



**Oregon Hill Park Master Plan**  
City of Richmond, Virginia  
October 1990

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### **Acknowledgements**

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#### **Plan Prepared by:**

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*The Neighborhood Park Task Force, the Tot -lot Committee and the History Committee*

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Neighborhood Questionnaire

## Oregon Hill Park Master Plan

### Background

The planning of the "Oregon Hill" linear park to serve as a green buffer between Belvidere Street and the Oregon Hill neighborhood has been taking place over the last six years. Prompted by the widening of Belvidere in conjunction with the construction of the new Lee Bridge, the City of Richmond assembled 20 parcels of land consisting of approximately 2.5 acres east of Pine Street, south of Idlewood Avenue, west of Belvidere Street and north of Holly Street. Since 1985, neighborhood representatives have been working with City officials to develop a master plan for the designated buffer area (See *Exhibit 1: Vicinity Map*).

All of the property within this study area is not presently owned by the City of Richmond, and issues remain as to connections south of the park site to Riverside Park (renamed Oregon Hill Park) through property owned by Ethyl Corporation. However, the site analysis and Master Plan includes the 500-block (Spring Street Work Release building) presently owned by the Department of Corrections and addresses a pedestrian link south into Riverside. Both these issues of site ownership will require further study beyond this Master Plan.

The renewed planning efforts early in 1990 have resulted in this Master Plan which also incorporates prior planning for the park by the neighborhood, the City and its consultants. The purpose of this plan is to serve as a guide for future development of the area recognizing the ultimate build-out of the park may take a number of years depending on the availability of local financial resources to accomplish the "blueprint".

The Master Plan document consists of six (6) sections, as follows:

- 1) History of Oregon Hill Neighborhood
- 2) Analysis of Existing Conditions; including topography and drainage, vegetation, site access, surrounding development and internal circulation; summarized as an assessment of site constraints and opportunities for development.
- 3) Program Needs, summary of neighborhood survey
- 4) Statement of Goals and Objectives
- 5) Schematic Design Alternatives
- 6) Master Plan for Development, including a plan description, preliminary cost estimates, phasing and implementation

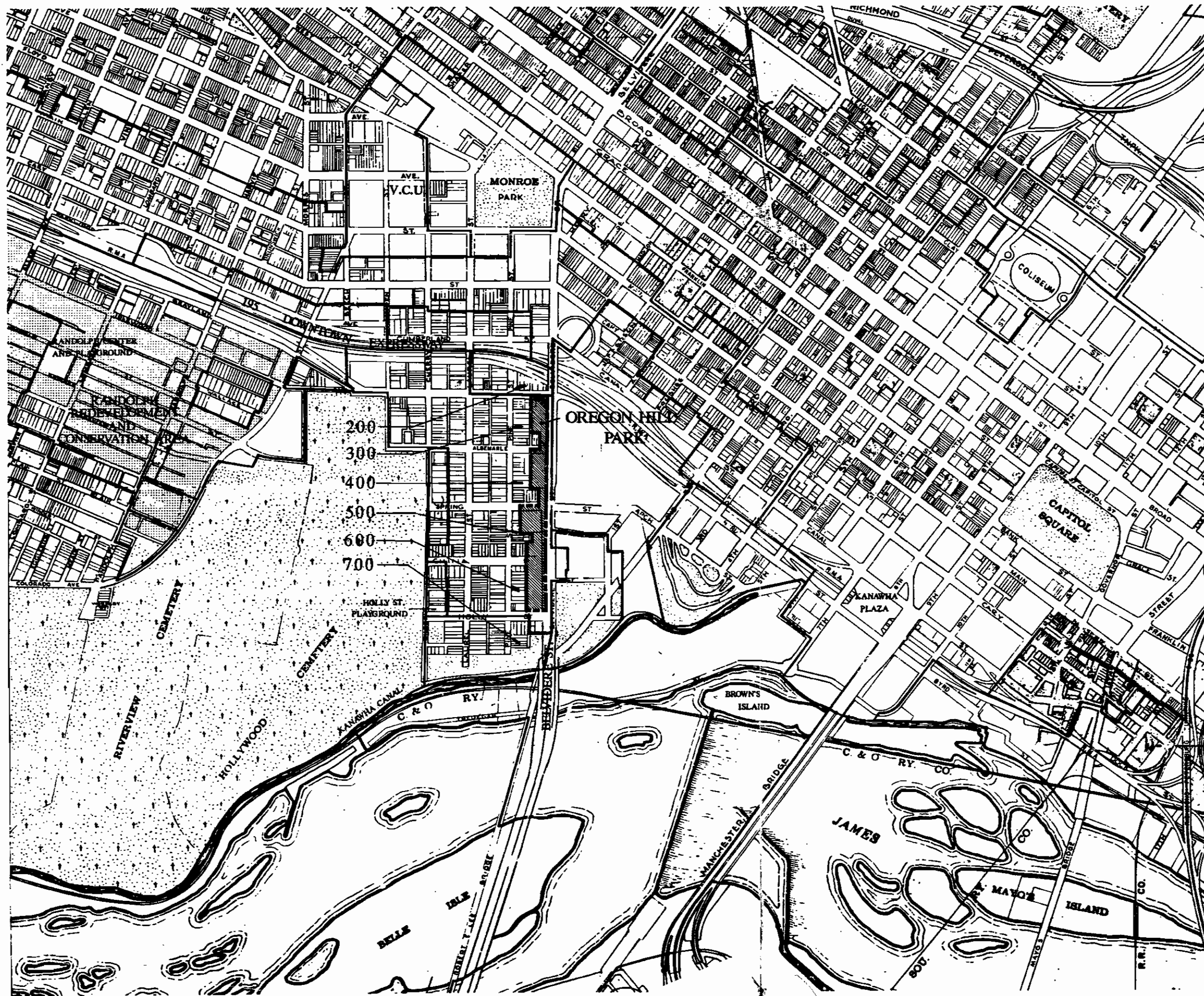


Exhibit 1



0 200 400 600

Vicinity Map  
**Oregon Hill Park**  
 City of Richmond, Virginia

Prepared for:  
 City of Richmond, Virginia

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### **History of the Oregon Hill Neighborhood**

The Oregon Hill neighborhood is rich in history. This plan recognizes opportunities to further explore the history of Oregon Hill, and interpret the origins of the neighborhood on the park site through signage, sculptures, exhibits, and other interpretive features which could be developed over time and relate to the planned Valentine Museum Tredegar exhibit of "The Working People of Richmond".

For purposes of this study providing an historical context for the site, the following account is largely taken from an application to establish an Oregon Hill historic district prepared in 1989 for the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources:

*Known first as "Sydney" and then as "Belvidere Hill" after William Byrd's 1750 Belvidera plantation, the neighborhood has been popularly called "Oregon Hill" since the 1940's or 50's. However, during the century from 1850 to 1950, Oregon Hill was actually the neighborhood east of Belvidere Street and south of the Virginia State Penitentiary which predominantly contained the residences of the workers of the Tredegar Iron Works. As the last vestiges of that original neighborhood disappeared to make way for the Virginia War Memorial in 1955 and after Ethyl Corporation acquired the property of the defunct Tredegar Iron Works, the "Oregon Hill" label was permanently attached to the present neighborhood, located south of West Cary and north of the James River between Belvidere Street and Hollywood Cemetery. Consequently, much misinformation and misunderstanding about contemporary Oregon Hill has been perpetuated by historians of Richmond's history.*

*The development of the neighborhood on the west side of Belvidere Street from the 1870's to the turn of the twentieth century, provided residents with a place to live that was both affordable and within easy walking distance to the main manufacturing and commercial areas of the city. The existence of Oregon Hill as a working class "walking suburb" is both a witness to the involvement of its residents in the day-to-day functioning of the city and a part of the chronicle of the westward expansion of the city's residential areas.*

*Despite the vagaries of political, social and economic life, the residents of Oregon Hill, "still mostly small town, clannish, proud, working-class poor" have managed to maintain "one of Richmond's most cohesive communities." (Ward, Richmond, an Illustrated History, p 324). In some cases, many generations of the same families have occupied the domestic structures which reflect the styles and tastes of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The churches of Oregon Hill-Pine Street Baptist, Laurel Street Methodist and St. Andrew's Episcopal--played a significant role in the socialization of generations of neighborhood residents, and have provided some of the physical, financial, and educational means for residents to overcome poverty and attain some measure of success. In particular, the philanthropy of Grace Arents, niece and beneficiary of Richmond millionaire Major Lewis Ginter, has had great positive effects on both the architectural fabric and the community structure of Oregon Hill. Miss Arents left behind a multitude of works financed with her own money; the educational, social and health-oriented organizations she funded in Oregon Hill have become part of the community's heritage, as have the buildings which house them.*

*Among the architectural/historic assets of Oregon Hill are the "Extra Billy" Smith House of 1842, the buildings that comprise the St. Andrew's Church complex, Pine Street Baptist Church, and a number of late 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings. The first public library in Richmond (present William Byrd Community House) was built in Oregon Hill through the generosity of Grace Arents. With a very cohesive, unified streetscape that authentically echoes its time, Oregon Hill presents an unusual survival*



*of the vernacular architecture and way of life of a social class not normally the subject of historic preservation efforts.*

*Most significant is Oregon Hill's own existence as a neighborhood containing the "more humble dwellings of the vast majority" and the commercial structures which supported this self-contained community. This is the best gift Oregon Hill can present to the city, and to the material history of the country. The sturdy, well-built structures--which have survived largely unaltered in all their parts, including porches and decorative ironwork--are those of a class of craftsmen, clerks and skilled workers who aspired to some comfort and some style, the progenitors of the middle class which populates the metropolitan suburbs of Richmond today. While there is some variety in date and ornamental treatments, the buildings together form a coherent whole and become for Richmond the last glimpse of a well-defined 19th century community with a unified streetscape that authentically echoes its time and its cultural milieu.*

## **Analysis of Existing Conditions**

### **Topography and Drainage**

As shown by *Exhibit 2: Slope and Drainage Analysis*, the site slopes significantly from the back alley down toward Belvidere Street, with much of the area exceeding a 15 percent slope. The largest level areas of less than 5 percent slope are confined to the 300 block between Idlewood Avenue and Albermarle Street and the 600 block between China and Holly Streets, at either end of the park. Drainage from the site naturally follows these contours toward Belvidere, and from the western alley, toward the intervening side streets.

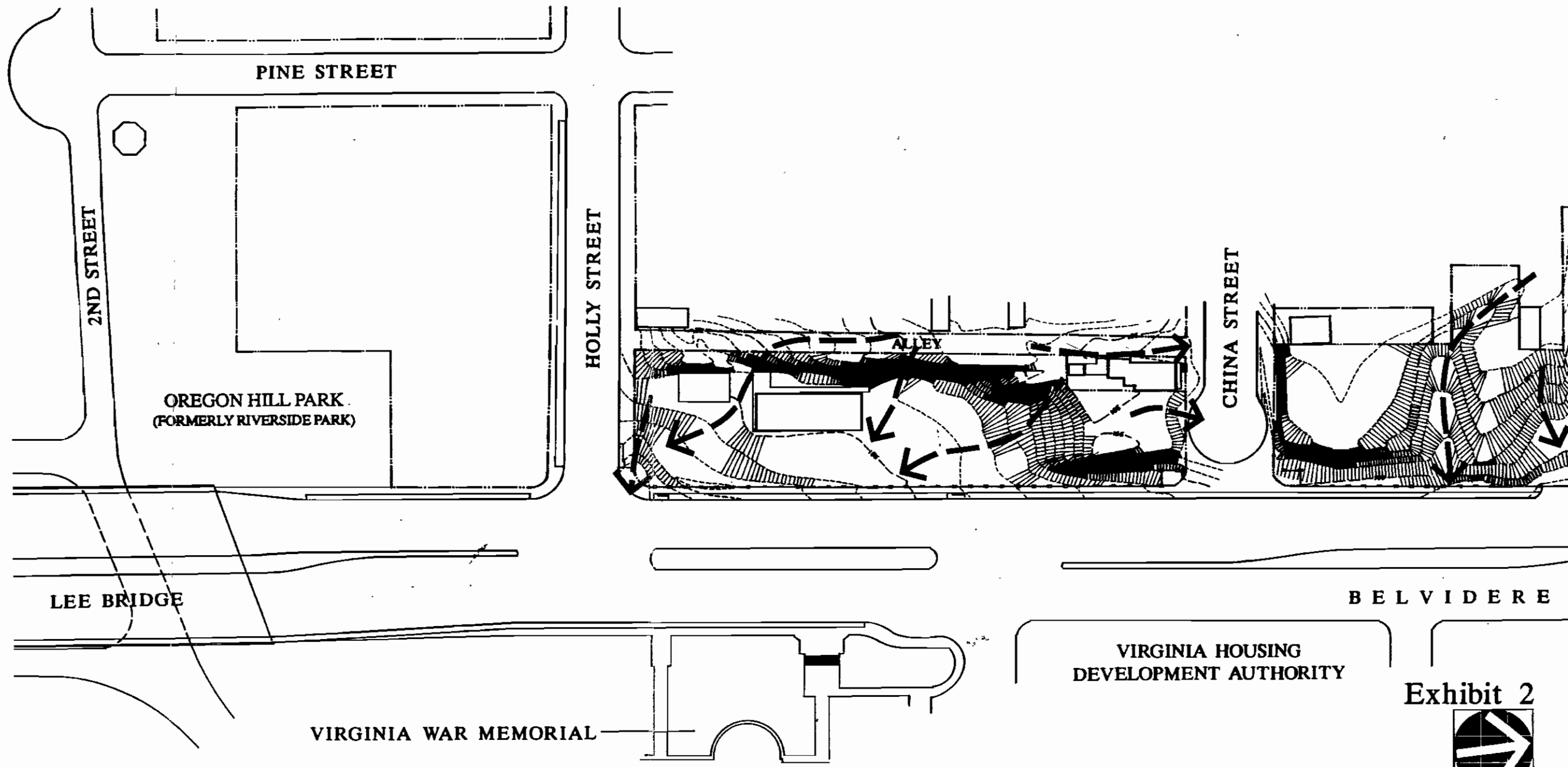
### **Vegetation**

The most significant stand of trees, a mixture of hardwood is found in the 400 block of the site between Spring and Albemarle Streets (noted as black dots on Exhibit 2). Vegetation on the rest of the site is limited to scrub and weeds. Trees on the site which are larger than 12-inches in diameter should be protected and preserved as much as possible during grading and site clearance.

### **Access and Circulation**

Depicted on *Exhibit 3: Circulation Analysis*, primary vehicular access from Belvidere Street to the site is provided at Idlewood Avenue, Spring Street and Holly Street. Vehicular access from the neighborhood is also available from China and Albermarle Streets which cul-de-sac at Belvidere. Curb parking is available along the side streets and in the cul-de-sacs. Existing on-site parking occurs within the 500-block around the Spring Street facility. This facility and related parking make up the entire 500-block.

Sidewalks along both sides of all the intervening streets also provide for pedestrian access; handicap ramps have been installed at each corner. The outer wall along Belvidere Street limits direct pedestrian access to the side streets where breaks in the wall occur. Paved landing areas conforming with set-backs of the wall at Idlewood, Albemarle and China Streets create a sense of entry into the park. Sidewalks at the end of Albemarle and China Streets diagonally cross the space at the end of the cul-de-sac to join the Belvidere Street sidewalk. Existing site grades and slopes present the need to provide steps in several locations to accommodate internal pedestrian circulation unless significant grading is done.



OREGON HILL PARK  
(FORMERLY RIVERSIDE PARK)

PINE STREET

2ND STREET

HOLLY STREET

ALLEY

CHINA STREET

LEE BRIDGE

BELVIDERE

VIRGINIA WAR MEMORIAL

VIRGINIA HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Exhibit 2



**Legend**

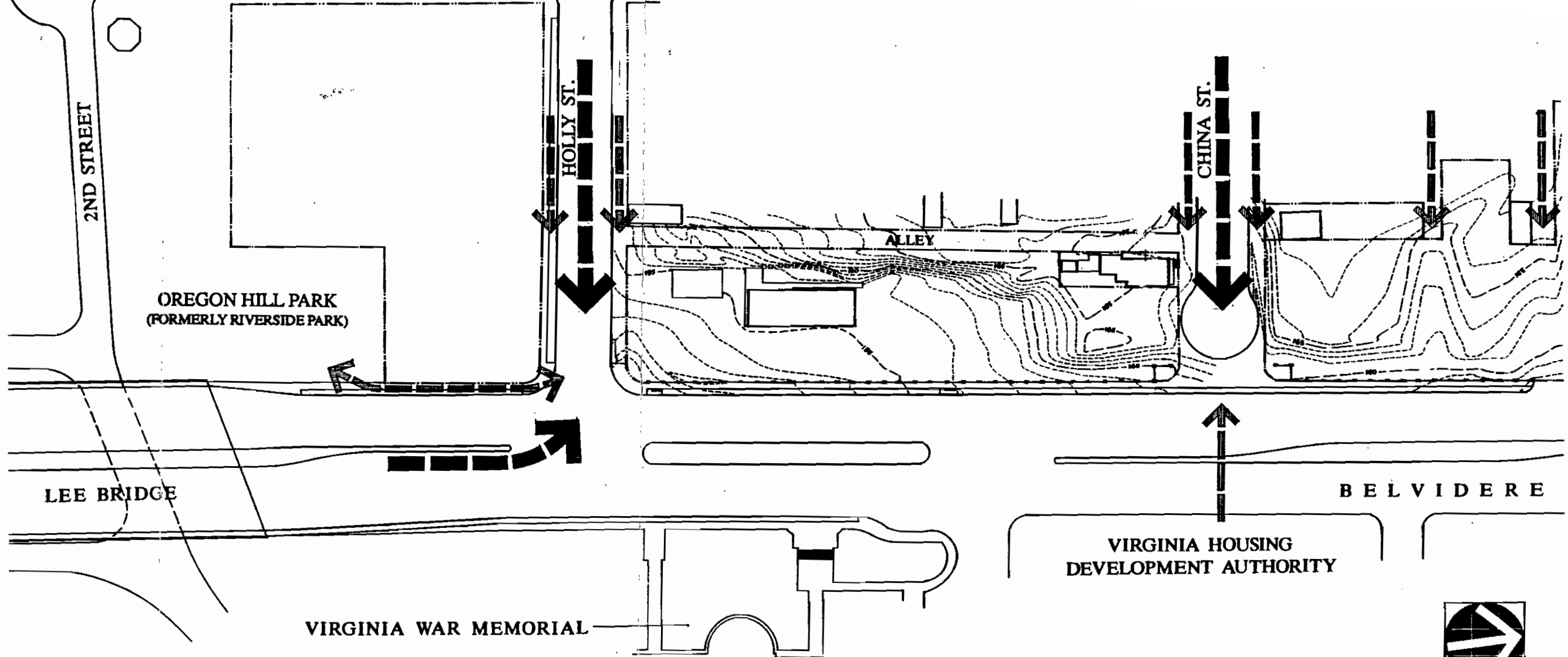
0 - 5%	
5 - 15%	
15 - 25%	
> 25%	
Drainage Pattern	

Slope and Drainage Analysis  
**Oregon Hill Park**  
City of Richmond, Virginia

Prepared for:  
City of Richmond, Virginia

Prepared by:  
**Higgins Associates, Inc.**  
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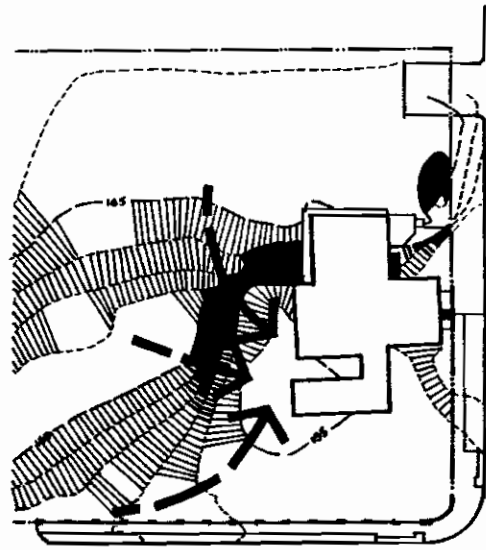




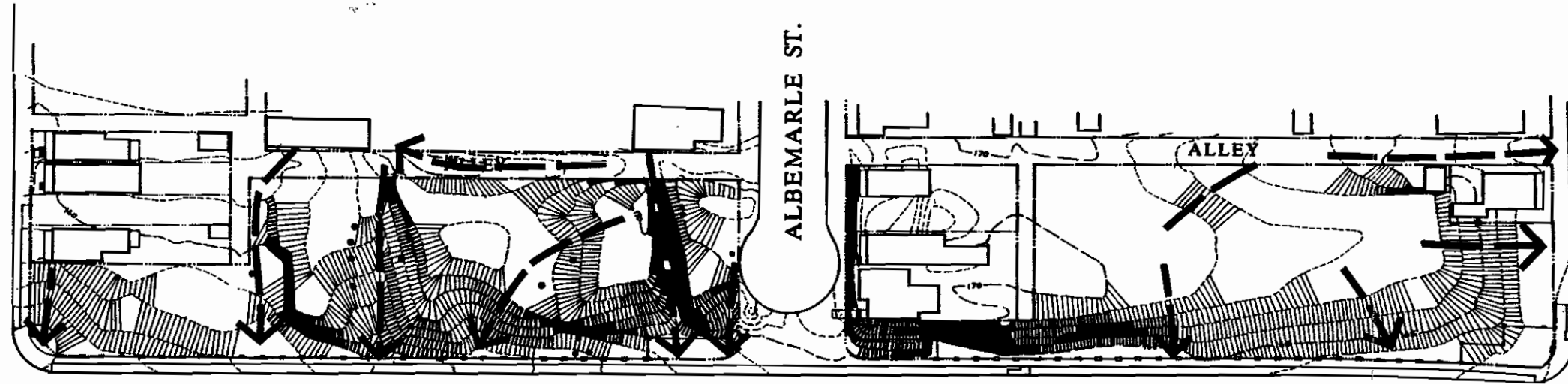
Circulation Analysis  
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SPRING STREET



ALBEMARLE ST.

IDLEWOOD AVENUE

STREET

Legend






- 0 - 5% 
- 5 - 15% 
- 15 - 25% 
- > 25% 
- Drainage Pattern 

Exhibit 2



0 20 40 60

Slope and Drainage Analysis  
**Oregon Hill Park**  
 City of Richmond, Virginia

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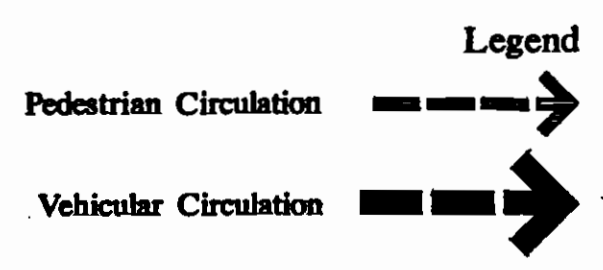
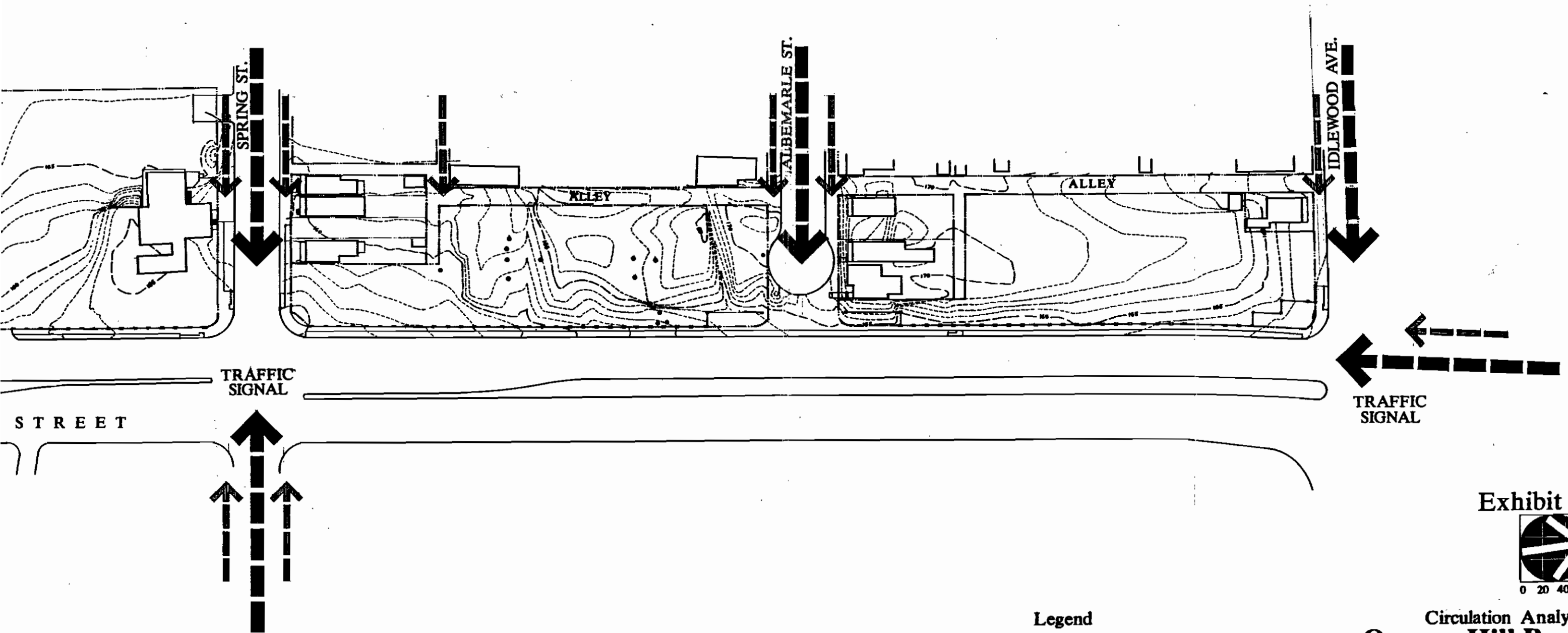


Exhibit 3



Circulation Analysis  
**Oregon Hill Park**  
 City of Richmond, Virginia

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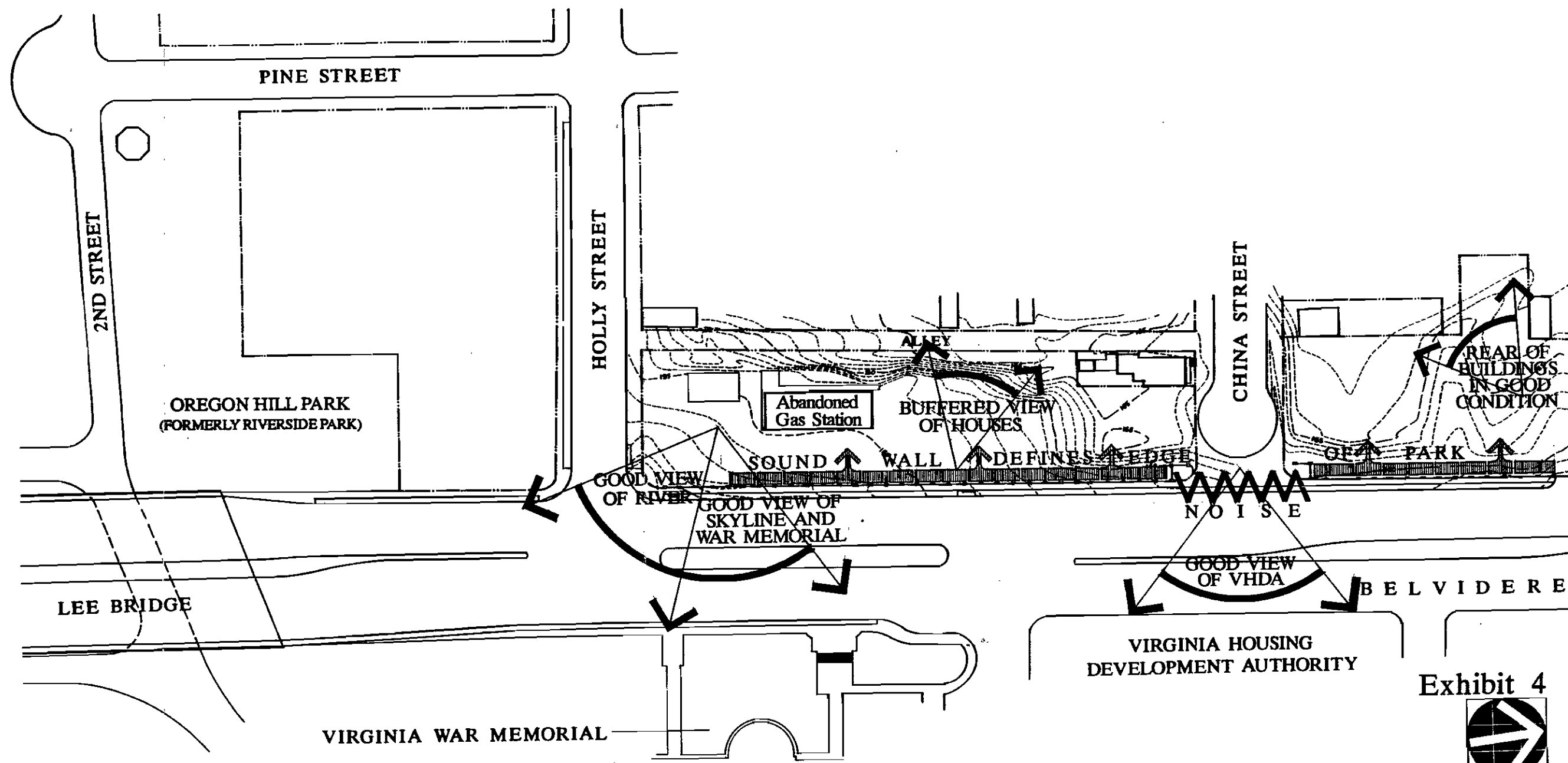



Exhibit 4  
  
 0 20 40 60

Constraints and Opportunities  
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### **Existing Site Constraints and Opportunities**

As shown by *Exhibit 4: Constraints and Opportunities*, the dominant site constraint is the configuration of the site itself. The narrow, linear site located between a 6-foot high brick sound wall and a City alleyway is generally 100 feet wide, stretching approximately 2000 feet over four City blocks. In one location, immediately north of Albemarle Street, the site narrows down to 25 feet. The 500-block Department of Corrections property represents the deepest section of the park at approximately 200 feet.

The topography of the site represents both a constraint and an opportunity, providing an interesting and varied terrain which can shape activities within the park. The vantage point from the highest elevations within the 600- and 500-blocks provides exceptional views of the river and east to the city skyline. Views to the adjacent Virginia War Memorial and the Virginia Housing Development Authority are particularly positive influences. The 300- and 400- blocks are encumbered with negative views of the State Penitentiary and related structures beyond the sound wall. (With the planned removal of the Penitentiary buildings, this negative impact is expected to be short-lived, opening up exciting views of the city skyline.) The narrow site and extreme slope on the west side of the 500-block coupled with the wall barrier create somewhat of a tunnel effect which will have to be overcome through appropriate site development. Negative views to the west along the alley into the rear yards of adjacent properties will also have to be addressed.

While the wall diverts traffic noise and serves to contain the park site, it harshly defines the eastern boundary of the park and may present a fortress type of image for the park. The treatment of the wall as a park boundary should be softened by landscaping. The wall also serves to define the park as a neighborhood facility, not inviting outsiders in. However, opportunities to physically "invite" outsiders in are many, considering adjacent development underway and in the planning stages.

Any outward focus must be carefully planned to ensure the park ultimately serves a neighborhood clientele; it is important to consider plans beyond the park site and incorporate any desired physical linkages or barriers into the planning process. To the south, access to the river would provide focus and strengthen the park's connection to the river. Linkage to Riverside Park along the southern bluff of the neighborhood is desirable. Although in a severe state of disrepair, the small gazebo/park house built in the 1920's at the end of Pine Street and river over-looks represent potentially attractive features which could be incorporated into improvement plans for the overall Oregon Hill park. Beyond Riverside, the attachment of a pedestrian bridge span under the Lee Bridge to Belle Isle offers exciting opportunities for nature walks.

To the east, pedestrian linkage across the heavily travelled Belvidere Street is difficult, but quite important to accommodate, considering the War Memorial, VHDA offices and future development plans for the State Penitentiary by Ethyl Corporation. To the north, an undeveloped triangle formed by Idlewood, Belvidere and the 195 Expressway offers an opportunity for improved entrance into the park. Finally, to the west into the neighborhood the simplest and most important need for connection into the park along sidewalks exists.

The ownership of the Spring Street facility and the entire 500-block by the State represents a development constraint because it occupies a position in the center of the park site. The Department of Corrections has indicated that no specific plans have been made for the building when the State Penitentiary moves at the end of the year. The property is currently assessed at approximately \$500,000.

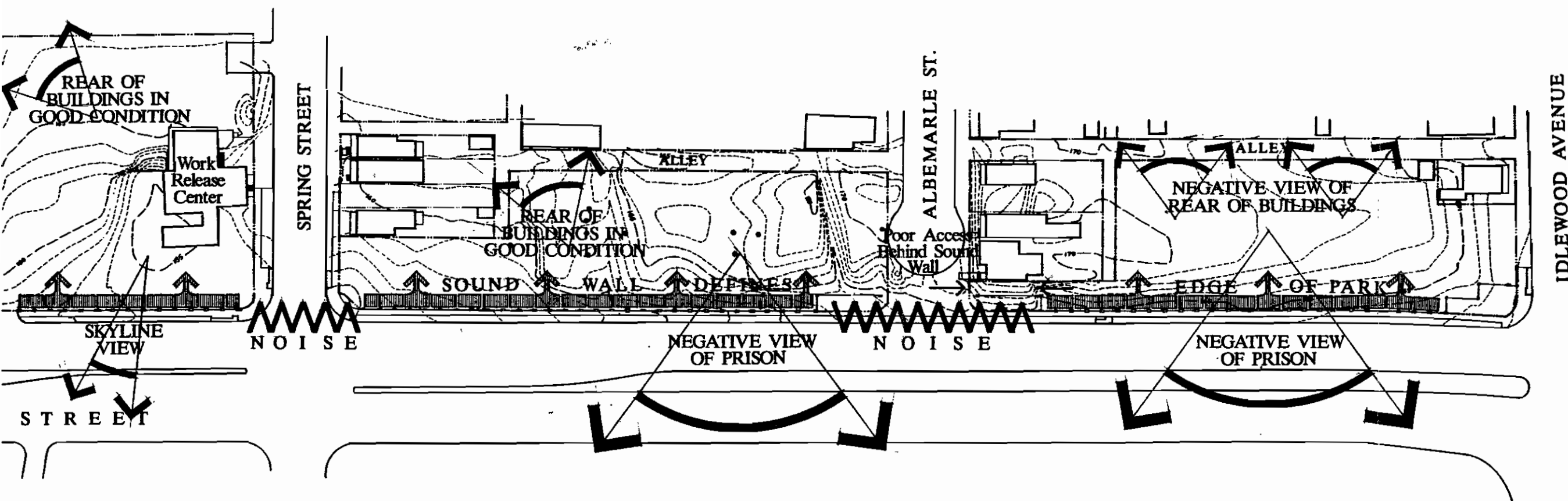


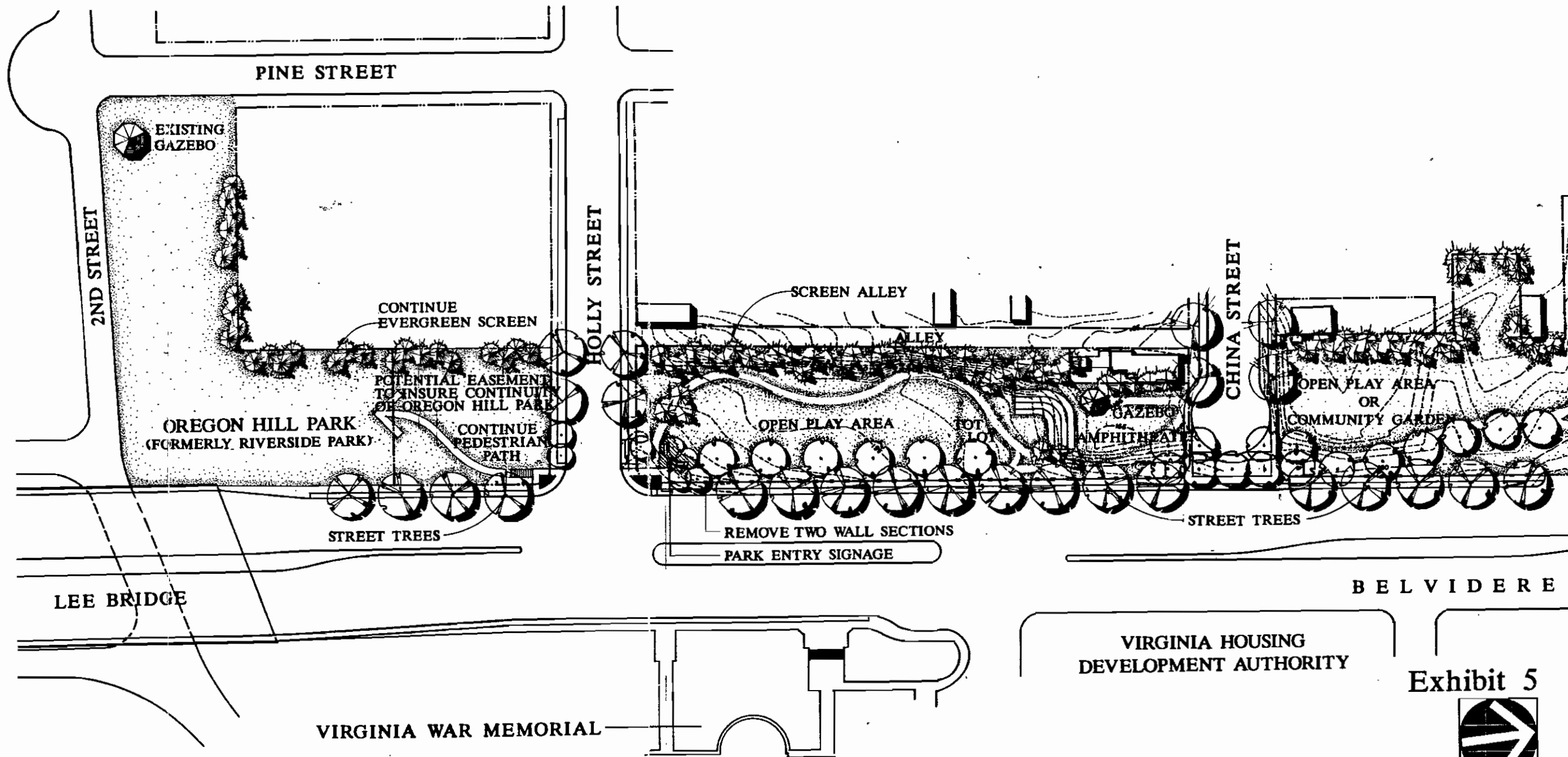
Exhibit 4



Constraints and Opportunities  
**Oregon Hill Park**  
 City of Richmond, Virginia

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VIRGINIA HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Exhibit 5



Conceptual Master Plan  
**Oregon Hill Park**  
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The old gas station or taxi cab building in the 600-block of the site also represents a development constraint. The building is in very poor structural condition, and it occupies a key location on the overall park site being at one entrance to the park. To reclaim the site for park use, underground tanks would have to be removed, soil tested, and contaminated soil, if any, cleaned up.

Interpretation of these constraints and opportunities within the context of the neighborhood has evolved over the course of the planning period, aided by several neighborhood meetings and a questionnaire. The stated goals and objectives which will govern the development of the Oregon Hill Park have been formulated through this citizen review process.

### **Program Needs: Results of the Neighborhood Questionnaire**

A neighborhood-wide questionnaire was distributed door-to-door during the month of June; responses were returned to a box at the William Byrd Community House. Approximately 10 percent of the questionnaires were returned. Due to the relatively poor response rate, the results have been used only to supplement information on program needs gathered during neighborhood meetings.

The results of the questionnaire are summarized as follows:

1. The majority of respondents use City parks and are generally satisfied.
2. Byrd, Maymont and Monroe Parks are the most frequently used parks.
3. Landscaping/amenities, security, and convenience are viewed as the most important factors influencing City park use.
4. Respondents expressed the greatest amount of interest in having playground facilities, a walking/running trail, and combination of other uses such as picnic facilities, community garden, etc.
5. The name "Oregon Hill Park" was the overwhelming favorite. It was also suggested that Riverside Park (renamed by Council to "Oregon Hill Park") be joined by name to the new park. "Belvidere" was also a popular choice.
6. Average household size of respondents was 2.51; 60 percent of the respondents are homeowners.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The City of Richmond's goals and objectives for improving the Oregon Hill Park site through this master planning effort are outlined below. Formulation of these goals and objectives is based on the analysis of existing conditions, input from neighborhood residents and City Park and Recreation personnel, and applicable policies stated by the City of Richmond Master Plan dated November 1982.

#### **Goals**

- o Make leisure-time activities available to all citizens, including special groups such as handicapped people, senior citizens, teenagers, and young adults.
- o Design leisure-time facilities and programs which will promote local pride, motivation and a sense of place in the community.
- o Encourage tourism and the promotion of local history and culture through the park system programs.

- o Focus public resources primarily on the maintenance and improvements to existing facilities, except where new facilities are appropriate to serve new development or to take advantage of special opportunities or natural resources.
- o Direct recreational resources of the City primarily toward activities and geographic areas of the city where the private sector is unwilling or unable to provide the service or facilities.
- o Involve neighborhood residents in the planning process to select and develop special facilities and programs in their area.
- o Make use of improved facilities and programs as a revitalization tool in the neighborhoods, one which promotes investor and resident confidence in residential areas.

### **Objectives**

- o Plans to reuse the property acquired by the City between Holly Street and Idlewood Avenue should concentrate on creating a physical buffer between Belvidere Street and the Oregon Hill neighborhood.
- o Establish a neighborhood-oriented park with an inward focus to serve Oregon Hill residents within this buffer area.
- o Comprehensively treat the entire designated area, incorporating consistent design features which may be installed over a phased construction program.
- o Design specific park improvements which are sensitive to ongoing maintenance requirements (personnel and fund commitments) and seek ways to reduce vandal-related costs through use of sturdy materials, simple design and proper placement of special features.
- o Incorporate interpretive design features, i.e. informational signage, sculpture, features, which help users interpret and appreciate the history of Oregon Hill.
- o Explore opportunities to incorporate reuse of the Spring Street facility and related parking areas into the park site without placing an unreasonable burden on City resources; particular emphasis should be given to the reclamation of the parking lots in the 600-block for park use.
- o Continue to communicate with Ethyl Corporation on the provision of a linkage across their property between Riverside Park and the new Oregon Hill Park and other design issues such as a consistent streetscape treatment for the Penitentiary property.
- o Take advantage of positive site attributes, including the views to the river, possible tie into the War Memorial and VHDA, and statement of entrance from the north across Idlewood Avenue.
- o Provide limited parking facilities on-site so as to discourage users from outside of the neighborhood.
- o Select equipment/site furnishings and develop plans which could involve neighborhood residents in installation and operation.

- o Explore opportunities for increasing private sector (i.e. individuals, neighborhood groups, non-profit organizations, industry and businesses) involvement in the improvement and maintenance of park facilities.

### **Conceptual Master Plan for Oregon Hill Park**

The conceptual master plan presented by *Exhibit 5* represents a series of refinements to original schematic alternatives which have been reviewed and discussed by City representatives from the Departments of Recreation and Parks and Public Works and neighborhood residents at three general meetings over the course of the five month planning period. Property not presently owned by the City within the boundaries (500-block) and property immediately beyond the study boundaries is included for purposes of providing a long-range, comprehensive master plan. The plan is conceptual, and by nature, depicts only approximate locations and general uses to be accommodated within the designated project area. Upon approval of the concept by the City review agencies, design details, selection of equipment, a grading plan and a landscape plan will be prepared.

Referring to *Exhibit 5*, major features of the proposed Master Plan for the Oregon Hill Park are summarized as follows:

1. The entire site will be fine graded to soften some of the more severe slopes without destroying the natural topography. An overlay of 4-inches of topsoil is proposed over the entire site.
2. Site clearance is proposed to include the removal of the old service station, including the underground tanks and paved areas in the 600-block. (The cost estimate for this clearance effort also includes the reasonable removal of contaminated soils.) Removal of the gravel parking lots in the 500-block around the Spring Street facility is also proposed.
3. Two prominent entrances are to be provided at either end of the park, demarked at Idlewood Avenue and Holly Street with specially paved (concrete pavers) landings on either corner, park signage and lighting. The Holly Street Entrance may need to be reworked, removing one wall section to step-back as at Idlewood. Incorporation of the trail with existing sidewalks, particularly at each cul-de-sac will require some fine tuning. Each intersection of the park with the side street is proposed to be marked with pavers and a painted cross-walk.
4. A trail system of crushed stone which follows natural contours is proposed from one end of the park to the other; individual blocks would actually be ringed by a trail so that each block can be independently used.
5. Two tot-lots with playground equipment are proposed; one to be located in the 600-block within the center of the block appropriately located with the proposed "amphitheatre". The second tot-lot is proposed to be located in the 400-block in the center of the block within the existing trees. Each tot-lot may be surrounded by a perimeter fence, and will be lighted and include benches for seating. The two tot-lots independently serve different age groups, i.e. one being geared to 5 years and under, while the other tot-lot is for children older than 5 years.
6. The two flatest areas of the park site in the 600-block and the 300-block are proposed to be used as open playing fields.

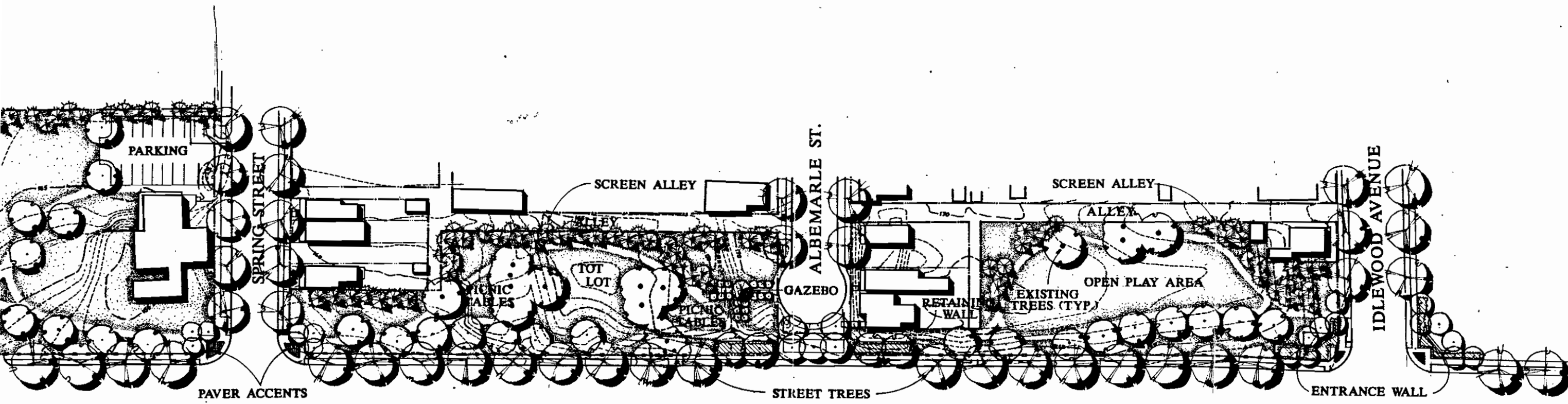
7. The topography which forms a natural bowl immediately north of the tot-lot in the 600-block is proposed to be terraced for use as a mini-amphitheatre. To take advantage of the river views, a gazebo or platform-like structure is proposed to be located on the crest of this hill.

8. The area immediately north of China Street in the 500-block on property now owned by the State is suggested to be a potential location for a community garden.

9. A picnic area and shelter is proposed within the grouping of mature trees in the 400-block adjacent to the proposed tot-lot.

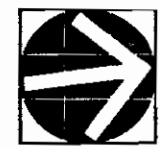
10. Landscaping throughout the park site is proposed to primarily consist of shade trees, concentrated along the trail, on either side of the wall, and protecting the tot-lots and picnic areas. On the west side of the park, a massing of evergreen trees are suggested as a buffer between the park and alley. Entrance areas may be emphasized with low-level, simple plantings.

11. Pedestrian-scale lighting, benches, park identification and interpretive signage are proposed to be judiciously placed throughout the entire site. Two water fountains located adjacent to the tot-lots are proposed.



STREET

Exhibit 5



0 20 40 60

Conceptual Master Plan  
**Oregon Hill Park**  
 City of Richmond, Virginia

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## Implementation and Phasing Plan

This Master Plan is to be used as a working tool toward the development of more specific working documents for recommended park improvements. Additional property control issues, geotechnical survey related to the service station property, and perhaps, architectural analysis of the Riverside gazebo and the Spring Street facility will be required in concert with the formulation of working documents. Alterations, deletions and additions to this plan are anticipated as additional studies are conducted. In keeping with the less specific nature of this planning document, general cost estimates, providing present-day (1990) figures are outlined below for all the improvements recommended by this plan.

### Preliminary Cost Estimates Oregon Hill Neighborhood Park

Description	Cost
Demolition (service station property)	\$ 62,345
Site grading	58,200
Walks/trail	25,200
Wood retaining wall	2,000
Concrete pavers	18,000
Tot-Lots (2)	30,000
Benches	12,000
Picnic tables	4,000
Water fountains	1,600
Stairs to Riverside Park	5,580
Gazebo/landing/shelter (2)	60,000
Landscaping	103,732
Lighting	56,000
Signage	19,000
Irrigation	64,128
Total	\$521,785

#### Notes:

- 1. Demolition/site clearance of the service station property is calculated conservatively assuming some cleanup of contaminated soil will be required.*
- 2. Landscaping includes installation of major shade trees and buffer along alley plus seeding of the entire site; the cost of street trees on the outside of the wall are not included and assumed to be the expense of others.*
- 3. The entire site is assumed to be irrigated.*

#### Project Phasing

As with many projects which are funded out of the City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget, construction of the improvements to the subject project area for use as the Oregon Hill Neighborhood Park are shown to occur over a 5-year funding period. This fact requires the setting of priorities, and the realization that a single, complete project should result from the application of funds from each program year. With this in mind, \$225,000 is available for construction out of the 1990-91 CIP budget. This amount is firm, and should be considered to be available to complete the highest priorities, providing a complete project.

The following priorities are recommended for consideration:

**Priority A** - Removal/repair of safety hazards, including the removal of derelict building(s), clean-up of soil contaminants, dead trees, trash, etc. that present a health and/or safety hazard.

**Priority B** - Site clearance and grading to prepare the entire site for its ultimate use.

**Priority C** - Landscaping, including topsoil, seeding and installation of trees; this may be done in two or more phases with major shade trees taking priority over minor landscaping.

**Priority D** - Installation of site lighting for security purposes; this may be done in two or more phases with concentrated activity areas having the lights installed first.

**Priority E** - Installation of facilities, in the following order: (1) playing fields (part of Priority B), (2) trail system, (3) one tot-lot, (4) picnic area, (5) second tot-lot.

**Priority F** - Entrance improvements, including pavers, signage and wall adjustments.

**Priority G** - Finishing touches within the site, such as completion of "amphitheatre" area, construction of gazebo(s) or landing and shelter, installation of irrigation system, special features, interpretive signage, sculpture, etc.

**Priority H** - Linkage improvements to existing Oregon Hill (Riverside) Park and the river (including the Belle Island pedestrian bridge), across Belvidere and north across Idlewood Avenue into the triangle.



Using the priority schedule outlined, the following project elements could be reasonably accomplished with the \$225,000 available in the first year:

1. All Priority A and B activities, assuming the State property in the 500-block is included.
2. One-half of the Priority C activities, including topsoil, seeding, shade trees and alley buffer area.
3. One-half of Priority D activities, with a concentration on installation of lighting fixtures within key activity areas first.
4. Activity (2) the Trail System of Priority E providing the one activity which will tie together the entire site and serve a multitude of different uses.

For subsequent years, it is recommended that installation of additional facilities along with related furnishings (lighting, trees, benches) continue in the general order listed. If all the funds slated for the first year are not used for identified activities, i.e. removal of tanks, contaminated soil on the service station property, the work toward installation of additional facilities may accelerate. Likewise, if CIP funds are not available in subsequent years, other funding sources may have to be tapped.

Creative public fund-raising and contributions of labor could be explored by existing neighborhood organization(s) aided by the City. These include ideas such as the use of volunteer neighborhood labor for installation of equipment or special features; the establishment of a City public-private, matching partnership to install additional landscaping, features, make general upkeep improvements; an "adopt-a-bench" program; soliciting contributions from private industry, businesses and foundations with a particular interest in the history of Oregon Hill.

Survey No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Oregon Hill Park Questionnaire**

The City of Richmond is preparing a plan for the development of a linear park for the Oregon Hill neighborhood along Belvidere Street, generally between Holly Street and Idlewood Avenue.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to update previous citizen input from residents of Oregon Hill who will be the most active users of the park. The information you provide will be used by the City to determine the types of facilities and activities desired by the residents to be placed in a proposed linear park.

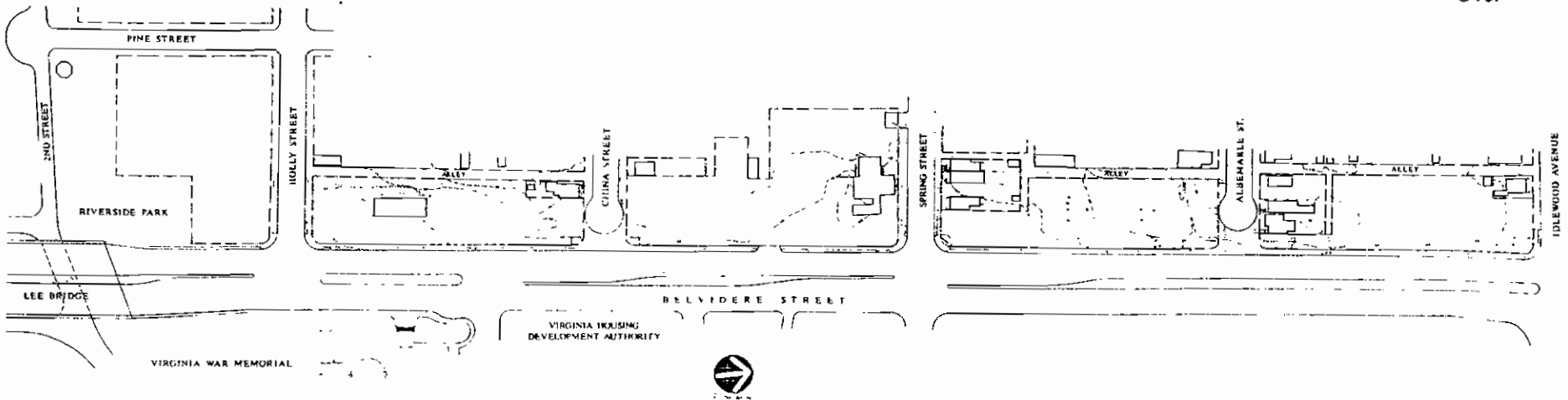
A few minutes of your time to complete this questionnaire is greatly appreciated; your responses are important in the planning process. All survey data gathered will be held in strictest confidence; we specifically are not asking for your name, and only require you to indicate your address in order to verify residence within the primary service area of Oregon Hill. Please return your completed survey to the box marked "Oregon Hill Park" located at the William Byrd Community House.

**General City of Richmond Parks and Recreation Questions**

1. Do you or any of your family members use any of the City parks?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no
2. Generally, how satisfied are you with the City parks?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ very satisfied \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat satisfied \_\_\_\_\_ not satisfied
3. During the previous 12 month period, which City parks have you or other family members used? Which type(s) of recreational activities or special events have you participated in during your use of these parks?

Park Name	Activities/Special Events
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Over---



4. List the three most important factors (from 1 to 3 in order of importance, with "1" being the most important) which influence the use of City parks by you and your family.

- clean restrooms & facilities
- security/ police patrol
- convenient location/ hours
- condition of equipment
- variety in activities/equipment
- landscaping & other design amenities

Oregon Hill Park Questions

5. Which of the following recreational facilities would you be most interested in having included in the proposed linear park? (Please indicate your first three choices - 1 to 3 by order of preference, with "1" being most important)

- playground equipment
- running trail
- basketball court
- horseshoe pits
- picnic tables
- other (please list)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Please suggest possible names for the park.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

General Household Characteristics Questions

7. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Household Characteristics:

- Number of adults (over 18)
- Number of children, ages \_\_\_\_\_

9. Do you rent or own your place of residence?

- Rent
- Own (buying)
- Other

10. Please use the space below to make general comments regarding the proposed linear park.

*Thank you for your cooperation. Please return your completed questionnaire to the box labeled "Oregon Hill Park" located in the William Byrd Community House, 224 South Cherry Street.*

