CAMPUS MASTER PLAN, HAVERTFORD COLLEGE

Location: Haverford, PA
Client: Haverford College
Area: 216 acres, 1,168 undergraduate students
Completion: 2009

“...[W]e’ll remain true to our legacy (and our promise) as we grow and adapt in ways that are informed by who and what we are, and value.” -- College President Stephen Emerson, February 2008

“The master plan will serve as a living document and decision making tool, providing guidance for the development of the college well into the future. The plan will balance our ambitions for academic and institutional development with our commitment to sustaining the physical beauty of the campus and its buildings. The plan aims to be comprehensive, historically responsive, and environmentally proactive, and to take into consideration what Haverford College has been in the past, where it is today, and where it sees itself going in the next quarter of a century.” -- from the Haverford College Master Plan Website

VSBA was invited to serve as planners for this “living document.”

Key areas for development include the performing and visual arts; office, research and teaching spaces for faculty and students, particularly in the Humanities and Social Sciences; and student activity and social spaces. We related these specific concerns to broader development questions for access, linkage, growth, and conservation, as well as Haverford’s needs for:

- preserving and maintaining its heritage of historic buildings, while updating them to serve the needs of a constantly-evolving institution
- preserving and maintaining a beloved landscape
- providing greater degrees of accessibility, especially to those with impaired mobility
- space for community activities -- at many different scales, campus-wide to individual department or residence hall floor
- environmental stewardship.
“COLLEGE WALK” AND “FEATHERBED-ORCHARD WALK”

Adding density at the core preserves open green space