

FINE ARTS CONSERVATION SERVICES

P. O. Box 567

Madison, Wisconsin 53701

(608) 249-7042

(608) 251-3589 Fax

#12

BASIC INFORMATION

Title of Work: Content: James A. Graaskamp

Artist: Michael A. Burns

Foundry/Fabricator: Iron – Kohler Co., bronze – Milwaukee Valve Co., and plaque –
Madison Brass Co.

Dedicated: October 15, 1989

Media: Stone – Metal – bronze, iron, limestone (Valders), quartzite
(Waterloo),
granite (Wisc. Rapids), and brass

Examiner: Tony Rajer **Examination Period:** February 1995
September 2007

Approximate Dimensions:

Bronze – 4'9''h. x 3'11''w.

Iron – 3'9''h. x 3'9''w.

Brass – 10 ½''h. x 1'10''w.

Limestone – 4'4''h. x 5' (average 3 sides) w.

Quartzite – 3'5''h. x 3' (average 4 sides) w.

Granite – 3'5''h. x 4' (average 4 sides) w.

Markings/Inscriptions:

No, examined sculpture/base, but did not see any signature.

Record the text of any associated nearby identification or commemorative plaques.

Content / In Memory of Professor James A. Graaskamp / 1989 / Michael A. Burns /
Quartzite Edward E. Gillen Co. / Iron, donated and cast by Kohler Co. / Bronze, donated
and cast by Milwaukee Valve Co. / Valders limestone / W. Rapids granite / Made
possible by grants from / Milwaukee Valve Co., Kohler Co., Dane Co. Cultural Affairs
Comm., Madison Committee For The Arts / with additional help from / (4 columns – 33
listings).

LOCATION/JURISDICTION INFORMATION

The sculpture is currently located at:

Street address or site location: James A. Graaskamp Park (1953 E. Mifflin Street)

City: Madison

County: Dane

State: WI

Owner/Administrator:

Name: Madison Mutual Housing Association and Cooperative

Street Address: 200 North Blount Street

City: Madison

State: WI

Zip Code: 53703

Contact Name: Karin Wolf

Telephone: (608) 261-9134

Location Type: Park

General Vicinity: Town

Immediate Locale: Tree Covered

Any other significant environmental factor:

Near handicap housing units and playground equipment. Access to Independence and Options in Community Living Incorporated. Picnic table set in middle of grouping.

CONDITION INFORMATION

Structural Condition

Granite damaged.

Surface Appearance

Bird guano on statue. Metallic staining on plaque. Organic growth of lichen on stone and bronze. White crusts of unknown nature.

Other: Some very faint graffiti on metal pieces. Loaves of bread on sculpture indicate it may be used as a bird/squirrel feeder by neighbors in apartment building. Metal pieces have no foundations.

Surface Coating: None

Basic Surface Condition Assessment: Requires routine care

OVERALL DESCRIPTION

James A. Graaskamp was a controversial but respected figure in Madison. Handicapped as a result of polio, he approached his handicap as "a materials handling problem." The sculpture reflects it is not the package that matters, but the contents. Five forms are grouped in a circle around a concrete slab. The surface of each shape is rough with a small polished geometric

shape emerging from this surface. The first piece is a pyramidally shaped form of cast bronze. It is patinated black-green. Surface has many small white specs, guano and faint graffiti. The second piece is a boulder of limestone. It exhibits some black bacteria growth. Thirdly, there is a cube-shaped form of weathered cast iron. (Actually, five cast pieces welded together.) Its color is dark chocolate brown. The surface has depressions that collect water. The fourth form is a quartzite boulder. It exhibits some guano and algae. The fifth piece is a granite boulder. Artist noted chipping at the base of the piece. Next, is a commemorative plaque of cast brass set into concrete. Letterforms and rough sketches are incised by hand into the mold. Rust stains the plaque, and water collects in the recesses.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The rocks and boulders and bronze need to be power washed and cleaned, but apart from that, the work of art can stand as it is. It is in good condition.

FINE ARTS CONSERVATION SERVICES

Anton Rajer

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August, 2007

12. *Content: James A. Graaskamp, Michael A. Burns (1953 E. Mifflin st)*



Need photos









Context

In memory of Professor James A. Graesskamp

1989

Michael A. Burns

Quartzite, Edward E. Gillen Co.

Iron, donated and cast by Ko

Brass, donated and cast by Milwaukee Valve Co.

Wis. Rapids granite

Valdais limestone

Made possible by grants from

Milwaukee Valve Co.

Mahler Co., Dane County Cultural Affairs Comm., Madison Committee For The Arts with additional help from

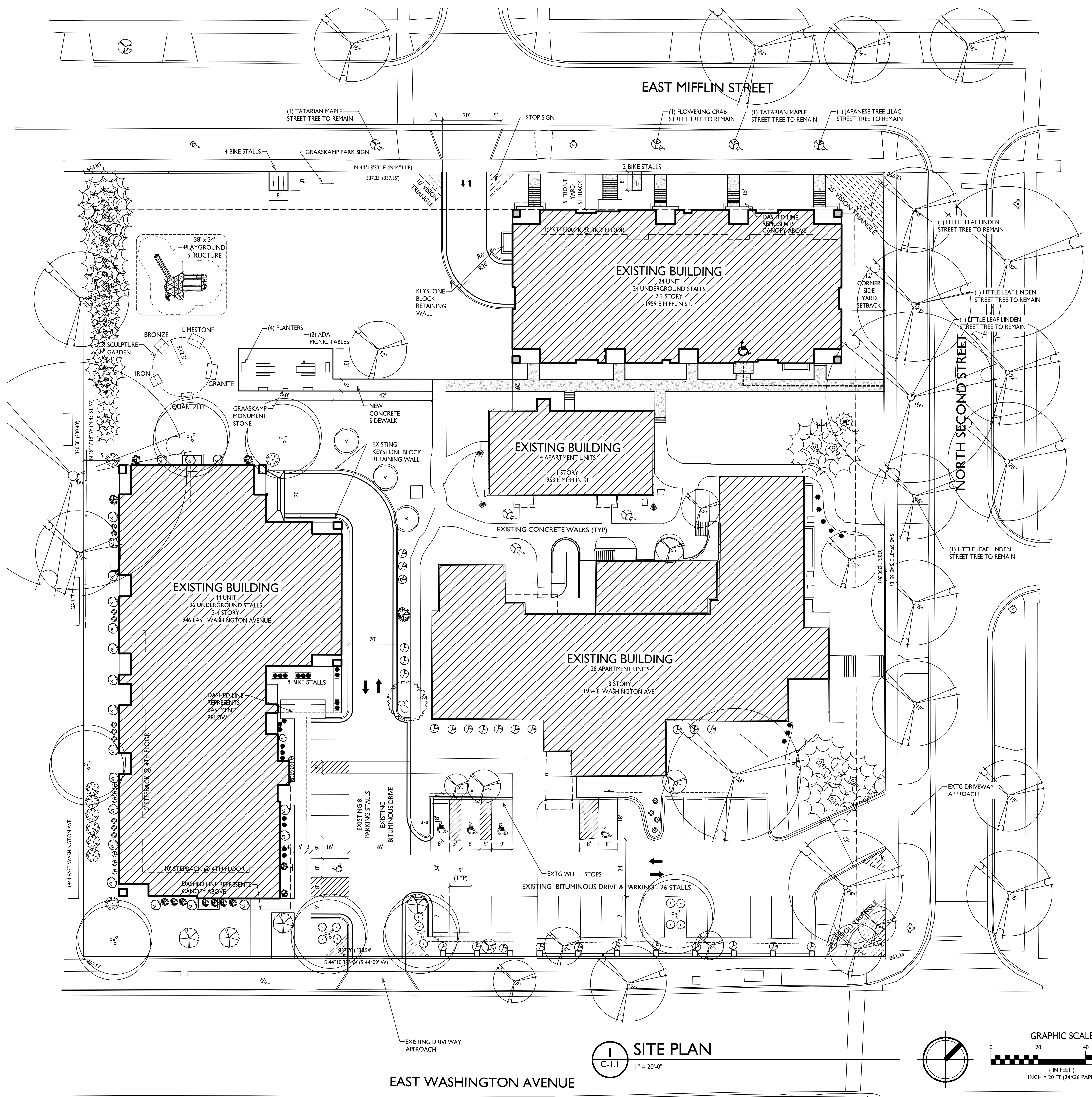
David Anderson
Arnold & Sherman, Inc.
Carol Briendseil
Budrey & Len Burns
Jean Davis
Markus Thomas Dabbs
Dal Evans Co.
John Fild

Susan Hoback
Lan Host-Jablonski
Susan King
George Q. Kinslan
John Michael Mahler Arts Center
Krupp Construction
Madison Bluestone
Madison Mutual Housing Assoc.

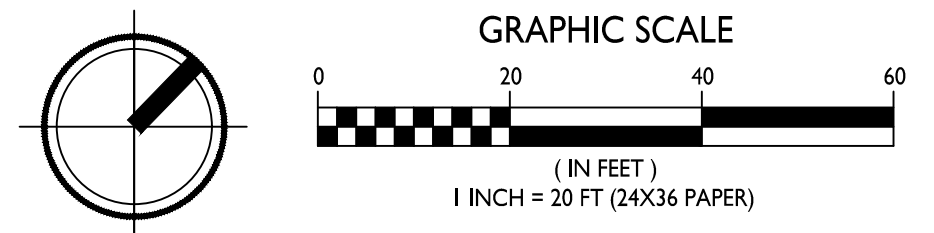
Mary Mahler
John McCarty
Midland Builders
Mixed Media
Margaret Olson
Dan Quandt
Jeffery Rouse
Richard & Doris Ruden
Nancy Sedor-Soren

Jim Sedor
Betty Smith
Vandewalle & Associates
Eric Wagner
Elaine Wozzala
AFH Holdings
Nancy Zacher
Anonymous





1 SITE PLAN
 C-1.1 1" = 20'-0"



EAST WASHINGTON AVENUE

EAST MIFFLIN STREET

NORTH SECOND STREET

EXISTING BUILDING
 44 UNIT
 36 UNDERGROUND STALLS
 2-4 STORY
 1946 EAST WASHINGTON AVENUE

EXISTING BUILDING
 4 APARTMENT UNITS
 1 STORY
 1953 E MIFFLIN ST.

EXISTING BUILDING
 28 APARTMENT UNITS
 3 STORY
 1954 E WASHINGTON AVE.

EXISTING BUILDING
 24 UNIT
 24 UNDERGROUND STALLS
 2-3 STORY
 1959 E MIFFLIN ST.

38' x 34'
 PLAYGROUND
 STRUCTURE

(4) PLANTERS
 (2) ADA
 PICNIC TABLES

4 BIKE STALLS

EXISTING BITUMINOUS DRIVE & PARKING - 26 STALLS

EXISTING 8
 PARKING STALLS
 EXISTING
 BITUMINOUS DRIVE

8 BIKE STALLS

10' STEPBACK @ 4TH FLOOR

10' STEPBACK @ 3RD FLOOR

15' FRONT
 YARD
 SETBACK

25' VISION TRIANGLE

15' FRONT
 YARD
 SETBACK

10' VISION TRIANGLE

10' VISION TRIANGLE

10' VISION TRIANGLE

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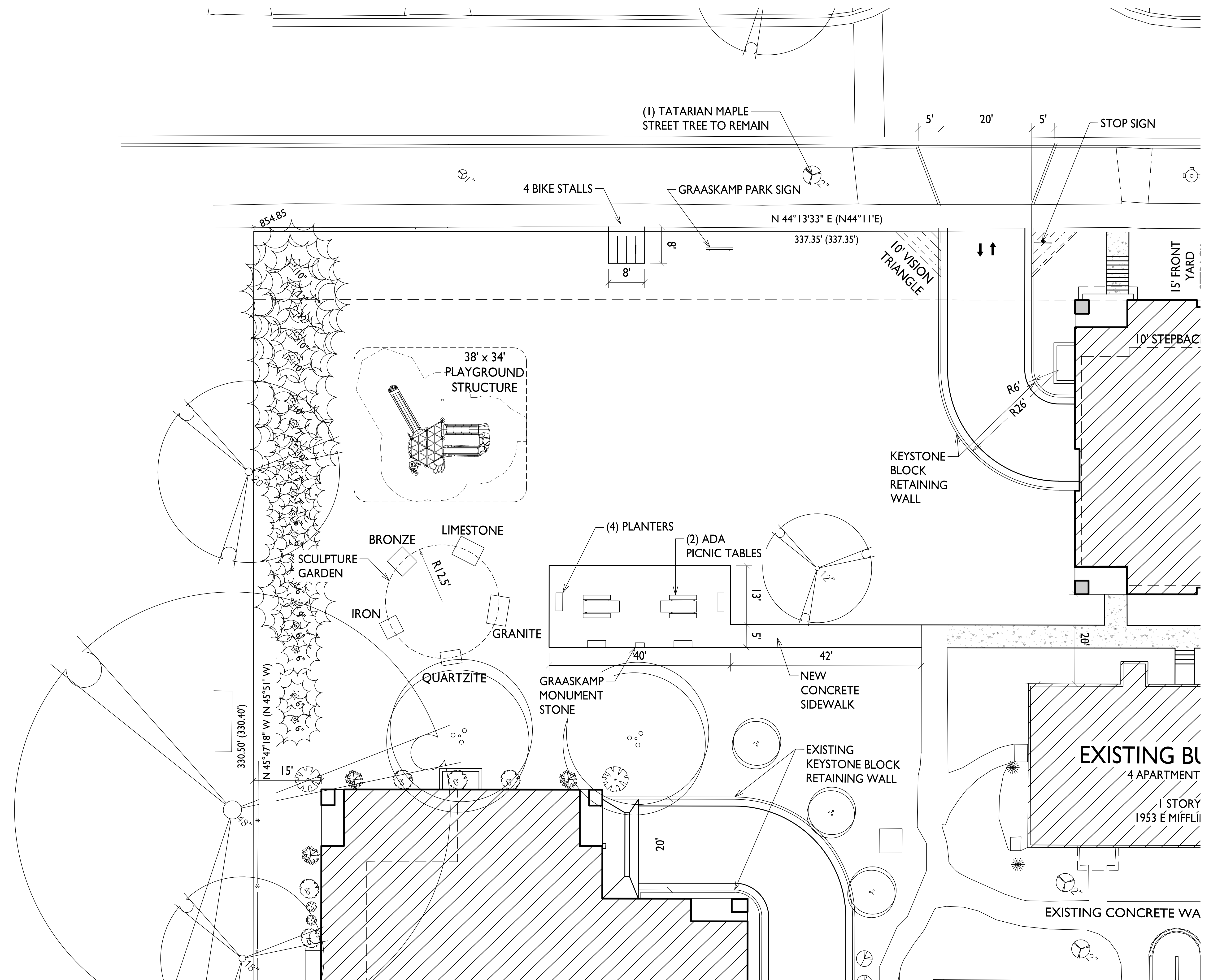
10' VISION TRIANGLE

10' VISION TRIANGLE

10' VISION TRIANGLE

10' VISION TRIANGLE

10' VISION TRIANGLE



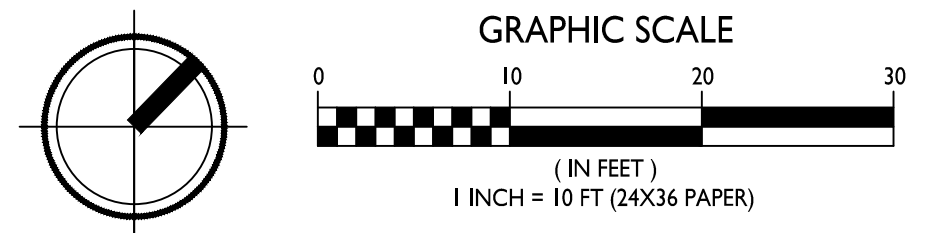
ISSUED
 Issued for Review - July 30, 2024
 Revised - August 26, 2024

PROJECT TITLE
GRAASKAMP PARK
 Madison Development Corporation

1947 E Mifflin St
 Madison, Wisconsin
 SHEET TITLE
Enlarged Site Plan

SHEET NUMBER

1 SITE PLAN
 C-1.1A 1" = 10'-0"



Restoration of the Sculpture at the James A Graaskamp Park: Content by Michael Burns

Piece	Work Needed	Responsible Party	Cost
Bronze Commemorative Sign	Remove bronze plaque from concrete	Michael Burns (MDC electricity)	\$400
Bronze Commemorative Sign	Install bronze plaque onto large boulder	Michael Burns/Peche Monument	\$2000
All 5 pieces	Power wash	Michael Burns	\$500
Quartzite Piece -1 and Granite Piece -2	Oxyclylhydramine Torch	Michael Burns	\$1000
Limestone Piece -3	Acid Wash	Michael Burns	\$250
Bronze Piece -4	Acid Wash	Michael Burns	\$250
Cast Iron Piece-5	Replace damaged area, repair, clean, pickup and return	Michael Burns/Hooper	\$5000
All 5 pieces	Move all pieces to new concrete pad	Michael Burns	\$500
Estimated total cost to repair and install artwork, Content			\$9, 900
New concrete pad and walkway	Install new concrete pad & walkway	MDC	
Other items			