**INTRODUCTION**

This district section is one of ten portions of the *Aesthetic Guidelines for Campus Development* of the University of Maryland and focuses on issues particular to the district. Descriptions of the overall Campus, University-wide issue and solution discussions, and Urban Design, Landscape Architecture and Architecture principles are included in the first section, entitled Campus; it is intended to be used in concert with this volume. Where topics are shared by adjacent districts, such as at district edges, those district sections should be referenced for supplemental information.

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**Aesthetic Guidelines for Campus Development**

In 10 volumes:

- Campus
- East District
- Golf Course District
- Historic Core District
- North District
- Northeast District
- Northwest District
- Outlying Properties
- Southwest District
- West District

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**Summary**

- FMP-generated Modifications to the District
- Proposals & Remedies
- Urban Design & Landscape Architecture
- Architecture
PROLOGUE

This District, currently saturated with parking lots, is scheduled to be developed with academic and residential facilities. The FACILITIES MASTER PLAN (FMP) works to create a more cohesive district by creating two new pedestrian connections to organize the Southwest region. These will integrate existing structures along the north and east border with new buildings on the south. The surface parking will be consolidated into garages; the first along Mowatt Lane is due for substantial completion by the Autumn Semester, 2003.

DISTRICT DEFINITION

DESCRIPTION

The SOUTHWEST DISTRICT contains a variety of urban and architecture conditions that create a very diverse environment. The District is home to many different activities including housing, dining, recreation, and academic, making this district a microcosm of the greater University.

The southern and western edges do little to interact with or acknowledge Guilford Creek. Current projects continue this pattern by turning the back or service sides of buildings to the creek, (ie: Parking Garage #5). Two main automobile arteries contain the north edge of the district, but do not generate urban spaces or organize building development.

There are several important views linking the District to the Campus: from the western side of the South Dining Hall Plaza to the cupola of Anne Arundel Hall as well as to Van Munching Hall, and in the plaza of the addition to Van Munching Hall to both the Anne Arundel cupola and Memorial Chapel’s spire.

BOUNDARIES (fig. sw4e)

- The West District (Campus Drive) on the North;
- The Historic Core District (Preinkert Drive, the Dining Hall Plaza, alley behind Calvert (015) and Baltimore (016) halls) on the Northeast and East;
- The town of University Park, College Heights Estates section (Mowatt Lane) on the South and West.

DISTRICT BUILDING TYPES

- Structures within the SOUTHWEST DISTRICT include three major types: Residential, Academic and Public (Dining / Recreational).
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**District Definition**

- The steeple of the Memorial Chapel (009) is clearly visible from different points within this district.
- The central South Porch of Harford Hall (014) forms an axial arrangement with the addition to Van Munching Hall (039), instrumental in the creation of the Pedestrian Boulevard.
- The cupola and chimneys of Anne Arundel Hall (060) similarly delineate the center axis of the Southwest Mall.
- Morrill Hall (040).
- Worchester (051), Queen Anne's (061), and Somerset Halls (063).
- Calvert (015), Baltimore (016), and Garrett Halls (031) [backyards].
- Guilford Run Natural Area.
- The religious denominational complexes opposite the Campus along Mowatt Lane.
The SOUTHWEST DISTRICT is an example of the Individual Cosmic urban typology: separate buildings aligned to create regular spaces. A variety of uses and building styles and types share common heights (low-rise - 3-6 stories) and materials (masonry, simple masses with pitched roofs). All edges of this District, as well as the Campus Edge along Mowatt Lane, are indistinct. Most of the district is covered with surface parking lots.

The FMP proposes intersecting malls to replace surface parking lots: quadrangles encased by individual or unconnected buildings (fig. sw6a). Axial relationships connect these malls with Anne Arundel Hall’s cupola and chimneys, the portico of Harford Hall, and the Memorial Chapel steeple in the HISTORIC CORE DISTRICT. The Preinkert Fieldhouse lawn possesses recreational qualities that should be retained, and integrated into a public space facing Morrill Hall. A traffic circle on Mowatt Lane at the base of the Southwest Mall will provide a new monumental entrance to the Campus; entries at Preinkert Drive and adjacent to the Architecture School should be enhanced as well; and the University should improve the condition of Mowatt Lane as a primary entrance of the Campus for its entire length.
CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

- Preinkert Fieldhouse lawn

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

NEUTRAL

- The South Campus Dining Hall plaza
- The new courtyards within and adjoining the South Campus Commons (2002) residential complex

UNSYMPATHETIC

- Surface parking lots
- The loading and delivery area of the South Campus Dining Hall
- SCUB II service areas
- Existing and proposed service areas fronting on Mowatt Lane

UNDER-DEVELOPED

- The area surrounding Susquehanna Hall
- Mowatt Lane
- Campus and Preinkert drives
- The axes from the Architecture School to Morrill Hall and to Memorial Chapel Steeple
- The proposed Pedestrian Boulevard
- The proposed Southwest Mall
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Southwest District

Visual Axes

- Edge Features

- Visual Axes

- Landmarks, spaces, and visual axes

- Memorial Chapel Steeple from west

- Morrill Hall from southwest

- Harford Hall portico from Washington Quad

- Anne Arundel Hall from south

- Lehigh Road: Dumpster at Baltimore Hall

- Lehigh Road: Dumpster at SCC Building 1

- Lehigh Road towards east

- Lehigh Road towards west (Mowatt Lane pg #5)
**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The District is situated in the valley and on the lower western slopes of a ridge on which the original Campus structures were located. Until the 1970’s, construction occurred atop this ridge, in the District’s higher northeastern portion, while parking and ancillary building services (deliveries, trash removal, etc) were relegated to the lower southwestern sector. Landscaped public spaces have been installed at the South Campus Commons and Van Munching Hall; The Architecture School is nestled into a mature-tree and lawn hillside at the Mowatt Lane-Campus Drive intersection; Preinkert Fieldhouse faces a fine lawn that serves the residential community along Preinkert Drive.

The Pedestrian Boulevard seeks to ameliorate the differences in topography by the creation of a gently sloping landscaped connector between the academic and residential quadrangles. The Southwest Mall will form a new entrance point for the University. Mowatt Lane, a constricted former country road, snakes along the storm channels of Guilford Run; it is in poor condition, and will require substantial improvement to handle the increased traffic generated by the new garage and restrictions of traffic on Campus.

**CONTRIBUTING FEATURES**

- The slope of the ridge along the northern and eastern borders
NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

NEUTRAL:
- The South Campus Dining Hall plaza (1974) [Contemporary]
- The new courtyards within and adjoining the South Campus Commons (2002) residential complex; however, the lack of a ramped access to the upper portion of the Campus, in addition to the curved stairway, is a glaring oversight [Classical]
- The Preinkert Fieldhouse lawn [Residual]

UNSYPATHETIC:
- Parking lots
- The loading and delivery area of the South Campus Dining Hall
- SCUB II service areas
- The area surrounding Susquehanna Hall [Residual]
- Mowatt Lane [Residual / Rural]
- Campus and Preinkert drives [Residual]
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

- **SW-10d** Guilford Run - Culvert under street
- **SW-10c** Guilford Run - Overgrowth
- **SW-10b** Guilford Run - Along Guilford Drive
- **SW-10a** Guilford Run - @ Preinkert Dr and Mowatt Lane
- **SW-10e** Proposed landscape interventions

**Interventions**

**Guilford Run**

**SW-10**

**Proposed Adjacent Interventions**

**Landscape Architecture**

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søuthwest district

fig. sw-11d  loading dock entry

fig. sw-11c  van munching hall - west courtyard

fig. sw-11b  dumpsters behind morrill hall

fig. sw-11a  mowatt lane south of van munching hall

fig. sw-11e  yards
ARCHITECTURE

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The upper portion of the District contains the earliest Women's dormitories and Prentker Fieldhouse, in addition to the South Campus Dining Hall and the newly constructed South Campus Commons. The Architecture School (1970's Shed style made popular by Charles Moore) is nestled into a hollow in the hillside at the intersection of Campus Drive and Mowatt Lane. Van Munching Hall lies in the plain and defines the western edge of the parking lot / proposed North-South Mall.

Buildings proposed in the FMP should match current structure heights, sizes, shapes and materials: low-rise (3-6 stories), simple masonry mass with pitched or flat roofs, articulated protected entries, service areas concealed or screened from primary entries and Campus edges. They should shape both front and back yards as well as shared larger public spaces.

CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

SIGNIFICANT
• None

IMPORTANT
• A tripartite residential complex: CARROLL HALL (065 – 1955), WICOMICO H ALL (069 – 1955) and CAROLINE HALL (070 – 1955) joined by Tuscan colonnaded breezeways [Neo-Colonial]
• The ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL (145 – 1972) [Shed]

ARCHITECTURE
ARCHITECTURE

NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

NEUTRAL
- South Campus Dining Hall (026 – 1974; addition 1987) [Contemporary]
- Van Meunching Hall (039 – 1992; addition 2002) [Post-Modern Vernacular]
- Preinkert Fieldhouse (054 – 1932; addition 1952) originally Girls' Gymnasium [Neo-Classical]
- West Education Annex (066 – 1922) [Folk Victorian]
- South Campus Commons (996, 997 – 2001), Monnett Lane Substation (400 – 1999) [Post-Modern Vernacular]
- Susquehanna Hall, (233 – 1991) [minimal Contemporary]

UNSYMPATHETIC
- Satellite Central Utilities Building (SCUB) II (067 – 1992) [minimal]
- English Composition Trailer (072 – 1988) [N/A]
- Temporary Building (116 – 1987) [N/A]
ISSUES: URBAN DESIGN & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

THE NEW PEDESTRIAN CONNECTORS IN THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN (FMP) ARE LAID OUT TO RATIONALY ORGANIZE THE NEW CONSTRUCTION OF THE DISTRICT. WITHIN THE DISTRICT THERE ARE A VARIETY OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SPACES, AS NOTED AND ACCOMMODATED IN THE FMP, INCLUDING THE PEDESTRIAN BOULEVARD (RUNS EAST-WEST), THE SOUTHWEST MALL (NORTH-SOUTH), THE MOWATT LANE TRAFFIC CIRCLE, AND THE PREINKERT LANE NORTH AND SOUTH CIRCLES.

PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS: URBAN DESIGN AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

- The Pedestrian Boulevard (fig. sw9f) will connect Van Munching Hall (fig. sw9d) and the Southwest Mall with the South Campus Commons (SCC) (figs. sw9a,9e,9l) and culminate at the porch of Harford Hall (fig. sw9b) on Washington Quad. Transitions are required between the proposed quadrangles of the Southwest Mall, Behavioral and Sociological Sciences (BSOS) (fig. x) and the South Campus Commons (SCC) yards. A tree-lined and defined corridor will traverse the surface parking lot south of South Campus Dining Hall (SCDH) (fig. sw9a,9m) and form the northern edge of the Susquehanna Hall yard; the intersection of the parking / delivery route and the Pedestrian Boulevard should be designed to minimize disruptions to either, create visual separation, and ensure safety. The exterior masonry staircase (fig. sw9c) connecting the SSC to the alley behind Calvert and Baltimore halls requires an ADA-accessible route.
Susquehanna Hall occupies the top of a low knoll midway down the slope between Washington and BSOS quads. Its northern face borders the service area and parking lots of SCDH; new residences tower above it on the east and west. Lehigh Road and SCDH service connections will remain. The Pedestrian Corridor will pass north of the structure, and connections to the Main and west entries should be developed. A pedestrian path west of the building connecting the SCDH Plaza with the religious communities should be improved. The property surrounding Susquehanna Hall should be developed into a park-like setting, and the mechanical equipment west of the building should be screened.
A plaza of significant importance is located in front of South Campus Dining Hall [fig. sw11f,11g]. There is a constant flow of people during the day, a variety of seating arrangements, and adequate lighting. One of the benefits of this site is that it is almost completely removed from automobile traffic, allowing the pedestrian to feel safe. However, the approach from the west passes through the parking lot of the SCUB II and is not pedestrian oriented: pathways are haphazardly laid out or pedestrians are forced to share the roadway [fig. sw0x].

The sloping area east of SCDH and north of the SCC (997) serves the Commons Store and food service administration: the small plaza [fig. sw17g,17h] should be enhanced and connect the upper SCDH plaza and Calvert Quad. Protection from the sun and inclement weather, specialized paving materials, seating and lighting should be co-ordinated to provide a meeting space for both Commuting and Campus students. Service functions and emergency egress of the SCC and SCDH should be screened from the plaza.

A proposed building will frame the northeast corner of the BSOS Quadrangle with the currently-under-design northern building of the SCC [fig. sw19f]. A connection between this quadrangle and the SCDH Plaza at the top of the hill is indicated as an amphitheatre in the FMP: the overlook [fig. 17k] into the quad affords a great opportunity for a major public space with integral artwork.

A plaza of significant importance is located in front of South Campus Dining Hall [fig. sw11f,11g]. There is a constant flow of people during the day, a variety of seating arrangements, and adequate lighting. One of the benefits of this site is that it is almost completely removed from automobile traffic, allowing the pedestrian to feel safe. However, the approach from the west passes through the parking lot of the SCUB II and is not pedestrian oriented: pathways are haphazardly laid out or pedestrians are forced to share the roadway [fig. sw0x].
ISSUES: URBAN DESIGN & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

- BSOS is proposed to occupy two opposing structures that, with the SSC apartment dormitories, will form a quadrangle, currently under design (fig. sw10x). Preinkert Drive will have a traffic circle on the eastern portion, to be integrated with landscape architecture planned for the buildings and the quad (fig. sw10f).
- A major shuttle bus station is intended to be developed at Preinkert South Circle (fig. sw10f). The FMP provides for a shuttle turn-about; connections with PG #5 and Mowatt Lane should be emphasized. This Circle will be part of the BSOS Quadrangle, and should be integrated into the overall scheme, not divorced from it.
- Proposed facilities and existing buildings require Front, Back, and Service yards (fig. sw10a) that should be integrated with larger landscape architectural moves, such as the Pedestrian Corridor and Southwest Mall.
- The Southwest Mall (fig. sw10c) will be accessed through a tree and shrub-planted traffic circle (fig. sw10f) adjacent to Parking Garage #5 (PG#5) on Mowatt Lane: a new Campus primary entrance. Terraces are planned to moderate changes in elevation (fig. sw10b, 10h) throughout the length of the Mall, with paved public spaces adjacent to terrace walls; stairs should be supplemented with ramps or other accessible routes. Pedestrian traffic will be accommodated on wide sidewalks straddling a lawn. Utilities and ductbanks will have to be co-ordinated with plantings and quad features (such as fountains and artwork). An addition to the Architectural School and the proposed Fine Arts Library on the site of Preinkert Hall will assist in forming the terraces rising toward Anne Arundel Hall (fig.Xx), the axial focus of the Mall; they should be designed to participate with these terraces at the various levels. The streetscape at Campus and Preinkert drive intersection will form the physical terminus of...
The walkway stretching eastwards from the administration block of the Architectural School and crossing in front of Carroll Hall focuses on the Memorial Chapel Steeple. This route (f. sw/10e, sw/12e axis b-b) should be enhanced and extended through Morrill Quad and the parking area behind Morrill Hall, and connect with the plazas in front of LeFrak Hall and the memorials (refer to Historic Core District article). A FMP-proposed building (f. sw/12e, building “A”) adjacent to SCUB II that blocks this axis should be shifted to the south.

The plaza between the Business and Architecture Schools (f. sw/11a,11d) offers a good existing example. There is a heavy flow of pedestrian traffic during the day. The space offers a variety of places to sit including benches, low walls and steps. Its relationship as one of two Mall front-yards to Van Munching Hall makes it a place to gather or to wait for friends. This plaza is in stark contrast to the plaza on the west side of the building (f. sw/11c,11d), originally designed as the prime entrance. This space, while well-landscaped and possessing similar amenities as the northeast plaza, does not regularly draw students: this could be due to poor solar orientation and views, or to lack of access relating to the Campus. The construction of the School of Public Affairs building should not destroy the NE plaza.

One of the most used lawns lies between Carroll Hall and Preinkert Fieldhouse (f. sw/12a,12e). It is flat, easily accessed, provides shaded areas and is occupied for most of the day. Construction of the proposed Fine Arts Library and the traffic circle should preserve features of this lawn, recreational uses should be programmed into the development of the traffic circle central area.

The walkway leading from the monumental star (part of the loggia connecting Wicomico and Caroline halls) (f. sw/12a) westward towards Van Munching Hall defines a fine courtyard that should be enhanced for residents’ semi-private uses; the entry to the Van Munching northeast plaza should be aligned with this walk, and if a structure is developed along the Southwest Mall connecting the three dormitories, a Noli connection should be investigated to maintain this axis.

Many of the streets that run through the Southwest District are tree-lined and have adequate sidewalks, but many lack proper ADA-accessible crosswalks. Preinkert Drive, in front of Wicomico Hall, (f. sw/12c) provides a good example of what the character of a typical campus street should be. The trees provide shade and the sidewalks comfortably handle a fair amount of pedestrian traffic separated from traffic.

Mowatt Lane is an example of a heavily-used artery currently in disrepair (f. sw/12d). While many commuters use Mowatt Lane to reach campus, the character of the street is that of a service-way or alley. Many Campus buildings that front on Mowatt Lane present their backs to the street (f. sw/12,12g,12h), even though the various religious centers front the street (f. sw/1x). The stream itself cannot be seen because of high scrub vegetation and many concrete culverts that cover it (f. sw/1x). The natural element of the stream and the importance of this street as an entry to Campus should be emphasized.
The back of Morrill Hall (040) [figs. sw7c, sw12e, 12i] can be improved to a secondary entrance with modifications to the building and the region surrounding it [refer to Historic Core District article].

Service access to McKeldin Library (035), Worcester Hall (051) and SCUB II, LeFrak and the SCDH on the north [fig. sw12i] and SCUB II, LeFrak and the SCDH on the south [fig sw13x] will have to be preserved. Development of landscape screening and re-organization of the west entry to Morrill Hall afford the opportunity to greatly improve this area’s tangle of traffic lanes and parking.

The SCDH service area [figs. sw9a, 9m, sw13b] handles major delivery and removal traffic throughout the day, as well as short-term delivery parking: it must function well, but should be screened from adjacent residential and academic structures. Pedestrian connections along the east, south and west sides should be enhanced with landscape screening on the service side and be open to adjoining facilities.

Protected bicycle parking should be incorporated into PG #5 to encourage alternative modes of transportation throughout the campus.

The upper access to SCUB II [fig. sw13e] should be reconfigured to provide screened accommodation for vehicles as well as a more pleasant pedestrian connection to the SCDH Plaza.

Gateways to Mowatt Lane and Preinkert Drive, the Pedestrian Corridor, and the Southwestern Mall provide opportunities for artwork and other non-graphical way-finding and welcoming devices.
PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS: ARCHITECTURE

- One of the greatest assets to the Southwest District is the diversity in program function and architectural styles. None of the buildings in this district dominate or command a specific geographic location; rather they are nestled in the hills or are built on the lower portion of the district. There is no prevalent architectural style, with traditional, Post-Modern, and contemporary designs all working with each other. This diversity should be continued and promoted, demonstrating how traditional and modern forms can complement each other. Van Munching Hall (Vernacular) and the Carroll-Wicomico-Caroline Hall complex (Neo-Colonial) indicate good architecture that responds at all levels: design from the urban condition to good detailing.

- The South Campus Commons residences have set a precedent of six-story regional-vernacular style (fig. sw13d) masonry-faced pitched-roofed structures. The upper stories are separated from the lower by different brick color and inclusion within the roof, to lower the apparent height of the buildings. They form front and back yards offering connection to other facilities on Campus.

- Parking Garage #5 (figs. sw10i, sw13f) will also be six-story and masonry clad. The north façade is scheduled to be hidden by an addition to the BSOS complex that will form the southern edge of the BSOS Quadrangle.

- Van Munching Hall (figs. sw6b, sw6d, sw11a, 1b,1c,1d) fits the scale of a modern academic building on campus. It is five stories tall: the massing of new buildings should be at this scale, between 4-6 stories, with room allotted for sufficient expansion. Towers and façade and roof elements contribute end points for axes converging from adjacent districts. Public spaces respond to the front-back yard conditions presented by the site. Service areas are kept away from zones of major circulation, public entrances to buildings, and major public open spaces.

- The FMP proposes the installation of the Public Administration School (figs. sw10c, sw11e) between Van Munching Hall and the Architecture School, sized to match its neighbors and fronting on the Southwest Mall.

- Proposed additions to the Architecture School (figs. sw11f, sw10c) will complete the west side of the Southwestern Mall and terraces. This structure should integrate the 1970’s Shed style with other buildings on this Mall, and create a new primary entrance to the Mall complimenting the stature of the Mall (the bridge and other entrances will become Secondary or Service entrances as appropriate).

- The Architecture School and the Fine Arts Library (figs. sw10c, sw12e) should work in tandem to brace the terraces rising toward Anne Arundel Hall and form a Nolli connection from the new Primary entrance of the Architecture School through the Library and traffic circle culminating at a renovated rear entry of Morrill Hall. The Library will provide a major presence on the Preinkert North circle; due to the sloping site, structure height matching the adjacent dormitories will afford additional height on the Mall.

- Buildings proposed north and south of SCUB II (figs. sw10c, sw12e) will serve to complete the public spaces adjacent to them while screening the loading / parking areas of the SCUB. Size (limited to 2 stories / 30 feet high) and position these buildings to prevent obstruction of views from higher ground and corresponding axes.

- The FMP proposes the removal of a few buildings in the district (refer to page 8). Preinkert Fieldhouse (054), the original Women’s Gymnasium, is slated to be replaced by a Fine Arts Library. The West Education Annex (066), originally a farmhouse, the English Composition Trailer (072) and Temporary Building (116) will be removed to complete the BSOS Quadrangle.

- The campus border along Mowatt Lane should be carefully reviewed and back-of-house elements should be screened or relocated: Mowatt Lane has the potential of being a major entrance to the community, and should be enhanced accordingly. Preinkert Drive bisects the district, and should be developed as a main street, not as an interruption.