Core Campus Precinct
Zone C01 Arts Quad

North-South Section

East-West Section

View of Arts Quad looking north
Arguably the university’s most iconic space, the Arts Quad is a historic and memorable symbol of Cornell’s commitment to educating undergraduates in the liberal arts tradition. The Arts Quad and the impressive landscape of Libe Slope together offer dramatic views of the city and a distinguished setting for several of the oldest buildings on campus. The Arts Quad is often referred to as a model of successful pedestrian circulation, outdoor activity, and spatial definition. As such, very little can be proposed to enhance its vital function on campus and minimal new development is anticipated. The landscapes of this zone are well used, particularly during commencement and Slope Day ceremonies, and maintenance of these assets remains a priority.
Zone C01
General Guidelines

- As a quadrangle, the Arts Quad exhibits the canonical features of this formal typology, providing enclosure and a sense of community while establishing clear axial relationships to adjacent areas and landscapes. The character and quality of this ensemble must not be compromised.

- Libe Slope is also an iconic landscape to be preserved. Structures should not be built into the slope or along the tope edge, to preserve its natural form, the views it affords, and the visual and pedestrian connections it creates.

- New development in this zone should be limited to highly selected interventions. Additions to existing buildings should preserve the existing north-south rhythm of open spaces between buildings and strive to be of complementary scale to the existing architectural fabric.

- Rear additions to existing buildings, when of considerable size, should seek to transform what was formally the back of a building into a memorable entry. For example, the recent addition to Lincoln Hall created a new building entry from East Avenue.

- As the university grows, general wear on lawns and the pedestrian infrastructure will increase. Care should be taken regarding the programming of the Arts Quad to protect the lawn and other elements of the landscape from overuse. Alternate locations for some events and temporary tents may be considered. Upgrading the quality of paving materials and lighting may also be considered. In particular, improvement to the peripheral walks and renewal of building foundation planting should be considered. Design of some walks may be upgraded to better accommodate service and emergency vehicle access.
Re-landscaping of the Uris-Olin Library Plaza should be considered to improve its character and better complement the adjacent Arts Quad and nearby Ho Plaza. The plaza needs conversion into an attractively landscaped pedestrian-oriented place with generous use of raised, multi-seasonal flower displays and low seat wall. This project should be completed prior to Cornell’s sesquicentennial celebrations.

Parking and Service Access

- The Arts Quad should be kept free of vehicular traffic as possible in the future, with service to the development sites behind Sibley and Olive Tjaden Halls accessed from University Avenue.
- Parking and loading for the buildings on the west side of the quad will continue to occur along Central Avenue at the crest of Libe Slope.
- Due to the lack of parking facilities in the western area of Core Campus, additional below grade parking should be developed with new construction on Parcel 1B and the option of future construction on parcel 1A.
Zone C01
Parcel Development and Key Initiatives

- In light of the historic sensitivity and unique spatial rhythm and massing of structures surrounding the organizing green, the only un-assigned development parcels for this zone are behind Olive Tjaden Hall and Sibley Hall (Parcels 1A and 1B, respectively).
- Buildings currently in progress include an extension to Sibley Hall at the north east corner of the quad that spans over University Avenue as it runs along the ridge of the gorge, for the College of Architecture, Art and Planning.
- The overall project plan for the planned addition to Sibley Hall includes an additional extension to the west. This potential future extension is shown as Parcel 1B and should match the height of Sibley Hall.
- A similar addition to Olive Tjaden Hall can be considered on Parcel 1A and should match the height of the existing structure.
- The planned addition to Goldwin Smith Hall should create a formal entry on East Avenue and, if possible, provide through access to the entry on the quad.
- A campus circulator stop is proposed on East Avenue between Goldwin Smith Hall and Lincoln Hall (P01). Landscape design of areas adjacent this stop should support this use, and seating and other street furniture may be provided. Additional pedestrian traffic should be anticipated.
**Corresponding Landscape Initiatives:**

02 Founders’ Greenway Landscape Plan

**Corresponding Access and Parking (University Projects)**

- P01 Campus circulator
- P02 Structured parking
- P05 University Avenue at West Avenue

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<th>Parcel</th>
<th>Parcel Footprint (ft²)</th>
<th>Building Footprint (ft²)</th>
<th>Height (range in stories)</th>
<th>Potential GSF (range in ft²)</th>
<th>Potential units per acre (residential)</th>
<th>Number of Units (residential)</th>
<th>Permitted Uses (required uses in bold)</th>
<th>Enabling Projects</th>
<th>Concurrent Projects</th>
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