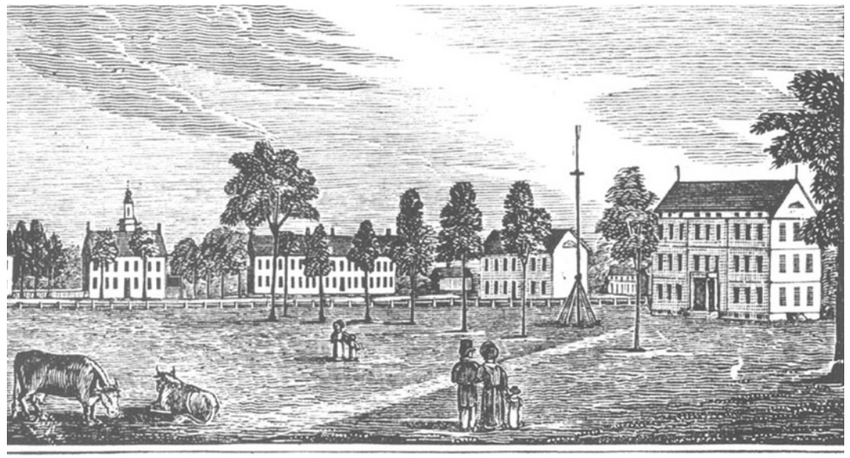
AN ARMED CAMPUS:
Education, Historic Preservation and Civic Life at the Springfield Armory



Western view of the Armory Buildings, Springfield.

University of Massachusetts
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning

Springfield Armory National Historic Site
Springfield Technical Community College
City of Springfield Planning Department

Graduate Studio in Landscape Architecture
Spring 2006

1- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank our partners for their support in providing information about the project, touring the site, responding to our questions, and being guest critics during our presentations.

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Assistant Professor Ethan Carr directed the studio.

2- TABLE OF CONTENTS

1- Acknowledgments 01
2- Table of Contents..... 02
3- Executive Summary..... 03
4- Background..... 04
5- Site Data..... 05
6- Studio Process..... 06
7- Design and Preservation Challenges..... 07
8- Project Program..... 08
9- Potential Intervention Areas within the site..... 09
10- Conclusion: Overview of Studio Results..... 10
11- Student Projects..... 12
    a. Nathaniel Malloy..... 13
    b. Yaser Abun-Nasr..... 15
    c. Colin Hand..... 19
    d. Kelley Watschke..... 21
    e. Nicole West..... 23
    f. Hillary Delaney..... 25
    g. Jeffrey Pronovost..... 27
    h. Isabel Calle..... 29
    i. Steven He..... 31
    j. Beth Fenstermacher..... 33
    k. Amy Verel..... 35
    l. Brad Buschur..... 37
    m. Frank Varro..... 39

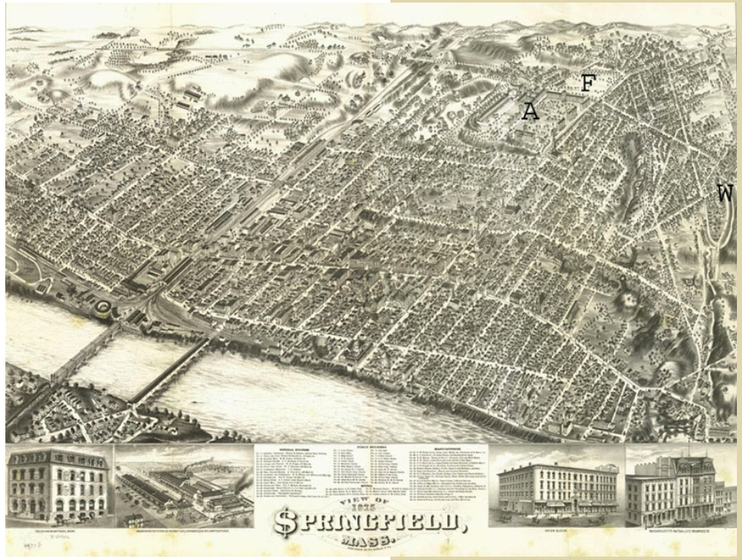
3- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

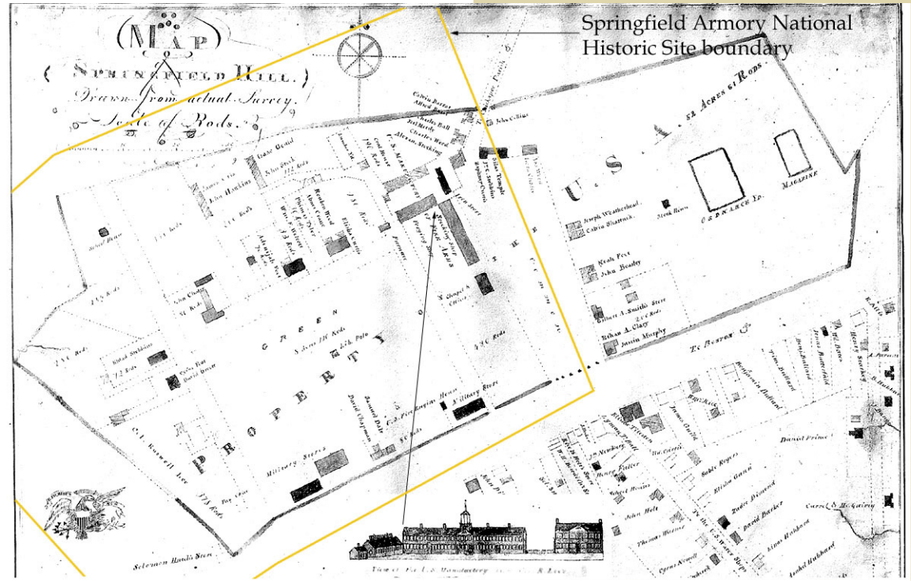
The Springfield Armory is a national historic site managed through a partnership between the National Park Service (NPS) and Springfield Technical Community College (STCC).

The objective of this graduate landscape architecture studio was to investigate ways in which a site of national historical significance could be creatively managed, designed, and interpreted to improve the experience of the landscape for visitors and the functionality of the landscape for students.

The complexity of the site demanded that students address several challenges, ranging from its context in the city of Springfield to issues such as parking and student safety. Two formal site visits and many meetings with the stakeholders were conducted.

The results of the studio are individual student projects that attempt to make site recommendations at the master plan level, and to provide design suggestions for a specific chosen area of the campus. The student proposals all intend to acknowledge, preserve, and interpret the historic characteristics and features of the national historic site.





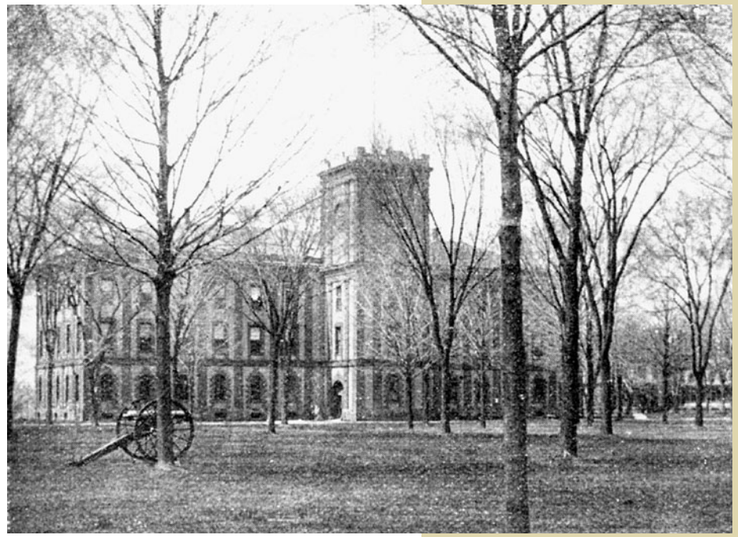
4- BACKGROUND

The Springfield Armory National Historic Site covers fifty-five acres near downtown Springfield, Massachusetts. It was selected in 1778 as the site of a United States arsenal and in 1794 the complex became the nation's first significant military arms production center ("armory"). Springfield muskets and rifles armed the Union forces of the Civil War and the American Army in two World Wars. Technical and manufacturing innovations of many types resulted from the enormous federal investment in small arms production in Springfield. The Springfield Armory encouraged the development of the Connecticut River Valley as a national center of businesses involving precision machine tools and the mass production of firearms.

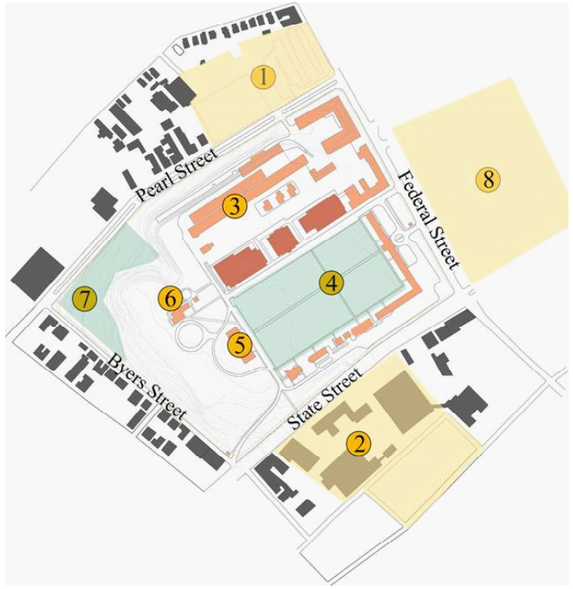
The presence of such a large federal institution affected the historical development of Springfield as a city: the campus-like landscape of the armory, historically known as "Armory Square," helped make the area desirable for the city's elite, many of whom built mansions along State Street. Neighborhoods of worker housing also grew up near the armory. "Armory Square" remains a significant and historic part of Springfield, although it has lost much of its connection with the surrounding city.

The Springfield Armory was decommissioned in 1968. In the 1970s it became a National Historic Site that included the main arsenal building, which is now a museum that houses a vast collection of small arms. Other former manufacturing and administrative buildings of the armory became the home of Springfield Technical Community College (STCC), which subsequently built several very large college buildings on the campus. Today the Springfield Armory National Historic Site (SPAR) is jointly managed by the National Park Service (NPS) and the STCC, both as a national park with thousands of visitors a year, and as an important educational institution with thousands of enrolled students.





5- SITE DATA:



1. Pearl St. Block
2. State St. Block
3. Building 19
4. Parade Ground
5. Main Arsenal (“Gun Museum”)
6. Commanding Officer’s House
7. Hayfield
8. Federal Square Technical Park

Site:
55 acres
-SPAR 21 acres
-STCC 34 acres

NPS Visitors
Between 15 and 30 thousand per year

STCC Students
3,000 day students
3,000 night students

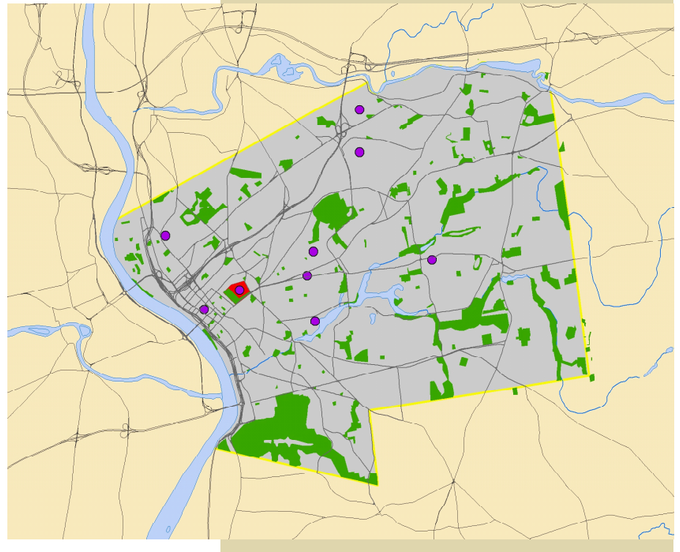
STCC Parking
Peak usage: 1,200 spaces



Regional Topography



City Open Spaces



6- STUDIO PROCESS

The objective of this studio was to provide the NPS, STCC, and the City of Springfield with creative planning and design suggestions for the future management and interpretation of this nationally significant landscape as both a historic site and as a college campus. These recommendations were made by individual students both at the planning scale (master plans), and in more detailed designs for specific areas of campus.

There were two primary considerations for the studio: how best to preserve and interpret the historic landscape for park visitors; and how to integrate such public use with the academic life of the college campus. The Springfield Armory, historically, was often compared to a campus because of its central green, civic architecture, and overall park-like setting. The adaptation of the landscape for educational purposes in the 1970s was therefore particularly apt and easily accomplished. Today, as visitation to the historic landscape and museum can be expected to grow, these public activities will need to be integrated with the more private activities of the college. "Armory Square" should also reclaim its historically central place in the economy and public life of Springfield.

Communicating and interpreting the historical significance of this unusual campus required creative landscape design. Students were encouraged to develop their own sense of the historic significance of the site, and how it should be experienced by the public and by the college students. What are the historical themes and stories that people should be aware of when they visit (or go to school) this place? There are thousands and thousands of historic guns in the main arsenal building, but the historic site should be experienced as far more than a gun museum. The early industrial processes developed there, for example, included mass production through the development of reliably interchangeable parts. New precision machine tools were developed. Springfield armory began what has been described (much later) as the "military-industrial complex"—the devastating results of such a political and economic complex are often all too evident. But federal spending for military purposes has also resulted in major technological advances, more recently, for example, in aviation, computers, and the internet. There are many discussions that can begin at the Springfield Armory. While the history of guns obviously is obviously one of violence and warfare, some of those conflicts resulted in essential accomplishments, such as the abolition of slavery and the suppression of fascism.

The Springfield Armory was also an early industrial center in a country that had not yet become industrialized. As such, its original design as a "campus," or "Armory Square," makes this historic landscape design of particular interest and significance. The central "green" of the Armory landscape was originally a town common surrounded by homesteads. As it grew in the nineteenth century, it became a unique military industrial campus, set in an improved park landscape. It also became increasingly separated from the city itself, a separation made clear in the 1860's by the imposing iron fence which still marks the boundaries of the national historic site today. How can this historic landscape be managed (restored, rehabilitated, reused) in a manner that will preserve its integrity, convey its meaning to the public and students, and still make it more functional for the purposes it serves (or perhaps could serve) today?

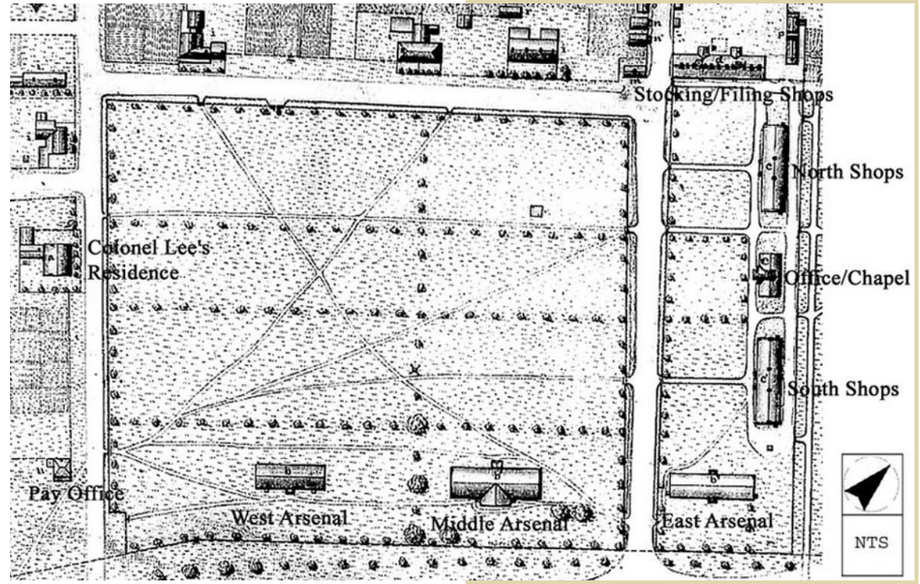
7-DESIGN AND PRESERVATION CHALLENGES

Students were asked that any proposal for the site acknowledge, preserve, and interpret the historic characteristics and features of the landscape. These characteristics and features had been documented and analyzed in previous NPS reports, which were made available. Students were encouraged to develop their own sense of the historic significance of the site, and of the specific characteristics that convey that significance.

Creative opportunities for combining interpretive themes were considered. Industrial and social history, the history of technological innovation and its relationship to warfare, and the terrible costs and effects of the industry of war, for example, are all themes that are embodied in this cultural landscape. A creative appreciation of the historic and social meanings and activities of the site were incorporated into the proposals.

While designing new public landscapes and facilities, students were asked to consider the conceptual transformation implied by their development, preservation, and interpretive plan. This was both a preservation studio and a design studio; perhaps it would be better described as a landscape interpretation studio. Students were encouraged to make proposals for planning, management, and design of the campus that addressed cultural resource preservation, convey the great historical significance of the landscape to the public, and that meet the current needs of the STCC and the City of Springfield.

Throughout the semester there were discussions that described the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties" and other applicable federal and local historic preservation laws and guidelines.





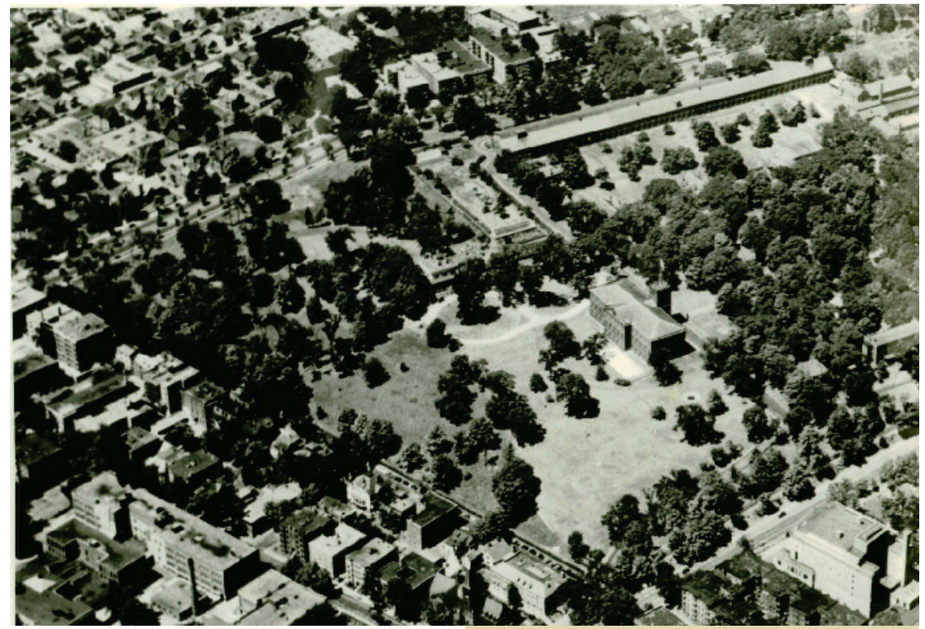
8- PROJECT PROGRAM

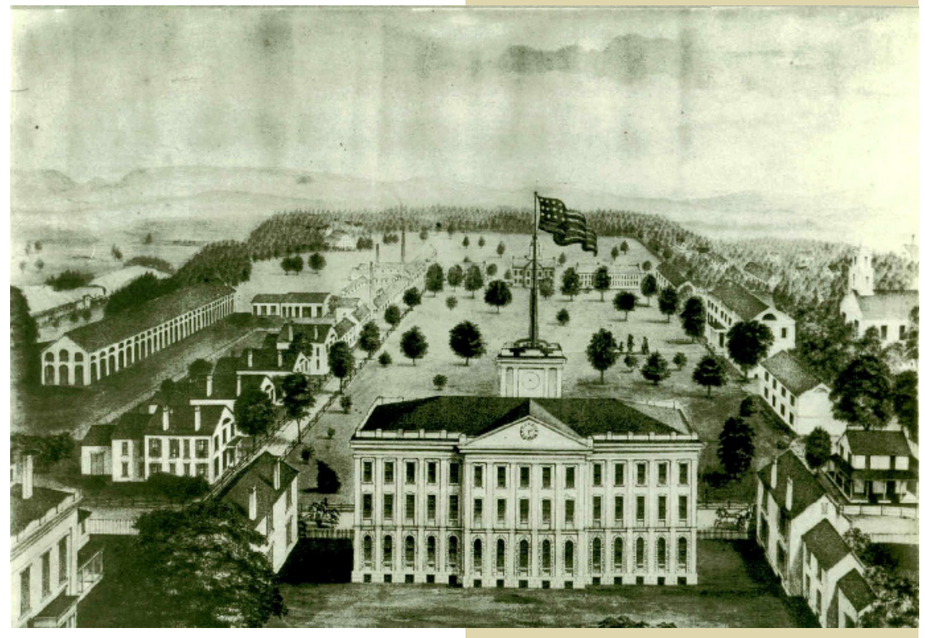
The studio program called for expanding the capacity and effectiveness of the campus as both a national historic site and an active community college. Currently, visitors, students, nor area residents experience this landscape in ways that fully realize its potential for conveying historical meaning, serving as a vibrant campus, and becoming once again a social and economic center of the city. There were three primary clients, all of whom wished to see certain improvements.

The NPS wants interpretation of the site to include more than the "gun museum" and for visitors to experience the entire campus landscape. By emphasizing the significance of the entire landscape, not just the Main Arsenal (museum) building, the interpretive program for the site will naturally expand. Visitors will not just experience one story or narrative theme (arms manufacturing), but will appreciate many themes and layers of significance. Social history (including Shay's Rebellion, the story of armory workers and their families, Civil War history, etc.); the history of technology (innovation, mass production, the relationship to wars and the technology of warfare); and urban history (the development of Springfield, the industrialization of the nation) are all appropriate subjects that may be interpreted through the Armory Square landscape.

STCC hopes to create a new student center that will give students space for a cafeteria and other services. This will enhance student life on the campus, and should also be an opportunity to capitalize on the unique heritage of the campus landscape. STCC, after all, is a technical college, sited on one of the most significant sites of technical innovation in the country. The "Long Storehouse" (Building 19) has been suggested as a possible site for a new student center. The students of STCC should be inspired by the setting of their school and the landscape and history of the campus should itself be a larger part of their educational program.

The City of Springfield would like to see the historic site as a whole play more of a role in the economy and life of the city. Connections to the city, potential relationships to other civic institutions, places, and plans, and public programming for Arsenal Square were considered in this regard. A major improvement of the State Street corridor is underway, and a multi-million dollar federal courthouse is under construction nearby. A revitalization of "Armory Square" would be an essential and meaningful part of revitalizing Springfield's civic and economic life.





9-POTENTIAL INTERVENTION AREAS WITHIN THE SITE

There were several key areas of the campus to consider in both the master plan and the focused design area. The "Long Storehouse" (Building 19) is available for new programming and rehabilitation, such as a student center, park visitor center, public restaurant, space for non-profit partner organizations, or combinations of all the above.

The central green is the heart of armory square, and needs a strategy for its management and restoration. This may include a tree census and specific management recommendations for the site's trees and shrubs.

The area around the Main Arsenal and superintendent's residence once featured historic gardens and greenhouses. This area is the center of the public's experience of the historic site, and so restoration plans for the historic landscape emphasized these areas as part of a revitalized and expanded interpretive strategy.

There are also a number of site planning issues that students were asked examine. Parking, for example, is a critical issue for STCC since it is a commuter college. Much of the historic landscape has been given over to parking; but this use must continue unless an alternate strategy is proposed. Similarly, much of the central green is used as a ball field by STCC. Recreational facilities are needed by the college, however, and should not be removed unless they are replaced elsewhere. Nearby vacant lots (on the other side of Pearl Street or elsewhere) are available for development and were areas that students could consider in their individual designs.

And of course, as a National Historic Site, the Springfield Armory must be treated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic properties.

10-CONCLUSION: OVERVIEW OF STUDIO PROJECTS

In conclusion to the studio process, three general approaches to the management and design of the Springfield Armory Historic Site can be identified as follows:

Site Scale:
1. A number of students adopted a conservation strategy of adaptive use, and sought to make use of historical footprints.
2- Others proposed radical ideas--removing buildings and completely reshaping the landscape.
3- Another group looked at interpretive design--identifying historical themes and highlighting these with new design features.

City Scale:
1- A number of students adopted the approach of connecting to the city.
2- Others have chose to expand towards the city, connecting to the surrounding neighborhoods.
3- Another group focused on resolving the contained site issues.

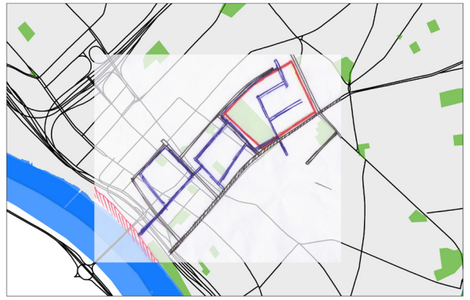
On May 09, 2006, final reviews were carried out and the following general comments and design issues were raised and dicussed:
- Interprative design within the site
- Sense of arrival/entry/gateway.
- Parking impact on site .
- Developing the site into a destination.
- Brining in new public uses to the site.
- Integration of student life with the historic landscape.
- Adaptive use of buildings.
- The natural landscape (slopes and hills) as park/leisure amenity.

STUDENT PROJECTS

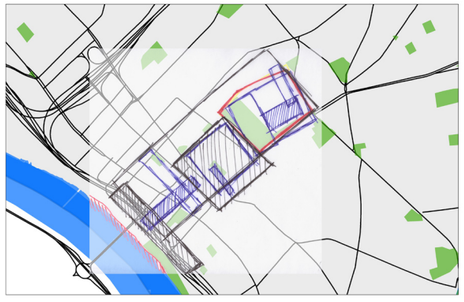


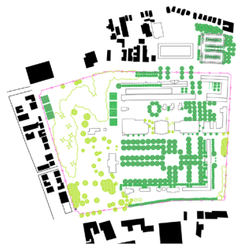


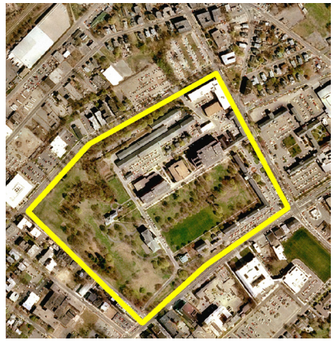


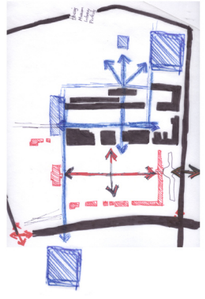


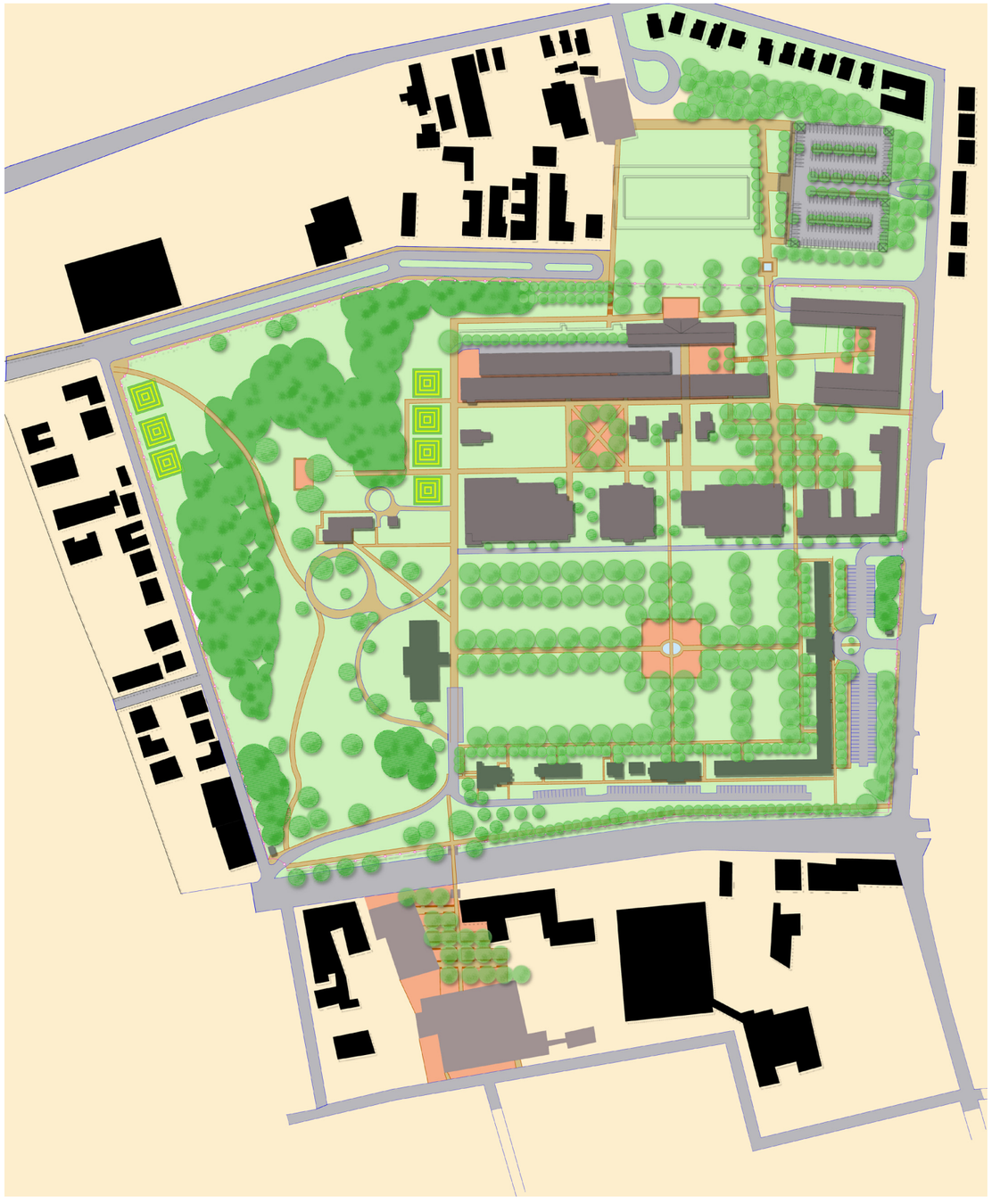










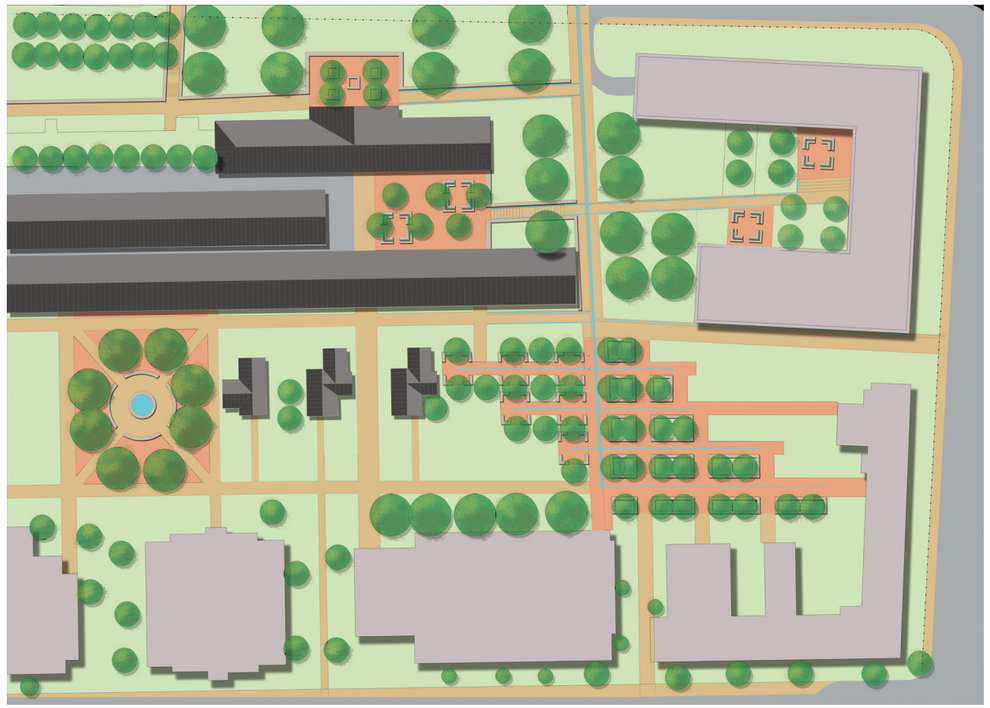


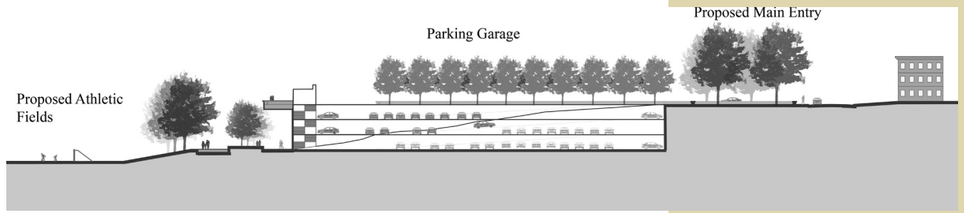
'Jumping the Fence'

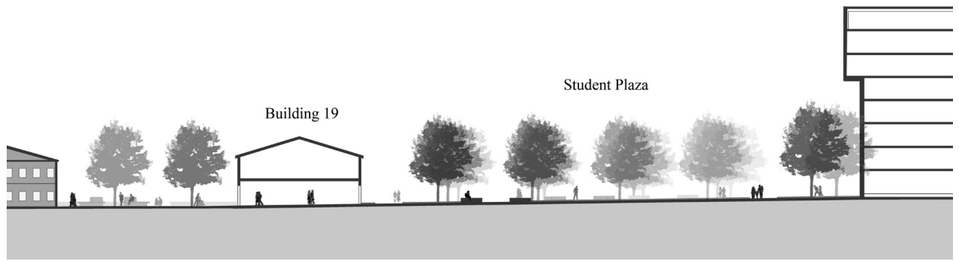
Historic analysis of circulation and orthogonal tree plantings showed a strong linear organization of spaces on the National Historic Site. Restoring this axial organization gives Springfield Technical Community College (STCC) and the Springfield Armory distinct spaces in which they can grow. The separation of building uses and open spaces will be balanced by intersecting axes which integrate pedestrians from the park and the college.

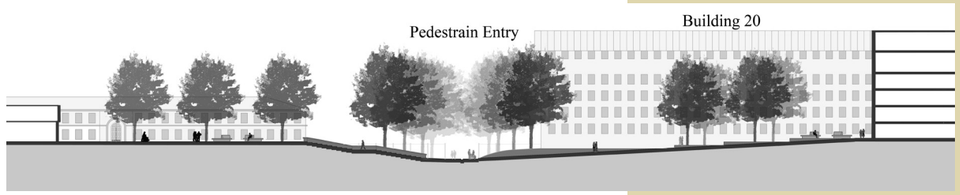
STCC can 'jump the fence' to develop its campus along State Street and the area across Pearl Street. A new main entry from Federal Street which captures panoramic views of Springfield, new athletic facilities, and perhaps future residence halls will graciously welcome students and visitors. Building 19 and the open space surrounding it will become the heart of campus, with student plazas, art galleries, and the campus activity's center. The college will also have the opportunity to rehabilitate the Masonic Lodge and the upper floors of the hospital on State Street. "Jumping the Fence" allows STCC to visually welcome pedestrians and vehicles as they approach along the revitalized State Street corridor.

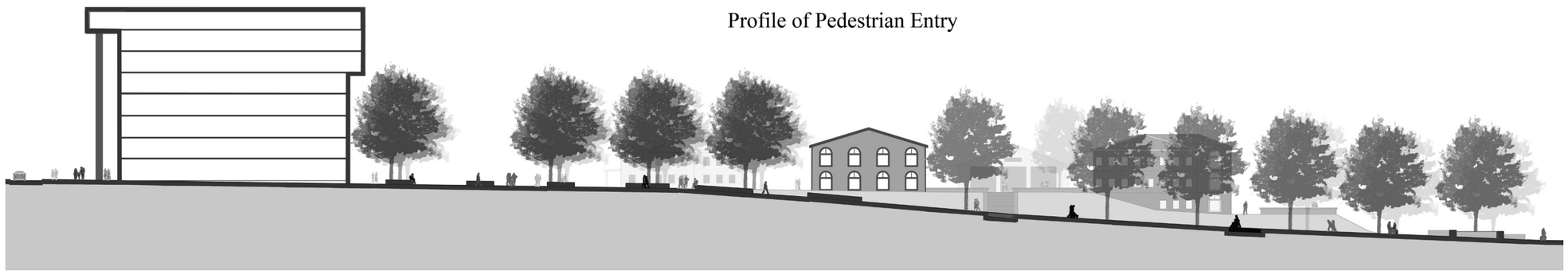


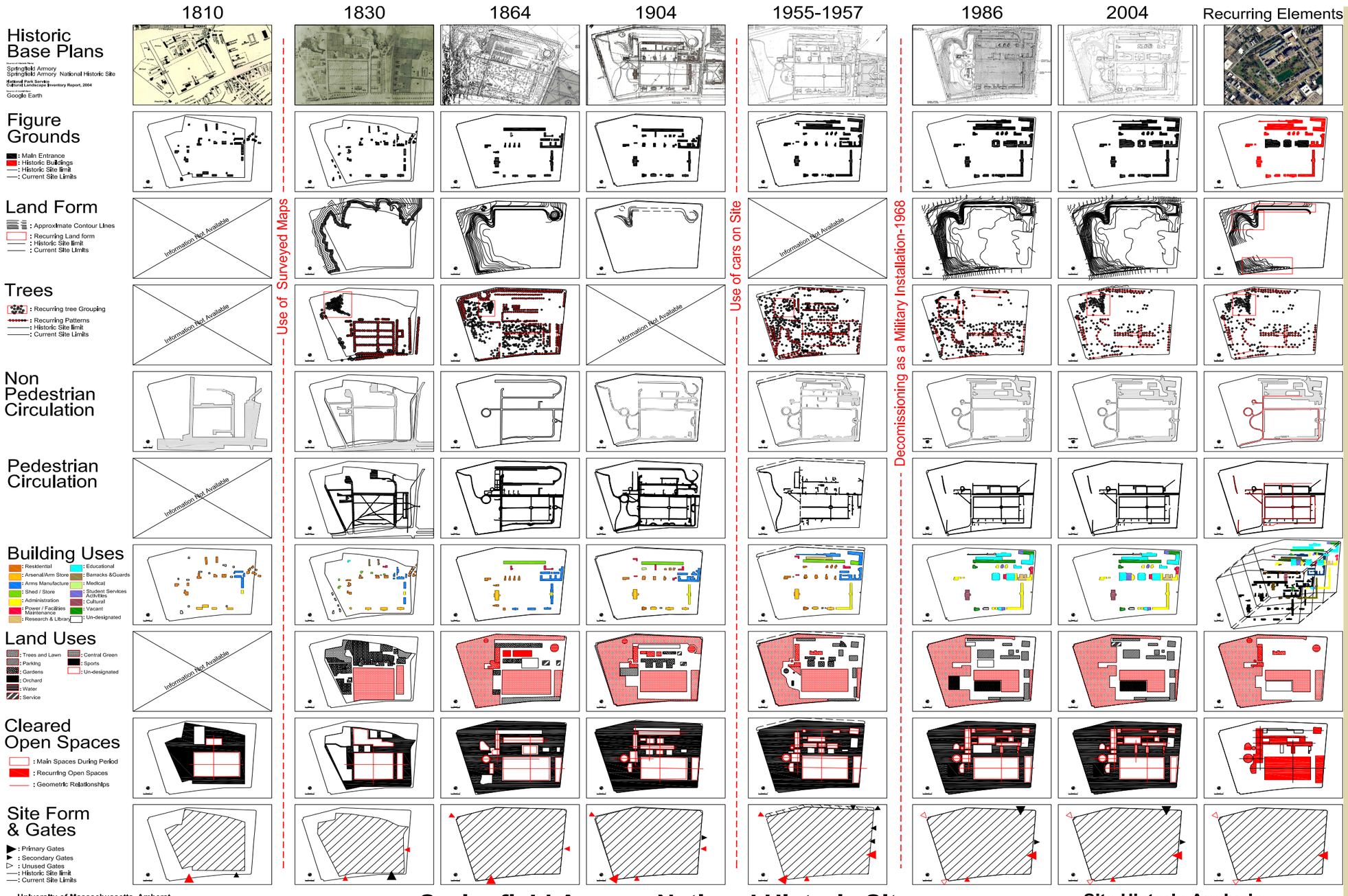



Proposed Main Entry
Parking Garage
Proposed Athletic Fields


Student Plaza
Building 19


Building 20
Pedestrain Entry


Profile of Pedestrian Entry



Mending the Divide

The site represents three main subject or areas of interest:

1- As a national historic site to be preserved.

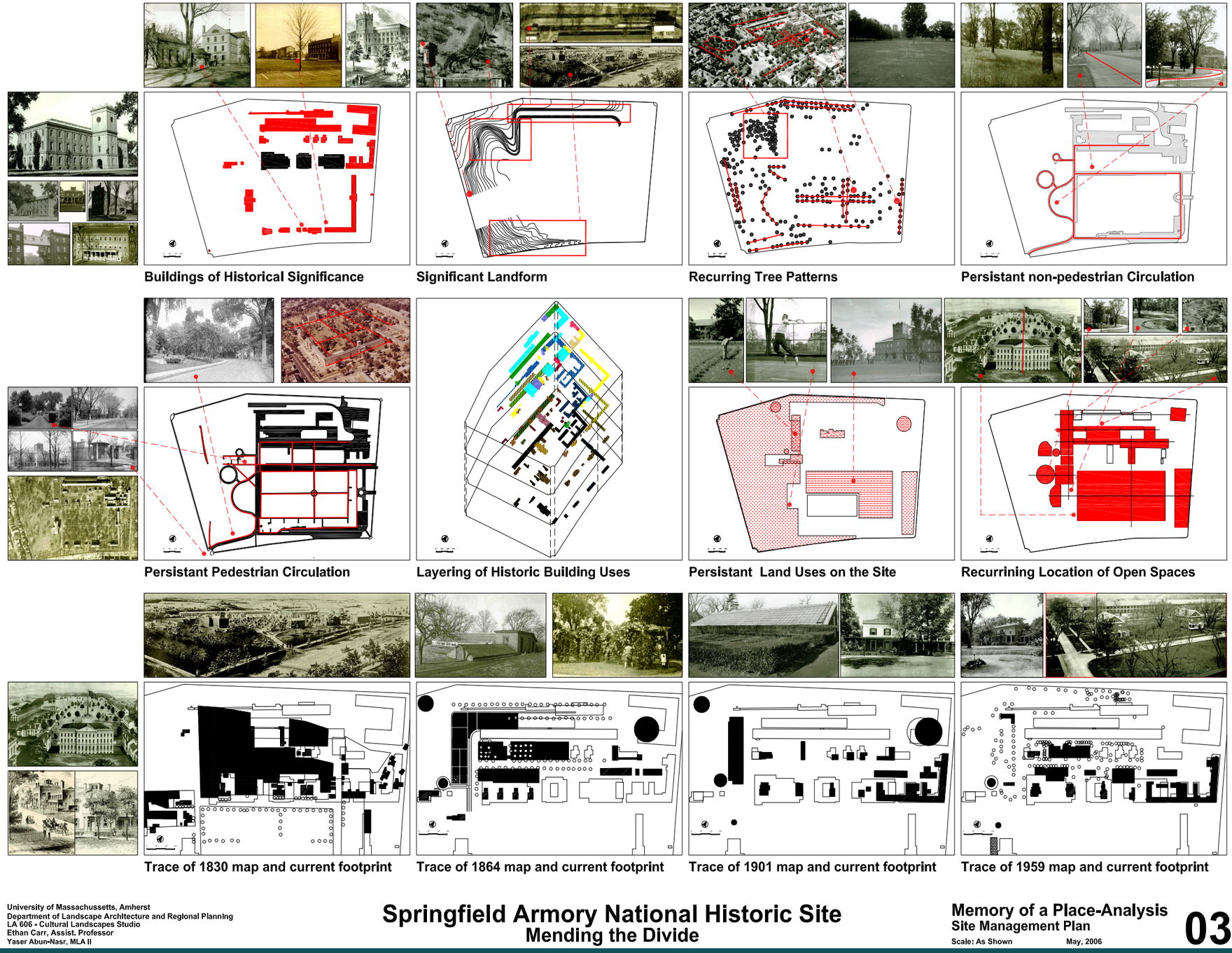
2- An educational institution that is in a development process.

3- The only open space close to downtown Springfield.

In looking at the site of the Springfield Armory, two questions arise:

1- How can the design of the open spaces interpret and tell the historical sequence of the site?

2- How can the divide between the two institutions managing the site be enhanced by this interpretive design approach?



University of Massachussetts, Amherst
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Springfield Armory National Historic Site
Mending the Divide

Memory of a Place-Analysis
Site Management Plan
Scale: As Shown May, 2006

03

The approach to answer these questions focused on the study of the available historical material. An analysis and study of the historical maps of the site and the city were analyzed to attempt at discovering several imprints (recurring or significant) that could be used as management and design tools of the site.

At city scale: The historic streets of the city with cultural building become a heritage trail that connects the Armory to the city.

At the Neighborhood level: The conserved open space becomes a neighborhood park.

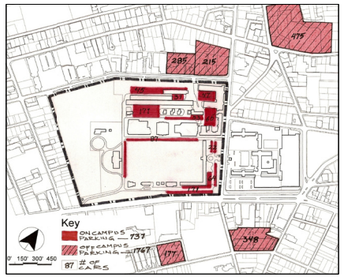
At site level: The recurring landscape elements that are important to the site are conserved while elements completely lost are re-introduced in a new context that responds to the new campus use requirements (NPS and STCC), thus generating a sequence of connected spaces that re-interpret the story of the place thus evoking the memory.



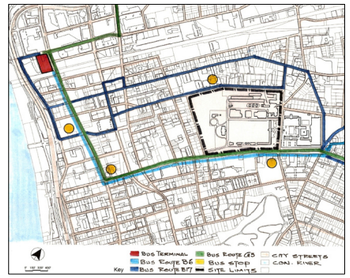
Open Spaces on Site



Buildings on Site

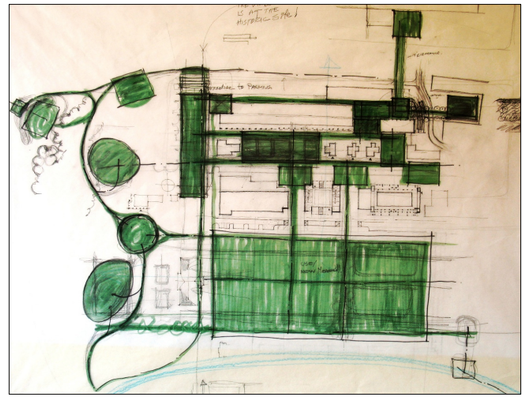


Existing parking Impact on Site

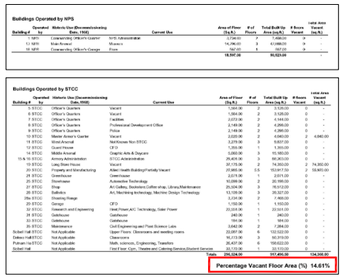


Bus Routes

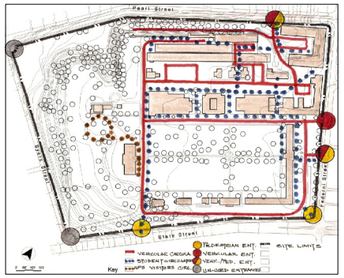




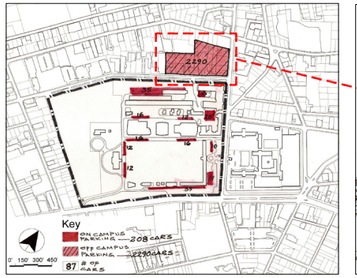
Connectivity of Open Spaces



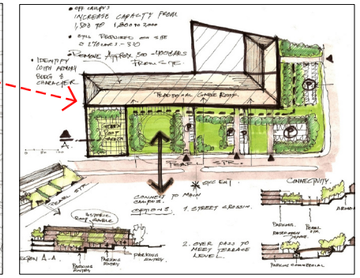
Building Vacancy Study



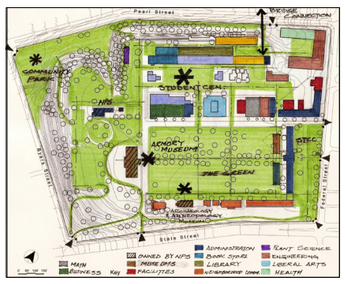
Existing Circulation on Site



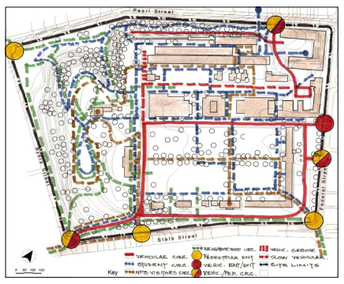
Proposed Reduced Parking Impact



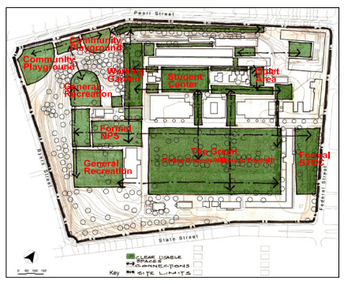
Proposed Parking Building



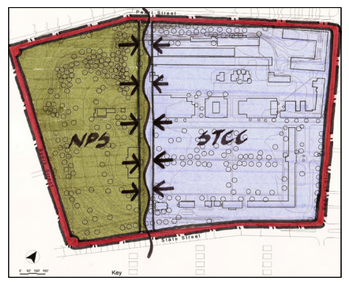
Proposed Building Uses



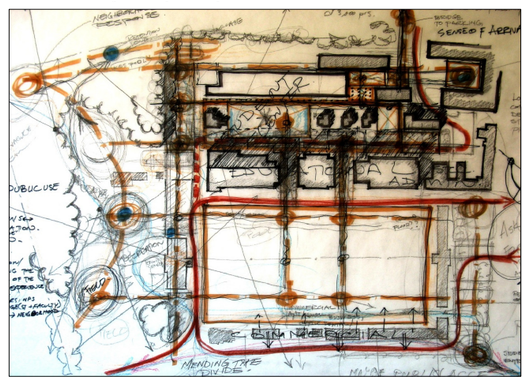
Proposed Circulation on Site



Open Space Uses



Mending the Divide



Schematic Diagram

University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
LA 606 - Cultural Landscapes Studio
Ethan Carr, Assist. Professor
Yaser Abun-Nasr, MLA II

Springfield Armory National Historic Site
Mending the Divide

Site Analysis & Concept
Site Management Plan
Scale: As Shown May, 2006

04



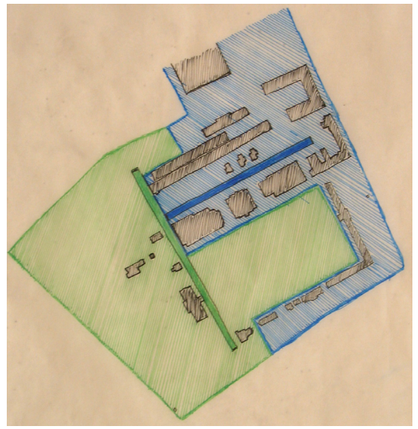
Master Plan, Approx. Scale: 1"=60'

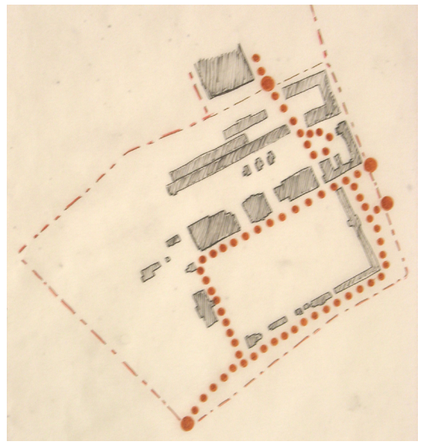
University of Massachussetts, Amherst
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
LA 606 - Cultural Landscapes Studio
Ethan Carr, Assist. Professor
Yaser Abun-Nasr, MLA II

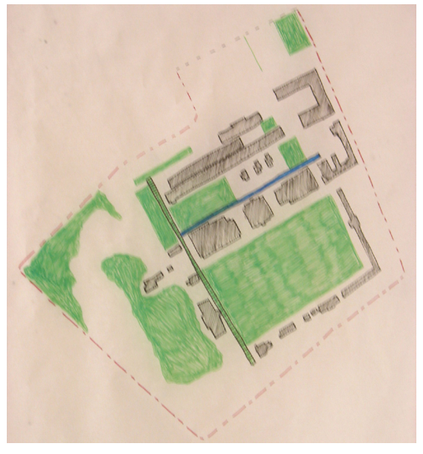
Springfield Armory National Historic Site
Mending the Divide

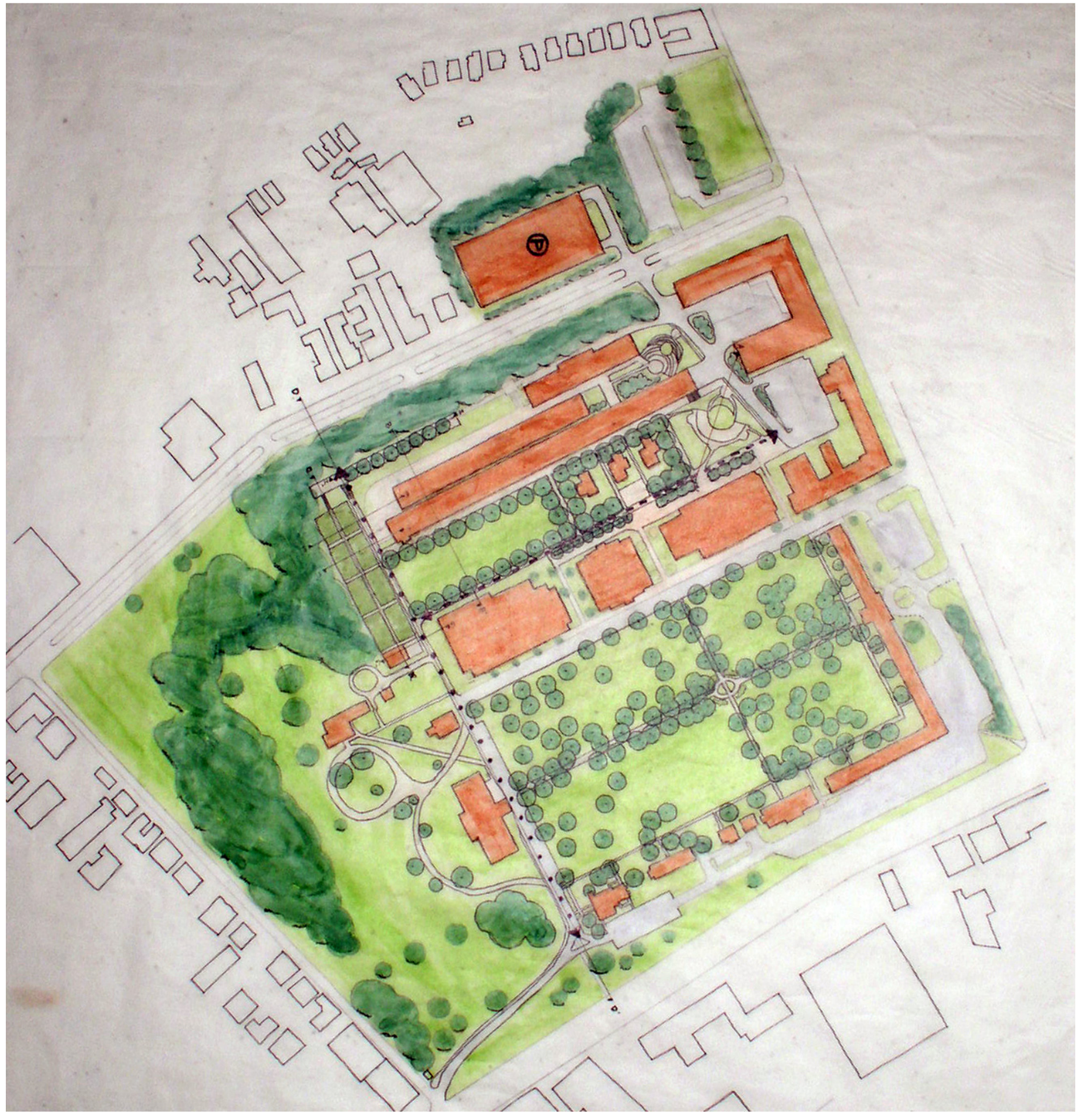
Master Plan
Site Management Plan
Scale: As Shown May, 2006

05





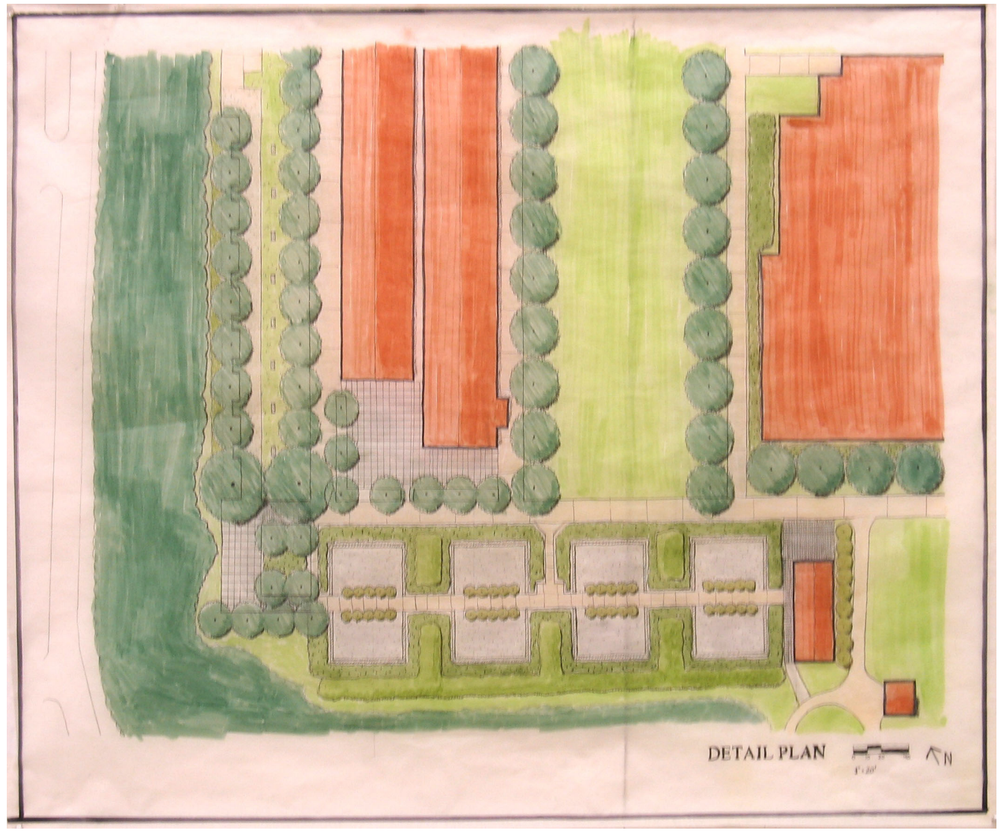


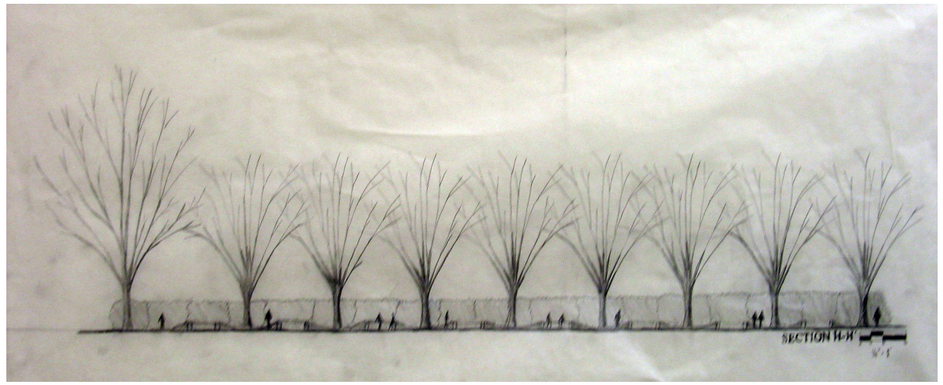


Consolidation creating a fun and educational experience

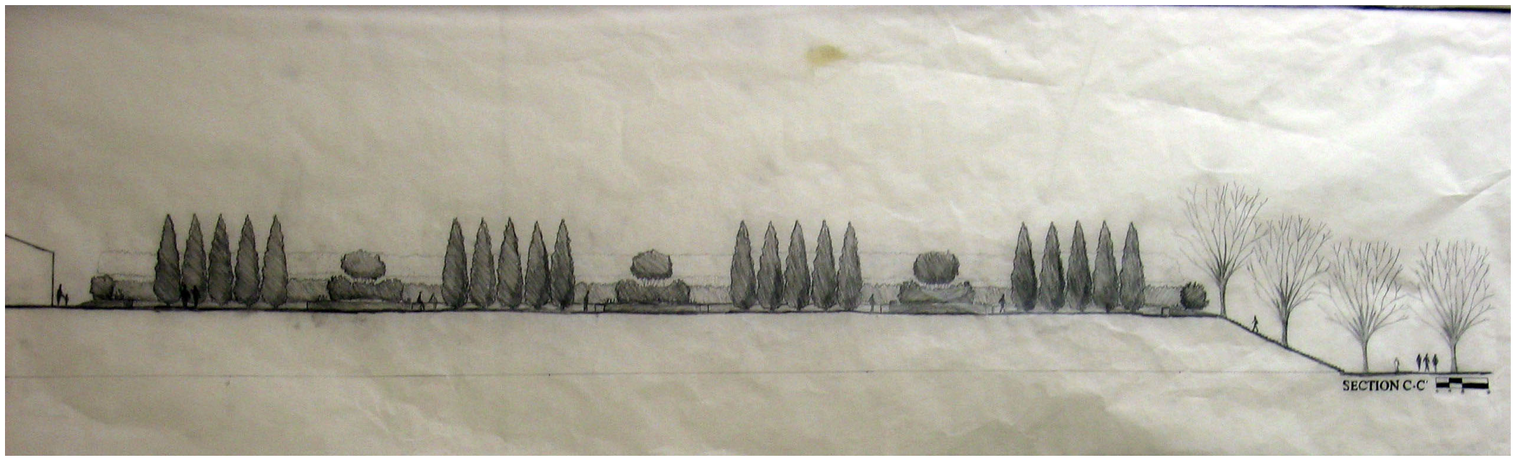
The idea for this design lies in consolidating Springfield Technical Community College and the Springfield Armory into an axial organization. The result being that STCC gets a new heart of campus along the blue axis. SPAR, organized along the green axis gets the benefit moving out of the museum and into the park. Both experiences become more organized and intersect at the reconstructed gardens.

On the STCC axis the removal of parking to a parking garage off of Pearl Street and the removal of Building 35 create new open spaces between Building 19 (the new campus center) and the large classroom buildings. Also part of this transformation is a redesign of the arrival sequence from Pearl Street that allows visitors, students, and faculty to gracefully filter into campus.







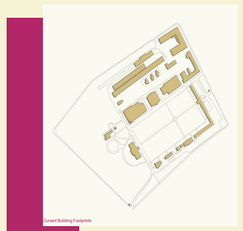


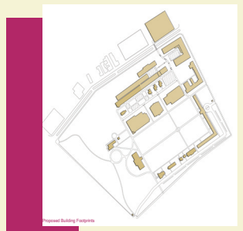
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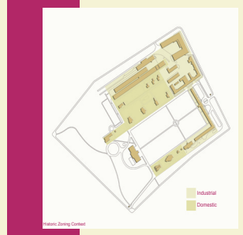
The SPAR axis starts with the re-opening of a historic State Street entrance that brings you to a visitor's center the restored Junior Officer's home. From here visitor's will experience the restored parade ground, the Armory Museum, the Commanding Officer's home, the Memorial Gardens, and the War Memorial all along one walk way. The Memorial Garden and the Pantheon inspired War Memorial are new features that revisit areas that have been forgotten on site: the Rose Gardens and the underground firing range.

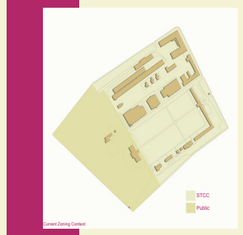


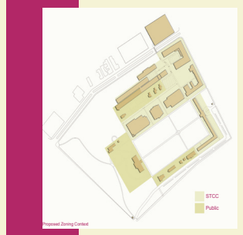










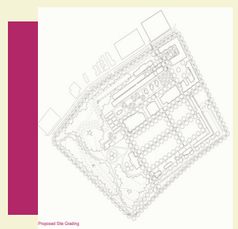














Site Analysis and Diagrams:
Historic, Current and Proposed

Kelley Watschke



Master Plan

Scale: 1" = 100'

Kelley Watschke



Detail Plan

Scale: 1" = 40'

Kelley Watschke

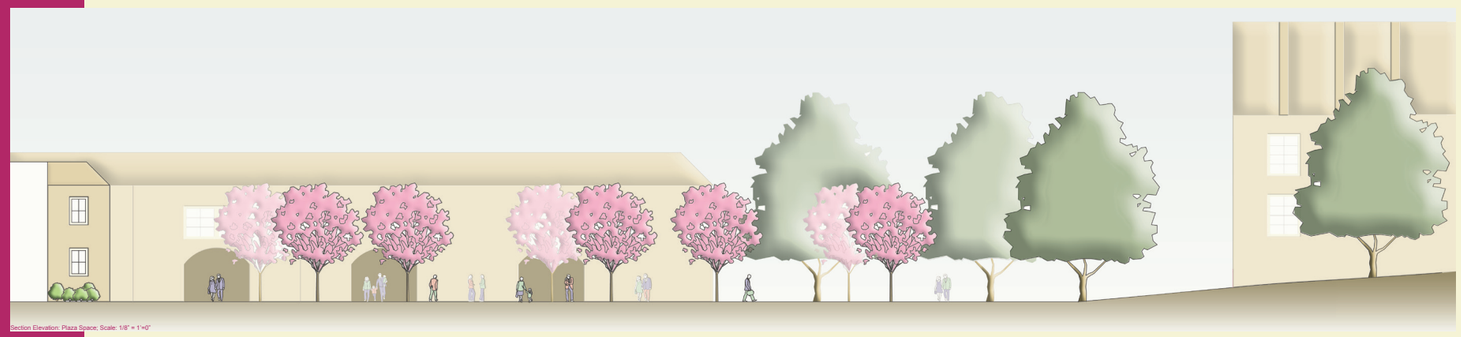
CONCEPT: TO ANALYZE AND USE THE HISTORIC SOCIAL PATTERN TO INFLUENCE THE CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND USES ON SITE.

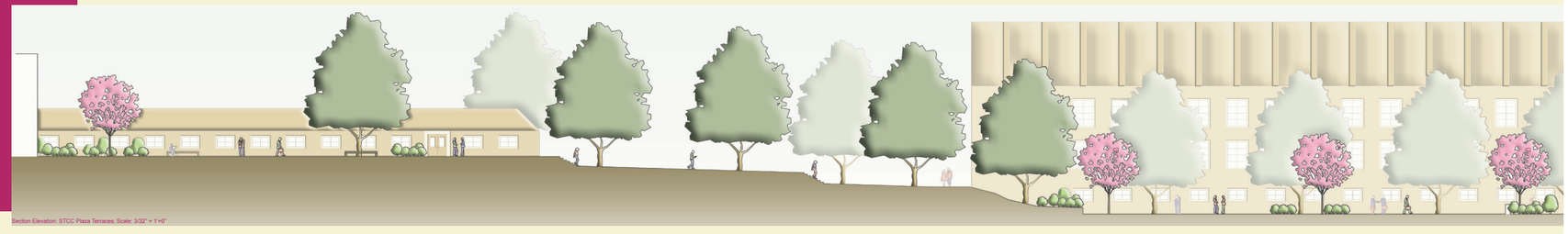
This design is informed by the social history of the site. It analyzes and compares the previous domestic and industrial uses of the site with the site's current uses and activities. The analysis looks specifically at building footprints, zoning of activities and types of uses, and open space. The goal is to encourage the site to once again have a more diversified use and interlaced social pattern inspired by analysis of the original configurations of uses and activities.

Having facilities interspersed throughout the site once again gives the Armory site a new breath of life, encouraging visitors from other nearby amenities and revitalizing it as the social heart of Springfield.









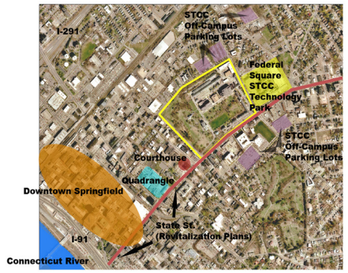
Section Elevations:
Illustrating the Detail Plan

Kelley Watschke

This is accomplished by:

- Overlapping the use and activities on site:
  - Restoring the domestic homes that remain
  - Locating a new museum/ learning center to educate the public
  - Newly designed open space to accommodate the public and the students
  - STCC student spaces along new entrance
  - Mix of public and student plazas and open space
- Including space for displaying aspects of the curriculum, such as art pieces
  - Creating a student center that draws the students into the site
  - Establishing public use in the buildings along State Street
  - Encouraging STCC to make use of existing floor space in newly restored buildings
- Creating new circulation on site:
  - Limiting vehicular access to the site and encouraging pedestrian use
  - New Pearl Street entrance for students, with parking garage
  - Simplified parking on site, including emergency and handicap access

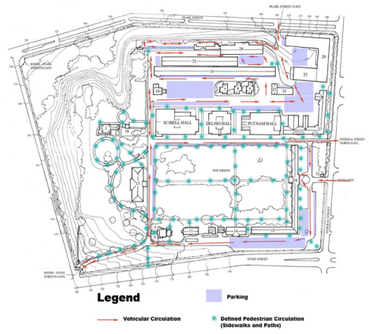
Regional Context



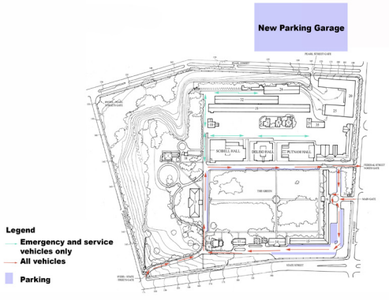
Visual Connections



Existing Circulation



Proposed Changes to Vehicular Circulation



Site Boundaries and Access



Past, Present and Future

Visitors come to experience the past and Students come to prepare for the future

SPAR and STCC are institutions with different priorities sharing the same site. Definition of each entity's region and an intensification of uses there will highlight the unique assests of SPAR and STCC. However, accomplete separation between the two would be a missed opportunity. Integration at the edges will offer shared amenities and encourage people to explore.

Goals and Objectives

Springfield Armory National Historic Site
—Expand interpretive program
—Restore and reconstruct significant historical landscape features
—Preserve historical resources

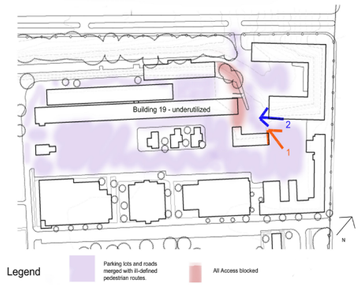
Springfield Technical Community College
—Create a pedestrian - friendly campus
—Provide a network of linked social spaces that form a new heart of campus
—Build new buildings to better meet the needs of modern education.

Shared resources
—Entry/ exit
—Parade ground: used by all, with continued management by STCC, with attention to historic integrity

Southwest corner and edge
—With STCC pulling out of buildings in this area, space is made available for new tenants. Possibilities include a magnet high school or non-profit organizations
—Maintain historic integrity of buildings



STCC - Existing Issues







Solutions

Build a parking garage accross Pearl Street.
Make core campus area pedestrian only.
Fix building 19 for use as a new student center.
Link the two sides of STCC that are currently isolated from each other with a new staircase.



Inspiration:
Spanish Steps
Rome, Italy

Reconstruct Historic Landscape Features





Photos from SPAR archives

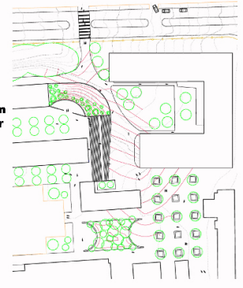




STCC - Proposed Grading

Entry path is regraded from 10% to 8% for handicapped access.

Landform is re-shaped at the entry to become a focal point and guide circulation.

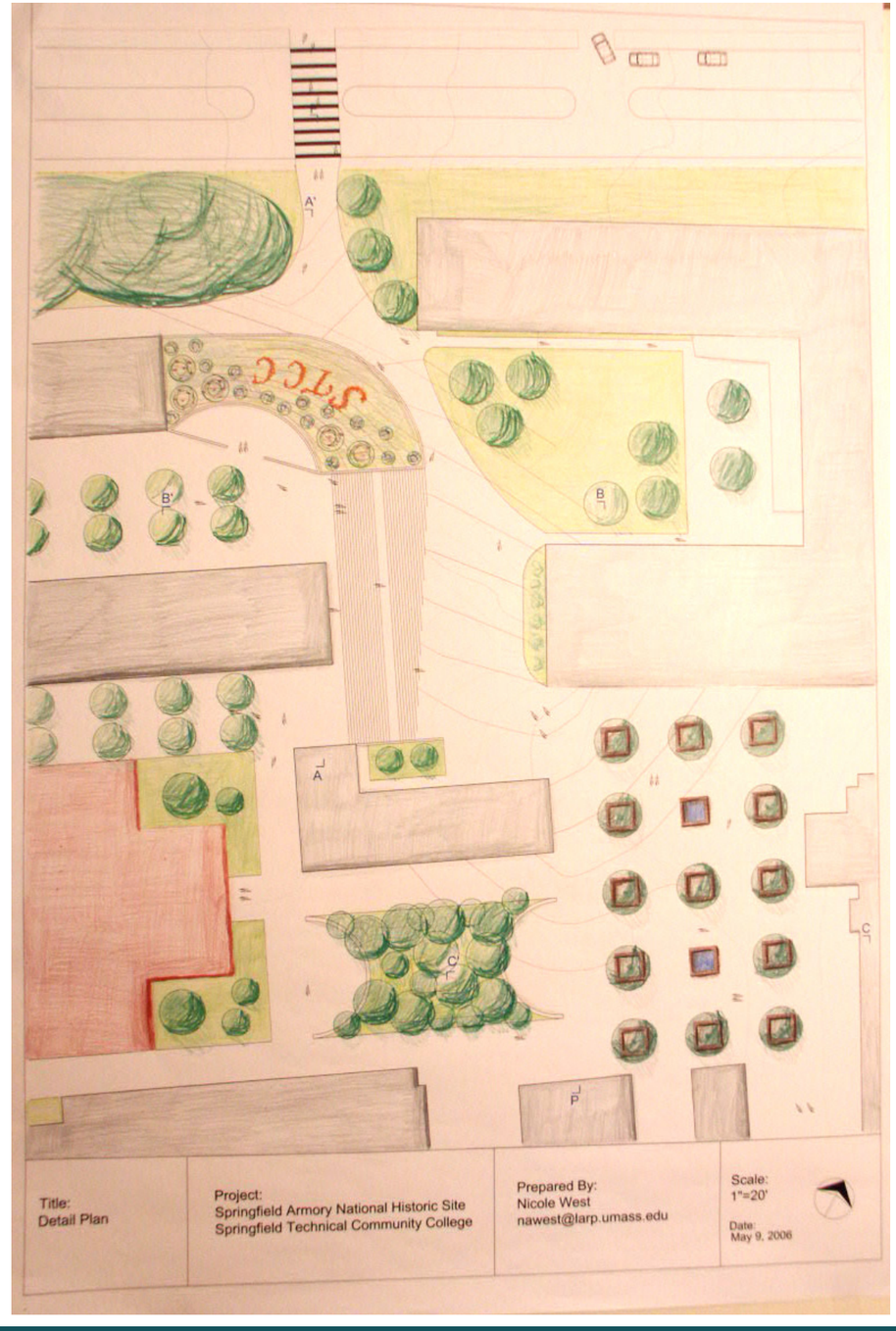




The past, present and future intertwine on this site. Visitors experience the past while students prepare for the future, all set in a linked series of spaces.

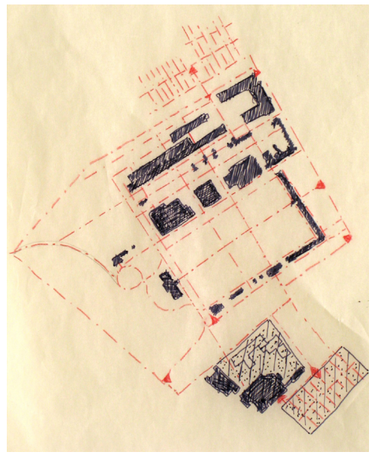
In this design the most important issue addressed for Springfield Armory National Historic Site is expanding the visitor experience. This includes a new interpretive walk, featuring interactive displays meant to convey aspects of the site's historical significance. The design also calls for reconstructing the historic gardens, rose arbor and fountain.



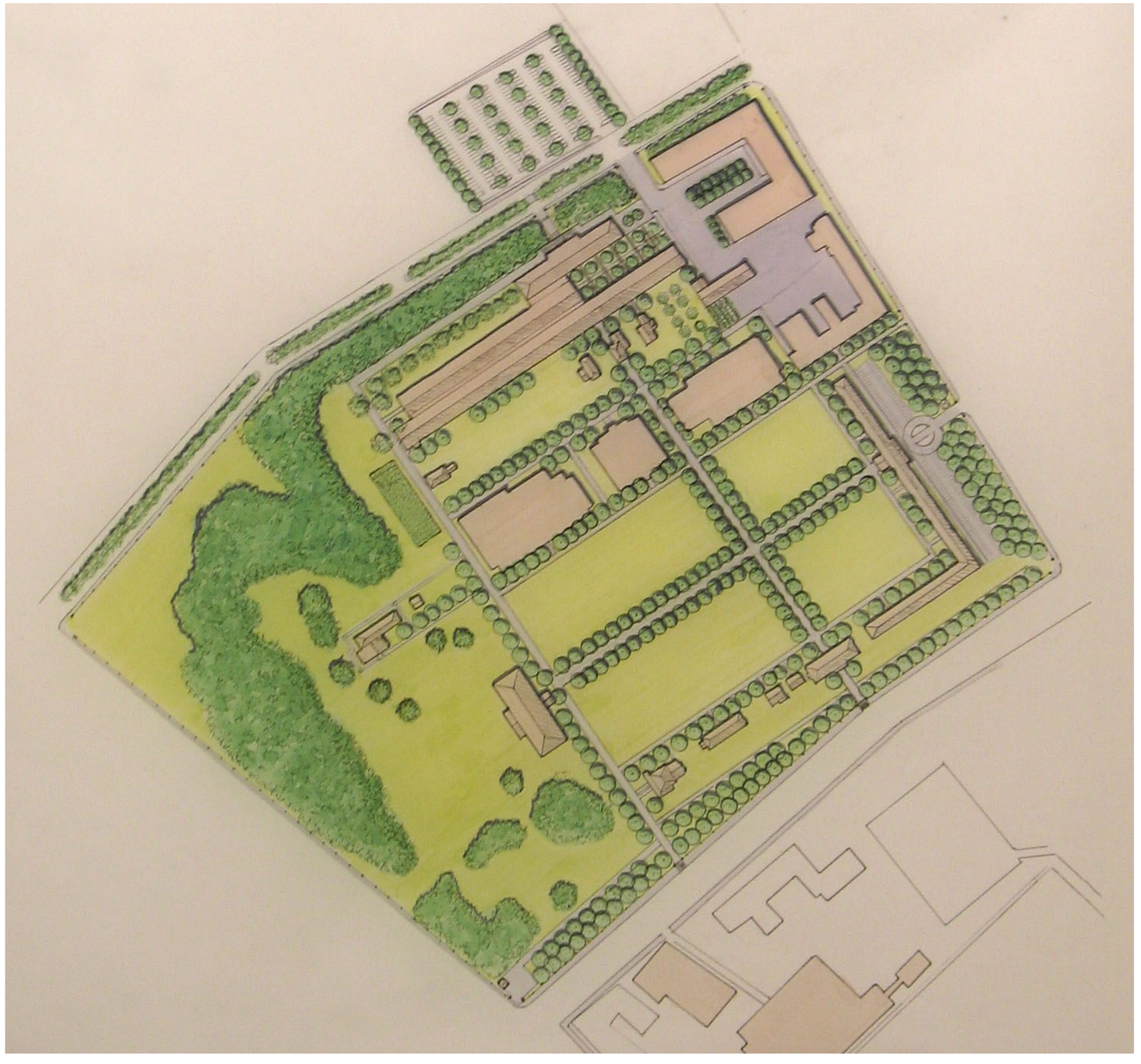


The pressing issues faced by Springfield Technical Community College that this design addresses are circulation and the need for a campus center. By moving parking to an adjacent garage, conflicts between cars and pedestrians are greatly reduced and space is made for social gathering places. A grand staircase links two currently isolated areas, forming a new heart of campus.



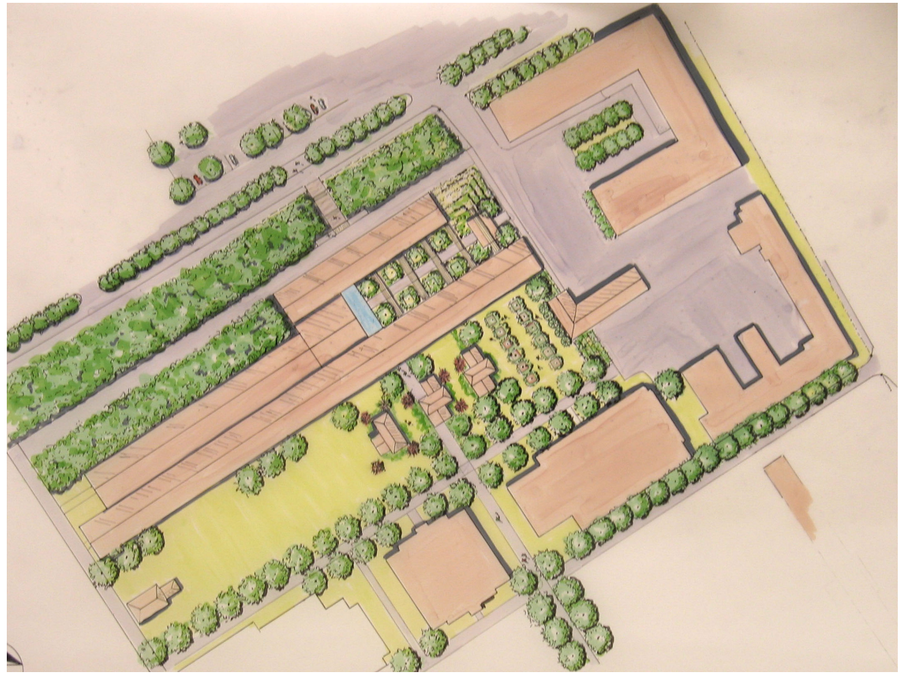


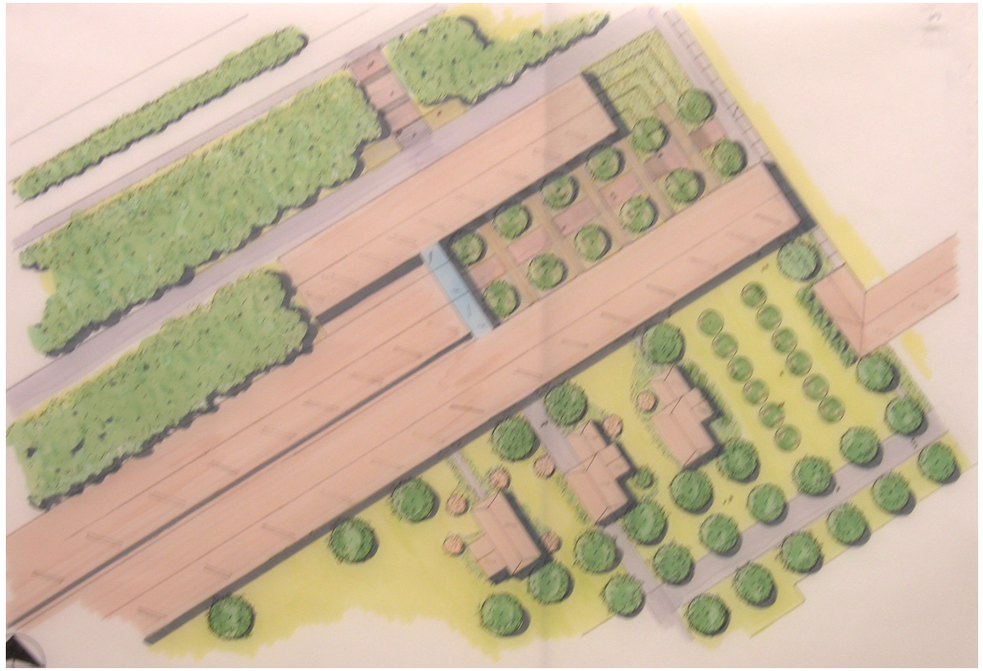


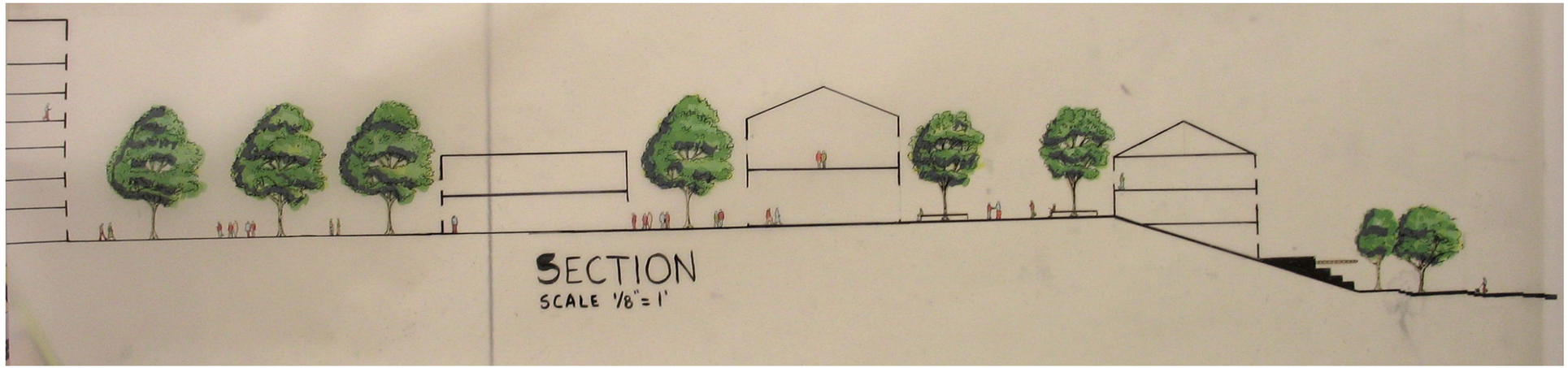


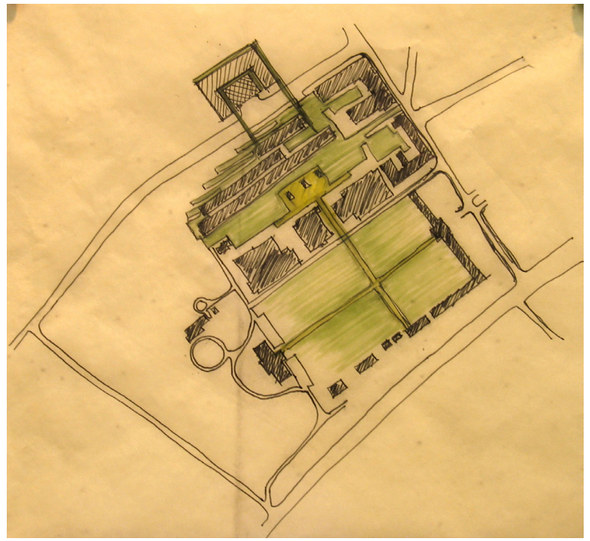
A CAMPUS WITH HEART

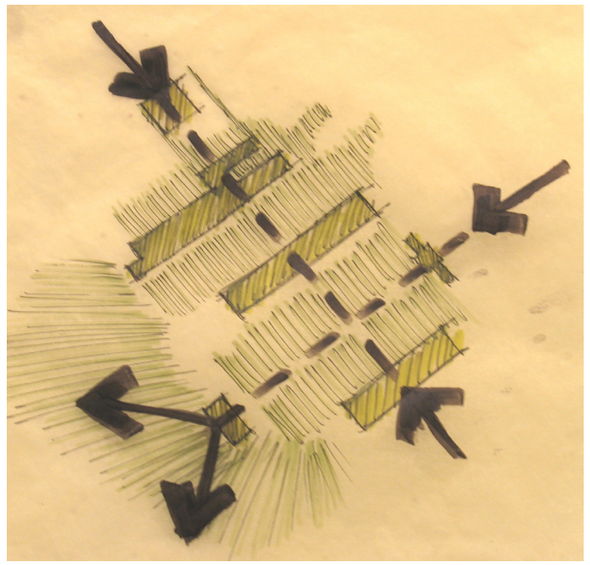
This design creates a more powerful and organized arrival to the campus. It addresses the entrance on Pearl Street and then directly connects to the redefined and cohesive spaces which become the heart of the campus. Included in the entry sequence is the art center, a new student and book store which open out into a shaded court yard. Circulation along historic axes connects the new heart of the campus to the relocated campus administration offices and reconstructed historic gardens. The National Park visitor's center will be located in Garvey Hall opposite the Main Arsenal. The parade grounds will be revitalized as a city park linking the campus and National Park.

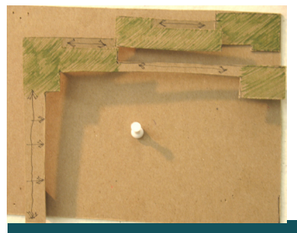


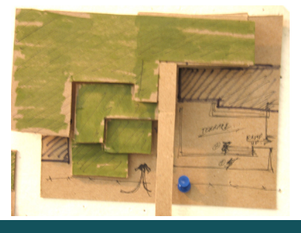



SECTION
SCALE 1/8"=1'







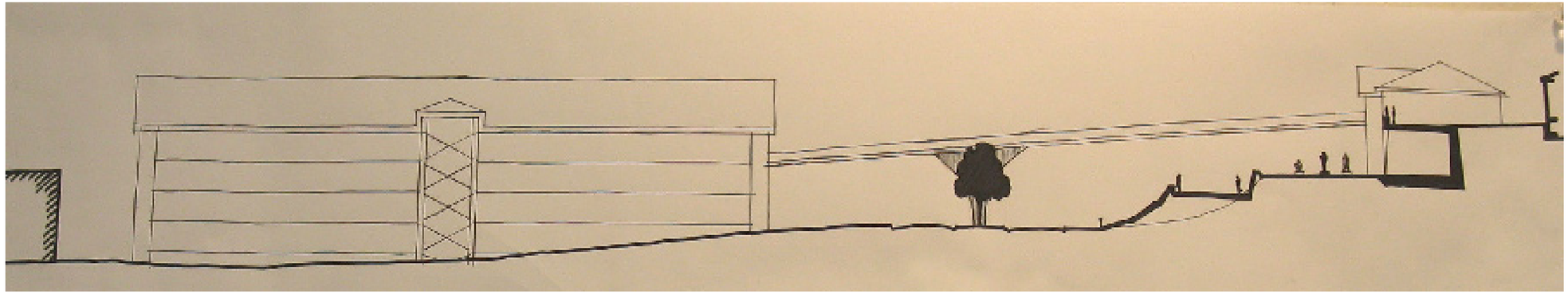




A Campus of Connectivity:
- Connection to pedestrian activity and student life.
- Connection to cultural and historical context.

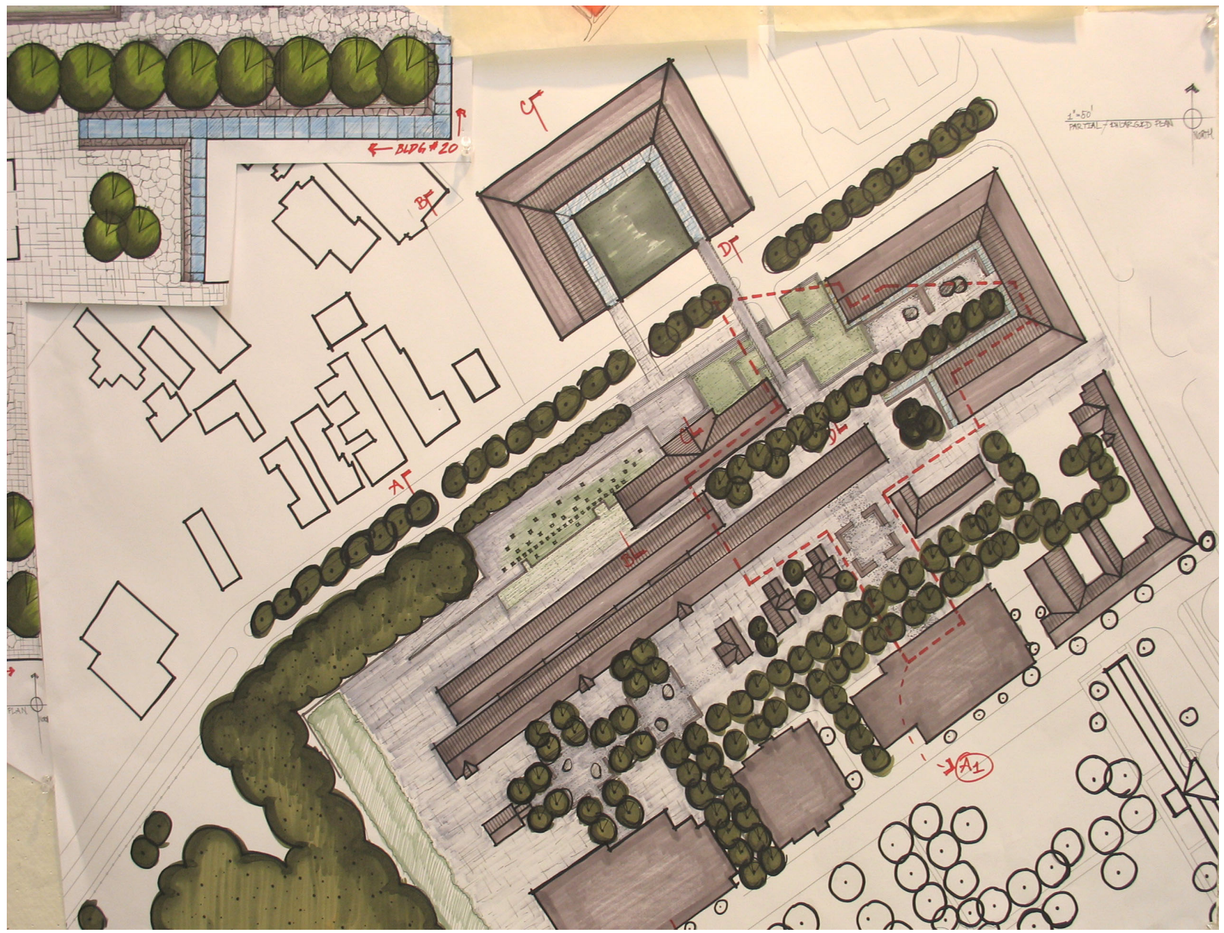
This scheme re-programs uses in order to emphasize a cross-graining infrastructure between the National Park Service and the Springfield Technical Community College.

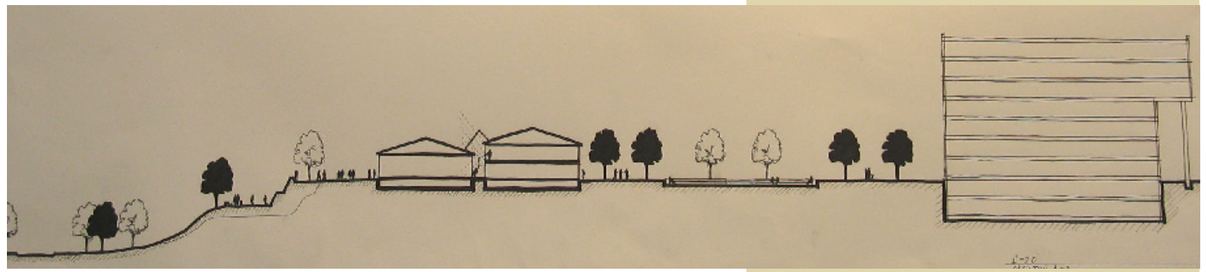
- The National Park Service arrives at the eastern edge and traverses to the Armory destination at the western portion of the site.
- The Springfield Technical Community College community arrives at the northern edge along Pearl Street and traverses south into a new campus heart along porous building number 19. Continuing south along the parade ground axis and serving as a terminus to the STCC community programs such as student services, the President's office, and other destination programs for students and faculty will be located here.

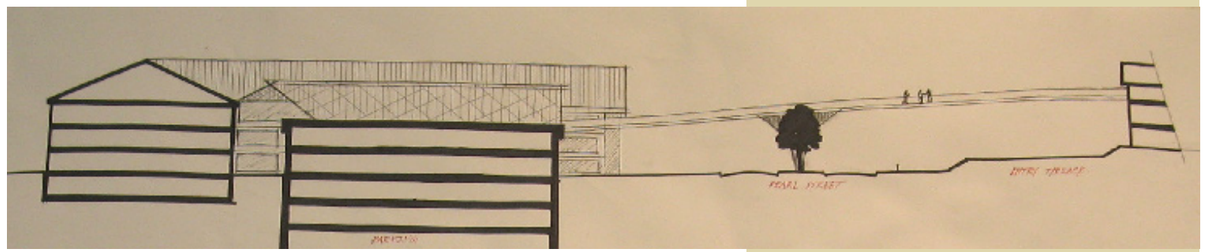


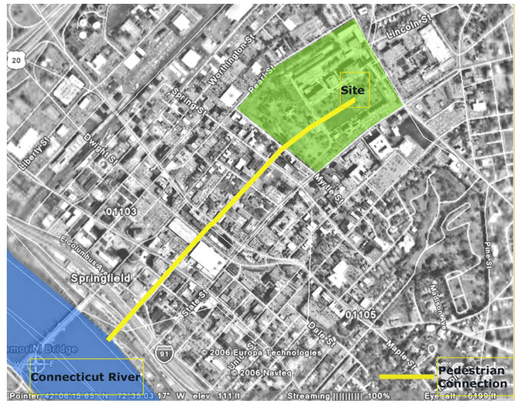
In order to allow for this cross graining infrastructure to work and allow for the STCC community to arrive along the Pearl Street location, this scheme focuses on the conceptual development of the connection that will allow for the penetration of Pearl Street into the new campus heart.

- The conceptual resolution for this connection is terraces that are both visually and physically linked from the Pearl Street grade to the main campus grade. This resolution can allow for multiple layers of accessibility into the campus, whilst resolving many current awkward interstitial spaces.

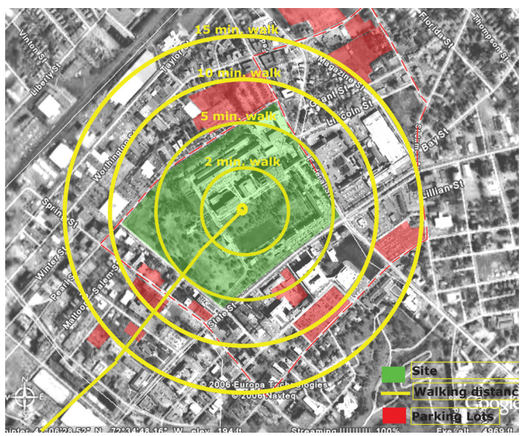














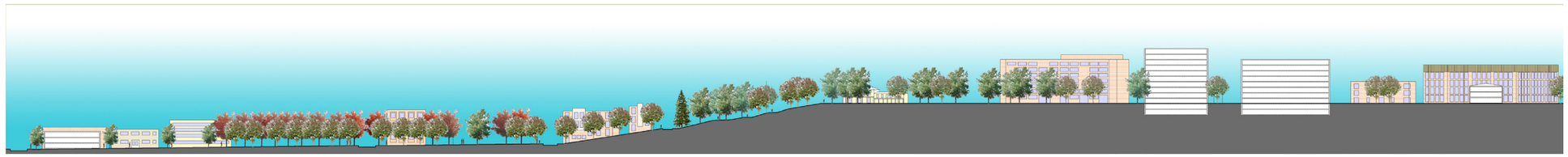
Connecting the Site with the City & Restoring its Historic Green & Gardens

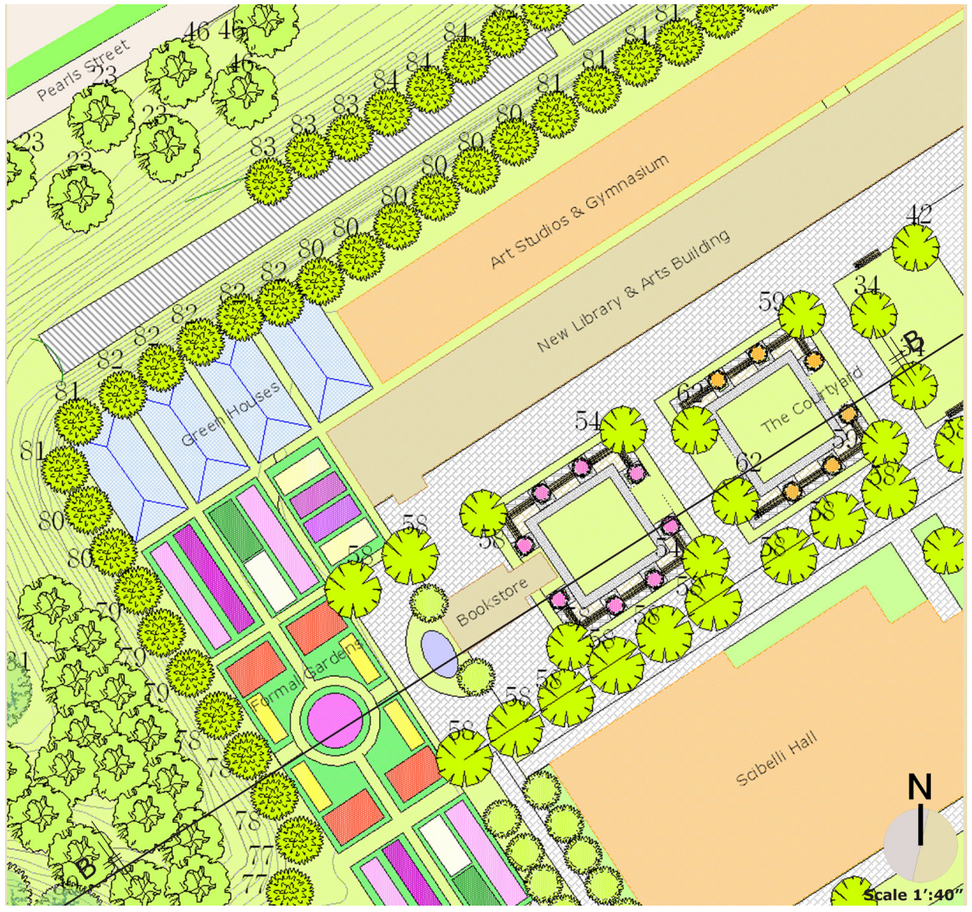
To connect the Springfield Armory with the Quadrangle through a green corridor or pedestrian street.

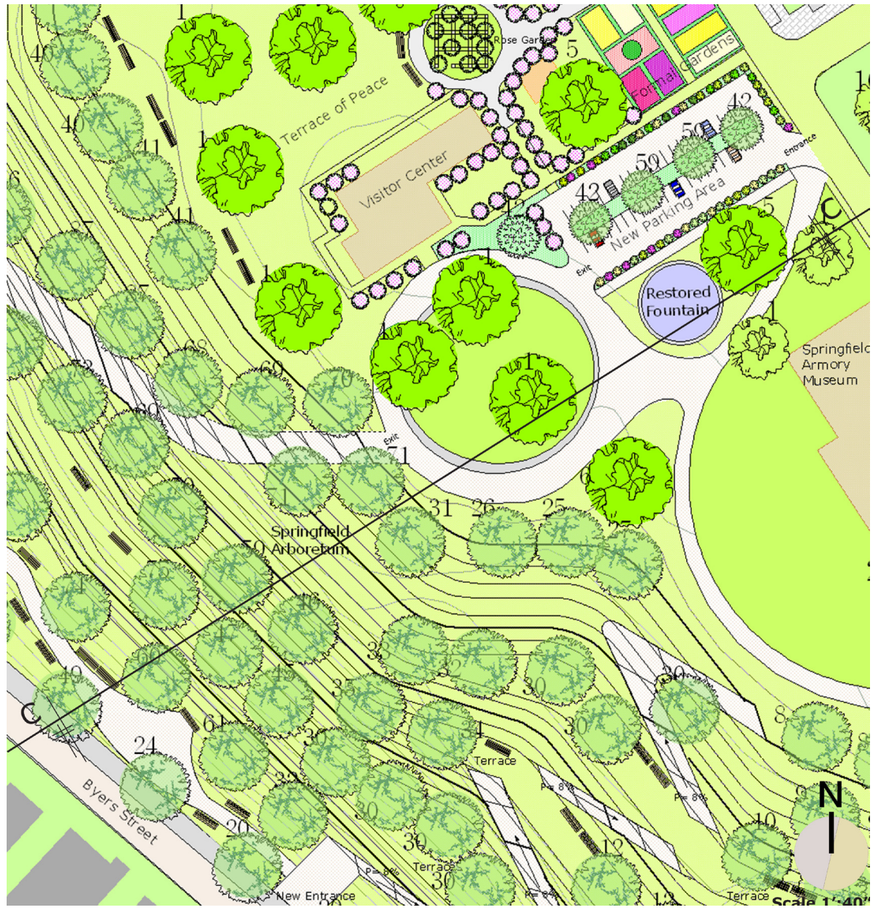
To restore the former slope of the Armory providing a view from the city and by doing that generating a series of terraces overlooking the city below.

To create the Springfield Arboretum taking advantage of the existent historic vegetation and increasing the variety of specimens providing the city with a cultural institution.

To restore the formal gardens, the green of Armory Square and the former water features of the site in an appropriate way.











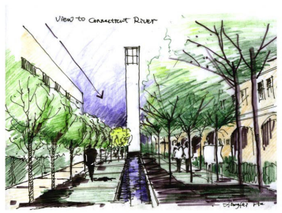
To restore the Hayfield path to improve the vehicular circulation.

To remove most of the vehicular parking from the site giving options for existent and possible parking lots into a walking distance.

To create an athletic field fro STCC into a walking distance.

To restore building 19 to accommodate a new library, student center, classes and studios facilities for the School of Arts.

To create a courtyard for the students of STCC taking advantage of the space between buildings.

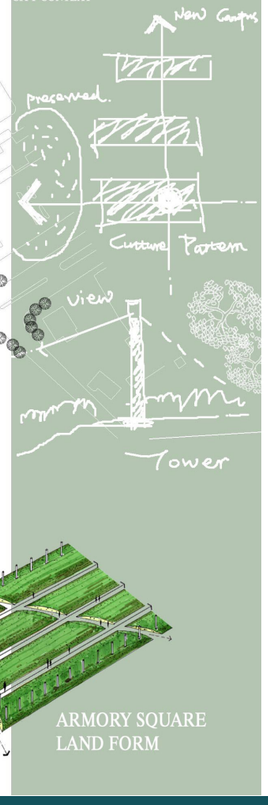


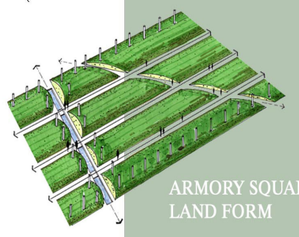



LINK TO CONNECTICUT RIVER


CONNECTICUT RIVER EDGE CHANGE


CITY CONTEXT




ARMORY SQUARE
LAND FORM

CONNECTIONS TO THE CONNECTICUT RIVER:
VISUAL AND PHYSICAL

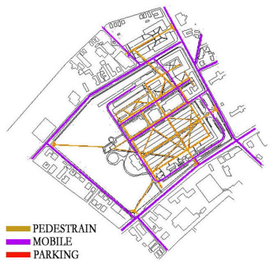
This design creates mixed-use spaces and different experiences both for college students and public based on site preservation and renewal. Three related strategies were applied to achieve this goal.

1 Preservation. To the west of the arsenal building, this strategy will preserve existing conditions. The rural image and grand buildings here will bring visitors back to the period of significance (1777-1968). However, the original slope and some vegetation will be restored.

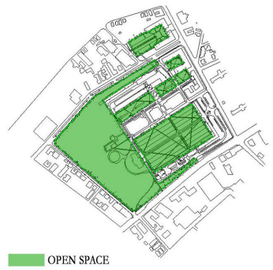
2 Redefinition (defensive strategy). On the historic Parade Ground, a wave-like landform mixed with a pedestrian system provides a quiet but impressive environment for students and public use. The exiting two axes will be kept and strengthened. This strategy illustrates cultural and natural patterns and functions, and the land form makes a connection to the museums and to the Connecticut River, telling people where this city comes from.



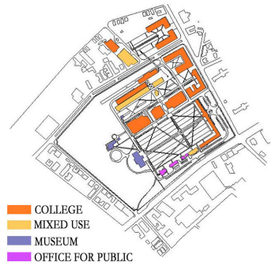
CONCEPT DIAGRAM



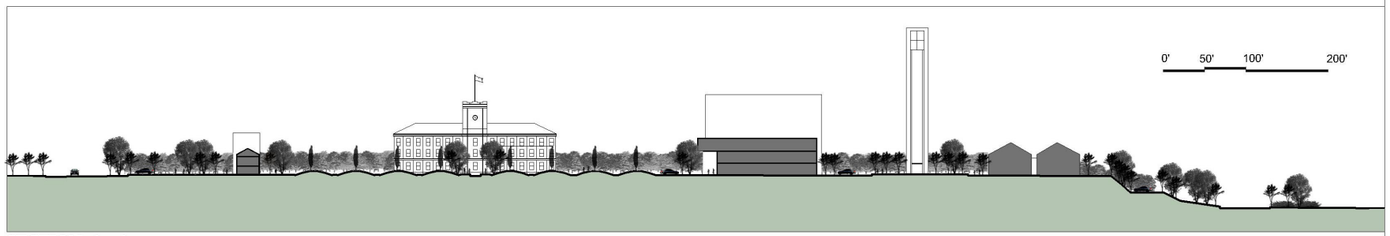
CIRCULATION PLAN



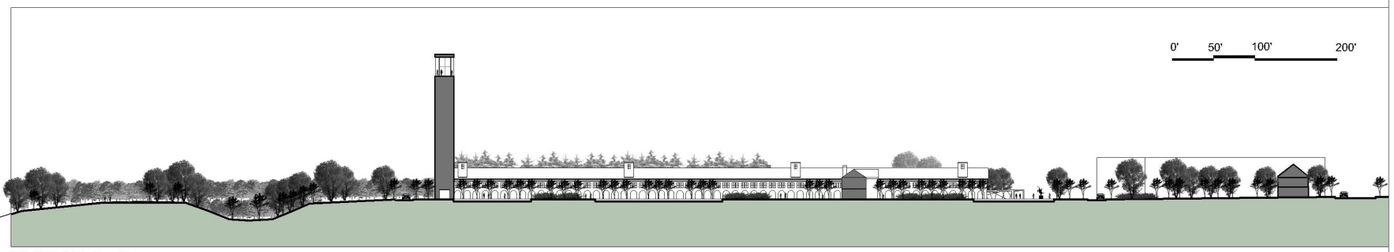
OPEN-SPACE PLAN



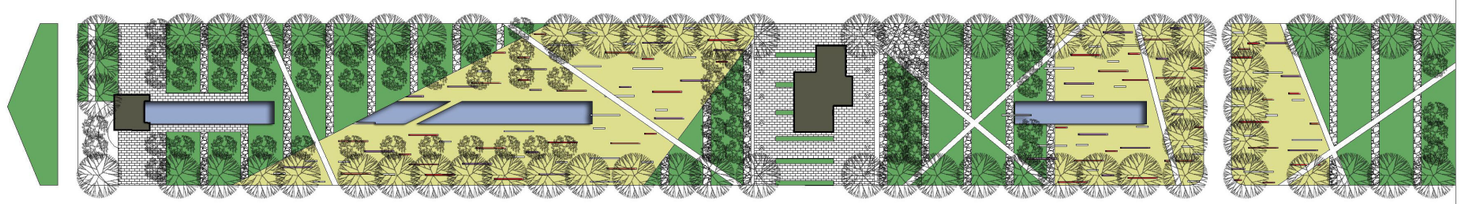
BUILDING-USE PLAN



SECTION A - A



SECTION B - B

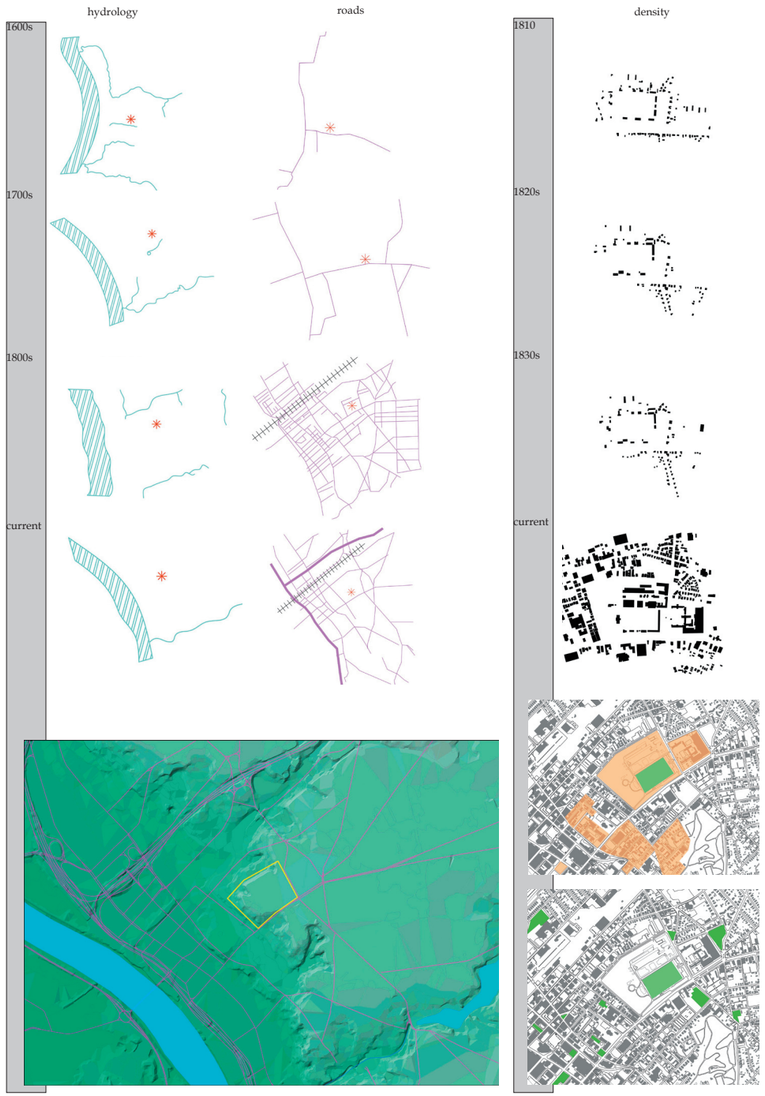


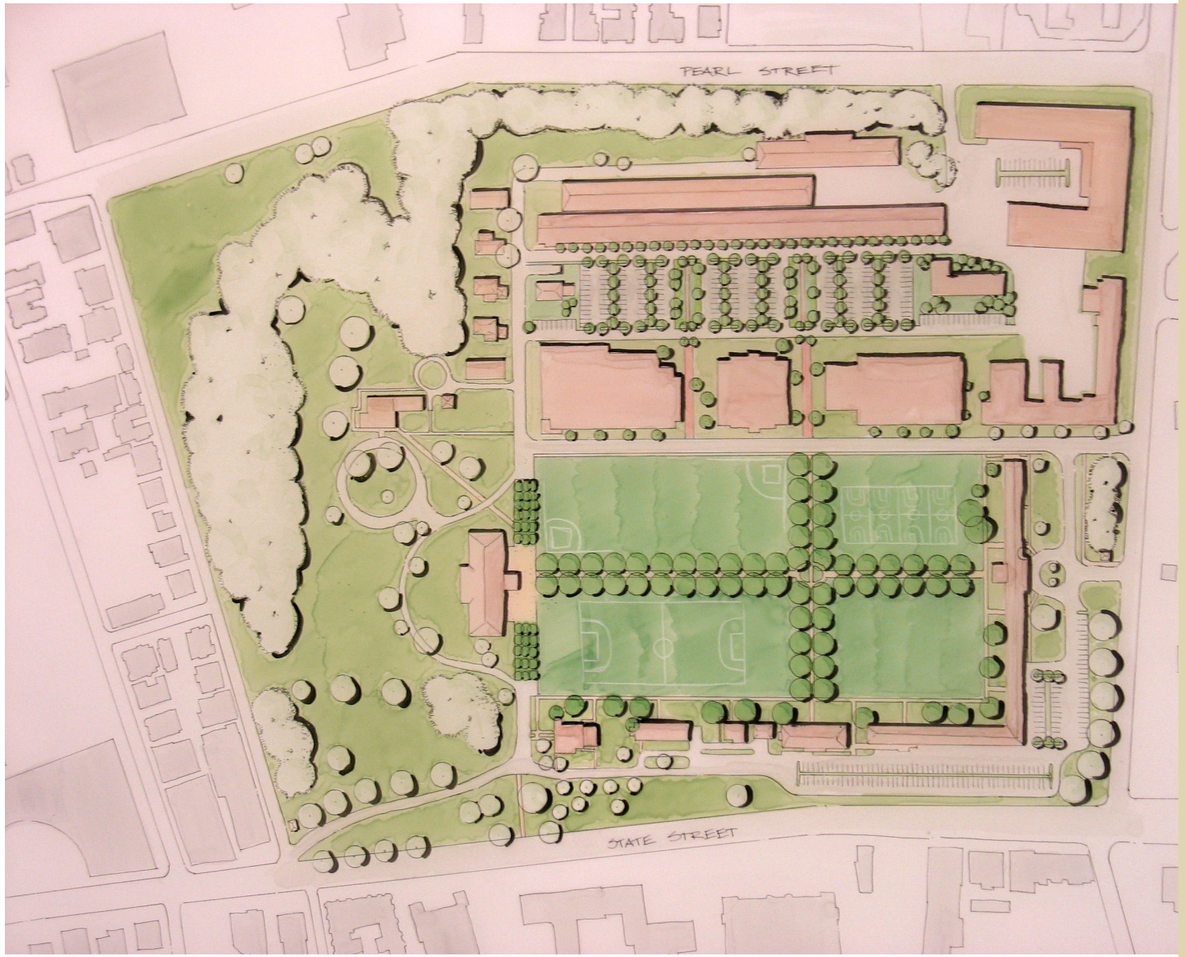
COLLEGE SQURE DETAIL PLAN

3 Reinvention (offensive strategy). In the area to the north, which was shaped by long storehouse and new school buildings, an active new heart of the campus is created. This space takes positive activities back, re-placing exiting parking lots, and gives students a place to communicate with one another and the site. A new tower will stand at the end of west edge of this student communication square. This tall tower gives a new visual connection to Springfield and the Connecticut River, recre-ating the historic visual con-nection that has been absent for decades. A bridge will connect the new campus to a parking garage across Pearl Street.

ARMORY SQUARE

:: Restoration :: Reconstruction :: Rehabilitation :: Preservation ::
:: National Park Service :: Springfield Technical Community College :: City of Springfield::





Armory Square:
Restoring an Historic Civic Center

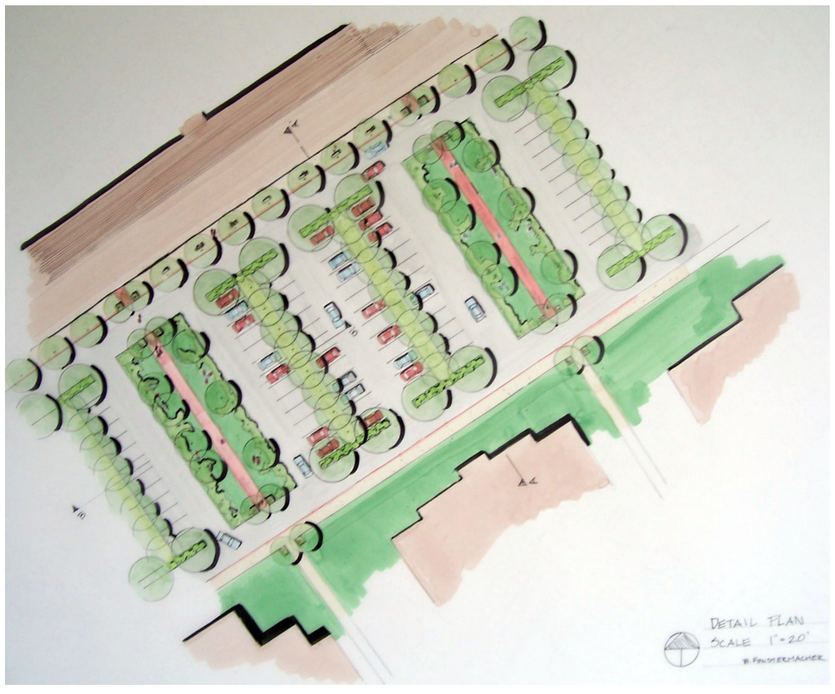
This plan brings back the civic life that historically occupied Armory Square. Historical accounts indicate the parade ground was used as a town common, a place for livestock to be grazed, and for militia to be trained.

Patterns of development for the city of Springfield were oriented around the green. The surrounding neighborhoods expanded to serve the Armory workers, and because of the site's park-like campus, the elite built their houses along State Street. This design restores Armory Square as a heart of community life in Springfield.

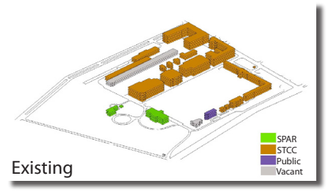
The parade ground will once again be an area of active and other activities. The major public amenities will be oriented around the green.

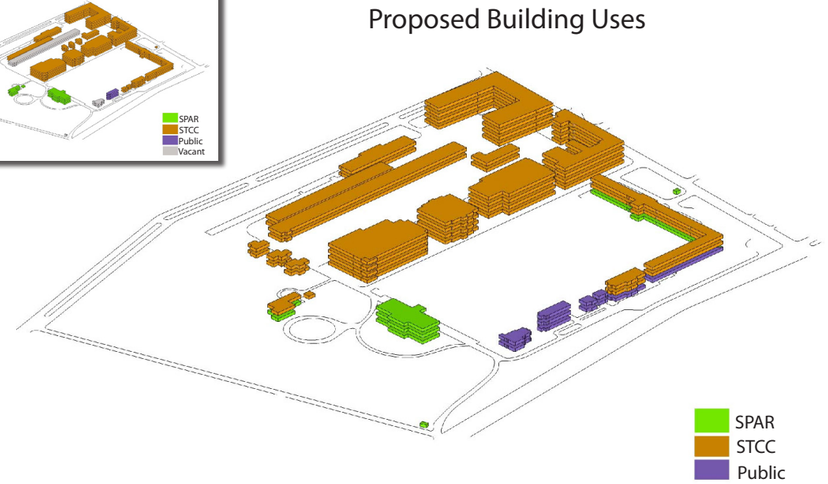
The State Street entrance will be reopened. The existing parking will remain on site but it will be redesigned and an underground parking level will be added.

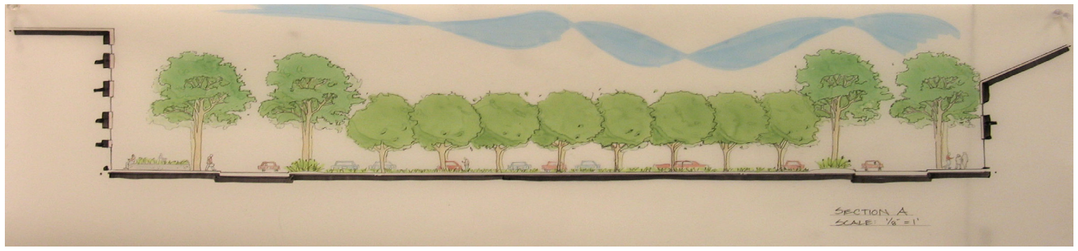




ARMORY SOUARE :: Restoration :: Reconstruction :: Rehabilitation :: Preservation ::
:: National Park Service :: Springfield Technical Community College :: City of Springfield::









Building 19 will be renovated to include a new student center and additional classrooms for STCC.

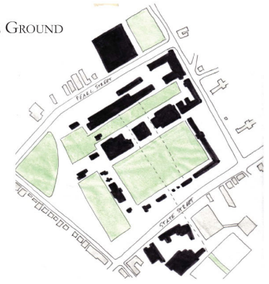
Buildings along State Street will have space available for lease by retail facilities and restaurants.

In addition, public services offered by STCC will be placed in these buildings to increase awareness of STCCs contribution to the City of Springfield.

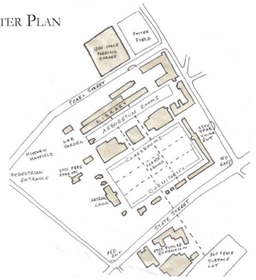
SPAR interpretive programs will be expanded to additional spaces on the site, opening up the entire site as a historic place to visit. Overall, through rehabilitation and restoration, Armory Square will be a city center again.

Context & Form

Figure Ground



Master Plan



Circulation

Building Use & Connections

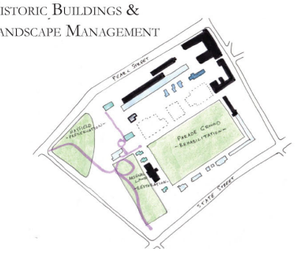


Pedestrian & Parking



Historic Resources

Historic Buildings & Landscape Management

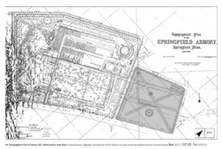


SPAR Walking Tour



Arboretum & Regional Library

1864 Plan



Tree Canopy & Height Concept



1969



1932



New Library Entrance



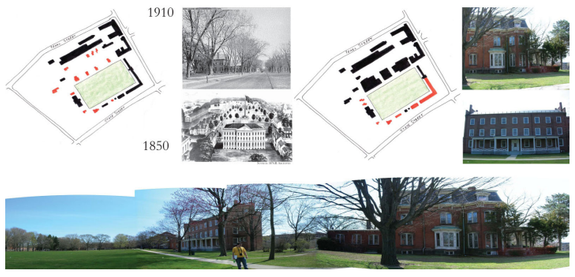
Lab Garden & Arboretum Center





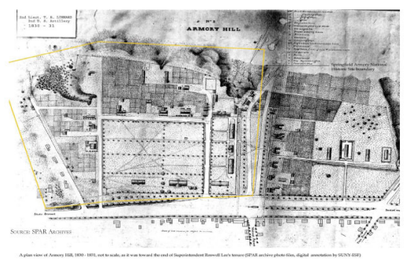
Dorms

Residences Historic & Proposed



Parade Ground

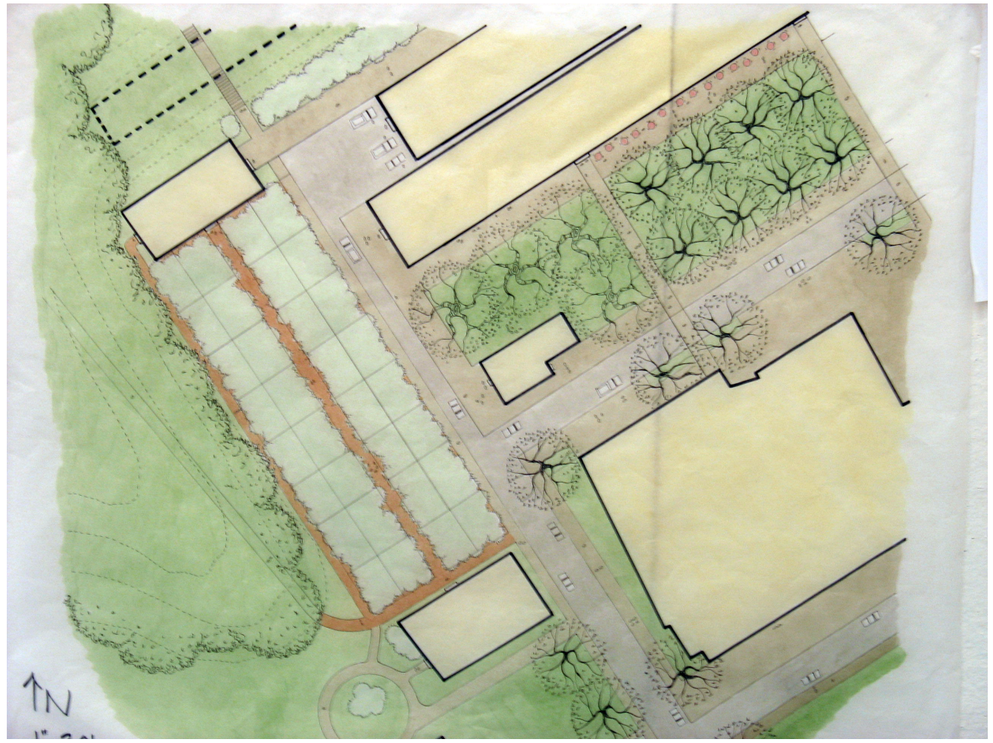
1830-1831 Plan

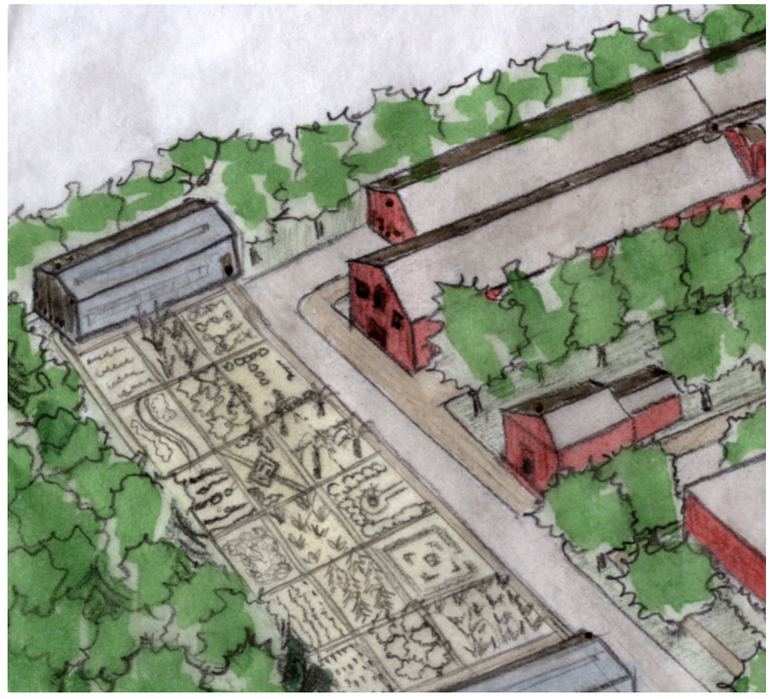




Springfield Technical Community College: At Home on the Parade

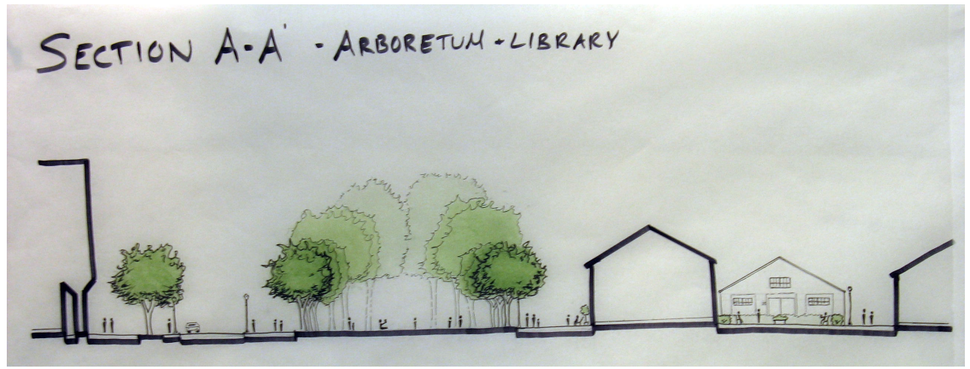
The Armory Parade Ground was historically bordered by residences to the north and west and industry to the south and east. This design reinvigorates the dynamic character of the Parade Ground by restoring the residential component. The historic industrial buildings on the southern side, which aren't suitable for modern classrooms, are converted into dormitories for STCC students, and historic homes to the west are restored and reconstructed to house faculty, students, and a Residential Life office. Students circulate primarily along the north-south paths across the Parade, while Armory visitors, entering through Garvey Hall, walk west to the Arsenal. Neighboring Westfield State and Holyoke Community Colleges are in need of library expansions, and the surplus of building space at STCC has been suggested to accommodate this growth.

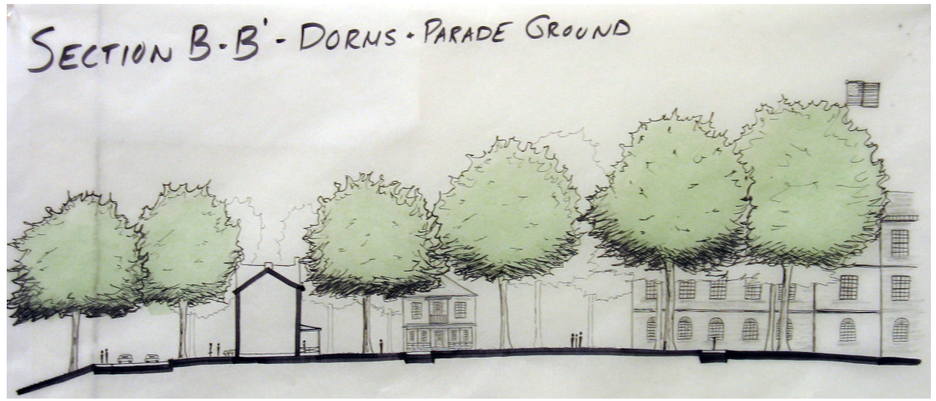


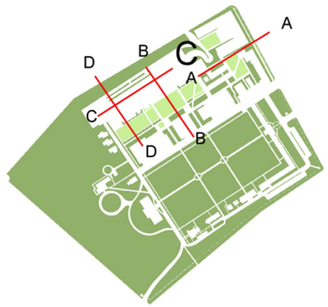


The Long Storehouse (Building 19) and the underground firing range would be restored to house a regional library, attracting other students and the public to the STCC campus. The corridor between Building 19 and STCC's modern classroom buildings becomes a busy, urban compliment to the quieter residential Parade. Five outdoor rooms are created by the paths accross the campus into the Library, and each is planted with a different tree species. The planting are a highlight feature for the STCC Arboretum, now based in Building 10, echoing the rhythm of Building 19's arcaded façade and creating informal gathering spaces. The canopy of the trees in each room gradually rises until it reaches the forest, where a path leads down into the restored historic hayfield.

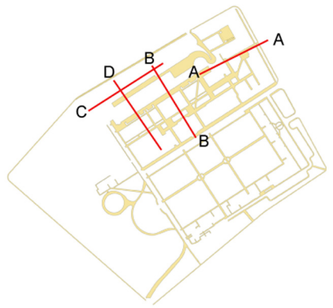
The location of the historic gardens is transformed into a horticultural display and trial garden for the Arboretum and STCC's landscape design and construction program, and two new greenhouses are constructed in their historic footprints. The adjacent area of forest is managed as an extension of the Arboretum.

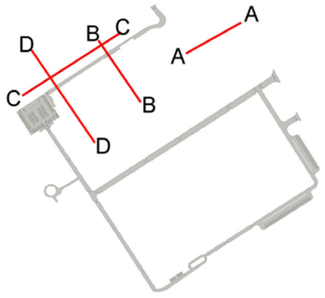












THE INTERSTECTION



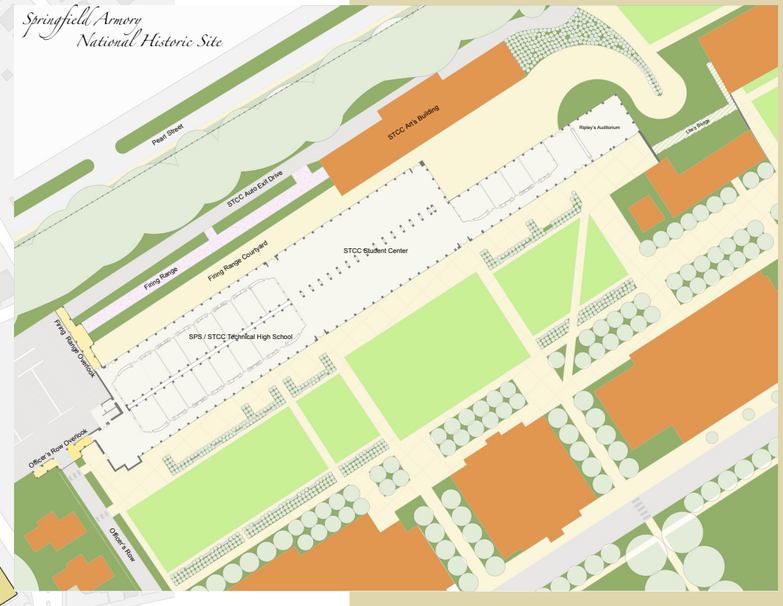
The Intersection

The intersection of Springfield's cultural and educational institutions can be found at the parade ground of the Springfield Armory National Historic Site. This proposal calls for the activation of the parade ground by creating human scale rooms, which will be used as ceremonial and festival space by tourists as well as city residents. To fully realize the potential of the campus, visitors will enter through new NPS facilities in Garvey Hall and cross the parade ground on their way to the Gun Museum—then on to the quadrangle museums and downtown Springfield. The educational axis links Springfield Public Schools to the Springfield Technical Community College. This axis contains a new STCC student center, GED center, a new Technical High School to be located in historic buildings on the site, and athletic facilities to be shared by the college and city residents. The new entry sequence enables the STCC community and visitors to experience of the entire campus. It reveals such hidden features as buildings 7, 8, 9 and the firing range.

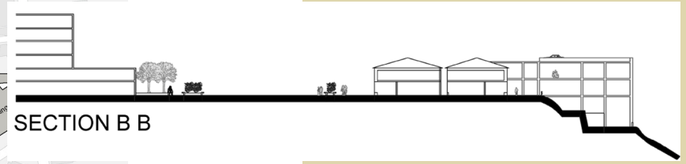
The Springfield Armory National Historic Site

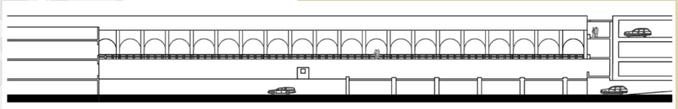
The Intersection of Education and Culture

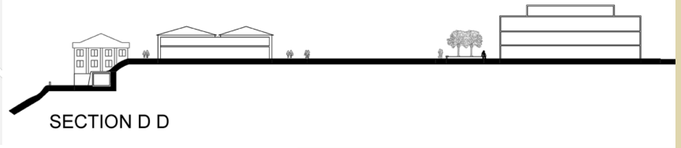





SECTION A A


SECTION B B


SECTION C C

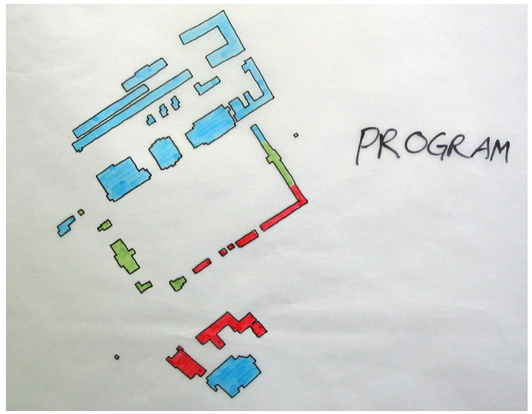

SECTION D D

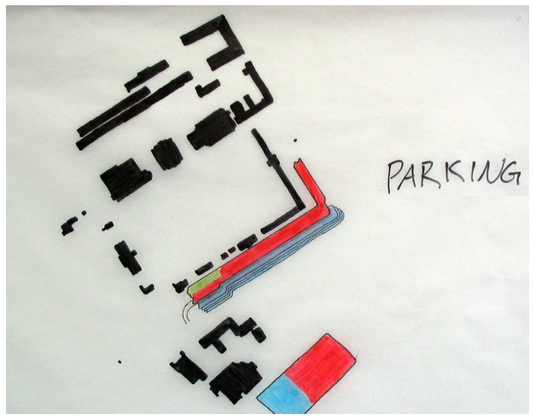
LA 606 Cultural Landscape Studio Department of Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning University of Massachusetts, Amherst

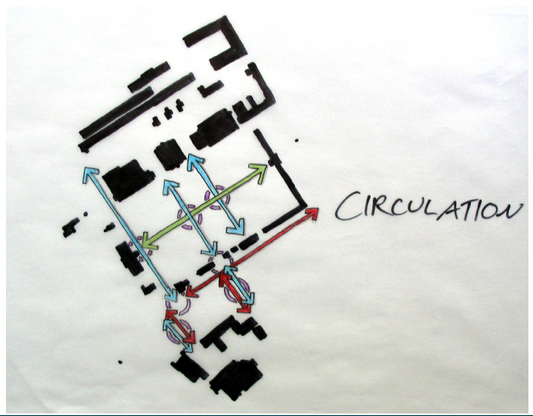
BRAD BUSCHUR

An Armed Campus: Education, Historic Preservation and Civic Life at the Springfield Armory

Spring 2006









This design proposes Student underground parking and City/Armory surface parking along they southern edge of the campus. There is also and expansion of STCC into Wassot Hospital and adjacent parking, as well as building 19 being converted into a Library and Student Center. This will create student pedestrian traffic flows from the parking area across the parade ground to the north and across State Street to the south.

The Park Service expands into Garvey Hall, creating traffic East-West across the parade ground, intersecting the student traffic, creating new activity on the historic parade ground.

The buildings along the southern edge of campus, along with the Verizon building across State Street will be converted to private commercial uses. The Masonic Lodge will also be used again, but now as a theater. The Theater amenity grouped with the new commercial space will create public pedestrian traffic from the parking to the edge of the parade ground, and across State Street, creating areas of intersection between students and the general public in Springfield. The traffic and these pedestrian intersections will also help revitalize State Street by bringing a new sense of use and demand.



