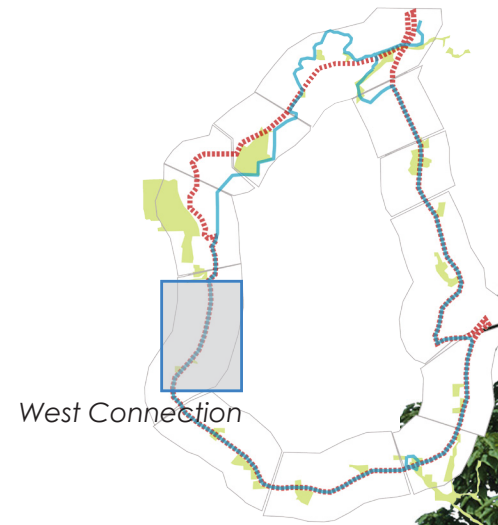
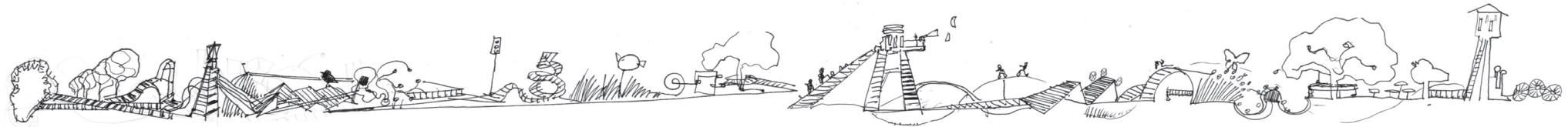


THE RIBBON TRAIL

reg # 301131480



West Connection

observe butterflies/birds
shade
nature
enjoy
hide & seek

climb
hang
run around
shade

relax

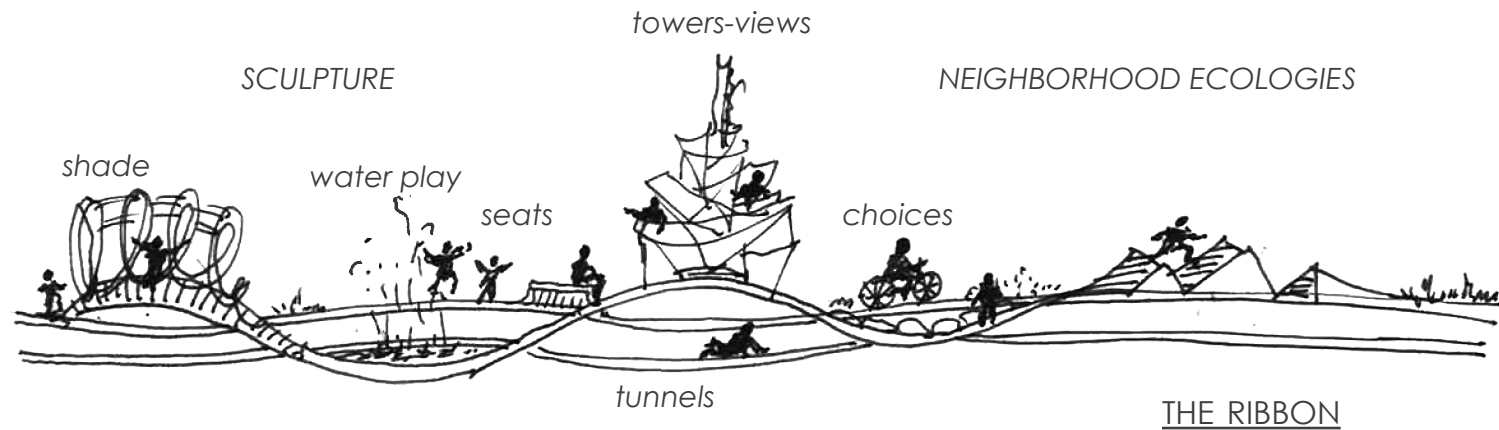
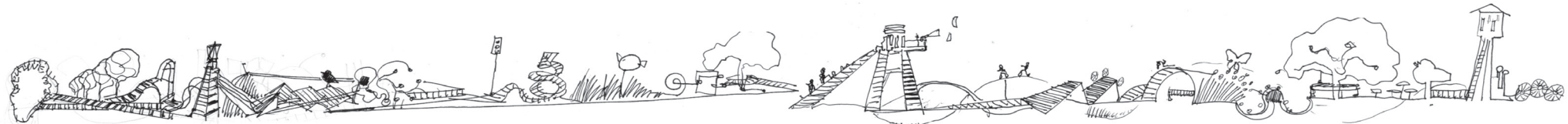


jump
crawl
rest

exercise
fun

THE RIBBON TRAIL

reg # 301131480



The Ribbon Trail emerges by giving physical form to the Beltline's strong history and diverse ecologies of the neighborhoods that it traverses, broadening the sense of community through opportunities for inclusive creative engagement.

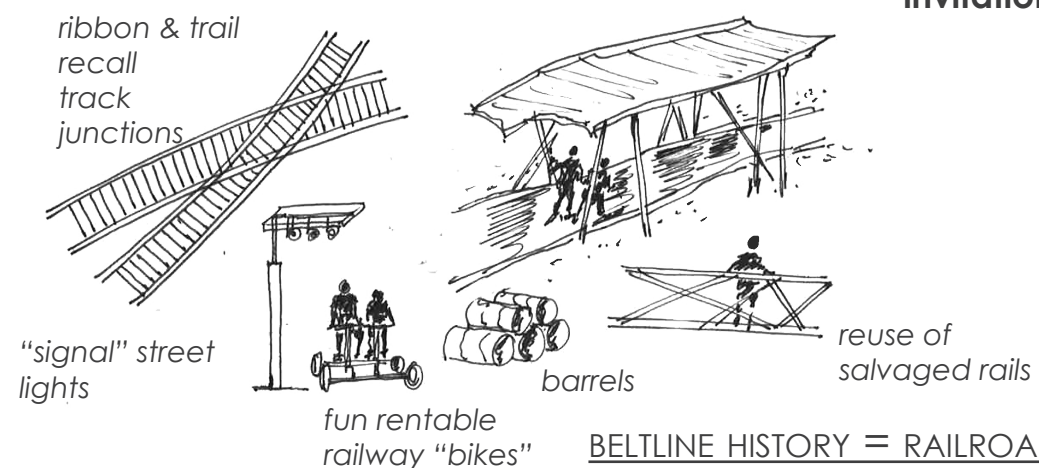
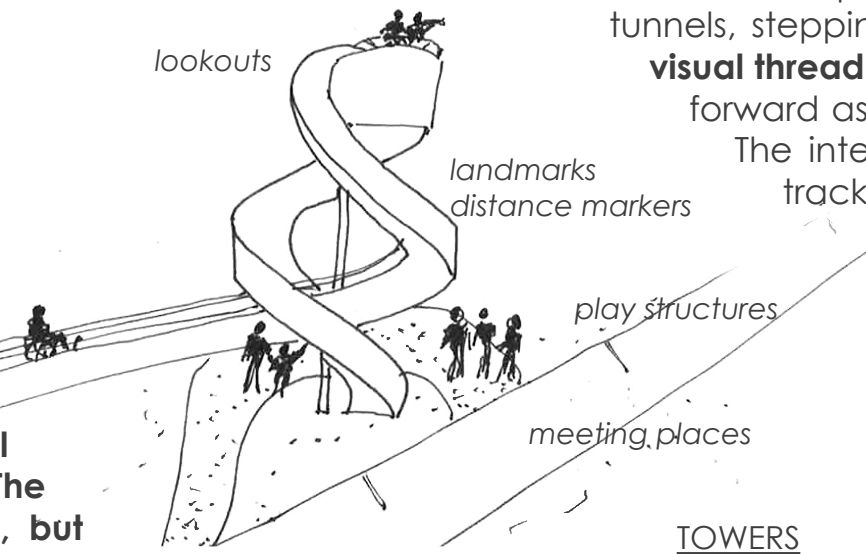
The City and the Beltline, both originated from railroads, a shared history that resonates through the trail via 14 iconic towers that recall the signal towers used to guide freight trains. The towers function as high places along the trail, but they are also play structures, landmarks, meeting places and distance markers along the trail. Several further serve a practical function as water towers, storing rain water harvested off the trail.

Abstracted railroad imagery helps to highlight the origins of the Beltline and provides a unifying theme throughout the trail. Salvaged track rails for structure in towers, trellises and guardrails, rentable bikes styled after railway handcars used to inspect tracks,

solar LED street lights that echo railway track signals and salvaged barrels set up an historically layered backdrop for new activity.

The Ribbon Trail: The main trail path entails motion. Play requires a space for pausing, exploring, meandering, interacting. This space is provided in the form of a ribbon of wood deck that accompanies the trail, intertwines, disappears and reappears along the path, inviting engagement as it transforms into sculpture, climbing structures, ramps, balance beams, seats, shade, bridges, tunnels, stepping stones, earth berms. The ribbon creates a visual thread of continuity along the Beltline, impelling one forward as it dances along, submerging and emerging. The intersections of the ribbon with the trail echoes track junctions, strengthening the sense of place.

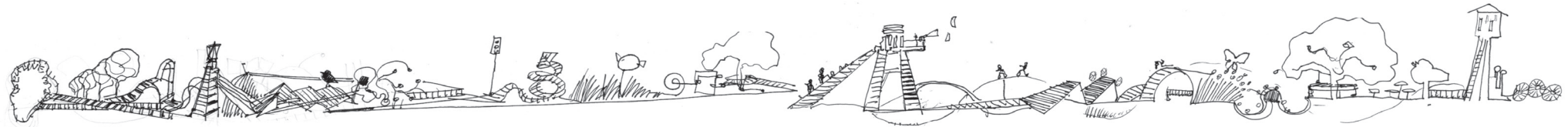
The Ribbon offers numerous choices for interaction as one moves along the trail. A choice to step off the main path of motion and relax, play, converse, read, find shade, enjoy the view, study the local fauna and flora, people watch ... It is an invitation to engage.



BELTLINE HISTORY = RAILROADS IMAGERY

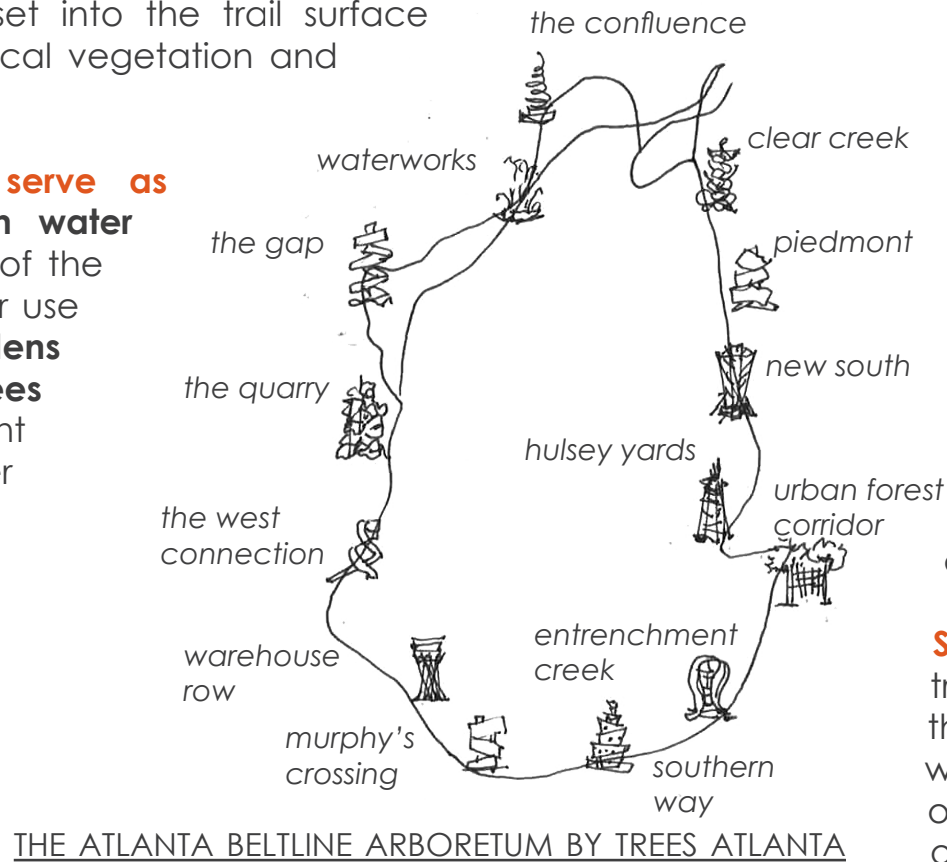
THE RIBBON TRAIL

reg # 301131480

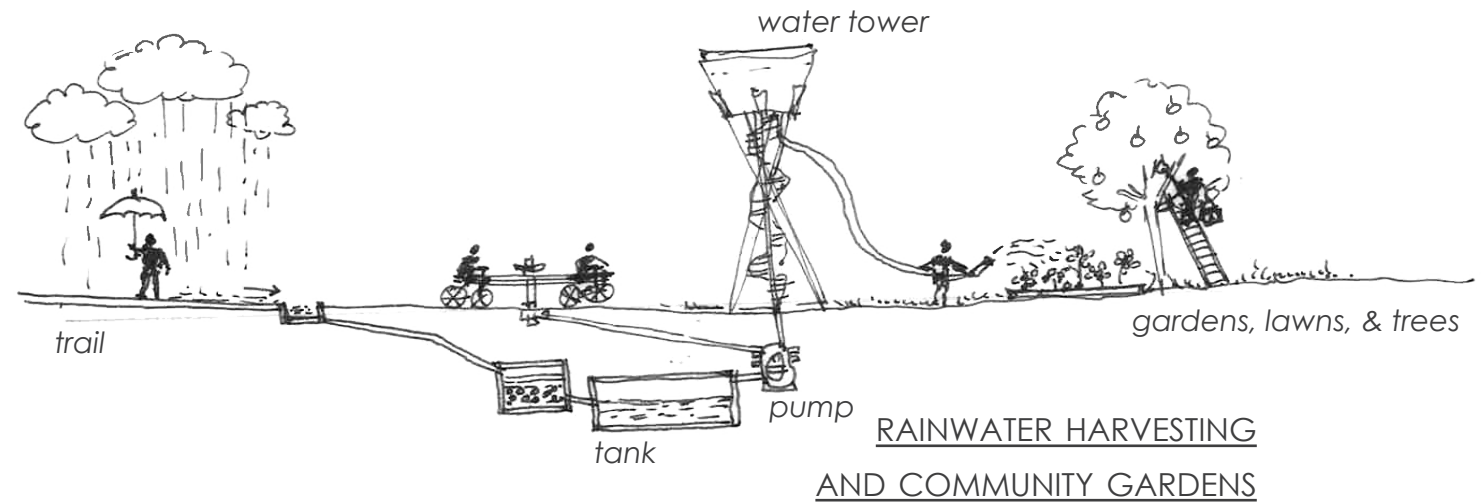


The 14 towers correspond to the 14 distinct neighborhoods identified as part of the Atlanta Beltline Arboretum by TREES ATLANTA. Each tower enhances the distinct ecological characteristics of adjacent neighborhoods. The Ribbon Trail seeks to highlight these ecologies in inviting play - by taking the form of crumpled blocks in Hulsey Yards to echo the sub-continental divide, or a butterfly trellis tunnel in The West Connection, and interactive water fountains in Waterworks. Colored concrete shapes set into the trail surface call attention to local vegetation and wildlife.

The towers also serve as water towers. Rain water falling on sections of the trail is harvested for use in community gardens and fruit trees located adjacent to them. The water is collected for a half mile on either side of the water towers via a channel running along the trail edge. It is sent to underground tanks under the towers from where it is pumped up to the



THE ATLANTA BELTLINE ARBORETUM BY TREES ATLANTA



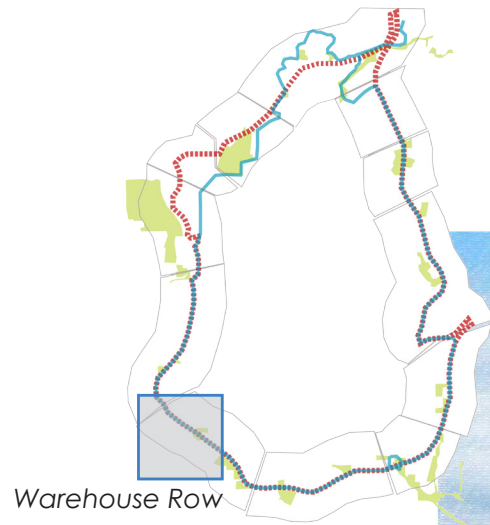
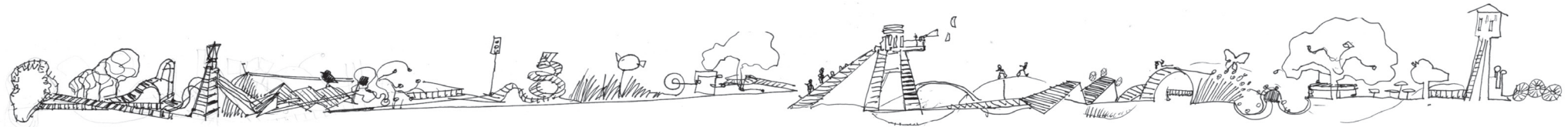
towers by the community, using a variety of on-site hand wheels and exer-cycles, designed to promote interaction and exercise. Windmills make up for any shortfall. Special railway styled bikes with baskets and carts can be rented out for use to transport fruit and produce from the community gardens or simply for recreation. An estimated 50,000 gallons of water can be harvested for each inch of rainfall across a one mile stretch of the 15 foot wide trail.

Built Over Time: The towers can be built first to set up a framework for The Ribbon Trail. Portions of the Ribbon can be put in place as resources allow and it can be added to at anytime and any location, without an interim appearance of incompleteness. Out-of-date sections can be easily replaced in the future.

Salvaging, Recycling and Nature: Salvaged rails from the old freight tracks are used to build towers, shade trellises, and guardrails along the trail. Salvaged wood decking is used to create a play ribbon that winds in and out of the trail and landscape. Industrial materials such as old barrels and discarded tires are repurposed to create tunnels and obstacle courses adjacent to the trail. Solar powered LED trail lights reinterpret historical railway signals. Strips of colored concrete inset in the trail act as distance markers. Natural materials such as grass, soil, rocks, gravel, water, sand and greenery complete the palette of materials to create earth berms, trellises, impromptu seating and community gardens along the trail.

THE RIBBON TRAIL

reg # 301131480



views
meeting
orienting

exercising fun
community

fruit picking

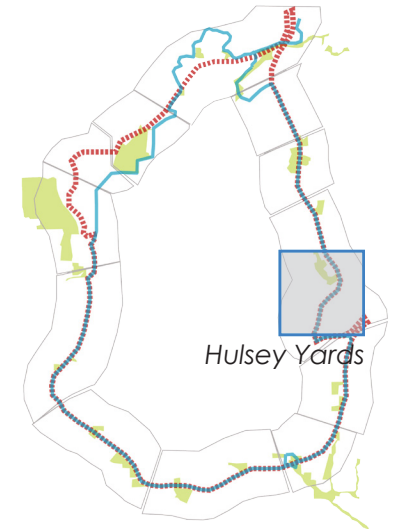
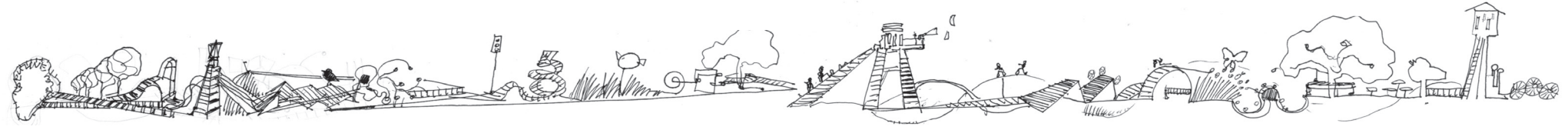
resting
people watching

gardening
relaxing

WAREHOUSE ROW

THE RIBBON TRAIL

reg # 301131480



Hulse Yards



climb
views
interaction with community

climbing
jumping
resting
hiding



salvaged rails

HULSE YARDS

THE RIBBON TRAIL

reg # 301131480

