



University of Pennsylvania: Hamilton Walk

Viridian was hired to develop a schematic design for The University of Pennsylvania's Hamilton Walk. Hamilton walk, formerly Pine Street, is now a major campus thoroughfare adjacent to dormitories and the medical science buildings on campus.

The existing walk is primarily asphalt with steel edging, widened over the years resulting in a patchy and informal appearance. The walk currently boasts a mature tree canopy yet the landscape has no unifying feel. A complex underground network of utilities makes any intervention a challenge.

The main design drivers for Hamilton Walk included maintaining the tree canopy, alternative stormwater management, and off-peak service drive needs. Viridian respected the historic Hamilton walk by proposing a walkway comprised of a granite curb, brick bands, and asphalt hexagonal pavers. Viridian

proposed plantings along Hamilton Walk which relate to the historic ecological character of the site.

Nearby is the bio pond, also known as Kaskey Park, which is a remnant of a former stream that fed the Schuylkill River. Kaskey Park has become a horticulturally rich refuge on the campus and the university expressed concern about limited encroachment on this special landscape. Viridian proposed the creation of a Garden District to establish open space while providing a destination landscape along Hamilton Walk and Kaskey Park.

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Client: University of Pennsylvania
Size: 2.5 acres
Cost: \$2.4 million
Status: 2009