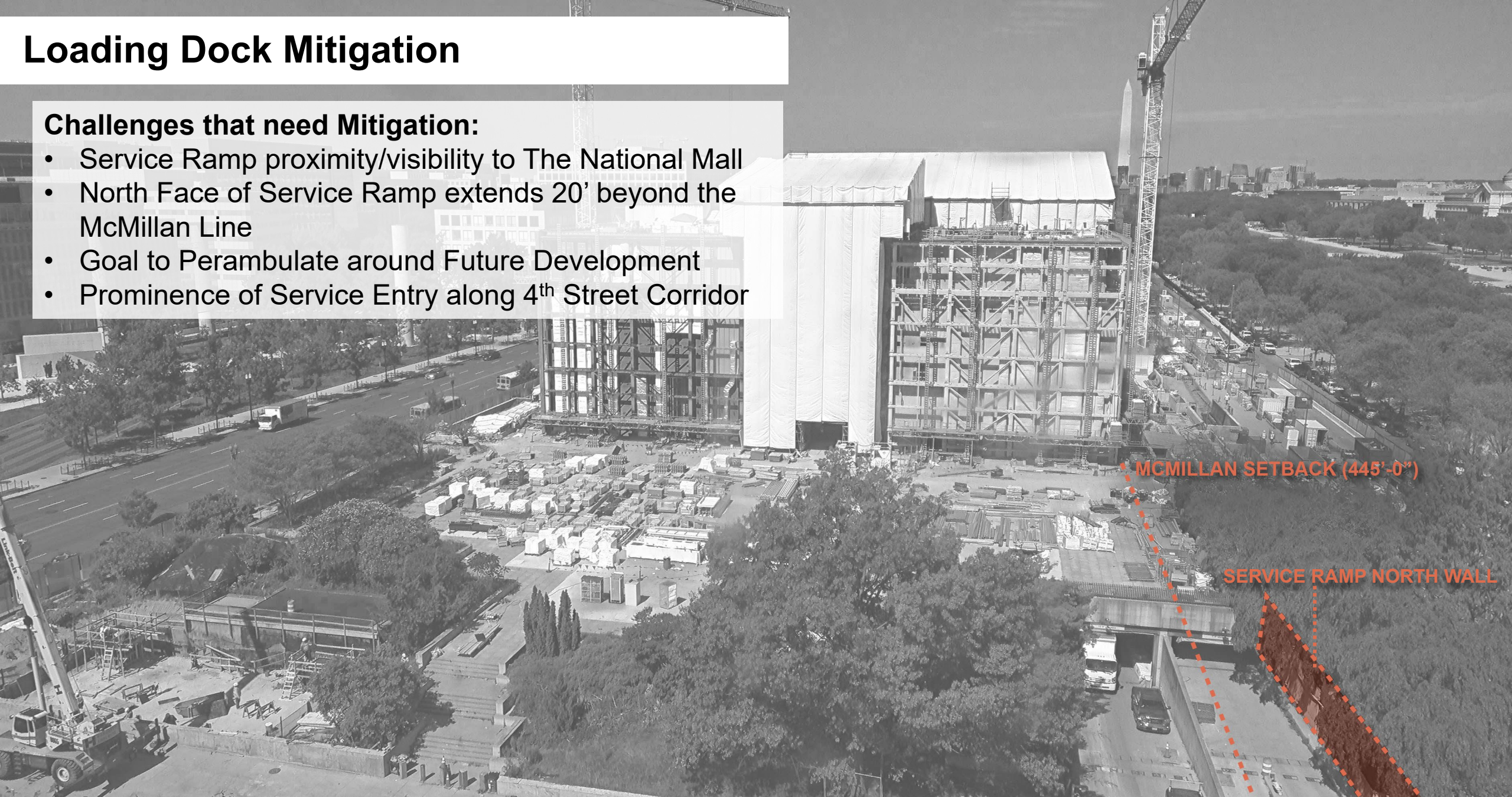
NE Axon



Loading Dock Mitigation

Challenges that need Mitigation:

- Service Ramp proximity/visibility to The National Mall
- North Face of Service Ramp extends 20' beyond the McMillan Line
- Goal to Perambulate around Future Development
- Prominence of Service Entry along 4th Street Corridor



Loading Dock Mitigation

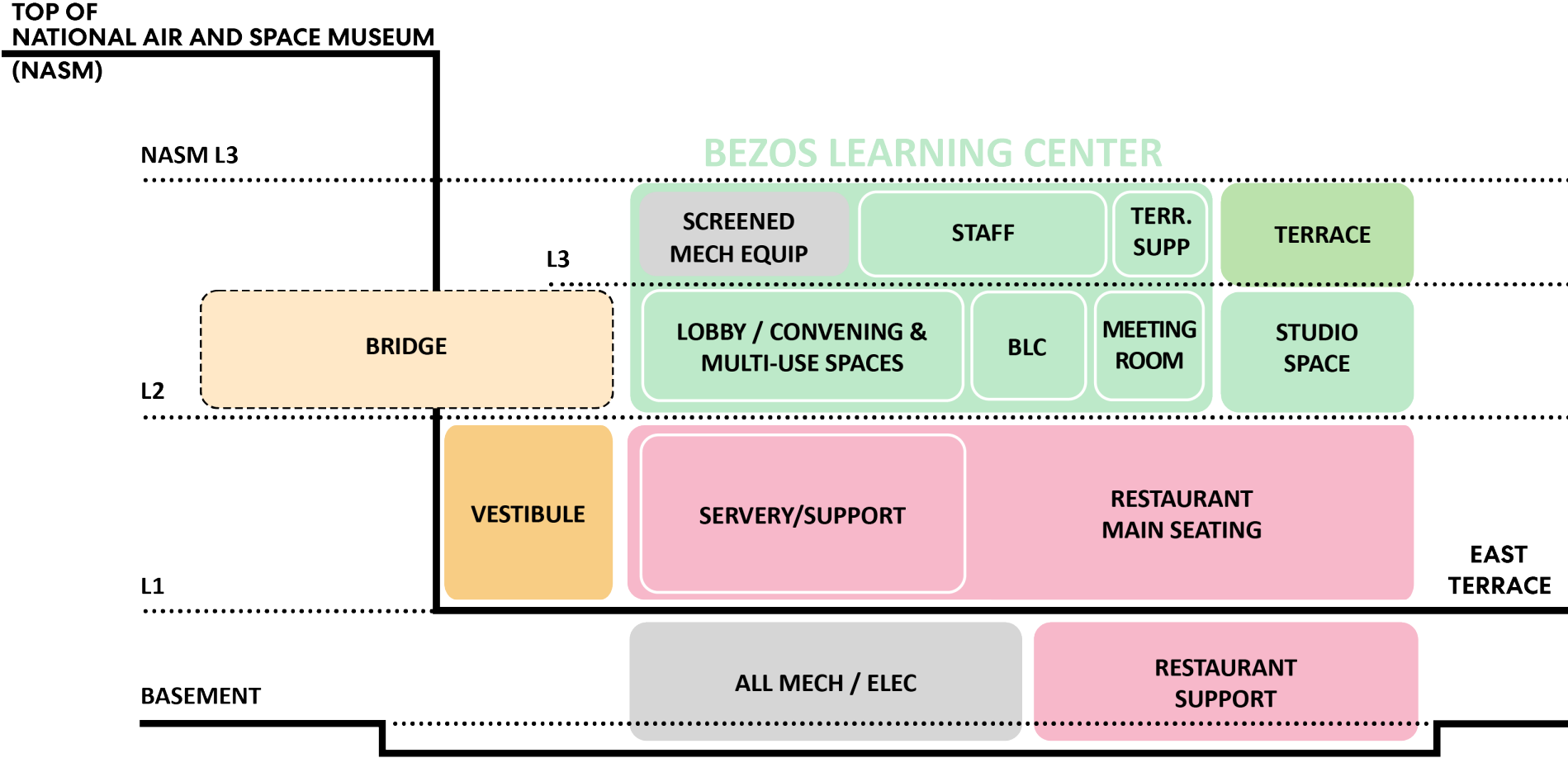
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Program Diagram

Stacking Diagram





Next Steps

Section 106 and Project Schedule

Date	Milestone	Notes
August 9, 2023	Consulting Parties Meeting #1	Project introduction Initiate Section 106 consultation
October 2023	Consulting Parties Meeting #2	NEPA Scoping Tour the NASM site – Consider visibility of the east terrace Review Concept design alternatives
February 2024	Consulting Parties Meeting #3	Review Schematic Design
February 2024-2025	N/A	Section 106 consultation and NEPA analysis ongoing
Winter 2025	Final Design Submissions	N/A

- Parties will receive a minimum 30-day email notice of a public meeting
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to assess environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions
- Section 106 consultation and NEPA process will run concurrently

Next Steps

Please visit the project webpage:

<https://airandspace.si.edu/about-transformation/bezos-learning-center/106>

Today's presentation material and meeting recording will be available on the project webpage by August 11, 2023.

Please submit written comments on today's presentation to preservation@si.edu by September 8, 2023.



Moderator

Carly Bond, Acting Associate Director, Historic Preservation, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

Panelists

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**Construct Integrated
Bezos Learning Center**



Thank you!

 **Smithsonian** **Perkins&Will**