

NASA 4600 BUILDING COMPLEX

Huntsville, Alabama

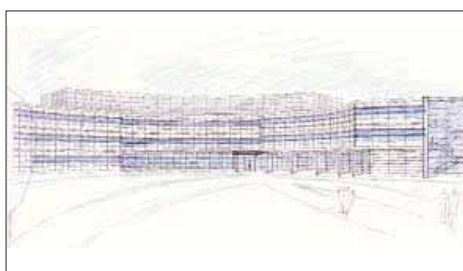
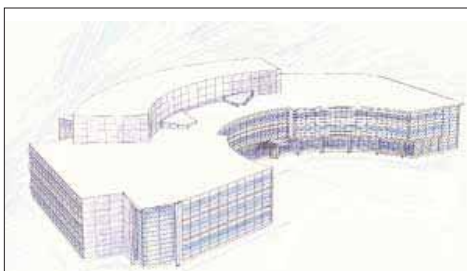
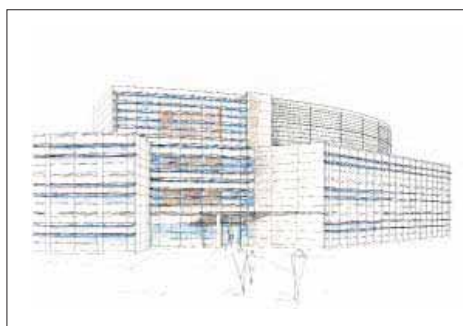
CLIENT: NASA

SIZE: 20 ACRES

SERVICES: MASTER PLANNING
ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
LEED CERTIFICATION

STATUS: PLANNING - COMPLETE

The plan for 4600 forwards the complex's overall master plan concept, while reinforcing the axial greenways framework established in the previous master plan document. The plan focuses on creating a pedestrian friendly environment that complements the building itself, as well as, leads users to and from other buildings, the parking lot, the central green, and central drop off area. The design concept locates trees to provide visibility and daylight while providing a comfortable shaded environment for pedestrian movement. This is further reinforced through the definition of walkways, building entries, and edges with broad bands of native plantings. These evergreen bands with accent deciduous plantings are both a point of visual interest year round, as well as a low maintenance alternative to turf. Extending this concept to the greenbelt surrounding the parking lot, the design incorporates native grasses and carefully sited groupings of trees. When coupled with the curbsless parking lots, the two elements work together to allow for storm water runoff to be collected and retained on site, reducing the necessary infrastructure investment and maintenance costs.



The work described on this page was completed by David Robbins while working with the HOK Planning Group.