

Ledyard Town Green Fence Design Concept

Ledyard Center



Background:

One of the design objectives of the Ledyard Town Center Committee was to increase the aesthetics of Ledyard Center by adding roadside stone walls. Through the design process for the Ledyard Town Green K+F explored several options for adding stone walls. The recommended option involves cutting into the slight hillside along the front of the Town Green property and using the wall as a retaining wall. By doing this we could maintain a 30" stone wall (along the roadside), but keep the top of the wall below eye level as not to obstruct views into the Green. This option however presented a challenge for the School system, and the resulting retaining wall would only be 12" high on the school side, and not adequate for the safety of the children. The School Committee requested that a fence be placed on top of the stone wall to provide a 36" barrier from the inside.

Concept:

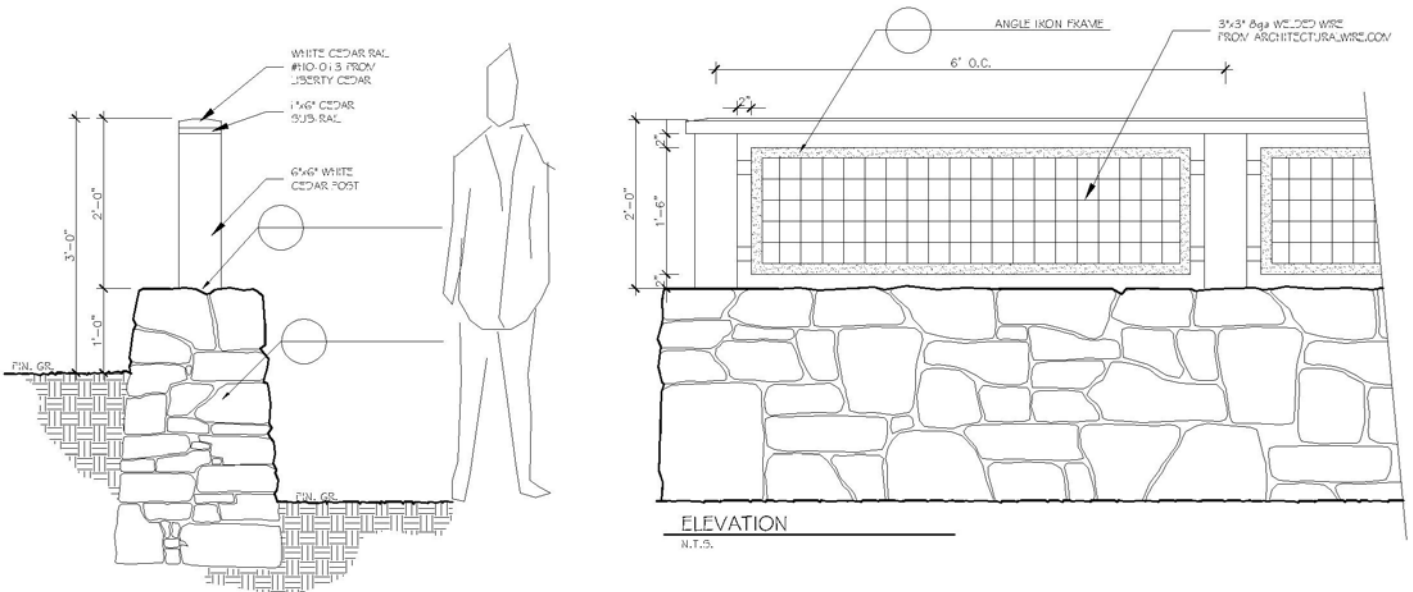
The concept for the fence design is a modern take on many of the agricultural fences around town. New England is famous for its stonewalls, and Ledyard is no exception. These walls were formed out of utility, although we now regard them with great aesthetics. As the forests were cleared to make room for crop fields, the rocks were gathered and moved to the outskirts of the property and/or field. Every spring, after the freeze thaw process, another plentiful crop of rock would come to the surface and have to be moved to the side, raising and widening the stone walls. As some crop fields transitioned into animal pastures, the stone walls weren't sufficient to keep in the livestock, and wire fences (wire mesh &/or barb wire) were installed on wooded posts on the insides of stonewalls. This is the basis for our design – a modern incorporation of wire mesh fence, with a wooden frame on a stone wall. The intent is to pay homage to the history of Ledyard while acknowledging the construction in a modern time.

Imagery:





Fence Design Detail:



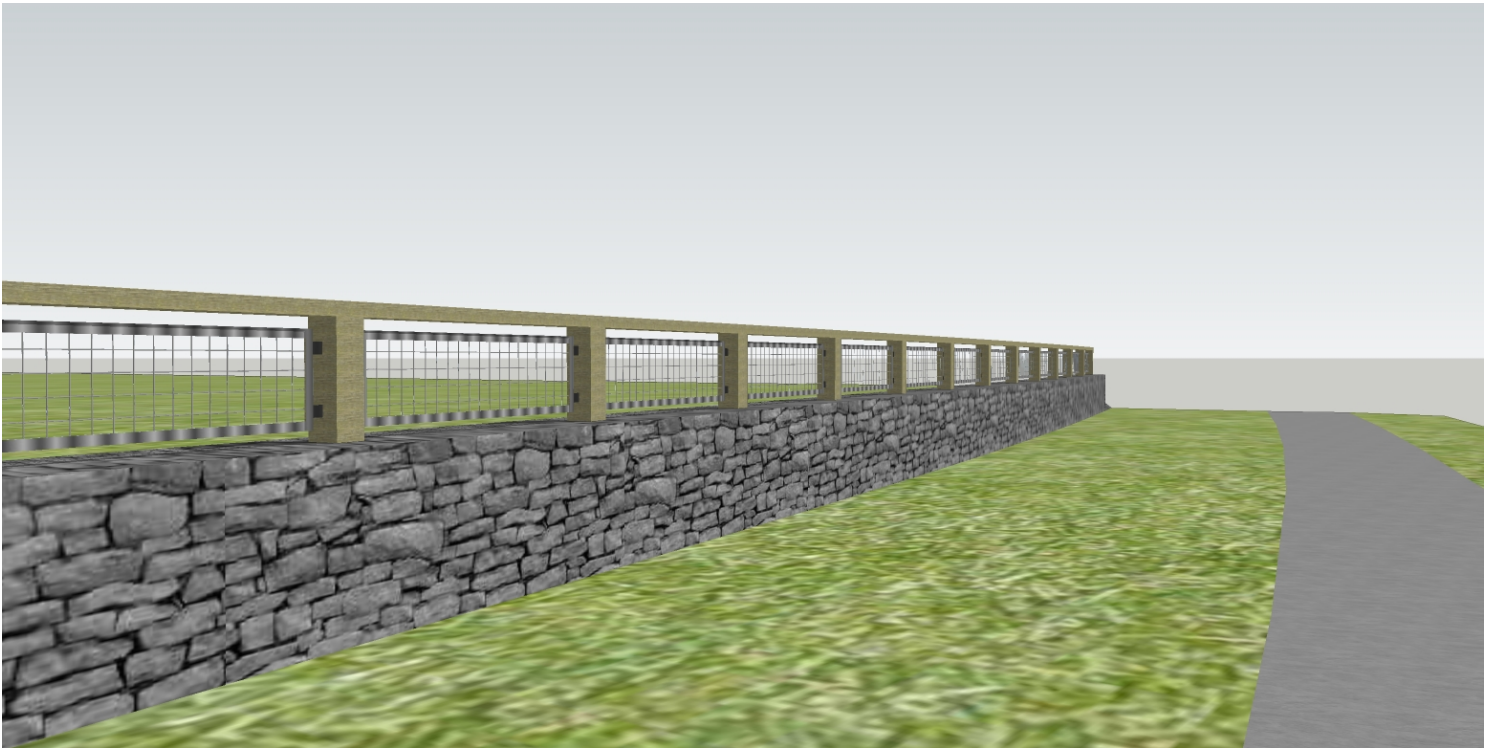
00 STONE WALL WITH FENCE
1" = 1'-0"

DETAIL-FILE

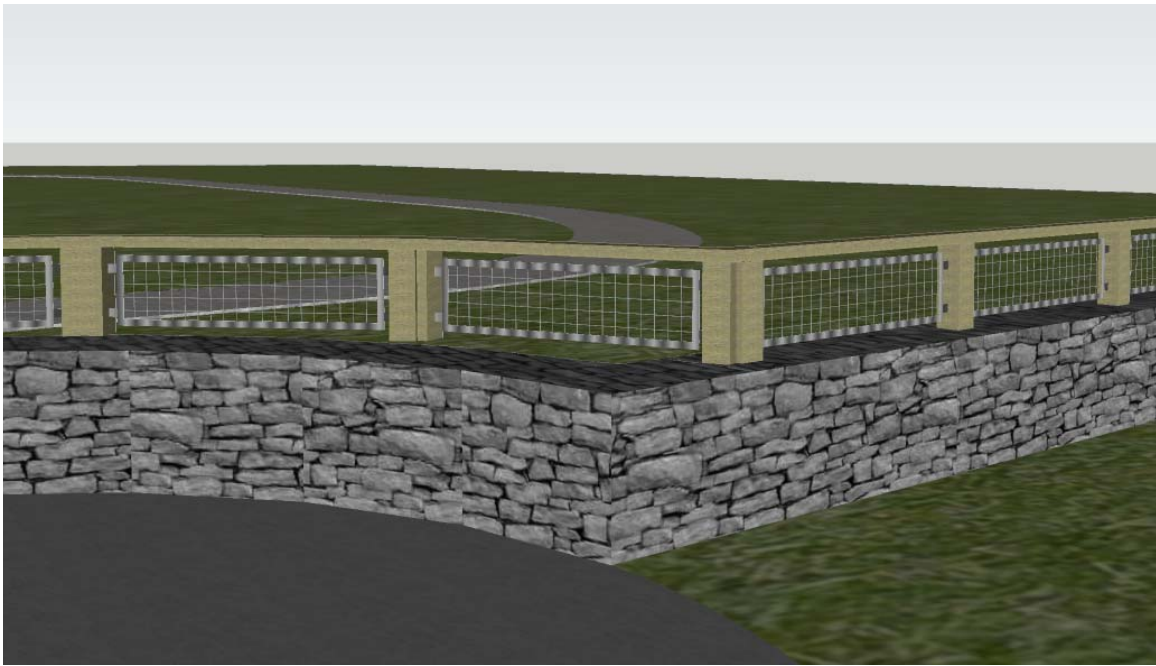
3-D Computer Mock-ups



View looking North along 117



View Looking South along 117



Bench Selection:



Forms + Surfaces "Trio" Bench

Thought should be given to the bench selection. It was selected due to its harmonious design with the Town Green. Should it be used only in the Town Green, or is the bench suitable for use throughout Ledyard Center?