

Campus Landscapes

The landscape is the most enduring and memorable feature of Cornell's Ithaca campus. From the town side to the countryside, the open space network comprises a great diversity of landscapes: gorges and valleys, lawns and gardens, quads and courtyards, streets and paths, orchards and fields, woods and meadows. The value of these landscapes goes far beyond their aesthetics. Many of them are used for teaching, research, outreach and athletics. They are a fundamental part of Cornell's social infrastructure, providing spaces for casual interaction, recreation and celebrations. They connect places and encourage walking. And they are critical to the environmental health of the campus and greater Ithaca.

Because of their importance to the mission and experience of Cornell, the campus landscapes require ongoing care and enhancement. As Core Campus intensifies more resources for maintenance will be needed. The improvement of historic landscapes and the creation of entirely new ones are also important tasks that lie ahead. As the framework and setting for future development, such initiatives will beautify the campus, help establish an identity for each area of change, and balance development with green space and outdoor amenities.

This chapter defines the future open space network for Main Campus and provides an overview of key landscape initiatives.



Beebe Lake



The Orchards



Herb Garden, Cornell Plantations

The Primary Open Space Network and Key Landscape Initiatives

The spatial structure and hierarchy of Cornell's landscapes is complex, and an understanding of the structure is necessary to create new places and landscapes that are in keeping with the identity of the university while connecting to and supporting existing places. This spatial structure is the Primary Open Space Network. The network mirrors the Physical Structure Plan, defining where development and open spaces exist and are planned, and reinforcing patterns of land use and movement.

There are three additional reasons to define Cornell's open space network. First, to understand and protect the role and character of the most highly valued places, such as the Arts Quad and East Avenue; second, to provide direction regarding places in need of improvement or change, such as Tower Road; and third, to help define the role and character of new places to be created in a manner that is consistent with the best places Cornell

has to offer, such as the proposed Judd Falls Greenway. Understanding this network is critical to maintaining the character of existing places and the creation of new places that fit within, extend and support the existing landscape in a holistic way.

Cornell and County natural areas exist throughout the Primary Open Space Network; within the countryside, the gorges, greenways, quads and greens. These natural areas are actively maintained and protected by the university. Guidelines pertaining to natural areas are outlined in Part II of the campus master plan.

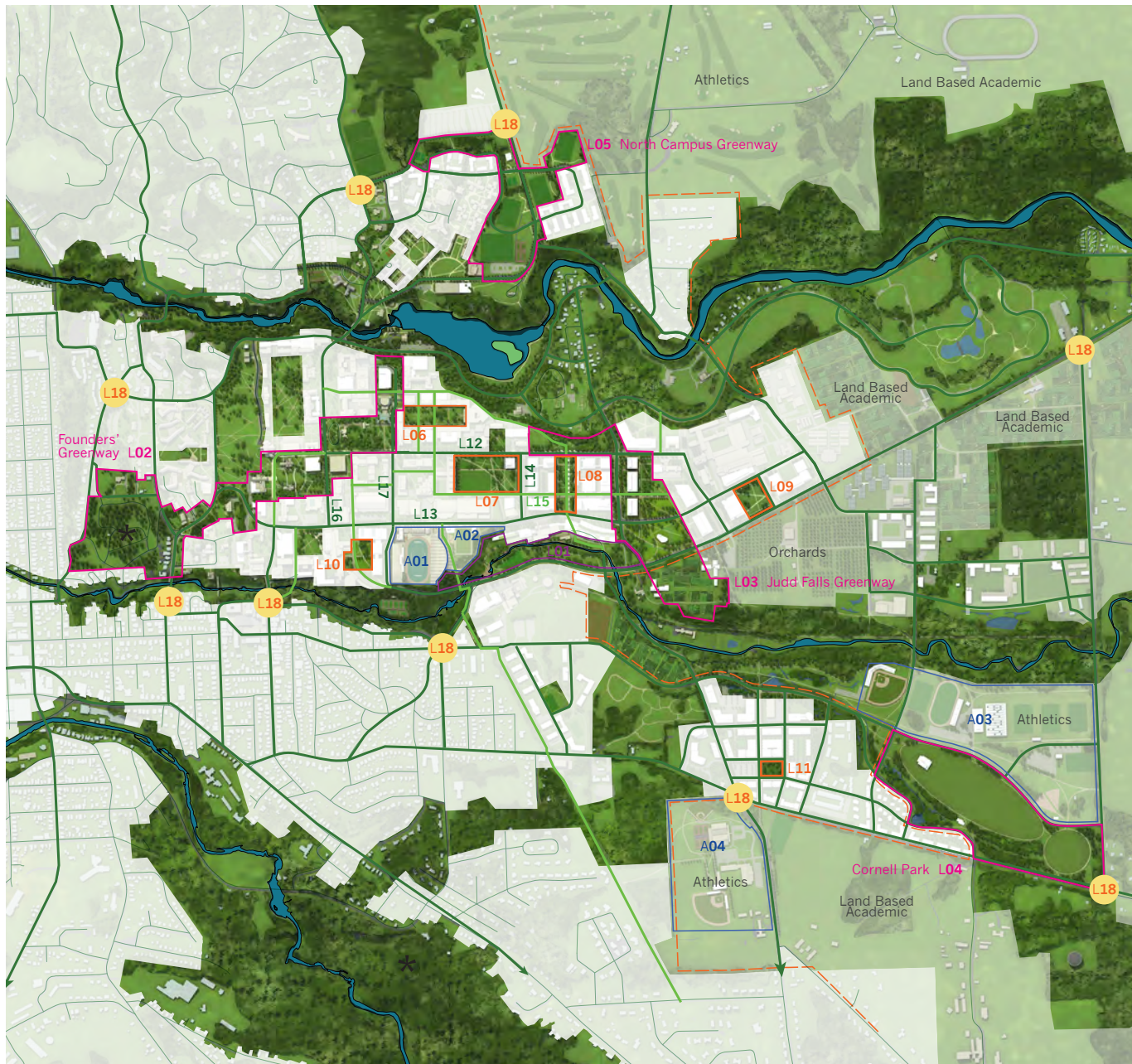
Within the Primary Open Space Network, eighteen Key Landscape Initiatives have been identified. They are presented in a comprehensive manner to highlight their role within the Primary Open Space Network, campus structure and the land use patterns. Arguably, these more than any other initiatives will shape and define the image and experience of Cornell for the next generations. Further place-specific detail and recommendations regarding coordination with building and transportation initiatives can be found in the "Development Parcels and Key Landscape Initiatives" portion of Part II of the campus master plan. Existing guidelines such as Cornell's Landscape Design Standards should be consulted in conjunction with the campus master plan.

The Key Landscape Initiatives are concepts with clear parameters and goals; they are not designs. They are a means of articulating the vision and overall fit of each landscape within the overall plan, but each should be subject to its own master plan or landscape design. Due to their scale and role as shared spaces and infrastructure, these places will often be realized in an incremental manner. Funding and champions will likely have to come from the larger university community, rather than just one college or department, as discussed in Section 5. Through this inter-related discussion of network, initiative and project, the campus master plan positions incremental change within a larger pattern of place-making.

The campus master plan focuses on places and landscapes that are relatively large and central to organizing development. Interstitial spaces that complement and link larger landscapes are important to the experience and image of the campus, and therefore will also require investment and ongoing maintenance.

Detailed recommendations regarding the landscape initiatives are contained in Part II of the campus master plan.

The Primary Open Space Network Plan



Landscape Initiatives:

- L01 Cascadilla Meadows restoration
- L02 Founders' Greenway landscape plan
- L03 Judd Falls Greenway landscape plan
- L04 Cornell Park
- L05 North Campus Greenway landscape plan
- L06 Ag Quad
- L07 Alumni Quad
- L08 East Center Green
- L09 Vet Quad
- L10 Hoy Green
- L11 East Hill Park
- L12 Tower Road reconstruction
- L13 Campus Road streetscape
- L14 Rice Drive
- L15 Mid-Campus Walk
- L16 East Avenue streetscape
- L17 Garden Avenue streetscape
- L18 campus gateways
- ✱ Properties not owned by Cornell

Athletics Initiatives:

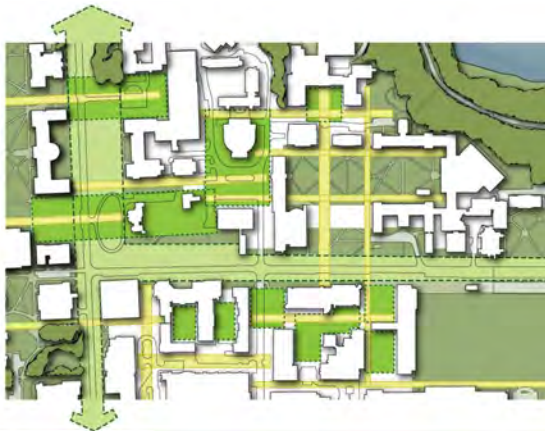
- A01 Schoellkopf Stadium
- A02 Kite Hill field and plaza
- A03 Ellis Hollow Athletics Complex
- A04 Pine Tree Road Athletics Complex

fig 29 – Primary Open Space Network Plan



Interstitial spaces

The diagram below illustrates the complexity of secondary and interstitial spaces that overlap and intersect with each other. These spaces are well defined and designed in and of themselves, but they also lead to or set-up the experience of the larger campus landscapes. The fine-grained pedestrian network is especially apparent at this level, appearing as web-like connective tissue. Interstitial spaces are typically conceived and implemented as site-specific projects, either on their own or as part of a building or infrastructure project. Part II of the campus master plan further discusses such spaces, recognizing that their location and character must be considered in the context of adjacent development.

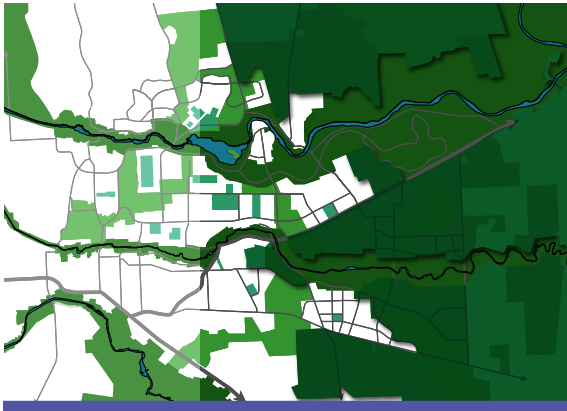


Landscape and Ecology

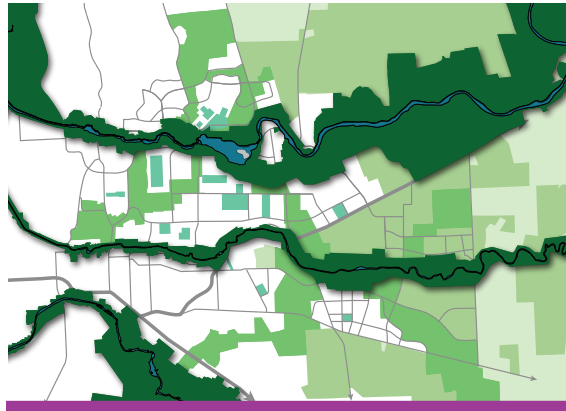
The design of the landscape and the preservation of natural habitats and ecological networks are often closely related. The campus master plan recommends strategies for naturalization and habitat restoration and creation. Places that support landscape ecologies will be strengthened. The enhancement of biodiversity, improvement of water quality and strengthening of Cornell's unique sense of place are important features of the plan, highlighting the value of the campus's natural heritage.

The primary means by which these objectives will be achieved is through the expansion of the open space networks themselves. Cornell and County Natural Areas continue to be protected, and additional buffer zones around them in which little or no development is permitted will promote naturalization and the gradual extension of habitat. Improved connectivity between open space network components will also ensure ecological networks are intact. Infrastructure that is within or crosses natural areas, such as storm water facilities and roadways, will be designed to mitigate negative impacts. Further recommendations regarding best practices, material selection, installation and maintenance are outlined in Part II of the campus master plan.

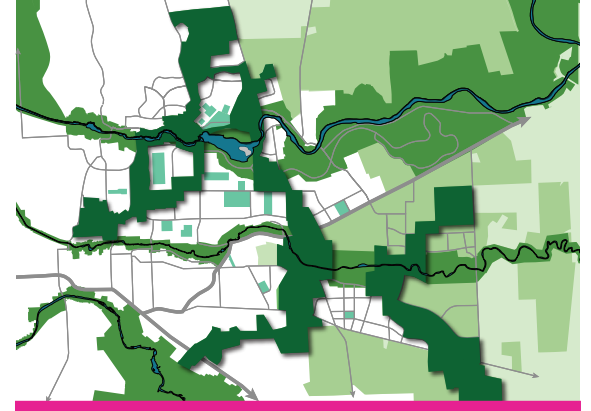
There are six main components of the Primary Open Space Network: the Countryside, the Gorges, Greenways, Quads and Greens, Streets and Walks, and Gateways. These are specific places and landscapes that have clear and multi-faceted roles. They comprise the large-scale elements of the Open Space Network and encompass a variety of smaller-scale landscapes, such as gardens and interstitial spaces, which are a fundamental part of the campus experience.



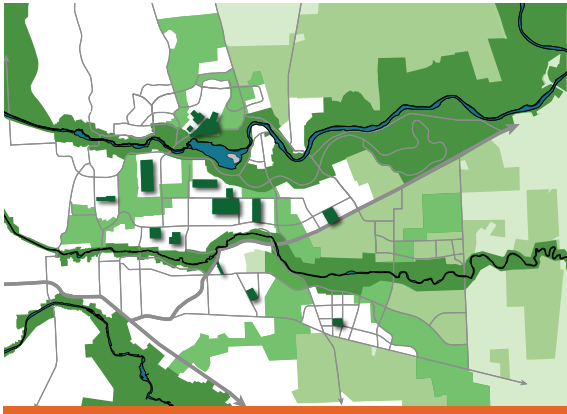
The Countryside



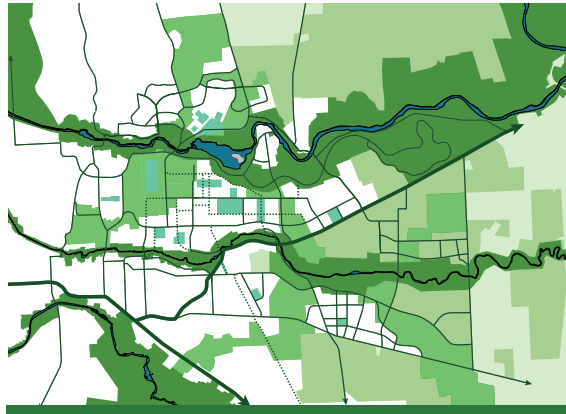
The Gorges



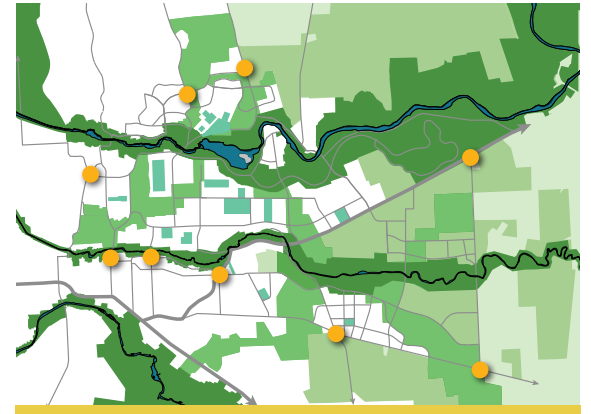
Greenways



Quads and Greens



Streets and Walks



Gateways



4.21

The Countryside



The countryside plays a central role in Cornell's academic, research and outreach functions; it plays an equally important role in defining the character and image of the university. The countryside preserves the experience of Cornell's natural setting by maintaining views and recalling the rural history of the lands to the east. The various fields, research plots and natural areas support the academic mission for teaching and research and provide important support functions through agricultural support services. The countryside also offers a location for a variety of other facilities and uses that cannot be accommodated in Core Campus. Such uses include athletic fields, golf courses and other recreational facilities, as well as large-scale outdoor event and recreation space. Further, some areas of the countryside provide the space required for servicing support, storage and work yards that keep the university operational.





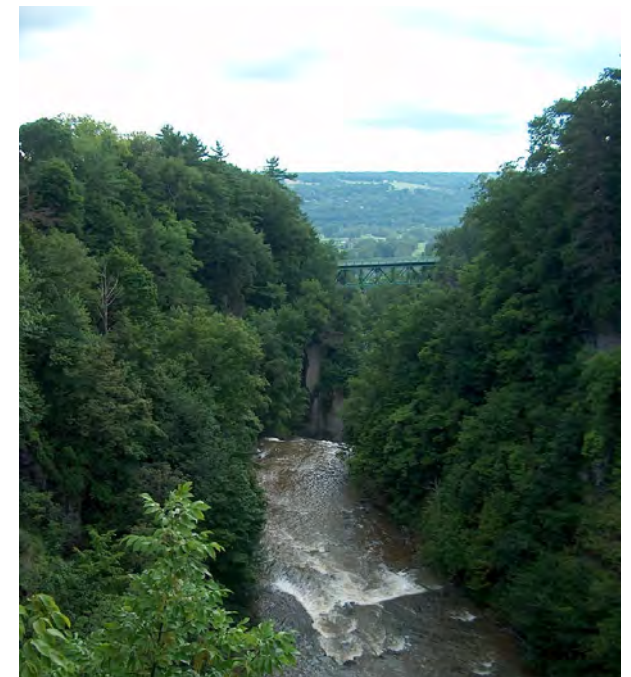
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The Gorges

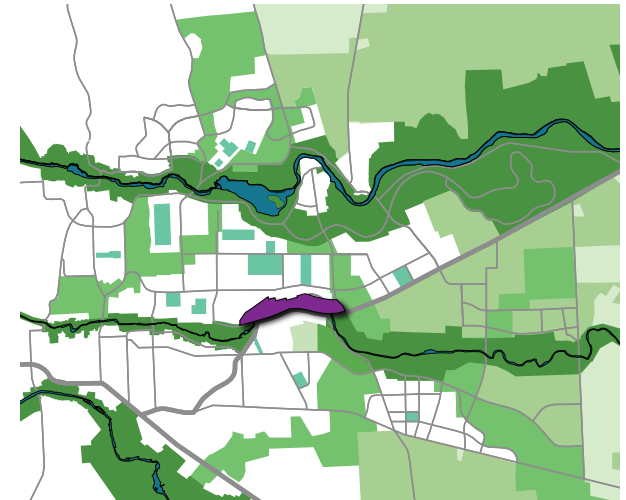


The Fall and Cascadilla Creek gorges are key defining features of the campus, both spatially and in terms of Cornell's image. Since the university's inception the gorges have created a landscape like no other, enhancing the quality of place and contributing to Cornell's profile as a unique and world-class institution. The gorges play an important functional role, providing for views, passive recreational spaces, trails, naturalized areas and habitat, and play a fundamental role for both the natural drainage and storm water networks. Campus infrastructure has been accommodated in the gorges for moving goods and people, including portions of Dryden Road and Forest Home Drive, and for generating and moving energy, including utility corridors, the physical plant, and the historic generating station. The gorges serve as the location for important teaching and research uses, such as the Plantations and the Wilson Synchrotron Lab, and the university's neighbor, Forest Home Village, is located within the Fall Creek valley.

Of special interest to the university is Ithaca Falls, a primary scenic attraction of Ithaca and an area of significance in the history of Cornell. The university lands extend west to Lake Street, and includes a parcel used by the city for a park, and several civil works developed by Ezra Cornell. Ezra Cornell oversaw the building of a dam and tunnel to divert water to the mill owned by Jeremiah Beebe, the miller for whom Cornell worked when he first came to Ithaca. The scenic and historic character of this area should be protected and enhanced.



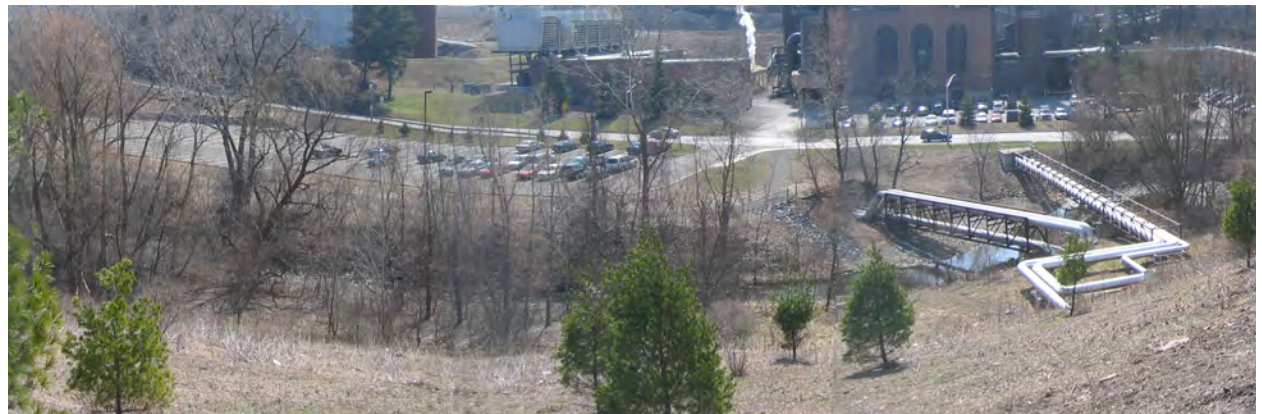
Gorges L01 Cascadilla Meadows



Location map

Cascadilla Meadows will become a prominent place within the campus, immediately adjacent to East Center. The panoramic views to the south from Campus Road will become an important part of the campus experience, and pedestrian movement through and around this landscape will only increase. Currently this landscape is dominated by infrastructure, the environmental conditions are somewhat compromised and pedestrian connections are lacking.

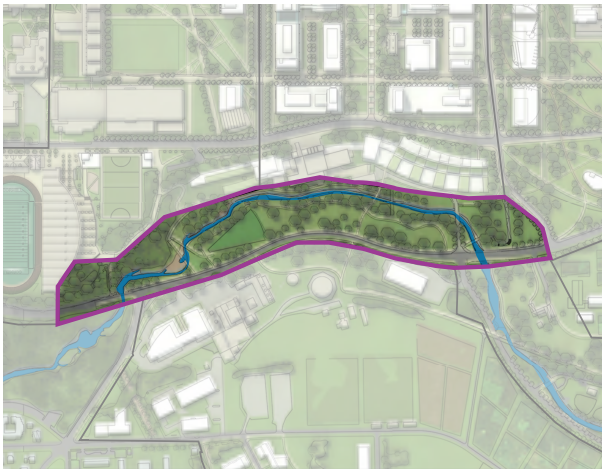
The proposed expansion of the Wilson Synchrotron provides an opportunity to reconfigure this portion of the landscape in a significant way, to establish better connections through the valley and even shape habitat restoration. The damming of Fall Creek and the creation of Beebe Lake was a once-in-a-generation opportunity to shape the landscape of Cornell. The expansion of the Wilson Synchrotron is an opportunity of the same magnitude and significance. As most of the expanded



synchrotron would sit below the level of the ridge, it can be conceived as part of the landscape, with pedestrian connections across its green terraced roofs to the valley below. In the valley itself, extensive naturalization and habitat restoration can take place.



Existing conditions



Proposed initiative

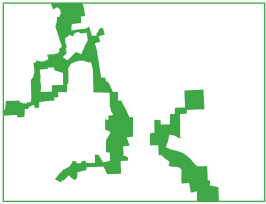


View northeast from Dryden Road across Cascadilla Creek to Cascadilla Meadows and East Center. The proposed expansion to the Wilson Synchrotron provides an opportunity for both habitat restoration and improved pedestrian connections down the slope.



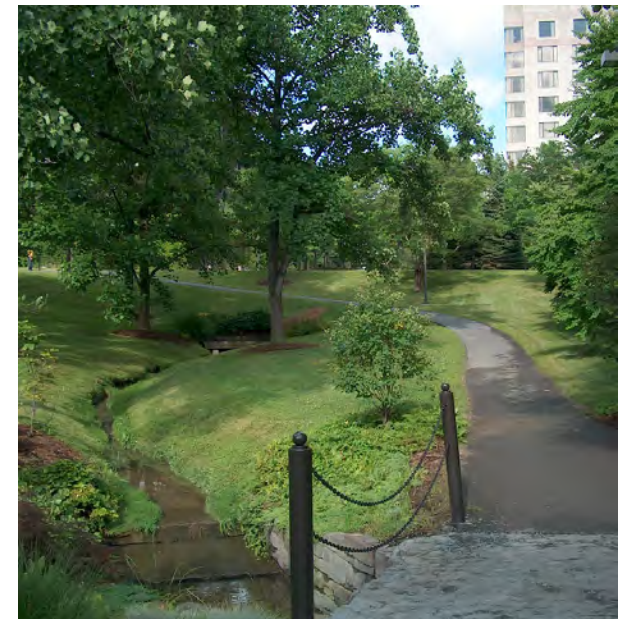
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Greenways



The greenways are significant components of the open space network. They connect the campus to the larger natural landscapes of the gorges and countryside through views as well as trail and road connections. It is through the greenways that most Cornellians experience the larger landscape. The greenways contain, or are formed by natural features, such as creeks, ridges and Cornell and County Natural Areas. The landscape character of each is varied and may contain formal landscapes, gardens, athletic fields and roads. However, the predominate image of the greenways is that of a natural landscape. Most greenways play a role in the arrival sequence to campus and contain streets, walks and trail networks. Unlike the relatively grid-like street network, the greenways provide opportunities for diagonal movement and views across campus. Greenway systems on campus frequently connect to important open spaces off campus, further strengthening their human and ecological benefits for the greater Ithaca region.

Two other greenways are not further discussed in the campus master plan, but should be considered as future landscape initiatives. The Triphammer Greenway is roughly aligned with Triphammer Road and the Cornell and County Natural Area and athletic fields that run east of it. This greenway plays a role in the arrival sequence to campus from the north. The Pine Tree Road Greenway occupies the ridge that extends southward from Central Campus to Maplewood Park and the lands on which the Oley Equestrian Center is located. This greenway plays a role in the arrival sequence to campus from the south.

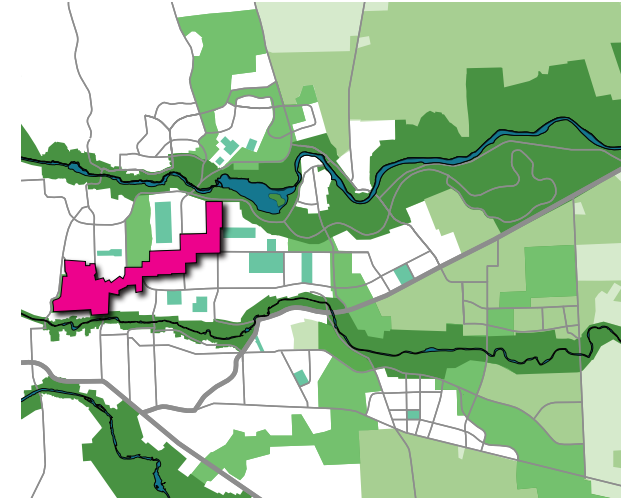


There is an opportunity to re-introduce and naturalize features that have been almost lost from campus.

Greenways L02 Founders' Greenway



Bailey Plaza

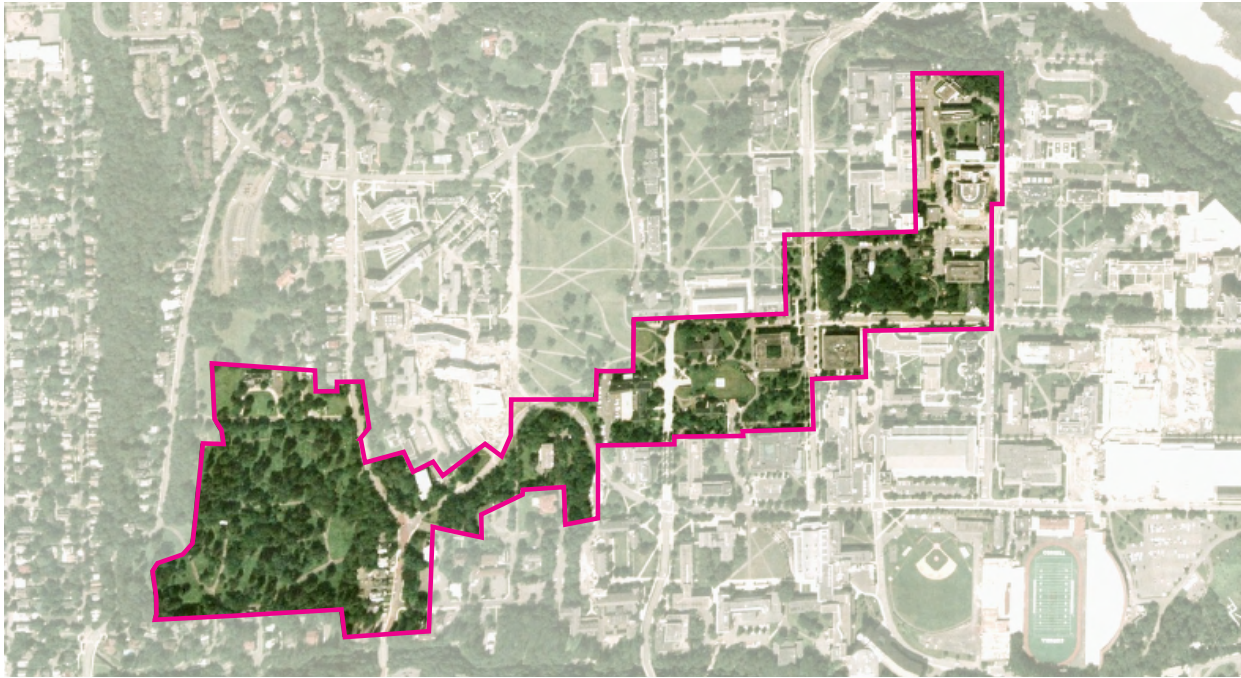


Location map

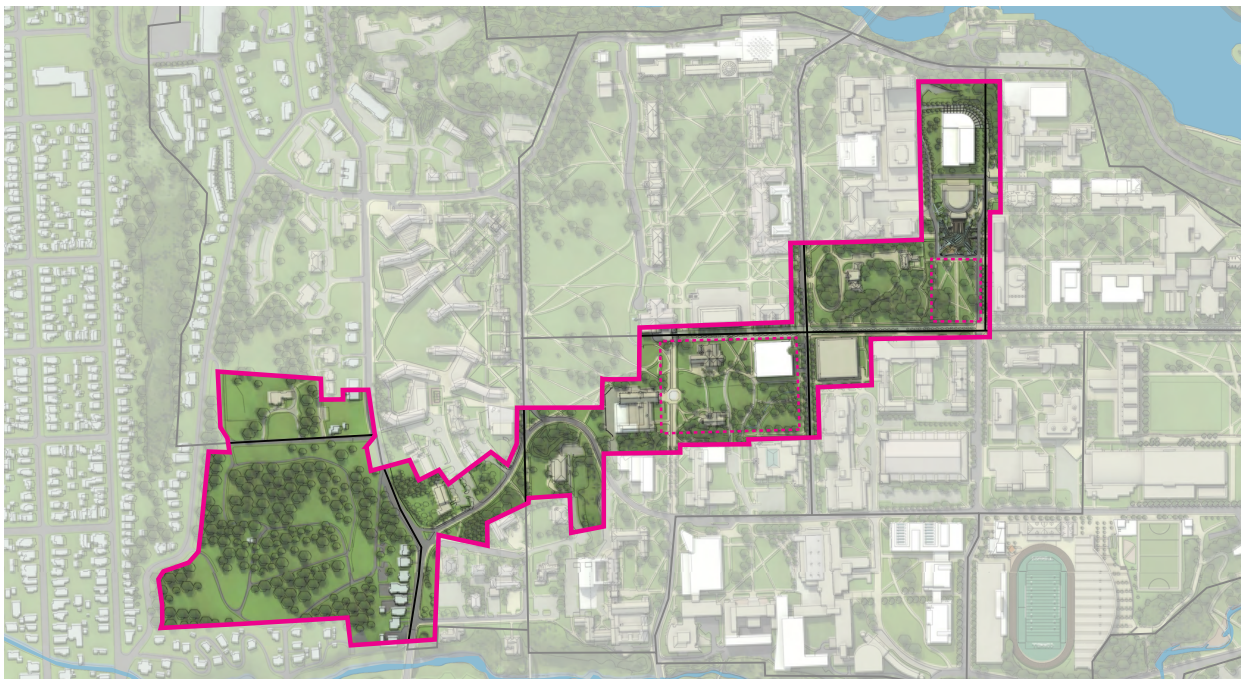
Founders' Greenway currently exists as a series of partially connected landscapes and gardens on Central Campus. Many of these gardens are remnants of a larger creek and valley network called the Wee Stinky Creek that runs diagonally through Central Campus. Founders' Greenway is so named because it begins at Llenroc and the Ithaca City Cemetery, passing through the gardens at A.D. White House and Bailey Plaza and beyond to the gorge landscape of Beebe Lake. There is an opportunity to strengthen the connections between these landscapes and reinforce the presence of Wee Stinky Creek and other natural features while improving the gardens and other formal landscapes within this larger natural setting. The Cornell Store should be relocated to create a more naturalized open space and open up views through the greenway. Over time, when Malott Hall is at the end of its life and removed, the site should remain open, connecting the A.D. White Gardens to Bailey Plaza and showcasing Bailey Hall in the Greenway.



Wee Stinky Creek



Existing conditions



Proposed initiative



A.D. White House



The Big Red Barn



Llenroc



View above above the Ithaca City Cemetery looking east along the Wee Stinky Creek corridor, from West Campus in the foreground, to Bailey Plaza at the top of the image

Founders' Greenway

Artist's rendering of a view down Wee Stinky Glen. The view is looking west from East Avenue towards Willard Straight Hall and Cayuga Lake in the distance. There is an opportunity on the Cornell Store site to create a new open space and focal point for undergraduate life.

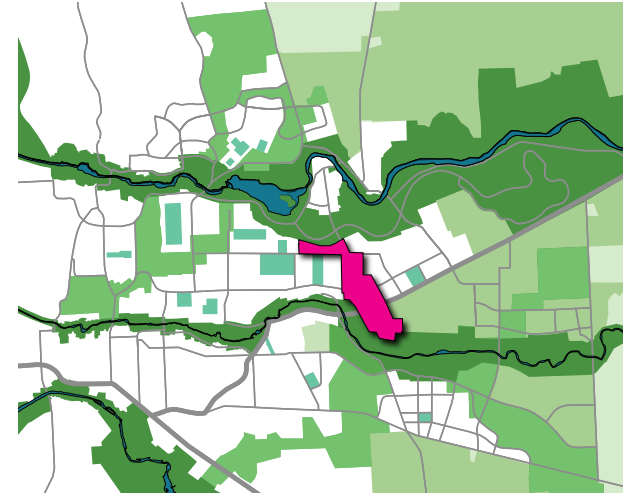




Greenways L03 Judd Falls Greenway

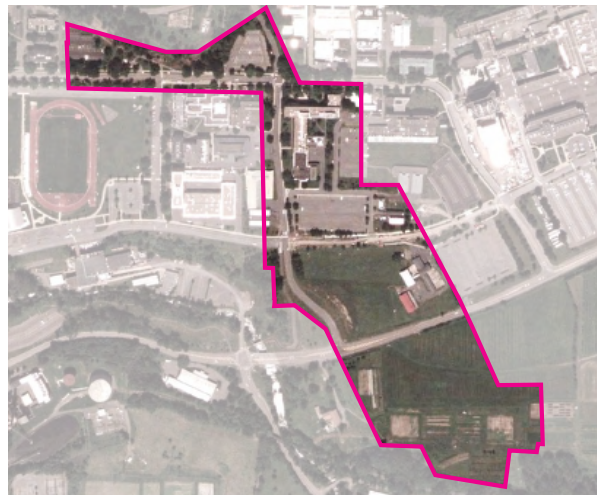


Aerial view looking north across the greenway to the Vet College



Location map

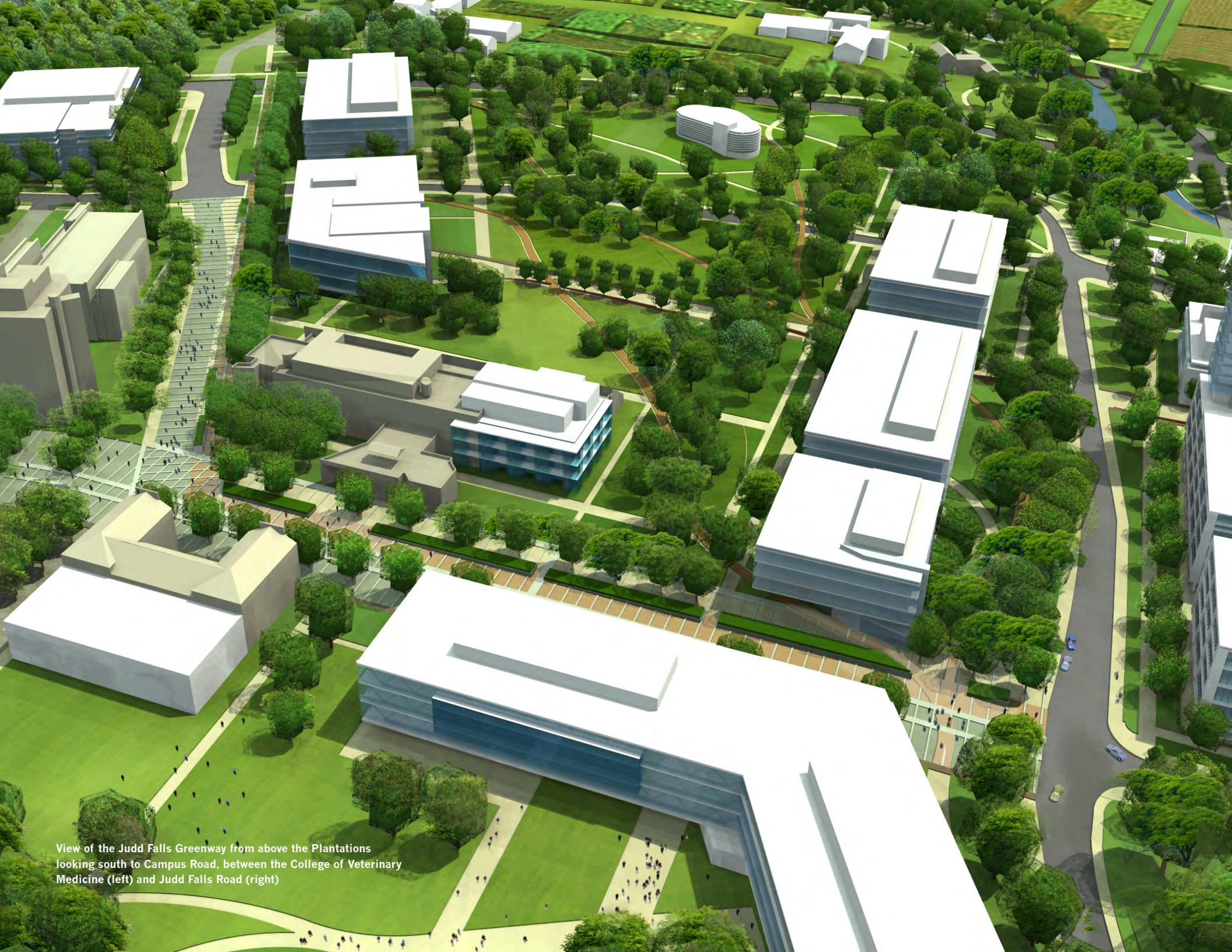
Judd Falls Greenway is envisioned as a series of connected landscapes that incorporates the existing Plantations and Beebe Lake, connects along Judd Falls Road to its intersection with Tower Road, then continues diagonally through the campus to connect to the pastures of the Teaching Barns, the Dilmun Hill Student Organic Farm and Cascadilla Creek. It is intended to be a green, pedestrian-oriented connection between the gorges that will extend the character and natural image of the gorge, garden and countryside landscapes into Core Campus while providing both framed and panoramic views to the surrounding setting. It will play a significant role in defining the landscape character and a new sense of place for East Campus. It is the eastern equivalent to Founders' Greenway in that it provides a meandering route through the campus that is not aligned with streets or walkways and provides for a more picturesque interpretation of campus design.



Existing conditions



Proposed initiative



View of the Judd Falls Greenway from above the Plantations looking south to Campus Road, between the College of Veterinary Medicine (left) and Judd Falls Road (right)

Greenways LO4 Cornell Park

Cornell Park reintroduces an expansive common space into campus and community life that has been absent from the university for several decades. It is envisioned as a large park that would be open to students, faculty, staff and the Greater Ithaca community. It has the potential to be a multi-purpose space that could be used for concerts, exterior exhibitions and informal active recreation. Portions of it could be used for staff and faculty allotment gardens. It could also become part of the Plantations and Arboretum, as originally anticipated in the 1929 master plan, which established that landscape and proposed the integration of the lands within the Fall Creek and Cascadilla Creek valleys as a scenic whole.

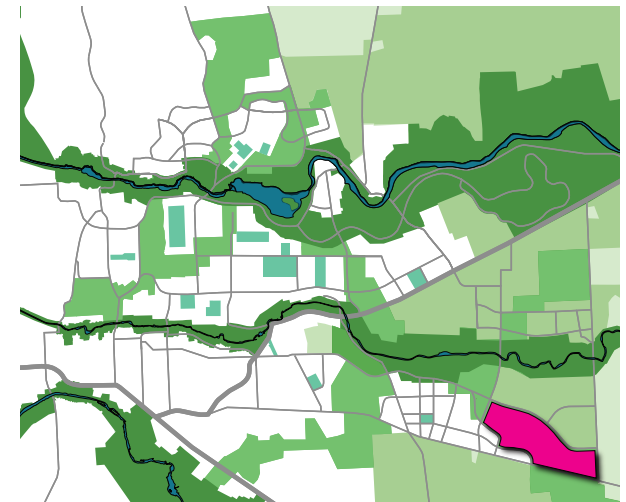
The primary space of Cornell Park is oriented along an axis which extends from the intersection of Ellis Hollow and Game Farm Roads toward the Core Campus, preserving the panoramic views to campus from this gateway and in turn, those from the edges of Campus Road to the southeast. The western edge of Cornell Park is defined by a small drainage course, which as development

proceeds, may need to be restored as a seasonal creek or storm water management feature. This feature will provide an opportunity to extend the vegetation of Cascadilla Creek into Cornell Park and create a buffer between the park and the emerging residential areas within East Hill Village. The northern edge of the park accommodates the alignment of the electric power line corridor, although its ultimate relocation below ground is recommended. Synergies between the park and the adjacent Ellis Hollow Athletics Complex are encouraged.

The existing Farm Services uses on the site for Cornell Park will need to be relocated to an appropriate location prior to development of the park.



Existing conditions



Location map



Proposed initiative

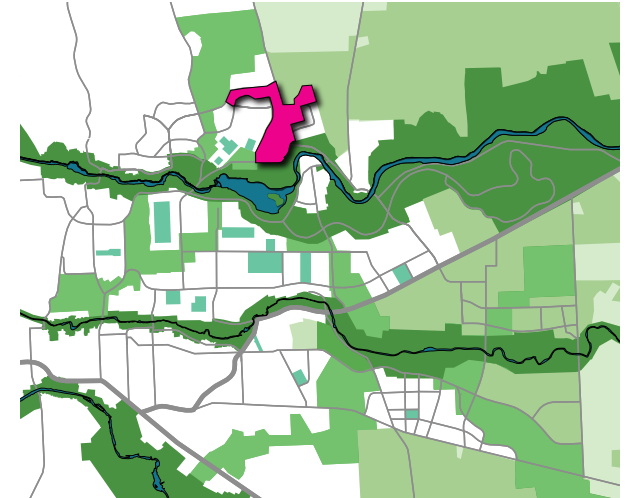


View of Cornell Park looking toward Core Campus from above Game Farm Road.
The Park will be an amenity for both the university and greater Ithaca communities.

Greenways L05 North Campus Greenway

The North Campus Greenway runs north from Beebe Lake, encompassing the athletics and recreational fields and extending north to the Robert Trent Jones Golf Course. The greenway incorporates a variety of landscapes, from natural to rural, including Rawlings Green, the Fuertes Observatory and Beebe Lake. Used predominantly for recreational activities, it has been designed in a piecemeal fashion, and the existing sports fields disrupt the natural flow of the landscape.

Generally, this landscape slopes toward Fall Creek from George Jessop Road, with long panoramic views south over Beebe Lake and the Fall Creek Gorge and into Core Campus. The greenway also provides a similar connection to the countryside to the northwest. The redevelopment of the Hasbrouck community in the longer term should include new open spaces that will enhance this connection.



Location map



Aerial view looking west towards the existing North Campus from above Warren Road



Existing conditions



Proposed initiative



View of the North Campus Greenway, looking towards Core Campus from above the intersection of Pleasant Grove Road and Jessup Road. The Greenway will provide an improved setting for recreation and enhance the sense of arrival to campus from the north.



4.24

Quads and Greens



The quads and greens of Cornell University are iconic landscapes that provide places and communities with a strong identity. They link and unify the buildings that frame them and set up views to the larger landscape. The Arts Quad, Ag Quad and Engineering Quad give the colleges around them a profile and “home”. Although they may be identified with specific academic groups, they are used and enjoyed by the larger university community. Quads provide opportunities for many activities, including outdoor teaching and studying, small and large social gatherings, and passive and active recreation. As buildings are programmed, there are a variety of opportunities for relationships between these outdoor uses and indoor activities.

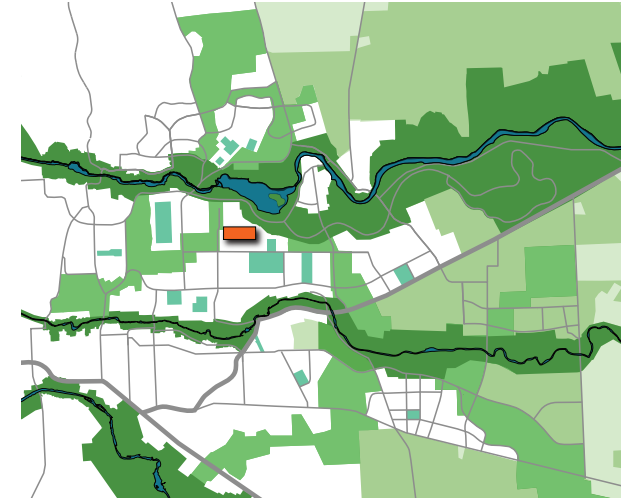
Proposed Quads and Greens

- Alumni Quad
- East Center Green
- Hoy Green
- Vet Quad
- East Hill Park



Clara Dickson Courtyard

Quads and Greens L06 Ag Quad



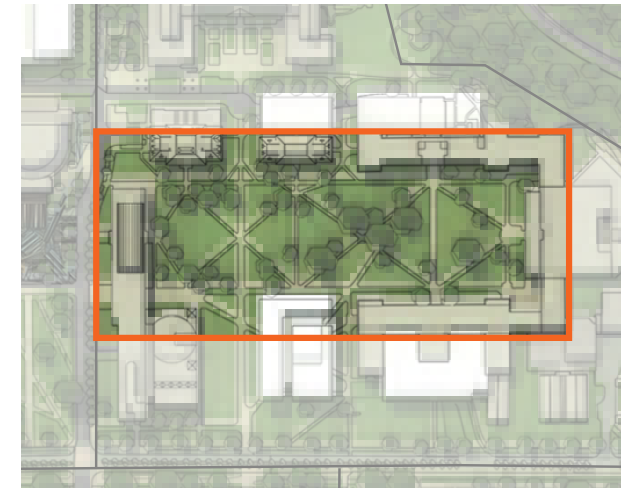
Location map

The perceived “home” of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the Ag Quad is one of the most enduring places on the Cornell campus. Its history and image are rooted in the memory of countless alumni and, together with Tower Road, the Ag Quad is part of the legacy of Warren Manning’s vision for the campus. In recent years, nearby building construction has disrupted the landscape of the quad. Although the former Roberts Hall site is a prime location for a significant new building, restoration and enhancement of the quad can proceed.

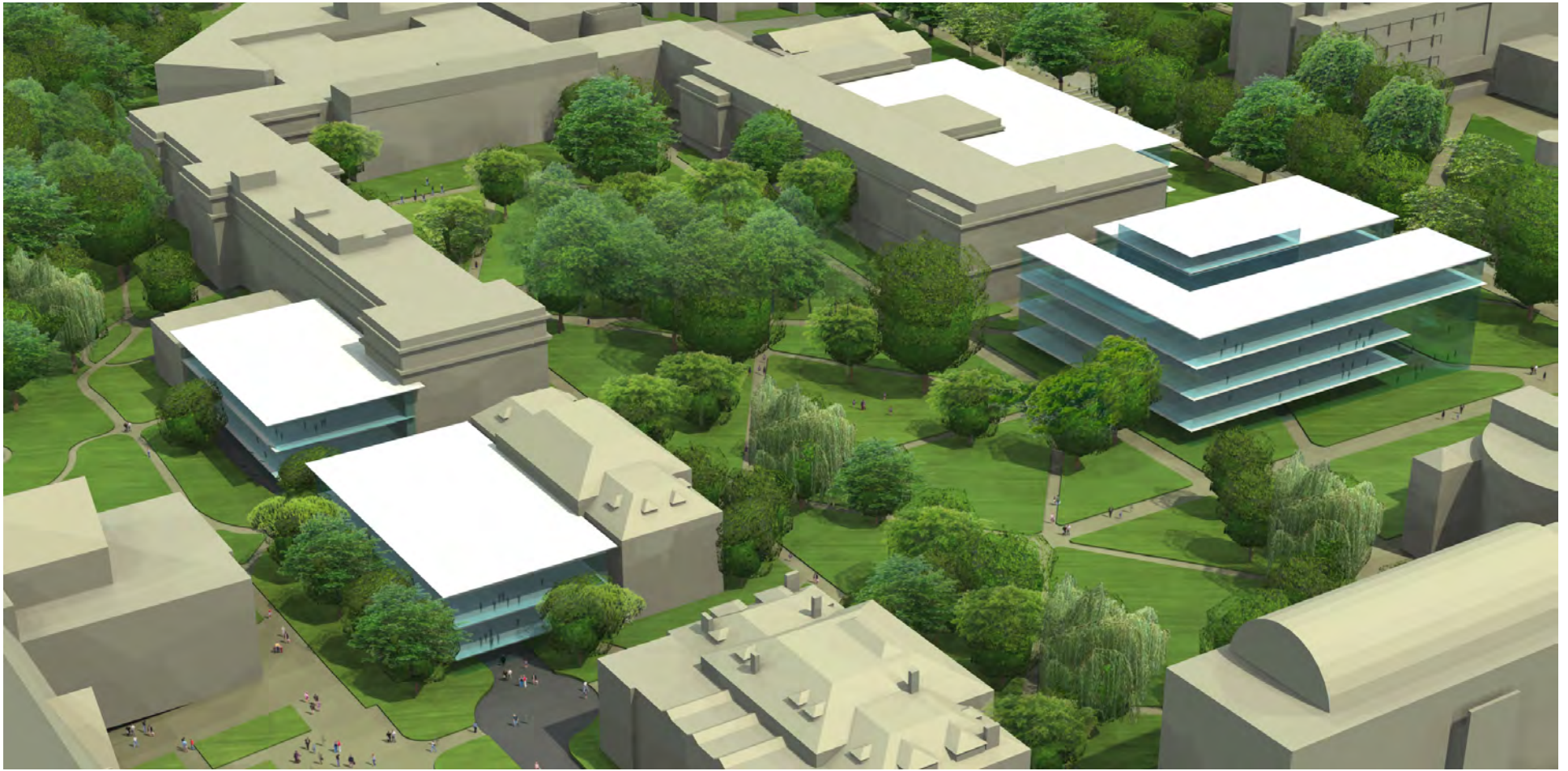
As with all of Cornell’s quads, axial connections and views through the quad to other courtyards, walks, gorges and greenways introduces complexity and nuance the Ag Quad; it is more than a simple “room” in the landscape. Reinforcing these connections should be a part of the restoration.



Existing conditions



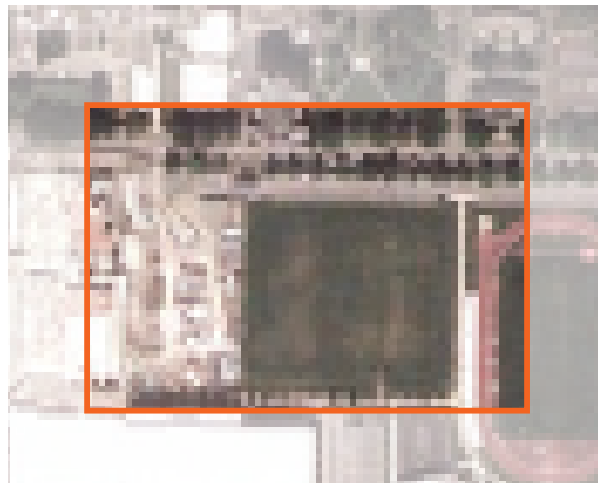
Proposed initiative



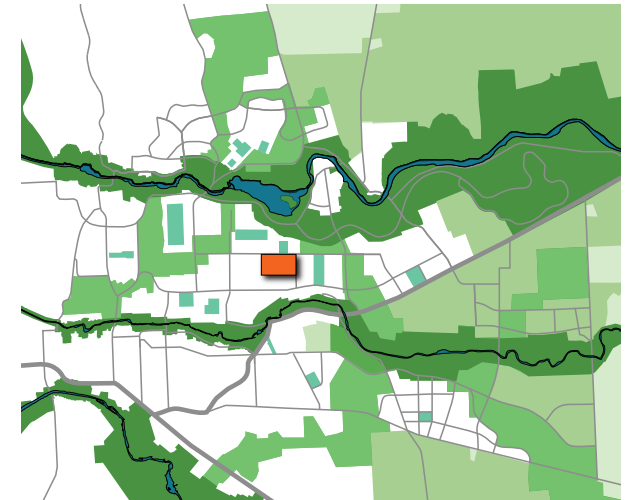
View of the Ag Quad from above Bailey Hall, looking southeast. The historic character of the quad's landscape will be respected and restored. Additional development is anticipated.

Quads and Greens L07 Alumni Quad

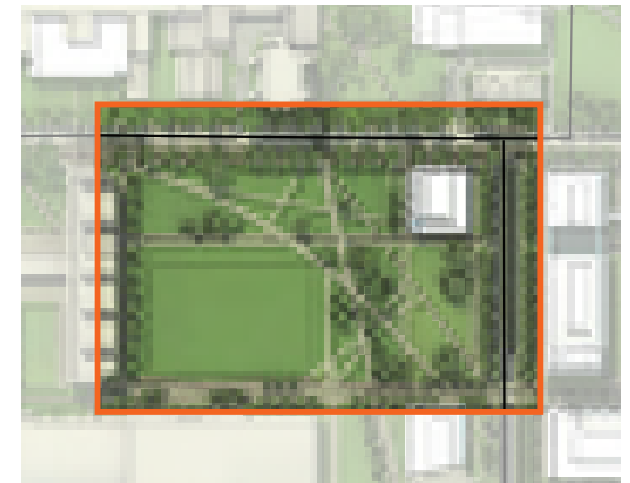
Alumni Quad takes its name from the playing fields that currently occupy the site, east of Weill Hall and south of Tower Road. Momentous in size and stature, the quad is intended to be a great space comparable to the Arts Quad and Ag Quad. It will be the key move in the next generation of large open spaces on campus. Alumni Quad will be unique in that it is defined in large part by surrounding pedestrian paths and vehicular roads and less so by buildings. This condition expresses a sense of porosity and openness that will be reflected in the variety of uses that can be accommodated on the site, from recreation to intimate spaces.



Existing conditions



Location map



Proposed initiative

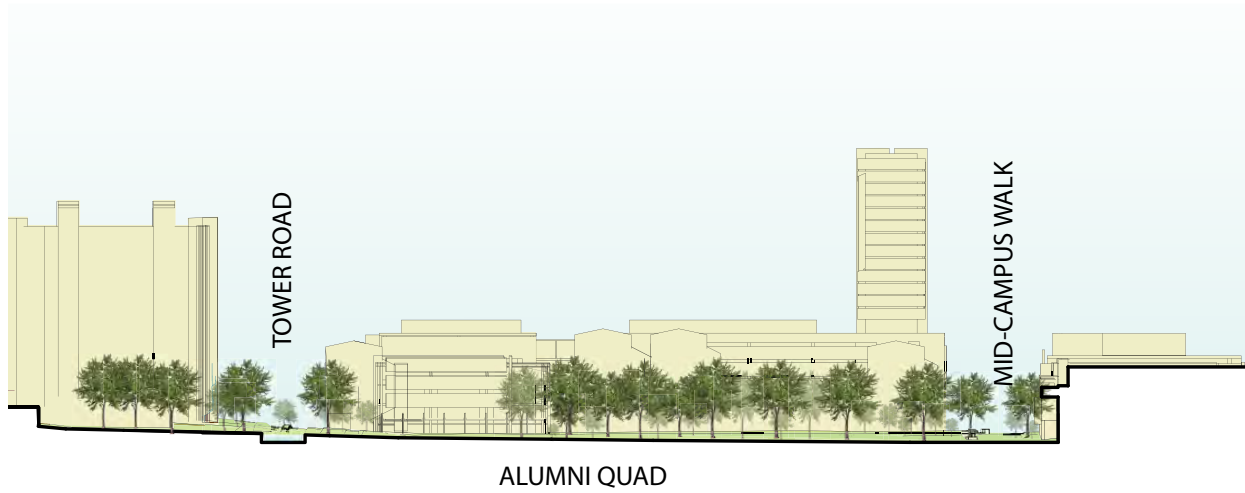


fig 30 · North-south section looking east toward East Center. The design of the quad will need to address the grade change between Tower Road and the ground floor of buildings on the south side.

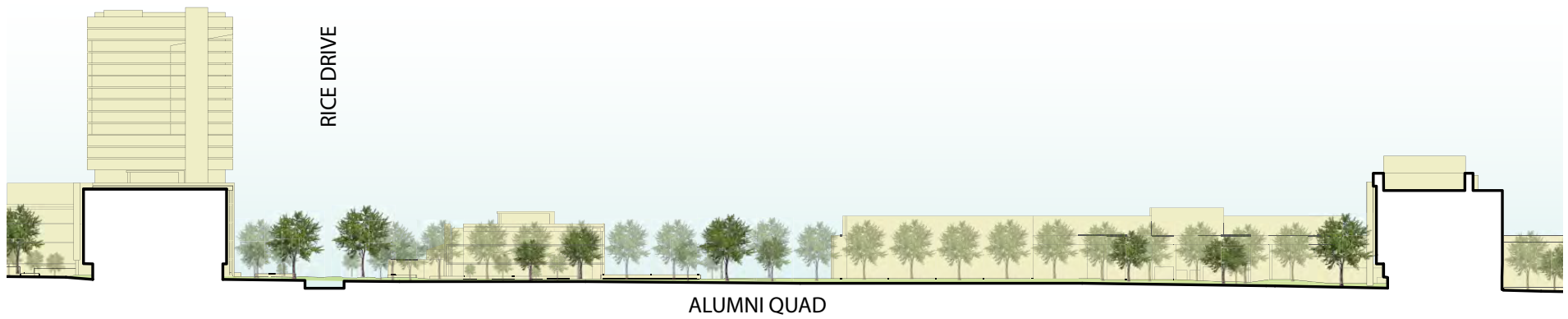


fig 31 · East-west section looking south. Alumni Quad will be wider than the Arts Quad but not quite as long.



View from the top of Weill Hall looking east across Alumni Quad

Alumni Quad

Artist's impression of Alumni Quad and Tower Road, looking southeast towards the proposed Rice Drive and East Center. Tower Road is dramatically improved and repaved as a "pedestrian priority" environment. The removal of the existing parking along the south side of the road will improve the health of the existing oaks and connect the street to the open space beyond. The quad will be animated by active ground floor uses in a future building in the northeast corner and other facing buildings. Besides accommodating spontaneous and potentially programmed recreation, Alumni Quad will become the university's next great event space.



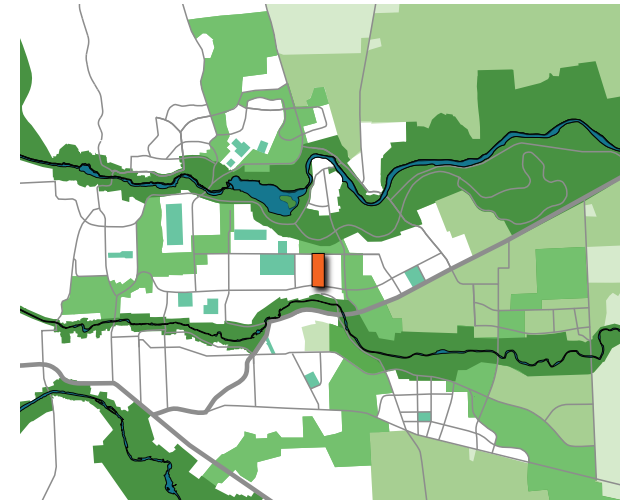


Quads and Greens L08 East Center Green

East Center Green will develop around Wing Road, west of Stocking Hall and Wing Hall, connecting the two gorges at the point on campus where they come closest together. This important gorge-to-gorge connection is envisioned as a pedestrian-oriented place, with significant opportunities for landscape and outdoor social infrastructure that will support the development of East Center. Wing Road should be re-designed as a promenade that accommodates maintenance and emergency vehicles but not private vehicles. Primary servicing and loading will occur through below grade connections off Campus Road, reducing the potential for pedestrian and vehicular conflicts and supporting the green's role as an important public space.



Existing conditions



Location map



Proposed initiative



View from the north of East Center Green, linking the Fall Creek valley to the Cascadilla Creek valley

East Center Green

Artist's impression of the transformation of Wing Drive into East Center Green, a linear space that will connect the Fall Creek and Cascadilla Creek valleys, and become the heart of the new East Center. This space will be the address for both historic buildings, such as Stocking Hall, and new development that will support graduate student life on campus.



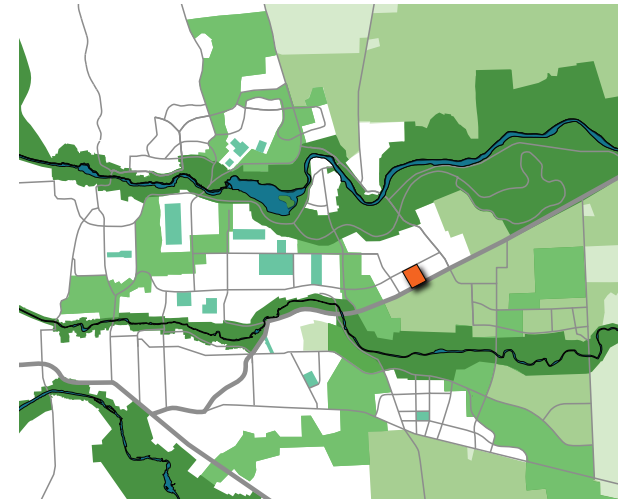


Quads and Greens L09 Vet Quad

The new Vet Quad is envisioned as an open-ended quad that will preserve and enhance views south to the Orchards, Cascadilla Creek and beyond to Hungerford Hill. The landscape will provide an address and setting for new buildings at this end of Core Campus. Currently defined by a large surface parking lot, the new quad will provide a front door and focal point for the College of Veterinary Medicine. With street access along the east side, the Vet Quad will form part of an important new arrival sequence to the eastern portion of the campus.



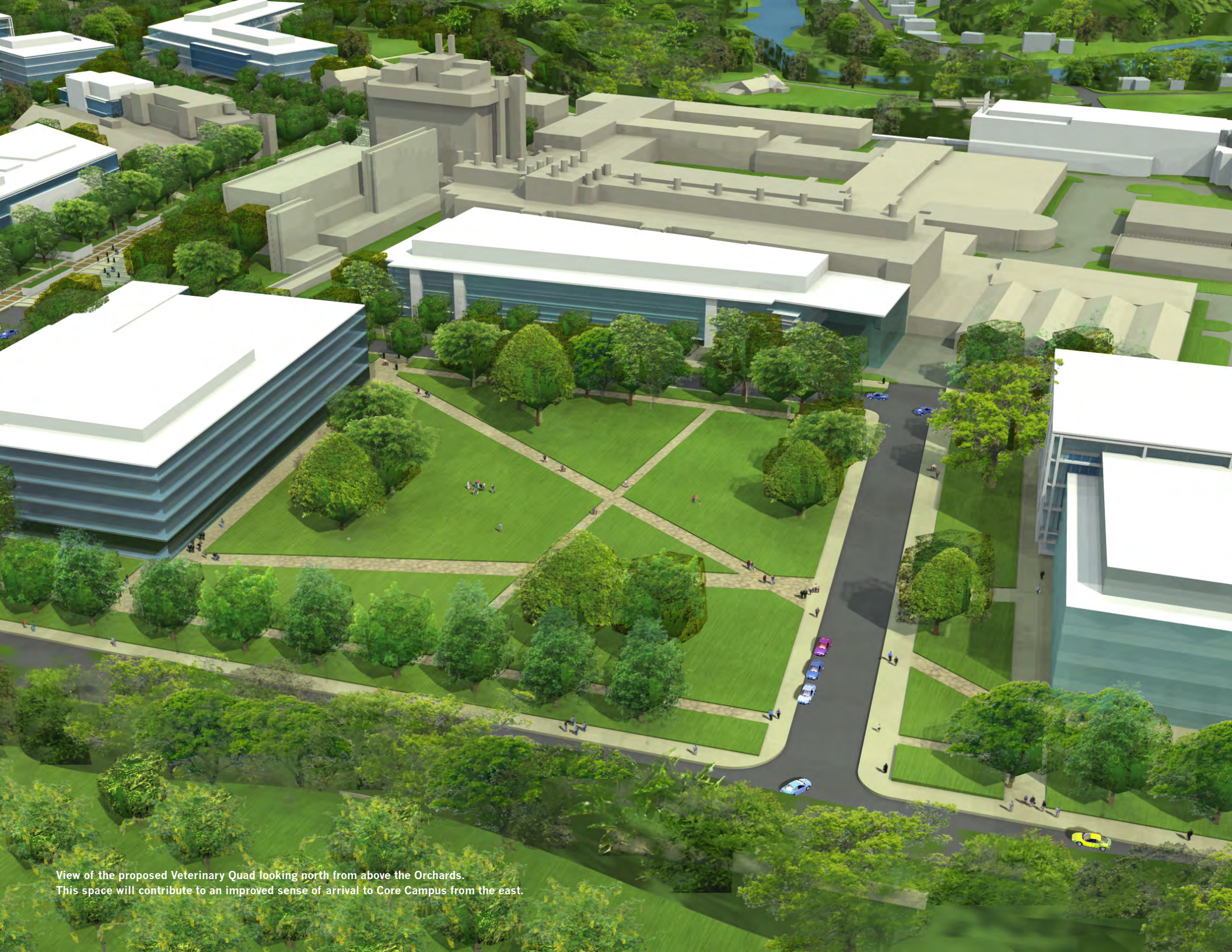
Existing conditions



Location map



Proposed initiative



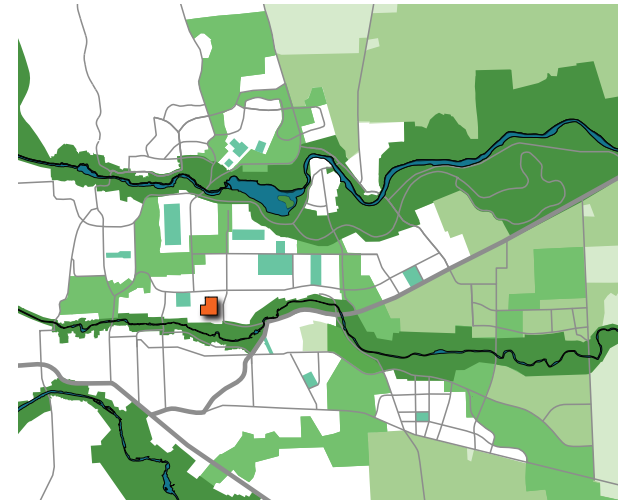
View of the proposed Veterinary Quad looking north from above the Orchards.
This space will contribute to an improved sense of arrival to Core Campus from the east.

Quads and Greens L10 Hoy Green

Hoy Green will dramatically reinvent an existing open space on campus, complementing the existing Engineering Quad and improving the Hoy Road gateway to campus. With the ultimate relocation of Hoy Field, the new green will be a smaller, more intimate academic setting with diagonal views out to the Cascadilla Gorge. The existing configuration of Hoy Road will be maintained as part of the pedestrian and cyclist arrival sequence. Diagonal movement along this axis will be crossed by a primary east-west axis that begins at College Avenue and will extend through to Garden Avenue. Private vehicles will be redirected onto an extension of Garden Avenue.



Existing conditions



Location map



Proposed initiative

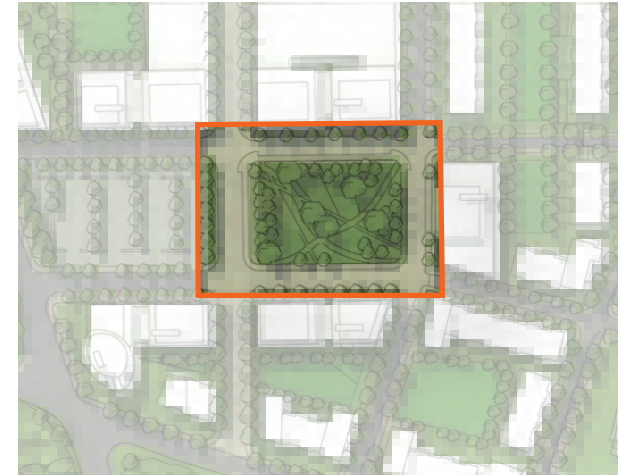


Hoy Green will be created on the site of Hoy Field. This view is looking east from above the Engineering Quad. Hoy Road is realigned with Garden Avenue, just east of the proposed buildings.

Quads and Greens L11 East Hill Park



Existing conditions



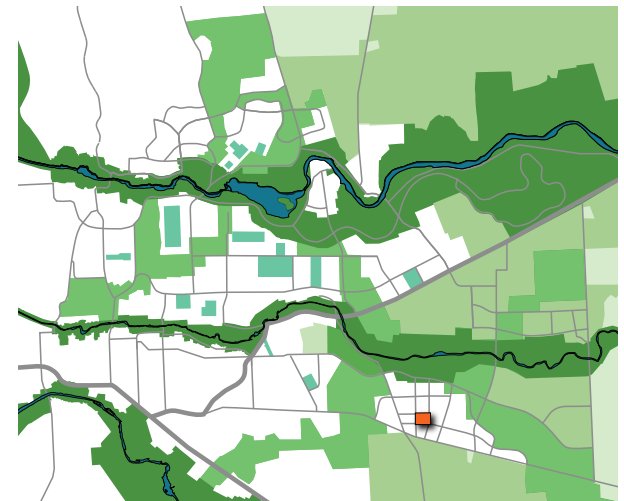
Proposed initiative

East Hill Park will be an important new public space and a focal point and defining feature of a new mixed-use village. The park will be a central green with the potential for hardscaping in the form of a playground, skating rink, bandshell or other community amenities. A place

for passive recreation and use, the park can also be programmed to support retail and other community uses. Pedestrian orientation will be an important element of East Hill Village, and East Hill Park should be seamlessly integrated with the surrounding streets.



Example of a park within a town center

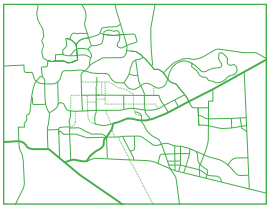


Location map



4.25

Streets and Walks



More than simply a means for getting from one place to another, streets play an important role as public space and are a key element of Cornell's landscape. Streets are one of the most enduring elements of the campus, providing a solid framework for the university's development since its inception. They are critical to access and spatial connectivity, and are a dynamic and highly interactive public space.

Streets define space, influencing the built form and porosity of the campus, the frequency and patterns of movement, and the experience of a place. Along with formal open spaces, they provide a sense of order, giving many buildings an address and allowing for a consistency of experience along their lengths. At Cornell, streets provide important framed views of the natural and cultural surroundings, enhancing the experience of campus. Views of Beebe Lake and Fall Creek as one travels to Core

Campus on CREDIT Farm Road or views of McGraw Tower from far down Tower Road are just two examples of this.

Movement itself, of course, is important to the character of a street. Many types of movement can be accommodated on a street, including walking, bicycling and vehicular, all of which should support the desired physical qualities of the street. In turn, these qualities affect how movement occurs and what types of movement



are favored. Patterns of movement can evolve over time, responding to changing technologies and societal trends (for example, the car) and changing priorities (for example, Ho Plaza). Both movement and place-making qualities must evolve consistently to enhance the overall quality and experience of streets as landscapes.

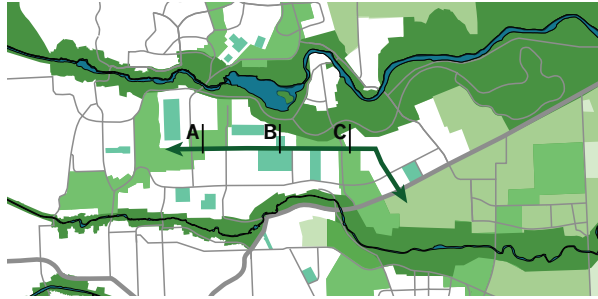
The following streets and walks are discussed here:

Existing

- Tower Road
- Campus Road
- East Avenue
- Garden Avenue

Proposed

- Mid-Campus Walk
- Rice Drive



Location map



Tower Road, existing conditions

Streets and Walks L12 Tower Road

Tower Road is a defining feature of the campus, and one of the most important primary open spaces, a legacy from the same historical period as the Ag Quad. Whereas the primary geography of the campus is defined by a series of north-south plateaus stepping down toward the west, Tower Road is unusual in that it follows an east-west plateau. It is a formal boulevard on axis with McGraw Tower and is characterized by an undulating street wall with flanking secondary open spaces and buildings, creating varied experiences from openness to intimacy. It is the primary connector between Central Campus and East Campus, and has the potential to be a long unifying landscape like no other on campus.

Tower Road will achieve consistency through a double row of trees and consistent paving and street furniture, but can have variation in other elements, including transportation functions, adjacent built form and open space characteristics, which can vary dramatically along the road. The re-design of the street, however, should give priority to the needs of transit, pedestrians and cyclists over other vehicles.



fig 32 - Section through Tower Road at Alumni Quad looking west



View looking west down Tower Road from East Campus

Tower Road

Artist's impression of a rebuilt Tower Road, next to Alumni Quad, looking west. The street should become a grand avenue that gives priority to transit, bicycles and pedestrians, with existing parking relocated and significant landscape improvements on both sides. An undulating pattern of buildings and open spaces along its entire length will continue to provide a variety of experiences.





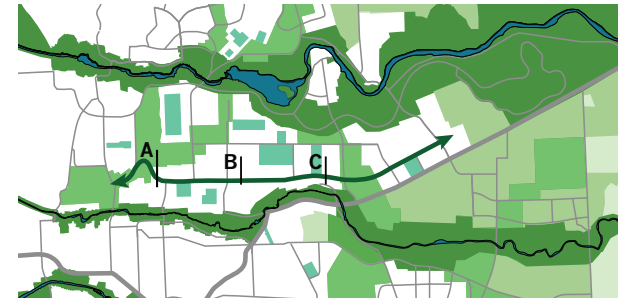
Streets and Walks L13 Campus Road

Campus Road is an important east-west connection that will become even more significant, both functionally and experientially, as the campus grows eastward. Less formal than Tower Road, the character of Campus Road evolves over its entire length and has a more picturesque and less formal nature. Further landscaping of the road should reinforce this informal quality with stands of trees and other planting and landscape forms that recall the larger Cornell setting.

Campus Road can be seen in four distinct pieces: from Stewart Avenue to College Avenue, from College Avenue to Crescent Lot, from Crescent Lot to Judd Falls Road, and from Judd Falls Road to Caldwell Road. The first section, at the west end of the campus, is a legacy passed on by Warren Manning in the early 20th century. It plays a key entry and arrival role, engaging and framing Founders'

Greenway and Libe Slope. The second portion is urban in scale, use and structure, forming a linear corridor with lawns and buildings framing the right-of-way. This continues into the third portion of Campus Road, but the south edge gives way to Cascadilla Gorge, providing views into the gorge and beyond. The fourth section will form part of the Judd Falls Greenway and continues along the Vet College, ending in the countryside.

Campus Road is a full-purpose road that balances a variety of types of movement, including cyclists, pedestrians, private cars and service vehicles. This role will continue in the future, as significant development is planned for Campus Road with a variety of servicing needs. Increased use will be supported by a planned improvements to Campus Road near the Wilson Synchrotron.



Location map



Campus Road, existing conditions, looking east from Kite Hill

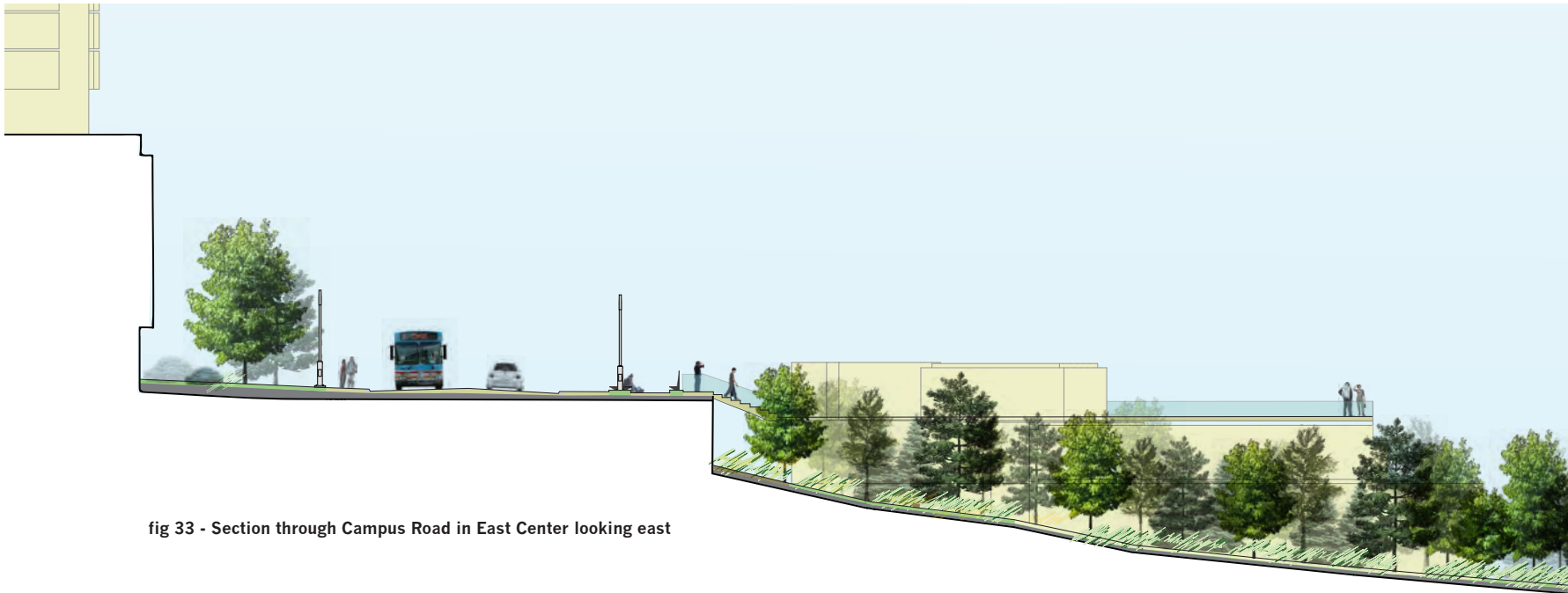
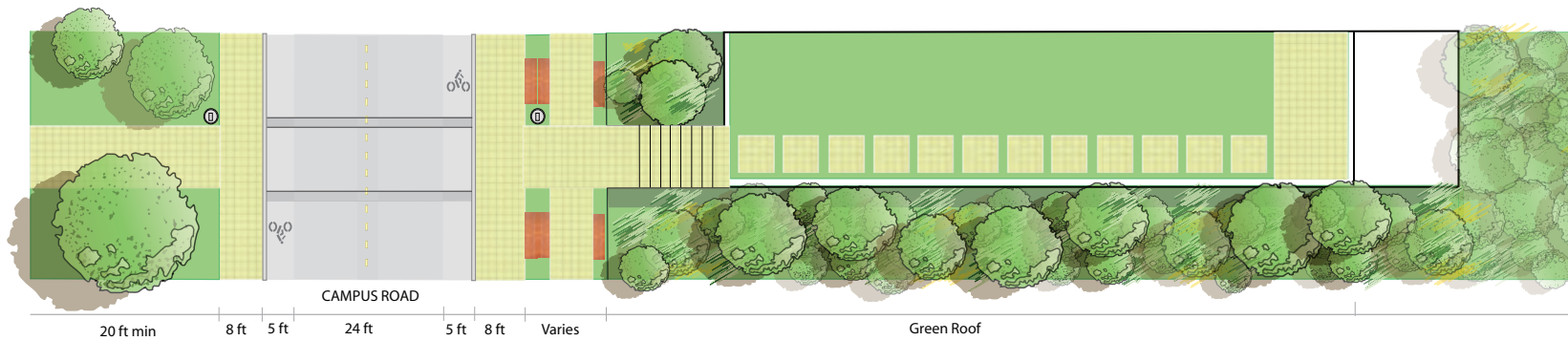


fig 33 - Section through Campus Road in East Center looking east



Campus Road

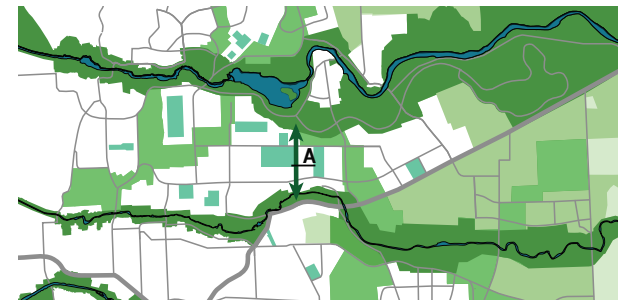
Artist's impression of Campus Road, adjacent to Schoellkopf Stadium. The roadway should comfortably accommodate buses, bicycles, service vehicles and cars. The character of the streetscape will vary, providing broad vistas and intimate gathering spaces.





Streets and Walks L14 Rice Drive

As East Campus develops, a new right-of-way will be needed to accommodate a variety of users, including pedestrians and service vehicles. With significant new development in East Center, Rice Drive will be an important axis for movement, especially when East Center Green is built. Rice Drive will delineate the eastern edge of the new Alumni Quad, and the quality of its landscape and built form will influence the quality of the quad itself. As part of the quad, the landscape features of the street should be high quality and similar in appearance. On axis with Rice Hall to the north, Rice Drive will connect south to Campus Road, highlighting views out over the expanded synchrotron and into the Cascadilla Creek valley.



Location map

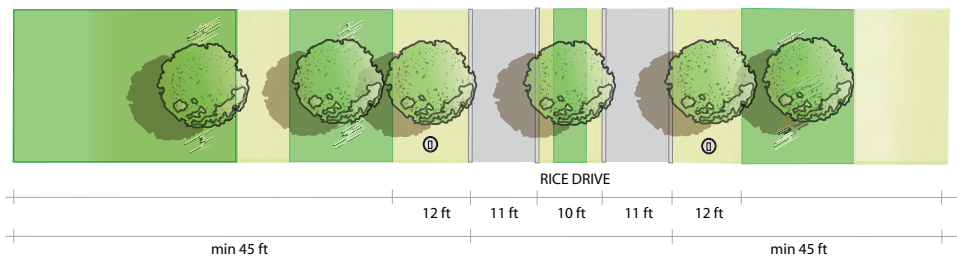


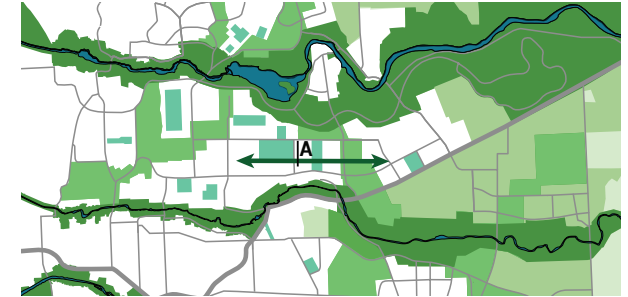
fig 34 - Section through Rice Drive looking north

Streets and Walks L15 Mid-Campus Walk

Mid-Campus Walk is envisioned as a pedestrian spine connecting Alumni Quad to Judd Falls Greenway. Though not as long and intended primarily for pedestrians, it will mirror Tower Road as an important east-west connection and major landscape feature of the campus. Similarly, it extends through an undulating pattern of buildings and open space that ensures a varied and stimulating experience for pedestrians. The walk will be characterized by significant landscaping and public art and will see active use given its location and the varied amenities expected along its length, particularly in East Center.



Mid-Campus Walk, existing conditions, looking west from the Wrestling Center parking lot



Location map

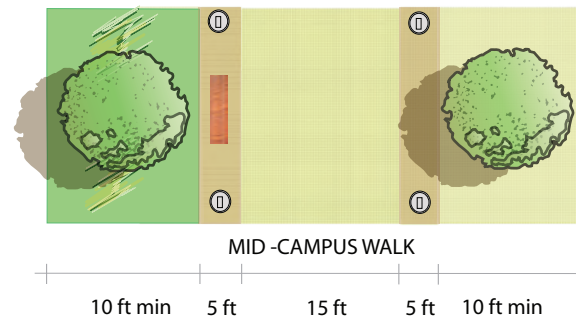
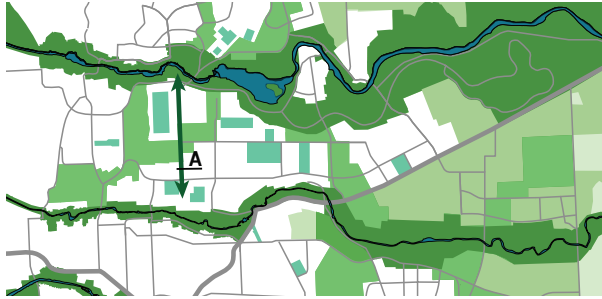


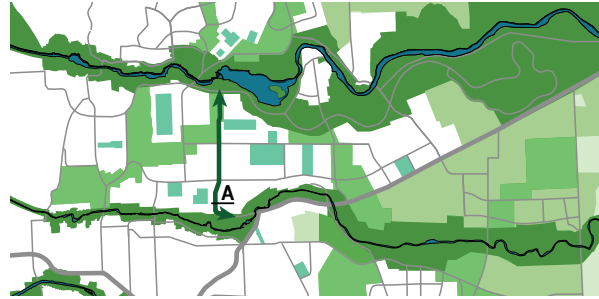
fig 35 - Section through Mid-Campus Walk in East Center looking east



Location map

Streets and Walks L16 East Avenue

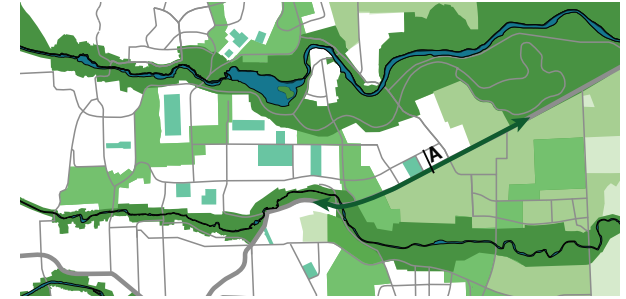
East Avenue is an important north-south axis that links North Campus to Core Campus. Lined with a variety of buildings from different architectural periods, it has been and will continue to be subject to intensification. The portion of East Avenue between Tower Road and Campus Road is experiencing significant increase in both pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Existing lawn and “soft-scaped” areas are failing as a result of this increase in foot traffic and are replanted yearly. The re-design of this portion of East Avenue should aim to improve and expand the pedestrian realm. Wider sidewalks and more plaza-type spaces (as opposed to lawns) will become even more important with implementation of the campus circulator and eventual redevelopment of the Day Hall site.



Location map

Streets and Walks L17 Garden Avenue

Garden Avenue once formed the eastern edge of campus. Now a key internal street, Garden Avenue is lined with buildings and has become more urban in character. This character can be enhanced through a more consistent landscape treatment and better integration between it and the courtyards and front lawns that flank it. The ultimate removal of Malott Hall will strengthen its role as an approach to Bailey Hall. Garden Avenue should be extended south to meet Hoy Road in coordination with the development of Hoy Green. It will become part of the entry sequence to campus and the landscape treatment and built form in this location should affirm this important role.



Location map

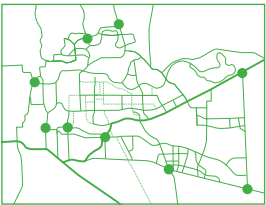
Streets and Walks Route 366/Dryden Road

Because Route 366 is a state road, this landscape initiative has not been identified as a university project; however, Cornell should work with the State toward its implementation. With significant new growth in East Campus, more programmed uses in the countryside and growth in East Hill Village, Dryden Road’s identity should be that of a campus street between Game Farm Road and the Five Corners intersection. Dryden Road should become a seam between the countryside and the core, rather than a barrier. Trees and smaller vegetation can be planted along the road in a way that reflects the character of the countryside. Special paving treatment, regular stops and other forms of traffic calming will allow Dryden to evolve into a more pedestrian-oriented route, improving conditions for pedestrian crossings. This design approach is consistent with the character of Dryden Road further to the west where it passes through residential communities.



4.26

Gateways



Gateways mark the threshold between the territory that is considered Cornell and its surrounding context. They are the places where you feel you have arrived at (or left) the campus. When properly designed, they support the identity and image of the university, enhance the visitor experience and assist in way-finding. Not all gateways are the same, however, and each requires different treatment depending on the character of the surrounding landscape. In improving gateways, the focus should be on the consistent creation of places. The deployment and massing of buildings, landscaping and movement patterns, and not an actual gate, should reinforce the sense of a gateway.

The Ithaca campus has many gateways, some that more apparent and better defined than others, in part due to their location along the gorges (for example, the College Avenue bridge). The approaches to these gateways should

also be enhanced with landscaping and improved signage. Gateways and approaches are also discussed in Section 4.35 on improving the visitor experience.

The following gateways are discussed in more detail in Part II of the campus master plan:

- A-Lot/Pleasant Grove Road**
- George Jessop Road/Triphammer Road**
- Fall Creek Gorge Suspension Bridge**
- University Avenue/Lake Street**
- Stewart Avenue/Campus Road**
- Eddy Gate**
- College Avenue**
- Dryden Road/Maple Avenue**
- East Hill Village**
- Ellis Hollow Road/Game Farm Road**
- Dryden Road/Game Farm Road**



Eddy Gate