Over the next ten years, Princeton will transform nearly 40 percent of its campus for more extensive academic, cultural, and recreational use. Reinstating the position of campus landscape architect and developing a specific landscape master plan are two measures that the University has taken to control the inevitable impact that such rapid growth will have on the campus.

The master plan envisages a campus landscape that will be experientially rich and simultaneously more sustainable, versatile, and functional. The core campus, for instance, which contains one of the most significant groupings of historic architecture and landscapes in the United States, will remain the heart of the University’s character and identity even as buildings are added in other neighborhoods. Landscape plans for this area emphasize stewardship of Princeton’s design legacies through an integrative strategy that includes restoring historic gardens, improving grand procession spaces such as McCosh Walk, and replanting and soil restoration throughout. This is intended to yield more resilient historic landscapes that are ecologically stable and require less maintenance, even with increased usage.

Whether implemented in conjunction with building development or as individual projects, the master plan’s landscape initiatives reflect a comprehensive design approach that considers land planning, construction techniques and materials, and maintenance. Work is already under way at the new Butler College, which includes a new courtyard space with amphitheater seating for informal studying and small gatherings, and on the site of the new Chemistry building, which will include a nature path to the west and a new campus green to the east. Planning for these projects addressed sustainability principles and modern campus needs while also considering the overlapping landscape systems of plants, soils, paving, and stormwater. Similarly, projects that have already been completed—such as the new Elm Drive plantings, the pathway connecting Prospect Avenue and Ivy Lane, and the Whitman College landscape—demonstrate how traditional approaches to campus design can be modified to address contemporary problems resulting from growth such as increased building scale and walking distances.

The reconstruction of Holder Court has preserved the historic space for modern purposes and increased use. It includes wider pathways for bicycle parking and snow-removal equipment. Landscapes, some of which predates the courtyard, will be treated for root compaction and other soil conditions through organic maintenance methods.

Over time, the watershed’s natural resources and lake valley ecology have been slowly degraded. As the town and campus of Princeton have grown over time, the watershed’s natural resources and lake valley ecology have been slowly degraded. The plan identifies a two-pronged approach to restore the watershed and enhance the campus environment while enabling the next era of growth.

First, campus-wide strategies include enhancing existing systems, constructing new local systems, and implementing landscape-based restoration projects. Major projects include stream restorations along Washington Road, new underground stormwater facilities below the Bedford and other new athletic fields, and enhancements to the existing east basin facility.

Second, future development projects will implement sustainable design principles to minimize adverse effects. Sites selected for new development projects will respect the environment by protecting sensitive natural resources, buffer zones, forests, and other ecologically sensitive areas. Whenever possible, new projects will be built on sites that are already developed and make them ‘greener’ by creating new green space. All projects will demonstrate innovative site design techniques, such as integrating stormwater within the landscape for treatment, and promoting infiltration and rainwater reuse.
CAMPUS LIFE

With Frist Campus Center as the physical center of campus, new non-academic facilities are proposed to the east to balance the historic western areas. Prospect Avenue will offer more gathering spots, including the renovated Campus Club and expanded Carl A. Fields Center. Planned retail amenities include a relocated Wawa in the Arts and Transit Neighborhood, a student-oriented store on University Place, and a Labyrinth bookstore on Nassau Street. University Health Services (UHS), headquartered at McGuire Health Center, will grow either to new or satellite locations. A third day-care center, clustered near others in the east, will be convenient to parking, residences, and woodland. The development of an attractive administrative neighborhood off-campus in West Windsor will be connected to the campus by shuttle.

HOUSING

The housing plan sustains Princeton’s tradition of providing students, faculty, and staff with high-quality living space in close proximity to campus. Undergraduates will benefit from the addition of the recently completed Whitman College and the new Butler College currently under construction as part of a residential college plan that pairs three four-year colleges with three two-year colleges. New graduate student housing will be provided in the reconfigured Hibben and Magee apartments. Faculty and staff will have more residential options to the east in a redevelopment of the Butler Tract and an expansion of the Dean Mathey Court complex.

ATHLETICS AND RECREATION

Unlike peer institutions, Princeton’s major athletic facilities are concentrated on the main campus. The athletic program can grow without using significantly more land due to the introduction of modern technologies and better site utilization. Key projects include the Roberts Stadium for soccer, a replacement of the Lenz Tennis Center, conversion of Bedford Field to artificial turf, and new practice fields. Other projects include the Clarke Field baseball facility and a new club sports field. To augment Dillon Gymnasium, alternative fitness center sites are under study. Courtyards and new greens will provide passive recreation space.

Improving a Sense of Campus Community

Supporting a rich and varied campus life

WAYFINDING

A comprehensive wayfinding program will help the over 700,000 annual visitors and members of the community navigate their way to and around campus more easily. Princeton’s unique network of pathways and named walks, reinforced and identified with simple markers to help overcome distracted views, will serve as a surrogate “street system” for pedestrians. A vehicular signage program will identify Faculty Road as the key southern connector and clarify directions to eastern and western campus areas. A new visitor map, directories at selected locations, and integrated building identification will also aid navigation without detracting from the iconic campus setting.

PARKING AND SHUTTLES

Improving transportation options as well as the parking system is critical to the effective functioning of the campus. The University will utilize extra capacity in four lots and extend shuttle service to make them accessible. Offering incentives to drivers to use mass transit will reduce the number of cars. To meet the ten-year demand for parking, a major new facility will be created in the east. This project converts the most remote and least popular surface lot into improved athletic fields designed to complement adjacent open space. Four new shuttle routes will serve core campus and new growth areas and will be adapted over time as required.

TRAFFIC

Princeton’s existing road network does not meet current regional demands. The plan recommends reducing congestion at key intersections by taking advantage of Faculty Road as a less congested east-west corridor. A new roundabout in the Arts and Transit Neighborhood will ease congestion at Alexander Street and University Plaza. Southerly access to the new parking facility will direct traffic to Faculty Road and minimize impacts on adjacent neighborhoods. A designated network of bicycle routes, traffic calming measures, and new crossings along Washington Road will increase pedestrian and cyclist safety. The new Striecker Bridge will provide access between the new Sciences Plaza and the Ethanod.

Connecting and Supporting the Campus

Improving pedestrian and vehicular circulation to preserve the walkable campus for a growing population
Ten-Year Projects

Illustrating all of the projects proposed by the Campus Plan, this map serves as a reference guide to new buildings, building renovations, landscapes, athletic facilities, housing, parking, roadways, public transit, and stormwater projects.

LANDSCAPE PROJECTS
- Landscaping project site area
- Constructed woodland
- Garden restorations
- Sites, planting, and restoration
- Tree planting areas (campus canopy)

BUILDING PROJECTS
- Project site area
- New structures
  - Peter B. Lewis Center for the Arts
  - Experimental Media Studio
  - Princeton University Art Museum
  - Fine Center
  - Butler College
  - Neuroscience and Psychology
  - Chemistry
  - Cap A. Field Center
  - Operations Research and Financial Engineering
- Proposed project areas
  - Dillon Pit development
  - Olden Street rededication
  - Engineering expansion
  - Day-Room expansion
  - Greenhouse expansion
  - Faculty and staff housing
- Major building renovation
  - Springfield Clubhouse
  - Udell
  - Hobart and Holland apartments
  - Firestone Library
  - McCarren Health Center
  - Green Hall
  - Frick Laboratory
  - Huyck Laboratory
  - 155 Nassau Street
  - Campus Club
  - 5 Ivy Lane
  - Bowen Hall

ATHLETIC FIELD IMPROVEMENTS
- Project site area
  - Robarts Stadium (soccer)
  - Princeton Field
  - Practice fields
  - Rugby field

PARKING PROJECTS
- Parking lots
- Parking garages
  - Lot 19 expansion (Graduate College)
  - Dinky commuter lot
  - Lot 23A expansion
  - Lot 20 reconfiguration
  - New campus parking facility

INFRASTRUCTURE
- Roadway improvements
  - Alexander Street-University Place
  - New Dinky station on Transit Plaza
  - Eoin Drive gate expansion
  - Sturdivant Bridge
  - Washington Road improvements
  - CRF and Cap A. Fields Center
  - Parking facility and athletics field
  - Parkway improvements
  - Broadmead, FitzRandolph, and Faculty Road sidewalk improvements

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
- Project site area
  - Eoin Drive stream restoration
  - Infiltration basin under Robbins Field
  - Washington Road stream restoration
  - Ivy Lane piping restoration
  - Infiltration inlet under eastern #4 athletic fields
  - East Basin capacity upgrade
A Sustainable Campus

Climate disruption is a defining issue of our time, and many Princeton students are keenly aware of its potential impact. Uniquely positioned for meaningful local, national, and international impact, the University and its campus are becoming a dynamic working laboratory for practicing sustainability on every level and at every scale.

Sustainability has long been a priority at Princeton, from research and education to university planning and operations. Researchers at the Princeton Environmental Institute (PEI) and the world-class federal laboratories at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory and the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory address various aspects of the energy problem, including supplies, pollution, and climate impacts. This year, PEI, the Woodrow Wilson School, and the School of Engineering and Applied Science initiated the Grand Challenges Program, which promotes student involvement and faculty research and focuses on issues that cut across the environmental, political, social, and engineering realms. Student-run initiatives like the Student Farm on issues that cut across the environmental, political, social, and engineering realms. Student-run initiatives like the Student Farm to Fork Project and RecycleMania are strongly encouraged.

The “Sustainability at Princeton” website was launched on the main campus and its campus are becoming a dynamic working laboratory for practicing sustainability on every level and at every scale.

Looking to the Future

What can, or should, be said about the future of the campus beyond the year 2016?

The primary goal of the Princeton Campus Plan is to prepare the University for the next decade of anticipated growth. While specific needs beyond that are difficult to predict, it is safe to assume that the University and its campus will grow in step with academic programs just as it has for the past 250 years. As the campus approaches build-out capacity, each new project must be located strategically in order to preserve Princeton’s park-like environment and nurture its unique academic and residential culture.

The planning team studied future options with specific objectives in mind:

- Anticipated growth can be divided into two basic categories: “core” uses, which the plan proposes be within a ten-minute walk of the Frist Campus Center, and “support” uses, including administrative offices, graduate housing, campus utilities, parking, daycare, and others. The plan identifies areas for future growth in both categories to ensure that future uses will be compatible with their surroundings.
- The plan’s recommendations will help the University avoid the common error of meeting needs too expediently, without a full understanding of the possible impacts of their site planning or demands on infrastructure. The plan demonstrates that future growth can be leveraged to create improved open spaces, pedestrian linkages, infrastructure, and environmental sustainability. It shows that it is possible to increase the density of the campus, and preserve its park-like character, and in ways that sustain the intimacy of the campus, are environmentally responsible, and respect the needs and concerns of the surrounding communities. While meeting the needs of the next ten years, this plan also paves the way for the next phase of growth, still located on the north side of Lake Carnegie and most likely in the Ivy Lane/Western Way Neighborhood and the Alexander Street corridor.

The pace of institutional development will vary as a result of many external factors, from global events to the local economy, but it is the commitment to advance learning, scholarship, and research that drives university expansion. What may happen after ten years cannot be drawn or imagined clearly. For that reason, the long-term objective of this campus plan has been an exploration of growth strategies for no more than several decades, rather than a visionary speculation of very-long-term growth. If this plan does not propose specific solutions for an unpredictable future, it does suggest a framework that will allow our successors to make future decisions wisely, when they know a lot more about future needs than we can possibly know today.

Along with the responsibility to plan new campus growth, it has been our special obligation to preserve and celebrate the diverse layers of architectural history already developed here. Indeed, the Princeton campus has evolved as a living museum of the architecture of America over 250 years. The Campus Plan is dedicated to a thoughtful continuation of that record.
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