The continued evolution of MIT’s campus
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Established in 2019, the MIT Stephen A. Schwarzman College of Computing is a unique interdisciplinary organization for research and education addressing the opportunities and challenges of the computing age focused on three key areas: computing fields, computing across disciplines, and the social and ethical aspects of computing.

Centrally located on Vassar Street, Building 45 is designed to provide state-of-the-art research and education space. The building’s shingled-glass façade and transparent elements will further encourage interaction and engagement between the community and the College. Plans for the top floor include an event space and outdoor terrace offering views of the campus and the Boston skyline.
The College of Computing engages faculty, students, and collaborators across a broad array of disciplines to pursue education, research, and innovation in computing and artificial intelligence. Its reach extends from sciences and engineering to architecture and urban planning, business management, and the humanities and the arts. Building 45 is designed to reflect this uniquely broad yet focused approach, which aims to generate and support world-changing, multidisciplinary solutions grounded in computer science and AI innovations.
The iconic Cecil and Ida Green Building (Building 54) is under construction with the goal of renovating its primary lecture hall and creating an addition (the Earth and Environment Pavilion, Building 55) that will serve as a new entrance for these programs.

Building 55’s gateway entrance to the co-located headquarters of MIT’s Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences (EAPS), the MIT-Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) Joint Program, and MIT’s Environmental Solutions Initiative (ESI) will showcase Earth, environmental, and climate sciences research and education.
The exterior of the Pavilion will be sheathed with an innovative system of wood composite panels overlaid with bracketed glass panels to reflect the surrounding trees and green space. Inside, the renovation of Lecture Hall 54-100 will update and improve the hall’s accessibility, seating, and teaching technologies. The project includes a new lobby, atrium, and exhibition space; reception and office spaces; conference and study rooms; and classrooms. A seating area – the “Campus Living Room” – will provide a welcoming, centrally located space to linger and collaborate.

The project is designed to create a nexus of climate research, environmental innovation, and academic programs on campus.
MIT’s conservatory-level music program is thriving; more than 1,500 students enroll in music courses each year, and the campus is home to a variety of ensembles and chamber groups. The new state-of-the-art Music Building will support the program’s current and future needs and curricular requirements.

The building’s three corresponding volumes will house performance, rehearsal, and recording spaces as well as a large-scale, purpose-built performance lab. The brick-clad volumes – the Performance Lab Pavilion, the Music Maker Pavilion, and the Music and Culture Pavilion – will be connected by a glass-walled lobby providing multiple entrance points. Each volume will incorporate sound-insulating walls and world-class acoustical design.
The building is sited within an illustrious context that includes Kresge Auditorium, the MIT Chapel, and Baker House. In response, its design incorporates strong geometry, red brick, a stand of trees, and a curving curtainwall and roof that are a visual extension of nearby Kresge. The building’s proximity to the Johnson Athletic Center, the Zesiger Center, the Stratton Student Center, and several residential buildings is reflected by entrances that relate to the pedestrian walkways outside and invite people to pass through the airy, open lobby.
The innovative renovation of the Metropolitan Warehouse converts this iconic building into a modern hub for interdisciplinary design research and education. The Metropolitan Storage Warehouse, constructed in 1895, is listed on the State Register of Historic Places and has been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The sustainable adaptive reuse of the building will redevelop it as a center of interdisciplinary design research and education. As a whole, the reimagined Met Warehouse will include new classrooms, design studio space that will significantly increase MIT’s capacity for arts and design programming, new faculty offices, and areas for meetings and collaborative activities.
The adaptive reuse of the structure will endeavor to preserve the building’s historic character while leveraging and valorizing its existing spaces and infrastructure to serve the needs of current and future programming. A critical design element is the introduction of new floor “platforms” to provide necessary high-bay program space and to allow natural light to penetrate core building areas. The strategic integration of old and new will enhance interdisciplinary interactions while providing space for an auditorium and other possible ground-floor amenities.
The Stratton Student Center opened in 1968; since then, the needs of the student community have evolved, and the building’s infrastructure has aged. MIT is currently proceeding with a strategic improvement project to update key aspects of the infrastructure and strengthen the Student Center as a campus hub focused on wellbeing, performing arts and dance, healthy eating, and community building, where students can relax and recharge.

Additional ongoing improvements include a new central stairway, new lights and greeneries throughout the building, new dining options, and a range of refreshed offices and spaces that incorporate warmer materials and colors. Accessibility upgrades and improvements indoors and outside are also part of the project.
The project includes a new Wellbeing Lab for students on the third floor and the enhancement of a “lounge network” to encourage informal gatherings and collaboration on each floor of the building. This network will include a new flexible lounge on the first floor, a revitalized Stratton Lounge on the second floor, and repurposed space on the fourth floor. The fourth floor will also have two upgraded multipurpose rooms to accommodate dance and movement activities as well as community gatherings.
First opened in 1924, the East Campus undergraduate residence consists of two five-story buildings facing each other across a long courtyard. The centrally-located residence is home to approximately 380 students living in ten culturally-distinct living communities.

A comprehensive renovation is underway to renew infrastructure, update life safety systems and accessibility, and improve the student resident experience. The project will update or replace mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire protection, and technology infrastructure as well as provide a structurally sound, weather-tight building envelope. Iconic elements will be preserved, from the shape of the buildings to the shared tree-filled courtyard.
Student life elements include enlarged floor lounges and kitchen areas, upgraded bathrooms, and relocated music rooms, fitness room and makerspace. The courtyard will undergo improvements such as surface upgrades and the creation of additional seating areas.

Accessible elevators located in two new light-filled lobbies – one for each building – will serve as primary entrances. Reconfigured hall layouts are designed to facilitate flow through the buildings, and new windows at the ends of the corridors will increase the amount of interior natural light.
The West Campus Graduate Residence on Vassar Street will add 676 new beds to MIT’s housing stock and will enhance connections with the surrounding neighborhood.

Located adjacent to Simmons Hall, the residence will encompass two new-construction buildings framing a publicly accessible central plaza and green space that will serve as a gateway to the Fort Washington Historic District and Park. Flanking the plaza, the buildings will rise in five- and six-story sections and then step up to 10-story sections beyond the historic district. The residence will provide lobbies, lounges, study spaces, a fitness center, and other resident amenities, including ample indoor bike storage.
Outside, the buildings’ patterned brick and metal façades and symmetrical windows are designed to echo the framework of Simmons Hall and the masonry of Baker House and the MIT Chapel — as well as the industrial past of the Cambridgeport neighborhood. Glass curtainwalls and other transparent elements will break up the structural mass and reveal the activity within. The Central Plaza will encourage varied, multi-season activities with outdoor seating, urban tree groves, and a raised platform surrounded by a lawn and plantings. A north-facing terrace and gardens will augment the residence’s active outdoor life.
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