North Carolina Architecture

New Headquarters Facility Design Competition
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President’s Message

AIA North Carolina’s recently held Design Competition and Jury for their new facility is the subject of this inaugural issue. This phase of the project is complete, and the process of bringing this facility to reality will be the focus of this issue. Future issues will take you through the next stages of design, construction, and occupancy. But before there was a competition there was a Task Force to study our facility needs; and whether they could be physically met at the existing Tower location. The findings led to the realization that after more than forty years in the Tower, it was time to hand over the responsibility of this historic structure to a new caretaker. AIA NC would need to relocate to a facility that would best serve the continuing mission and program needs, of our organization and its’ members.

Past President Walt Teague, AIA, has been instrumental in providing the vision and drive necessary to move this project forward; he will continue to serve as Board liaison with the committees formed to oversee the project to completion.

What began as an idea for a new facility to meet the program needs of AIA NC is now The AIA NC Center for Architecture and Design. To bring this to reality, there have been many member volunteer hours generated. As an organization, we are truly blessed and indebted to the many volunteers who have taken us so far. There are two committees delegated to overseeing the new facility: a Design and Construction Committee, chaired by Alan McGuinn, AIA, is charged to keep watch over the design, budget, and construction. Chaired by Steve Schuster, AIA & Harvey Gantt, FAIA, the Finance Committee is in place overseeing the fundraising for the construction, and future programs. In up-coming issues we will discuss the work done by these committees to bring the Center to reality.

What wonders await you in this issue you ask? What we have compiled here for your inspection is the entries of more than forty very talented design teams. As expected, each team addressed the given program and site restrictions in a thoughtful manner, with one team arriving at their own creative solution to deal with the existing site limits and constraints. (The word ‘ignore’ seems appropriate to describe the solution so beautifully rendered.)

AIA NC was very fortunate to have Bill McMinn, FAIA decide to retire, and take up residency in ‘The Old North State.’ This is a man of courage, for he accepted the role of Chair with full knowledge that the parameters of this Juried Design Competition were…… different.

**Entrants:** Architects
**Project:** A building for Architects
**Client:** A group of Architects
**Jury:** To be comprised of…… Architects!

This one factor alone could have been a blueprint for acrimonious, if not disastrous results. More than one Design Competition has floundered on the shoals of good intentions. Not only was that scary scenario avoided, Competition Magazine singled out the Organization, the competition execution, and the selected jurors in an article following the Competition!

As you leaf though this article please remember the Architects definition of a Design Competition:

*An opportunity to show all your peers that you have what it takes!*

*College Classmates were mistaken; you should have received that A in Design Studio!*

*No matter how many hours it takes, the interns will finish it.*

*When it is over, you will never, ever, enter a Design Competition Again! (The caveat being, unless……..it is a really interesting and challenging one)*

Presented is the work of more than forty firms from all across the State of North Carolina. Imagine these teams assembled from the most senior member of the firm, to the recent architectural graduate, working in concert to design, to create. Although a team, somehow in the recesses of the mind of each individual working on the execution of this idea is reminded….. why you decided to be an Architect in the first place.

AIA North Carolina is proud to present the entrants of our Design Competition for your review. The following work presented is testimony to the creative talent that resides in North Carolina.

Wayne Hargrave Camas, AIA
2008 President
New Headquarters Facility Design Competition

President's Message

Presentation Description

1st Place Winner
Frank Harmon, Architect

2nd Place Winner
PBC + L

3rd Place Winner
Kenneth E. Hobgood, Architects

Merit Award Winners

Competition Submissions

Index to Advertisers
On January 23, 2008, more than 400 people, including AIA members, public visitors, invited guests, 3 AIA National Presidents and students gathered in the Fletcher Opera Theater in Raleigh to see the results of the unprecedented Design Competition for the New AIA North Carolina Center for Architecture and Design.

This competition began in November, 2007, and came to a dramatic conclusion when those who were on hand watched the nationally-acclaimed panel of jurors as they announced the following winners for the design of a new landmark building to be constructed at the corner of Peace and Wilmington Streets in downtown Raleigh:

**Frank Harmon, Architect:** First Place

**Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee, P.A.:** Second Place

**Kenneth E. Hobgood, Architects:** Third Place

Merit citations were also awarded to:

**LS3P (Wilmington);**

**Mathews Architecture, P.A. (Asheville),** and **Angerio Design, PLLC (Raleigh).**

AIA NC, which serves over 2,300 professionals statewide, has been working toward new facilities since 2004, when the leadership recognized that they had outgrown their Water Tower home on Morgan Street in downtown Raleigh. But how would a group of architects choose an architect to design a building for…architects? “It was the obvious and only solution to conduct a Design Competition for the new Headquarters,” says David Crawford, Executive Vice President for the organization, “with all the design talent in this State, we knew we would get stunning results from opening up the creative process.”

The creative process was opened indeed. Many members noted that their firms were genuinely enlivened by their participation in the competition. Charles Holden, AIA, of Oxide Architecture and Oxide Structure Company in Raleigh notes: “We really came together to produce solutions and work them out. This was a great exercise…it taught us a good deal about our strengths and weaknesses, and how we work together.”

Now, with the selection of competition winners, the new AIA NC Center for Architecture and Design becomes much more than a dream - it quickly moves into reality. Since the announcement of the winner, the land purchase agreement has been negotiated, and the Design and Construction Committee has worked out the Architect’s agreement. Additionally, the Finance Committee (under the direction of Steve Schuster, AIA, and Harvey Gantt, FAIA) has begun its fundraising efforts. David Winslow, the fundraising consultant, feels confident that goals will not only be met, but exceeded. At the Transitional Board Meeting in December 2007, he noted that companies and firms seem “eager to be a part of this historic process.”

The Public Relations Committee has also been hard at work, providing input about programmatic elements crucial to the mission of AIA NC and its new home. The new building will create a space that will inform the public about the value of architects and architecture, enhance service to AIA NC members, promote the profession and quality environments for living, become an important community asset and most importantly, educate visitors about good design. Crawford says that they have made it a goal to use their new facilities to teach the public about what it means to design with the environment and the future in mind.
"The new building will be our testament to sustainable architecture, the built environment, and the role of architects in this endeavor," says Walt Teague, the Immediate Past President of AIA North Carolina from Greensboro and the new facilities project director. The building will be designed to meet both LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards as well as the AIA's COTE (Committee on the Environment) goals, which include regional connectivity strategies, land use and site ecology, sustainable materials and methods of construction, reduced water usage, and increased energy efficiency.

In describing his new design, Harmon explains that the building and landscape are designed as one interlocking, interdependent system, deferring to the natural topography and reusing every shovelful of earth. The innovative parking garden functions as open green space for Chapter and community events and eliminates storm water runoff. The design strategies employed in the new facility will hopefully represent a new model for development throughout the community.

"AIA North Carolina has just completed an historic event, which could not have been done without the tireless and countless hours of effort given graciously by dedicated members," notes Wayne Camas, AIA, the 2008 AIA NC President from Charlotte. Crawford agrees, noting that Frank Harmon will be designing a building that symbolizes AIA NC's investment in North Carolina - and creating the new home that will represent all that architects contribute to their communities. "We have a lot of work to do...and a lot to be proud of! We want to congratulate all of the firms that submitted entries and shared their vision for an important new development in the Capital City!"

The competition was professionally managed by William McMinn, FAIA, Dean Emeritus of Cornell University College of Architecture and former Dean at three other university architecture schools. McMinn was joined by jurors Daniel Bennett, FAIA, the Dean of the College of Architecture at Auburn University in Alabama; Allison Ewing, AIA, LEED® AP, a partner of Hays + Ewing Design Studio in Charlottesville, Virginia; M. David Lee, FAIA, partner at Stull & Lee in Boston, Massachusetts; and Jury Chair, Susan Maxman, FAIA, founder and Design Principal of SMP Architects in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Images and details about the new AIA North Carolina Center for Architecture and Design are available online: www.aianc.org.
LEADING BY EXAMPLE
The late Samuel Mockbee, FAIA, once said the architectural profession should "challenge the status quo into making responsible environmental and social changes." Inspired by this concept, our design for the new AIA NC Headquarters demonstrates healthy urbanism, which we define as:

- responding to, respecting, and conserving the urban site
- integrating building and landscape
- promoting both passive and technological sustainable design principles
- bringing activity and delight to the cityscape

The generative discipline for urbanism is architecture. Our design aspires to be a role model for healthy urbanism, both for chapter members and future development in downtown Raleigh. The previous headquarters did this by adaptively re-using an historic structure. The new headquarters faces a 21st Century challenge: the global necessity to conserve and protect our natural resources.

We are obligated to be exemplary.

In our project, building and landscape are designed as one interlocking, interdependent system, deferring to the natural topography and reusing every shovelful of earth. Soil is removed from one position on the site to allow the structure's narrow footprint to slip easily into its urban setting. This same soil is used elsewhere to create the elevated landscape. The innovative parking garden - where porous paving supports automobiles and functions as open, green space - eliminates storm water runoff and models an effective solution for parking needs. This strategy represents a new model for development throughout the city. The parking garden also provides an outdoor gathering space for Chapter and community events, expanding AIA NC's outreach program.

The Headquarters building is a modern shell with a green heart. Clean lines, clear construction, a broad roof overhang, and careful fenestration distinguish the building in its context. The building is oriented on the site to protect the interior from the harsh summer sun and to make the most of natural day-lighting and ventilation, thus reducing energy consumption and costs. A modern aesthetic allows the roof to accommodate vegetation to filter rainwater, mitigate the heat-island effect in the inner city, and introduce the concept of green roofs to downtown Raleigh. A buried rainwater collection cistern captures every drop of rainwater on the site for reuse – another role model for the city as Raleigh continues to confront drought conditions.
The scale of the building focuses on site and street context. The north wall greets the Peace Street neighborhood at its natural grade – a friendly gesture – and establishes an urban edge along this rapidly developing transect of the city. Open porches on the south and west elevations welcome the community and underscore a sense of outreach. On the north end of the site, structure and landscape rise, both physically and symbolically, greeting the Government Complex along the higher elevation and forging a strong tie with the government entities there. The overriding objective of our concept is to demonstrate and encourage aesthetic and ecological integrity – to create a flagship for North Carolina architecture that is architecturally, environmentally, socially, and aesthetically inspiring.

**URBAN FOCUS**

The AIA NC Headquarters site is at the crossing between a nearly continuous downtown park network and a series of mixed-use redevelopments of the northern downtown neighborhoods. This site begs a design solution that offers social infrastructure, and exhibits healthy urbanism in the midst of an otherwise suburban area of the city.

**DEMONSTRATING SUSTAINABILITY**

The AIA NC Headquarters is oriented to catch prevailing breezes and provide shelter suitable to the environment. The landscape is constructed of soils cut from the site, native stone, native plants, porous paving, and water elements. The parking garden is an alternative to the asphalt lots that dominate Raleigh. A rainwater collection cistern is buried in the park berm, and the building uses photovoltaics, geothermal wells, and a green roof to minimize environmental footprint.
2nd Place Winner

PBC + L

The new AIA NC headquarters building represents a unique opportunity to create a model for architectural aesthetics and environmental sensibility for both the state of North Carolina and the city of Raleigh. It should strive for a LEED platinum rating and also be carbon neutral in its design and execution to achieve the goals of the 2030 Challenge. The location of the site provides the opportunity to take advantage of many sustainable strategies that are economically feasible such as: access to public transportation, solar orientation, prevailing winds, regional materials, pervious parking, reduced building footprint and innovative storm water solutions. The building occupies the boundary between the street and garden. This edge condition greatly influenced the distribution of the building program and the sustainable agenda. To the street, the building offers a public gallery and coffee shop. The gallery wall is scaled to respond to both pedestrians and passing motorists. It will display the works of NC architects and will serve as an outreach to engage the larger community. The gallery also serves as a “light well” for the tenant space on the second floor. The majority of program spaces in the building are oriented to face the garden. The garden green space serves as a forecourt to the buildings south facing façade. Covered roof top spaces open to views across the garden to the cityscape beyond. The building incorporates a “sustainable skin” which folds vertically and horizontally in response to environmental conditions and the particulars of the building program. The gallery façade (north) is transparent, providing views into and out of the gallery space. The skin folds down over the south façade to create a layered condition in conjunction with a curtainwall, operable windows, and a sunscreen fabricated of photovoltaic panels. The screen provides shade and glare control as well as generating electricity to assist in operating the building's geothermal HVAC system. The skin on the west façade is louvered over the glazed entry to the café and becomes a horizontal cover at the entry doors. The region has experienced ongoing drought conditions, making water reduction and re-use strategies very important in the design, construction and operation of this facility. A rain garden will be an educational feature for visitors. The landscaping is a mix of native species that are drought and pest resistant and are organized in a manner that will filter any run off water of solids and contaminates, thereby purifying the storm water. Rain water will be harvested from the roof and used for any required landscape irrigation and the flushing of toilets. Parking areas will be covered in open grid pavers and pervious paving materials to encourage storm water infiltration into the aquifer.
Sustainable Skin
Combine sustainable strategies into one continuous form
Display sustainable solutions for educational purposes
Filter and retain rainwater and provide a roof top garden
Generate electricity with photovoltaic sunscreens and roof panels
Reduce heat gain and glare with sun shades
Control and direct natural daylight

Porosity
Naturally ventilate the interior spaces
Control natural light in work spaces
Provide connection between the public and the profession
Connect workspaces to the garden and cityscape
Create views from within the building to the gallery

Organization
Minimize building footprint and site disturbance
Diagrammatic clarity and order: Workspaces/service spaces
Programmatic clarity and order: Vertical stacking
Organize Public and Private spaces around gallery wall
Activate gallery with tenant spaces and pedestrian interaction

Urban Response
Establish public identity for the AIA-NC
Create visual and spatial edge for Peace Street
Engage public with pedestrian and vehicular scaled gallery wall
Activate corner with rain garden and waterwall

Garden
Preserve specimen trees and natural refuge
Provide pervious parking court as outdoor gathering place
Activate site with temporary artistic interventions
Utilize natural topography to maximize storm water retention
Increase building efficiency with Geothermal HVAC system
Provide pedestrian circulation through site
Minimize the impact of site parking
Minimize need for artificial irrigation
Utilize deciduous trees for natural site shading

North Carolina Architecture: New Headquarters Facility Design Competition
3rd Place Winner
Kenneth E. Hobgood, Architects
Merit Award

Angerio Design, PLLC
Merit Award

LS3P Associates Ltd, Wilmington
Merit Award

Mathews Architecture, PA
Architectural Design Studio

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Cannon Architects
Cherry Huffman Architects
Clark Nexen Architecture & Engineering
Cline Design Associates
Dickerson Architecture
Edwards Architecture, PLLC
Finley Design, PA
Jim Gleeson, Design Integration PLLC
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INSPIRATION · BEAUTY · MESSAGE
Michael Ross Kersting
Architecture
Little Diversified Consulting

North Carolina Architecture: New Headquarters Facility Design Competition
LS3P Architecture, Raleigh
Edwin Terrel Meek Architect

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Moser Mayer Phoenix Associates
New City Design, PLLC
Oxide Architecture

North Carolina Architecture: New Headquarters Facility Design Competition
Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee
Perkins + Will

North Carolina Architecture: New Headquarters Facility Design Competition
Roughton Nickelson De Luca, Architects
Smith Sennett Architecture
Vernacular Studio
Walter Robbs Callahan & Pierce Architects
In the beginning, the world was without form and void.

Then came stuff.
And things got complicated.

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