

Sculpture to be highlight of museum campus site

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STAFF REPORTER

A granite sculpture resembling a primitive outdoor theater will go on display Oct. 1 at 12th Street Beach, under a proposal approved Wednesday by the Chicago Park District Board.

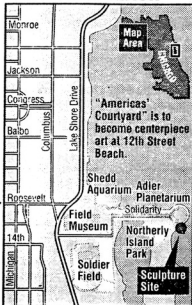
The collection of 60 stone pieces from Brazil, called "Americas' Courtyard," will be installed later this month along a tiny stretch of beach south of the Adler Planetarium in the museum campus.

A \$100,000 landscaping project is under way at the beach. A sloped area will be flattened and nearly 15,000 square feet of sod will be laid to complete the rebuilding of the crumbling shoreline protection system south of the planetarium and along Solidarity Drive, officials said.

"The 60 stone pieces can be arranged in several configurations that could be changed from time to time to create some interesting viewing along the lakefront," said Joan Fencik, the district's general counsel.

Setting the stone sculpture at the beach will create a public outdoor arena for visitors to the eastern edge of the museum cam-

ART AT THE BEACH



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pus in Burnham Park and for those enjoying outdoor events at the astronomy museum. The 12th Street Beach drew 479,799 visitors this summer, officials said.

Fifty-five stones in the sculpture are granite pieces of various colors

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Chicago Park District

and textures, symbolizing the racial and ethnic diversity of Brazil and the world. The other stones include a piece of lava, recognizing the volcanic processes that formed the Earth.

The sculpture would be installed so that sunrise, sunset and Sears Tower are within view. Improvements on 12th Street Beach are scheduled for completion Oct. 1.

The stone sculpture was created by a Brazilian husband-and-wife team, Ary R. Perez and Denise Milan.