

Client: MAB Community Services / Ivy Street School

Location: Brookline, MA

Designer: Sally Naish

Community Charrette: November 2008

Design Completion: Spring 2009

MAB Community Services Charrette Participants:

Rovers: Sally Naish, MAB Executive Director Barbara Salisbury

Facilitators: Sukie Amory, Karen Howard, T.J. Hrabota, Peter Welanetz

COG Designers: Jane Coutre, Risa Edelstein, Monica Fairbairn, Ellen Forrester, Jean Krasnow, Fran Peterson, Mike Smith, Kathy Tunsley

MAB Staff: Gail Brash, Jeff Fein, Tania Fernandez, Dorsey Grandfield, Mike Hurley, Holly Jacobs, Aaron Kaplan, Chris Mauro, John Salvati, Greg Whipple

Community Members: Elaine Ellenbogen, Russ Hensel, Edward Hsieh, Deb Raptopoulos, Alexandra Schweitzer, Suzy Tobin



Description:

The Ivy Street School, a program of MAB Community Services, was founded in 1993 to provide comprehensive educational and treatment services to adolescents with acquired brain injury or other neurological difficulties. The school is located in a former estate in an historic neighborhood and abuts conservation land.

The school's goal is to make the landscape flourish with new outdoor opportunities for students to learn, work, and play. Encouraged by a successful kitchen garden, staff and students hope for more involvement with the landscape where formal gardens once flourished. A basketball court, picnic tables, and open turf suggest current use.

Landscape designer Sally Naish began the project with a day-long community design workshop (charrette), inviting Ivy Street staff and students, designers, volunteers, and neighbors to share ideas about what a newly transformed landscape might become.

The designer translated the suggestions into design concepts and then, after community feedback, into a partial Master Plan showing the layout of major training and recreation areas, pedestrian and vehicular circulation, and important landscape elements.

