

# DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

---

## Overall Campus



## INTRODUCTION

Overall campus opportunities include creating a:

- unifying campus landscape
- world class image
- place of learning
- an environment that increases quality of life

A unified landscape image would create a cohesiveness among the various building complexes within the campus. Though the main and EMSL complexes appear visually linked in terms of landscape form, neither of these areas relates to Building 337 and 331 complex. To accomplish this, there will need to be an agreed upon palette of plants and design philosophy. Other improvements that will foster this goal include developing a campus approach to lighting, street furniture and signage solutions.

A world class image will be projected if quality of materials and attention to detail is incorporated in all work that is undertaken. Battelle is a company known for its research ability. To reinforce this image demonstration gardens could be established in well thought out locations. Agriculture areas could demonstrate the cutting edge of agricultural technology or demonstrate organic farming techniques.

Quality of life can be improved for Battelle staff and visitors through a combination of straight forward solutions including developing pleasant views from all office windows, providing beautiful common spaces where people can congregate or have lunch and develop pedestrian connections that provide shade and a place to sit.

## LANDSCAPE PATTERNS

The intrinsic qualities of the land upon which the Battelle Campus is built create a very particular landscape environment. The inherent characteristics of this landscape include its **topology, hydrology, geology,** and the **existing vegetation**. These elements can be highlighted through design and while still meeting the needs and wants of Battelle and its employees and visitors.

The three distinct patterns found within the campus are:

- building complexes and parking lots
- agricultural land
- open space comprised of native vegetation

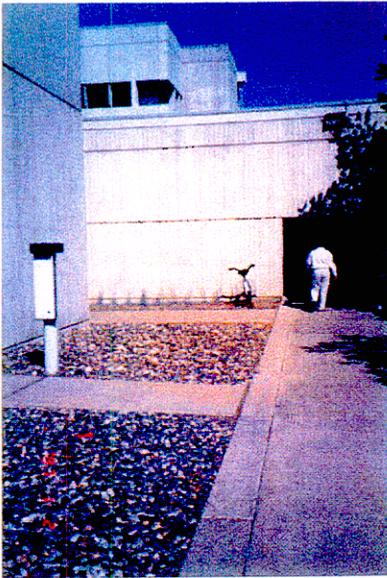
Core campus areas should have an urban, cultivated landscape character. The character of each campus or complex should visually relate to one another. Agricultural lands should remain as such though the type of use can change. Currently grains are grown campus wide, the potential for turning some of all of the land into vineyards or orchards is an opportunity. Open space lands should be maintained with and where possible enhanced with native vegetation.



*Open expanses of lawn.*



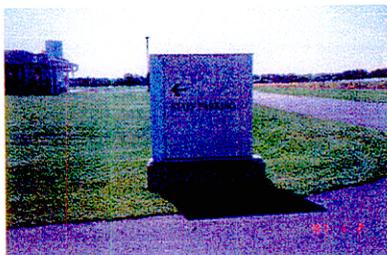
*Working farmland is leased to local farmers.*



*SE entrance to Building 337 and deli.*



*Open field surrounding EMSL.*



*Signage at EMSL complex.*

## BUILT PATTERNS

The features that have been added to the existing conditions of the landscape are built elements. When these elements take on a repeating or predictable quality, it becomes a pattern. The grid structure of **roads**, the strategic placement of **buildings** among this grid, **paths** leading people to destinations determined by the roads and buildings, and **introduced vegetation** for the enjoyment and use of people are all examples of built patterns in the Battelle landscape.

Campus wide opportunities that exist include :

- Enhancing existing streetscape along primary and secondary vehicular routes
- Creating buffers within the campus for preservation of special views and dimensioning unsightly ones
- Enhance existing pedestrian circulation routes with amenities and create new ones where needed
- Development of gateways at key places throughout the campus
- Identify places for future growth
- Improve campus wide signage

## VISUAL CHARACTER AND LANDMARKS

These are the elements which will create the Battelle Campus image. A clear organization of site components will provide a more striking perception of Battelle for all who experience it. These characteristics and landmarks will become the means by which Battelle will be recognized. Their importance is enormous. The Battelle Campus vocabulary could consist of:

- expansion of primary street trees (London Planes)
- creation of secondary street tree pattern
- sculpture gardens
- monumental gateways
- coordinated directional signage
- special paving patterns
- common plant palette
- unified parking, plaza, and pedestrian lighting
- consistent landscape character for particular campus areas

## CIRCULATION

Opportunities exist for enhancement of vehicular and pedestrian circulation throughout the campus. Vehicular circulation routes should be clearly identifiable to campus employees and visitors as either primary or secondary roads. Large, mature London Plane trees currently grace primary roads through the campus and are a visual landmark to the community. Their presence needs to be assured through continual careful maintenance and planting of a second row. This planting will be of a substantial size when the original trees reach their maturity and die. Along secondary routes through campus, a small deciduous tree should be used as a street tree.

There is a strong need for a pedestrian route from the main campus to the athletic complex. This walkway should be of sufficient scale to allow small groups of people to walk easily along it.

A more direct pedestrian path is warranted between the Main Campus and the EMSL Complex. Shade trees, benches and lighting are needed improvements along existing pathways between these two areas. These types of enhancements are also needed on the pathways between the EMSL complex and the Energy and Environmental Sciences Building and Environmental Technology Building, both located directly east of the complex.



*Gravel lot near sports fields.*



*Main entrance to Building 331.*



*Section of primary pedestrian path.*

## VIEWS

The view toward the main campus looking north from Einstein Avenue is perhaps the most understated view on campus. The opportunity for a grand terminus lies in the definition of a signature entry feature for the central campus.

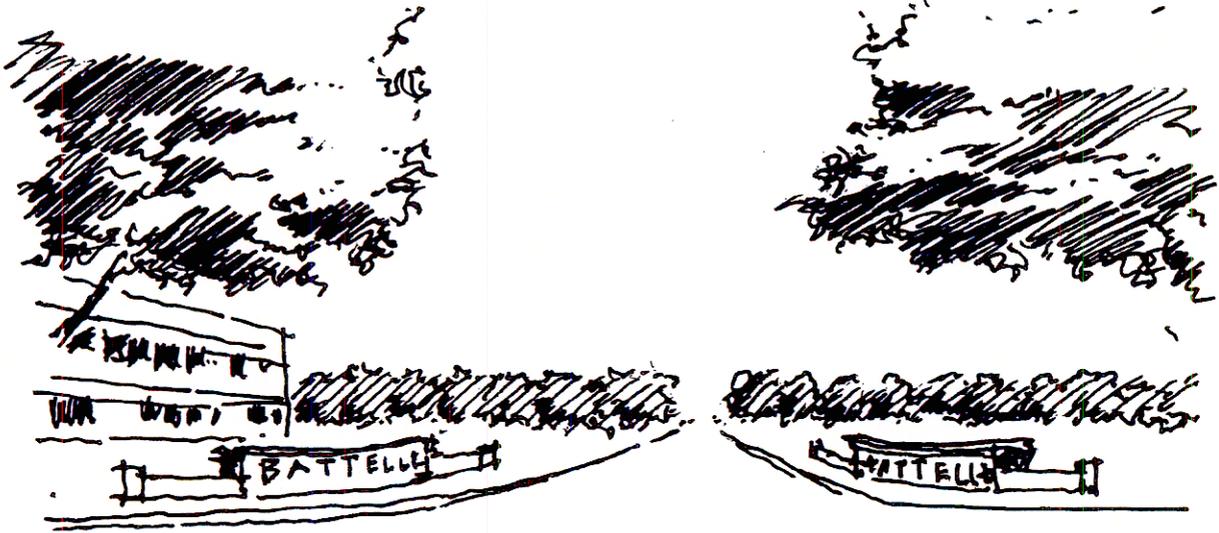
The plaza and entryway of the Research Operations Building is the main gateway for visitors to the campus. As a place of importance, views to and from this facility need to be preserved and enhanced where possible.

## GATEWAYS

Gateways need to be a defining element for the Battelle Campus. Not only are they the first and last impression of Battelle, but they will also provide a sense of arrival and signify departure to all people coming to this site.

A powerful, yet simple and unique design will leave visitors and employees with an indelible image of this company.

A clear delineation of the primary and secondary gateways is necessary for evaluating the path chosen and way-finding purposes for the person entering the Battelle Campus.



*Perspective of gateway elements.*

## RECREATION

Functional and conveniently located recreational opportunities are an important component of this site. The current facilities are in need of revitalization and enhancement.

Reevaluation of facilities will provide greater opportunity for activity and lessen the threat of over-use on current facilities. These elements give employees the chance for exercise and interaction, thus strengthening their commitment to Battelle's success.



*Existing softball field.*

## CAMPUS EDGES

Defining the edge of the Battelle campus property is important to defining its place in the landscape. This can be done with the enhancement of existing street trees and the addition of this feature where lacking. The definite boundary created by this design element will provide strength to the campus' character. The stately rows will mark an undeniable edge, defining it for visitors, employees, and the community.



*View toward agricultural fields*

