

# Southpoint Park Conceptual Plans

Prepared for:  
The Trust for  
Public Land

Prepared by:  
Mark K. Morrison  
Associates, LTD  
Landscape Architects

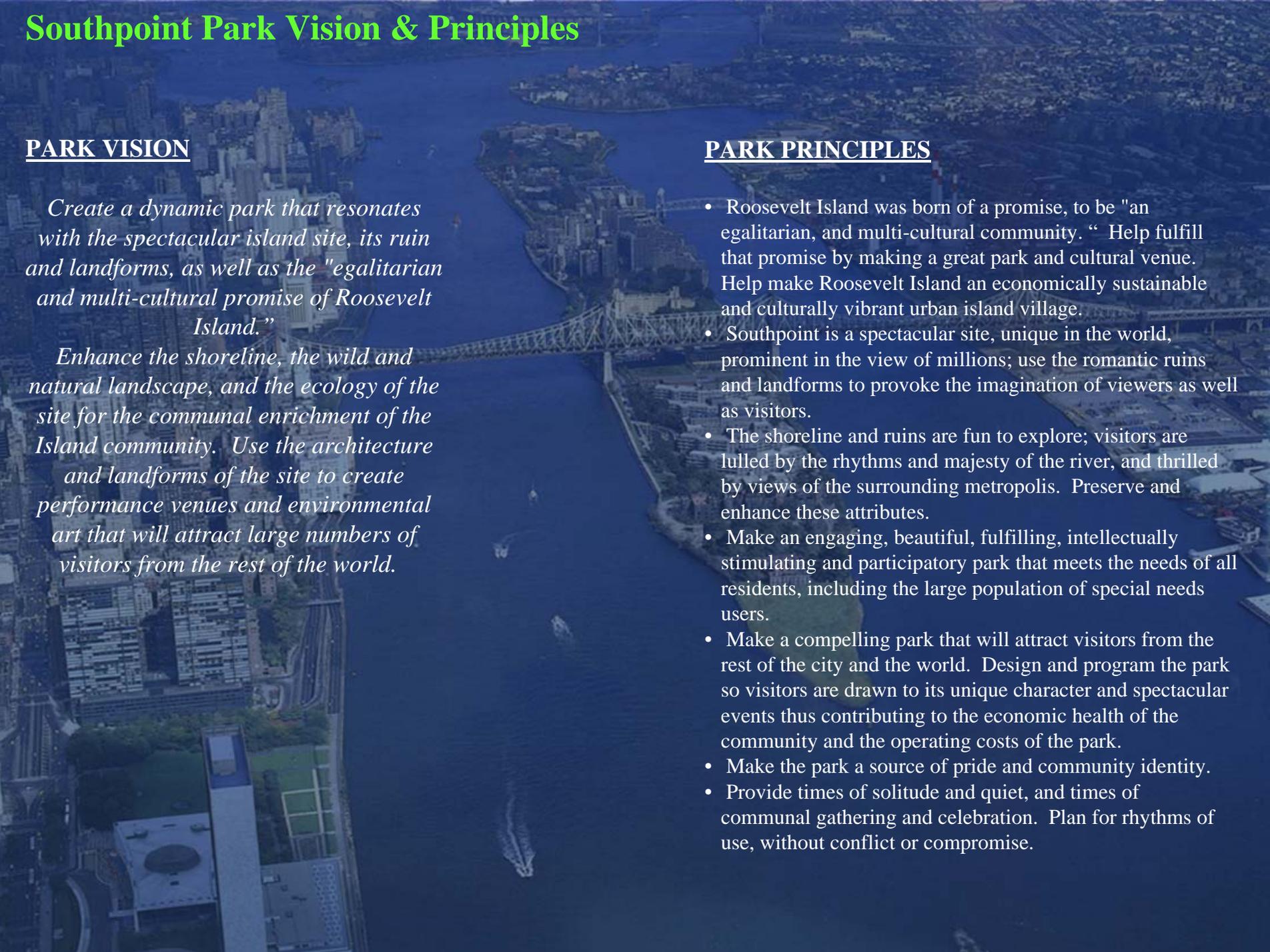
William A. Hall  
Partnership  
Architects

Charles McKinney  
Project Director

Roosevelt Island, New York



# Southpoint Park Vision & Principles



## PARK VISION

*Create a dynamic park that resonates with the spectacular island site, its ruin and landforms, as well as the "egalitarian and multi-cultural promise of Roosevelt Island."*

*Enhance the shoreline, the wild and natural landscape, and the ecology of the site for the communal enrichment of the Island community. Use the architecture and landforms of the site to create performance venues and environmental art that will attract large numbers of visitors from the rest of the world.*

## PARK PRINCIPLES

- Roosevelt Island was born of a promise, to be "an egalitarian, and multi-cultural community." Help fulfill that promise by making a great park and cultural venue. Help make Roosevelt Island an economically sustainable and culturally vibrant urban island village.
- Southpoint is a spectacular site, unique in the world, prominent in the view of millions; use the romantic ruins and landforms to provoke the imagination of viewers as well as visitors.
- The shoreline and ruins are fun to explore; visitors are lulled by the rhythms and majesty of the river, and thrilled by views of the surrounding metropolis. Preserve and enhance these attributes.
- Make an engaging, beautiful, fulfilling, intellectually stimulating and participatory park that meets the needs of all residents, including the large population of special needs users.
- Make a compelling park that will attract visitors from the rest of the city and the world. Design and program the park so visitors are drawn to its unique character and spectacular events thus contributing to the economic health of the community and the operating costs of the park.
- Make the park a source of pride and community identity.
- Provide times of solitude and quiet, and times of communal gathering and celebration. Plan for rhythms of use, without conflict or compromise.

# Southpoint Park Uses

Prepared by Charles McKinney  
July 8, 2004, revised July 11, July 22

This list of uses was developed from community interviews. It was prioritized and revised by the advisory council. Elements marked “test,” were both supported and opposed by the council, they will be included for evaluation.

## EVENT SPACE

- City scale performance / spectacle space (like watching the fireworks)
- Small scale gathering / performance space
- Uses that attract the rest of the city
- Space for community oriented gatherings such as small fairs

## UNIQUE EXPERIENCES OFFERED BY THE SITE

- Ruin access and reuse, garden, major building, landscape feature, performance venue
- Shoreline access, habitat, fishing
- Sitting low on the point, in a natural setting
- Sitting high for panoramic views

### test

- Roosevelt Memorial

## RUINS

- Make the most of the romantic ruin. Look at the cathedral in Bristol England where the walls were restored and a garden was established inside. Allow access to the interior.
- It is as appealing as the acropolis. Make it safe and stop the deterioration.
- Restore the ruins. Use them to enclose a restaurant or museum

### test

- Stabilize the ruins as a landscape element without access.
- Use the ruins for a high profile performance venue (like a magician’s theater)
- Use the ruins for a “Center for World Peace.”
- Fully restore the ruins for occupancy by a public use.

## RIVER ACCESS

- Platform or access to the water for study
- Access to the shoreline
- Pier with seats, sunbathing
- Private boat docking
- Kayak storage and launch
- Fishing
- Ferry route that connects to art attractions in Queens, and Manhattan tourist spots and destinations including the U.N.

### test

- Boathouse for storage and construction, with provision for handicapped use

## LANDSCAPE

- Scenic, beautiful landscape environment
- Gardens, greenery, flowers, wilder at the edges more formal places along the paths
- Areas of native plants
- Nature walks
- A garden like the Shakespeare garden, that attracts people
- Places where people can garden themselves
- Landscape with strong character, habitat, botanical interest, didactic and participatory opportunities
- Artistic landscape experiences including wild and natural, with shady forest paths and native plants
- Opportunities for more formal plantings, botanical interest

### test

- Didactic gardens as features (international, butterfly)

## PASSIVE RECREATION

- Quiet places
- Places to sit, read, watch children play
- Picnic areas

### test

- Barbeque areas

# Southpoint Park Uses

## ACTIVE RECREATION

- Informal play areas dispersed through the park
- Recreational opportunities for people with a range of disabilities including physical and learning

## PARK AMENITIES

- Restaurant on the water, one that residents could afford to patronize
- A really good restaurant
- A pretty place you can reserve for a wedding or a party like the garden in Central park
- Cold drinks and light food
- Cafe
- Outside dining
- Comfort station

## test

- Store for souvenirs
- A great restaurant that would attract a lot of people
- A commercial entertainment venue
- Conference space
- Catering hall
- Remain open to uses dictated by the market
- Restaurant, international cuisine

## CULTURAL USES

- Museum of island history / historical display
- A museum type space that is versatile
- Concert area for patients, where patients could participate or perform

## UNIQUE AND IMPORTANT CONVENING SPACES

### test

- A “world stage” where other cultures are highlighted
- “We the Peoples Center,” an important gathering area for people from all over the world.

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Unique and thoughtful opportunities to learn about nature, culture, and science, prepared with a high degree of artistic effort and academic skill.
- Provide a learning environment “opportunities for science to happen,” an outdoor laboratory where children can study and learn.

### test

- Places where the elements / natural conditions / landscape can be used for community creation / interaction / teaching / manipulation.
- Visitor center / kiosk / with orientation / electronic archive / link / connection to operating authority / museum / tasty info bits about town

## FEATURES

- Go inside the “castle”
- Leave the “point” natural
- President Roosevelt was in a wheelchair and created great benefit for society: honor handicapped heroes as an inspiration for others like him
- Call attention to the diversity and heritage of the island

### test

- Artistic water display
- Spectacles, light displays

## ART

- A soft park that is dynamic, programmed with things that change, like art
- Well known performance artists
- Art integrated into the park environment

### test

- A signature element, something to anchor the park in the minds of the city. (The ruin?)
- Well known environmental artists
- Sculpture from around the world
- Art Promenade

## PERSONAL FULLFILLMENT

- Places for classes such as yoga and meditation

# Southpoint Park Conceptual Plans

**Concept 1: Visionary Landscapes**

**Concept 2: Wild Gardens / Green Rooms**

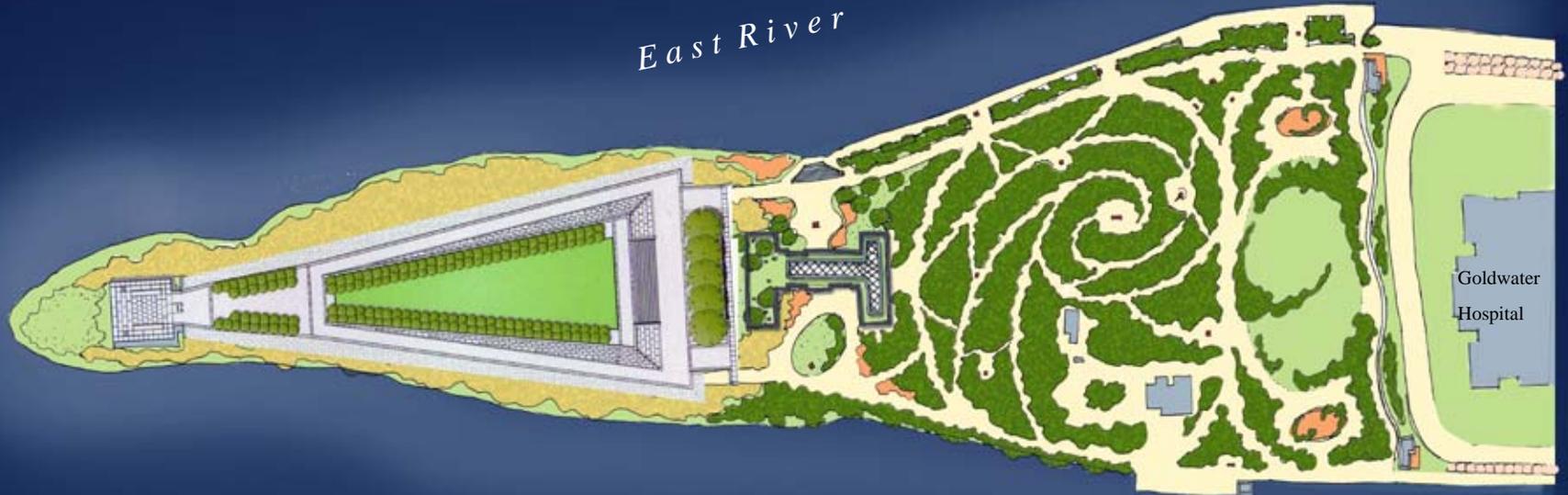
**Concept 3: Parc Ville**

Roosevelt Island, New York

# Visionary Landscapes

## Concept:

Contemporary Landscapes integrated with a dynamic art gallery, conference and dining facilities inside the Smallpox Ruins, Louis Kahn's FDR Memorial, and a woodland mount where walkways are intertwined with a series of artistic features. This concept focuses on the creation of a visionary new public park.



# Visionary Landscapes

## Concept:

Contemporary Landscapes integrated with a dynamic art gallery, conference and dining facilities inside the Smallpox Ruins, Louis Kahn's FDR Memorial, and a woodland mount where walkways are intertwined with a series of artistic features. This concept focuses on the creation of a visionary new public park.



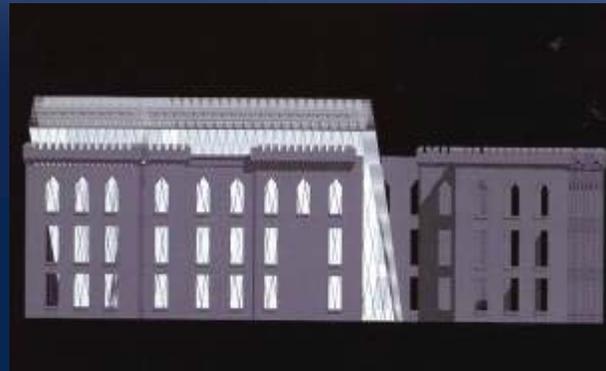
1. Visionary Park Entrance



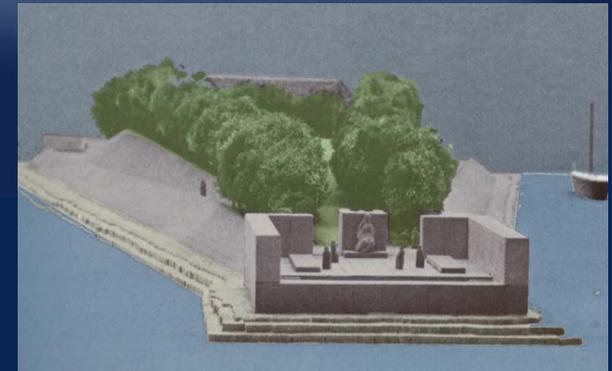
2. Art Esplanade



3. The Mount



4. Renovated Ruins



5. Louis Kahn FDR Memorial

# Visionary Landscapes



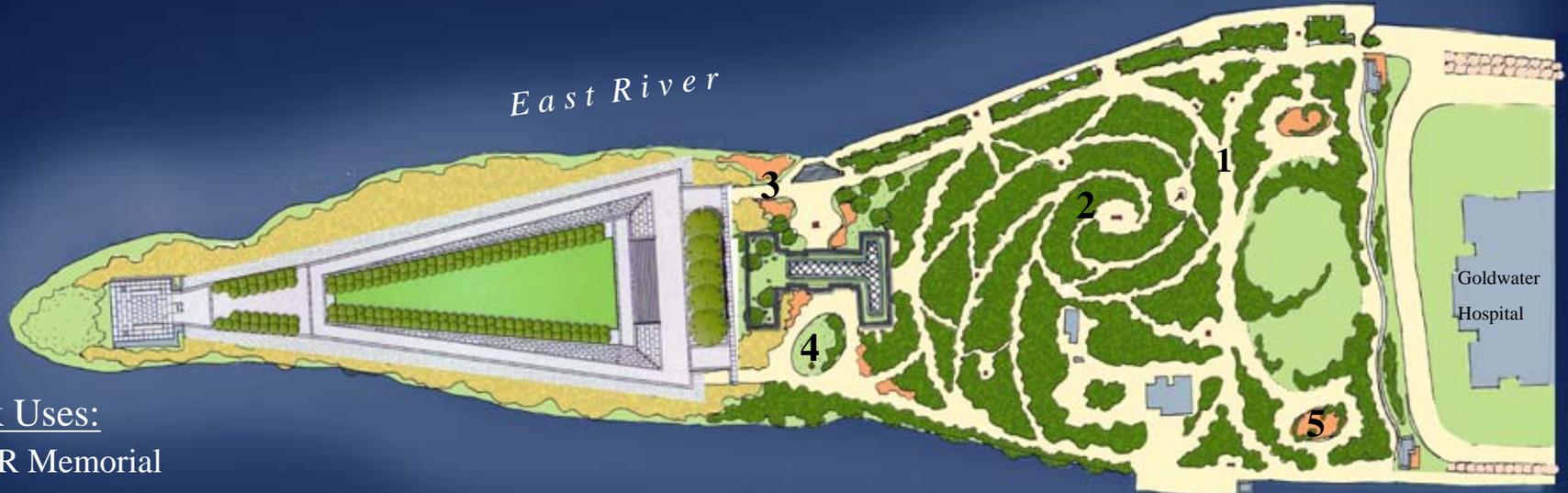
1. Woodland Walk



2. Environmental Art



3. Bold Planting Design



## Park Uses:

- FDR Memorial
- Sloped Lawn
- Restored Ruins
- Visionary Building inside of Ruins
- Art Esplanade
- Large Performance Space
- Intimate Gathering / Performance Spaces
- Signature Artwork
- Creative use of Planting Design
- Accessible Gardens

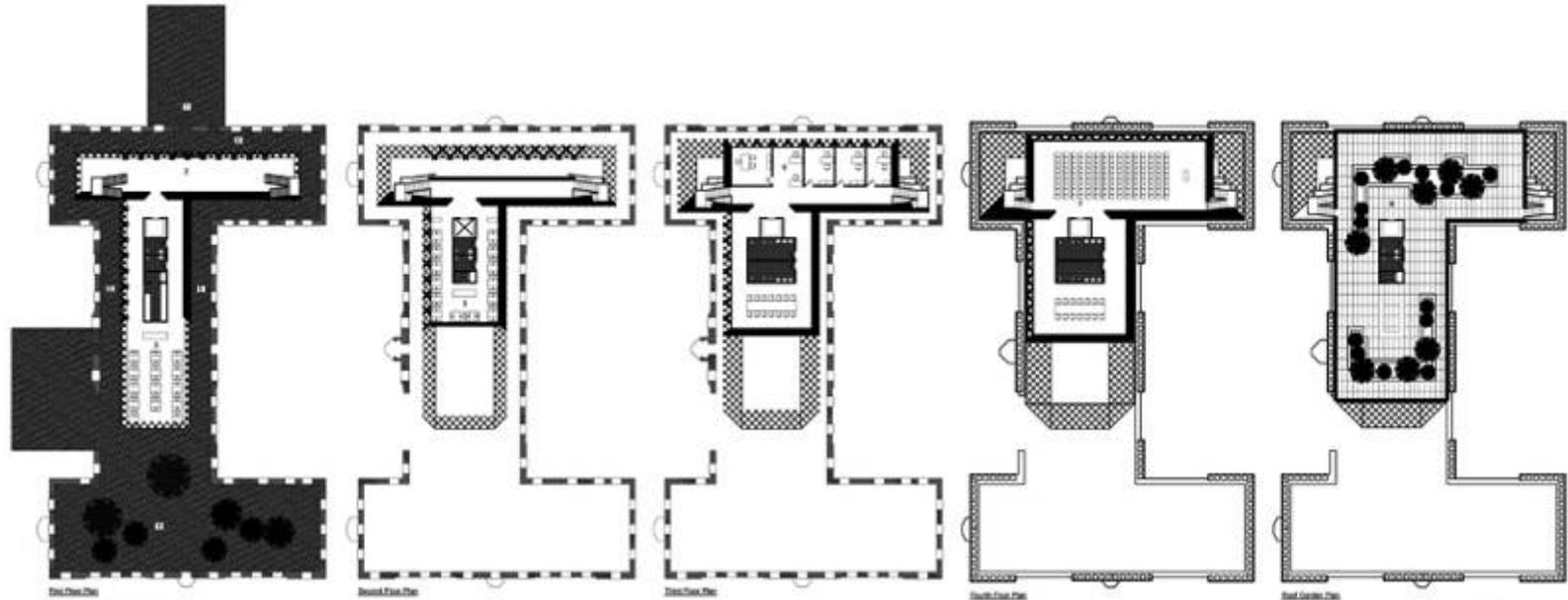


4. Signature Sculpture



5. Accessible Gardens

# Visionary Landscapes



Floor Plans - 1/16" = 1'-0"



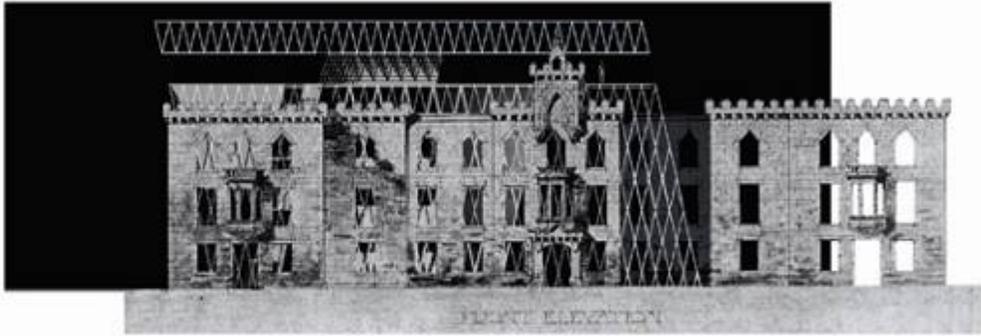
View from U.N.

- Legend
1. Main Entrance
  2. Lobby / Exhibition
  3. Restaurant
  4. Break Bar
  5. Amphitheater
  6. Office Suite
  7. Conference Center
  8. Roof Garden

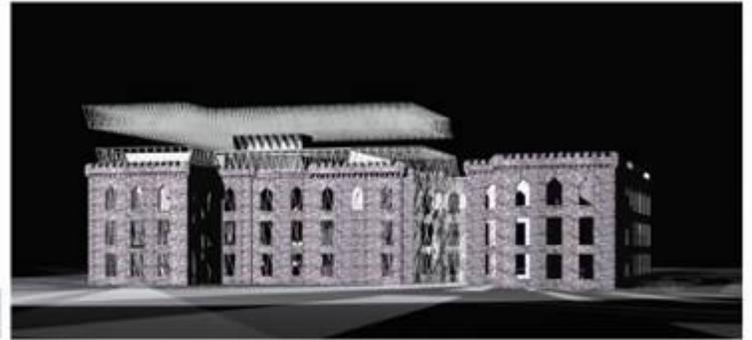
South Park Conference Center  
Roosevelt Island

Hall Partnership Architects, L.L.P.  
42 East 21st Street  
New York, NY 10010

# Visionary Landscapes



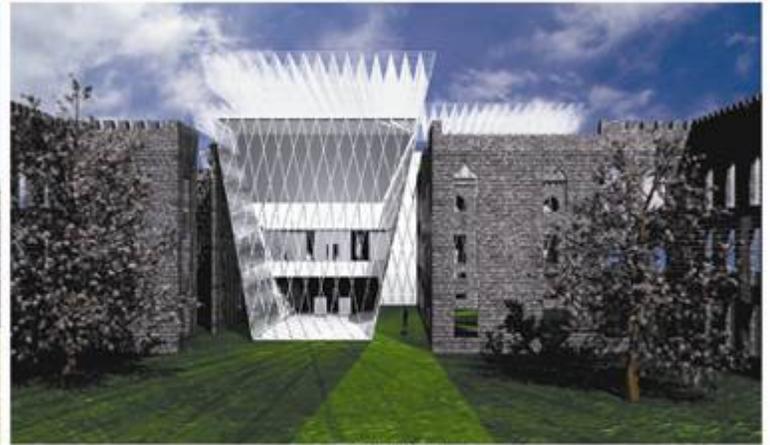
West Elevation



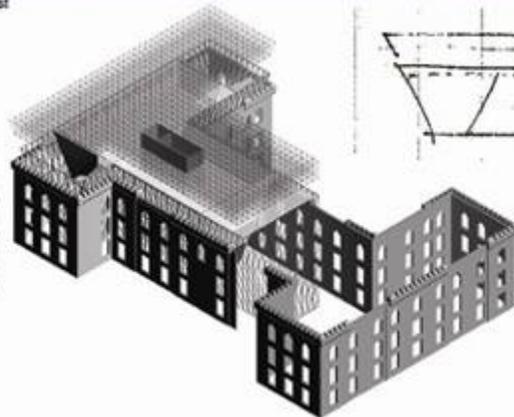
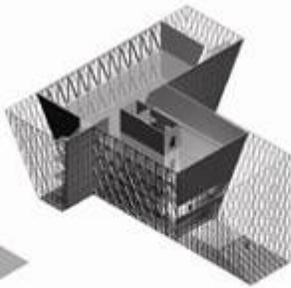
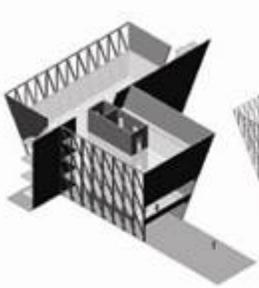
Night View from Manhattan



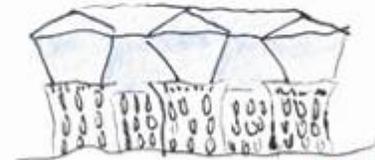
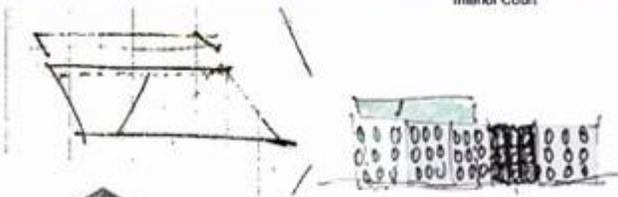
View looking Northeast



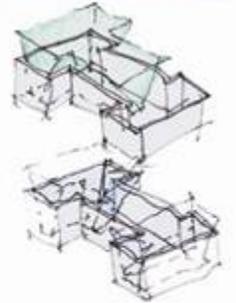
Interior Court



Analytical Isometrics



Sketches



South Park Conference Center  
Roosevelt Island

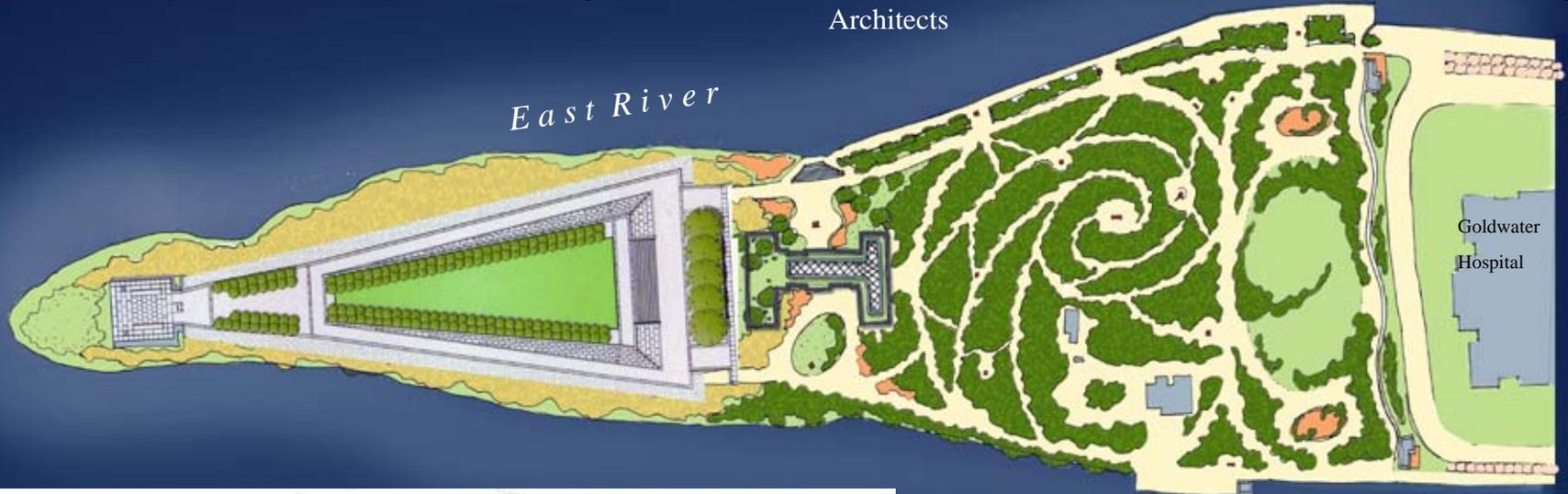
# Visionary Landscapes



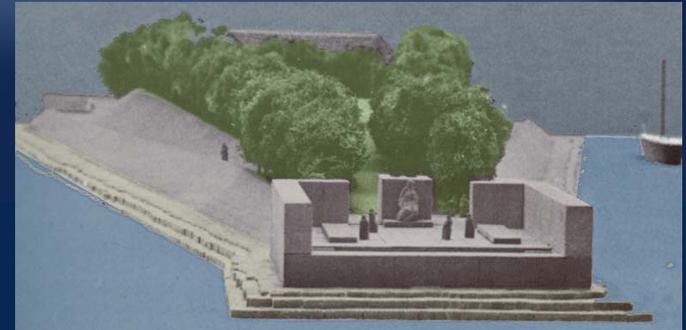
East side, Southerly View – Sketch by Mitchell / Giurgola Architects



View from inside Allee with Walls – Sketch by Mitchell / Giurgola Architects



Central Southerly View – Sketch by Mitchell / Giurgola Architects



Model of FDR Memorial

# Visionary Landscapes Conceptual Plan

## Shoreline Enrichment for Habitat:

- Native Planting at Water's Edge
- Observation Opportunities
- Shoreline Access

## Esplanade:

- Sculpture / Environmental Art
- Accessible Seating Nodes

## Waterfront Plaza:

- Amphitheatre Seating

## Park Entrance:

- Improved Esplanade to Tram
- Ensure accessible path from Hospital to Gatehouse & Park
- Gatehouse
- Comfort Station
- Art Opportunity

## Roosevelt Memorial by Lou Kahn

- Performance Capacity 3,000

## Ruin Stabilized/ 4-Story Glass Building:

- Multi-level Restaurant / Outdoor Dining
- Conference / Retreat Faculty
- Art Gallery
- Comfort Station

## Bold Artistic Landscape/ Spiral Mount:

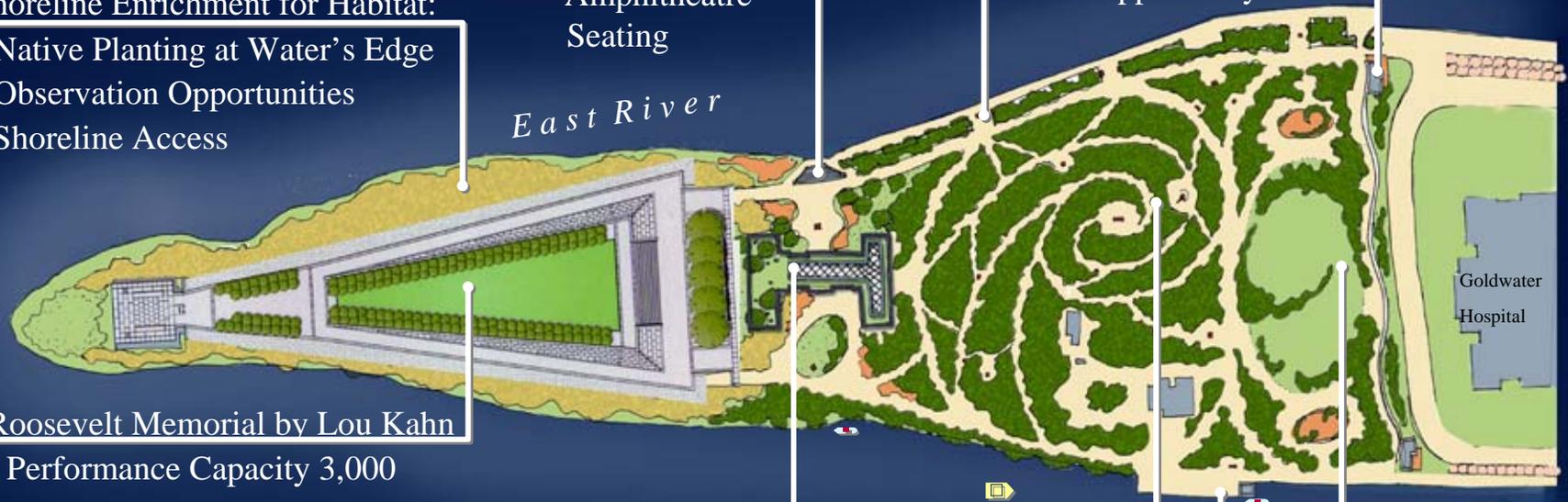
- Woodland Overlook
- Outdoor Classroom
- Environmental Art

## Boat Dock:

- Boat Launch Ramp
- Fishing

## Lawn:

- Fairgrounds
- Informal Play Opportunities
- Picnic Grove



# Wild Garden / Green Rooms

## Concept:

A picturesque park which is comprised of a series of themed landscaped “green rooms”, providing the visitor with a diversity of educational, cultural, restorative and recreational activities. This concept includes rustic stone architecture, a café space within the stabilized ruin, performance and ice skating adjacent to the ruin, specialized winter-interest landscapes, and a performance space for 7,000 on the tip of the Island.



# Wild Garden / Green Rooms

## Concept:

A picturesque park which is comprised of a series of themed landscaped “green rooms”, providing the visitor with a diversity of educational, cultural, restorative and recreational activities. This concept includes rustic stone architecture, a café space within the stabilized ruin, performance and ice skating adjacent to the ruin, specialized winter-interest landscapes, and a performance space for 7,000 on the tip of the Island.



1. Gatehouse



2. Waterfront Overlook



3. Woodland Gathering Area



4. Stabilized Ruins / Cafe



5. Multi-seasonal Attractions



6. Amphitheatre

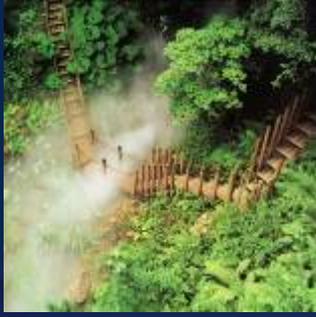


7. Sloped Lawn

# Wild Garden / Green Rooms



1. Water Feature



2. Woodland Walkway



3. Boathouse and Dock



4. Water's Edge Observation

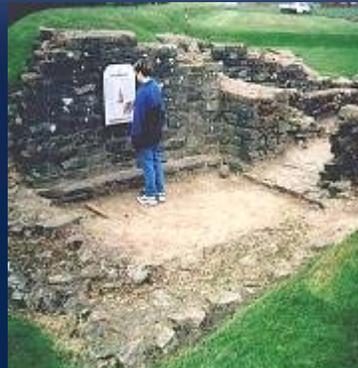


5. Outdoor Classrooms



## Park Uses:

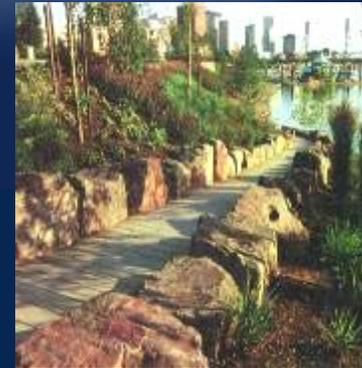
- Gatehouse at Entry
- Waterfront & Woodland Overlooks
- Boathouse & Boat Landing
- Series of Unique "Rooms"
- Café in Ruins
- Large Performance Space with Amphitheatre
- Multi-seasonal Attraction
- Intimate Gathering / Performance Spaces
- Variety of Circulation Experiences



6. Archeological Garden



7. Habitat Observation



8. Natural Edges

# Wild Garden / Green Rooms Conceptual Plan

## Perimeter Path with Waterfront Overlooks:

- Passive Seating area
- Native Planting
- Built-in Seating
- Observation Opportunities

## Stabilized Ruins:

- Café / Outdoor Dining
- Comfort Station
- Skating Rental
- Interior Ruins Garden / Performance Space

## The Mount/ Picturesque Nature:

- Overlooks
- Water Features
- Sledding Hill
- Interpretive Display
- Interactive Information Kiosks
- Outdoor Learning

## Gatehouse:

- Information
- Comfort Station
- Hierarchy of Pedestrian & Vehicular Circulation

## Esplanade:

- Improved Esplanade to Tram
- Ensure accessible path from Hospital to Gatehouse & Park



## Sloping Lawn:

- Plaza with Pavilion
- Picnic
- Removable Stage and Shell
- Capacity 7,000

## Winter Landscape:

- Public Plaza with Water Feature
- Ice Skating in Winter
- Amphitheater Seating

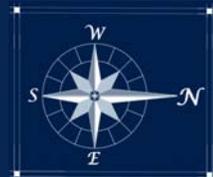
## Habitat Enrichment Zone:

- Shoreline Access

## Gatehouse

## Boat Dock:

- Boat Launch Ramp
- Fishing



# Parc Ville

## Concept:

A park-like extension of the Main Street Village - an embracing of community, commercial-use, Goldwater Hospital, and amenities in a waterfront park setting. This concept introduces a crescent of public/private buildings, which include a restaurants, dining terraces, and event facilities, as well as speculative rental spaces with terraces, a boat house for small boat storage and workshop, and a variety of performance venues. Landscape elements include strolling gardens, water features, and a stabilized ruin garden.



# Parc Ville

## Concept:

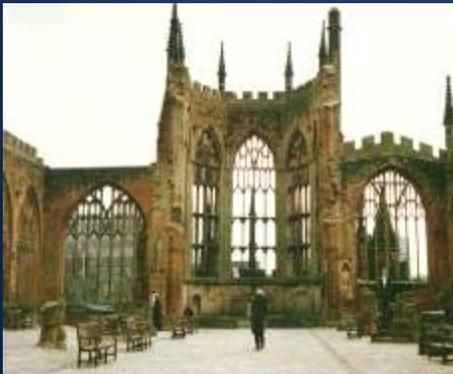
A park-like extension of the Main Street Village - an embracing of community, commercial-use, Goldwater Hospital, and amenities in a waterfront park setting. This concept introduces a crescent of public/private buildings, which include a restaurants, dining terraces, and event facilities, as well as speculative rental spaces with terraces, a boat house for small boat storage and workshop, and a variety of performance venues. Landscape elements include strolling gardens, water features, and a stabilized ruin garden.



1. Buildings form crescent at Park entry



2. Decorative Water Feature



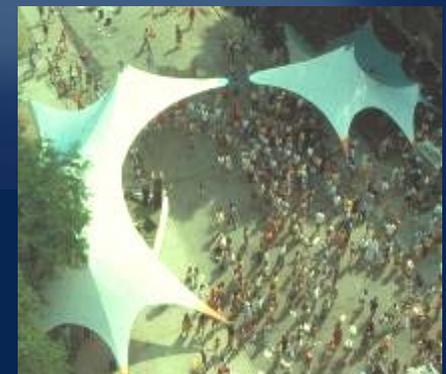
3. Stabilized Ruins



4. Stone seating as amphitheatre



5. Shade Structures



6. Performance Pavilion

# Parc Ville



1. Accessible Gardens



2. Waterfront dining



3. Esplanade



4. Woodland Walk



5. Woodland Overlook

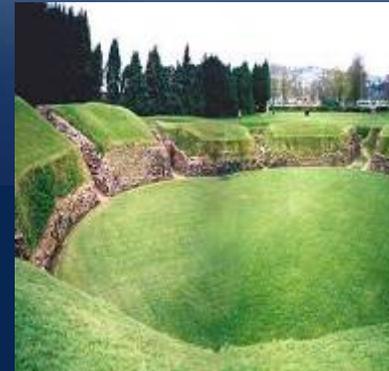


## Park Uses:

- Major Water Feature at Entry
- Waterfront Dining
- Boathouse & Boat Landing
- Terraces on Waterfront
- Large Performance Space with Amphitheatre
- Intimate Gathering / Performance Spaces
- Gardens & Performance Space Adjacent to Goldwater Hospital
- Variety of Circulation Experiences



6. Birder's Platform



7. Outdoor Classroom



8. Habitat Observation

# Parc Ville Conceptual Plan

*East River*

## Sun Deck:

- Wood Deck with Built-in Furniture
- Observation Opportunities

## Intimate Performance:

- Small Stage
- Sloped Lawn
- Capacity 200

## Stabilized Ruins:

- Pedestrian Access
- Gardens

## Village Crescent:

- Village Crescent - Colonnade
- Waterfront Restaurant / Outdoor Dining
- 3 Floors of Speculative Retail / Office Space

## Esplanade:

- Improved Esplanade to Tram
- Ensure accessible path from Hospital to Gatehouse & Park

## Festive/Theatrical Landform:

- Performance Pavilion
- Open Lawn
- Stone Seating Bands
- Capacity 7,000
- Accessibility and Shaded Areas for Senior Citizens, Non-ambulatory Individuals & the General Public
- Theatrical Lighting

## Fishing Deck:

- Opportunity for Wildlife Observation

## Strolling Gardens:

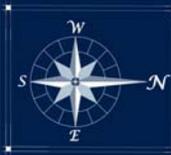
- Passive Walk to Artistic Water Display
- Terrace and Loggia Overlooking Water Features & Strolling Gardens
- Outdoor Classrooms
- Native Planting for Interpretive Display
- Opportunities for Interactive Features

## Boat House:

- Ferry Access
- Pier
- Boat Dock
- Kayak Launch
- Boat Storage / Building
- Boat Launch Ramp

## Performance Lawn:

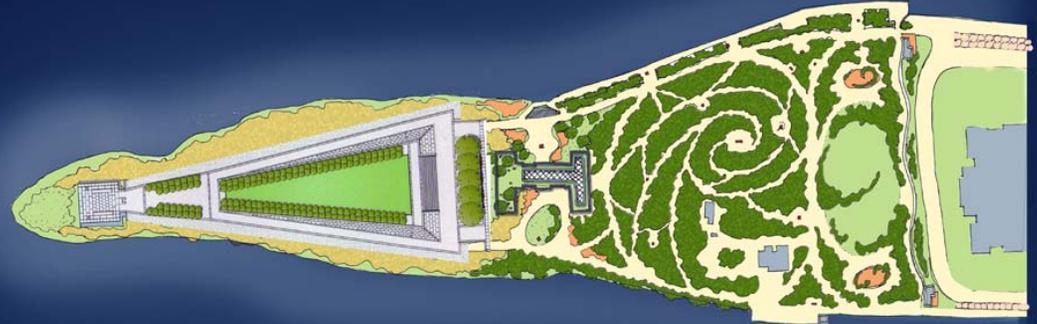
- Films Theatre
- Dance
- Special Events
- Direct access from Hospital to Park



# Conceptual Plan Summary

## Visionary Landscapes

Contemporary Landscapes integrated with a dynamic art gallery, conference and dining facilities inside the Smallpox Ruins, Louis Kahn's FDR Memorial, and a woodland mount where walkways are intertwined with a series of artistic features.



## Wild Gardens / Green Rooms

A picturesque park which is comprised of a series of themed landscaped "green rooms", providing the visitor with a diversity of educational, cultural, restorative and recreational activities.



## Parc Ville

A park-like extension of the Main Street Village - an embracing of community, commercial-use, Goldwater Hospital, and amenities in a waterfront park setting.

