Interim Project Sites 2012 – 2015

MIT West Campus, bounded by Vassar Street and Mass Ave. Corridors
Established Landscapes & Buildings – Historic

c. 1916 – Main Group buildings and c. 1938 Killian Court – Setting for MIT Commencement
Established Landscapes & Buildings – Contemporary

c. 2000s – Stata Center, Simmons Hall Dormitory, Koch Childcare Center, Koch Cancer Institute
Grounds HQ Site Context

Future re-development site with ample FAR on Vassar Street corridor. Ten-year plan for Grounds. MIT neighbors: Simmons Hall dorm, Koch childcare center, athletic center, stadium, and fields.
“Before” conditions on Vassar Street

Site to receive trailers for offices and vehicle maintenance, leaving space for paved yard
Concept

Taking cues from Simmons Hall & athletic fields. Colored chain link; fast-growing bamboo & vines
-- Klopfer Martin Design Group Landscape Architects
Construction
Strip adjacent to Vassar sidewalk excavated for narrow planting bed
Construction
Trailers installed for Grounds Crew offices and vehicle repair bays
Construction
Fence panels and boxes being assembled
Post-Construction
Bringing bloom and color to the Vassar Street edge
Bexley Hall Site Context
Mass Ave corridor lined with mature oaks; gateway to Main Group campus core
Before Demo, View from 77 Mass Ave.

Bexley Hall scaffolded; awaiting demolition. Article in “The Tech” student newspaper.
Site Analysis & Program Priorities

Developed with students, faculty, and staff members of Working Group over 4 Workshops
IDEA: Place for temp display/installations at a gateway to MIT
Concepts

Foundation walls to be retained and partially re-used, raising grade above sidewalk. Exterior elements salvaged. Gate lintel to be re-purposed as a bench.
“Before” and “After” Renderings
Workshop graphics re-imagine the view from across Mass Ave.
Concept Rendering
Bike racks, desire line paths, hang-out space
-- Studio 2112 Landscape Architects

Opening in 2015
Construction 1
Bexley gate lintel being sited as a bench
Construction 2
Poplar trees and rain gardens
Common Themes of MIT Interim Landscapes:

- No canopy trees – they look too “permanent”
- Plant fast-growing species that stand out from their surroundings
- Choose common materials: chain link, raw concrete, asphalt
- Re-use building elements to recall former site
- Urban sites require export/import of soils to create plant beds
- Have some fun with it!