

November 2013

UC Berkeley – Facilities Services

Turf Grass Conversions Update

1. Hargrove Music Library – 2006 – New building construction replaced 8,000 sf of turf on a slope east of the Hearst North Field with a new music library that features broad perimeter plantings of star jasmine, cotoneaster and periwinkle in lieu of turf.
2. Stephens Hall to Faculty Glade – 2009 - Removed 500 sf of lawn from under live oaks and replaced it with native plants as part of a disabled access barrier reduction path of travel project next to the Birge Hall site.
3. Wellman Courtyard – 2009 - Replaced 1,300 sf of narrow lawn strips around the edges of the parking lot with decomposed granite and bike parking racks funded by a campus bike parking project.
4. Pomodoro Sculpture – 2010 - 400 sf of turf was replaced around sculpture base with sand set granite pavers funded by the Class of 1953. The irrigation system was reconfigured to fit the reduced turf area.
5. Lawn at Kleeberger Parking Lot – 2010 - Removed 4,700 sf of turf by redevelopment of the California Memorial Stadium site. A lawn on the plaza roof with an efficient soil and irrigation system will balance this change.
6. South Drive Access Improvements – 2010 – More than 650 sf of turf was removed and replaced by a smaller rose and perennial garden and sidewalk widening south of the Sundial Monument near Sather Tower.
7. Strawberry Fields Forever – 2010 – Lawn was removed from a west sloping 1,300 sf site west of Kroeber Hall to create a native plant demonstration garden. The conversion was the result of a collaboration between UC Grounds, Capital Projects and gardening staff from the College of Environmental Design. The demonstration garden features local native plants, porous paving and decomposed granite pathway, and sitting stones.
8. Spieker Plaza Ticket Booth – 2011 – A temporary ticketing structure for Athletics replaced 450 sf of lawn next to Haas Pavilion in Spieker Plaza.
9. Hildebrand Laydown Area – 2011 – A little used, shady, wet lawn above the South Fork of Strawberry Creek was replaced with 3,500 sf of a native mixed species no mow grass and low precipitation irrigation. The installation was funded by the restoration of a construction staging site.

10. Li Ka Shing Biomedical and Health Sciences Building - 2011 - A 16,000 sf lawn was replaced with paths, groundcovers and 4,900 sf of no mow native grass turf as part of the new building construction project.

11. Wheeler Steam Access – 2011 - Replaced 1,000 sf of turf grass on north side of Wheeler Hall with mixed perennial and shrub planting around a large steam access hatch and vent structure funded by a Workers Compensation safety project.

12. Birge Hall at Strawberry Creek – 2011 - Lawn removed on 4,450 sf and area mulched in preparation for native and low water use shrubs, groundcovers and perennials. Conversion was a joint effort by UC Berkeley Grounds and volunteers from StopWaste.Org – The Bay Friendly Program and the Bay friendly Landscaping & Gardening Coalition.

13. Law School West Terrace and Infill Project – 2011 – Replaced 12,200 sf of lawn on south side and west of the law school with new plazas and terraces as part of the BerkeleyLaw expansion and first phase of the College Plaza Master Plan.

14. Savio Steps Path of Travel – 2011 – More than 1000 sf of turf was replaced by a wheelchair path, groundcover and under tree mulch areas west of Sproul Hall.

15. Harmon Way Path of Travel – Completed 2012 – 4,000 sf of lawn was removed and converted to perennials and shrubs as part of the provision of a disabled access ramp to and from the Moffitt Library third floor entry west of the building.

16. West Gate Kiosk and University Drive Median – Completed 2012 – 7,500 sf of lawn at the entry kiosk and roadway median was replaced by with 37 flowering cherry trees and groundcover plantings as funded by the UC Berkeley Japanese American Alumni Association. The net water savings is estimated to be 40,000 gallons per year.

17. Anthony Hall – Completed 2013 – Remove 2,160 sf of south facing lawn and replace it with drought tolerant groundcover and low shrub plantings funded by the Lawns to Meadows TGIF grant.

18. Alumni House Lawn at Strawberry Creek – Budgeted 2014 – Replace 4,990 sf of lawn with plants better suited to a creek side riparian site but available to people to sit on. Baseline water audit done and concept plan prepared. Performing the conversion depends on a new Lawns to Meadows TGIF grant in 2013.

19. Lower Sproul Plaza – Modified 2013. Completion 2015. Replacing 6,150 sf lawn on the south and north sides of Zellerbach Hall with shrubs and groundcovers as part of a complete renovation of the area featuring a rain garden and other sustainable elements.