CAMPUS MASTER PLAN REPORT

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA Cedar Falls, lowa

December, 1995

University of Northern Iowa

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN REPORT

Planning activities at the University of Northern Iowa are based on previous campus master plans and previous planning efforts. These include:

The February 13, 1991 Board of Regents Report on the University of Northern Iowa Campus Master Plan.

The "Comprehensive Campus Master Plan" prepared in 1968 by Caudill Rowlett Scott of Houston, Texas.

"A Progress Report to the University and the Board of Regents," August 1967. A report on the student and faculty questionnaires, and the process for Determination of Space Requirements.

"Program Summary and Alternative Development Concepts, University of Northern Iowa, Comprehensive Campus Plan, Phase I," December 1967.

The 1968 Campus Master Plan utilized the concept of concentric zones of land use to reinforce the idea of a compact unified campus. This concept entails a central core consisting of the library and student union as a vehicle-free zone surrounded by a zone or ring of academic colleges each having a designated area, and the central administration. Subsequent zones contain student housing, physical education and support facilities. Utility services follow the concentric zones.

The ideas developed in the 1968 campus plan continue to guide the formulation of capital proposals. The concept of a compact campus based upon the concentric zones continues to be used in campus planning activities.

In 1984, the Select Committee on University Planning issued a report that included a broad range of recommendations to strengthen the university. Items that addressed the "physical" campus included: "emphasize the aesthetics" of the campus, preserve the center of the campus for pedestrians, develop parking at the perimeters of the campus, improve visitor parking, develop a "main campus entrance" and improve signage.

As a result of the Select Committee on University Planning Report, direction was given to the Facilities Planning Office to continue to implement the master plan for the campus with a focus on the items set forth in the report. Based on this direction, a comprehensive sidewalk, street and parking lot master plan was developed for the campus, which emphasized the creation of a pedestrian-oriented campus and recommended service routes and service parking to enable service people to effectively handle their duties.

A landscape plan was developed to beautify and create an aesthetic unity on the University of Northern Iowa campus with emphasis being placed on signage, sidewalks and plantings. A significant portion of the sidewalk, street, parking lot and landscaping plan has been accomplished since 1984.

The Facilities Planning Office continues to review numerous aspects of the existing campus as they relate to the master plan goals. These campus aspects are:

Pedestrian circulation

- Vehicular circulation

- Pedestrian vehicular conflicts

Service vehicle access routes

- Parking lot service zones

- Signage

- Green spaces

Utility tunnels

Growth barriers

- Campus/community interaction

- Landscape

- Landscape maintenance

- Potential building sites

- Campus expansion potential

In this regard, the most apparent problems on the current campus are:

- Aging facilities whose current use is not consistent with the use patterns of the existing modern-day campus.
- Unbalanced distribution of parking.

Studies continue to be done on existing campus parking lots to determine the level of service and the number of parking spaces that exist in various areas of campus.

As noted in 1991, every campus area except the extreme northeast campus area, is within six minutes walking distance to a <u>major</u> parking lot. Continual efforts are being made to address this area of campus, including construction of a major parking lot on Campus and 22nd Street this summer. New parking areas are planned so as to not detract from the pedestrian-oriented campus. The parking standard used is to provide parking spaces in adequate numbers and locations so that vehicle-to-destination walking distances shall not take more than:

- six minutes for faculty, staff and the handicapped,
- six minutes for visitors and commuters, and
- six minutes for student storage parking (dorm-to-car).

In order to maintain the pedestrian orientation of central campus, major corridors of pedestrian circulation and how they relate to dorm-to-class and class-to-class circulation, were identified. Efforts have been made to reduce conflicts on these major corridors, and the areas have been redesigned into "pedestrian streets" which serve the pedestrian both functionally and visually.

The major urban corridors of pedestrian circulation identified on the campus are:

- 1. A corridor from Maucker Union to the Communication Arts Center Plaza and continuing to the Physical Education Center.
- 2. A corridor from Maucker Union to Schindler Education Center, north of the Campanile.
- 3. The Schindler Education Center to Redeker Dormitories Corridor.
- 4. The Towers and Campbell Residence Halls Corridor, through the Commons to the Maucker Union Plaza.
- 5. The 27th Street Corridor from the Redeker Dormitories to the Maucker Union Plaza.
- 6. The Schindler Education Center to Towers Dormitories Corridor.

As a part of its overall planning, the university has taken into consideration the impact it can have on property adjacent to its campus. Well-kept property adjacent to the campus is a visual asset to the campus. If the adjacent area is part of a stable neighborhood, it is a positive reflection on the university and is perceived as a safe and positive place to be. The university feels it is in its best interest to nurture a strong and stable neighborhood on its north and east borders. When the university expands into residential areas, if the expansion is residential in scale and has a similar ratio of open space (trees and grass) as the existing residential properties, the impact will be less severe; and the likelihood of the adjacent residential properties remaining viable as rental or owner-occupied will be increased.

The landscape effort on campus has been to create a sense of community and continuity among the various buildings and campus areas. The architectural elements of the landscape, such as pavement, walks, fences, bollards, signage, and earth forms, have each been developed to provide a continuity and character of outdoor spaces which has been integrated into an overall plan. Plantings of varying heights and densities have been used to enclose spaces or frame views to create a sense of place or a sense of direction. Sidewalk patterns have been established throughout campus to provide continuity, and the use of brick pavers has been introduced to signal pedestrian and vehicular conflicts. The landscape has provided a sense of continuity by the use of native Iowa plantings throughout campus, especially in those areas where American Elms once stood. The form and health of landscaping has been approached as having a cumulative effect on the overall campus image. Controlled pedestrian traffic corridors have been developed in a formal manner, which helps to create a visual connection between areas on campus. Since 1991, major efforts have been expended to revitalize pedestrian sidewalks and create pedestrian plaza areas where there are significant congregations of people on campus.

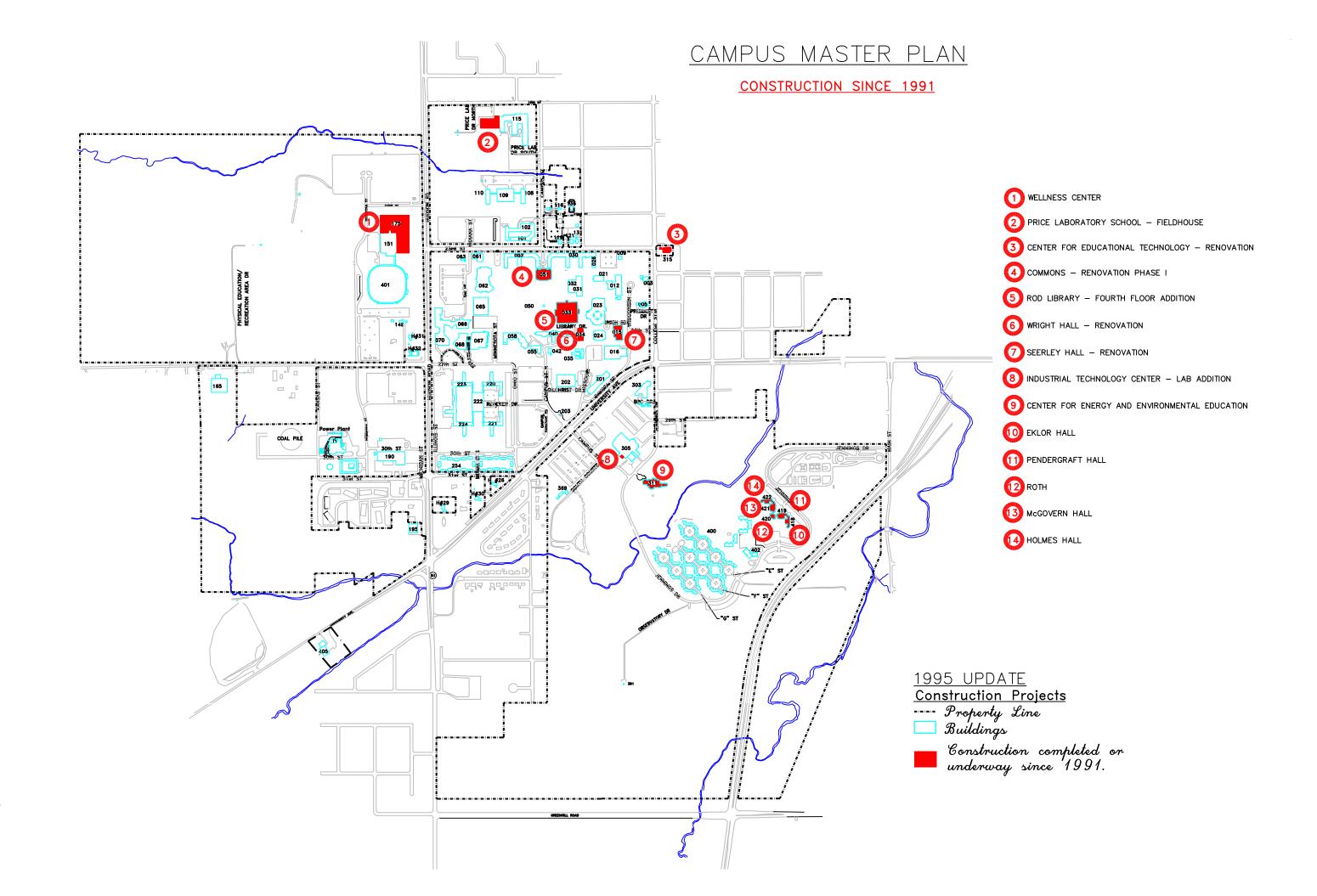
The university continues a phased approach for standardizing signage on campus, in the following major categories:

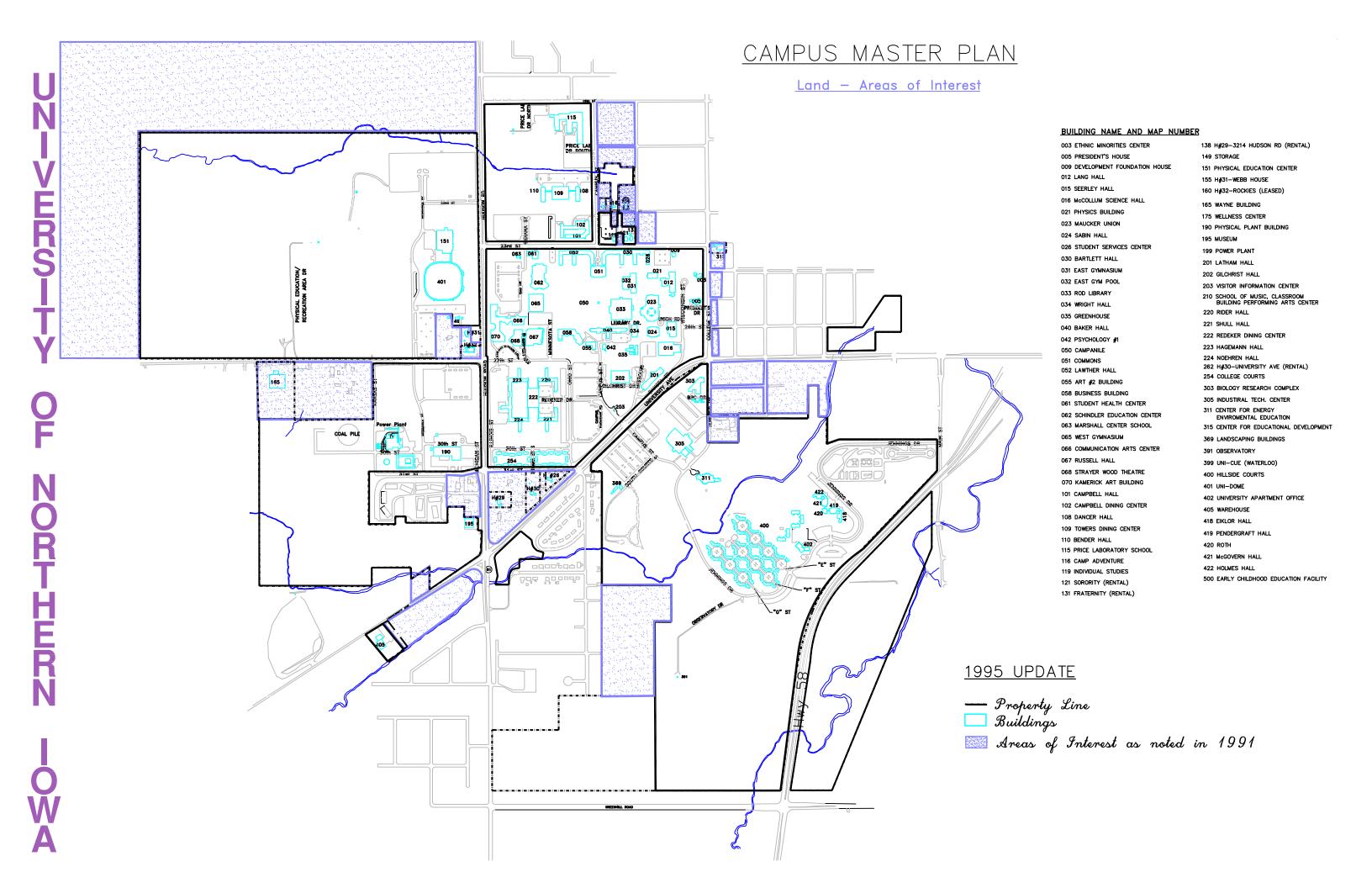
- Parking Lot Signs
- Street Signs
- Building-Mounted Identification Signs

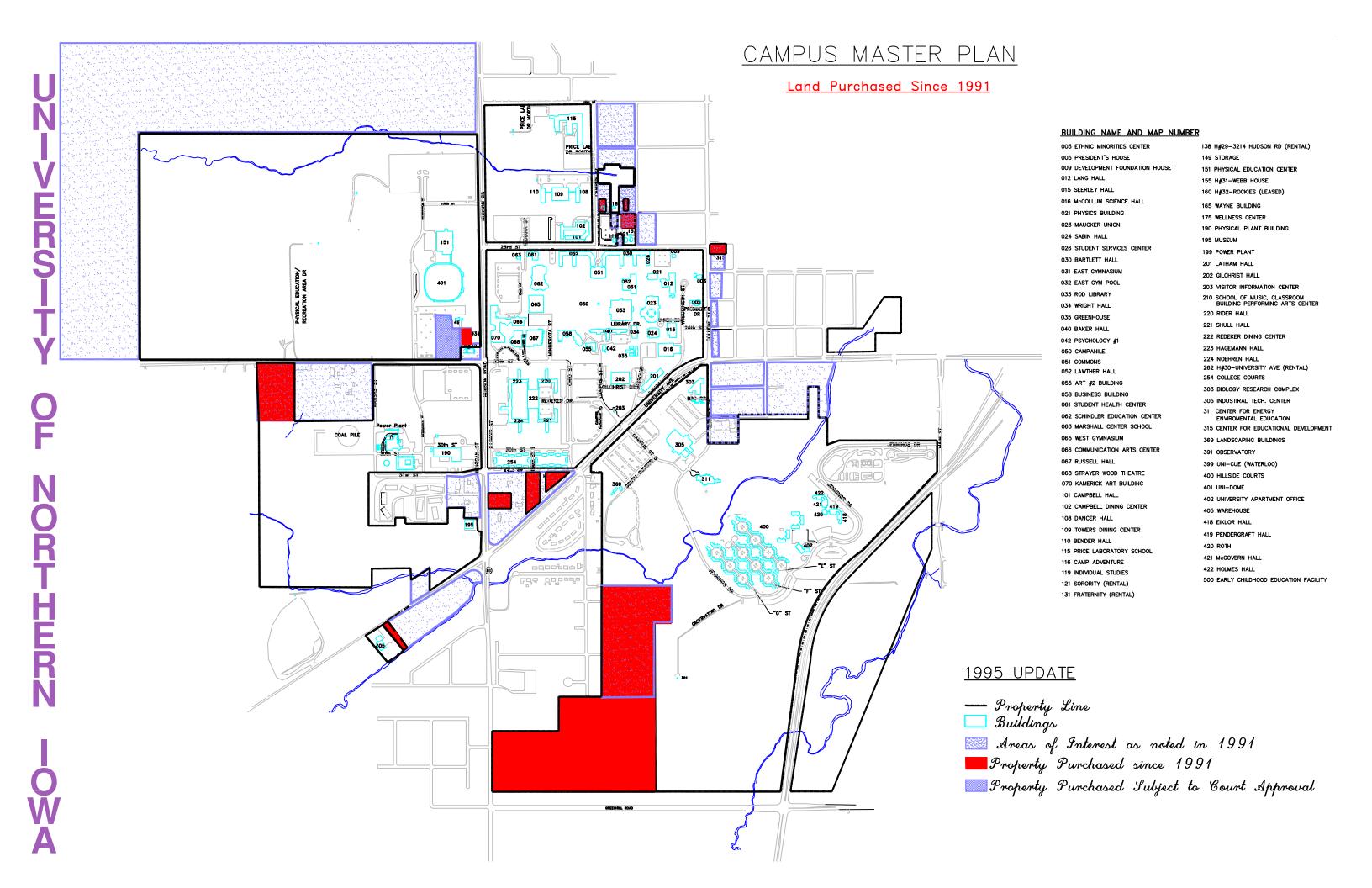
The university has developed standardized parking lot and street signs which, in addition to their regulatory function, enhance the distinctiveness of the campus from the surrounding community, and enhance the awareness of where city traffic regulations apply and where university regulations apply. Aluminum building signs on all major buildings on campus have been standardized. The signs are readable but are not visually dominant in the landscape. To accommodate visitors to campus, the use of information kiosks has been established. The kiosks contain a campus map and current university information, and are placed along major pedestrian avenues.

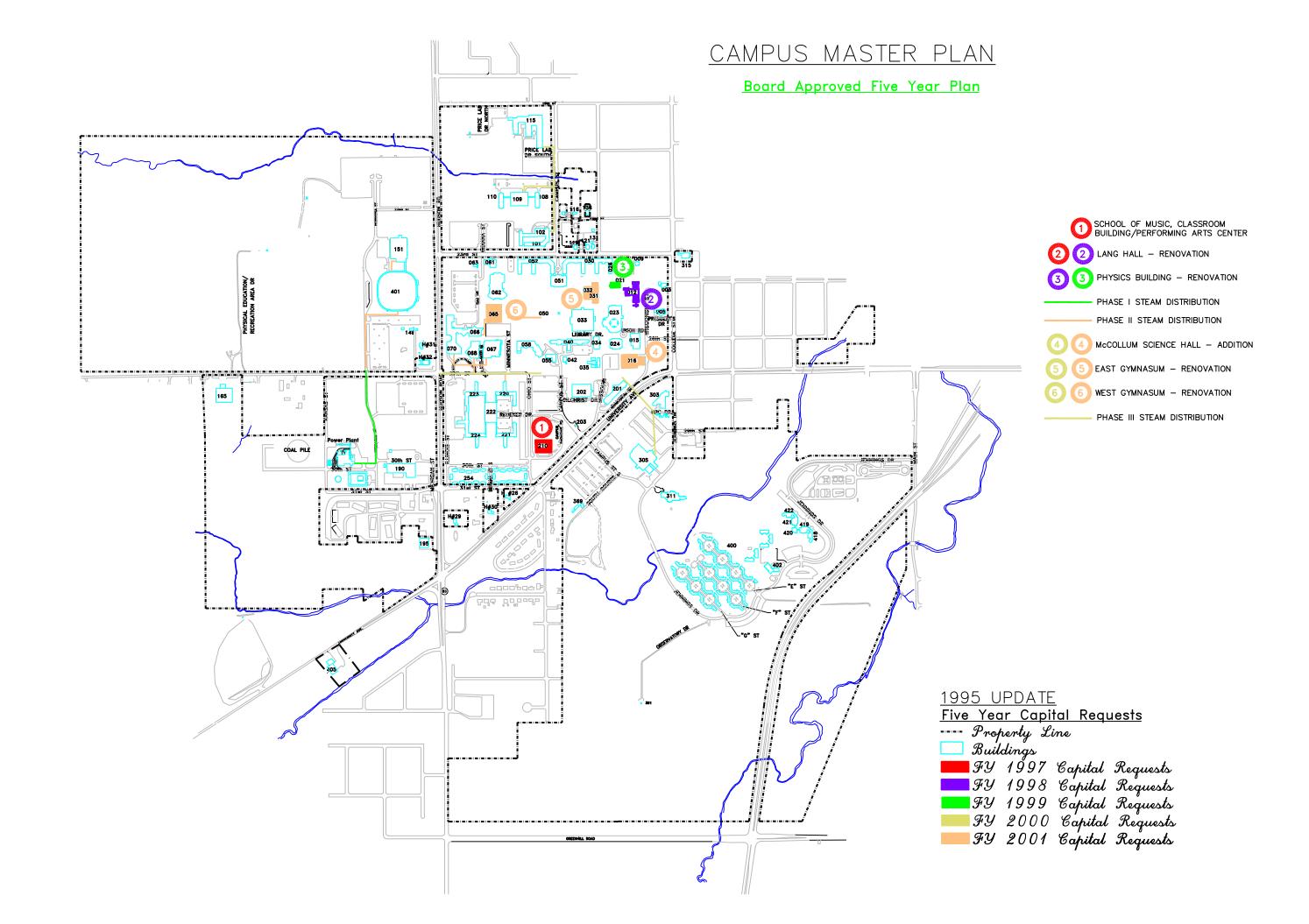
By utilizing standard landscape elements, plantings and sidewalk patterns, and by approaching buildings on campus as an architectural statement but equally a part of the total campus fabric, the University of Northern Iowa has remained consistent with the 1968 Campus Planning Concepts while employing a framework for operational planning which encourages a pedestrian-oriented, compact, park-like campus.

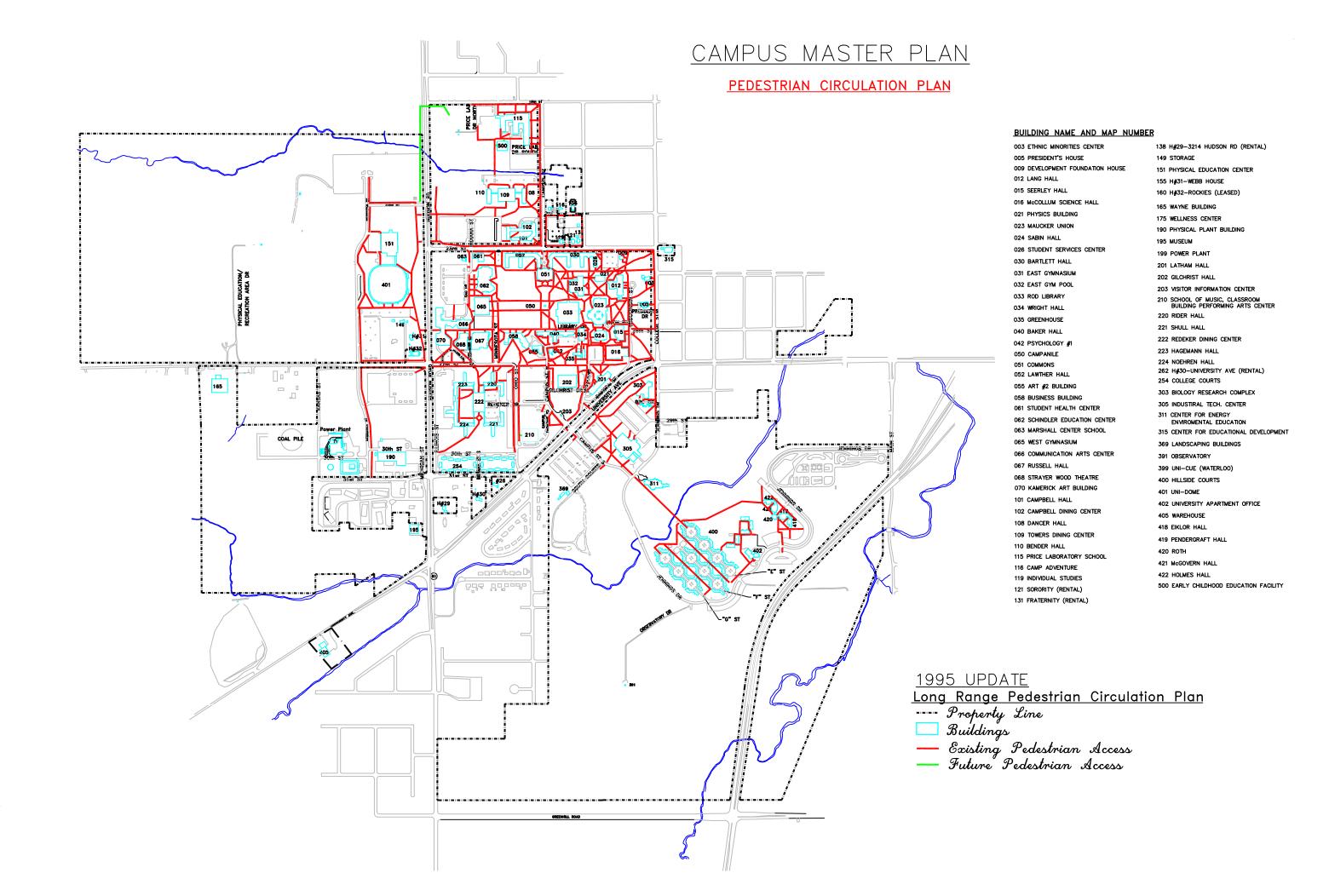
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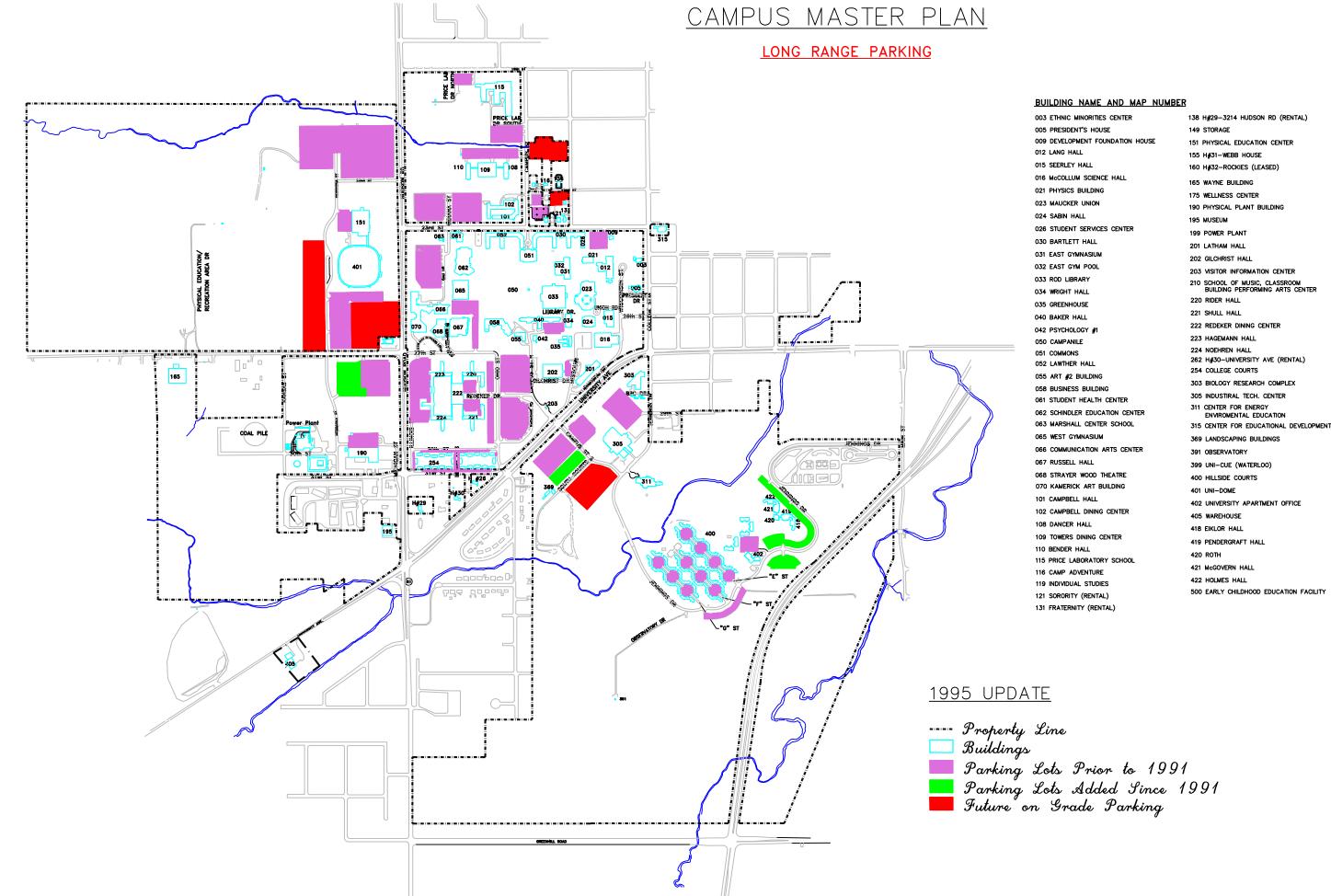












CAMPUS MASTER PLAN LONG RANGE OPEN LANDSCAPED SPACES BUILDING NAME AND MAP NUMBER 003 ETHNIC MINORITIES CENTER 138 H#29-3214 HUDSON RD (RENTAL) 005 PRESIDENT'S HOUSE 149 STORAGE 009 DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION HOUSE 151 PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER 012 LANG HALL 155 H#31-WEBB HOUSE 015 SEERLEY HALL 160 H#32-ROCKIES (LEASED) 016 McCOLLUM SCIENCE HALL 165 WAYNE BUILDING 021 PHYSICS BUILDING 175 WELLNESS CENTER 023 MAUCKER UNION 190 PHYSICAL PLANT BUILDING 024 SABIN HALL 195 MUSEUM 026 STUDENT SERVICES CENTER 199 POWER PLANT 030 BARTLETT HALL 201 LATHAM HALL 031 EAST GYMNASIUM 202 GILCHRIST HALL 032 EAST GYM POOL 203 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER 033 ROD LIBRARY 210 SCHOOL OF MUSIC, CLASSROOM BUILDING PERFORMING ARTS CENTER 034 WRIGHT HALL 220 RIDER HALL 035 GREENHOUSE 221 SHULL HALL 040 BAKER HALL 222 REDEKER DINING CENTER 042 PSYCHOLOGY #1 223 HAGEMANN HALL 050 CAMPANILE 224 NOEHREN HALL 051 COMMONS 262 H#30-UNIVERSITY AVE (RENTAL) 052 LAWTHER HALL 254 COLLEGE COURTS 055 ART #2 BUILDING 303 BIOLOGY RESEARCH COMPLEX 058 BUSINESS BUILDING 305 INDUSTIRAL TECH. CENTER 061 STUDENT HEALTH CENTER 311 CENTER FOR ENERGY ENVIROMENTAL EDUCATION 062 SCHINDLER EDUCATION CENTER 063 MARSHALL CENTER SCHOOL 315 CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT 065 WEST GYMNASIUM 369 LANDSCAPING BUILDINGS 066 COMMUNICATION ARTS CENTER 391 OBSERVATORY 067 RUSSELL HALL 399 UNI-CUE (WATERLOO) /\S_311\ 068 STRAYER WOOD THEATRE 400 HILLSIDE COURTS 070 KAMERICK ART BUILDING 401 UNI-DOME 101 CAMPBELL HALL 402 UNIVERSITY APARTMENT OFFICE 102 CAMPBELL DINING CENTER 405 WAREHOUSE 108 DANCER HALL 418 EIKLOR HALL 109 TOWERS DINING CENTER 419 PENDERGRAFT HALL 110 BENDER HALL 420 ROTH 115 PRICE LABORATORY SCHOOL 421 McGOVERN HALL 116 CAMP ADVENTURE 422 HOLMES HALL 119 INDIVIDUAL STUDIES 500 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FACILITY 121 SORORITY (RENTAL) 131 FRATERNITY (RENTAL) 1995 UPDATE Open Green Landscaped Spaces Property Line Buildings Preserves and Open Spaces

