

DESIGN, GRADING & MATERIALS: Re-envisioned Urban Gathering Space

How can an overgrown, shady yard at a satellite urban college campus be infused with new life, becoming a gathering space while subtly educating on ecology?

CONSULTANT TO MESSIAH COLLEGE, PHILADELPHIA CAMPUS, 2008

BEFORE



The yard was probably beautiful in its day. By the year 2008, it needed a facelift. The college hoped to provide a more attractive place for students as well as a place to hold more formal gatherings. Grading and drainage needed to be addressed along with accessibility. Predominately native plants and local materials were used, with an emphasis on creating wildlife habitat. A low-tech system for reducing runoff was implemented through rainbarrels and rain gardens, providing an educational component.

A full set of construction documents was produced.

AFTER

