

campus and a visual means of locating one's self within the campus framework can also be used to direct people to their destination and educate them about some aspect of the campus history. To accomplish all of these goals will require that TSU develop a signage and display system which can be located throughout campus.

2. OUTDOOR ROOMS AND GATHERING SPACE

TSU's physical campus is quite large yet maintains a fairly low-density with respect to the height of buildings; only a few of which exceed 3 stories. The Main campus is laid out in a classical plan that structures the outdoor spaces mostly in a rectilinear fashion with building faces forming a series of large and small quad spaces. Although the Main campus is not rigidly orthogonal in nature, most of the buildings are oriented along a north-south axis the center of which is the amphitheater space. The pedestrian paths mimic the north-south and east-west axis but connects buildings in a rational way with sidewalks crossing the dominant north-south, making long-range views possible from any point along the major sidewalks; either east-west or north-south. The result is a feeling of wide open spaces where gathering, recreation and campus events can take place.

In general, we support continuation of the classical planning which orders space and buildings. The basic planning recommendation is to do more of what already works for TSU; that is to fill in the open spaces along TSU's major pedestrian ways, thus completing a series of "quadrangles".

In addition to completing the quadrangles, thus creating outdoor rooms, we feel it necessary to make the outdoor spaces themselves more usable and pedestrian friendly. Many of the outdoor rooms on the main campus are entirely exposed to the direct sun. Given the hot and humid nature of Nashville, there are many spring, summer and fall days when the campus outdoors is unusable because of the lack of shade and protection from the sun. We recommend in a general way that TSU seriously consider planting more deciduous trees, some slow growth and some which become part of the overstory quickly so that the outdoor rooms are more hospitable to students, faculty and staff.

New facilities should be developed in such a way that they shape a number of exterior rooms and gathering spaces. No one space appears to be the single most important exterior room where students, faculty and staff relax, participate in campus functions or attend classes held in the out of doors. The amphitheater is likely the largest and most central open space on campus, but the smaller spaces around Floyd Payne and the library appear to be the site of more gatherings.

The core of campus contains several of these spaces. Two spaces currently exist, the old quad and the central core which were discussed previously in Memorandum 3.1.4 Open Space and Pedestrian Circulation. These spaces are proposed to remain with some minor improvements. The plan also proposes to create two new oval shaped gathering spaces to help orient future housing and academic development near the core of campus.

The northern portion of campus is also slightly reconfigured to accommodate a new athletic promenade between John Merritt and the Olympic sculpture. The new space replaces surface parking to create a centralized gathering space for the surrounding athletic facilities. The space is proposed to serve as an area for prep rally's, tailgating, event tents, and ceremonial celebrations for all the University athletic and recreational programs. The

location, at the heart of the athletic precinct, adequately serves all facilities and establishes a sense of campus tradition, pride, and grandeur for everyone to experience.

3. COMMUNAL/SOCIAL CORRIDORS

Communal / Social Corridors are spaces that are created either by the confluence of major circulation routes or element placements that generate activity (i.e. student union, recreation center, etc.). Their function and activity is similar to what one could expect to find in a hallway of a building. They are the social spaces connecting various portions of campus together and are busy with the daily movement of students, faculty, and staff.

There are variety of these types of spaces scattered across, often acting as the linkage between the Central Gathering Spaces. The general character of these spaces is similar in terms of scale, appearance, shape, and activity. They are fairly narrow linear spaces, defined by the sides of buildings. Communal / Social Corridors are some of the most highly utilized areas on campus with pedestrian movement, as they link the Central Gathering Spaces together and are adjacent to some of the most active facilities on campus. The Communal / Social Corridors are often lined with trees and vegetation emphasizing the movement patterns and overall connectedness to other portions of campus.

4. PASSIVE OUTDOOR ROOMS

Passive Outdoor Rooms are the smaller aesthetically pleasing centerpieces created at the forecourt to major entries. They are often semi-tranquil spaces offering an escape from the indoor environment, complete with small seating areas, garden like paths, and planting beds. The character of Passive Outdoor Rooms varies from one another in terms of scale, appearance, and shape.

There are a variety of Passive Outdoor Rooms scattered across campus. Their functions vary greatly depending on the location. Some of the Passive Outdoor Rooms are intimate personal spaces functioning as entry gardens or entry plazas while others or more communal functioning as a communal front door courtyard or threshold into a larger public space.

5. RESIDENTIAL COURTYARDS

Residential courtyards are the spaces formed by the layout of student housing. The spaces are intended to be used by residents of the housing facilities for unstructured outdoor activities. The courtyards are typically placed between adjacent residential structures or parking, opposite the large public open spaces (i.e. Central Gathering Space). The Residential Courtyards are scattered throughout various portions of campus in and around the student housing complexes.

6. ATHLETIC PARKS

Athletic Parks are the open spaces surrounding the Sport Fields on the north end of campus. They are primarily unstructured leisure spaces containing expansive areas of turf. The Athletic Parks serve as the foundation and setting for Sport Fields, establishing a uniform aesthetic park like quality for the north end of campus.

7. STREESCAPES AND BUFFERS

Streetscapes and Buffers are the spaces surrounding all major roadways in and around campus. Their location serves as the stage or forecourt to viewers passing by, contributing to the overall visual perception of campus. Streetscapes and Buffers are often heavily landscaped with a consistent plant pallet adding to the uniform cohesion of the University. They are spaces which are heavily viewed by University students, faculty, staff, and general public yet are rarely inhabited by people. They also function as a physical buffer and transition zone between the University and community.

8. SPORT FIELDS

Sports Fields are sites used for structured outdoor athletic games or informal recreational use. These are concentrated in the north and west central portion of campus and consist of controlled access athletic spaces (baseball field, softball field, football field and practice fields, track and field, and tennis courts) and some informal multi-purpose recreational fields.

9. REMEDIATION AREAS

Remediation Areas are opens spaces that have been restored to their natural state for the general protection of the environment. The Remediation Areas enable the re-growth of vegetation to areas that had previously been distributed, helping to stabilize the environment.

10. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENTS AND SPECIALTY OPEN SPACES

- **Nodes / Gathering Space:**

Gathering Space / Nodes typically form at the crossroads of major pedestrian circulation routs and around activity generation programmed spaces (i.e. Student Center, Library, etc.) Nodes should be supported with group-oriented seating that promotes and accommodates lingering. Nodes are also prime locations for public art, sculpture, and other sensory elements that benefit from exposure and contribute to a pleasant aesthetic environment. Nodes are also effective in supporting campus safety.

- **Gateway Signage:**

Gateway signage provides TSU's identification to the adjacent community through text based signs or other University identifiable emblems. Name signs are located at all major vehicular access roads and designed large enough for automotive visibility. All the signage should be convenient and easy to follow from a vehicular perspective, as it will typically be the first experience one has to TSU.

- **Landmarks / Focal Points:**

Landmarks and focal points are important contributors to circulation and place identification and useful wayfinding surrogates for signage. Optimally, focal point elements contribute to use and appeal of an adjacent open space and/or circulation system, and/or emphasize proximate building programming. The intersections of major pedestrian circulation routes are highly visible and well used locations worthy of a prominent focal point, delimiting the importance of the space and assisting in movement.