

#27

Neighborhood Watch Theater Co.

The Neighborhood Watch Theatre Company

A 501 c(3) Charitable Organization

The Project

We propose utilizing Property as a multi-purpose public event space. The approximate dimensions of the space are 74' along S. Washington and 60' along Occidental Ave. This venue would be used to host a variety of programming including but not limited to; concerts, films, art exhibitions, performances and speakers.

Add rendering with some programming included

Table 1: Sample programming for a day in the life of the Neighborhood Watch Theatre Co. at 167 S. Washington

Activities in the Space
<i>Community and marketplace oriented</i> The adaptable open space in the courtyard is ideal for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor classrooms for area schools, guest speakers, lecture series etc.• Public events• Picnic lunches, gathering space for families and friends• Leisure and relaxation• Weekly Farmers Market
<i>Restaurant and Retail Oriented</i> Music and performance art events that draw visitors to Pioneer Square restaurant and retail establishments
<i>Pioneer Square Nightlife Focus</i> Directed at increasing the safety and general liveliness of Pioneer Square nightlife by drawing visitors to Occidental Park in the evening hours. The space would offer a series of outdoor music, film, and performance events.

The Vision

Our proposed usage provides stability to an economically challenged urban landscape through free entertainment and promotional services at the heart of Pioneer Square. We will promote events in the space through a combination of offline and online community networking strategies.

Events in the space will be promoted through partnerships with local businesses, community groups, and non-profit organizations active in Pioneer Square. Online, we will use Twitter, Facebook, and other social media tools to keep the Pioneer Square community up to speed on event scheduling. Our website will also offer a forum for dialog on alternative uses for the space and event related feedback.

Funding for project related costs will be covered through event sponsorship, project sponsorship, and charitable donations.

Please contact either Evan Forward or Matthew Long for more information at Washington.Occidental@gmail.com

The Location

At the northeast corner of Occidental Park lies 167 S. Washington, a stalled mixed-use development site closed off to the public by a chain link fence and mural painted plywood. The lot sits immediately adjacent to McCoy’s Firehouse to the East, Pacini Lubel Gallery to the South, S. Washington Street to the North, and a parking lot to the West.

The location has been a hub for economic and leisure activity since the days of Henry Yesler’s sawmills in the 1850’s but today the area appears to be going increasingly slack with the recession. Fans on their way to or from events held at the sports facilities in South Seattle still pass through Pioneer Square and help to buoy the area’s economy, but attracting a consistent flow of visitors is proving challenging these days. The unpredictability of the marketplace is driving businesses in the area away from keeping consistent hours of operation which is taking a toll on the area’s reputation as a destination for spontaneous leisure and shopping. With this harsh boom and bust dynamic of economic activity, the parking lots surrounding 167 S. Washington—once built to accommodate gluts of visitors to Pioneer Square—are now prone to vacancy and illegal activity.

By creating a hub for free entertainment and attractions in Pioneer Square, our proposed usage of 167 S. Washington will breathe new life into the numerous restaurants, bars, nightclubs, art galleries, and retail establishments put under stress from the economy’s decline. Furthermore, the space will be an engine of revitalization and connectivity, providing a focal point for members of the Pioneer Square neighborhood to gather, meet one another and take ownership of their community.

Project Timeline

Table 2: Key dates and projected programming periods

Dates	Activities
TBD	Renovation of the Space
	First Thursday Neighborhood Watch kickoff film
	Outdoor programming to be announced
	Fall and winter activities in the space will be dependent on a variety of factors including but not limited to approval of weatherization construction for the space.

Proposal design methodology

This proposal was assembled through a collaborative design process that integrated perspectives from artists and social scientists in its creation. Before designing the proposal, the initial concept for the Neighborhood Watch Theatre Co. was built upon insights gleaned from

- Conversations with business owners, artists, residents, and community leaders;
- Review of a variety of online news sources on current trends in Pioneer Square;
- And reflection on our collective experience as visitors/artistic contributors to the Pioneer Square community over the past 5 years

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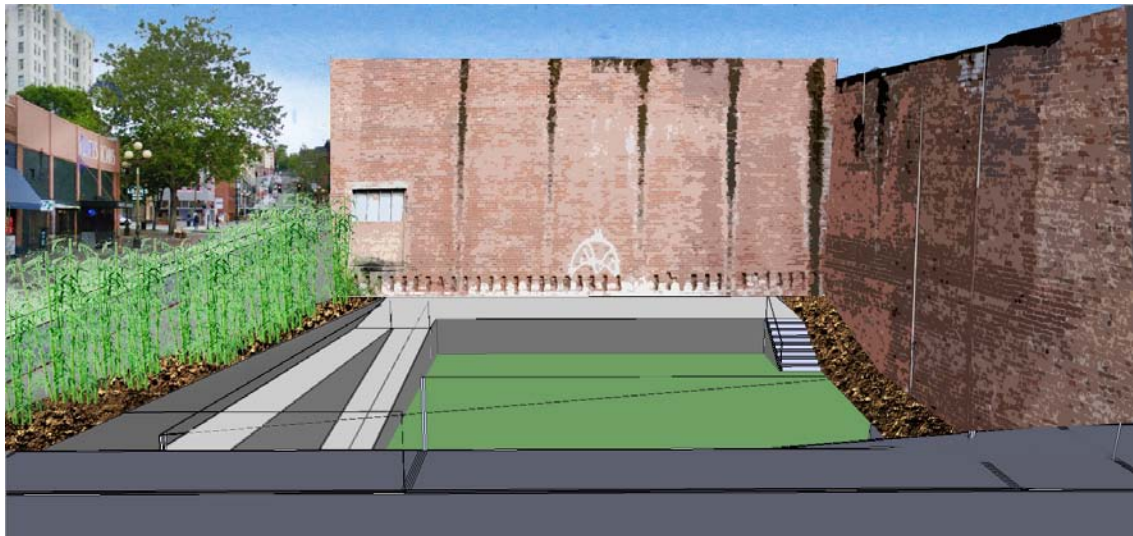


Figure 1: First Person Perspective

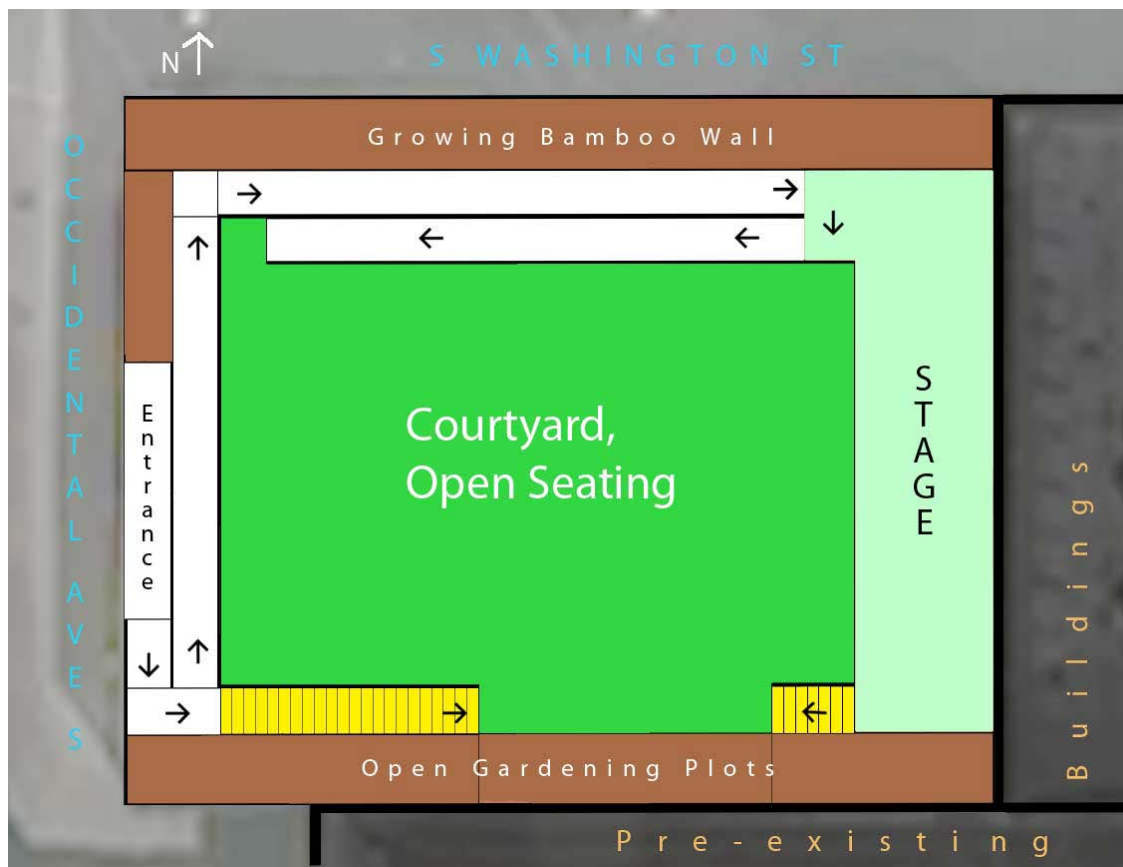


Figure 2: Flexible Programming Layout

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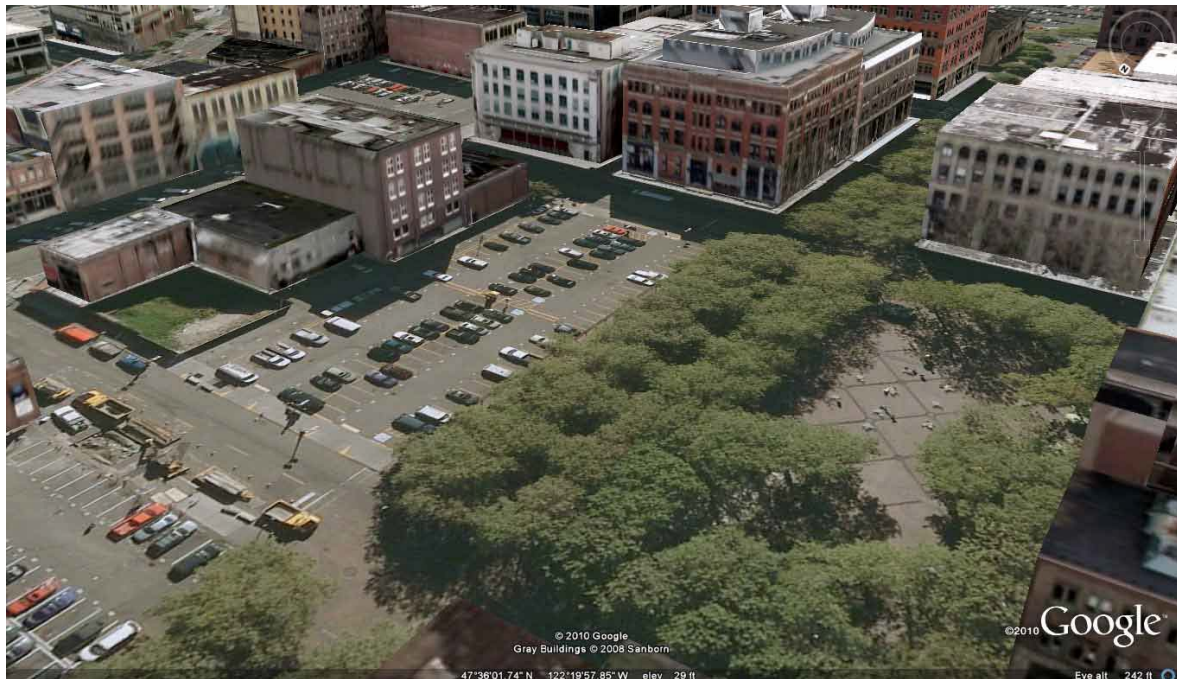


Figure 3: Aerial Perspective

Seattle Citizens -

Interested in launching programming with the Neighborhood Watch Theatre Company?
Contact us at Washington.Occidental@gmail.com to apply.

Seattle Property Owners –

Interested in creatively re-envisioning your space to host community-oriented programming?
Please contact Atelier Trust at Atelier.Trust@gmail.com to arrange a visit to your site.



Figure 4: *Untitled* by Joe Dyer