



The 2014 Campus Master Plan Update PART 1 STRENGTHEN HISTORIC CAMPUS

The historic academic core of campus stretches from the Gates at Middle Path to Old Kenyon and is the physical and symbolic heart of the campus. Consolidating academics in this core was a priority of the 2004 Master Plan and the College continues to address this area of focus. With the completion of Horvitz Hall for Studio Art, the furthest afield academic department has been brought into the core.

Academic programs are housed in a variety of buildings on campus. The campus core has eight large academic buildings that house the Humanities, Sciences and Arts. There are ten academic cottages on the outskirts of the core—on College Park Street or the edge of the Village—that house the Humanities. The academic cottages are a cherished part of the Kenyon experience but they are unable to accommodate larger collaborative classrooms or modern labs and present ongoing accessibility challenges. Overcrowding and lack of accessibility plague Ascension, which is the largest academic building on campus.

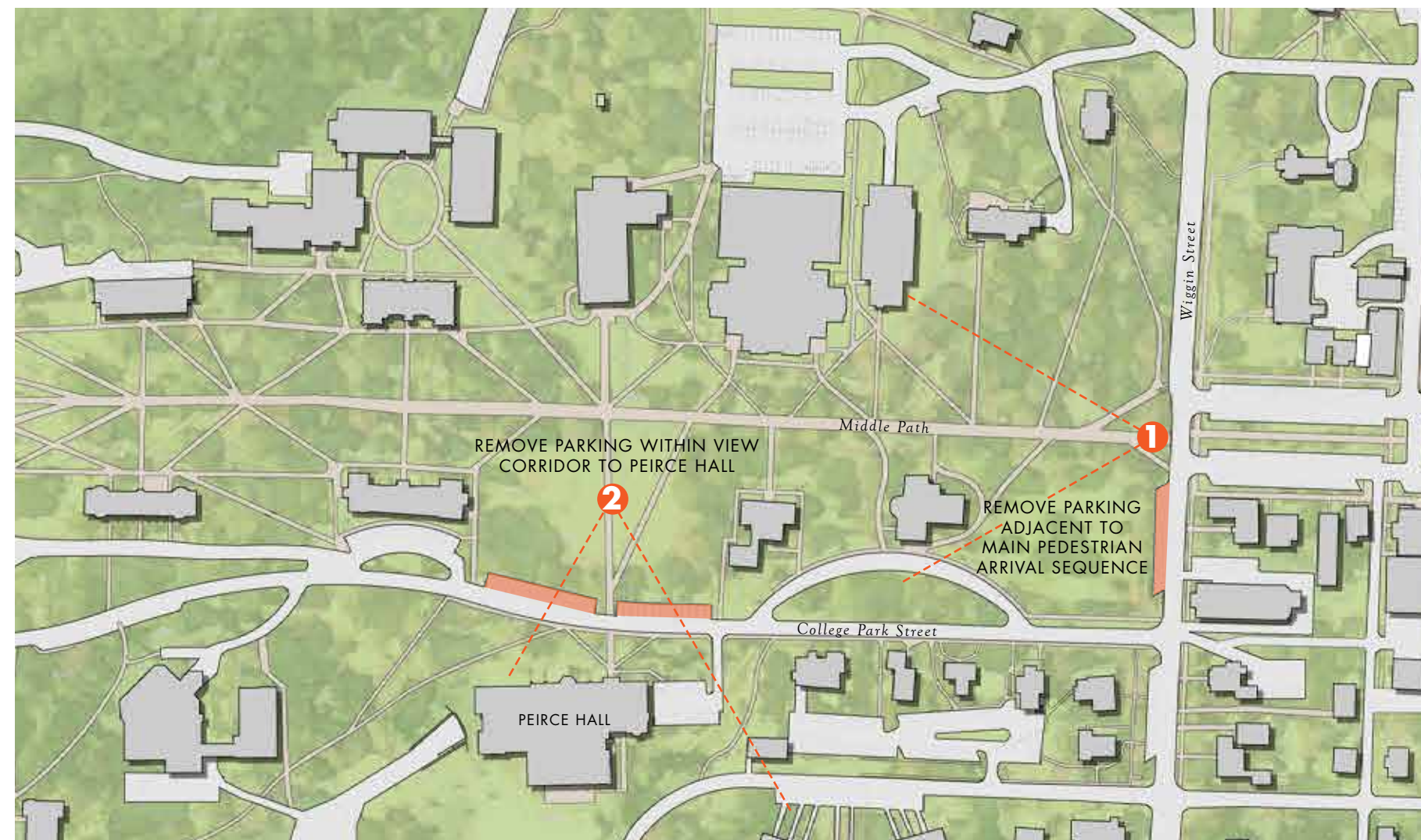
Visual Arts, Music and Sciences are well served with newer buildings with the exception of the Biology Department which has seen tremendous growth. Dance, Drama and Film facilities have suffered from deferred maintenance and the expansion of the Film program has put additional pressure on these facilities. Access to the Performing Arts facilities is also a challenge due to their location on the eastern slope of the ridge. The quantity and location of faculty office space is an ongoing issue, with faculty often unable to be housed adjacent to their departmental colleagues.

Providing opportunities for expansion without detracting from the fabric of the historic core is a challenge. The space between the buildings that line Middle Path and the views to the hills beyond is as powerful and important to the campus as the historic buildings themselves. Past development has closed these view corridors in an attempt to accommodate growth in the core. Expansion opportunities on the ridge are limited by the ability to create an accessible route to the buildings and the economics of construction on a hill.

Kenyon is a small college and should continue to feel like a small college, with academics consolidated in the core in a sensitive way that preserves the scale, fabric and intimate nature of the college.



View 1 Pedestrian arrival to the core campus via Middle Path is a powerful and memorable experience. The vehicular arrival sequence should be equally as successful. Parking should be moved away from important pedestrian arrival points, and out of significant view corridors.



Entry Sequence Improvements

The academic core is a beautiful composition of historic buildings set in a dramatic green space with the stone gates on Middle Path signifying the gateway into the campus core for the pedestrian. The arrival by vehicle is less well orchestrated and requires greater master planning consideration.

Wiggin and College Park streets offer expansive views into the campus core, but these views are obstructed by parked cars. The map above indicates two zones where parking should be removed to provide unfettered views into the campus, redefine the edge of the academic core and enhance the sense of arrival.



View 2 The removal of parking along College Park Street will improve the arrival sequence and the pedestrian experience.

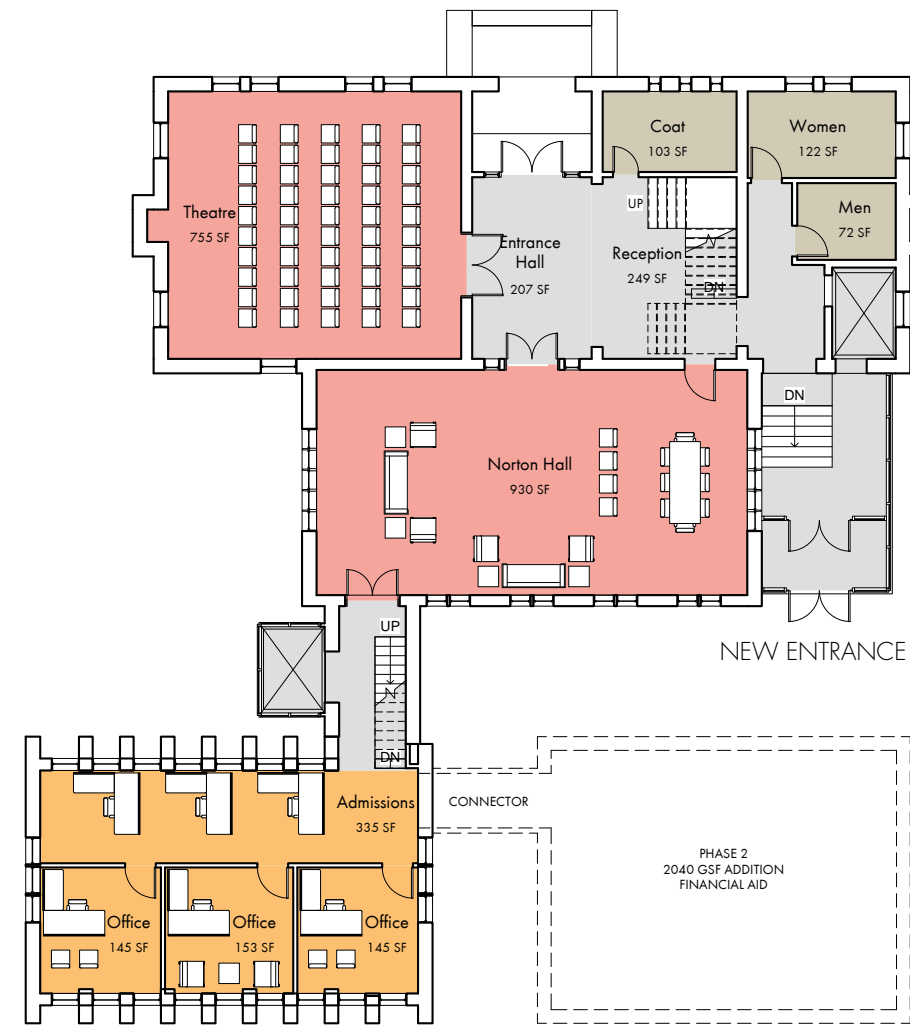
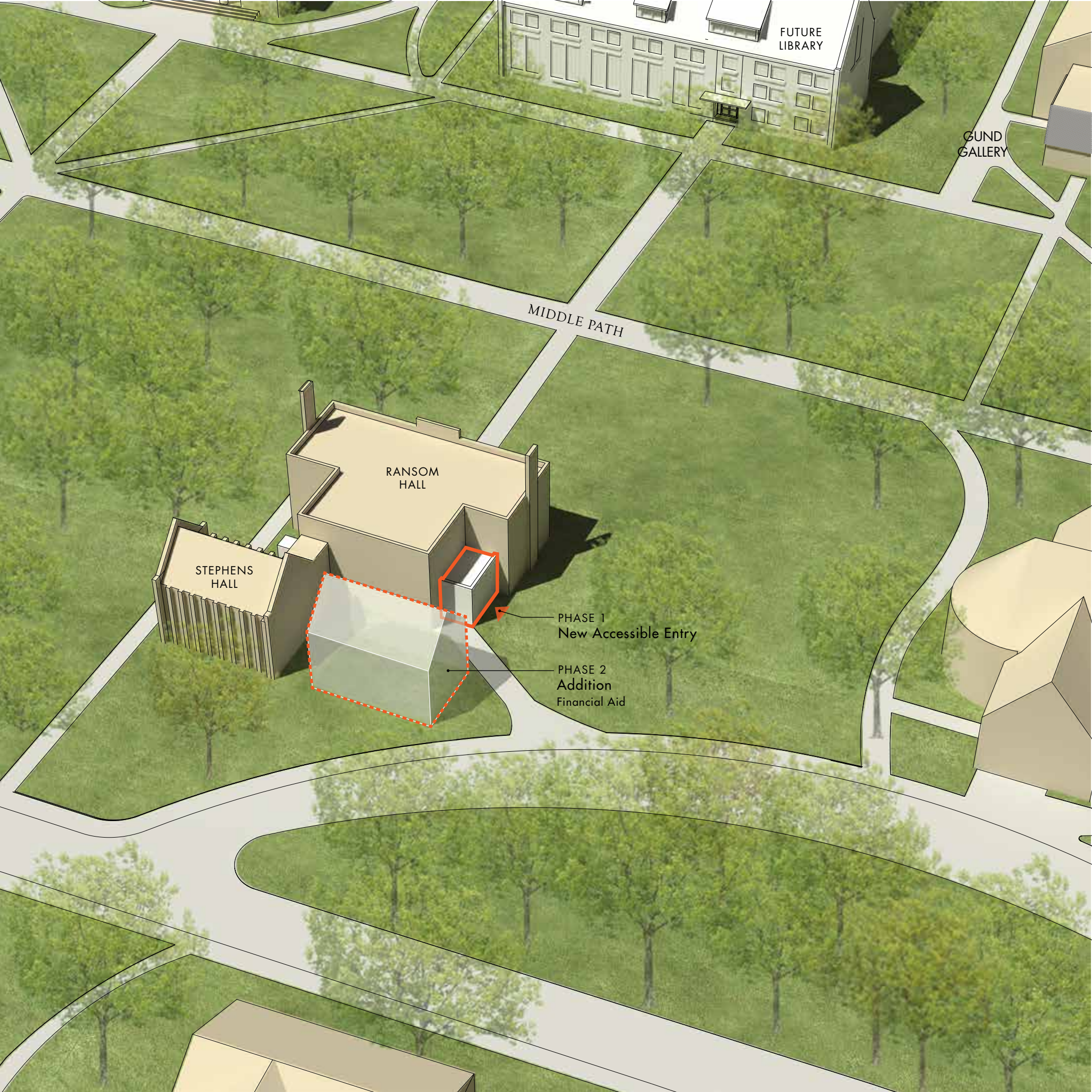


Admissions & Financial Aid

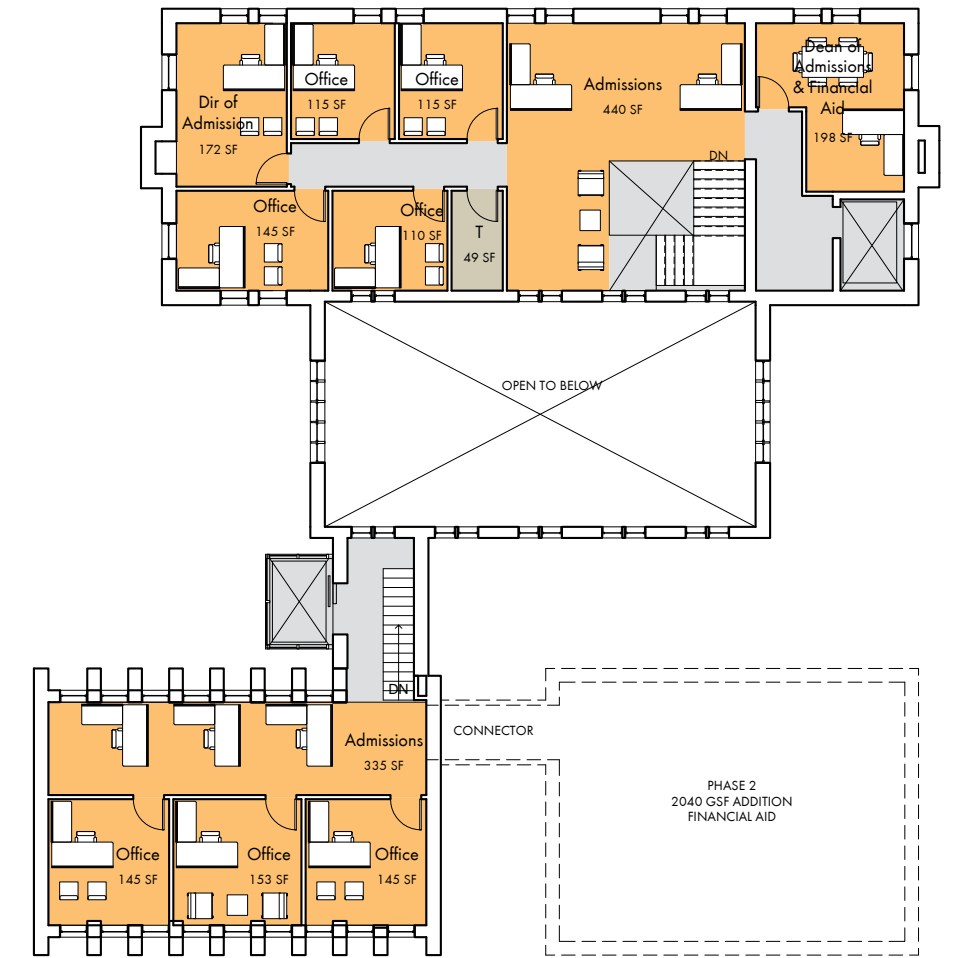
An essential goal of the 2014 Master Plan update was creating a welcoming and inviting first impression of the campus for visitors, prospective students and their families. While Ransom Hall, pictured above, is an historic gem that fronts Middle Path, most visitors approach this building from the rear. In addition to lacking a gracious accessible entrance, Ransom does not accommodate the entire Admissions & Financial Aid team nor serve as an adequate welcome center for visitors.

Numerous renovations and repurposing efforts over the years have compromised the building's ability to support the needs of the department. Offices are too small to accommodate guests, accessibility within the buildings is limited, and Financial Aid has been moved across the street to Edelstein House.

Alternative sites for Admissions were explored but discarded after students expressed lasting memories of their first visit to campus, stepping into the historic Norton Reading Room. Locating Admissions in the historic academic core immerses prospective students immediately in the heart of Kenyon, creating a lasting first impression and therefore should be maintained.



First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan

Ransom Hall 1910

Stephens Hall 1901

A phased renovation with a modest addition to Ransom/Stephens would create a more functionally-successful building for Admissions & Financial Aid while keeping this critical campus function in the historic academic core. This approach would require relocating the Office of the President to make room for expansion of the Admissions offices and a theatre/visitors center.

Phase One would fulfill the current needs of Admissions in Ransom/Stephens. A new entrance added to the North would provide a more graceful accessible entrance visible from the vehicular approach. The historic Magazine Room could be restored and repurposed as a 50-seat theatre/visitors center.

Phase Two would consist of a 2,000 GSF addition that would allow for the reuniting of Admissions & Financial Aid under one roof. The addition would echo the massing of Stephens and complete the historic expansion plan.



Philomathesian Lecture Hall

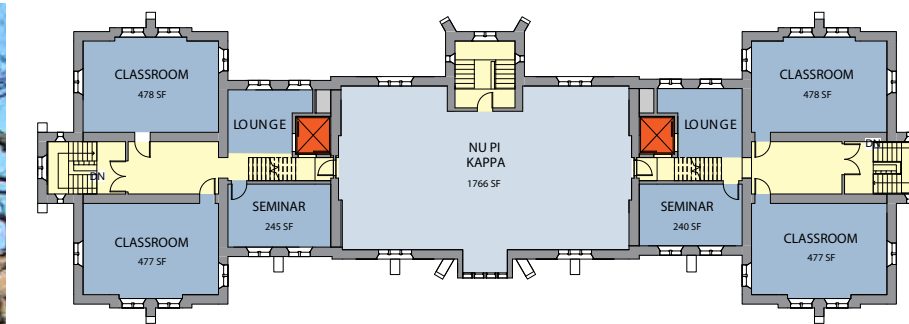


Ascension Hall Entry

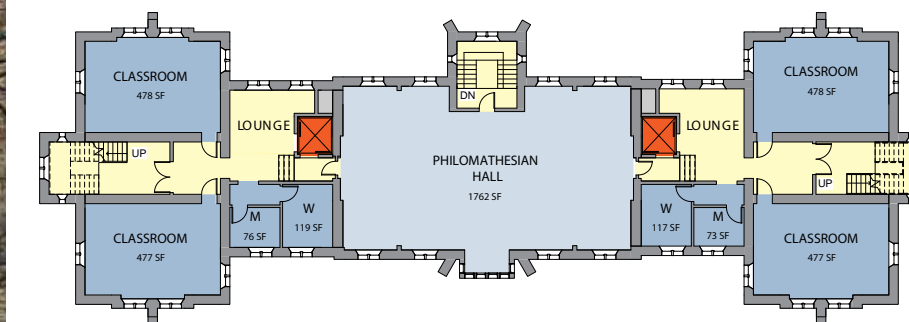
Ascension Hall 1859

Ascension Hall houses key historic teaching spaces and faculty offices supporting Classics, Economics, Modern Languages and Literatures, Philosophy and Religious Studies. Almost every student at Kenyon has an opportunity to take a class in Ascension. The Victorian Gothic building was the first on campus designed primarily for classroom use, accommodating the Nu Pi Kappa reading room and the Philomathesian lecture hall.

Preservation of this building and its iconic spaces is a priority. If Ascension is to continue to function as a primary academic building, accessibility must be addressed. The main entry is through a landing in the stair tower and the upper levels are interrupted by a large raised space in the center of the building. Removing these barriers would require inserting two elevators and creation of an accessible entry from the east.

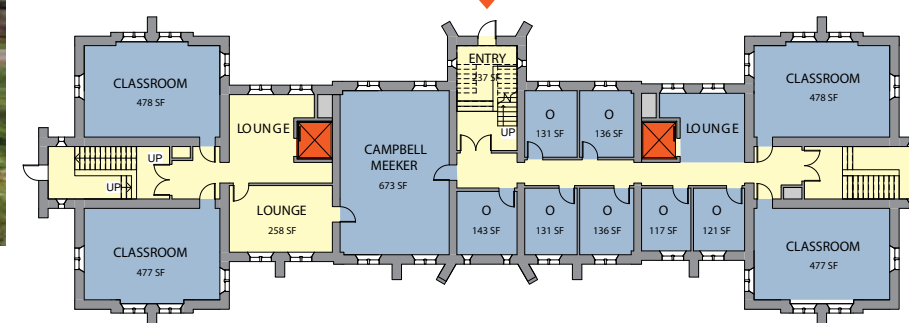


Level 3

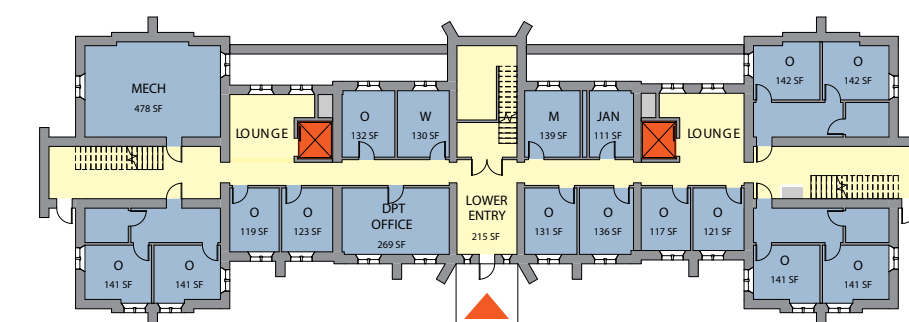


Level 2

Middle Path Entry at Grade



Ground Level

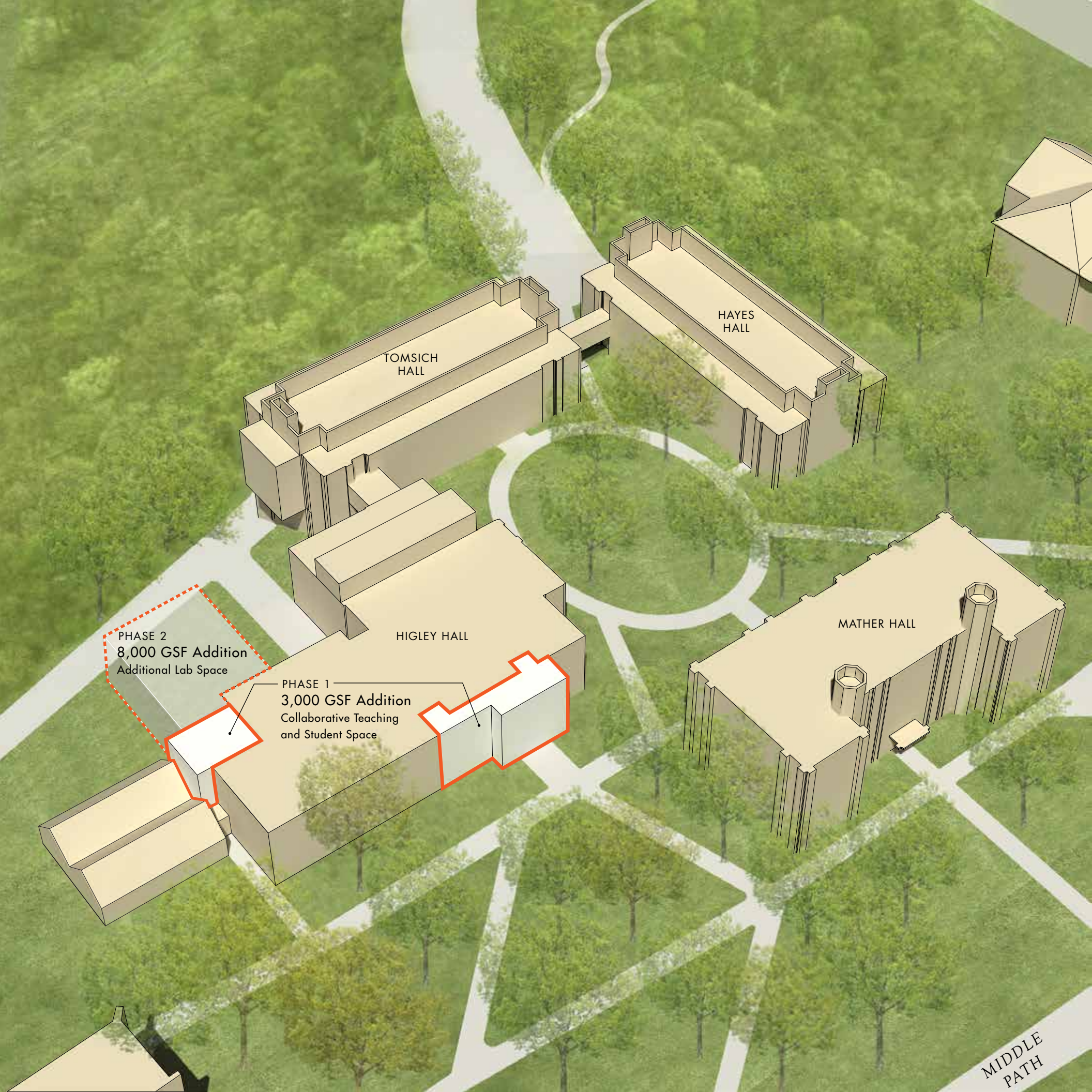


Accessible Entry at Grade

Lower Level

PROPOSED ACCESSIBILITY UPGRADES TO ASCENSION

The building currently includes 12 classrooms and 42 faculty offices. In order to complete the proposed accessibility upgrades, some spaces currently housed in Ascension would need to be accommodated elsewhere on campus.

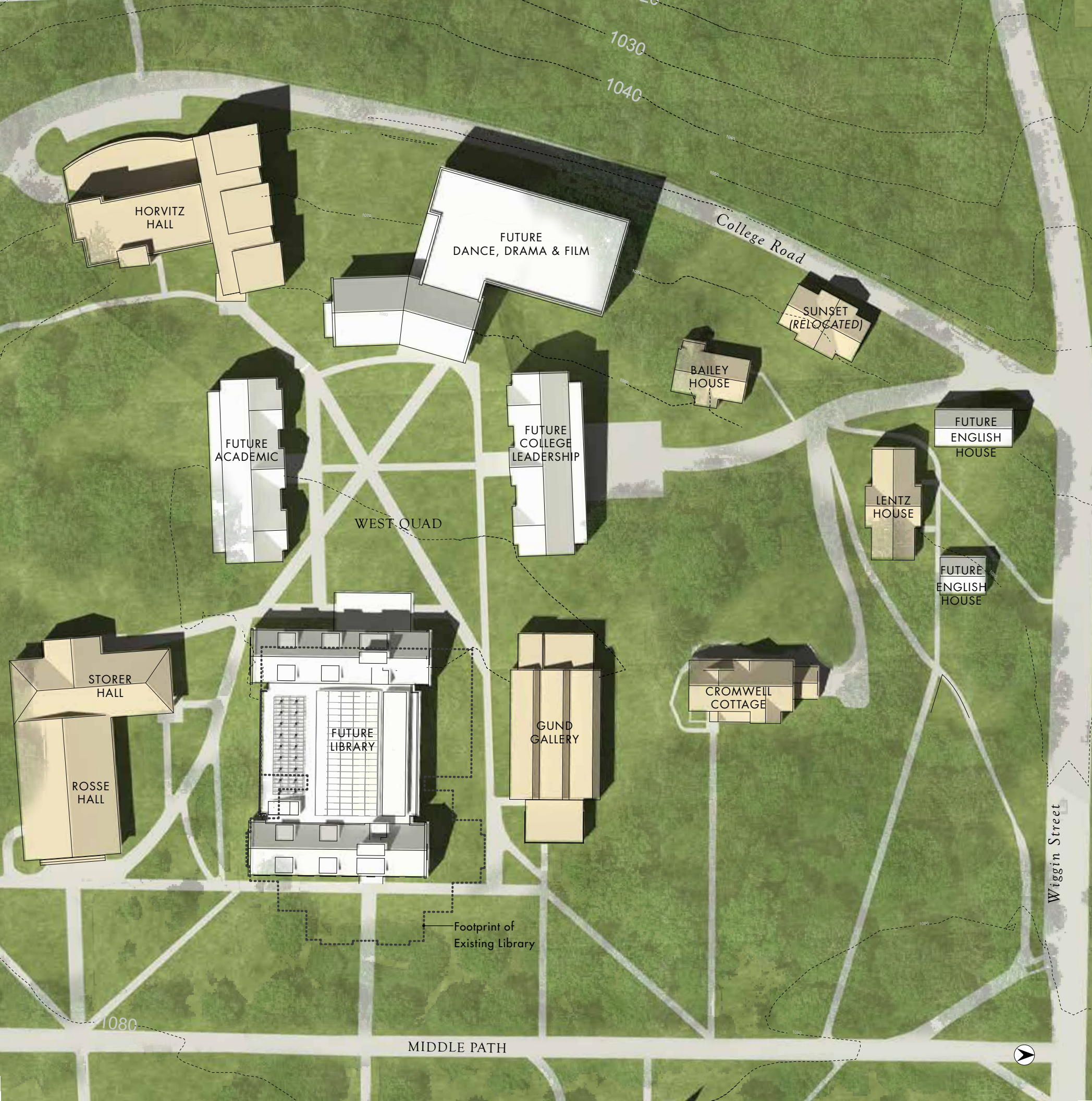


Higley Hall 1968

Higley Hall was built to support an educational and research model no longer in practice by Kenyon’s Biology Department. An endowed chair in Neurobiology and expansion in interdisciplinary programs have put greater demand on the existing facilities. Higley Hall only received a limited renovation when the Science Quad and the Fischman Wing were constructed in the 1990s. A 2012 study examined how the existing building could be renovated to support the current teaching/research model and to support formal, informal and interdisciplinary collaboration that is essential to science education today.

A complete renovation with a 3,000 GSF expansion could accommodate current pedagogies and provide collaborative student and teaching spaces. A larger addition of 8,000 GSF would be required to accommodate the additional lab space identified by the

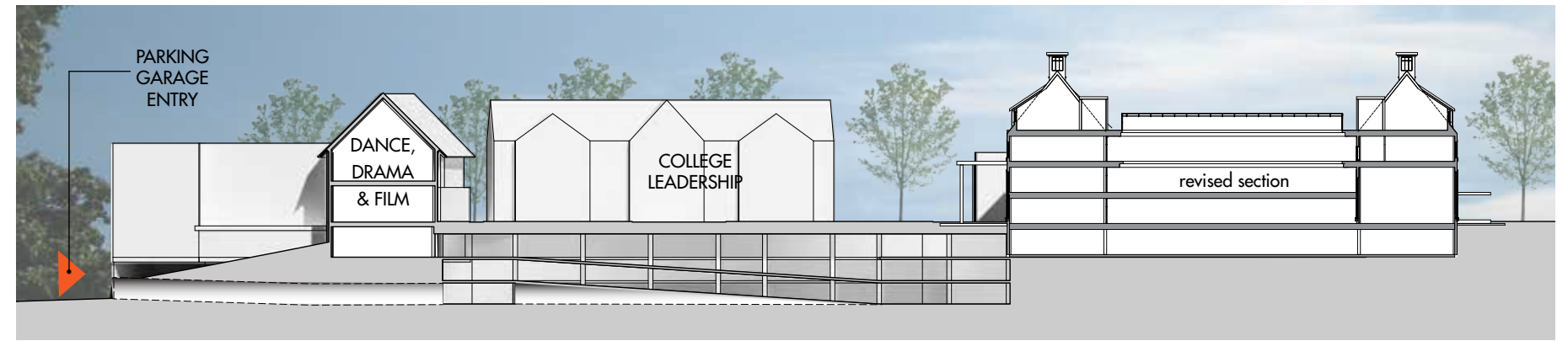
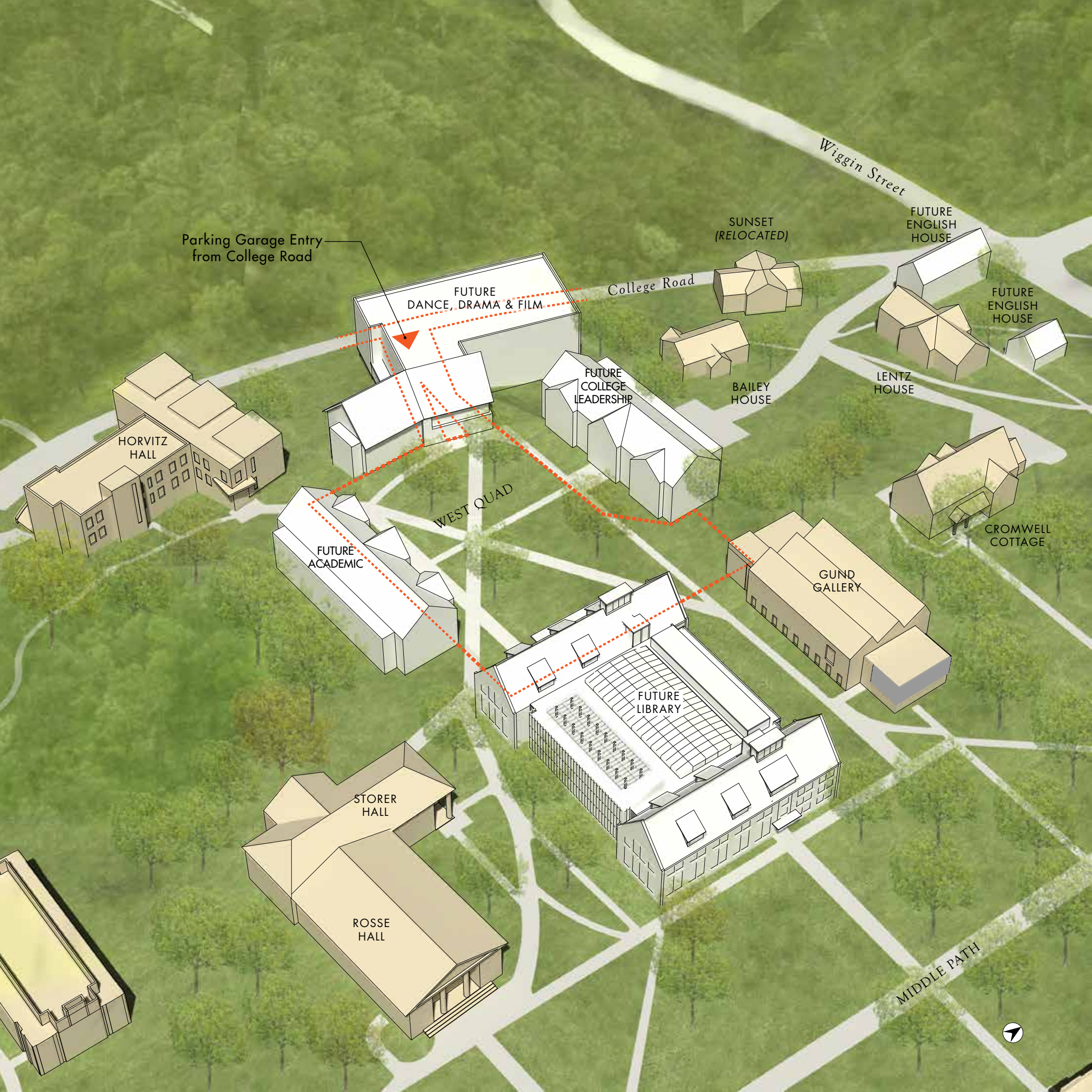
department. A renovation expansion of Higley Hall also presents the opportunity to create a new front door for the building and open the building to Middle Path.



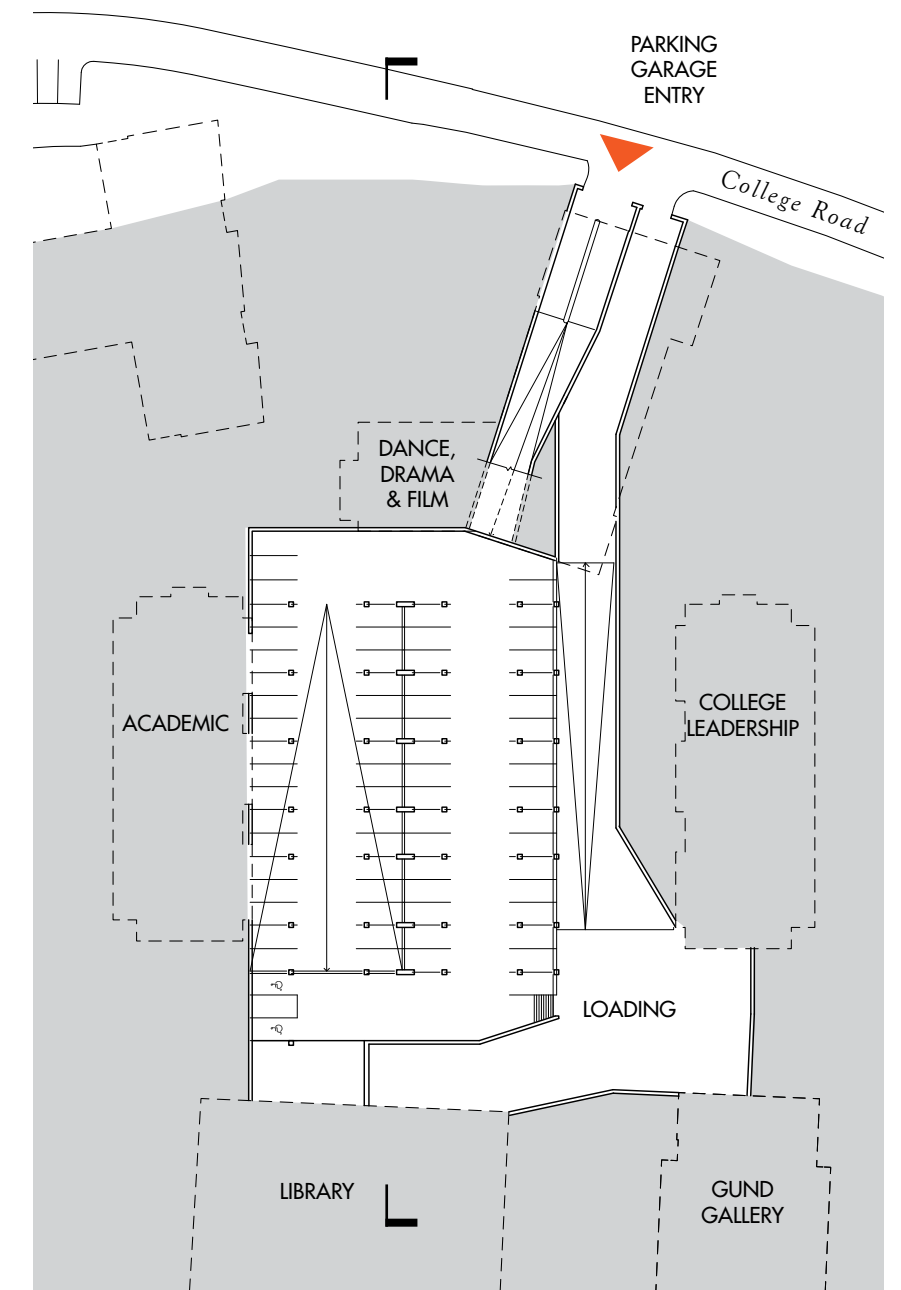
West Quad

The proposed West Quad allows for expansion in the campus core without altering the experience of Middle Path, preserving the rhythm of the historic buildings and the view corridors to the hills beyond. New academic, performing arts and college leadership buildings would frame the quad and a renovated library would open up to the new space creating a dynamic, active social space. The West Quad would bring together academics, arts and college leadership.

Construction of the West Quad would require the relocation of existing surface parking spaces and Sunset Cottage. An ideal location for Sunset is a prominent site to the north of Bailey House and adjacent to the Lentz English House, creating an English/literary precinct.



Section through proposed parking garage

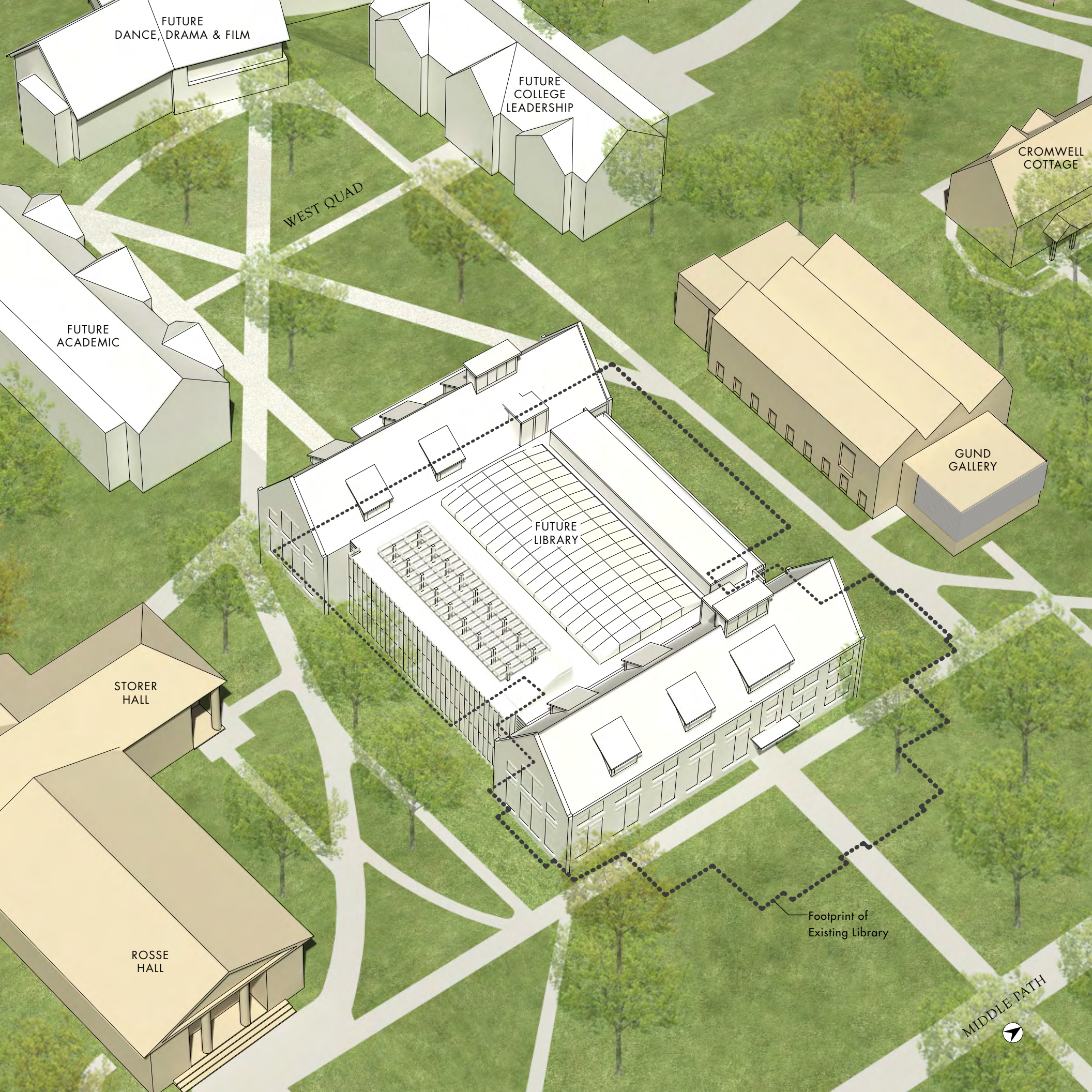


Parking Level Plan

West Quad Parking

Expansion of the West Quad requires relocating 101 surface parking spaces west of the Library. These centrally located parking spaces are important to the overall campus parking plan. The addition of new buildings in the West Quad will create additional demand in this precinct of campus.

A 300-car underground parking structure could replace existing surface spaces, accommodate increased demand and allow for the removal of surface parking (30 spaces) that lines the eastern edge of the academic quad along College Park Street and obstructs views into the Quad. It can also provide service access and loading facilities for the Library, Gund Gallery and the proposed College Leadership building.



Library

The Gordon Keith Chalmers Memorial Library was opened in 1962 with a book capacity of 201,000 volumes and seating capacity of 352. It was set back from Middle Path with wide steps leading to a monumental entry. The 1986 Olin Library addition to Chalmers doubled the book capacity to 500,000 volumes and increased seating to 600. The addition is situated between Chalmers and Middle Path. The gracious lawn and the monumental entrance are gone. The grade from Middle Path slopes down to the current entrance which is at the basement level of Chalmers. The Library's proper entrance is at the second level of a glassed-in atrium. An important goal of future work on the Library is to restore a dignified library entry experience and relationship to Middle Path.

The Olin and Chalmers Libraries currently house Kenyon's Library and Information Services (LBIS) which provide a broad range of services.

The Library provides access to 1.1 million titles, periodicals and multi-media selections on site. In addition to the main collection, Kenyon has unique and historical collections including the Kenyon College Archives, Digital Kenyon and Special Collections. Information Services at Olin and Chalmers Libraries include Institutional Research, Enterprise Infrastructure and User Services. Current partners located in LBIS are the Writing Center, Student Accessibility Support Services, Center for Innovative Pedagogy and a Career Development satellite office.

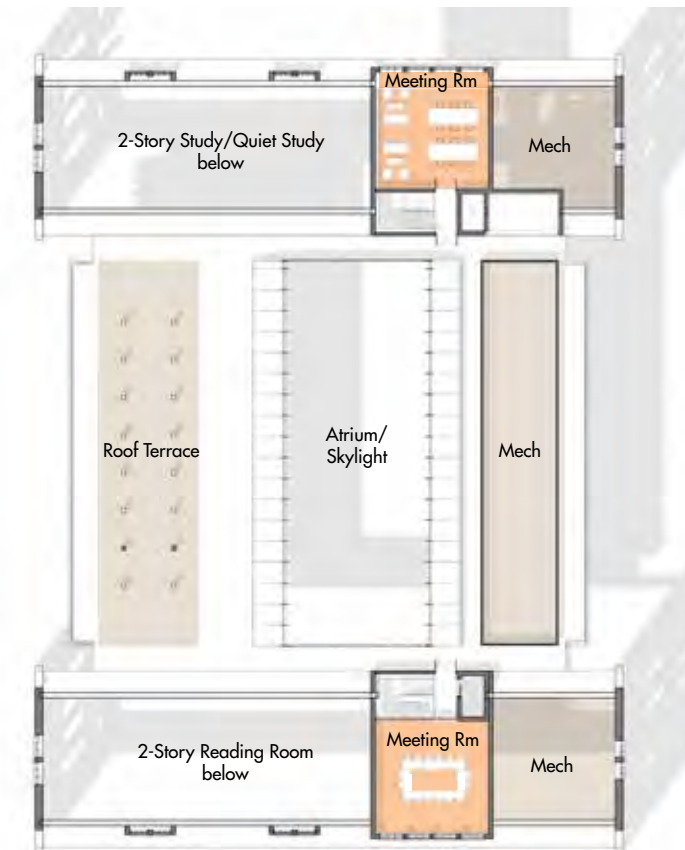
The library is physically and symbolically at the center of Kenyon academic life. Contemporary libraries are shifting from the traditional emphasis on collections to active engagement in support of the student's academic development. Future work on the library must create lively user-focused spaces at the crossroads of disciplines and provide a range of services that further Kenyon's institutional goals.



Proposed Level 02



Proposed Level 03



Proposed Level 04



Proposed 4th Floor Meeting Room



Proposed Level 00

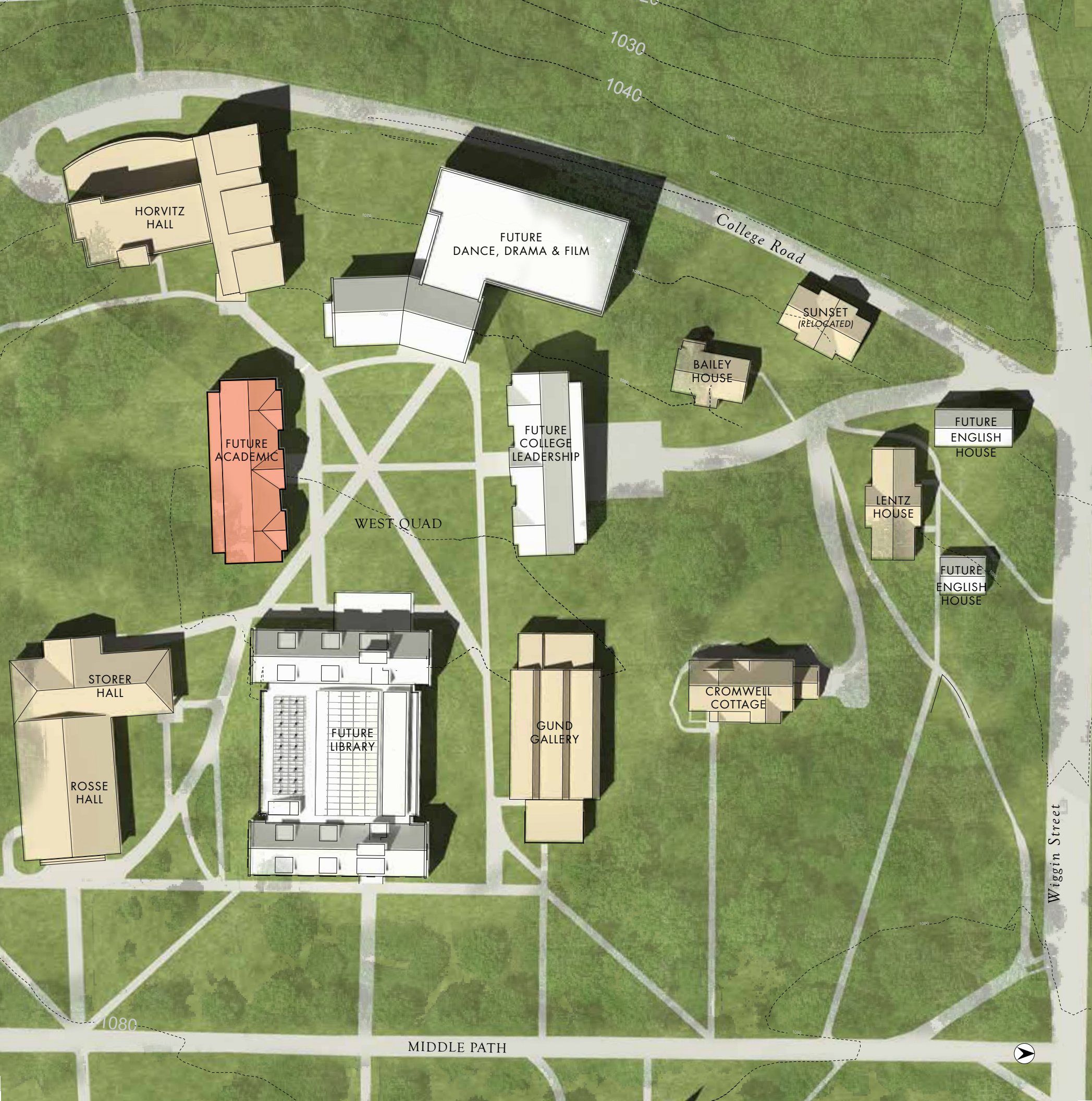
- STAFF
- COLLECTIONS
- COLLECTIONS (Compact)
- COLLECTIONS (HALF-HEIGHT)
- SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
- SEATING
- PARTNERS
- MEDIA



Proposed Level 01



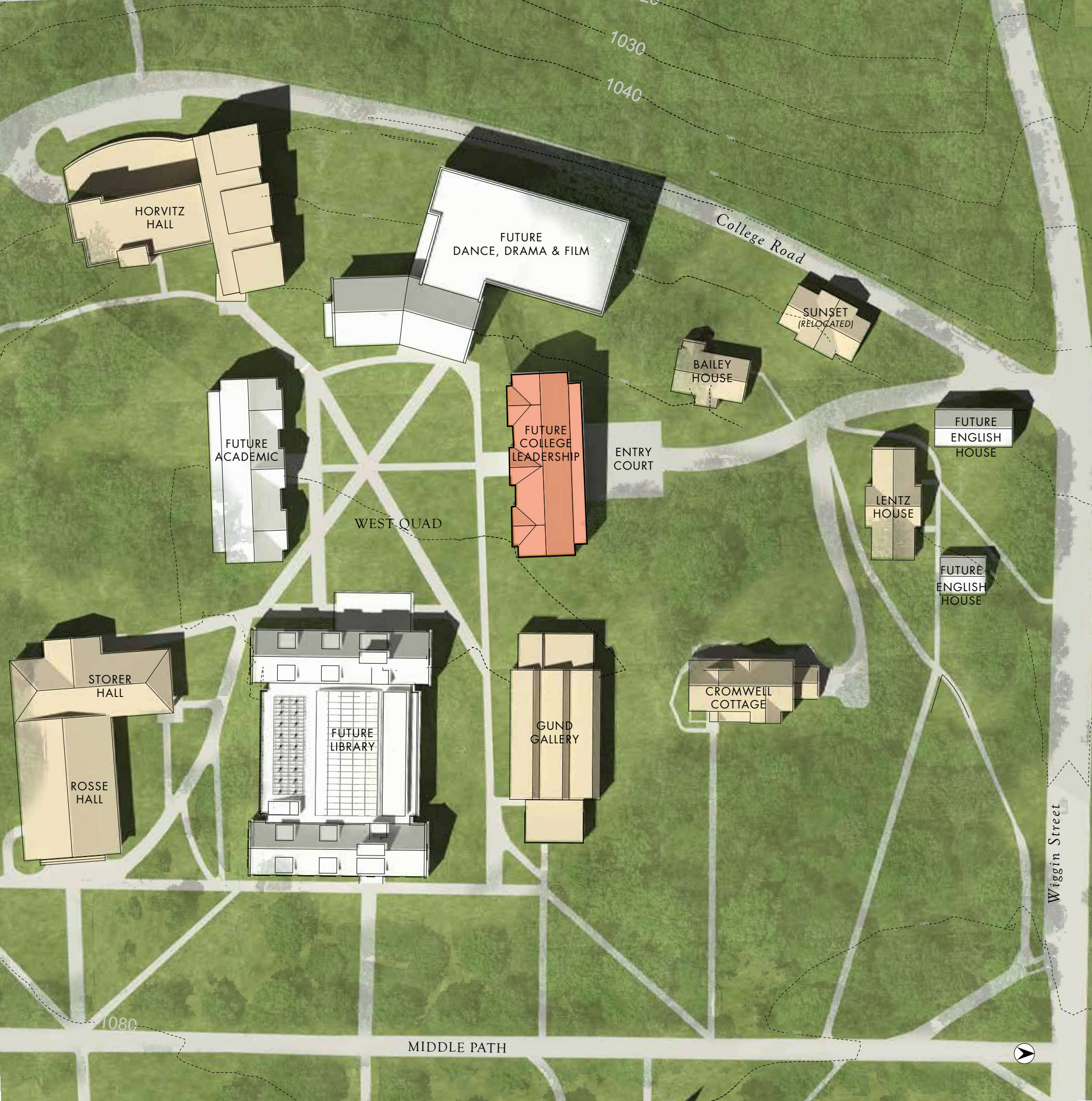
Proposed Main Reading Room



Academic Building

A new academic building would help alleviate overcrowding in Ascension and provide some of the larger, technology rich and accessible teaching spaces that are not available in the academic cottages. The building would accommodate three 40-seat classrooms, a 350-seat auditorium, seminar rooms, and additional faculty office space. A new academic building could also provide opportunities for formal and informal collaborative interdisciplinary learning spaces.

The Economics department is a candidate for the primary occupant of the new academic building, but learning spaces would be shared by many departments. These new flexible learning spaces and auditorium could make this building a useful amenity for many departments and campus groups.



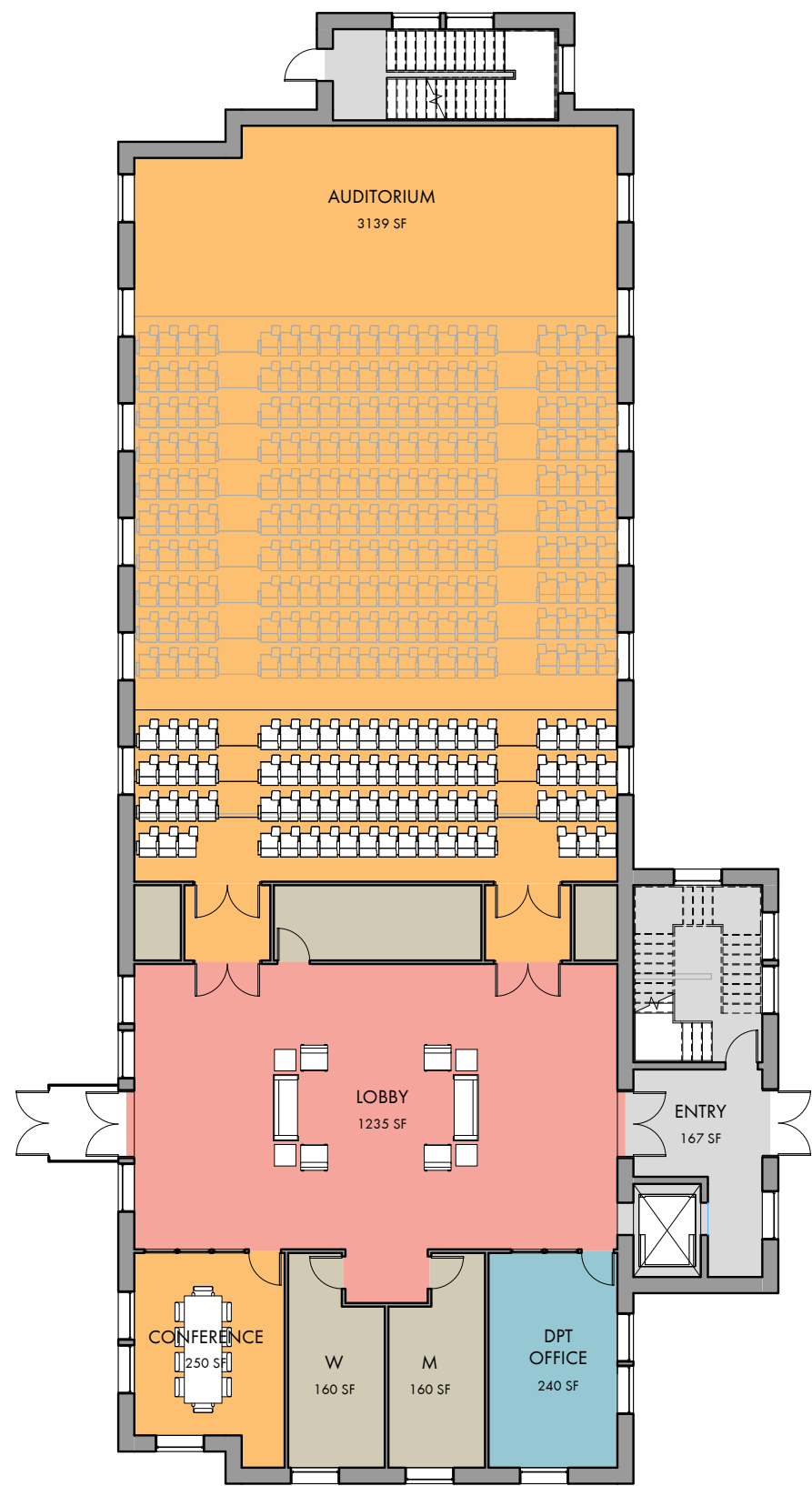
Denison University, GUND Partnership

College Leadership

College Leadership is currently housed in a variety of repurposed spaces across campus. College Relations has outgrown their home in a series of dilapidated houses in the Village Core. The Office of the President is uncomfortably housed on the 2nd floor of Ransom with Admissions occupying the balance of the building. The Office of the Provost occupies Bailey House on the eastern edge of the academic core. Many of these spaces are not accessible and lack both an outward image and interior functionality consistent with their mission as the public face of the college.

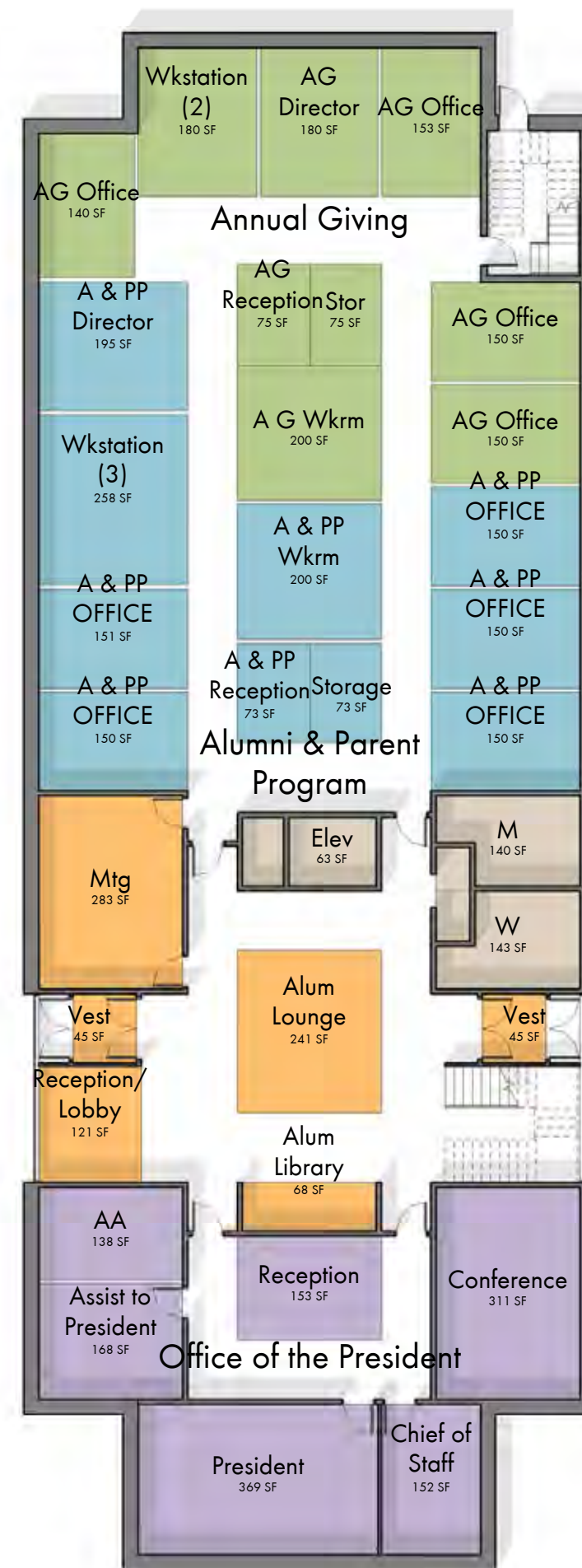
Consolidating College Leadership in the heart of the academic core could create a new visible and public face for College Leadership. Bringing together these groups could create synergies between the President, Provost, Development, Public Affairs and Alumni Affairs. The building could be a welcoming home for Alumni

returning to campus in the heart of the academic core. An entry court to the north, accessed from College Drive would provide a welcoming vehicular approach for visitors to the college.



Academic Building West Quad Level

The Campus Quad level of the Academic building could accommodate a 350-seat auditorium. Upper levels would house three 40-seat collaborative classrooms, seminar rooms and faculty offices. The building entry would also serve as access to the parking garage. This scenario could provide much needed large academic spaces and faculty offices while serving as an important anchor for the West Quad.



College Leadership West Quad Level

College leadership, an important public face to the College, is currently dispersed in a variety of repurposed spaces across Campus. This does not facilitate the vital collaboration that can take place at this level of the College's administration. The Campus Quad Level of the College Leadership building could accommodate the office of the President, an Alumni Lounge, the office of Alumni and Parent programs and Annual Giving. Upper levels of the buildings would house Development, Information Services and Public Affairs. Bringing together these groups could create synergies among the President, Provost, Development, Public Affairs and Alumni Affairs, to the real benefit of College administration overall.



Williams College, William Rawn Associates

Arts District: Dance, Drama and Film

The Dance, Drama and Film department needs additional performance, rehearsal, office and teaching space. The Film program has seen tremendous growth and is seen as an important area of study in attracting top students. The college has struggled to provide appropriate facilities to support this program on campus. A new Performing Arts building could accommodate all of these needs and bring the department under one roof. Locating the building north of Horvitz Hall would create an Arts Precinct that unites Performing Arts, Music, Studio Arts, Art History and the Gallery.

The 186-seat Hill theatre could be repurposed as a student performance venue. The Bolton Dance Building, formerly Shaffer Pool built in 1935, could become a student social space.

A new Performing Arts building could accommodate a 350-seat theatre, a 200-seat dance performance theatre, a black box theatre, two dance studios, a film screening theatre, a film studio, classrooms and faculty offices. The adjacent parking garage would provide parking for performances.



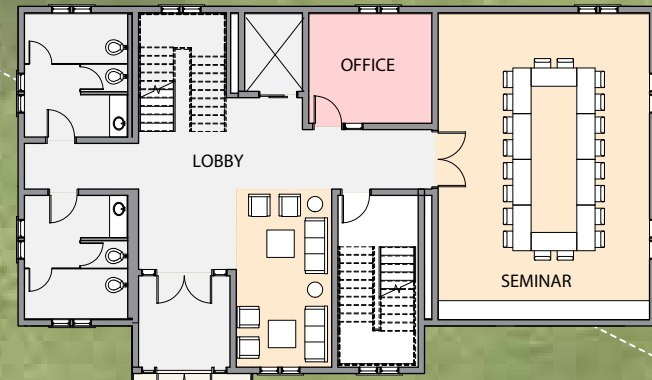
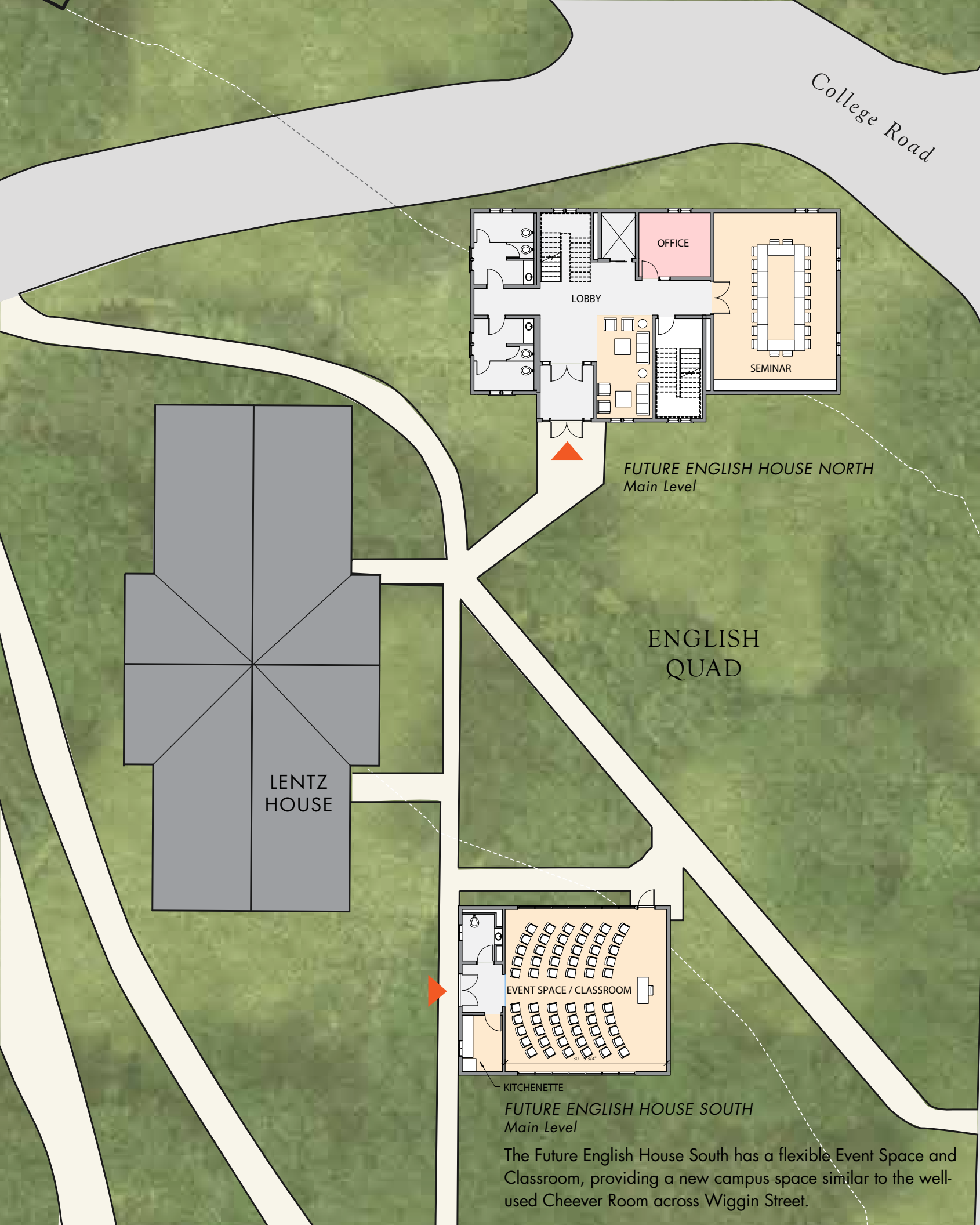
Finn House

English Quad

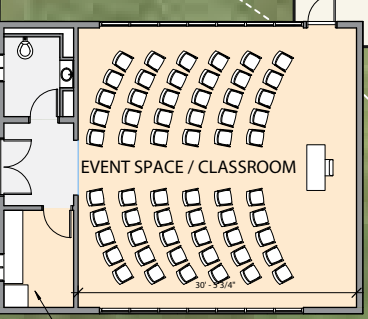
Lentz House was the first step in creating a grouping of English buildings that would provide additional facilities to meet the needs and goals of the department while maintaining the cherished intimacy of the academic house model. The next step would be the relocation of Sunset Cottage to the prominent site at the entrance to campus and the addition of a reading room house, akin to the Cheever Room of Finn House, that would provide space for larger classes and events. Proximity to Finn House, home of The Kenyon Review, creates a literary district on Wiggin Street.



Lentz House



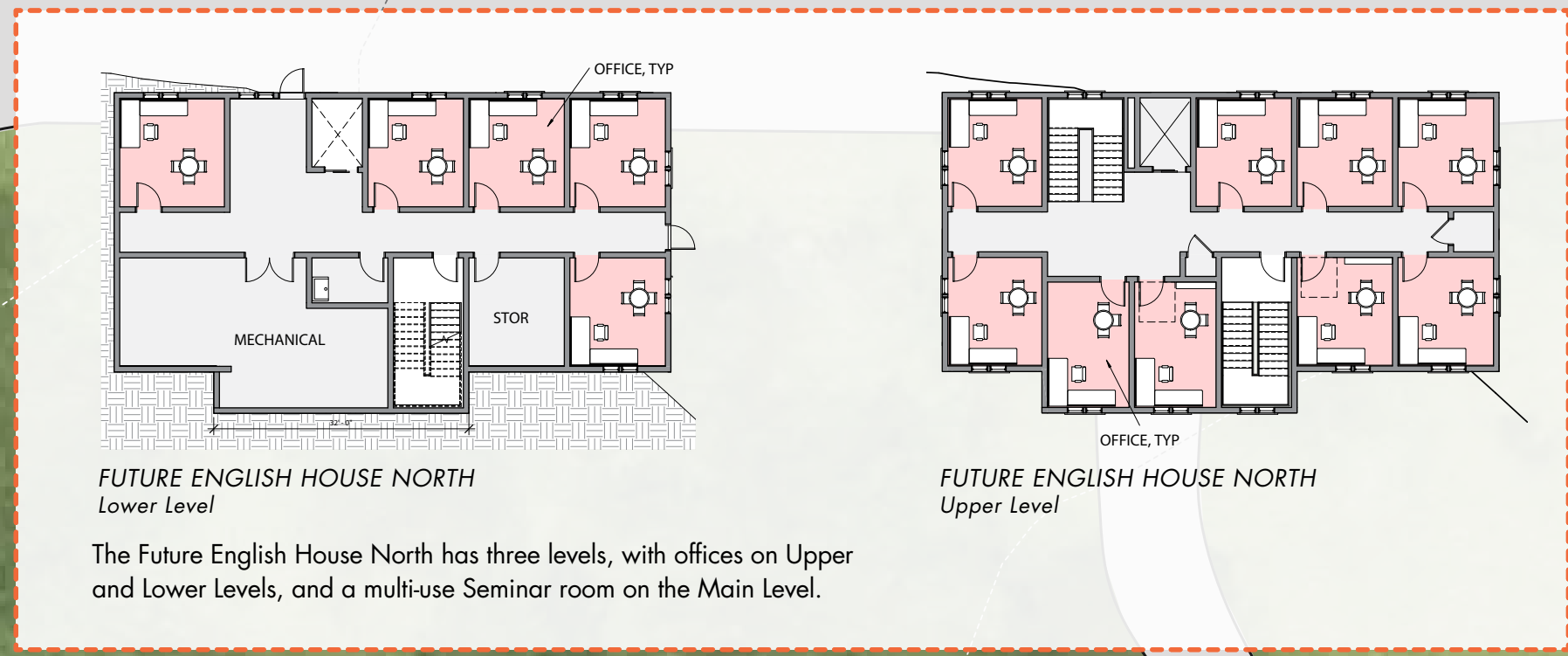
FUTURE ENGLISH HOUSE NORTH
Main Level



FUTURE ENGLISH HOUSE SOUTH
Main Level

The Future English House South has a flexible Event Space and Classroom, providing a new campus space similar to the well-used Cheever Room across Wiggin Street.

Wiggin Street



The Future English House North has three levels, with offices on Upper and Lower Levels, and a multi-use Seminar room on the Main Level.

The literary district extends across Wiggin Street, creating a connection between Future English Houses North and South, and Finn House and Cheever Room.

