

Program Elements

1. Grand Boardwalk Entrance

2. Opening Plaza and Fountain

3. Picnic Area & Horseshoes Pit

4. Entry Kiosk & Info Booth

5. Gravel Parking for Maintenance & Wheelchair Access

6. Grass Mound Meadow
7. Playstructures

8. Fixed Chair & Table

9. Entryway Mosaics

10. Eco-Education Site

11. Grass Amphitheater

12. Boardwalk

13. Walking trail & access to surrounding community

Park Identity

The park will attract all age groups and cultures. The more active recreation can occur in the middle of the park in the large grass field. Surrounding this lawn will be a series of oval regions. Some will have play structures, others will have more passive recreation; chess tables, picnic areas, and horseshoe spots. There will be a final region to the south which includes more cultural space for an amphitheater.

This design will create a nexus of activity, where all members of the White Center community will be able to come together and interact.

Public Safety

All the features in the park are created low to the ground or built with views through them, i.e. metal tube play structures. This is so that when people enter the park they will be able to see throughout the site and this should make people feel welcome.

Also, the invasive weeds to the north and east of the park will be removed, creating a more welcoming park.

Sustainability

This design practices this by doing the minimalist approach to interactions with the natural landscape. The grand plaza was placed on level ground, so the wetlands do not need to be filled in. Also, the amphitheater is built with grass and vegetation so hardscape is not required.

Multicultural Uses & Expressions

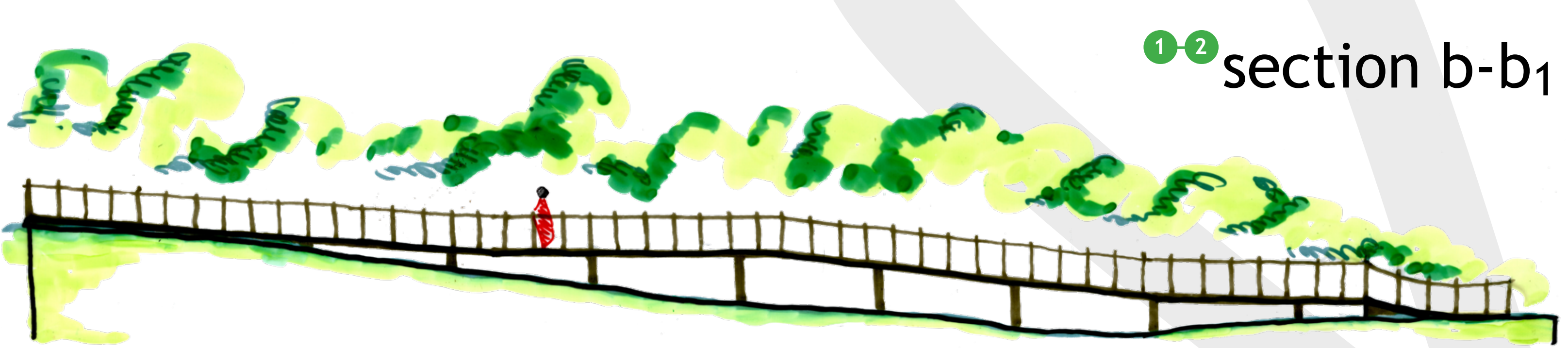
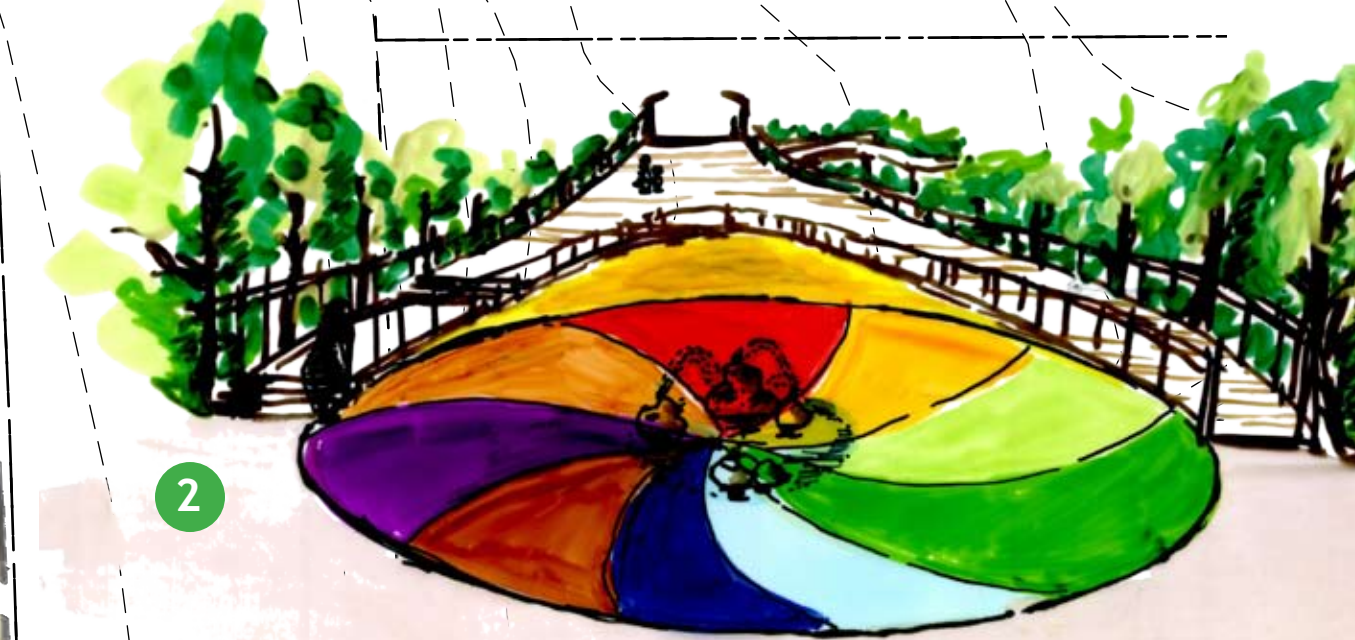
The entry gate, plaza, and three other mosaics are great spaces for the local community to express themselves. Here they can display the broken pottery or glass shards imbedded for all time. This is also a great place for children to add their own mementos, imbedded forever, in the landscape.

Environmental Learning

The greatest learning experience from this design will come when the site reaches its second and third phase. In these phases the users will be able to access the wetlands on the north with a learning boardwalk, and to the south with a multi-use amphitheater and boardwalk-trail system. For the first phase the Eco-education center will contain a staging area for projects by local students. Also the Eco-education region will have a kiosk or informational display for continuing education for all the visitors to the site.

Community Involvement

For installation the community is invited to participate. For the long term the invasive weed problem will require upkeep by local community groups. They can form work parties to maintain the landscape.



[park master plan]

The Ties That Bind

White Center Heights Park

L ARCH 474 Project Design Studio | Winter 2007 | Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Washington

