

Columbia College North Quad Landscaping



What is now Columbia College's North Quad was once the "back yard" of the campus. As the College expanded northward since its founding in 1851, the North Quad's space evolved into the outdoor social center of campus, but lacked a sense of place. Columbia College approached SOA to enhance the Quad by creating site features that encourage student interaction, recreation, and safety.

The project removed parking and converted an existing drive to a pedestrian focused fire lane, improving both pedestrian safety and emergency access on campus. While a new, centrally located Safety Office supports visual connection to most of the Quad. An interactive fountain at the center of a new central sidewalk, an amphitheater and stage, and a garden at the entrance to Dorsey Hall commemorating alumnae, offer a variety of spaces for students to socialize and study. In addition, improvements to existing buildings, such as an upgraded entry porch on Williams Hall and an outdoor dining area, which complements an existing brick chiller enclosure that enhances the perimeter of the quad.

Existing tree roots, utility lines, steam tunnels, ground-source piping and drainage infrastructure created additional constraints for the new landscaping design. By working closely with the civil engineer and surveyor to precisely locate existing infrastructure, SOA's design was able to avoid or accommodate existing underground infrastructure as needed.

SOA led the design and construction documentation process with consultants, as well as preparing hand-drawn and computer-generated renderings for the College to use in fund raising and marketing. The project was widely promoted by the College and has dramatically transformed the Campus' atmosphere.



LOCATION

Columbia, Missouri

DESCRIPTION

Landscape Improvements to the 1.8 acre "North Quad" including a new 1,200 sf Safety Office

COMPLETION DATE

October 2016

CLIENT REFERENCE

Cliff Jarvis, Executive Director Plant and Facility Operations
573-875-7300

CONTRACTOR REFERENCE

Reinhardt Construction - Jerry Daugherty
573-499-0055



Alumnae Garden



Amphitheater &
Safety Office Beyond



Williams Hall
Entry Porch

"Projects like the Quad don't just happen. They take concerted effort from a number of people and that's what has happened here. From the design of the Quad to actually building it, to maintaining it, to promoting it, it's been fantastic. I really want to thank everyone involved in every aspect."

- Dr. Scott Dalrymple, President of Columbia College