



Phase 1 includes two large raingardens fed by roof water daylighted thru four weeping walls, ornamental upland meadow and shade loving ground cover plantings at the facade. Native vegetation includes small flowering understory trees, shrubs and the Oak / Elm allee.



Before



After

Penn Avenue's Market Square at the Cathedral of Hope

Since 2008, Viridian Landscape Studio in collaboration with CH2MHill Engineers, has worked with East Liberty Development Inc. (ELDI) in Pittsburgh to reimagine the Penn Avenue Commercial Corridor.

Green infrastructure projects are geared to stimulate economic revitalization and mitigate stormwater in new and transformative ways. With the East Liberty Presbyterian Church "Cathedral of Hope," and ELDI, Viridian developed a vision to transform the church front lawn into an extended venue for gathering and learning, as well as to serve as a living part of the local stormwater management system reducing combined sewer overflow and reintroducing diverse habitats into Pittsburgh.

The design uses native vegetation, bioinfiltration beds and salvaged local materials to create lush gardens and encourage visitors, citizens and church members to experience the value and

aesthetic of restorative landscapes. By providing opportunities for direct visual and physical connection to stormwater and natural habitat, the plaza and streetscape inspires an appreciation for urban forestry, expands the community's collective understanding of stormwater issues and alternative solutions, and instills a desire for habitat restoration while serving as a vibrant community hub.

Location: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Client: East Liberty Development, Inc.
Size: 1 city block
Cost: Phase 1: \$200,000; Phase 2: \$500,000
Status: Completed 2014