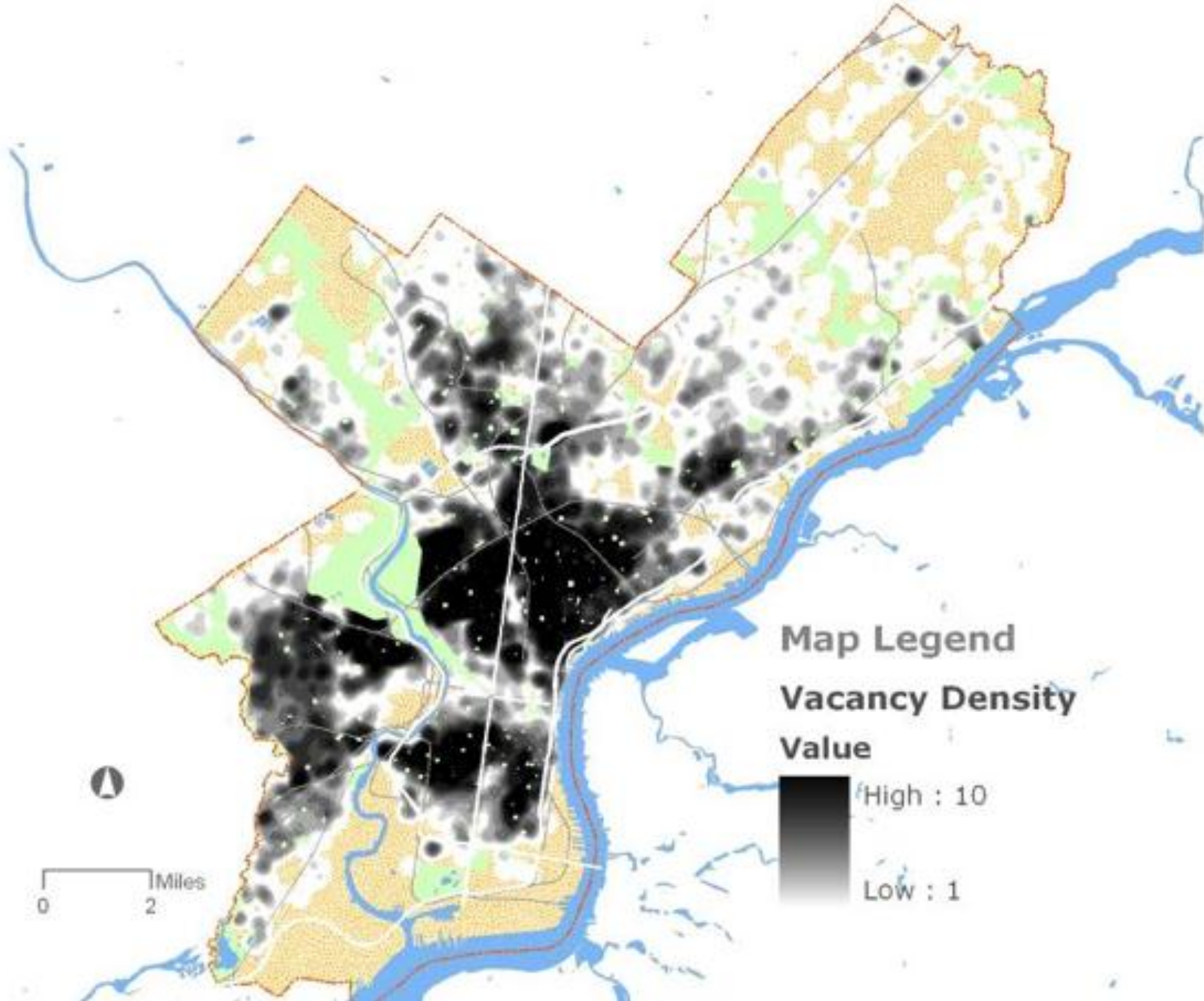


Added up:

Vacant Lots
represent
millions of
square feet...

... an area
the size of
Center City



Philadelphia LANDvisions:

www.landvisions.org

To engage citizens in aspirational thinking about their city's future;

To educate drawing from varying perspectives-ecological, historical, sociological, and economic;

To inspire new ways of thinking and doing (with potential of actualizing).

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Philadelphia, showing a dense urban landscape with a large, irregularly shaped urban void in the center. The void is filled with trees and some low-lying vegetation, contrasting with the surrounding built-up areas. The text is overlaid on the image in a dark blue, sans-serif font.

OUR VOICES: OUR VISIONS

URBAN VOIDS: *grounds for change*

URBAN VOIDS: Urban Visions

Seek out ideas that draw upon Philadelphia's environmental infrastructure – the natural assets of land and water, to reconnect and regenerate the fabric of the city and enhance its future.

An aerial photograph of a neighborhood in Philadelphia. The image shows a dense arrangement of multi-story brick row houses. A large, irregularly shaped lot in the center is cleared of buildings, showing bare earth and some sparse vegetation. A winding path or road cuts through this cleared area. The surrounding areas are filled with more row houses and some trees. The overall scene illustrates the relationship between urban development and natural landscape in Philadelphia.

Making Connections:

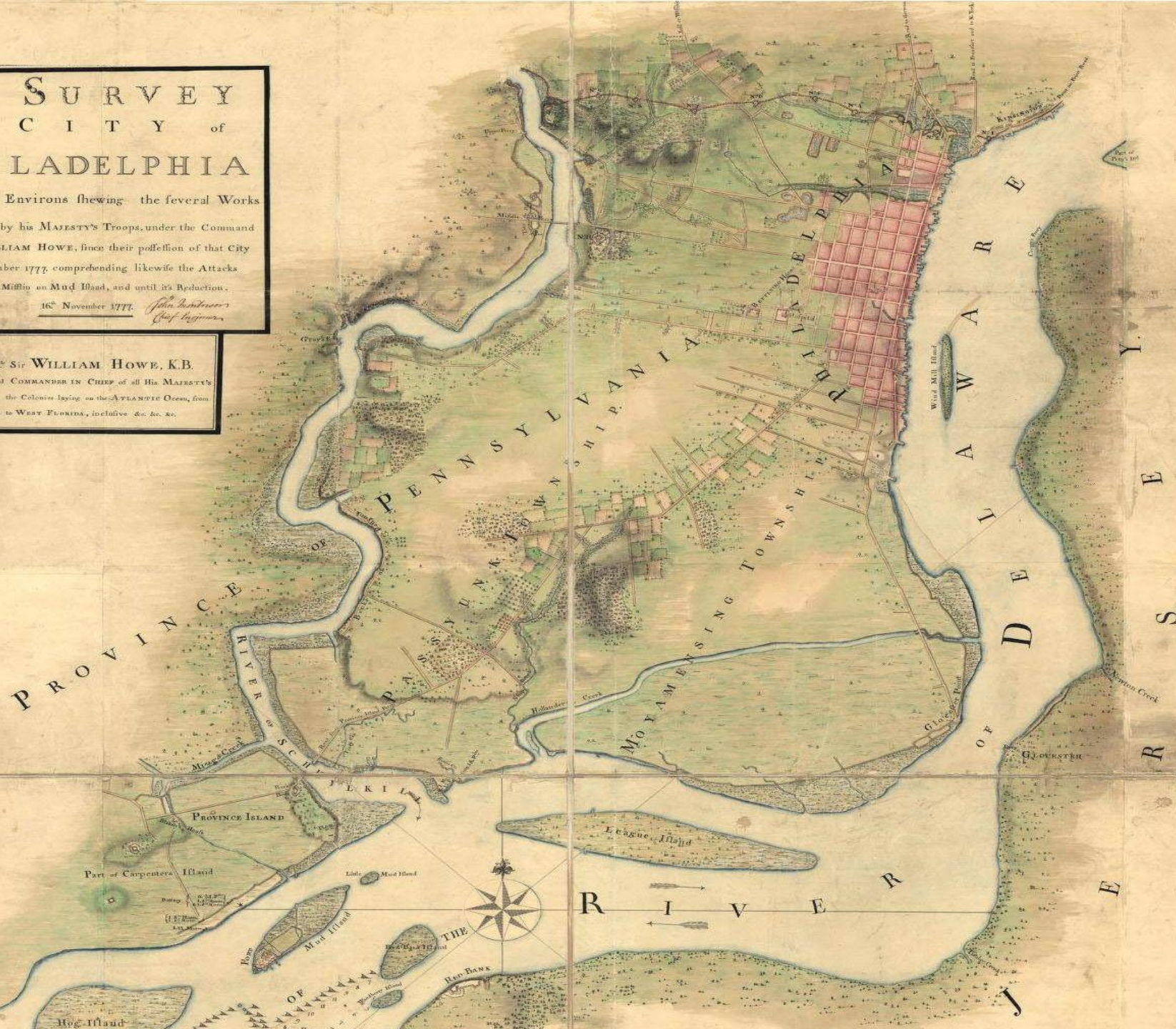
Philadelphia's Natural Landscape and Urban Form

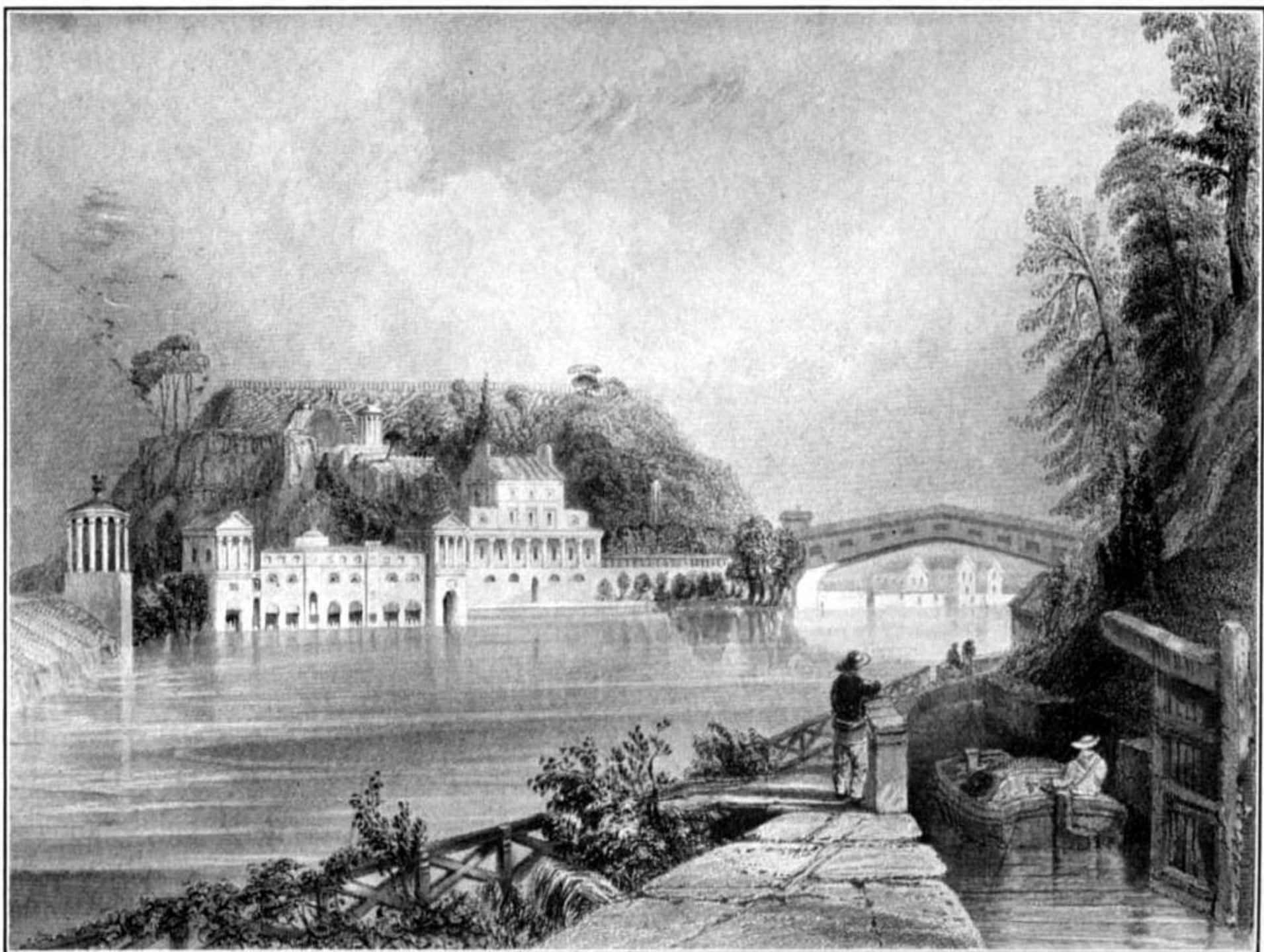
A SURVEY of the CITY of PHILADELPHIA

and its Environs shewing the several Works
constructed by his MAJESTY'S Troops, under the Command
of Sir WILLIAM HOWE, since their possession of that City
26th September 1777, comprehending likewise the Attacks
against Fort Mifflin on Mud Island, and until its Reduction.

16th November 1777. *John Boscawen*
Chief Engineer

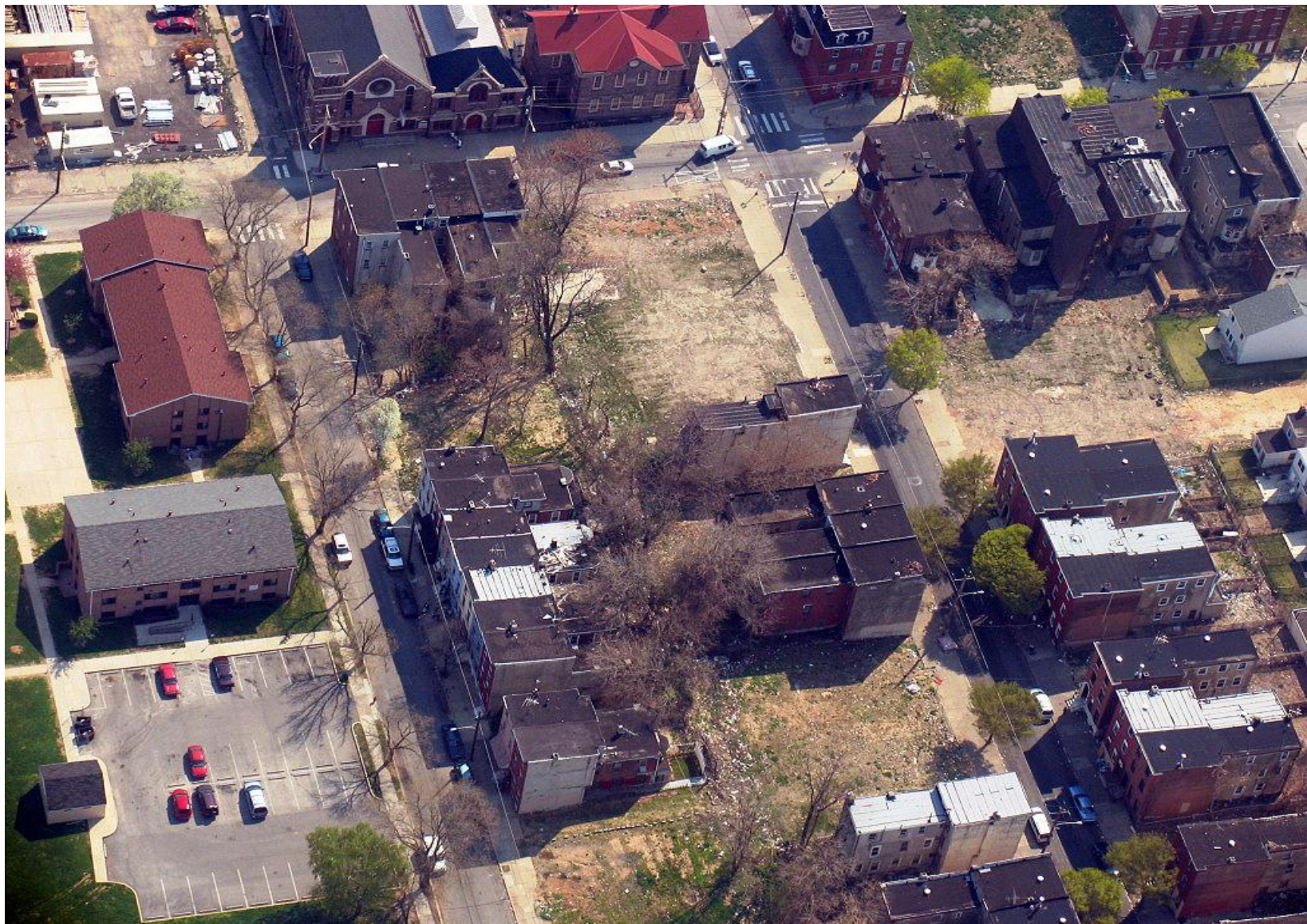
To the Hon^{ble} Sir WILLIAM HOWE, K.B.
GENERAL and COMMANDER IN CHIEF of all His MAJESTY'S
Forces, within the Colonies lying on the ATLANTIC Ocean, from
NOVA-SCOTIA to WEST FLORIDA, inclusive &c. &c. &c.











An aerial photograph of a city neighborhood, likely in Philadelphia, showing a mix of brick and stone residential buildings, some with multiple stories. There are several trees scattered throughout the area, and a street with parked cars is visible on the left. The overall scene is a dense urban environment.

Our Voices: our visions

(...outside the meeting rooms)

Schools and Educators (low Tech)

Web Outreach(higher Tech)



Alexus Albertson
Gideon Elementary



Deshon Llyod
Gideon Elementary



Natasha Zachary
Vare Middle School









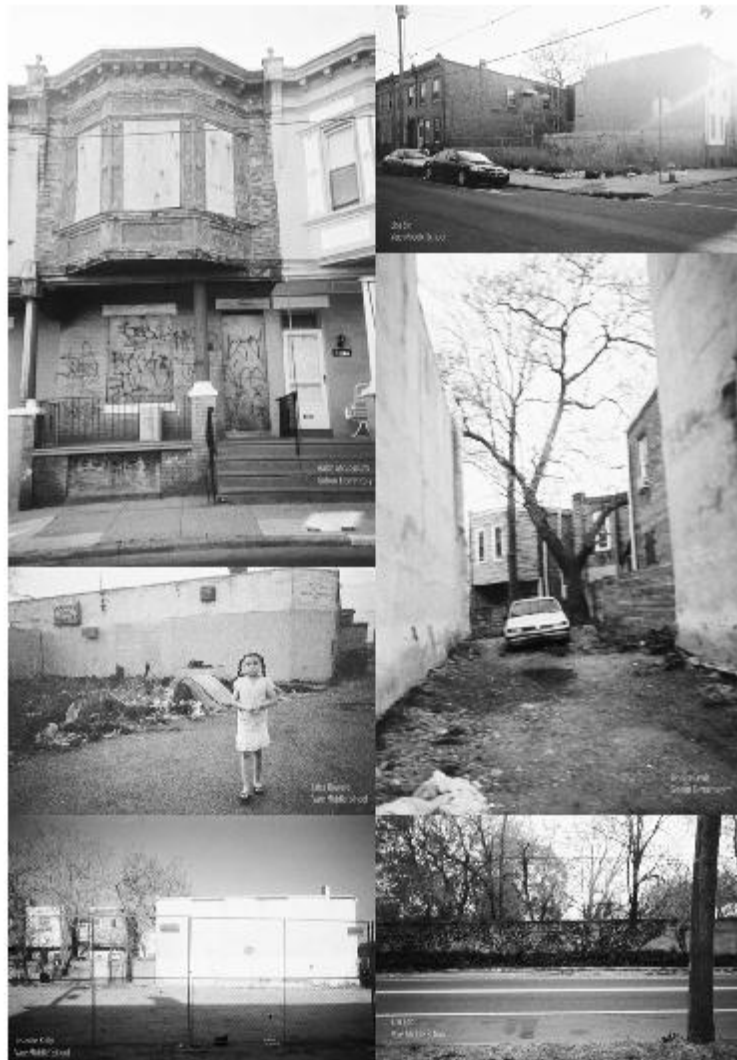




Erica Howard
Vare Middle School



Library





Our Voices: our visions

***Three community engagement sessions
(high and low tech: PlaceMatters)***

- ❖ **Town Meeting**
- ❖ **Philadelphia's River Corridors**
- ❖ **Philadelphia's Neighborhoods**











753

An aerial photograph of a Philadelphia neighborhood, showing a mix of multi-story brick buildings, some with flat roofs and others with gabled roofs. There are patches of green trees and vegetation interspersed among the buildings. The overall scene is a dense urban environment.

Philadelphia LANDvisions Thematic Connections:

Living with Water

Rebuilding Neighborhood Fabric

Integrate Community and Natural Resources

Commerce that Integrates Natural Resources and Land

Green Building-Built Form and its connections to Ecology

Art Culture and Spiritual Connections

Integrate Land and Recreation: Healthy Lifestyles

Educational Bridges

Create Transportation Connections

17 Green Mapping Exercise

D - BEACH
 LOW - SOLAR/RENEWABLE
 ENERGY
 TEN - GREENWAYS (1)
 E - PARKS, GARDENS
 FOUNTAINS
 LE - STORM WATER CAPTURE/
 BIOPOND
 W - GREEN BUFFER

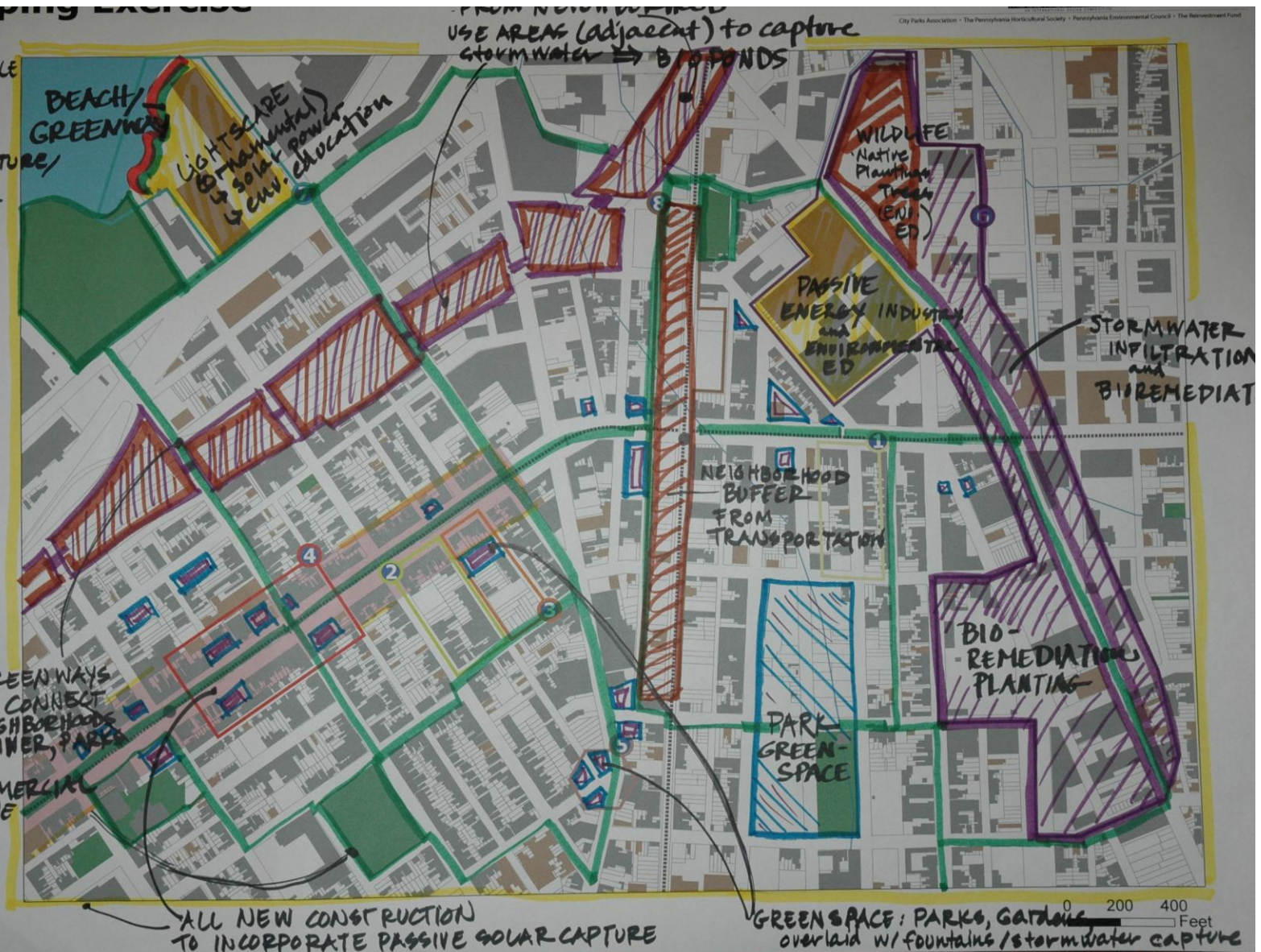
Types of Vacancy

- 1 Residential - 'Gap-Tooth' Vacancy
- 2 Residential - Contiguous Parcels Vacancy
- 3 Residential - Block-Wide Vacancy
- 4 Commercial Corridor Vacancy
- 5 Diagonal Grid Vacancy
- 6 Industrial Vacancy
- 7 Vacancy Along River Corridor
- 8 Vacancy Along Transportation Corridor

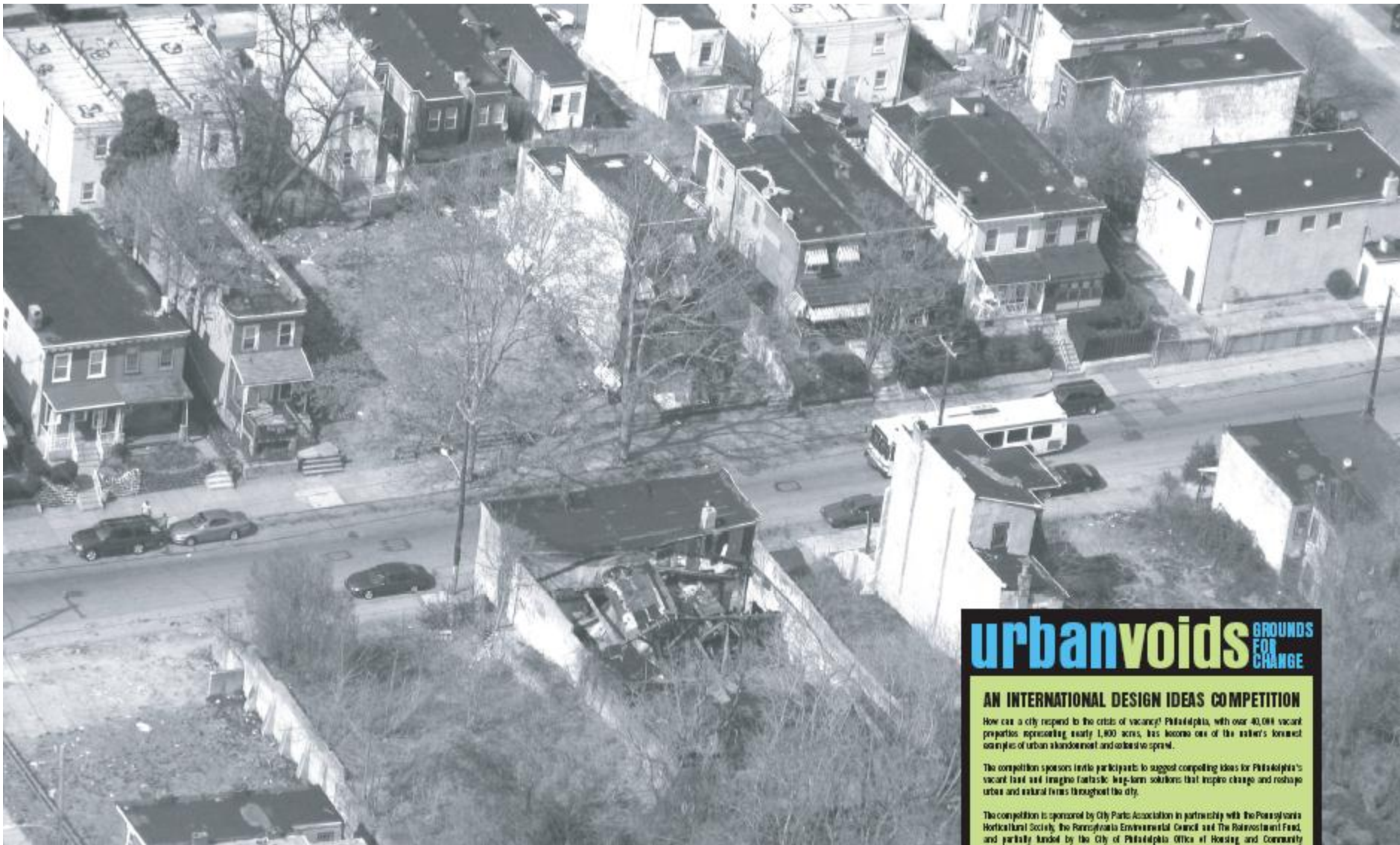
Legend

- Park
- Occupied Building
- Vacant Building
- Land Parcel
- Commercial District
- River
- Underground Stream
- Transit
- Transit Stop

BLE 5







urbanvoids GROUNDS FOR CHANGE

AN INTERNATIONAL DESIGN IDEAS COMPETITION

How can a city respond to the crisis of vacancy? Philadelphia, with over 40,000 vacant properties representing nearly 1,400 acres, has become one of the nation's foremost examples of urban abandonment and extensive sprawl.

The competition sponsors invite participants to suggest compelling ideas for Philadelphia's vacant land and imagine fantastic long-term solutions that inspire change and reshape urban and natural forms throughout the city.

The competition is sponsored by City Parks Association in partnership with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and The Reinvestment Fund, and partially funded by the City of Philadelphia Office of Housing and Community

An aerial photograph of a city neighborhood, likely Philadelphia, showing a mix of multi-story brick and stone buildings. A large, open, grassy lot is visible in the center-left, surrounded by built-up areas. The image is slightly faded to serve as a background for the text.

URBAN VOIDS: *grounds for change*

...to design a comprehensive view of Philadelphia, forging new relationships between ecology and the built environment.

...to seek ideas that draw upon Philadelphia's natural assets of land and water, to reconnect and regenerate the fabric of the city, both enhancing and securing its future.

www.landvisions.org



philaworks

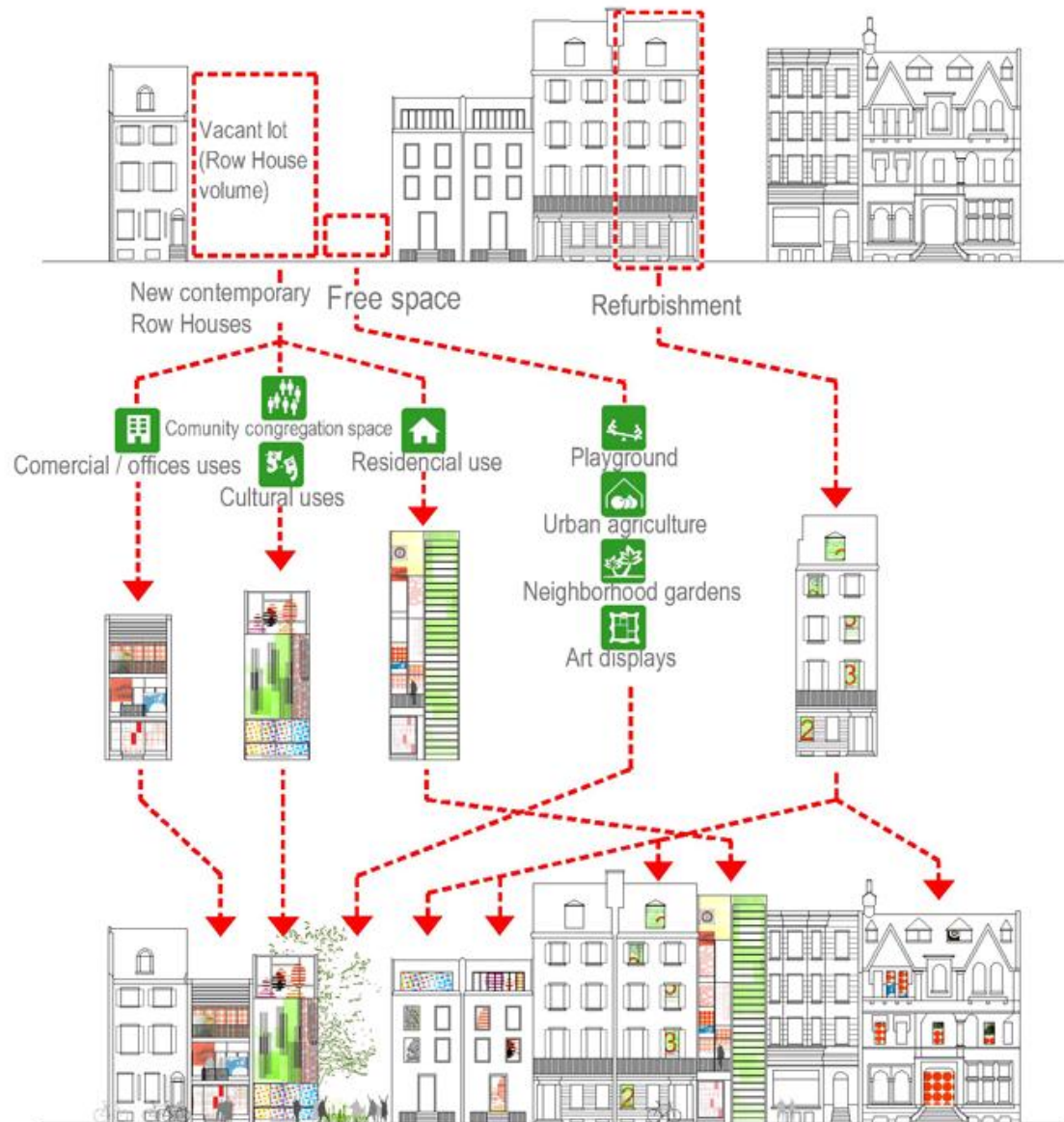
ecological reconfiguration



reactivation



vacant lot conversion
temporary uses
row houses refurbishment
row houses infill
abandoned building strategy
project row houses
philadelphia green
the reinvestment fund



THE PHILADELPHIA LANDBANK

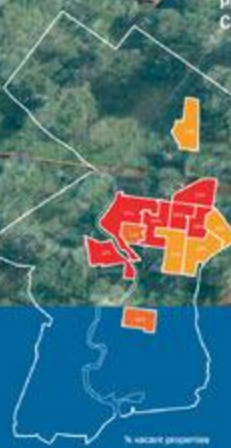
PROVIDING EXPERIENCE AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL

Philadelphia is a blessed city. Cities around the globe will envy its enormous potential development space within urban borders. It offers a wide range of opportunities for urban regeneration within a sustainable framework. But Philadelphia is also facing severe problems. The city has too much open space: where to start investing? Properties are fragmented: how to realize critical mass? Landowners feel trapped: what to do and where? A structural approach is needed. We call it The Philadelphia LandBank. The Philadelphia LandBank creates clear priorities, sustainable coherence and equal chances for all. How? By defining a focal point for public investments, densification and marketing. Waterfront Fishtown, with 24% vacant properties (2003), could be such a future focal point of money, energy and pride. But is such a decision fair towards people in for example North Central, who will not profit from investments and rising land values there? No! For that reason The Philadelphia LandBank only invests in Fishtown, after landowners in this area hand over a third of their vacant properties. People from North Central and other neighborhoods can acquire one of these potentially high-value plots if they want to exchange their vacant properties to a 5:1-rate. This rate stimulates small landowners to join forces and cooperate in order to obtain a property in booming and privatizing Fishtown. The Philadelphia LandBank gains control in North Central, where it is able to reconnect individual pieces of land to a bigger ecological picture as a stronghold for future (> 30 years) urban development.

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

EXCHANGE RATE 5 : 1

PARTICIPATE in Fishtown's success UNLIMITED ACCESS for owners of vacant properties in Belmont - Brewerytown - Fairhill - Hartranft - Kensington - Logan - North Central - Point Breeze - Poplar - Strawberry Mansion - West Kensington RISK FREE

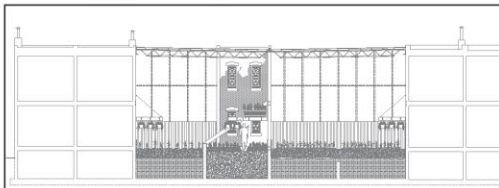


1% vacant properties

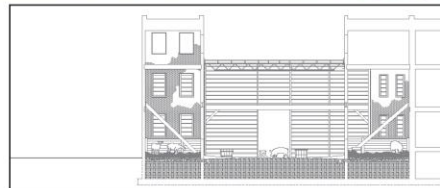
THE PHILADELPHIA LANDBANK

PROVIDING EXPERIENCE AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL





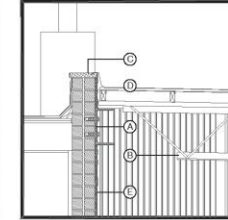
SECTION: GREENHOUSE



SECTION: STABLE

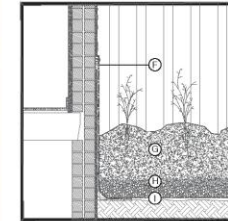
FARMADELPHIA TRANSFORMS VACANT LOTS INTO FRUITFUL FARMLAND. PARCELS ARE CLASSIFIED INTO LEVELS OF READINESS AND UNDERGO PHASED REMEDIATION. INCOME GENERATING NURSERIES HELP ESTABLISH THE FARM, ENABLING AN EXPANSION OF ARABLE LAND TO INCLUDE CROP FARMING. WITHIN A DECADE, A FERTILE PATCHWORK OF FARMS WILL YIELD FRESH PRODUCE AND INCOME FOR THOSE MOST IN NEED.

GREENHOUSE ROOF



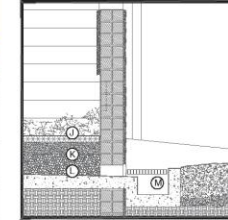
- A. ATTACH STEEL C-CHANNEL TO EXISTING MASONRY WALL WITH 1/4" EXPANSION BOLTS AT 16" O.C.
- B. LIGHT WEIGHT PINE FRAM OPEN WEB STEEL JOISTS SUPPORTED BY NEW C-CHANNEL LEDGE
- C. SAW CUT EXISTING COPING TO ANCHOR NEW METAL FLASHING
- D. CLEAR VINYLWALL POLYCARBONATE PANELS SECURED TO WOOD FRAMING
- E. COAT EXISTING STUCCO WITH 2 COATS EXTERIOR GRADE WHITE PAINT

GREENHOUSE PLANTING BED

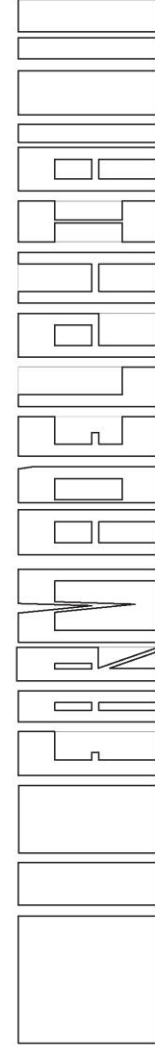


- F. CHOP AWAY EXISTING STUCCO, ATTACH LEDGER TO EXISTING MASONRY. SCREW FASTEN NON PERMEABLE BURL PLASTIC BARRIER TO SEPARATE SOIL FROM EXISTING WALL.
- G. 18" DEEP RAISED SOIL BED MIXTURE OF CITY COMPOST AND HIGH GRADE TOPSOIL.
- H. 2" LAYER OF FINE BARK MULCH OVER 4" LAYER OF LOAM.
- I. WEED BARRIER OR OTHER PERMEABLE NETTING TO PREVENT ROOT PENETRATION.

STABLE DRAINAGE



- J. LOOSE RAY STEVEN OVER INTERLOCKING POROUS RUBBER MAT
- K. 4" LAYER OF FINE SAND OVER 4" LAYER OF CRUSHED GRAVEL.
- L. NEW CONCRETE SLAB, PITCHED TOWARDS DRAIN. CREATE INTERMITTENT OPENINGS IN EXISTING MASONRY WALL TO ALLOW FOR DRAINAGE.
- M. CONTINUOUS METAL GRATE OVER OPEN TRENCH DRAIN



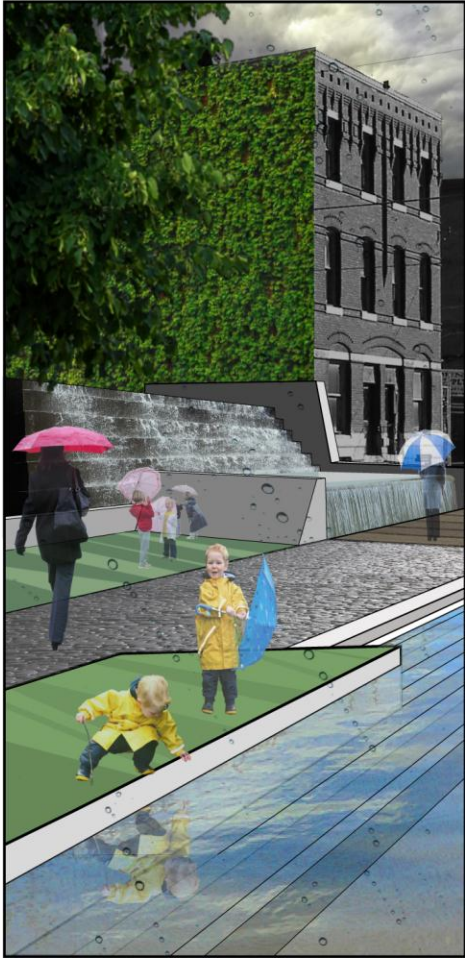


O



**TREE SPECIES
RECOMMENDATIONS**

THE IDENTIFIED PILOT AREA IS A SAMPLING OF THE 25 PHILADELPHIA NEIGHBORHOODS WITH THE MOST INTENSE VACANCIES. VACANCY, IN THIS CONTEXT, REFERS TO VACANT LAND AND VACANT BUILDINGS. THIS AREA, NEARLY 1/3 OF THE CITY'S LAND MASS, IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE REFORESTATION PILOT DUE TO ITS VACANCY DENSITY AND ITS GEOGRAPHIC CENTRALITY. THIS AREA HAS THE MOST POTENTIAL TO EXTEND OUTWARD OVER TIME AND AFFECT THE ENTIRE CITY, BRINGING THESE VACANCIES BACK TO LIFE. WILL ALLOW THE CITY TO DISCOVER A NEW VEGETILITY AS AN URBAN ARBORETUM.



An aerial photograph of a city street grid, tilted at an angle. The streets are dark, and the building footprints are highlighted in a vibrant green color, creating a complex, interlocking pattern.

URBAN VOIDS:

grounds for change

Deenah Loeb, EDITOR
CITY PARKS ASSOCIATION

Order at www.cityparksphila.org



small enough for a neighborhood, big enough for a difference.

www.gfcactivatingland.org

GET INSPIRED

GET EDUCATED

GET MOVING

Search

get inspired!



They have the capacity to nurture innovation, competition and cooperation.

We propose to gather railroad adjacencies and vacant tracts to accommodate this need for a commons. In the meantime these grounds will provide for industrial farms, experimental cultivation, community gardens and markets. They will serve in a partnership between the biotech enterprise and community.

ounds

Biodelphia »

Integrating biotechnology and the urban fabric.



get educated »

Working with vacant lots can be a complicated process, so we've created a searchable, sortable list of Resources to help guide you. This section includes organizations, web links, print resources, and original articles discussing vacancy-related issues in an accessible, practical way.

Action Blog



Web Resources

The Designers Accord Toolkit
The Designers Accord
PlaNYC 2030 Stormwater Management Plan
Energy & Technology Funding Opportunities

get moving »

Add your own ideas for transforming vacant land!

Share Your Idea

RECENTLY SHARED



N. 31st St: Reclaiming the Urban Landscape

Added by amy

An eye-catching art installation-turned-community garden.

why action? »

Grounds for Change, a project of the



www.cityparksphila.org

www.landvisions.org