

Ash Mall

Architect	Garrett Eckbo with Guy Robert “Bob” Johns
Date of Construction	1976
Name Origin	Named after Ash Street
Primary Materials	Concrete walks, earthen berms with grass; trees and shrubs.



Figure 14: Ash Mall, 2006

Historical Significance

Ash Mall is located between Scholes Hall on the north, the Anthropology Building on the west, Bandelier West and Mitchell Halls on the south and the Duck Pond on the east (Figure 14). It was designed by Garrett Eckbo with Bob Johns and completed around 1976. This open space has been preserved since the 1930s. John Gaw Meem designed Scholes Hall on axis with Terrace Street in a classic Beaux Arts landscape scheme.

The Warnecke Campus Plan closed off Terrace Street and eliminated the axial approach of the original plan. This plan places the focus on the landscaped space rather than on any one building. The surrounding buildings, including Scholes Hall, serve to define the space rather than be the focus of it. The Alumni Chapel is located within the space to the west end.

Garrett Eckbo’s and Bob John’s implementation of the Warnecke plan developed a pastoral, modernist landscape characterized by undulating hills covered with seemingly randomly placed trees (Figure 15). Paths are laid out to connect important destinations and the hills serve to entice the pedestrians to stay on the paths. Through the years, important public art pieces have been added to the setting.

A rose garden in memory of Van Dorn Hooker III, son of the former University Architect, Van Dorn Hooker II, is located on the south edge of this heritage zone at the north end of Terrace Mall. Van Dorn Hooker II is largely credited with preserving the stylistic consistency of the campus architecture during his tenure, 1963-87.

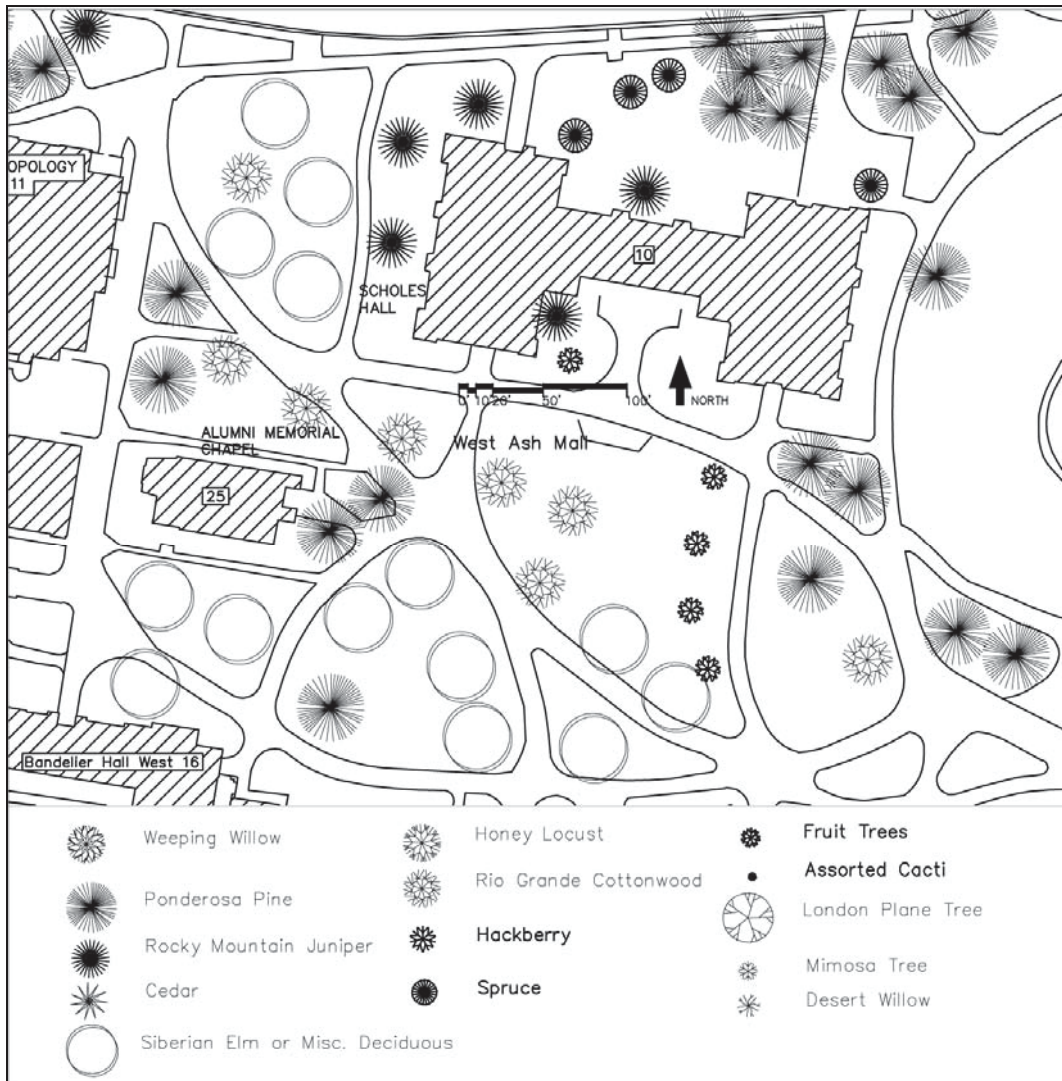


Figure 15: Landscape plan of Ash Mall

Source: Will Moses, 2006

Character Defining Features

- Open space contained by Scholes Hall on the north, Anthropology Building on the west, Bandelier West and Mitchell Hall on the south, and the Duck Pond space on the east.
- Gently rolling, low hills
- Curved, paved paths connecting destinations.
- The density of the tree cover that presents an oasis-like setting
- Plantings that add color and texture to the space.
- Public art
- Van Dorn Hooker III Memorial Rose Garden