

Preliminary Art Concept
Artist Maria Salenger,
Jones Studio
Library ADA Entrance

Beautification, Arts and Sciences
Jana Weldon





Agenda



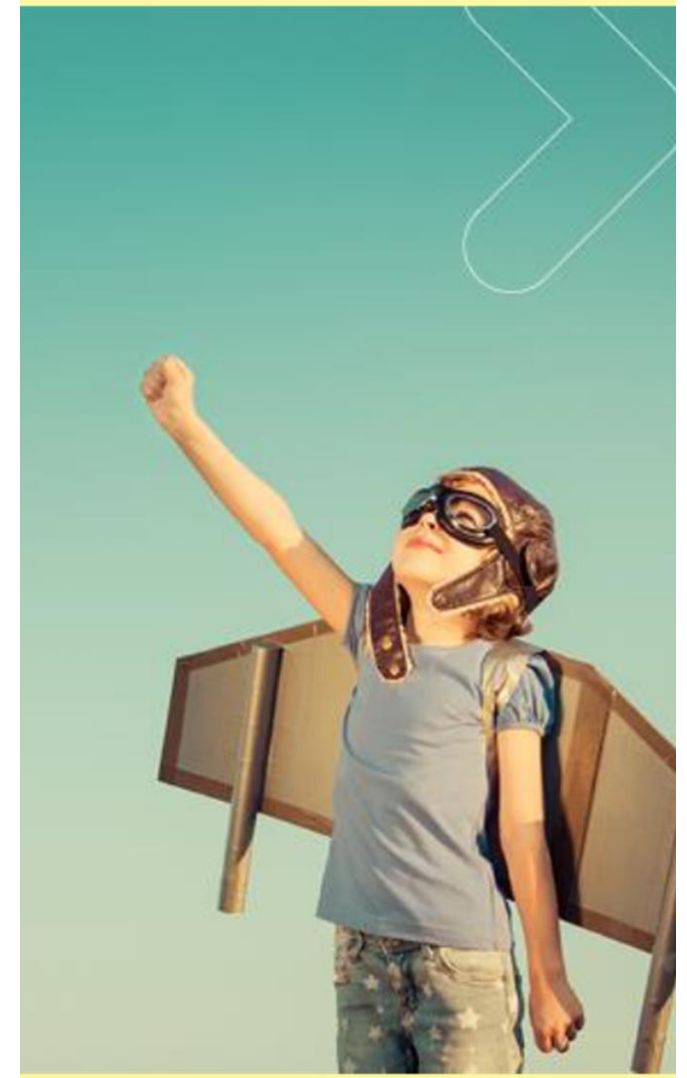
- **Public Art Process Overview to Date**

- Design Team
- Community/Stakeholder Input
- Responses to date

- **Preliminary Art Concept**

- Artist Process and Inspirations
- Scope and locations
- Materials and Color

- **Next Steps in Design Development**





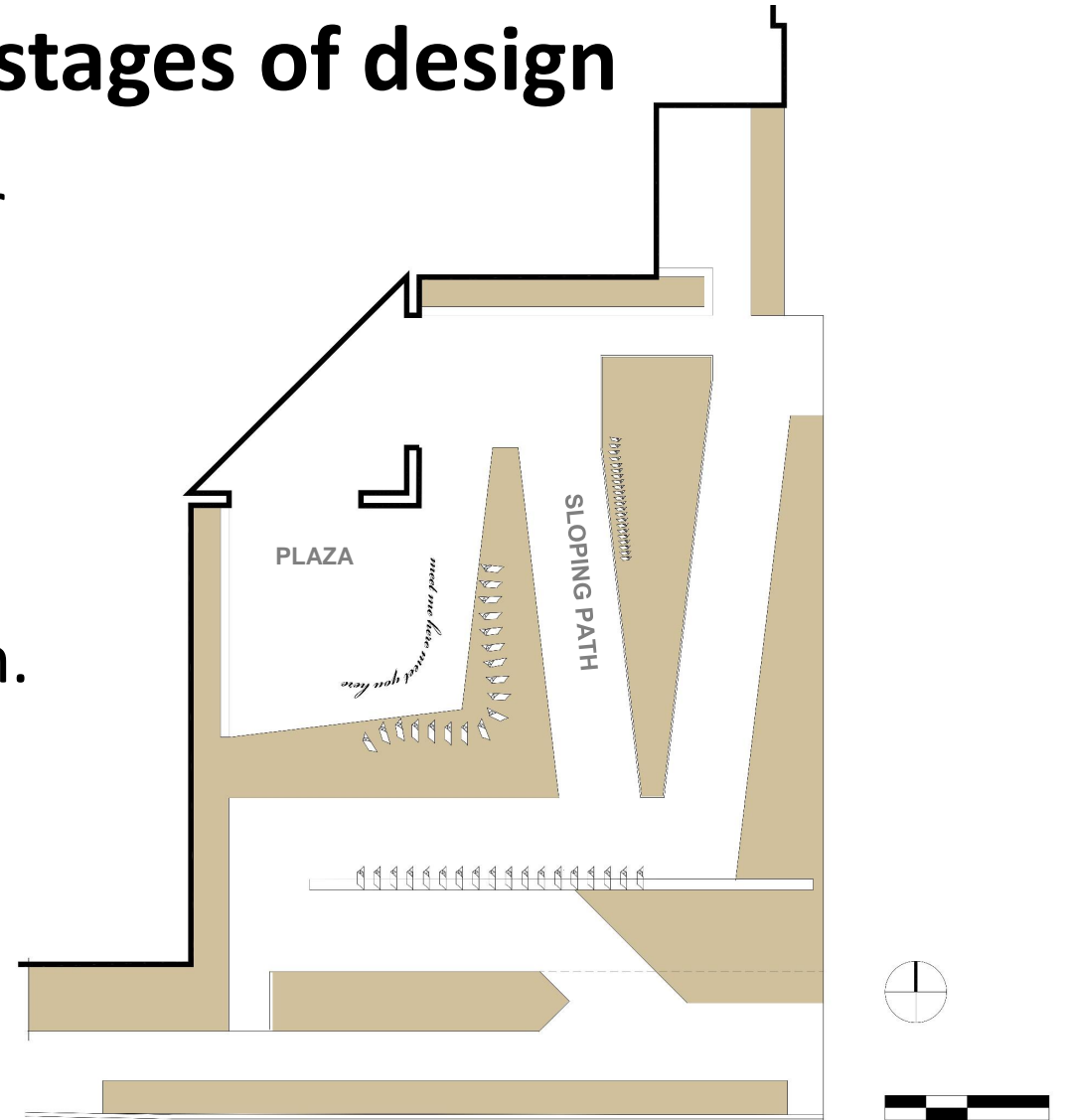
Design Team



Artist added to the team at early stages of design

Council approved a design team contract for the artist on December 1, 2020 based on qualifications and past work.

Maria has been contributing to sloping path designs, landscaping and plaza configuration. And is responding to this design in the art placement.





Community/Stakeholder Input

This is what has happened so far:

- Community and stake holders on selection panel
- Community input prior to design through Community Forum Survey with 176 responses
- Focus Groups: Stakeholder and community responses
- Beautification and Public Art Commission review and approval
- Library Board review and responses



Selection Process



Maria Salenger was recommended by a diverse selection panel that included:

- Vice Chair, BPAC
- Commissioner, BPAC
- Library Director, City of Flagstaff
- Members, Library Foundation Board Member and a Lowell Librarian/Archivist
- Member, The Friends of the Library
- Artist, Co-owner of a downtown business

Recommendation was approved by BPAC (Beautification and Public Art Commission) and by City Council



Community Forum Survey



Sample Input Questions:

- What does the library mean to you?
- Tell us about a discovery you have made at the library.
- What is your favorite thing to do in Flagstaff?
- What is your favorite aspect of Northern AZ History?

Closed January 8th: **176 Reponses**

Focus Groups

Artist presented preliminary art concepts to focus groups in February and in April

- Vice Chair, BPAC
- Commissioner, BPAC
- Three library patrons, one who is a librarian at Coconino Community College
- Two community members at large, one reared on the Southside, one an artist and downtown business owner
- Two Staff from Main Library: Library Director & Member of Library Executive Team
- Two Indigenous Librarians, Tuba City branch
- Lowell Librarian/Archivist
- Three Members of Library Boards
- Three Economic Development/Vitality Staff



Community Input

April Focus Groups' Responses



Average/Mean: Central Value of a set of numbers

Median: The middle number in an assorted list of numbers, an average that reflects data set more descriptively

Mode: The value that appears most frequently in a data set

1. How well do the proposed art features connect to the library?

(not very much) 1 2 3 4 5 (very much)

5 5 5 4 5 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 5 5 4 4

100 % are positive, 0% neutral, 0% negative: Average 4.38, Median 4.0, Mode 4.0

2. How well do the proposed art features connect to Flagstaff?

(not very likely) 1 2 3 4 5 (very likely)

5 5 5 4 1 4 4 4 5 3 4 4 5 4 5 3

81% are positive, 13% neutral, 6% negative: Average 4.06, Median 4.0, Mode 4.0

3. How likely is it that the proposed art features will help create a pleasing and welcoming space for the library?

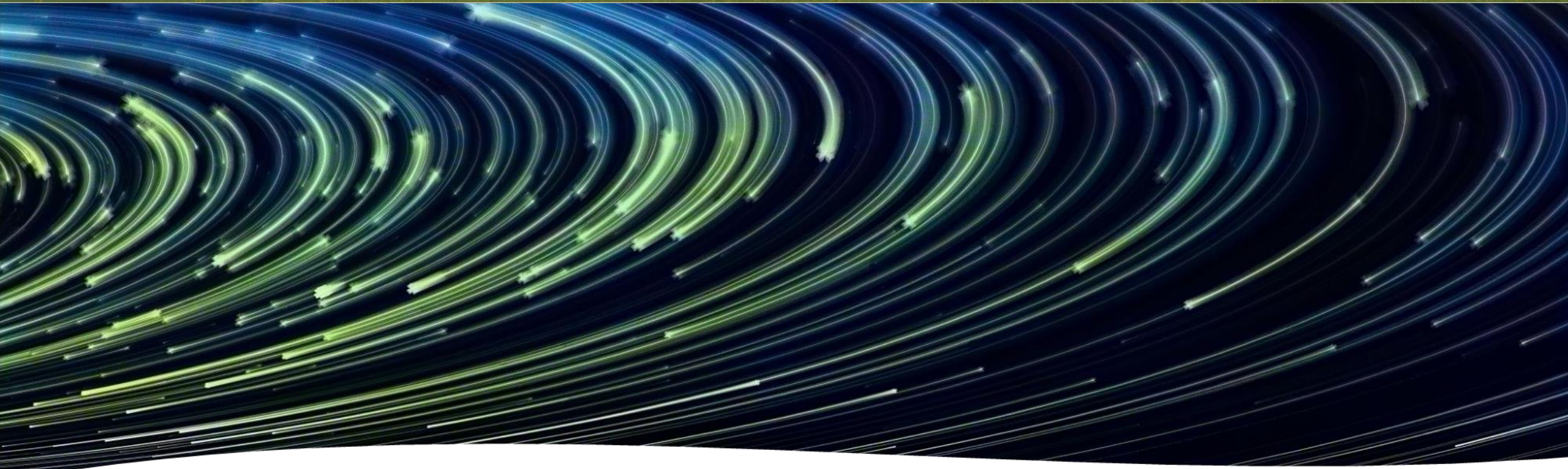
(not very much) 1 2 3 4 5 (very much)

5 5 5 3 5 4 4 5 5 4 4 4 5 4 4 5

94% are positive, 6% neutral, 0% negative: Average 4.4, Median 4.5, Mode 5.0



Review of Today's Preliminary Concept



It is preliminary

BPAC reviewed and approved this concept on April 12th. Responses from focus groups, BPAC, Library Board and Council will be part of the design development



Preliminary Art Concept

Objective: The Art Features will be Site Specific for the Library Entry Plaza

ARTIST WILL
AMPLIFY THE
PROGRAMMING AND
OBJECTIVES OF THE
ENTRY PLAZA

ARTIST WILL CREATE
ART FEATURES THAT
CONNECT TO THE
LIBRARY AND TO
FLAGSTAFF.



Artist Process/Inspiration



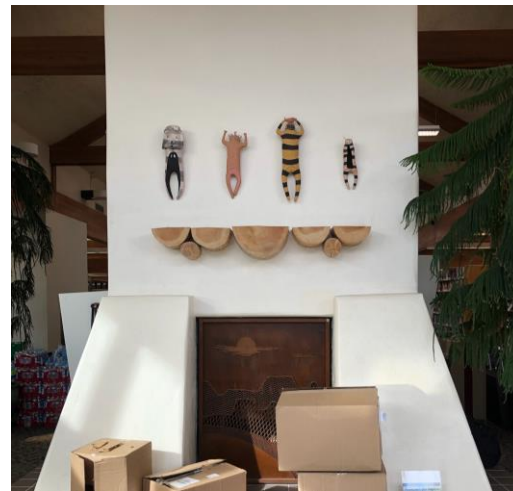


Artist Process/Inspiration





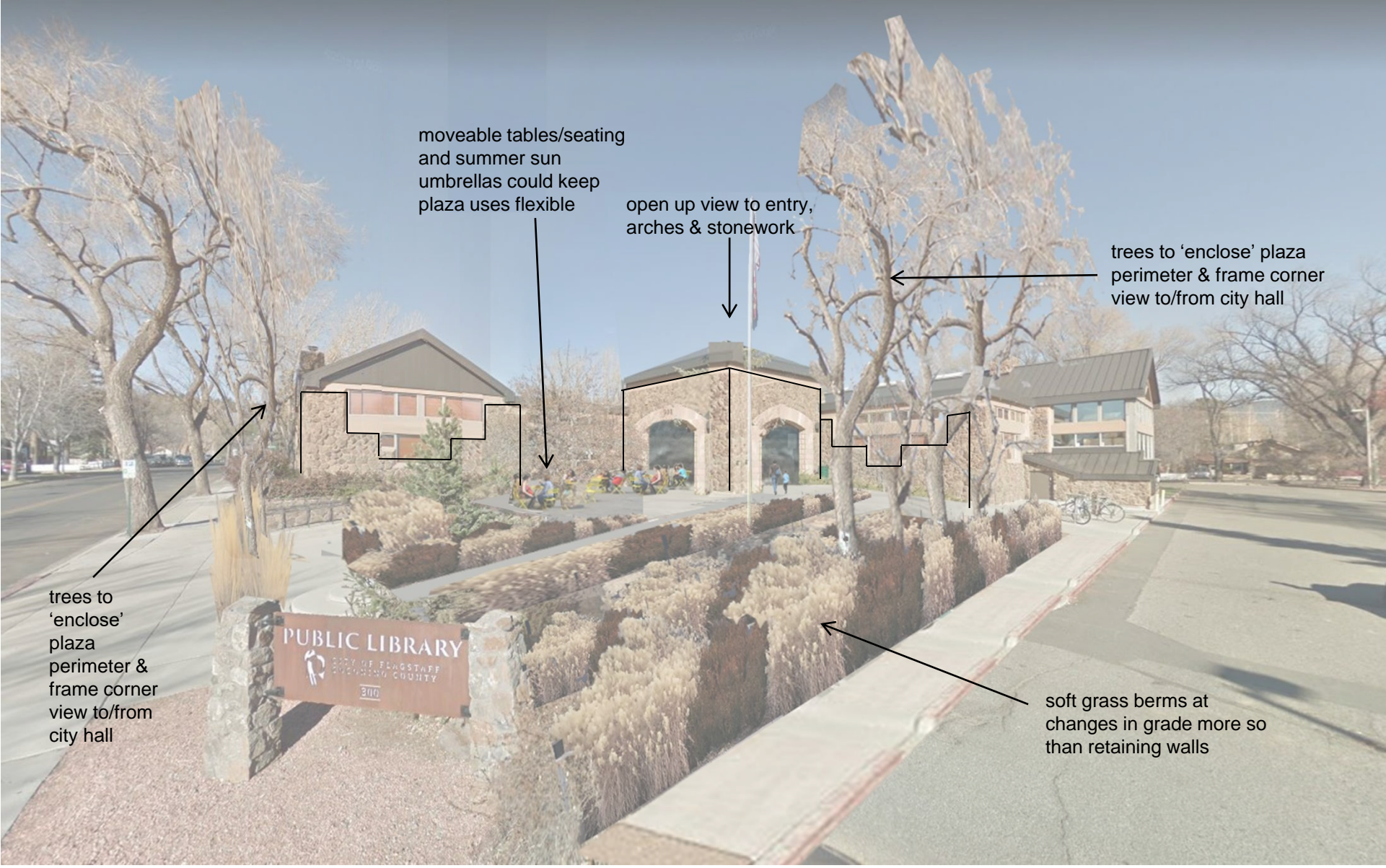
Artist Process/Inspiration





Artist Process/Inspiration





moveable tables/seating
and summer sun
umbrellas could keep
plaza uses flexible

open up view to entry,
arches & stonework

trees to 'enclose' plaza
perimeter & frame corner
view to/from city hall

trees to
'enclose'
plaza
perimeter &
frame corner
view to/from
city hall

soft grass berms at
changes in grade more so
than retaining walls





Artist Process: Community Aspirations

Something *inspiring*, something *evocative*.

Central community space for *research, education, learning and inspiration*.

A bank of *knowledge, inspiration, and escape*.

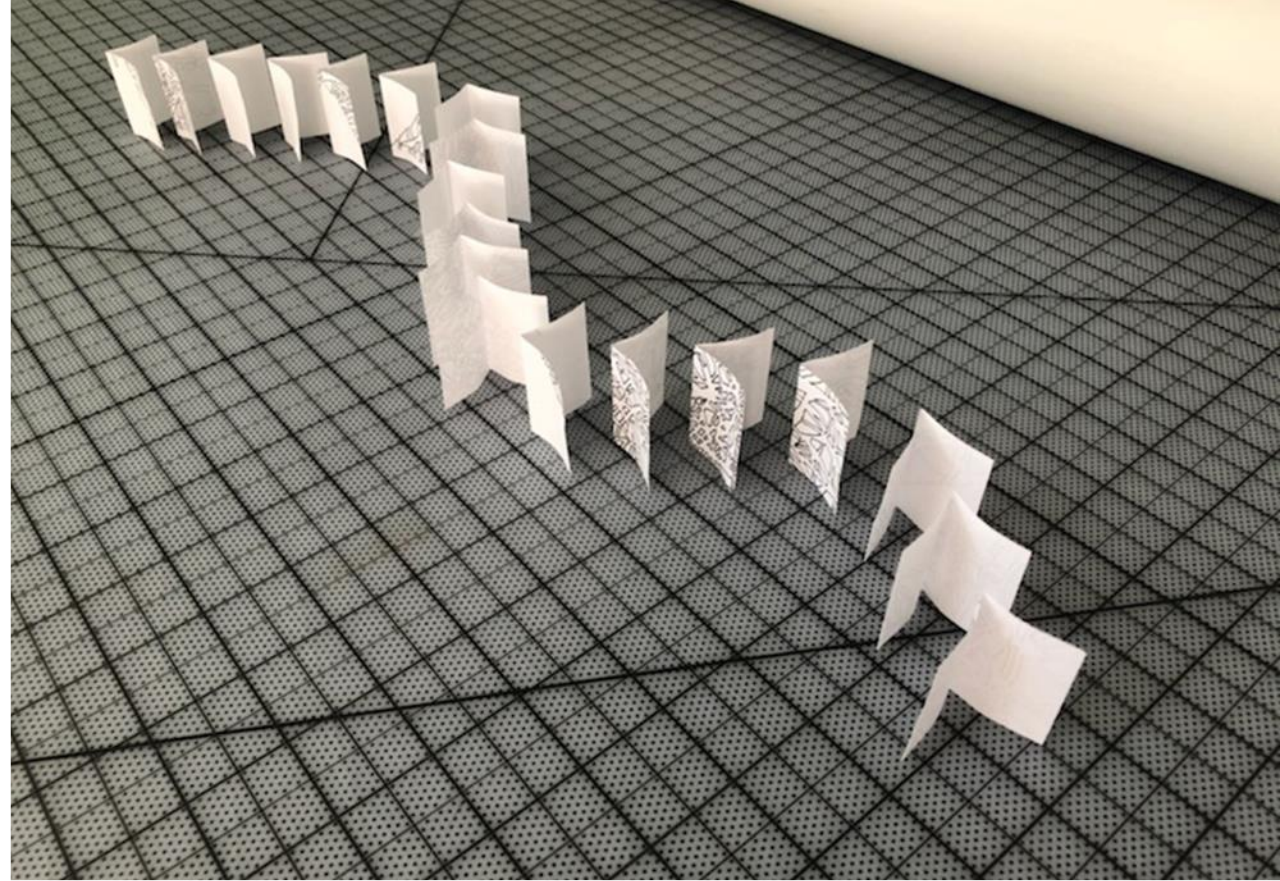
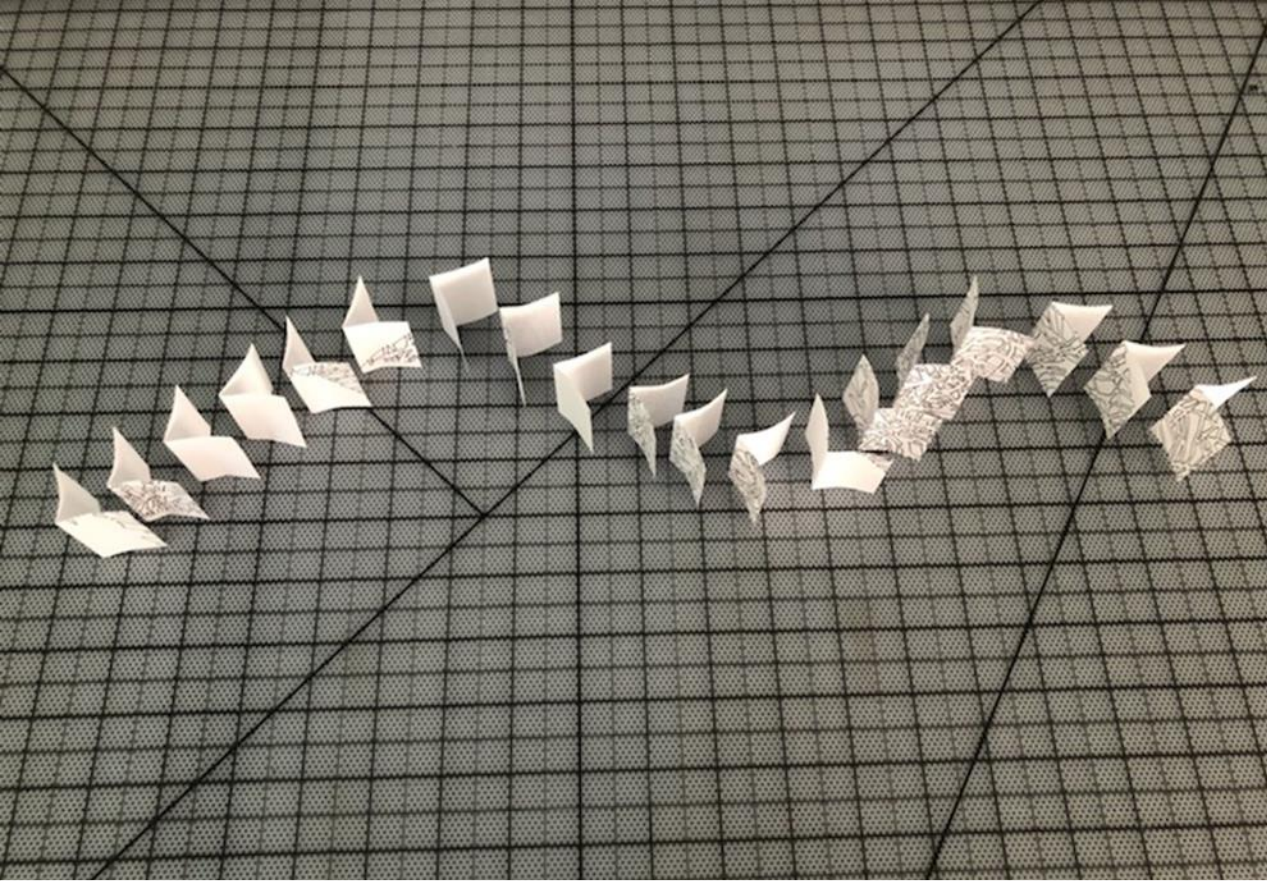
A great source of *pleasure and connectivity*.

A moment for my kids to stop and *interact with something beautiful & interesting*.

In harmony with *community and nature*.

Integrate our greatest treasures: *our nature environment, our science community, and the great history we have*.

In which all differently abled people can *experience and use the entry inclusively*.



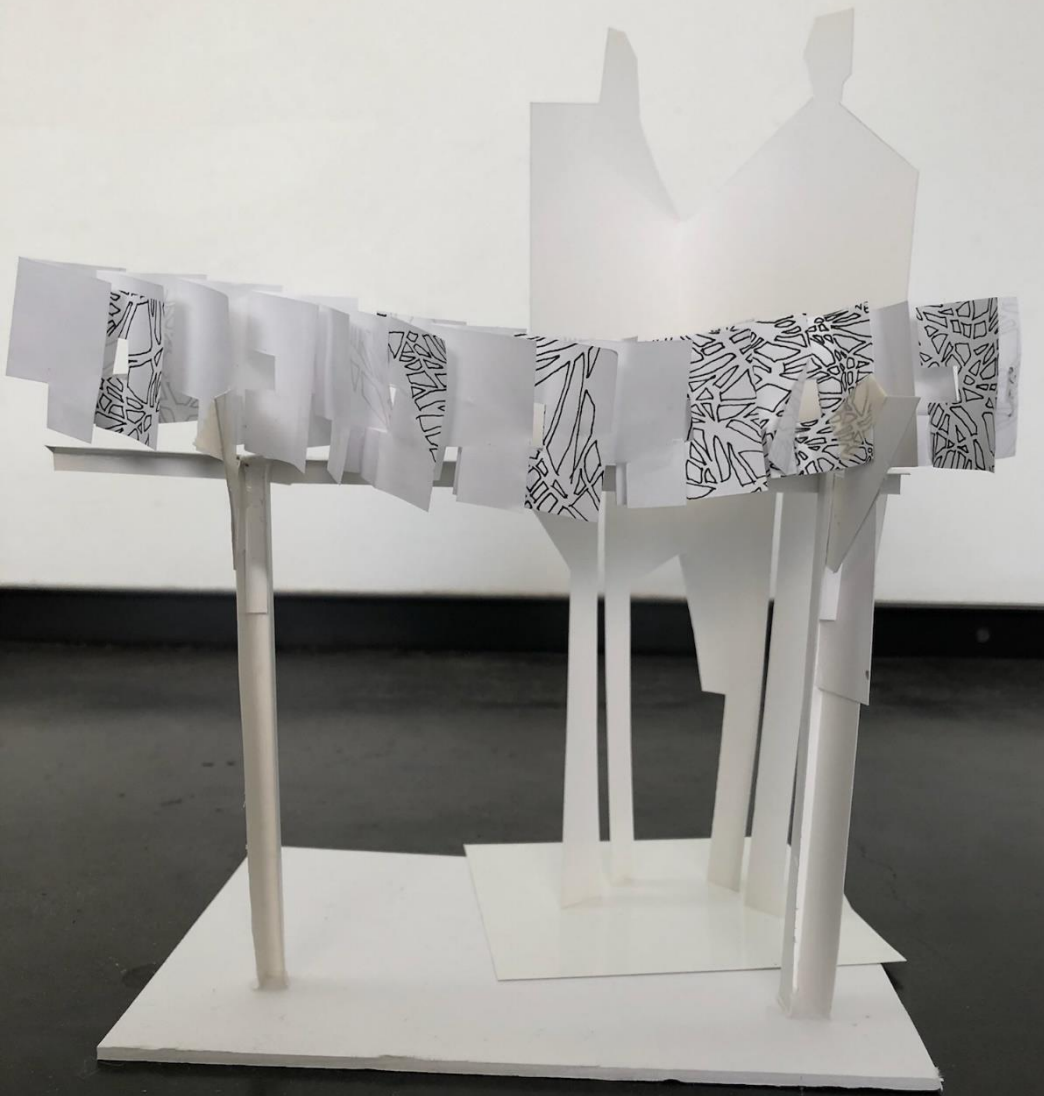
Preliminary Art Concept:
Open Book Sculpture Meandering the
Pathways.



Preliminary Art Concept



- Formally the sculpture is a series of interlocking steel plates ranging in scale from 9" to 18" tall, mounted up beside the pathway handrail system and within the landscape planted area.
- Will not be in the pathway or plaza



Covers have cut out patterns.

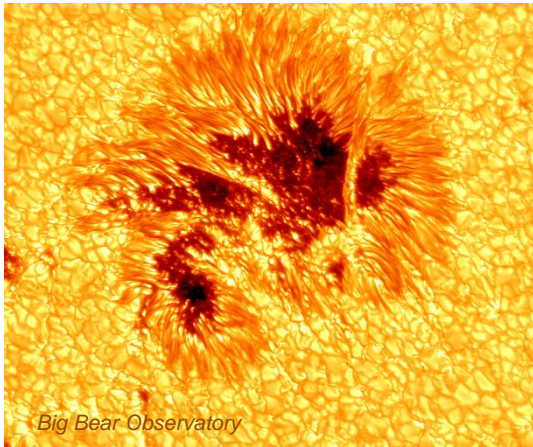
Patterns to be determined and drawn from....



Lowell Observatory



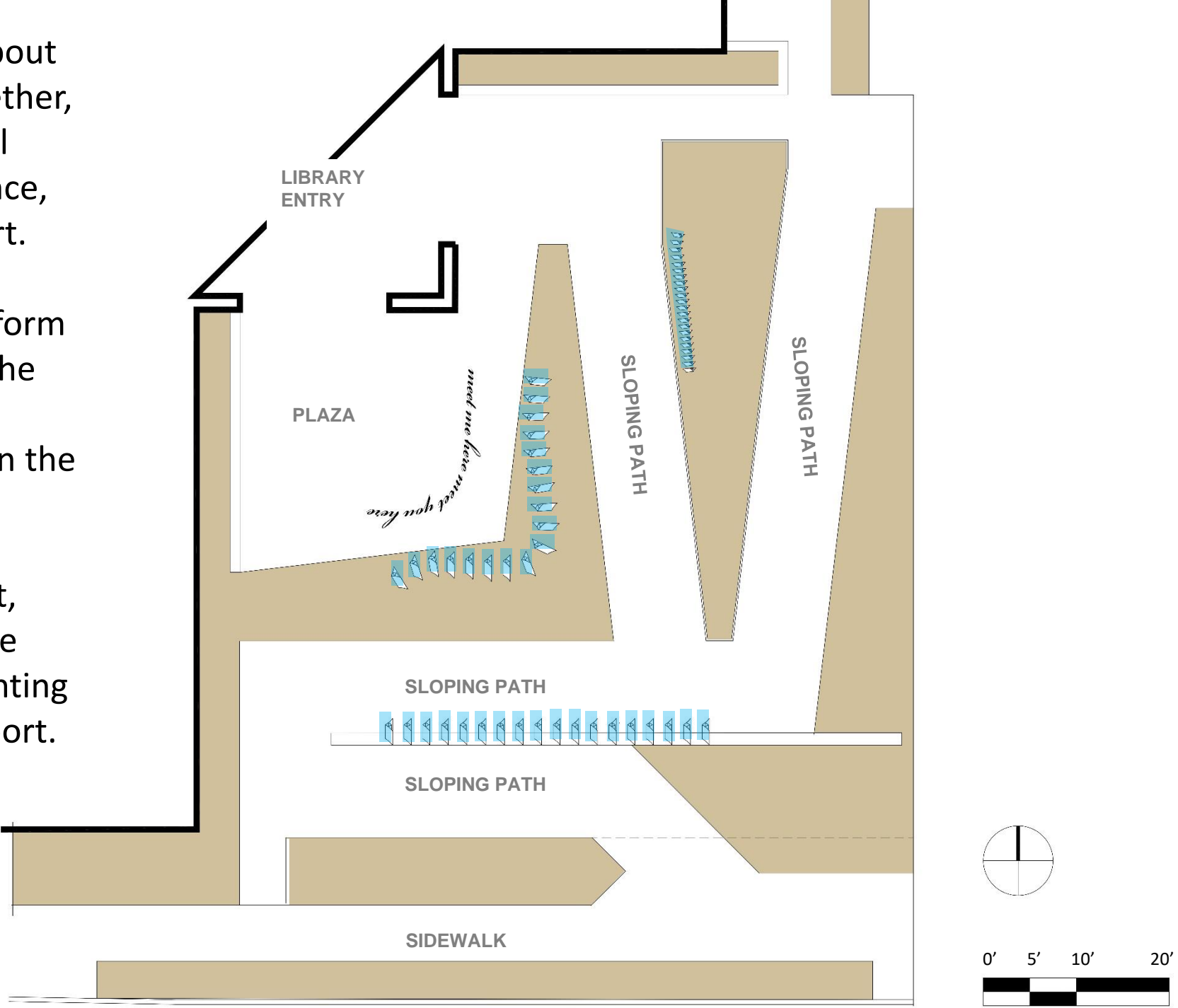
Bureau of Entomology, Portland Station Collection



Big Bear Observatory

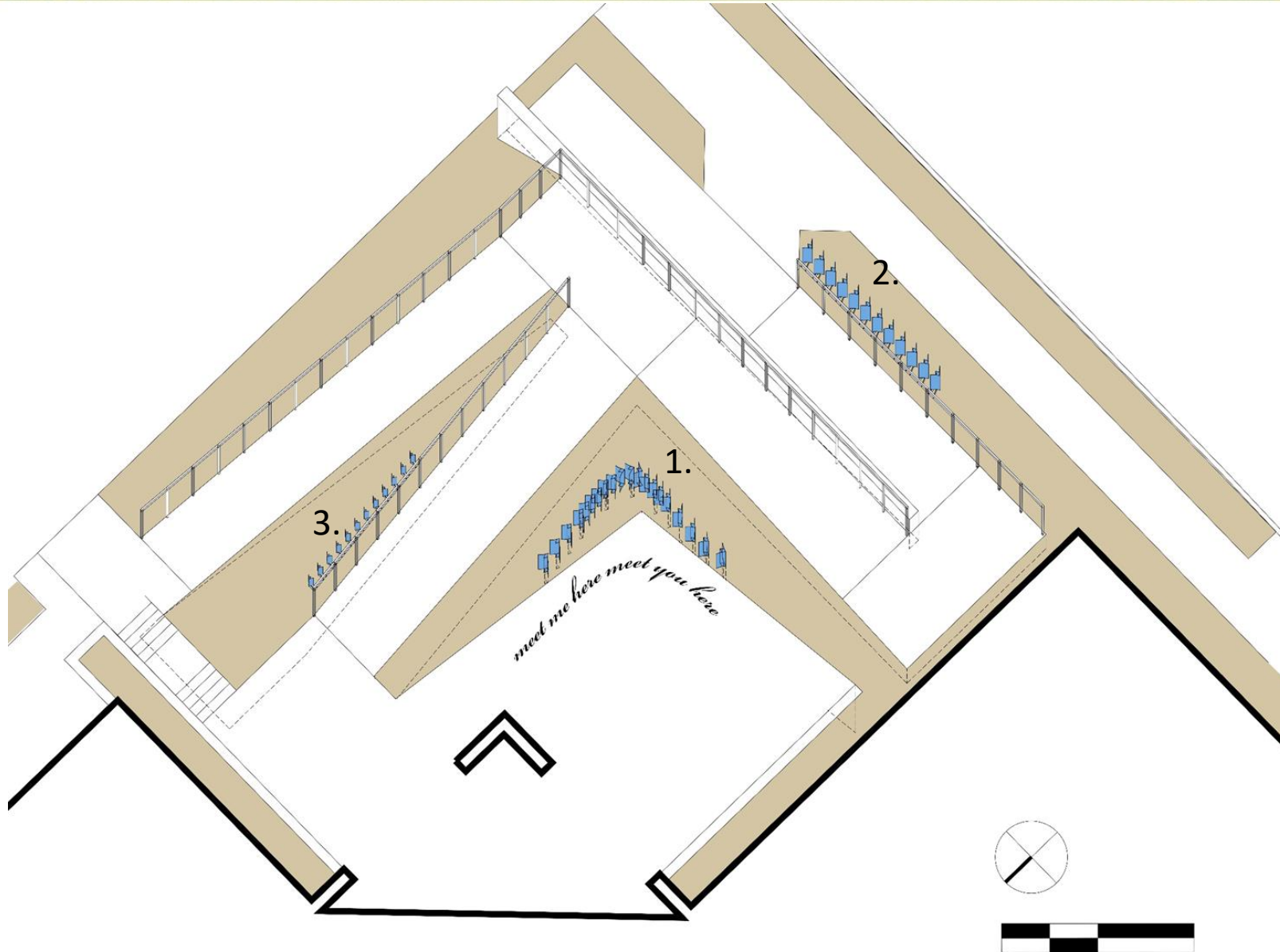
The art concept is about bringing people together, with rhythms of local nature, history, science, writing, and visual art.

The sculptural steel form leads visitors along the pathway, impressing connectivity between the library and northern Arizona natural and cultural environment, prompting interactive exhibits, and highlighting library patrons' support.





Preliminary Art Concept





‘The cut patterning on the “pages” of the sculpture will combine to create a cultural impression of Northern Arizona, combining astronomy/celestial bodies, ponderosa pine trees, sun flowers, dandelions, aspects of the railroad and Route 66, the trails, and topography of the San Francisco Peaks. Casting playful shadows in daylight.

As a complement to the steel form piece, inscribed within the plaza the words, “meet me here; meet you here”, reference the community coming together in this space, as well as, a call from the resources within the library for individual reflection, to explore, learn, and create.

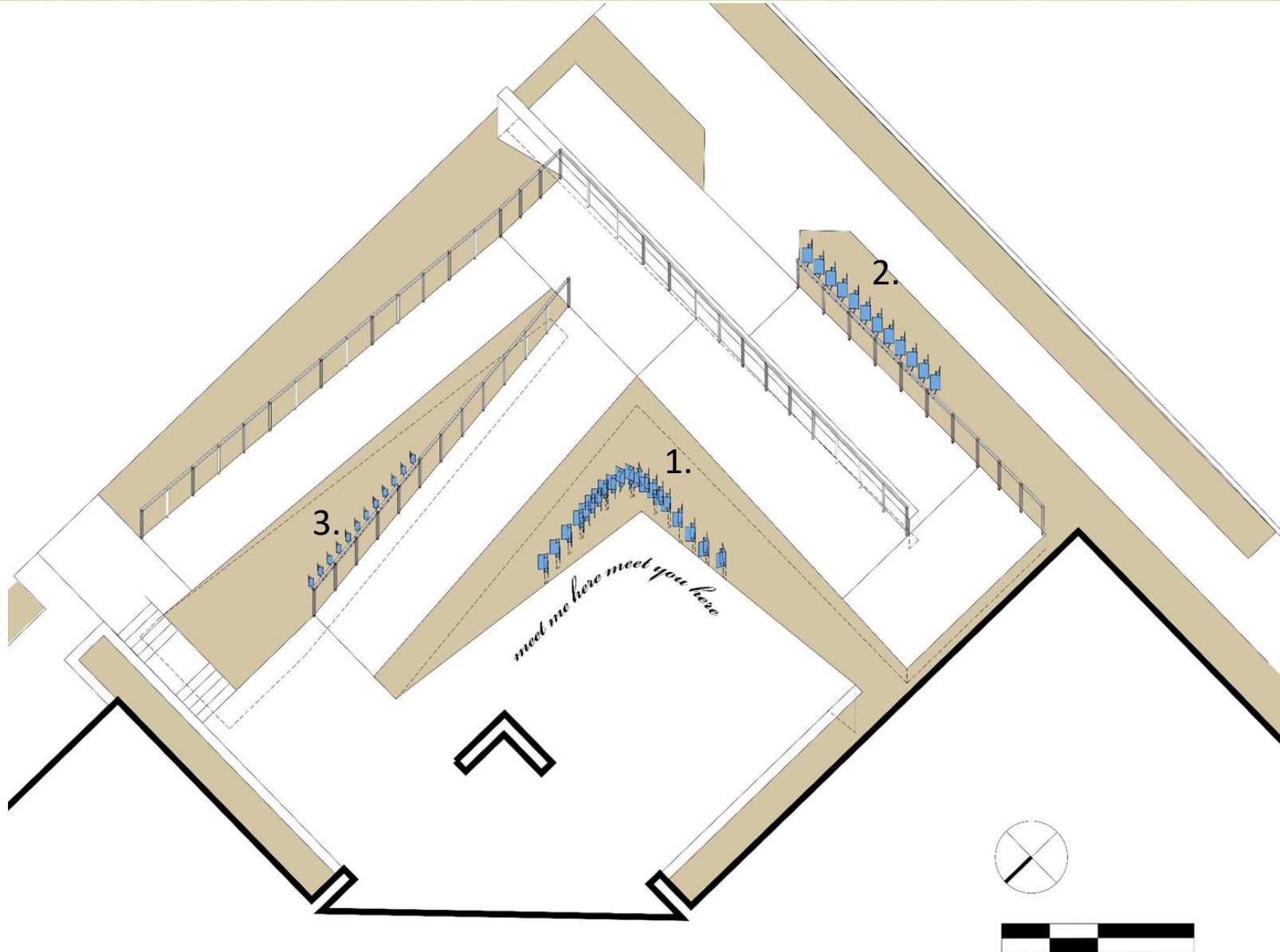
Preliminary Art Concept

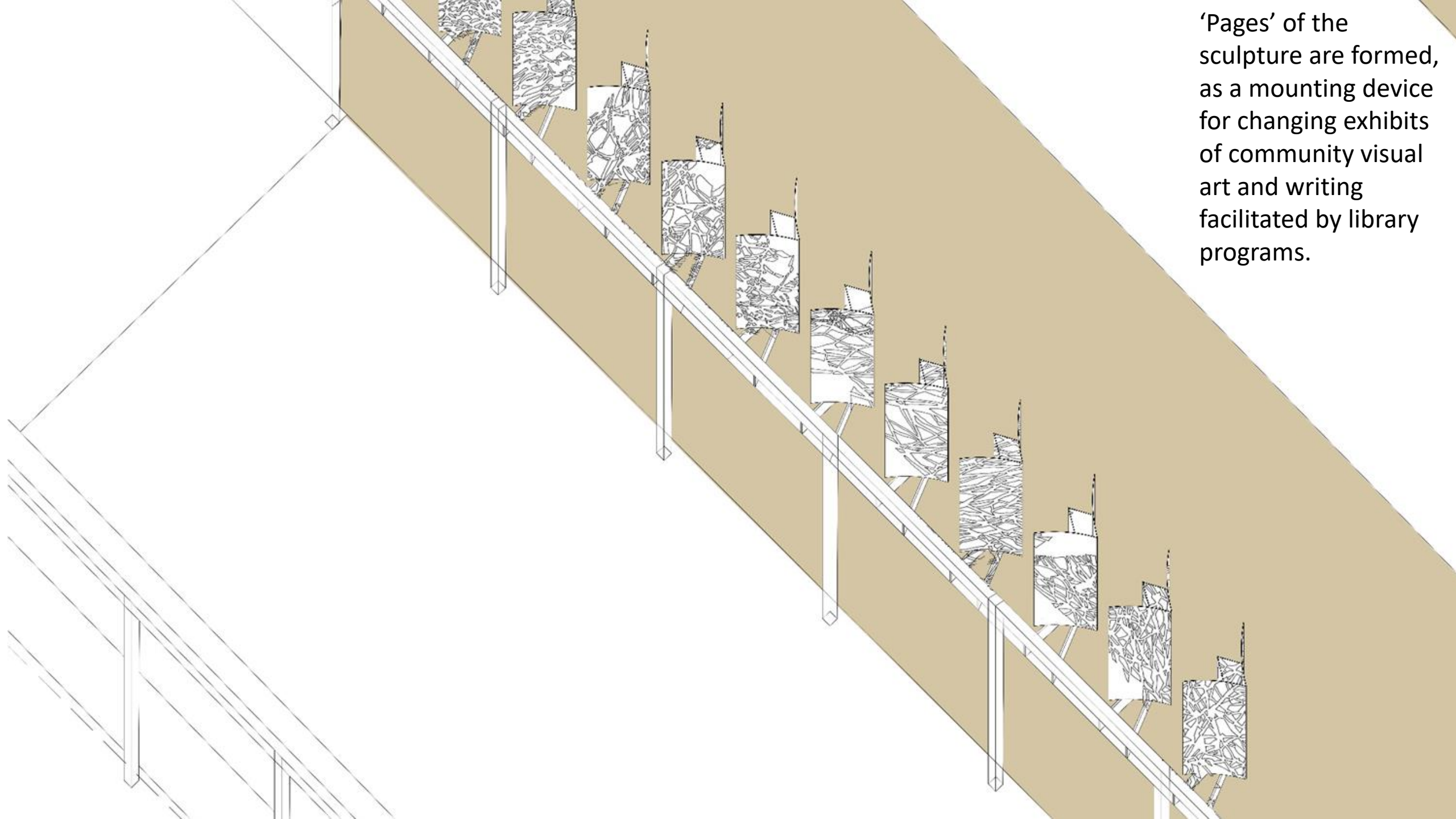
Night illumination provided by dark-skies-friendly narrow band amber lights within the steel lanterns, having the warm yellow color similar to the sun at sunrise and sunset, and a campfire light.





Preliminary Art Concept





'Pages' of the sculpture are formed, as a mounting device for changing exhibits of community visual art and writing facilitated by library programs.

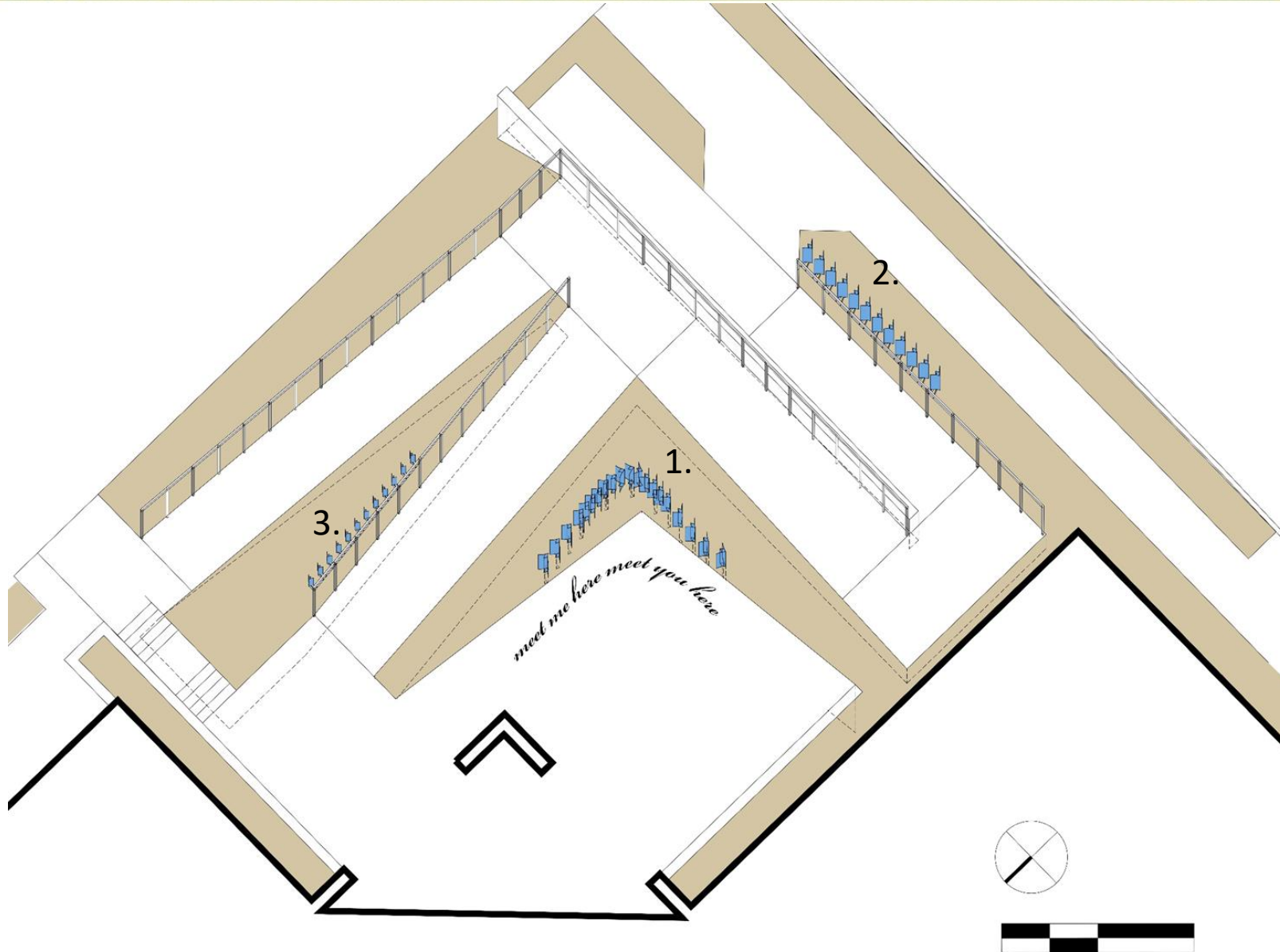


Preliminary Art Concept





Preliminary Art Concept

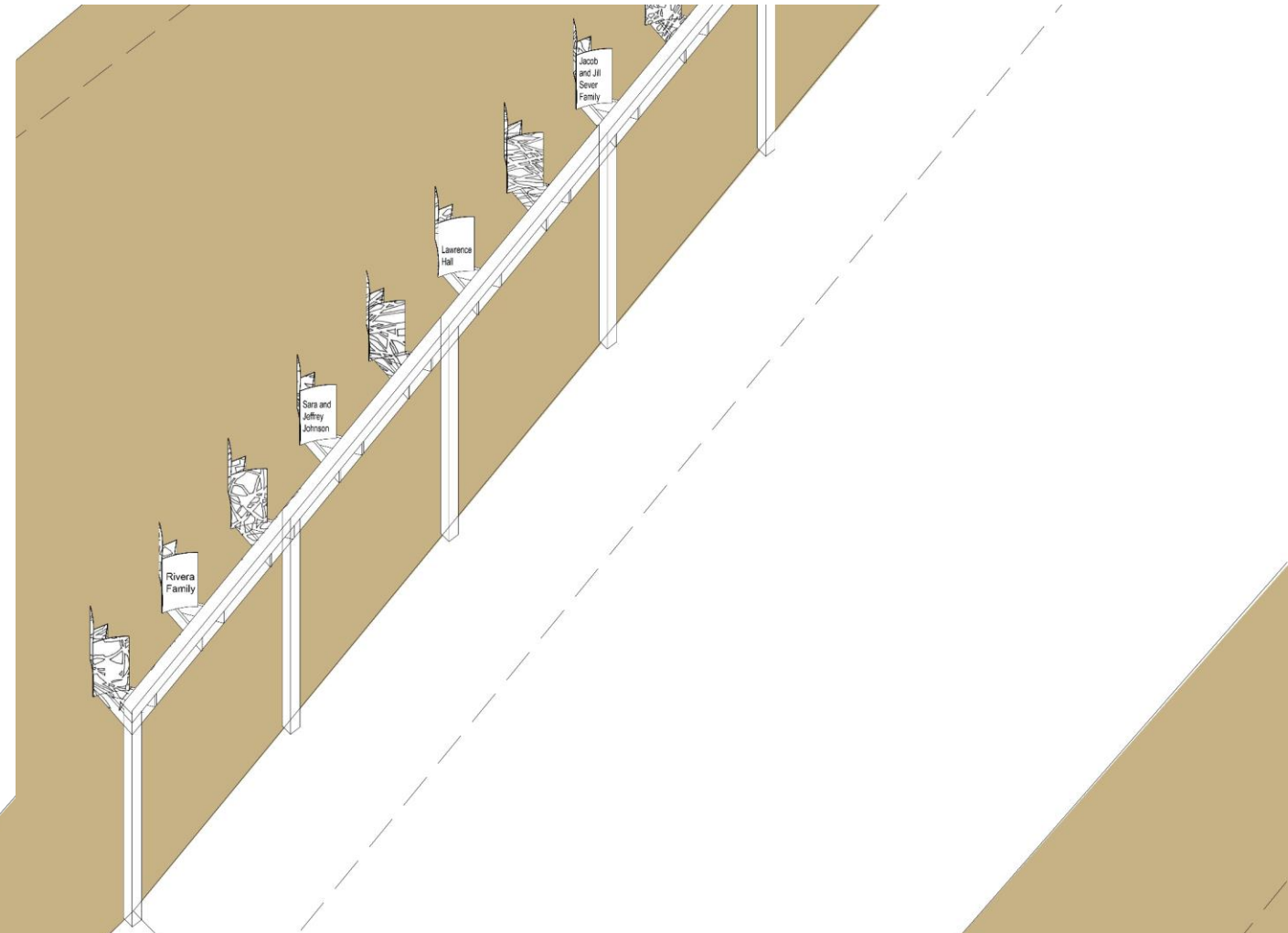
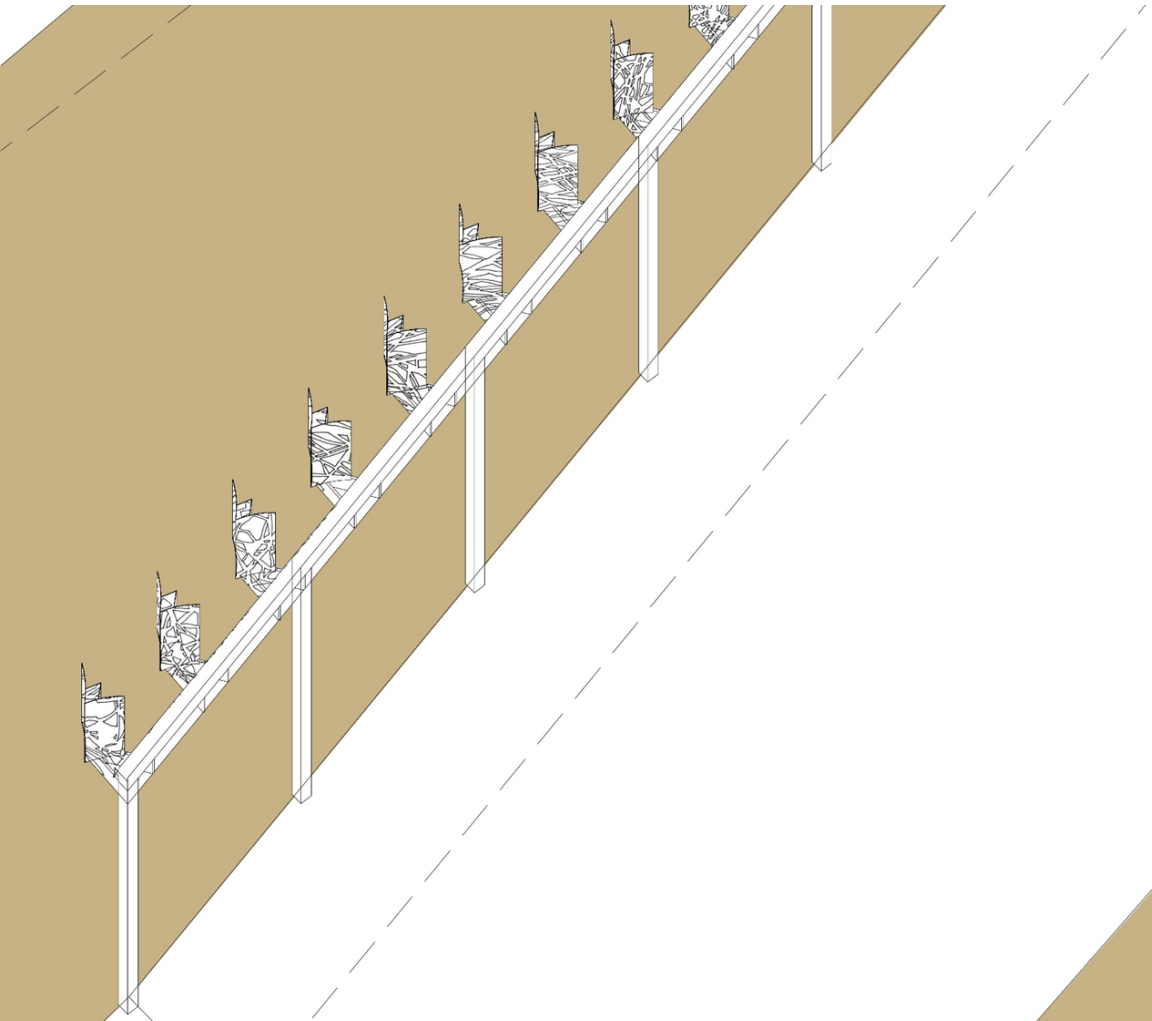


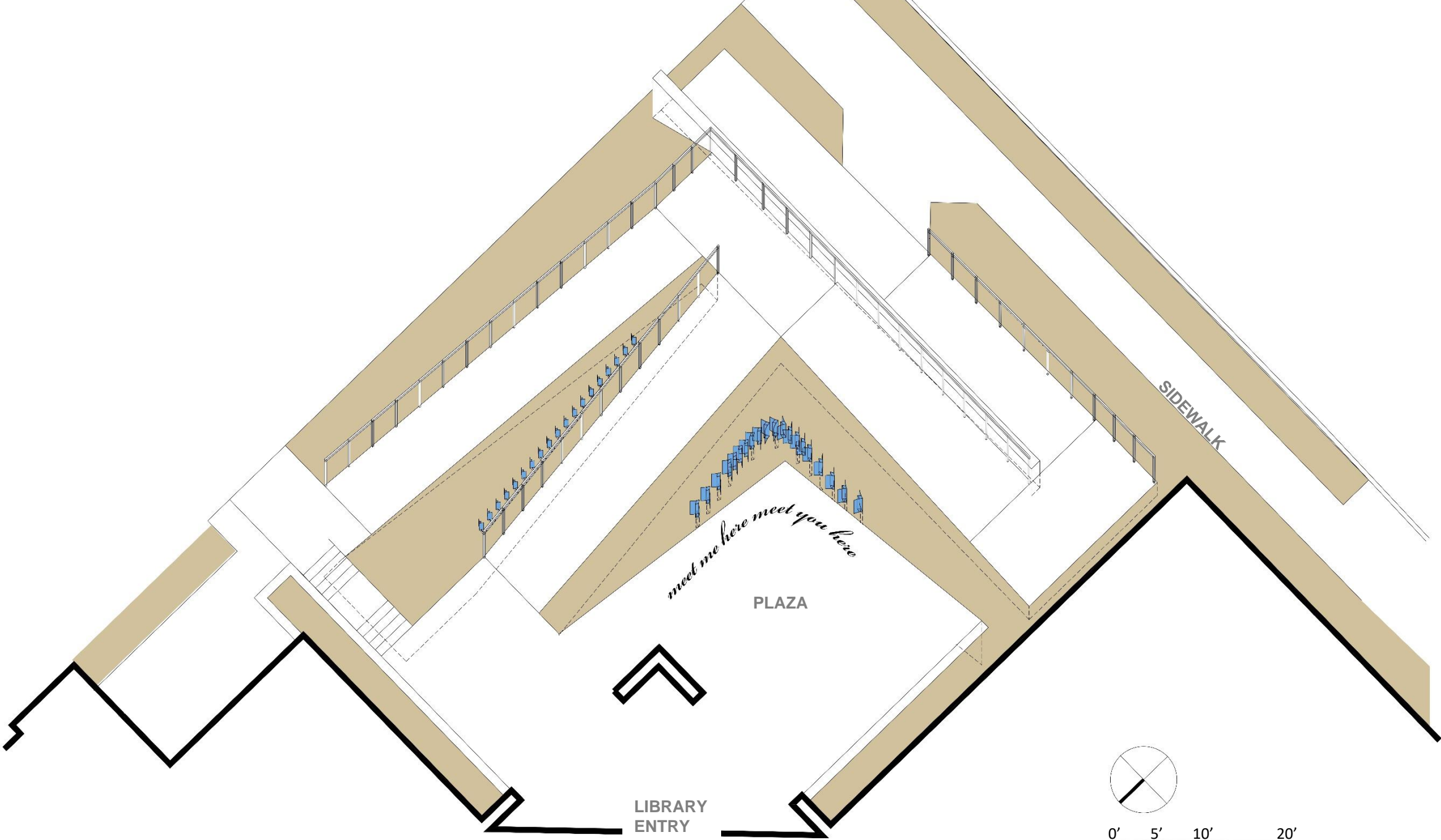


Preliminary Art Concept



'Pages' of the sculpture can adapt to contain donor recognition as digital prints applied to the steel plates.



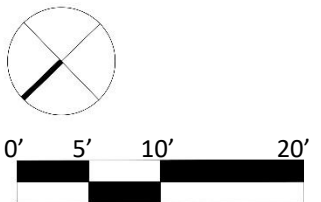


LIBRARY
ENTRY

PLAZA

SIDEWALK

meet me here meet you here



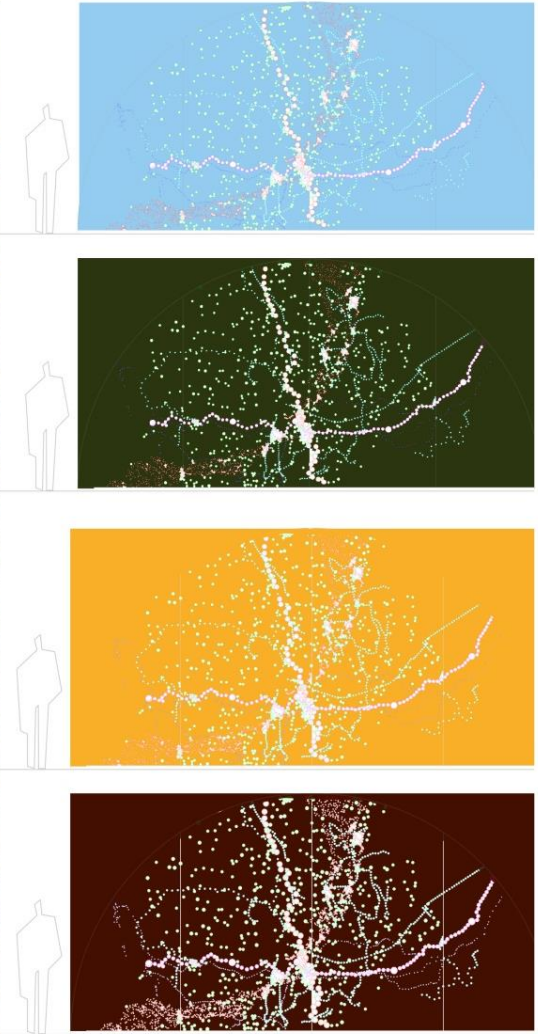


Preliminary Art Concept: Color

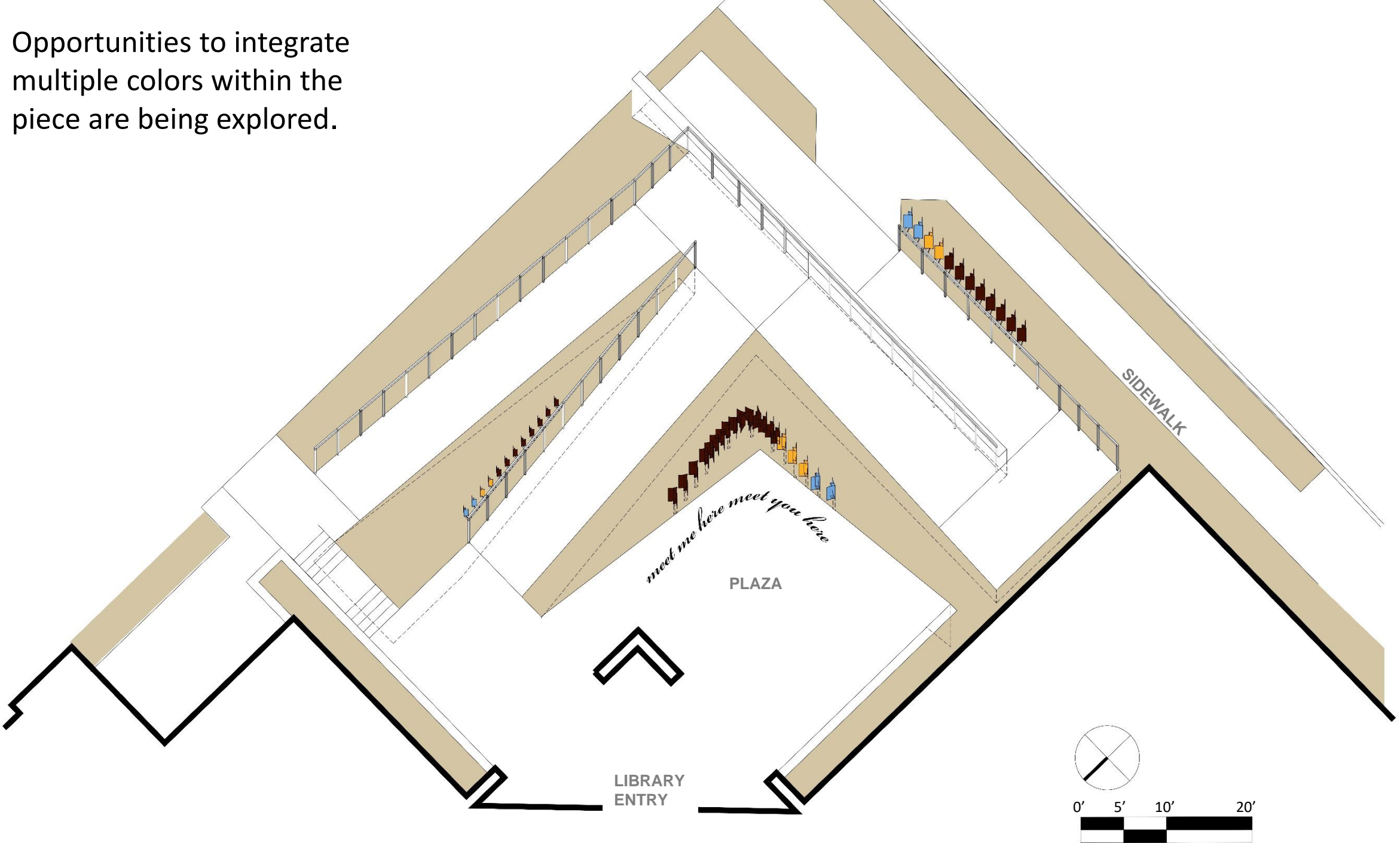




Preliminary Art Concept: Color

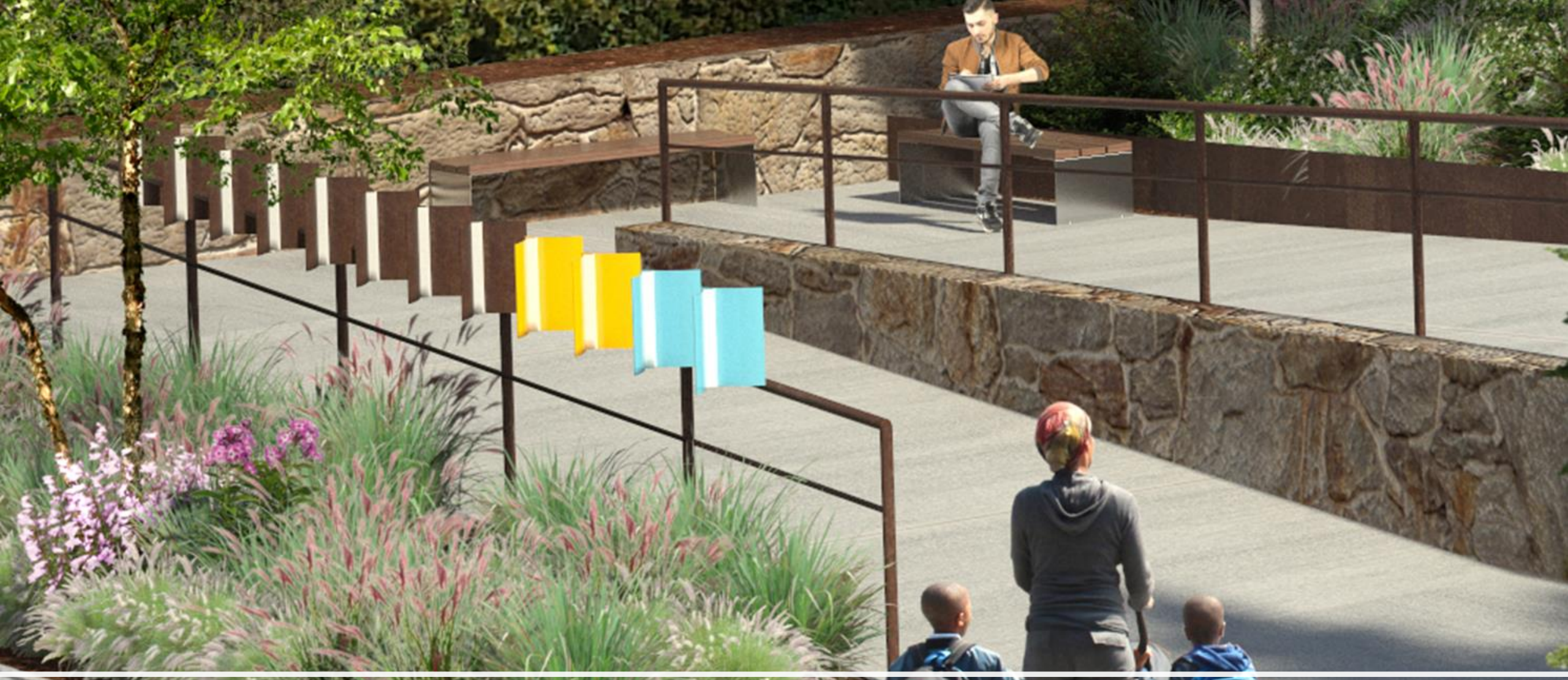


Opportunities to integrate multiple colors within the piece are being explored.



Preliminary Art Concept: Meet Me Here





Preliminary Art Concept: Area 1

Preliminary Art Concept: Area 2



Preliminary Art Concept: Area 3



Questions Discussion

Preliminary Art Concept Library Entry Plaza

