



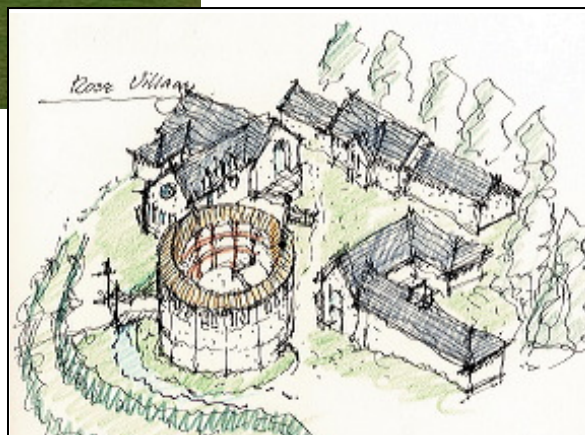
Mature trees, open fields and multiple buildings make this an extraordinarily complex campus, in need of an overall plan to guide future investments.



Broad allée lines the divided entry. In these early schemes, a grand entrance celebrates the stately central structure of St. Martin's.



A tent holds the place for the Rose Theatre replicate and its surrounding village, as shown in this image from the Company's web site.



Shakespeare & Company

Lenox, MA

Completed 2002, Revised 2007

Walter Cudnohufsky Associates, Inc.
Ashfield, MA

with

Clark and Green, Architects
Great Barrington, MA

Foresight Land Services
Pittsfield, MA

Founded in 1978, Shakespeare & Company moved to its current 30-acre site in the historic district of Lenox, MA, in 2001. Originally developed as four separate parcels in the 19th century, the property was used by a number of non-profit institutions and evolved in a somewhat haphazard fashion. The 23 buildings – ranging from the stately St. Martin's Hall at the entrance to the 65,000 square foot former Berkshire Performing Arts Center at the northwest corner – provide ample room for the Company's diverse productions, workshops and training. However, decades of deferred maintenance require major investments in infrastructure and facilities.

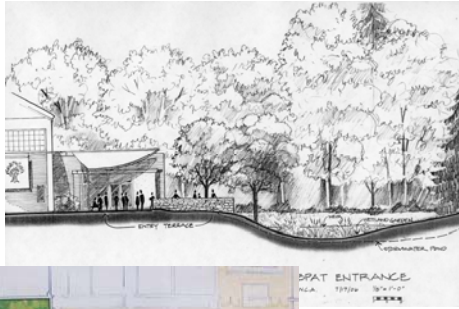
Guided by the energy of Founder and Artistic Director Tina Packer, Shakespeare & Company envisions the campus as an integrated and nurturing environment – with multiple theaters, dormitories, rehearsal and workshops spaces, eating places, set within a lush natural environment. At the heart of the campus, an authentic reconstruction of the 16th century Rose Playhouse, Shakespeare's first theater, will be set within a working Elizabethan-style village with timber framers, forgers, printers, museum and exhibition spaces.

Since the site is already an eclectic amalgam of various styles and sizes of buildings, finding a way to make this campus cohesive is no small challenge. In the words of Tina Packer, "The question is...how to make this multiplicity of activities and spaces, with all their history and variety, into a coherence which surprises, enhances, and supports" the mission of the Company.

WCA collaborated with Clark and Green Architects to address this challenge at both site specific and master planning scales.

Shakespeare & Company, *continued*

Renovation of the enormous performing arts complex requires careful attention to parking, circulation, wetlands design and accessibility.

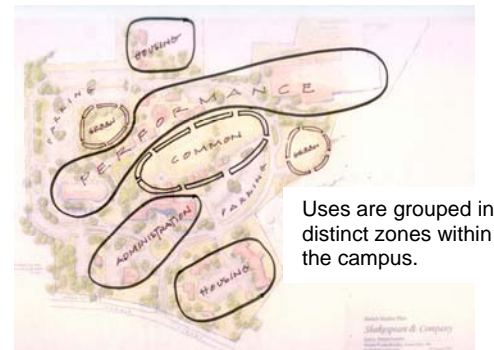


The first step was the conversion of a cement block gymnasium into Founders' Theater, for which WCA designed plazas, terraces, stairs, parking, and barrier-free access. With that theatre in operation, attention next turned to the huge performing arts center; WCA designed parking and access around a featured wetland to handle site runoff.

With these two anchor theaters underway, attention moved to the overall campus master plan. Several iterations have resulted in a scheme that unifies this complex campus, and links the diverse venues with a central pedestrian common. A peripheral roadway keeps cars on the outside, with convenient and ample parking for the multifaceted programming. Additional dormitory space is located in discrete residential zones.



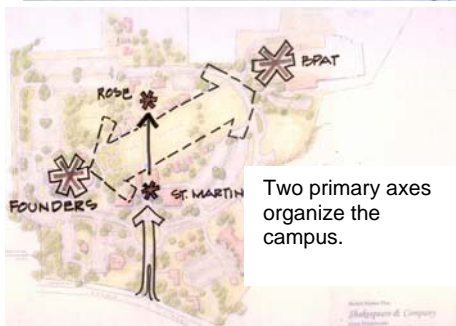
A revised 2007 master plan creates a central common that connects and organizes the multiple venues of this revitalized campus. Cars are peripheral to a protected pedestrian core. The reproduction Rose Theatre is on axis with the main entry and St Martin's, with a lively village lining the walkways.



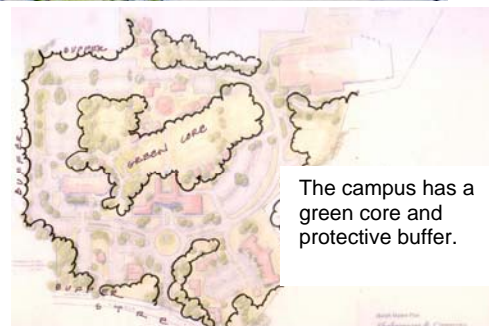
Uses are grouped in distinct zones within the campus.



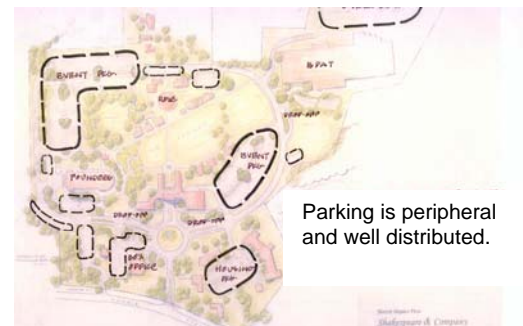
Cars and pedestrians are well separated.



Two primary axes organize the campus.



The campus has a green core and protective buffer.



Parking is peripheral and well distributed.

Simple diagrammatic overlays explain concepts of alignment, green space, zones of use, circulation and parking.