

## Bench for SE Norway Valley

For my individual project, I constructed a cedar bench to be placed along the path from Old Main hill to the rear parking lot of Regents Hall. The purpose of the bench is to create a contemplative space on campus out in nature.

During my time here at St. Olaf I have found a need to be out on the natural lands to ground myself and think. There is a value in being out on the natural lands that is not found in the classroom, which is why I wanted to create a space that could allow students to slow down and spend time outside of the conventional academic setting.

I chose the spot behind Regents because I want to get people to stop and observe “new” spaces on campus. The area where the bench will be placed is full of a variety of deciduous and coniferous trees, as well as plants and animals. It’s a place that is not used very much on campus, but is quite wonderful. I want people to be able to find the beauty of the lesser-known areas of campus because they have been such an important part of my time at St. Olaf