Welcome!
The meeting will begin momentarily.

How to Use Zoom Webinar:

- Zoom Webinar will not permit access to your camera.
- Please submit comments/questions in writing through the Q&A function.
- Written comments/questions can be submitted at any time and will be answered or discussed at designated points during the meeting by the panelists.
- Click “Raise Hand” if you would like to speak your comments/questions at designated points with the panelists. A moderator will grant temporary access to your device’s microphone.

Thank you for participating in our virtual public consultation meeting!
Agenda

1. Introduction
2. South Mall Campus Master Plan
3. Character Defining Features & Historic Significance
4. Project Purpose & Need
5. Project Goals & Scope
6. Plaza Evaluation
7. Schedule and Next Steps

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HMSG | REVITALIZE BUILDING & PLAZA

Speakers

CARLY BOND
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

MELISSA CHIU
HIRSHHORN MUSEUM
AND SCULPTURE GARDEN

MARISA SCALERA
SMITHSONIAN GARDENS

AL MASINO
HIRSHHORN MUSEUM
AND SCULPTURE GARDEN

KRISTOPHER TAKACS
SOM | Selldorf Architects JV

BEKA STURGES
REED HILDERBRAND
South Mall Campus Master Plan
Section 106 Process Overview

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA):

- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG) contributes to the National Mall Historic District
- HMSG is individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
- Section 106 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their projects on historic properties and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects
- Section 106 requires consultation to seek, discuss, and consider the views of "consulting parties" who are invited to participate in the process
- Approximately 125 consulting parties or organizations invited to participate
Section 106 Process Overview

**Step 1**  
Initiate the Process
- Define the Undertaking
- Initiate Section 106
- Identify Consulting Parties
- Involve the Public

**Step 2**  
Identify Historic Properties
- Define Area of Potential Effects (APE)
- Identify Historic/Cultural Resources

**Step 3**  
Assess Adverse Effects
- Assess Effects on Historic Resources
- Apply Criteria of Adverse Effect

**Step 4**  
Resolve Adverse Effects
- Avoid, Minimize, and/or Mitigate Adverse Effects
- Notify ACHP of Adverse Effects
- Create Resolution Document (MOA/PA)

**Consultation with Consulting Parties**

- A Consulting Party is anyone with a demonstrated interest in the project.

- Consulting Parties meetings will review design progress, provide detailed discussions on how the HMSG Revitalize Building and Plaza project may adversely affect historic resources, and consider ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects.
## Guidelines for Consulting Parties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPENNESS</th>
<th>LISTENING</th>
<th>FAIRNESS</th>
<th>RESPECT</th>
<th>COMMITMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be open to other points of view</td>
<td>Focus on each speaker rather than preparing your response</td>
<td>Speak briefly</td>
<td>Be professional in all forms of communication</td>
<td>Prepare for each meeting or discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be open to alternative outcomes</td>
<td>Do not interrupt</td>
<td>Allow others to participate</td>
<td>Disagree without being disagreeable</td>
<td>Attend each session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be open to all representatives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Do not make personal attacks</td>
<td>Begin and end on time</td>
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<td>If you didn’t attend a previous meeting, review those meeting materials</td>
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</table>

All parties agree to act in good faith in all aspects of the group deliberations, to conduct themselves in a manner that promotes joint problem solving and collaboration, and to consider the input and viewpoint of other participants.

Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Negative generalizations are not productive.
South Mall Campus Master Plan - Programmatic Agreement

Hirshhorn Scope
South Mall Campus Master Plan - Programmatic Agreement

Hirshhorn Scope

Stipulation 5. Minimization Measures for Alternative F

Stipulation 5.B.i : Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

- Plaza aggregate concrete walls restored
- Alterations to west Plaza wall:
  - Remove existing accessible ramp and opening at NW corner
  - Remove select portion of wall to create connection with east entrance of Arts & Industries
Building Envelope Project Summary

SCHEDULE MILESTONES

- Memorandum of Agreement executed March 18, 2020
- Panel and Roof Replacement substantially completed in March 2023
- Balcony Pavers and Bronze Doors to be completed in December 2023
Sculpture Garden Project Summary

SCHEDULE MILESTONES

● Memorandum of Agreement executed
  November 15, 2021
● Currently in procurement process
Historic Significance & Character Defining Features
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden History

1966  Congress establishes the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

1974  The Hirshhorn, designed by SOM’s Gordon Bunshaft, opens with three floors of art galleries, a fountain Plaza for outdoor sculpture, and the Sculpture Garden.

1981  The Sculpture Garden is renovated by Lester Collins, creating access, shade, and outdoor galleries.

1993  The Plaza is renovated and repaved by James Urban, creating greener, more welcoming environments for the display of outdoor sculptures.

2019  The lobby is renovated by Hiroshi Sugimoto adding a cafe and seating.

2020-2023  The roof and outer facade of the building is repaired to add insulation, air and water barrier, and correct structural deficiencies.

2023-2026  The Sculpture Garden will be revitalized by Hiroshi Sugimoto to improve accessibility, replace infrastructure, and accommodate the exhibition of contemporary art forms.
1974 HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN PLAN

HIRSHHORN UNDER CONSTRUCTION, 1972

HIRSHHORN UNDER CONSTRUCTION, 1972
Smithsonian Institution

ORIGINAL PLAZA AND COFFERED CEILING, 1970'S

HIRSHHORN VIEWED FROM SCULPTURE GARDEN, 1970'S
STAIRS CONNECTING MUSEUM PLAZA AND UNDERGROUND PASSAGE, 1974
National Register of Historic Places
Determination of Eligibility

This study finds that the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden is individually eligible for National Register listing under Criteria A and C, retains sufficient integrity to convey its historical and architectural significance, and meets Criteria Consideration G.

Criterion A: Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

Criterion C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Determined that the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden is an outstanding example of modernist architecture by a recognized master in the field, with a design that was closely tailored to its urban planning context as well as associated collection of Modern and Contemporary Art. HMSG reflects a discernible shift towards Modernism in the character of the National Mall and a distinctive period of growth for the Smithsonian during the period of 1960’s-1980’s.

Source: Determination of Eligibility, 2016.
Character Defining Features

Exterior and Plaza Contributing Features

- Drum-like form and central courtyard
- Battered perimeter walls
- Sculptural, cast in place concrete piers
- Precast concrete cladding panels
- Painted, coffered concrete ceiling structure
- Third-story balcony and fenestration
- Circular fountain in interior courtyard
- Glazed entrance lobby and revolving doors
- Magnolia trees at NW corner of the site
- Setting for the display of sculpture
- Loading dock ramp, retaining walls, and fence

From Determination of Eligibility
Character Defining Features- Exterior

- Drum-like form and central courtyard
- Circular fountain in inner courtyard
Character Defining Features- Exterior

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- Painted, concrete ceiling structure
- Setting for the display of sculpture
Character Defining Features - Exterior

- Third-story balcony and fenestration
Character Defining Features - Exterior

- Glazed entrance lobby and revolving doors
- Precast concrete cladding panels
Character Defining Features- Exterior

- Magnolia trees at NW corner of the site
Character Defining Features - Exterior

- Loading dock ramp, retaining walls, and fence
- Battered, perimeter walls
Character Defining Features- Interior

- First-floor lobby interior
- Escalators
- Terrazzo floors
Character Defining Features - Interior

- Second and third-floor corridors and galleries
- Terrazzo floors
Other Significant Features *

- Underground Passage
- Views under the drum
- Pure geometric forms

* Not included in Determination of Eligibility
National Mall Historic District

- Criterion A - Period of Significance 1791 to Present
- Criterion C and D - Period of Significance 1791-1965
- HMSG is a contributing element to the National Mall Historic District
- Resource list in the nomination places HMSG’s significant dates as 1969-1974
National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion A: Properties that are associated or linked to events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of American history.

- Period of Significance for Criterion A is 1791 to the Present.
- HMSG contributes to the National Mall’s historic significance under Criterion A.

- National Mall is significant as the nation’s symbolic core and public gathering space
- Ongoing location for national celebrations and expressions of constitutional rights
- Rooflines and monumental building masses form the backdrop for the Mall’s associations with Criterion A
- Smithsonian buildings and other Federal buildings form the north-south boundaries of the main gathering space of the National Mall
National Mall Historic District

National Register Criterion C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

- Period of Significance for Criterion C is 1791 to 1965.
- HMSG does not contribute to the National Mall’s historic significance under Criterion C.
National Mall Historic District
Contributing Views and Visual Relationships

- Reciprocal view east-west between the Washington Monument to the Capitol
- North-south vista along 4th Street
- North-south vista along 6th Street, between National Air and Space Museum and the National Gallery West Building
- North-south vista along 8th Street, from Hirshhorn towards the National Archives
- North-south vista along 10th Street, between National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Building
- Visual Relationships include views to the elms and the buildings along the Mall from the pedestrian walks and central grass panels
McMillan Setback

* Per the South Mall Campus Masterplan
Approx. 30' Encroachment.*

445' McMillan Setback

* Per the South Mall Campus Masterplan
McMillan Setback

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM AND HIRSHHORN, 2023
Questions and Comments

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BEKA STURGES
REED HILDERBRAND
Project Purpose & Need
Project Purpose and Need

- Entry + Lobby Deficiencies
- Vertical Circulation Deficiencies
- Security Deficiencies
- Mechanical Deficiencies
- Structural Deficiencies
- Thermal Envelope Deficiencies
- Waterproofing & Stormwater Management Deficiencies
- Fountain Deficiencies
- Infrastructure Deficiencies
- Visitor Amenity Deficiencies
- Program Challenges
- Collections Challenges
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Entry Deficiencies

- Wayfinding from the National Mall is poor
- Accessible ramp to Plaza from Jefferson Drive is hidden
- Revolving doors off of Independence Avenue are not accessible
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Lobby Deficiencies

- Security screening area is insufficient
- Visitor orientation is insufficient
- Lobby is too constricted to accommodate number of visitors
- Exhibition of art in lobby is restricted due to poor access, insufficient supporting infrastructure, and congestion
- Event and gathering capacity in lobby is severely limited

YOKO ONO PARTICIPATORY ARTWORK INSTALLED IN THE HIRSHHORN LOBBY, MY MOMMY IS BEAUTIFUL, 2017
**Project Purpose & Need**

**Existing Deficiencies**

**Vertical Circulation Deficiencies**

- Egress capacity not code compliant from lower level
- Passenger elevator is not accessible
- Visitors and staff share one passenger elevator
- There is no passenger elevator redundancy
- Elevator wait times are excessive
- Passenger elevator access on gallery levels lacks a lobby and orientation
- Public stair access is for emergency exit only
- Escalator does not meet code requirements
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Security Deficiencies

- Temporary campus perimeter security is inadequate and unsightly
- Lobby & inner courtyard facades do not meet security blast requirements
- Security screening area is insufficient
- Unique SI facility because people can walk under the Museum building and above the lower level structure
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Mechanical Deficiencies

- Existing system is obsolete
- Existing system is not energy efficient
- Existing system does not allow proper climate control for collections care
- Air distribution from Lower Level is inefficient
- Fresh air intake from street level is undesirable
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Structural Deficiencies

- Perimeter walls are deteriorating from alkali-silica reaction, cracking, and efflorescence staining
- Plaza loading capacity is insufficient for programmatic and operational needs
- Plaza loading capacity limits available soil volume, resulting in poor tree health
- Second and Third Floor Gallery Level load capacity restricts many art installations
- Third floor balcony structure is exhibiting cracking
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Thermal Envelope Deficiencies

● Inner courtyard facade lacks insulation and air-barrier
● Insufficient Insulation at Plaza and second floor exposed slab
● Storefront systems and glazing perform poorly and result in condensation
● Unmitigated thermal bridges throughout structure result in poor thermal performance and increase risk of condensation

Source: Building Envelope Study, 2017 CGS Architects.
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Waterproofing & Stormwater Management Deficiencies

- Plaza waterproofing membrane installed in 1993 has failed threatening lower level collections spaces
- Original construction lacks waterproofing transitions
- Stormwater drainage is insufficient
- Stormwater management is nonexistent

Source: Building Envelope Study, 2017 CGS Architects
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Fountain Deficiencies

- Original design lacked a robust waterproofing membrane
- Leaks threaten collections located in gallery below
- Waterproofing membrane added in 2003 has failed
- Metalwork has been compromised by previous repair attempts
- Currently inoperable due to waterproofing failures

Source: Fountain leak investigation report 2018 by Hoffman Architects
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Other Infrastructure Deficiencies

- Building is not fully sprinklered compromising life safety, collections, acquisitions, and exhibition programming
- Fire/smoke detection needs to be brought up to current codes and standards
- New electrical service is needed to accommodate demand of modernized systems
- AV, IT and plumbing systems have reached the end of their useful lifespan
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Visitor Amenity Deficiencies

- Existing amenities are insufficient to serve an anticipated increase in visitors to more than 1.5 million post-revitalization
- Public restrooms are only located at the lower level
- Existing amenities are not universally accessible and inclusive of varied audiences
- Retail and food service is limited due to insufficient space and infrastructure
- Auditorium lacks accessible features, acoustic separation, and functional AV infrastructure
Program Challenges

- Existing systems do not adequately support evolving contemporary art forms including:
  - Time based media (film, video, and installations)
  - Performance art
  - Immersive
  - Large-scale art
- Gallery spaces lack necessary flexible infrastructure to support rotating exhibitions
- Auditorium lacks flexibility to support varied program needs
Project Purpose & Need
Existing Deficiencies

Collection Challenges

- Collection preservation conditions are suboptimal
- Lack of fire suppression requires variances and often restricts the display artworks not meeting fire retardant material requirements
- Area to store growing collections is insufficient
- Area to receive and review incoming works on loan in insufficient
- Long-term crate storage is inadequate
Project Goals
PROJECT GOAL #1

Fulfill the Hirshhorn’s mandate to provide visitors with transformative art experiences by expanding gallery spaces and improving technological capacities to support current and future needs of the artists of our time.
PROJECT GOAL #2

Improve accessibility and circulation for all users throughout the campus, entry sequences, and vertical transportation.*

* Aligned with the South Mall Master Plan
Master Plan Purpose + Need

BARBARA KRUGER, BELIEF + DOUBT, HIRSHHORN ESCALATORS, 2012
PROJECT GOAL #3

Expand and improve amenities, operational, and programming space to enhance the visitor experience and to meet the needs of projected significant increases in visitation and to ensure the highest standards in collection stewardship and Museum operations.*

* Aligned with the South Mall Master Plan
Master Plan Purpose + Need

RAFAEL LOZANO-HEMMER, PULSE INDEX, 2018
PROJECT GOAL #4

Ensure the Hirshhorn campus’ code compliance and significantly improve its energy efficiency, sustainability, and resiliency to maximize protection of collections, occupant comfort and safety, operations, and performance.*

* Aligned with the South Mall Master Plan Master Plan Purpose + Need
PROJECT GOAL #5

Unify the Hirshhorn Building, Plaza, and Sculpture Garden as a campus that responds to the National Mall and larger Smithsonian context including landscape and the built environment.*

* Aligned with the South Mall Master Plan
Master Plan Purpose + Need
PROJECT GOAL #6

Strengthen the physical security of the site perimeter and entrances appropriate to the Hirshhorn’s public prominence and location on the National Mall.*

* Aligned with the South Mall Master Plan
   Master Plan Purpose + Need
PROJECT GOAL #7

Respect the integral relationship between the Hirshhorn building and outdoor gallery spaces as an evolving platform for the presentation of modern and contemporary art.*

* Aligned with the South Mall Master Plan
  Master Plan Purpose + Need
Project Scope
Potential Scope of Improvement

1. Accessible Entry From Revitalized Sculpture Garden
1. Lower Level Expansion
1. Plaza Revitalization
1. Lobby Expansion
1. Conversion of 4th Floor for Gallery Expansion
1. Useable Rooftop
Potential Scope of Improvement

1. Accessible Entry from revitalized Sculpture Garden

A direct connection to the Lower Level from the Sculpture Garden will improve campus accessibility and provide a welcoming public entry from the National Mall.
Potential Scope of Improvement

2. Lower Level Expansion*

An expanded lower level will provide additional space for galleries, visitor amenities, and public programming. Back of house spaces will accommodate critical infrastructure upgrades and support museum operations.

* Bunshaft suggested expanding the lower level in 1982.
Potential Scope of Improvement

3. Plaza Revitalization

Revitalization of the plaza will address critical infrastructure and operational issues including perimeter security, stormwater management, waterproofing, and structural capacity. Outdoor galleries need to meet the needs of contemporary art forms and museum programming.
Potential Scope of Improvement

4. Lobby Expansion

A lobby expansion will provide necessary security upgrades, accessible entry and exit, and accommodate increased visitorship.
Potential Scope of Improvement

5. Conversion of 4th Floor for Gallery Expansion

Converting the 4th floor to gallery space will provide much needed expanded exhibition space and utilize more of the building to engage with the public.
Potential Scope of Improvement

6. **Useable Rooftop**

Utilization of the roof plan will support critical mechanical system upgrades, provide daylighting, and potentially accommodate a public roof terrace.
Potential Scope of Improvement

EXISTING BUILDING

- 48% PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE

GOAL FOR REVITALIZED BUILDING

- 74% PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE
HMSG | REVITALIZE BUILDING & PLAZA

Questions and Comments

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BEKA STURGES
REED HILDERBRAND
Plaza Significance Evaluation
Plaza Significance Evaluation
Per Stipulation 2.A of the Sculpture Garden Memorandum of Agreement

Hirshhorn Plaza Significance Evaluation Report

- Current period of significance is 1974, 1981 - Includes Sculpture Garden modifications.
- Report evaluates significance and integrity of the 1993 Plaza modifications.

Evaluates the significance and integrity of 1993 Urban Plaza modifications by:

- Analyzing the context for the outdoor display of sculpture in a museum setting.
- Documenting the design and construction chronology of the Plaza from 1966 to the present.
- Evaluating Urban’s contributions to the field of landscape architecture and the Urban Forestry Movement.
- Analyzing the integrity of current conditions to Urban’s 1993 modifications.
Plaza Significance Evaluation
Outdoor Display of Sculpture in a Museum Context

Ten outdoor sculpture display spaces analyzed as context for the HMSG Plaza.

- **Commonalities:**
  - Display areas divided by walls, plantings, and grade changes.
  - Museum building clearly separated from outdoor display space.
  - Use of Modernism for at least some of their formal, spatial, and material characteristics.
  - View of individual artworks and overlapping views of multiple artworks.

- **Unique to HMSG:**
  - Plaza interconnected with Museum Building, with limited viewpoints inside.
  - Plaza and its walls frame the Museum building in plan, elevation, and perspective.

*Image credits:*
Plaza Significance Evaluation
James Urban, Landscape Architect and Arboriculturist

- James Urban (1948- ) - State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.
- Founded Urban Trees + Soil in 2004.

Publications:
- Frequent contributor to *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, *Landscape Journal*, and *The Journal of Arboriculture*.
- 2008 book *Up by the Roots*, a comprehensive distillation of scientific knowledge of trees and soils.

Recognition:
- American Forestry Association - 1989 National Professional Urban Forestry Award.
- American Society of Landscape Architects - 2007 Medal of Excellence for “his significant contributions to landscape architecture policy, research, education, project planning, and design.”
- International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) - 2013 Award of Achievement.
Plaza Significance Evaluation
Original Design

- Nearly square Plaza around the drum-shaped Museum.
- Piers raise the building 14 feet above the Plaza.
- Eighth Street axis bisects both the outer circle of the Museum footprint and its off-center inner void.
- Building set at the center of the Plaza.
- Eight-foot-high, cast-in-place concrete walls with exposed granite aggregate bound the Plaza with openings on the Eighth Street axis.
- Plaza paved with concrete panels laid in circular pattern away from the center of the circle formed by the Museum’s exterior.
- Gravel covered strips at east and west edges functioned as planting areas.
- Circular fountain off-set within the cylindrical void of the drum.
- Trees planted in circular wells.
- Street trees outside the Plaza walls.
- Omnidirectional circulation.
- No places to rest or contemplate artwork.
- Austere environment created by the monumental Plaza walls, limited materials palette, and minimal plantings.
Plaza Significance Evaluation

Original Plaza Deficiencies

- Plaza deficiencies:
  - Concrete deterioration resulted in loose gravel.
  - Concrete spalling and unsafe walking conditions.
  - Failure of the original waterproofing membrane
  - Poor drainage led to ponding and ice.
- In 1985 two landscape architecture firms invited to participate in a limited competition for the Plaza
  - Oehme, van Sweden & Associates
  - Urban & Associates
  - James Demetrion (HMSG Director): “...we foresee the need to soften the Plaza space to provide an informal setting for sculpture and visitors. The redeveloped space should provide its own statement in contrast to other garden spaces.”
  - Proposals had to consider locations for artworks, plantings, walks, lighting, and seasonal dining facilities.
Plaza Significance Evaluation
James Urban Realized Design

- “Diverse series of green spaces for the display of sculpture.”
  - Six outdoor rooms created from walls or trees.
- Trees in the east and west spaces extend the canopy of the Museum drum on the east-west axis.
- Food service near the northwest pier.
- Six-foot wide walk around the Plaza perimeter.
- Radial granite paving.
- Raised planters support plantings.
- Accessible entrance at the northwest corner.
HMSG | REVITALIZE BUILDING & PLAZA

Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance
Plaza As-Built Comparison

PLAZA AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, 1974. SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION ARCHIVES.

PLAZA AERIAL VIEW, 1993.
Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance

Evaluation of the Integrity of the 1993 Plaza

- National Register Bulletin 15 identifies seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. In order to retain integrity, a property will always possess several, and usually most, of the aspects.
- Basic test of integrity is whether a participant in the historic period would recognize the property as it exists today.

Integrity Analysis Summary

- Plaza retains integrity to the 1993 James Urban design.
- Plaza conveys its association with remaining character defining features of the 1974 Gordon Bunshaft design.
  - Circle-in-square geometry
  - Granite aggregate Plaza perimeter walls.
  - Openings on to Independence Avenue and Jefferson Drive.
  - Plaza Fountain.
  - Radial paving pattern.
  - Alignment on 8th Street axis.
- Changes to perimeter plantings threaten integrity by obscuring the Plaza walls.
### Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance

Evaluation of the Integrity of the 1993 Plaza

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spatial Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1974:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Plaza as a container for the Museum building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 8 foot tall Plaza perimeter walls.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Composition arranged around the 8th Street axis.</td>
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<td>• Plaza single continuous space.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1993:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Preserved spatial relationship of the Museum and Plaza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Changes on the Plaza perimeter creating garden rooms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Garden rooms separated with curbs and plantings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Trees extend canopy of the Museum drum along east-west axis.</td>
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<th>Analysis:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Overall spatial organization of the Plaza changed little since 1993.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No alteration in relationship between Museum, Plaza perimeter walls, and raised planted areas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Plantings that enclose rooms retain spatial character, with some missing plantings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Original hedges replaced with evergreen shrubs at the perimeter exceed and obscure visibility of the walls, negatively impacting integrity to 1974 and 1993.</td>
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#### Figures 43 and 45 – Spatial organization of the Hirshhorn Plaza as designed by [Fiaschi], 1974 (left) and redeveloped by Urban in 1993 (right).

Legend:
- Open space
- Space divider
- Entrance

Smithsonian Institution
## Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance

### Evaluation of the Integrity of the 1993 Plaza

#### Circulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1974:</th>
<th>1993:</th>
<th>Analysis:</th>
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<tr>
<td>● Aggregate concrete paving in a radial pattern.</td>
<td>● Perimeter walkway with 4-inch square granite pavers.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Lawns and paved paths between garden rooms.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Accessible entrance at NW corner of the Plaza.</td>
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*Figure 48 – Pattern of circulation from Urban’s 1993 design.*
HMSG | REVITALIZE BUILDING & PLAZA

Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance
Evaluation of the Integrity of the 1993 Plaza

**Topography**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1974:</th>
<th>1993:</th>
<th>Analysis:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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| ● Mostly flat. | ● Altered to eliminate ponding and improve drainage.  
● Appears mostly flat.  
● Raised planting areas to improve soil depth. | ● Retains integrity to 1993. |

Figures 49 and 50 – Studies showing the simple topography of the Burnham plan (left) and the complex grading introduced by Urban (right). Each color represents a change in 1/10 foot with cooler colors representing low areas and warmer colors representing high areas.
Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance

Evaluation of the Integrity of the 1993 Plaza

**Vegetation**

**1974:**
- Three magnolia trees at the NW corner.
- One preserved elm at the SW corner.
- Double rows of sixteen elms outside the east Plaza wall. Single row of eight outside the west Plaza wall.
- Hedge on portion of the west Plaza wall.

**1993:**
- Garden rooms divided by planters each with eight crabapple trees forming aerial hedges.
- Three magnolia trees at the NW corner.
- Open lawns with trees.
- NE garden room turf only for large sculptures.

**Analysis:**
- Existing vegetation is similar in general layout to 1993.
- Gradual changes in plant variety (shapes and sizes) has altered integrity to 1993.
- If continued, plantings could affect what remains of the 1974 landscape design, and relationship of the Plaza walls to the Museum.

![Image showing 1974 vegetation plan](image1.png)

![Image showing 1993 vegetation plan](image2.png)

![Image showing current vegetation plan](image3.png)
## Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance

### Evaluation of the Integrity of the 1993 Plaza

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small-Scale Features</th>
<th>1974:</th>
<th>1993:</th>
<th>Analysis:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ● None present.      |      | ● Granite seat walls and four steel benches added. | ● Plaza is relatively uncluttered.  
● Seasonal dining furniture under the NW quadrant of the Museum.  
● Retains integrity. |

Figure 56 – View of metal benches in the east central garden, looking south. (Laura Knott, 2022)
Evaluation of Plaza Historic Significance

Conclusion

- Urban acted as a significant bridge between landscape architects and practitioners of arboriculture and horticulture.
- Urban is recognized as an expert in the field of arboriculture and horticultural knowledge.
- While recognized by contemporaries, Urban’s work is largely absent from scholarly publications that take a longer and broader view of historical achievements in the field of landscape architecture.
- Urban’s 1993 Plaza redesign does not yet meet National Register Criteria Consideration G (standards for the significance of properties less than 50 years old).
- Based on a lack of sufficient scholarly assessment of the career of a still-living practitioner of landscape architecture and arboriculture and of the Hirshhorn Plaza’s place within that career.
- Period of Significance should remain 1974, 1981.
- It should be noted that this conclusion is not based on any lack of aesthetic appeal, functionality, or sustainability of the design as implemented.
Lobby Cafe + Plaza Seasonal Cafe

- Proposed Full Circle Cafe by Walker Group/CNI, 1985
- Restaurant Options Included in Urban and Associates’ Plaza Rehabilitation Proposal, 1985
- Seasonal Plaza Dining, 1976
Lobby Cafe + Plaza Seasonal Cafe

SEASONAL PLAZA CAFE

SUGIMOTO LOBBY CAFE
Schedule and Next Steps
Area of Potential Effects

Area of Potential Effects Diagram
**Stipulation 1.J. Underground Passage:** Majority of the 1974 aggregate concrete walls and coffered ceiling will remain behind the installation of the new sculpture that will cover the original materials.

i. Reopening of the Underground Passage: Re-opening the use of the underground passage re-establishes the original connecting link between the Museum Plaza and the Sculpture Garden.

ii. Exposed Historic Fabric: Historic fabric at the underground passage stairs and south end of the passage will remain exposed and be restored.

**Stipulation 1.K. Plaza Access and Balustrade Design:** The original stairway in the Hirshhorn Museum’s plaza that provided access to the Sculpture Garden via a passage under Jefferson Drive (Plaza access point) was covered over in 1993 and the historic balustrade around the stairway was removed.
Initial Section 106 Consultation Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consulting Parties Meeting #1</td>
<td>September 14, 2023 - 3-5pm</td>
<td>Project background, goals, and scope; Plaza evaluation; Establish APE and Section 106 consultation schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting Parties Meeting #1</td>
<td>September 22, 2023 - 9:30am-10:30am</td>
<td>Site Visit - Tour HMSG site with SI staff. Meet on Independence Avenue at the Lobby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting Parties Meeting #2</td>
<td>November 14, 2023 - 3-5pm</td>
<td>Present Concept and Alternative Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting Parties Meeting #3</td>
<td>March 2024</td>
<td>Review Updated Concept Design and Alternative Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Schedule Notes:

- Consulting Parties meetings will be virtual.
- Virtual meetings paired with optional site visits.
- NEPA analysis will be combined with Section 106 consultation.
Next Steps

**Overall Project Schedule:**
- Concept Submission to Commission of Fine Arts - May 2024
- Concept Review Submission to National Capital Planning Commission - June 2024
- Design complete December 2026

**Please visit the project webpage:**

https://ahhp.si.edu/hirshhorn

Today’s presentation material will be available on the project webpage by September 15, 2023.

**Please submit written comments on today’s presentation to preservation@si.edu by October 13, 2023.**
Questions and Comments

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