



## Application for Urban Design Committee Review

Department of Planning and Development Review  
Planning & Preservation Division  
900 E. Broad Street, Room 510  
Richmond, Virginia 23219 | (804) 646-6335  
[www.richmondgov.com/CommitteeUrbanDesign](http://www.richmondgov.com/CommitteeUrbanDesign)



### Application Type (select one)

Location, Character, & Extent  
Section 17.05  
Other:

Encroachment  
Design Overlay District

### Review Type (select one)

Conceptual  
Final

### Project Information

Submission Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Project Description (this is not a replacement for the required detailed narrative):

### Applicant Information (a City representative must be the applicant, with an exception for encroachments)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Contact (if different from Applicant): \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Submittal Deadlines

All applications and support materials must be filed no later than 21 days prior to the scheduled meeting of the Urban Design Committee (UDC). Please see the schedule on page 3 as actual deadlines are adjusted due to City holidays. **Late or incomplete submissions will be deferred to the next meeting.**

### Filing

Applications can be mailed or delivered to the attention of "Urban Design Committee" at the address listed at the top of this page. **It is important that the applicant discuss the proposal with appropriate City agencies, Zoning Administration staff, and area civic associations and residents prior to filing the application with the UDC.**

### Submittal Deadlines

The UDC is a ten member committee created by City Council in 1968 whose purpose is to advise the City Planning Commission (CPC) on the design of projects on City property or right-of-way. The UDC provides advice of an aesthetic nature in connection with the performance of the duties of the Commission under Sections 17.05, 17.06, and 17.07 of the City Charter. The UDC also advises the Department of Public Works in regards to private encroachments in the public right-of-way.

# Greening Richmond Public Libraries

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF THE JAMES RIVER BY REDUCING STORMWATER POLLUTION

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## Ginter Park Branch

### Project Description

The site is located in the Ginter Park neighborhood of Richmond in Northside. The property is situated on the corner of Westbrook Avenue and Brook Road adjacent to a city bus stop. The site abuts the former Azalea Mall properties to the north and west. The building and site layout was designed and constructed from 1961-1963 in the mid-century modern design style. There is no accessible route from the public sidewalks into the building. Access is possible through the parking lot, but this route does not meet ADA code. The site features a mix of predominantly non-native plants with many suffering from disease and the effects of over-pruning, some native plants, and some invasive species. Soil infiltration values are quite high after several test pits were evaluated with an infiltrometer.

The design was informed by public questionnaires and the collaborative project management effort of Richmond Public Library staff, RVAH2O, The James River Association, and Four Winds Design. The results of the questionnaire, included in supporting material, contributed significantly to informing the direction of the design for this project. Library users and residents identified the needs for outdoor gathering and children's play spaces, learning environments, and better access to the main doors.

The purpose of the project is to develop a series of bioretention basins and areas of pervious pavers designed to Virginia Department of Environmental Quality standards to infiltrate storm water discharge from a portion of the roof, sidewalks, and parking lots; reduce the heat island effect of the parking as possible; create an accessible route from public sidewalks into the building; and create a small public park that features shaded reading areas, play space for children, an interpretive edible plant space, and opportunities for education about the importance of native plants and managing stormwater runoff. Some impervious area and most non-native species will be removed with native plants added for shade, wildlife habitat, and other ecosystems services. The project strives to become a model of sustainable site development with educational components accomplished with an interpretive sign, special library programs, and community involvement and support.

This project is funded by a 319H grant from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, RVAH20, the National Fish and Wildlife Service/ Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction grant, the Virginia Department of Urban Forestry, Altria, and is supported by staff hours from The James River Association and RVAH2O with service donations from Four Winds Design.

Construction is scheduled to begin in the late fall of 2024. Most project elements will all be accomplished with independent contractors. Volunteers will install the plants and mulch; come sweat it out with the best of them in early December.

Sadly, a 32" diameter Southern Magnolia and two smaller Slippery Elm trees will need to be removed to achieve the design. The project team plans to arrange for on-site milling of these trees with the intent of trading the magnolia lumber for dried lumber of a species more suitable for outdoor use. The existing non-native shrubs that are disease free and not invasive will be offered to the community as free transplants to save on demolition costs and reduce construction waste. To further reduce building waste the berm that defines the park perimeter will consist mostly of excavation spoils including an old roadbed the limits infiltration value. The stone benches will be constructed of reclaimed granite from the previous project at East End Library.

## Maintenance Analysis

All maintenance of RPL properties is performed by an independent contractor managed by RPL staff. The five previously developed library branches have served as maintenance testing grounds. Site-specific manuals for each property have been created and is included as supporting material. The section for Ginter Park will be revised to include plant species specific care upon completion of construction. This site will be actively maintained by JRA staff for weeding and supplemental watering and monitored yearly by JRA and Four Winds. Beginning in 2025, this site will be part of a new program developed by JRA to maintain the collective Greening Richmond Public Library sites. This includes ongoing maintenance to supplement the independent contractor and training in the maintenance of bioretention basins and pervious pavers as well as proper care for the native plants under the Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals program for prospective maintenance contractors. This program is supported by grants from Soar365.

# Greening Richmond Public Libraries

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF THE JAMES RIVER BY REDUCING STORMWATER POLLUTION

## Ginter Park Branch Library

1200 Westbrook Avenue, Richmond, 23227

### LEGEND

- |             |                      |
|-------------|----------------------|
| AC UNIT     | ELEC. TRANSFORMER    |
| BOLLARD     | ADA PARKING          |
| ELEC. BOX   | UTILITY POLE         |
| ELEC. METER | IRRIGATION VALVE BOX |
| GAS METER   | 1X1 DROP INLET       |
| GAS VALVE   | STORM MH             |
| LIGHT POLE  | CLEAN OUT            |
| SIGN        | FIBER HANDHOLE       |
| TELE. PED.  | TRAFFIC HANDHOLE     |
| WATER METER | TRAFFIC LIGHT POLE   |
| WATER VALVE |                      |

- U.G. WATER
- U.G. GAS
- O.H. TELEPHONE

CONCRETE

- Downspout locations
- Downspout location, goes below ground
- Unknown 4" PVC pipe with clean out or inspection port

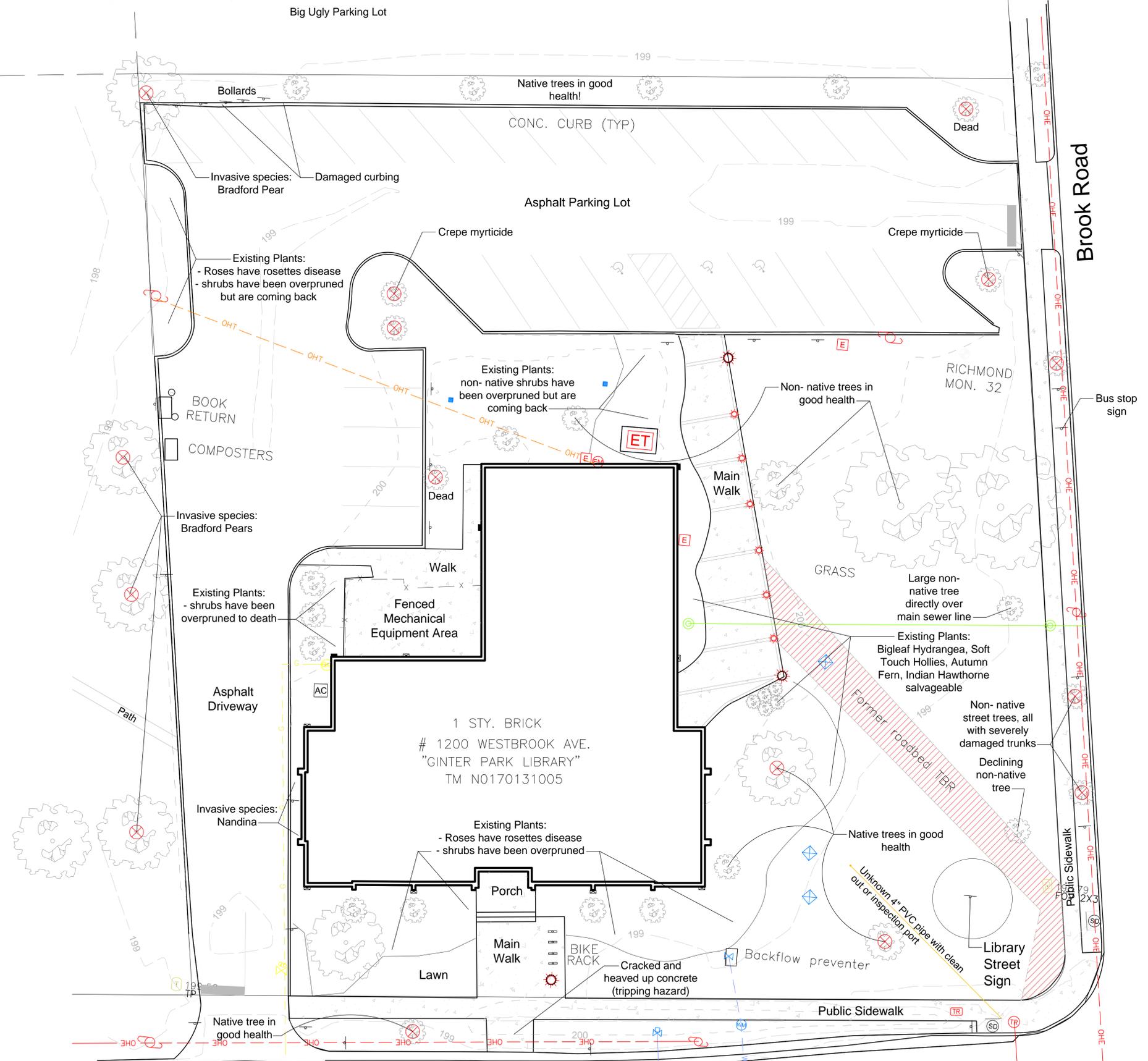


Existing Trees To Be Removed:

DATUM:  
HORIZONTAL: NAD83  
VERTICAL: NAVD 88

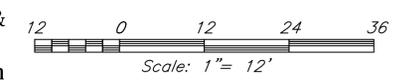
UNDERGROUND UTILITIES MARKED BY UNKNOWN SOURCES.

EASEMENTS AND OTHER ENCUMBRANCES MAY EXIST THAT ARE NOT SHOWN.



Westbrook Avenue

FOUR WINDS DESIGN, LC  
Existing Conditions & Site Analysis  
Not for construction



Date: 4-18-24  
Sheet 1 of 3

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|             | WATER VALVE          |

- U.G. WATER
- U.G. GAS
- O.H. TELEPHONE

CONCRETE

- ☒ Downspout locations
- Downspout location, goes below ground
- Unknown 4" PVC pipe with clean out or inspection port

- Existing Trees & Shrubs To Be Preserved:
- Existing Trees To Be Removed:

### FEATURES

- A Bee Zone
- B Arbor of reclaimed wood over patio and seating stones
- C Concrete cheekwalls
- D Standing Stones mark garden entrance
- E Native Plant ID Game: waterproof box with paper handouts & QR code
- F Edible plants demonstration plots
- G Pervious pavers
- H Exposed stormwater filter box
- I Screening evergreens
- Reclaimed concrete benches
- Public Art Installations



Arbor Concept



Berms are approx 30" tall



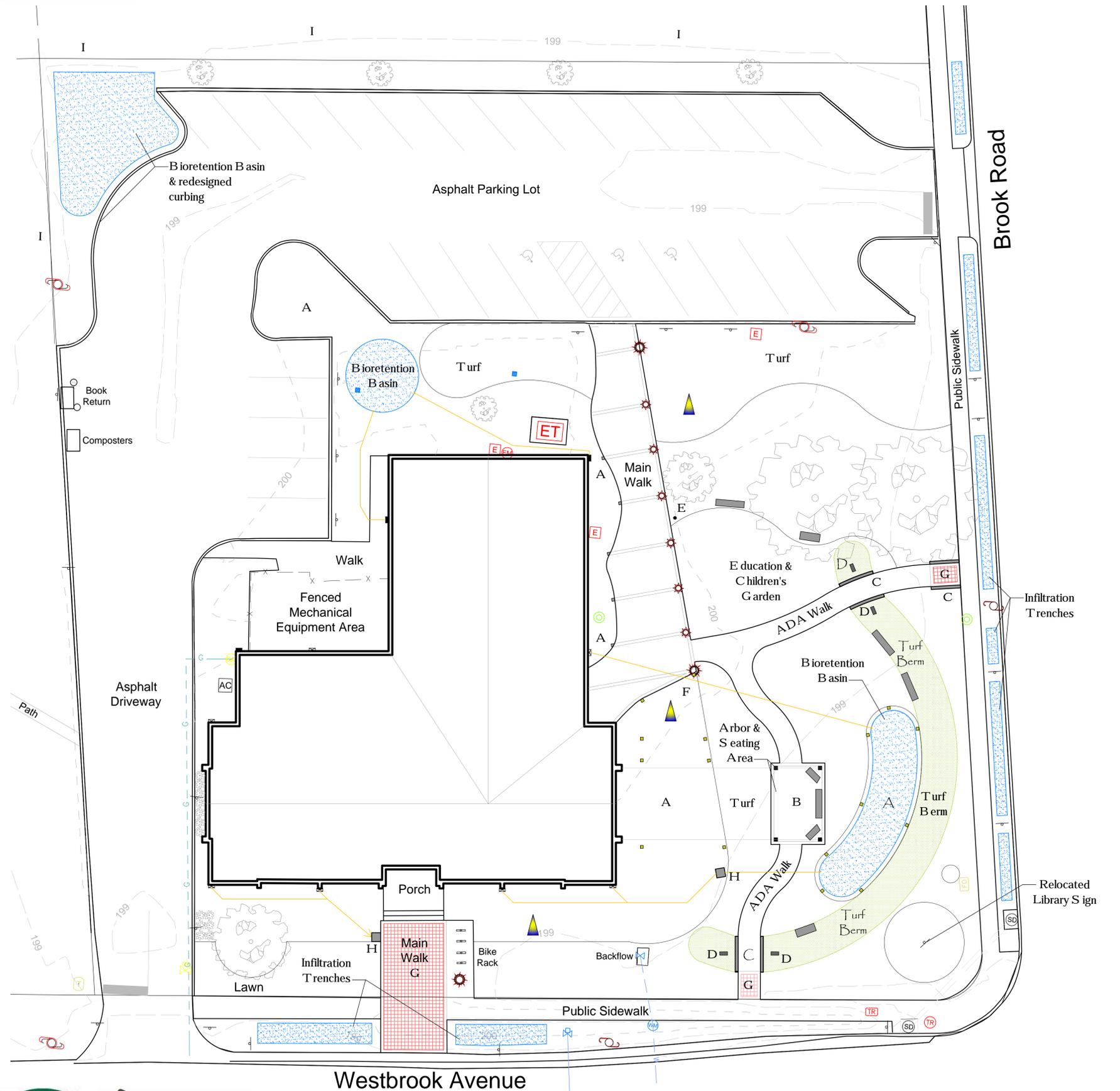
Reclaimed stones used as entrance markers



Interpretive Sign & Bee Zone markers



Reclaimed granite benches and Powerblock pervious pavers



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Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Serviceberry
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Aesclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed
<i>Aster novi-belgii</i>	Aster
<i>Betula nigra</i>	Riverbirch
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Golden Redbud
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Fringetree
<i>Coreopsis auriculata</i>	Tickseed
<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	Fancy Fern
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Smooth Hydrangea
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American Holly
<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Dwarf Yaupon Holly
<i>Iris louisiana</i>	Iris
<i>Itea virginica</i>	Sweetspire
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Sweetbay Magnolia
<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	Bayberry
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Tupelo
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switch Grass
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Beard Tongue
<i>Phlox subulata</i>	Creeping Phlox
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem
<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i>	Spiderwort
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrowwood Viburnum

