



# origins A Wishing Tree

When the Youth Art Exchange Architecture Firm was asked to design a Living Innovation Zone for the Asian Art Museum, the students also began a series of outreach events with the community. The first, conducted in September 2015 was the "Wishing Tree" installation. Here, students asked for feedback at the Civic Center Night Market - questions to the public included what do you love about the neighborhood; what do you want to see changed; and what matters most about Civic Center, the Asian Art Museum, and the Public Library. Answers posted as "wishes" on the Cherry Tree showcased the things community would like to see happen. This was the first of a series of outreach events with the community, peers, planners, and local stakeholders.















## inspiration Here there be dragons!

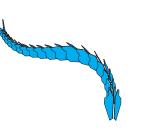
As the students in the firm developed their concept for the Asian Art Museum and the Public Library, they settled on four sources of inspiration that would drive their design and influence their ideas for incorporating play.

**Dragon:** From their research into common themes in the art of Asian cultures, the students found dragons to be a nearly universal feature in myths and art. Building upon the connection of dragons to mysterious landscapes, and the history of exploration, inspired the students to create a unique territory of discovery and play, watched over by a dragon.

**Origami:** The students chose origami as a means to connect exterior architectural form to the art celebrated inside the museum, as well as to the pages of books in the library. The students experimented with the art of paper folding to generate their design.

Telescope art gallery: Seeking ways to activate the opague historic facades of both the Asian Art Museum and the Public Library on Fulton Street, the Telescope gallery is inspired by the existing windows on both buildings. With the careful placement of telescopes, selected windows now become the gallery walls, and the public is invited to look through to the interior display.



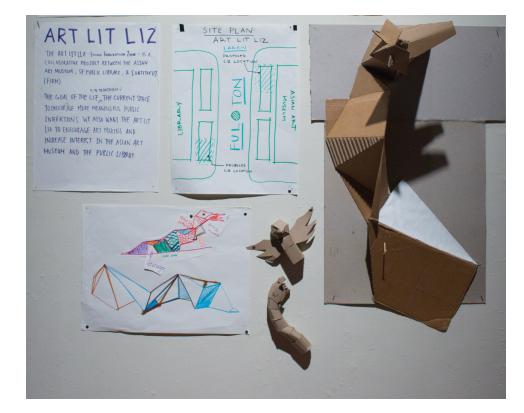


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**Interactive element:** A mobile prayer wheel will spin at both ends of the dragon, with one at the mouth also operating a flame flag. This idea intrigued the students as a way to create an inclusive form of interaction for people of all ages and abilities, while referencing traditions relevant to the Asian Art Museum.



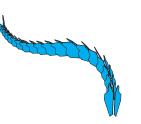












### prototypes **Dragon Tail**

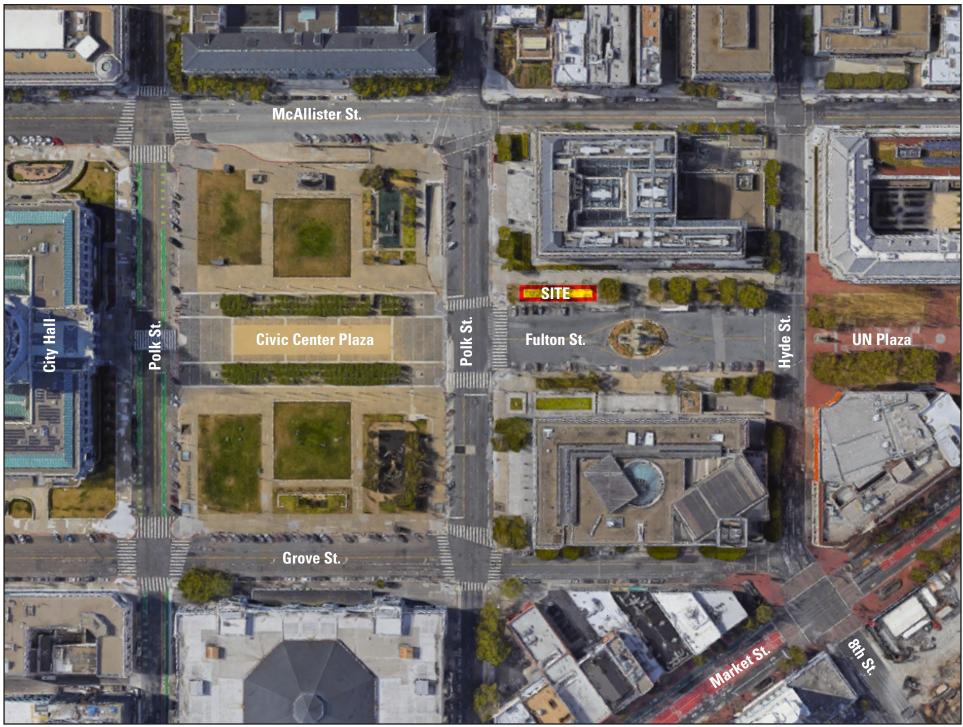
In their effort to test their designs and solicit additional feedback from the public, the students constructed scale models and multiple full-scale prototypes of their design. One prototype, a section of the dragon's 'tail', was installed at the Youth Art Summit, in front of city hall, and inside the Asian Art Museum atrium. The other, a 50% scale model of the final design, will be displayed at Root Division as part of the students' final exhibition on May 14th.







# project location







SITE LOCATION



VICINITY PLAN





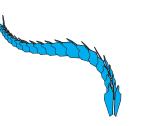
### CONTEXT PLAN

### **Views of Existing Site**



VIEW OF SITE LOOKING SOUTHEAST





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### site context





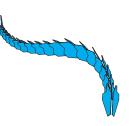


VIEW OF SITE LOOKING EAST









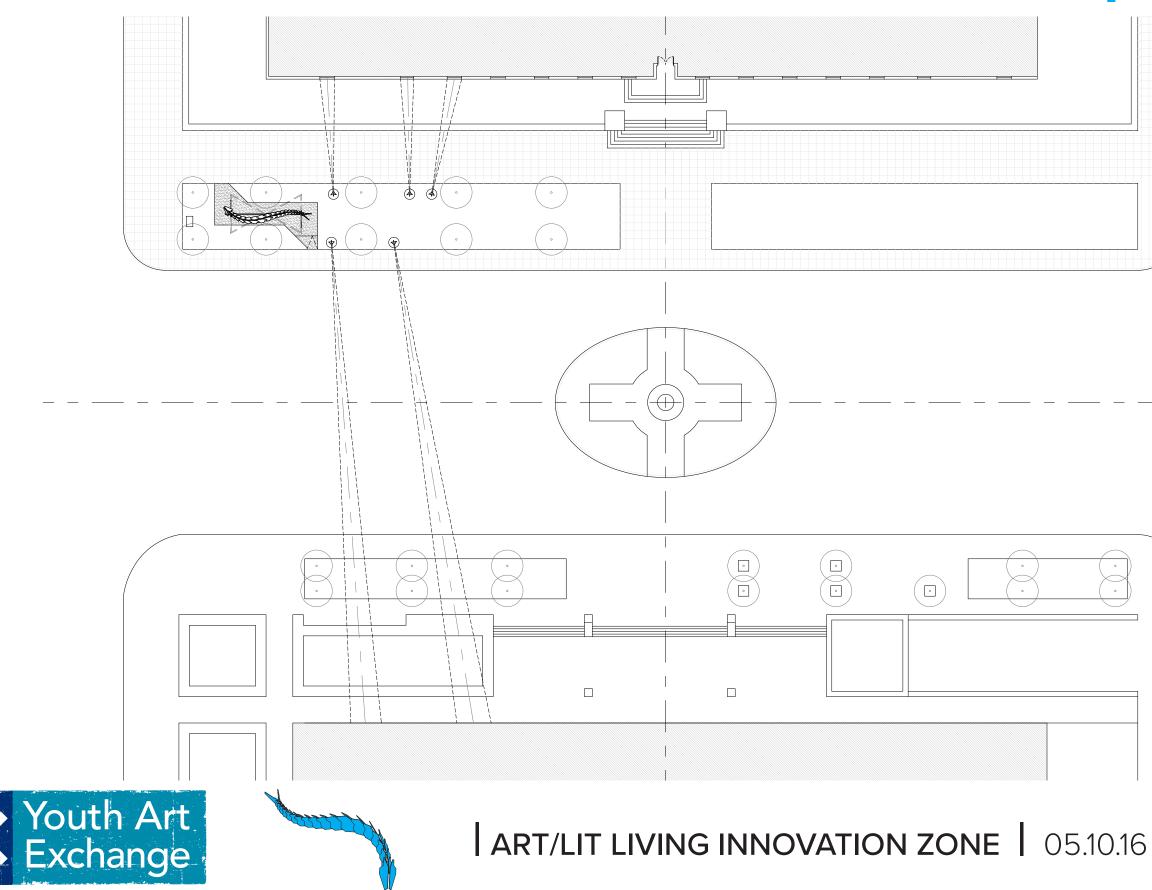
### site context

VIEW OF SITE LOOKING NORTHEAST

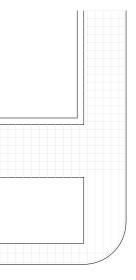


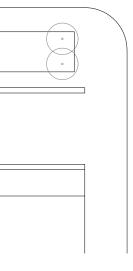
VIEW OF SITE LOOKING SOUTHWEST





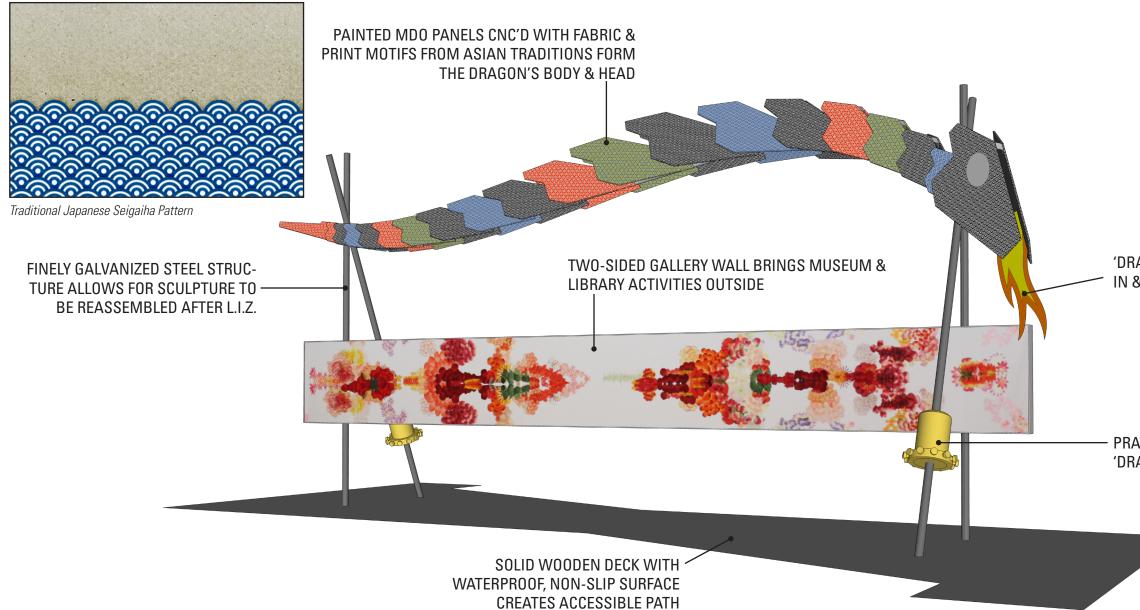




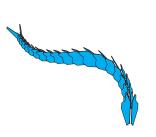




# project diagram



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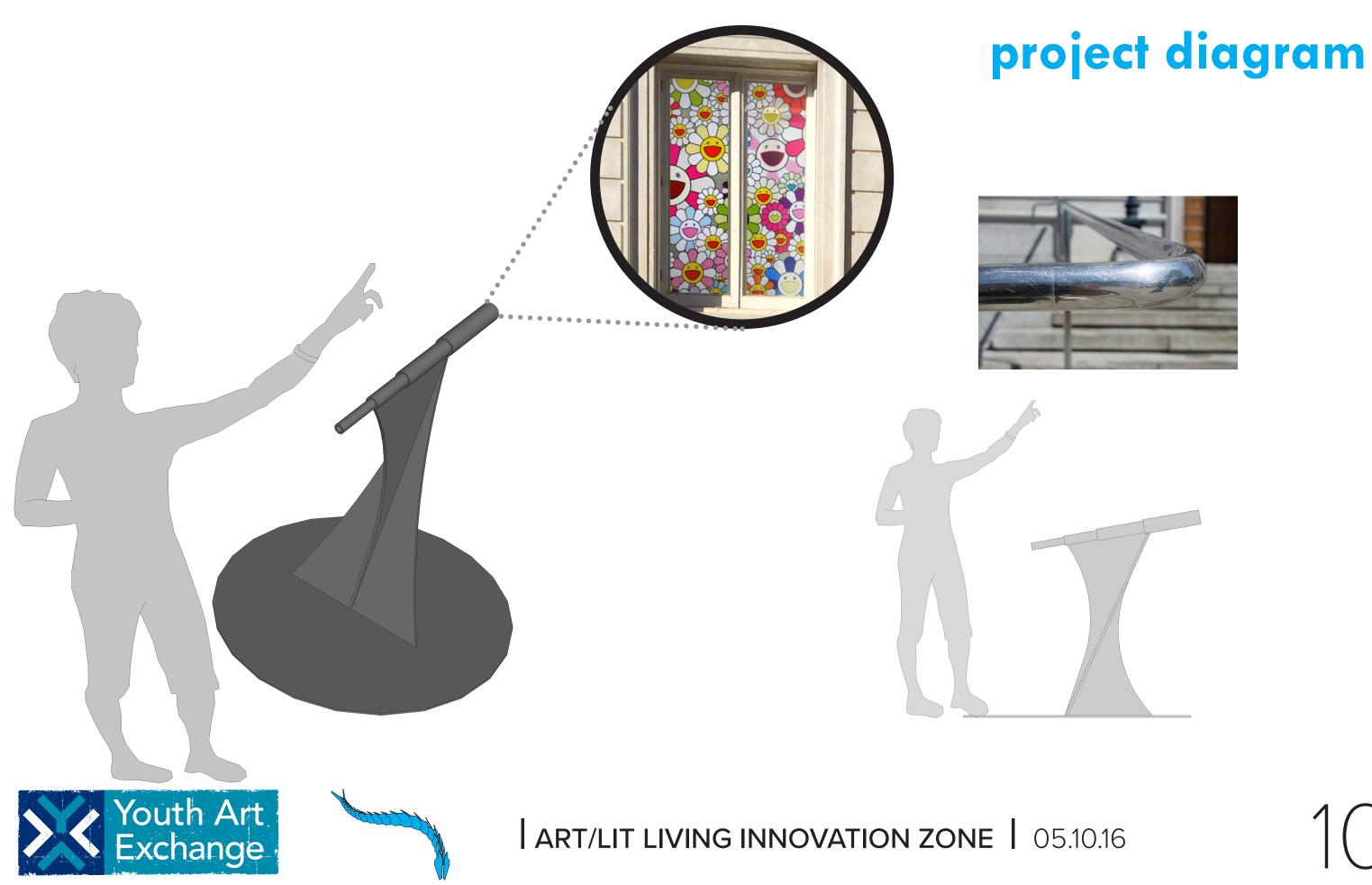
19th cent. Ming Dynasty Flag

### 'DRAGON FLAME' FLAG MOVES IN & OUT OF DRAGON'S MOUTH

PRAYER WHEEL SPINNER OPERATES 'DRAGON FLAME' FLAG

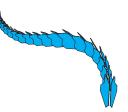




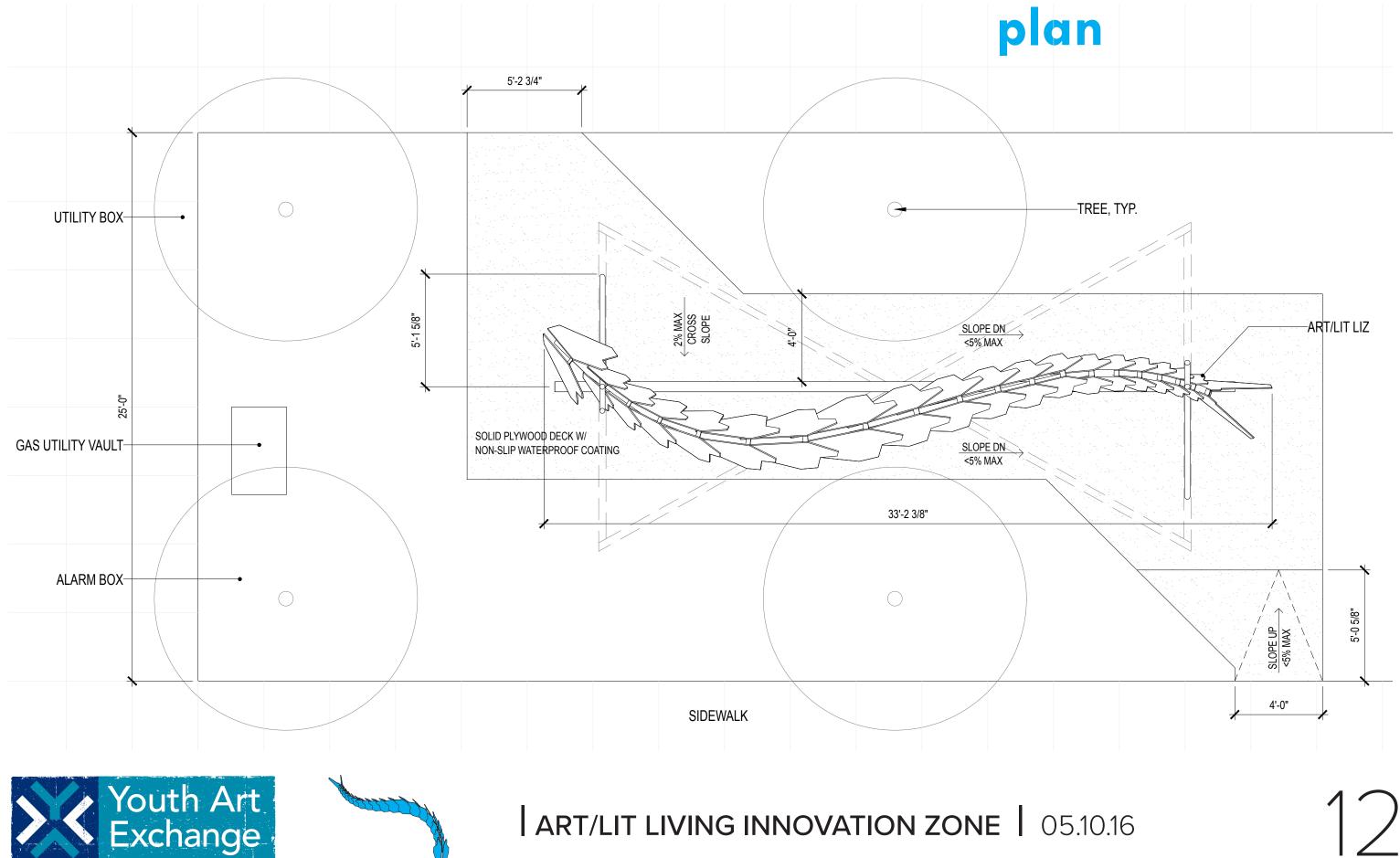




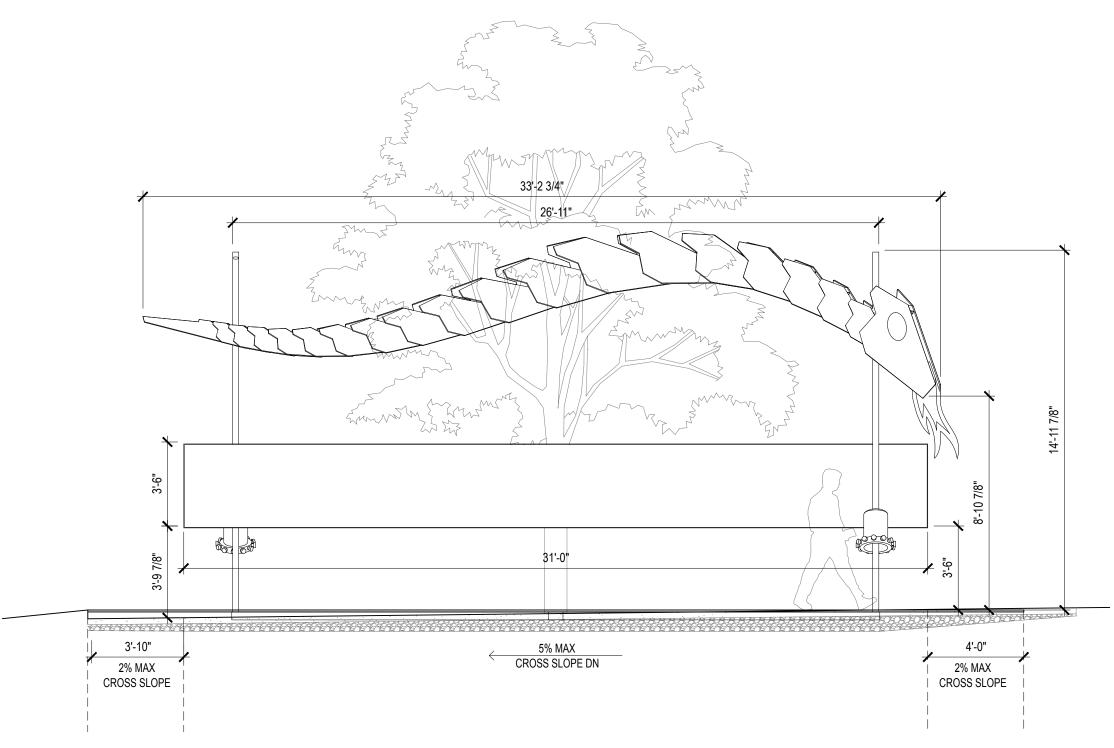


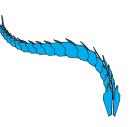






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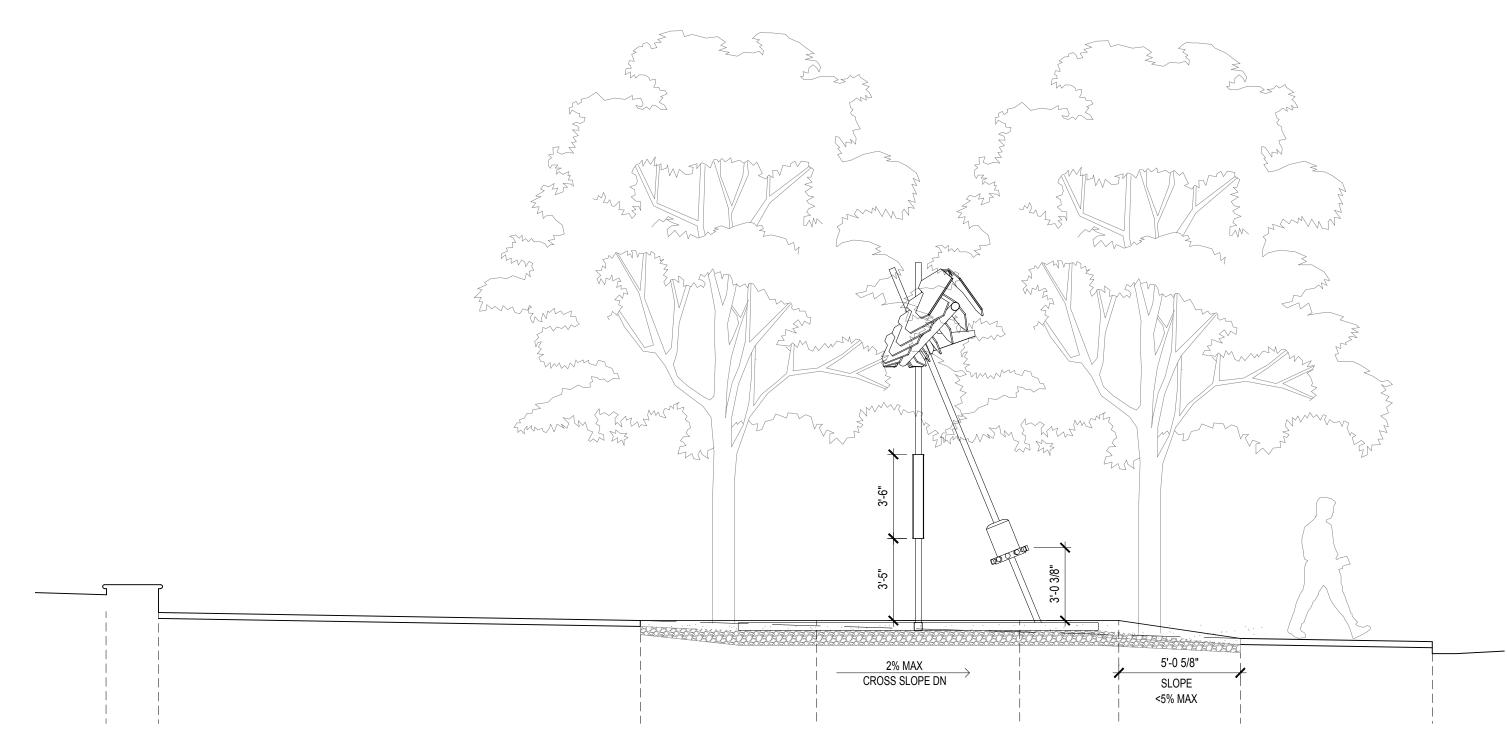








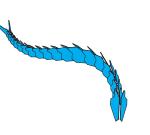
# section

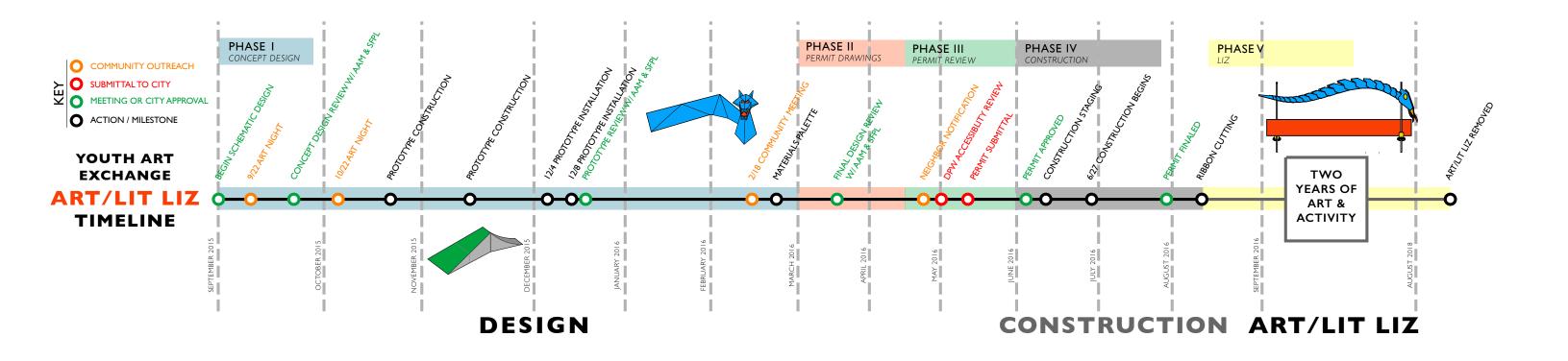




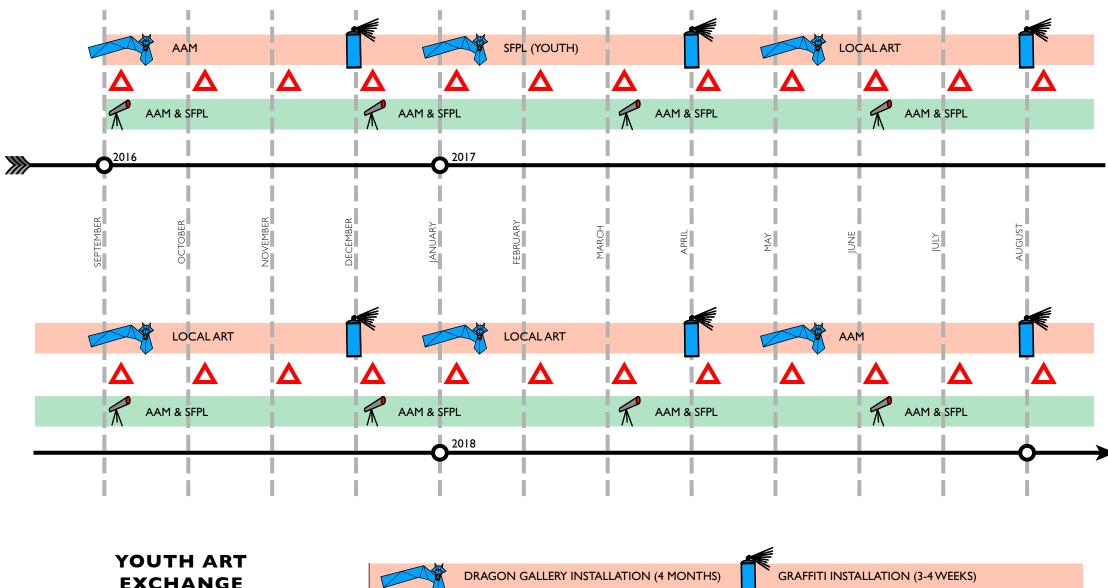




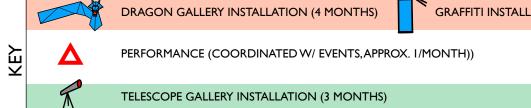


















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### Cultural Landscape Report

Existing Conditions & Analysis, Block #0353