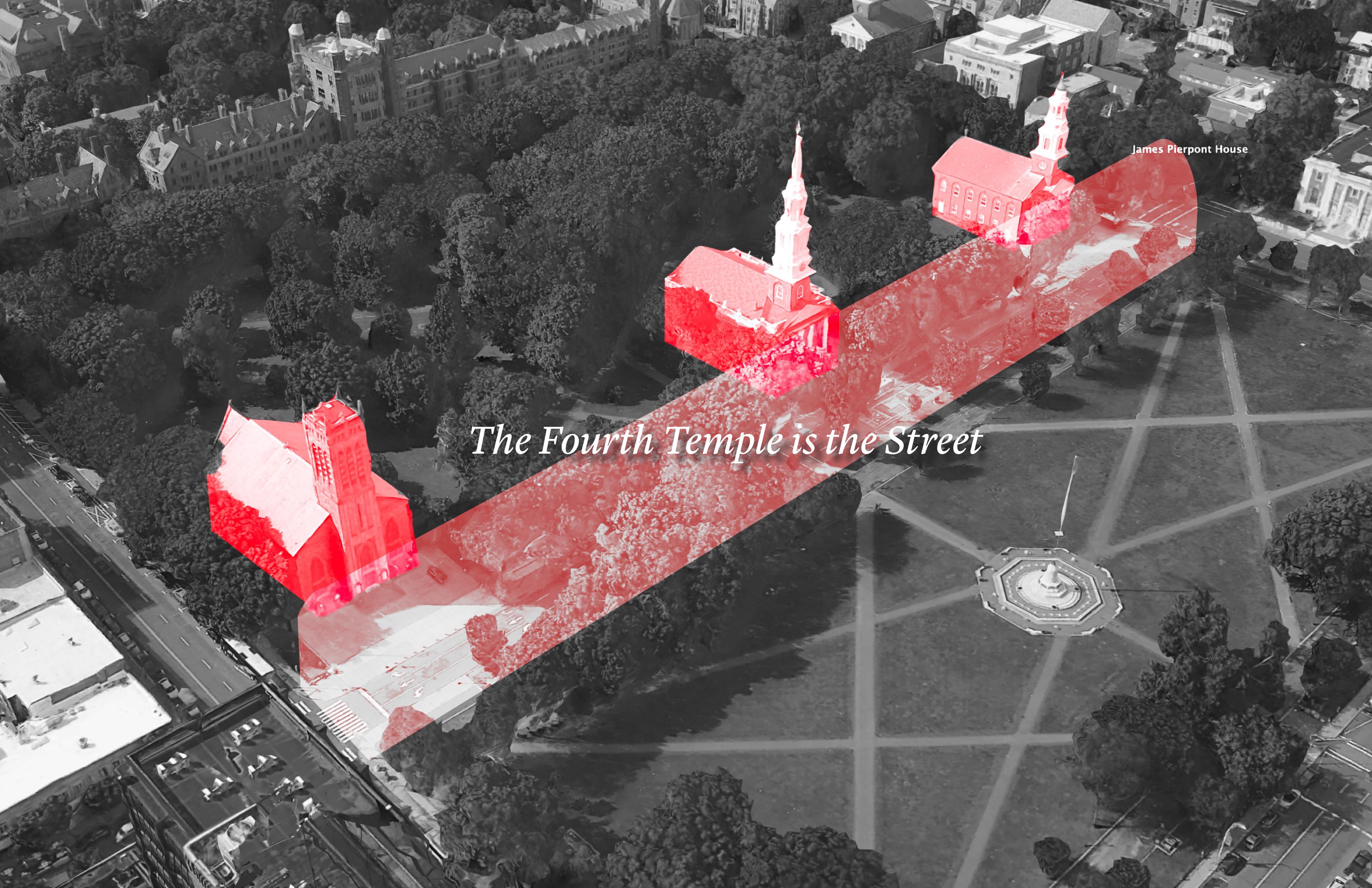


New Haven Green Recommendations for Current City Proposal

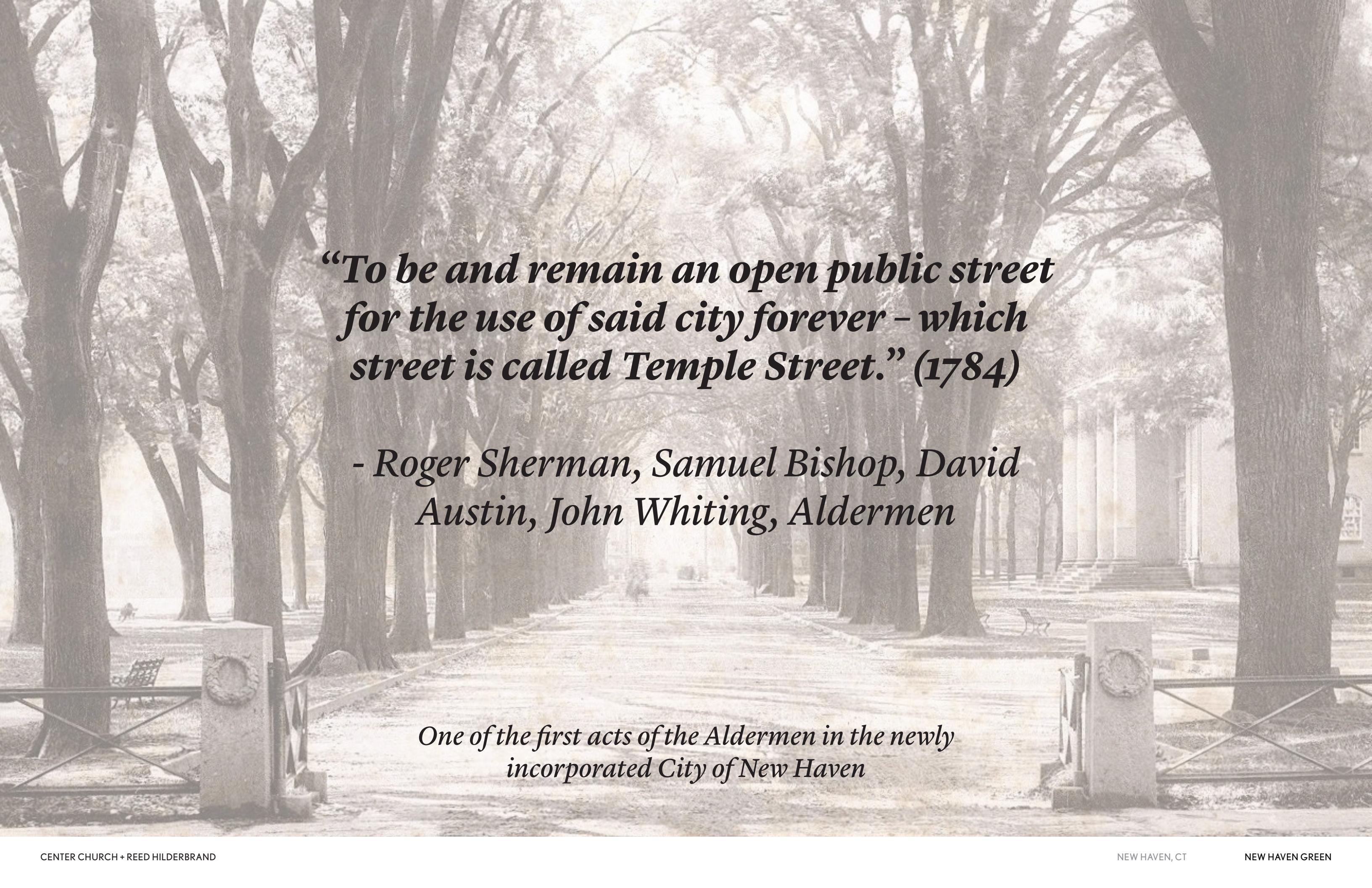
Center Church on the Green
Reed Hilderbrand
Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman LLP

JULY 17, 2025



The Fourth Temple is the Street

James Pierpont House

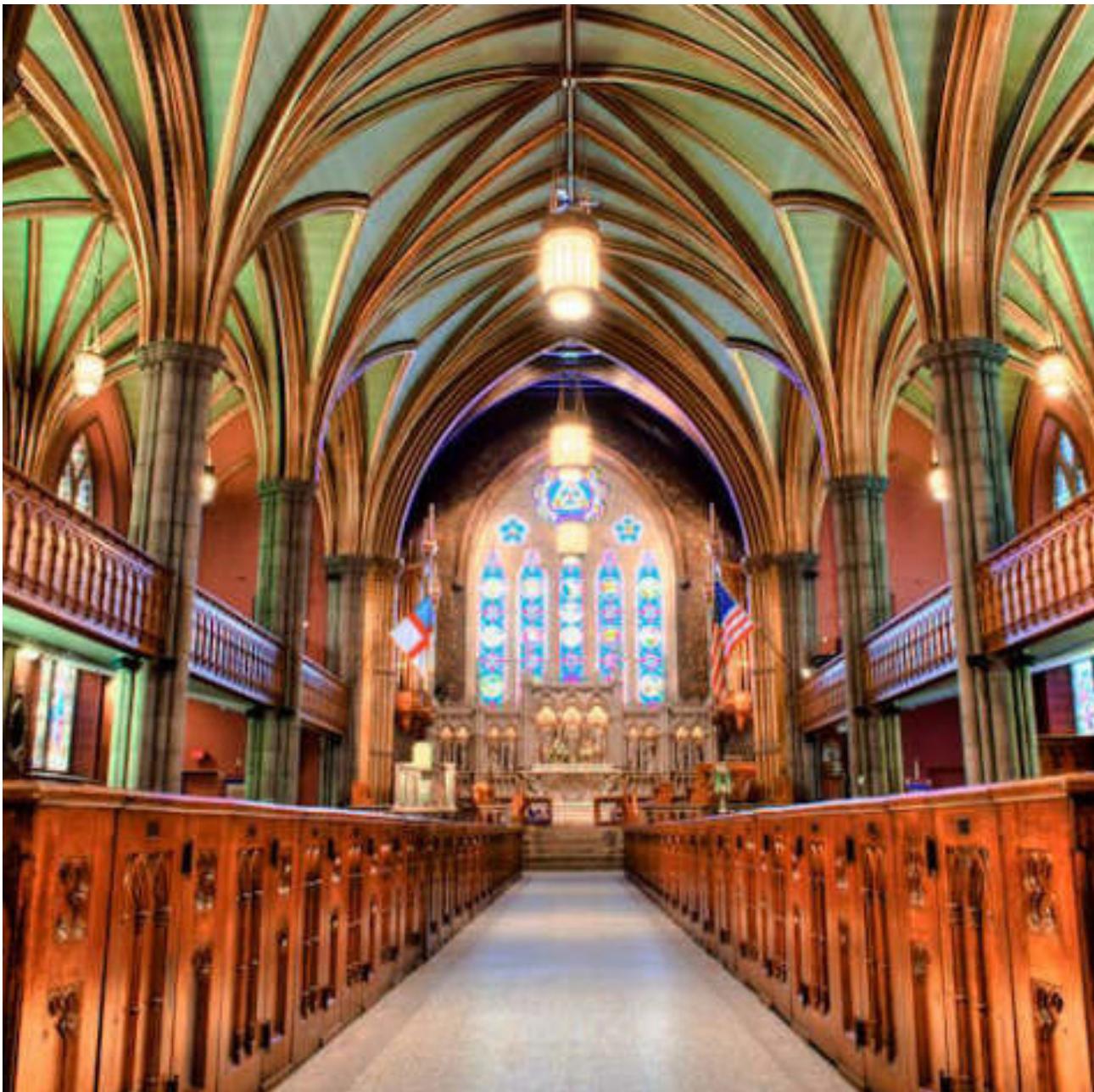


*“To be and remain an open public street
for the use of said city forever - which
street is called Temple Street.” (1784)*

*- Roger Sherman, Samuel Bishop, David
Austin, John Whiting, Aldermen*

*One of the first acts of the Aldermen in the newly
incorporated City of New Haven*

CATHEDRAL OF ELMS (FOURTH TEMPLE)



Interior of Trinity on the Green | Source: Faithstreet.com



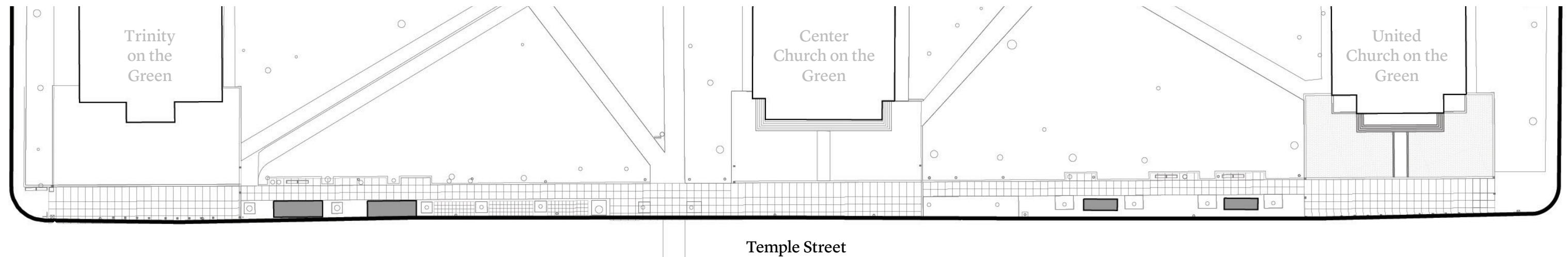
View down Temple Street in Late 19th Century | Source: New Haven Preservation Trust



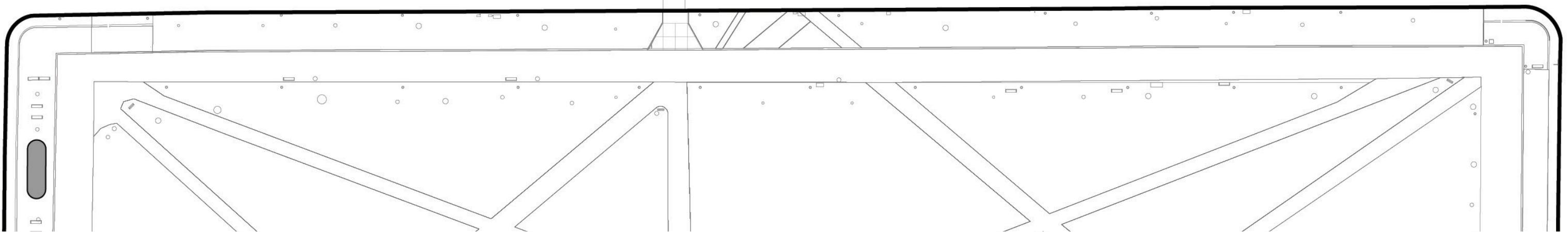
Change is good, but the success of the Green is revealed in its slow pace of change.

“a highly significant aesthetic achievement in urban landscape design”
- National Historic Landmark Nomination, 1969

EXISTING PLAN OF TEMPLE STREET



Temple Street

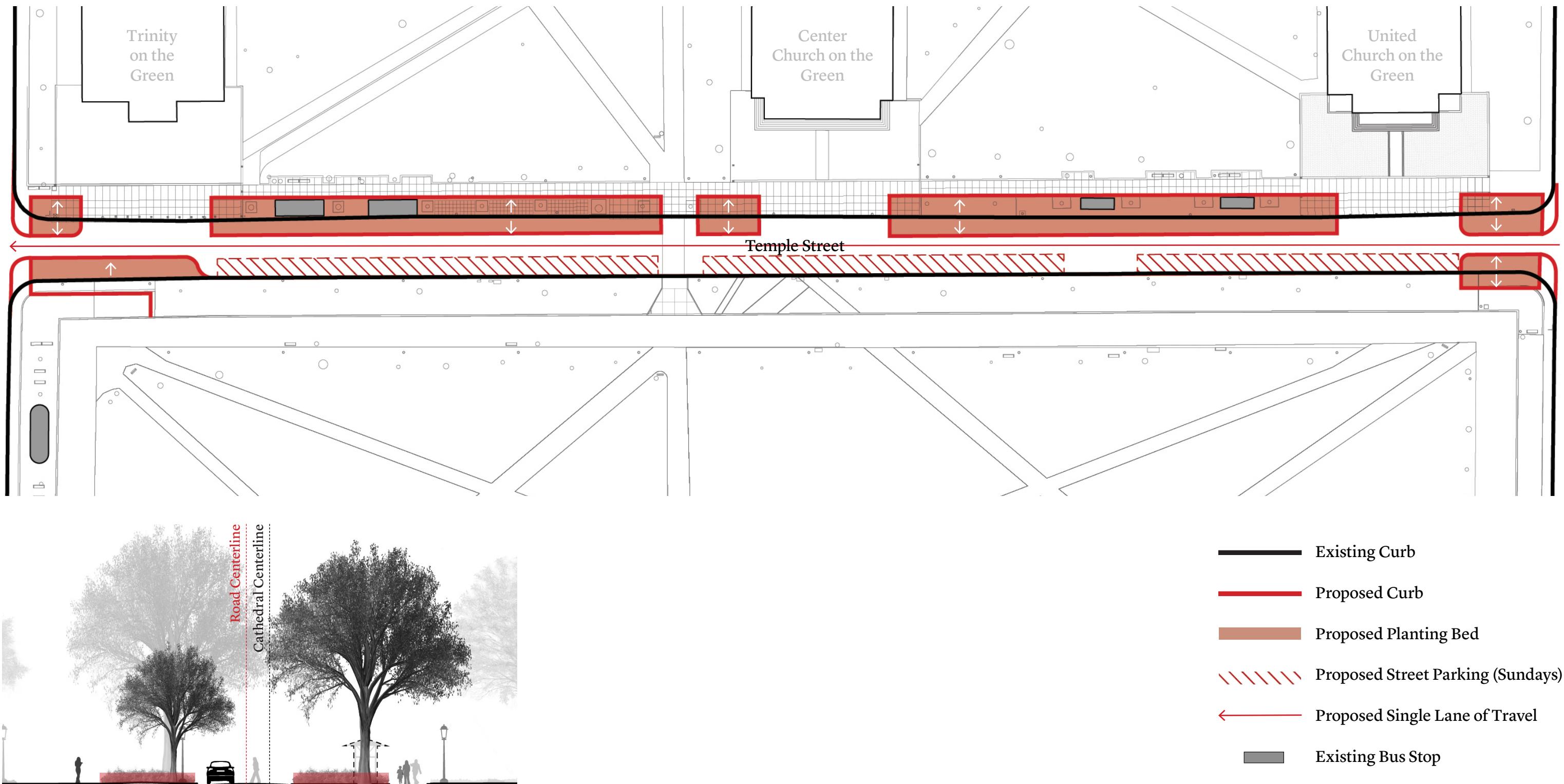


Cathedral Centerline

— Existing Curb

■ Existing Bus Stop

CITY PROPOSAL FOR TEMPLE STREET



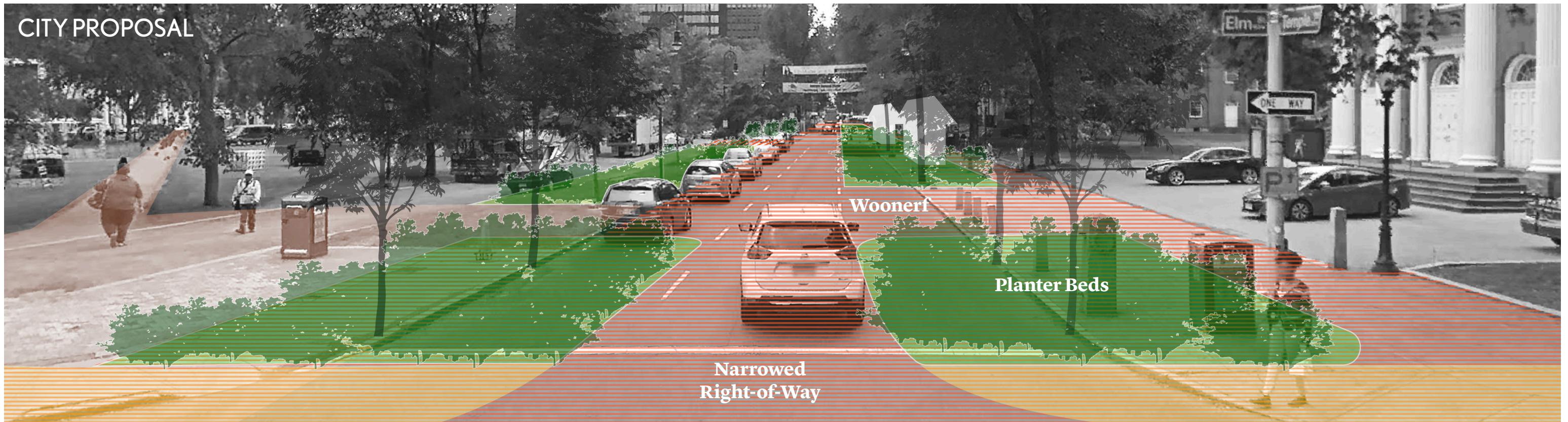
Speculative Typical Section based on Scaled May 2025 Plan

CENTER CHURCH + REED HILDERBRAND

NEW HAVEN, CT

NEW HAVEN GREEN

CITY PROPOSAL FOR TEMPLE STREET



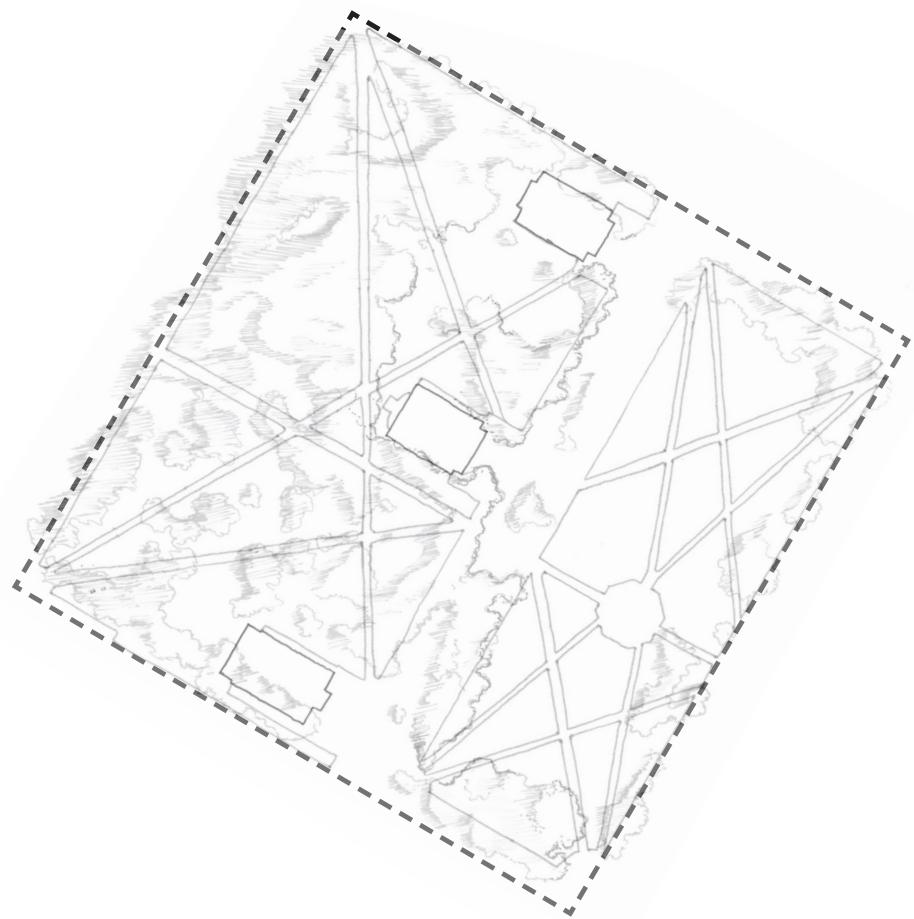
*Speculative View based on Scaled May 2025 Plan

CENTER CHURCH + REED HILDERBRAND

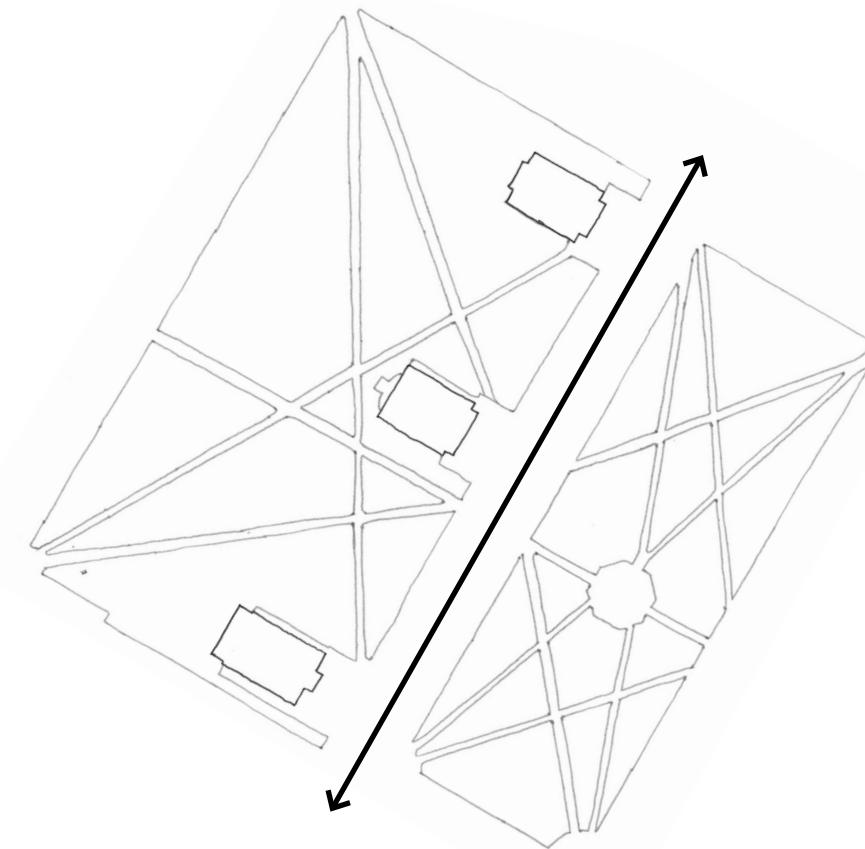
NEW HAVEN, CT

NEW HAVEN GREEN

WHAT IS AT STAKE IN THE CURRENT PROPOSAL?



1. Character Defining Features*
National Historic Landmark



2. Church Operational Needs

*Source: New Haven Preservation Trust

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK: CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES*



Trees



Grass



Fencing



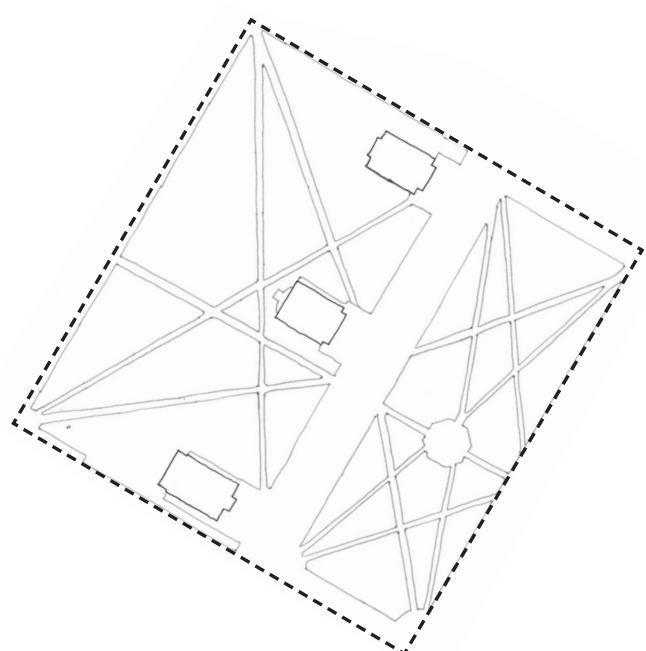
Streets & Paths



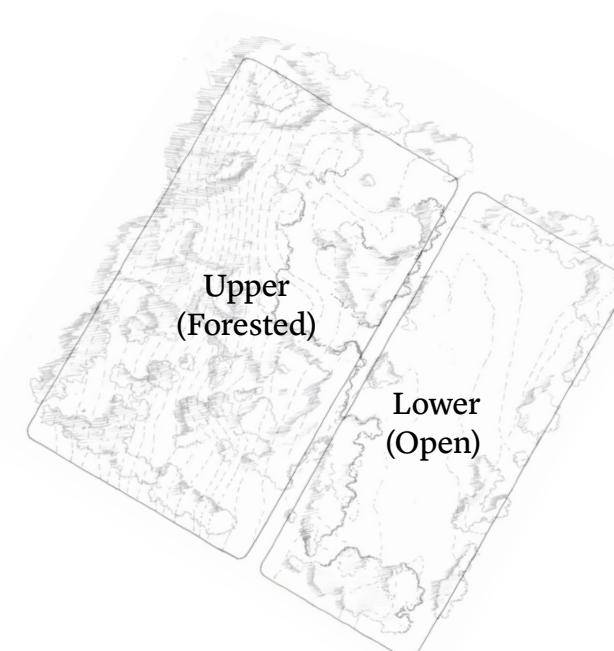
Buildings



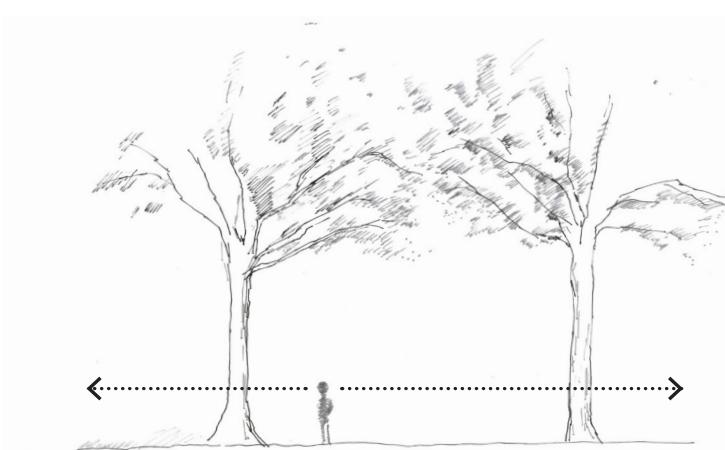
Minimal Intrusion of Other Elements



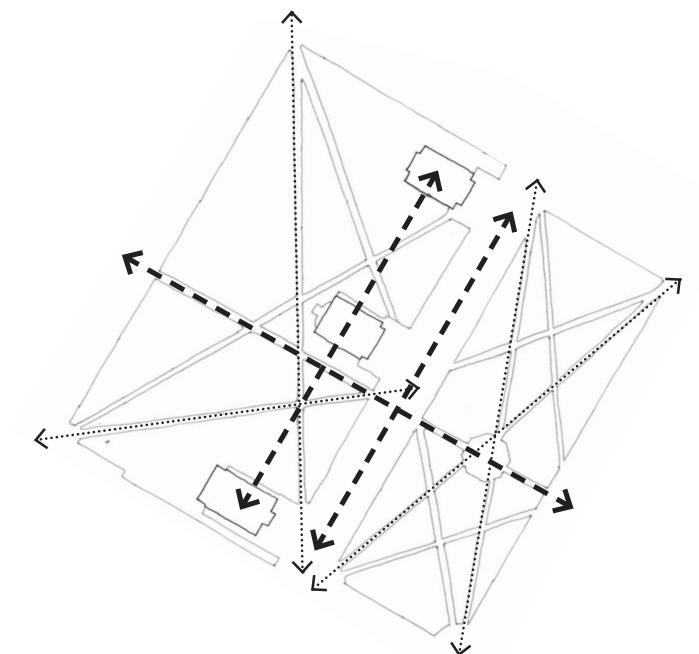
Size & Scale



Two United but Distinctive Areas



Openness & Views

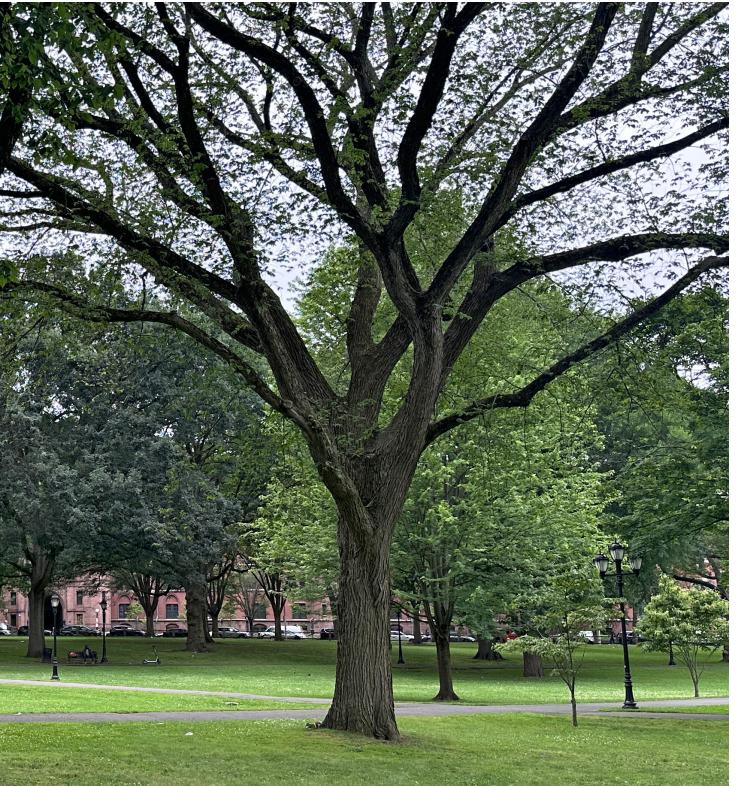


Rectilinearity of Features

*Source: New Haven Preservation Trust

CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES*

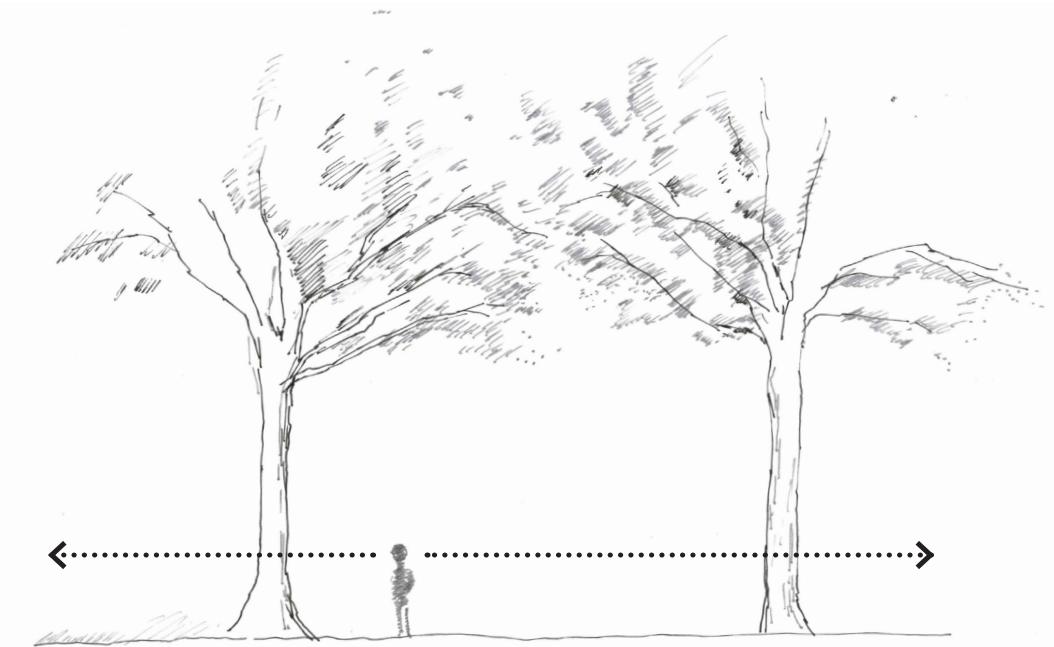
Trees, Grass, Openness & Views



Trees



Grass

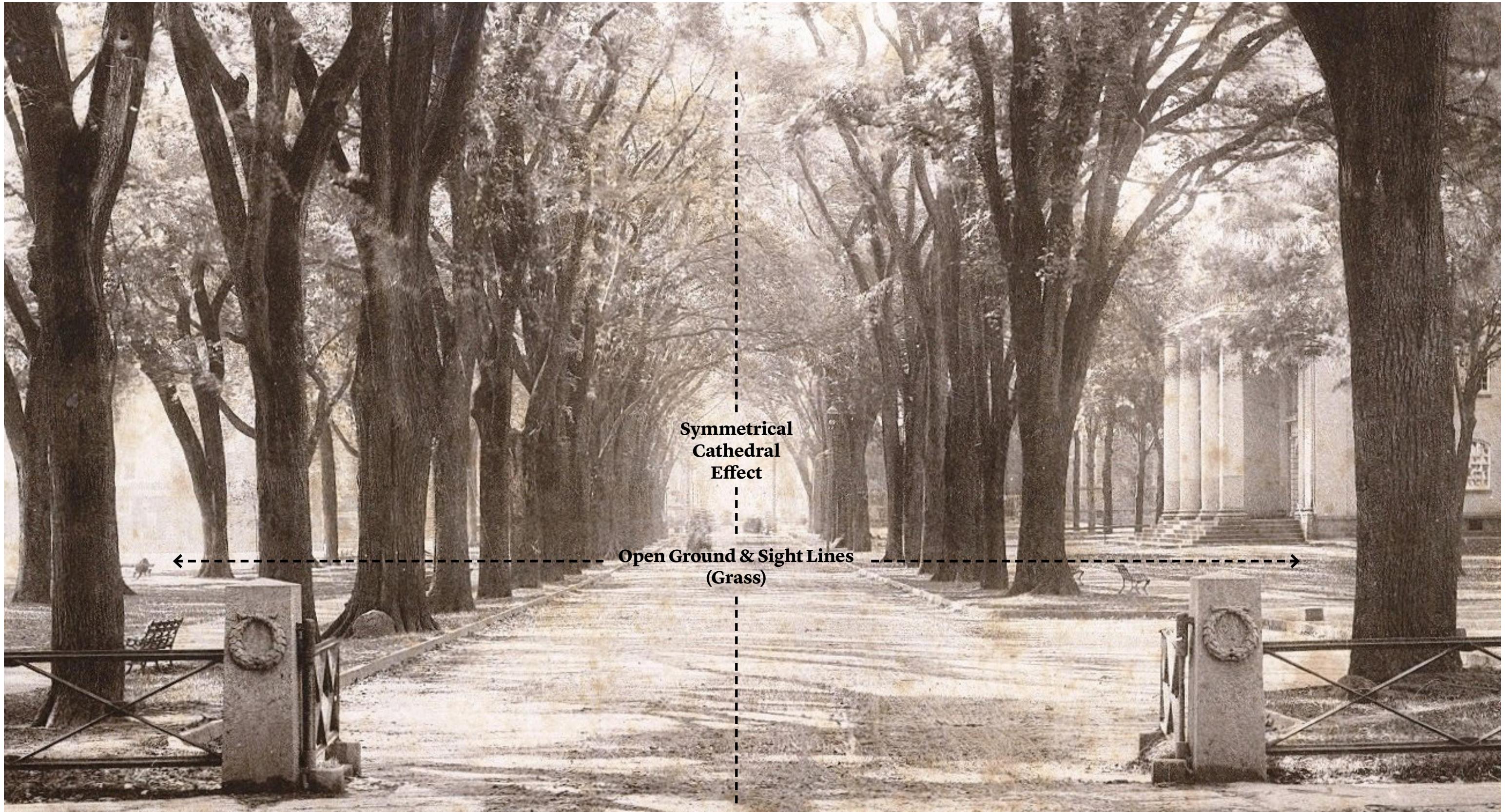


Openness & Views

*Source: New Haven Preservation Trust

CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES

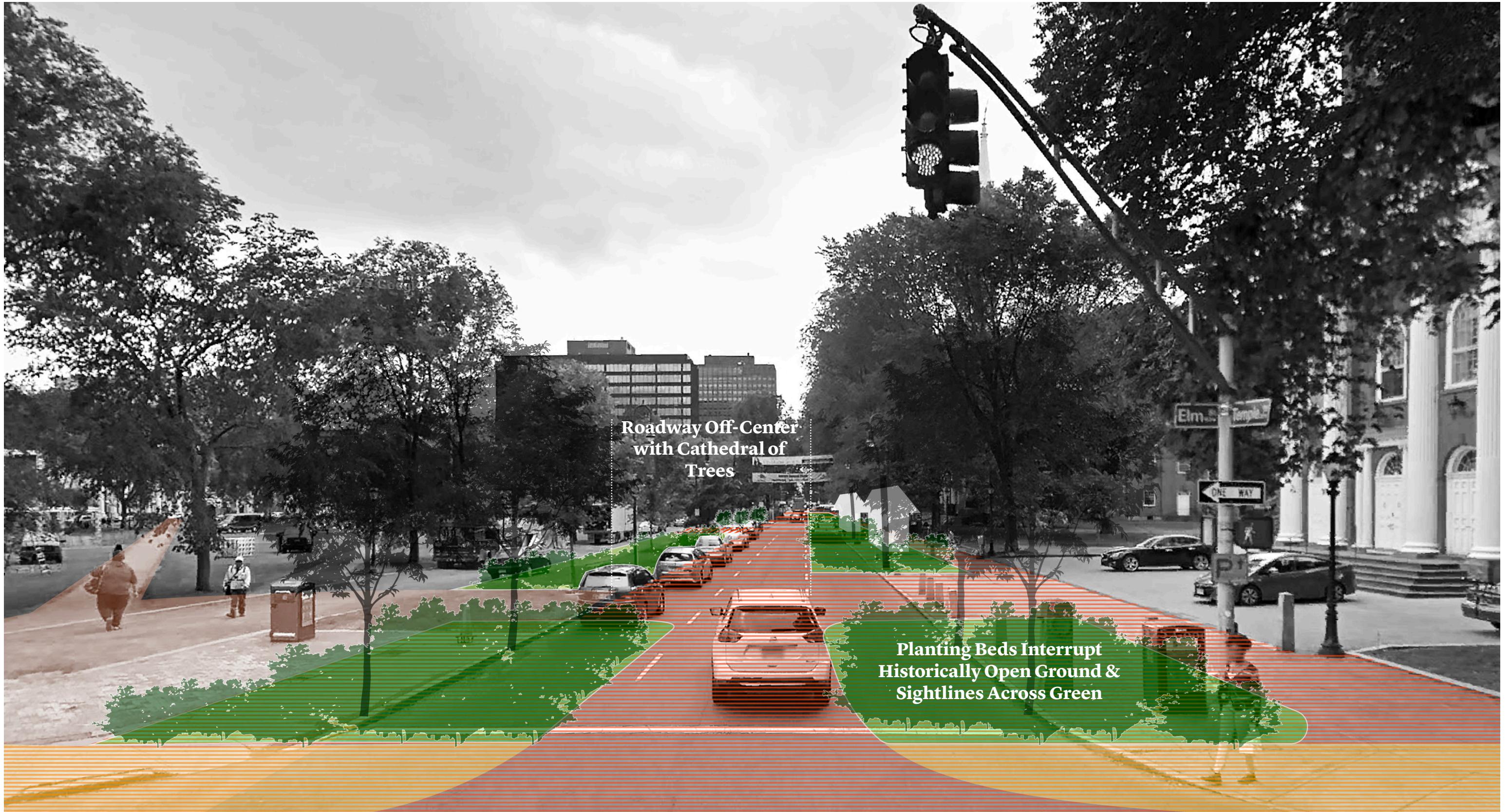
Trees, Grass, Openness & Views



Temple Street in Late 19th Century | Source: Preservation Connecticut

CURRENT CITY PROPOSAL

Trees, Grass, Openness & Views



Speculative Sketch View of City Proposal based on Scaled May 2025 Plan

DIFFERENCES FROM HISTORICAL CROSS SECTION

Trees, Grass, Openness & Views

Limited Changes over Time:
Roadway still on center with trees
Open sightlines across Green remain (Grass)

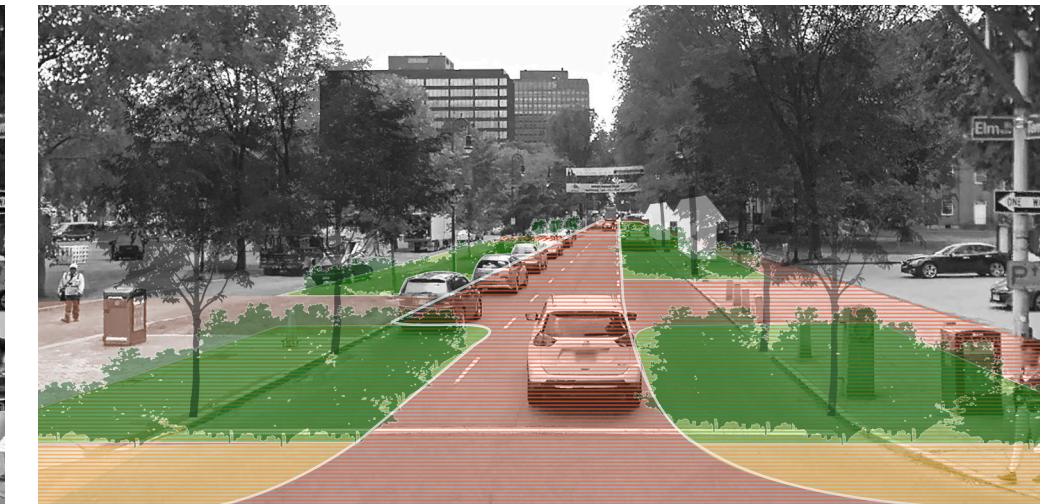


HISTORIC



EXISTING

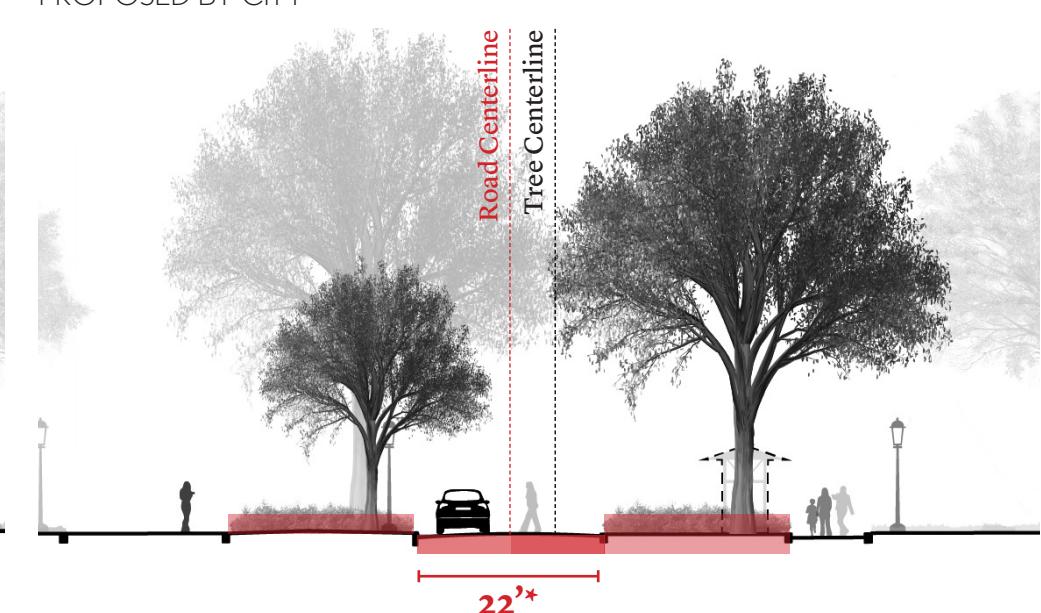
Fundamental Changes:
Roadway off-center with trees
Planting beds interrupt open sightlines across Green



PROPOSED BY CITY



33'

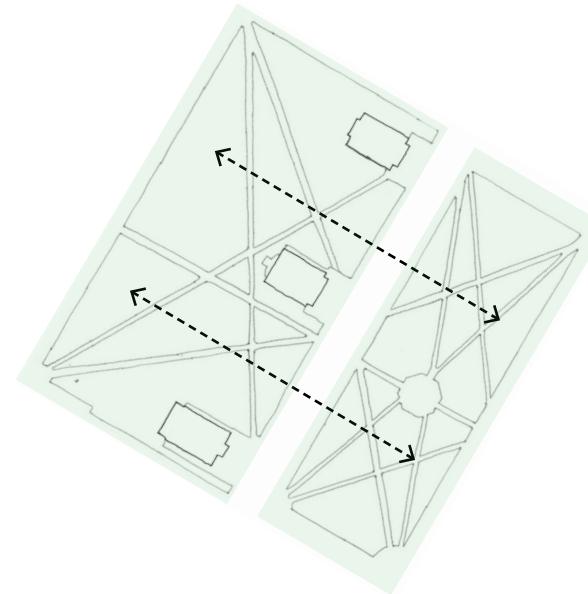
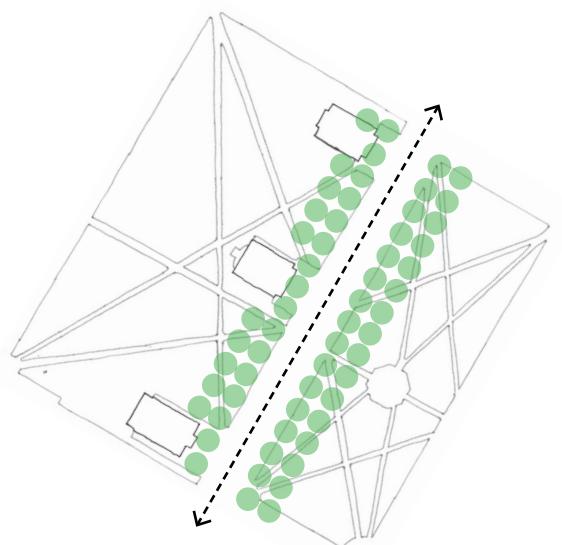
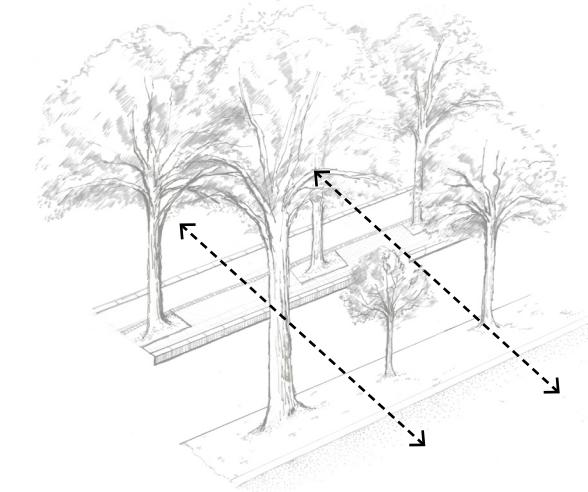
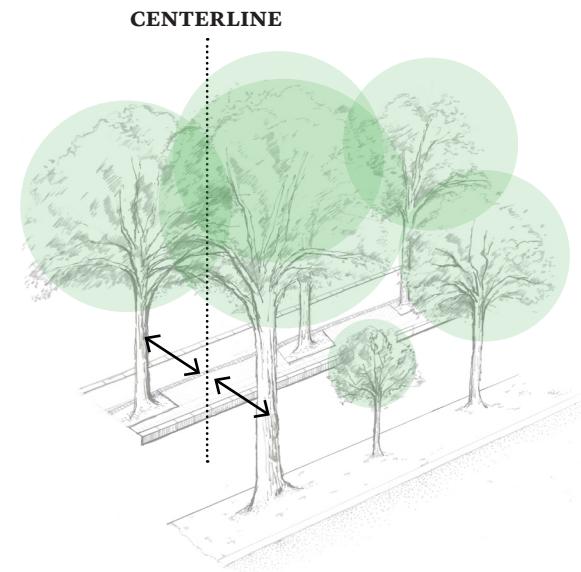


22'*

*Measurements based on Scaled May 2025 Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS

Trees, Grass, Openness & Views



1.

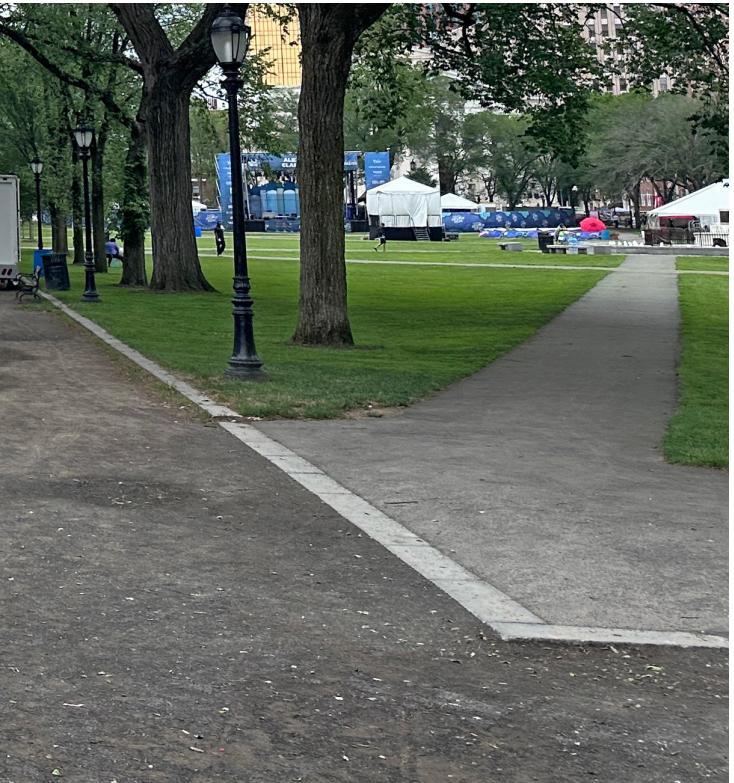
Maintain centered,
symmetrical relationship of
Temple Street & its trees

2.

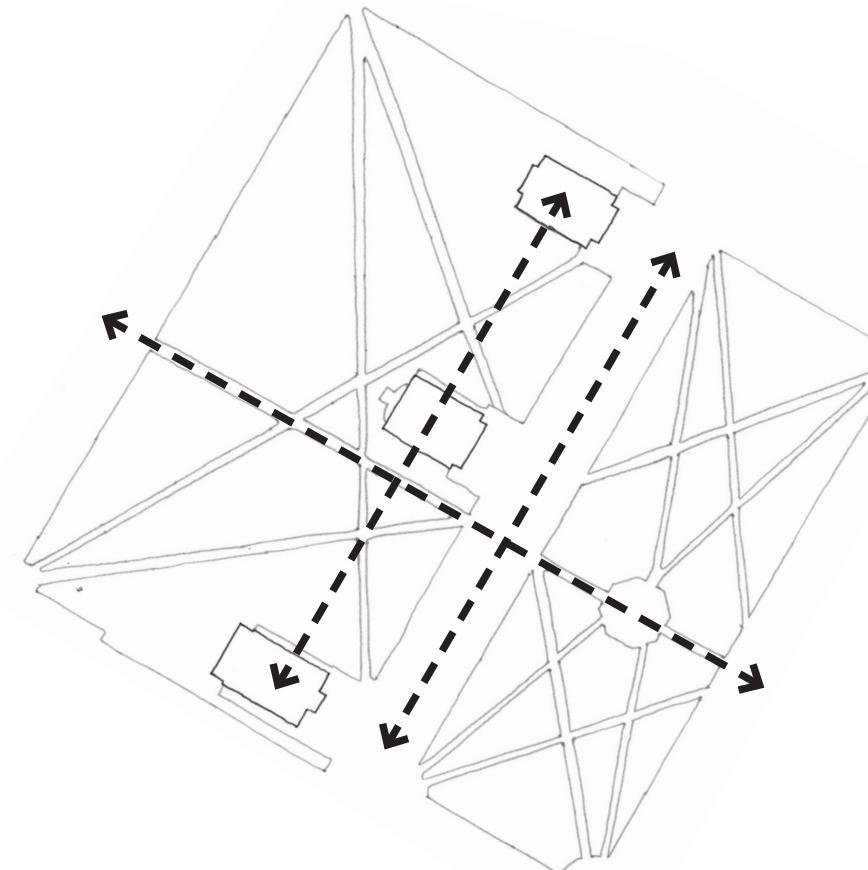
Keep sight lines
uninterrupted by garden
plantings & other elements

CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES*

Streets, Paths & Rectilinearity



Streets & Paths

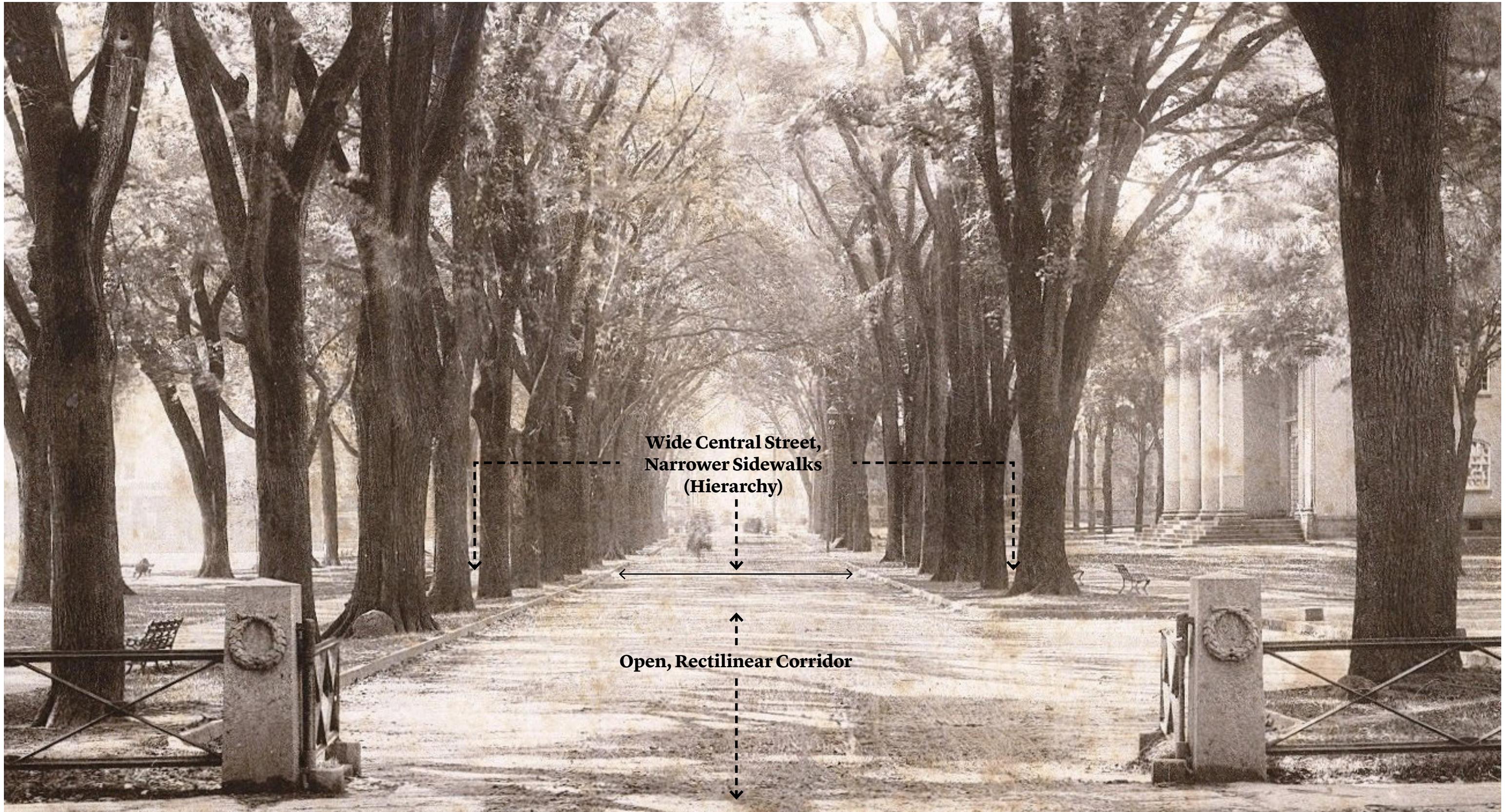


Rectilinearity of Features

*Source: New Haven Preservation Trust

CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES

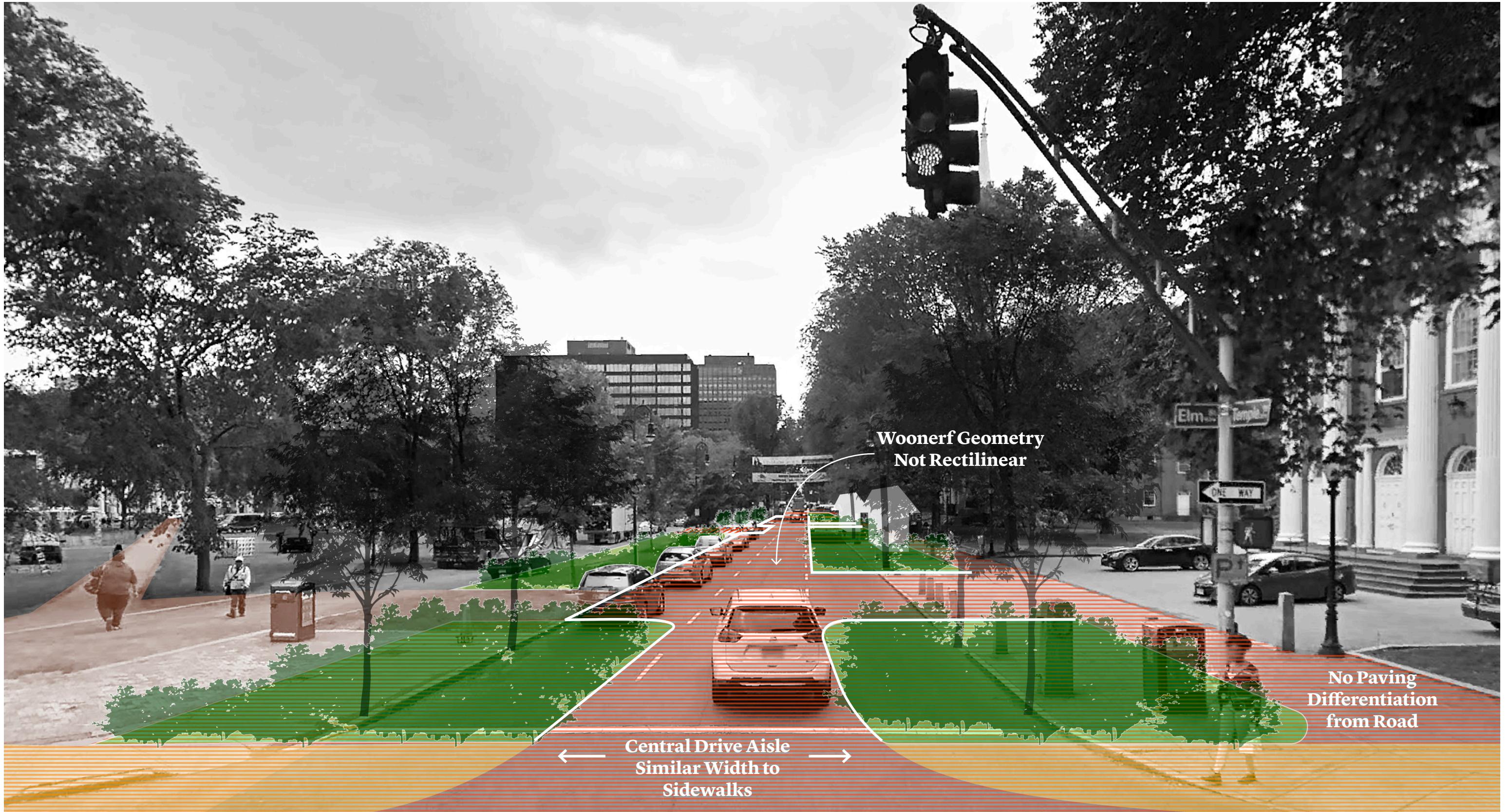
Streets, Paths & Rectilinearity



Temple Street in Late 19th Century | Source: Preservation Connecticut

CURRENT CITY PROPOSAL

Streets, Paths & Rectilinearity



Speculative Sketch View of City Proposal based on Scaled May 2025 Plan

DIFFERENCES FROM HISTORICAL CROSS SECTION

Streets, Paths & Rectilinearity

Limited Changes over Time:

Road still substantially wider than sidewalks
Paths and sidewalks remain differently paved

Fundamental Changes:

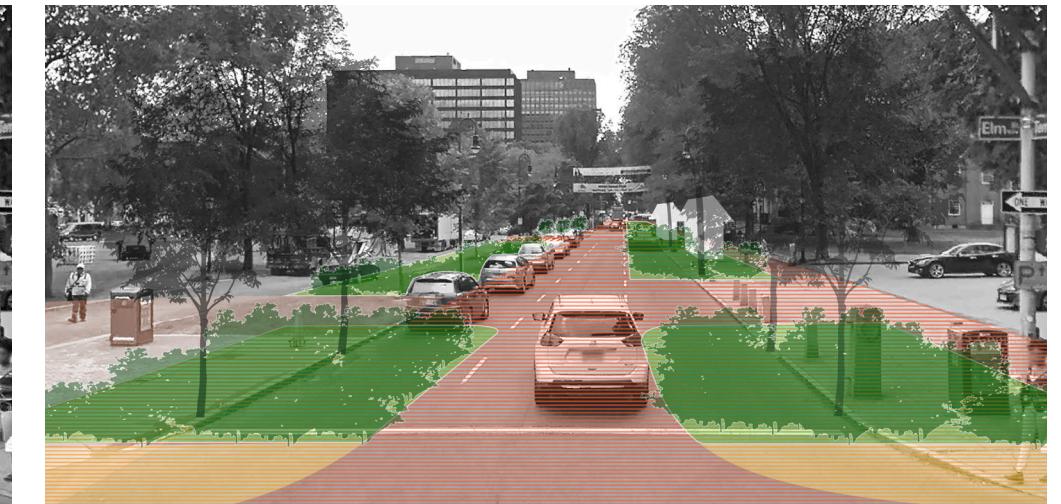
Central drive aisle not substantially wider than sidewalks
Path and roadway paved in same way
Less clear rectilinearity in road geometry



HISTORIC



EXISTING



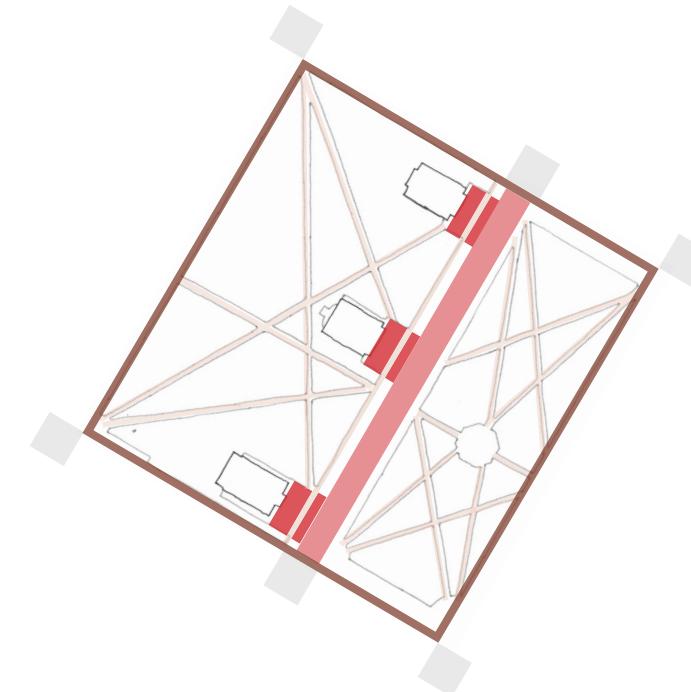
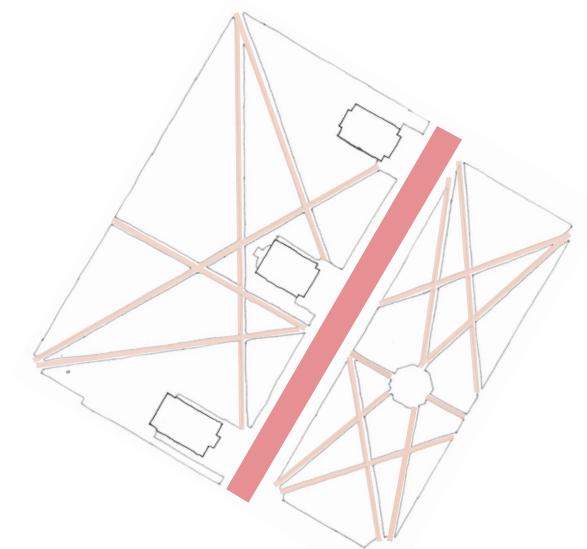
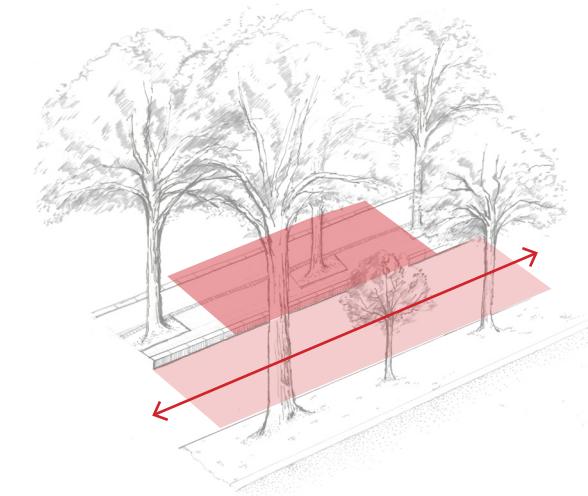
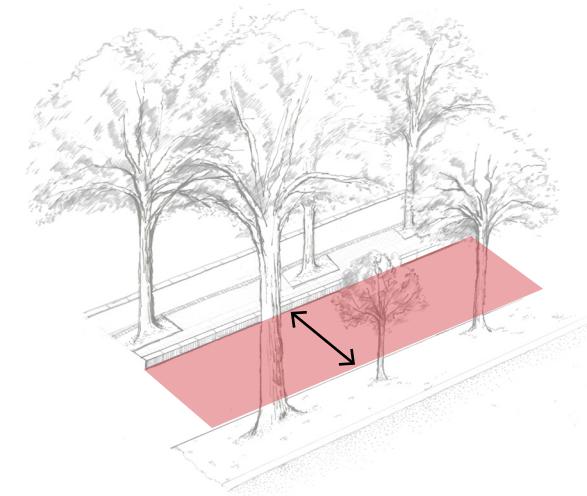
PROPOSED BY CITY



*Measurements based on Scaled May 2025 Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS

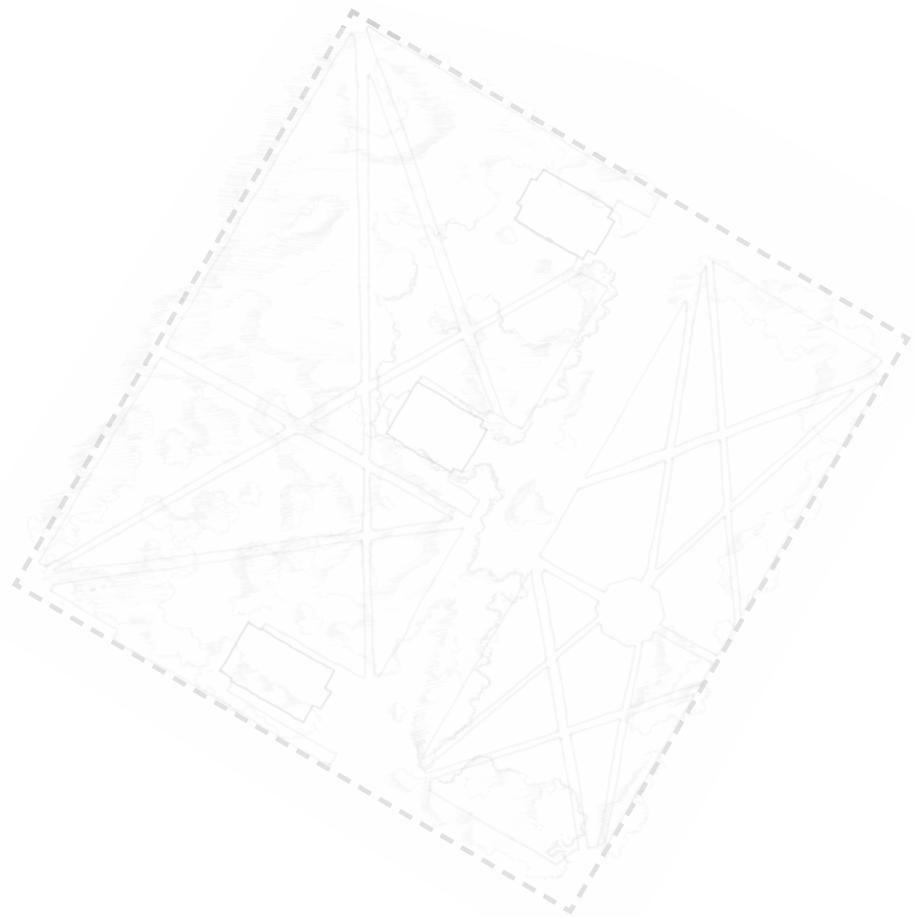
Streets, Paths & Rectilinearity



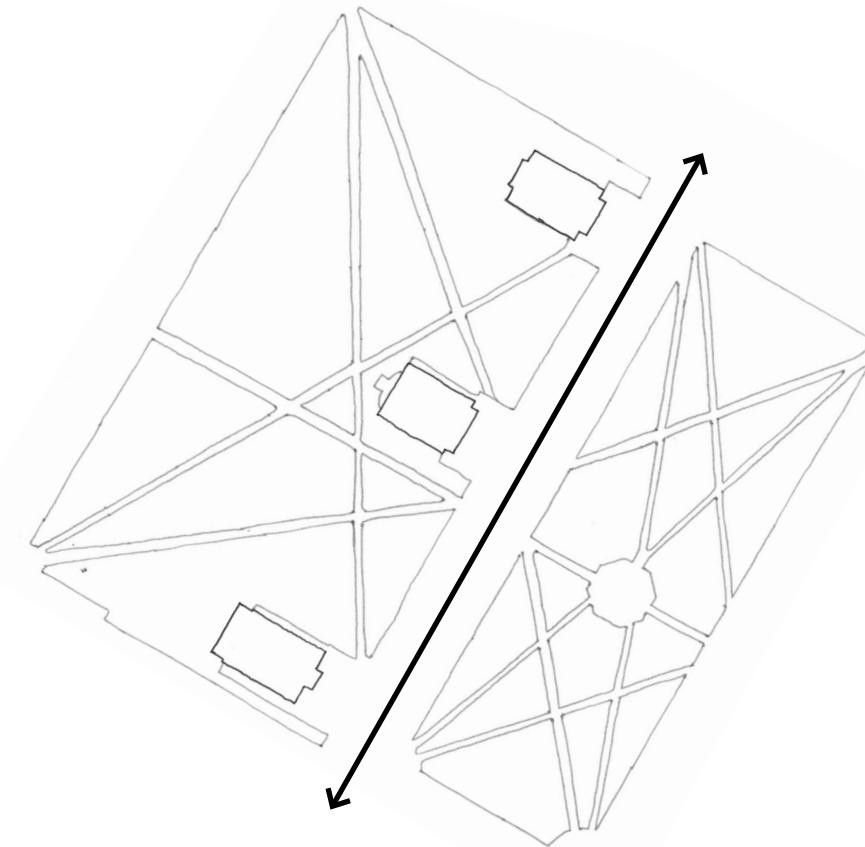
3.
Distinguish Temple Street
in its detailing, materials &
dimensions as a street distinct
from pedestrian pathways

4.
Reinforce the rectilinearity
of the Green and its distinct
program areas through
different paving treatments

WHAT IS AT STAKE IN THE CURRENT PROPOSAL?



1. Character Defining Features*
National Historic Landmark



2. Church Operational Needs

*Source: New Haven Preservation Trust

CHURCH OPERATIONAL NEEDS

- Protection of the Green as the National Historic Landmark setting for the Churches (especially Temple Street)
- 24/7 public vehicular access
- 24/7 vehicle parking and drop-off on the church apron (ADA)
- Sunday street parking
- Regular 24/7 pedestrian and vehicular through-traffic for visibility and security
- Signalization of both ends of Temple Street for pedestrian and vehicular safety for staff and parishioners
- Security features (bollards, etc.) for ram protection
- Sufficient clearances for large logistical vehicles for church events
- Required clearances for emergency access



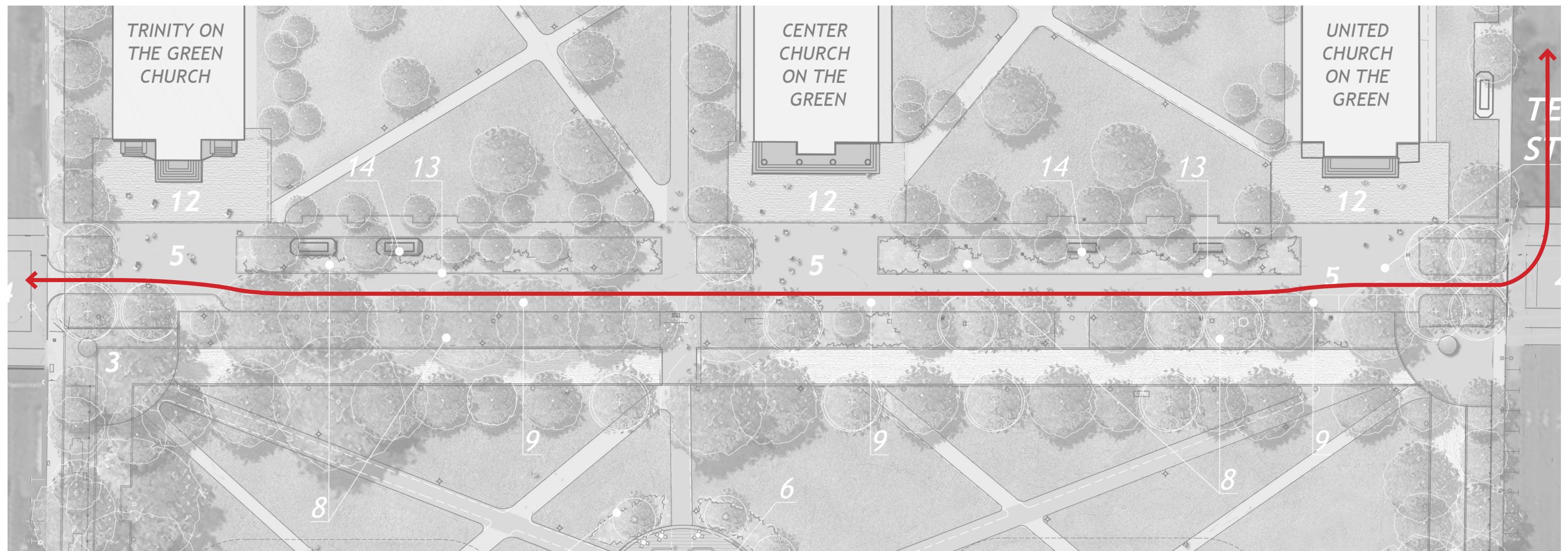
Center Church on the Green, Wikimedia Commons

EMERGENCY ACCESS

Church Operational Needs

- How will emergency services access the Churches in the proposed plan?

↔ Speculative Emergency Access Route



Proposed City Plan, May 2025

SCALE: | 0' | 20' | 40'

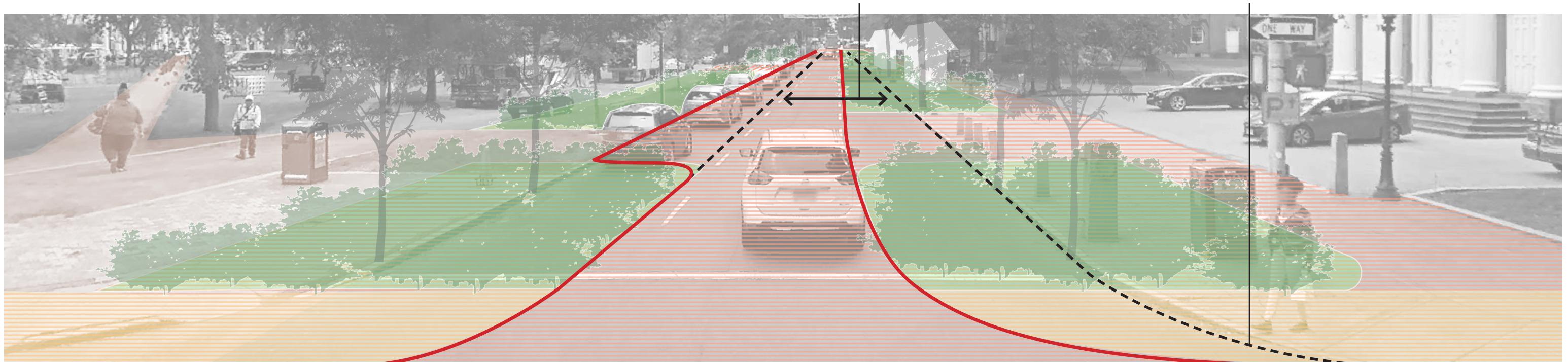
EMERGENCY ACCESS

Church Operational Needs

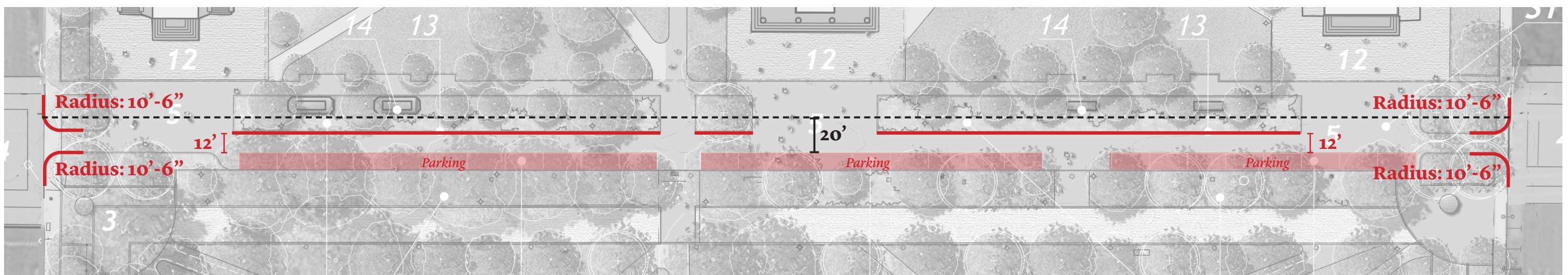
- Is the plan adequately satisfying emergency access needs for the churches?
- Can emergency vehicles easily access the center of the Green?

— Proposed Edge of Curb
 Proposed Street Parking
 Estimated Requirement for Emergency Access

20' Horizontal Clearance, Typ.
International Fire Code

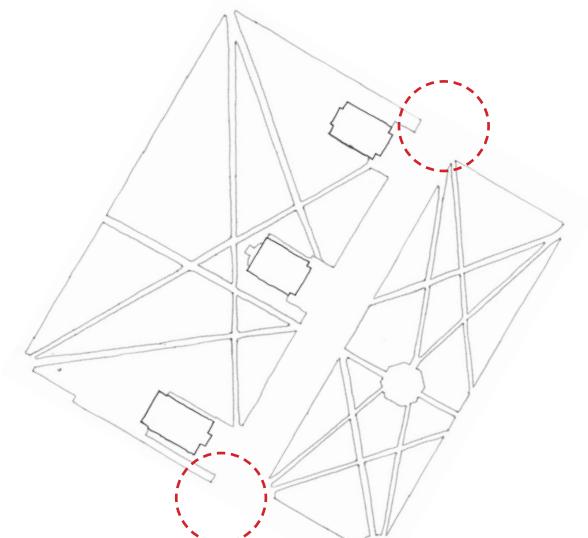
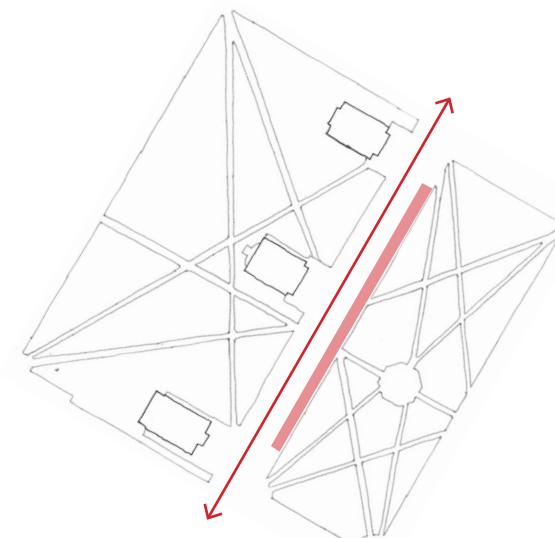
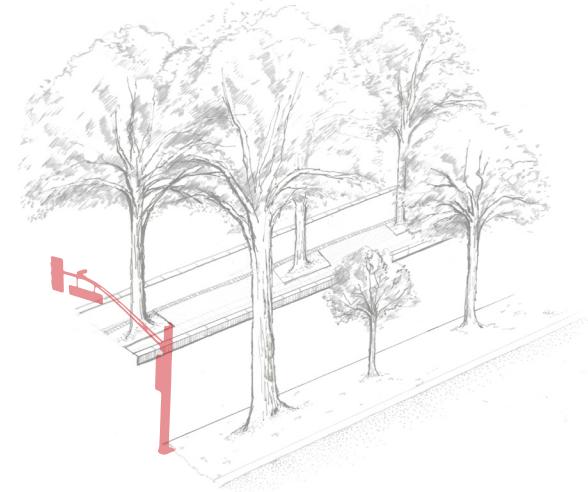
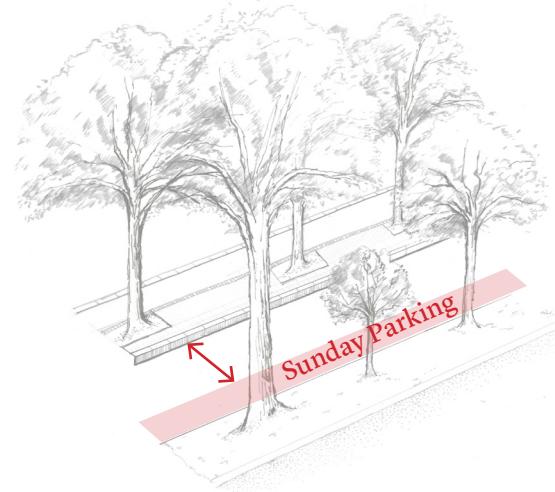


28' Turning Radius, Typ.
International Fire Code



RECOMMENDATIONS

Church Operational Needs

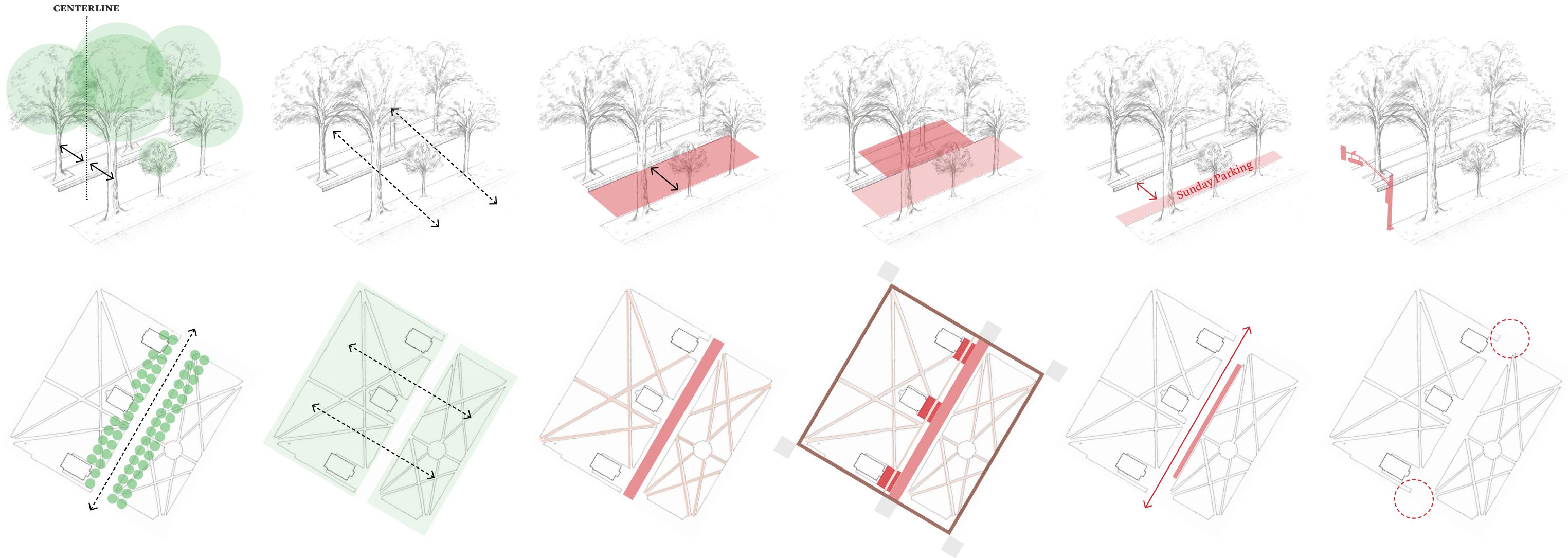


5.
Ensure Temple Street is wide enough
as a Shared Street for adequate
emergency access even during
Sunday parking

6.
Maintain signalized entrances to
Temple Street

OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

Character Defining Features* + Church Operational Needs



1.
Maintain centered,
symmetrical relationship of
Temple Street & its trees.

2.
Keep sight lines
uninterrupted by garden
plantings & other elements.

3.
Distinguish Temple Street
in its detailing, materials &
dimensions as a road distinct
from pedestrian pathways.

4.
Reinforce the rectilinearity
of the Green and its distinct
program areas through
different paving treatments.

5.
Ensure Temple Street is
wide enough as a Shared
Street for adequate
emergency access even
during Sunday parking.

6.
Maintain signalized
entrances to Temple Street.

*Source: New Haven Preservation Trust

OTHER OPEN QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS: REFUGE

- How will existing users of the Green be impacted?
- How will the proposed changes better meet their needs and interests?



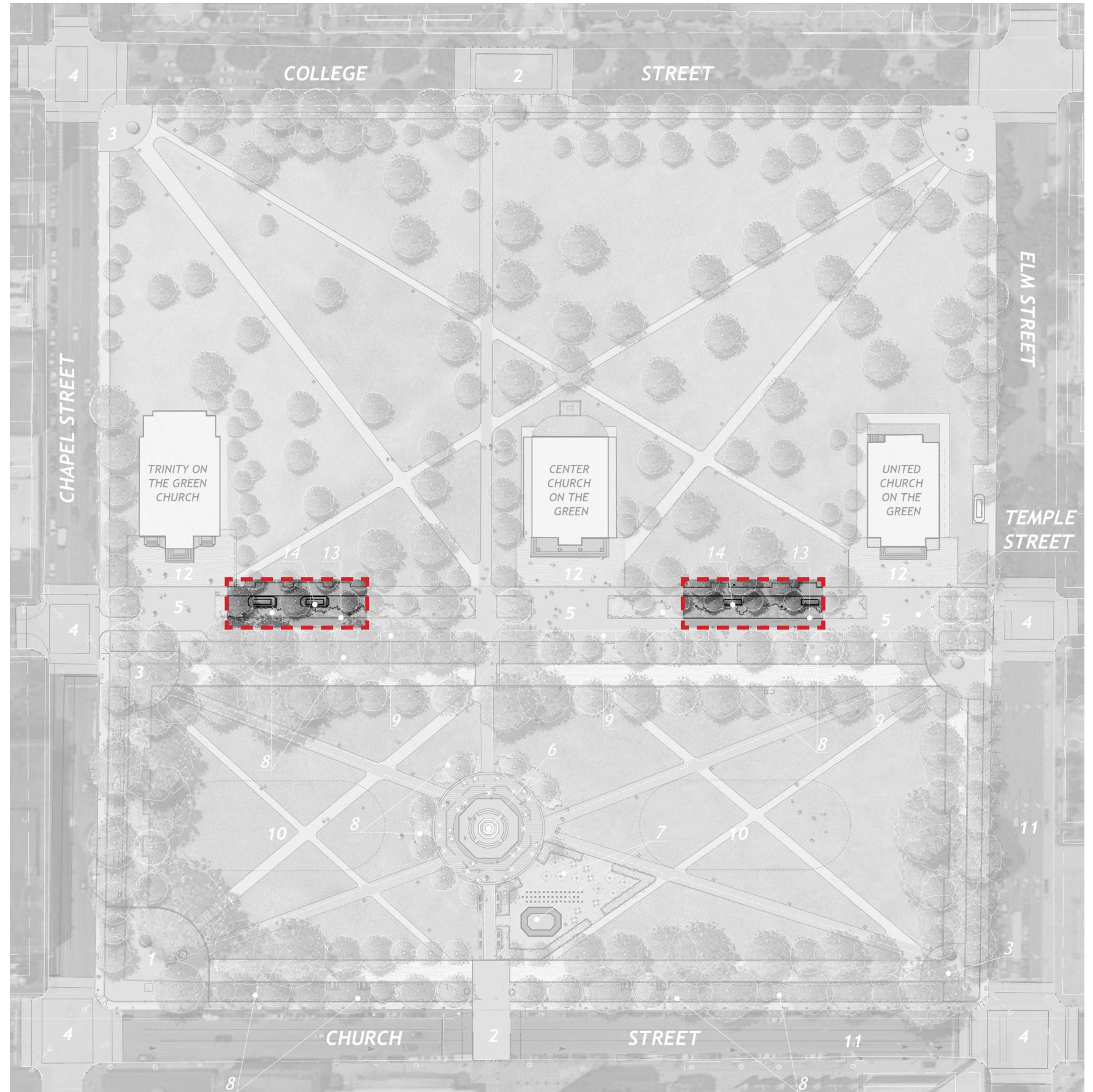
Historic Condition as Urban Refuge



Existing Condition as Urban Refuge

QUESTIONS: TRANSIT STOPS & VENDORS

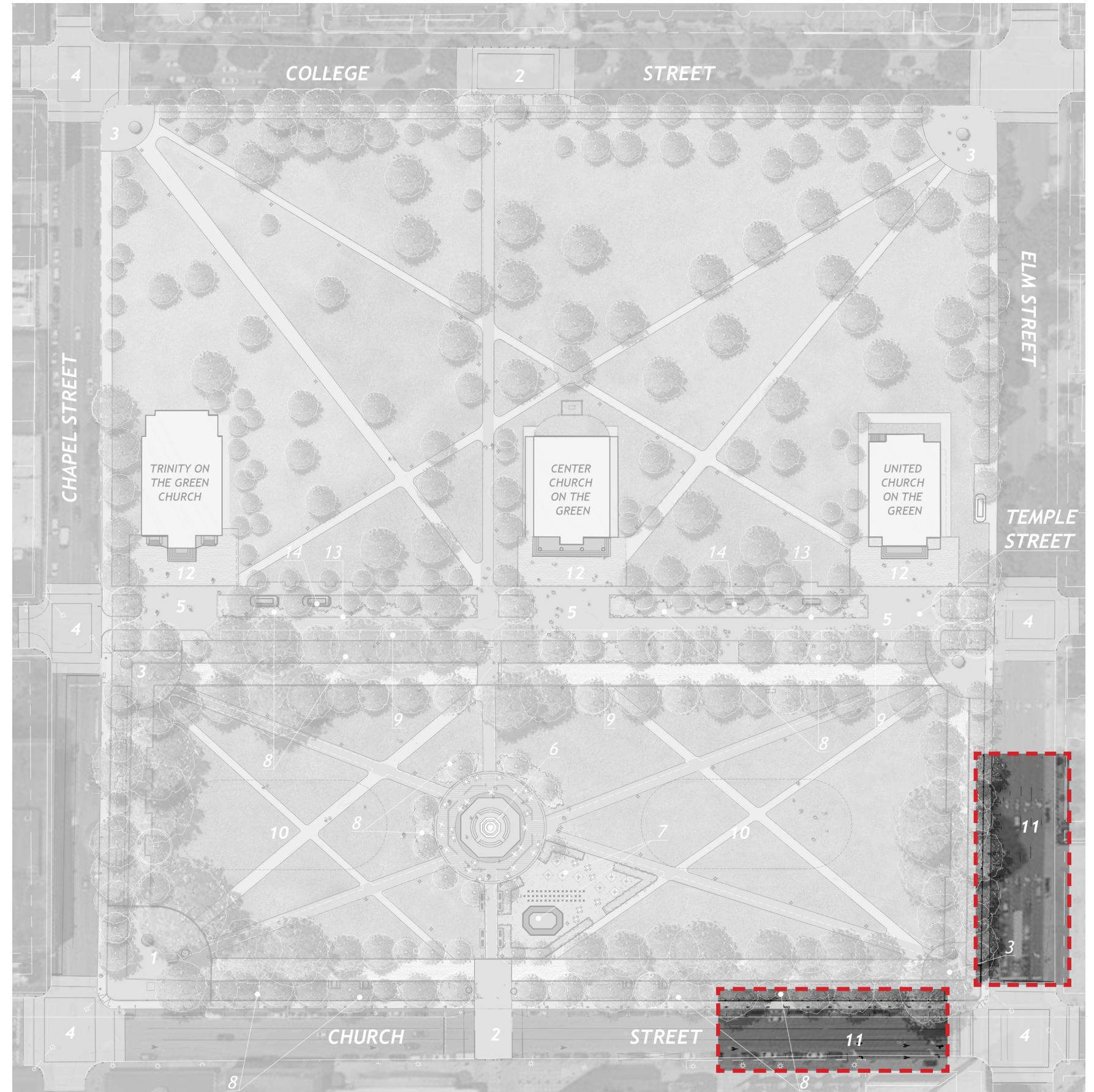
- Where precisely are the bus stops being relocated to?
- How are New Haven transit users impacted?
- Vendors are proposed at these locations. What kind of vendors? How frequently will they operate?
- How are the structures and/or infrastructural supports for the vendors integrated into the historic character of the Green and Temple Street?



Proposed City Plan, May 2025

QUESTIONS: RAPID TRANSIT

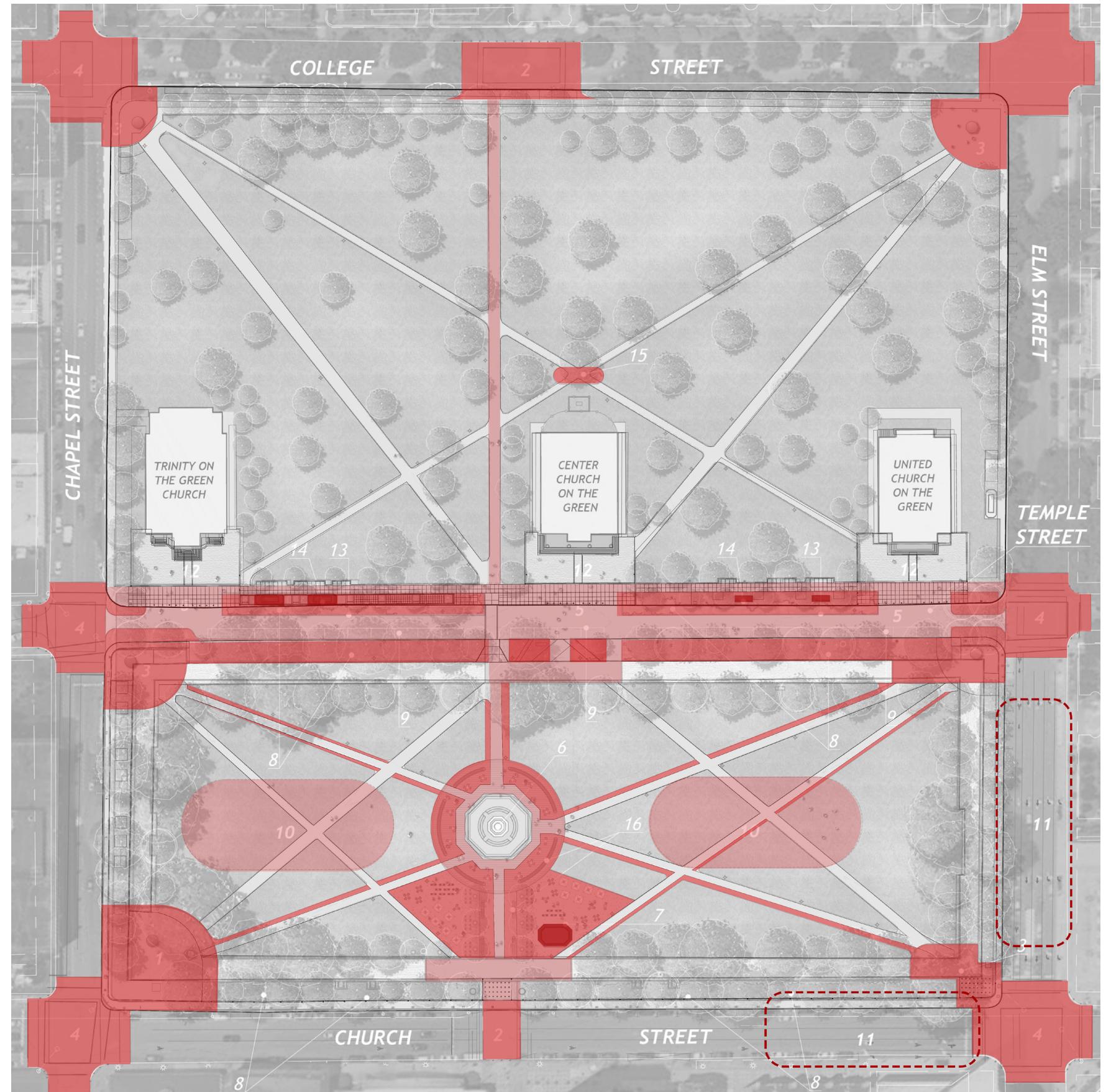
- Will the new bus stops impact existing street parking on Church or Elm Streets?
- Will new bus stops at the edges of the Green impact the historic fence or tree plantings?



Proposed City Plan, May 2025

QUESTIONS: MAINTENANCE

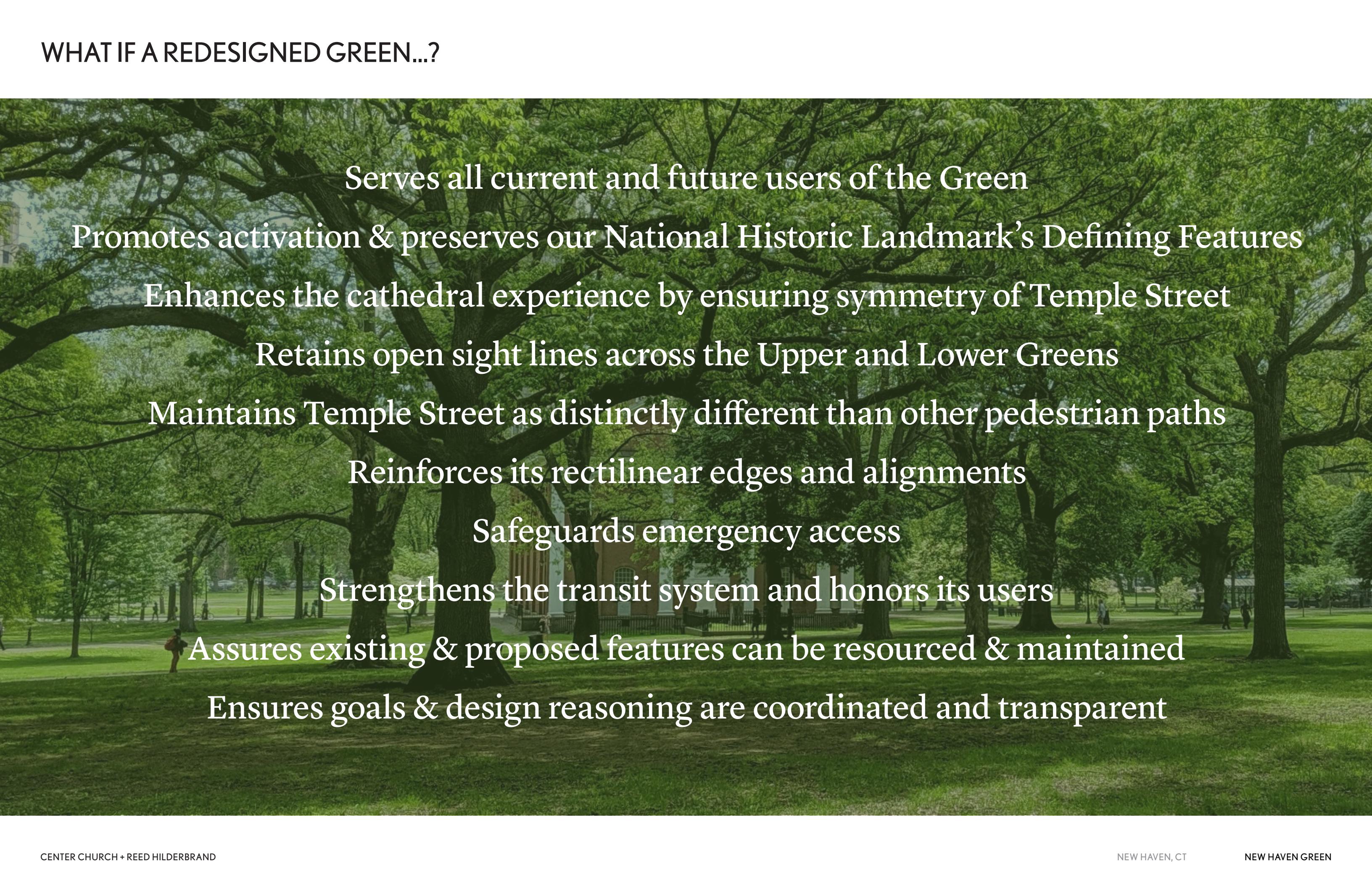
- What provisions are being made for maintaining the proposed additional paving, structures, and planting on the Green given that resources for maintaining existing features are already constrained?



Changes as Part of Proposed City Plan, May 2025

Proposed Changes in Shades of Red

WHAT IF A REDESIGNED GREEN...?



- Serves all current and future users of the Green
- Promotes activation & preserves our National Historic Landmark's Defining Features
- Enhances the cathedral experience by ensuring symmetry of Temple Street
- Retains open sight lines across the Upper and Lower Greens
- Maintains Temple Street as distinctly different than other pedestrian paths
- Reinforces its rectilinear edges and alignments
- Safeguards emergency access
- Strengthens the transit system and honors its users
- Assures existing & proposed features can be resourced & maintained
- Ensures goals & design reasoning are coordinated and transparent

SUMMARY

Design Recommendations:

- Maintain the centered, symmetrical relationship of Temple Street and the rows of trees along it
- Keep sight lines across the Upper and Lower Greens open and uninterrupted by planting beds and other elements
- Distinguish Temple Street in its materiality, detailing, and dimensions as a road distinct from other pedestrian pathways
- Reinforce the character-defining rectilinearity of the Green and its distinct program areas through paving differentiation
- Ensure Temple Street is wide enough as a shared street for adequate emergency access to both the Churches and the center of the Green even during Sunday parking
- Maintain signalized entrances to Temple Street for pedestrian and vehicular safety

Church Operational Needs:

- Protection of the Green as the National Historic Landmark setting for the Churches (especially Temple Street)
- 24/7 public vehicular access
- 24/7 vehicle parking and drop-off on the church apron (ADA)
- Sunday street parking
- Regular 24/7 pedestrian and vehicular through-traffic for visibility and security
- Signalization of both ends of Temple Street for pedestrian and vehicular safety for staff and parishioners
- Security features (bollards, etc.) for ram protection
- Required clearances for emergency access
- Sufficient clearances for large logistical vehicles for church events



Source: Sarah Farley, *Affinity and the New Haven Green*

THANK YOU