

PUBLIC COMMENT SIGNUP SHEET

FEBRUARY 17, 2016

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-52.1, the Henderson County welcomes public comment at its meetings. Please note that each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes, unless a different time limit is announced. Also, the Board may adopt rules limiting the number of persons speaking taking the same position on a given issue, and other rules regarding the maintenance of good order.

Each speaker should be aware and by their signatures hereto they agree that their comments may be recorded (by audio-visual recordings, photography or other means), and may be (but are not required to be) broadcast by the County as a part of the broadcast of this meeting, or as a part of the County's programming on its local video channel(s). By their signature they further agree that Henderson County is and will be the sole owner of all rights in and to such programming. The undersigned hereby indemnifies Henderson County, its employees and agents, against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses arising out of the use of the undersigned's images and words in connection therewith.

1.

JERRY PACE
PRINTED NAME

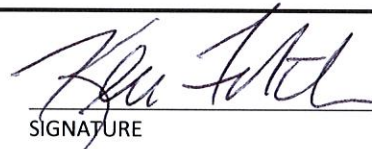

SIGNATURE

418 MTN PACE RD
MAILING ADDRESS

Topic
ORCHARD HILL WATER

2.

Ken Fitch
PRINTED NAME


SIGNATURE

1046 Patton Street
Hendersonville, NC
MAILING ADDRESS

Topic
HHS

3.

PRINTED NAME

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MAILING ADDRESS

Topic

4.

PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

MAILING ADDRESS

Topic

December 7, 2015

James Melonas, Interim Forest Supervisor
National Forests in North Carolina
160 Zillicoa St. Suite A
Asheville, NC 28801

Dear Supervisor Melonas,

We, the undersigned, and stakeholders of the Nantahala-Pisgah National Forests, are working together to develop recommendations concerning management of key areas of the forest. This working group of stakeholders represents a broad range of interest groups, some of whom have traditionally been at odds concerning issues of forest management. We have come to agreement on the following:

We recognize the exceptional backcountry and wilderness values provided by the unroaded areas of the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, including solitude, scenic integrity, water quality, wildlife habitat, cultural traditions, and outdoor recreation, and recognize the increasing demand for backcountry and wilderness experiences and the vital contribution of these values to the sustainability of local economies surrounding the Nantahala-Pisgah National Forest.

We recognize that some management including logging for restorative purposes may be appropriate in areas to meet the needs of recreational users, including game and fishery habitat enhancements. However, we feel the above mentioned values make these places unsuitable for commercial timber production.

We recognize in particular that the Harper Creek and Lost Cove Wilderness Study Areas offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and recreation, hunting and fishing, and excellent water quality. We recognize the suitability of these areas for many forms of recreation and further acknowledge that planned mountain bicycle, horse, and pack stock use is fully compatible with the protection of those values in perpetuity. We acknowledge that the Harper Creek and Lost Cove Wilderness Study Areas contain nationally renowned rock climbing resources and that climbing is also compatible with the aforementioned values. We agree that access to recreation, hunting, and fishing in this area can be improved and made more sustainable by conducting a trail inventory and sustainability analysis, and that these areas should be protected by the most stringent land-use designation under federal law that would allow for climbing, mountain biking, paddling, and stock use, including Wilderness designations in appropriate areas.

We acknowledge that until a trail inventory and sustainability analysis are complete and Congressional re-designation of these areas occurs, that Harper Creek and Lost Cove will remain Wilderness Study Areas and should continue to be managed to preserve their suitability for Wilderness designation.

We also recognize in particular that even as we lack adequate trail access for all user groups, recreation in the Pisgah and Grandfather Ranger Districts has become a critical component of the local economies and that these areas should be protected and enhanced for the unique recreational opportunities they provide and that trail opportunities should be enhanced for all users.

Therefore, in a spirit of cooperation and with a commitment to an ongoing partnership, we agree that the following areas should be managed for a full range of backcountry values that will ensure their individual special characteristics and recreational opportunities are preserved in perpetuity and agree to advocate jointly that:

1. A 57,400-acre Grandfather National Recreation Area, as shown on the attached map, be designated by Congress and, in the meantime, be managed consistent with such future designation by the Forest Service, with an emphasis on scenic values and traditional hunting and fishing uses throughout and an emphasis on recreational opportunities in Upper Wilson Creek, Harper Creek, Lost Cove and the Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor, and that the Harper Creek and Lost Cove Wilderness Study Areas should be permanently protected to safeguard their backcountry and wilderness values. Other areas in the wilderness inventory should be put into management categories that protect their scenic, recreational, and ecological values: either NRA management that specifically protects these values or in appropriate backcountry, special biological areas, or ecological restoration management. The proposed Grandfather National Recreation Area (GNRA) would also include the 25,500 acre proposed Grandfather National Scenic Area (GNSA). Including the GNSA would allow for management flexibility within the proposed GNRA and provide additional benefits to the public. The acreage that constitutes the GNSA is suitable for multiple use and we support management for ecological integrity and wildlife habitat that does not impact scenic values and recreational experiences. By including the GNSA this proposal would also garner public support as local communities, dozens of businesses, and local governments have supported protection for this area.

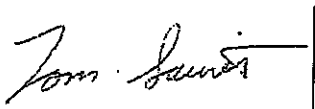
2. A 115,573-acre Pisgah National Recreation Area, including inventoried roadless areas, wilderness inventory areas, and Mountain Treasure areas as shown on the attached map, be designated by Congress and, in the meantime, be managed consistent with such future designation by the Forest Service, with an emphasis on diverse, high-quality recreational opportunities including climbing, mountain bike, and horse and pack stock use, hunting, and fishing. Other areas in the wilderness inventory should be put into management categories that protect their scenic, recreational, and ecological values: either NRA management that specifically protects these values or in appropriate backcountry, special biological areas, or ecological restoration management.

3. 109,961 acres, as shown on the attached map, be recommended as Wilderness, managed as recommended Wilderness, and promptly designated by Congress as Wilderness, including the Black Mountains, Craggy Mountains (excluding existing mountain bike routes), Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Extensions, Linville Gorge Extension, Mackey Mountain, Middle Prong Extension (IRA), Overflow Creek, Shining Rock Extensions (IRA) (excluding Flat Laurel Creek Trail and

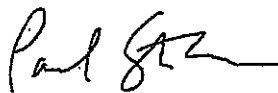
spruce restoration areas), Snowbird WSA, Southern Nantahala Extensions, Tusquitee Bald, Ellicott Rock Extension, and Unicoi Mountains (including Cantrell Top). Other areas in the wilderness inventory should be put into management categories that protect their scenic, recreational, and ecological values in appropriate backcountry, special biological areas, or ecological restoration management.

The undersigned further agree to continue to work together and to work with the Forest Service as partners to develop the language to create National Recreation Areas which will provide protection for these special areas while enhancing the varied recreational use. We further agree to work together and with the U.S. Forest Service to support recreational activities and to help provide resources to maintain these activities in a sustainable manner. We support recreational activities in Harper Creek and Lost Cove, including providing resources to complete necessary trail inventories, identifying sustainable trails, plans and sustainable trail networks. We also support resilient climbing resources and establishing a backcountry ranger program and a trail stewardship program comprised of our diverse user groups.


Sincerely,



Tom Sauret, Regional Director
International Mountain Biking Association



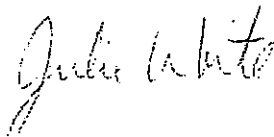
Paul Stahlschmidt
Northwest NC Mountain Bike Alliance



Bob Wagner, Co-Director
Mountain True
29 North Market St. Suite 610
Asheville, NC 28801
828-258-8737



Brent Martin,
Southern Appalachian Regional Director
The Wilderness Society
563 West Main St. Ste. 1
Sylva, NC 28779



Julie White
Pisgah Area SORBA
Asheville, NC 28801



Will Harlan, Editor
Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine

Pat Byington, Executive Director
Wild South
13 1/2 West Walnut Street
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

Andy Zivinsky
Nantahala Area SORBA

Bill Hodge, Executive Director
Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

Zachary Lesch-Huie, SE Regional Director
Access Fund

Kevin Colburn, National Stewardship Director
American Whitewater

Brian Payst, President
Carolina Climbers Coalition

Adam Cramer, Executive Director
Outdoor Alliance
1255 23rd Street NW, Suite 275
Washington, DC 20037

Emily Diznoff, Board of Directors
Friends of Big Ivy

Phil Powers, Executive Director
American Alpine Club

Olga Pader, President
Nantahala Hiking Club

Mike Reardon, Owner
Ground Up Publishing

Chris Coney, Co-Owner
Pisgah Mountain Bike Adventures
450 Windswept Drive
Asheville, NC 28801

How are Recreation Areas different from NRAs?

Recreation Areas do not have the statutorily enforced permanence of NRAs that have been designated by Congress. From a Plan Revision perspective, they would have many of the same requirements for designation and management.

A coalition of over 30 outdoor recreation and environmental groups have united behind a plan to recommend two national recreation areas in Pisgah-Nantahala National Forest: the 115,000-acre Pisgah National Recreation Area and the 57,000-acre Grandfather National Recreation Area. These areas would permanently protect the recreation opportunities in these forests and prohibit commercial logging, fracking.

National Recreation Area Designation Effects

Local Communities, business stakeholders, and the public are often concerned about what will happen to their interests following a special recreation designation of federal lands. There is limited evidence about the effects of special designation of existing public land. Congressional designation does not change the natural amenities of a place, but it does have the ability to change the management of activities that occur there. The Recreation Advisory Council guidelines for the administration of NRA's encourage managers to increase the recreation carrying capacity and corresponding use of these areas. This may favor some types of activities and related economic impacts, such as reservoir-base fishing, but may reduce opportunities that are dependent on less developed settings, such as big game hunting. In many cases, new designations accommodate existing recreation activities. However, legislation or administrative decisions can change allowable uses, and this may adversely affect certain stakeholder interests.

A 115,573-acre Pisgah National Recreation Area, including inventoried roadless areas, wilderness inventory areas, and Mountain Treasure areas as shown on the attached map, be designated by Congress and, in the meantime, be managed consistent with such future designation by the Forest Service, with an emphasis on diverse, high-quality recreational opportunities including climbing, mountain bike, and horse and pack stock use, hunting, and fishing. Other areas in the wilderness inventory should be put into management categories that protect their scenic, recreational, and ecological values: either NRA management that specifically protects these values or in appropriate backcountry, special biological areas, or ecological restoration management.

109,961 acres, as shown on the attached map, be recommended as Wilderness, managed as recommended Wilderness, and promptly designated by Congress as Wilderness, including the Black Mountains, Craggy Mountains (excluding existing mountain bike routes), Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Extensions, Linville Gorge Extension, Mackey Mountain, Middle Prong Extension (IRA), Overflow Creek, Shining Rock Extensions (IRA) (excluding Flat Laurel Creek Trail and

X We recognize that some management including logging for restorative purposes may be appropriate in areas to meet the needs of recreational users, including game and fishery habitat enhancements. However, we feel the above mentioned values make these places unsuitable for commercial timber production.

g, and other extractive uses (some small-scale logging for wildlife habitat may still be permitted in these areas). The proposal would also encourage the Forest Service to recommend over 109,000 additional acres for wilderness across the Pisgah-Nantahala Forest.

No-Sportsmen
No Fish/Hunter

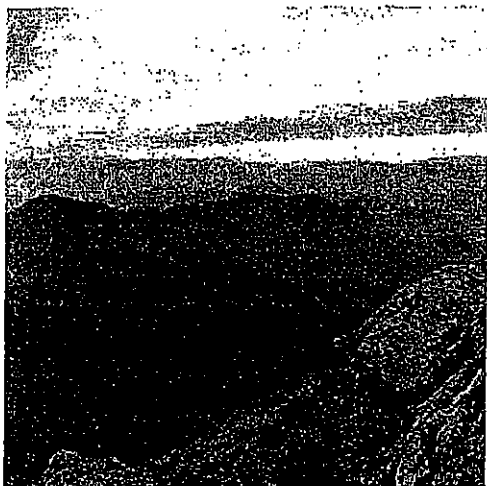
Mountain bikers, equestrians, wilderness advocates, hikers, climbers, paddlers, and environmental groups have all endorsed the plan. Often these groups are at odds over forest management, but they all have worked together to craft this plan. Supporters include IMBA, Pisgah Area SORBA, Nantahala Area SORBA, The Wilderness Society, Carolina Climbers Coalition, American Alpine Club, Northwest NC Mountain Bike Alliance, American Whitewater, Wild South, Friends of Big Ivy, Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards, MountainTrue, Access Fund, Outdoor Alliance, and the Nantahala Hiking Club. *Blue Ridge Outdoors* magazine proudly supports the plan, too.

What support? when?

It's the most ambitious, far-reaching, and widely supported plan ever developed for the Pisgah-Nantahala, and it comes at just the right time. The Forest Service has stepped up with initial support last month, it included 364,000 acres of the Pisgah-Nantahala in its wilderness inventory and will consider 53 waterways for Wild and Scenic River status, which would protect water quality and habitat along our most beloved trout streams and whitewater creeks.

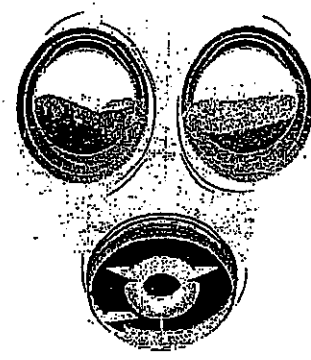
This is our best chance—and probably our only chance—to permanently protect our forests.

HOW YOUR SUPPORT for the National Recreation Areas proposal. Email comments to the Forest Service by December 15 to NCPlanRevision@fs.fed.us. View maps and learn more about the national recreation area plans at ncmountaintreasures.org



New Protections Proposed for Pisgah-Nantahala

<http://www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/hiking/new-protections-proposed-for-pisgah-nantahala/>



Blue Ridge Briefs

(<http://www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/go-outside/blue-ridge-briefs-3/>)

What is a National Recreation Area (NRA)?

National Recreation Areas have outstanding combinations of outdoor recreation opportunities, aesthetic attractions, and proximity to potential users. They may have cultural, historical, archeological, pastoral, wilderness, scientific, wildlife and other values contributing to public enjoyment.

What is the purpose of the designation?

There are many reasons NRAs are designated. Generally they are designated to protect, preserve, enhance or conserve some attribute or set of attributes in an area.

How big are NRAs?

Current NRAs managed by the NFS range in size from the 6,600 acre Pine Ridge NRA in Nebraska to the 729,322 acre Sawtooth NRA in Idaho. The size is dependent on the values in the area being considered and the diversity of its opportunities.

How are National Recreation Areas designated?

NRAs are designated by Congress after recommendation from the Secretary of Agriculture. NRA proposals can grow from locally-driven collaboration efforts, and the Forest Service can propose NRAs during plan revision. The revised plan can include components that provide for appropriate management based on the specific purposes for recommending the areas.

Does designation of a NRA protect it from other activities?

Not always; plan components for NRAs cannot interfere with valid existing rights. There is also the need to consider the relationships and coordination between the recommended area's unique values/recreation resources and other resources and activities present in the area.

Are there alternatives to recommending a National Recreation Area?

Yes, recreation areas or other special interest areas of less than 100,000 acres can be designated by the Regional Forester or by the Secretary of Agriculture if greater than 100,000 acres.

How are Recreation Areas different from NRAs?

Recreation Areas do not have the statutorily enforced permanence of NRAs that have been designated by Congress. From a Plan Revision perspective, they would have many of the same requirements for design and management.

What can be included in an NRA?

The activities that occur in an NRA can be very diverse. Within its boundaries, both motorized and non-motorized recreation can be permitted and managed, including hunting, fishing, rock climbing, hang gliding, paddling, cycling, hiking, horseback riding, camping and other forms of nature-based recreation. Management of other resources such as timber, historic, minerals, soil and water is described in an NRA proposal and subsequent designation.

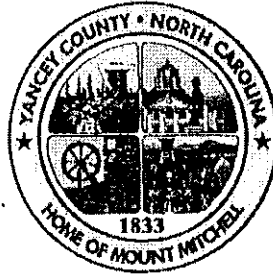
Does an NRA designation mean user fees would be charged and/or additional funding would be provided to manage it?

Nationally, there is no specialized funding source for managing NRAs. The initial designations for some NFAs included one-time special appropriations for developing management plans, acquiring lands and/or constructing facilities. The Forest Service doesn't currently have the authority to charge user fees at larger areas like NRAs, but user fees could be charged at specific recreation sites within an NRA's boundaries.

Hand out

Board of Commissioners

Johnny Riddle, Chair
Jill Austin, Vice-chair
Byrl Ballew
Randy Ollis
Jeff Whitson



Nathan R. Bennett
County Manager

Donny J. Laws
County Attorney

J. Jason Robinson
Clerk to the Board

RESOLUTION

In Opposition to the Pisgah National Forest Land Management Plan Revision

Whereas, the United States Forest Service proposes to revise its Land Management Plan and designate approximately 50 percent of the current national forest land use in Yancey County to wilderness area; and

Whereas, the United States Forest Service now manages 38,272 acres of National Forests in Yancey County in various forms; and

Whereas, the proposed revisions could affect as much as, but not limited to, 19,069 acres in the Black Mountains, Bearwallow and Nolichucky (Lost Cove) areas in Yancey County; and

Whereas, the County of Yancey is concerned that less Forest Service management will negatively impact future search and rescue efforts and increase their frequency, difficulty, and cost by limiting necessary maintenance of roadways and trails; and

Whereas, the County of Yancey is concerned that less Forest Service management will negatively affect the funds annually received for payment for the Secure Rural Schools program with the United States Forest Service.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Yancey County Board of Commissioners do hereby resolve as follows:

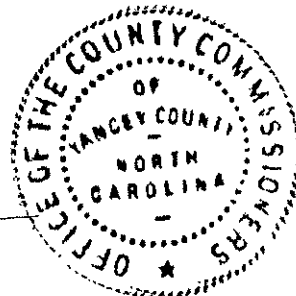
1. That the Board stands in opposition to any wilderness designated areas or study areas where land management practices are reduced within Yancey County.
2. That this resolution be effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this the 11th Day of January, 2016.

(County Seal)

ATTEST:

J. Jason Robinson, Clerk to the Board



Johnny Riddle, Chairman



**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO NANTAHALA
and PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST LAND
MANAGEMENT PLAN REVISION**

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service proposes to revise its Land Management Plan for Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests; and

WHEREAS, the revised Land Management Plan proposes to reduce the amount of managed plan to wilderness by twenty-five percent (25%) of total land area of the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests rather than manage the lands for sustainability; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service is accepting public comment on the proposed revision; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Mills River recognizes there are jobs created by the forest management program from service providers to manufacturing, and sale of products resulting from material that is removed; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Mills River is concerned that less forest management will impact the recreational value impacting tourism and the local economy; and,

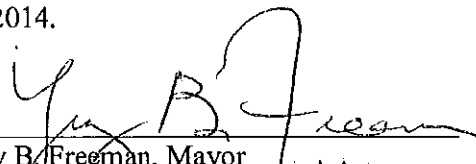
WHEREAS, the Town of Mills River is concerned that failing to properly manage the forest could lead to an increase in uncontrolled forest fires and cause harm to residents and their property adjacent to the forest; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Mills River understands forest management is critical to maintaining a healthy forest ecosystem for native wildlife and provides economic value to the areas as a recreation site.

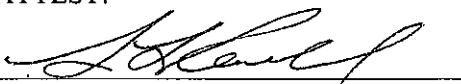
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MILLS RIVER THAT:

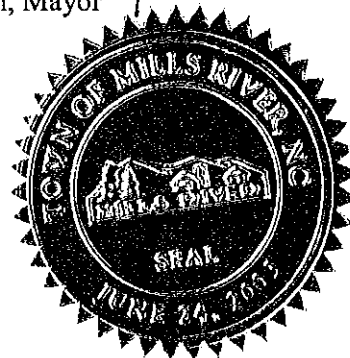
The Town of Mills River Town Council opposes the United States Forest Service revising the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests Land Management Plan reducing the amount of managed land to wilderness by twenty-five percent (25%).

Approved and adopted this the 24th day of April, 2014.


Larry B. Freeman, Mayor

ATTEST:


Susan L. Powell, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk/Finance Officer





Council Members

Larry Freeman, Mayor
Shanon Gonce, Mayor Pro Tem
Wayne Carland
Billy Johnston
Roger Snyder

THE TOWN OF MILLS RIVER

124 Town Center Drive
Mills River, North Carolina 28759
Voice (828) 890-2901 Fax (828) 890-2903

April 24, 2014

Ms. Kristin Bail
Forest Supervisor, National Forests in NC
U.S. Forest Service
160 Zillicoa Road, Suite A
Asheville, NC 28801

SUBJECT: Comments on Nantahala and Pisgah Land Management Plan
Revision and Accompanying Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Ms. Bail:

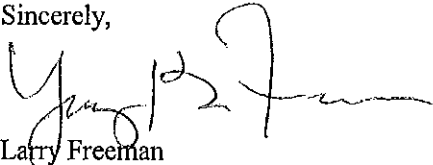
The Town of Mills River along with Mills River Fire and Rescue (MRFR) stands in opposition to any plan or proposal to manage the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests as wilderness areas in lieu of managing the same forests for sustainability. It is the position of Mills River Council and MRFR that doing so carries unacceptable economic impact to the Western North Carolina region. There are jobs created by the forest management program from service providers to manufacturing and sale of products resulting from material that is removed. There is also concern that less forest management will impact the recreational value that impacts the tourism sector in the local economy.

The Council and MRFR are also concerned for Town citizens who own property next to the forest. Failing to properly manage the forest could lead to an increase in uncontrolled forest fires causing a risk to citizens and their property. Managing the forest is critical to maintaining a healthy forest ecosystem for native wildlife, while also providing economic value to the area as a recreation site, and reducing the risk of uncontrolled or severe forest fires by mitigating uncontrolled growth. MRFR has also had a long term working relationship with the United States Forest Service law enforcement and fire personnel that has helped to protect the community and the forest from fire damage. The continued cooperation and support of emergency personnel across agencies is critical to keeping those living on the borders of the forest safe.

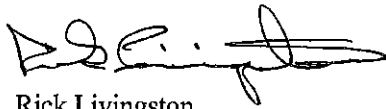
The Town would also like to express that the communication regarding this matter that affects area bordering so much of the Town property has been sorely lacking. Town officials were only made aware of the current deadline this week and it was brought to our attention by professionals in our community and not from the US Department of Agriculture. We request that a greater effort be made to make contact with bordering jurisdictions and to solicit a broader scope of public comment on these types of matters.

The desired goal within the Nantahala and Pisgah Forests should be conservation and sustainability and the way to achieve that is through a working and well managed forest. The Town of Mills River and Mills River Fire and Rescue support the responsible use and management of our natural resources to support the economic and environmental health of our community and region. The increased area of designation as wilderness would not achieve that goal. On behalf of the Town Council and Mills River citizens, we would like to have our concerns addressed as the plan continues to move forward.

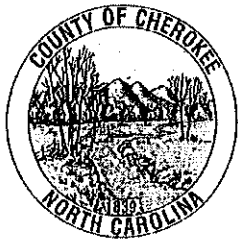
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Freeman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "F".

Larry Freeman
Mayor
Town of Mills River

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Livingston". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large initial "R".

Rick Livingston
Fire Chief
Mills River Fire and Rescue



CHEROKEE COUNTY

75 Peachtree Street
Murphy, NC 28906
828-837-5527

Randy Wiggins, County Manager
Candy R. Anderson, CPA, Finance Officer
R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney

Board of Commissioners
C.B. McKinnon, Chairman
Cal Stiles, Vice-Chairman
Dan Eichenbaum, Member
Gary Westmoreland, Member
Roy Dickey, Member
Maria Hass, Clerk to Board

Resolution on the Revision of the Land Management Plan for the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests

WHEREAS the US Forest Service is in the process of proposing revisions to the Land Management Plans for the Nantahala and Pisgah NFs and that plan is currently in the public comment period, and

WHEREAS the US Forest Service is proposing to designate 18,501 additional acres in Cherokee County for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and

WHEREAS the US Forest Service is proposing to designate an additional 29,156 acres on Tusquitee Bald falling in Cherokee, Clay, and Macon counties for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and

WHEREAS as a means of comparison, the size of Lake Hiawassee is only 6,000 acres, and

WHEREAS these parcels are a portion of 362,411 acres in western North Carolina proposed for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and

WHEREAS inclusion of lands in the Federal Wilderness Protection System means a complete ban on all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), mountain bikes, horses, motorized vehicles, and all types of recreation except hiking and back country camping, and

WHEREAS inclusion of lands in the Federal Wilderness Protection System means more regulation and restrictions on access, recreation, timber management, and hunting, and

WHEREAS inclusion of lands in the Federal Wilderness Protection System results in the sequestration of vast land areas on which a large variety of human recreational activities are unnecessarily prohibited thereby effectively stealing these lands from United States citizens who nominally own them, and

WHEREAS sequestration of public land with resulting restrictions on public use is the primary purpose of The Wildlands Project, originally proposed to Congress in 1994 and defeated in the Senate after a presentation by Texas Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson showing a map in which most of the United States and in which Cherokee County, NC, is designated a "non-human" zone (see attachment)



Resolution of the Graham County Board of County Commissioners

WHEREAS, the Graham County Board of Commissioners at its duly called special meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2015 do hereby resolve that there exists a great threat and danger yet again to the timber resources and accessibility in the County of Graham by present attempts to create further wilderness beyond the Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock area in Graham County and to designate our streams / rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers in the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests Wilderness Evaluation Process Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Graham County Board of Commissioners also desire that in the inventory of a newly proposed plan under Federal Regulation by the United States Forest Service any further wilderness be excluded from the plan and that the identifying and evaluating of lands in our county that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System be excluded and all rivers and streams be left as is; and

WHEREAS, the Graham County Board of Commissioners hereby express a desire to maintain and support our now ever decreasing timber industry due to many environmental restrictions already in place in our 68% Forest Service owned lands in our county and to retain its economical input into our county revenue and schools though limited they may be for our present and future generations to sustain our heritage; and,

WHEREAS, the Graham County Board of Commissioners believe that further expansion of wilderness areas or designations of our streams / rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers in Graham County would have a substantial detrimental effect on the county's economy; and

WHEREAS, the Graham County Board of Commissioners would like the record to show that they are strongly opposed to the inventory of our lands for the use of identifying criteria for further wilderness expansion and for wild and scenic rivers; and,

WHEREAS, the Graham County Board of Commissioners has sacrificed enough lands and water to wilderness use and any further expansion of the wilderness program on the forest lands and wild and scenic rivers of our county would further reduce employment, income, and school financial support in our county of which this Tier 1 County cannot survive without any longer and will resolve to put forth every reasonable means and encourage our people to support our efforts in stopping the expansion and creation of wilderness in any further areas of Graham County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Graham County Board of Commissioners do hereby stand as one body politic with the statement that we are strongly opposed to any additional wilderness areas or any designation of our streams/rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers in Graham County.

Adopted this 17th day of November 2015.

Keith Eller, Chairman

Jacob Nelms, Vice-Chairman

Lynn Cody, Member

Connie Orr, Member

Raymond D. Williams, Member

ATTEST: _____
Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board



Resolution # 900-2015-02

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SWAIN

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS WITHIN
SWAIN COUNTY

WHEREAS, The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service is revising the 1987 Land and Resources Management Plan (revised 1994) under which the Nantahala Forest is managed; and,

WHEREAS, The Forest Service has put forth criteria for designating additional areas within the Nantahala National Forest as wilderness areas or scenery where no timber management may occur; and,

WHEREAS, The additional areas where no timber management can occur will further reduce jobs related to timber harvesting/timber products in Swain County; and,

WHEREAS, It is acknowledged by the Forest Service, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Ruffed Grouse Society, National Wild Turkey Foundation and numerous other wildlife agencies and organizations; that *early successional habitat* (regrowth of forest following timber cutting or natural disturbance) is much more productive of wildlife than immature, old growth forest; and,

WHEREAS, Timber cutting/timber products jobs and hunting are both important economic, cultural and historical activities in Swain County; and,

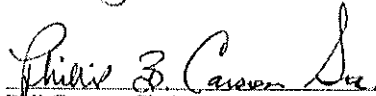
WHEREAS, The Swain County Commission believes that the Forest Service can preserve the nature of the Nantahala National Forest from trail hiking, bird watching, fishing, camping, tourism, species preservation and other important activities; without further decreasing the acreage that is available for timber management.

WHEREAS, The Great Smoky Mountains National Park has been managed as a wilderness, but has never been designated as wilderness by the United States Government;

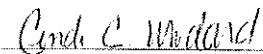
WHEREAS, When Wilderness areas are designated by the Federal Government, there are also buffers identified, and acquired to protect the wilderness areas from close proximity development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Swain County Board of Commissioners do hereby stand as one body politic with the statement that we are opposed to any designation of wilderness areas within the borders of Swain County and further that no additional areas of land be considered buffer zones around wilderness areas, whether the land is in Swain County or a combination of multiple jurisdictions.

Adopted this the 12 day of February, 2015.


Phil Carson, Chairman
Swain County Commissioners

ATTEST:


Cindi C. Woodard, Clerk to the Board
Swain County Commissioners

**RESOLUTION of The Clay County
Board of Commissioners**

Whereas, the Clay County Board of Commissioners at its duly called meeting on Thursday July 3, 2014 do hereby resolve that there exists a great threat and danger to the timber resources and accessibility in Clay County by present attempts to create further wilderness beyond the already existing areas in Clay County; and

Whereas, The Clay County Board of Commissioners hereby express a desire to maintain and support our now ever decreasing timber industry due to many environmental restrictions already in place in our 54% Forest Service owned lands in our county and to retain its economical input into our county revenue and schools though limited they may be for our present and future generations to sustain our heritage that we are proud to uphold and claim; and

Whereas, the Clay County Board of Commissioners believe that further expansion of wilderness areas in Clay County would have a substantial detrimental effect on the county's economy, limit recreational opportunities and public safety access; and

Whereas, Clay County has sacrificed enough lands to wilderness use and any further expansion of the wilderness program on the forest lands of our county would further reduce employment, income, and school financial support in our county of which this Tier 1 county cannot survive any longer and will resolve to put forth every reasonable effort to stop and encourage the citizens of Clay County to support our efforts in stopping the expansion and creation of any further areas of wilderness in Clay County.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Clay County Board of Commissioners do hereby resolve that the county of Clay is strongly opposed to any additional wilderness areas in Clay County.

Adopted this the 3rd day of July 2014.



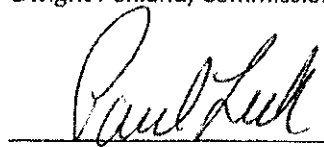
Stephen Sellers, Chairman



Dan McGlamery, Commissioner



Dwight Penland, Commissioner



Attested, Clerk to Board

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARK S. SWANGER, CHAIRMAN
J. W. "KIRK" KIRKPATRICK, III, VICE CHAIRMAN
L. KEVIN ENSLEY
BILL L. UPTON
MICHAEL T. SORRELLS



COUNTY MANAGER
IRA DOVE

LEON M. KILLIAN, III
COUNTY ATTORNEY

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO
PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN REVISION**

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service proposes to revise its Land Management Plan and reduce the total number of management areas from 21 to 16, rather than manage the lands for sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions would include the Pisgah National Forest and affect areas of Haywood County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Haywood is concerned that less forest management will negatively impact future search and rescue efforts, and increase their frequency, difficulty and cost, by limiting necessary maintenance to roadways and trails, and reducing necessary signage; and

WHEREAS, the County is concerned that less forest management will negatively impact recreational uses, therefore impacting tourism and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the County believes that sufficient forest management practices are critical to maintaining a healthy forest ecosystem for native wildlife, which in turn sustains the economic value to the areas as a recreation site.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Haywood County Board of Commissioners do hereby stand in opposition to any additional wilderness/designated areas where land management practices are reduced within Haywood County.

Adopted this ____ day of February, 2015.

Chairman, Haywood County Board of County Commissioners

Clerk to the Board

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL WILDERNESS AREAS
WITHIN THE NANTAHALA NATIONAL FOREST IN MACON COUNTY**

WHEREAS the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service is revising the 1987 Land and Resources Management Plan (revised 1994) under which the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests (NF) are managed; and,

WHEREAS the Forest Service has put forth criteria for designating additional areas within the Nantahala and Pisgah NF as wilderness areas or scenery where no timber management may occur; and,

WHEREAS the additional areas where no timber management can occur will further reduce jobs related to timber harvesting/timber products in Macon County; and,

WHEREAS it is acknowledged by the Forest Service, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Ruffed Grouse Society, National Wild Turkey Foundation and numerous other wildlife agencies and organizations; that *early successional habitat* (regrowth of forest following timber cutting or natural disturbance) is much more productive of wildlife than is mature, old growth forest; and,

WHEREAS the current assessment of the Nantahala/Pisgah National Forest identifies that only 1.8% of NF lands have undergone timber cutting within the past 15 years and that 77% of the NF lands are covered by forests older than 60 years; and,

WHEREAS timber cutting/timber products jobs and hunting are both important economic, cultural and historical activities in Macon County; and,

WHEREAS the Macon County Commission believes that the Forest Service can preserve the nature of the Nantahala/Pisgah National Forest for trail hiking, bird watching, fishing, camping, tourism, species preservation and other important activities; without further decreasing the acreage that is available for timber management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Macon County Board of Commissioners do hereby stand as one body politic with the statement that we are opposed to any additional wilderness/designated areas where no timber management can occur within Forest Service lands within Macon County.

ADOPTED THIS ___th DAY OF JULY, 2014.

Kevin Corbin, Chairman

Ronnie Beal, Commissioner

Jimmie Tate, Commissioner

Ron Haven, Commissioner

Paul Higdon, Commissioner

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1 Historic Courthouse Square, Suite #1
Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4808 • Fax (828) 692-9855
www.hendersoncountync.org

THOMAS THOMPSON
Chairman
CHARLIE MESSER
Vice-Chairman

J. MICHAEL EDNEY
GRADY HAWKINS
WILLIAM LAPSLEY

Draft

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND TO THE PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREA

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service is revising its 1987 Land Management Plan for the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forest; and is currently accepting public comment on the proposed revision; and

WHEREAS, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners is pleased with and commends the National Forest Staff and supports their important contributions to our community; and

WHEREAS, approximately 7.2% (17,295) of Henderson County is National Forest System Land and approximately 13,680 acres in Henderson County were inventoried Wilderness; and

WHEREAS, the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests contain important and significant natural resources that relate to the commerce and people of Henderson County in ecological, scenic, recreational, social, and community values; and

WHEREAS, the National Forest lands within Henderson County contribute significantly to Henderson County's economy, infrastructure, and school funding; and

WHEREAS, these National Forests have substantial value including habitat for native wildlife and fish, as a publicly administered natural area of free and open public access to all visitors, as a sustainable supply of forest products for local and regional businesses, and as a natural, ecological and scientific resource; and

WHEREAS, the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests make up a significant element of Henderson County's history and cultural heritage, and maintain a diversity of natural habitats of Western North Carolina worthy of conservation, including areas of national environmental treasures that should be carefully managed to ensure sustainability for future generations; and

WHEREAS, a Wilderness designation means that the forest cannot be managed sustainably, mountain biking is prohibited, traditional uses like digging ramps are prohibited, wildlife habitat improvements cannot be made, the cost of search and rescue increases, roads are decommissioned, and access for forest users is restricted; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Western North Carolina and visitors to this area use the National Forest for hiking, hunting, mountain biking, fishing, horseback riding and sustainably harvested natural resources, and these uses are an intrinsic and important part of the history and culture of our community; and

WHEREAS, upon consideration of the positive impacts of science-based, active natural resources management on forest health, water resources, fish and wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation, forest products, and other values held important by our residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, we believe that active natural resources management enhances social and economic values through the development and maintenance of a diverse, resilient, and healthy forested landscape, thus providing a sustainable National Forest ecology for future generations; and

WHEREAS, a Congressionally designated National Recreation Area does not guarantee any additional funding for management and will give support for the same area being designated a Wilderness area in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners has concern over the potentially net negative consequences of additional Wilderness Area designations in areas of these National Forests located within the county; and

WHEREAS, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners believes a National Recreation Area designation is unlikely to provide additional benefit to our citizens and visitors beyond which already exists in the current National Forest structure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners do hereby strongly oppose the designation of any Wilderness, National Recreation Area, or other Congressional designations on the National Forest System lands in Henderson County.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the County of Henderson to be affixed.

Adopted this the 17th day of February, 2016.

CHARLES MESSER, VICE-CHAIRMAN
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

TERESA L. WILSON, CLERK TO THE BOARD

**“Together we discover, inspire and shape ideas
that transform our world.”**

We begin with partnership. Great ideas come from collaboration.
We believe ideas have the power to transform.



CLARK NEXSEN

What will our vision be?

What ideas will shape this project?

How will this plan shape these schools and the campus?

What will our vision be?

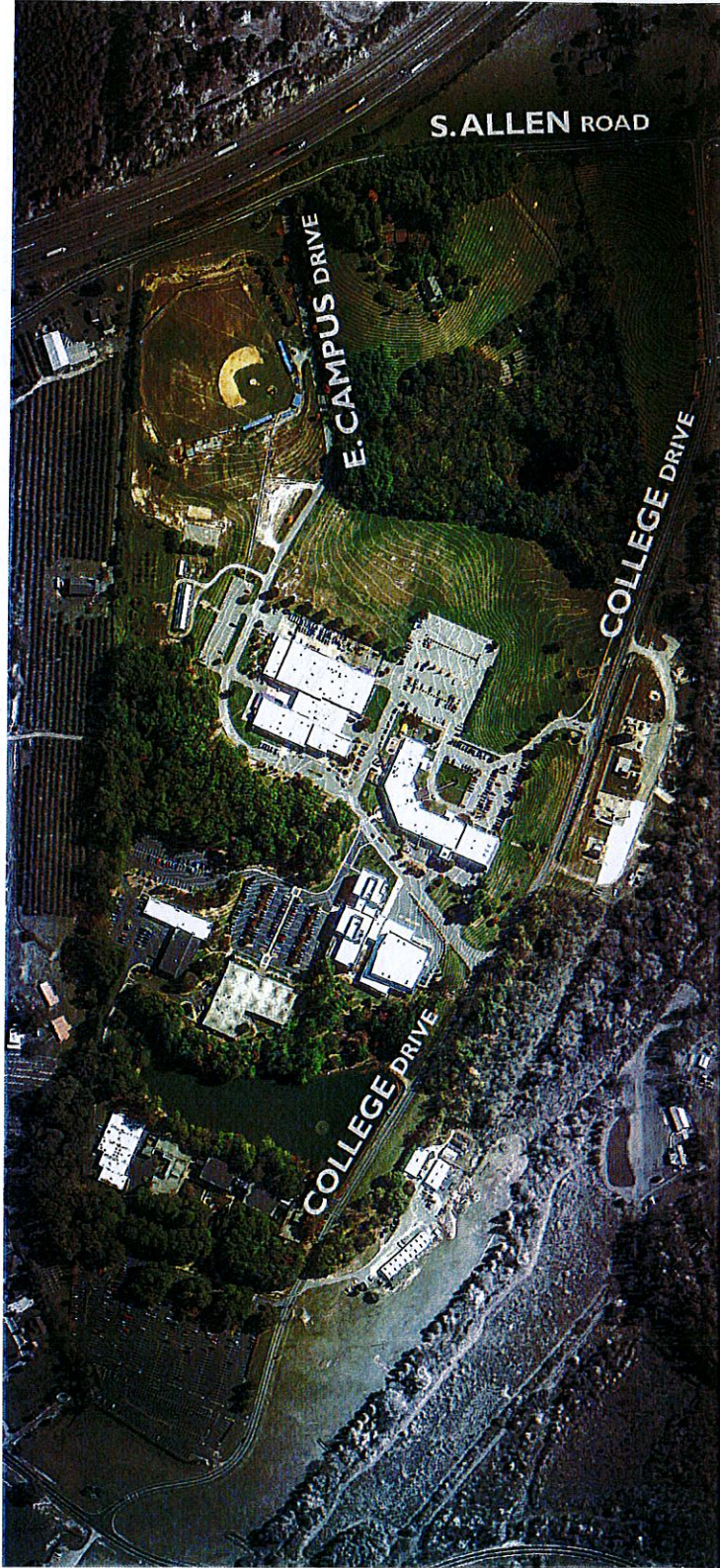
21st Century Learning Environments

A new home. A new identity for these schools.

Enhanced Partnerships.

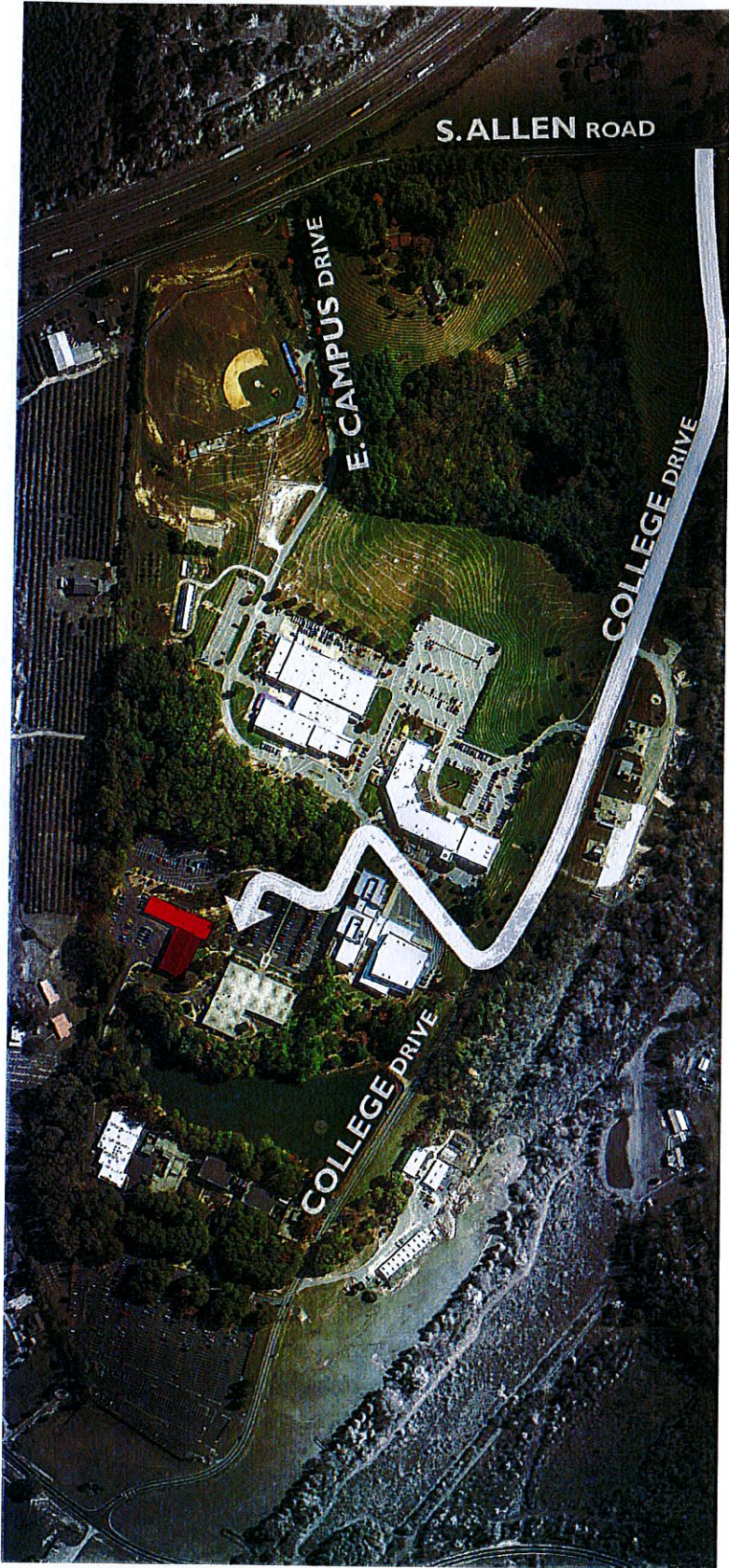
Opportunity.

A direct relationship with Higher Education.



CLARK NEXSEN

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



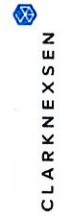
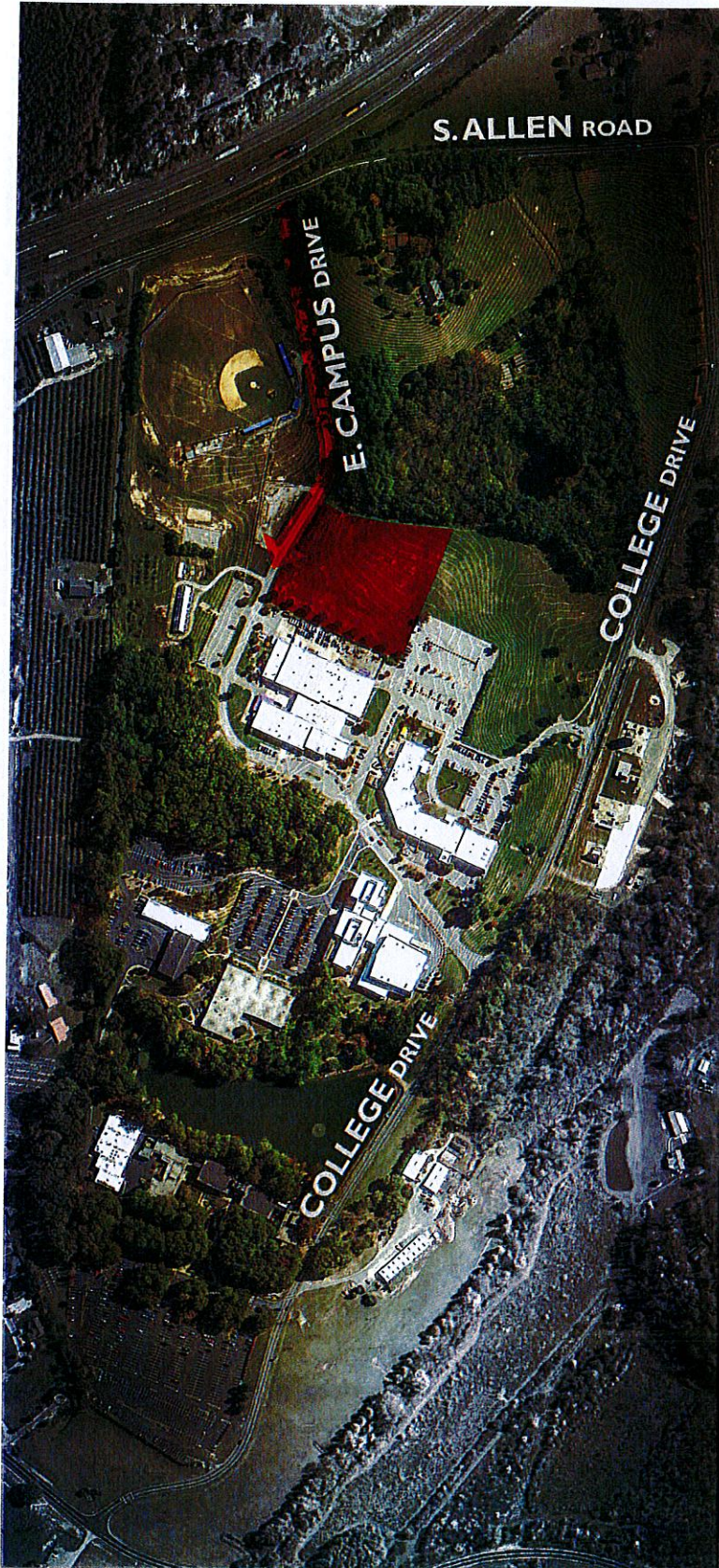
HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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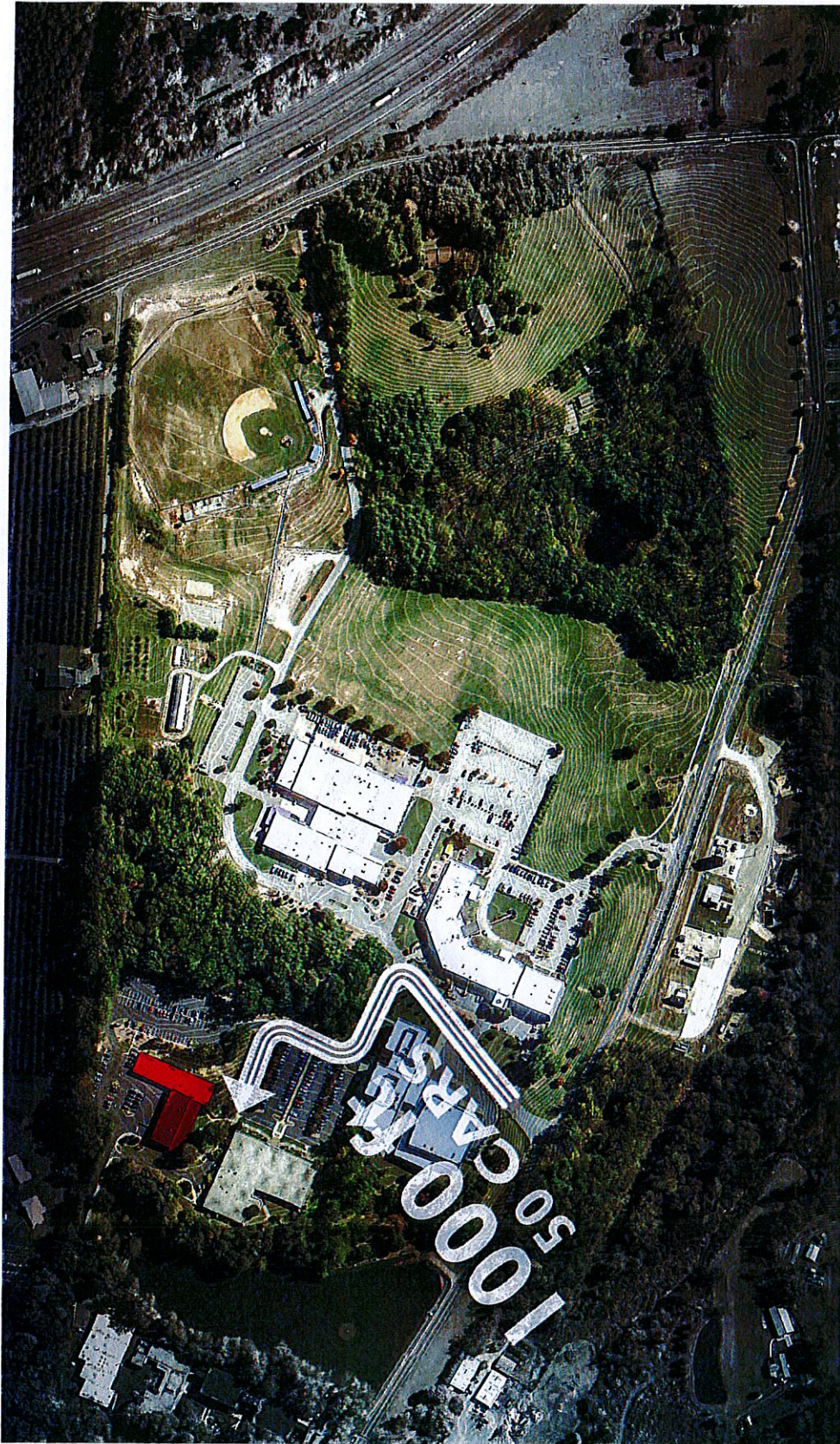


HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

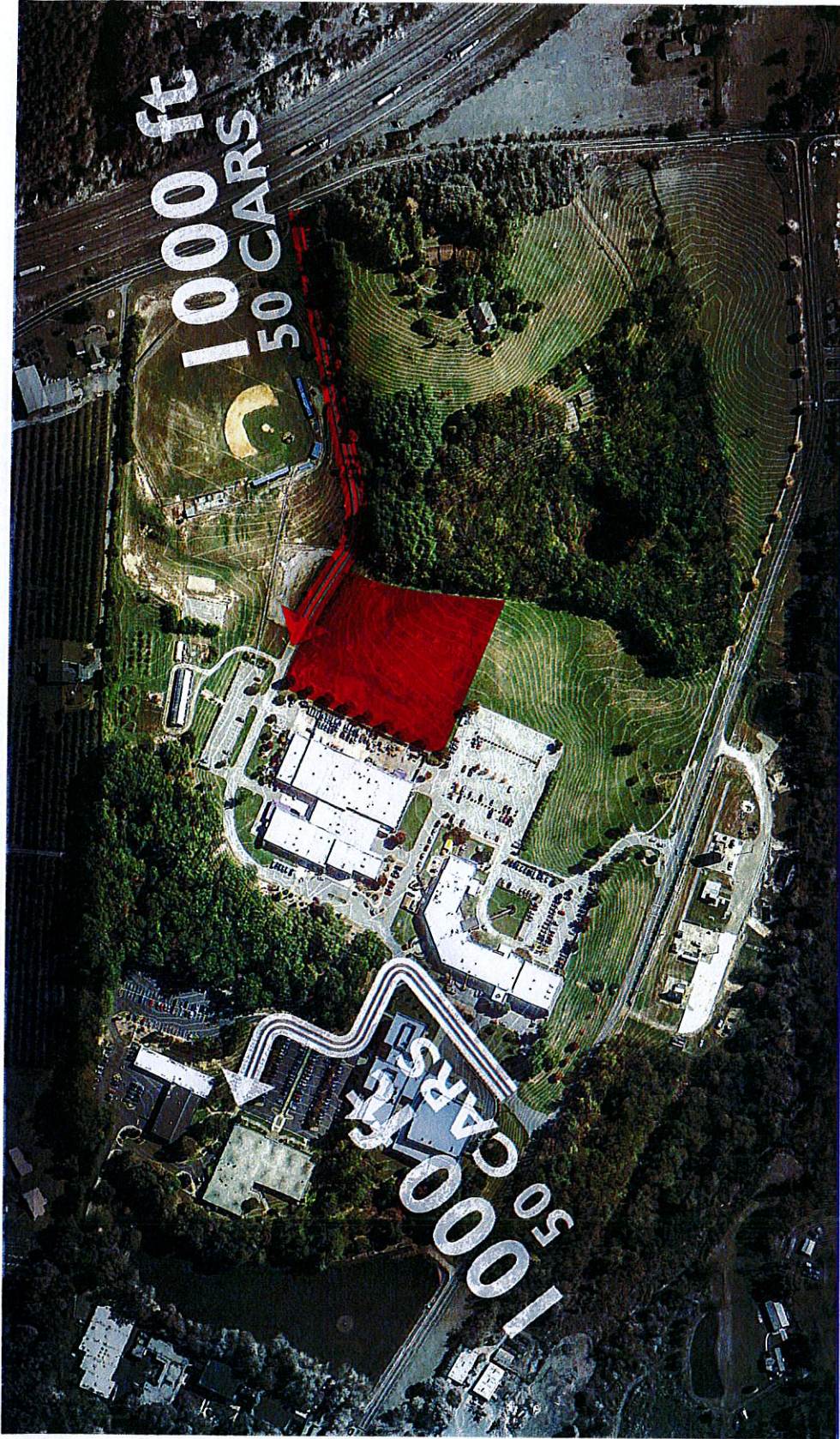
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HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

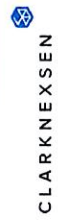


HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CLARK NEXSEN



CLARK NEXSEN

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



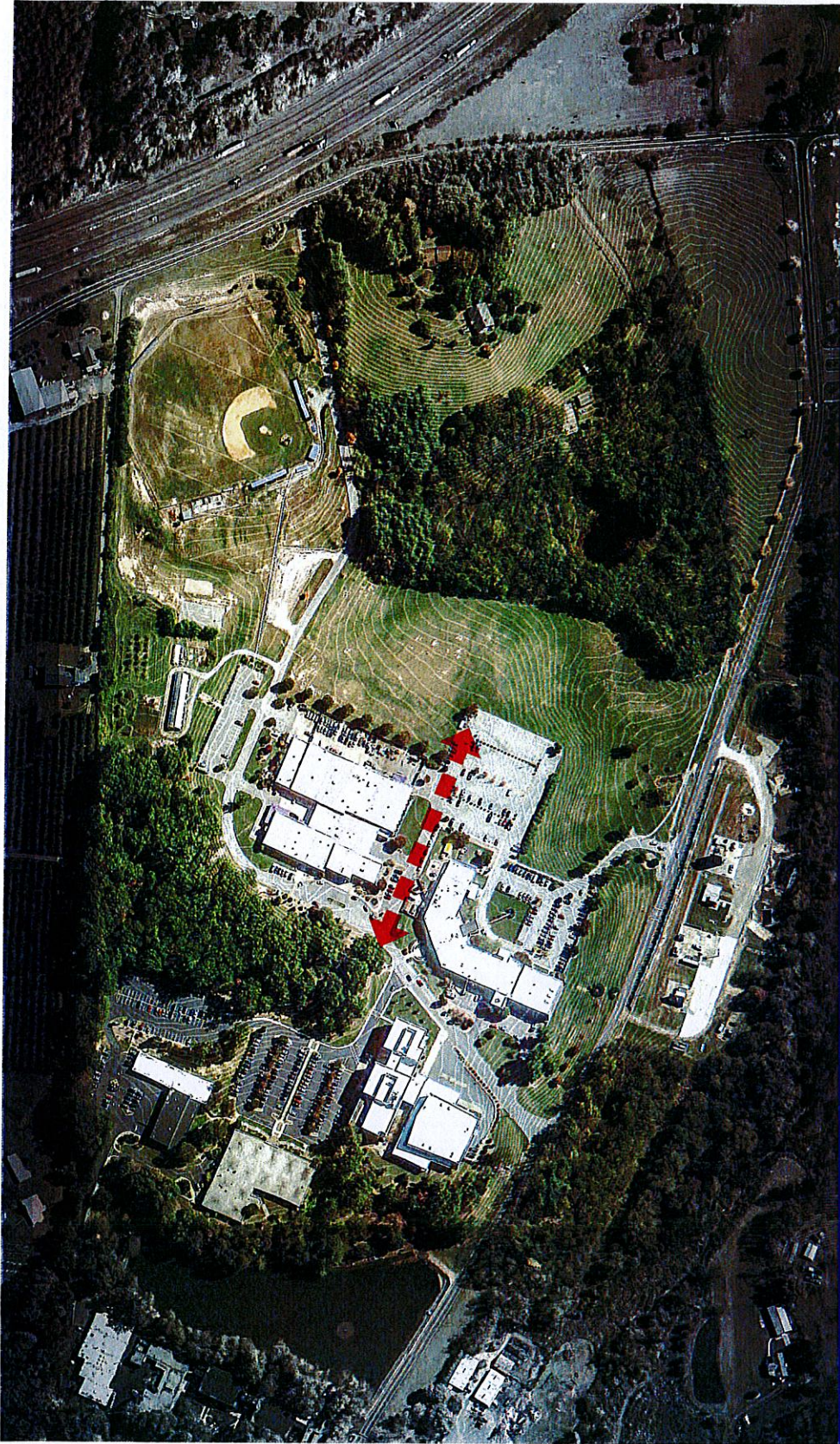
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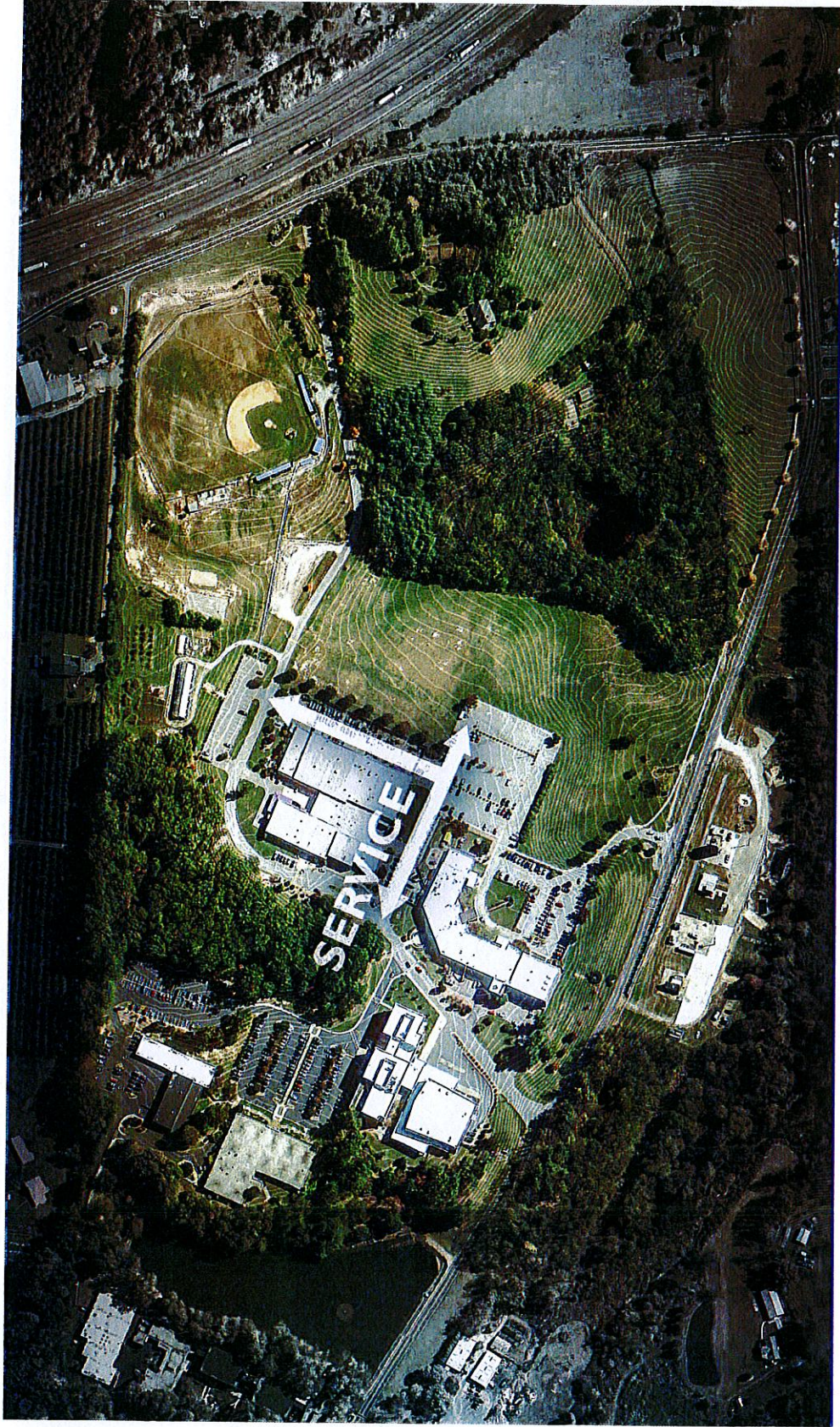


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HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CLARK NEXSEN



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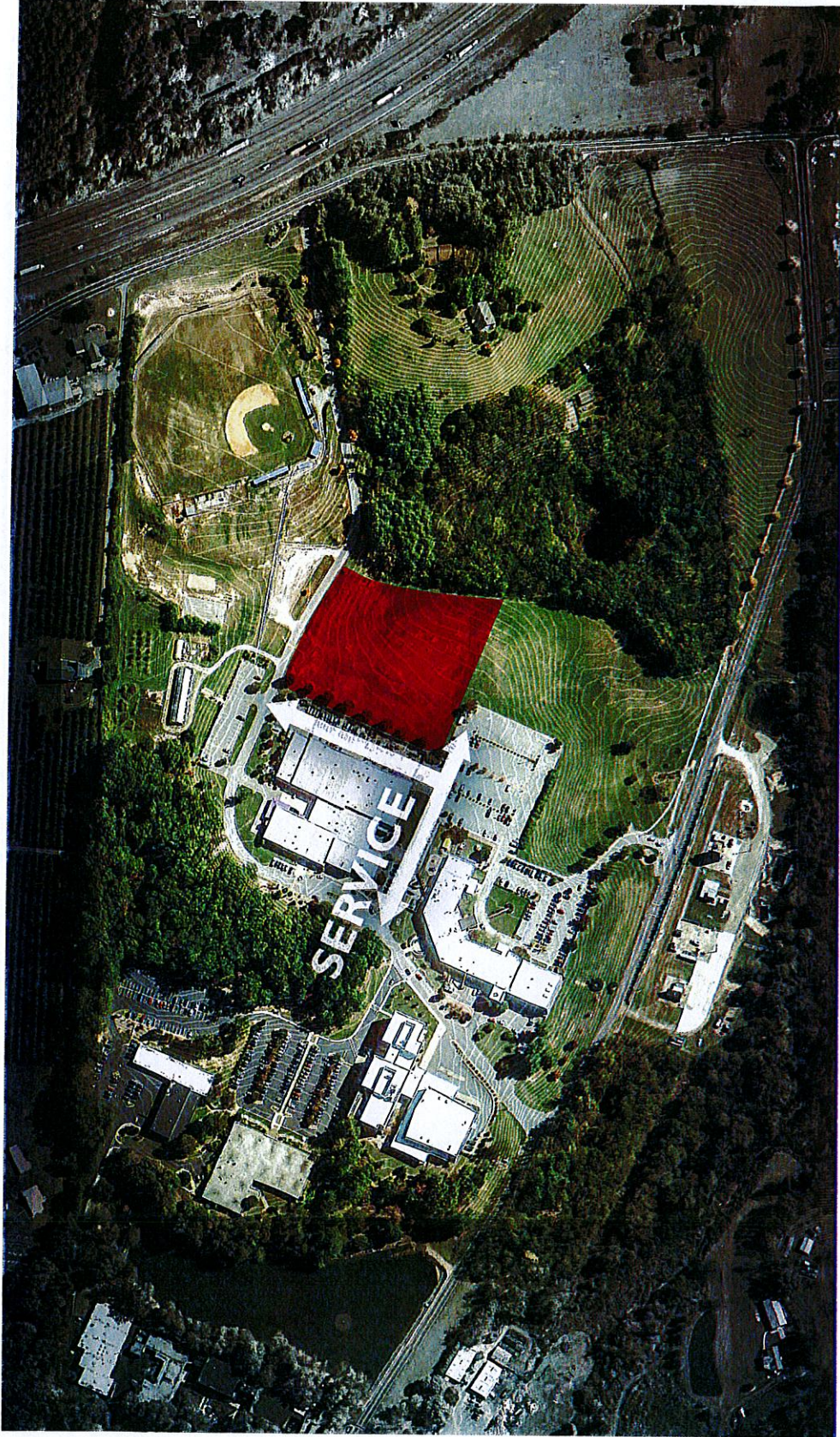


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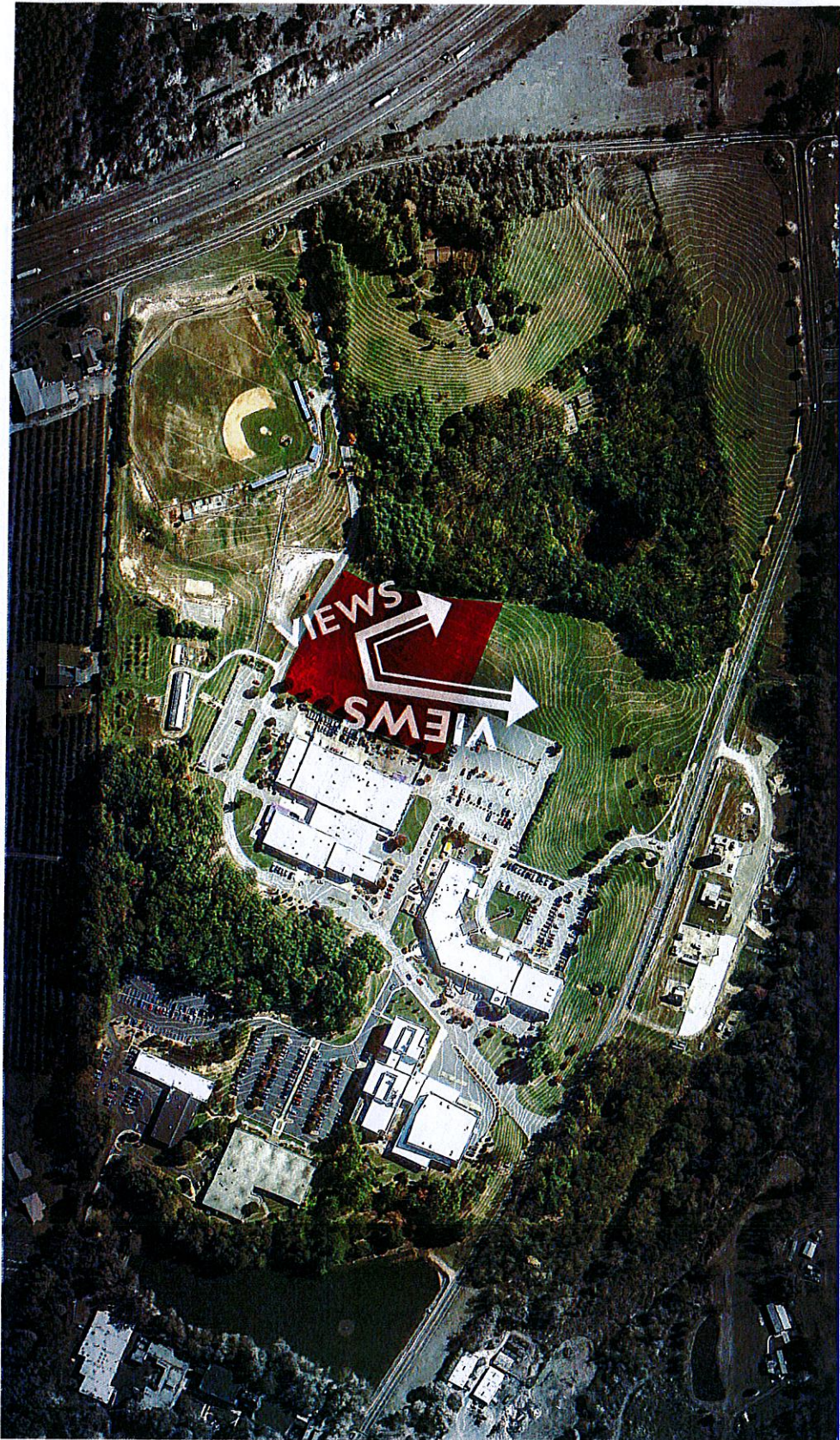
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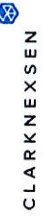


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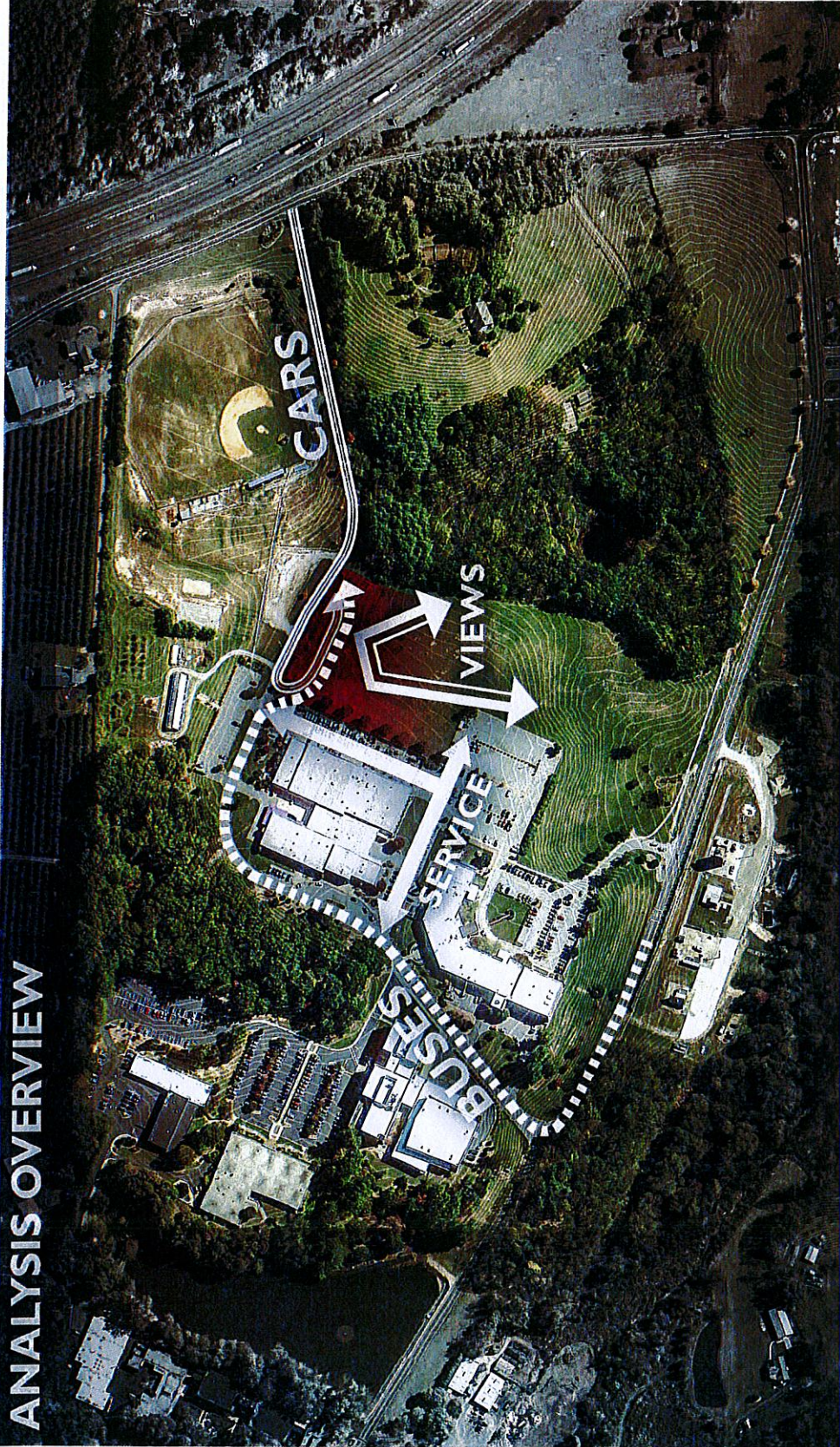


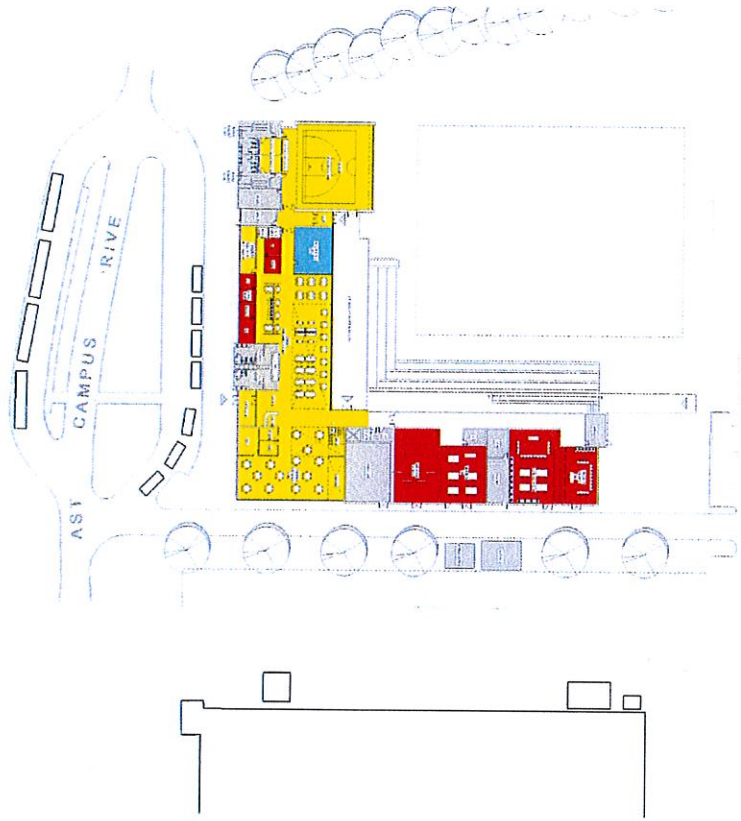
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HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANALYSIS OVERVIEW



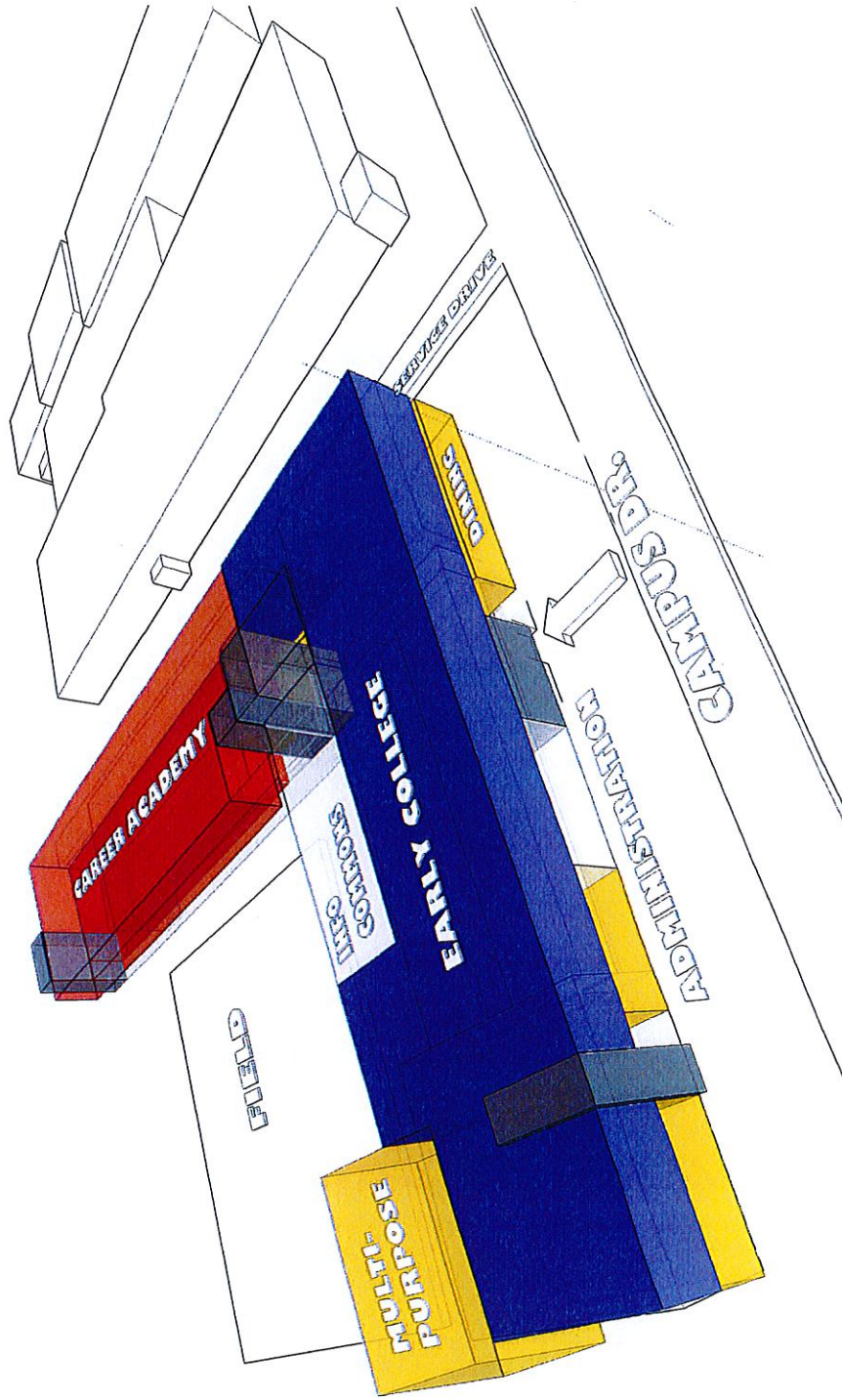


SITE PLAN



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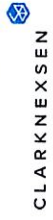
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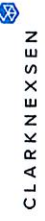
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