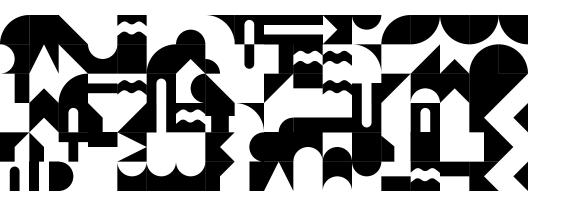
blotterlot



a gateway park for south chicago

Blotterlot engages in South Chicago's rich tradition of wall murals while acknowledging and responding to the architectural and cultural forms of the neighborhood in a new and exciting way.

neighborhood precedents: murals



neighborhood precedents: signage







The signage aspect of precedents examines various sign types, both two-dimensional and more three-dimensionalized signs found throughout South Chicago (both past and present) and takes into into account the form, scale, and the use of graphics.

neighborhood precedents: architecture







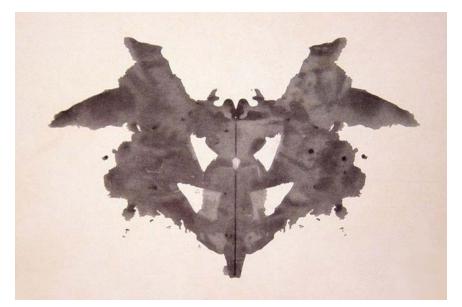
The architecture of the neighborhood showcases not only a rich and diverse residential history, but also a strong industrial and institutional/religious history that were not only prominent figures in the past, but still hold an important place in south chicago's architectural tradition.

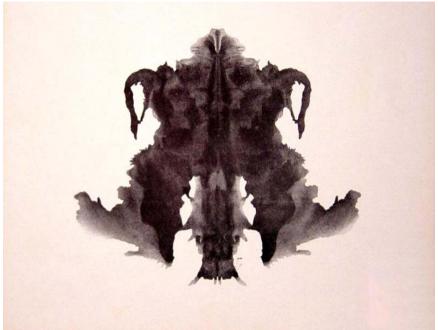
architectural rorschach





The project's contribution to the rich history of the site was to create an architectural rorschach, which lies somewhere between a cubist painting and a rorschach ink blot.

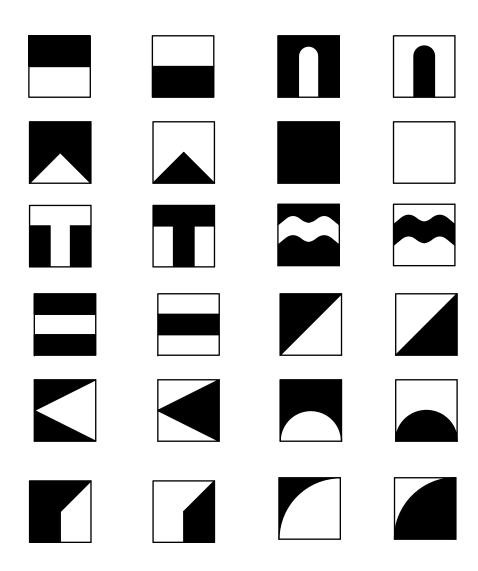


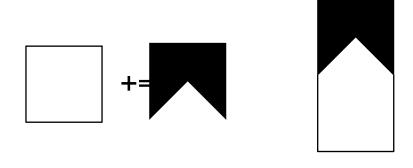


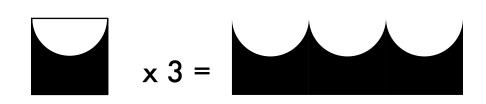
Similar to cubist paintings and ink blots, the architectural rorschach provides multiple readings of the composition at hand.

the building blocks

the system

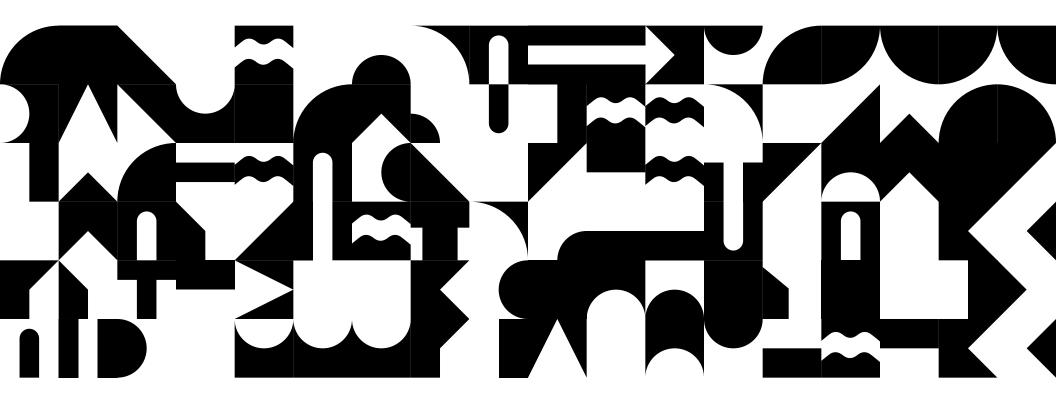






The logic of our architectural rorschach led to the development of the tile system, which combines the painterly and artistic qualities with the architectural precedents of the neighborhood.

The two toned system abstracts architectural and cultural forms of the neighborhood, and can be reconfigured to create larger images.



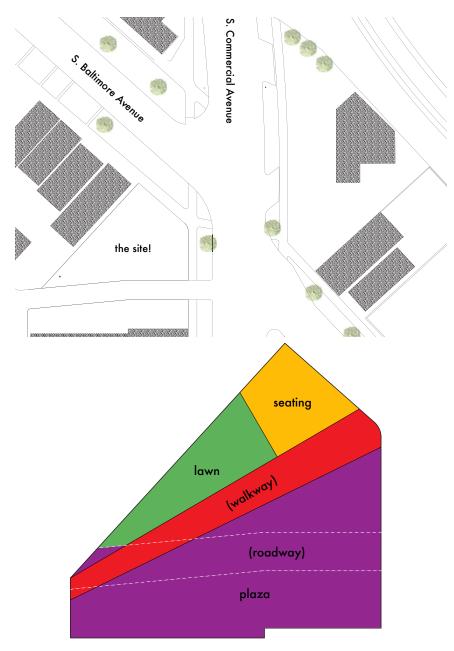
The reconfiguration of the tiles creates an abstract collage that has a multitude of images and readings, each unique to those who encounter it.

Throughout the mural, forms emerge that pay homage to the history of the neighborhood, oscillating between residential "scenes", institutional/religious buildings, the forms of the industrial era, and the nearby calumet river.

the site

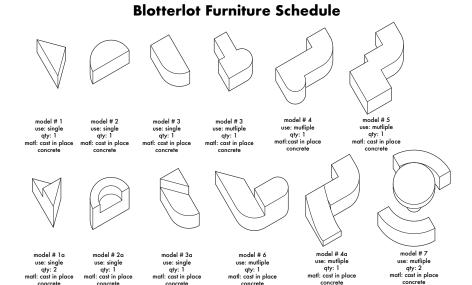


Above is a zoning diagram that studies the circulation of the site.



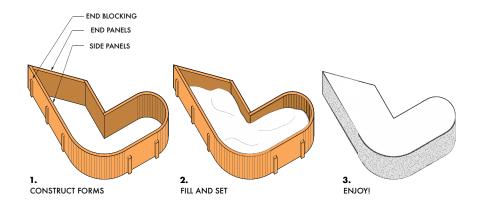
The park has four distinct zones: the open plaza, which contains the existing access road to the alley, seating, a lawn, and a walk way used to visually separate the soft and hard-scape elements of our park.



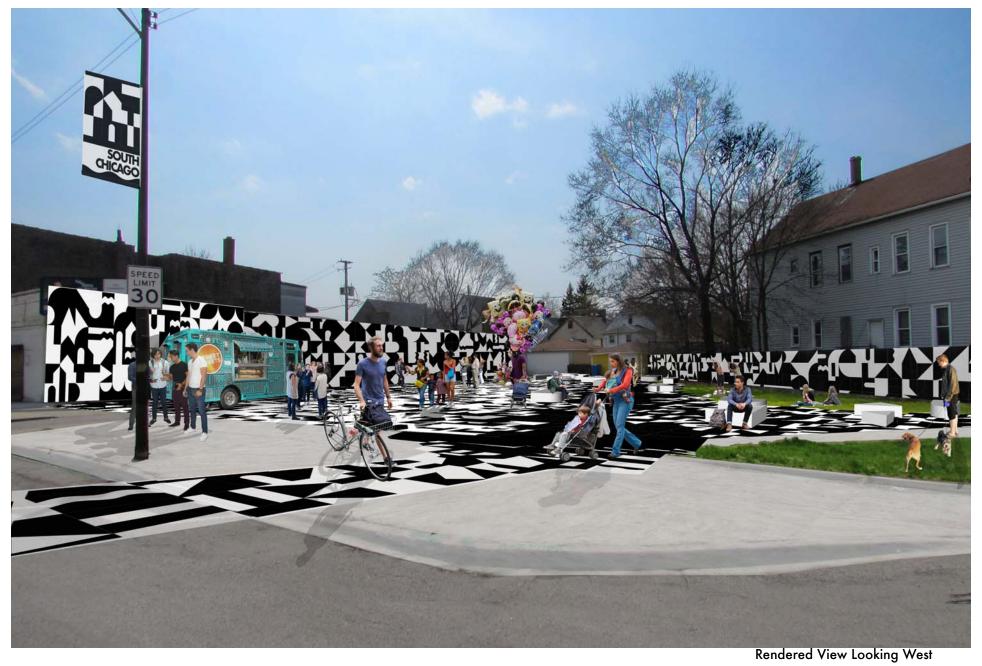


The furniture in the park are three-dimensionalized extrusions that come from our tile system and create unique seating experiences for the park goer. The furniture can easily be assembled on site by using the cast-in-place method.

CAST - IN - PLACE CONCRETE FURNITURE









Rendered View Looking East

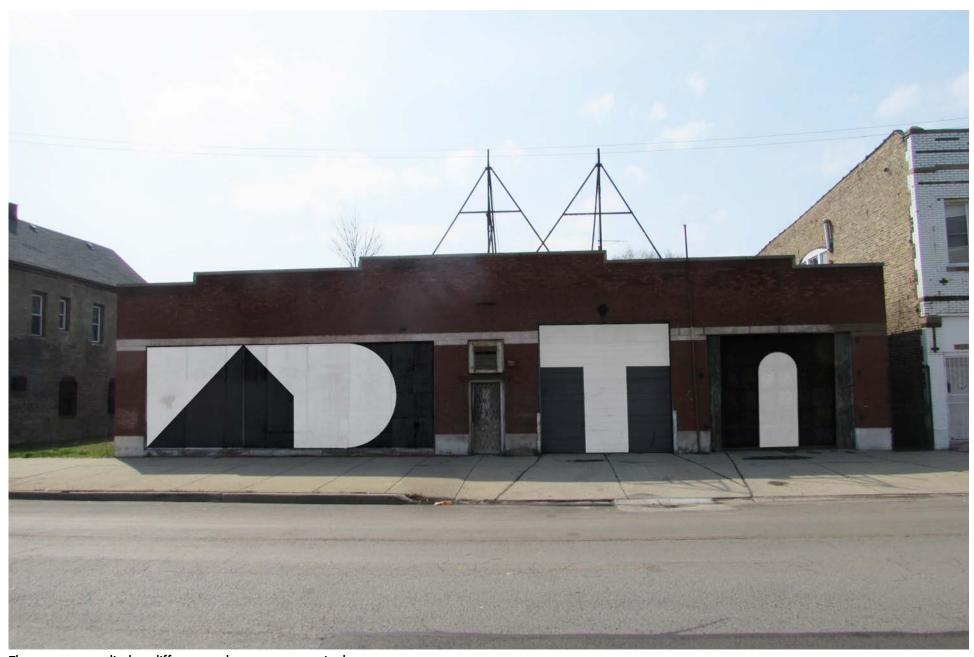


Rendered View Looking North





Our system can be implemented as a new and exciting Graphic identity for the neighborhood. The system becomes a possession of the neighborhood that they can use in a variety of ways.



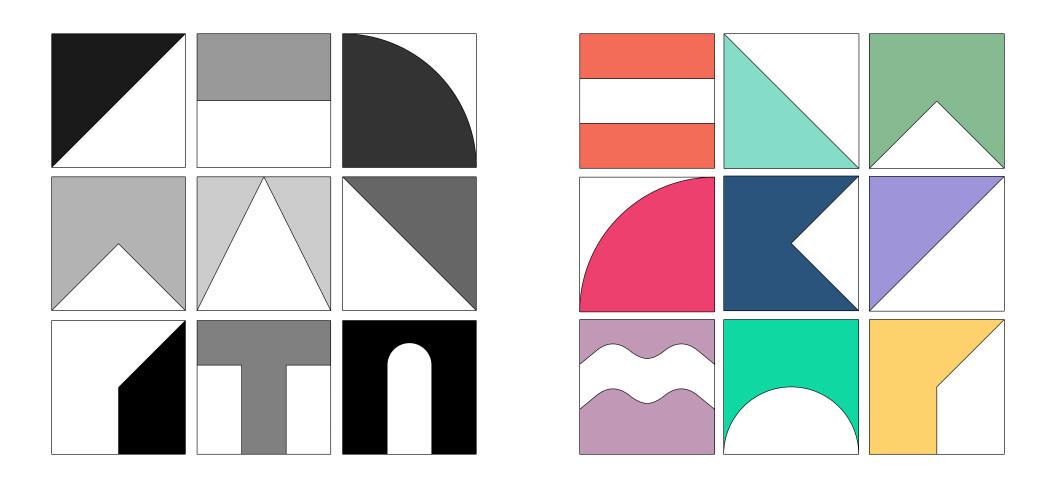
The pattern, applied at different scales, creates a unity between past, present and future business on Commercial Avenue.



The presence of new identity would emerge not just physically, but digitally, becoming a social media destination. Art and architecture enthusiasts, bloggers, and social media users would add themselves to the population of increased foot traffic of the neighborhood.



Site specific filters, check-ins, and locations could easily promote any event taking place in the park.



The system is flexible in that it is an applied graphic, and painted on to the site, could transform in a number of ways, such as through scale or color.



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