Beyond Manhattanville
Notable Architecture & Design Projects Across Columbia Campuses

Columbia University’s commitment to excellence in architecture is evident across its campuses. Over the past decade it has encompassed not only Renzo Piano’s master plan for Manhattanville and the campus’s first three completed buildings. It also has included the Roy and Diana Vagelos Education Center designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro and the School of Nursing designed by FXCollaborative at Columbia’s Irving Medical Center, Rafael Moneo’s Northwest Corner Building on the historic Morningside campus and the Campbell Sports Center at the Baker Athletics Complex designed by Steven Holl.

These buildings are part of an ongoing investment in creating and renovating innovative spaces throughout the University to provide state-of-the-art facilities for world-class excellence in teaching and research. Just a few examples include the creation of Columbia’s first Alumni Center, the Brown Institute for Media Innovation and the Stabile Student Center at Columbia Journalism School, the Data Science Institute at Columbia Engineering, construction of a new floor atop Columbia Law School, a newly renovated Alumni Auditorium and extensive laboratory renovations in basic science and engineering at the Medical Center to create environments where Columbians of different disciplines can interact to advance world-class science, and more.

Vagelos Education Center

The Roy and Diana Vagelos Education Center, designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro, opened at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center in 2016. Included in the New York Times’ Best Architecture in New York of 2016 list, the building features technologically advanced classrooms, collaboration spaces, and a simulation center to reflect how 21st-century medicine is taught and practiced.

Photograph by Jeffrey Schifman
Northwest Corner Building

The Northwest Corner Building, designed by Rafael Moneo, opened in 2010, completing the core Morningside campus and creating a new public portal on Broadway. The LEED Gold certified building houses cutting-edge laboratories gathering together researchers in biology, chemistry, physics and engineering, as well as a science library, lecture hall and café.

Photograph by Michael Moran

Campbell Sports Center

The Campbell Sports Center, designed by Steven Holl, opened at the University’s Baker Athletics Complex in 2012. The LEED Gold certified building was featured in the New York Times as a building that shows both its “brains and its brawn” and was named Best New Building by the Municipal Art Society of New York.

Photograph by Mike McLaughlin

Muscota Marsh

Muscota Marsh, designed by James Corner Field Operations, opened in 2014, creating public access and new amenities to a scenic, environmentally restored waterfront at the northern tip of Manhattan. The project, which connects Columbia University’s Baker Athletics Complex to the popular Inwood Hill Park, received a 2012 Design Award from the Public Design Commission of the City of New York.
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School of Nursing

The Columbia University School of Nursing Building, designed by FXCollaborative, opened at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center in 2017. The building provides an ultramodern learning environment for 21st-century care.

Photograph by Frank Oudeman

Gary C. Comer Geochemistry Building

The Gary C. Comer Geochemistry Building, designed by Payette, opened at the University’s Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory in 2007. The LEED Silver certified building, which supports research at the forefront of global climate science, has won several awards in sustainable design and excellence in architecture, including Lab of the Year by Research and Development magazine.