



MASTER PLAN
FEBRUARY 2000

KEY

- Environmental Gardens
- A Lowland Forest Plant Study
- B Specialty Plant Gardens
- C Design Principles Garden
- D Azalea & Camellia Garden
- E Plant Association Garden
- F Orchard
- G Longleaf Pine/Live Oak Forest
- H Woodland Native Plant Study
- I Small Tree Arboretum
- J Meadow Gardens
- K Conference Center
- L Garden Education Center
- M Office
- N Children's Garden
- O Conservation Station
- P Events Lawn
- Q Overlook Terrace
- R Spine Walk
- S Canopy Tree Allee
- T Parking



CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

SANDHILL RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTER

A Proud History

As a land-grant university, Clemson University has a special relationship with the state of South Carolina. Founded primarily to improve the economic welfare of the state, which had been severely impacted by the Civil War, Clemson has always had a clear mission to help solve problems facing the industries, communities and people of South Carolina.

For its first century, Clemson's mission was centered on agriculture and the needs of a rural society. As South Carolina's economy diversified, Clemson responded with research, education and outreach programs to address the needs of the manufacturing, service and technology-based industries.

Changing Times

As South Carolina's needs have changed, so has Clemson's focus. As we begin the 21st century, one of the major concerns facing communities is the management of growth and the issues that come with a transition from rural or suburban areas to urban. Nowhere is this issue more evident than in Columbia and Richland County.

Clemson University is well positioned to help address the concerns. Not only do Clemson faculty and staff have expertise in community and economic development, urban horticulture, city planning, landscape design and architecture, Clemson's Sandhill Research & Education Center (one of four throughout the state) is located at Two Notch Road and Clemson Road in Columbia.

Master Plan

To continue being an effective partner for Columbia and Richland County, Clemson must improve and refocus the Sandhill Research & Education Center. Current facilities are inadequate to handle significantly expanded research and program offerings. Selected current programs, many of which are part of the area's rich history, should remain active, such as research into controlling fire ants and growing peaches in harsh environments; training for the state's pest control operators; environmental education programs for youth throughout the region; and a 400-acre recreation area for the general public to enjoy year-round.

A master plan calls for the building of Clemson's research capability at the Sandhill center in the areas of community and economic development, urban horticulture and environmental issues, which would address some of the major concerns facing growing urban areas such as Columbia. In addition, Clemson would construct a new state-of-the-art conference and education center, develop an electronic library where people can access information from other libraries, and endow programs and operations. Among the planned programs are expanded Extension services offered to South Carolina industries, and the establishment of scholarships that require students to perform community service as part of their education.

Landscaping plans include the renovation of current areas at the site, including the children's garden, specialty plant garden, longleaf pine/live oak forest, conservation station, and the lowland forest plant study area. Among the planned additions are a small tree arboretum, environmental gardens and a woodland native

plant study area. These and other landscaped areas, along with a lake on the property, will be connected by a series of nature trails and walking paths.

A Major Investment

The Sandhill master plan has been approved by Clemson's Board of Trustees and represents the largest, single investment approved in the University's history:

\$ 5,000,000	Conference and Education Center
\$ 1,500,000	Landscaping
\$ 400,000	Demolition of Selected Structures
\$ 1,000,000	Electronic Library
\$ 5,000,000	Community Scholarships
\$ 6,000,000	Operations/Programs Endowment
Total Investment: \$ 18,900,000	

The lion's share of funding will come from the sale of 300 acres of Clemson University property adjacent to the Sandhill center along Clemson Road. When the Board of Trustees gave the University permission to seek bids for the property, it was with the understanding that the funds would be reinvested to improve Clemson's ability to serve the people of South Carolina. That objective took one step closer to being reached when the University accepted a bid to purchase the 300-acre tract from Kahn Development Co. of Columbia.

The fulfillment of the master plan for Sandhill is contingent upon the sale of the adjacent property. Clemson's vision is for the Sandhill center to become a model urban research center for the 21st century, and to remain a good, long-standing neighbor in Columbia and Richland County. The sale of the Clemson Road property will make that vision a reality.