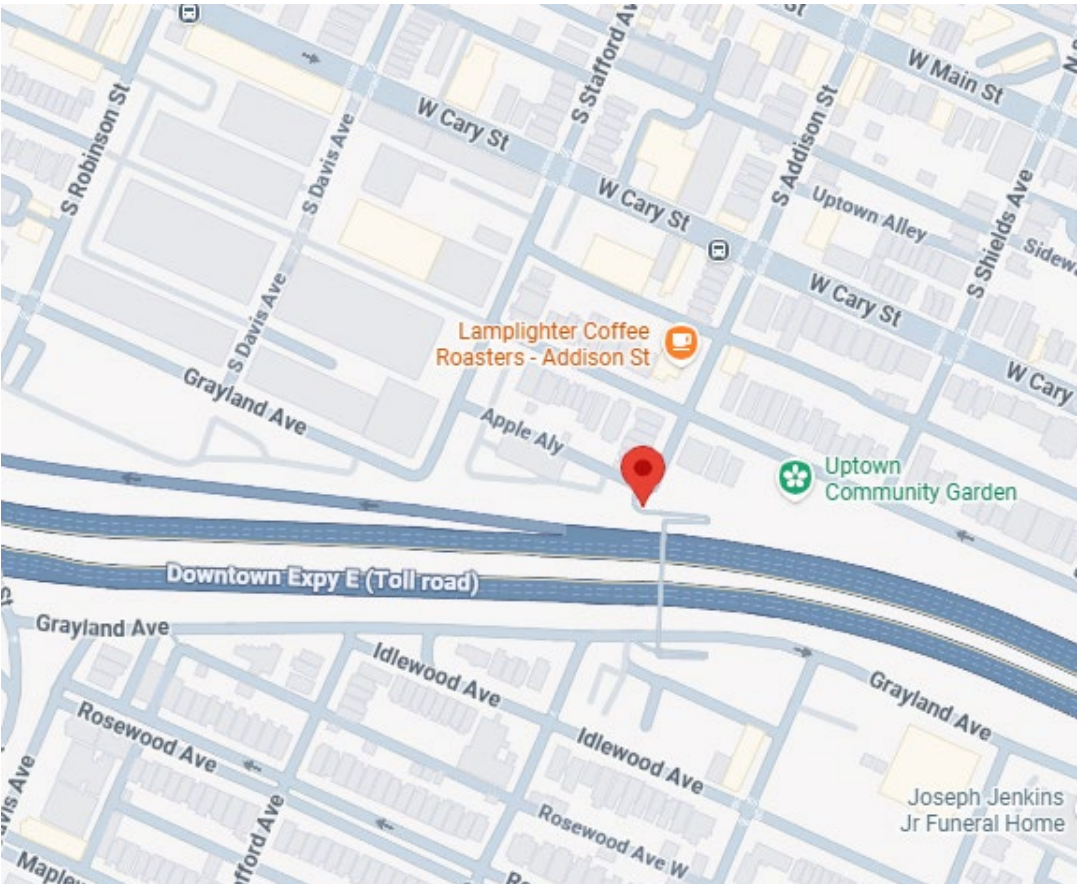




Staff Report
City of Richmond, Virginia
Public Art Commission

Write legislation/ordinance number here.	Meeting Date: 11/20/2025
Applicant/Petitioner	Monica Kinsey, Planner/Secretary, Public Art Commission
Project Description	Lory Markham of Markham Planning, a Development and Real Estate Services company, is seeking approval for a sculpture to become part of the City's Public Art Collection and be sited at the dead end of South Addison Street in the Fan. The preferred site is located near the beginning of the pathway to the pedestrian bridge that crosses the 195 expressway. The Development Team at Markham Planning has taken great efforts to improve the public space around the townhome development they have recently completed along Apple Alley, which intersects with the end of South Addison Street. This has included cleaning up the dead end, once home to a group of trashcans. In an effort to continue to transform and improve this area, they commissioned local artist Noah Scalin to create an interactive sculpture for the community. The sculpture, titled Cardinal Points, is made of corten steel and features a silhouette of the Virginia state bird with horizontal shelves and cubbies meant for offerings contributed by community members. The 7-foot 2-inch high sculpture measures 2 1/2-feet at its widest point and will be situated upon a 12-inch tall, 4 by 8 foot concrete base. The value of the sculpture is \$9,790.75. Corten steel will rust over time and is considered a low-maintenance material for outdoor sculpture. The preferred site is currently being maintained by the landscape crew responsible for the townhome development's outdoor areas. Installation of the sculpture in the proposed location would require the removal of an existing guardrail and addition of protective bollards. The Development Team at Markham Planning is committed to making interesting and engaging spaces and supporting local artists. The installation of similar sculptures in other neighborhoods, such as the Oakland Buddha shrine in California, have resulted in a decrease in illegal dumping and criminal activity in the area. The Markham team's hope is that this public art sculpture will further enhance the experience of the neighborhood and surrounding area for all community members and visitors.
37°32'53.5"N 77°28'15.2"W The end of S. Addison Street beside Apple Alley Richmond, VA 23220	
Markham Planning	

Council District(s): ☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ City-Wide	
PAC Recommendation	Approval, with Conditions
Staff Contact	Monica Kinsey, Planner/Secretary, Public Art Commission, (804) 646-3303, monica.kinsey@rva.gov

ARTIST BIO

Noah Scalin is a Richmond-based multimedia artist who is the creator of the Webby Award winning project Skull-A-Day and the collaborative science fiction universe & performance art project League of Space Pirates. He was the Grand Prize winner of Artfields 2022 and his collaboration with Old Navy was one of the most viewed commercials of 2020. Noah's art has been exhibited internationally, including installations in Times Square, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Mütter Museum and multiple solo exhibitions in Krause Gallery in NYC. His work has been commissioned by the Martin Agency, Capital One, and Goodwill; and has been featured in dozens of publications including Fast Company, Hi-Fructose, Juxtapoz, USA Today, The Telegraph, and the New York Times. Noah is the author of six books, a sought after public speaker on creativity and has inaugurated the artist-in-residence role at both Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Business and Old Dominion University's Strome College of Business. He is also the founder of Another Limited Rebellion an art & innovation consulting firm which he co-runs with his sister.

CORRELATION TO THE PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN

Local Artists and Projects (p.58)

This plan strongly recommends that the Public Art Program . . . support high quality public art projects by local artists.

Priority Sites (p. 66)

Public art sited at entryways can help to create a sense of arrival and excitement about place.

CORRELATION TO RICHMOND 300 MASTER PLAN

Goal 4: Urban Design (p. 99)

Public art is critical to showcase a place's uniqueness, culture, and history. . . . Future public art projects and improved streetscapes in all parts of the city set the tone for high-quality development and create pride for residents as they look forward to the future prosperity of their neighborhood and their personal household.

Objective 4.2 (p. 102)

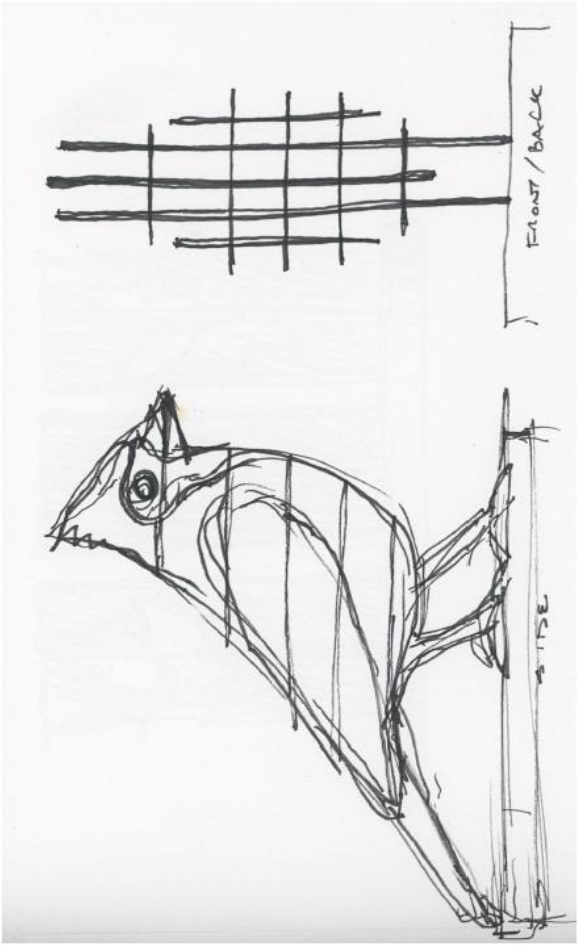
Integrate public art into the built environment to acknowledge Richmond's unique history and neighborhood identity, and engage the creative community, focusing public art efforts in areas that do not have public art today.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Cardinal Points Sculpture Concept

March 6, 2025

Sculpture Concepts
Option #1: Redlines

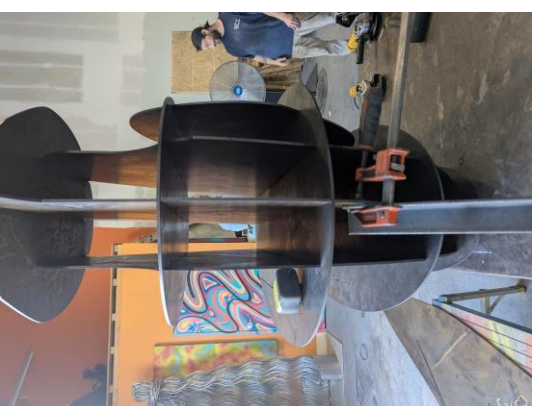


A stylized image of our state bird looks recognizable from the sides, but when viewed from the front or back resolves into a grid of red lines. This piece addresses both the devastating reality of divided communities that were created by redlining and the possibility of reconnection and reconciliation that's possible with knowledge.

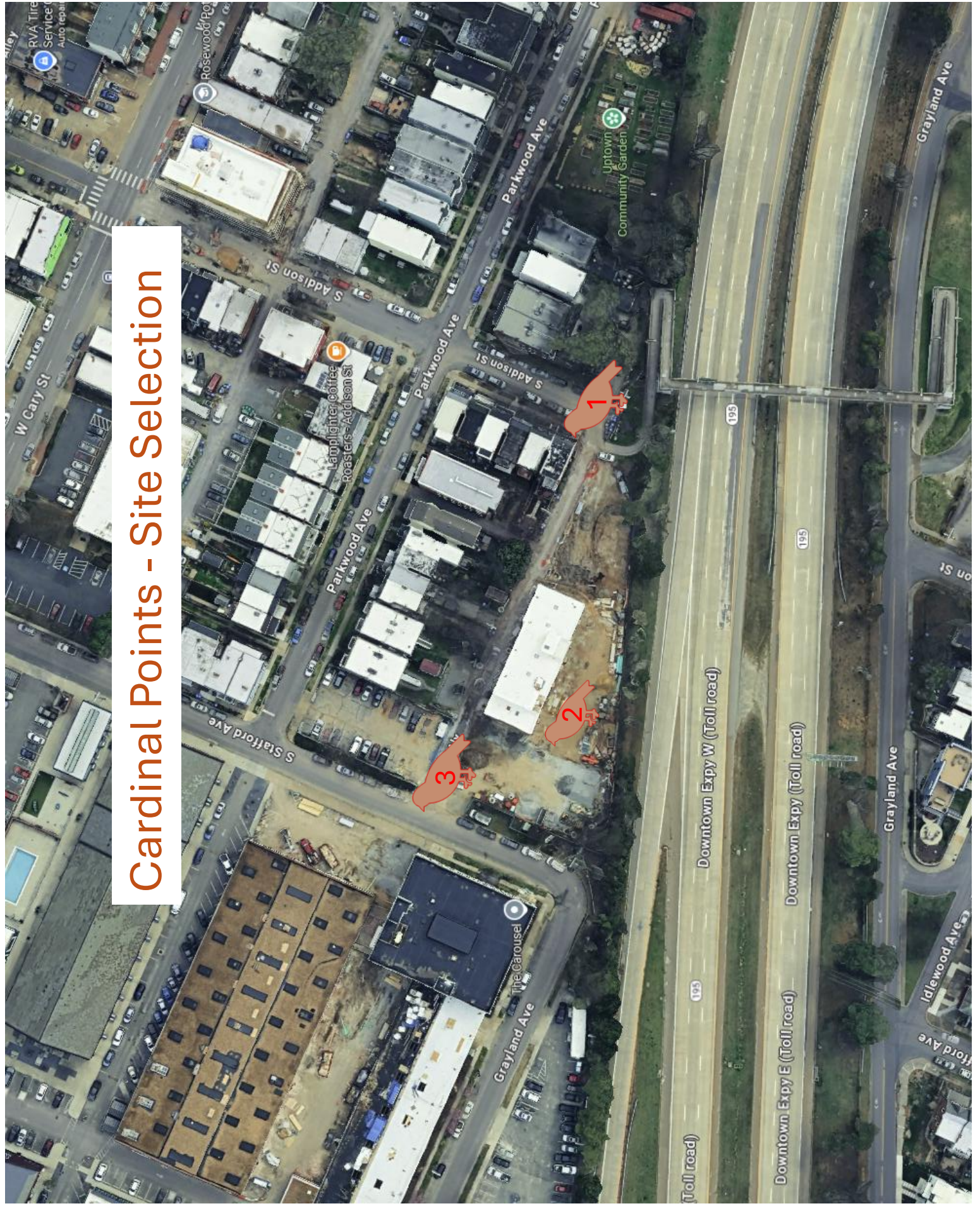
The resulting cubby-like spaces that are created by the grid could be used by the community as shelves for small offerings, book sharing, inspirational notes and more.

Birds are an important icon for me as they represent going beyond borders, since walls and geographical boundaries, both physical and cartographical mean nothing to them.



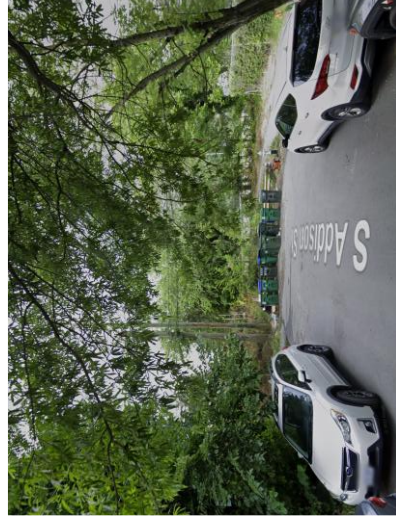


Cardinal Points - Site Selection



Cardinal Points

Site Selection 1 – Approach to pedestrian bridge over Downtown Expressway Public Right-of-Way – S Addison Street



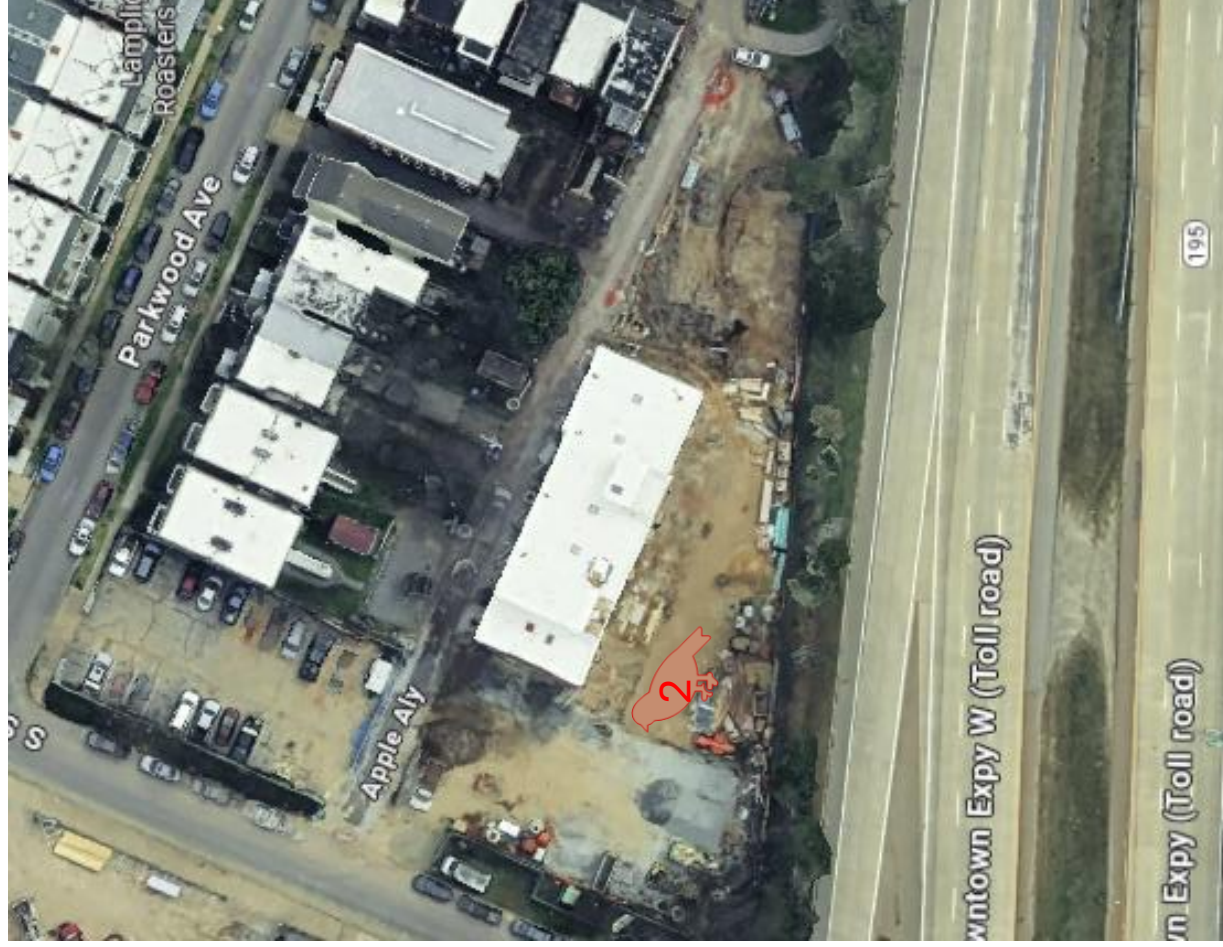
Pros:

- Publicly accessible
- Brings attention to pedestrian bridge
- Sculpture is experienced from all sides
- Walk ramps up around it
- Discourages trash
- Removes broken infrastructure

November 4, 2025



Cardinal Points
Site Selection 2 – Parkline Garden Pocket Park
Private – Homeowners Association

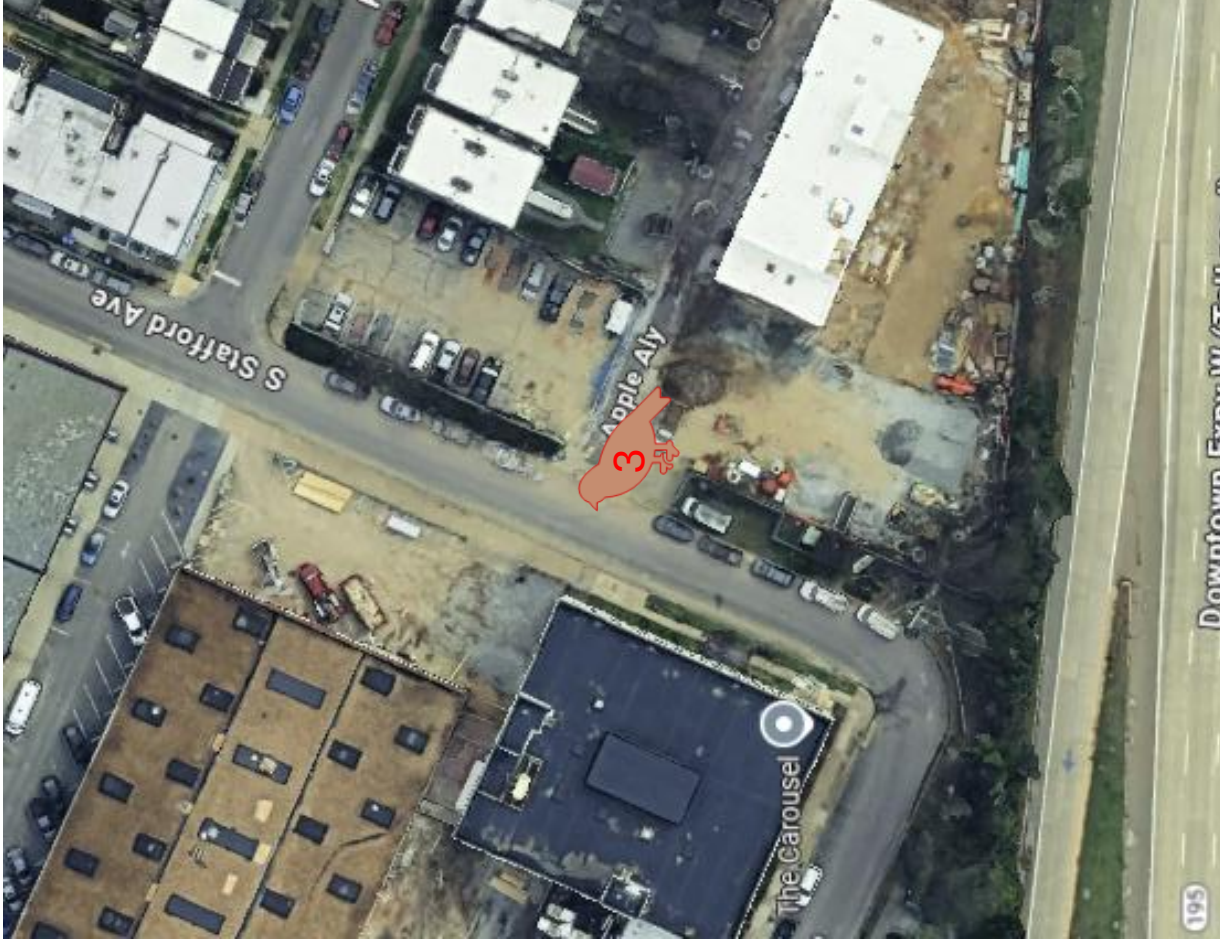


Pros:

- Sense of identity for private neighborhood

Cardinal Points

Site Selection 3 – Entrance to Parkline Neighborhood
Private Yard – Intersection of Apple Alley and S Stafford Avenue



Pros:

- Signage for private neighborhood
- Publicly Viewable