



Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Cohen and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Richard Gill, Director of Parks and Recreation
Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: Recommendations from the Cultural Arts Commission to implement a temporary/annual Public Art Program through Metlox, Civic Center Plaza and Veterans Parkway; and authorize the City Manager to execute contracts with the artists for the program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council discuss the recommendations from the CAC to implement a temporary/annual Public Art Program through Metlox, Civic Plaza and Veterans Parkway.

FISCAL IMPLICATION: There will be no impact on the City's general fund. The project will be supported through the Public Art Trust Fund. The cost for the project is \$42,500 and the current balance for the Art Trust is \$272,477.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2002, City Council asked the Cultural Arts Commission to research and create a proposal for a yearly exhibition of outdoor sculptures. Staff researched three cities in southern California with active programs: Bellevue, Washington; Carlsbad, California and Palm Desert, California.

The vision for the program is to enhance the community setting by displaying a variety of artworks that will enhance the public facilities and offer the community, especially students, an opportunity to foster understanding and awareness of visual arts through open access and education programs.

The goal is to attract community members and visitors to the downtown business area, Civic Center and Metlox Center; to cultivate a sense of civic identity and pride for the community and civic groups.

The Program was suspended for several years because of the 9/11 Memorial, the Strand Alcove/Bench Program and the Entryway Project. In January 2008, Council directed the Commission and Staff to proceed with the Sculpture Garden Program.

DISCUSSION:

The Cultural Arts Commission held numerous meetings regarding the sculpture garden program. Discussions revolved around the high fees involved in original sculptures. An artist who the Commission identified early in the search had exhibited with the City of Beverly Hills but he was based on the east coast and asked for \$100,000 for transport and a stipend. The Commission moved forward in researching other artists.

In exploring other options, the Commission visited San Diego to view the Port Authority's public art program, Urban Trees, now in its fifth year. The Commission made several trips individually and as a group to see the sculptures and to view the program's maquettes.

The Commission reviewed and discussed numerous images from the Urban Tree program. Selections were narrowed and the artists were surveyed to determine the availability of the art works. Four of the sculptures chosen are kinetic with moving parts that change the basic form. Selections were made with the intention of making the works accessible and engaging to the broadest possible audience.

The Commission recommends six art works for the temporary one-year exhibition:

Amos Robinson (two art works) - *The Bicycle; Four Seasons*

Frank Mando - (two art works) - *Flock of Sea Birds; Sea Horse*

Kent Kraber – "Remember when Fish were Buttery and the Water was Crystal Clear"

Steve Reiman – *Family Tree*

Should Council find one of the above not acceptable, a selection can be made from the following three works:

Nina Karavasiles – *Illuminator*

Steve Rieman – (two art works) *Mojave Sails; Wings on the Wind*

The two maquettes on view tonight were provided by Amos Robinson.

Attached are the images of the six recommended sculptures and three alternative works.

The structure that supports the sculptures is a 2' x 4' concrete pot base with the sculpture attached to a 6' pole bolted into the base. An outside vendor will manufacture the base and Public Works will handle the installation. Future exhibitions could include a sculpture that is anchored onto a flat concrete slab or stone base.

Attachment "B" provides site map for the sculpture placement:

- The 13th Street corner: one sculpture would be placed in a site near the west side of the Shade Hotel.
- Four works will be installed among several alcoves surrounded by lush green landscape in the Civic Center Plaza.
- One sculpture north of Veterans Memorial 15th Street.

A brochure will be available for self-guided tours and volunteer guides will be scheduled as well.

Art Education component:

Staff and the Commission have contacted Young at Art and the Manhattan Beach Unified School District artists involved in the Artist in Residence program which facilitates artists in the classroom at the five elementary schools in Manhattan Beach. Both groups are interested in planning art projects suitable for elementary and teen students as part of this program's outreach.

Total Proposed Budget: \$ 42,500.00

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Concrete Pot base structures | \$7,200 (\$1,200 ea) |
| Poles & identification markers | \$1,800 |
| Artist Stipend for one year | \$15,000 (\$2,500 ea) |
| Insurance for one year | \$10,000 |
| Publicity, catalog, design and printing | \$5,000 |
| Art Education Outreach artist fees | \$2,500 |
| Reception | \$1,000 |

The contracts issued for the program would indicate the responsibilities for the City and the artists involved:

City's Responsibilities:

- Provide loan agreement
- Insurance while on site
- Assistance in installation and de-installation
- Publicity, identification markers and an exhibition brochure
- Reception

Artists Responsibilities:

- Art Works must be structurally sound and adhere to safety standards, be durable and securely fastened
- Deliver works and provide insurance during installation and de-installation
- Provide an Artist statement for catalog and web site
- Provide maintenance list or requirements
- Loan work to the City for one year

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that Council review the art work proposed for the Sculpture Garden and approve the recommendation from the Cultural Arts Commission to implement a temporary/annual Public Art Program through Metlox, Civic Center Plaza and Veterans Parkway and authorize the City Manager to execute the contracts with the selected artists.

Attachments:

- A. Art work images
- B. Map of proposed installation sites
- C. Pot Base configuration

A. SCULPTURE GARDEN

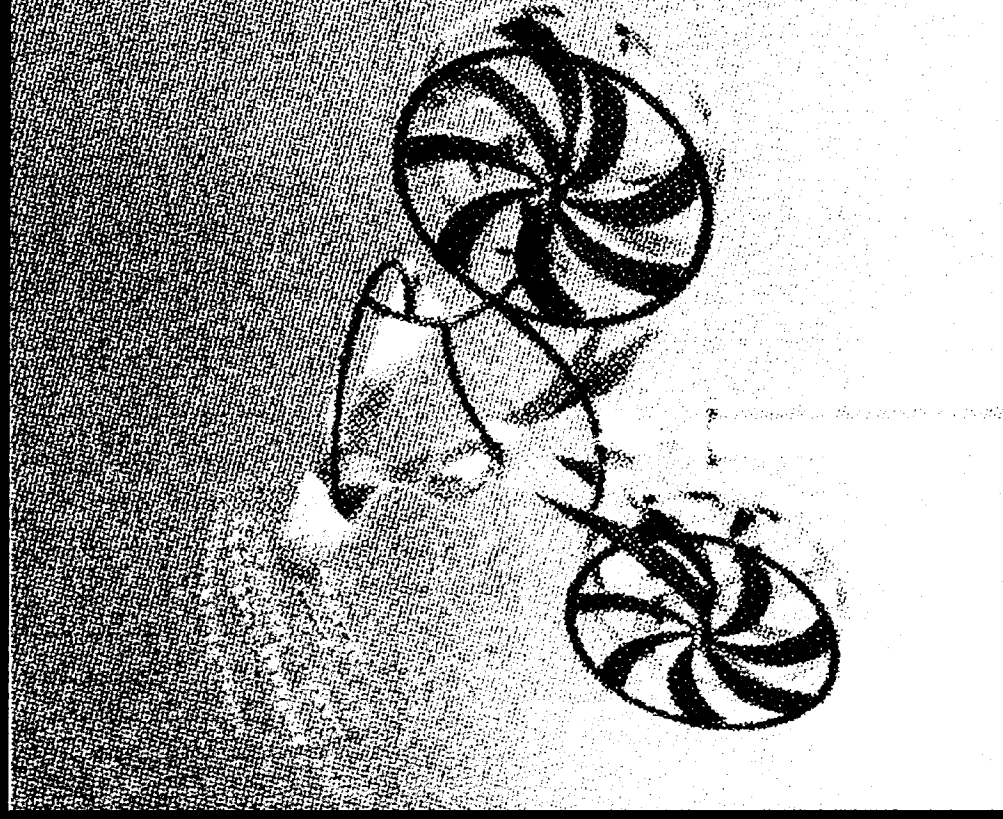
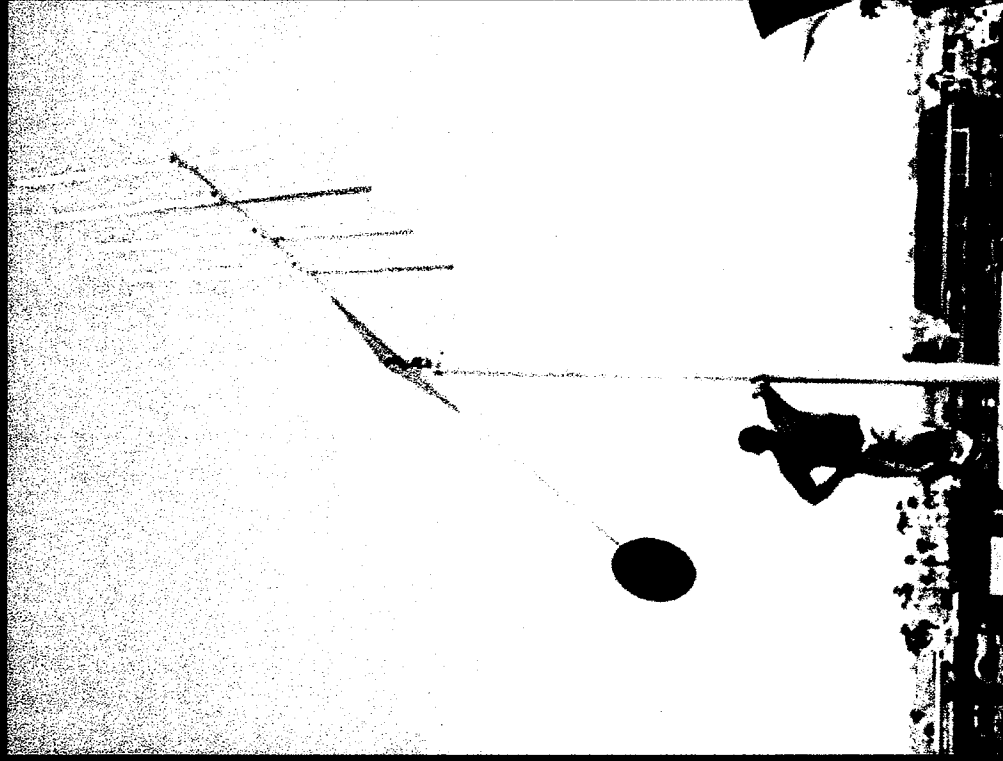
ART IMAGES

City of Manhattan Beach Sculpture Garden Program

Sculpture Garden Artists



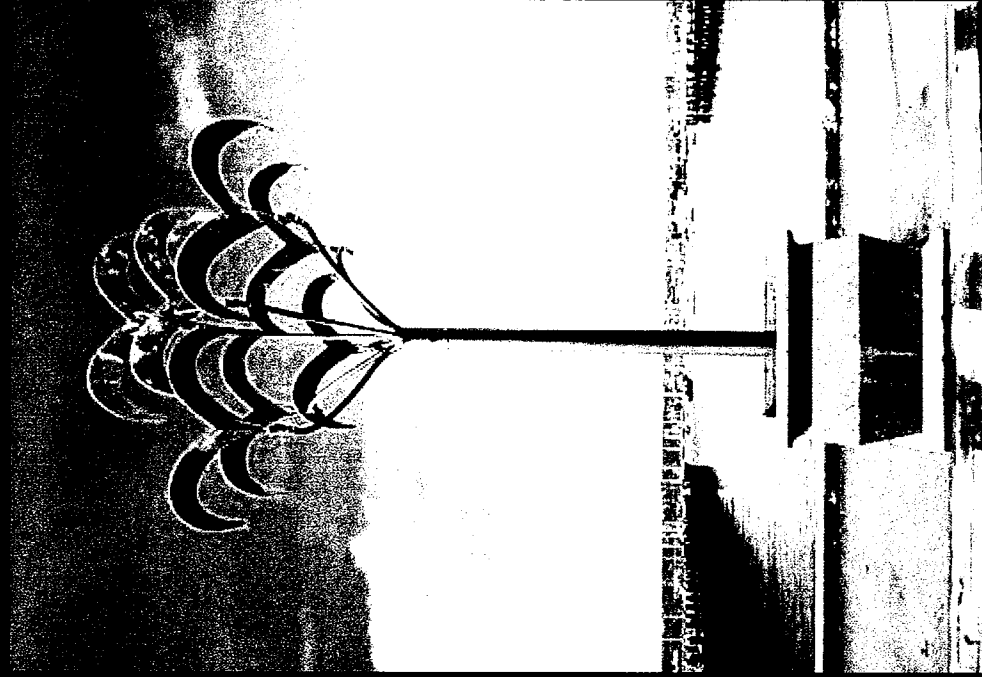
Amos Robinson



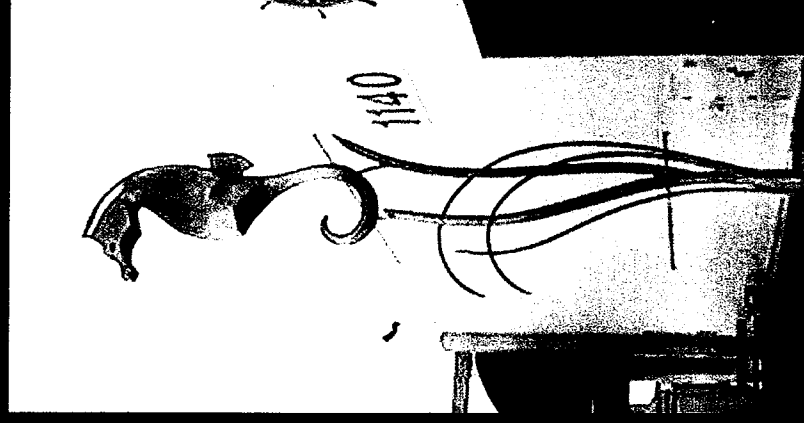
■ Four Seasons ●

■ The Bicycle ●

Frank Mando

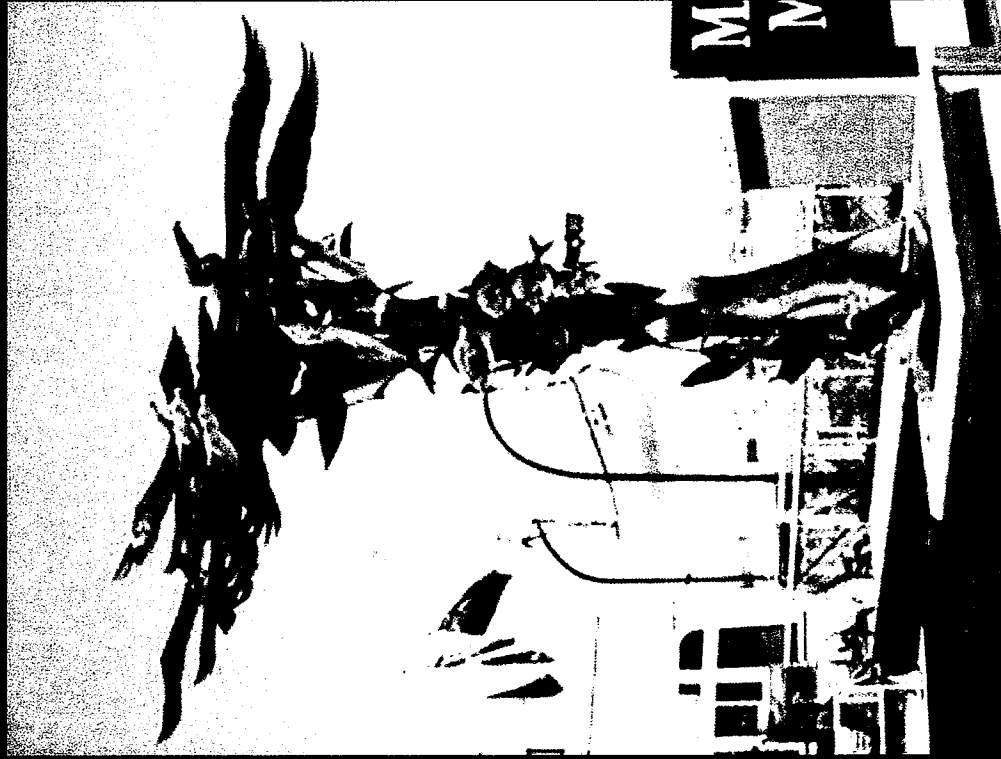


■ Flock of Seabirds ●



■ The Seahorse Tree ●

Kent Kraber



- Remember When Fish Were...



- Detail of Remember When Fish Were...

Steven L. Rieman



■ The Family Tree



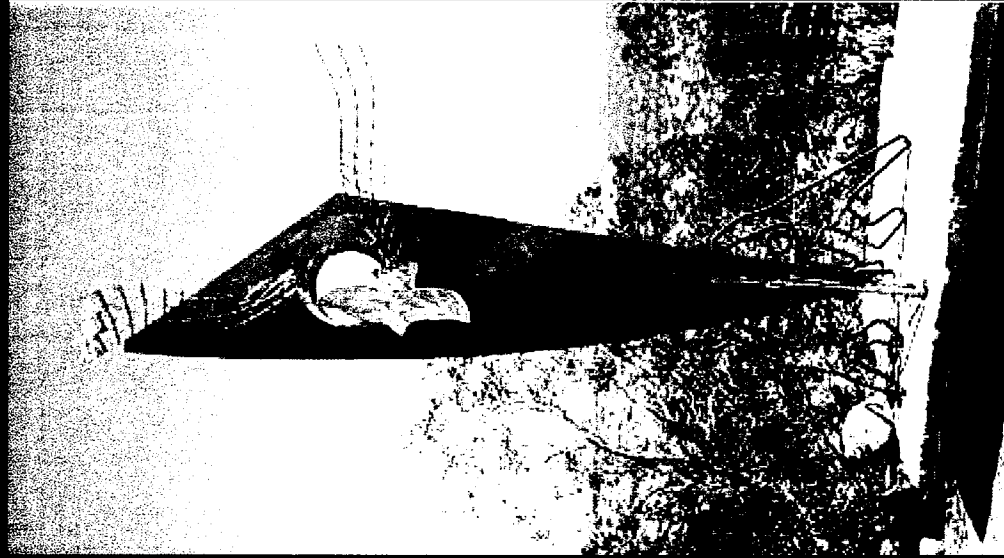
■ Detail of The Family Tree

Sculpture Garden Artists

Optional



Steven L. Rieman

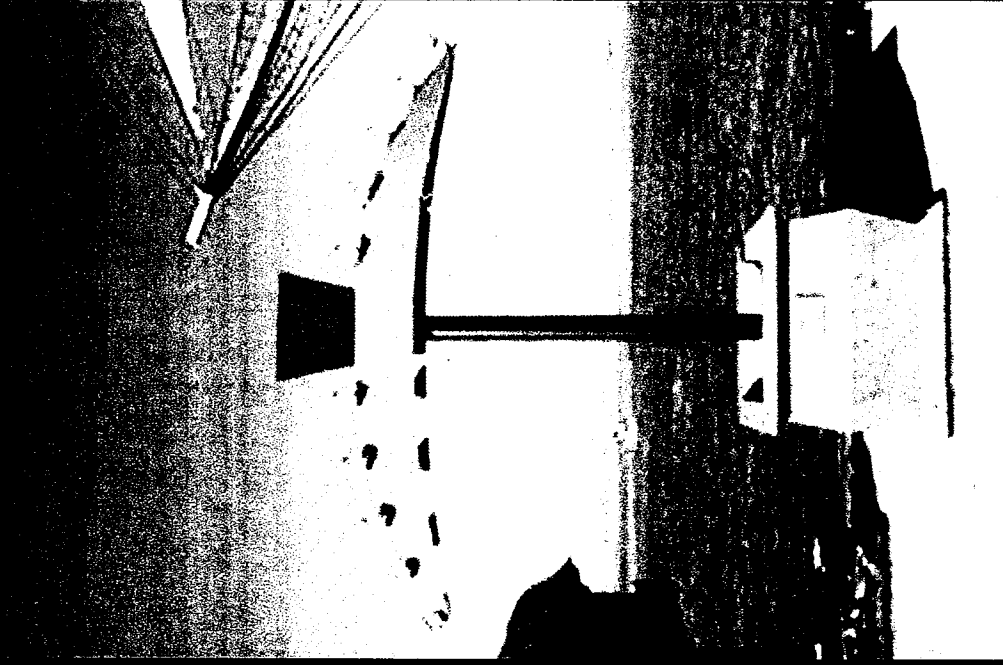


■ Mojave Sails



■ Wings on the Wind

Nina Karavasiles



■ Solar Illumination



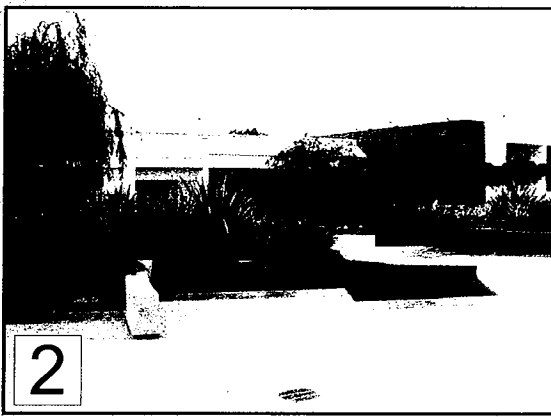
■ Detail of Solar Illumination

B. SCULPTURE GARDEN SITE MAP

Proposed Sculpture Garden Locations



1



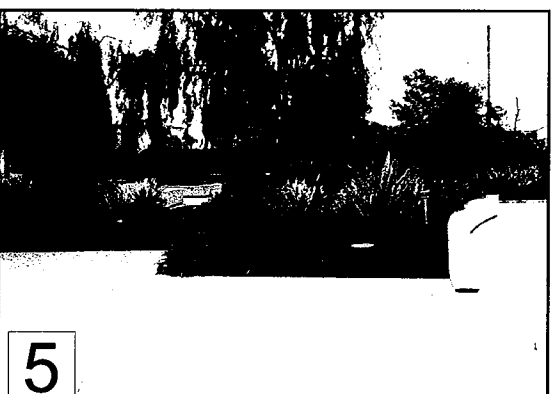
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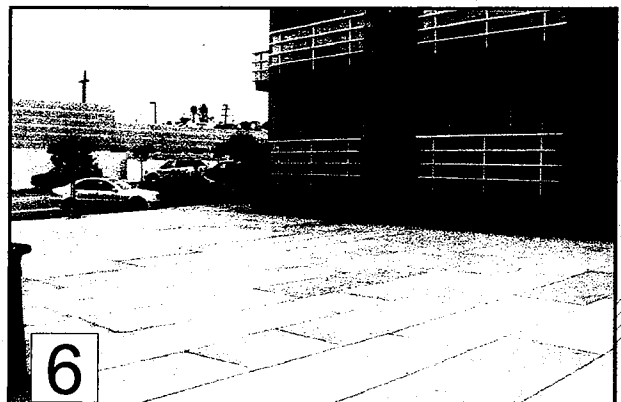
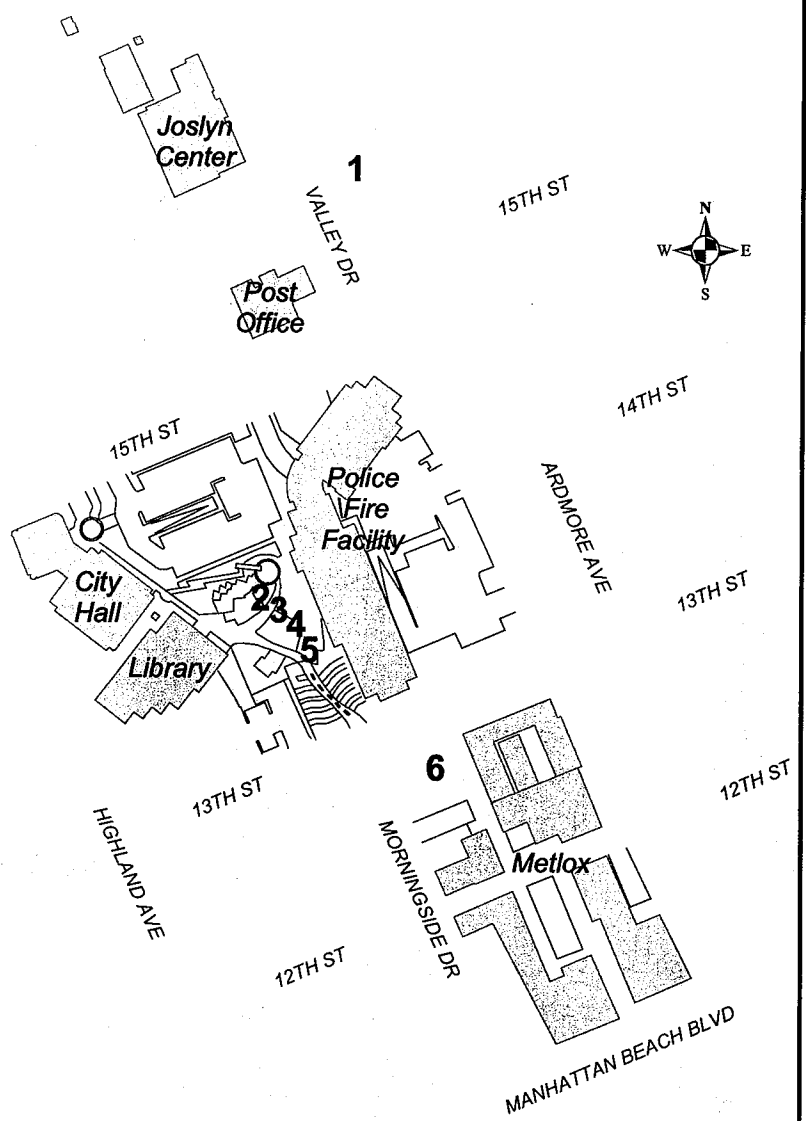
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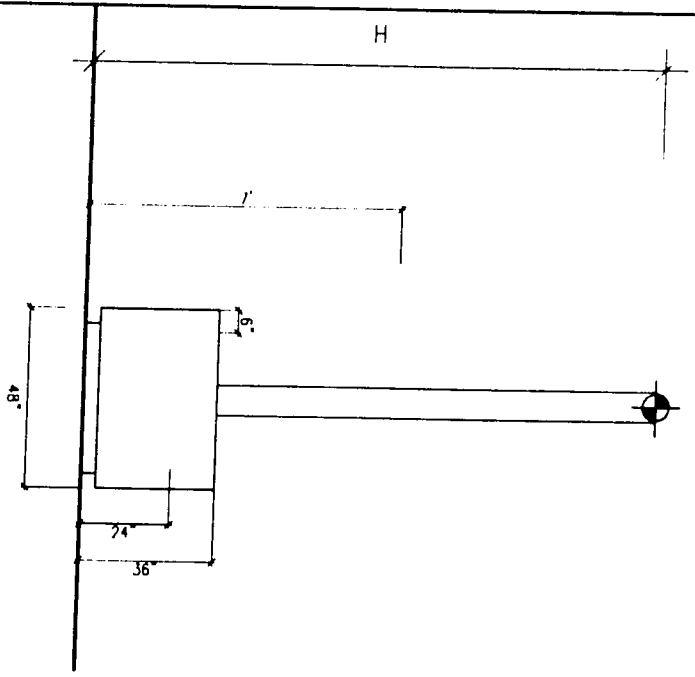


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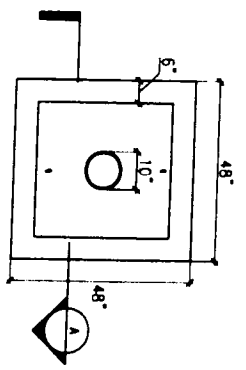
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C. BASE CONFIGURATION



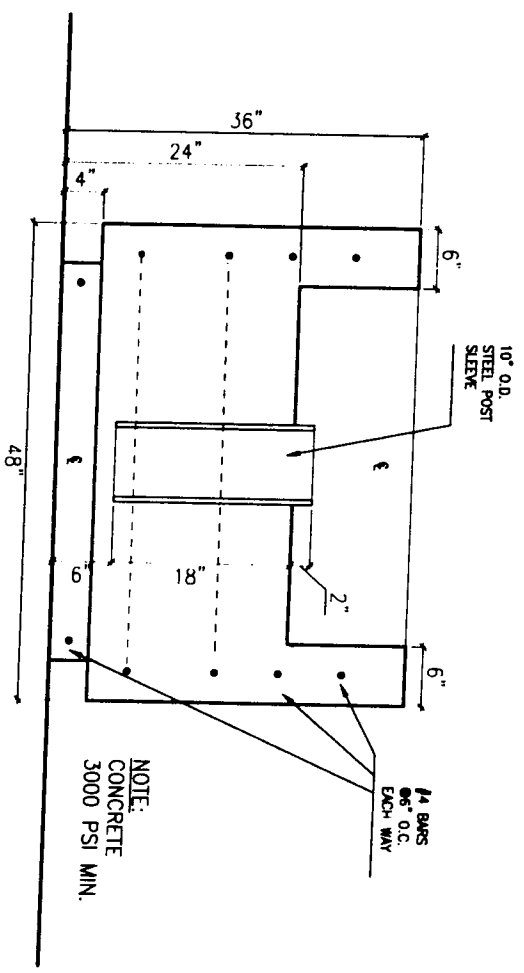
ELEVATION
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

1



PLAN
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

2



SECTION PLANTER DETAIL
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

A

NOTE:
CONCRETE
3000 PSI MIN.

10" O.D.
STEEL POST
SLEEVE

1/4" DIA.
#6 O.C.
EACH WAY

| | |
|-----------|--|
| DATE | |
| BY | |
| CHECKED | |
| DESIGNED | |
| IN CHARGE | |
| PROJECT | |
| NO. | |
| DATE | |
| SCALE | |
| PROJECT | |

A0.01

TREE PLANTER

DATE

BY

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