



AIA Southwest
Michigan



Design Awards Celebration :20

aia southwest michigan vol.10 2020 editors_sara tripp & geselle neal

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Dear AIA Southwest Michigan Chapter Members,

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the AIA Southwest Michigan annual celebration of architecture! While this has been an incredibly unique and challenging year for our Country, our community, and our industry as a whole, our local Chapter firms have continued to develop and design incredible projects and beautiful works of art. While we have been unable to celebrate in our usual fashion, these projects should be celebrated and recognized for their incredible achievements.

Over the course of 2020 your AIA Southwest Michigan Chapter Board has worked diligently to provide continued support and benefits to the Chapter Members. We started the year by refocusing our Chapter Committees with the intent of streamlining our goals and objectives to better aligning them with the Core Service Requirements of AIA National to ensure our Chapter's continued Accreditation in 2021 and beyond. We worked to provide social events, building tours, networking events for Emerging Professionals, and support for our Associate Members working towards licensure.

In March 2020 our best laid plans were thrown for a loop due to the onset of the Pandemic. With the shift to remote working due to COVID19 we were forced to regroup and reevaluate how we were going to effectively provide member services and how we were going to approach the remainder of the year. Our Chapter was represented on the AIA Michigan COVID19 Task Force and was able to help firms around Michigan get educated on virtual tools, returning to the office, and returning to jobsite protocols. We were able to shift gears with our face to face Continuing Education programs and convert them into fully virtual presentations. Virtual Happy Hours were held, and as a group we learned to adjust and be flexible with our modified schedules, goals and objectives as a Chapter Board. Through it all, we were resilient and were still able to meet our Core Service Requirements with room to spare while providing continued support and opportunities to our membership that we are incredibly proud of.

The local AIA Southwest Michigan Chapter is filled with amazing firms and amazing members who are incredibly passionate for Architecture and for each other. This year has truly proven that our Chapter is resilient, motivated, passionate, and full of amazingly talented individuals. It has been a pleasure working with all of you and with such an amazing group of Chapter Board of Directors this past year. I thank you for the opportunity to serve as your 2020 President and look forward to continuing to serve as your 2021 Chapter President. More so than anything else, I look forward to being able to get together IN PERSON with all of you at some point in 2021 to celebrate our amazing Chapter!

Sincerely,

Fred J. Grunert, AIA, NCARB, GGP
AIA Southwest Michigan Chapter President



Thank You!

2020 Scholarship Recipients



AIASWM aspires to award student scholarships annually. The scholarships are funded in large part by the AIASWM/ NAWIC/ CFMA Golf Outing. In recent years, the Chapter has submitted for, and been awarded, limited matching funds from AIA National enabling larger contributions.

The Chapter seeks to award scholarships to students meeting AIA National criteria and guidelines as well as students that:

- Are in good academic standing, nearing completion of their studies in Architecture or an architectural based program.
- Have demonstrated community involvement.
- Have a passion for architecture and are a current AIAS member.
- Are a resident of Michigan and US Citizen (preferred but not required).
- Are a student with local ties to Southwest Michigan (preferred but not required).

Historically the Chapter has presented an award to an area student attending a 5-year NAAB accredited program. This year an additional grant was made available to an area student attending a community/technical school architectural program.

This year's recipients of the AIASWM Scholarship Awards are:

Jason Choi of Berrien Springs, Masters of Architecture, Andrews University

Ashley Randolph of Berrien Springs, Bachelor of Architecture, Andrews University

CHAPTER MAP



AIA Prairie Illinois Chapter members selected the 2020 AIASWM Design Award winners. This Chapter covers a large geographical area comprised 89 counties via nine Sections.

Thank you to the jury members who participated:

President Karen Shoup, AIA

1st Vice President / Treasurer Douglas Draeger, AIA

Northern District Director/Rockford Section President Jennifer Spencer, AIA

Section President Arius Hounwanou, AIA

Bloomington/Normal Section President Scott Swanson, AIA

Sections include:

Bloomington/Normal

Decatur

Champaign/Urbana

Little Egypt

Metro East

Moline/Rock Island

Peoria

Rockford

Springfield

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each entry should adequately describe the DESIGN PROBLEM, and the DESIGN SOLUTION. For each entry, the following will be required to be provided by November 18, in order to be considered complete:

- Entry board in PDF format using a provided background file template (will be provided to all confirmed registrants). This layout will not be forwarded to the jury and has no bearing on awardability.
- Microsoft Word (DOC) file of the submission's descriptive text; no more than 350 words. This description will be forwarded to the jury and considered during award deliberations.
- 6–12 high resolution images in JPG format at 1500 pixels max (landscape orientation). Indicate 4–6 preferred images for use in Awards Booklet. All images will be forwarded to the jury and considered during award deliberations.
- 3–4 relevant architectural drawings. It is recommended, but not required, a new building include: Site plan, floor plan(s) and 1–2 building sections. An interior renovation project may include sections, interior elevations, millwork and millwork details. These do not count against the 6–12 images listed above. All images of drawings will be forwarded to the jury and considered during award deliberations.
- 45 seconds of Audio or Video, submitted in .wav or .avi file format. Include project name, type, location and Architect/ Firm Name and any other basic information within first 15 seconds of clip. Up to an additional 30 seconds can be spent describing interesting/unique/fun facts about the project. This audio will be integrated into the video is part of the Design Awards presentation. If help is needed in creating the Audio or Video clip, we are happy to connect you with the many resources that are available. A written transcript of the clip is requested to be submitted to confirm clarity during video editing. This audio will not be forwarded to the jury and has no bearing on awardability. All electronic awards submittals must be submitted to the Awards drop-box account by November 18, 2020. Stay tuned for further information that will be circulated via Chapter correspondence.

OBJECTIVE

AIA Southwest Michigan seeks to recognize and publicize excellence in architecture, to bring to the public's attention outstanding work completed by architects within our chapter, and to encourage excellence in design for projects within our communities.

The Design Awards Celebration is a chance to gather and honor those recognized, albeit it a different experience for the 2020 calendar year. We have been planning and strategizing the unique opportunities for this year's event, with the goal of providing the most engaging, virtual experience possible. Given the challenges inherent in our current world, this planning continues, and event details will be shared as they are finalized.

ELIGIBILITY

All entries shall be executed architectural projects substantially designed by confirmed AIA Members within firms who satisfy section 2010(1) of the state licensing act, are in good standing with AIA Southwest Michigan at time of submittal, and remain as such through the entire awards process. Projects that have been submitted in prior years are eligible for resubmission; however, prior award winners in this program are not. All firms substantially contributing to the design of the project must be given credit as part of the submission. The entrant should bear in mind that a project will not be judged in competition with other entries, but on the basis of the solution of the problems presented and its worthiness for an award for excellence in design.

AWARDS CATEGORIES

The awards categories include New Construction, Addition/ Renovation and Unbuilt Projects. Honor and Merit awards may be given in each category. For entries in the "New" category, the projects must have been completed and occupied after January 1, 2018. Projects may be located anywhere in the world.



New Corporate Headquarters Byce & Associates, Inc.

Caledonia Township, MI

Viking Group, Inc.

Category: New Construction

Jury Comments:

They gave themselves a lot of flexibility with what they could do with how they used the space // The branding was outstanding, there is no question about who is in the space // One of the first things I noticed was the attention to detail in the main café lobby area with the top of the high bay lights even have a touch of blue on them // The design solution of café-employee breakout space right off the reception area was a good way to deal with the 2-story height and large enough to embrace every employee at once // What a great way to greet a client.



Leadership Camp Treehouses Seven Generations A+E

Southwest Michigan

Category: Unbuilt Project

Jury Comments:

Quite the unique project – well done in many regards // The ability for this entire sort of structure to be added as a camp was a different approach // Liked the small modular construction – I like those details that were added // Great that everything can be prefabricated and just put together // The quaintness of this project suits the camp well // It was innovative and done with sustainable thought // I want to just stand there under the covered porch // Trying to reduce the amount of effort on site // Flexible and adaptable so they can add more to the site – very innovative approach



Arcadia Festival Place Master Plan Seven Generations A+E

Kalamazoo, MI

Category: Unbuilt Project

Jury Comments:

The general concept of what they took it from and what they took it to was pretty extreme and a little unusual – very impressive // A difficult site and they dealt with it in such a dynamic way // I want to be in the space, to sit there and have lunch, I want to walk through that and escape the urban environment // This is just the oasis that the city needs



Albertus Magnus Hall of Science **Addition and Renovation** Tower Pinkster

Grand Rapids, MI

Aquinas College

Category: Addition/Renovation

Jury Comments:

Well done, tied in with the rest of campus and previous building before addition // Looked complimentary // The way the lights were designed made it feel like there was daylighting in there // Wonderful job tying in with existing materials // The transition skyway space was pretty magnificent – a great way to deal with an existing and new building // Ceiling is immaculate – I'd love to see it, very crisp



Cassopolis Municipal Complex Wightman

Cassopolis, MI

Village of Cassopolis

Category: New Construction

Jury Comments:

Nicely done, clean design, proportionally seemed nice // Good balance of colors and materials – it's an attractive building // Awesome municipal garage bay you can literally do anything in and the municipal meeting space – really took care of what their needs are // Well done bringing all of the departments into one building // Nice design move to let the nicer dressed up portion be the façade



Private Residence Seven Generations A+E

Hudson Lake, IN

Category: New Construction

Jury Comments:

Minimized the impact by using three stories and having a smaller footprint // Liked the simplicity using the beams and the columns // Looks really clean and elegant // The stairwell detailing was nicely done // I like the contrast of the cherry and the charcoal



RESIDENTIAL INTERIOR VIEW 6

The Exchange Building Byce & Associates, Inc.

Kalamazoo, MI

Category: New Construction

Jury Comments:

It brought some new community amenities // Interesting how they put the parking in the middle to serve both the residential and the retail // They did a great thing with the project with urban infill // Great to see projects of this size being built



Connect Center Intersect Studio

Kalamazoo, MI

Honor Credit Union

Category: Addition/Renovation

Jury Comments:

What they accomplished with this existing site was really good // I like that it brought in a lot more light // Well done, they made so much progress // Definitely an improvement for the community // Like how they extended the smaller façade down the alley side to give it life



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

DL Health Clinic Seven Generations A+E

Onamia, MN

Category: New Construction

Jury Comments:

Details with the building were nicely tied into the culture // I appreciated the way it tied in everything from the site // Took a lot of thought with the site in how and where they were positioning the project // I like the space that the circle at the entry creates a lot – it's powerful – the stair wrapping up around it is beautiful // Looking down the long corridor with all of the daylight splashing in – looking out to nice views and the relief area – great circulation space



Merit Award Winners



Ron Jackson Insurance Intersect Studio

Kalamazoo, MI

Category: Addition/Renovation

Jury Comments:

Shows us what we can do with an existing building – demolition and starting over isn't always something we have to think about // Really enjoyed how they brought this back to life and gave it a new purpose // Before and After were really impressive // I appreciate they had some with this – naming a conference room “The Dugout”



People's Choice Award

Connect Center Intersect Studio

Kalamazoo, MI

Honor Credit Union

Category: Addition/Renovation

Private Residence

Corpus Christi, Texas

Allegretti Architects

Category: Unbuilt Project



In July of 2020, we were contacted by one of our former clients, who had purchased a waterfront marina home in Aransas Pass, Corpus Christi, Texas. They asked me to design a renovation and double the size of their south Texas Alamo style abode. They asked us to transform it into another home just like their home in Long Beach, Indiana.

Suggesting that that idea would not work, we said we would address their wants, needs, budget and aesthetics for a compatible simple modern addition. We accomplished this by re-focusing the home on the westerly bay views and sunsets. Taking a cue from the generally placid bahia azul water and applying fluid design lines, on the existing historic Alamo style, we retained curvilinear nautical pilot house elements along with a bit of whimsy. The solution is visually transformative. The duality of the plan function was maintained as the owner's desire was to provide living and working space for their sons and families while maintaining clear panoramic views.

Tomorrow I temporarily leave the cold fall wind off Lake Michigan for the warm bahia azul waters of Corpus Christi and contractor meetings. A journey that will take me through Arkansas, reminding me of many years ago when and where my formal architectural training began.

Private Residence

Corpus Christi, Texas

Allegretti Architects

Category: Unbuilt Project





Private Residence

Corpus Christi, Texas

Allegretti Architects

Category: Unbuilt Project



Private Residence

Lincoln Township, Stevensville, MI

Allegretti Architects

Category: Unbuilt Project



While searching for a home in Southwest Michigan, our client was shown a home we had designed fifteen years ago. It was not quite what they were looking for, so I mentioned that I knew of one site that was ideal for them. We looked at the property and envisioned the home that would be designed to meet their needs. We worked with the clients to craft their three bedroom “home” in the dunes with a gourmet kitchen, dining area, fireplace, living room, office, art room, two car garage and indoor driving range.

The home’s site was restricted by a narrow sliver of land wedged between state regulated critical dunes and a Lincoln Township R.O.W, the required three levels and is surrounded on three sides by steel sheet piling and reinforced poured concrete foundations. By building in the dunes tight to an old sheet piling wall we minimized the amount of sand to be displaced. Minimizing the homes footprint kept the home within the sheet piling footprint, as well as provided better panoramic views of Lake Michigan, North Grande Mere Lake and surrounding wetlands, park land, and lakes. The foundations have been structurally tied into the 16’ sheet pilings. Simpson sturdy walls were used on the open main floor and heavy timbers used elsewhere. The stair is a floating square tied into the structural shear wall stair shaft. Insulation values surpassed the state energy requirements and thermal conserving windows are called for.

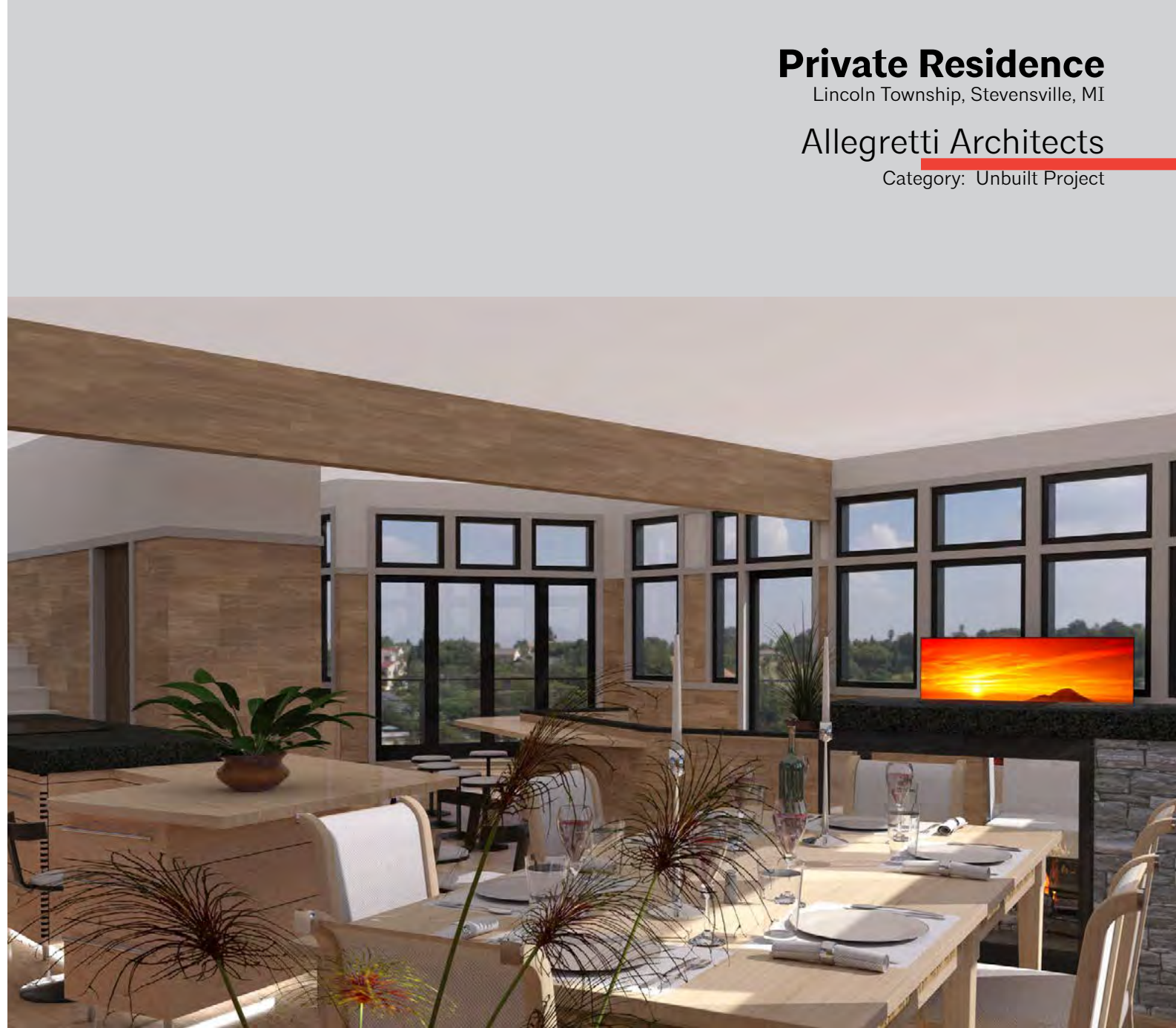
Private Residence

Lincoln Township, Stevensville, MI

Allegretti Architects

Category: Unbuilt Project

This site embodies nature's color palette, so we used shade of tan, sand, bark brown, and the surrounding gray-green trees and bushes. Starting with a blue/green plinth of blue stone, we then wove a Spanish cedar trunk around limbs of white sky stucco foliage. The home wears it's site well as if it wanted to be nature's color compliment. This home speaks to a life of harmony, respect and biomimicry. We used materials to celebrate; in a quiet restrained manner, the beauty of natural colors and look forward to their constant shade variations, which will be this home's signature.

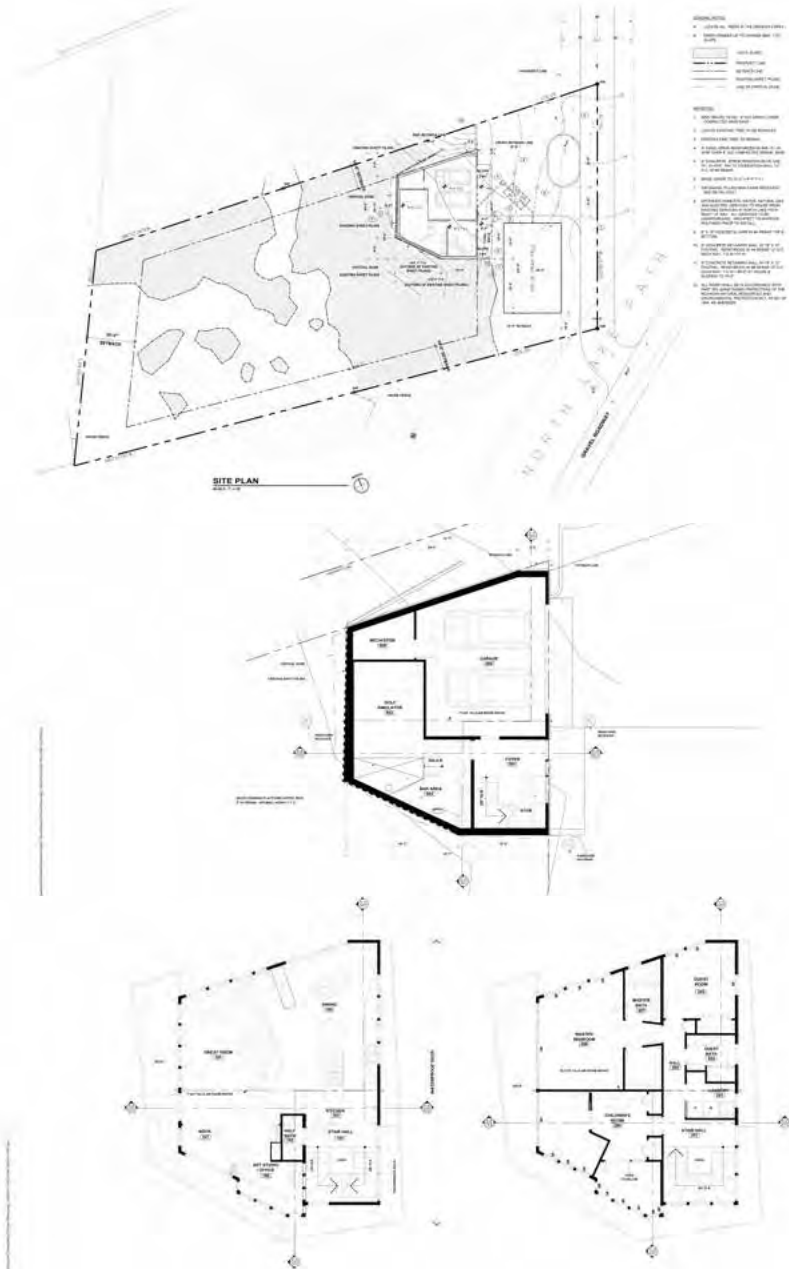


Private Residence

Lincoln Township, Stevensville, MI

Allegretti Architects

Category: Unbuilt Project



New Dermatology Clinic

Grand Rapids, MI

Dermatology Associates of West Michigan

Byce & Associates, Inc.

Category: New Construction



Many unique challenges had to be overcome for the design of these two stories, plus basement, 48,400 square foot dermatology clinic. The project was a partnership between a developer and a consortium of five doctors who will transition from tenants to building owners and was delivered by a Design/Build project delivery method.

The site development, building shell, and building systems were the responsibility of the developer, while the interior design and build-out was the responsibility of the physician group. The design team was provided a fully developed and approved site plan, with fixed building footprint prior to the first programming meeting with the Owner. The initial programming exercise provided the challenge of fitting the interior requirements in this fixed footprint area and configuration.



TYPICAL WAITING AREA



SKIN RENEWAL CENTRE ENTRY

New Dermatology Clinic

Grand Rapids, MI
Dermatology Associates of West Michigan

Byce & Associates, Inc.

Category: New Construction



New Dermatology Clinic

Grand Rapids, MI

Dermatology Associates of West Michigan

Byce & Associates, Inc.

Category: New Construction

The physicians desired to use this opportunity to not only construct a new facility to provide services, but radically enhance the way that they provide service. The patient experience became the criteria by which decisions were made, while increasing operational efficiencies. These enhancements included:

- A centralized check-in/check-out center with self-check-in capabilities was provided at the main entry to streamline the process and staffing requirements.
- The Skin Renewal Centre was given prominence at the entry and provides the feel of a high-end spa for the visitor.
- Elongated patient waiting areas are located along perimeter of the building to provide panoramic views, daylighting, and reduce the stress of large numbers of people.
- Duplicate equipment and space requirements were eliminated by centralized sterilization and laboratory spaces, which utilize “runners” to continually deliver equipment and specimen. This approach was also employed by the creation of a centralized supply room with the continual restocking of supplies in procedure area to reduce the area required for each clinical exam room.
- All clinical suites employ the same configuration to provide continuity for staff and patient. A total of two MOHS suites, five dermatology suites, a future suite to be constructed in the lower level, and all nursing stations are configured so that the delivery of service, placement of equipment and supplies, waste removal, and staffing are standardized, thus creating operational efficiencies.



The Exchange Building

Kalamazoo, MI

Byce & Associates, Inc.

Category: New Construction



The Exchange Building, a 15-story mixed-use development in the urban center of Kalamazoo, Michigan, houses commercial and retail lease areas on the first, second, seventh and fifteenth floors. Levels three through six provide secure automobile parking for commercial tenants and residential residents. Floors eight through fourteen contain residential units with a mix of one-bedroom, two-bedroom and studio apartments with views overlooking the city. The fourteenth floor also contains corporate suites, a fitness center, and club room. The fifteenth floor accommodates property owner and tenant spaces, as well as landscaped and furnished rooftop terraces for tenants and residents.

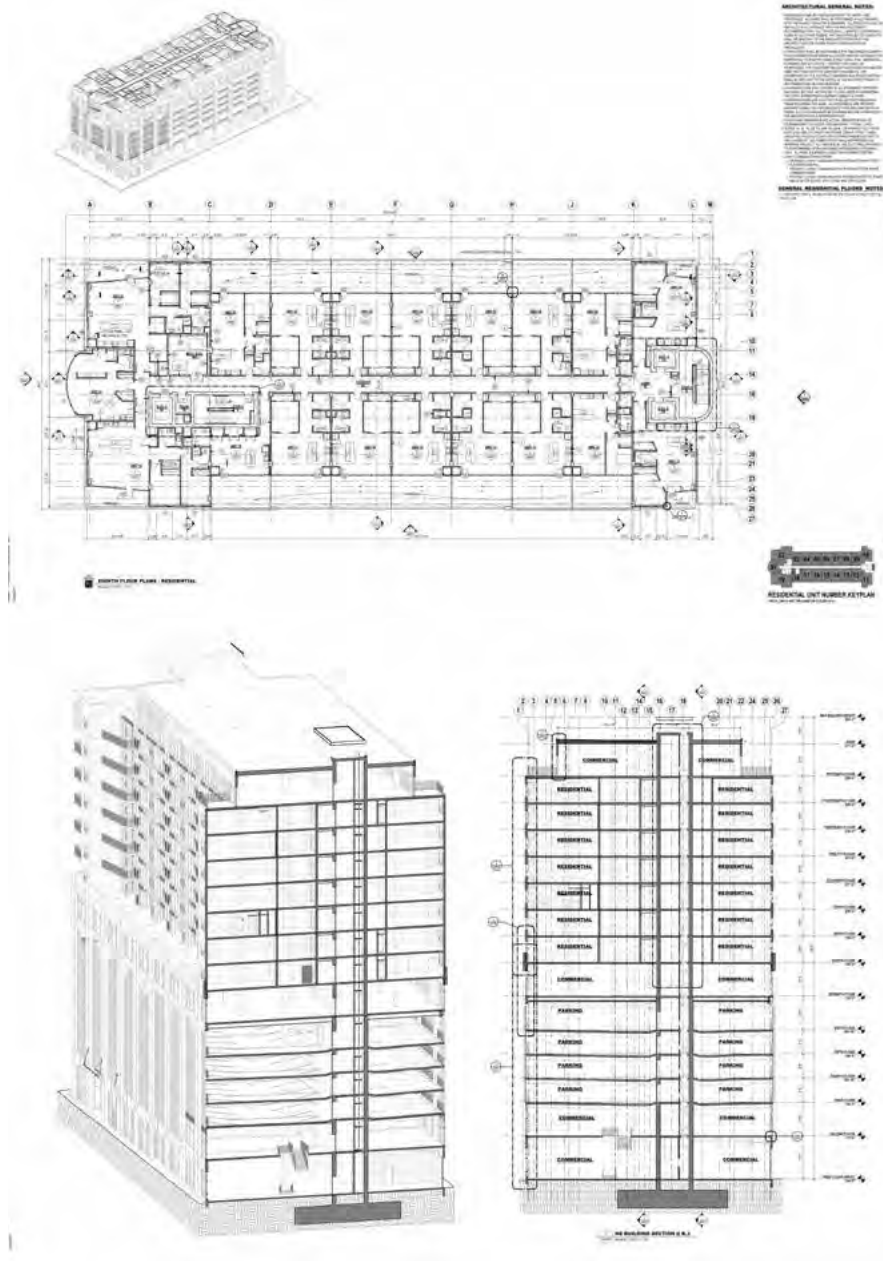
The site is located in the cultural, civic and economic heart of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo County. It is adjacent to Bronson Park, the ‘common green’ of Kalamazoo and a short walk to the Civic Theater, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, a multitude of unique shops, restaurants, cafe’s, and the epicenter of the Kalamazoo Craft Brewery District. Situated in a “4-story Downtown City”, it was increasingly important that this building rise contextually to its planned 15 stories without overpowering the neighboring buildings and streetscape.

The Exchange Building

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The project was delivered utilizing a collaborative Design Assist delivery method with the construction manager and all major trade contractors, part of the design process to verify and validate constructability, coordination, and project budget continually. Consideration was given to a building height of 19 stories before deciding on the final solution. The building is constructed on a formerly narrow 275’ x 100’ paved site with remnants of former foundation and basement construction beneath. The construction systems included an auger cast pile foundation system, cast in place concrete columns, and post tensioned concrete floor decks. The exterior envelope enclosure includes pre-cast concrete panels, cast-in-place concrete walls, aluminum frame storefront systems with insulated, tinted and colored glass units. The parking decks are screened with vertically oriented aluminum extrusions providing a decorative louvered screening effect.

The Exchange Building received State and Municipal public support from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Community Revitalization Program, Michigan Strategic Fund Board, The City of Kalamazoo’s Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, The city’s Downtown Development Authority and Downtown Kalamazoo Inc.





New Corporate Headquarters

Caledonia Township, MI
Viking Group, Inc.

Byce & Associates, Inc.

Category: New Construction

The Owner desired to design and construct a new corporate headquarters and R & D facility located in Caledonia Township. The relocation of corporate offices, product development, and training functions to the new facility allowed for expanded manufacturing processes in the existing locations. The new facility also created an iconic image for the company, and promoted a major cultural shift, transitioning from a traditional office environment to a new open, collaborative space.

This new 2-story, 173,455 square foot building is constructed of insulated precast concrete wall panels, which provided a cost effective and durable building envelope that met the compressed construction timeline. Incorporating corporate colors into the glazing and curtain wall systems, and the creative use of steel fabrications creates an iconic and identifiable look to the facility and enhances the entire experience for employees and guests. The aesthetic of the building reflects the company's dedication to new and state-of-the-art product design, training, manufacturing, and production processes.

The corporate functions included in the facility include Human Resources, Marketing, and Finance Departments. All departments are provided expanded access to large conference rooms, break-out meeting rooms and collaboration areas.

Another important aspect to this building is an expanded, state-of-the-art, Research and Development Center, complete with operable ceiling systems, Foam Room, dedicated testing areas, and a customized tool room for prototyping of ideas and concepts. A high-tech training facility is also featured to support the organizations goal of becoming the recognized leader in fire protection training. The facility is also programmed to provide significant room for additional growth.

New Corporate Headquarters

Caledonia Township, MI
Viking Group, Inc.

Byce & Associates, Inc.

Category: New Construction



New Corporate Headquarters

Caledonia Township, MI
Viking Group, Inc.

Byce & Associates, Inc.

Category: New Construction

A main feature, considered important for employee retention and company culture, is the employee café. This dynamic double height space brings in natural daylight through a curtainwall system, while also connecting the two levels together, furthering the open and collaborative company culture. Furniture and lighting were intentionally designed and selected to reflect and promote the company's dedication to being the leader in their industry, promote a culture of creativity and collaboration, and provide a new direction for the employee's perception of the work place.



The Historic Boudeman House

Kalamazoo, MI

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Diekema Hamann Architecture & Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project



W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research is re-thinking their environment post-COVID. As many employees will continue to use their home offices, Upjohn's focus is on encouraging collaboration while on campus. They are taking this opportunity to introduce welcoming, energizing, and flexible options. This project represents the spark of that vision.

Statement of the Problem

The Boudeman House, in Kalamazoo's South St. Historic District, requires creating new opportunities for collaboration, such as a work café, small group meetings, as well as one-on-one collaborations. Boudeman also includes hoteling spaces to support Upjohn's visiting economists.

The Historic Boudeman House

Kalamazoo, MI

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Diekema Hamann Architecture
& Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project

The Charge:

- Provide expanded collaboration space to meet the significant shift in post-COVID work culture
- Provide smaller, reservable office options to meet the future growth and increase flow of people through the campus
- Respond to the existing historic nature of the building when designing the proposed building addition
- Consider giving the historic Palladian stained-glass window new life
- Submit proposed design to the City of Kalamazoo Historic Commission for review and approval.
- Provide a complimentary new face and entry to the existing context of the south side of the building.



The Historic Boudeman House

Kalamazoo, MI

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Diekema Hamann Architecture
& Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project

Statement of the Solution

The proposed building massing and aesthetic considers historic elements. This includes freeing the historic stained-glass window from behind the existing addition. Sensitivity to materials that will complement the existing historic structure including similar siding and punched windows, while incorporating stone veneer.

The 1,700 sf proposed building addition provides open collaboration space while preserving the existing conference room and smaller workspaces. The site includes an ADA accessible ramp as well as a new barrier free toilet room.

The massing of the new south addition echoes the 1932 addition while incorporating a complimentary fenestration on the first floor which creates an inviting entry environment. The historic stained glass window will be moved back to a prominent location, as it was when the house was first constructed in 1905.



Arbors at Maitland Summit

Orlando, FL

Redwood Capital Group, Arbors at M.S.

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation



Sometimes buildings suffer from a bad wardrobe and accessories. This was the problem with an existing apartment complex near Orlando, FL. The client desired a refresh of value add items that would help their bottom line with minimal investment. We attacked the design problem by identifying the elements which would have the most impact on people, and therefore, their desire to lease and stay longer. The ultimate goal being a lifestyle enhancement for the residents. The good qualities of the existing architecture were hard to appreciate with the paint scheme. We developed a color palette and identified elements that would enhance the proportions, style and elegance of the buildings. The public spaces of outdoor pools, fitness room, club room and leasing spaces were reimagined to create inviting spaces for residents to relax and connect. The main pool area was developed into a series of outdoor rooms for various types of interactions. From lounging by the pool, fireside chats, grilling and eating with friends, watching a game in a shade structure or competing in a round of Bocce ball. The project resulted in an increase in occupancy and rental rates and received the Renovation of the Year Award from the Apartment Association of Greater Orlando.



Arbors at Maitland Summit

Orlando, FL
Redwood Capital Group, Arbors at M.S.

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation





Arbors at Maitland Summit

Orlando, FL
Redwood Capital Group, Arbors at M.S.

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation



Connect Center

Kalamazoo, MI
Honor Credit Union

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation



The Challenge:

- Provide Honor Credit Union with a strong presence on Michigan Ave in Downtown Kalamazoo
- Create a dynamic place for banking which would place human relationship building as the top priority, while accommodating all the ways in which people need to connect in just 2,100sf.
- Transform an antiquated old tenant space with bad bones and low structure height into a special place which represents Honor's brand, propels their culture and enhances the urban fabric of downtown.

Design Methodology:

- Urban architecture should contribute to the public realm and fit into the existing architectural context
- A client's brand, story and culture story should be celebrated with design and supported with place
- A person's ability to Focus on their task is at the heart of all human social interactions.

Connect Center

Kalamazoo, MI
Honor Credit Union

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation

Solution:

The Urban Architecture contributes back to the public realm with expanded premium clear glass storefront which frames a window display zone above a stone base which accommodates seasonal potted flowers. The Architectural design is reminiscent in scale and proportion to the historic buildings of Michigan Ave while representing the client's clean, fun and friendly modern brand. Large windows were added along the alley to infuse daylighting and a better experience for pedestrians.



Connect Center

Kalamazoo, MI
Honor Credit Union

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation

Every architectural element within the interior supports the fun and friendly brand by utilizing simple forms and relatable natural materials such as natural white birch contrasted with dark painted steel and recycled acoustic panels. Each of the 14 functional interior zones within the design are finely calibrated to support the specific tasks that need to be “performed.” The branding elements included custom designed artistic wall coverings abstracted from photography of the adjacent downtown. The Honor team has provided exceptional reviews of the space performing beyond their expectations with rave reviews from their members and visitors. Large windows were added along the alley to not only infuse daylighting, but to add a better experience for pedestrians. Custom “public art” attached to the exterior was also designed and implemented by the architect.



Ron Jackson Insurance

Kalamazoo, MI

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation



The first challenge was to transform a former 4,400sf bank branch into a modern workplace for a culturally strong team with minimal budget. In addition, we were asked to help a separated team from two different “offices” unite in a new workplace which provides the spaces they need to perform on a high level. We identified three key drivers for our work for this project:

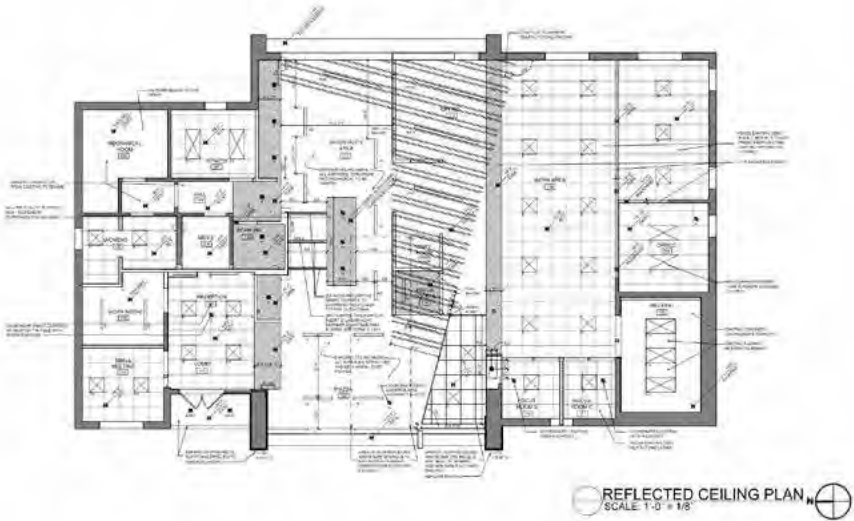
- The most sustainable project is one which re-uses the embodied energy and materials in an existing good building by saving as much as possible.
- Each team member needs to be able to focus on their daily tasks in a context which enhances their company culture
- The company’s brand needed to be celebrated to help the team unite and for their customers to learn more about their company, culture and services.

Ron Jackson Insurance

Kalamazoo, MI

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation



Ron Jackson Insurance

Kalamazoo, MI

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation

Our approach was to provide this slightly awkward former bank branch with a simple face lift which expressed the brand of the new company with a bit of a wow factor. This also helped to enliven the interior space with an enlargement of the storefront for greater visibility and access to a new outdoor gathering/work space. The interior environment was transformed with a series of spaces which support the variety of tasks this team needs to accomplish on a daily basis. The big shift was changing how the team engages their clients, moving the conversations from their “private” offices into comfortable connect rooms. This has proven to be a big success for all. We designed extensive branding elements to support the architectural design and reinforce the mission, values, services and process of the company. The interior finishes and detailing harken to their founder’s days as a professional baseball player. This team has expressed to us that they are thriving in their new home.



San Paloma

Houston, TX

Redwoods Capital, San Paloma Apartments

Intersect Studio

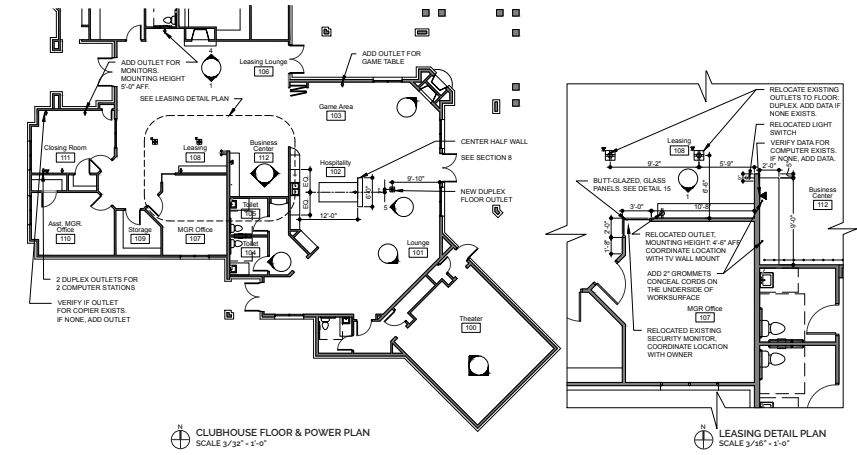
Category: Addition/Renovation



Lush. Active. Sophisticated. Dramatic. Our firm guided the rebirth of this Houston Texas property by utilizing high impact design within a low budget. We rebranded and renovated the existing clubhouse to best support leasing efforts while accommodating a variety of social and functional needs. The high end hotel lobby aesthetic was accomplished through a rich neutral background using local materiality with dramatic statements of lighting, ceiling features and textured finishes. We advised the clients in thoughtful ways to spend resources and identified ways to phase the project to remain fully functional during construction. Installing new flooring over existing porcelain tile to eliminate demo costs and disruption along with refurbishing cabinetry were a few ways this was accomplished. The new design maximizes existing accents such as the understated existing fireplaces while minimizing dramatic bulkheads. We removed walls and adding glass to leasing offices for better sight-lines between staff and better connecting with residents. The client is thrilled with successful leasing rates despite the pandemic. Every design detail was managed and coordinated remotely from our Michigan studio.



FLOOR & POWER PLAN



San Paloma

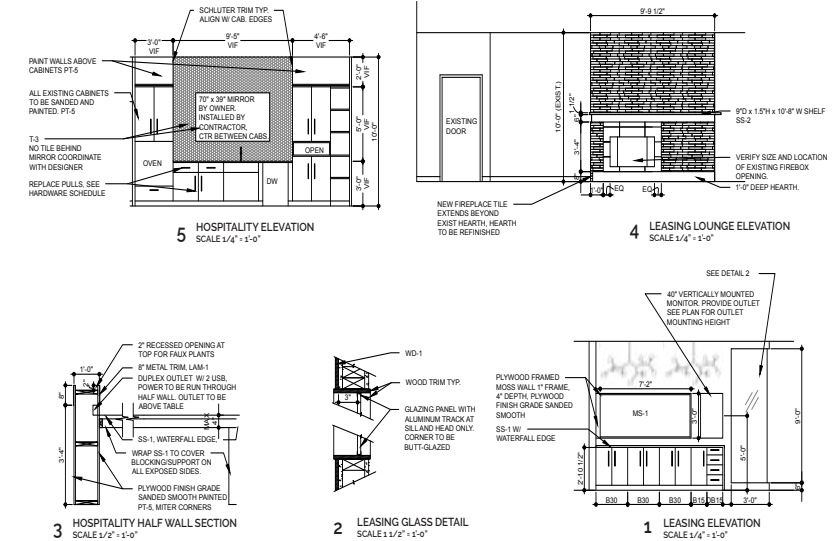
Houston, TX
Redwoods Capital, San Paloma Apartments

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation



ELEVATIONS & DETAILS



San Paloma

Houston, TX
Redwoods Capital, San Paloma Apartments

Intersect Studio

Category: Addition/Renovation

Summer Retreat

Long Lake, Three Rivers, MI

Intersect Studio

Category: New Construction



Imagine sipping a cool beverage on a hot summer day on the upper level deck waving at the passing boats of friends on the glimmering water and watching your grandkids splash in the shallows at the lakes edge. This was the lifestyle desired by the Texas residents. This Michigan summer cottage, on a very tight site and carefully positioned just above the flood plane, was designed as a layered experience for generations of a family and friends. The architectural pursuit was to discover the best of Michigan inland lake architecture and present a happy place for inhabitants, visitors and passers-by alike. Reminiscent of small cottages built by great grandpa with the stimulating elegance of strong structure all composed at a human scale.

A grade level via connector welcomes arriving family on a short promenade to the lake.

The larger architectural mass of the home is united with the garage with above playroom with a bridge of utility spaces. The home is entered at mid level to gather the upper and lower levels with vertical circulation peeking to the exterior from a large bank of windows on the front elevation. The Long Lake Summer Retreat is a place for restful gathering and exuberant family celebrations for a couple who have earned the opportunity to live a portion of their lives in highly designed architectural bliss.

Summer Retreat

Long Lake, Three Rivers, MI

Intersect Studio

Category: New Construction



Summer Retreat

Long Lake, Three Rivers, MI

Intersect Studio

Category: New Construction

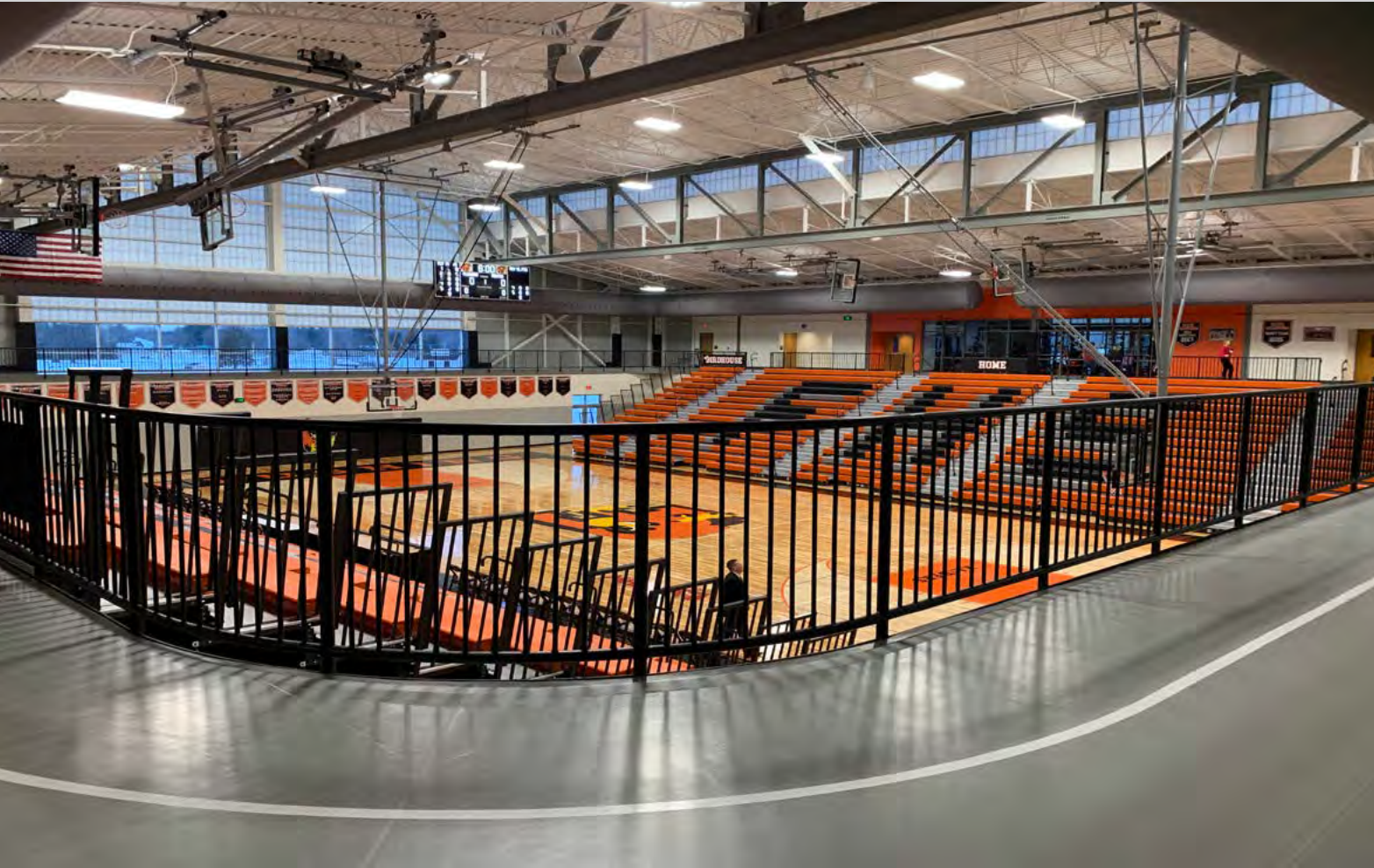


Raider Field House

Flushing, MI
Flushing Community Schools

Kingscott Associates

Category: Addition/Renovation



In 2019, Flushing Community Schools opened the doors to their new Field House. The Field House is a new addition that provides a full court gymnasium, locker rooms, fitness room, concessions, restrooms, and an athletic event entrance. The field house also features a new STEM, Robotics & Pre-Engineering lab, and new visual arts classroom. The new space accommodates the growing need for dedicated STEAM spaces, and also provides space for wellness activities of Flushing students and community.

To accommodate the multi-functional building program, the Field House is organized into two levels. The lower level features the gymnasium, locker rooms, STEM, Robotics & Pre-Engineering lab. The visual arts classroom and weight room are located on the second level. Access was designed to accommodate different uses of the building at different times. The academic portion of the building can be locked down during athletic events. The community can access the track without access to the rest of the building. The public bleachers are only accessible via the elevated track to reduce foot traffic on the gymnasium floor.

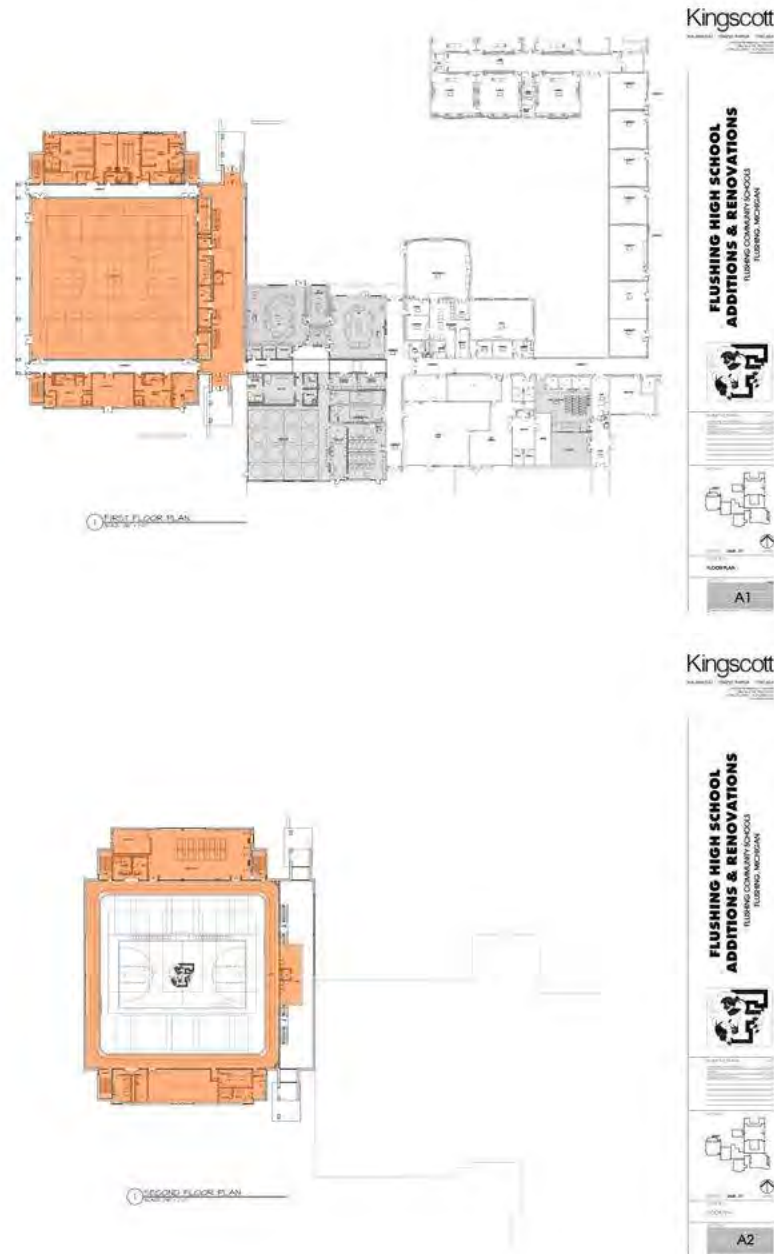
The design allows the district to meet the needs of their growing STEAM program as well as provide adequate athletic participation and storage space for FCS athletes.

Raider Field House

Flushing, MI
Flushing Community Schools

Kingscott Associates

Category: Addition/Renovation





Raider Field House

Flushing, MI
Flushing Community Schools

Kingscott Associates

Category: Addition/Renovation



Arcadia Festival Place

Master Plan

Kalamazoo, MI

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project



PLUG 'N' PLAY MICRO-CAFE'S



PLAYSCAPE/WATER FEATURE



WALKABLE GARDEN ROOF



CITY SQUARE BUILDING



GREENSCAPE/PAVILION



TIERED CIRCULATION



ARCADIA CREEK



ACCS ELEVATED WALK



ACCS PLAZA/PAVILION



Largely intended to attract non-city residents to downtown, the Arcadia Creek Festival Site faces fears of parking issues, crime and the homeless by many people outside the city. Although designed for events, the site requires essential temporary services and amenities to be secured for key critical features, making hosting large-scale events costly and event experiences less than ideal. Additionally, the space does not lend itself to scaled down, daily events and use, resulting in a mostly vacant site.

Rather than attempting to attract people unfamiliar with downtown Kalamazoo, the Design Solution engages those who believe in and actively support our collaborative, local, community. The solution is Arcadia Creek City Square; a space for enhancing vibrancy for people who already love the city experience, as well as increasing appeal for those seeking to relocate to a livable, progressive city.

Arcadia Festival Place Master Plan

Kalamazoo, MI

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project



The Arcadia Creek City Square (ACCS) is not a design idea. It is a human-centered idea about creating a shared community experience that involves everyone in conception, design and, ultimately, activation. ACCS is about discovering and celebrating independent craft, thought, products and performance. ACCS is a welcoming place where locally-owned and operated businesses and organizations have a role and a stage to present their creativity and engage the community. While the City would own and build the site and infrastructure, members of an ACCS cooperative would be financial and strategic partners. Member organizations will staff, support, and supply an exceptional experience that also creates awareness and drives growth for each other.

Arcadia Festival Place

Master Plan

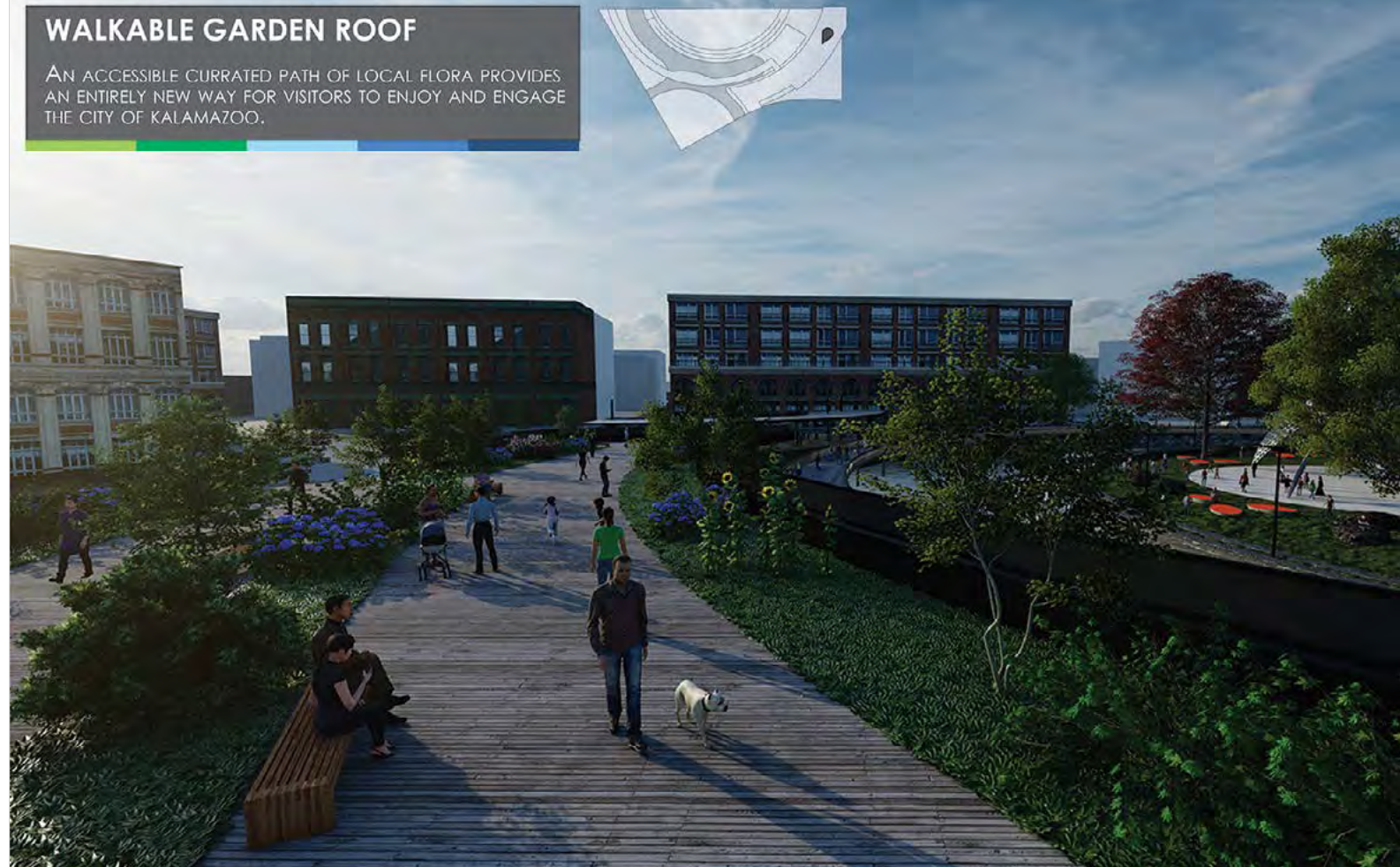
Kalamazoo, MI

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project

WALKABLE GARDEN ROOF

AN ACCESSIBLE CURATED PATH OF LOCAL FLORA PROVIDES AN ENTIRELY NEW WAY FOR VISITORS TO ENJOY AND ENGAGE THE CITY OF KALAMAZOO.



This cooperative idea is centered around developing frequency and synergy in bringing together the unique downtown community in dynamic weekday and weekend conversation over local food, craft beer, coffee and the arts. Our team imagines a combination of permanent, semi-permanent, adaptable, and flexible structures usable year-round for daily, scalable activities. Of course, the water itself will be an essential element creating space, shaping a signature design feature, and engaging visitors in a physical and emotional experience.

Arcadia Creek City Square exists to be an accelerator of the Kalamazoo spirit.

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe D1 Health Clinic

Onamia, MN

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: New Construction

TOUCHING THE LAND LIGHTLY

THE HEALTH CLINIC IS SITED WITHIN A SERIES OF WETLANDS THAT ARE PART OF A GREATER MILLE LACS LAKE ECOSYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS THE ANNUAL MIGRATION OF BIRDS AND PROVIDE CRITICAL HABITAT FOR MANY OTHER SPECIES.



The 78,000 square foot health clinic commissioned by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe provides a wide range of healthcare services to the District 1 Community. Offering “one stop shop” medical care, the Health Clinic combines comprehensive healthcare services, treatment, and prevention for the whole family while simultaneously reflecting the culture and traditions of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians.

Rather than a more traditional rectangular design, the Health Clinic evolved as the rectangle was cut in half and split apart; now two wings rotate out from a central axis to better provide views over the natural landscape. The large windows of the curtain wall create a visual connection to nature, long associated with reducing patient anxiety. In addition, these expansive vistas connect patients to the wetlands, offering a reflection of tribal culture and history.

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe D1 Health Clinic

Onamia, MN

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: New Construction

The two wings serve uniquely different purposes to distinguish clinical functions from community support services. The clinical wing accommodates general health functions throughout the first floor, while specialty services, including imaging and dental services, are located on the second floor. This wing is designed to facilitate Urgent Care needs by allowing a portion of the clinic to remain open 'after hours' as required. The wing opposite contains community support services including offices, collaborative work areas, conference rooms, a pharmacy, and a physical therapy gym. Patients can seamlessly move between the two wings, yet there is a clear distinction between the purpose and function of each.



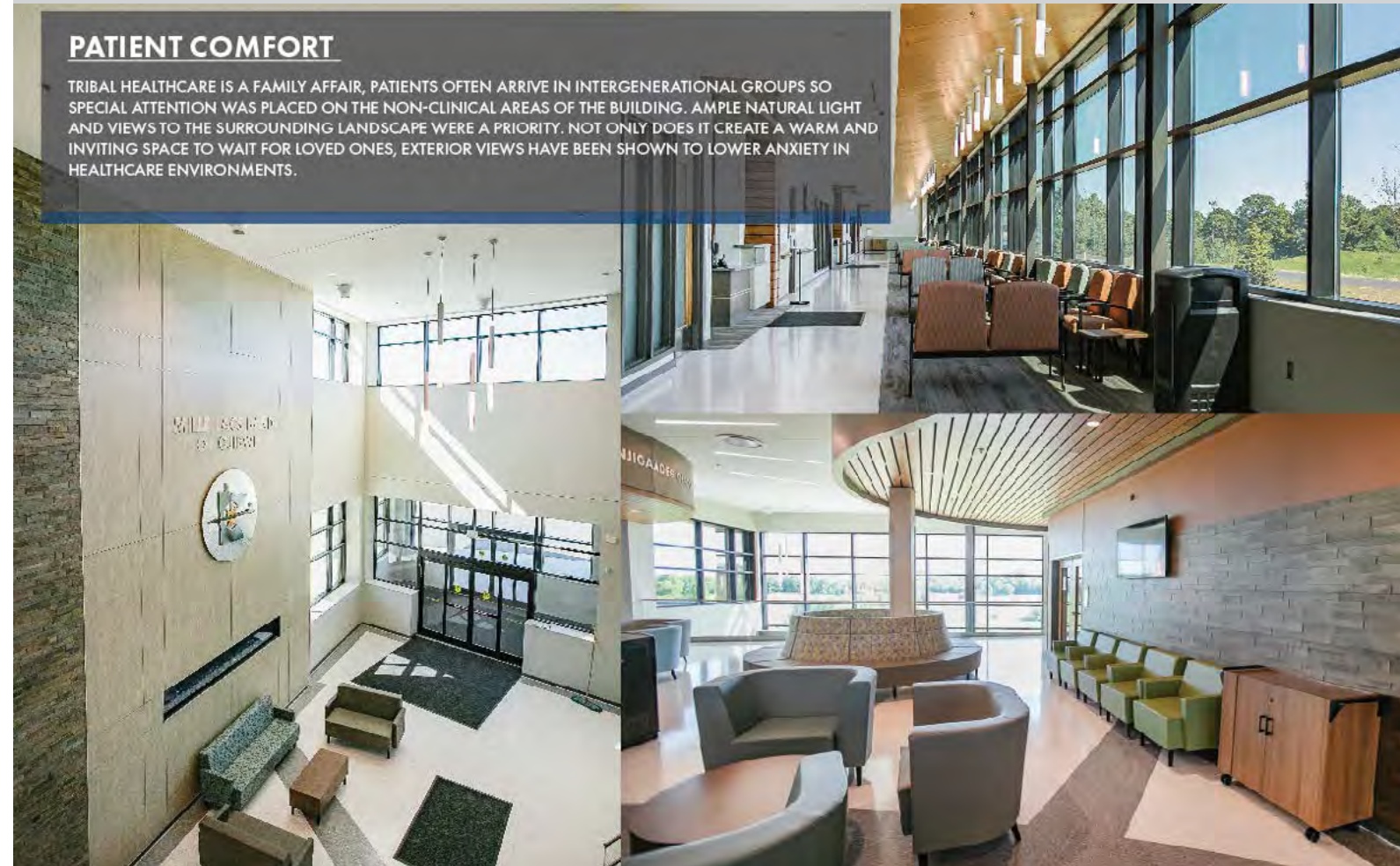
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe D1 Health Clinic

Onamia, MN

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: New Construction

To better meet the needs of District 1 today as well as in the future, the Health Clinic was planned with the progress in mind. Modular clinical bays can be reprogrammed easily, offering fewer or greater spaces for services like urgent care or behavioral health as demographics and patient needs shift. Structural elements and sections of the roof are designed in such a way that adding an additional floor would be feasible, and utility lines were carefully organized for potential horizontal expansion. By meeting the current needs of the tribe and forecasting future needs, this Health Clinic can facilitate improved patient outcomes today and in decades to come.



Private Residence

Hudson Lake, IN

Seven Generations Architecture + Engineering

Category: New Construction



NORTH ELEVATION | WELCOME HOME



For the owner of an Indiana lakefront plat, the objective was clear: design a modest home that maximizes spectacular views. The private residence was built with a non-traditional timber frame; ensuring the elegantly exposed post and beam structure was also a modular design further differentiates the home from a typical suburban build. Visible timber beams are reminiscent of lake cottage homes of the past, yet the large expanses of glass are sleek and modern. This juxtaposition creates visual interest, which is enhanced by the addition of lakefront views.

Private Residence

Hudson Lake, IN

Seven Generations Architecture + Engineering

Category: New Construction

The design challenge apparent at the outset was creatively determining how to retain the vision of a modest home while providing the homeowners with all the functions, capabilities, and space needed. The solution was to retain the modest footprint but add a cohesive walk-out basement that added more room for family living. By expanding the volume of the house vertically rather than horizontally, the footprint remained moderately sized as the owner intended. An additional benefit of the structure reaching skyward rather than expanding outward is the 180-degree vistas provided from virtually every room in the house. The home is sited on a peninsula, providing seclusion and a sense of nature embracing the structure from every angle, and the top floor serves as a type of crow's nest for an extraordinary perspective over the water.



FIRST FLOOR | THE LIVING ROOM



Private Residence

Hudson Lake, IN

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: New Construction

The 4,000-square-foot home is designed for truly open floor plan living, creating ample circulation space. The main body of the home contains a guest bed on the main level along with a kitchen, living room, and support spaces. The upper level contains the master bedroom suite and an additional guest bedroom and bath. The garage features a guest suite on the second floor with a fully functional kitchen, living room, bedroom, and bathroom. Each of these spaces fits into a greater grid and offers a distinct purpose, ensuring every aspect of the home can be wholly utilized and enjoyed by its residents.



Leadership Camp Treehouses

Southwest Michigan

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project



The design problem for these youth leadership “treehouse” cabins was to create something unique and custom to the camp’s specific outdoor environment – something to capture the imagination of youth enveloped in an increasingly technology-focused world, something to acknowledge and celebrate the hard work and dedication of each summer’s group of the next generation of leadership – without the premium expense typically associated with constructing such structures.

In response, as an alternative method to the traditional “design, bid, build” project delivery approach, we explored a digital fabrication process, leveraging technology more heavily as a means of production to relieve some cost inflation often associated with lengthy, on-site construction methods.

Leadership Camp Treehouses

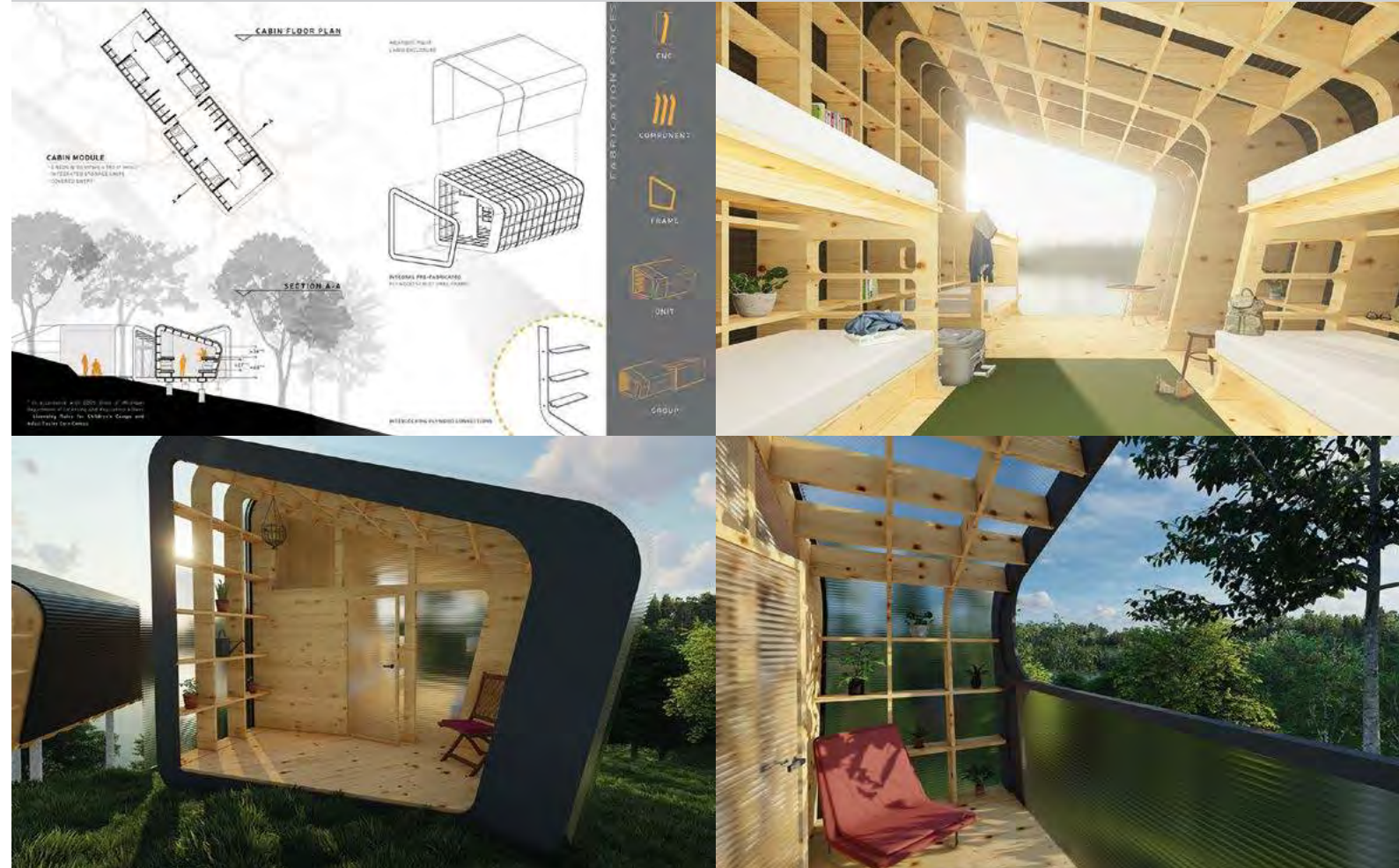
Southwest Michigan

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project

The treehouses are designed as four individual pod structures that can be linked together in multiple configurations in order to adapt to the heavily wooded surroundings of the existing site. With four new cabins situated among the trees and revolving around the existing Leadership Lodge, campers will experience the leadership program from a unique, elevated perspective.

By engaging current cutting-edge technology the treehouse pods were designed with great precision using three dimensional software to enable those 3D forms to be quickly and easily 'coded' to be rapidly reproduced, packaged and shipped.



Leadership Camp Treehouses

Southwest Michigan

Seven Generations Architecture
+ Engineering

Category: Unbuilt Project

By utilizing this modular 3D design methodology combined with CNC capabilities, cabin construction becomes simplified and streamlined assembly on site by a combination of skilled and non-skilled laborers with a high level of craftsmanship in the end. Pre-fabricated (pre-fab) components that are shipped to the site can be easily assembled in a safe location and then moved and lifted into place, minimizing complexity, shortening schedules, and reducing construction costs.

This approach supports the camp's environmental responsible initiative. The digital fabrication process would allow the new structures to be pre-fabricated and final assembled on site in a way that significantly reduces material waste. This process also embraces community involvement and team building through a simple assembly process unrestricted by traditional construction skillsets. It is our intention that collaboration will be the driving force of this realization, from early design development to a hands-on, team-based assembly methodology.



Albertus Magnus Hall of Science Addition and Renovation

Grand Rapids, MI
Aquinas College

Tower Pinkster

Category: Addition/Renovation



Originally built in 1959, the existing Albertus Magnus Hall of Science (AMH) had aged to the point where students, faculty, and staff had to work around the building instead of working with it. With support from the Aquinas donor community, an expansive modernization has been achieved after a 10-year planning and fundraising process.

To accommodate a 85,400 sf program, the solution reuses the existing 43,000 sf structure and adds a new wing that houses teaching labs and a lecture hall. A new central lobby and atrium anchor the two wings and provide pre-function for the auditorium, while establishing the social heart of the building. This space is light-filled, open, and allows for scientific art to be displayed.

Albertus Magnus Hall of Science Addition and Renovation

Grand Rapids, MI
Aquinas College

Tower Pinkster

Category: Addition/Renovation

The building design has several goals: establish a new face for the science program; respect the existing campus architecture; allow the programmatic spaces on the interior to read on the exterior; demonstrate Aquinas's commitment to sustainability, and make a space that is exciting for students. This was accomplished by using traditional materials in contemporary ways to make the connection to the historic buildings on campus while expressing modern technology, education, and research.

Both the new and existing wings were designed to create the feeling of a single cohesive building that has been updated for the users. Ramped first and third floors connect the new and existing wings to make up floor-to-floor height differences, while a second-floor plane serves as the datum line for organizing the elevation and plan. The skin is a blend of the campus-wide face brick, metal panel, cast stone, and curtainwall. This material choice further reinforces the connection to the other buildings on campus.



Albertus Magnus Hall of Science Addition and Renovation

Grand Rapids, MI
Aquinas College

Tower Pinkster

Category: Addition/Renovation

A minimal landscaping intervention balances quiet, intimate spaces and open lawn areas. Reducing the site development footprint, the project was able to limit site clearing to 80 mature trees on a heavily wooded existing site. These trees were harvested, dried and used in future finished carpentry and reclaimed resin-tables. The AMH project successfully blends reuse, material stewardship and new innovative technology for a science building focused on the future.



Cassopolis Municipal Complex

Cassopolis, MI
Village of Cassopolis

Wightman

Category: New Construction



The Village of Cassopolis, located in Cassopolis, MI, partnered with Wightman to undertake a sweeping transformation of their community that included a redesign of their downtown streetscape, creation of a new beach and adjacent park, and the addition of a lakeside boardwalk to connect their public spaces. In addition to those overhauls, The Village was also in desperate need of a new municipal facility. The former Village offices and Police departments were located on the second floor of a retrofit downtown building which was not ideal for police dispatch, and cumbersome for community members to find. Their DPW office was a derelict building due for demolition a street away.

Cassopolis Municipal Complex

Cassopolis, MI
Village of Cassopolis

Wightman

Category: New Construction

The new Municipal Complex was designed to combine all departments into one facility, resulting in 5,500 square feet of office building and 11,700 square feet of pre-engineered metal building warehouse. Tailoring the diverse needs of each department into one space proved to be an interesting challenge. Part of this challenge was utilizing the relatively narrow but deep lot and fitting required functions on the street. The design of the building needed to cohesively fit into the surrounding rural vernacular, while conveying the importance of a municipal complex and housing a large equipment warehouse. Since this building is ultimately for the community, the Meeting Hall was to be presented as a focal point coming down Disbrow Street. The village offices and main entry required accessible access from the street parking while the DPW needed access to their equipment and dispatch at all hours without congesting the main road and parking. The Police also required similar access to the building for quick response and to maintain visibility while also remaining secure from the rest of the building.



Cassopolis Municipal Complex

Cassopolis, MI
Village of Cassopolis

Wightman

Category: New Construction

The design of the building allows for substantial natural light, taking advantage of high ceilings and clearstory windows throughout. The finishes promote a downtown beach atmosphere with natural elements and calming earth tones that contribute to a sense of collaboration and pride. The new complex satisfies the needs of Village officials and staff, police, and DPW employees, and most importantly, the citizens it serves.

