

The background features a solid blue gradient with a series of white, wavy, overlapping lines that create a sense of motion and depth, resembling a stylized wave or a series of parallel paths.

ACCESSIBILITY AT HAVERFORD COLLEGE

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

I felt pulled to investigate the accessibility of Haverford's campus. Throughout my time here, I have heard through friends and peers how the Bi-Co is not super accessible. I wanted to explore this deeper by investigating Haverford's website and walking around the entire campus to see both the good and bad aspects related to accessibility.



ADMISSION	AUDITORIUMS
Whitehead Campus Center 36	Chase Hall 8
ACADEMIC/ ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS	Marshall Auditorium (in Roberts Hall) 13
Chase Hall 8	Sharpless Hall (KINSC) 22
East Wing (KINSC) 25	Stokes Hall 1
Founders Hall 10	RESIDENCE HALLS
Foundry 43	710 College Ave. 49
Gest Center 9	773 College Ave. 50
Hall Building 18	Barclay Hall 16
Harris Hall (KINSC) 21	Cadbury House 56
Hilles Hall (KINSC) 20	Comfort Hall 6
Jane Lutnick Fine Arts Center 41	Drinker House 31
Lutnick Library 15	Gummere Hall 27
Marian E. Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center (KINSC) 24	Haverford College Apartments 58
Parker House 40	Ira De A. Reid House/ Black Cultural Center 42
Printmaking Studio 28	Jones Hall 4
Roberts Hall (with Marshall Auditorium) 18	Kim Hall 38
Sharpless Hall (KINSC) 22	La Casa Hispánica 51
Stokes Hall 1	Leeds Hall 17
Strawbridge Observatory 7	Lloyd Hall 3
Union Hall 11	Lunt Hall 5
Visual Culture, Arts, and Media (VCAM) 18	Tritton Hall 37
Woodside Cottage 39	Yarnall House 53
Zubrow Commons (KINSC) 23	OTHER FACILITIES
ATHLETICS	19 Railroad Ave. 54
Alumni Field House 29	Campus Safety 34
Bramall & Marshall Tennis Courts 48	Dining Center 2
Douglas B. Gardner '83 Integrated Athletic Center (GIAC) 36	Facilities Management and Arboretum 44
Lester Cricket Pavilion 26	Faculty Pool 45
Squash Courts 33	Farm and Greenhouse 46
Walton Field Grandstands 47	James House 32
	Morris Health Services 14
	President's House 57
	Skate House 55
	Whitehead Campus Center (Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery & Bookstore) 38
	AFFILIATED FACILITIES
	C.C. Morris Cricket Library 28
	Haverford Friends Meeting House 52
	Phebe Anna Thorne School 30

(Map of Haverford's Campus)

FIRST STEPS

"Haverford College is committed to ensuring equal and meaningful access to all campus programs, activities, and services for all students"

The first thing I did was go through every part of Haverford's Accessibility and Disability Services (ADS) page. There were many things on the website that sounded positive, as well as things that sounded like they needed improvement.

- The College is not required to provide physical access accommodations for students, but claims they will make every effort to assist you
- "ADS is committed to providing accommodations and support to students with disabilities to ensure an accessible experience at Haverford College"
- In order to receive accommodations, Haverford requires an abundance of documentation to prove you have a disability. However, they mention that "students who have readily observable permanent disabilities (e.g wheelchair user) do not need to submit documentation"

- No mention of DASH on Haverford's entire website
- There are options to report physical access barriers or share anonymous feedback
- "ADS works collaboratively with each student applying for accommodations to determine eligibility, and to identify the accommodations that remove barriers without altering the fundamental nature of the academic program."
- "Recommendations made by the evaluator should include reasonable modifications that would allow the student an equal opportunity to participate in residential life, with a rationale and indication of the level of need for each one."

MORE CLAIMS FROM ADS

"It is never too late to request accommodations- our bodies and circumstances are continuously changing" - This makes me think of potential students who become disabled during their college career and their campus becomes much more inaccessible to them. You would think this statement would inspire more proactive changes to the campus rather than waiting for individual students to request changes.

- "Prospective students should not feel they must reveal the existence of a disability during the admission process. Should an applicant or potential student wish to do so, the information will be held in confidence by the Admission Office. Some students choose to do so as a way of offering a "picture" to the Admission Office of their special sensibilities, important personal attributes, and of the interesting challenges they have faced."
- Emotional support animals are not allowed in any other room in residence halls except when being transported to and from the owner's room
- "Students who believe they have been denied access and/or accommodations as required by law or have been subjected to discrimination on the basis of a disability, may follow the following procedures" – Haverford encourages students to file informal complaints before filing formal complaints to see if the issue can be resolved using informal procedures rather than formal ones.

Housing Options



Entrance to Leeds Hall



Entrances to Lloyd Hall



Entrance to Gummere Hall

Housing Options



Entrance to Barclay Hall



Entrance to Jones Hall



Entrance to Kim Hall

Housing Options



Entrance to an HCA



Entrance to an HCA



Entrance to HCA

ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCES IN DORMS

- From what I've seen on campus and Haverford's housing website, Barclay is the only dorm on the entire campus with an accessible entrance. Because a lot of social events occur in common rooms, people's dorm rooms, or basement of the apartments, this blatant lack of access can exclude disabled people from engaging in these events on campus, creating a much more ostracizing environment.



Accessible Entrance to Barclay

NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

Although most of the residential halls on campus are not accessible, many of the non-residential buildings are. While there are numerous things in the campus that need to be improved, I still wanted to highlight the parts of campus that are accessible. Hopefully, Haverford can implement more of these measures to create an accessible campus for all students, faculty, and staff.

A lot of these measures should be in all buildings on campus. The point of highlighting these aspects of the campus is not to applaud the college since these are basic elements that should be campus-wide. The purpose is to show that if these accessible features exist in some spaces on campus, they should exist in all spaces.

WHITEHEAD CAMPUS CENTER



Elevator



Entrance to campus center

Lutnik Library



Accessible Entrance to library



Accessible entrance to library



Accessible bathroom

Stokes Hall



Accessible Entrance to Stokes Hall



Auditorium



Sign of audio assistance system



Accessible entrance to Stokes Hall

VCAM



Accessible VCAM entrances

Athletic Center



Accessible GIAC entrances

KINSC, Hall, Gest Center



Accessible KINSC Entrance



Accessible Hall Entrance



Accessible Gest Center Entrance

Jaharis Recital Hall



Accessible Jaharis Entrances

Now... The more problematic aspects of the
non-residential buildings

Founders Hall



Entrance to Founders Hall

Founders Hall is one of the most central points of Haverford's Campus. The only accessible entrance is all the way around the building in the back.



Only accessible entrance to Founders Hall

Morris Health Center

The Morris Health Center, the only place that provides health care on campus, does not have an accessible entrance. There is a ramp that goes up to the entrance, but it does not have an automatic door.



Entrance to Morris Health Services

Roberts Hall and Marshall Auditorium



Sign for Roberts Hall

Here is a sign directing you to the accessible entrance to Marshall auditorium. However, when you follow the sign, it only leads you down a ramp and to this door that is not accessible. I also am pretty sure this door opens to stairs



Marshall Auditorium Entrance

The Dining Center

While the inside of the Dining Center is fairly accessible, access to the outdoor eating space is not great. Some disabled students might not be able to enjoy the same spaces as non-disabled students.



Outside of Dining Center

Union Hall



Stairs in Union, no elevator access



Bathroom in Union

Union Hall



Union Hall Classroom Entrance

The stairs that go up to the third floor are very steep and narrow. This can be an issue for professors who have offices up there, as well as students who want to go to office hours.



Stairs to third floor in Union

English Department

Not only is the English department pretty far relative to other academic buildings on campus, but the building also has no accessible entrance. Like in Union Hall, this makes access more challenging for students and professors.



House for the English Department

James House



Entrance to James House

James house is a space for students to create art, and also a popular place for social events. While there is a ramp that leads to the door, the door itself is not accessible. All students should have equal access to this space.



Front of James House

ANALYSIS & CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Overall, Haverford's statements on their website do not fully align with the physical campus. The way they frame their commitments sound like they will only make physical access changes when a disabled student at the college makes a request.

However, this approach makes it so that prospective disabled students can feel they'll be excluded since so much of the campus is not accessible.

Haverford should be actively improving accessibility on campus, rather than waiting for disabled students to tell them they should - especially since the college likely has the means to do so. Access needs to be a priority to the college, as the current state of accessibility on campus is likely pushing prospective disabled students away from choosing to attend Haverford. Thus, the college is not striving to "ensure equal and meaningful access to all campus programs, activities, and services for all students" since the literal foundation of the college is not as accessible as it needs to be. Even though they claim they're "committed to providing an accessible and welcoming environment", how can disabled students feel welcome when most of the campus was not built for them?