



Fact Sheet

NEW PHILADELPHIA CAMPUS LANDSCAPE

Project Description	Landscape design for the Barnes Foundation
Location	2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA (A four-and-a-half-acre city block bounded by the Parkway, Pennsylvania Avenue, 20th and 21st Streets)
Landscape Architect	OLIN
Dimensions	Total campus, 4.5 acres
Design overview	OLIN's design for the new Barnes museum captures the spirit of the original site while offering a Parisian-style public park that fits into the urban context and implements contemporary sustainable practices. A host of unique and beautiful landscape features serve to make the new Barnes both a garden within an institution and an institution within a garden.
Layout	Within the new gallery building (by firm Todd Williams Billie Tsien Architects) is a central courtyard that has been left open to the sky. The gallery opens out onto two separate, sheltered outdoor spaces—one a lush garden and terrace adjacent to the museum's café, the other a paved open terrace overlooking the Parkway, suitable for more intimate events. Surrounding the building, graceful allees of trees and vine-covered walls lead from the entranceways.
Select installations and amenities	Fountains, pools, causeways, and other water features greet the visitor approaching by way of gently ascending ramps from the entrances and car parks. Vehicle activity is effectively screened by allees and hedges, and at the convergence of the entrance paths, Ellsworth Kelly's sculpture <i>The Barnes Totem</i> marks the convergence of the entrance paths adjacent to the attendant's booth. Generous wooden benches afford opportunities to take in the lush scenery.

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Featured materials and plantings

Nordic Black granite (in ceremonial forecourt); San Sebastian granite (on walkway and ledges); horse chestnut trees; Japanese maples; Magnolias; Leucothoe; Amelanchiers; Franklinia; Viburnum; Climbing Hydrangea; Bigonia; Katsura; Willow oaks; Basswoods and Carolina Silverbell.

Sustainability

As much of the rainwater water that falls on the site that can be captured and is not taken up by the large extent of planting is directed to a cistern for use on the site as irrigation. The water in the basins is re-circulated, and to a certain degree partially shaded by either the building or vegetation limiting the loss to evaporation while providing cooling for people and plants. Water is directed through planted areas and granular materials to aid in filtering and cleaning it. This conservation of resources has contributed substantially to the overall project's LEED certification goals.

Inspiration

The design's complexity and intimacy recalls aspects of the collection's previous suburban location, the historic Merion campus. Materials from the original site were used, showing sensitivity to the elegant French style that informs the building, in keeping with the other institutions along the Parkway. Planting selections were made to reflect some of the flora frequently seen in the Impressionist paintings of which Dr. Barnes was such a significant collector.

Project Team

Laurie Olin
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Kasey Toomey
Andrew Leach

Consultants

Dan Euser Waterarchitecture Inc., fountain
Irrigation Consulting Inc., irrigation systems