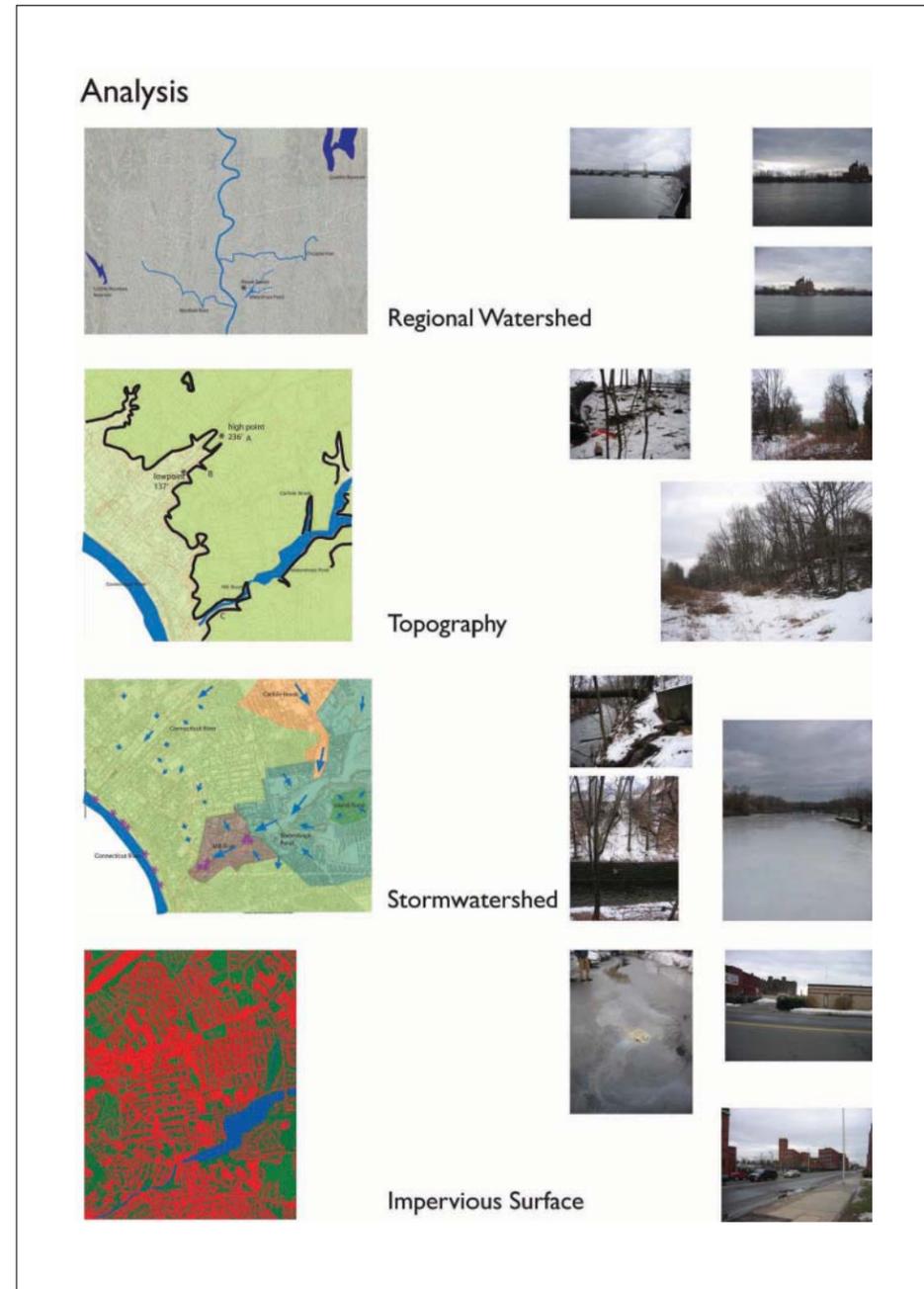


MASON SQUARE

SPRINGFIELD, MA

The master plan seeks to create an effective self-organizing system. It does so through integration with urban ecological flows (people, water, time, economics and other urban inputs). This vision works on multiple scales from local to regional and beyond. The approach implies a great sensitivity to sites and the willingness to engage in design as a continual conversation and experiment rather than a mandated solution that will remain forever static. The strategy is rooted in site fundamentals and the embrace of the transformative nature of landscape to continually meet the needs of human and earth systems processes.



ANALYSIS DIAGRAMS



URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER & REMEDIATION PARK

BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Sites that are on or near dense residential and commercial corridors should be immediately cleaned. Having a development plan, with a specific program, like residential housing or mixed use with commercial space on the ground level and residences above will help guide the mitigation process. Cleaning the site before development will ensure a safe and healthy new life for the parcel and those that use it.



GRANGE INSURANCE AUDUBON CENTER
image: buildipedia.com

STORMWATER STRATEGY

Bioswales are planted drainage catchments that capture stormwater. They work to slow the water, capture sediment and allow water to infiltrate into the soil. Handling water at the source reduces the amount of pollutants in water and solves problems caused by end of pipe solutions like turbidity, thermal pollution and concentration of pollution. Maintenance for bioswales is considerably less than piped systems. Additional benefits of bioswales include habitat enhancement, as well as softer edges for streetscape.



BIOSWALE
image: City of Berkeley, CA

OPEN SPACE & GREEN WAYS STRATEGY

Art and community gardens are spaces that define a community's unique quality. Community gardens are green spaces that the neighborhood cares for. They have the benefit of getting people together, outside and closer through a shared activity. These gardens, while not appropriate on State Street, because of the high volume of traffic and edge considerations, would be great additions to McKnight, Bay, Old Hill and Upper Hill neighborhoods and others like them throughout Springfield. Art installations, murals and mosaics would be an enlivening addition to the State Street corridor. Residents and visitors could identify with their area through art that depicts history and ecological processes at work within the community.



URBAN FARMING
image: intheclassroom.org



ART INSTALLATION
image: Todd Lynch

Master Plan

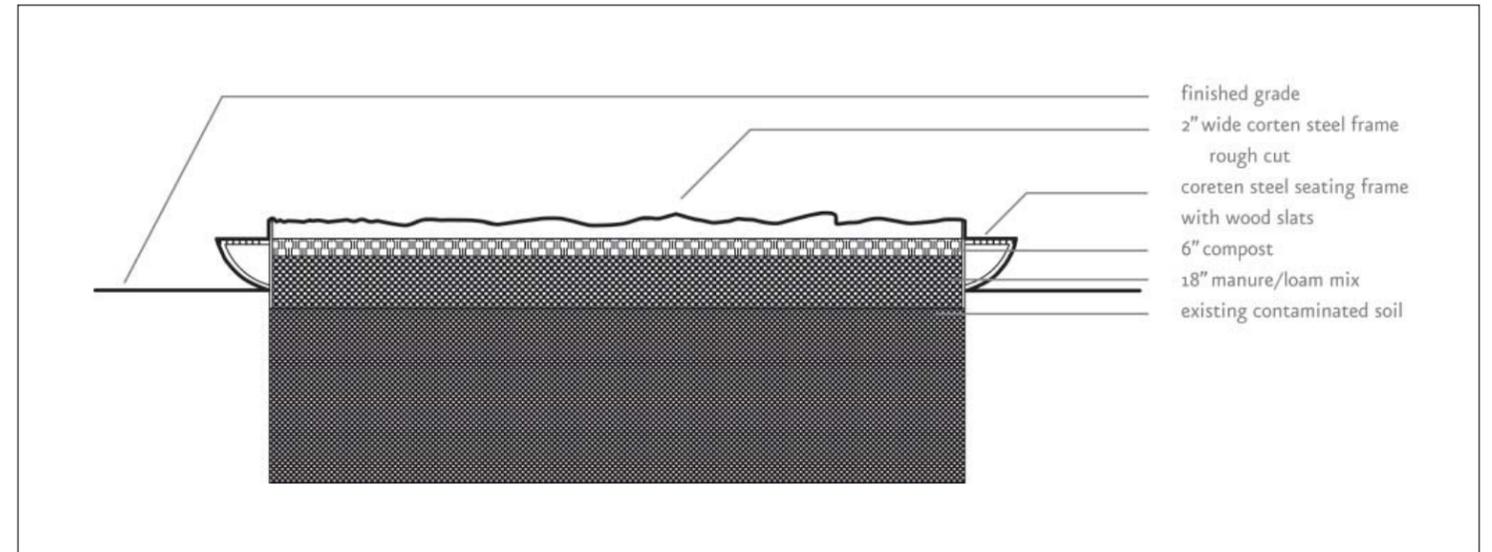


The master plan represents the union of human and natural processes to form a unified urban ecological system specific to its context. It addresses environmental justice, employment and natural systems challenges.

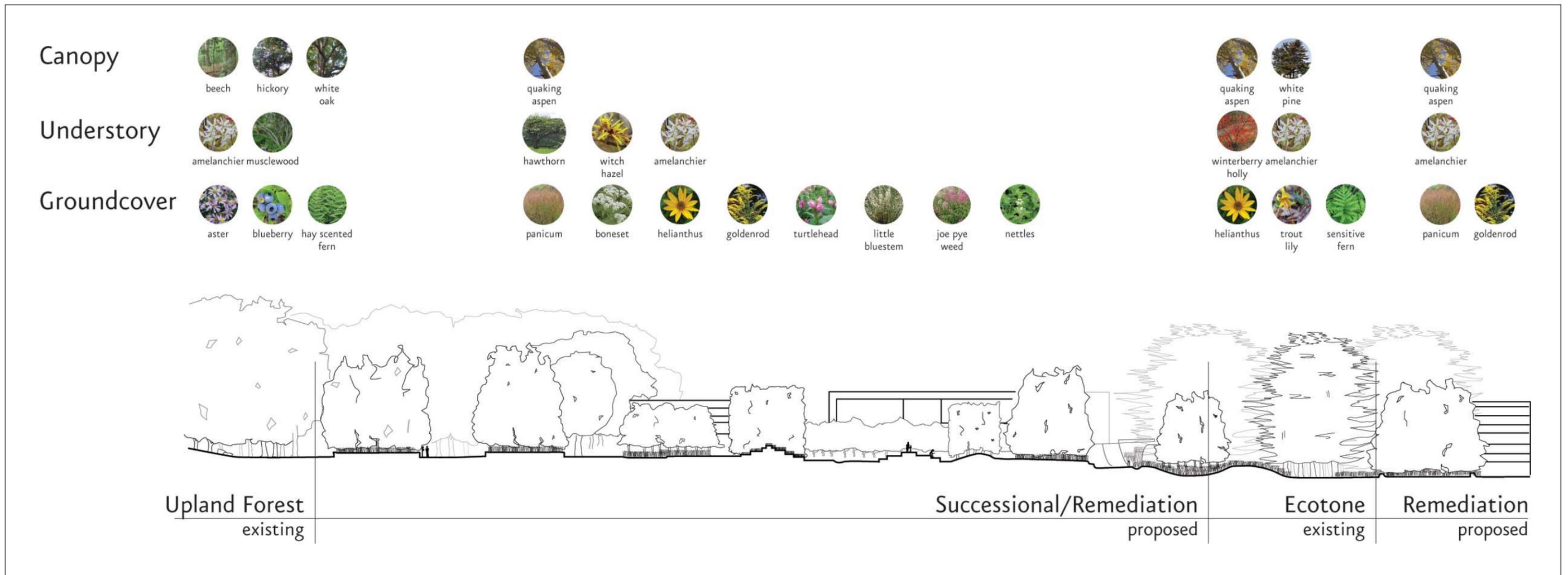
- Existing Use
- Adaptable Architecture
- Mixed Use
- Residential Use
- Office/Studio Use
- Green Industrial Zone

MASON SQUARE

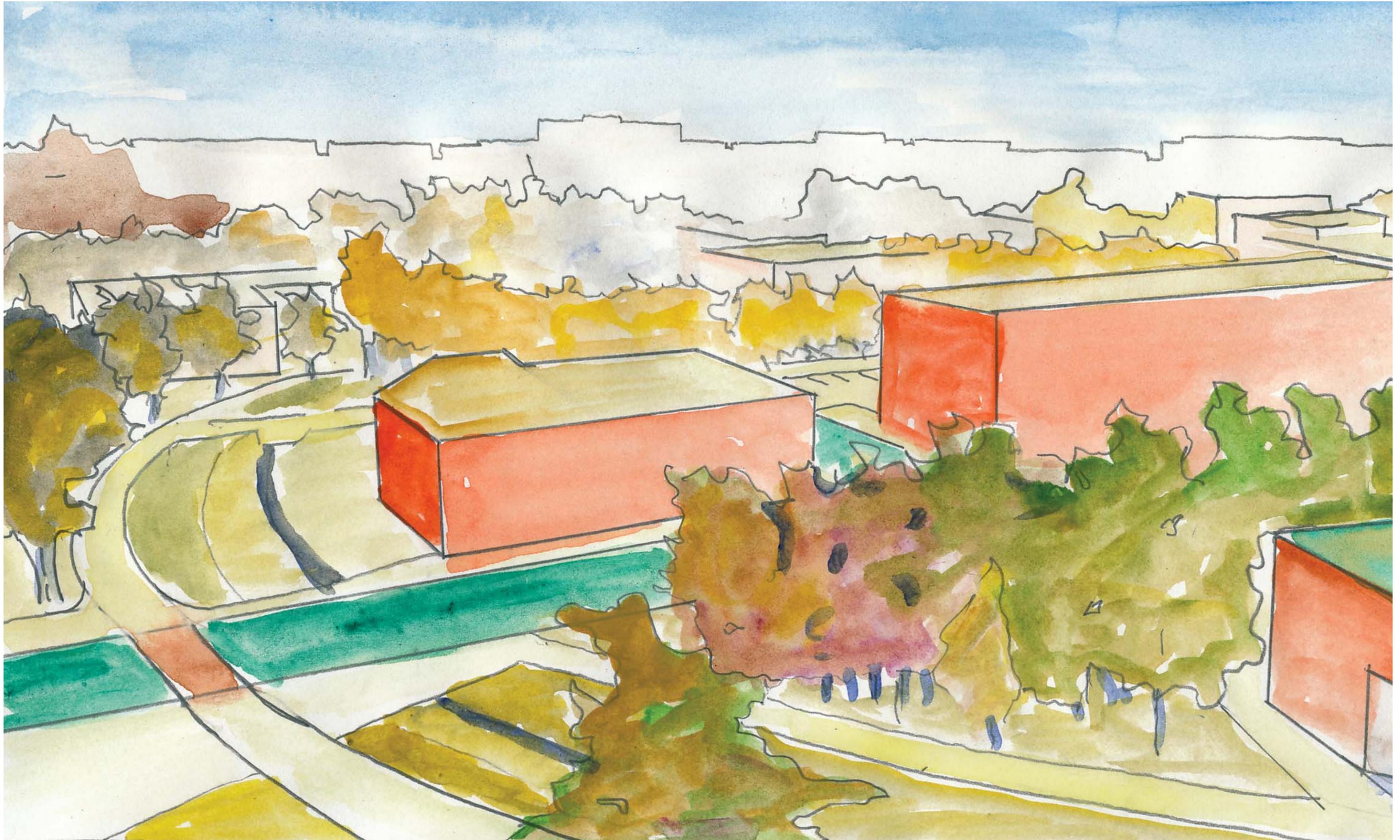
SPRINGFIELD, MA



DETAIL SECTION OF REMEDIATION CIRCLE



SECTION OF VEGETATION COMMUNITIES



RENDERING OF PROPOSED MASON SQUARE