



Northern Avenue Bridge Park

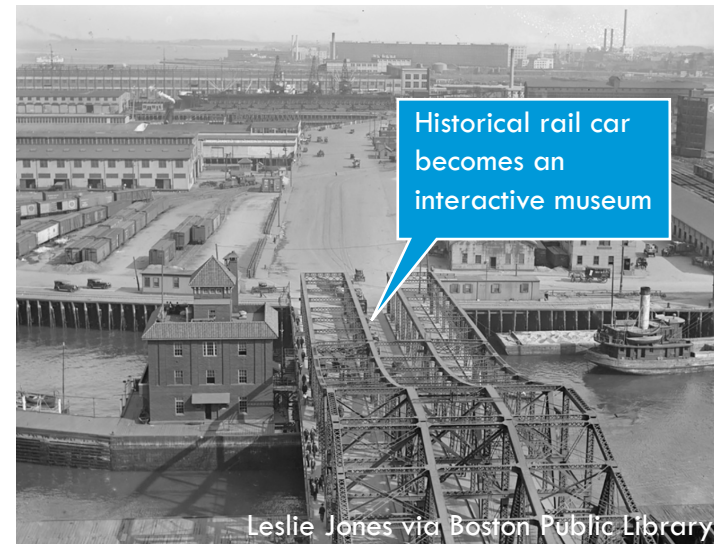
Celebrating history through a study of adaptive re-use

Old Northern Avenue Bridge is an industrial accomplishment of its time. It spans Boston's Fort Point Channel, connecting Fort Point to Downtown Boston. Although it is currently in declining condition, the bridge serves as one of Boston's most important industrial icons. This design provides a dynamic space for visitor use and becomes a sculptural icon that represents the history of industry in Boston.

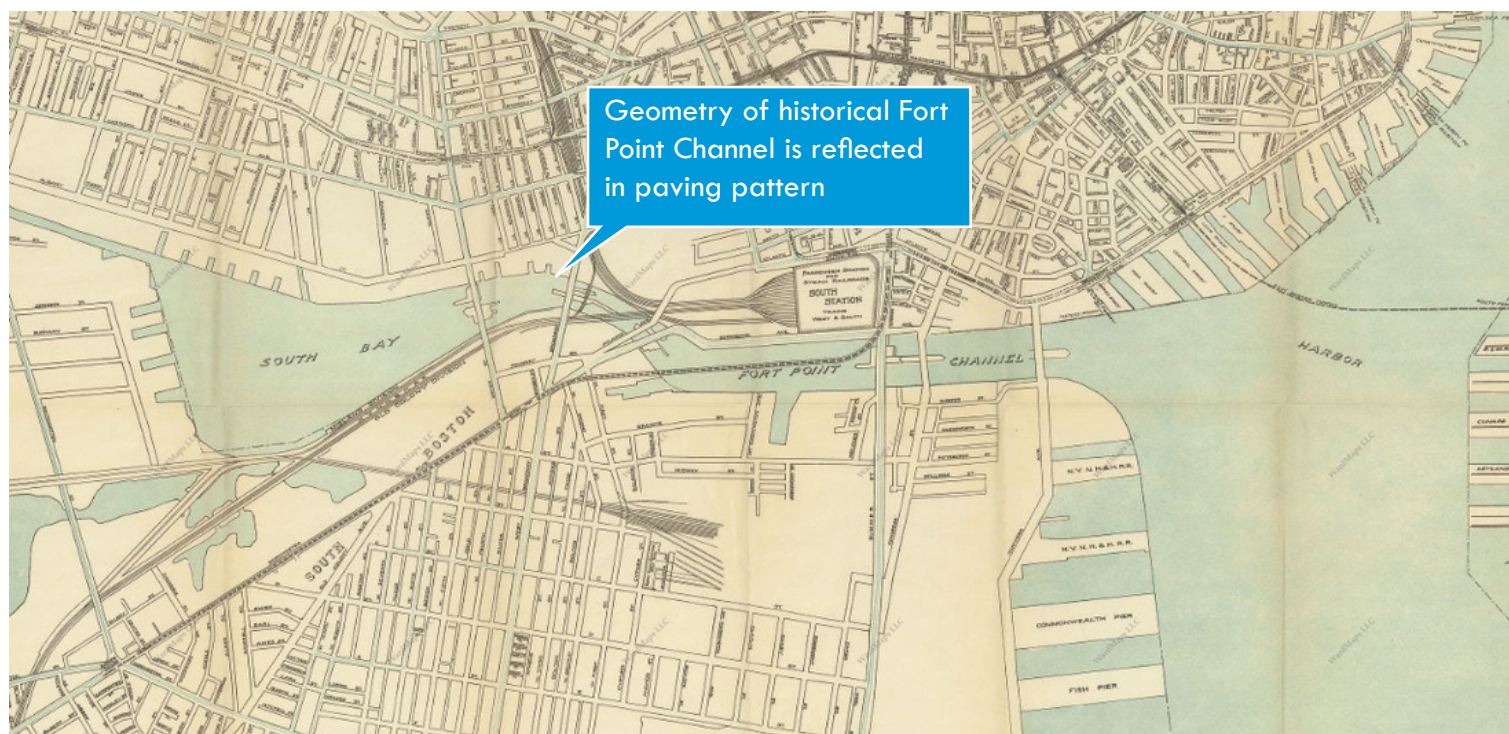
Raising the bridge is the first step in adapting the structure to become a useable park. This will increase access for boats to pass while the center span is not open, and reduces direct exposure to salt. The next step in adapting the bridge is creating a series of interactive layers and terraces that add interest to the space. Visitors will be able to experience the park at various elevations, while also having closer access to the water. This design has been programmed to accomodate various uses from passive exercise, hosting performances and shows, serving as a museum space, and providing access to the water. The bridge will be aimed towards pedestrians and cyclists, but also provide access to strictly emergency vehicles only.

The Northern Avenue Bridge Park will serve as a destination in itself, while also enhancing the surrounding contextual features. The park will seamlessly blend into its uprising surroundings while standing out as a beacon of the historical industry in Fort Point.

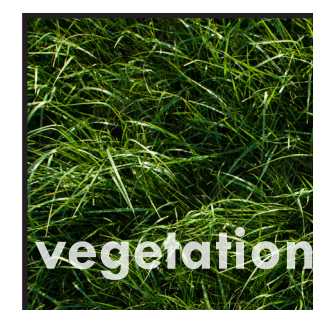
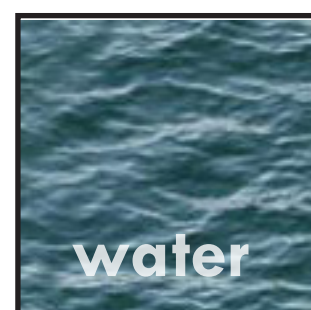
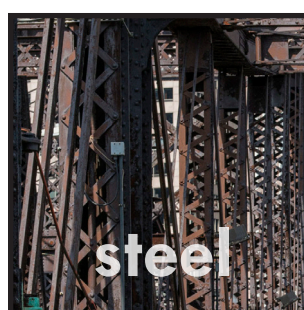
Project Goals



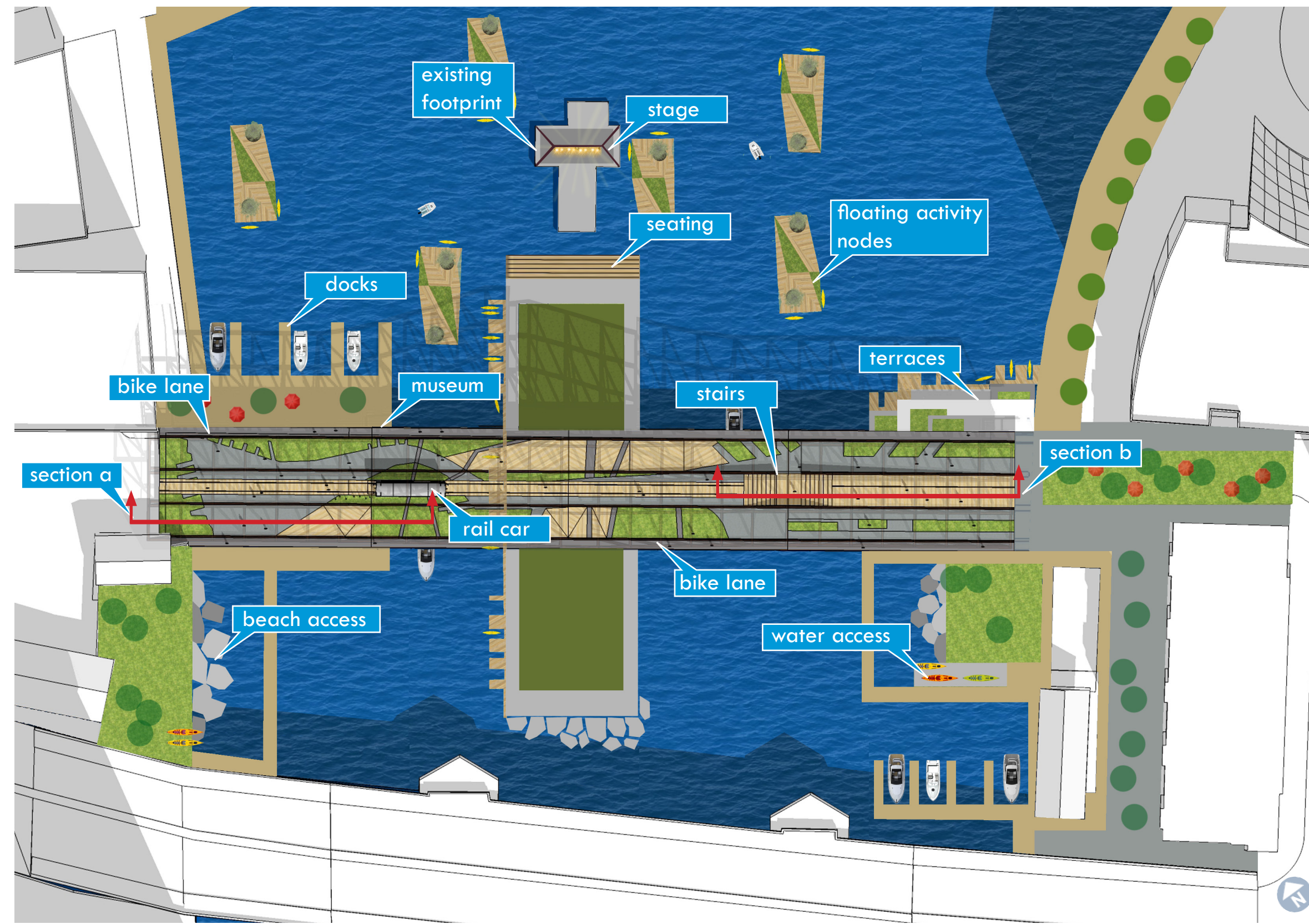
Industrial identity of Fort Point



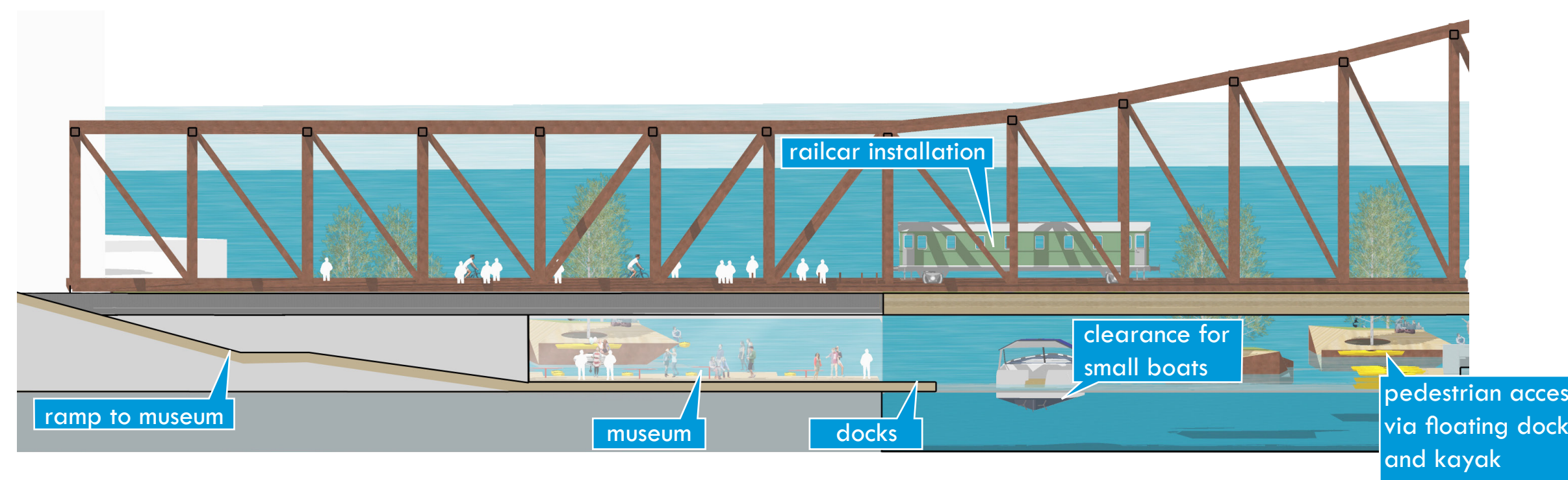
Plan of Fort Point Channel; circa 1913



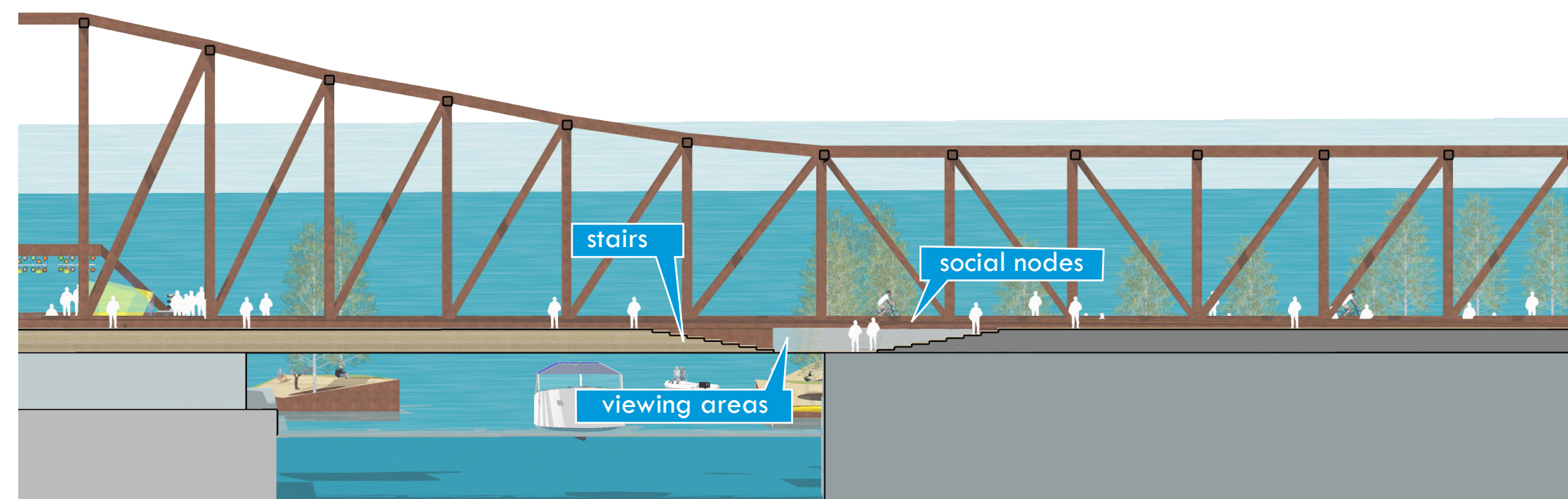
Identifying Textures



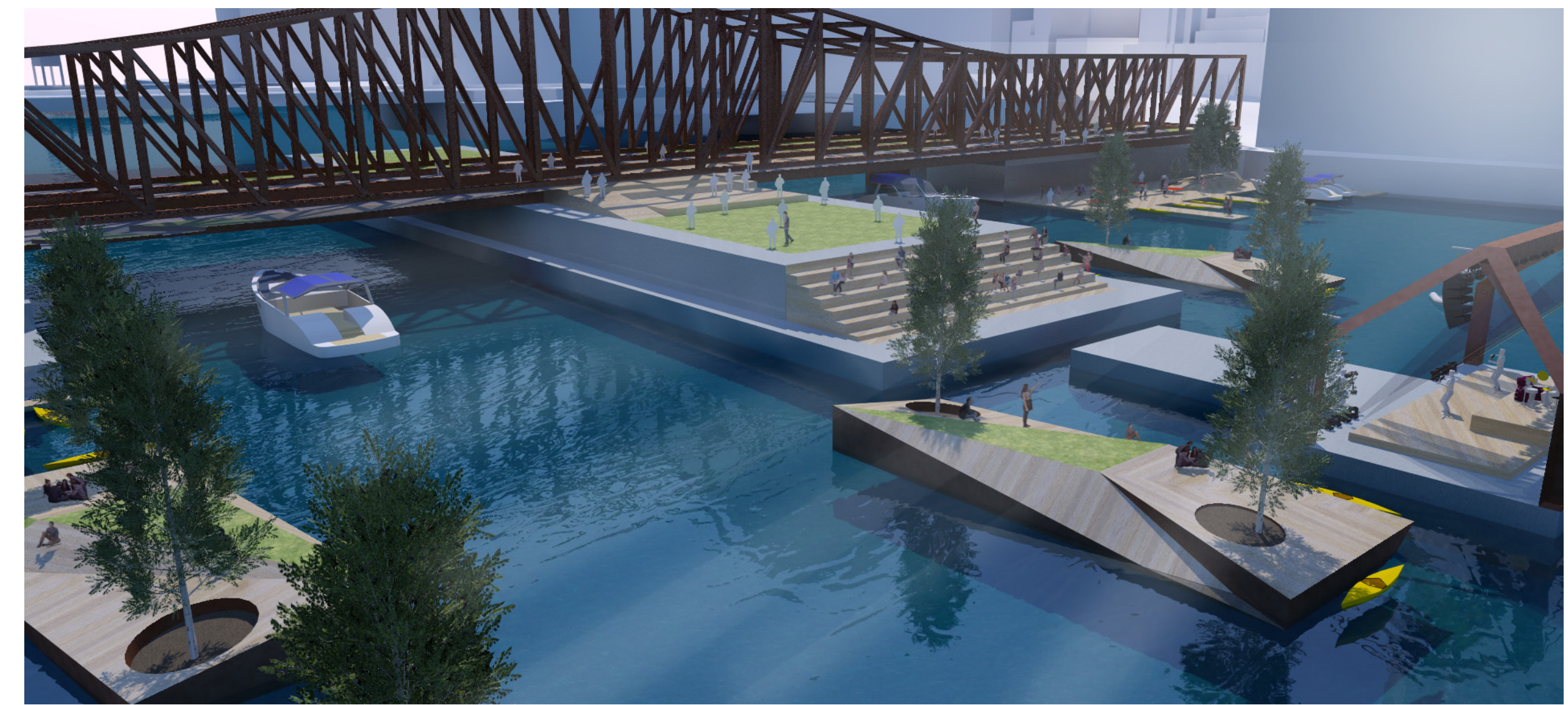
Plan View



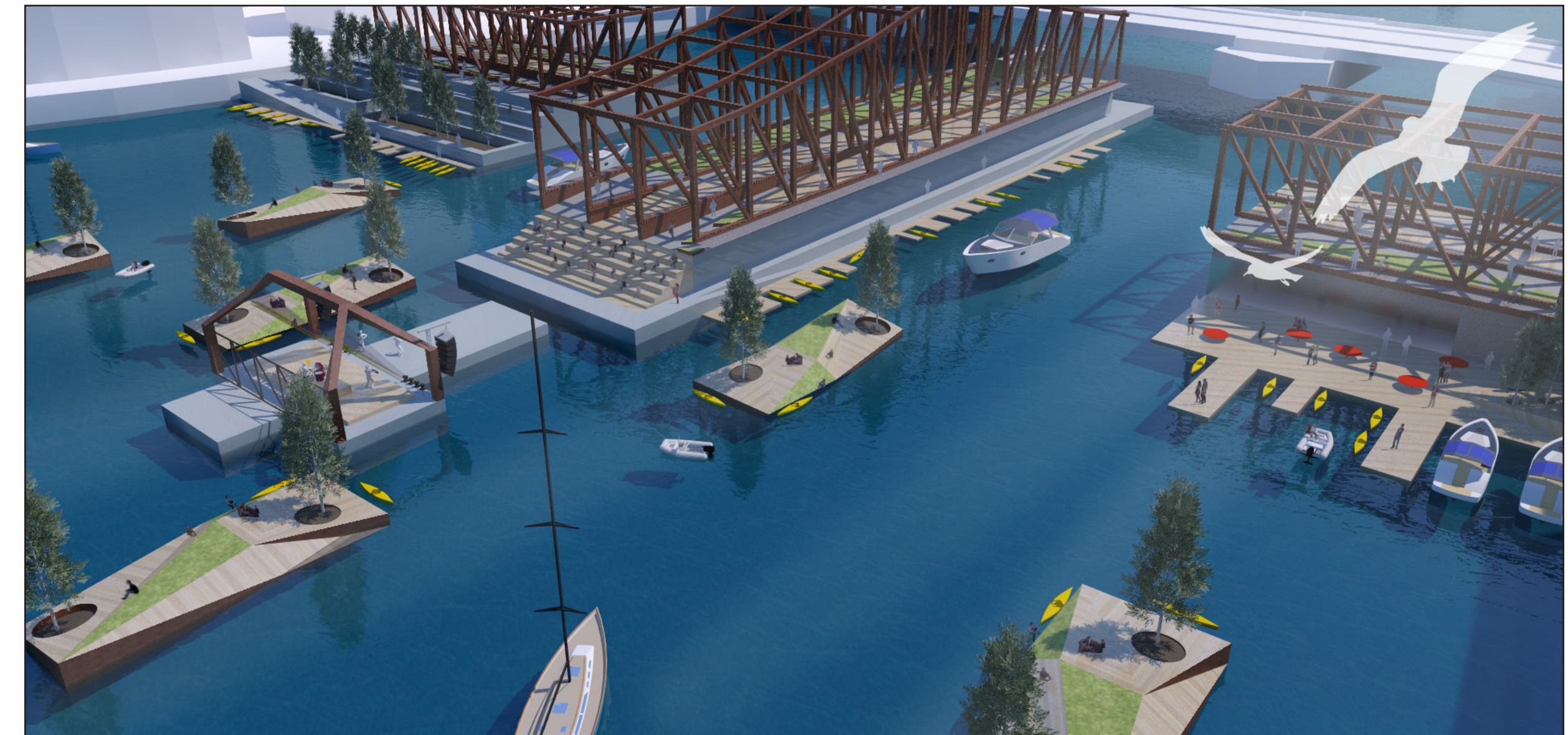
Section a - The central spine of the Northern Avenue Bridge Park is divided into 3 lanes. These lanes create layers to the park and allow pedestrians to experience the park from various elevations. The section above shows the ramp transition to the lower museum level.



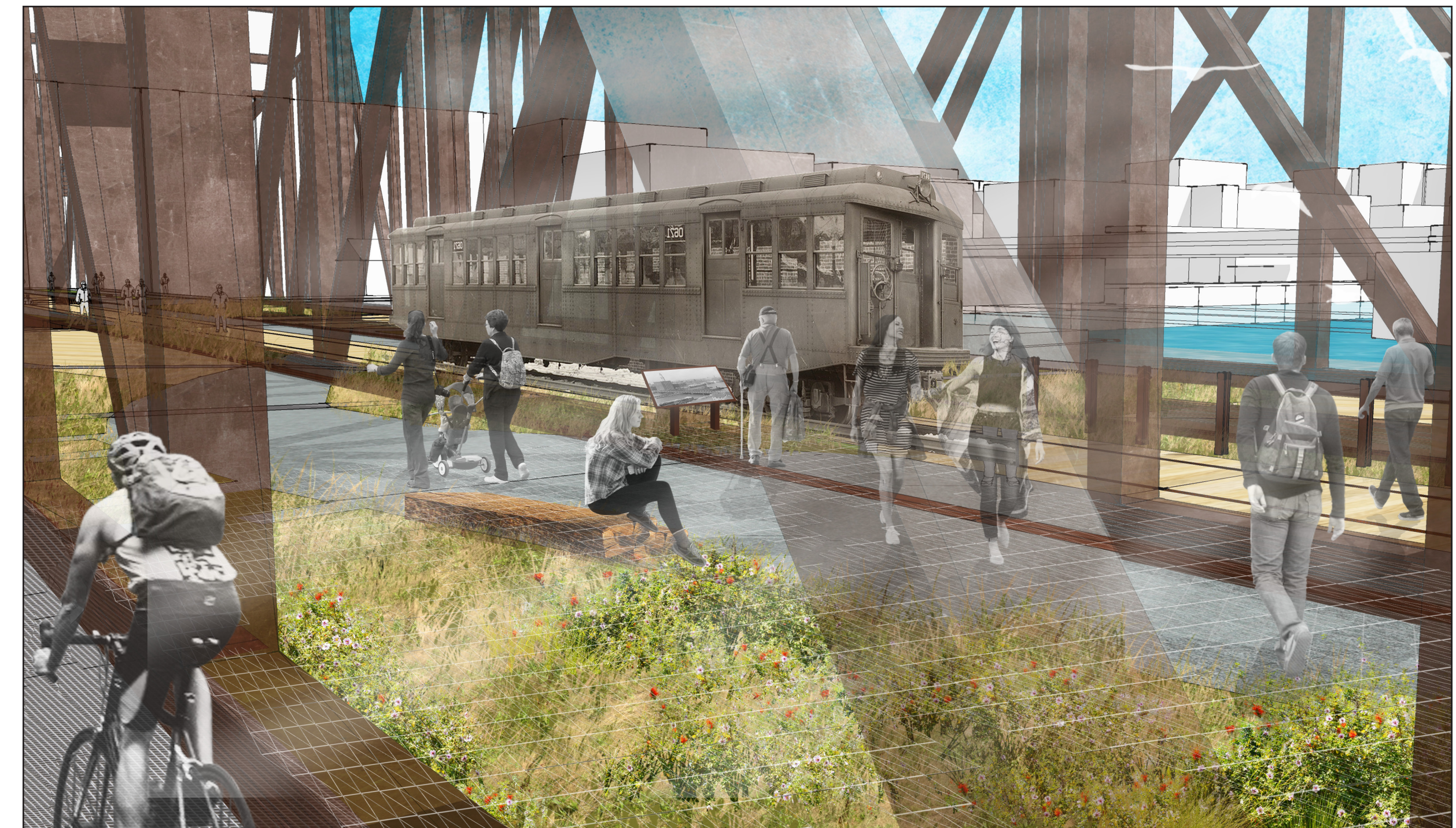
Section b - Bridge social node layers. Throughout the park are steps and ramps that create areas of social interest. In the section above, facing stair cases create nodes for social engagement. When turned, these stairs on the center span of the park will align with theatre seating facing the main stage structure (refer to aerial view).



View looking towards park when center span of bridge is closed. Raising the bridge allows for more boats to be able to pass through while the bridge is closed. The bridge opens only for larger vessels to pass and for events that commemorate the mechanical ability of the bridge. The bridge will not turn frequently enough to disturb park visitors.



Birds eye view looking towards "Draw Tenor" Stage. The stage is located in the existing building footprint, and takes on an industrial building interpretation. When turned, the bridge layers align with theatre seating allowing pedestrians to experience a closer relationship to the water. Floating activity nodes and small boat crafts enhance the experience by transporting visitors through the park. The floating activity nodes allow for more seasonal vegetation to be introduced to the space, and can be removed.



Re-purposed rail car (of historical era) serves as interactive living museum. Interpretive signage tells the story of how the Northern Avenue Bridge became an engineering marvel during Fort Point's industrial era.