

The Vision for the St. George Campus

An oasis of green in the heart of a vibrant city, a landscape of physical and academic excellence, a unique and inspired place in which to live and learn. These are images that the St. George Campus should evoke.

The St. George Campus is the downtown campus of a world-renowned University, bounded by Bloor Street to the north, Spadina Avenue to the west, College Street to the south and University Avenue and Queen's Park to the east, with the Affiliated and Federated Universities and Colleges extending the eastern boundary of the University district to Bay Street. The campus is an intensely urban place, with lively street edges and dense development interwoven into a complex pattern of streets, spaces, buildings and activity.

The History of the Campus Landscape

The University's original land grant of 1828 consisted of 168 acres of semi-rural land beyond the northern outskirts of the town of York. Changes to the landscape began to occur fairly quickly as the grant was reduced in size and shifted west to accommodate the construction of the Provincial Legislature building. By the 1880s, Queen's Park (by then a dedicated public park) and the University area comprised a distinct institutional district in a setting of forested parkland.

In 1917, a largely unimplemented Landscape Master Plan by landscape architect Bryant Fleming portrayed a "University and a Government Precinct" which appeared as a continuous place, linked by small-scale roads and walks. In 1939, the University still had the characteristic of being a distinct place apart from the City of Toronto, with large, interconnected, densely treed open spaces.



In 1886 the campus was an oasis of green in the growing city.

By 1950 a very different picture had emerged. The semi-rural character of the University had given way to separate open spaces surrounded by roads designed to accommodate the growing number of private automobiles. Many of the large groupings of trees were removed to accommodate building projects and many of the street trees were removed to facilitate road widening. The heavily treed neighbourhood west of the campus disappeared over the next 15 years as the campus grew toward Spadina Avenue.

Rapid westward expansion in the 1960s and 1970s created a West Campus precinct that was separated from the historic campus by the busy thoroughfare of St. George Street. The architectural designs and siting of the West Campus facilities had little in common with the traditional styles of existing University buildings and landscapes. The West Campus was not planned around a system of open spaces; rather, the priority at this time was to create classroom space to accommodate the rapid growth of the University.

The Present St. George Campus

The incremental evolution of the campus grounds and facilities and a lack of comprehensive campus planning has left the city and the University with a district that does not live up to its full potential as a high-quality, inspiring and unique urban place in which to live and learn. Currently, as seen from the air, parts of the campus are relatively denuded of vegetation as contrasted with the rest of the city. The Taddle Creek ravine has been filled and the watercourse has disappeared. The proliferation of surface parking and garbage dumpsters in open spaces presents a negative image and makes pedestrian movement difficult. Widened streets, narrow sidewalks, fast-moving traffic and grade separations create challenges for students walking or biking to classes, particularly on Queen's Park Crescent. The changes to the campus landscape over the past 150 years have created a district with limited pedestrian amenity, disjointed open spaces, and little coherence in its landscape image.



The elegant homes on St. George Street were slowly absorbed into the life of the University over the first half of the century. The street trees were removed in 1948 to allow road widening.



Parts of the St. George Campus, particularly the West Campus, have few open spaces and sparse tree cover.

At the same time, many of the elements of the original campus landscape are still in evidence today: interlocking courtyards, patterns of movement and use, landmarks, and topography. These offer enormous potential for the reconnection and revitalization of the campus open spaces.

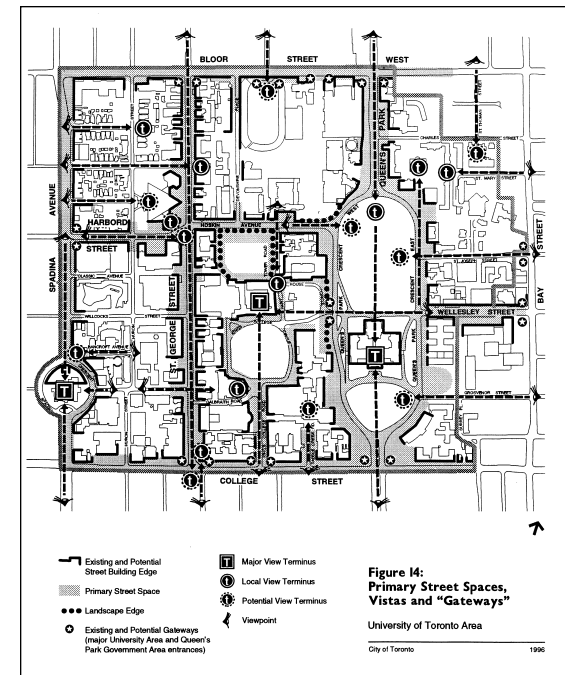
Recent Campus Planning Initiatives

There have been some recent initiatives toward comprehensive University planning, including the *St. George Campus Master Plan* and the City of Toronto *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*. Both documents set a policy framework for planning the buildings and grounds of the St. George Campus and include policies on landscape design and the revitalization of campus open spaces, landmark features, points of entry, streetscapes and pedestrian networks.

A policy framework, however, is not enough to effect change. Targeted action and a new way of thinking are needed.

Part of the new thinking is a recognition that strong open space design and management is a good long term investment. In the past few years, the University of Toronto has engaged in considerable discussion about its physical environment and the importance of its relationship to the University's academic and social environment. The campus is the centre of a great many people's lives and its landscape has significant impact on those who live, study, work and pass by the University. It conveys vital messages about what the University is, it facilitates or frustrates social contact and communication, it influences first impressions and can aid greatly in student and faculty recruitment.

A recent University document, *Raising Our Sights*, demonstrates the new thinking. It attempts to strategically position the University's downtown and suburban campuses into the next round of academic planning. It notes that the University of Toronto's large commuter population poses challenges to fostering the type of campus life that enhances student experience and creates a sense of community on the University campuses. It recognizes the need to provide more opportunities for students to be resident on campus



The City's Part II Plan sets out a policy framework for comprehensive planning of the University district.



The St. George Street revitalization was a targeted action that made an enormous difference to the campus landscape.

and to become fully involved in campus life. This requires the provision of high-quality open spaces for student gatherings, recreation, and contemplation, to create vibrant and lively places. *Raising Our Sights* endorses the University's initiative to repair and revitalize the open spaces of the St. George Campus.

The flip side of the new thinking is targeted action. The St. George Street revitalization is a recent action that has made an enormous difference to the campus landscape. With help from a generous private donation and the City of Toronto, this very successful project created a new balance between pedestrians, bicycles and cars on a functional and attractive street. The St. George Street project opened people's eyes to the opportunities to enhance open spaces elsewhere on the campus. It helped to spread the new way of thinking about living and learning on the campus to the entire University of Toronto community and led to a broad awareness of the importance of the campus open spaces and their ability to improve quality of life.

Consultation on Campus Open Spaces

The University initiated a consultation process in 1997, as a first step in exploring the potential to improve the open spaces on the St. George Campus. The process began with a visioning exercise that included students, staff, administration, and alumni, and continued throughout 1998 by including the University community in the selection of the consultant team that would undertake the Open Space Master Plan. Over the summer and early fall of 1998, the consultation continued through a series of meetings, workshops, interviews and presentations for various groups.

In addition to providing a valuable communication role, the consultation process provided a wide range of feedback on the perception of the open spaces on the campus. It confirmed that concern about the quality of the campus landscape was not restricted to the present University community. Alumni feel strongly about this issue and are prepared to raise funds for improvements. Views were also presented by people who are not directly connected with the University but who consider the campus a very important place within the structure of open spaces in the City of Toronto.

The Open Space Master Plan

In March of 1998 the University began the process of creating an Open Space Master Plan to guide future site planning and landscape design for the St. George Campus. The plan was to address both public and private precincts and corridors and explore the possibility of reintroducing natural and historic landscape elements of the St. George Campus.

Investing in the Landscape is the end result of the process begun in 1998, but it is not an end in itself. It is a new beginning for the University. Prior to the St. George Street reconstruction there had been no defined plan for the landscape of the campus and no collective effort at improving open spaces beyond the regular operations and maintenance procedures of the University. *Investing in the Landscape* is the first comprehensive set of targeted actions in the post-war period for the spaces around and between the buildings of the St. George Campus. It represents thinking about the place rather than about isolated projects. It represents the ecological mission of the University and presents a broad range of conditions and ideas for the revitalization of the open spaces, which are built upon a long-standing history of policies and concepts contained in both the existing *Campus Master Plan* and the *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*.

Investing in the Landscape provides coherent direction for a broad range of physical improvements and additions to the campus. It is the next stage in the continuum of University area planning and campus improvement.

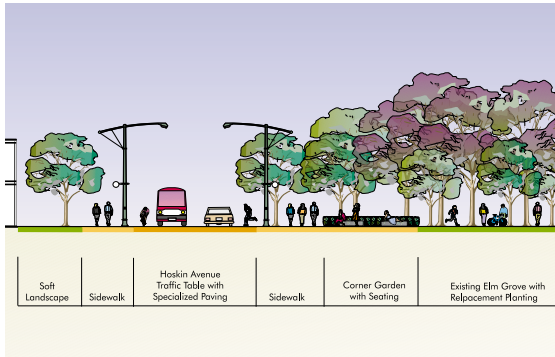
There are many opportunities to seize.

The courtyards on campus represent a unique open space resource and present opportunities for detailed landscape improvements in association with academic departments and special interest groups. The central open spaces on campus present opportunities to reconnect a significant landscape resource in the centre of the city.

Several of the large academic buildings on the West Campus will be rethought in the near future. Their revitalization can include improvements to general open space conditions and enhanced connections between the buildings and the streets.



Investing in the Landscape can guide the University toward revitalizing significant and historic campus spaces such as King's College Circle.



A revitalized Hoskin Avenue can become part of a distinctive University of Toronto street design.

An expansion of residence opportunities as outlined in *Raising Our Sights* may decrease the volume of automobiles entering and parking on the campus, allowing a new balance to be struck between automobile traffic, bicycles and pedestrian amenity. Street redesign based on an understanding of the differing characters and roles of the various campus corridors, particularly in the West Campus, can establish a distinctive University of Toronto street design that reflects the importance of streets as a primary part of the open space system. The success of St. George Street can be expanded by focusing on the many east-west linkages and crossings on campus. Pedestrian connections between buildings and between the west, central and east parts of the campus can be aesthetically enhanced and made safer.

The major edges of the St. George Campus are primary thoroughfares. Queen's Park Crescent and College Street represent major opportunities to improve the streetscape conditions. Spadina Avenue and Bloor Street can both benefit from an improved relationship between new buildings and the street.

There are some 20 intersections where the St. George Campus and the city meet. Each of these locations is an opportunity to build upon the integration of the campus and the city and to recognize the University's presence in a unique way.

The Vision for the Campus

Investing in the Landscape is a vision for the St. George Campus. The key to the vision is consistency and coherence: a system of distinctive landscape elements to allow the landscape to become a unifying framework that connects Queen's Park, the Central Campus and the West Campus. At the same time, the complexity and diversity of the University community and surrounding urban context must be recognized. *Investing in the Landscape's* vision can provide a cohesive structure for the campus to create a sense of place and distinguish it from the surrounding urban fabric, of which it is an integral part. At the same time, it allows for diversity in the spaces within its framework.



The corner of College Street and University Avenue will become a landmark entrance to the University



The revitalized Front Campus area will include new open spaces and streetscaping on College Street and King's College Road.

The Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities are autonomous in their planning efforts and are outside the terms of reference of the Plan. However, the vision opens the door for their involvement in campus revitalization through enhanced pedestrian linkages and spaces shared in common with the St. George Campus.

The Campus in the Future

Imagine the campus in a decade or two, responding to *Investing in the Landscape*.

Twenty years from now, as you approach the University district from the corner of College Street and University Avenue, a re-worked open space at the northwest corner, which includes the historic greenhouse and perennial plantings, has created a landmark entrance to the University. The Taddle Creek Road forecourt provides a landscaped area where you can find people reading and talking during breaks and over lunch. The handsome, solid university buildings and continuous setback along College Street provide the backdrop to a landscape of street trees and seating along the sunny side of the street.

A walk up King's College Road to the historic centre of the campus reveals a tree-lined boulevard, gated at each end to provide both a forecourt to the adjacent buildings and a defined sequence of entry into the Central Campus open spaces. Automobile movement has been limited to respond to pedestrian needs and surface parking has been removed from this historic ceremonial corridor. Convocation Hall Plaza is a pedestrian-only zone that is filled with students on their way to classes. With its memorial wall to provide a dramatic eastern backdrop, it is the stage for the ceremony of the campus and a central gathering point for special events. King's College Circle, an oval of green surrounded by new plantings of deciduous trees has a new playing field and pedestrian pathways along its perimeter. The steps and terrace of the Medical Sciences Building are a lively gathering place and the trees planted along the north facade of the building extend the landscape of King's College Circle. The perennial gardens and seating in front of Sigmund Samuel Library create a colourful, contemplative space where students read and watch others go by. Pedestrian linkages to St. George Street are well-lit and landscaped and a walkway along the east side of King's College Circle leads to the Hart House Green and through Soldiers' Tower to the Back Campus.

The Hart House Green, with its plantings, public art and water feature, enhanced pathways through Queen's Park to Victoria University and St. Michael's College, and a new at-grade intersection at Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street have reconnected the significant open spaces of the University and Ontario Legislature district. Trees and a water feature at the intersection have transformed this entry to the campus and made it an important focal point in the city. This important gateway to the University is a landmark in the district and provides strong linkages to the Affiliated and Federated Universities and Colleges east of Queen's Park Crescent. Students now cross Queen's Park Crescent safely at newly re-worked pedestrian crossing zones.

Surrounded by historic buildings, the Back Campus is now a significant landscape in the heart of the campus, with two new playing fields, new deciduous trees, contemplative spaces, and four commemorative walkways and associated gardens. The eastern edge of the space and the Soldiers' Tower passage are linked to a busy pedestrian walkway to Hart House Green and the Central Campus. People enter the University Art Centre in University College from a sculpture court behind the Memorial Wall next to Soldiers' Tower.

As you walk along Hoskin Avenue from Back Campus toward the West Campus, the Harbord-Hoskin corridor, with street trees, wide sidewalks and seating leads to a green and pleasant Huron Street that includes a better pedestrian system, traffic calming and street tree planting. A walk down Huron Street's wide sidewalks past attractively landscaped buildings leads to the new Willcocks Street open space, a student area and focal point on the West Campus, with trees, public art and a skating area for winter activity.

Further down Huron Street is the Huron and Russell Street intersection, a pedestrian-oriented plaza that includes traffic calming measures to allow easy street crossing. Huron and Russell Streets exhibit a new image for the streets of the West Campus, one that makes the streets distinctive and recognizable as an integral part of the open space on campus, in which a better balance between automobiles, pedestrians and streetscapes is achieved.



The Hart House Green and the intersection of Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street will create a significant entrance to the campus district.



Back Campus will include four new walkways and gardens, significant tree planting and a sculpture court.



The Willcocks open space will be a focal point for student activity on the West Campus.



Spadina Circle will be a landscape of landmark status.



Investing in the Landscape will connect significant open spaces, improve pedestrian amenity and quality of life and create a memorable University district.

Tree-lined Russell Street leads to Spadina Circle, a significant gateway to the southwest part of the campus. The form of Spadina Circle and the surrounding buildings create a one-of-a-kind place in the city. The new pedestrian plazas and access points to the historic courtyard create a special place from which to admire the long view of Russell Street and the Convocation Hall dome. The return of Spadina Circle to a landscape of landmark quality is a widely celebrated result of *Investing in the Landscape*.

The combination of the landscape improvements outlined in the vision will transform the campus in several important ways:

- The significance and interconnectedness of the open spaces in the district will be restored;
- A focus on quality design will make the campus physically distinctive and memorable;
- Conditions for the large number of pedestrians on campus will improve;
- A legacy of significant tree planting will be established for future generations;
- The University of Toronto will be associated with several landscapes of landmark status;
- The quality of life for the many students who live and learn on the campus will improve.

Investing in the Landscape represents the beginning of a long process and has the potential to have a tremendous influence on the campus. There is a real opportunity to use this Plan to attract partnerships and implementation capital.

To succeed, the plan's elements must become an integral component of the University administration. To this end, a permanent office, the Open Space Revitalization Office (OSRO), dedicated to the design and revitalization of the campus open spaces should be established to coordinate open space and landscape improvement projects.

The OSRO, in association with the Physical Planning and Design Advisory Committee (PPDAC), can review building proposals against the recommendations contained in the Plan, bringing together architecture, urban design and landscape design in the planning of University facilities.

Open Space Master Plan Structure

Investing in the Landscape can guide the University toward achieving the vision for the St. George Campus. It is intended to be an accessible guide to the revitalization of the St. George Campus, and is comprised of three interconnected sections of information:

Primary Objectives

- *Investing in the Landscape* is underpinned by ten Primary Objectives that exemplify a new way of thinking about the campus. They are high level goals, intended to set the University on a course of open space renewal and development. These Objectives implement many of the open space policies in the *University Master Plan* and the *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*.

Recommendations

- The Primary Objectives are supported by a number of Recommendations that provide direction and guidelines to help the University through the process of planning, designing, funding and implementing a broad range of targeted actions to revitalize the campus open spaces. One of the most crucial recommendations is the creation of an Open Space Revitalization Office, to coordinate these targeted actions.

Demonstration Sites

- Demonstration Sites illustrate the way in which the Primary Objectives can be used to revitalize the open spaces on campus. The demonstrations show existing site conditions, pedestrian movements and a program of features that could improve the space. Taken together, these targeted actions create a bold and imaginative armature, or supporting framework, for the revitalization of the primary open spaces of the campus.

Each of the document sections can be read independently of the others. Read together, they provide a broader overview of the vision and process that led to the creation of the Plan, and the necessary steps for its implementation.

Several issues required technical assessment and special study as background papers to the Plan. A study of the Queen's Park Crescent overpass removal and an order-of-magnitude Cost Study provide a basic understanding of these issues. These are available under separate cover.

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The Primary Objectives of the Open Space Master Plan

The following Primary Objectives have been framed as high level goals for the University open spaces. They are founded upon policies contained in the *Campus Master Plan* and City of Toronto *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area* and provide direction for both the prescriptive portion of ***Investing in the Landscape***, and the general operation of the University as it creates physical additions and changes to the campus.

The Primary Objectives should be adopted formally by the University to provide long term direction for open space revitalization and the integration of the campus with the larger district.

Primary Objective 1

The considerable energy of the University should be focused toward the common goal of achieving the highest quality design for the campus open spaces.

There are many opportunities across the campus to enhance spaces within an overall program of site improvements. ***Investing in the Landscape*** will re-focus attention on the potential for high quality design of the campus open spaces. Following this objective will, over time, create spaces and landscapes of landmark status that have a direct association with the University of Toronto.

Primary Objective 2

The University should require all building projects, including the identified University Development Sites, to improve public open space.

The general activity of adding to the University building stock represents potential to improve open space conditions on campus. To this end, any project which significantly renovates or reconstructs a building provides an important opportunity to undertake improvements to the adjacent open spaces. Major new development sites offer an additional opportunity to accomplish some of the larger aspects of open space renewal.

The process of revitalizing the open spaces of the campus will require a significant effort on the part of the entire University community. Most of the larger scale open space projects will likely establish their own source of funding for construction and long term maintenance.

Primary Objective 3

The University should participate in the planning, design and construction of capital works that will unify the separate open spaces of the campus and the City, within this important district of Toronto.

The University of Toronto area has a remarkable and historically significant legacy of public spaces which, at one time, were part of a single land base. These spaces have been progressively separated and marginalized. *Investing in the Landscape* can be used as a blueprint, to begin to revitalize the landscape by finding ways to reconnect its parts.

In consultation with the City of Toronto, an opportunity was identified to adjust the infrastructure of Queen's Park Crescent to make it more responsive to the

operation of the University and other uses in the district. The removal of the grade-separated overpass in favour of an at-grade intersection is one example of a large scale move that will set the stage to reconnect the important open spaces of the district.

This activity will be the basis of a long term partnership between the City of Toronto, the Ontario Legislature and the University of Toronto, in the management of this land base. It is perhaps the single most important opportunity in the Plan.

Primary Objective 4

The University should establish a Pedestrian Priority Zone to implement the policies in the *University Master Plan* and the *Part II Official Plan*, which place a high priority on the quality of the pedestrian environment on campus. This zone should include the reduction of surface parking in the primary open spaces of the campus.

The University should be a leader in the integration of high quality pedestrian systems in an urban environment. Placing a high priority on the function and quality of the pedestrian environment is important to a large number of campus users and is a major focus of the Plan.

When developing a design program for any capital works within the Pedestrian Priority Zone, first preference should be given to pedestrians, second preference to cyclists and third to automobile use.

Primary Objective 5

The University should encourage and support community and cross-jurisdictional partnerships in open space and streetscape enhancements.

The University has the opportunity to partner with the City of Toronto, community groups, the Province of Ontario, the Affiliated and Federated Colleges and Universities and several adjacent institutions to increase the scope and value of improvements to the open spaces on campus and in the district in general. Several initiatives currently underway include the Taddle Creek Initiative with the City of Toronto and the neighbourhood, and the associated joint federal millennium application by the University, Royal Ontario Museum, Royal Conservatory of Music and the City of Toronto. Additional projects could include Bloor Street streetscaping and traffic calming on Queen's Park Crescent in partnership with the City of Toronto.

Primary Objective 6

The University should place a high priority on the preservation of existing mature trees and support all activities that will enhance and increase the overall tree density on campus open spaces and streetscapes.

One of the great losses the campus has suffered in the post-war period is the removal of large canopy trees. Replacement of these structural landscape elements requires generations to restore the lost effect. In addition to Primary Objective 3, aimed at reconnecting the open spaces of the district, a parallel effort should be placed on significantly increasing the urban forest of the campus.

Primary Objective 7

On the West Campus, the University should place a priority on developing a significant open space and on improving the streetscapes.

The West Campus was created from a nineteenth century residential neighbourhood by placing large university buildings into the existing block structure. No overall provisions were made to create a West Campus open space

network in balance with the existing campus. As a result the landscape of the West Campus is largely related to individual building sites.

A significant open space, suitable for special events and student gathering on the West Campus, with good connections to St. George Street, should be a high priority for the University.

The City of Toronto streets on the West Campus need to be rethought, redesigned and reprogrammed to provide a higher quality streetscape and pedestrian environment that is distinctive to the University of Toronto.

Primary Objective 8

The open spaces on campus should support and promote the activities of the academic programs and represent the cultural diversity of the University community.

Academic departments and user groups should be encouraged to play a role in the creation and use of the primary open spaces of the campus. This objective could be met through thematic design choices in gardens or by creating settings in the landscape that reflect the internal activities of the adjacent academic functions. The contemplative character of all of the major open spaces should be increased significantly.

Primary Objective 9

The University should promote opportunities to increase public art on the campus.

The campus provides an excellent opportunity to incorporate public art into an outdoor environment. Public art can add to the richness and visual character of the campus, provide additions to the seasonal and winter landscape and is a valuable addition to a landscape design collaboration.

Primary Objective 10

The University should increase its investment in open space improvements. These improvements should, over time, achieve a consistent palette of material use on campus and promote long term life-cycle design and construction methods. The investment should be protected by providing sufficient resources for high quality maintenance of open spaces.

There are many reasons, including the process of time, for the diversity of materials present in the campus landscape. A short walk presents asphalt, concrete, precast, stone, and gravel pavers, in many methods of installation and in many combinations. Many types of light fixtures, fencing and furniture are also present. A new program of capital improvements should develop a palette of materials for site development that can be used successfully in repeated applications, have a long life cycle and potentially improve with age. The result of this method, over time, should be to provide a more consistent appearance to the campus landscape that can be recognized as unique to the University of Toronto.

The program of creating better quality open spaces, streetscapes and landscapes on the campus must be supported by increased resource allocations for the maintenance and management of the landscape, to protect the long term value of the initial capital investment. Investments in regular repair and upkeep will allow the landscape to mature and improve, while avoiding costly replacement due to deterioration.

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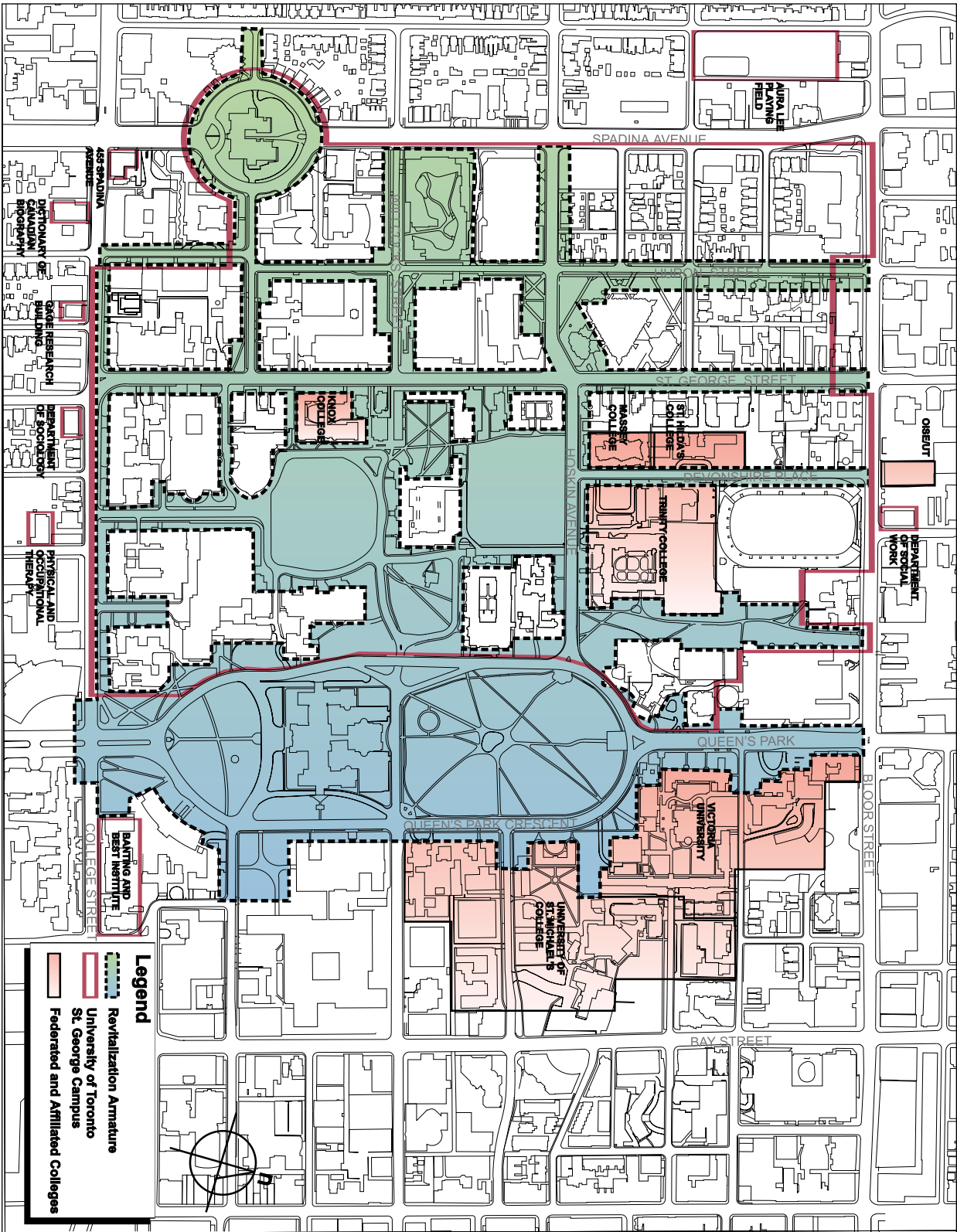
The Revitalization Armature

The vision and Primary Objectives outlined in *Investing in the Landscape* have led to the creation of a Revitalization Armature or framework for campus open space improvement. The Armature represents a connected land base of streets and open spaces that can form the basis of targeted actions to revitalize and reconnect the major open spaces of the St. George Campus and the district.

The Armature is consistent with the policies of the *Campus Master Plan* and the City of Toronto *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*, which seek to improve streetscapes and pedestrian amenity, enhance and preserve significant open spaces and retain the character of the University district with identifiable landmarks, gateways and entrances through coordinated, high quality landscape improvements.

It includes all of the entrances and major north-south and east-west pedestrian routes on campus, including Huron Street, St. George Street, Devonshire Place, King's College Road, Taddle Creek Road, Philosopher's Walk and Queen's Park Crescent, as well as Bloor Street, the Harbord-Hoskin corridor, Willcocks Street, Wellesley Street, Spadina Circle and Russell Street, and College Street. Significant existing open spaces that could be enhanced include the New College courtyard, the green space to the south of Robarts Library, Front and Back Campus, the Sir Daniel Wilson Residence Quadrangle, the Hart House Green, and Queen's Park. The Affiliated and Federated Colleges and Universities, while outside the terms of reference for the Open Space Master Plan, are linked to the Armature through opportunities to enhance and revitalize pedestrian connections and open spaces that are shared with the St. George Campus.

Revitalization Armature



Investing in the Landscape is largely about doing many small things to improve the landscape of the campus. At the same time, it presents the opportunity to consider a few bold strokes to initiate a new direction, a new way of thinking and highlight significant opportunities. Six Demonstration Sites were identified within the Armature, along with the Taddle Creek Millennium Project, which has been underway for some time. The Demonstration Sites represent those areas that have the highest priority and can contribute most to the revitalization of the campus open spaces. They are bold strokes that provide examples of the types of targeted actions that will achieve the Primary Objectives.

The Demonstration Sites are as follows:

- Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street
- King's College Circle - Convocation Hall Plaza - King's College Road - St. George Street Pedestrian Linkages
- Back Campus
- Willcocks Street - Sidney Smith Hall - New College - Huron Street
- College Street
- Spadina Circle - Russell Street

These are described and illustrated in detail in the Demonstration Sites section of the Plan.

The Taddle Creek/Philosopher's Walk Millennium Project has been included within the Revitalization Armature in addition to the six Demonstration Sites. It is an ongoing project to create a storm water management system through the creation of water features along the former course of Taddle Creek, to help reduce combined storm water and sewage overflows to Lake Ontario.

Prior to 1860, Taddle Creek was a strong physical feature in the landscape, running along the current alignment of Philosopher's Walk to McCaul's Pond on the current Hart House Green, before splitting into two branches that continued to Lake Ontario along the current alignment of University Avenue and Taddle Creek Road. McCaul's Pond was filled and Taddle Creek disappeared as the city grew and the University developed its academic facilities.



The Demonstration Sites are targeted actions within the Revitalization Armature.

Several existing studies of the site have been undertaken, including a technical analysis of the amount and quality of storm water and the possible location of storm water retention facilities within the Philosopher's Walk corridor. There is a continuing interest in this project in both the community and the City of Toronto, within its ongoing program of disconnecting storm water downspouts from various buildings in the area. Both interests are positive forces to the future landscape of the campus.

There are several potential linkages between the Demonstration Sites and the Taddle Creek Millennium Project. The redesign of the Hart House Green has been structured to accommodate a large pond area that would be suitable as a storm water storage and management facility. In this scenario, the final design of Philosopher's Walk could include an at-grade linear water feature to convey storm water to the Hart House pond, placed between and around the existing trees to mark the former course of Taddle Creek.

The proposed reconstruction of Queen's Park Crescent could also include the construction of a storm water conveyance system from Hoskin Avenue to the Hart House pond around Wycliffe College and Hart House. In addition, a discussion of University Development Site 21 in Section 3.10 of the Open Space Revitalization Strategies portion of the Plan outlines the important relationship between the Varsity redevelopment and Philosopher's Walk.

Federal Millennium Project funding could be used to fund all or part of the design of an overall storm water management system from Hart House Green through Philosopher's Walk to Bloor Street. The Millennium Project funding could cover a range of options, from simple demonstrations of effective storm water downspout disconnect systems, or if significant funds are available, the design and construction of an at-grade conveyance system and associated landscape improvements for Philosopher's Walk from Hart House Green to Hoskin Avenue. The federal decision on Millennium Project funding is pending.

Together, the Armature, the Demonstration Sites and the Taddle Creek Millennium Project present tremendous opportunities for the revitalization of the landscape of the St. George Campus.

What's Next:
Strategies and
Demonstrations

The next part of *Investing in the Landscape* presents recommendations and strategies for achieving the vision and Primary Objectives. These strategies provide guidance for the University as it embarks upon a new program of landscape design, revitalization and maintenance.

The final part of *Investing in the Landscape* presents the six areas within the Revitalization Armature to be profiled in detail as Demonstration Sites. These should be considered as first steps to illustrate the potential of the campus open spaces to achieve the vision and Primary Objectives outlined in the Plan. Most of the sites contain a wide range of opportunities for both large and small scale projects.

Introduction

This portion of *Investing in the Landscape* presents recommendations and strategies for achieving the vision and Primary Objectives outlined in the previous section. These strategies provide guidance for the University as it embarks upon a new program of landscape design, revitalization and maintenance. The strategies can be divided into two scales: those at the level of the City and those at the level of the campus.

Many elements of the campus, including the landscape and landmarks, are an integral part of the larger context of the City of Toronto. Issues such as the role of the campus within the city, the reconnection of major open spaces in the district, the role of city streets in defining the edges of the campus, and entrances to the campus are best viewed at the scale of the City of Toronto. These are well suited to partnerships between the University and its neighbours: the Royal Ontario Museum, the Royal Conservatory of Music, the Provincial Legislature, the Taddle Creek Millennium Project, adjacent Business Improvement Areas, neighbourhood associations, the Toronto Transit Commission and the City of Toronto are possible partnership candidates.

Campus-scale strategies outline the tools that can be used within the Revitalization Armature to improve and enhance the open spaces of the campus. These tools include the creation of a Pedestrian Priority

Zone; improvements to the streets of the West Campus; the creation of playing fields and running paths; outdoor lighting; the use of consistent plant material, paving material, and signage; seasonal issues; and public art and monuments on campus. A review of the University's Development Sites highlights opportunities for these projects to enhance the campus open spaces and help achieve the vision and objectives of this Plan.

The strategies emphasize the importance of an ongoing open space planning and design function at the University, in the form of an Open Space Revitalization Office to coordinate projects and maintain the priority of campus landscape improvements.

Strategies at the Scale of the City

2.1 The Campus in the City

Over the years the University of Toronto has grown from a semi-rural land reserve to a dynamic institutional district in the heart of a vibrant city. Throughout this growth, the campus has remained an integral and shaping force in the portion of the city fabric that it occupies. While *Investing in the Landscape* deals with the St. George Campus specifically, the Affiliated and Federated Universities and Colleges and other University facilities extend out into the fabric of the city in all directions.

This extended presence is a tremendous force in influencing the adjacent land uses of the district, determining transit routes and service levels and defining the character and use of city streets. The open spaces of the St. George Campus combine with the landscapes of the Affiliated and Federated Colleges and Universities and other open spaces in the district to create a city-wide resource.

One of the joys of living in the Annex neighbourhood is walking through the campus from Spadina Avenue to Bay Street within a remarkable set of landscapes. One of the best places to view the Santa Claus parade is from Queen's Park Crescent within the University precinct. One of the primary tourist attractions in the core of the city is the Central Campus. The University and the city have a relationship that mutually reinforces the good things about each place. *Investing in the Landscape*, as the next stage in the evolution of the campus, must seek to improve upon all of the opportunities available in the district, continue to provide linkages to the resources adjacent to the St. George Campus and continue to contribute to the unique quality of life found in Toronto's core area.

Recommendations

1. *Investing in the Landscape* should continue the legacy of placing the St. George Campus within the dynamic heart of the City of Toronto. Positive works for the St. George Campus should be extended wherever possible to include adjacent sites, institutions, communities and public works that could contribute to an improvement to the overall sense of place for the district. In particular, the approaches to the campus from adjacent neighbourhoods and transit stops should be acknowledged and enhanced.

Recommendations

2. The University of Toronto should lead in reconnecting the major open spaces of this district through the redesign of the Hart House Green, Back Campus and King's College Circle and by participating in a program to increase tree planting on campus.
3. The University should support and participate in the traffic calming of Queen's Park Crescent, the removal of the overpass at Wellesley Street in favour of an at-grade intersection, and improvements to pedestrian amenity on Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street to improve the linkages between the open spaces of the St. George Campus, the Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities, Queen's Park, and the Ontario Legislature.

2.2 Reconnection of Major Open Spaces

The original land grant for the University was a densely treed, continuous semi-rural landscape. A brief history of the evolution of this landscape illustrates the progressive separation and marginalization of the open spaces in the district.

Prior to 1860, Taddle Creek was a strong feature in the landscape, running along the current alignment of Philosopher's Walk to McCaul's Pond on the current Hart House Green, before splitting into two branches that continued to Lake Ontario along the current alignment of University Avenue and Taddle Creek Road. McCaul's Pond was filled and Taddle Creek disappeared as the city grew and the University developed its academic facilities.

In 1917, a largely unimplemented Landscape Master Plan by landscape architect Bryant Fleming portrayed a "University and a Government Precinct" which appeared as a continuous place, linked by small scale roads and walks. In 1939, the University still had the characteristic of being apart from the city, with large, interconnected, densely treed open spaces.

By 1950, the semi-rural character of the precinct had given way to separated open spaces surrounded by wideroads designed to accommodate the growing number of private automobiles. Many of the large groupings of trees on campus were removed to accommodate building projects and many of the street trees were removed to facilitate road widening. Much of the heavily treed Huron Sussex neighbourhood west of the campus disappeared over the next 15 years as the campus grew towards Spadina Avenue.

While the Taddle Creek Ravine has been gone for close to a hundred years, the original land configuration of the open spaces of the Central Campus, Queen's Park and the Legislature are still in place today. This land base is part of a major pedestrian movement corridor between the St. George Campus and the Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities east of Queen's Park Crescent.

Investing in the Landscape has identified a very strong desire, both at the University and the City of Toronto, to reconnect the open spaces of the University district. This desire is reflected in the first Primary Objective of this Plan.

The reconnection of these spaces will require strong leadership on the part of the University. Demonstration Site 1, Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street, provides a good illustration of the results of this approach.

Recommendations

4. The University should support a full measure of traffic calming and streetscape improvements to all edge streets.
5. The design of University building projects along Spadina Avenue should consider the relationship of the building to grade. Active uses should be incorporated at grade to animate the street, and gaps in street tree patterns should be filled.
6. The Varsity Stadium redevelopment should provide a mid-block connection between the Bedford Road subway entrance on Bloor Street and the new playing field. It should respond to the Bloor and Yorkville area BIA streetscape project.

2.3 Major Edge Streets

The St. George Campus is bounded by major City streets. Each of these streets has an important role in defining the image of the campus and its relationship to the larger context of the City of Toronto.

Spadina Avenue is the western boundary of the St. George Campus. It was the location of significant streetscape reconstruction during the installation of the Spadina LRT, and has been upgraded with street trees, wider sidewalks, distinctive paving materials and public art. *Investing in the Landscape* has chosen the area at Spadina Circle and Russell Street as a Demonstration Site.

The north side of College Street has a unique street character with historic buildings and large setbacks. It is a major streetscape opportunity for the University and surrounding community. *Investing in the Landscape* has chosen to highlight College Street in Demonstration Site 5.

Queen's Park Crescent is the location of a large volume of pedestrian traffic to the Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities to the east. *Investing in the Landscape* explores opportunities to make changes to Queen's Park Crescent and its intersection with Wellesley Street to create a more comfortable pedestrian environment.

Bloor Street is the campus' northern edge. The St. George Campus has four major intersections with Bloor Street: Spadina Avenue, Huron Street, St. George Street, and Queen's Park Crescent.

The character of Bloor Street will be subject to change from three known forces in the future:

- The Varsity Stadium redevelopment will present a new face to a significant frontage on Bloor Street from Devonshire Place to The Royal Conservatory of Music. The new image of Bloor Street on this parcel will likely be urban and retail in focus. It will function as the major entrance to a significant new development.
- The Bloor and Yorkville area BIA, in association with the City of Toronto, is undertaking a millennium project study of the Bloor Street streetscape from Church Street to Bedford Road. A major focus of this study is to find locations for the installation of street trees.
- The Royal Ontario Museum has plans to re-work its frontage along Bloor Street to improve its relationship to grade level.

Bloor Street thus has several connected opportunities for streetscape enhancement. These opportunities should be considered as a whole to ensure that they respond appropriately to one another and to the University.

Recommendations

7. Gateway Sites should be enhanced to provide distinctive and high quality environments in the most visible and important locations, to indicate entrances to the University of Toronto.
8. New gates should be limited to two locations on King's College Road.
9. Free standing markers should conform to the new University site signage standards. Markers could also be integrated into the design of new buildings and landscape structures and be specific to the design of those elements.
10. The University should explore the feasibility of installing a full set of City of Toronto special precinct street signs in a manner that makes them difficult to remove.

2.3 Entrances to the Campus

The University and its Affiliated and Federated Colleges and Universities occupy an open district within the city, characteristic of most major institutions and public places in Toronto.

The St. George Campus has some 20 places that function as entrances of some significance. These places have been structured into one of four categories: Gateway Sites, Gates, Markers and Entrances.

Gateway Sites

Gateway sites include Spadina Circle, the Varsity redevelopment, the intersection of Wellesley Street and Queen's Park Crescent and the northwest corner of College Street and University Avenue. The ensemble of street, building and landscape make these Gateway Sites important landmarks in the City of Toronto with a direct association to the campus.

Gates

Gates are a traditional expression of an enclosed entranceway. The University does not have a history of gated entrances, with two exceptions:

- Prior to the construction of the Queen's Park Crescent overpass at Wellesley Street, a series of brick piers marked the entrance to the University.
- The historic gates on Bloor Street at the top of Philosopher's Walk originated as a ceremonial piece at the top of Queen's Park Crescent and were moved to this location after the event. These gates are still present and have a strong association with Philosopher's Walk.

A further gate structure is currently located beside the Fitzgerald Building on College Street. Two additional gate structures are proposed on King's College Road: one set at College Street and one set at Convocation Hall.

Markers

Markers are special locations where opportunities exist to announce the University of Toronto's location. Markers include the new graduate residence at Spadina Avenue and Harbord Street, the existing St. George Street markers at Bloor Street and at College Street, the Wellesley Street and Queen's Park Crescent intersection, the Hoskin Avenue and Queen's Park Crescent intersection, and TTC subway, streetcar and bus stops. Markers could be incorporated into new buildings or structures to denote the location of the University, or constructed as free standing landscape elements, as on St. George Street. Campus and area maps would be useful additions to these locations.

Entrances

Entrances are the many street locations where the University and the City of Toronto meet. These locations should be marked by distinctive street signage.

3

Strategies at the Scale of the Campus

3.1 Pedestrian Priority Zone

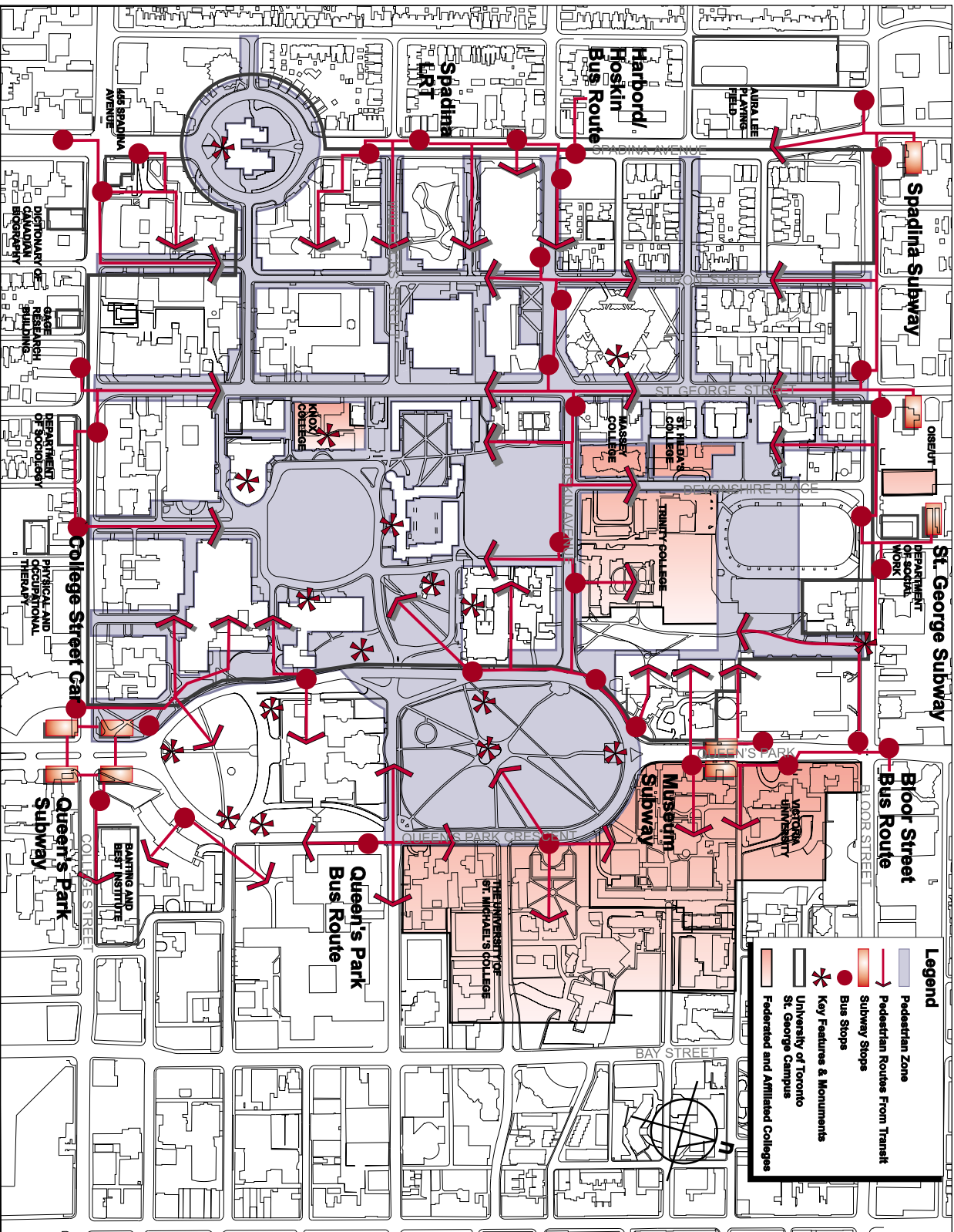
The St. George Campus is a pedestrian-dominated district within the City street system. Its streets and grounds contain the largest amount of publicly accessible open space in the city outside of major public parks. The campus has the added complexity of an equally large complement of publicly accessible buildings, on a network of both City of Toronto and University owned streets.

The pedestrian amenity of the campus is very important. Whether arriving by foot, transit or car, once on the campus the pedestrian system becomes a critical part of the infrastructure. Many people feel that there is a fundamental imbalance between the role of the automobile and the requirements of pedestrians on the campus, particularly in terms of parking and through traffic movement in the district. However, it is important to remember that the campus exists within the City street grid, and should not be cut off from it.

Investing in the Landscape proposes the creation of a Pedestrian Priority Zone (PPZ) to address the issues of pedestrian movement on the campus. The Pedestrian Priority Zone builds upon policies contained in the *St. George Campus Master Plan*, the City's *Part II Plan* and the University's recent *Raising Our Sights* document, and represents an appropriate adjustment to the city network that reflects the high level of pedestrian activity on the St. George Campus.

The PPZ is a response to Primary Objective 4 and is intended to establish a design priority for pedestrian activity and amenity. It establishes a first preference to pedestrians, second preference to cyclists and third preference to automobiles in the design of campus infrastructure.

Pedestrian Priority Zone



Pedestrians

Investing in the Landscape identified several pedestrian movement issues that require attention.

- A very strong pedestrian flow occurs across Queen's Park Crescent without the benefit of a traffic signal to manage this flow. This pedestrian traffic may increase in the future, due to changes in the teaching relationship between the Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities and the St. George Campus.
- Surface parking on primary open spaces creates conflicts with pedestrians, both in terms of sharing the same space for movement and in the level of pedestrian amenity on campus.
- The pedestrian system in some places is too small or too indirect to provide good pedestrian amenity and allow for efficient flow.
- The pedestrian system as a primary element of campus infrastructure is in need of revitalization. The system could be enhanced with design features such as similar materials, landscaping and pedestrian scale lighting.

Recommendations

11. Within the PPZ, design preference and priority should be given to pedestrian access, capacity and amenity.
12. Land in the PPZ should not be used for permanent large scale surface parking.
13. Design of infrastructure in the PPZ should support all forms of transit through careful transit stop design.
14. Several street crossings in the PPZ represent very specialized conditions in the City of Toronto. The University should partner with the City along Harbord-Hoskin; at Queen's Park Crescent; along St. George Street, particularly at Willcocks Street; and at Spadina Crescent to develop special pedestrian systems and traffic calming programs to make these locations safer for pedestrian use.
15. The streets of the West Campus should be reconfigured as pedestrian corridors with limited automobile access to reduce conflicts and recognize the importance of the streets as primary open spaces on the West Campus.
16. The PPZ, as the primary corridor of pedestrian movement through the campus, should contain a consistent outdoor lighting program to create cohesion and improve safety.

Recommendations

17. Bicycle use should take a second priority to pedestrians within the PPZ.
18. The University should continue to encourage the City of Toronto to develop bicycle routes within the public street system of the campus.
19. Bicycle storage should be provided around the perimeter of the primary open spaces and at specific locations in the centre of the campus. In accordance with City policy, bicycle storage should be provided as part of all new development on campus.
20. Service areas and access to handicapped parking in defined locations should be inventoried to inform the detailed design of campus open spaces. Where service and special access routes are shared with the primary pedestrian system, the requirements of these vehicles should be integrated into the design of the pedestrian system.

Bicycles

The use of bicycles has increased in popularity in the City of Toronto in the past few years. The City has recently created a Department of Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure to deal with this trend.

St. George Street and the Harbord-Hoskin corridor contain City-defined bicycle routes. Continued active participation by the University in the provision of facilities for cyclists along public streets is important to the PPZ to ensure that conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists do not arise.

Bicycle use away from the public streets can interfere with pedestrians and campus users. This is especially true in places where high levels of pedestrian activity are mixed with bicycle use or in open spaces that are programmed for quiet or contemplative use. Defined bicycle routes should not be established through the central open spaces of the campus away from defined automobile routes. Rather, the central open areas could be operated as bicycle dismount zones, where bicycles are walked.

Service and Special Access Vehicles

University service vehicles, life and safety vehicles and special access transit vehicles must have 24 hour access to all areas of the campus.

Automobiles

Despite the aesthetic desirability of creating the car-free environment present on some campuses, *Investing in the Landscape* recognizes that automobile access to major facilities is important to the operation of the University of Toronto. The Plan seeks to balance design for automobiles with improvements to pedestrian and visual amenity. This balance is informed by two principles:

- the campus should continue to function within the street system of the City of Toronto, which is designed for a mix of cars and pedestrians; and
- all buildings on campus will continue to require some form of front door drop-off area for automobiles.

However, the creation of a limited number of car-free zones on campus would greatly improve the pedestrian environment and revitalize open spaces in both the West and Central Campus.

Recommendations

21. Design for automobile use should be given the lowest priority in the Pedestrian Priority Zone.
22. The Central Campus should no longer function as a through route for cars from Queen's Park Crescent to College Street. A car-free zone should be established in front of Convocation Hall.
23. The Queen's Park Crescent overpass at Wellesley Street should be removed and a full traffic calming program in partnership with the City of Toronto, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Provincial Legislature, and the Affiliated and Federated Colleges and Universities should be developed.
24. The streets on the West Campus should be redesigned to allow for a new street profile with a higher emphasis on landscape and pedestrian amenity. Willcocks Street between Huron and St. George Streets should be reprogrammed as an open space with limited automobile access.
25. A redesign and a traffic calming of Hoskin Avenue between St. George Street and Queen's Park Crescent should be undertaken.

Recommendations

26. Extensive surface parking should not be re-installed in the primary open spaces of the campus when improvements are undertaken.
27. The University should develop a strategy to replace the surface parking displaced by the implementation of the Open Space Master Plan. The University should review its Development Sites to determine those that are best suited to supply structured parking.
28. A priority should be placed on an investigation of the suitability of 40 St. George Street University Development (Site 18), 47 St. George Street (Site 10), and Varsity Stadium (Site 21), to replace approximately 310 surface parking spaces removed from the Central Campus open spaces.

Parking

One of the fundamental changes to the Central Campus is the proposal to reduce the number of parked cars. This proposal is made recognizing that the University has a by-law requirement to maintain a level of parking supply, a portion of which is currently made up of the surface lots. Beyond the by-law requirement is the issue of revenue generated from the sale of parking spaces.

Surface parking in the open spaces could be replaced by parking structures integrated into the various University Development Sites outlined in the *Part II Official Plan*. Varsity Stadium (Site 21), 40 St. George Street (Site 18), 47 - 55 St. George Street (Site 10) and 8 Taddle Creek Road (Site 15) are the four largest redevelopment sites in close proximity to the central area of the campus.

An additional potential site for structured parking is the Back Campus field area. While not a University Development Site, it is of significant size and could be restructured to provide underground parking as part of the improvement program of *Investing in the Landscape*. This notion was the subject of a previous study and is permitted by by-law. Its implementation would require an update of the previous traffic impact study.

Notwithstanding the desire to reduce surface parking on the campus, the University should continue to place a priority on retaining handicapped parking in appropriate locations as well as retaining parking at Hart House to support its special events and uses. In addition, access and parking for emergency and service vehicles will continue to be provided.

The following chart highlights areas in which the removal of surface parking would make a positive change to the character of the space and reduce opportunities for conflicts between cars and pedestrians.

Area	Type	Pedestrian Priority Zone	Number*
Tower Road	Unreserved	Yes	38
Rear of University College	Handicapped,, Reserved	Yes	7
Hart House Circle	Unreserved	Yes	73
King's College Circle	Unreserved, Reserved	Yes	145
King's College Road	Visitor, Unreserved, Reserved	Yes	26
Galbraith Road	Unreserved, Reserved	Yes	20
Spadina Circle	Unreserved, Reserved	Yes	125
		Total	434

* the number of spaces may vary from year to year.

Access to the above spaces is controlled by University parking staff.

Recommendations

- 29.** The streets of the West Campus should be considered for a comprehensive program of change based on the St. George Street model.
- 30.** Consideration should be given to reducing the travel-way for automobiles in the right-of-way for these streets to allow for tree planting and a broader range of pedestrian amenity.
- 31.** The University and the City of Toronto should pool their land resources along the West Campus streets to integrate the landscape of the buildings with the streetscape.

3.2 The Streets of the West Campus

Unlike the Central Campus, which was planned around a series of open spaces, the West Campus was claimed from an existing residential neighbourhood. The streets therefore play a very important role in the open space system of the West Campus.

St. George Street provides an excellent example of how a public street can become a linear open space, when combined with the landscaping adjacent to buildings. The University should apply this successful formula to the streets of the West Campus, in partnership with the City of Toronto. Over time, the streets of the West Campus could become a set of unique public thoroughfares, recognized as "University of Toronto" streets.

3.3 Playing Fields and Active Recreation

Formal Facilities

The inner city location of the St. George Campus creates a tight configuration of development. This has required the University to use its open spaces for the dual purpose of active and passive recreation.

There are several formal recreation facilities on campus: two playing fields on the Back Campus; two playing fields on the Front Campus; one playing field and track associated with the existing Varsity Stadium; and a field, two tennis courts and a skating rink at the Aura Lee Playing Field on Robert Street. All of these spaces accommodate other uses and none of the playing fields have been constructed in a manner that supports intensive, permit-style league events. These formal facilities are very important to the Faculty of Physical Education and Health for teaching, athletic, fitness and recreational programs. The fields play an additional role in passive outdoor use, as the grounds for convocation and as snow storage areas in winter.

The Varsity Stadium and Arena are slated for demolition and replacement in conjunction with University Development Site 21. The redevelopment will include a new Varsity Stadium with an artificial turf game field, a 400 metre artificial surface running track, stadium seating and associated dressing rooms and field support facilities.

Walking and Running

The pathway system of the campus currently serves as the location for informal running, jogging and outdoor fitness activities. This activity will continue in any reconfiguration of the campus open spaces.

Recommendations

32. Four formal playing fields should be maintained and improved within the major open spaces of the campus: two on the Back Campus, one on the Front Campus and one at the Aura Lee Playing Field. These fields should be constructed to allow for intensive sports events.
33. Several defined running routes of different lengths should be established within the campus. These routes could include a circuit around the four sides of the Back Campus, a circuit around the common green of the Front Campus or a linkage of the two.

Recommendations

- 34.** The same pedestrian scale lighting should be used in both the street system and in the major open spaces in the Pedestrian Priority Zone, including consistent illumination levels and fixture design.
- 35.** General illumination of the large open spaces in the central portion of the campus should be provided to improve night visibility for pedestrians.
- 36.** Indirect lighting of important building facades and landscape features should be used to enhance the general night-time illumination level and visual amenity of the campus.
- 37.** Site-specific architectural and security lighting should be used for passageways, building entrances, courtyards and service locations.

3.4 Campus Outdoor Lighting

Outdoor lighting on the University of Toronto campus can be broadly defined in five categories:

- street lighting;
- pedestrian scale lighting;
- facilities lighting for night use;
- security lighting; and
- special effect lighting

A reconsideration of the major open spaces presents an opportunity to address several campus-wide issues related to lighting.

Street Lighting

The City of Toronto has a well-defined system of district design for street lighting that uses pedestrian scale lighting to create individual identity for an area. This system has been applied to many areas of the city.

The St. George Street reconstruction has begun this process on the campus and it should be continued in any street or streetscape reconstruction including Queen's Park Crescent, Bloor Street, the West Campus streets and College Street. The installation of pedestrian scale lighting to illuminate walking areas should be a priority within the street system of the Pedestrian Priority Zone.

Open Space Lighting

Lighting on campus has a strong relationship to the perceived security of the campus. As a public place open to full night use, the design of lighting on the campus must follow a direction similar to that of the public street system.

Prior to undertaking any significant open space revitalization, The University should review current technical lighting requirements to establish a set of standards for open space illumination. These standards would be used to inform the lighting design component of open space projects.

Recommendations

- 38.** The University, in partnership with the City of Toronto, should undertake an urban forest management plan for Queen's Park and the landscaped areas of the campus.
- 39.** An aggressive tree planting program should be undertaken to include: Spadina Circle, Philosopher's Walk, Queen's Park, King's College Green, Hart House Green, the College Street streetscape and open spaces, the Back Campus and the streets of the Central and West Campus.
- 40.** Special use landscapes and courtyards in the West Campus should be considered within the larger context of urban forest conditions in the district.
- 41.** The range of plant material used on campus should be expanded to include native tree species that were present at the time of the University's original land grant.
- 42.** Educational and interpretive programs should be undertaken to communicate issues related to urban forestry on the campus.

3.5 Urban Forestry on the Campus

Trees play an important role as a structural landscape design element, for shade, beauty and spatial definition. The original land grant for the University and the Ontario Legislature area maintained a semi-rural, treed landscape well into the 20th century. The designation of Queen's Park as a public park retained this strong landscape of deciduous trees. However, the tree pattern in the University area was modified after the turn of the century by several forces:

- The topography and associated landscape of Taddle Creek and other treed areas of the campus were modified and used as building sites.
- The treed landscape of the University and the Legislature was divided by the Queen's Park Crescent overpass at Wellesley Street.
- Changes to the street system of the district to accommodate growing automobile use removed the mature street trees of St. George Street, Spadina Avenue, Hoskin Avenue, Harbord Street, Devonshire Place and University Avenue.
- The growth of the University into the residential neighbourhood west of St. George Street in the 1970s removed much of the tree cover in this area.

Efforts to re-establish a street tree pattern on the West Campus have faced challenges. In the 1980s, the City of Toronto Arborist identified many potential locations for street trees; however, the installation of street trees was allowed in only a few of these locations under the standard approval process, which is driven by the setback requirements of underground infrastructure. In the case of the University, this infrastructure is abundant and includes a district energy supply system.

It is common throughout the City of Toronto to install street trees through a combination of the use of private land and the reconfiguration of below grade infrastructure. This was done during the recent rebuilding of St. George Street. Additional contemporary activities to increase the urban forest in the campus area have included several programs of tree planting, including the new streetscape on Spadina Avenue.

The reconnection of the primary open spaces of the campus will create one of the largest open spaces in the central city outside of the valley and ravine system. This land base creates an opportunity to develop a partnership between the University of Toronto Arboretum Committee, Facilities and Services Department, and the City of Toronto Arborist, to develop an urban arboretum with a focus on issues related to Ontario's urban landscape and the preservation and revitalization of large treed areas in the city.

Recommendations

43. Material use should be consistent within the same district.
44. The palette of materials used in the St. George Street reconstruction should be continued in the future reconstruction of streets on the West Campus and the Harbord-Hoskin corridor.
45. The University should work with the City of Toronto to establish a palette of materials for the re-working of Queen's Park Crescent.
46. Consideration should be given to the use of natural stone paving in combination with poured-in-place finished concrete in the central open spaces and special features of the campus. Any natural material chosen should be available in suitable quantities, over an extended period of time, and be sourced locally.
47. Asphalt should not be considered as a permanent material for pedestrian systems and should only be used for temporary repairs.
48. Paving design should consider the longest possible life cycle available within the budget parameters.

3.6 Materials

Paving

Paving material is one of the most important design considerations in the revitalization of the University's open spaces. The University currently uses a wide range of material, based on the permanence of the application, the location of the installation and the budget of the project.

The City of Toronto developed a standardized system for the reconstruction of St. George Street. Largely created of poured-in-place concrete and asphalt, the installation also includes precast pavers set onto concrete slabs as decorative features. There is not a standard for paving materials or design on other streets of the campus.

Stone and other natural materials are often associated with the classic image of campus pedestrian systems. Granite cobbles and fieldstone slabs in cut or random patterns are the most common of these images. With the exception of Woodsworth College and some areas around University College, the St. George Campus does not have a substantial amount of natural stone paving.

Seating and Furniture

The addition of furnishings to all of the major open spaces will be an important enhancement to the campus environment. The recent addition of the steps to the front of Sidney Smith Hall and the planting edges along St. George Street show how seating can transform the image and use of a place.

The furnishings provided on campus should contribute to the overall feeling of the University as a special place. A standard set of site furnishings (e.g., bench, chair and table) should be selected and used in all new projects.

Elements should be chosen based on both the long term availability of the product and the longest life cycle available within the budget parameters. The amount of furniture required for the campus warrants consideration of a custom design, unique to the campus, that could be locally produced.

Walls and Fences

Walls and structured edges can make a very positive contribution to the campus landscape. The planting edges along St. George Street are an excellent example of dual use where a landscape feature is used for seating along the street.

In most cases, fences do not improve the character of the landscape of the campus. Where visual containment, direction of movement patterns or physical separation are required, a simple, continuous, low (1 metre) clipped hedge should be used.

Recommendations

49. The University should use the projects suggested in *Investing in the Landscape* to considerably increase the amount of available outdoor seating on campus. Consideration should be given to the creation of a specific design for University of Toronto outdoor furniture.
50. New walls and edges should be of attractive and durable material, preferably natural stone, and should specifically exclude timbers, logs or dryset pre-cast blocks.
51. Wherever possible walls should include integral seating to animate the spaces.
52. Free standing walls should not obstruct visibility or create secluded corners that may compromise personal safety.
53. Fences should not be installed as features in the redesign of major open spaces and a program to remove existing non-historic fences should be undertaken.

Recommendations

54. The University should prepare a comprehensive planting program for the campus, including the Demonstration Sites presented in this Plan. Substantive planting should be introduced on a regular basis. Primary plantings should be established within all major open spaces to define the space, provide an appropriate sense of scale and bring a high scenic character to the campus. Major open spaces should be landscapes of landmark stature, distinct from plantings associated with specific buildings.

55. Plantings should emphasize large-scale tree cover consisting of deciduous hardwood species that provide variety in form, foliage and fall colour: and strategically located evergreens and plants with attractive winter appearance to enhance landscape quality throughout the year. Plant species should be selected with consideration for expanding biological diversity, hardiness and longevity.

Plant Material

Trees, shrubs, ground covers, sod, ornamental grasses, vines and perennial plants are highly visible elements that shape the campus landscape. Along with architecture, plant material forms and identifies open space, modifies microclimate and through scale, texture and seasonal colour brings beauty to the University grounds.

Most installed landscape on campus is created through individual design exercises rather than through a campus-wide planting design scheme. *Investing in the Landscape* is an opportunity to redirect the planting approach on campus to achieve five basic objectives:

- A significant increase in deciduous hardwood trees, both as specimens in the open landscape and in larger groupings, to establish a stronger structure of large trees on campus.
- The introduction of large coniferous trees in strategic locations to increase the diversity of the landscape and provide winter interest.
- A general reduction in the level of random foundation planting around and between the buildings on the campus.
- Gardens of hardy and prolific blooming perennials as permanent landscape features rather than annual flower plantings.
- The use of structured low hedges of consistent material in place of foundation plantings and fences.

Plantings require active management as they evolve to maturity, and eventually require replacement. Plants should be installed in conditions that are conducive to healthy, long term, vigorous growth. These conditions should include high quality soil, suitable soil depth on roof decks, irrigation, sufficient sunlight and levels of maintenance that allow the plantings to reach a mature state.

Irrigation must be considered as a necessary part of any new landscape installation.

Recommendations

56. All significant existing trees should be maintained in a healthy condition and protected during any campus planning exercise or development process. The University should consider adding personnel with experience in horticultural methods for large-scale urban landscapes and urban forestry to Operations and Services. Comprehensive turf management should be applied to major open spaces where playing fields are a part of the use program.
57. The University should ensure that plant layout and massing have regard for public and personal safety.
58. Mass plantings of hardy and prolific blooming perennials as bold accent plantings should be used in favour of annual bedding plants to create more permanent landscape features. Drought resistant ornamental grasses should be used as accent plantings and as a low maintenance groundcover.
59. All new landscape installations should include an irrigation component that incorporates the most recent technology in water conservation and efficient delivery methods, including the possible use of grey water and retained storm water.

Recommendations

- 60.** All new open space design projects should utilize the new University signage system for any naming, information or directional signage. Non-compliant signage should not be used.
- 61.** Signage should be a component of the landscape design and integrated into walls, structures and planting plans, where possible.

Signage

The University is in the final stages of creating a new unified signage system for the campus to replace the various methods and designs currently used for identifying campus features. The new University sign system should be used to create any new signage for the open spaces of the campus. Signage has a direct relationship to Open Space Master Plan Recommendations 7 through 9, which deal with markers, gates, and entrances to the campus.

3.7 Seasonal Issues

Open space improvements can enhance the appearance and amenity of the University throughout the seasons.

Colour

- Hardy perennials can be planted to extend colour from the early spring to the late fall.
- Coniferous trees can be used to provide late fall, winter and early spring colour in the landscape.
- A diverse range of deciduous tree plantings can introduce early spring flowering, late fall fruiting and a display of Ontario fall leaf colour.
- Some deciduous shrubs and trees create very specific colour displays. For example, forsythia can be planted to introduce a bright yellow very early in the spring. Magnolia can introduce a vibrant colour display in mid-May.
- Ornamental grasses present a varied appearance and colour through the fall and winter.

Lighting

- Throughout the fall, winter and early spring, night-time conditions exist for much a longer time during the active part of the campus day. The lighting design expressed in Recommendations 34 through 37 should consider the considerable time the campus is reliant on lighting in the fall and winter months.

Recommendations

62. A conscious planting design that reflects seasonal colour change should be undertaken for all new landscapes. Guidelines regarding colour, lighting, and snow and pedestrians should be applied to new landscape design to take full advantage of the changing seasons.

Snow and Pedestrians

- Pedestrian pathways should be sized to allow for easy snow clearing and a moderate amount of edge storage.
- Cleared pathways should be provided along all major pedestrian routes.
- Snow should not be stockpiled on the campus in significant quantities.

3.8 Art on Campus

The revitalization of the open spaces represents an opportunity to significantly increase the amount of public art on campus. The curator of the University of Toronto Art Collection could provide a resource to assist open space projects in the selection of artists, the creation of terms of reference for art projects, funding and the curation of works within the University collection system.

Two methods are suggested to begin a broad program of installing public artworks in the campus open spaces: art in landscape design and art in individual settings.

Art in Landscape Design

There is a growing trend towards the inclusion of artists as a part of the design team for open spaces and public infrastructure. This collaborative effort results in a richer project by adding another dimension to the design process of landscape architecture.

Art in Individual Settings

The campus is an appropriate setting for the integration of art into open spaces. The Demonstration Sites illustrate potential locations for such artworks.

The University Art Centre has expressed an interest in establishing an outdoor sculpture court at the northeast door to University College. This facility could provide both an entrance to the Art Centre and an important outdoor amenity. In addition, the Hart House Green could be used to display artworks and act as a revolving outdoor display area for special events held by the Art Centre.

Recommendations

63. The University should require that teams hired to design new open spaces on the campus include artists as part of the collaboration.
64. The curator of the University of Toronto Art Collection and the University Art Committee should work together with the Physical Planning and Design Advisory Committee to develop a program to expand the presence of public art in the open spaces of the campus and broaden the involvement of artists in the design of University facilities.

Recommendations

- 65.** All existing dedicated monuments should be incorporated into new designs for campus open spaces. A location for a new monument in the proposed Convocation Hall Plaza should be preserved.

3.9 Monuments

Over the years the campus has become the location of several significant monuments of different origin and meaning. The war memorial on Queen's Park Crescent, the Memorial Wall and Soldiers' Tower, the gates at the head of Philosopher's Walk and the Meridian Line on King's College Road contribute to the richness and history of the campus. Each of these monuments should be integrated into any new open space design in a manner that retains and enhances their dignity.

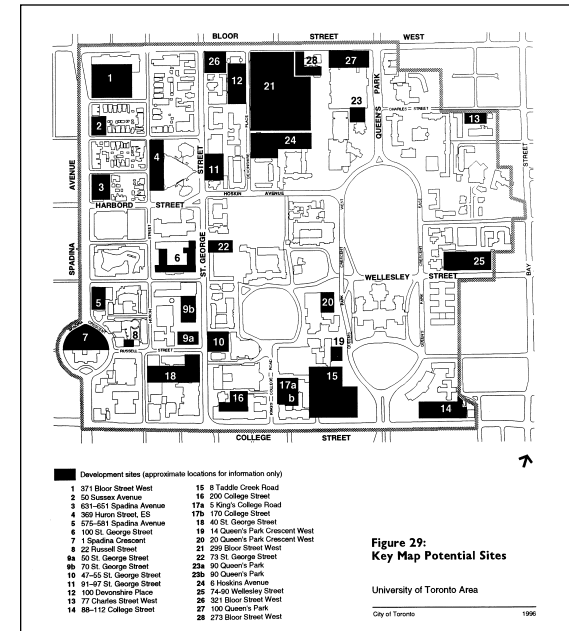
The proposed Convocation Hall Plaza includes a location for a significant monument or dedication. The plaza is centrally located on the campus and is proposed as an automobile-free area. A monument, such as a memorial wall, could provide an interesting backdrop for the east side of the plaza and create a transition between the central common green and King's College Road.

3.10 Development Sites

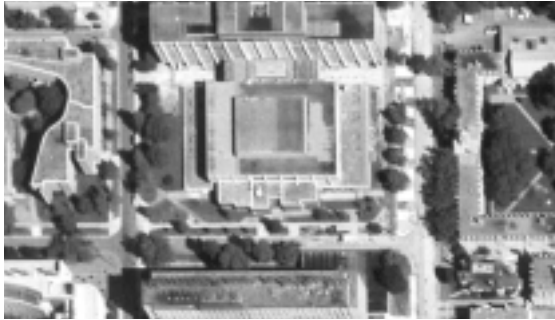
City of Toronto planning documents identify a series of University Development Sites for the St. George Campus. The Site Specific Development Guidelines provide a detailed description of the general design conditions for these locations.

Investing in the Landscape recognizes the importance of these sites to the University and has incorporated several into the Demonstration Sites. Where the Demonstration Sites differ from the approved massing and zoning diagrams in the planning documents, it is only to suggest situations or features that could be considered when the site is activated as a development opportunity. Suggestions for each site as presented in this Plan will be assessed as part of individual project design and approved by the University at that stage.

Several University Development Sites represent significant potential for improvements in the general landscape conditions of the campus, either on their own or as part of a major open space redesign. These are reviewed on the following pages.



The Part II Plan identified many redevelopment opportunities on the St. George Campus.



The west terrace and the south edge of Sidney Smith Hall can be integrated into open space improvements.

Site 6 - 100 St. George Street (Sidney Smith Hall)

Creating a major open space on the West Campus is a Primary Objective of *Investing in the Landscape*. Demonstration Site 4, adjacent to Sidney Smith Hall, is the suggested location for this open space, created by a re-configuration of Willcocks Street and the landscape around the adjacent buildings.

The east terrace of Sidney Smith Hall has recently been integrated into the new St. George Street through the addition of very successful steps. *Investing in the Landscape* seeks to achieve similar integration into the streetscapes of Willcocks and Huron Streets on the south and west sides of this important building complex.

Specifically, the development of Site 6 should consider:

1. A new edge for the south side of the building along Willcocks Street, with uses at grade for student amenity.
2. Integration of the west terrace with a new open space at grade.
3. An enhanced, weather-protected mid-block connection from St. George Street to Huron Street.

Site 7 - 1 Spadina Circle

This site is one of the Demonstration Sites in *Investing in the Landscape* and is identified as a potential Gateway Site to the University. This collection of listed and designated historic buildings and the street configuration are unique in Toronto and function as a commonly understood entrance to the St. George Campus.

Specifically, the development of Site 7 should consider:

1. The opportunity to blend the redevelopment of the Spadina Circle site with the goals of *Investing in the Landscape* to create a Gateway Site to the campus.



Spadina Circle has the potential to be an important Gateway Site for the campus.

Site 9a and 9b - 50 and 70 St. George Street

These sites contain little-used integral open spaces that are difficult to reprogram or redesign from a landscape perspective without a tie-in to building renovations. The space between these two sites is part of a pedestrian corridor across St. George Street. These sites have the potential to provide a much needed open space amenity for the West Campus.

Specifically, the development of Site 9a and 9b should consider:

1. Renovation of the open spaces should be considered as part of the redevelopment of these two sites. The design program could include open space changes or allow future changes by making necessary structural or architectural preparations.



The integral open spaces at 50 and 70 St. George Street could be redesigned during building renovation.



The redevelopment of 47-55 St. George Street has the potential to add to and enhance existing pedestrian connections.

Site 10 - 47- 55 St. George Street

This site is included in the Spadina Circle - Russell Street Demonstration Site. It is the termination of Russell Street, with the Convocation Hall dome as its backdrop, and one of the east-west connection points between the West Campus and the open spaces of the Central Campus. The Russell Street corridor, the walkway to the University Visitor Centre in Knox College, Galbraith Road and the north-south walkway along the back of Simcoe Hall are all interconnected in the vicinity of this site and contained within the Pedestrian Priority Zone.

Specifically, the development of Site 10 should consider:

1. An opportunity to enhance the east-west pedestrian connection and create a new open space integrated with both historic and new structures within the redevelopment site.
2. A possible location for structured parking in proximity to King's College Circle and the University Visitor Centre to replace parking in the central open spaces.

Site 15 - 8 Taddle Creek Road

This University Development Site encompasses a sizable portion of the southeast corner of the campus. It is identified as part of a Gateway Site and illustrated as a part of the College Street Demonstration Site.

Specifically, the development of Site 15 should consider:

1. The creation of three new gateway open spaces:
 - in the converted Taddle Creek Road to create a forecourt to the medical science complex;
 - in the front of the Fitzgerald Building; and
 - through the relocation of the greenhouse and improvements to the open space at the northwest corner of College Street and University Avenue.
2. An opportunity to contribute to the proposed College Street streetscape.



The redevelopment of 8 Taddle Creek Road can create new gateway open spaces and contribute to the College Street streetscape.



Integrating landscape redesign with the redevelopment of these sites can make a positive contribution to the open space and pedestrian network on campus.

Site 21 - 273 and 299 Bloor Street West (Varsity Stadium)

This is the largest redevelopment site on campus. It is adjacent to the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), the Royal Conservatory of Music, Trinity College and the Planetarium, all of which are redevelopment opportunities.

Currently, Site 21 is the subject of a proposal call to create a new private sector development and a new University-owned sports field and ice facility.

The opportunities presented by the combined redevelopment potential in this location will have an important role in the future of Philosopher's Walk.

Specifically, the combined sites should consider:

1. Integrating development and landscaping with the western edge of Philosopher's Walk between Trinity College and the University of Toronto lands.
2. A possible opening of the western facade of the ROM to Philosopher's Walk.
3. An improved pedestrian connection to the Museum subway station through the Planetarium site.
4. A north-south mid-block connection from the St. George subway entrance on Bedford Road to the new playing field, and a matching east-west pedestrian connection from Devonshire Place to Philosopher's Walk.
5. An improved east-west pedestrian connection at the south end of the Varsity site, between Devonshire Place and Philosopher's Walk.

4

Strategies for Ongoing Planning and Design at the University

In some respects the University can be compared to a small city. It operates and occupies a large complex urban territory and has a significant resident and employment population base who rely on the University for services, including recreation amenities. In this municipal comparison, the open spaces would be planned, programmed and designed by a Parks, Recreation and Culture Department. Operations and maintenance might be integral to this unit or undertaken by a central Works Department.

In several locations in Ontario where the open spaces and landscape are critical to the sense of place, an additional agency overview is provided. The National Capital Commission in Ottawa, for example, is charged with setting and maintaining an image suitable to the Capital of Canada, within the framework of the Region of Ottawa-Carleton. The Niagara Parks Commission is a similar body whose mandate is to maintain the quality of the open spaces in cities within the corridor from Niagara-on-the-Lake to Fort Erie, including the open spaces at Horseshoe Falls, the Whirlpool and the oak savannah along the Niagara Parkway.

The open spaces of the St. George Campus and the Queen's Park district of the City of Toronto, while critical to the operation of the University and important to the City and the Province of Ontario, have no such institutional support to develop and maintain their future. The City of Toronto Parks Department plays no role in these spaces beyond the confines of Queen's Park.

Individual academic departments on the St. George Campus have a clearly expressed interest in their buildings. Generally, the departments prioritize building and space related improvements in budget allocations. The planning of new buildings follows the defined process of the City of Toronto Official Plan under the Ontario Planning Act. No comprehensive review structure exists for the common ground of all of these University facilities - the campus open spaces.

The existing University-sponsored volunteer committees on matters of design, while critical to the discussion of design on campus and communicating with the University community, cannot be expected to successfully undertake and manage such a time-consuming and complicated task as developing funding and maintaining a framework for open space design and management.

4.1 Open Space Revitalization Office

Investing in the Landscape represents the beginning of an ongoing process. To be successful, the elements of the plan must become an integral component of the culture of the University administration. To this end, the University should establish a permanent office dedicated to the design and revitalization of the campus open spaces. This office should be separate from the Campus and Facilities Planning and the Operations and Services functions of the existing administrative structure.

For the purposes of this Plan the office is called the Open Space Revitalization Office (OSRO).

The mandate of the OSRO should be broad, to allow participation in all aspects of the creation and maintenance of the campus landscape. The mandate should include:

1. Creating a communication strategy to integrate the Revitalization Armature into the mainstream of the University's decision-making activity. The strategy should involve the administration, academic departments, students and alumni groups.
2. Working with the University Development Office to establish a program to raise capital for projects within the Revitalization Armature, including the six Demonstration Sites.
3. Creating terms of reference, finding sponsors and coordinating design competitions for selected projects within the Revitalization Armature.
4. Developing terms of reference and organizing consultant selection processes for designers hired to undertake open space projects on campus.
5. Working with the Physical Planning and Design Advisory Committee, the University Art Committee, the University Arboretum Committee, Campus and Facilities Planning

Recommendations

66. The University should undertake the necessary institutional review to allow the creation of an Open Space Revitalization Office (OSRO) and an associated resource base. The OSRO should coordinate *Investing in the Landscape* into funding, design and implementation phases.
67. The OSRO should work with the Centre for Landscape Research (CLR) in the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design to maintain a continuously updated computer model of the projects undertaken within the Revitalization Armature. This model can be used to monitor the progress of the open space program and to attract interested donors and partners to the project.

and Operations and Services to fully inform these groups of the ongoing revitalization efforts and to assist in the integration of other University projects with these efforts.

6. Coordinating open space and landscape improvement projects with existing buildings and facilities projects and providing assistance to design professionals undertaking capital projects on the campus to integrate potential open space improvements into these projects.
7. Coordinating the services of a landscape architect, placed on retainer to the OSRO, to provide advice on matters of landscape design on an as-needed basis.
8. Working with Operations and Services personnel to improve open space maintenance and stewardship of the campus landscape.
9. Applying the Pedestrian Priority Zone requirements to the campus.
10. Developing partnerships with City of Toronto departments on issues related to street infrastructure matters, the Taddle Creek Millennium Project, issues of traffic calming and the re-connection of the major open spaces in the district.
11. Liaising with the University Arboretum Committee and the City of Toronto Parks Department on matters related to urban forestry on campus and the possible certification of an urban arboretum on campus.
12. Liaising with the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design to build an ongoing relationship and to give the OSRO the advantages of the technological and research capabilities present at the school. A specific emphasis should be placed on the relationship between the Centre for Landscape Research (CLR) and the OSRO.

Within the area of the Revitalization Armature, the OSRO can organize a wide range of projects, through its own forces and in partnerships with other bodies.

The OSRO should not become an in-house design department and should not build in-house staff design resources. It should function to organize the efforts needed to acquire the support, resources and design expertise to undertake landscape design and installation of the highest quality on the campus open spaces. The OSRO should be provided with resources to undertake five specific activities:

1. To engage on an annual basis an industry-recognized landscape architect as an advisor to assist in the interpretation of landscape design issues.
2. To undertake small-scale additions to projects already under way to allow them to reflect the recommendations of *Investing in the Landscape*.
3. To support communication, promotion and publication of the open space revitalization program.
4. To attend supportive seminars, conferences and symposia on institutional open space design and design competitions.
5. To obtain technical services and communication material from the CLR at the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.

The director of the OSRO should be a registered professional with a background in the initiation and implementation of large scale projects in a multi-disciplinary environment. The director should have a direct professional interest in a range of design fields including landscape architecture, urban design, architecture, environmental design, public art, industrial design or engineering.

Recommendations

68. Within the Demonstration Sites identified in *Investing in the Landscape*, several locations would be ideal for a Design Competition process.

- the Spadina Circle restoration
- the Convocation Hall Plaza
- the University Art Centre sculpture court
- the King's College Road gates
- the West Campus-Willcocks Street open space
- the restoration of Queen's Park
- the new College Street and University Avenue open space
- the new Taddle Creek Road forecourt
- the Harbord-Hoskin corridor
- the Back Campus

4.2 Undertaking Open Space Design

There are two methods that the Open Space Revitalization Office can use to undertake the detailed design of open space projects on the campus: design competitions and a competitive consultant selection process.

Competitions

Competitions are becoming more commonplace for important public open spaces in North America, and have long been the established procedure for all kinds of open space design projects in Europe. There are many kinds of competitions, the two most straightforward being an Ideas Competition and a Design Competition.

An Ideas Competition is used to look at a range of solutions to a problem. It is generally not the intention of an ideas competition to implement the winning results as a next phase. The competition is juried, a range of awards is determined and the results of the process are publicly displayed for comment. An ideas competition was successfully undertaken by the University several years ago for St. George Street. By their nature, ideas competitions lend themselves to very broad based participation.

A Design Competition is a more focused exercise to obtain a solution to be implemented by the winning team. Participation can be open or selected from a short list of submitted expressions of interest. The competition is juried, awards are given to finalists and a design commission is given to the winning entry for implementation. The Oakpark Central Park in Oakville and Dundas Square and Court House Square in Toronto are recent examples of successful public open space design competitions.

Design Competitions and Ideas Competitions are a positive way for the University to undertake selected open space design projects. Competitions offer several advantages for a design process:

1. They are intensely creative processes, often resulting in designs not obtainable through incremental review by an administrative decision-making process.
2. The submissions often include a unique collaboration of design skills not readily available in individual design firms.
3. Properly managed competitions for significant spaces attract a wide range of design groups from around the world. The designs resulting from the competition usually enjoy a significant profile and exposure.
4. Competitions allow the design industry to grow by providing an opportunity for young design talent to compete on the basis of design skill and presentation.

Competitions could be held for entire open spaces or for individual elements within the spaces such as memorials, site furnishings and smaller special places.

A properly run design competition requires substantial up-front organization and resources to create a program for the space, develop a proper briefing package and to coordinate, judge and promote the results of the process.

It is possible that the competition will not produce a design suitable to the University. This result has a direct relationship to the effort and definition placed in the organization of the event.

Competitive Interviews

Competitive interviews are used to select a design service rather than a specific design or idea, and represent the most common way for the OSRO to obtain professional design services. This type of selection process is ideal when the University has a clear understanding of what it is trying to accomplish and is able to judge the ability of a group of professionals to successfully implement the project.

In order to obtain the highest possible level of creativity in this process, several guidelines should be used:

1. The process should include a general, open and widely advertised call for expressions of interest in the project.
2. Expressions of interest should be encouraged from multi-dimensional teams of landscape architects, architects and artists combined with specialty expertise such as environmental engineers, traffic calming specialists, horticulturists, lighting and way-finding specialists.
3. Short-listed firms should be invited to make presentations open to the general University community.

4.3 Open Space Revitalization Opportunities Related to Ongoing Projects

Infrastructure Projects

One of the most successful methods of changing the landscape and site conditions of a large urban place is to build change into the ongoing process of street infrastructure upgrades and reconstruction. The success of this process is demonstrated in the City of Toronto, where regular street reconstruction includes redesigning and upgrading the pedestrian amenity and streetscape condition.

The benefits of integrating design changes into regular life cycle replacements were evident when the City made the decision to rebuild St. George Street, using a joint program of infrastructure replacement and amenity and image improvement. The same value was not gained in the Hoskin Avenue reconstruction undertaken several years earlier.

Many of the opportunities outlined in *Investing in the Landscape* are related to city streets that will be rebuilt over time. The University should be prepared to participate in each of these projects and other infrastructure reconstructions as they occur.

Recommendations

69. The University should monitor the 10-year capital improvement program for City infrastructure and, through the OSRO, suggest possible projects and directions for consideration by the City. The OSRO should also review all University of Toronto infrastructure programs to associate any potential open space revitalization projects with ongoing infrastructure projects.

Recommendations

70. To achieve a direct relationship between major building projects and campus landscape improvements, the University should establish an annual capital budget for the OSRO to allow for participation in ongoing projects and to establish a central capital fund to be directed toward a coordinated plan of open space improvements.

71. The University should continue to require that all building projects create a budget for localized landscape development. The OSRO should define the specific parameters of the contribution for individual projects, for approval by the University. The University should also require that all of the major University Development Sites make a major contribution to the improvement of the open spaces of the campus. The OSRO, in conjunction with PPDAC, should establish the extent of the contribution of major development projects to ***Investing in the Landscape***.

Building Projects

The many building projects undertaken by the University present opportunities to improve the open space and landscape of the campus outside of the major Demonstration Sites identified in this Plan. Generally these projects fall into two categories: renovations to existing structures, and new buildings created on identified sites throughout the campus.

The University has existing policies that create budgets for landscape development within building projects. In the past, these budgets have been project-specific and without the benefit of an overall plan for open space improvements. Resources for building additions or renovations have been scarce and often the improvements that provide academic space or facilities have been considered more important than issues associated with the landscape and open spaces of the campus.

Two possibilities exist to connect building projects to improvements for the larger campus environment.

- A percentage of all capital projects could be contributed to a central fund for landscape and open space improvements prioritized annually by the OSRO.
- All projects could be required to undertake improvements to immediately adjacent open spaces, under the guidance of the OSRO and through review with the Physical Planning and Design Advisory Committee (PPDAC).

Effective management of an open space revitalization program would benefit from the availability of both methods.

4.4 Protecting the Open Space Investment

A significant investment in open space improvement brings with it the requirement to undertake a three-part management process: short term maintenance, medium term adjustments/repair and long term replacement. Each aspect of this three-part process should be considered in both the design process and within the annual maintenance programs established for the campus. Annual maintenance budgets should be adjusted to support any new open space installations and include annual programs to augment plantings.

Landscape improvements require time to reach their full potential and success will be measured by the level of upkeep of the spaces. The University will require additional procedures and expertise beyond that which currently exists to successfully undertake this program.

Recommendations

72. The majority of the capital for the open space revitalization projects will come from fundraising, partnerships and donors; therefore the University should consider designing donation programs for both capital works and annual maintenance programs. A portion of all funds, with the approval of the donor, should be contributed to an endowment fund for the long term needs of the open space revitalization program.
73. All new open space design projects should include specifications for ongoing site maintenance, including a defined short term maintenance program with annual costs, an outline of medium term adjustments required to optimize the design, and a recommendation on life-cycle issues and costs of long term replacement. This information should form the basis of an annual maintenance program created by the University.
74. The OSRO should, in cooperation with the existing grounds and maintenance personnel, review the requirements of an advanced program of horticultural and arboricultural practices and maintenance procedures to support the program of open space improvements. This review should result in a request for annual resources to undertake the program.

5

Implementing the Open Space Master Plan

5.1 Initial Actions

The following initial actions are proposed as the first steps in the process of revitalizing the campus open spaces.

1. Obtain University approval of the Primary Objectives of *Investing in the Landscape* as high level goals for the revitalization of the campus open spaces.
2. Obtain University approval of the Revitalization Armature as the long term planning focus of open space improvements.
3. Obtain University approval of the Demonstration Site projects outlined in *Investing in the Landscape*, to allow fundraising for these projects to begin.
4. Obtain University approval of the Recommendations outlined in *Investing in the Landscape* to establish strategies for open space revitalization.
5. Establish the Open Space Revitalization Office (OSRO) to continue the process begun by the 1997 Open Space Visioning Exercise and *Investing in the Landscape*.

Once established, the first priorities for the OSRO should be placed on four activities.

1. The OSRO should use the Recommendations in *Investing in the Landscape* as guidelines for open space development of all kinds on the campus.
2. The OSRO should coordinate the preparation and distribution of technical studies related to the removal of the Queen's Park Crescent overpass and the pedestrian improvements to this district. The partnerships with the adjacent institutions and the appropriate City of Toronto departments should be formalized, leading to a presentation to the Toronto Community Council for endorsement.
3. A similar liaison should be established with the City of Toronto related to the technical requirements of reconfiguring the streets of the West Campus.
4. The Demonstration Sites and the order-of-magnitude Costing Study (prepared as a background technical report for this Plan) should be used to develop a funding program for the Revitalization Armature.

5.2 Demonstration Site Preconditions

The following outline indicates known preconditions that must be met prior to undertaking the redesign and implementation of the Demonstration Sites.

Demonstration Site 1

Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street

1. City approval of the removal of the Queen's Park Crescent overpass and the pedestrian improvements to the district is required prior to site development.
2. Portions of the western side of this site could proceed prior to approval outlined above.

Demonstration Site 2

King's College Circle - Convocation Hall Plaza - King's College Road - St. George Linkages

1. Replacement of surface parking could be a precondition for site development.

Demonstration Site 3

Back Campus

1. Replacement of surface parking could be a precondition for site development.

Demonstration Site 4

Willcocks Street - Sidney Smith Hall - New College - Huron Street

1. Willcocks Street and Huron Street modifications will require City of Toronto approval.
2. No preconditions apply to the New College courtyard.
3. The development character of Sidney Smith Hall should be known before the new West Campus open space on Willcocks Street is created.

Demonstration Site 5

College Street

1. No preconditions apply to College Street.
2. The Taddle Creek Road forecourt open space should be associated with the construction activity of Development Site 15.

Demonstration Site 6

Spadina Circle - Russell Street

1. Spadina Circle should be associated with the construction activity related to Development Site 7.
2. The walkways at the head of Russell Street should be associated with the construction of Development Site 10, with the exception of the walkway to the University Visitor Centre, which could proceed immediately.
3. Changes to Russell Street would require City of Toronto approval.

Introduction

Investing in the Landscape presents targeted actions for six areas within the Revitalization Armature, which are profiled in detail as Demonstration Sites. These targeted actions were developed in consultation with the Open Space Steering Committee. All of the chosen sites are within the Pedestrian Priority Zone, as described in the Open Space Revitalization Strategies section of the Plan.

The Demonstration Sites should not be considered as isolated undertakings but rather as first steps to illustrate the potential of the campus open spaces to achieve the vision and Primary Objectives outlined in the Plan. Most of the sites contain a wide range of opportunities for both large and small scale projects, and portions of the sites could be undertaken as separate capital projects.

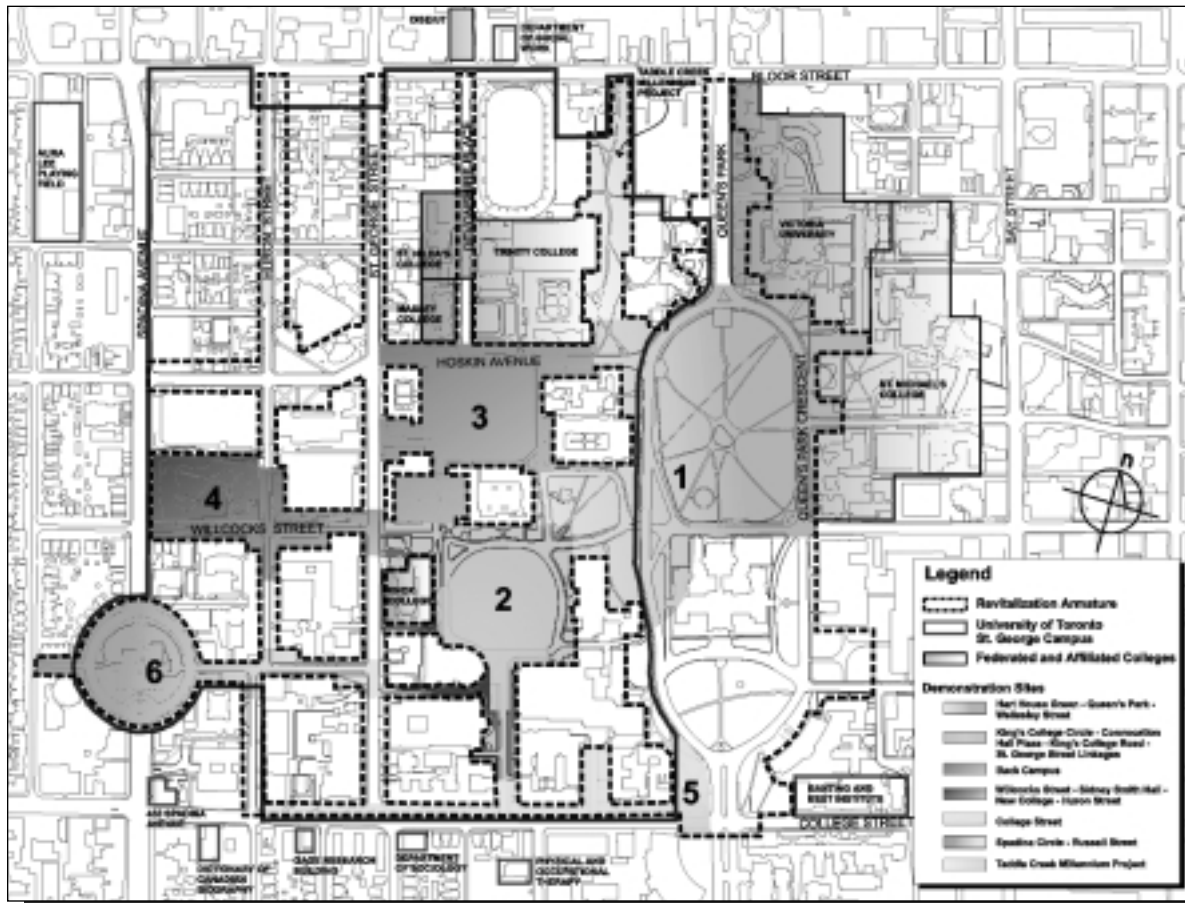
Each Demonstration Site contains four levels of information:

1. Base information on key buildings, focal points and the identification of the University Development Sites.
2. An analysis of pedestrian movement characteristics.
3. A Detailed Master Plan Concept drawing that describes the basic changes proposed for the site.
4. A rendering to illustrate the landscape design concept for each site.

The information has been saved in a digital format and can be used for a variety of purposes, including to structure partnerships, develop funding programs and provide background information for design competitions and commissions.

2

Demonstration Sites



2.1

Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street Demonstration Site

Goals

- *To reconnect the historic open spaces of the University district;*
- *To re-image Hart House Green by revitalizing the landscape and restoring a water feature with possible storm water management functions;*
- *To reconfigure the Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street intersections and the Wellesley Street corridor to create a pedestrian-oriented entry to the campus, Queen's Park and the Ontario Legislature.*

Project Summary

Hart House Green, Queen's Park and the Ontario Legislature are part of the original layout of the University district. Until 1954, these three open spaces were more or less continuous, interwoven with small scale roads and paths. This condition changed when the western side of Queen's Park Crescent was formalized. The spaces are now divided by a grade-separated automobile overpass on Queen's Park Crescent.

The revitalization of Hart House Green is the primary action needed to reconnect the significant open spaces of the University district. A complete reconnection also requires removing the Queen's Park Crescent overpass, rebuilding an at-grade intersection and improving Queen's Park and Wellesley Street. A proposed landscape of trees, the use of topography and a water feature at the intersection will transform this entry to the campus and make the Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street intersection an important focal point in the city.

The Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street space is a Gateway Site to the entire University and Queen's Park district. Its redesigned landscape should be of landmark quality and create a new main entrance to the St. George Campus that will provide strong linkages to the Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities to the east of Queen's Park Crescent.

Key Buildings, Focal Points and University Development Sites

Demonstration Site 1 contains several of the most recognizable architectural landmarks on the campus including the east facade of University College, the Memorial Wall, Soldiers' Tower, Hart House, the Observatory, the Volunteers' Monument and the Provincial Legislature. Several significant trees are present in the space, most notably a large beech in the northeast corner adjacent to Hart House. The topography of Taddle Creek is still evident in the west-to-east slope of the site.

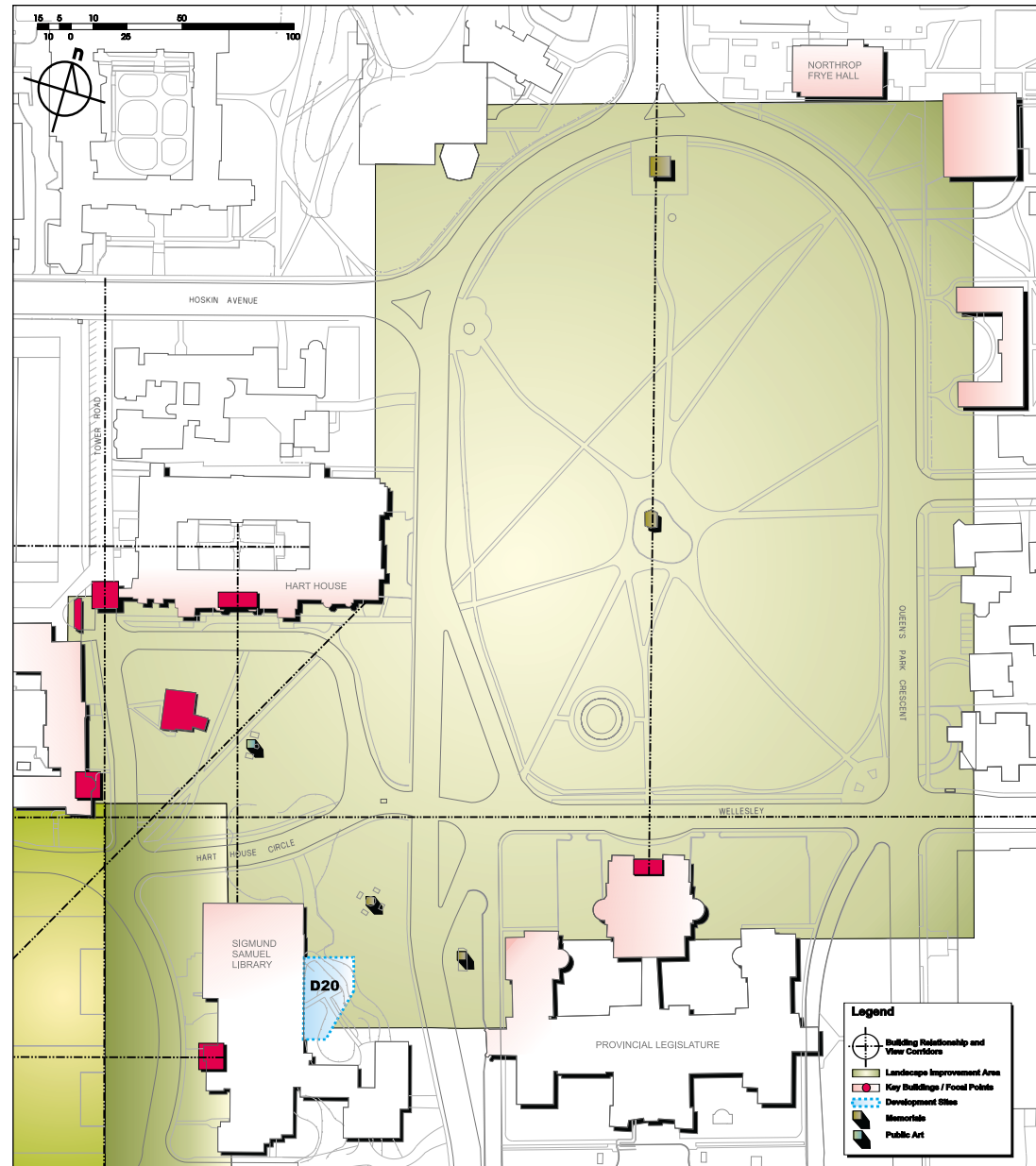
University Development Site 20, an extension to the Sigmund Samuel Library, is part of the Demonstration Site.



Drawing DS1 - 1: Key Buildings / Focal Points / Development Sites

Demonstration Site 1:

Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street



Pedestrian Movement

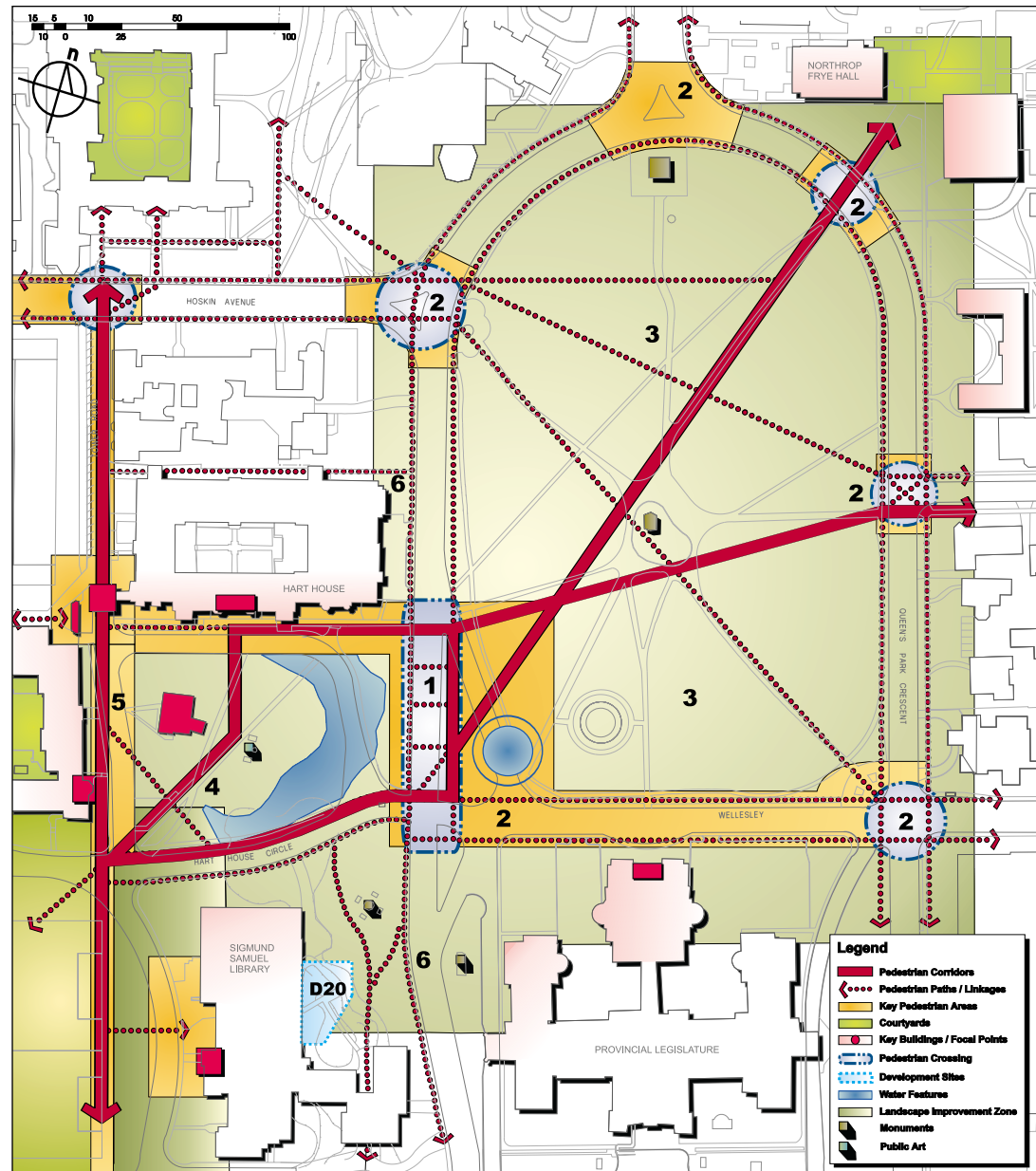
The following list of items includes issues related to pedestrian routes that should be considered in the redesign of the Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS1-2**.

1. A major pedestrian crossing between the St. George Campus and Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities east of Queen's Park occurs at the intersection of Hart House Green and Queen's Park Crescent.
2. The large number of pedestrian crossings at Queen's Park Crescent create conflicts with fast-moving vehicular traffic (see the technical report prepared by Marshall Macklin Monaghan for further details).
3. Many pedestrian routes exist through Queen's Park. Several of these routes are not currently expressed in the pathway system.
4. Significant diagonal movement occurs through the Hart House Green.
5. There is a significant north-south pedestrian route through Soldiers' Tower.
6. Pedestrian movement along Queen's Park Crescent is constrained by narrow sidewalks.

Drawing DS1-2: Pedestrian Movement

Demonstration Site 1:

Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street



Detailed Master Plan Concept

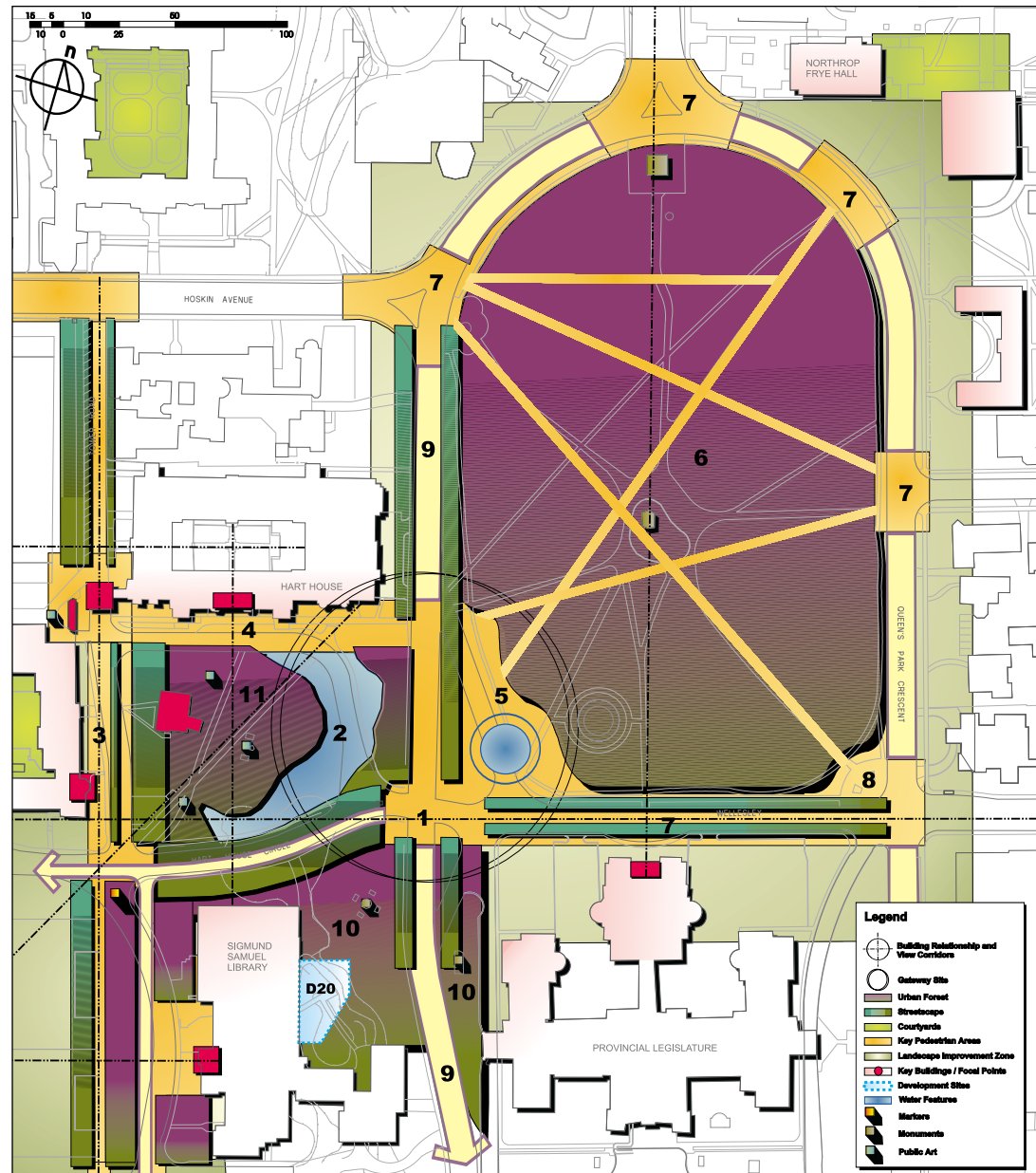
The following list of features and concepts is proposed as the framework for this Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS1-3**.

1. The grade-separated overpass on Queen's Park Crescent should be removed in favour of an at-grade, signalized intersection at Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street. The reconstructed intersection should be part of an overall plan to improve pedestrian conditions and crossings of Queen's Park Crescent. A new pedestrian crossing zone should extend from Hart House to Wellesley Street to accommodate the pedestrian volumes and distinguish this area as a special pedestrian zone.
2. A water feature should be constructed roughly in the location of the original McCaul's Pond. Opportunities exist to use this feature to demonstrate new methods of storm water management in an urban environment. It should be studied to identify opportunities for integration into the Taddle Creek Millennium Project as the ultimate location for storm water storage from that system. The area around the water feature should be capable of supporting special events and significant pedestrian volumes throughout all seasons. The knoll and area around the feature should be extensively planted with deciduous and coniferous trees to extend the landscape of Queen's Park into this space.
3. Linear planting schemes should reinforce the north-south movement of the pedestrian route through Soldiers' Tower and create a strong edge of trees to the western side of the Hart House Green.
4. A special paving area should allow for temporary parking and multiple vehicle drop-off for special events at Hart House.
5. The southwest corner of Queen's Park will become larger as a result of land reclaimed from the overpass. This area should be developed as an extension of the special intersection treatment at Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street. A small water feature should be considered as a focal point on this corner. The elevation of this area should be carefully blended to the intersection grade to allow visual access to the Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Universities across the park.
6. The pathways through Queen's Park should be evaluated against actual pedestrian movement. Non-functional paths should be removed and new paths associated with actual pedestrian crossings should be created. Lighting along the pathways should be reviewed to address dark areas, gathering points and road crossings. The reconsideration of Queen's Park could also include the replacement of the bandstand, a lighting plan, furniture and accessory upgrades and a comprehensive planting and tree preservation program.
7. The pedestrian crossings around Queen's Park Crescent should be reviewed as part of a comprehensive traffic calming and pedestrian improvement plan for the district. Wellesley Street should be reconfigured as a park street with continuous street trees and a strong pedestrian sidewalk system on each side of the street to link Queen's Park, the Legislature and the Hart House Green. The street should be capable of accommodating special events and festivals.
8. The eastern intersection of Wellesley Street and Queen's Park Crescent should signal the entrance to the University district and mark the entrance to a reconfigured Wellesley Street.
9. Sidewalks along Queen's Park Crescent should be widened and separated from the roadway by a planting strip with street trees to enhance pedestrian amenity and safety. Pedestrian scale lighting should be installed along the length of the street.
10. The existing Volunteers' Monument and the William Lyon Mackenzie Monument should be integrated into the new design of Queen's Park.
11. The Hart House Green should be considered for public art installations.

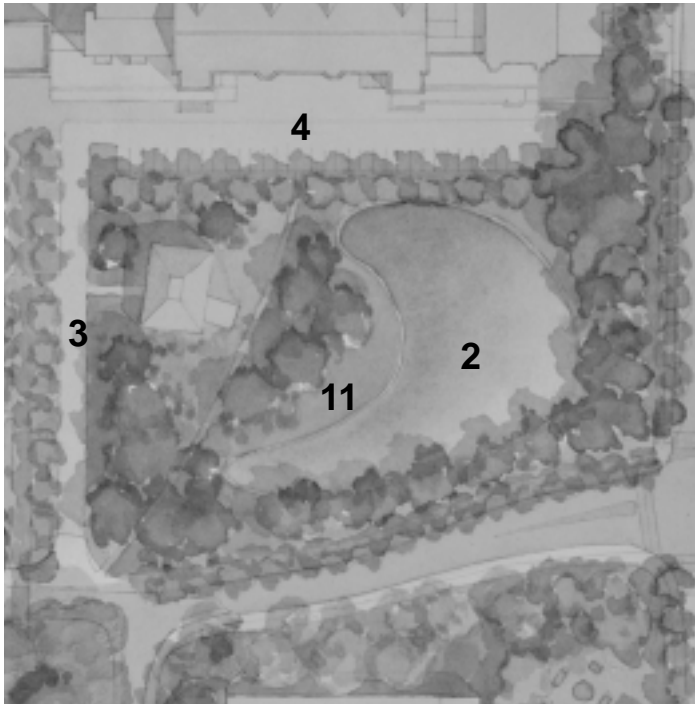
Drawing DS1-3: Detailed Master Plan Concept

Demonstration Site 1:

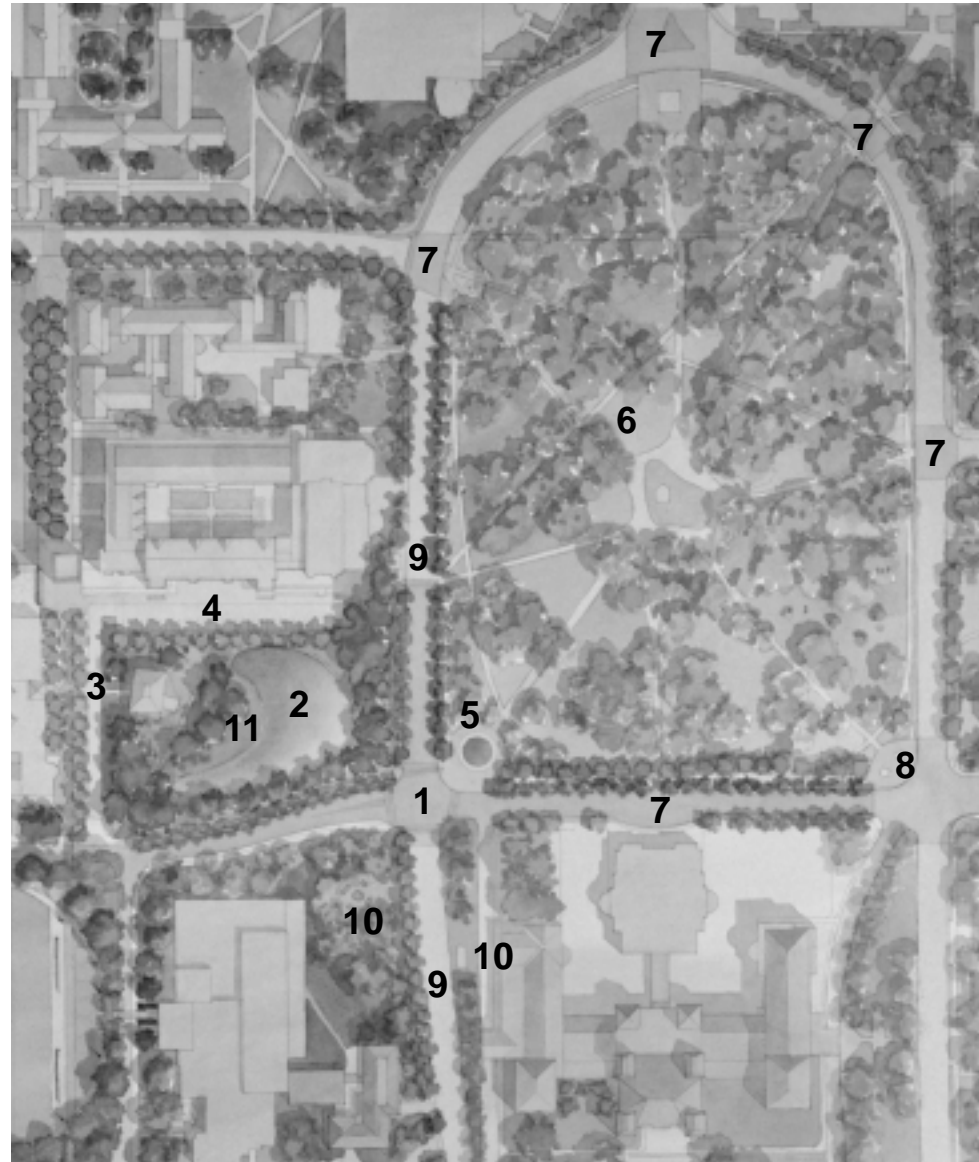
Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street



Drawing DS1 - 4 : Master Plan Concept



The *Hart House Green* will contain a water feature and extensive planting.



Improved pedestrian crossing zones at Wellesley Street and on Queen's Park Crescent will improve safety for pedestrians crossing to and from the east and west parts of the University.

Drawing DS1-5: Master Plan Concept



2.2

King's College Circle - Convocation Hall Plaza - King's College Road - St. George Street Linkages Demonstration Site

Goals

- *To revitalize the historic centre of the University;*
- *To establish a landscape of significant deciduous trees in the Central Campus;*
- *To improve connections to Back Campus, St. George Street and College Street;*
- *To create a significant and special space in front of Convocation Hall.*

Project Summary

The proposed changes to King's College Circle, King's College Road and Convocation Hall Plaza will transform the landscape of the Central Campus and define three specific and different spaces. King's College Circle, an oval of green surrounded by plantings of deciduous trees will provide a foreground to the historic structures of the Central Campus. A central walkway along the east side of King's College Circle through Soldiers' Tower will lead to the Back Campus. Convocation Hall Plaza will provide the stage for the ceremony of the campus and create a central gathering point for special events. King's College Road is proposed to be gated at each end and provide both a forecourt to the adjacent academic buildings and a defined sequence of entry into the Central Campus open spaces. Automobile movement will be reduced to favour pedestrian needs and surface parking will be removed.

King's College Circle and King's College Road are the historic centre of the University. This Demonstration Site represents the revitalization of the heart of the St. George Campus open space system. The result should be a landscape of landmark status.

Key Buildings, Focal Points and University Development Sites

The site is a combination of three important places: King's College Road, Convocation Hall and King's College Circle. King's College Circle is the largest open space on campus and is used as a multi-purpose space for playing fields, informal recreation, convocation processions and as a cross-campus pedestrian route. Architectural scale and quality around the open space varies greatly. The north, west and southwest edges are surrounded by historic structures including University College, Knox College, Convocation Hall and Simcoe Hall. The historic Sigmund Samuel Library tower faces the eastern edge of the space.

King's College Road has a planting of oak trees along its edges, in various stages of growth and health. The setbacks between the buildings and King's College Road have a variety of foundation planting schemes in various stages of growth and health.

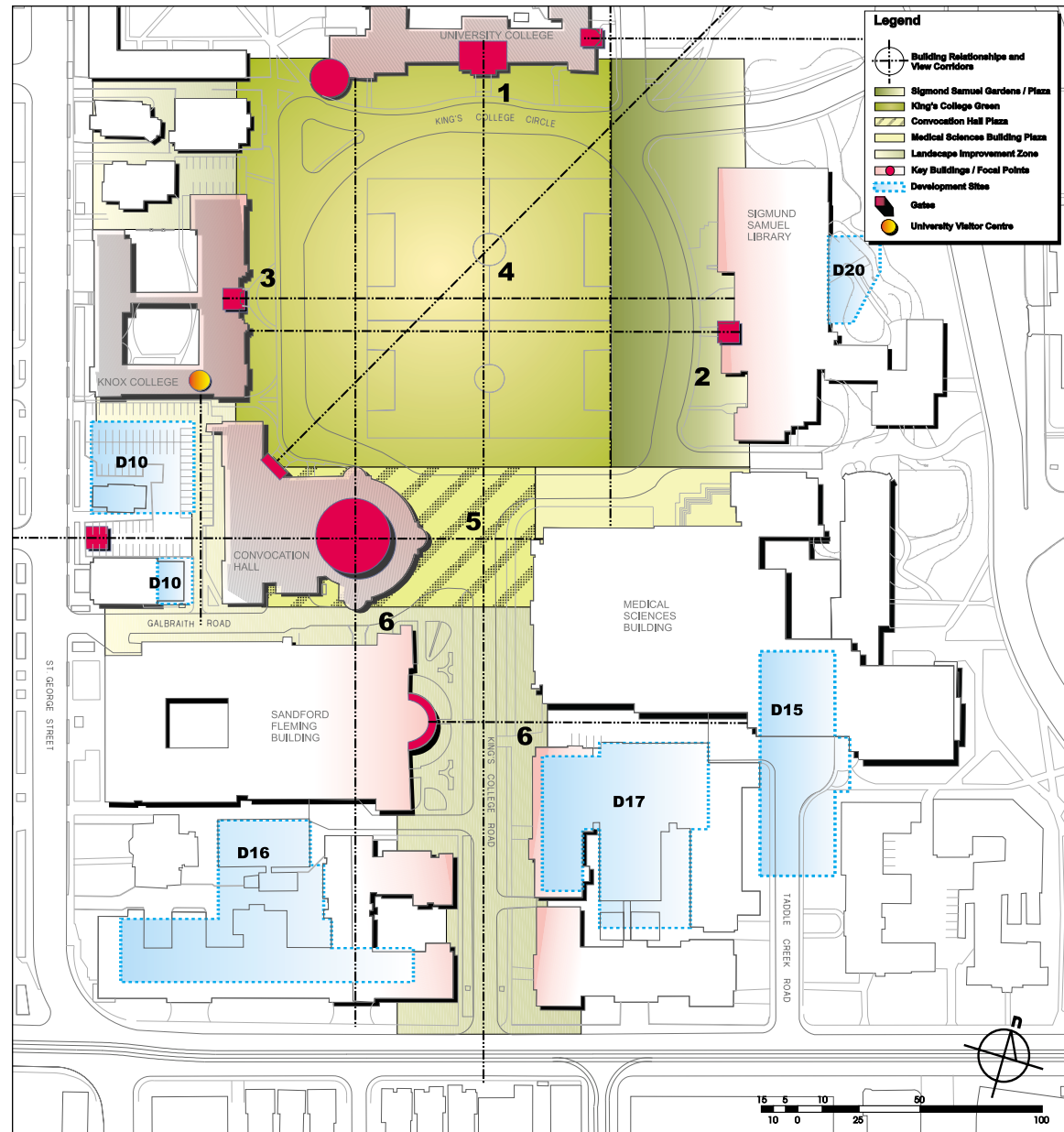
The site has a great many significant focal points including the historic building facades of the Sandford Fleming Building, Knox College, the Sigmund Samuel Library tower and University College, as well as the Convocation Hall dome and steps. The long view from College Street to the facade of University College and the open visual characteristics of the central space are important components of this space and need to be preserved.

There are no University Development Sites that would change the massing or form of the buildings that surround the space.

Drawing DS2 - 1: Key Buildings / Focal Points / Development Sites

Demonstration Site 2:

King's College Circle - Convocation Hall Plaza - King's College Road - St. George Street Linkages



Pedestrian Movement

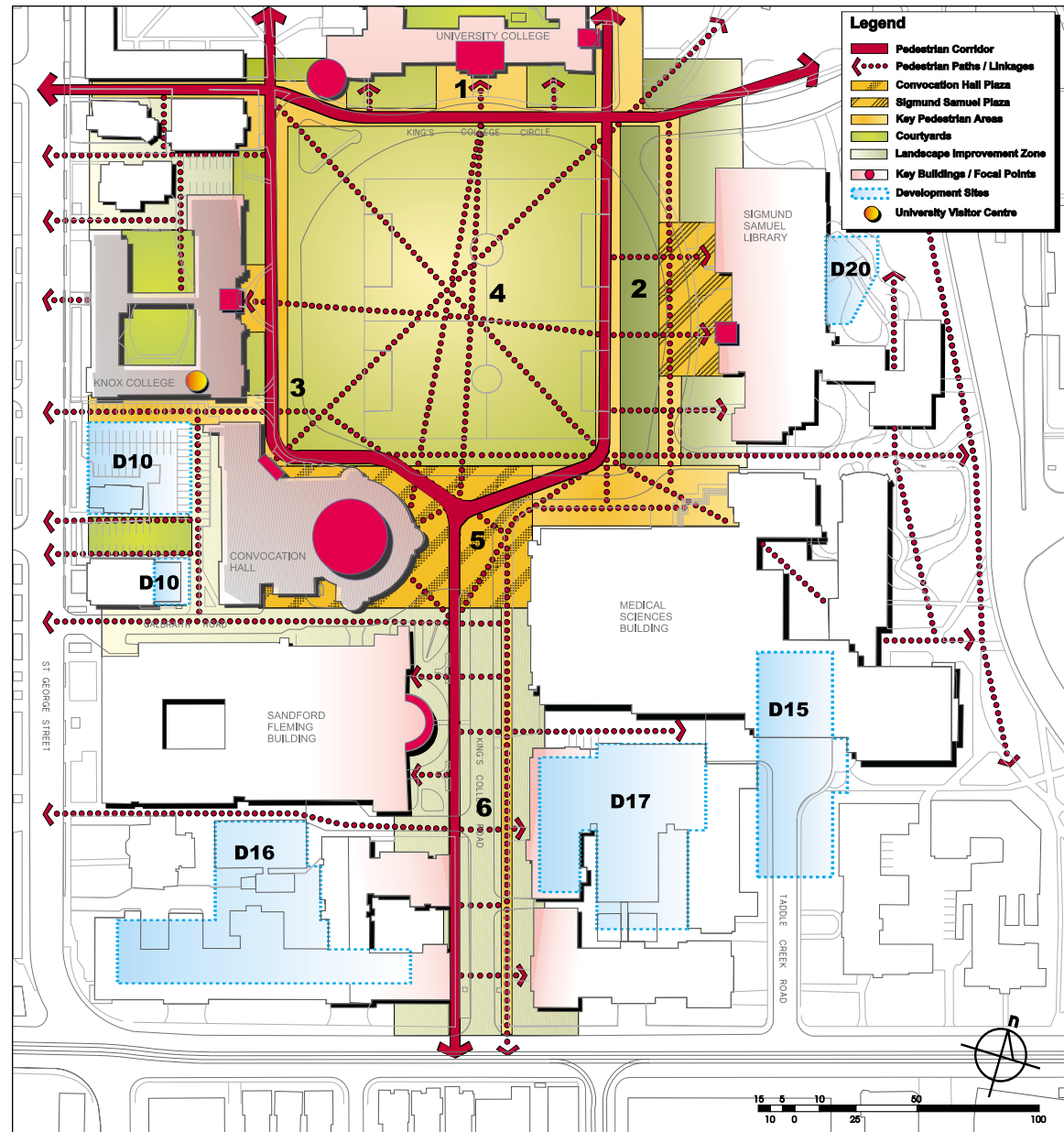
The following issues related to pedestrian routes should be considered in the redesign of the Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS2-2**.

1. A major pedestrian flow between the east and west areas of the campus exists along the face of University College, extending from St. George Street to Queen's Park Crescent.
2. A significant amount of pedestrian traffic occurs between the Medical Sciences Building through Soldiers' Tower to Trinity College.
3. A major pedestrian flow occurs along the western edge of King's College Circle.
4. The central open area and playing field is the location of many diagonal pedestrian crossings. Issues of snow clearing and lighting are important to these movements.
5. There are conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians in the space in front of Convocation Hall.
6. The pedestrian route along King's College Road crosses several east-west routes to the West Campus and Queen's Park.

Drawing DS2-2: Pedestrian Movement

Demonstration Site 2:

King's College Circle - Convocation Hall Plaza - King's College Road - St. George Street Linkages



Detailed Master Plan Concept

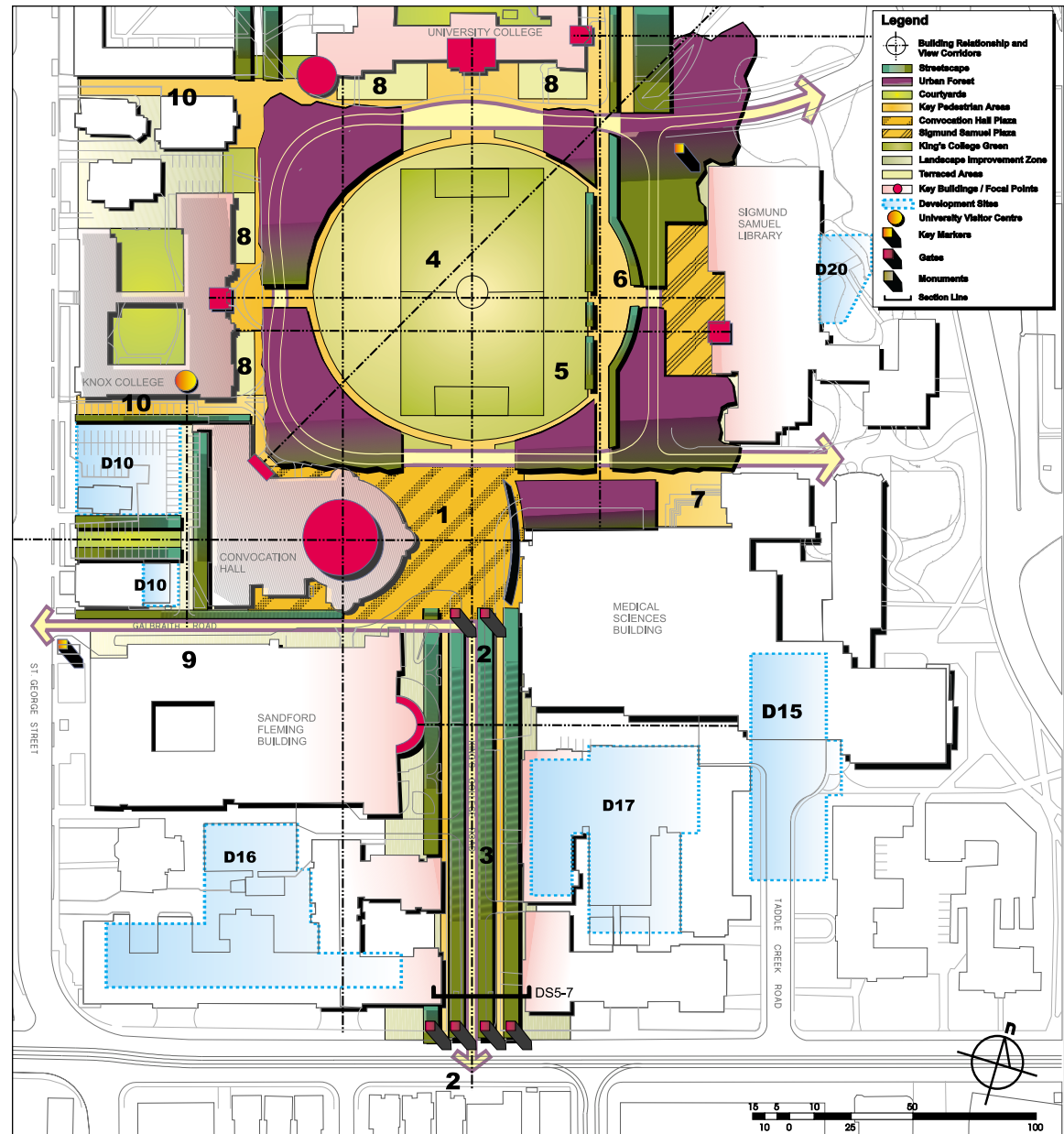
The following list of features and concepts is proposed as the framework for the redesign of the Demonstration Site. These items are referenced to drawing **DS2-3**.

1. The area in front of Convocation Hall should be developed as a Plaza suitable for student gathering and special events including convocation functions. The Convocation Hall Plaza should be free of automobiles. A feature wall at the corner of the Medical Sciences Building is proposed as the plaza's eastern backdrop; this wall should be considered for possible memorial use.
2. The King's College Road/College Street entrance is proposed as the location of a new ceremonial gate to the campus. A second gate is proposed at the head of King's College Road adjacent to the Convocation Hall Plaza. The gates should reinforce the axial view from College Street to University College.
3. King's College Road should be rebuilt with a new cross section, pedestrian walkways, lighting and double street tree planting on each side of the roadway to recognize the importance of this historic entrance to the campus. Automobile movement should be restricted to one lane, in a northbound direction, to Galbraith Road. The streetscape should reinforce the axial view from College Street to University College.
4. The central open space should be an oval of green that includes a new multi-use playing field structured on axis with King's College Road. The space should retain an open character defined by several existing and new large scale deciduous trees. Pedestrian walkways should be placed around the entire space and sized to allow significant pedestrian movements. Diagonal pedestrian crossings should be accommodated in the field by snow clearing. Lighting should illuminate the entire field area for pedestrians. The irregular road that currently exists should be reconfigured to a narrow one-way route. Parking should be removed and an automobile drop-off area should be created at the front door of each building surrounding the space.
5. The eastern edge of the central space, in line with the east corner of University College, should be defined by a new pedestrian spine and landscape feature extending from the Medical Sciences Building through Soldiers' Tower to the Back Campus. The spine should become a student gathering place and viewing area for the field with seating and lighting.
6. The area east of the pedestrian spine in front of the Sigmund Samuel Library should be used to create a garden and contemplative space with significant deciduous and coniferous tree planting and perennial flower gardens. The landscaped area should contain a student gathering and seating area in front of the library.
7. The steps and terrace of the Medical Sciences Building should be reconfigured as a student gathering place. Additional tree planting should be installed along the north facade of the building to extend the landscape of the King's College green.
8. The upper grass terraces in front of Knox College and University College should be used as elevated seating and viewing areas to animate the edges of King's College Circle.
9. Galbraith Road should be improved for pedestrian use and automobile movement should be confined to one-way, moving westbound. Additional tree planting will soften the building edges.
10. There are two significant pedestrian linkages between St. George Street and King's College Circle: one between the south wall of Sir Daniel Wilson Residence and 63 and 65 St. George Street, and one along the south wall of Knox College, which houses the University Visitor Centre. Both linkages should be developed as fully landscaped pedestrian walkways constructed of materials that match those used for the pedestrian paths in The King's College Green. The walkways should include pedestrian scale lighting and signage at each end.

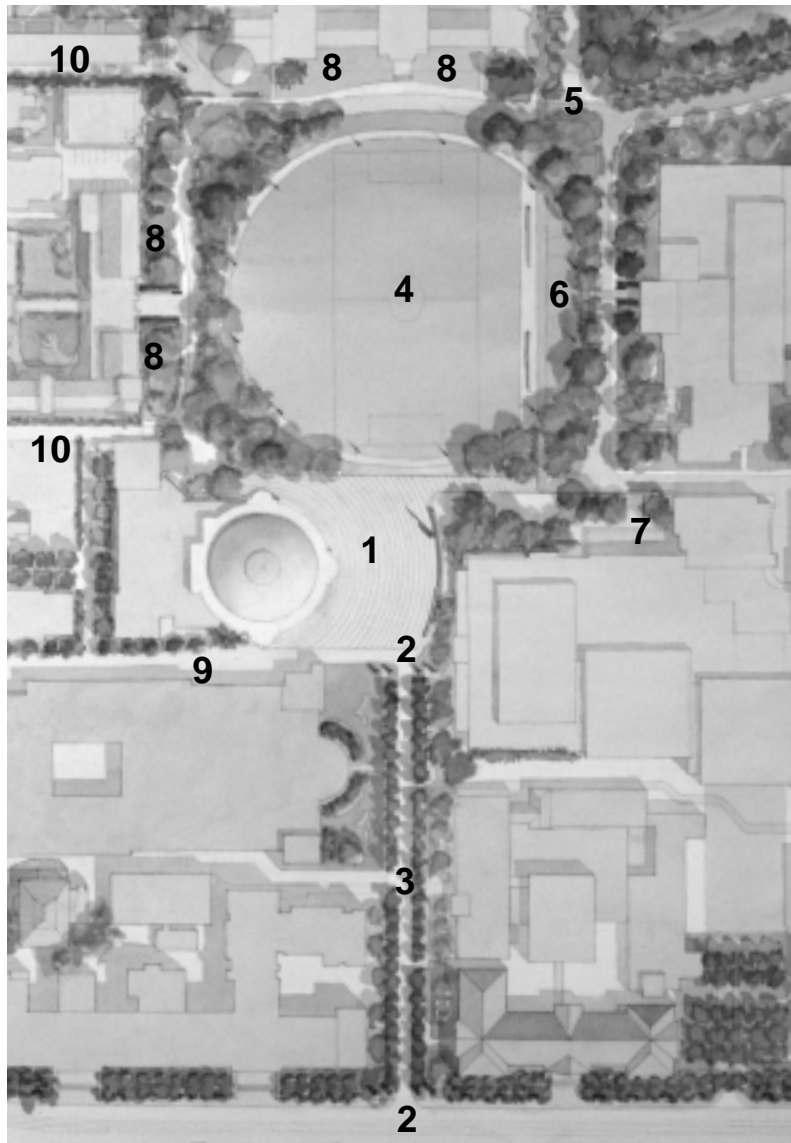
Drawing DS2-3: Detailed Master Plan Concept

Demonstration Site 2:

King's College Circle - Convocation Hall
Plaza - King's College Road - St. George
Street Linkages



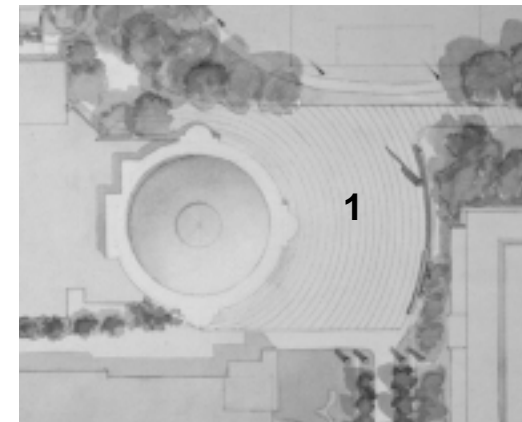
Drawing DS2-4: Master Plan Concept



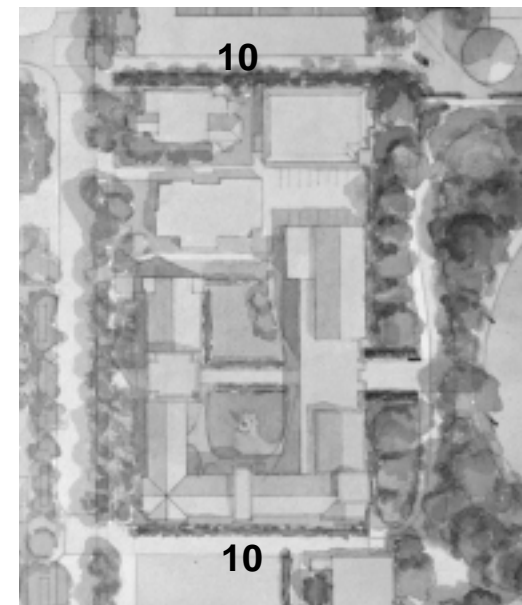
The *historic centre* of the University: King's College Circle, Convocation Hall Plaza and King's College Road will connect to St. George Street through enhanced pedestrian linkages.



A *north-south pedestrian spine* through Soldiers' Tower connects the Front and Back Campus areas.



The Convocation Hall Plaza and its feature wall will create an area suitable for student gathering.



Major and minor pedestrian pathways created along St. George Street will connect the east and west campus areas.

Drawing DS2-5: Master Plan Concept



The King's College Circle Central Open Space will include new gardens and landscape features, student gathering places, contemplative spaces and a new multi-use playing field.

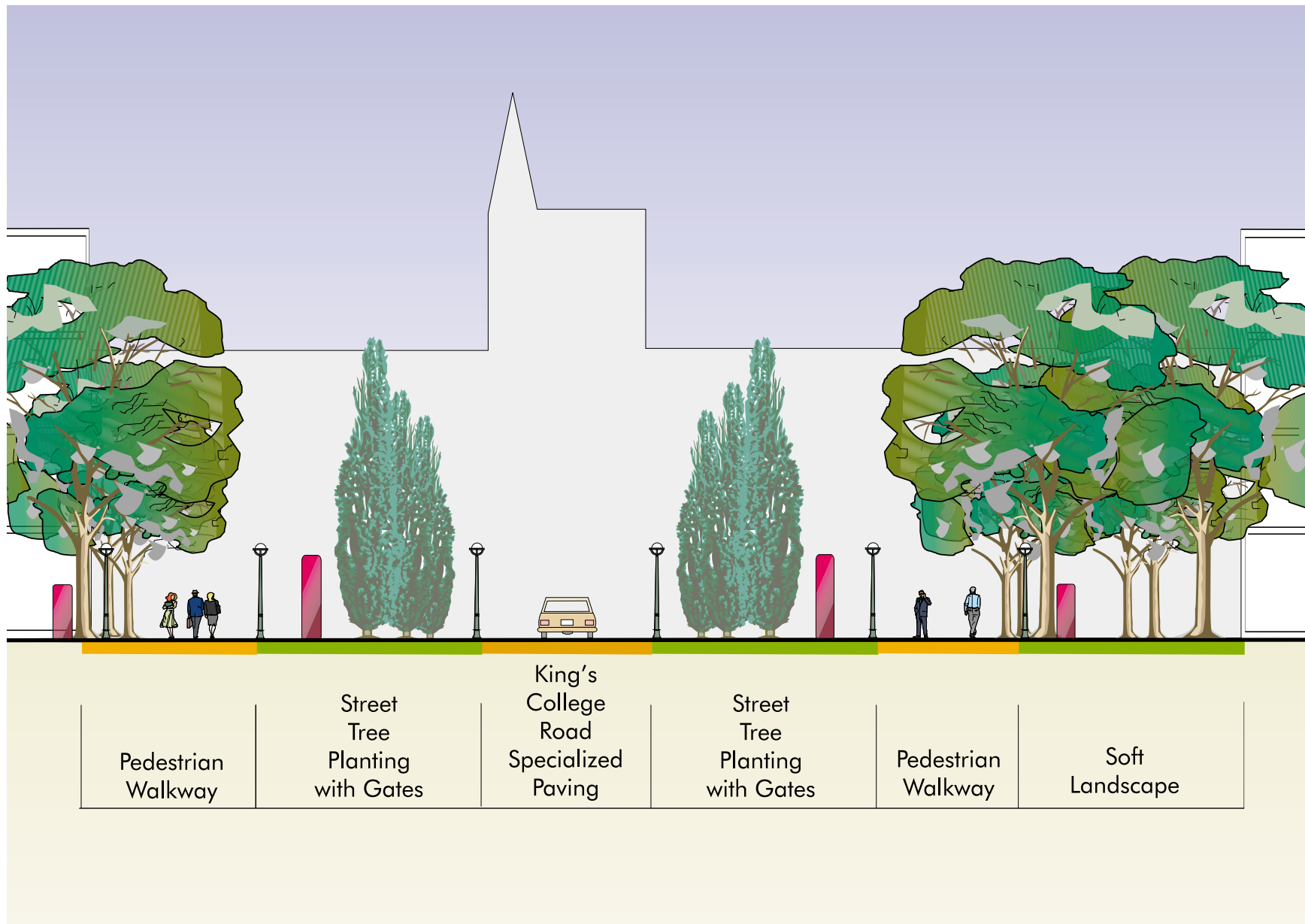


King's College Road will contain new pedestrian walkways, lighting and street tree planting.

D r a w i n g D S 2 - 6 : M a s t e r P l a n C o n c e p t



Drawing DS2-7: Proposed King's College Road Cross Section



2.3 Back Campus Demonstration Site

Goals

- *To revitalize this historic campus open space;*
- *To create a landmark-status landscape;*
- *To improve connections to Hart House Green and the Front Campus.*

Project Summary

Surrounded by high quality historic buildings, the revitalized Back Campus will become a significant open space in the heart of the campus. It offers the potential to provide high quality recreational playing fields, significant additions and improvements to the landscape of deciduous trees and contemplative spaces on campus, and four commemorative walks and associated gardens. The eastern edge of the space and the Soldiers' Tower passage are proposed to be linked to a new central walkway leading to Hart House Green and the Front Campus. The University Art Centre in University College will have an entrance from the Back Campus in the form of a sculpture court behind the Memorial Wall.

The Back Campus design is a focal point of open space revitalization in the centre of the University. A complete redefinition of the space is proposed to achieve a landscape of landmark stature.

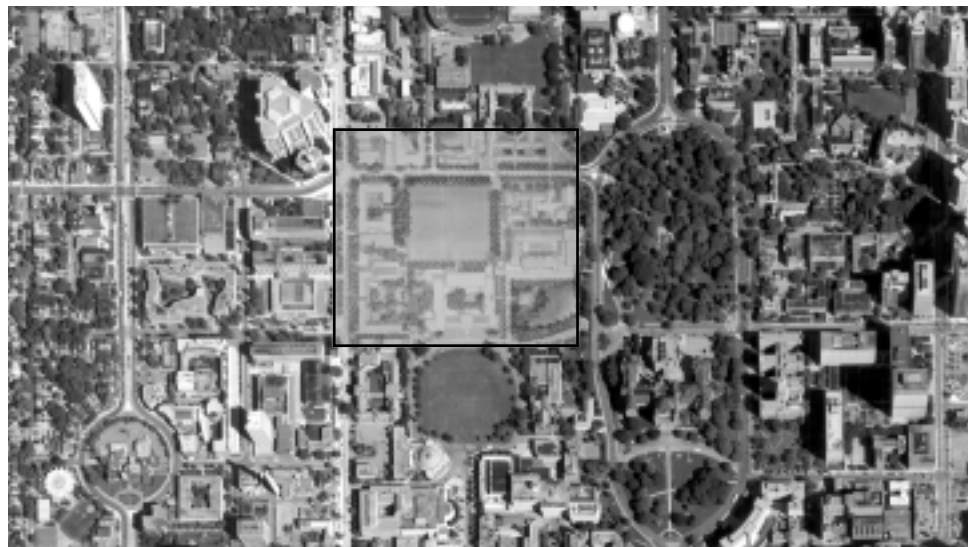
Key Buildings, Focal Points and University Development Sites

The Back Campus is one of the original features of the University and one of the four major open spaces in the district.

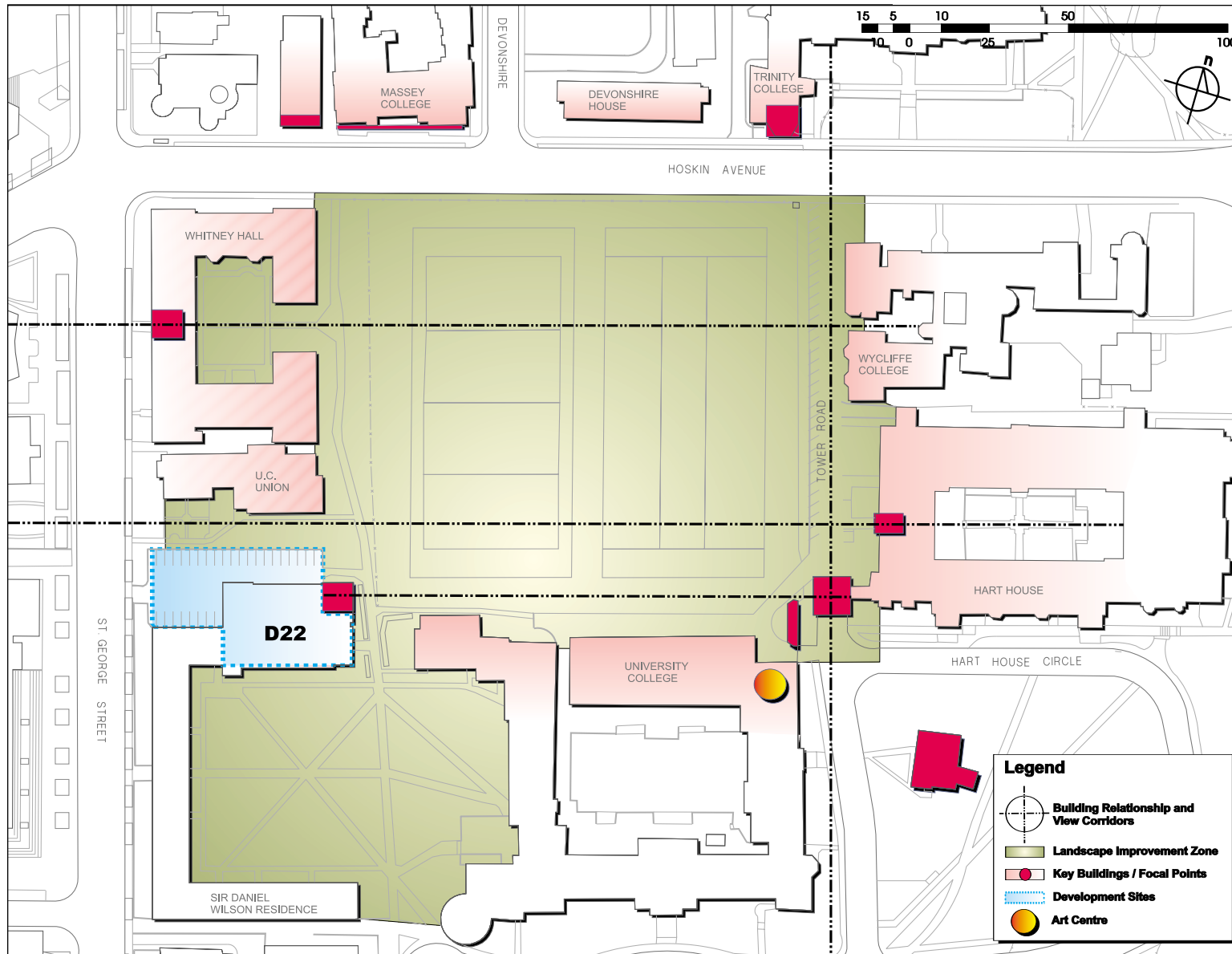
Its four sides are surrounded by architecture of similar scale, quality and materials, including the historic University College, Hart House, Soldiers' Tower, Wycliffe College and Trinity College structures and the contemporary Massey College. All of the buildings around the Back Campus edge are recognized as architecturally significant. The Back Campus is currently used as two playing fields, a tradition expected to continue in the future.

A grove of mature elms along the western edge of the Back Campus is one of the few such stands of trees remaining on the campus.

University Development Site 22 faces the Back Campus.



Drawing DS3 - 1: Key Buildings / Focal Points / Development Sites



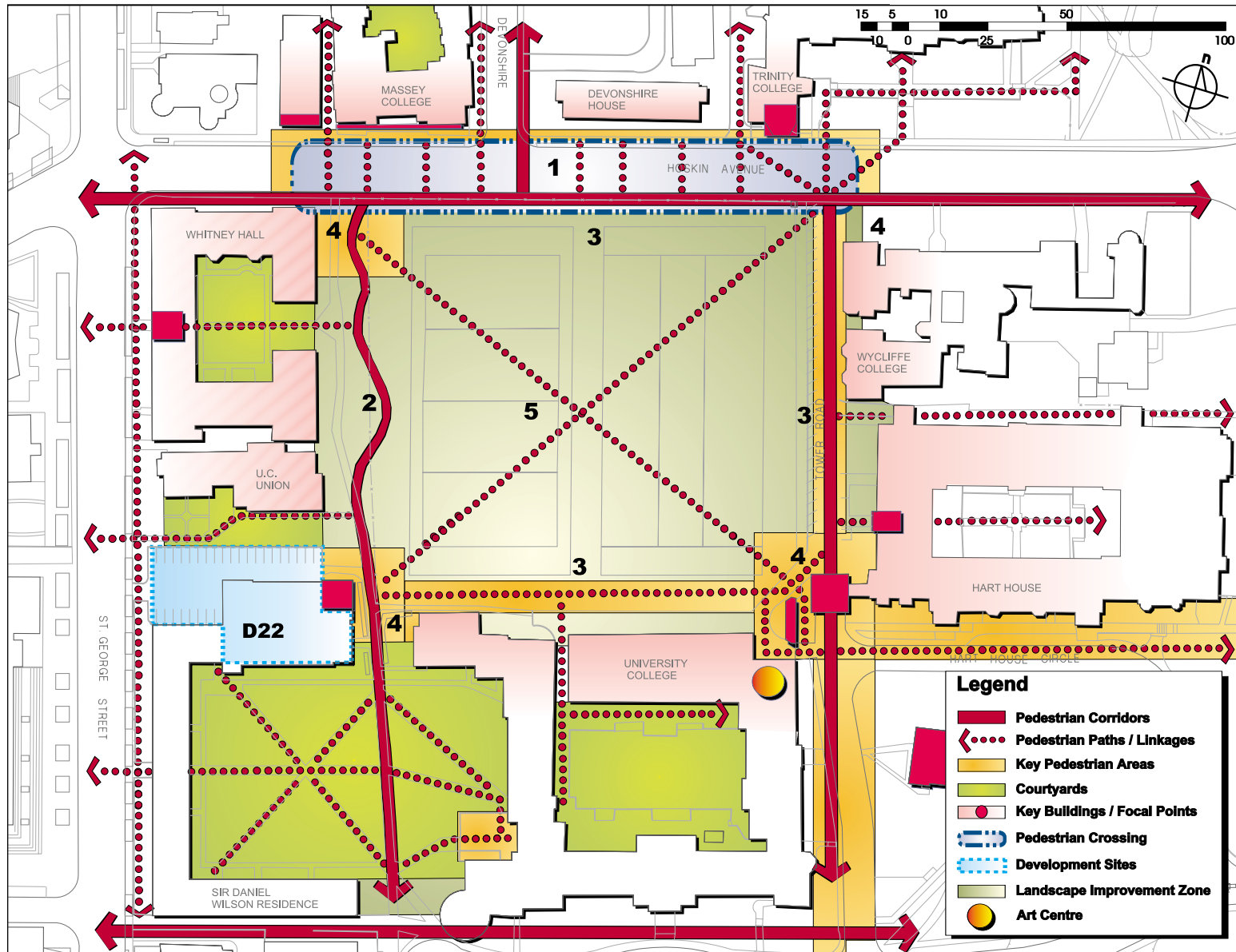
Demonstration Site 3: Back Campus

Pedestrian Movement

The following list of items includes issues related to pedestrian routes in the area of Back Campus. These issues should be considered in the redesign of the Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS3-2**.

1. The Hoskin Avenue frontage of the Back Campus is a major pedestrian crossing area between the north and central sections of the campus and includes the flow to Trinity College, Massey College and Varsity Stadium.
2. There is a major pedestrian route from Devonshire Place to Hoskin Avenue through the elm grove and the Sir Daniel Wilson Residence quadrangle.
3. Pedestrians use all four edges of the Back Campus. Enhanced pathway systems would improve connections to other parts of the campus.
4. The four corners of the field are appropriate pedestrian gathering areas.
5. The Back Campus is used for diagonal pedestrian movement. Issues of snow clearing and lighting are important to these crossings.

Drawing DS3-2: Pedestrian Movement



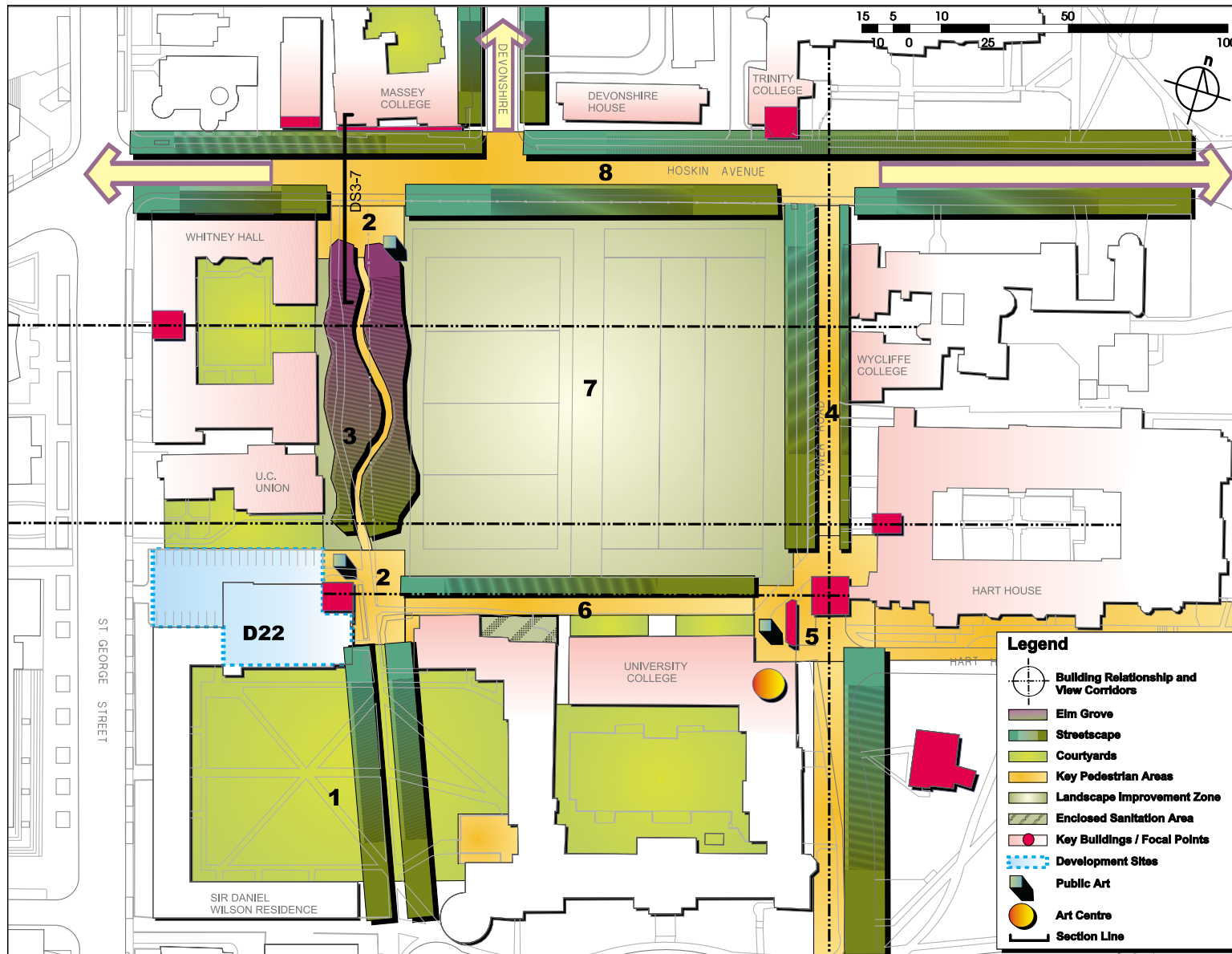
Demonstration Site 3: Back Campus

Detailed Master Plan Concept

The following list of features and concepts is proposed as the framework for this Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS3-3**.

1. The walkway through the Sir Daniel Wilson Residence quadrangle should be strengthened with a structural planting of closely spaced deciduous trees along the existing pathway. The pathway should be reconstructed to match the width and material of the Back Campus and King's College Green pedestrian systems.
2. A special garden and meeting place with seating should be created in the southwest and northwest corners of the Back Campus to create a focal point of activity in this space.
3. The existing stand of mature deciduous trees should be enlarged and strengthened with additional deciduous tree planting to establish a grove condition. Seating should be provided beneath the trees.
4. The driveway to Soldiers' Tower and the passage between Front and Back Campus should be given special significance. The corridor should be converted to a feature pedestrian spine leading to the Front Campus. A double row of deciduous trees should be planted on the west side of the walkway from Hoskin Avenue to Soldiers' Tower to define the route. Perennial gardens should be established along the eastern side of the route to add visual interest.
5. The Soldiers' Tower and Memorial Wall should be incorporated into a special garden and meeting place. The northwest corner of the garden should be developed as a sculpture court under the direction of the University Art Centre. The existing McAllister Memorial Garden should be an integral part of the redesign of this space.
6. A pedestrian walk and perennial gardens should be installed along the north wall of University College. A row of deciduous trees should be planted on the north side of the walk to define the space and create interest along the building wall.
7. Two playing fields suitable for team sporting events should be installed in the centre of the Back Campus, slightly depressed below grade and properly fitted with turf systems and irrigation. These fields should be illuminated to allow pedestrian movements between sporting events.
8. The section of Hoskin Avenue between St. George Street and the crossing at Soldiers' Tower should be redesigned as a traffic table to calm automobile traffic with enhanced streetscape planting to extend the landscape of the Back Campus and to facilitate the significant pedestrian movements in this area.

Drawing DS3-3: Detailed Master Plan Concept



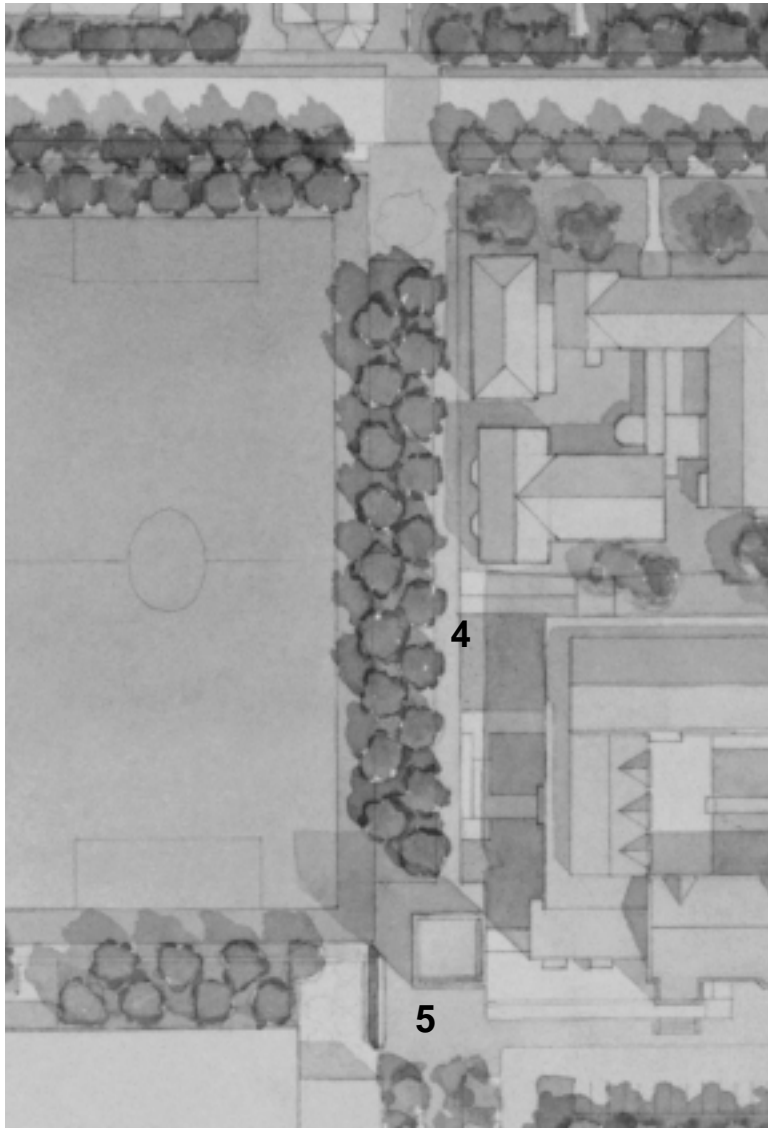
Demonstration Site 3: Back Campus

Drawing DS3-4: Back Campus Master Plan Concept



Back Campus will become a landscape of landmark status surrounded by special gardens, paths, meeting places, and two new playing fields.

Drawing DS3 - 5: Master Plan Concept



Perennial gardens and a double row of deciduous trees define and enhance *Soldiers' Tower Walk*

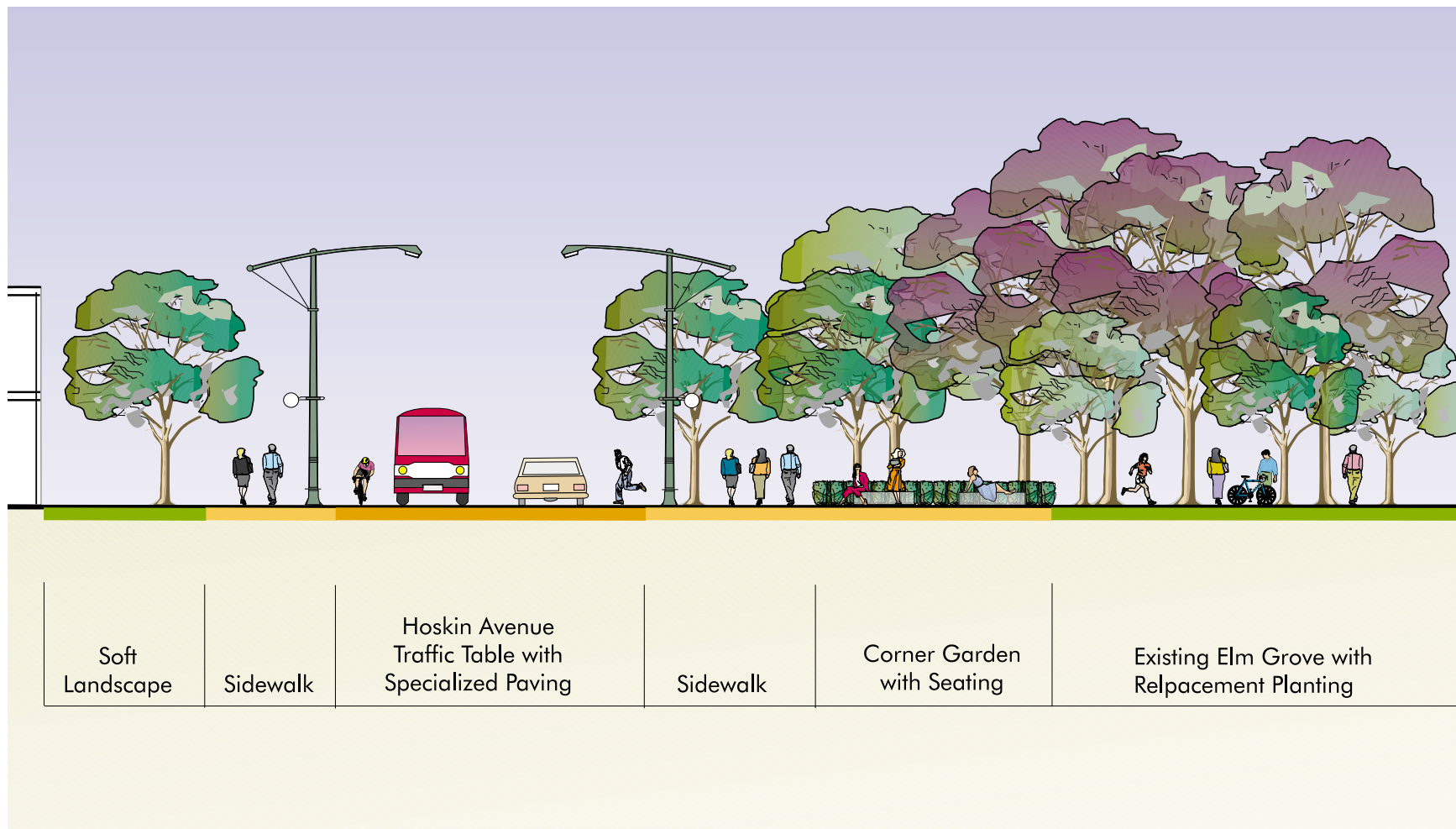


A new *sitting edge* for viewing of sporting events is provided along the perimeter of the Back Campus playing fields.

D r a w i n g D S 3 - 6 : M a s t e r P l a n C o n c e p t



Drawing DS3-7: Proposed Hoskin Avenue Cross Section



2.4 Willcocks Street - Sidney Smith Hall - New College - Huron Street Demonstration Site

Goals

- *To create a significant, landmark-quality open space and a focus for student activity on the West Campus;*
- *To create distinctive streetscapes in the West Campus, specific to the University of Toronto;*
- *To enhance pedestrian connections to the Central Campus.*

Project Summary

This Demonstration Site is intended to implement Primary Objective 7, to create a significant open space on the West Campus. Willcocks Street, between Huron and St. George Streets, has been chosen as the place to create this space. It is envisioned as a meeting area and focal point on the West Campus, with significant tree planting and a skating area for winter activity. It will provide a connection to St. George Street and a passage through to the Central Campus. A major contribution to the space will come from redesigned Huron and Willcocks Street cross sections which will allow a better pedestrian system, traffic calming and street tree planting, to demonstrate a new image for the streets of the West Campus.

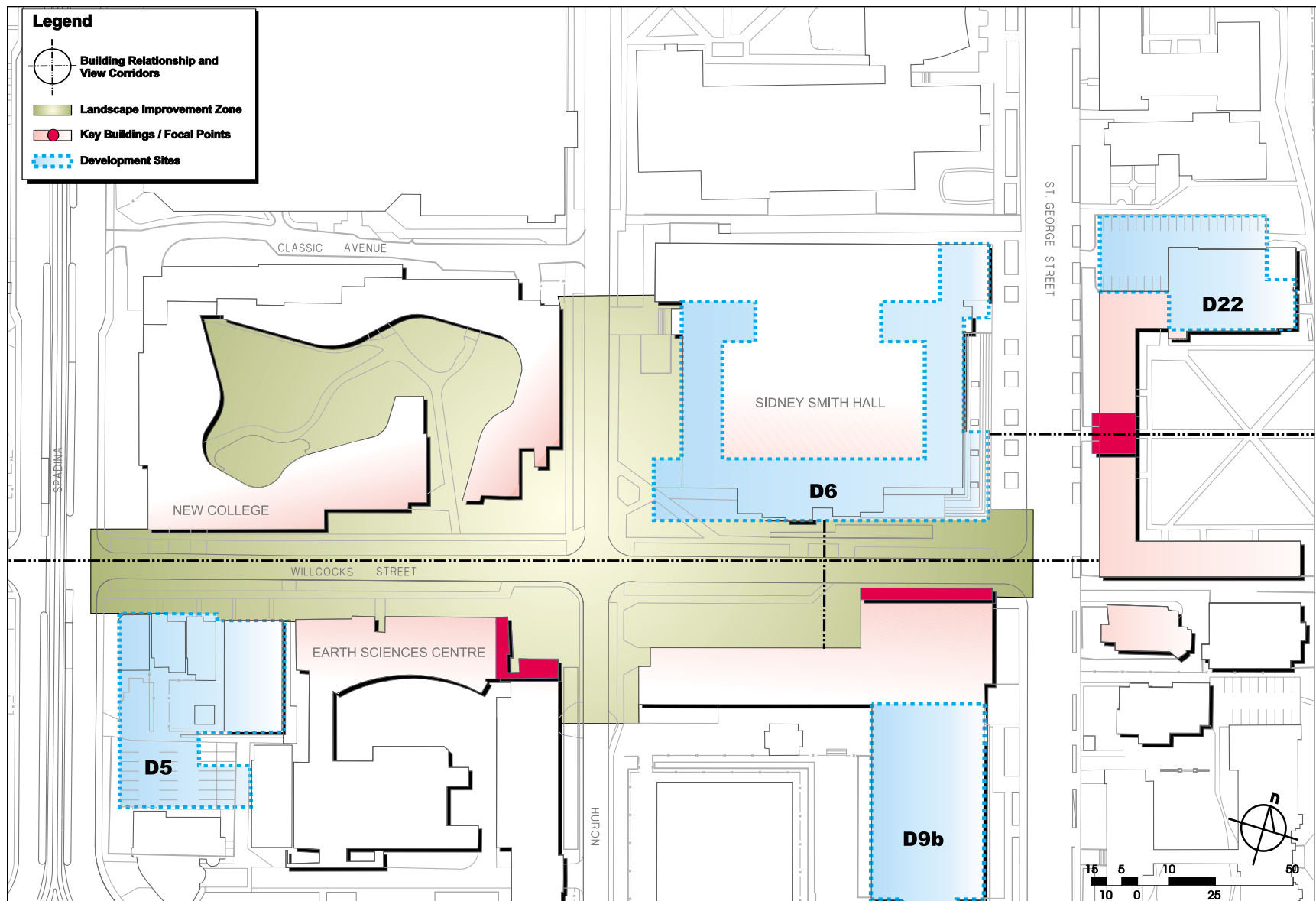
Key Buildings, Focal Points and University Development Sites

Two University Development Sites have a direct frontage on Huron and Willcocks Streets:

- University Development Site 6 (Sidney Smith Hall) has frontage on both streets; and
- University Development Site 5 beside the Faculty Club has frontage on Willcocks Street.



Drawing DS4 - 1: Key Buildings / Focal Points / Development Sites

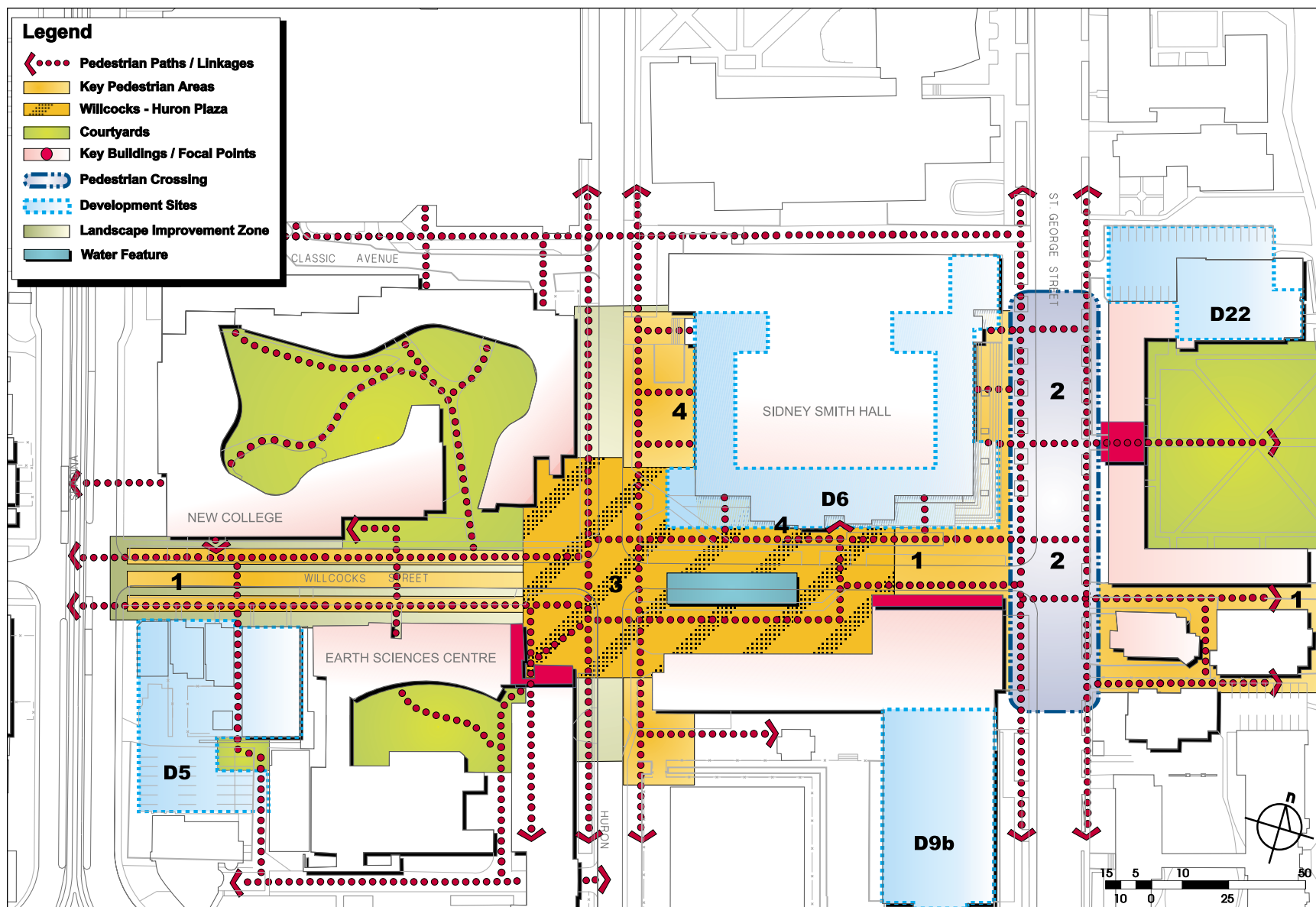


P e d e s t r i a n M o v e m e n t

The following issues related to pedestrian routes should be considered in the redesign of the Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS4-2**.

1. Willcocks Street is a major east-west pedestrian corridor from Spadina Avenue across St. George Street and through to the Central Campus.
2. The intersection of Willcocks Street and St. George Street experiences major pedestrian flow between the central and west campus areas. The reconfiguration of Willcocks Street to create the open space will likely result in the removal of the traffic signal at this intersection. A series of pedestrian-activated crosswalks may be suitable at this location.
3. Traffic calming and limited automobile use on Willcocks Street between Huron and St. George Streets would allow the development of a major open space and pedestrian gathering place.
4. Sidney Smith Hall is the hub of the Faculty of Arts and Science. The integration of the west terrace and the south facade with the open space proposed in this Demonstration Site will create an enhanced gathering space and improve pedestrian amenity around the building.

Drawing DS4 - 2: Pedestrian Movement



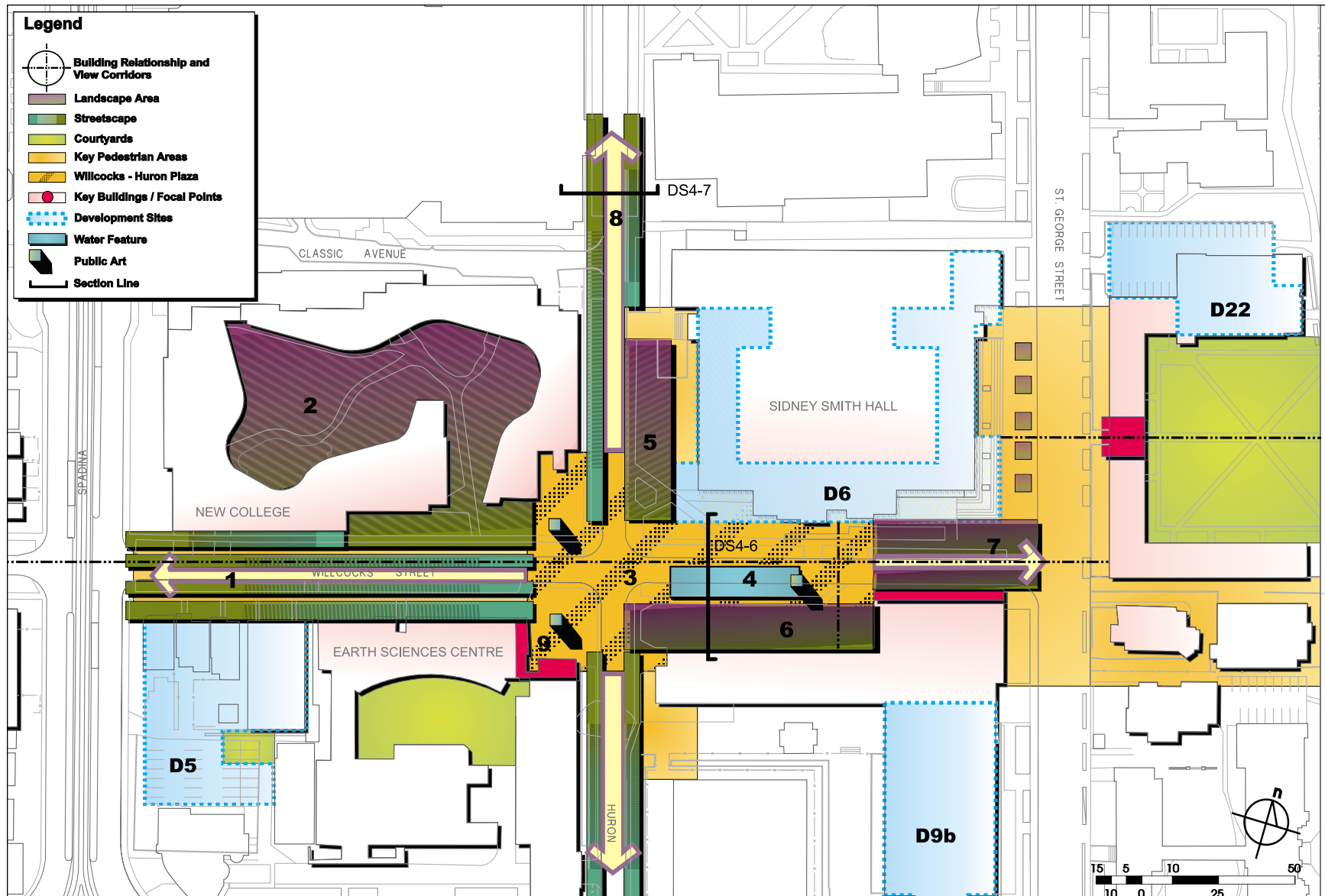
Demonstration Site 4: Willcocks Street - Sidney Smith Hall - New College - Huron Street

Detailed Master Plan Concept

The following list of features and concepts is proposed as the framework for the redesign of this Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS4-3**.

1. Willcocks Street should be programmed for a new road cross section, pedestrian system and street tree planting or street landscaping plan between Huron Street and Spadina Avenue to enhance the pedestrian amenity and restore the street trees that once existed in this location. Modifications to the road cross section should consider a reduction of the travel-way of the street and the possible one-way routing of automobiles.
2. A landscape design for the New College courtyard should be completed and the landscape extended into Willcocks Street. Modifications could consider opening the courtyard up to Spadina Avenue and providing additional entry points from the New College building to add an accessible open space to the West Campus.
3. To create a major open space on the West Campus, the intersection of Huron and Willcocks Streets should be designed as a continuous plaza and raised to form a traffic table to favour pedestrians. Automobile traffic should be contained by bollards. Automobile access between Huron and St. George Streets should be limited to one-way movement and consideration should be given to limiting vehicular traffic to service and emergency vehicles only. The modifications should be integrated with the redevelopment of Sidney Smith Hall to provide outdoor space to student amenities and food services.
4. A water feature/fountain and skating facility should be integrated into this space as a year-round campus amenity.
5. The west lawn of Sidney Smith Hall should be integrated with the upper level terrace and landscaped with extensive tree planting and seating to improve this existing outdoor space.
6. The north lawn of the Lash Miller Chemical Laboratory should include large scale coniferous trees to provide year-round definition of the outdoor space and to lend interest to winter activity.
7. The St. George Street frontage between Sidney Smith Hall and the Lash Miller Chemical Laboratory should be landscaped with a tight planting of large deciduous trees to add to the landscape features of St. George Street.
8. Huron Street should be programmed for a new road cross section, pedestrian system and street tree planting or street landscaping plan. Modifications should reduce the travel-way of the street and consider possible one-way routing of automobiles to improve the pedestrian and visual amenity of this busy north-south street. Huron Street should set an example for the streets of the West Campus.
9. The Willcocks open space should be considered for public art installations to enhance the new open space. Suggested locations include the intersection of Huron and Willcocks Streets and the head of the water feature.

Drawing DS4 - 3: Detailed Master Plan Concept



Demonstration Site 4: Willcocks Street - Sidney Smith Hall - New College - Huron Street

Drawing DS4-4: Master Plan Concept



The *Willcocks Street* open space will be a significant site of landmark quality and a focus for student activity on the West Campus.

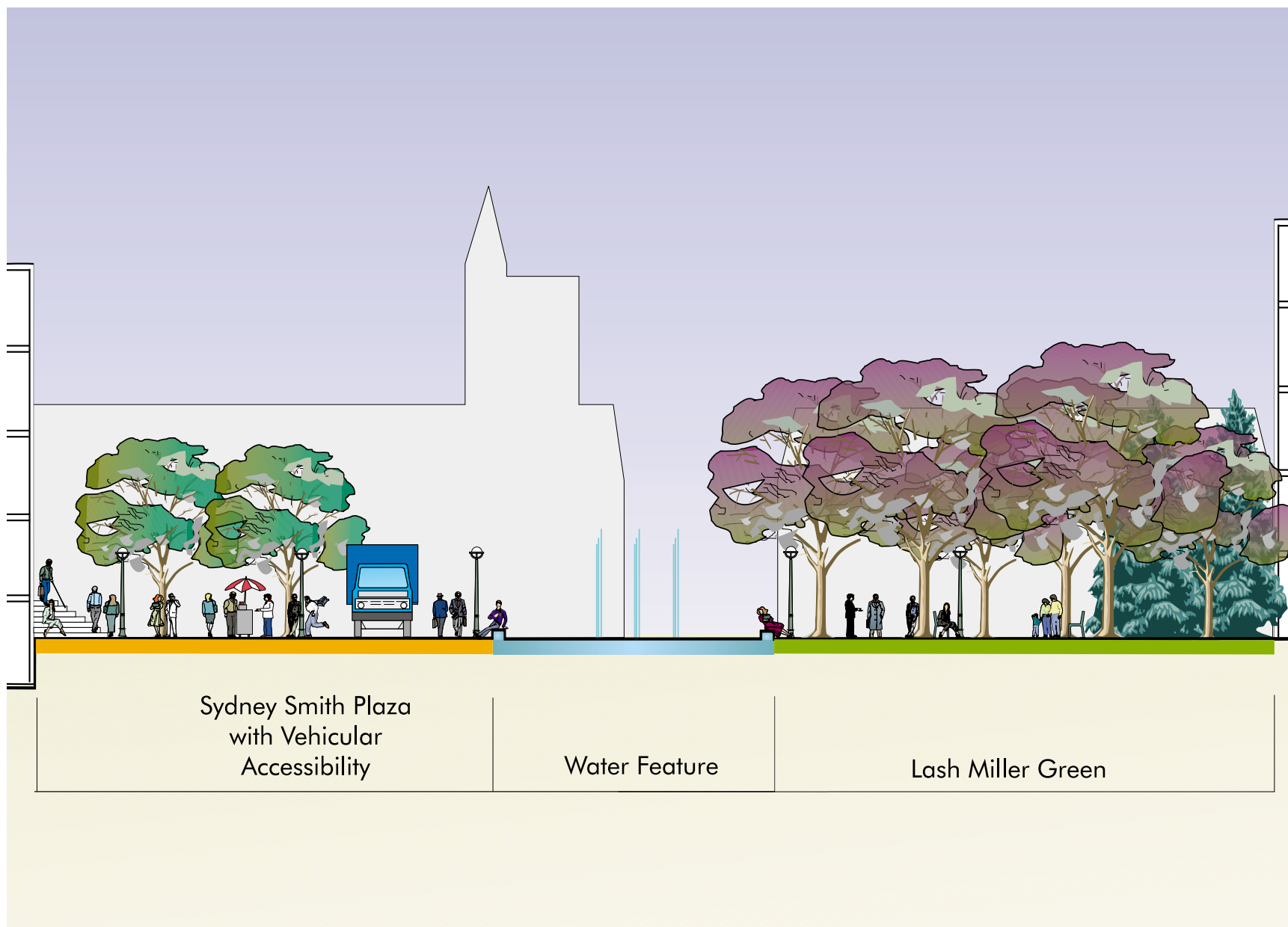
Drawing DS4-5: Master Plan Concept



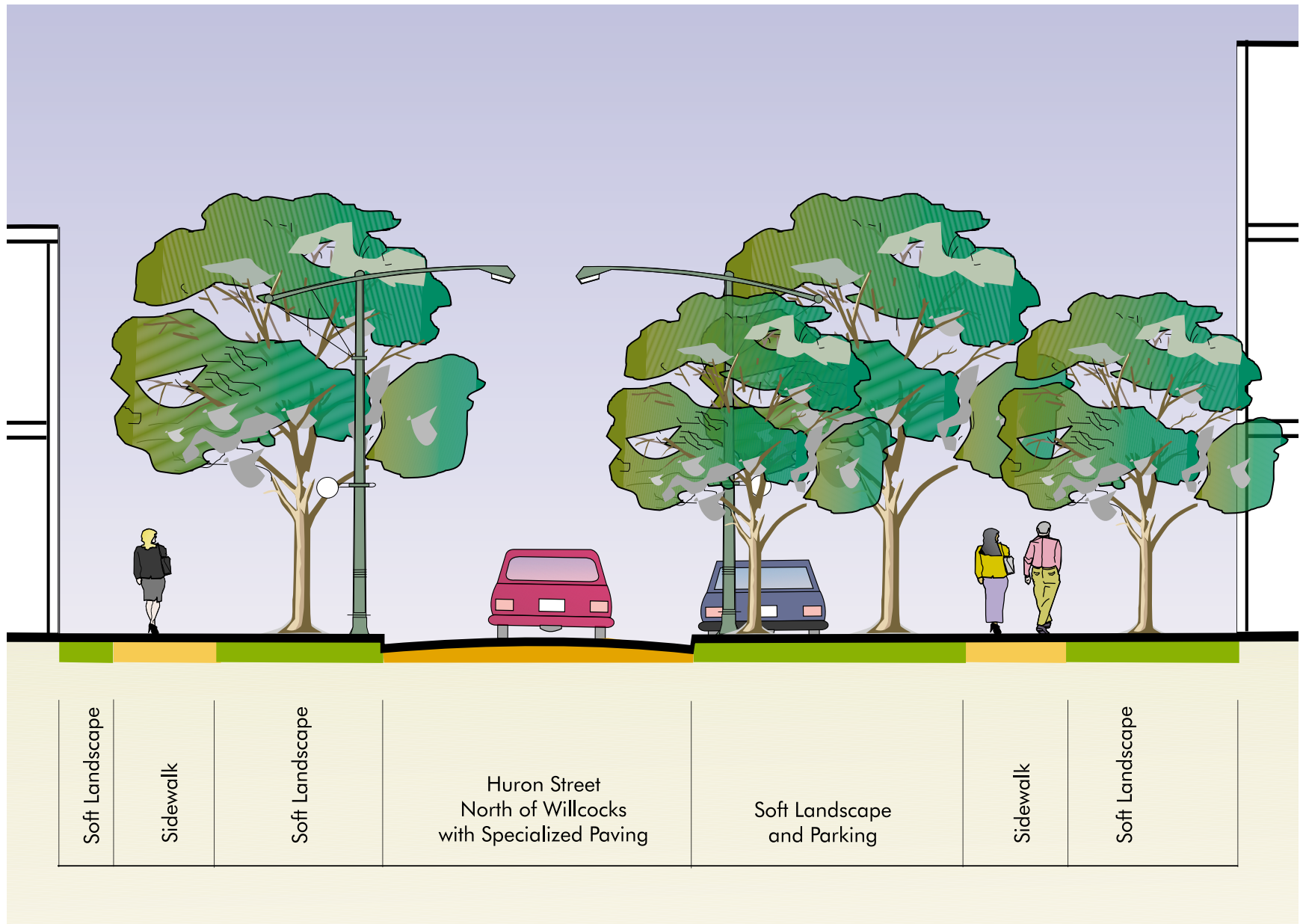
Drawing DS4-6: Proposed Willcocks Street Cross Section

3-40

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO OPEN SPACE MASTERPLAN 1999



Drawing DS4-7: Proposed Huron Street Cross Section



2.5 College Street Demonstration Site

Goals

- *To build upon the success of St. George Street and enhance this campus edge street;*
- *To reinforce the special streetscape of College Street;*
- *To create several new open spaces in the southern portion of the campus.*

Project Summary

With its handsome, solid university buildings and continuous setback along the street, College Street provides the backdrop to a proposed linear landscape of street trees, seating and pedestrian amenity along the sunny side of the street. Several important new open space opportunities are present along the corridor including the northwest corner of College Street and University Avenue, the proposed Taddle Creek Road forecourt (University Development Site 15) and the St. George Street intersection.

Investing in the Landscape recommends streetscaping on College Street to illustrate the importance of the major edge streets to both the city and the campus. College Street is a location where the community would benefit from a significant streetscape upgrading project.

College Street represents the next opportunity to build on the success of St. George Street in transforming the city streets of the campus into unique urban open spaces.

Key Buildings, Focal Points and University Development Sites

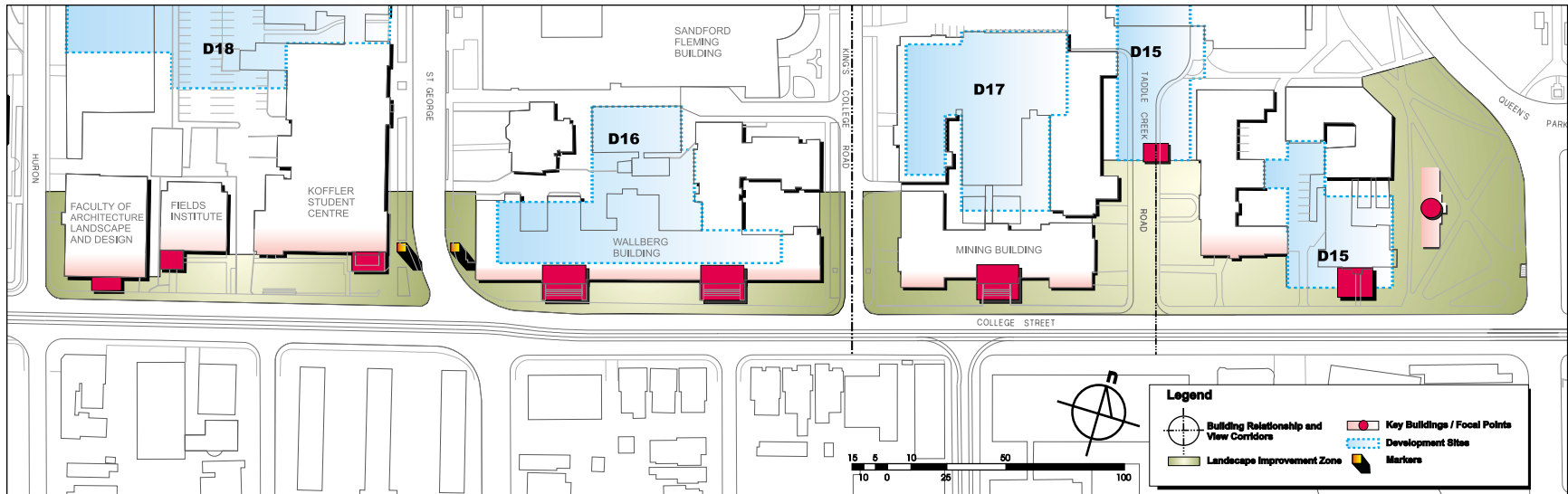
The College Street frontage is the most prominent aspect of the Front Campus landscape. The broad setback and second level entrances create a distinctive urban streetscape that contains several significant deciduous trees. An open space and subway entrance mark the corner of College Street and University Avenue. The open space is composed of grass and pathways with several mature trees and is an important gateway to the campus.

Changes to the corner of College Street and University Avenue and to Taddle Creek Road as part of University Development Site 15 will significantly alter the massing of the eastern section of the street. These changes include:

- moving the greenhouse that currently fronts onto College Street to the northwest corner of College Street and University Avenue;
- replacing the greenhouse with a new structure; and
- creating a new forecourt to the buildings on Taddle Creek Road.



Drawing DS5 - 1: Key Buildings / Focal Points / Development Sites



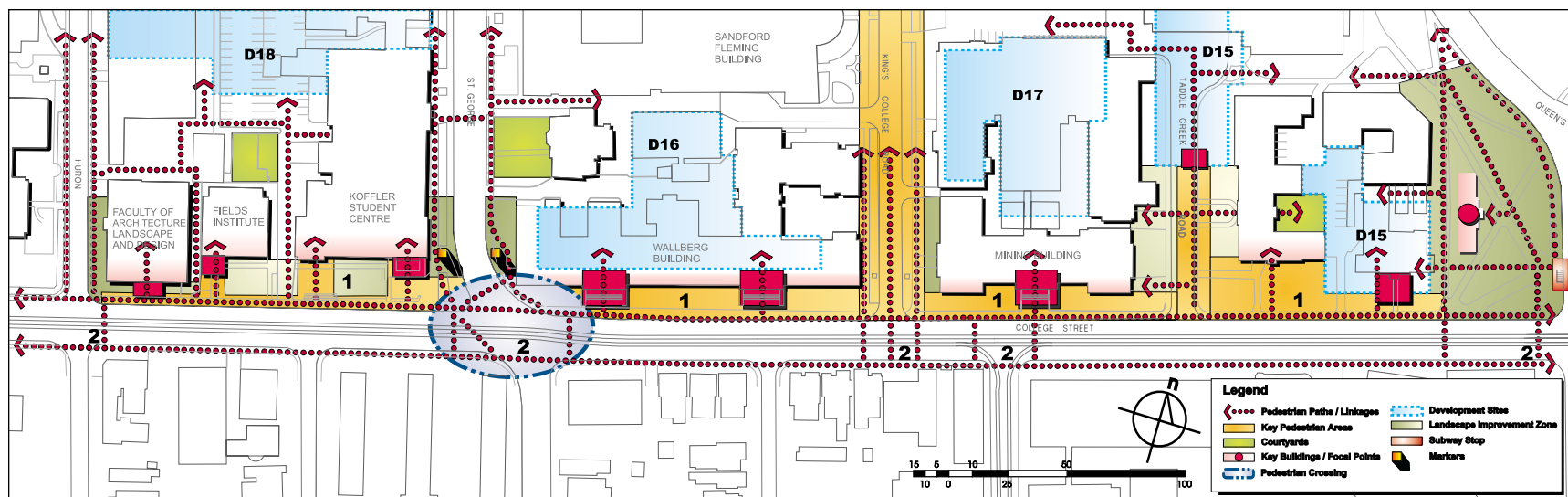
Demonstration Site 5: College Street

P e d e s t r i a n M o v e m e n t

The following pedestrian issues should be considered in the redesign of the Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS5-2**.

1. The north side of College Street from Huron Street to University Avenue is a major pedestrian route with many entrances to the University via building terraces, forecourts, gardens, north/south streets, and transit stops.
2. Improvements to paving and lighting at major College Street intersections would improve the safety of pedestrian crossings.

Drawing DS5-2: Pedestrian Movement



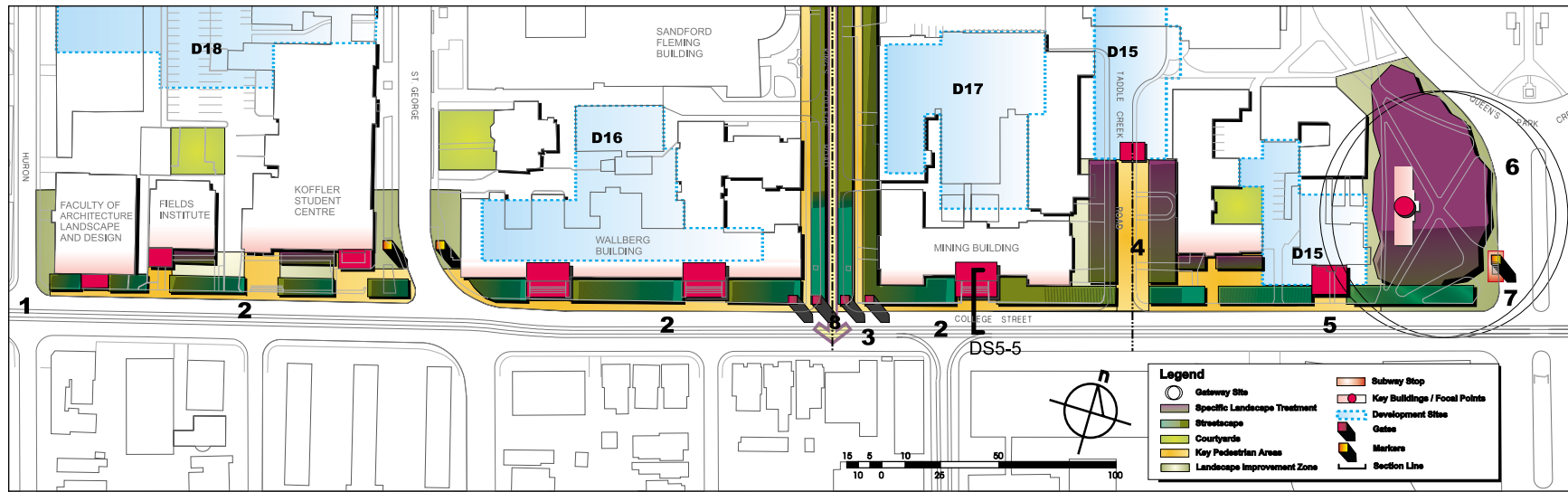
Demonstration Site 5: College Street

Detailed Master Plan Concept

The following list of features and concepts is proposed as the framework for the redesign of this Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS5-3**.

1. The intersection of Huron Street and College Street is an important entrance to the campus and should be marked as such.
2. The streetscape along College Street should include a double row of deciduous trees along as much of the street length as possible to restore a portion of the urban forest that existed at the time of the original University land grant. Additional columnar and coniferous trees can be planted against building walls to provide definition. Upper level steps and terraces should be featured in this linear landscape. A row of seating should be incorporated into the streetscape along the entire length of the street at the sidewalk edge. This south-facing seating can be used as a transit waiting area or as a student meeting area.
3. A new set of gates should be installed at the intersection of King's College Road and College Street to reinforce this historical entrance to the campus.
4. The conversion of Taddle Creek Road to a forecourt is proposed as part of University Development Site 15. This area should be developed as a new open space with an emphasis on existing tree preservation, additional deciduous and coniferous tree planting and seating.
5. The area in front of the Fitzgerald Building and the College Street frontage of University Development Site 15 should be used to create a perennial garden and plaza to create visual interest on the College Street streetscape.
6. The open space on the corner of College Street and University Avenue should be used to create a landscape of landmark quality with an emphasis on significant large scale deciduous and coniferous tree planting, pedestrian walkways and pedestrian scale lighting. The existing greenhouse may be moved to this site and should be treated as a feature in the design.
7. The Queen's Park subway station entrance should be treated as a Marker and include mapping and information about the campus. The subway entrance could become a location for a public art installation.

Drawing DS5-3: Detailed Master Plan Concept



Demonstration Site 5: College Street

Drawing DS5-4: College Street Master Plan Concept



College Street should have a linear landscape of trees, seating, and pedestrian amenity with linkages to the north-south campus streets, entrances and open spaces.



New gates at King's College Road and College Street will mark this historic entrance to the Central Campus.

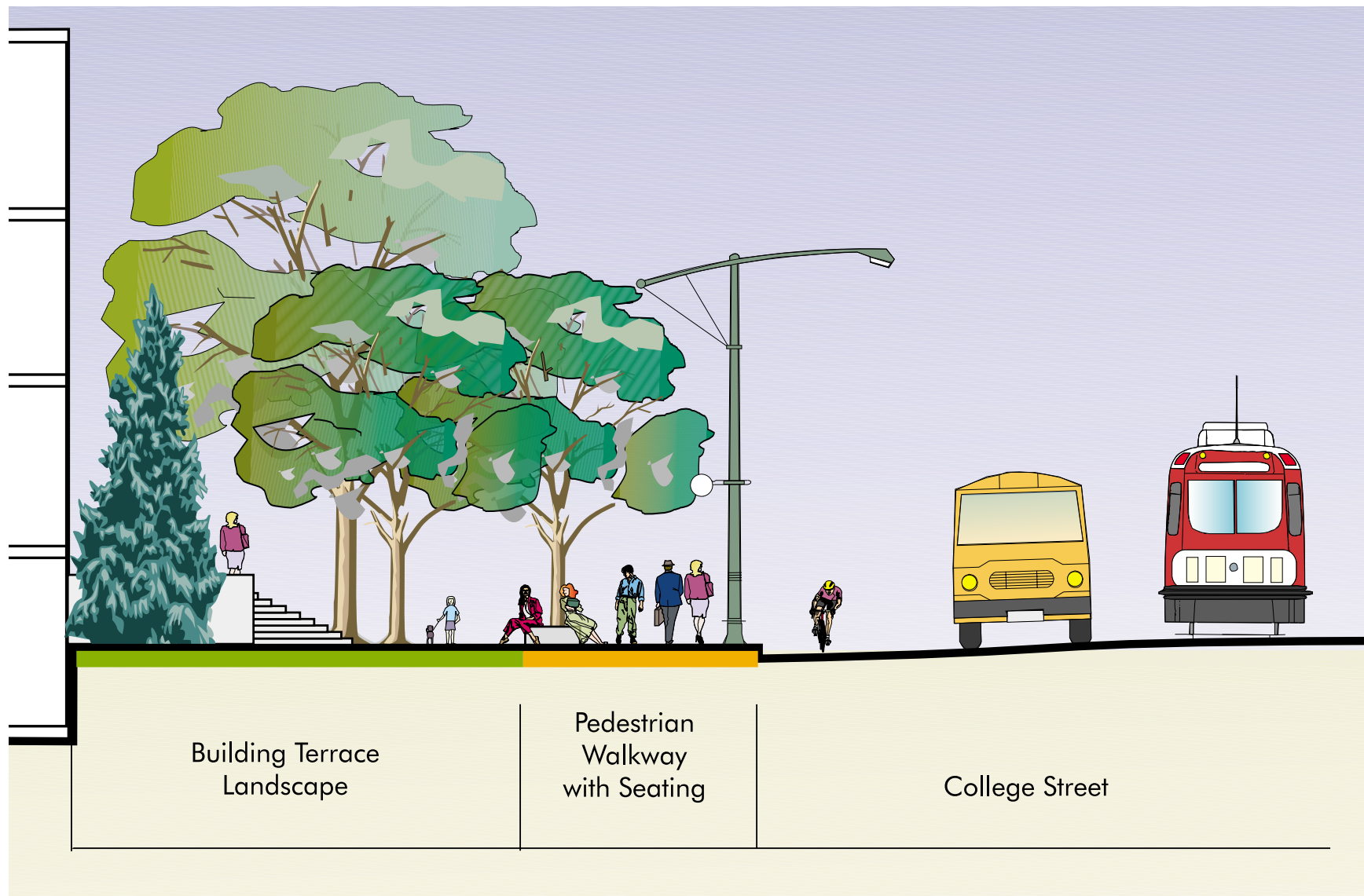


The Taddle Creek Forecourt with its new planting scheme will create a pleasant contemplative space.



The northwest corner of College Street and University Avenue could include the historic greenhouse.

Drawing DS5-5: Proposed College Street Cross Section



2.6 Spadina Circle - Russell Street Demonstration Site

Goals

- *To create a landscape of landmark quality;*
- *To create a significant, distinctive, pedestrian-oriented gateway to the West Campus;*
- *To create an enhanced east-west pedestrian connection along Russell Street.*

Project Summary

The Spadina Circle - Russell Street intersection is a significant gateway to the southwest part of the campus. The form of Spadina Circle and the surrounding buildings create a one-of-a-kind place in the city and a wonderful opportunity to restore a gem of the past while creating a significant entry to the University. The University Development Site on the north end of the Circle and the existing historic building can add to the tradition of courtyard buildings at the University.

The Demonstration Site combines Spadina Circle and a re-worked Russell Street to create a new entry to the southwest part of the campus. Huron and Russell Streets will demonstrate a new image for the streets of the West Campus, one that makes the streets distinctive and recognizable as an integral part of the open space on campus, in which a better balance between automobiles, pedestrians and streetscapes is achieved.

The return of Spadina Circle as a landscape of landmark quality is a goal of this project.

Key Buildings, Focal Points and University Development Sites

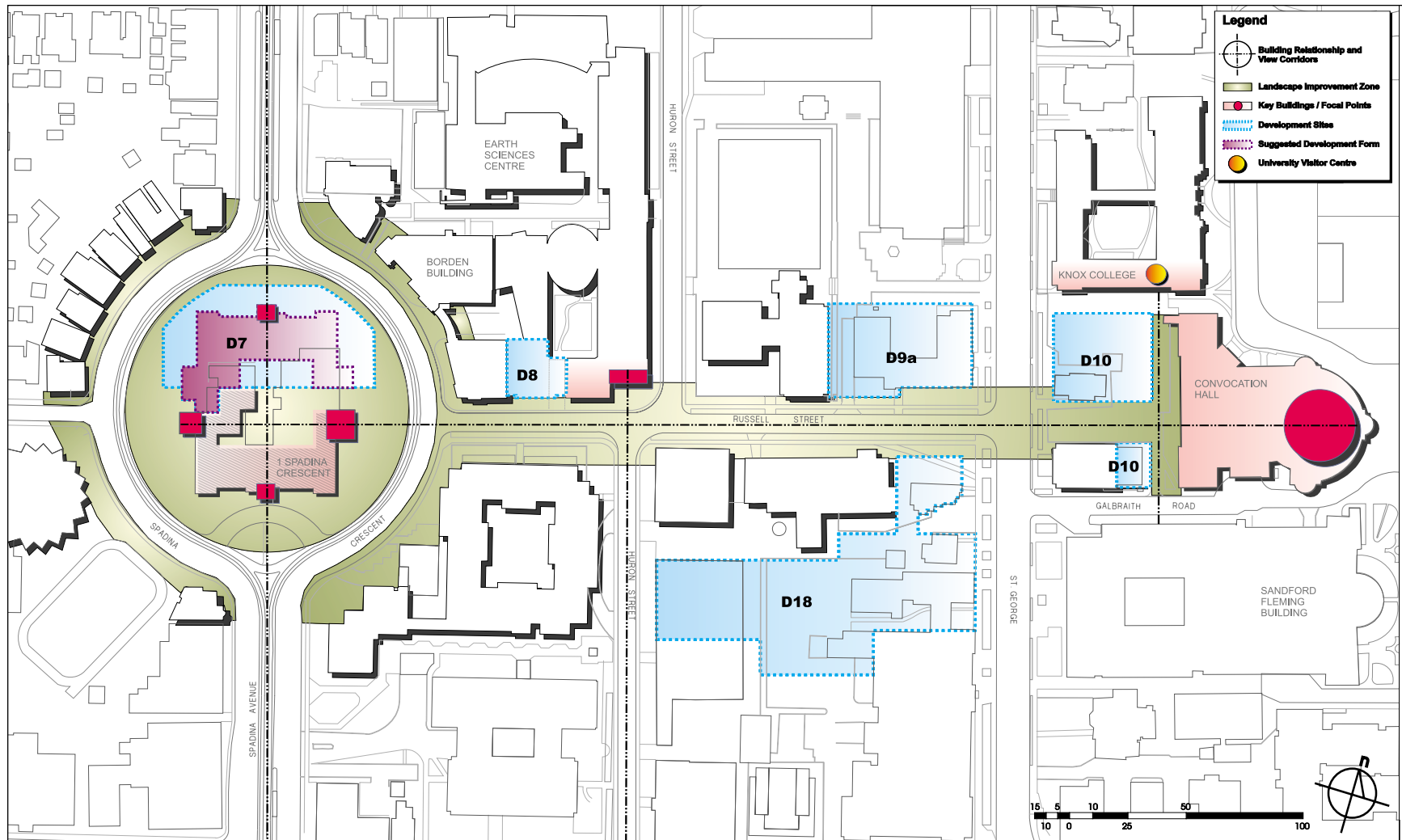
The historic Knox College and the dome of Convocation Hall create a significant view from Spadina Circle and Russell Street and are very important focal points in this area. The University Visitor Centre in the southwest corner of Knox College is considered a part of this Demonstration Site.

Several University-defined redevelopment opportunities exist within this Demonstration Site, including:

- Spadina Circle (University Development Site 7);
- The termination of Russell Street at St. George Street (University Development Site 10); and
- University Development Sites 8, 9a and 18, all of which have frontage on Russell Street.



Drawing DS6 - 1: Key Buildings / Focal Points / Development Sites



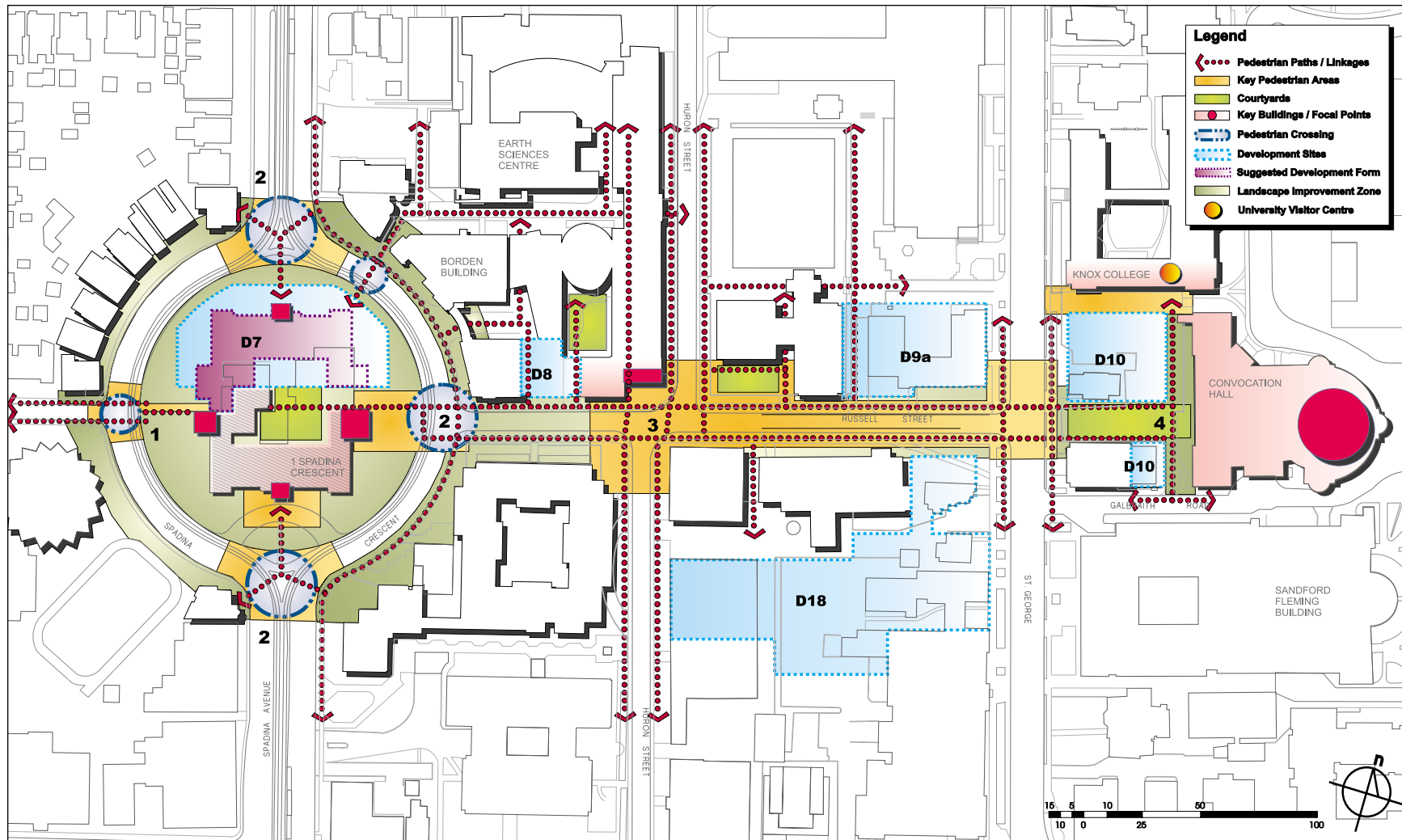
Demonstration Site 6: Spadina Circle - Russell Street

P e d e s t r i a n M o v e m e n t

The following pedestrian issues should be considered in the redesign of the Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS6-2**.

1. A pedestrian connection from Robert Street along Russell Street through Spadina Circle and through to University Development Site 10 would provide a strong east-west route from the surrounding community Annex neighbourhood to the centre of the campus.
2. Better defined crossings on Spadina Crescent would make the Circle less of a barrier to pedestrian movement.
3. Allowing for diagonal pedestrian crossings and incorporating a traffic calming grade change at the Huron and Russell Streets intersection would create better and safer conditions for pedestrians.
4. Two new east-west pedestrian routes on both sides of University Development Site 10, connected to a north-south route along the west wall of Simcoe Hall from the Visitor Centre to Galbraith Road would improve the connections between the west and central parts of the campus.

Drawing DS6-2: Pedestrian Movement



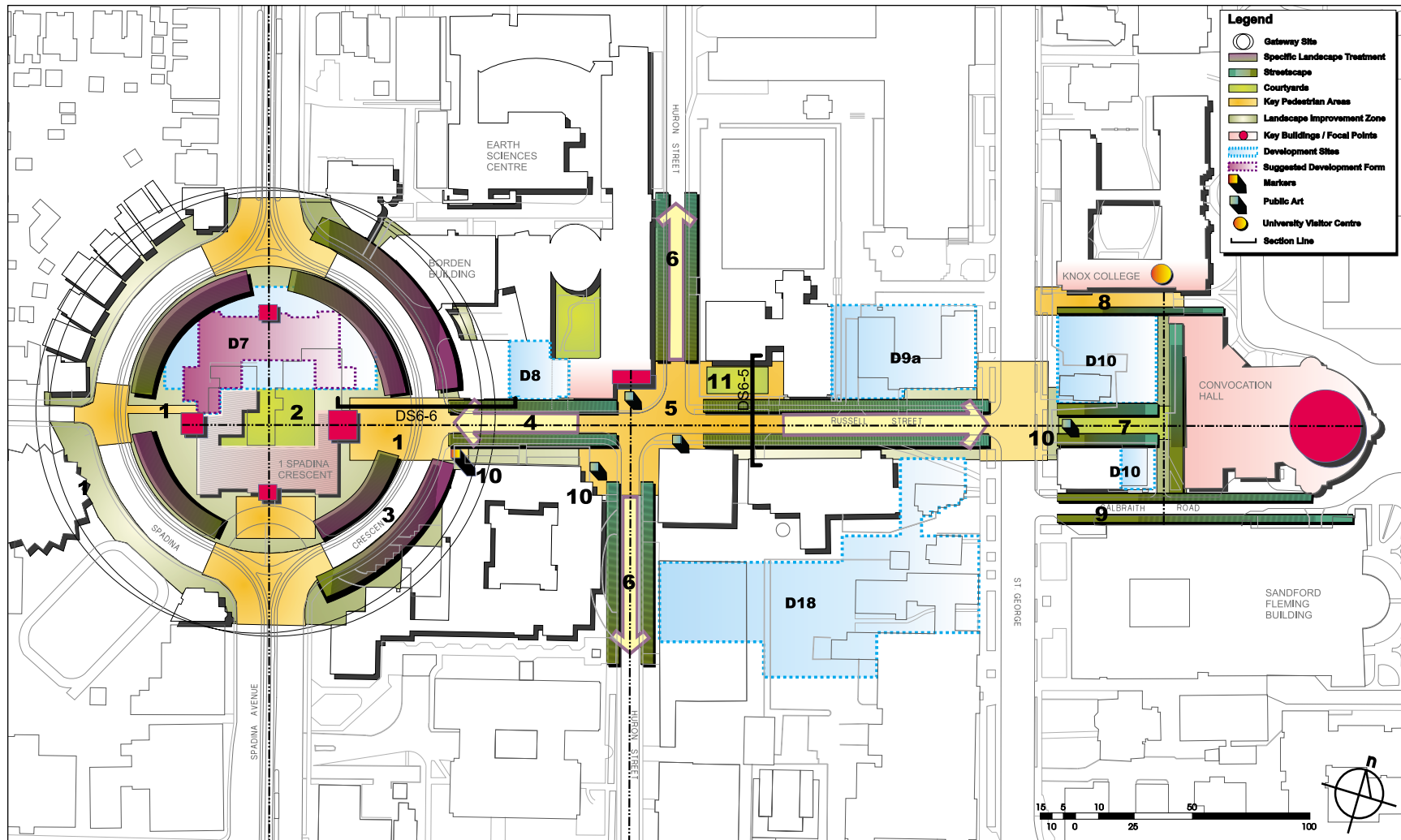
Demonstration Site 6: Spadina Circle - Russell Street

Detailed Master Plan Concept

The following features and concepts are proposed as the design framework for this Demonstration Site. The numbered items refer to drawing **DS6-3**.

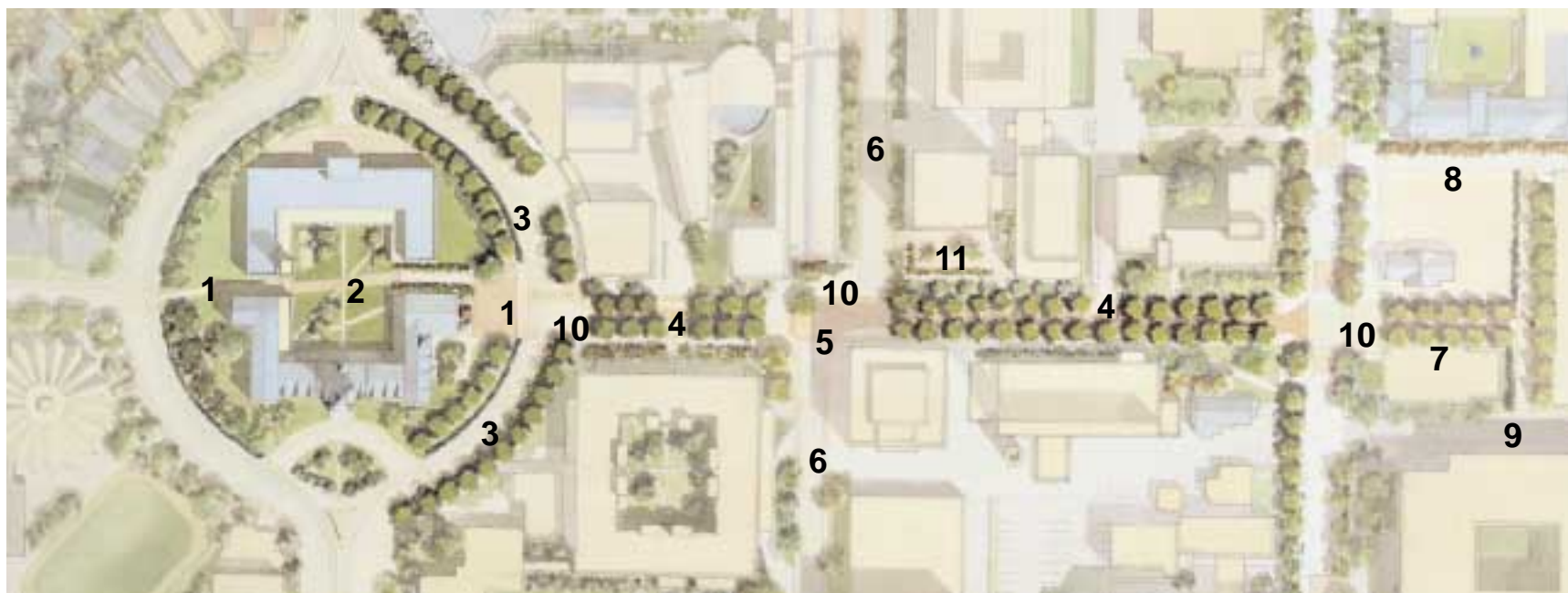
1. The open space of Spadina Circle should be the subject of a landscape restoration plan to include pedestrian plazas accessed from both intersections of Spadina Crescent and Russell Street, removal of the fencing and a planting plan to allow Spadina Circle to become a valuable contribution to the open space in the district. A crosswalk should be considered for each intersection of Spadina Crescent and Russell Street.
2. University Development Site 7 should consider adding to the tradition of courtyard buildings on campus by creating a central outdoor courtyard in the Circle. Access to the courtyard should occur along the Russell Street alignment and provide a cross-circle pedestrian route.
3. The eastern outside edge and the entire inside edge of Spadina Circle should be planted with deciduous street trees to restore the urban forest that once existed in this area. Adjustments to the pavement of the eastern outside edge should include a wider sidewalk and additional tree planting locations. The eastern intersection of Russell Street and Spadina Crescent should receive a Marker to signal the entry to the campus, possibly as a public art installation.
4. Russell Street should be programmed for a new road cross section, pedestrian system and street tree planting or street landscaping plan to improve the pedestrian amenity and contribute to a distinctive streetscape for the West Campus streets. Modifications should consider a reduction of the travel-way of the street and the possible one-way routing of automobiles.
5. The intersection of Huron and Russell Streets should be reconfigured as a continuous street plaza and raised to form a traffic table to favour pedestrians. Automobile traffic should be contained by bollards.
6. Huron Street should be programmed for a new road cross section, pedestrian system and street tree planting or street landscaping plan to improve the pedestrian amenity and contribute to a distinctive streetscape for the West Campus streets. Modifications should consider a reduction of the travel-way of the street and the possible one-way routing of automobiles.
7. The termination of Russell Street at St. George Street should be treated as a landscaped walkway through to the back of Simcoe Hall. A similar walkway should be created along the west wall of Simcoe Hall to improve pedestrian connections and create an attractive foreground for the view of the Convocation Hall dome.
8. A landscaped walkway between Knox College and the north wall of University Development Site 10 should enhance the connection between the University Visitor Centre and St. George Street and the new walkways in items 7 and 9 of this Demonstration Site.
9. Galbraith Road should be reconfigured to allow one-way automobile traffic from King's College Road westbound and developed as a fully landscaped pedestrian route from St. George Street to Convocation Hall. This will allow for the development of a car-free Convocation Hall Plaza as described in Demonstration Site 2.
10. Russell Street should be considered for public art installations to enhance the aesthetics of the corridor. Suggested locations include the eastern intersection of Russell Street and Spadina Crescent, three locations in the Huron and Russell Streets intersection, and at the termination of Russell Street at St. George Street within the landscaped walkway to Simcoe Hall.
11. A landscape plan for the McLennan Physical Laboratories Building terrace facing Russell Street should be undertaken to integrate it with the improvements to Russell Street.

Drawing DS6-3: Detailed Master Plan Concept

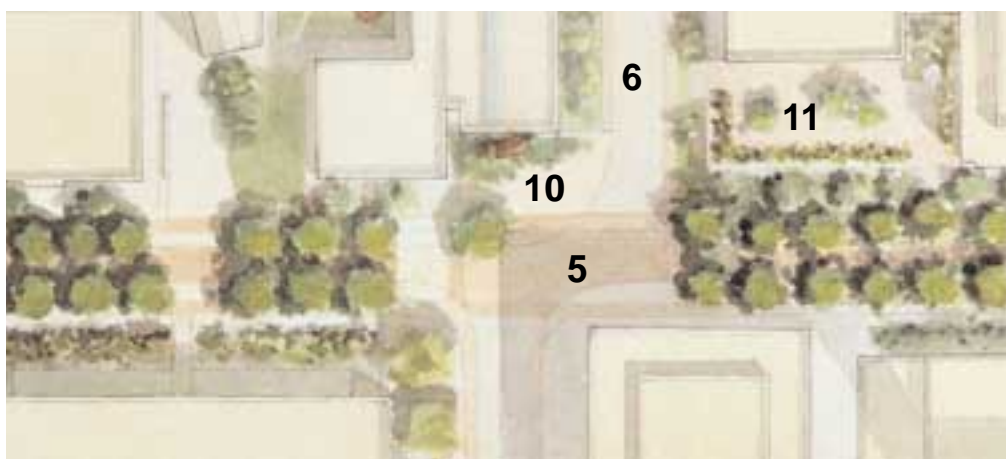


Demonstration Site 6: Spadina Circle - Russell Street

Drawing DS6-4: Spadina Circle - Russell Street Master Plan Concept



Russell Street and Spadina Circle, a distinct landmark for both the campus and city, should be enhanced as a significant east-west pedestrian corridor and gateway to the West Campus.

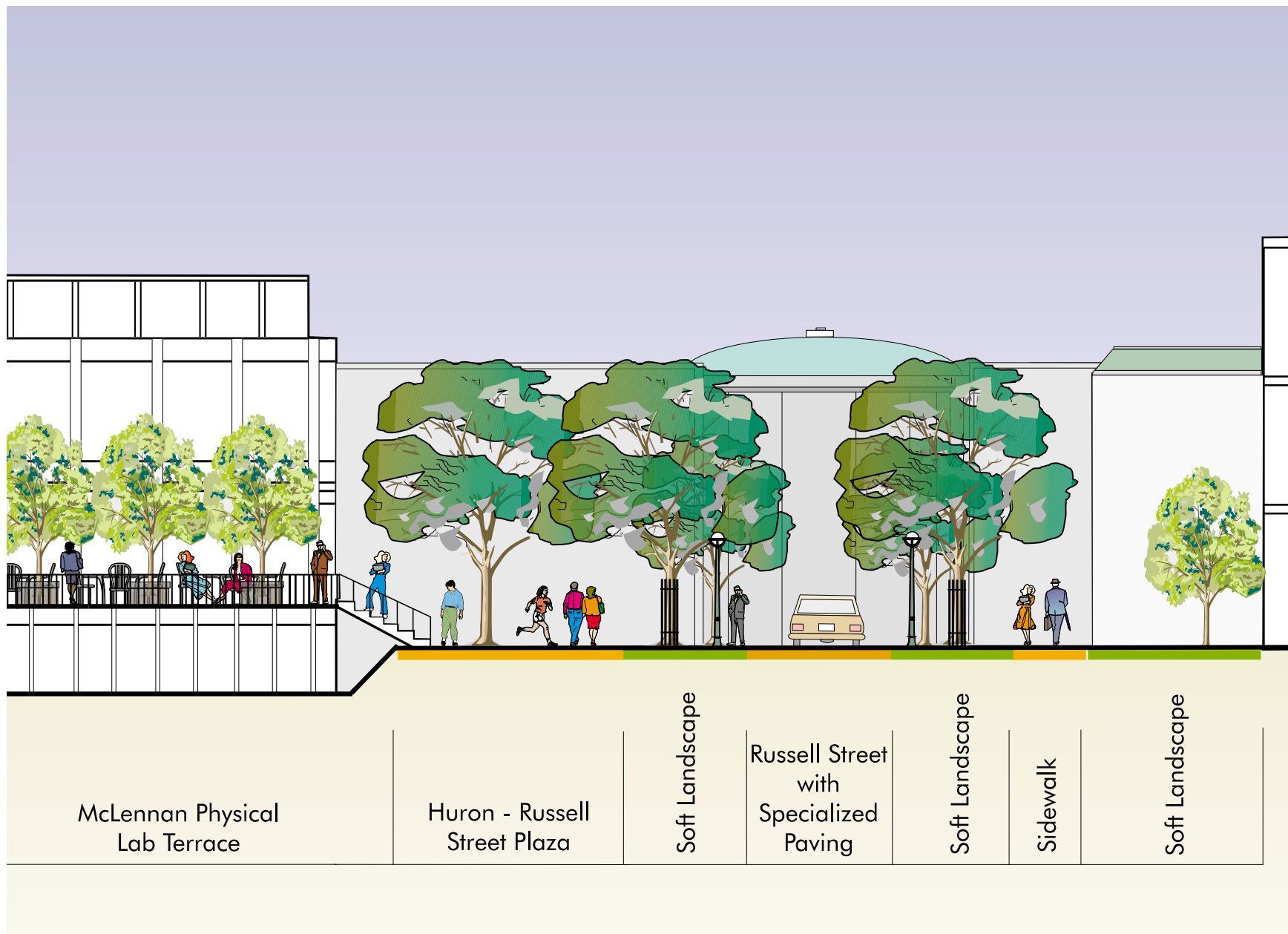


The Huron and Russell Street intersection should be reconfigured as a continuous pedestrian plaza.



The termination of Russell Street at St. George Street should be treated as a landscaped walkway.

Drawing DS6-5: Proposed Russell Street Cross Section



Drawing DS6-6: Proposed Spadina Crescent Cross Section

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