

# Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan



Prepared for the Town of Pound  
June 2021

Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Project funding provided by an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Brownfields Assessment grant through the Community Design Assistance  
Center (CDAC) at Virginia Tech



Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

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**The Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC)** is an outreach center in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech that assists communities, neighborhood groups and non-profit organizations in improving the natural and built environments. Assistance is provided in the areas of landscape architecture, architecture, planning, and interior design. Working with communities, the conceptual planning and design provides communities with a graphic vision of their project that can then be used for grant applications and fundraising for the next steps toward implementation.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The CDAC team would like to acknowledge the following individuals for their contributions throughout the project:

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Town Council, Town of Pound, VA

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Community Member

**Linda Hubbard**

Community Member

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Those who volunteered time for the betterment of the  
Town of Pound.

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## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Community Background

The Town of Pound, with a population of approximately 1,000, is located in Wise County in southwest Virginia. There are several key features within the town that offer the potential to create a connectivity plan that connects these sites with a walking trail or improved sidewalks. The connectivity plan has the potential to be anchored by a trailhead in the center of town at the former bank building site. Some of these features include the Pound River, a forthcoming kayak put-in/take-out, a playground, and open space that will be located at the former high school. The town is also located near the Jefferson National Forest, the North Fork Pound Reservoir, and Red Fox Trail, offering a variety of outdoor activities all of which could help draw visitors to the area for walking, camping, hiking, biking, fishing, and boating.

The North Fork Reservoir, which was built in 1966, is a 154 acre lake only about 1.5 miles from downtown Pound along Route 630. It offers camping, trails, picnic areas, fishing, and boating opportunities. Fish in the lake include largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass, as well as bluegills, black and white crappie, channel and flathead catfish and carp. Pound Lake is a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lake, while the land surrounding the lake was transferred to the U. S. Forest Service in 1983.

Red Fox Trail is located about 3.5 miles north of downtown Pound on State Route 667/Potterstown Road. The 1.15 mile historical trail is a moderately intensive trail that is open for hiking, biking, and equestrians. In 1892 there was a massacre in this area that left five people dead and is sometimes referred to as “the killing rock”.

Downtown is generally located near the intersection of Main Street and Clintwood Highway. At this intersection is a vacated bank building, which may contain asbestos-containing materials and/or lead-based paint and will be cleaned up and demolished. The slope behind the bank is collapsing. The unstable slope has created a health and safety issue as it might include oil tanks and has also compromised the integrity of Church Street, which is located on the north side of the slope. Both of these conditions require that the slope be cleaned up and stabilized.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Project Overview

The Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC) of Virginia Tech received a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Assessment grant to assess and help communities develop conceptual redevelopment plans for potentially contaminated sites in southwest Virginia communities.

The EPA Assessment Grant provides funding for CDAC to help communities determine if a site is contaminated (and if so, with what), and then to plan for the possible redevelopment of that site through conceptual design development. EPA does not require or commit communities to any cleanup if the community participates in this process.

EPA's goals are to:

- protect human health and the environment
- sustain reuse
- promote partnerships, and
- strengthen the marketplace

The EPA describes Brownfields as:

“A brownfield is a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.”

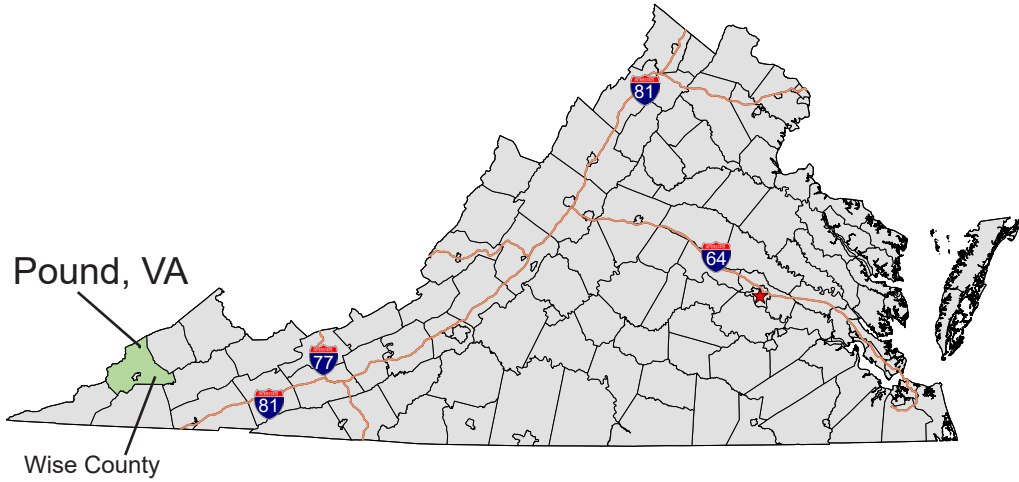
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The purpose of this project was to work with the community to create a conceptual redevelopment plan for former bank building property and a conceptual town connectivity plan. The primary end-use of the former bank building property would be a community gathering space.

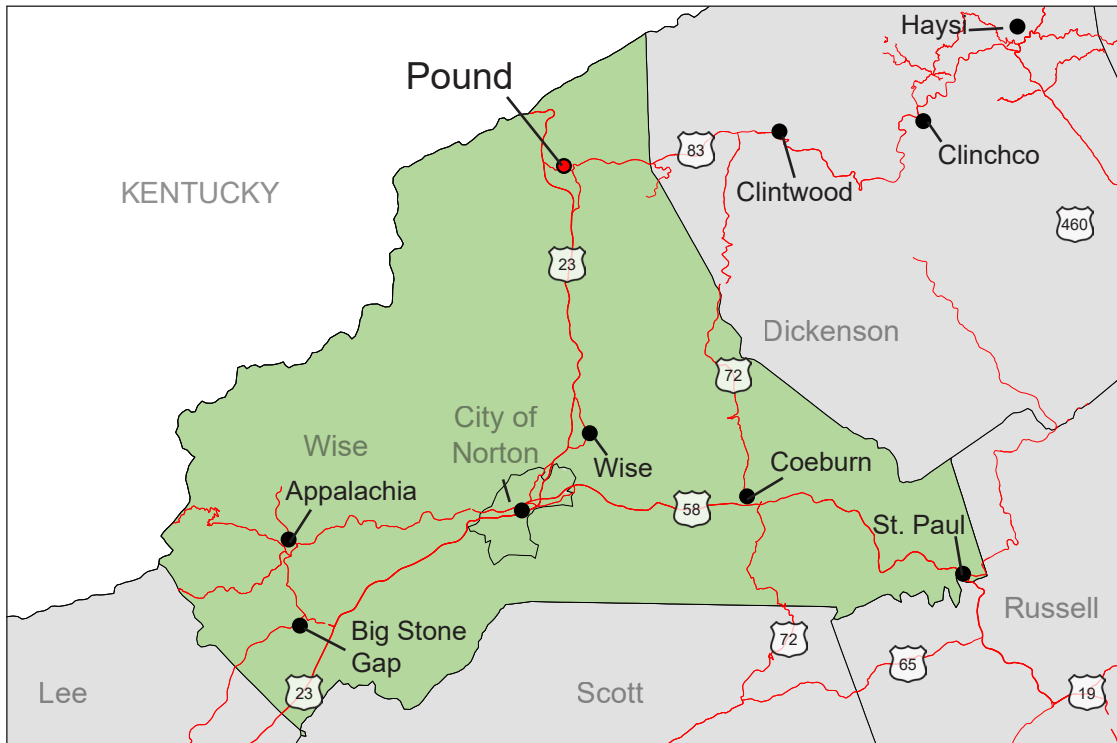
A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was conducted as part of this project and included a review of property records, a site inspection, and interviews with owners, occupants, neighbors and local government officials. **Phase II sampling and laboratory analysis was not be conducted during this project.** An executive summary of the Phase I ESA can be found in the appendix.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

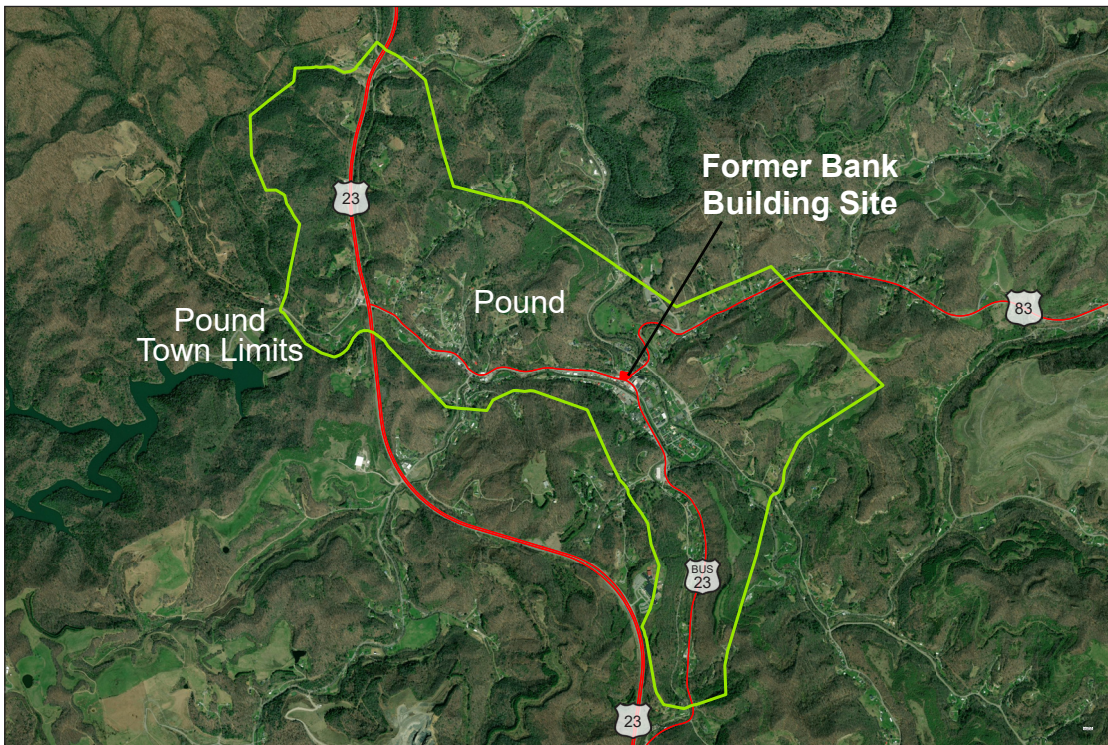
### Project Location



Pound, VA is located in Wise County in the southwest portion of Virginia (above). The closest population centers are 15 minutes away in Wise and Norton (below).

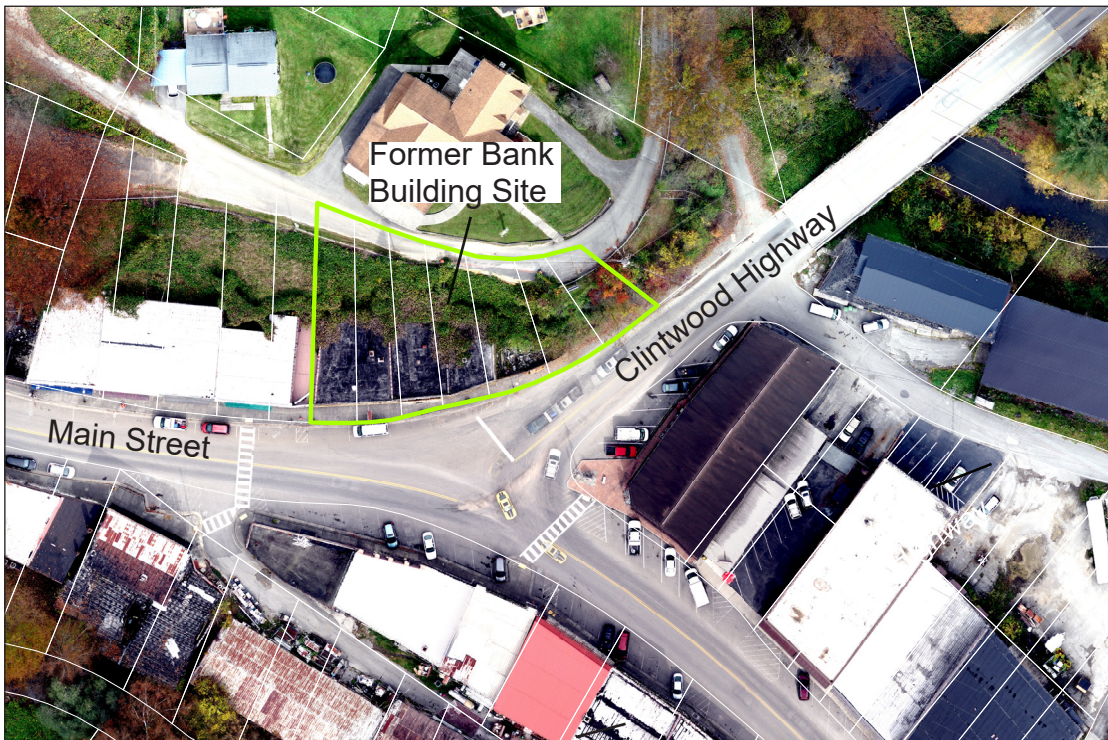


## PROJECT DESCRIPTION



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The former bank building site is located in the downtown area (above) and at the intersection of Bus. 23/Main Street and Clintwood Highway/Rt. 83 (below).



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Design Process

The design process began with a project introduction meeting on November 17, 2020 and was followed by a site visit on December 11, 2020. During that visit the CDAC team and community members discussed their broad vision for the community, the former bank building site, and opportunities to improve connectivity throughout the community. The CDAC team had the opportunity to visit nearby assets such as the downtown area, the playground, the former high school, and the Red Fox Trail. Input and site photos created a comprehensive foundation that the CDAC team used to develop two preliminary conceptual plans for the former bank building site and a conceptual town connectivity plan.

A virtual community design input session was held on January 14, 2021. During this meeting community members shared a variety of design ideas they would like to see on the former bank building site.

Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the design team presented the preliminary design concepts virtually on March 24, 2021. Following the presentation, community members provided feedback about what they (dis)liked about each design. Final design concepts were presented virtually on May 6, 2021.

Meeting notes from the stakeholder input session can be found in the Appendix.



The CDAC team tours the downtown area with community members during a site visit on December 11, 2020.

Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

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# PART 1: FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

## FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

### Town Connectivity Plan

#### Design Description

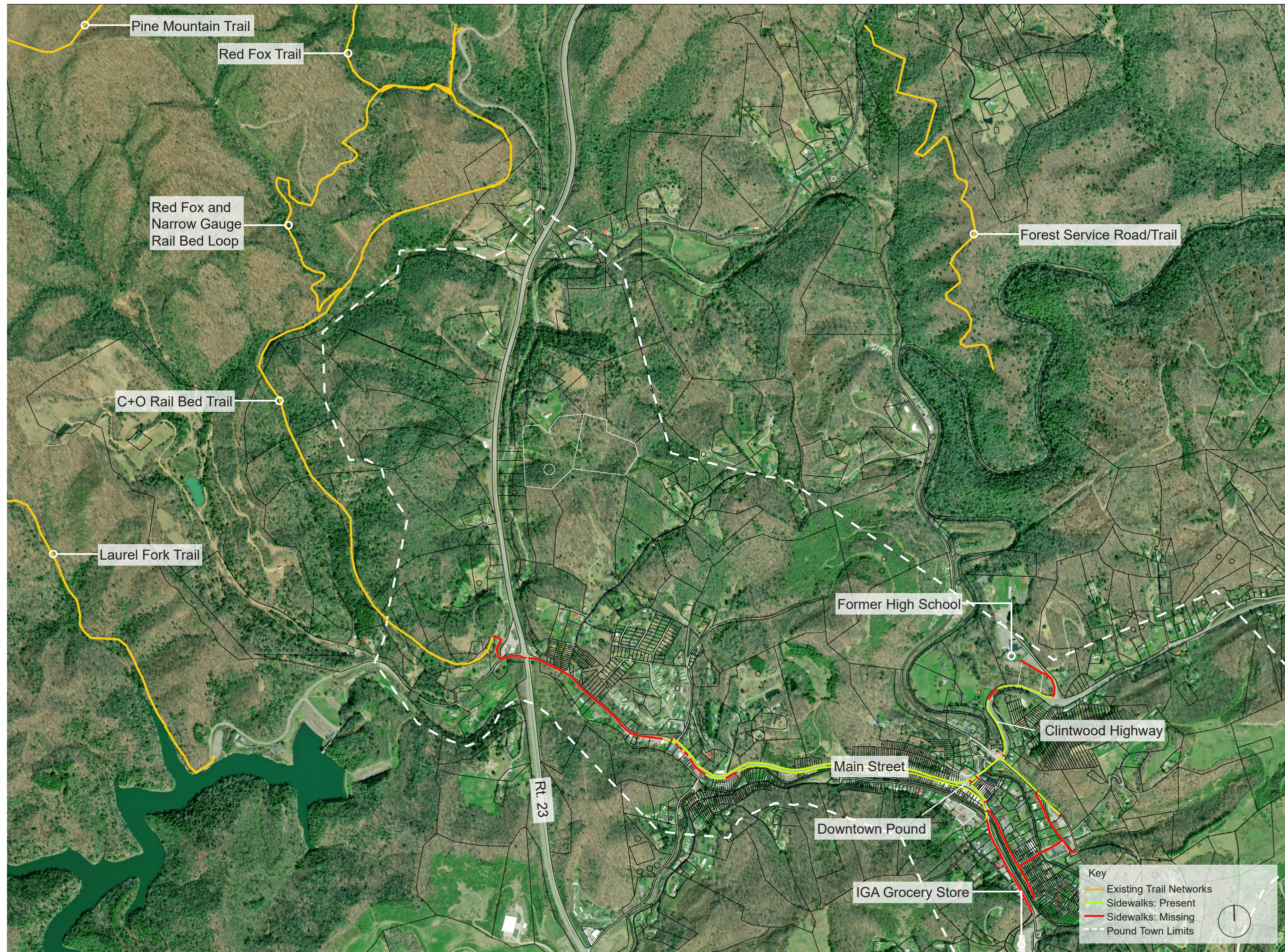
The trail connectivity plan identifies existing and missing sections of sidewalk in Pound, from the downtown area to the following nearby community landmarks: the former high school on Clintwood Highway (north of downtown), the IGA grocery store (south on Main Street), and the intersection of Business Rt. 23/Main Street (west of downtown).

The purpose of identifying these sidewalk sections is to help guide community leaders with where various sidewalk improvements should take place in order to encourage walking, fitness wellness, and an overall healthy lifestyle. Further, a robust sidewalk network supports non-motorized transportation alternatives such as biking. Mileage markers can be added to help community members gauge distance traveled during fitness activities.

The trail connectivity plan also shows general proximity of the town's sidewalks to surrounding recreational trail systems. Enhancing or completing these connections to surrounding natural assets can create an eco-tourism opportunity focused on exploring the area's natural beauty.

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The following pages contain maps that show connectivity to surrounding trails and connectivity within the downtown area.



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Final Design Concept  
Downtown Connectivity to Surrounding Trails  
May 6, 2021



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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Final Design Concept  
Downtown Connectivity  
May 6, 2021

## FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

### Segmental Block Two Tier Block Retaining Wall

#### Design Description

Before any future community gathering space can be constructed after the former bank building is removed (due to structural and environmental concerns), the slope that has collapsed must be stabilized. Balancing potential cost and the overall footprint that a future retaining wall will require, a two tier retaining wall is one of the least costly retaining wall options and creates enough space that the remaining area along Clintwood Highway can be redeveloped into a community asset.

Both preliminary designs use the same retaining wall configuration. The retaining wall consists of two “benches”. It is important understand that there are a variety of wall types/construction methods that will greatly fluctuate the cost and post-construction site usability. CDAC strongly recommends that the Town consult with appropriate construction, environmental, geo-technical, and/or engineering professionals before moving forward.

The following page shows a conceptual section that explains how a two tier retaining might look and the redevelopment opportunities it might provide. It is conceptual and should not be used for construction purposes.

Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

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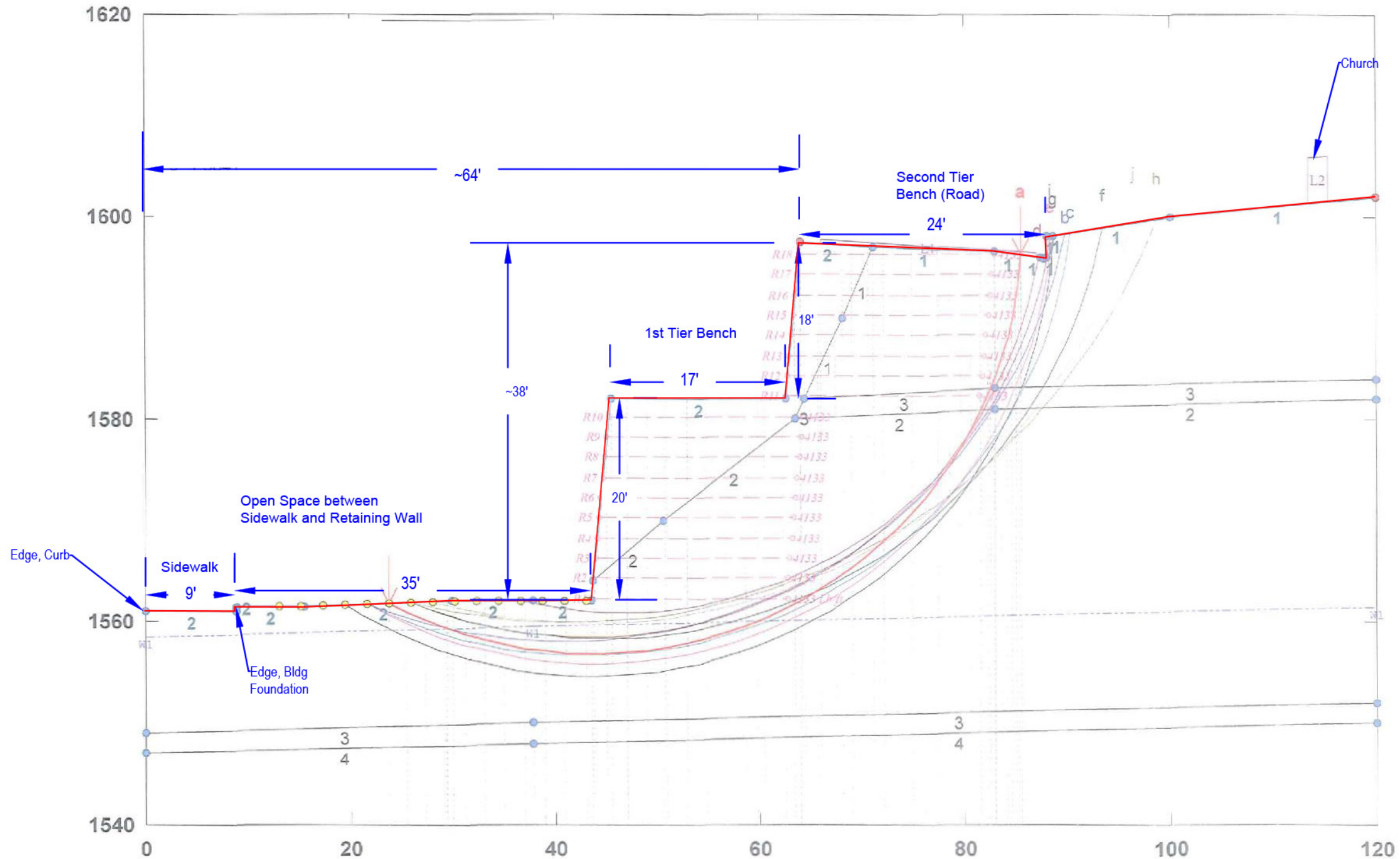
# SEGMENTAL BLOCK WALL TWO TIER OPTION



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Note: The above wall section has been provided by Cardno, CDAC's environmental consultant for this project. It is a conceptual wall design to demonstrate the site's redevelopment potential if a retaining wall was built and should not be used for any construction purposes.

Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Final Design Concept  
Segmental Block Two Tier Retaining Wall: Section  
May 6, 2021

## FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

### Plan

#### Design Description

The final design concept creates a community entertainment place and small plaza for the downtown area. Pound and the surrounding area has many cultural assets such as The Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail as well as a tradition of story-telling festivals. Located at the intersection of Main Street and Clintwood Highway, the former bank building site is redeveloped into a vibrant, centrally located space to host cultural events and enhance the pedestrian experience in the Town of Pound.

#### Stage

The focal point of the design is the covered stage located in the site's northwest corner. A stage provides space and accommodations for performances, outdoor meetings, or daily use. An ADA ramp provides an accessible route to the performance area. Steps line the front of the stage and can be used as a casual, shaded space to sit.

#### Flexible Space

To the east of the stage is a broad "flexible space" that has moveable chairs and tables. During events, the flexible space can be used as an area to dance, spectate, meet with friends, etc. Moveable tables and chairs can be rearranged to suit a variety of uses. "Dedication bricks" can be inscribed with community member names or messages and are found throughout the plaza to form a mosaic of community members/messages.

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#### Relocated Memorial

Located on the eastern edge of the site is the relocated Veterans Memorial. This memorial has been relocated from its current location to this area so that is safer for pedestrians to read the names on the memorial while also being visible to vehicles passing on Clintwood Highway. A raised planting bed surrounds the memorial on three sides to create a more intimate or contemplative place to sit.

#### Fire Pit

Located between the flexible space and relocated memorial is a fire pit. The fire pit will attract people to gather around the fire and talk, listen to stories, and meet friends. The fire pit would be a key-operated gas flame and the key would be held by a town employee for safe operation during designated times. The gas flame will provide a consistent flame while not having smoke generated by a traditional wood-sourced fire. A flagstone paving pattern distinguishes the fire pit circle from the rest of the site and large, local stones can be used for seating. Open space between the stones offers a chance to pull up one of the plaza's chairs or bring your own.

#### Bubbler-Type Water Features

There are two bubbler-type water features on the north side of the plaza and against the sidewalk on the south side of the plaza. The water features are pools of bubbling water that operate during the warmer months. Visitors can dip their hands in these

## FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

water features to cool off and enjoy the bubbling jets or just appreciate the sounds and sights. A water feature functions as an attraction to the plaza and adds a vibrant energy to their surroundings.

### Free Library

A small, free library is located at the threshold between the plaza and sidewalk to circulate books around the community. Participants can take and leave books from the shared library box. Tables and chairs can be rearranged to create a desirable spot for reading outdoors.

Special note: The Town should be aware that there is an official “Little Free Library” organization that has trademark protections. Please review the additional information provided in the Appendix to avoid an accidental confusion with this organization.

### Mural and Chalk Wall

Located along the site’s west edge is a large mural done by a local artist. The mural’s artwork can celebrate the community’s history or natural beauty. A portion of the same wall is dedicated to a blackboard surface to be written on with chalk by visitors to the site. A chalk wall is an exciting and dynamic way to engage the community. The town can even decide on prompts to guide what visitors write on the wall such as, “I come here to...” , “My favorite thing about Pound is...” , etc.

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### Information and Bike Racks

An information kiosk is located in the southwest portion of the site and can be a place to post information for upcoming events and special announcements. The information kiosk’s location next to one of the site entrances is a great for people to quickly stop in and see what is happening in town.

Near the information kiosk are bike racks to promote alternative transportation. A bike repair kiosk next to the bike racks offer tools and a stable structure to perform bicycle maintenance as needed.

### Raised Perennial Planting Beds

A series of raised planting beds surround the site. The beds are planted with native perennials and pollinator-friendly species like echinacea and black-eyed-susans to enhance the surrounding ecology of the site. The plants require minimal maintenance once established.

### Street Perennial Gardens and Crosswalk Enhancement

Two parallel parking spots along the site’s southern edge with Main Street have been converted into perennial planting beds. The street gardens will create a vibrant sidewalk where native plants border either side of the sidewalk. The perennial garden beds also serve as a traffic-calming device and frame places to park and enjoy the town.

## FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

The existing crosswalk west of the site on Main Street has been reimagined as a stamped “brick” sidewalk – inspired by a crosswalk outside the Barter Theatre in Abingdon, Virginia. A stamped crosswalk functions increases pedestrian visibility and slows traffic through this area.

The following pages contain the plan, plan detail, section, perspectives, and precedent images.

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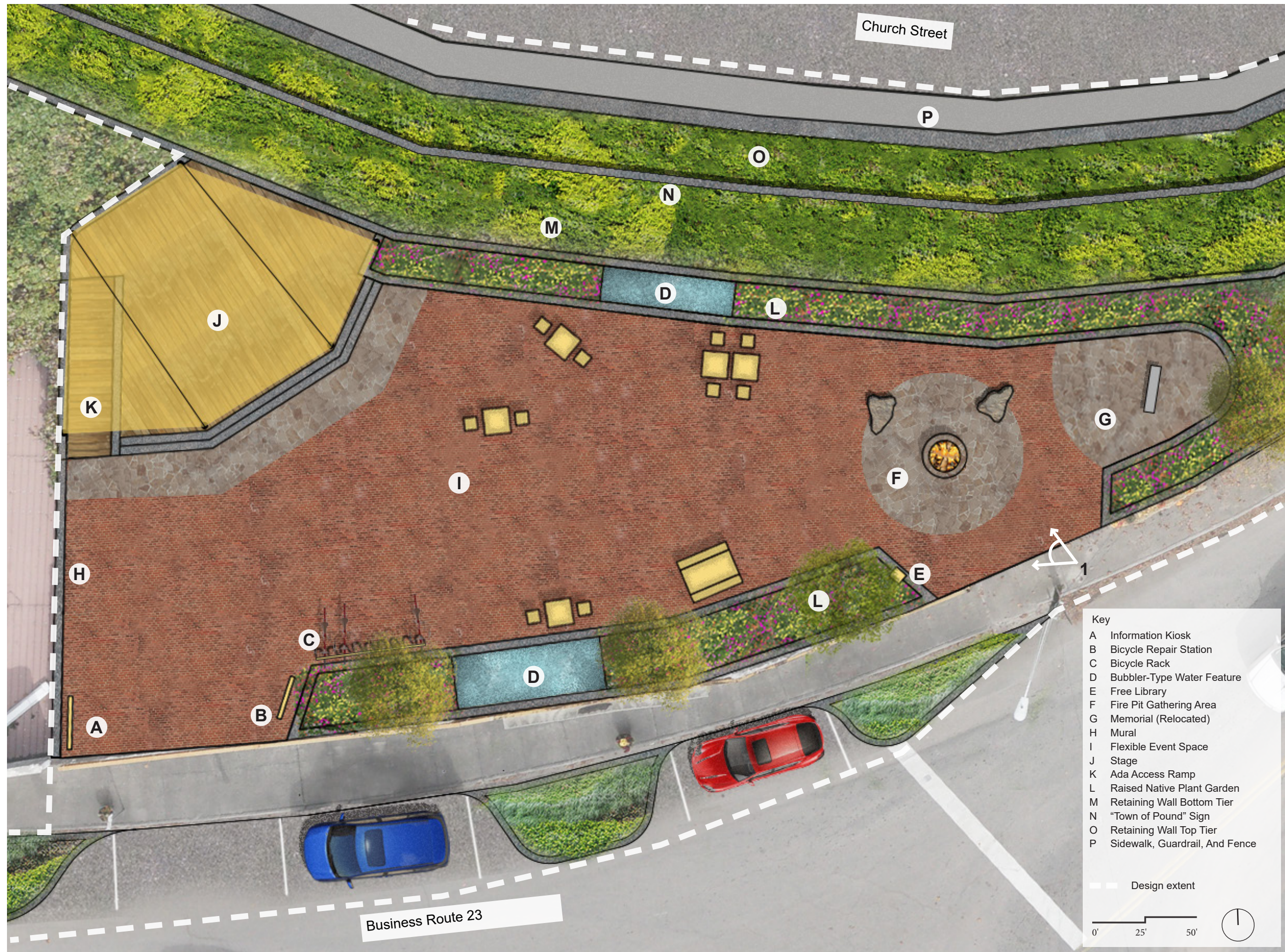
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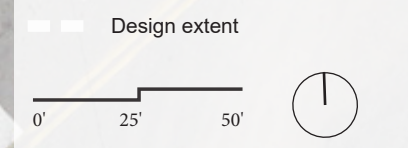
Key	
A	Information Kiosk
B	Bicycle Repair Station
C	Bicycle Rack
D	Bubbler-Type Water Feature
E	Free Library
F	Fire Pit Gathering Area
G	Relocated Memorial
H	Chalk Wall
I	Flexible Event Space
J	Stage
K	Ada Access Ramp
L	Raised Native Plant Garden
M	Retaining Wall Bottom Tier
N	"Town of Pound" Sign
O	Retaining Wall Top Tier
P	Sidewalk, Guardrail, And Fence
Q	Revitalized Stairway
R	Enhanced Pedestrian Crosswalk
	Design extent

**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Final Design Concept  
Plan  
May 6, 2021



- Key
- A Information Kiosk
  - B Bicycle Repair Station
  - C Bicycle Rack
  - D Bubbler-Type Water Feature
  - E Free Library
  - F Fire Pit Gathering Area
  - G Memorial (Relocated)
  - H Mural
  - I Flexible Event Space
  - J Stage
  - K Ada Access Ramp
  - L Raised Native Plant Garden
  - M Retaining Wall Bottom Tier
  - N "Town of Pound" Sign
  - O Retaining Wall Top Tier
  - P Sidewalk, Guardrail, And Fence



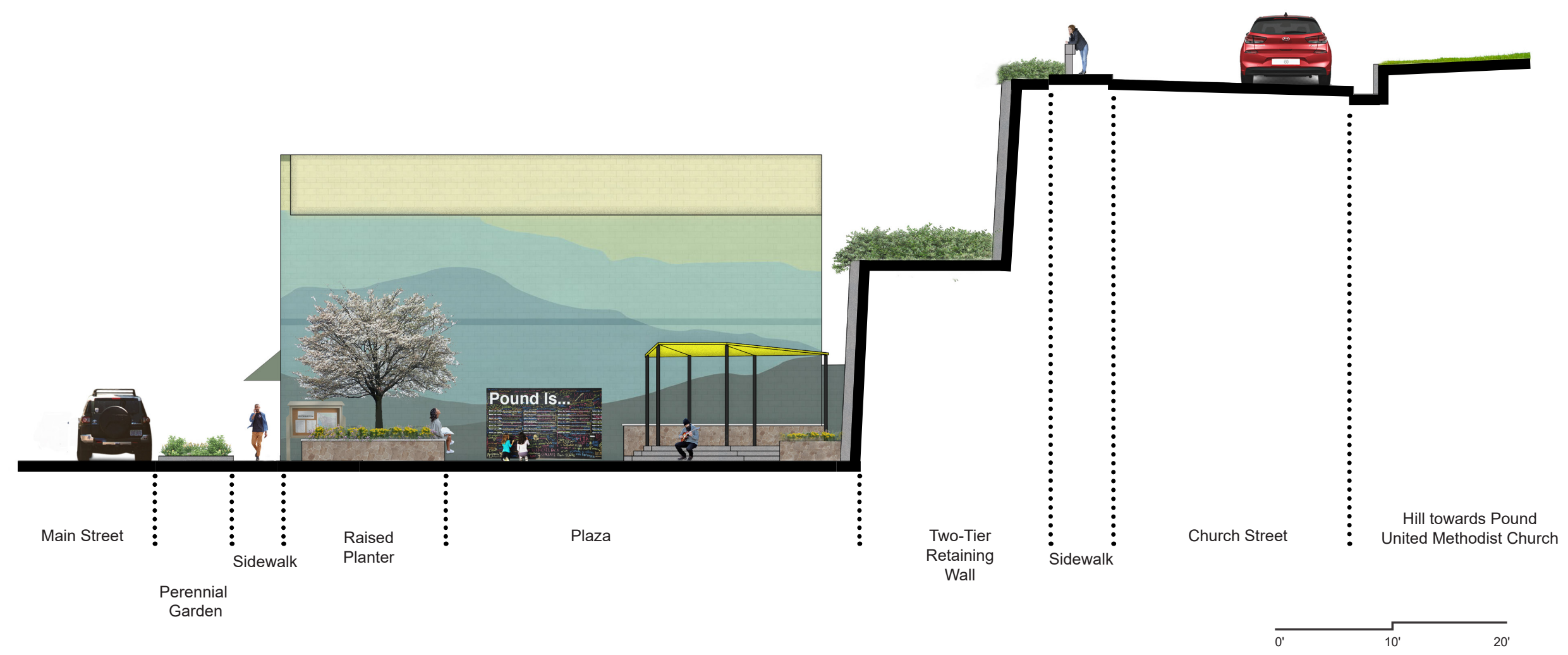
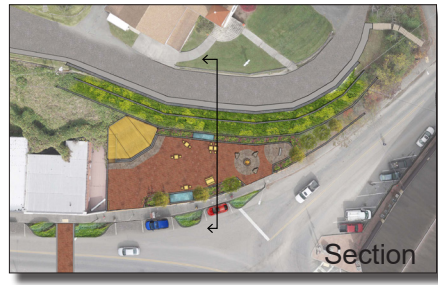
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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Final Design Concept  
Plan Detail  
May 6, 2021



Section: Site and Retaining Wall

A two-tiered retaining wall structure stabilizes the steep slope between Main Street and Church Street. The retaining wall creates a new public space. The Church Street sidewalk offers an overlook of the site, downtown Pound, and the mountains beyond. Church Street vehicle and pedestrian traffic are protected by a safety fence and guard rail.



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Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Final Design Concept  
Segmental Block Two Tier Retaining Wall: Section  
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Perspective 1: Plaza and Gathering Space  
Flexible space, movable seats and tables, a fire pit, chalk wall, and stage shape the gathering place. The 'Crooked Road' and other lively heritage events can take place on the ADA-accessible stage. Storytelling and small gatherings can happen around the fire pit. Movable chairs, tables, and raised planting beds provide seating options that are adaptable for events and daily use.

**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Final Design Concept

Perspective 1: Plaza and Gathering Space

May 6, 2021



Existing



Perspective 2: Streetscape Enhancement

The former bank site is centrally located at the Main Street/Clintwood Highway intersection and is a wonderful community gathering space. Raised planters along sidewalk introduce small greenspaces that frame the site for passing cars and pedestrians. Street parking is available between a series of perennial gardens. Street plants/trees, active pedestrian spaces, and raised brick planting beds serve as traffic-calming devices.



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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Final Design Concept  
Perspective 2: Streetscape Enhancements  
May 6, 2021



**Perspective 3: Enhanced Crosswalk and Perennial Plantings**  
 An enhanced pedestrian crosswalk provides a safe place for pedestrians to cross Clintwood Highway. Stamped brick asphalt provides a material connection to the brick plaza where the former bank building once was. A large 'Pound' sign can be seen on the new retaining wall. Beyond the parallel parking spaces is the relocated memorial and flag pole.



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Final Design Concept  
 Perspective 3: Enhanced Crosswalk with Perennial Plantings  
 May 6, 2021



Perennial beds with native plants can be used in the traffic calming bump-outs. Once established, the plantings are low maintenance.



"Dedication bricks" can be used as a fundraiser. Each brick is inscribed with community member names or messages.



A public chalkboard is a dynamic art piece that could engage both residents and visitors.



A bike repair station provides the necessary tools and stand to repair a bicycle.



A fire pit using local stones offers community gathering opportunities such as "storytelling" events or Christmas festivities.



A simple bubbler-type water feature can provide an opportunity for soothing sounds along two spots of the sitting wall that surrounds the plaza.



An information kiosk/bulletin board offers a place to post flyers, news, wayfinding information, etc.



Outdoor performance events could take place on an elevated covered stage.



Raised planter beds provide seating options throughout the site and along the sidewalk. The planting beds can be populated with pollinator plants to enhance the surrounding ecology.



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Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Final Design Concept  
Precedent Images  
May 6, 2021

## FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

### Plant Palette: Trees and Pollinator Species

#### Design Description

##### Tree Plantings

Much of the tree cover shown in the proposed plan does not currently exist. As trees are added to the interior of the former bank building site, it is important to select species that are appropriate for the site. New trees should not obstruct existing vehicle sight lines along Clintwood Highway/Main Street. Special attention should be given to also make sure that trees planted within the plaza are provided adequate root growing zones beneath the plaza using tree vaults or other construction methods. Trees listed in the following page are selected for their ability to provide additional shade, are suitable in areas of limited root space, and are drought tolerant. All of the vegetative material has a potential to be used as an environmental education opportunity through a partnership with the Virginia Department of Forestry's area rangers or Virginia Master Naturalists.

##### Pollinator Plantings

Pollinator plants are interspersed throughout the site plan in designated planting areas. The pollinator plant selection assists in boosting ecological variety and value throughout the site and, when located along walking paths or sitting areas, provide opportunities for wildlife observation. The selected plants are native and many self-seed and spread easily. While they require maintenance following initial planting, native plants/pollinator-friendly perennial plant species will soon establish and require minimal maintenance.

CDAC strongly encourages the Town leadership to work with representatives from the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF). This office an excellent resource for tree species selection, placement on the site, tree protection protocols during construction activities, and long term management of mature forests.

Contact information for the VDOF Campbell County Senior Area Forester:

William Miller, Forester  
Virginia Department of Forestry  
276-274-3311  
1240 West Main Street  
Abingdon, VA 24210

The following pages contain images and plant information for certain trees and pollinator species.

NOTE: Due to existing debris and existing structures at the time of the site visit, soil samples were not taken. Soil samples should be taken, where appropriate, prior to installing any plant material.

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**Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus florida***

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, organically rich, acidic soils in part shade. Benefits from a 2-4" mulch which will help keep roots cool and moist in summer.

Height: 15 - 30 feet  
Spread: 15 - 30 feet  
Bloom Time: April to May  
Sun: Full sun to part shade  
Water: Medium  
Maintenance: Medium  
Suggested Use: Flowering Tree



**Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis***

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Part shade is best in hot summer climates. Performs best in moderately fertile soils with regular and consistent moisture. Avoid wet or poorly drained soils. Multi-stemmed understory tree with rose-purple flowers.

Height: 20 - 30 feet  
Spread: 25 - 35 feet  
Bloom Time: April  
Sun: Full sun to part shade  
Water: Medium  
Maintenance: Low  
Suggested Use: Flowering Tree



**Butterfly Weed, *Asclepias tuberosa***

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. New growth tends to emerge late in the spring. Plants are easily grown from seed, but are somewhat slow to establish and may take 2-3 years to produce flowers.

Height: 1 to 2 feet  
Spread: 1 to 1 feet  
Bloom Time: June to August  
Bloom Description: Yellow/orange  
Sun: Full sun  
Water: Dry to medium  
Maintenance: Low  
Suggested Use: Native Planting, Rain Garden



**Cone Flower (Echinacea), *Echinacea purpurea***

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Best in full sun. An adaptable plant that is tolerant of drought, heat, humidity and poor soil. Divide clumps when they become overcrowded (about every 4 years).

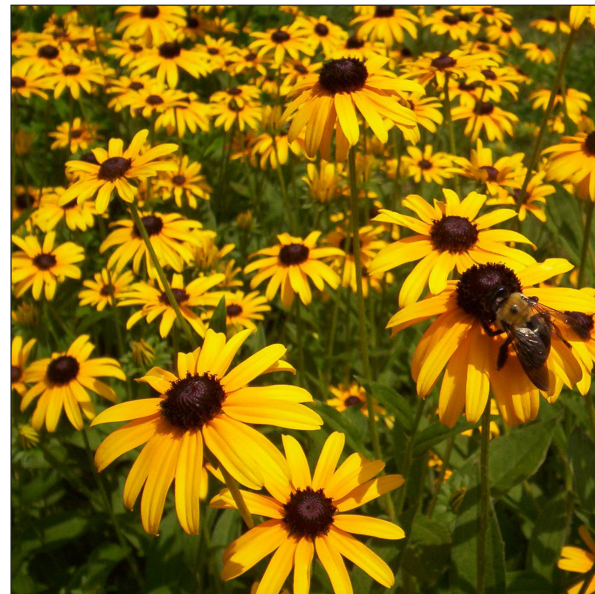
Height: 2 to 5 feet  
Spread: 1 to 2 feet  
Bloom Time: June to August  
Bloom Description: Purplish pink  
Sun: Full sun to part shade  
Water: Dry to medium  
Maintenance: Low  
Suggested Use: Native Planting



**Bee Balm, *Monarda didyma***

Prefers rich, humusy soils in full sun, although some afternoon shade is appreciated in hot summer climates. Does best in well-draining conditions, but can tolerate heavier clay.

Height: 2 to 4 feet  
Spread: 2 to 3 feet  
Bloom Time: July to August  
Bloom Description: Red  
Sun: Full sun to part shade  
Water: Medium to wet  
Maintenance: Medium  
Suggested Use: Herb, Native Planting, Rain Garden



**Black-Eyed Susans, *Rudbeckia hirta***

It is easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun. Best in moist, organically rich soils. Tolerates heat, drought and a wide range of soils except poorly-drained wet ones.

Height: 2 to 3 feet  
Spread: 1 to 2 feet  
Bloom Time: June to September  
Bloom Description: Yellow to orange-yellow rays  
Sun: Full sun  
Water: Medium  
Maintenance: Low  
Suggested Use: Annual, Native Planting



**Lavender, *Lavandula angustifolia***

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Best flowering in full sun. Prefers moist, acidic, organically rich soils. Little pruning is required. Prune in early spring if necessary. Shrub borders, woodland gardens.

Height: 2 to 3 feet  
Spread: 2 to 4 feet  
Bloom Time: June to August  
Bloom Description: Purple  
Sun: Full sun  
Water: Dry to medium  
Maintenance: Medium  
Suggested Use: Herb



**Yarrow, *Achillea millefolium***

Best grown in lean, dry to medium, well-drained sandy loams in full sun. Plants do well in average garden soils and tolerate poor soils as long as drainage is good. Plants also tolerate heat and drought.

Height: 2 to 3 feet  
Spread: 2 to 3 feet  
Bloom Time: June to September  
Bloom Description: White  
Sun: Full sun  
Water: Dry to medium  
Maintenance: Medium  
Suggested Use: Native Plantings



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Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Final Design Concept  
Plant Palette: Trees and Pollinator Species

May 6, 2021

## PART 2: SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

## SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

### Downtown Area

#### Overview

The Town of Pound is nestled within an oxbow of the Pound River. Two primary roads (Main Street - US 23 Business and Clintwood Highway) connect many of Pound's significant buildings and spaces such as the Town Hall, Historical Society of the Pound, the vacant theatre building (opportunity for redevelopment), the First Baptist Church, former playground site, and the former bank building (focus site for this project). The former playground and former bank building site are currently undeveloped but possess ample space and location opportunities to become public amenities for play and leisure. A network of pedestrian bridges, sidewalks, and footpaths provide opportunity for an enhanced walkable downtown. Street segments without sidewalks or necessary crosswalks must be added for pedestrian safety.

The following page contains a downtown area inventory.



**Legend**

- Primary Road
- Pedestrian Trail Opportunity Area
- Former Bank Building Site Boundary
- Former Playground Site Boundary
- Pound River
- Significant Buildings
- Commercial Buildings

0 100 200 300 US Feet

N

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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Site Inventory and Analysis  
 Downtown Area: Inventory  
 March 24, 2021



View of Historical Society of the Pound Bridge facing southwest, crossing Pound River to North River Road.



View of Historical Society of the Pound Bridge facing northeast, crossing Pound River to the Historical Society of the Pound.



Existing sidewalk at the corner of Main Street and Clintwood Highway facing northeast. The sidewalk is adjacent to the bank building site.



Sidewalk along Clintwood Highway facing the bridge to the southwest. Clintwood Highway currently lacks in safe pedestrian crosswalks.



View of Highland Avenue and Knowledge Drive facing southeast, leading to the playground site and First Baptist Church.



Pedestrian Bridge behind First Baptist Church, facing the playground site to the northeast. This bridge crosses Pound River.



View along Riverside Dr. towards downtown. Pedestrians and cars share the street alongside Pound River.



Threshold of downtown along Riverside Dr., before intersecting Main Street at a tight angle. Bank building site is visible below church.



Crossing Pound River along Main Street (Rt. 23 Business). The bridge is walkable via a sidewalk.



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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Site Inventory and Analysis

Downtown Area: Existing Images of Pedestrian Connectivity  
March 24, 2021



"Welcome to the Pound" sign along Main Street (Rt. 23 Business), roughly .25 miles from downtown. A visual cue that one has entered town.



Approaching Main Street/Clintwood Highway intersection. Main Street has crosswalks and adequate street parking.



View over site fence, looking up towards steep slope and church. Future designs must address view of large retaining wall.



Memorial "In Honor of Fallen Comrades" at Clintwood Highway/Main Street intersection.



Street fixtures decorated to celebrate holidays and entertain pedestrians. Note bank building site in background.



Brick paver sidewalk detail. Possible consideration for future sidewalk designs.



Diverse material/color approaches to downtown facade. Future retaining wall should be integrated with surrounding buildings.



Important community members memorialized throughout town. Future design considerations should allow for memorials and dedications.



Pound is a part of the "Crooked Road", a musical heritage trail that runs throughout Virginia. A popular draw for tourists.



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Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Site Inventory and Analysis

Downtown Area: Existing Images of Downtown

March 24, 2021

## SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

### Former Bank Building Property

#### Overview

The focus of this project is the former bank building site located on the northern corner of the Main Street (Route 23 Business) and Clintwood Highway intersection. This location currently has a vacant bank building that is in poor condition. Immediately behind the building is an unstable, steep slope that has undermined Church St. above. It is expected that the former bank building will be removed.

In order to redevelop the site, a retaining wall must be constructed to stabilize the failed slope which will also create usable space along Main Street/Clintwood Highway. This location has potential to become a public pedestrian amenity for the Town of Pound.

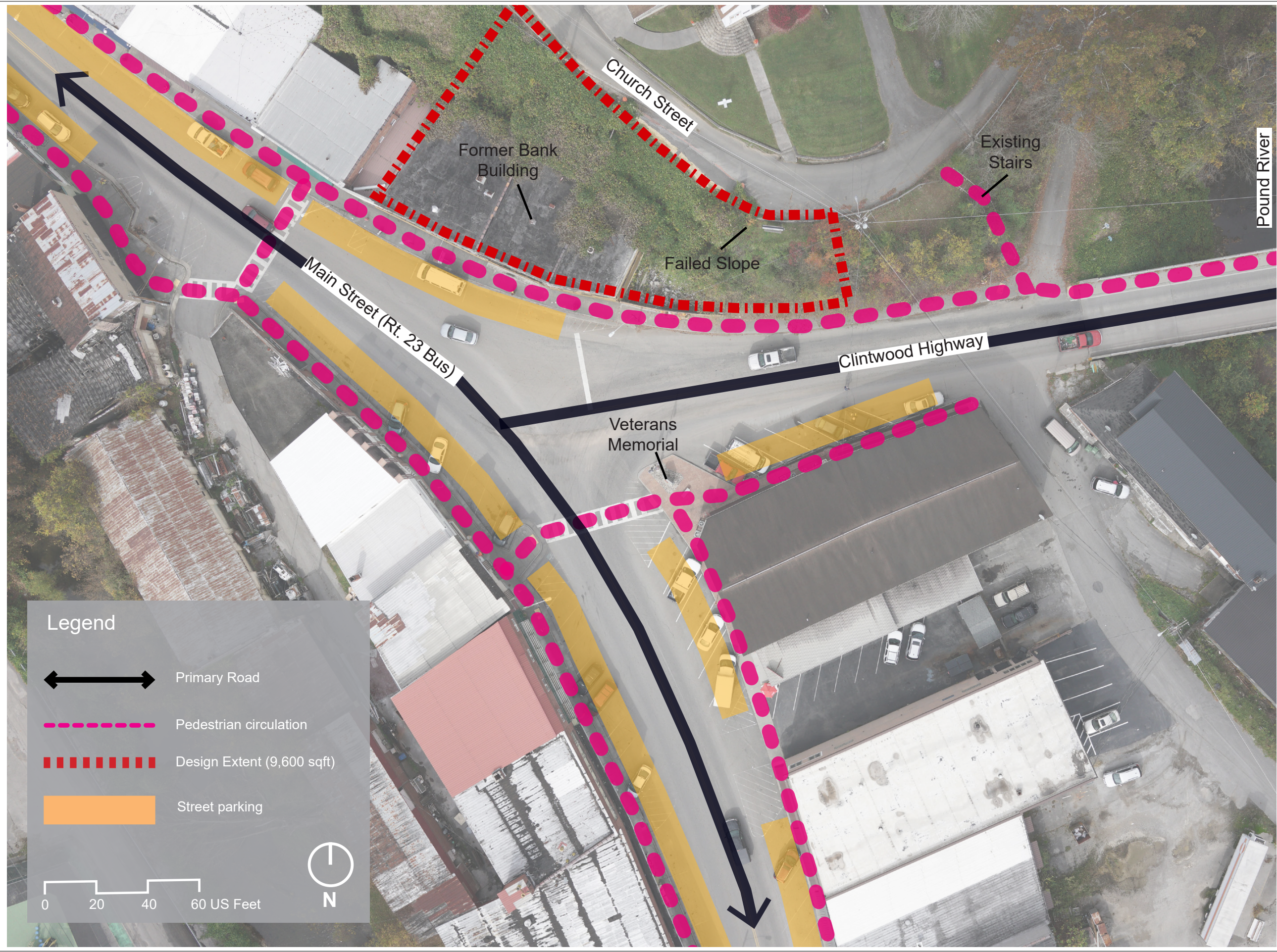
Main Street and Clintwood Highway are lined with ample sidewalks, existing crosswalks, and street parking. Consequently, additional on-site parking will not be necessary for this location. Clintwood Highway does not have a dedicated pedestrian crosswalk at this intersection, however, one is close by to the west.

The intersection of Main Street and Clintwood Highway is a 'Y' configuration and does not have a traditional stop light to regulate traffic, instead using stop/yield signs. The angular approach of the various feeder roads require that special attention be given to ensure that vehicle sight lines are not negatively impacted by future design elements such as street trees.

The following pages contain a map indicating overall existing site features, viewshed assessment, and existing site images.

Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Site Inventory and Analysis

Former Bank Building Property: Existing Property Features  
November 18, 2020



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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Site Inventory and Analysis

Former Bank Building Site: Viewshed Assessment

November 18, 2020



**A.** View towards site from Main Street near a service road. Crosswalks slow traffic and improve site accessibility.



**B.** View from site towards Clintwood Highway/ Main Street intersection. Here, visitors will see the downtown facade, other people across Main Street, and nearby ridge in the background.



**C.** View towards site from memorial "In Honor of Fallen Comrades" at Clintwood-Main intersection. Once the existing building is removed and the slope retained, the trailhead will be visible below the church and along the downtown facade.



**D.** View of future trailhead location, roughly 40 feet above site on Church Street. The site's steep back-slope will need retaining wall. Site is currently inaccessible but this viewshed shows the future trailhead's location in downtown Pound.



**E.** View of site's edge along Clintwood Highway. There are pedestrian crossing signs but no crosswalks, presenting a hazard.

**PART 4:  
PRELIMINARY  
DESIGN CONCEPTS**

## PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

### Preliminary Design Concept: Segmental Block Two Tier Retaining Wall

#### Design Description

Before any future community gathering space can be constructed after the former bank building is removed (due to structural and environmental concerns), the slope that has collapsed must be stabilized. Balancing potential cost and the overall footprint that a future retaining wall will require, a two tier retaining wall is one of the least costly retaining wall options and creates enough space that the remaining area along Clintwood Highway can be redeveloped into a community asset.

Both preliminary designs use the same retaining wall configuration. The retaining wall consists of two “benches”. It is important understand that there are a variety of wall types/construction methods that will greatly fluctuate the cost and post-construction site usability. CDAC strongly recommends that the Town consult with appropriate construction, environmental, geo-technical, and/or engineering professionals before moving forward.

The following page shows a conceptual section that explains how a two-tiered retaining might look and the redevelopment opportunities it might provide. It is conceptual and should not be used for construction purposes.

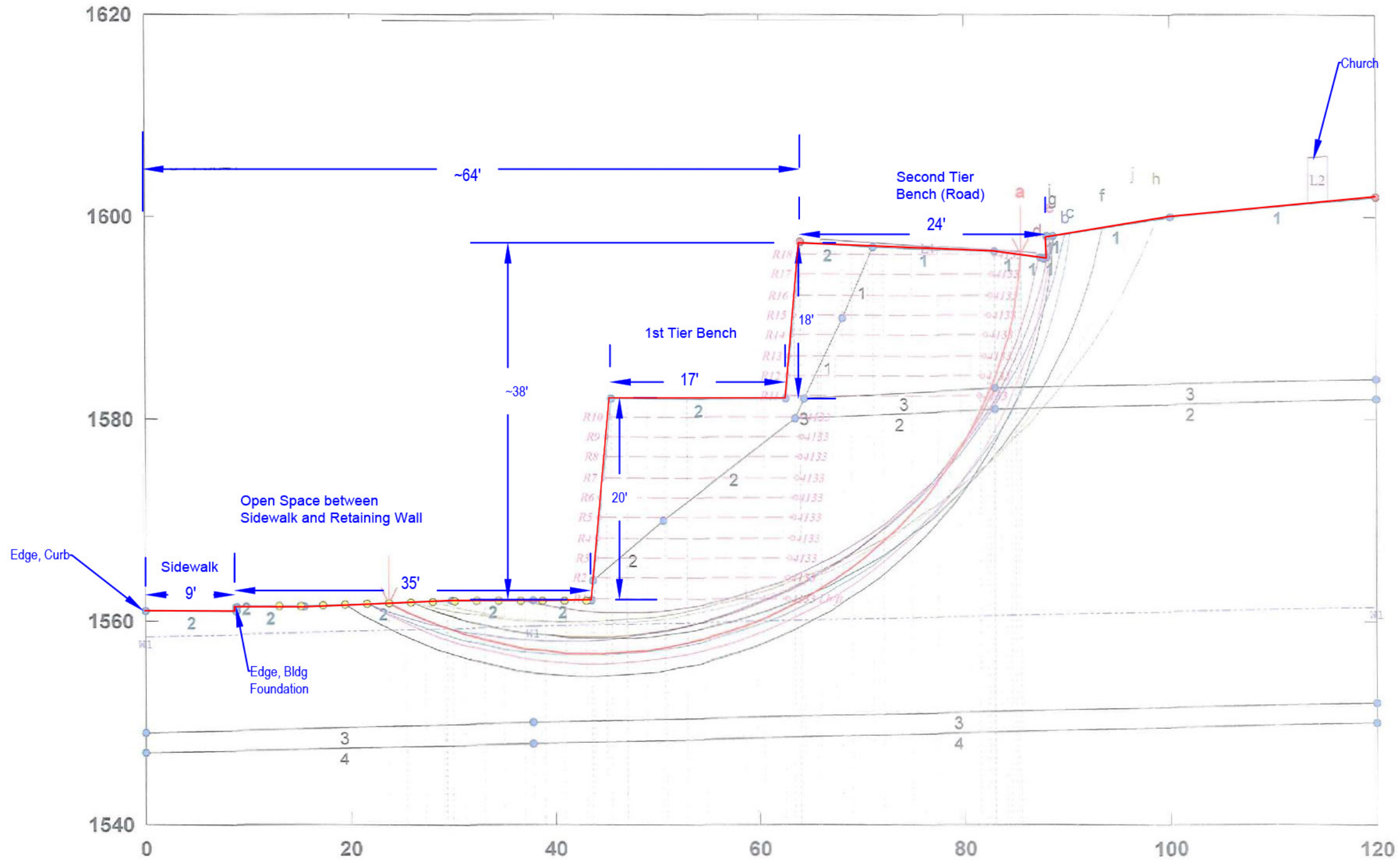
# SEGMENTAL BLOCK WALL TWO TIER OPTION



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Note: The above wall section has been provided by Cardno, CDAC's environmental consultant for this project. It is a conceptual wall design to demonstrate the site's redevelopment potential if a retaining wall was built and should not be used for any construction purposes.

Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Preliminary Design Concepts  
Segmental Block Two Tier Retaining Wall: Section  
March 24, 2021

## PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

### Preliminary Design Concept 1: Community Entertainment

#### Design Description

Preliminary design concept 1 creates a community entertainment place for the Town of Pound. Pound and surrounding areas have many cultural assets such as The Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail and a tradition of story-telling festivals. At the intersection of Main Street and Clintwood Highway, the redeveloped former bank building site provides a centrally located space to host cultural events and enhance the pedestrian experience in the Town of Pound.

#### Stage

The focal point of this concept is the stage located in the site's northwest corner. A stage would provide the necessary space and accommodations for performances, meetings, or daily use. An ADA-compliant ramp and covering increases the stage's overall usability. Steps that line the front of the stage raise the performer during a performance event while also serving as a casual, shaded space to sit.

#### Flexible Space

In front of the stage is a broad "flexible space" that has moveable chairs and tables. During events, the flexible space provides an area to dance, spectate, pull up a chair, etc. Moveable tables and chairs can be rearranged to suit a variety of situations or events. "Dedication bricks" can be inscribed with community member names or messages and are found throughout the flexible space to form a mosaic of community members/messages.

#### Relocated Memorial

Along the southern edge of the site is the relocated Veterans Memorial. This memorial has been relocated to increase its overall visibility and to locate it in a place that is safe to view, separated from vehicle traffic.

#### Fire Pit

Located to the east of the flexible space is a fire pit. The fire pit will attract people to gather around the fire and talk or listen to stories during special events. The fire pit would be a key-operated gas flame and the key would be held by a town official to ensure its safe use. A flagstone paving pattern distinguishes the fire pit circle from the rest of the site and large locally-sourced stones can be incorporated as permanent seating. Open space between the stones offers a chance to pull up one of the plaza's chairs or bring your own.

#### Free Library

A small, free library is located at the threshold between the plaza and sidewalk to circulate books around the community. Participants can take and leave books from the shared library box. Tables and chairs can be rearranged to create a desirable spot for reading outdoors.

#### Mural and Chalk Wall

Located along the site's west edge is a large mural done by a local artist. A portion of

## PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

the same wall is dedicated to a blackboard surface which is geared toward temporary art or community messages. A chalk wall is an exciting and dynamic way to engage the community. The town can decide on prompts to guide what visitors write on the wall such as, “I come here to...” , “My favorite thing about Pound is...” , etc.

### Community Bulletin Board and Bike Racks

Along Main Street in the southwest corner of the site is a community bulletin board to announce upcoming events and special announcements. The bulletin board is centrally located at the entrance to the site to allow for passersby to quickly stop in and see what is happening in town. This will allow for a central location for announcements to be posted for the entire community, increasing opportunities for spontaneous community conversations.

On the southwest edge of the entry path are bike racks to promote alternative transportation. A bike repair kiosk next to the bike racks offer tools and a stable structure to perform bicycle maintenance as needed.

### Raised Perennial Planting Beds

A series of raised planting beds stretch around the site. The beds are planted with native perennials and pollinator-friendly species like echinacea and black-eyed-susans. In addition to their aesthetic beauty, they also offer ecological benefits to local pollinators and wildlife. Once established, the perennial plantings often require low maintenance.

47

The following pages contain the preliminary design concept 1 plan, site detail, perspective, and precedent images.



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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Preliminary Design Concept 1: Community Entertainment Plan

March 24, 2021



Key

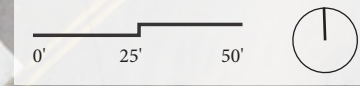
- A Information kiosk
- B Bicycle repair station
- C Bicycle rack
- D Memorial
- E Free library
- F Fire pit gathering area
- G Picnic table alcove
- H Chalk wall
- I Flexible event space
- J Stage
- K ADA access ramp
- L Raised native plant garden
- M Retaining wall bottom tier
- N "Town of Pound" sign
- O Retaining wall top tier
- P Sidewalk, guardrail, and fence
- Q Revitalized stairway

--- Design extent

0' 25' 50'



- Key
- A Information kiosk
  - B Bicycle repair station
  - C Bicycle rack
  - D Memorial
  - E Free library
  - F Fire pit gathering area
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  - H Chalk wall
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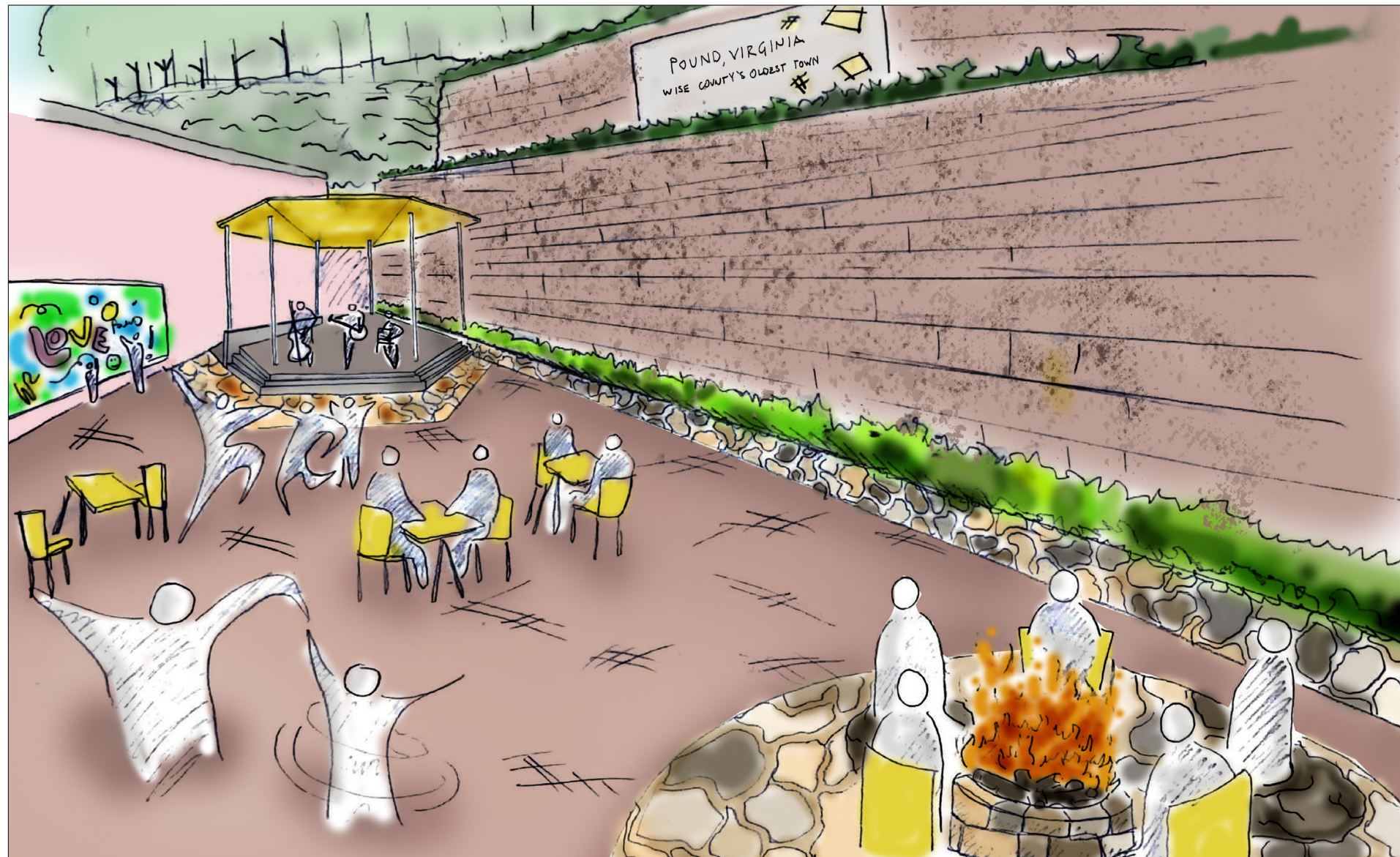
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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Preliminary Design Concept 1: Community Entertainment  
Plan Detail  
March 24, 2021



Perspective: Event Space

The Pound community can come to the new outdoor space to enjoy music, storytelling, and other gathering events. Flexible seating can be arranged depending on what is going on. The fire pit space can be used for a smaller gatherings, such as a storytelling event or christmas celebration.



A bike repair station provides the necessary tools and stand to repair a bicycle. Local and regional cyclists riding through and around Pound could use the station to perform bicycle maintenance.



A fire pit offers community gathering opportunities such as "storytelling" events or christmas festivities. Local stones could be used to build the fire pit and sitting stones.



Outdoor performance events could take place on an elevated covered stage.



Moveable chairs encourage informal gatherings and can be easily arranged for special events.



A public chalkboard is a dynamic art piece that could engage both residents and visitors.



A bicycle rack could encourage more people to bicycle in and around Pound.



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Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank  
Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Preliminary Design Concept 1: Community Entertainment  
Perspective and Precedent Images  
March 24, 2021

## PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

### Preliminary Design Concept 2: Community Pocket Park

#### Design Description

Preliminary design concept 2 draws inspiration from the close-knit community of the Town of Pound. Centrally located at the intersection of Main Street and Clintwood Highway, this concept capitalizes on the prime downtown location to create a highly visible pocket park that supports community gathering, local agriculture, and enjoying outdoor open space.

#### Town of Pound Square

Marking the main entrance of the park is a “Town of Pound Square” sign. Along the perimeter of the site and existing sidewalk on the north side of Main Street is a wrought iron fence to create a distinct park edge while allowing for visual accessibility within the site. This fence will allow the space to feel more enclosed while still being a welcoming space.

#### Community Bulletin and Bike Racks

On the eastern edge of the entry path is a community bulletin board that can be used to post information about upcoming events or special announcements. The community bulletin board is centrally located at the entrance to the site to allow for passersby to quickly stop in and see what is happening, increasing opportunities for spontaneous community conversations. On the western edge of the entry path are bike racks that promote alternative transportation.

#### Fountain Plaza

The entry path leads directly to a central fountain that acts as a focal point for the park. A short wall surrounds the water feature that can be used for informal seating and gathering. The water fountain is a landmark for downtown Pound that provides both a visual and auditory attraction. A small plaza surrounds the central water feature with benches on the perimeter that face inwards.

#### Picnic Lawn and Mural

Adjacent to the fountain plaza is a picnic lawn and Pound mural. This is a perfect spot to eat outside after grabbing food from local restaurants along Main Street. The backdrop for the picnic lawn is the new Pound mural, painted on the exposed wall after the former bank building is removed. With an abundance of murals around the Town of Pound, this provides a new opportunity to showcase what the town is all about directly in the downtown area.

#### Relocated Memorial

In the northwest corner of the site is the relocated Veterans Memorial. This memorial has been relocated to give the memorial its own reflective space. Walking down a small pathway off of the fountain plaza, a gateway of trees and small perennial plantings leads to the memorial and flagpole. This intimate space includes benches and dense plantings to promote moments of reflection. This memorial space is more secluded than the current location of the memorial in downtown and provides a quiet space with a vegetative backdrop accompanied by sounds of the fountain.

## PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

### Community Gardens and Walkway

On the eastern portion of the site, adjacent to the fountain plaza, is a series of community gardens with a walkway between. This walkway has access to 12 raised garden beds, with access to either side of the bed. Each garden bed is raised to promote easy accessibility while standing, as well as a couple of ADA-accessible garden beds. Each raised garden bed includes covered storage space below for safe keeping of all gardening equipment. These garden beds are for the local community members of Pound.

### Gazebo and Shared Library

At the end of the community garden walkway is a small wooden gazebo. This gazebo offers more private and quiet gathering space and seating opportunities under the shade of the gazebo. Outside of the gazebo is a small, shared library for additional opportunities of community interaction.

The following pages contain the preliminary design concept 2 plan, plan detail, perspective, and precedent images.



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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Preliminary Design Concept 2: Community Pocket Park  
Plan

March 24, 2021




**Key**

- A Community mural
- B Picnic lawn
- C Bicycle rack
- D Information kiosk
- E Native plantings
- F Water feature
- G Community garden
- H Gazebo
- I Memorial
- J Retaining wall bottom tier
- K Retaining wall top tier
- L Sidewalk, guardrail, and fence
- M Revitalized stairway

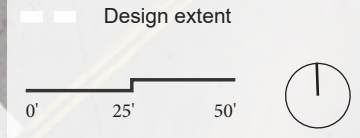
--- Design extent

0' 25' 50'





- Key
- A Community mural
  - B Picnic lawn
  - C Bicycle rack
  - D Information kiosk
  - E Native plantings
  - F Water feature
  - G Community garden
  - H Gazebo
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**Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan**

Preliminary Design Concept 2: Community Pocket Park  
Plan Detail

March 24, 2021



Perspective: "Town of Pound Square"  
Members of the community visit this place to meet by a commissioned mural, enjoy the water feature, work in the community gardens, read/add to the information kiosk, or honor/reflect at the memorial.



A community garden encourages healthy living, environmental stewardship, education, frequent visits, and informal encounters.



An inscribed archway becomes a landmark, meeting spot, and gateway to the community space.



An information kiosk/bulletin board offers a place to post flyers, news, wayfinding information, etc.



Community garden boxes can be rented and offer a space to store tools, seeds, pots, etc.



"Dedication bricks" are bought and inscribed with community member names/messages.



Native plants are beautiful, easy to maintain, and enhance the ecology on and around the site.



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Pound, VA: Conceptual Trailhead Design for the Former Bank Building Property and Conceptual Town Connectivity Plan

Preliminary Design Concept 2: Community Pocket Park

Perspective and Precedent Images

March 24, 2021

# PART 5: APPENDIX

## APPENDIX

### Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) Executive Summary



January 14, 2021

Ms. Elizabeth Gilboy, Director  
Virginia Tech Community Design  
Assistance Center  
101 S Main Street (0450)  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24060

Cardno, Inc.

534 Industrial Park Road  
Bluefield, VA 24605

Phone +1 304 809 0100

[www.cardno.com](http://www.cardno.com)

**Subject: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment  
8441 Main Street  
Pound, Virginia 24279**

Dear Ms. Gilboy:

**Cardno, Inc. (Cardno)** is pleased to enclose the report entitled, "Phase I Environmental Site Assessment • 8441 Main Street • Pound, Virginia 24279." This report was prepared in accordance with requirements prescribed by the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) E 1527-13.

Cardno would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide this service. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George A. Robertson".

George Robertson, CPG  
Hydrogeologist  
Bluefield, VA  
for Cardno, Inc.  
Direct Line + 304 809 0537  
Email: [George.robertson@cardno.com](mailto:George.robertson@cardno.com)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Morici".

Joseph Morici, P.E.  
Brownfields Practice Leader  
for Cardno, Inc.  
Direct Line +1 803 960 2069  
Email: [joe.morici@cardno.com](mailto:joe.morici@cardno.com)

db

Enclosure

File: Phase I ESA - 8441 Main Street  
Project: PB00276000-02-22

## APPENDIX

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment  
8441 Main Street • Pound, Virginia

### Executive Summary

**Cardno, Inc. (Cardno)** was retained by the **Community Design Assistance Center at Virginia Tech** (the Client) to perform a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) under their Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Assessment Project, on behalf of the Town of Pound, for 8441 Main Street (the Property) in Pound, Wise County, Virginia. The Property encompasses an approximately 0.06-acre area including Parcel 017587 and is improved with an approximately 3,400 square foot (ft.<sup>2</sup>), two-story, brick building.

Cardno performed the Phase I ESA in general accordance with federal standards and practices as codified in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR Part 312, including amendments effective December 23, 2008 and in conformance with the scope and limitations of American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM) Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process, Designation: E1527-13 and ASTM Standard Practice for Limited Environmental Due Diligence: Transaction Screen Process, Designation: E1528-06.

As part of this Phase I ESA, Cardno performed visual inspections of the Property; reviewed federal, state, and local regulatory records; investigated historical uses of the Property and potential sources of environmental contamination of the parcel; and conducted interviews with local agency personnel to evaluate whether recognized environmental conditions (RECs) or conditions indicative of releases and threatened releases of hazardous substances on, at, in, or to a site [40 CFR Part 312.20(e)].

Cardno has performed this Phase I ESA in conformance with the scope and limitations of ASTM Practice E 1527-13. Any exceptions to, or deletions from, this practice are described in *Sections 1.4* and *10* of this report.

This assessment has revealed no evidence of RECs in connection with the Property, except the following:

- > Due to their location on a steep incline, northwest of the Property, near an active slump and directly uphill from the former People's Bank of Pound Building, three approximately 250-gallon fuel oil underground storage tanks (USTs) are considered a REC for the Property;

The following non-ASTM concerns were identified for the Property:

- > Fluorescent light ballasts possibly containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) appear to be present in the former People's Bank of Pound Building at the Property;
- > Based on the age of the building, asbestos-containing materials (ACM) may be present in the former People's Bank of Pound Building at the Property;
- > Based on the age of the building, lead-based paint (LBP) may be present in the former People's Bank of Pound Building at the Property;
- > Mold, exposed conditions, and water staining in the former People's Bank of Pound Building indicate conditions supportive of mold growth are present at the Property;
- > According to the Lighthouse Engineering Consultants, LLC (LEC) geotechnical report, the existing slope at the Property is unstable and the former People's Bank of Pound Building should be demolished and removed to allow construction of a retaining wall; and
- > Extensive building debris and trash are present in former People's Bank of Pound Building at the Property.

In Cardno's opinion, the owner should conduct ACM and LBP surveys, if previous reports cannot be located. The owner should monitor the condition of ACMs, LBP, and possible PCB-containing fluorescent light ballasts and conduct appropriate removal and disposal if materials begin to deteriorate or are otherwise disturbed for redevelopment. The owner should conduct a mold survey prior to reuse, if reuse is possible. The owner should follow the recommendations included in the LEC geotechnical report regarding slope stability.

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Phase I Environmental Site Assessment  
8441 Main Street • Pound, Virginia

Due to their location on a steep incline near an active landslide, the three approximately 250-gallon fuel oil USTs sited northwest of the Property should be relocated.

Conclusions and opinions presented in this assessment are based solely on the information derived from the study sources and references cited in this document and are to the limitations of the sources and methods employed. Except as specified herein, this Phase I ESA report is for the exclusive use of the Client, its officers, directors, employees, and authorized representatives.

Cardno recommends that this Executive Summary be used solely as a broad overview of environmental conditions found at the Property. This Executive Summary should not be used in lieu of reading the entire Phase I ESA report.

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### Meeting Notes

#### Community Vision Session

December 17, 2020; 12:30-2:00pm  
Online meeting via Zoom

#### Meeting Background

- At the beginning of the CDAC project, community members were asked to describe what they hoped Pound would look like over the next 10-20 years. They described various experiences, events, and amenities that contributed to a collective vision for the community and downtown area. While the visioning discussion encompasses the former bank building site (and design focus of the project), the exercise also looks more broadly at the community and surrounding assets as a whole. The following is a summary of community member comments, observations, and transformative hope for the Town of Pound.

#### Community Vision: "In 20 years, Pound is/has..."

- More people downtown enjoying greenspace- where the former bank building is now. A park space people could enjoy
- Boat ramp you can see from 83; would like to see people putting-in kayaks/ canoes and for those paddlers to be visible from downtown
- Library; new or located within an existing downtown structure
- Vibrant restaurants downtown
- 'Pretty storefronts' - upgrade of present businesses and storefronts
- Riverwalk or dedicated pedestrian walking system in the downtown area and connections to surrounding trail systems
- Outdoor recreation shops/"energy"
- Bike rental spaces
- Entertainment spaces
- Older population; would like Pound to be a place where people come to retire and spend time with family
- A good place for people to come back home to start a new family
- An accessible space for all walks of life and varietal mobilities; walkable
- Better sidewalks
- Connection to trails/greater trail systems
- Pound as a 'stop' or destination along greater trails
- 'Nice calm town'
- Small town destination
- Complementing natural beauty of Pound landscape
- Strong sense of community
- Expanded walkway through downtown, riverwalk begun by post office in past
- A community of cultural celebration
- Riverwalk near new kayak put in

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Challenges to overcome to achieve vision:

- Funding
- Stabilizing the failed slope behind the former bank building and the cost to construct a retaining wall
- Bank site located along busy downtown intersection; important emphasis on safety concerns

Currently in progress:

- Access point for kayaking / pump track at the playground site
  - This project is through a partnership with the Spearhead Trails organization
  - Current kayak put in; no signage yet
- Kiosk and signage for scenic river with river information

Community Opportunities:

- 'The Pound' - unique name
- Outdoor recreation
  - Jefferson National Forest
  - Lake, river, and dam
  - Trail connections within and beyond the community
  - Cleaning up and restoring current trails
  - Virginia scenic river
  - Historic trail around the lake
  - Naturalist Rally - unique ecologies of Pine Mountain, celebrating wildlife in the area
- 'Storytelling' group - gathering event to tell stories of the community
- Future lodging:
  - Hostel
  - RV campground by old high school
  - Camping along trails
  - Cabin camping
- Universities come to study geology of a nearby 'draw'
- Hunting on public lands
- History of place; moonshiners at Phillips Creek Recreation Area

Community Assets:

- Cultural
  - Red Fox Storytelling Festival
  - Workshops to train new storytellers
  - Christmas and Fourth of July Parade(s)
- Human
  - First Baptist Church
  - Historical Society of Pound
  - 25 folks interested in trail maintenance/construction
- Built
  - The Big EZ, tile facade
  - Pound market
  - Current town hall building - built in the 30s and still maintained

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- Old downtown buildings / structure continually maintained - intactness of facades
- Current Town Hall- built in the 1930's and still in use
- Many constructed bridges crossing Pound River
- Financial
  - Virginia Brownfields Grant
  - Our Town Grant (NEA)
  - NEA Grant
  - Napoleon Hill Foundation
  - Virginia Humanities; help with storytelling festival
  - RALLY southwest Virginia
  - Historical Society of Pound - beautification efforts
  - Room to grow: town, County Wise IDA
  - Local power company donation
  - Abandoned Mine Lands (AML); must be connected to a pre-regulated mine site
- Natural
  - Kayak launches on Pound River
  - North Pound Reservoir
  - Pine Mountain
- Historical
  - Pound market
- Partnerships + Initiatives
  - VA Department of Housing and Community Development
  - VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
  - VA Department of Conservation and Recreation
  - US Forest Service and trail volunteers
  - VA Department of Transportation (VDOT)

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### Meeting Notes

#### Design Input Session

January 14, 2020; 2:30-3:30pm  
Online meeting via Zoom

#### Initial Design Ideas for the Former Bank Building

- Small stage for outdoor performances
- Picnic benches and public gathering
- Eating lunch outside
- Map/wayfinding information about recreational and artistic assets
- Outdoor mural opportunities
  - There is a mural/art map planned for the wall opposite of Pixie
  - A different opportunity would be the wall remaining once the former bank building is removed or on the new retaining wall
- Outdoor seating
  - Benches
  - Picnic tables
- Performance or shade
  - Canopy
  - Amphitheater
  - Gazebo
  - Precedent: Big Glades Community Square in Wise (309 E Main St)
- Playground with safety fence; a bit close to the road
- Relocate existing veterans memorial to the site; add bench
- Short wall to separate road and the park; seating wall; ~3' tall
- Retaining wall; break up the vast expanse with a mural or some type of construction technique
- Can there be a "selfie spot" that becomes an iconic place for people to take pictures?
- Steps to church; enhance, widen, repair, "it's a cool feature"
- Traffic calming features; there are more walkers than bikers
- "Welcome to Pound" sign; geared toward cars, "The Oldest Town in Wise County"
- Enhanced perennial planting areas
  - Butterfly garden
  - Grape arbor
  - Apple tree
- Community garden; possibly terraced
- ADA path
- Enhanced lighting
  - Street lighting
  - Solar lights
- Art in the form of carved animals

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- There's a beautiful example at Southwest Virginia Community College near Richlands
- Water feature
  - Fountain
  - Splash pad; there might be better locations in the downtown area (ie near NAPA)

### Materials

- Brick for seating wall, continue from existing memorial across the street

### Existing Special events

- Mountain heritage days; 4-5 food vendors, 25 craft vendors
  - Could be in several downtown locations
  - Could be at the former high school site
- Storytelling festival; currently at the historical society; could expand to the bank building site
- Would need to manage sound from vehicles right next to the road

### Trail Connectivity Plan

- Talk with VDOT about best ways to cross to get to Highland Avenue
  - Best way to cross street in front of First Baptist Church to grocery store, pharmacy, and bank
- Greenway could possibly include either side of the river; Owner: J. Cox
- Identifying connection to the former high school
- Sidewalk inventory needed

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### Meeting Notes

#### Preliminary Design Presentation

March 24, 2020; 5:30-6:30pm  
Online meeting via Zoom

#### Likes

- Community gathering place with different functions for different age groups
- Fountain/water feature
- Memorial in back of site for contemplation; move memorial from street to alcove space
- Perhaps water feature moves to street-side; visual “energy” could draw folks to site
- Dedication bricks for fundraising
- Look into converting some of the parallel parking spots for street trees or perennial gardens as a traffic-calming devices
- Love the fire pit; could possibly be financially supported by community members or local businesses. The fire pit could incorporate dedication bricks
  - There are propane options that minimize smoke and use could be regulated by a community official
- Chalk wall
  - Offers flexibility such as seasonal art; perhaps both mural and chalk wall
  - Break up chalk wall or mural along adjacent building wall

#### Dislikes/Concerns

- Community garden is a bold idea; do not include gardens, elementary school already has community garden
- Expense of retaining wall

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### Free Little Library

#### About the Organization



## About Us

### Little Free Library's Mission and Vision

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization based in Hudson, Wisconsin. Our mission is to be a catalyst for building community, inspiring readers, and expanding book access for all through a global network of volunteer-led Little Free Libraries.

Our vision is a Little Free Library in every community and a book for every reader. We believe all people are empowered when the opportunity to discover a personally relevant book to read is not limited by time, space, or privilege.



<https://littlefreelibrary.org/about/>

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1. **Providing 24/7 book access.** Little Free Library book-sharing boxes are open seven days a week, 24 hours a day and are freely accessible to all, removing barriers to book access.
2. **Fostering new Little Free Libraries.** Little Free Library (LFL) equips, educates, and guides volunteer stewards to establish Little Free Libraries in their communities.
3. **Granting Little Free Libraries to high-need areas.** Through [our programs](#), LFL grants no-cost Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved urban, suburban, rural, and [Native communities](#).
4. **Championing diverse books.** Through our [Read in Color program](#), LFL makes books available representing BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and other diverse voices to promote understanding, empathy, and inclusion.
5. **Working with key community partners.** LFL collaborates with schools, public libraries, civic organizations, businesses, and other groups to bring Little Free Libraries to their communities.

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### Our Values

Little Free Library's goals and strategies are shaped by a dedicated staff and an engaged board of directors. Together, our work is guided by these core values:

#### Access

By providing greater, more equitable book access in neighborhoods worldwide, we work to strengthen communities and influence literacy outcomes.

#### Collaboration

We embrace working with Little Free Library volunteer stewards, as well as local and national

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partners, to build community and improve book access.

### Equity

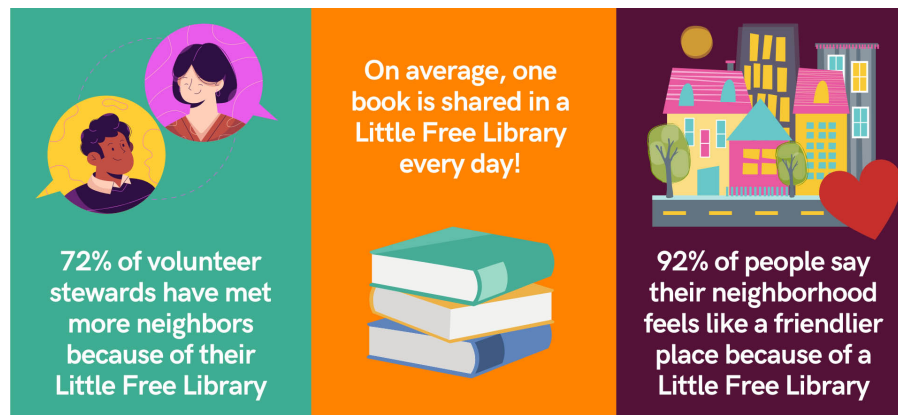
We are dedicated to furthering diversity, equity, and inclusion through the programs we run, the books we share, and the community we serve, as well as in the internal operations of our nonprofit.

### Respect

We value all people and communities, and we respect their wisdom in using Little Free Libraries in a meaningful, individualistic way suited to their culture and locality.

### Transparency

We are committed to integrity and accountability in how we manage our assets, and we are proud to have earned [Platinum GuideStar status](#).



### Why Does Book Access Matter?

We are facing a growing literacy crisis. Today in the United States, more than 30 million adults cannot read or write above a third-grade level. Studies have repeatedly shown that books in the hands of children have a meaningful impact on improving literacy. The more books in or near the home, the more likely a child will learn and love to read. But two out of three children living in poverty [have no books to call their own](#).

Little Free Library book-sharing boxes play an essential role by providing 24/7 access to books (and encouraging a love of reading!) in areas where books are scarce. At the Little Free Library nonprofit, we're working to fill book deserts and grant libraries to underserved communities through our [Impact Library Program](#) and other initiatives.

Through Little Free Library book exchanges, millions of books are exchanged each year, profoundly increasing access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds.

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### Free Little Library

#### Trademark Use




## Little Free Library Trademark FAQs

### Little Free Library's Trademark Origins

The year 2012 was a big one for Little Free Library. We were recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and we filed for trademark protection with the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the phrase "Little Free Library."

We regularly get questions about our trademarks and how others can use them. Below you'll find answers to some of the most common questions we hear. You can learn more by reading our [Letter from the Executive Director](#) about Little Free Library's trademark or by viewing [Little Free Library's Trademark Agreement](#).

Click the + symbol next to any question to reveal the answer.

Does Little Free Library Ltd have a trademark on the phrase "Little Free Library"? 

Yes, "Little Free Library" is a trademarked term. Little Free Library Ltd first filed for a trademark for the phrase "Little Free Library" on February 21, 2012. It was registered by the US Patent and Trademark Office as a protected mark on October 29, 2013.


Our trademark applies to the full phrase "Little Free Library" as well as variations like "Little Library," "Little Free Libraries," and any language that could create confusion. The trademark covers a variety of goods and services. As our organization and offerings evolve and expand, it warrants adding new categories of trademark coverage.

Does Little Free Library take action against others that use the phrase "Little Free Library" and its variants? 

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I want to use the phrase “Little Free Library” to sell a product. How do I do that? 

We invite organizations that wish to use our registered brand for profit to contact us to discuss a licensing agreement. Please fill out our [Permissions Form](#) for your request to be considered.

I'm a registered Little Free Library steward. Can I use the phrase “Little Free Library”? 

Yes, registered Little Free Library stewards are free to use our trademarked name for activities associated with their book-sharing box. If you wish to use the phrase to sell products or raise funds, please fill out our [Permissions Form](#).

I have a book-sharing box that is not registered with the Little Free Library nonprofit. Can I use the phrase “Little Free Library”? 

No, only registered stewards can use the “Little Free Library” trademarked name. For registration information and benefits, please visit our [Charter Signs and Registration](#) page.

Does Little Free Library prevent people from creating their own unregistered book-sharing boxes? 

No. We believe that book-sharing is a wonderful thing—whatever form it takes. In fact, we provide free [plans and blueprints for book-sharing boxes](#) on our website and provide tips on how to get started!

We hope that those who build their own book-sharing boxes will register them with us and become part of the global Little Free Library community, but that is up to the individual.