

# ARTICULATING THE EDGE

URBAN DESIGN GRADUATE RESEARCH  
SPRING 2017 STUDIO  
Studio Instructor: ERKIN ÖZAY

The University District presents a compelling urban condition. Here, the institutional scale of the campus is juxtaposed with the infrastructural scale of the transfer station and the residential scale of the surrounding neighborhoods. While the campus has a distinct civic character, it lacks clarity at its edges. Expansive surface parking and undistinguished commercial plazas exacerbate the sense of groundlessness.

The studio investigated formal strategies to orchestrate these various scales in order to reveal and maximize their latent potential. The students focused on six key sites identified in the *UB 2020 Plan*.

## Studio Documentation: ARISHA SHAHID

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MANDEEP KAUR  
HO KYUNG LEE

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KAMILLAH RAMOS  
ANDRES SANTANDREU  
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TAYLOR WOOLF

## PROGRAM GOALS

The studio sought to address the following guiding questions.

How can we achieve a rich level porosity at the edges of the campus in order to strengthen its relationship with the surrounding neighborhoods?

How can the existing and future campus amenities be made more accessible to the surrounding neighborhoods?

What are the appropriate mixed-use, transit-oriented development opportunities around the campus, which could help nurture healthier and denser neighborhoods?

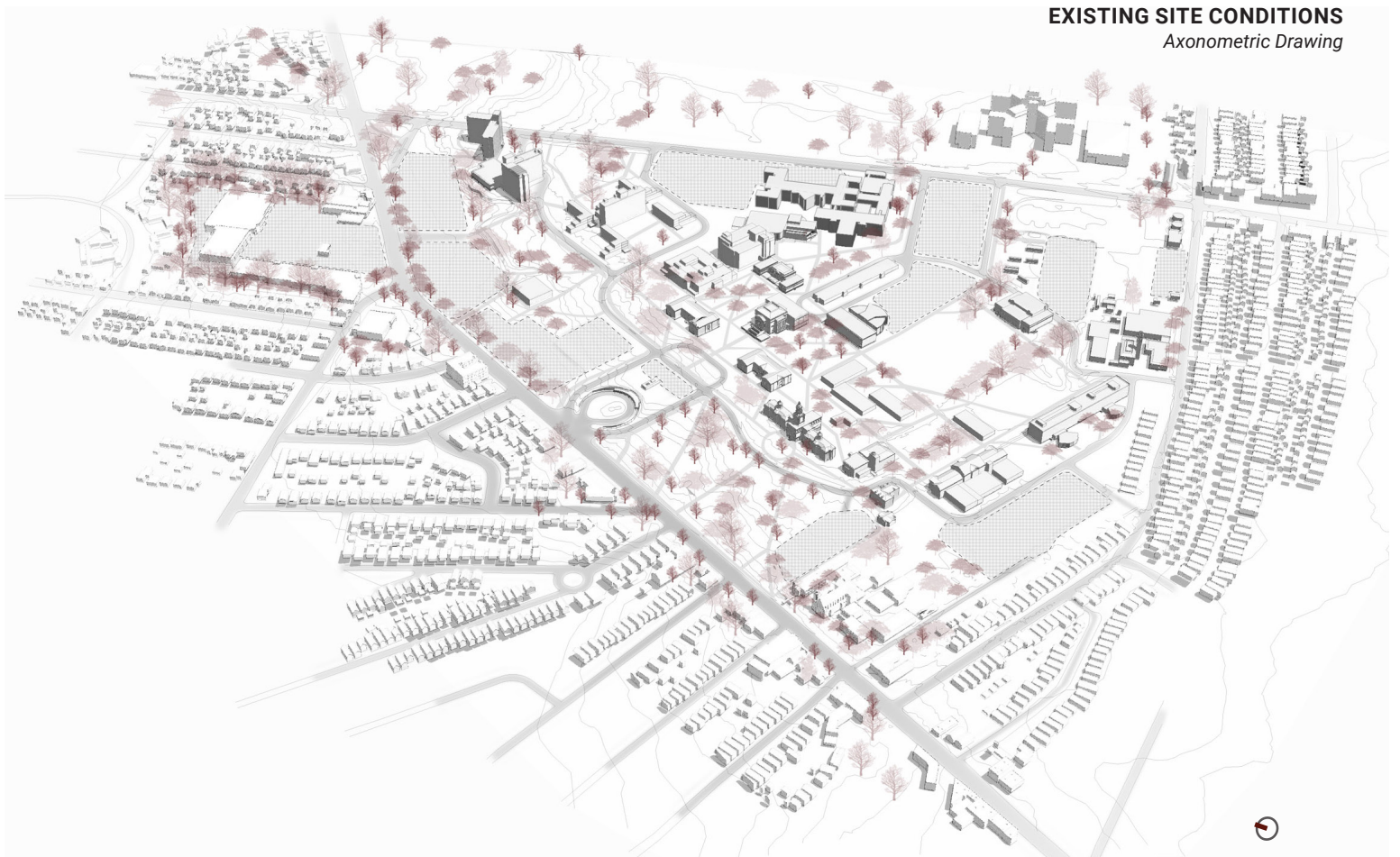
Given the changes taking place in higher education, what may the future of UB's South (Main-Bailey) Campus look like?

What are the most appropriate future -proof typologies for residential, commercial, institutional, and transportation uses appropriate for this specific context?

# EXISTING CONDITIONS

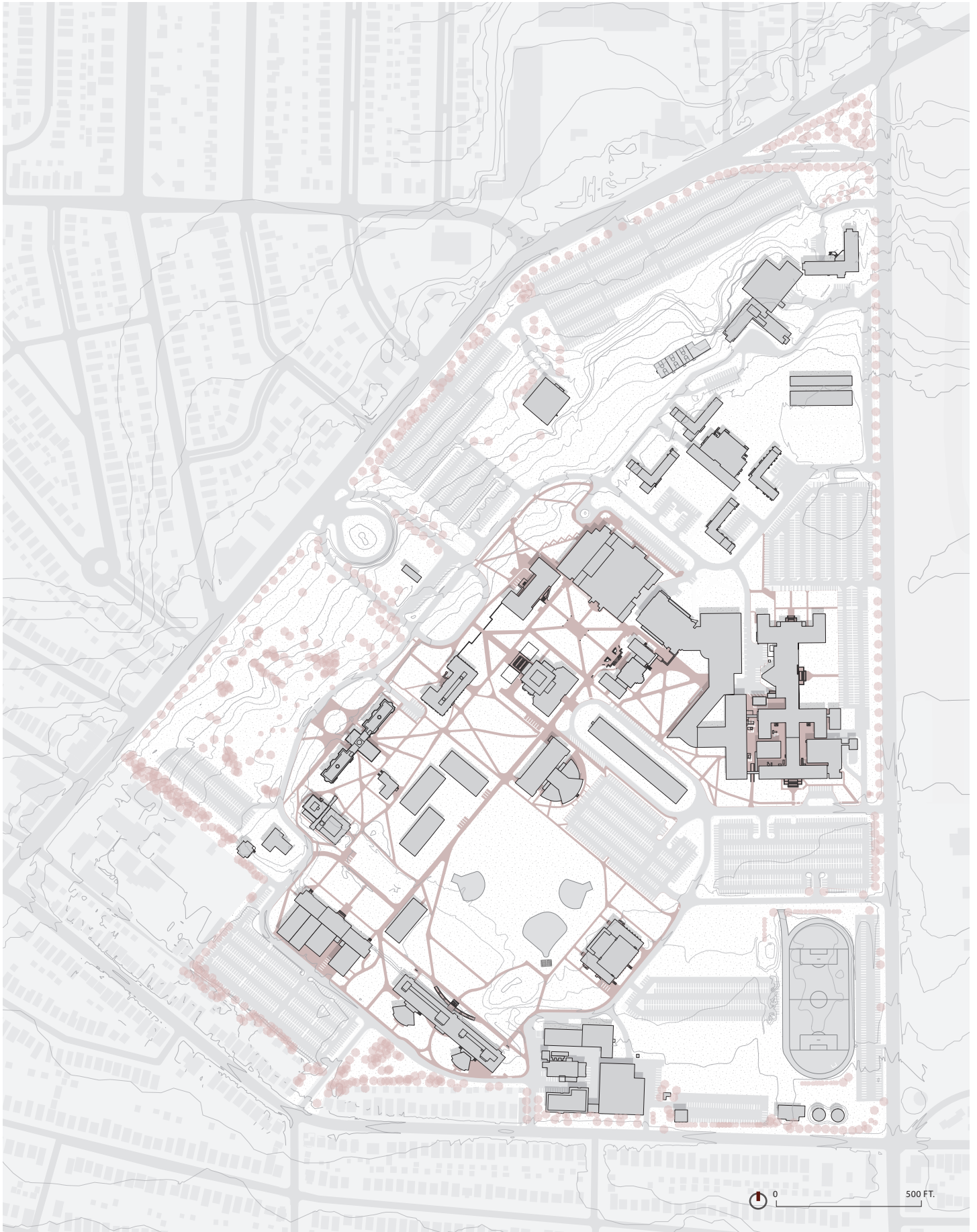
In its current condition, the campus is disconnected from its neighborhood and given its low density (7,600 population/153 acres), it lacks an effective presence to activate meaningful ground activity. Neither the campus, nor the neighborhood effectively makes use of each other's assets.

Given the generous reserve of space and stable residential developments surrounding the campus, the neglected campus/city edge presents a great potential.



**EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS**  
*Axonometric Drawing*

ARTICULATING THE EDGE: EXISTING CONDITIONS

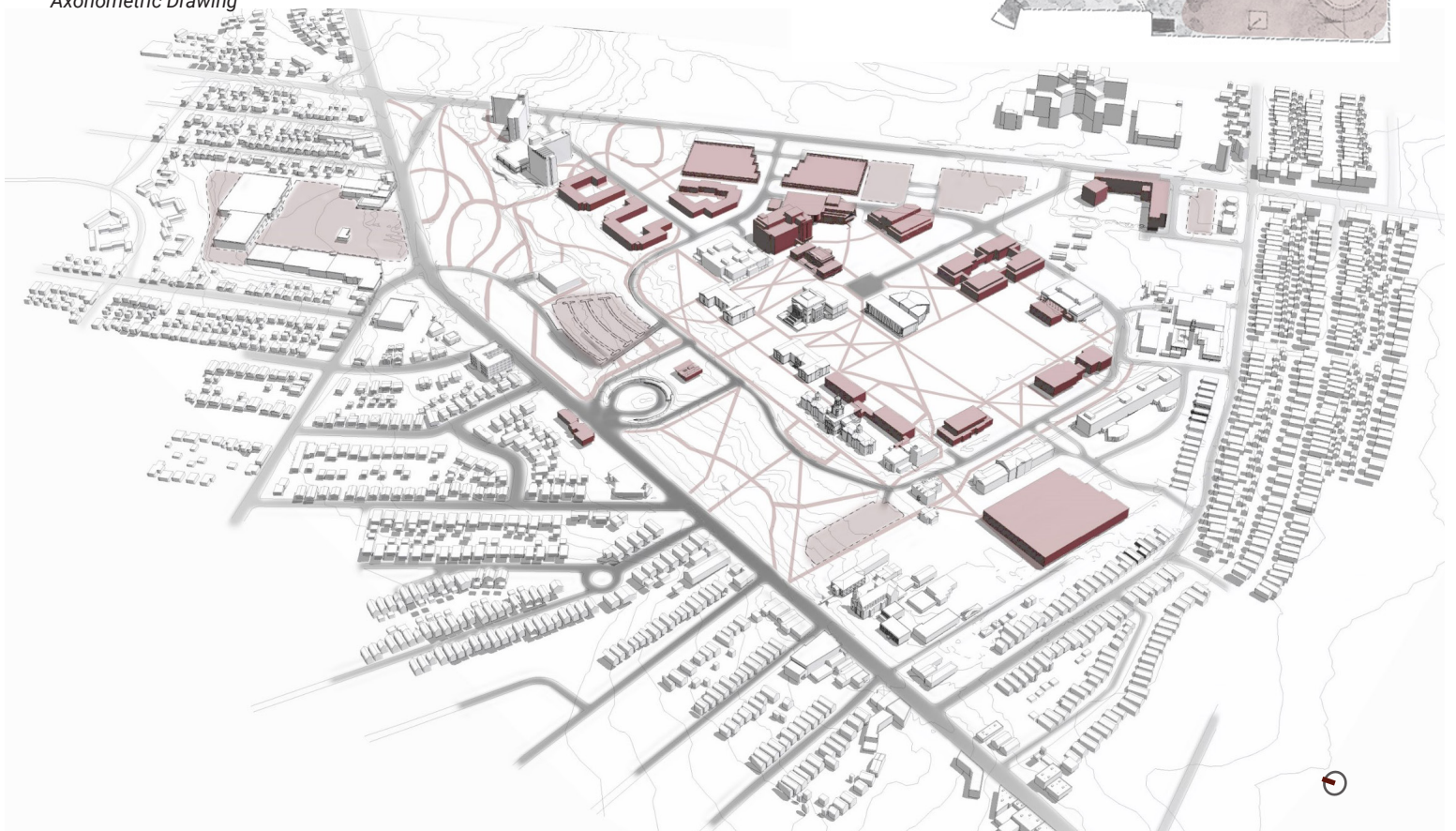


# ANALYZING UB 2020

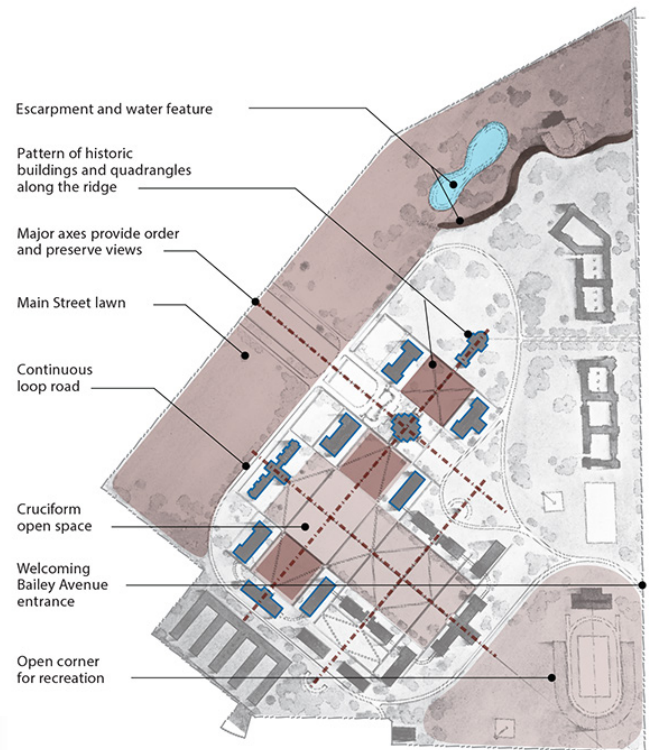
The *UB 2020 Plan* is based on very specific ideas regarding the city/campus relationship and identifies six key sites along Main, Bailey and Winspear Streets for better articulation.

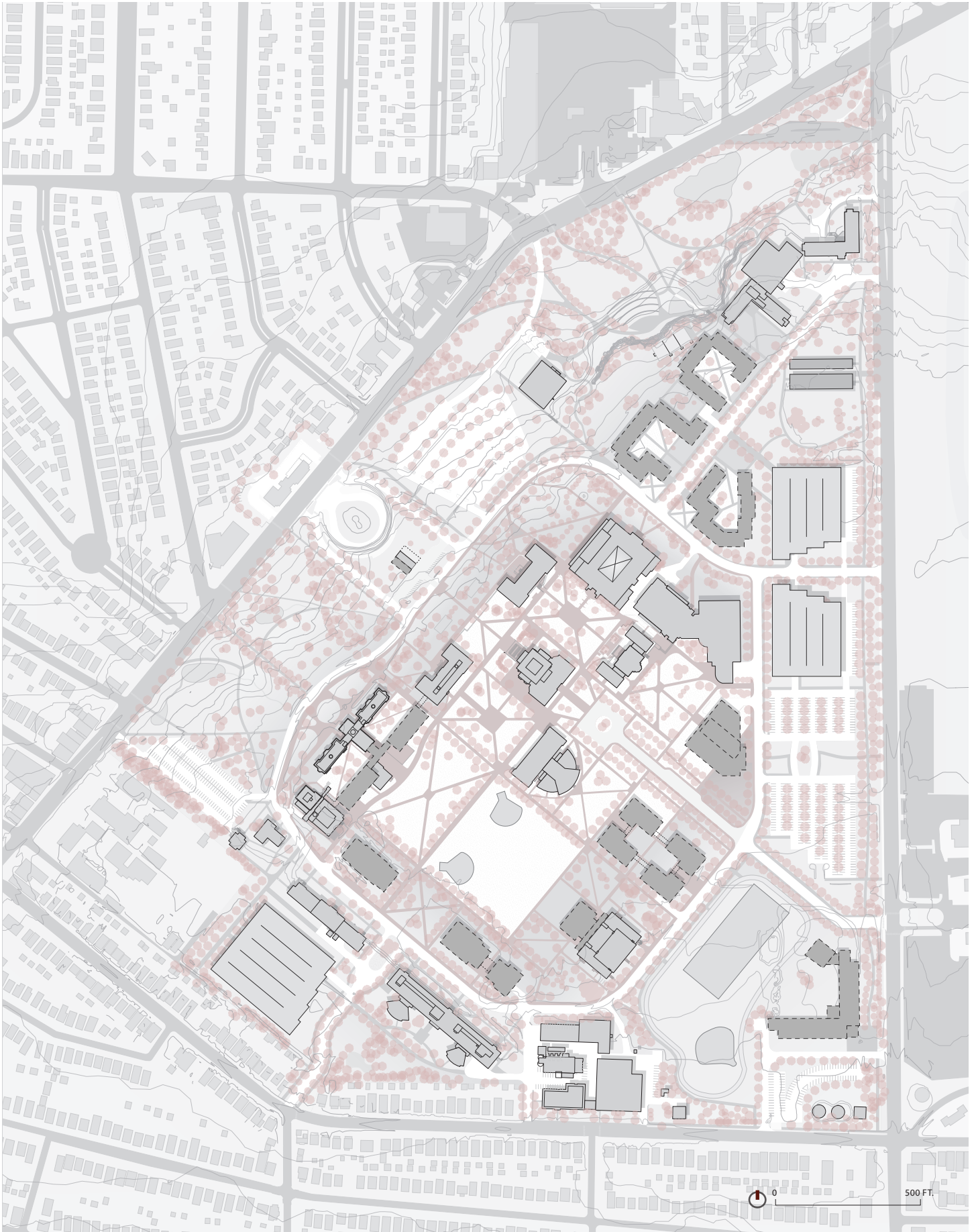
Starting with a re-reading of the plan and focusing on each of these sites in detail, the students developed urban design ideas that could programmatically thicken and bring legibility to the campus edges.

**UB 2020 PLAN**  
*Axometric Drawing*



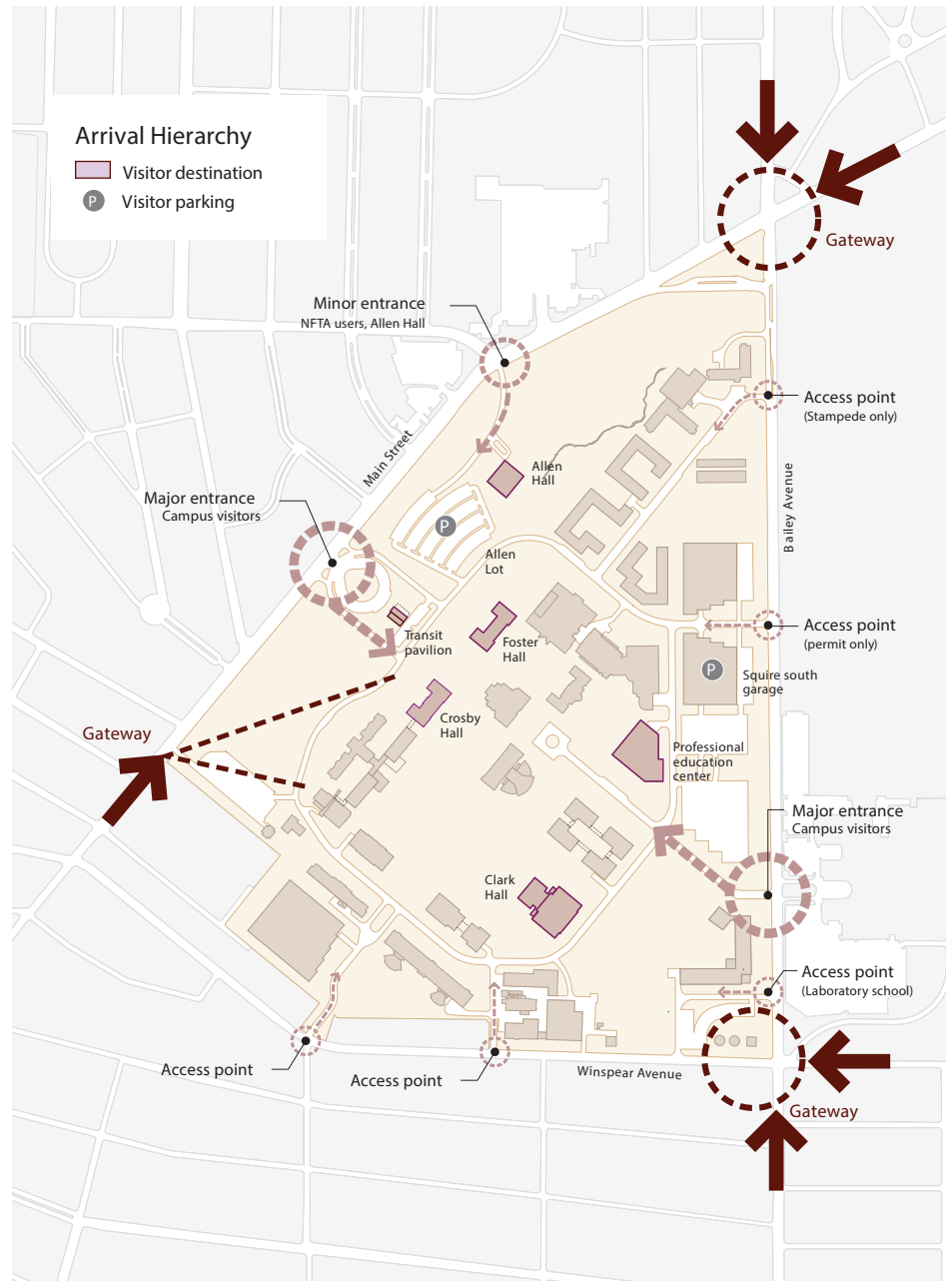
**ANALYSIS OF 1930 E. B. GREEN PLAN**  
*-Building UB, The Comprehensive Physical Plan*





The six sites are not only meant to provide better connectivity between the campus and neighborhoods but also of paramount importance in terms of their visual impact at different scales.

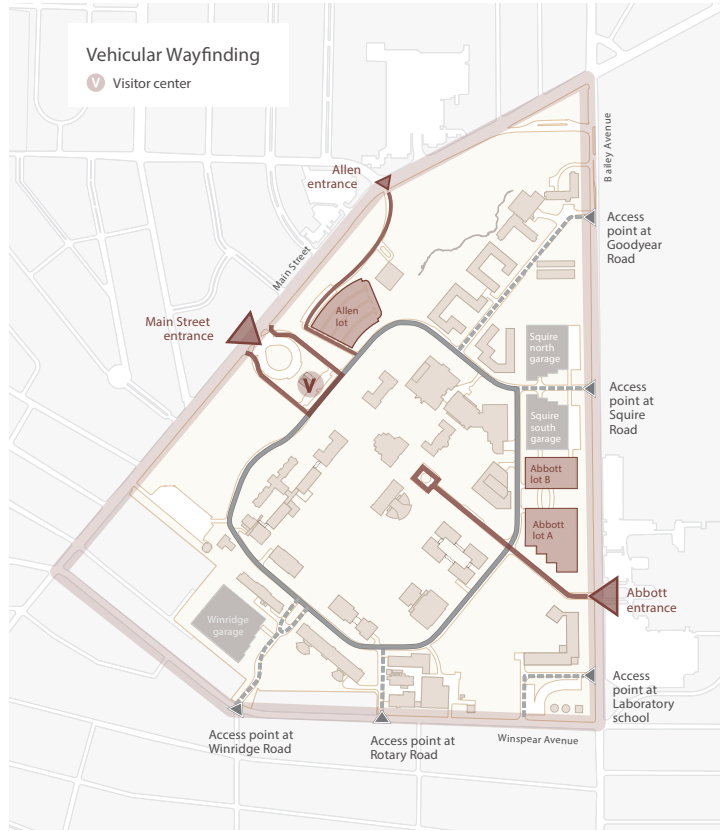
**ARRIVAL HIERARCHY (UB 2020)**  
*-Building UB, The Comprehensive Physical Plan*



**VEHICULAR WAYFINDING (UB 2020)**

*-Building UB, The Comprehensive Physical Plan*

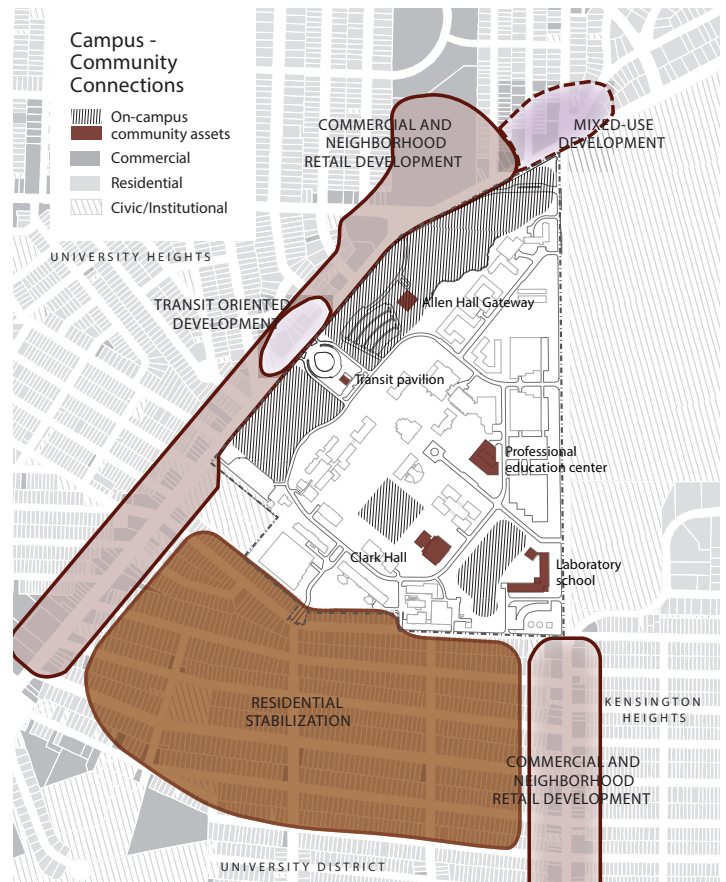
Circulation framework suggests completion of the loop road and reduction of vehicular traffic by limiting the surface parking on campus.



**CAMPUS COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS (UB 2020)**

*-Building UB, The Comprehensive Physical Plan*

UB 2020 plan also lays out broad parameters for urban stabilization and development at the campus edges.

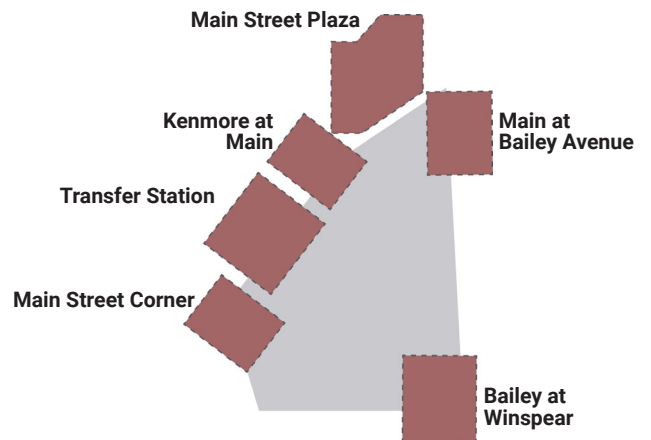




# SIX INTERVENTIONS PROPOSED

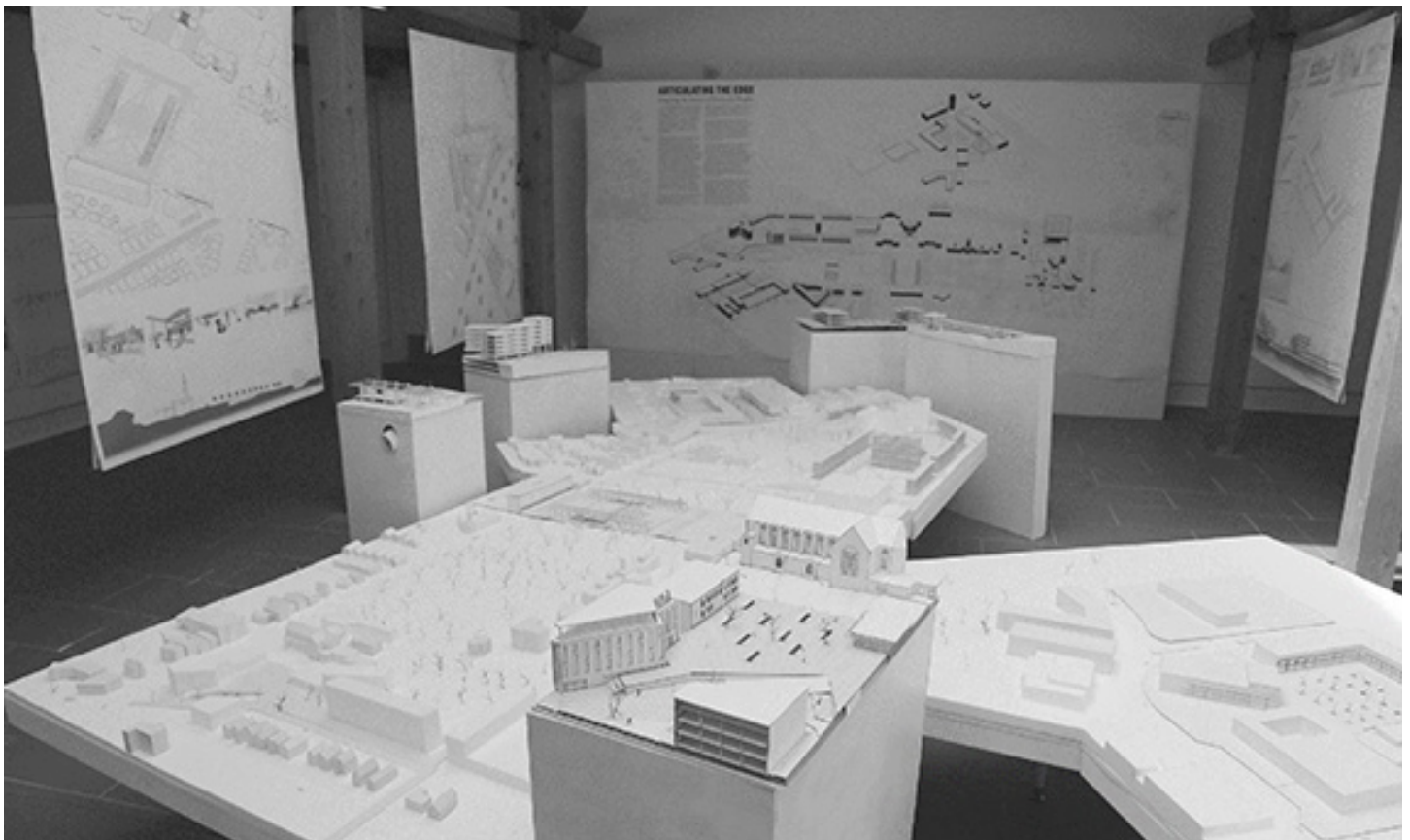
While the students were asked to start their projects by looking carefully at the edge conditions in isolation, the projects presented opportunities for improving the functioning of the campus by establishing a clear and experientially rich circulation scheme that could tie these interventions together.

The six proposals connect with a circulation backbone that traverses the site in both directions and culminate at well-articulated terminus points. These major and minor gateways orchestrate various city and campus assets that could provide meaningful entry sequences for different constituencies and the general public.



EXHIBITION PHOTOGRAPH

-Alexander J



ARTICULATING THE EDGE: SIX INTERVENTIONS PROPOSED

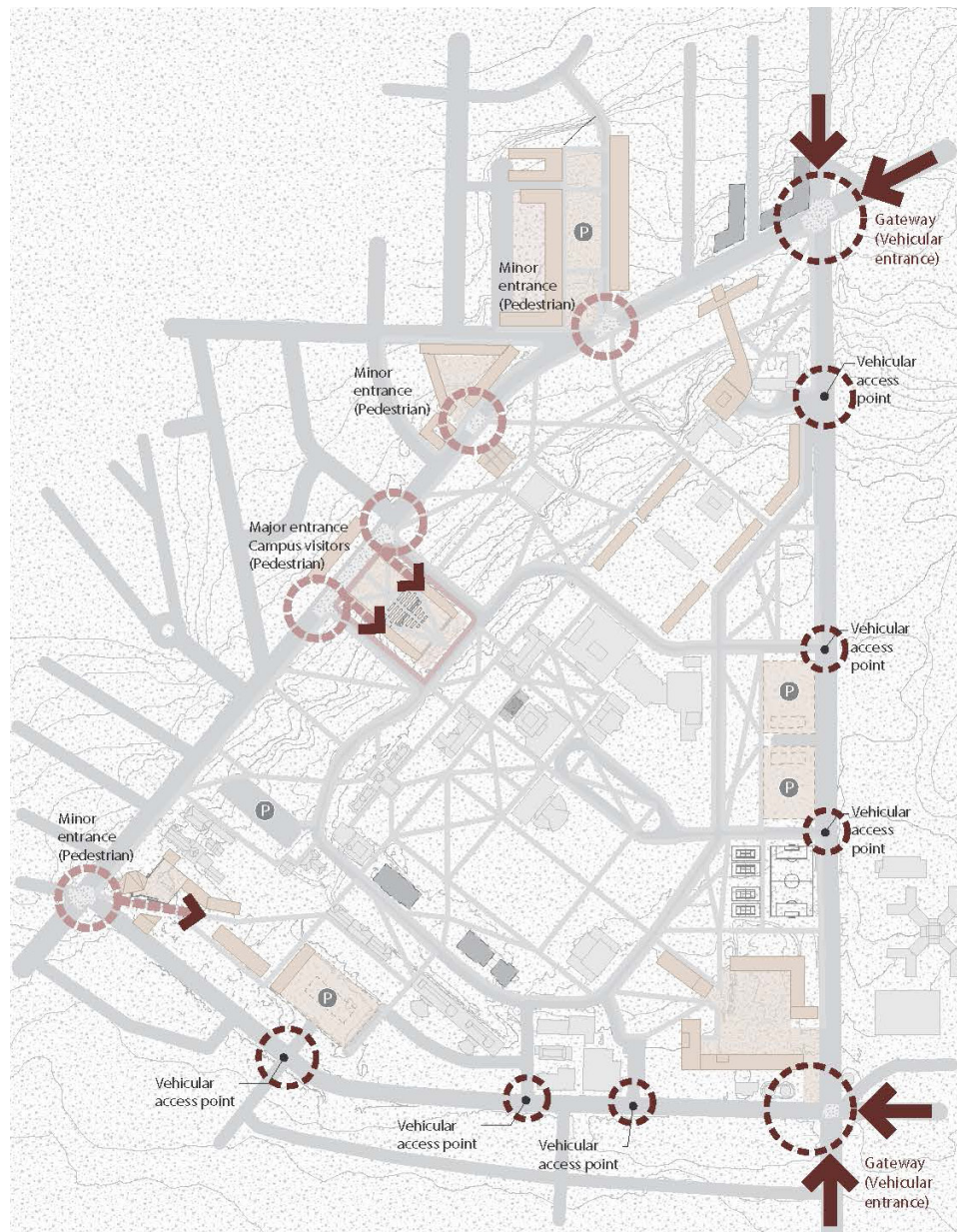


# ANALYZING SIX INTERVENTIONS

These diagrams demonstrate the parallels between the *UB 2020 plan* and the 6 interventions proposed by the students.

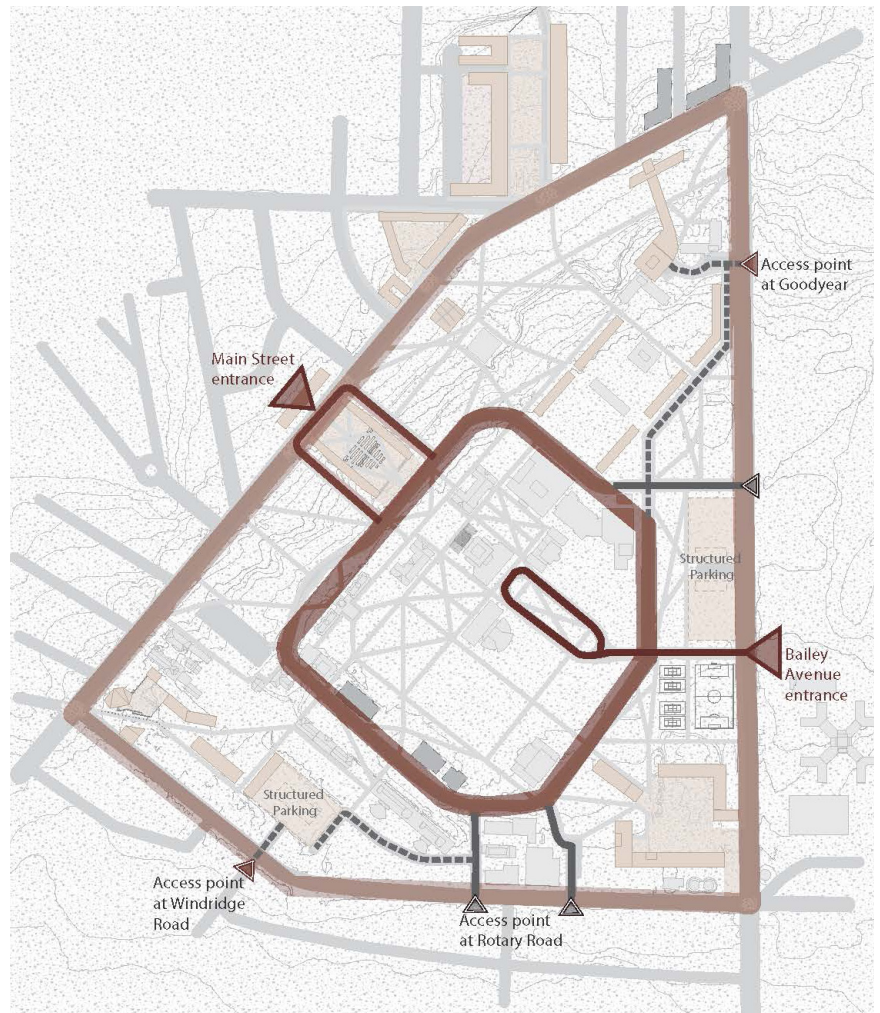
In many cases, the access to the campus grounds and campus amenities are strengthened by well-articulated threshold conditions that visually orchestrate campus and neighborhood landmarks as a means to enrich the pedestrian experience.

## ARRIVAL HIERARCHY



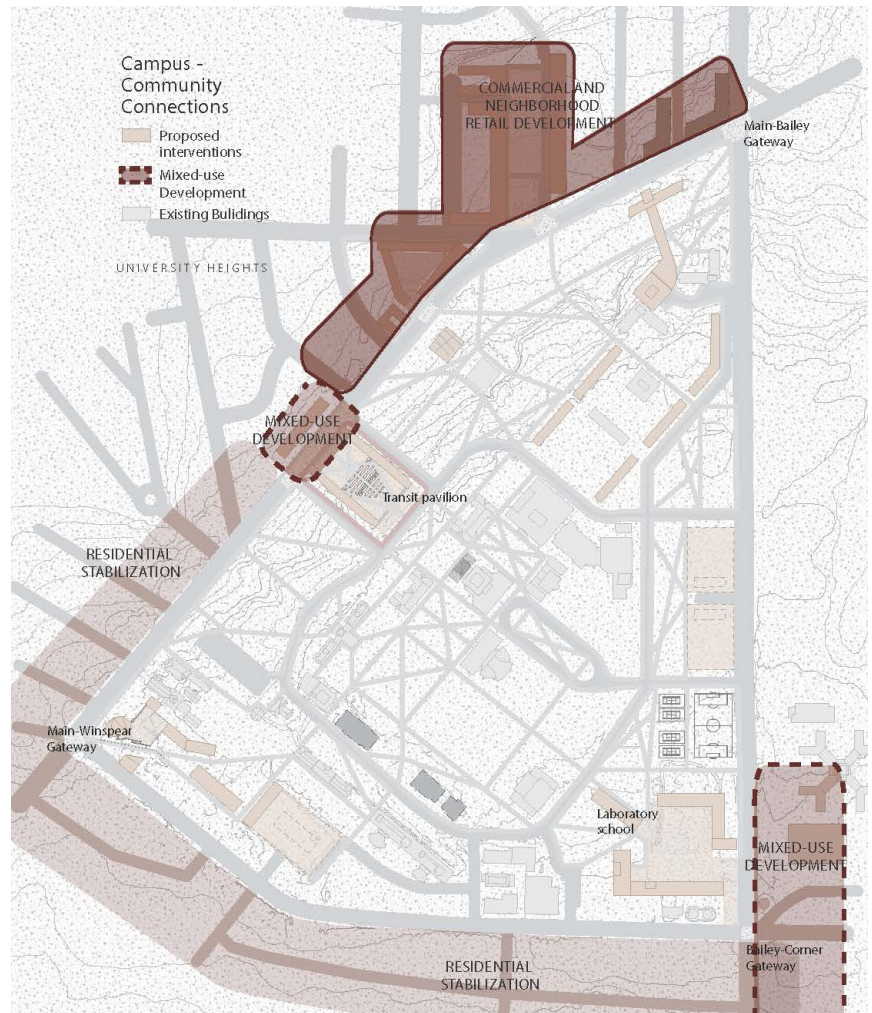
### VEHICULAR WAYFINDING

Circulation diagram allows for limited surface parking and better connections with the public transportation nodes in order to encourage pedestrian activity and transit use.



### CAMPUS COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Community connections:  
Potential developments at the edges can be oriented toward the green spaces and recreational landscapes located on the campus.

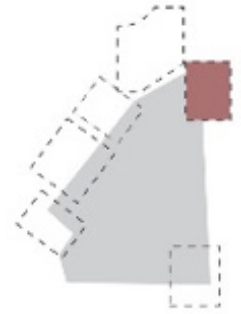




PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS

PROPOSED INTERVENTION

# MAIN AT BAILEY AVENUE

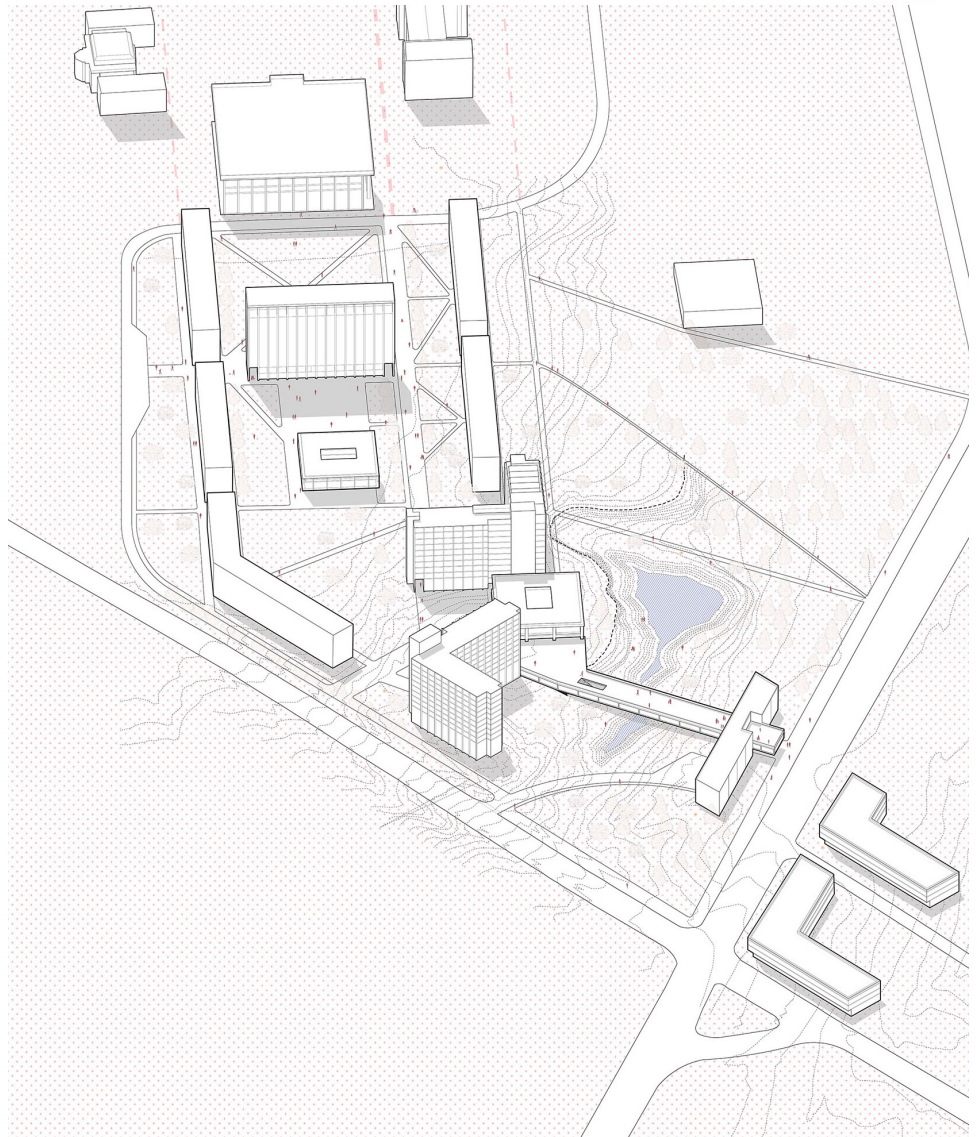


This proposal is predicated on a "ladder" circulation system that forms two parallel axes in the North South direction. The more formal alley way connects the existing quads with a new residential quad. The adjacent promenade connects the students with the recreational landscapes along the Main Street, while revealing the embankment formed by the historic quarry, which is revealed as a water feature in the landscape.

A connection building along the Main Street functions as a hybrid mixed use building that connects the students and the general public.

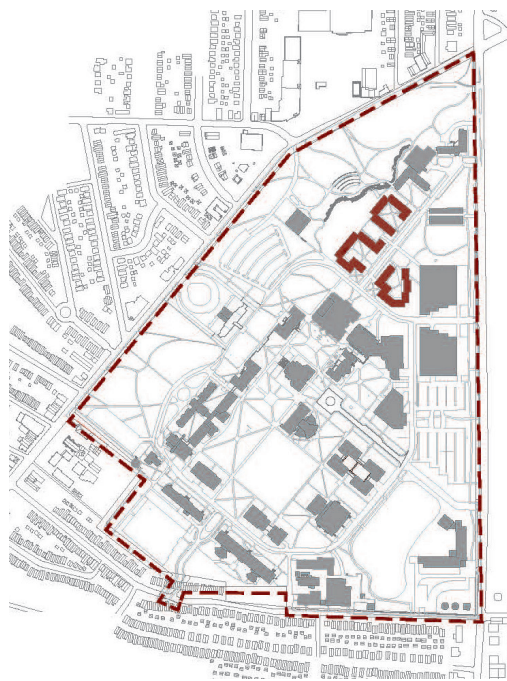
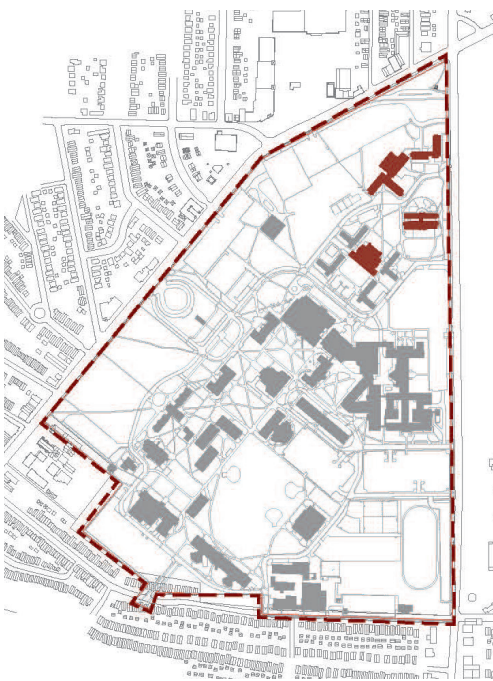
The proposal eliminates the "Jersey Left" at the Main-Bailey intersection, in order to increase the park space and allow better access to the daycare and other service facilities.

ANDRES S. | CHARLES C.  
*Project Credits*



*Axonometric Drawing*

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM**  
*Figure Ground Diagrams*



High-rise Dorm

STUDENT HALLS

+/- 181,000

**Existing**



High-rise Dorm

STUDENT HALLS

+/- 240,000

**UB 2020 Plan**



Recreational

GYM,  
 HARDSCAPE  
 PLAZA,  
 STUDENT  
 UNION

+/- 120,000

**Proposed**



High-rise Dorm

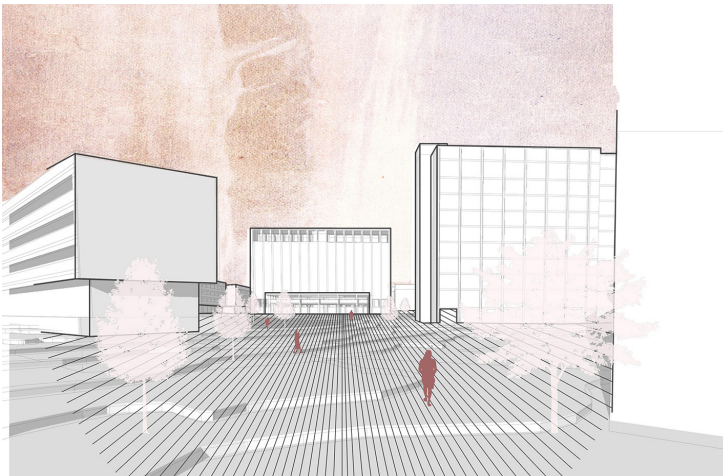
UNIVERSITY  
 HOUSING

+/- 240,000

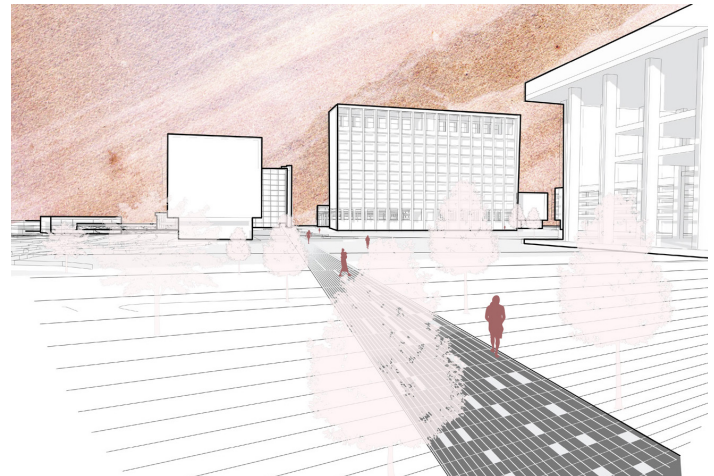




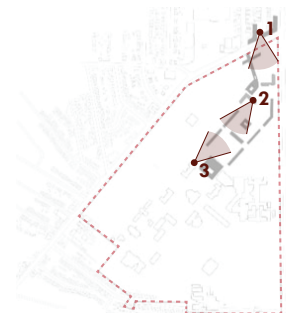
**VIEW FROM MAIN STREET**  
*Perspective Drawing 1*

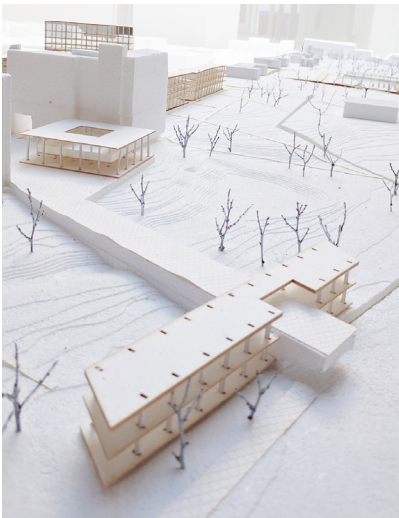


**VIEW FROM GOODYEAR HALL**  
*Perspective Drawing 2*



**VIEW FROM MAIN CIRCLE**  
*Perspective Drawing 3*

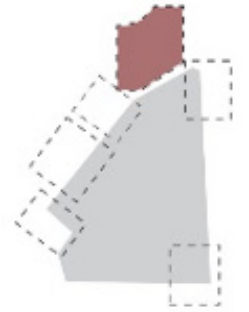




MODEL PHOTOGRAPHS

PROPOSED INTERVENTION

# MAIN STREET PLAZA

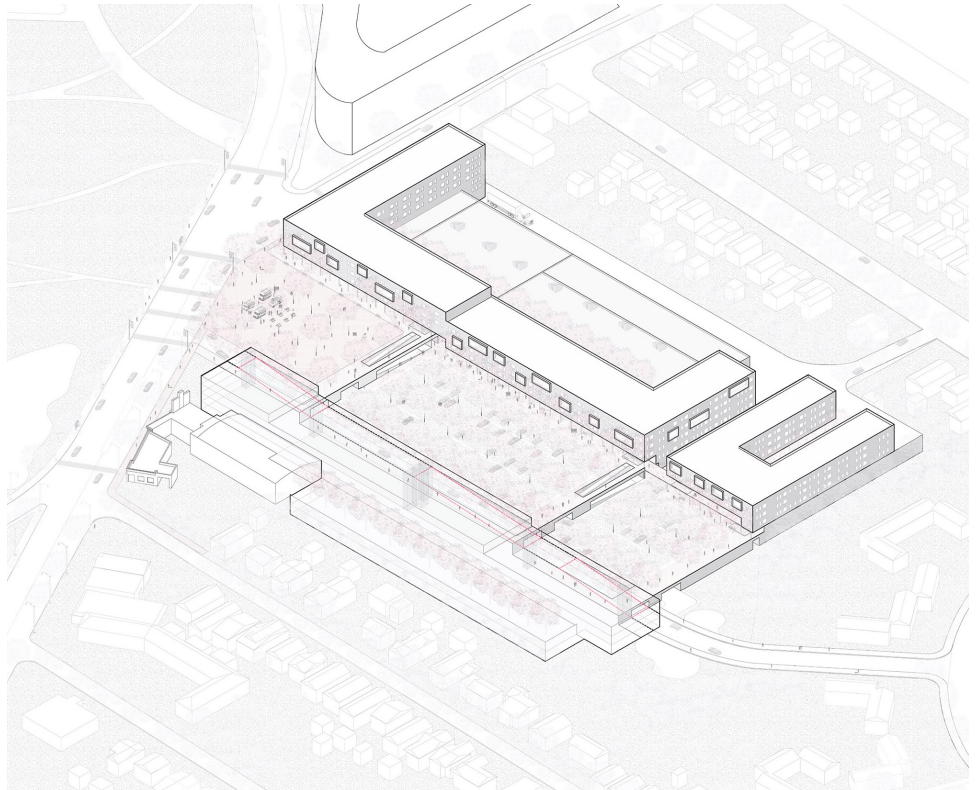


This project proposes an entirely different way of thinking about the regional shopping center as a potential public space.

By using the natural topography to subdivide the surface parking and increasing the density through a well-calibrated mixed-use programs, the project introduces temporary uses that could activate the courtyard during times of limited parking need.

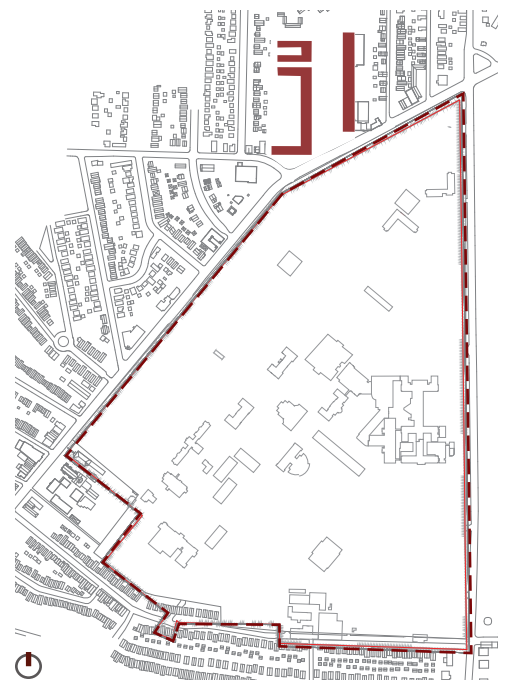
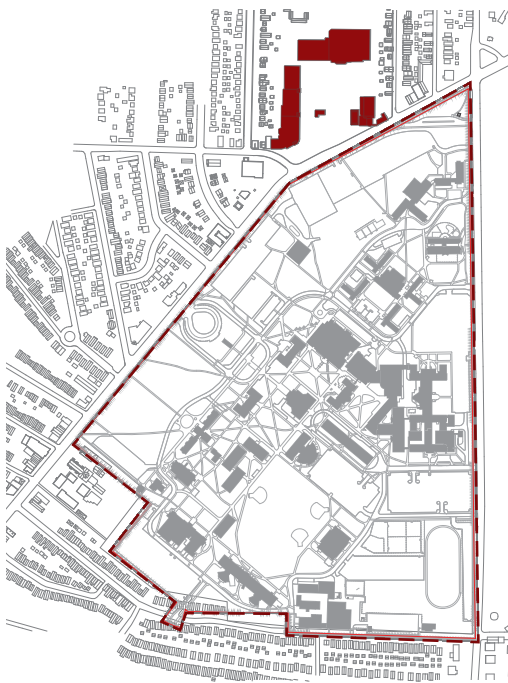
In this configuration, parking becomes a landscaped plaza that connects with the linear park at the edge of the campus and the northwest neighborhoods.

ARISHA S. | ANTHONY G.  
*Project Credits*



*Axonometric Drawing*

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM  
Figure Ground Diagrams



Recreational	Commercial	Commercial
AMHERST MOVIE THEATRE	RESTAURANTS, GROCERY STORE	RESTAURANTS, GROCERY STORE
+/- 20,000	+/- 167,000	+/- 167,000
<b>Existing</b>		

Recreational	Mixed-use
AMHERST MOVIE THEATRE	RETAIL, RESTAURANTS, MISCELLANEOUS
+/- 20,000	+/- 250,000
<b>Amherst Schematic Plan</b>	

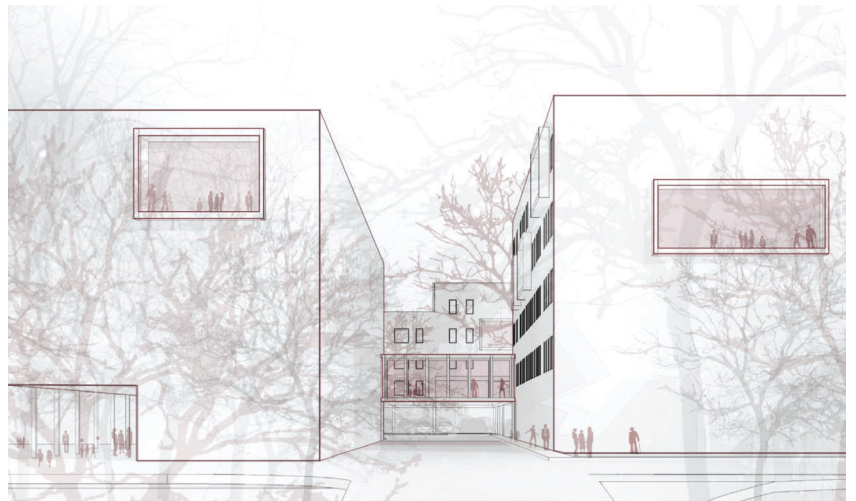
Recreational	Mixed-use	Housing
MOVIE THEATRE, HARDSCAPE PLAZA, MULTI-PLAZA SPACE	OFFICES, RETAIL, RESTAURANTS, MISCELLANEOUS	COMMUNITY HOUSING, STUDENT HOUSING
+/- 165,000	+/- 260,000	+/- 270,000
<b>Proposed</b>		



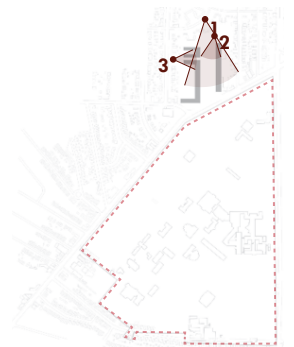
**VIEW OF MAIN STREET FROM PRINCETON**  
*Perspective Drawing 1*

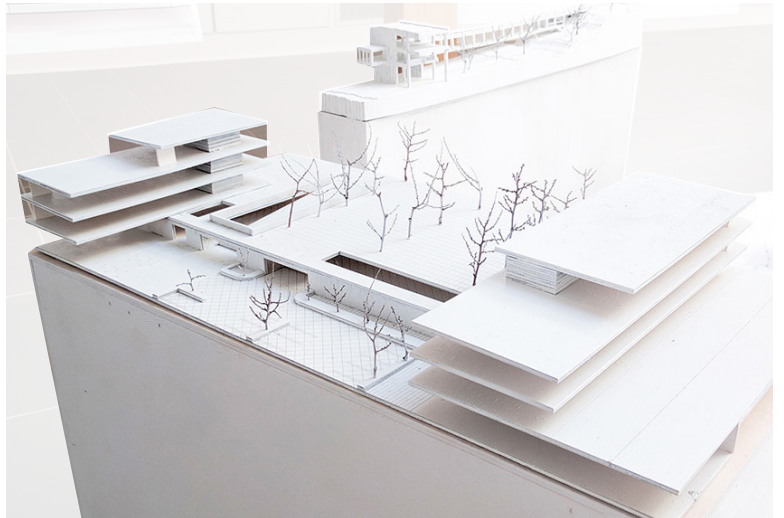


**VIEW FROM NORTH ENTRANCE  
(PRINCETON AVE)**  
*Perspective Drawing 2*



**A VIEW FROM A SERVICE ROAD ENTRANCE  
(WINDERMERE BOULEVRD)**  
*Perspective Drawing 3*

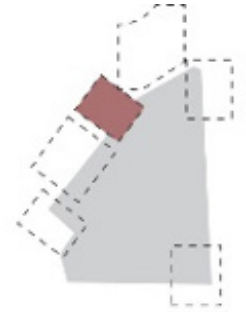




MODEL PHOTOGRAPHS

PROPOSED INTERVENTION

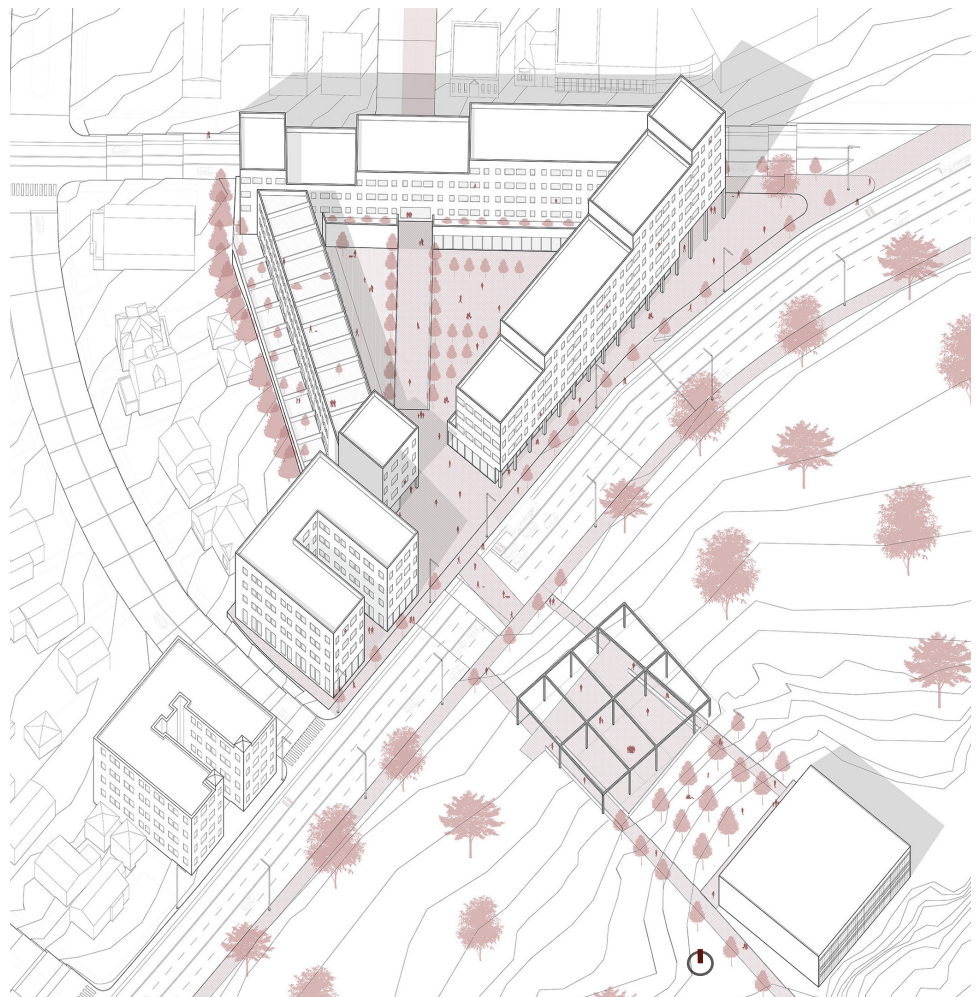
# KENMORE AT MAIN



This project proposes a transit oriented, high density development, which could organize the pedestrian and vehicular movement at this very important but overlooked intersection.

The proposal intends to serve as a landmark by making intelligent use of the challenging site geometry and creating an informal campus entry by appropriating the Allen Hall as a communal amenity open to the general public.

HO KUNG L. | MARCO D.  
*Project Credits*



*Axonometric Drawing*

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM

Figure Ground Diagrams



Housing

APARTMENTS,  
TOWN HOUSES  
  
+/- 55,000

Existing



Commercial

RESTAURANTS,  
GROCERY STORE  
  
+/- 22,000



Educational

ALLEN HALL  
  
+/- 15,000



Recreational

OPEN PAVILLION,  
PERFORMANCE  
CENTER  
  
+/- 20,000

Proposed



Mixed-use

OFFICES,  
COMMERCIAL  
SPACES,  
MISCELLANEOUS  
  
+/- 45,000



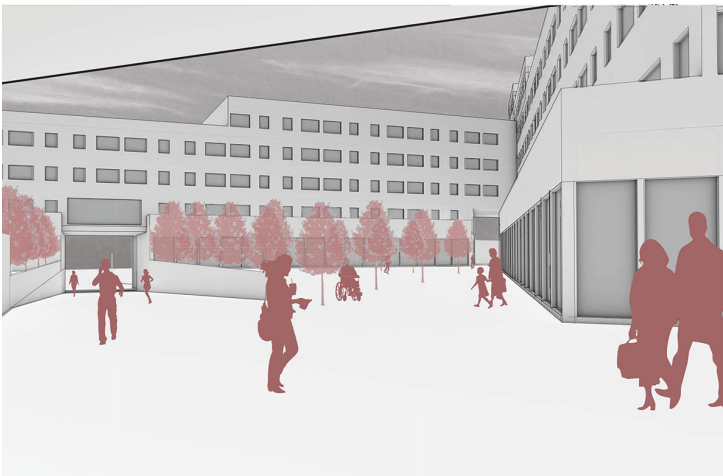
Housing

APARTMENTS,  
STUDENT  
HOUSING  
  
+/- 185,000





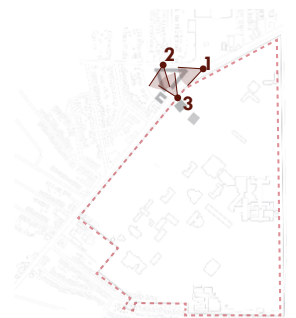
**VIEW FROM MAIN STREET**  
*Perspective Drawing 1*



**VIEW OF THE PLAZA**  
*Perspective Drawing 2*



**PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE TO THE PLAZA**  
*Perspective Drawing 3*

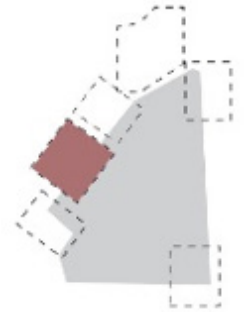




MODEL PHOTOGRAPH

PROPOSED INTERVENTION

# TRANSFER STATION

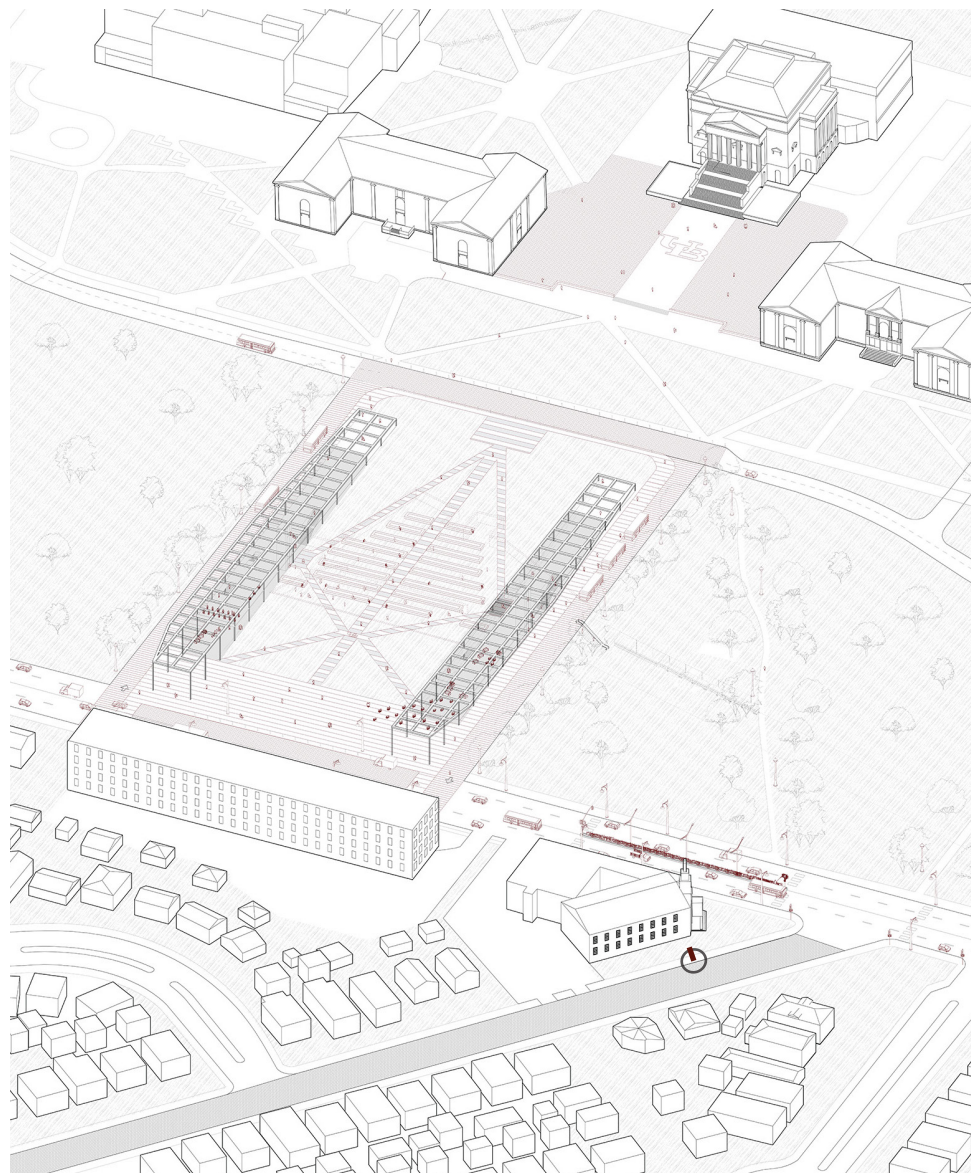


This audacious proposal seeks to construct conditions of co-existence between the campus and the NFTA station. While the station is very important in the overall urban transit network, the commuters do not get to experience the university's landscape as the bus stations are sunken in a pit surrounded by a high wall.

The proposal reconstructs the historic axis that connects the library with the city and places the bus station in two linear buildings that allow the passengers to experience the campus landscape, while providing thermal comfort.

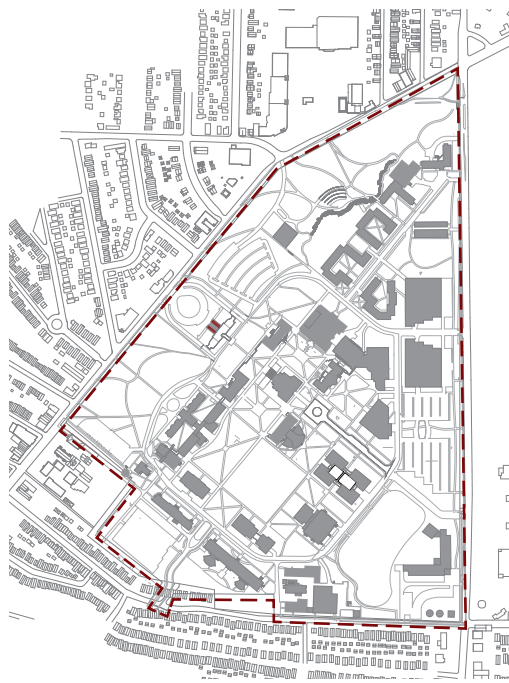
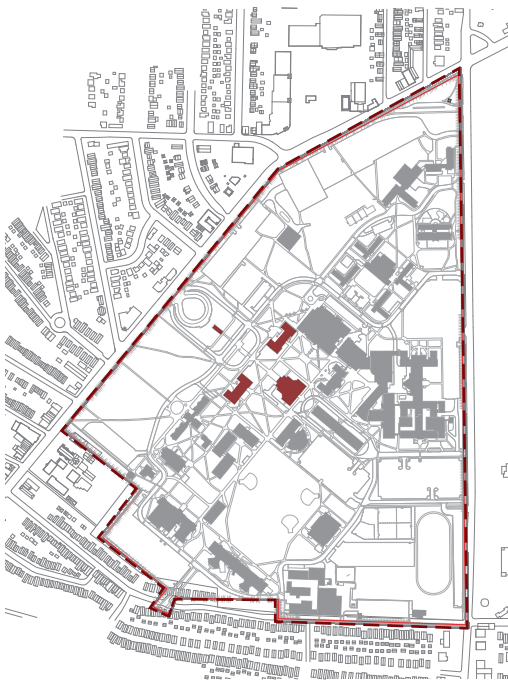
These thin also contain other functions such as a box office for the university events, a café, and a book store that passengers get to experience as part of their daily routines.

KAILEY M. | KAMILLAH R. | MANDEEP K.  
*Project Credits*



*Axonometric Drawing*

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM**  
*Figure Ground Diagrams*



Transit

NFTA METRO  
STATION

+/- 8,000

**Existing**



Transit

NFTA METRO  
STATION

+/- 12,000

**UB 2020 Plan**



Transit

METRO STATION

+/- 12,000

**Proposed**



Cultural

ART INSTALLATIONS,  
ART CLASSES

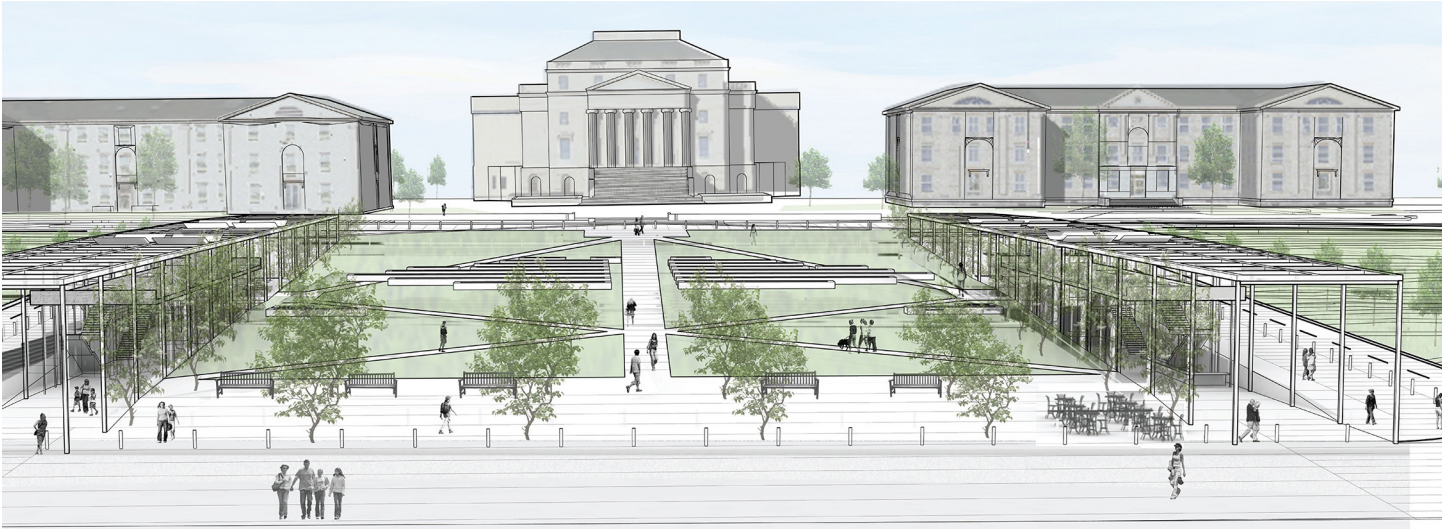
+/- 5,000



Mixed-use

BOOK STORE,  
GIFT SHOP,  
OFFICES

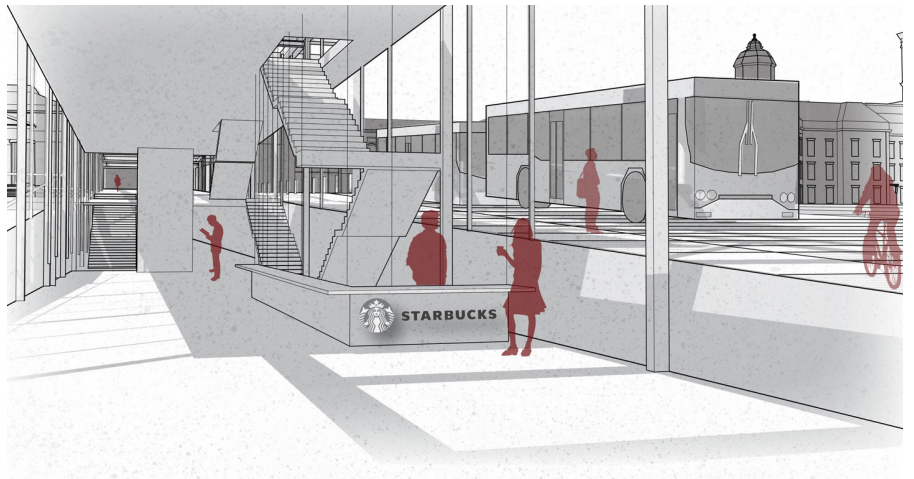
+/- 4,000



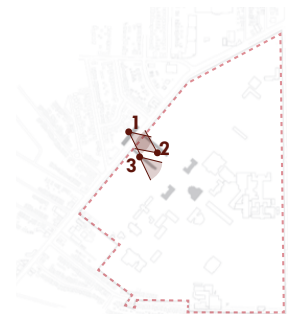
**VIEW FROM MAIN STREET**  
*Perspective Drawing 1*

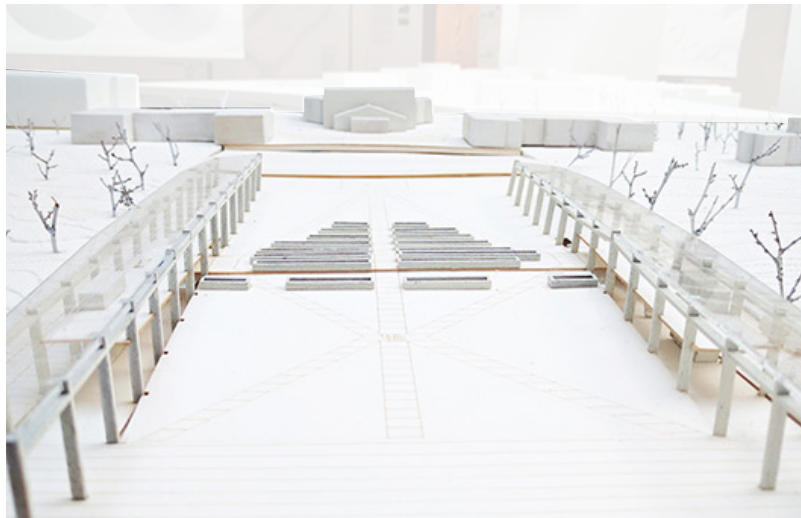
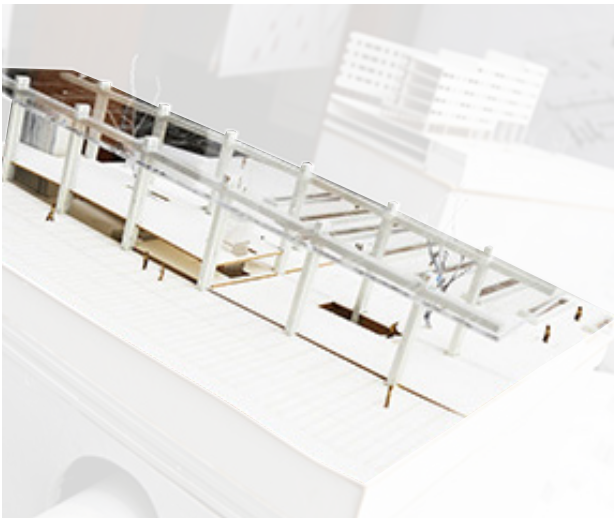


**VIEW OF THE PLAZA**  
*Perspective Drawing 2*



**VIEW FROM THE WALKWAYS**  
*Perspective Drawing 3*

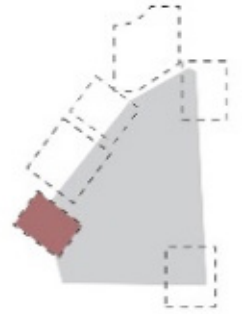




MODEL PHOTOGRAPH

PROPOSED INTERVENTION

# MAIN STREET CORNER



This proposal tests a new entry condition at the Main and Winspear corner that could serve as a mixed-use public space with increased foot traffic.

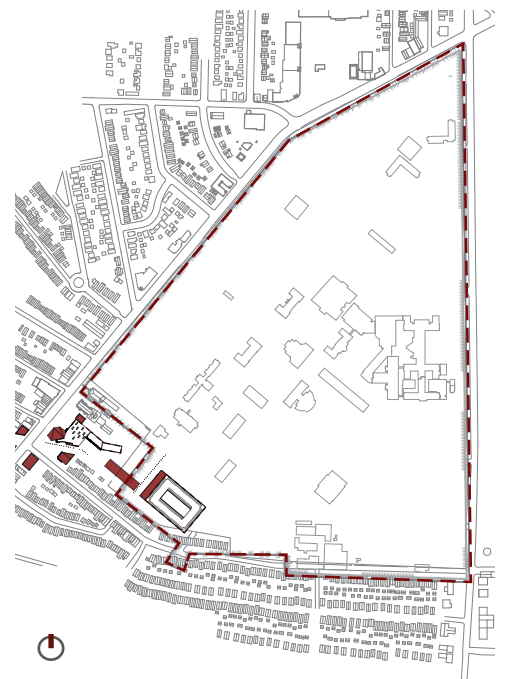
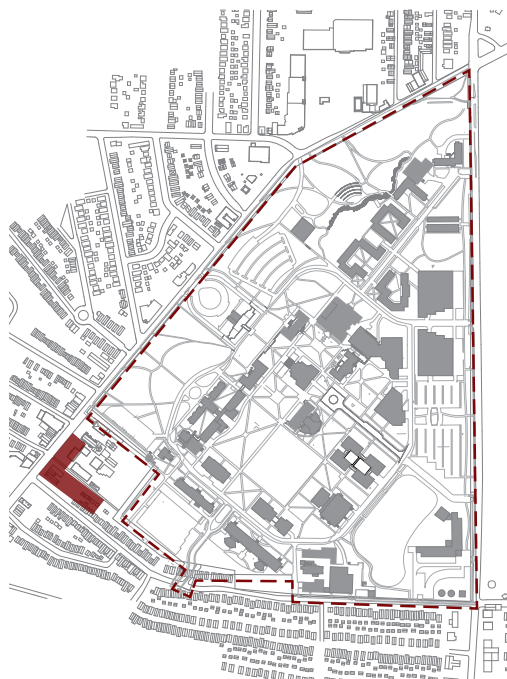
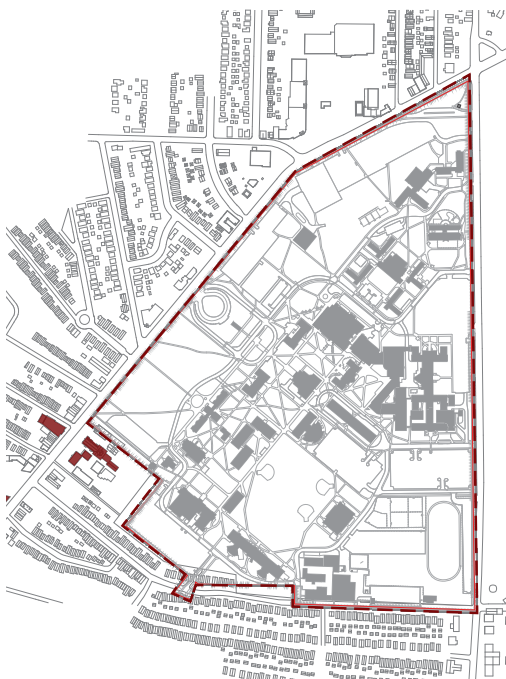
The intervention also organizes the vehicular traffic while preserving existing landmark structures.

JOSHUA E. | KRISHNA P.  
*Project Credits*



*Axonometric Drawing*

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM**  
*Figure Ground Diagrams*



Community

**CHURCH,  
COMMUNITY  
CENTER**  
 +/- 15,000

**Existing**



Educational

**JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
 +/- 36,000



Commercial

**RETAIL,  
GROCERY STORE**  
 +/- 24,500



Housing

**STUDENT  
APARTMENTS**  
 +/- 80,000

**Green Code Allowable**



Recreational

**ART CENTER,  
ART GALLERY**  
 +/- 8,000

**Proposed**



Commercial

**BOOK STORE,  
RETAIL,  
CAFE,  
GROCERY STORE**  
 +/- 8,000



Housing

**STUDENT  
APARTMENTS**  
 +/- 120,000

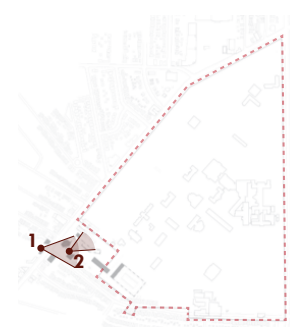




**VIEW FROM MAIN STREET**  
*Perspective Drawing 1*



**VIEW OF THE PLAZA**  
*Perspective Drawing 2*

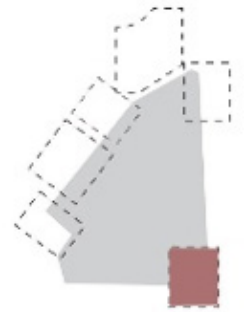




MODEL PHOTOGRAPH

PROPOSED INTERVENTION

# BAILEY AT WINSPEAR

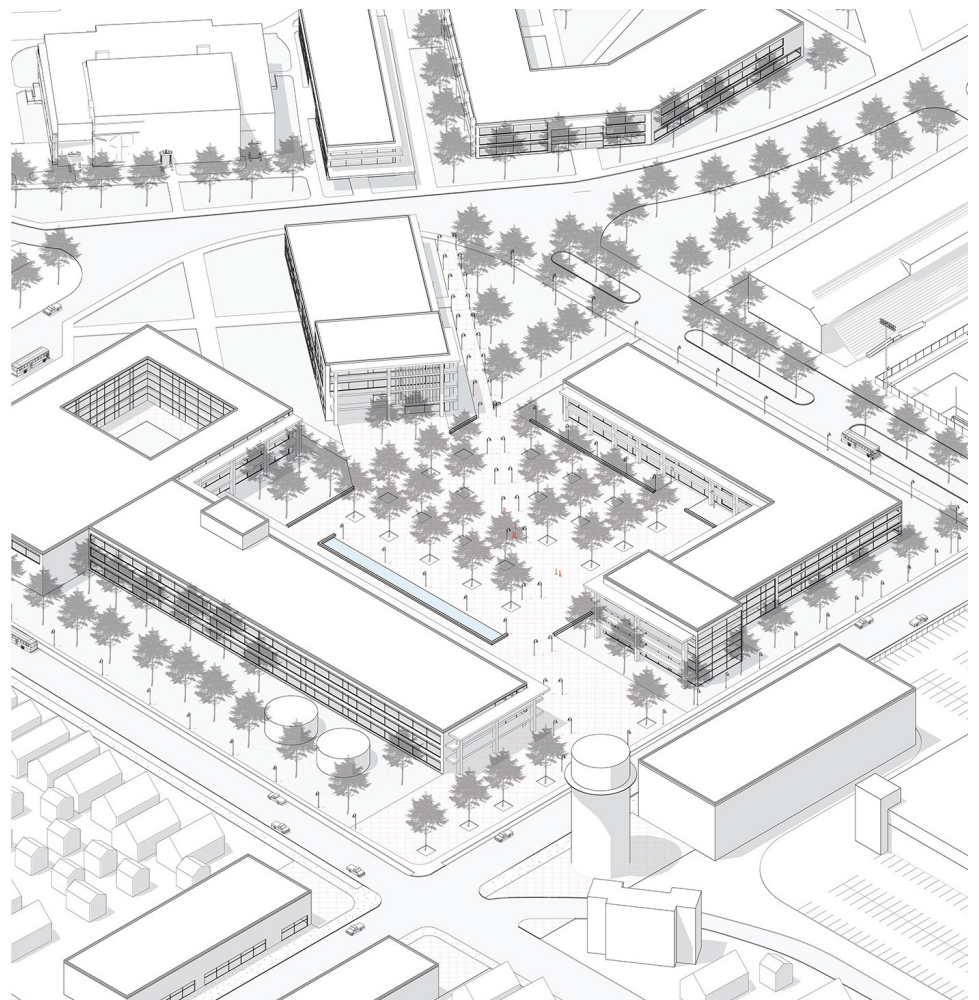


This proposal introduces a mixed campus quad defined by a new public high school, as well as the schools of Education and Executive Education.

Proposed as a part of the UB 2020, the idea for a lab school could potentially provide an important connection with Bailey avenue and the surrounding communities.

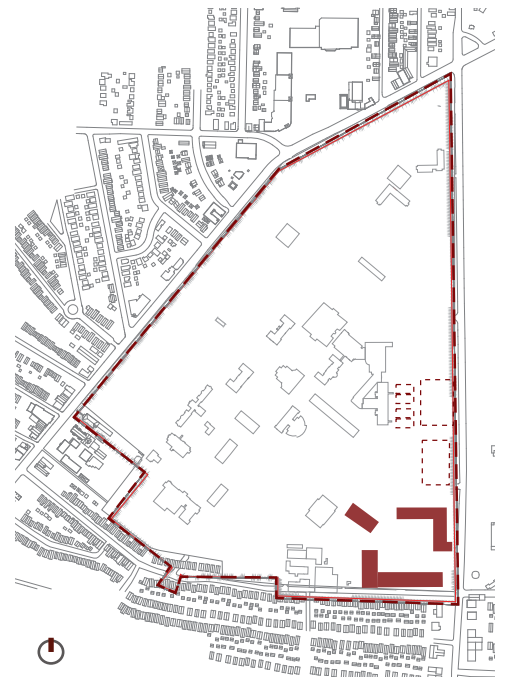
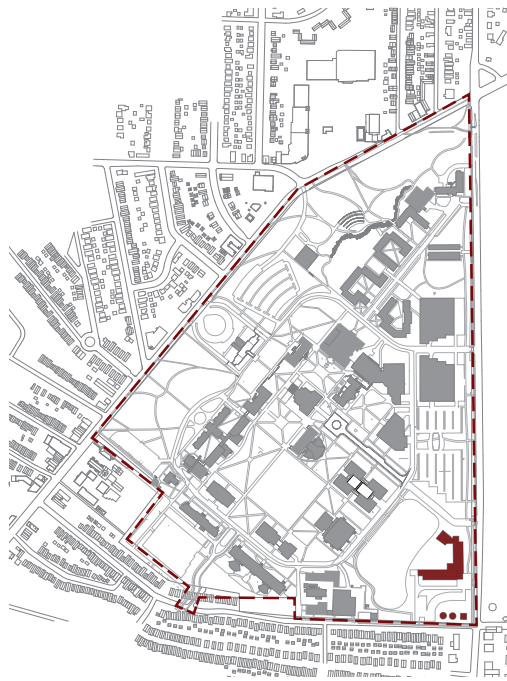
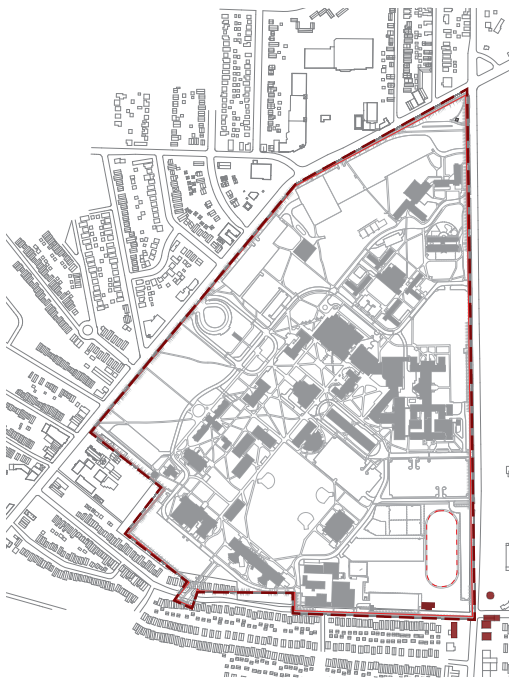
The project identifies a potential gateway condition by establishing a strong axis that terminates at the existing water tower, and a welcoming plaza where different groups can mix. The proposal also expands the recreational uses in this area for shared use by the community and students.

BRANDON B. | TAYLOR W.  
*Project Credits*



*Axonometric Drawing*

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM**  
*Figure Ground Diagrams*





  
**Recreational**

**GYM,  
STADIUM**

**+/- 115,000**




**Existing**

   
**Recreational Educational**

**GYM ADDITIONS** **LAB SCHOOLS**

**+/- 45,000** **+/- 10,000**

**UB 2020 Plan**

    
**Recreational Mixed-Use Educational**

**STADIUM,  
OPEN PAVILLION** **OFFICE SPACE,  
RETAIL,  
CAFE,  
GROCERY STORE** **LECTURE HALLS,  
LABORATORIES,  
CLASSROOM**

**+/- 25,000** **+/- 36,000** **+/- 72,000**

**Proposed**



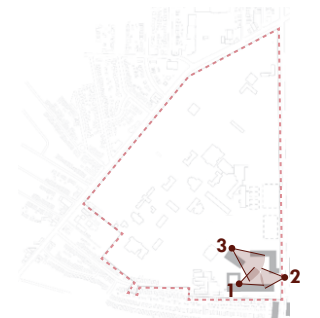
**VIEW OF THE PLAZA**  
*Perspective Drawing 1*



**VIEW OF THE PLAZA**  
*Perspective Drawing 2*



**NORTH ENTRANCE TO THE PLAZA**  
*Perspective Drawing 3*





MODEL PHOTOGRAPHS