

## **EISENHOWER MEMORIAL**

**NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

DESIGN REVISIONS IN RESPONSE TO NCPC APRIL 3, 2014 MEETING  
FOR INFORMATION SESSION

MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 4, 2014





DESIGN REVISION SEPTEMBER 2014

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF DESIGN REVISIONS

The Memorial design has evolved in response to the April 2014 NCPC Commission Action. The design changes specifically address the three design principles the Commission found inconsistent with the previous submitted design.

**Design Principle 1: Preserve reciprocal views to and from the U.S. Capitol along Maryland Avenue SW.** The revised design has widened the view corridor from 95' to 135'. This design creates a more proportionally *horizontal* framed view of the U.S. Capitol.

**Design Principle 4: Reflect the L'Enfant Plan principles by shaping the Memorial site as a separate and distinct public space that complements the Department of Education Headquarters and other surrounding buildings.** The design revisions eliminate the East and West tapestries allowing the influence of the adjacent buildings to define and unify the site.

**Design Principle 6: Respect the building lines of the surrounding rights of way and the alignment of trees along Maryland Avenue.** The proposed northern singular columns are set back more than 47' from the Independence Avenue Right of Way and are fully located within the planes of the adjacent building facades.

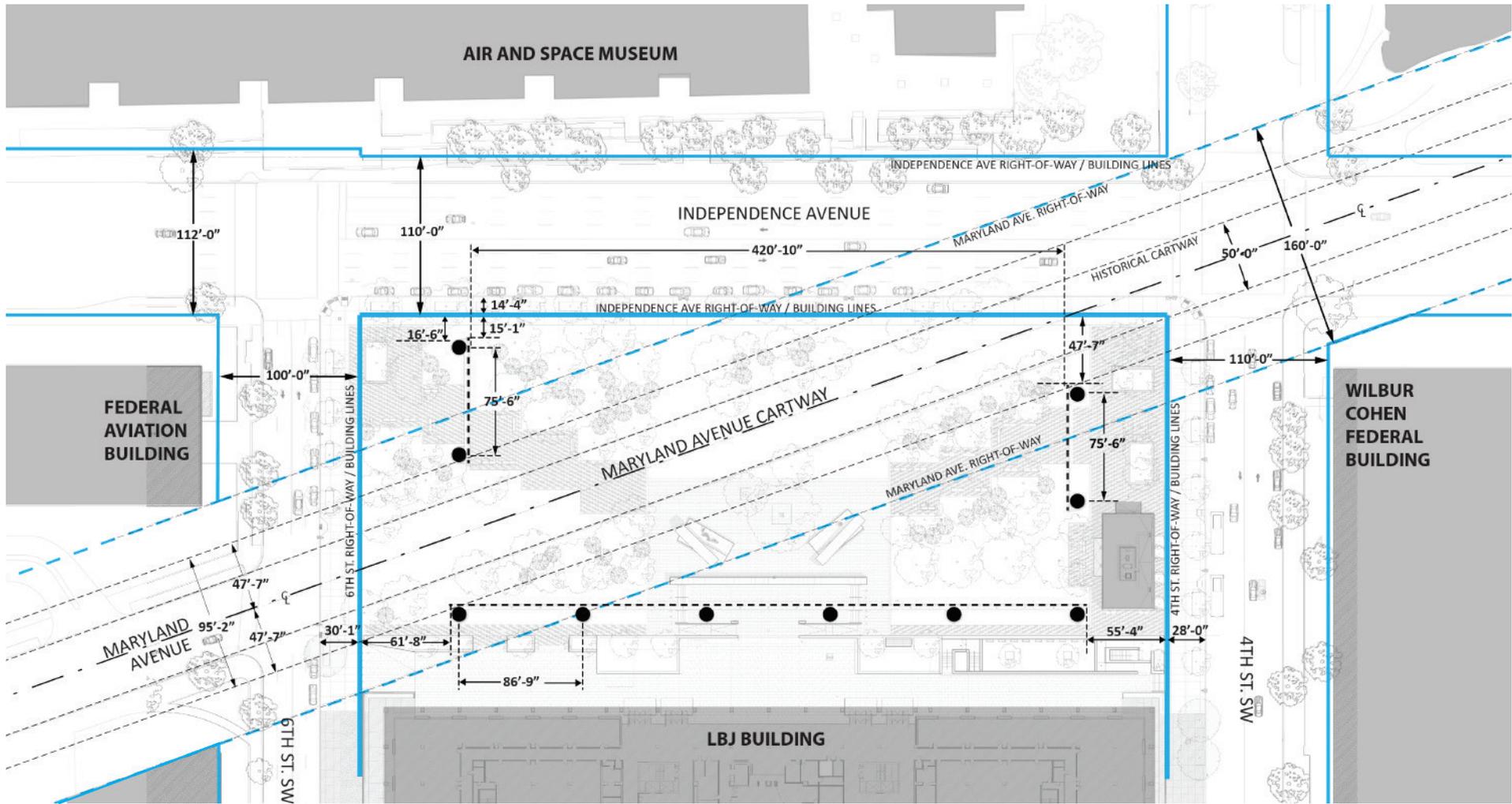
The design team has met with NCPC staff on three occasions to review the proposed changes. The staff have indicated that the proposed revisions clearly comply with two of the three remaining design principles. The design team will continue to work with staff to address remaining planning issues in the Commission Action.





AERIAL VIEW

DESIGN AS PRESENTED  
NCPC - APRIL 3, 2014



PLAN-DIAGRAM

KEY:

— RIGHTS-OF-WAYS



AERIAL VIEW TOWARDS SOUTHWEST

DESIGN AS PRESENTED  
NCPC - APRIL 3, 2014



VIEW ALONG MARYLAND AVENUE TOWARDS CAPITOL

## RECAP OF NCPC REVIEW OF DESIGN PRINCIPLES APRIL 2014

### SEVEN NCPC DESIGN PRINCIPLES

**DESIGN PRINCIPLE 1: *Preserve reciprocal views to and from the U.S. Capitol along Maryland Avenue, SW.***

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 2: *Enhance the nature of the site as one in a sequence of public spaces embellishing the Maryland Avenue vista.*

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 3: *Create a unified Memorial site that integrates the disparate parcels into a meaningful and functional public gathering place that also unifies the surrounding precinct.*

**DESIGN PRINCIPLE 4: *Reflect L'Enfant Plan principles by shaping the Memorial site as a separate and distinct public space that complements the Department of Education Headquarters and other surrounding buildings.***

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 5: *Respect and complement the architecture of the surrounding precinct.*

**DESIGN PRINCIPLE 6: *Respect the building lines of the surrounding rights-of-way and the alignment of trees along Maryland Avenue.***

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 7: *Incorporate significant green space into the design of the Memorial.*

**Items highlighted in bold indicate design principles not in compliance according to NCPC.**

**NCPC ON DESIGN PRINCIPLE 1:** “The scale and configuration of the columns and tapestries within the 160-foot right-of-way continue to obscure the view towards the U.S. Capitol. While the tapestries clearly fall within the category of artwork, their scale and configuration, which narrows the viewshed from 160’ to 95’ with columns that are 78’ high and 10’ in diameter results in a substantial diminution of what is intended to be one of the L’Enfant Plan’s most symbolic and monumental views.

Placement of elements within the viewshed should also be done in a manner that preserves the prevailing civic – *more horizontal* – character that is typical of the city’s broader, more significant avenues which allows public buildings and commemorative works to be the dominant elements within these important view corridors.” *Executive Director’s Recommendation, Page 33*

**NCPC ON DESIGN PRINCIPLE 4:** “The placement of the east and west tapestries also takes away from the success of the urban park as a unifying element within the precinct. Rather, the spatial relationship is established more between the adjacent buildings and the tapestries as opposed to the Memorial core and the surrounding park.” *Executive Director’s Recommendation, Page 35*

**NCPC ON DESIGN PRINCIPLE 6:** “Regarding Independence Avenue, while the changes to the tapestry configuration address comments from the concept stage, the current design has created a new issue that causes inconsistency with this principle. Specifically, the realignment of the smaller tapestries has resulted in the column at the northwest corner extending beyond the building line established by the adjacent buildings to the east and west (Wilbur Cohen Building and Wilbur Wright Building) creating a visual intrusion into the existing view along Independence Avenue.” *Executive Director’s Recommendation, Page 36.*

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**DESIGN RESPONSE TO NCPC DESIGN PRINCIPLE 1:** The design revisions widen the Maryland Avenue viewshed from 95' to 135' wide creating a proportionally horizontal framed view towards the Capitol building.

**DESIGN RESPONSE TO NCPC DESIGN PRINCIPLE 4:** The design revisions eliminate the East and West tapestries, allowing the influence of the adjacent buildings to define and unify the site.

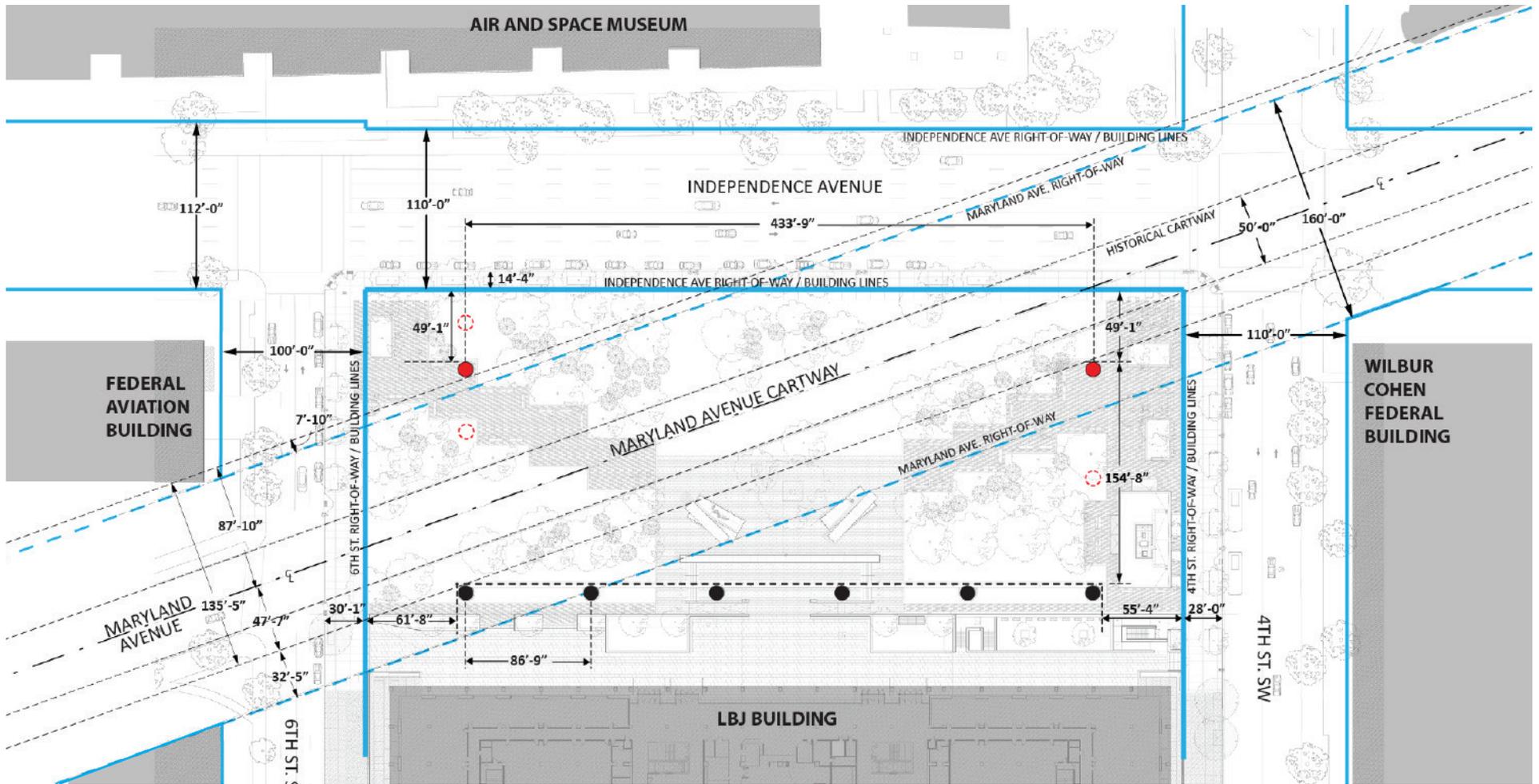
**DESIGN RESPONSE TO NCPC DESIGN PRINCIPLE 6:** The northern singular columns are set back more than 47' from the Independence Avenue right-of-way and are located fully within the planes of the adjacent building facades.

Items highlighted in bold indicate design principles not in compliance according to NCPC.



AERIAL VIEW - The design revisions eliminate the East and West tapestries, allowing the influence of the adjacent buildings to help define and unify the site.

DESIGN REVISION  
SEPTEMBER 2014



PLAN-DIAGRAM

KEY:

- RIGHTS-OF-WAYS
- ORIGINAL LOCATION OF COLUMNS
- REVISED COLUMN LOCATIONS
- COLUMN LOCATIONS

DESIGN REVISIONS IN RESPONSE TO NCPC APRIL 3, 2014 MEETING

- The design revisions eliminate the East and West tapestries, allowing the influence of the adjacent buildings to define and unify the site.
- The northern singular columns are located fully within the planes of the adjacent building facades.
- The design revisions widen the Maryland Avenue viewshed from 95' to 135' wide creating a proportionally *horizontal* framed view towards the Capitol building.
- The April 2014 concept included three columns that were within the 160' ROW. The revised plan includes only two columns within the southern edge of 160' ROW.

EISENHOWER MEMORIAL

Gehry Partners • AECOM Joint Venture

DESIGN REVISION  
SEPTEMBER 2014

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 4  
REFLECT L'ENFANT PLAN PRINCIPLES BY SHAPING THE MEMORIAL SITE AS A SEPARATE AND DISTINCT PUBLIC SPACE THAT  
COMPLEMENTS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER SURROUNDING BUILDINGS

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 6  
RESPECT THE BUILDING LINES OF THE SURROUNDING RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND THE ALIGNMENT OF TREES ALONG MARYLAND AVENUE

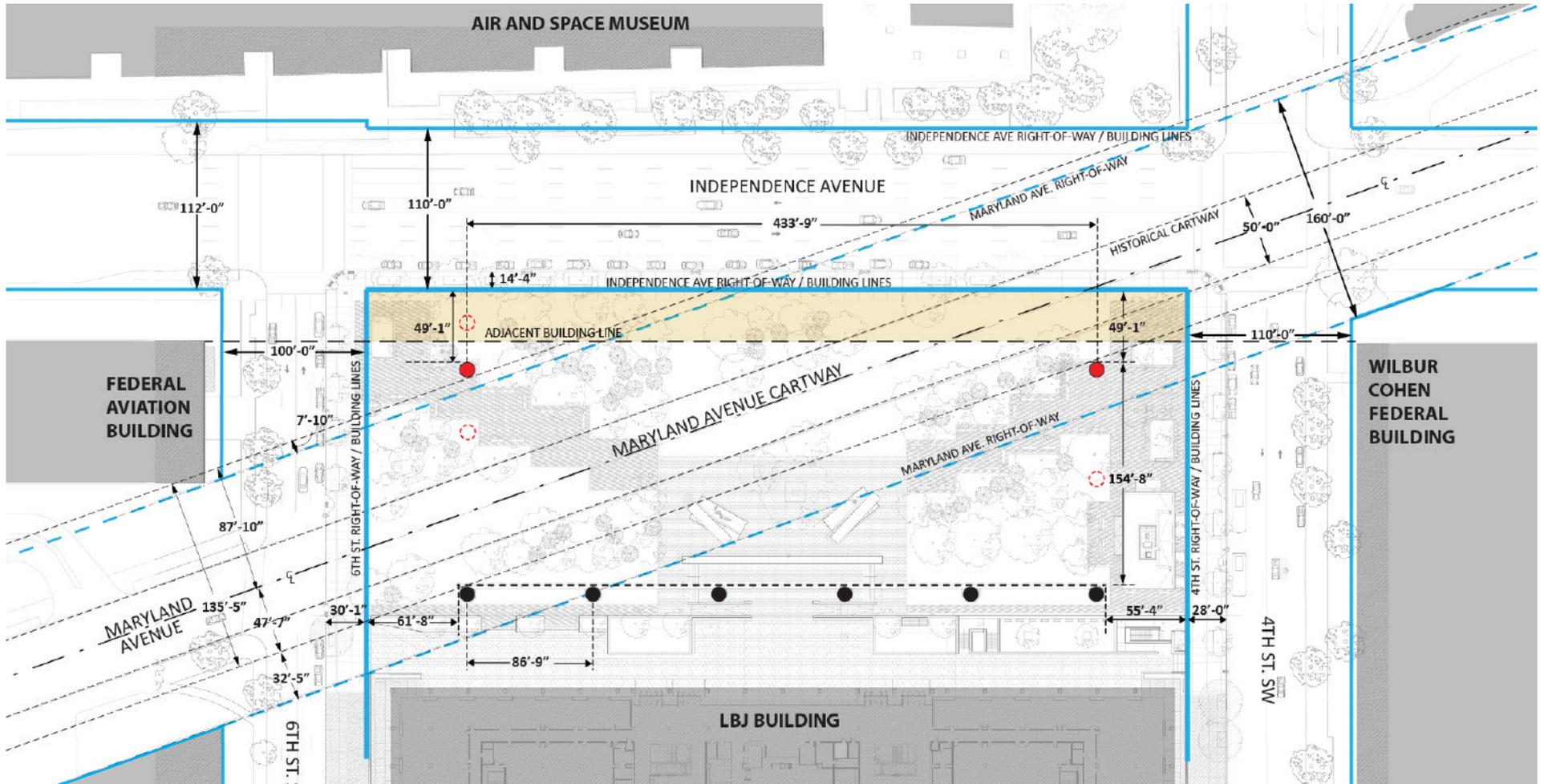


AERIAL VIEW TOWARDS SOUTHWEST - The northern singular columns are located fully within the planes of the adjacent building facades.

DESIGN REVISION  
SEPTEMBER 2014

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 REFLECT L'ENFANT PLAN PRINCIPLES BY SHAPING THE MEMORIAL SITE AS A SEPARATE AND DISTINCT PUBLIC SPACE THAT  
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PLAN-DIAGRAM

- KEY:
- RIGHTS-OF-WAYS
  - ORIGINAL LOCATION OF COLUMNS
  - REVISED COLUMN LOCATIONS
  - COLUMN LOCATIONS

**DESIGN PRINCIPLE #4 AND #6: DESIGN REVISIONS**

- Design principle #4 is addressed by eliminating the East and West tapestries, allowing the influence of the adjacent buildings to define and unify the site.
- Design principle #6 is addressed by placing the northern singular columns fully within the planes of the adjacent building facades.

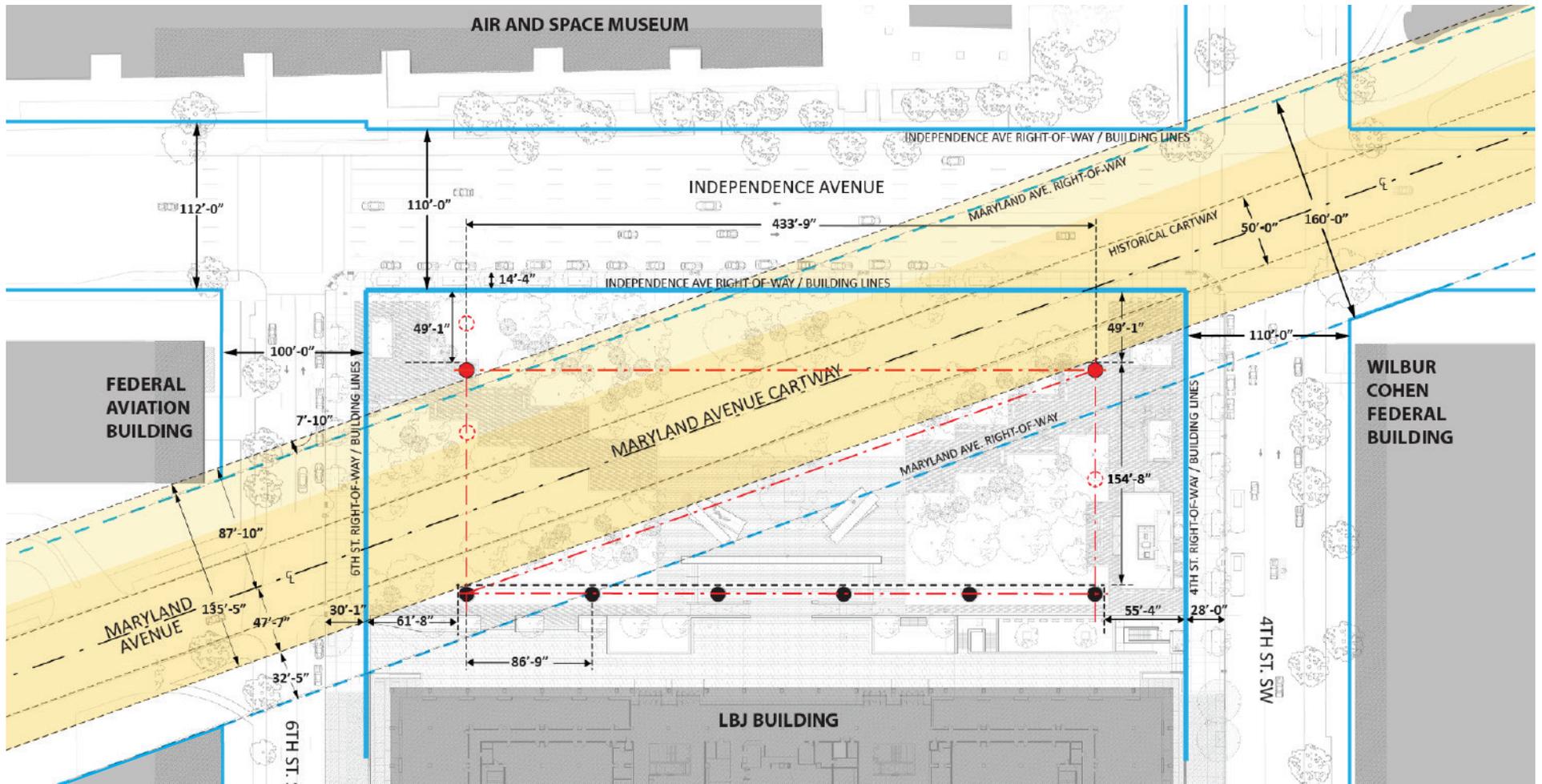
DESIGN PRINCIPLE 1  
PRESERVE RECIPROCAL VIEWS TO AND FROM THE U.S. CAPITOL ALONG MARYLAND AVENUE, SOUTHWEST



VIEW ALONG MARYLAND AVENUE TOWARDS CAPITOL - The design revisions widen the Maryland Avenue viewshed from 95' to 135' wide, creating a proportionally *horizontal* framed view to the Capitol building.

DESIGN REVISION  
SEPTEMBER 2014

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 1  
 PRESERVE RECIPROCAL VIEWS TO AND FROM THE U.S. CAPITOL ALONG MARYLAND AVENUE, SOUTHWEST



PLAN-DIAGRAM

KEY:

- RIGHTS-OF-WAYS
- ⊙ ORIGINAL LOCATION OF COLUMNS
- CENTER LINE OF COLUMNS
- REVISED COLUMN LOCATIONS
- COLUMN LOCATIONS

DESIGN PRINCIPLE #1: DESIGN REVISIONS

- The design revisions widen the Maryland Avenue viewshed from 95' to 135' wide creating a proportionally *horizontal* framed view towards the Capitol building.
- April 2014 concept included three columns that were within the 160' ROW. The revised plan includes only two columns within the southern edge of the ROW.
- The southwest column and northeast column align parallel to the center line of Maryland Avenue.

DESIGN PRINCIPLE 1  
PRESERVE RECIPROCAL VIEWS TO AND FROM THE U.S. CAPITOL ALONG MARYLAND AVENUE, SOUTHWEST



VIEW ALONG MARYLAND AVENUE TOWARDS CAPITOL

DESIGN AS PRESENTED  
NCPC - APRIL 3, 2014



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